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*"God often hides His blessing in trouble or trial,  
which makes it all the sweeter when it comes our way."*  
[A.W. Tozer]

### ICEBREAKER

What are you grateful for or what has brought you joy over the past week?

### BEGIN WITH PRAYER

Spend a moment praying the following passage, beginning in a posture of humility and gratitude!

*"God — his way is perfect; the word of the Lord is pure.  
He is a shield to all who take refuge in him."*  
[Psalm 18:30]

### MAIN POINT

God is always working. How will we respond to Him?

### PASSAGES

- 1 Samuel 9-10:1
- 1 Samuel 10: 2-27

### DISCUSSION

#### 1 Samuel 9-10:1

1. What stood out to you about the passage? What word or phrase resonated with you?
2. What physical advantage did Saul have over his peers? How might that impress others?
3. What was God's purpose for the future king? What does this say about God's character? How does this affect our trust in God?
4. What is the significance of Samuel's private anointing of Saul (10:1)? How do you think Saul felt when Samuel anointed him?
5. When has God mercifully used your disobedience to bring about good in your life?

#### 1 Samuel 10:2-27

6. What stood out to you about the passage? What word or phrase resonated with you?

7. In publicly anointing Saul, how does Samuel implicitly judge Israel and reward their protest (v. 17-19)?
8. What do we learn about the level of trust Saul had in God for the task to which God assigned him?
9. How was God's power and purpose demonstrated in these passages? What does this demonstration tell you about trusting God?
10. How is God currently at work in your life to lead or change you? What steps do you need to take to acknowledge your trust in Him in that process?

## STEP OF OBEDIENCE

As we are open and attentive to receive the Holy Spirit, we can then choose faith OVER fear, insecurity, ego, and everything else. Based on our conversation today and the leading of the Holy Spirit, *what is a step of obedience that you can take to live out this passage and the truths above?*

## PRAYER FOCUS

**We Are Bridge Builders** → *We are focused on those who are not yet connected to Jesus and His church. We strive to reach people by breaking barriers and filling gaps of division with love, grace, and truth.*

- As we strive to live out this Rock Bridge value, let's pray that God will add more Bridge Builders to our Ministry Teams who serve others to see them mature in Christ.
- For those not yet serving, we pray for clarity to discover their best fit and how their gifts can impact the lives of others at Rock Bridge.

### \*Optional Closing Prayer\*

Thank you for the promise that you are always at work.  
Thank you, Lord, for the assurance  
that this brings to my heart and mind.  
Open my heart and eyes to the amazing work  
that you are doing in the world around me.  
Bring justice to the evil, bring peace to the brokenhearted,  
bring revival to this lost world.  
Start with me, Lord: revive my heart, strengthen my faith,  
and embolden me to share your love with those around me.  
Amen.