

SERMON OUTLINE

HOW TO FIGHT ENTITLEMENT

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1 SAMUEL 30

Own _____

Give _____

Share _____

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR FAMILY, FRIENDS & GROUPS

ICEBREAKER: If you had to describe your week using a weather report (sunny, stormy, foggy, etc.), what would it be?

1. Read 1 Samuel 30 out loud. Give everyone in the group 2-3 minutes in silence to jot down some observations about the text (repeated words, truths about God, themes, striking details, questions, etc.). Go around the group and have people share some of their observations and discuss them.
2. What would change in your home life if all entitlement was gone? At work? Among your friends? At church?
3. The sermon urged us to “own our weakness.” Why is it so hard for many of us to admit when we can’t keep going? How does our culture make it difficult to say “I don’t know what to do” or “I need help”?
4. David “found strength in the Lord his God” (v. 6) in his moment of greatest distress. What does it practically look like to do this in your own life? What other places are you turning to instead of God?
5. How does admitting our own weakness protect us from entitlement?
6. Think about the “Pinewood Derby” illustration. Where in your life are you tempted to take full credit for something God enabled?
7. The “troublemakers” in verse 22 make an argument that sounds completely reasonable to us. Why does the text call them “evil”?
8. How can the principle “those who don’t work shouldn’t eat” get weaponized to justify selfishness and lack of compassion?
9. Who is someone in your life that you’ve been judging for “not pulling their weight”? How might viewing them with compassion change things?
10. Where in your life are you currently holding tightly to something, telling yourself “I earned this, it’s mine”?
11. Is there someone in your life who is currently too exhausted to go on? How could you practically support them?
12. The sermon mentions three mindset shifts: from “mine” to “ours,” from “wage” to “gift,” and from “usefulness” to “belonging.” Which of these is hardest for you personally?
13. David made sharing with those who stayed behind a permanent law for Israel. What’s one way you could make generosity more automatic in your own life?

PRAYER PROMPT: Go around the group a few times, praying prayers of gratitude. Take time to thank Jesus for the things that he has freely given you that you didn’t earn. Think both of big picture, spiritual benefits (forgiveness, eternal life, etc.) and tangible provision in your life (daily needs, family, work, etc.)