

# warrior

winning the fight for faith



## Week 7: June 14-20

### Share Life:

**Review Guidelines:** Ask each person to share one guideline that is especially helpful to them (remember to always review the guidelines in DETAIL when you have a new person in your group).

**Vision:** Discipleship is the process of growing spiritually. Disciple-making is intentionally helping someone else grow to the place where they can disciple others. Our vision is that each one of us would be disciple-makers. That's why everything we do in group can be learned and repeated with others.

**Question:** When have you been shown favor by someone else that you did not deserve?

### Share God's Word (story):

#### Background:

As a young boy, David was anointed by the prophet Samuel as the next king of Israel. At that time, Saul was king in Israel. Although David had been anointed to be the next king, it would be years before that promise would be fulfilled. In the meantime, Saul ruled as king in Israel.

Saul started off as a humble man, but he had a terrible problem with pride. He desperately wanted the approval of others – even more than the approval of God. After David killed Goliath, Saul noticed that the people were praising David more than him. This made Saul furious and drove him to madness. Saul made an attempt to murder David, but David escaped with his life. Saul then launched a manhunt and spent years tracking down David to kill him. David was forced to live in the wilderness and to run like a fugitive even though he had done nothing wrong. This went on for many years.

Unfortunately, nothing was going to stop Saul but death. Eventually, while in battle, God allowed Saul and his son, Jonathan, to be killed. One might assume David would be joyous! But David grieved the loss of King Saul and of his good friend, Jonathan. After their deaths, David eventually became king of Israel. Once on the throne, David had the power and authority to seek revenge on Saul's family. Instead, David acted mercifully. The story we are about to hear is one of the greatest pictures in the Bible of unmerited favor. The actions of David point us to God. This is where our story begins...

**Tell & rebuild the story from II Samuel 9: 1-13**

**Read the story from II Samuel 9: 1-13**

1. What sticks out the most to you in this story? Why?
2. What does this story teach us about people?
  - a. What does this story teach you about yourself?
3. What does this story teach you about God?
4. What is the Holy Spirit saying to you and how do you need to respond?

### Share in Prayer

Spend time praying that God would show unmerited favor to our nation by sending us revival.

**Recruit a storyteller for next week!!**



## Week 7: The 7 Essentials

*What is spiritual maturity?*

Paul shared a vision for the church:

*"Him [Jesus] we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ." -Col. 1:28*

**Essential #5 is: We will intentionally disciple others toward spiritual maturity.**

*So, we ask again, what is spiritual maturity?*

**Growing in spiritual maturity means growing in faith and love.**

"For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith." 1 John 5:4

"So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love."  
1 Corinthians 13:13

Growing spiritually means growing in faith in the gospel and living each day full of faith in our new identity in Christ (Gal. 2:20).

Growing spiritually means growing in love for God and for others (Matt. 22:36-40).

Essential #5 is: We will intentionally disciple others toward spiritual maturity. What does that look like? It looks like leading them to more understanding and greater faith in the gospel, and it looks like showing them and leading them to grow in love.

## Practically, how do we lead others to grow in faith and love?

- **It starts with us.** We must win the fight for faith every day in our own souls. We must preach the gospel to ourselves every day. We must speak the gospel to those we disciple every week. We must share the gospel regularly with people who don't know Jesus. This is the only way to create a disciple-making culture centered on faith in the gospel.
- **It starts with us.** We must model the love of Jesus to our groups. We must show them what it looks like to have compassion for the hurting, to come to the aid of those in need, and to release our hearts and take the risk to love others deeply. This is the only way to create a disciple-making culture firmly planted on the biblical foundation of love.
- We must extend invitations and invite others to join us as we journey to grow in faith and love. Invite them to small group meetings where we share the gospel and talk about our faith. Invite them to come with us as we give our time and resources to love others. Give them assignments to go and love others in the group or those that the group is trying to reach.
- We must regularly cast vision and remind our group that we are a disciple-making team. We care for one another, but we are not a care group. We fellowship together, but we are not a fellowship group. We study the Bible together, but we are not a Bible study group. We are a disciple-making group. We all have a part to play in making disciples on this team.