

April 27 – May 3

Connect with God | Confronting the Consequences of Sin

Icebreaker: Have you ever felt justified in telling a "small" lie? What were the circumstances? Did it help or hurt in the long run?

In this session, we'll explore how even someone as faithful as David wrestled with fear and deception, and how our own trust in God can be tested in moments of pressure and uncertainty.

Read 1 Samuel 21:1-9 – David is fleeing from Saul—he's scared and desperate. Keep that in mind as we unpack his decisions.

- When David came to Nob, what did he tell Ahimelech? To what extent did he lie? What do you think David's real motives were?
- What do David's words and actions reveal about where he placed his trust in this moment?

Read 1 Samuel 22:17-19

- With that story in mind read 1 Samuel 3:12-14.
 - How might Eli's failure to correct his sons have influenced the spiritual climate generations later?
 - Ahimelech is the great-grandson of Eli. How are the events of 1 Samuel 22 tied to what Eli allowed to happen in his family?
- How is what happens to Ahimelech a consequence of David's actions?
- In what ways are both Eli's and David's actions seen rippling forward?
- Read Luke 6:1-5. In speaking with the Pharisees, Jesus references 1 Samuel 21. What point is He making? Is He endorsing David's actions or teaching something deeper?
- Does David's situation excuse his lies? How do the consequences of his lies help answer this question? (See David's response in 1 Samuel 22:20-23)
- How should David have approached this situation in a righteous manner?

Read Number 32:23, Proverbs 28:13, and Galatians 6:7

- What do these verses say about God and the consequences of our actions?
- Can we ever hide our sin from God? Why or why not?

Application

- Even when God uses flawed people for His purposes, that doesn't mean their actions are without consequences. What does this say about God's justice and mercy?
- Think of a recent situation where telling the truth felt risky. What emotions or fears were at play? How could trusting God have changed your response?
- Read Psalm 13. How does this speak to how we handle the difficult situations of our lives?
- How does a radical trust in God combat our desire to protect ourselves through lies?