

This discussion guide is designed for Saylorville Church Community Groups as they live and learn together each week. The sermons and guides can be found at [www.saylorvillechurch.com/sermons](http://www.saylorvillechurch.com/sermons).

### CONNECT WITH YOUR GROUP (10-15 MINUTES)

- If someone had been secretly following you around this last week, what might they say you are most motivated by? What would they think fuels your actions, words, and thoughts?

### APPLY THE BIBLE (45-60 MINUTES)

- **Remember** what you talked about last time. Is there anything you need to **follow up** on this week?
- **Review** your Sermon Notes together. What is **one thing** that sticks out to you about what you learned?
- **Read** this week's passage together. In his message, **Pastor Pat showed us the result of living as a man-pleaser, and the result of living as a God-pleaser - all from the life of David.**

### Of Man and God-Pleasers:

#### 1. **David's Refuge (1 Samuel 22:1–5; Psalm 57:1)**

- David's "stronghold" wasn't just a cave—it was God Himself. Where do you tend to run for refuge when life feels unsafe or uncertain?
- Psalm 57:1 says, "In you my soul takes refuge." As a group, talk about some practical ways to "take refuge" in God daily.

#### 2. **The Fear-Filled Man-Pleaser (1 Samuel 22:9–19; Psalm 52)**

- Doeg's name means "fearful one." How can fear of people lead to disobedience to God?
- In what areas of life do you feel most tempted to seek others' approval instead of God's? (Work, parenting, purchases, social media, etc.)
- How do you respond to Pastor Pat's idea that man-pleasers need a bigger view of God?

#### 3. **The Faithful God-Pleaser (Ahimelech & David)**

- Ahimelech, the High Priest from chapter 21, honored Saul's position but ultimately obeyed God. What does his example teach us about courage and conviction? Are there areas in your life where you struggle to honor the position of authorities that you don't agree with?
- In what ways do you see David's humility and dependence on God contrasted with Saul's self-centeredness in chapter 23?
- David "inquired of the Lord" repeatedly (23:2, 4, 11–12). What would it look like for you to build that kind of "walkie-talkie" relationship with God in prayer and daily decisions?

#### 4. **Three Actions of God-Pleasers**

- **Fear God:** What's one way fearing God (revering Him above all else) can free you from the fear of man this week?
- **Stay Faithful:** When faithfulness doesn't seem to "pay off," what keeps you steady? (See Matthew 25:23.)
- **Shine On:** Who are some modern examples of believers who "have their shine on"? How can their example encourage your faithfulness?

***Receive and Respond: What will I do because of what I just heard?***

### PRAY TOGETHER (5-15 MINUTES)

- Where are you currently struggling to choose between pleasing people and pleasing God? Pray for courage to honor Him above all.

