

### **WELCOME / OPEN IN PRAYER**

**INTRODUCTIONS:** Share the topic & takeaway this week from above

**GOD-STORIES:** A God-story is an undeniable encounter or experience with God that creates an impact or breakthrough in a person's day-to-day life.

**REVIEW THE GUIDELINES:** Share the guidelines to set the rails for group time

### **WEEK #2**

**Thought provoking question:** As we begin the New Year, what area in your life do you desperately need to see a victory?

SAFE ENVIRONMENT | CONFIDENTIALITY | LISTEN | PAUSE | SILENCE | NO "CROSS TALK" NO FIXING | NO RESCUING | SHARING | SELF AWARE | "I" STATEMENTS | CONFLICT

Title: David

Topic: With GOD, every GIANT can be defeated; every BATTLE

can be turned Into a VICTORY.

# SHARE BACKGROUND AND PROVIDE CONTEXT TO THE BIBLE STORY.

When the Israelites first approached the Promise Land, most feared entering because of the giants living there (Numbers 13:32, 12:33). Now facing the Philistines, Saul had his Israelite troops gathered near the valley of Elah awaiting the inevitable conflict between the two armies. This standoff went on for 40 days without one side attacking the other. The armies camped on opposite sides of a valley with steep walls. Each side was waiting for the other to attack first. Whoever would rush down the valley and up the cliffs would be at a disadvantage at the beginning of the battle and probably suffer significant casualties. An army often avoided the high cost of fighting by pitting its strongest warrior against the strongest warrior of the enemy. The winner of the fight was considered the winner of the war. Goliath, over nine feet tall, taunted Israel's soldiers and appeared invincible to them. Goliath had a definite advantage against David from a human standpoint but not against God.

SHARE THE STORY (1 Samuel 17:4-50)

INVITE EVERYONE TO ENGAGE BY REBUILDING THE STORY.

READ SCRIPTURE OUT LOUD TO SEE IF ANYTHING WAS ADDED OR OMITTED



### **DIVE DEEPER WITH DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

- 1 What about David's faith set him apart from King Saul as a leader?
- 2 As you look ahead into your new year, how does your spiritual <u>battle plan</u> need to shift or change?
- 3 How can you encourage others facing challenges to find strength in God?
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### SERIES TAKEAWAY: The Life of David

If you want to experience a spiritual life filled with God's presence and victory, even in the challenging seasons of solitude, monotony, and obscurity, it's essential to cultivate a heart for God that is overflowing with faith, courage, humility, and integrity. As we learn from the example of David, a shepherd and king whose life was far from perfect, but who was famously described as a "man after God's own heart," it's possible for anyone, no matter their past mistakes or current circumstances, to be used by God to do great things. Through his flaws and failures, David teaches us about how God can take the broken and restore the repentant, raising up men and women to achieve great things for His glory.

**PSALM 78:70-72 NASB** "He (God) also chose David His servant and took him from the sheepfolds; from the care of the ewes with suckling lambs He (God) brought him to shepherd Jacob His (God's) people, and Israel His inheritance. So he (David)shepherded them according to the integrity of his heart, and guided them with his skillful hands.

Inviting people into meaningful relationship with God and each other

# The Engine of the Local Church Lift the City Join a Group Tend the Soul Love the Church

## **Tend the Soul**

<u>Have A Vision for Your Life!</u> As you prepare for your New Year ask these 5 questions:

- 1) Who do I want to become?
- 2) What habit do I need to start?
- 3) What habit do I need to stop?
- 4) Who is keeping me accountable?
- 5) Is my goal intentional, measurable, and achievable?

<u>Elevate Your Prayer Life!</u> Pray to God regularly. You never know when or where God will invade your life.

<u>Practice praising God in the monotonous moments</u> <u>of your life!</u> You may feel alone in obscurity, but God is actually metamorphosing it for His glory.

<u>Never Walk Alone!</u> Seek, find, discover someone you can share your life with about the lessons God is teaching you along the way.

# 7 Essentials as a Disciple Maker

Abiding in Christ

Reaching the Lost

Connecting the Unconnected Chasing the Strays

Intentionally Shepherding People Towards Spiritual Maturity

<u>Identifying Equipping and Releasing Leaders</u>

Functioning as a Team

# 5 Key Components of a Disciple Making Church

Biblical Foundation for Relationship

<u>Intentional Leader</u>

Relational Environment

Reproducible Disciple-Making Process

**Church Alignment**