Weekend Groups Youth.

Week 14

Learning to Listen

1 Samuel 3:1-11

Scripture

Read: 1 Samuel 3:1-11
Count how many times God calls young Samuel's name before Samuel realizes who it is.

Observation

Ask: What stands out to you from this passage?

Leader Tip: Be okay with long silences as students think.

Application

Ask: How can you apply this to your life today?

Say: God doesn't usually scream over the noise of our lives; He speaks in a gentle whisper. If we want to hear His voice, we have to slow down and listen.

Prayer

Prayer: "Lord, forgive us for letting distraction drown out Your voice. Give us ears to hear Your guidance and hearts ready to obey whatever You say. Amen."

Hook

Ask: What is the most distracting environment you've ever tried to listen to someone in (a loud stadium, a crowded lunchroom)?
Follow Up: How do you know when you're really listening to someone vs. just hearing noise?

Key Questions

1. What are the biggest "noises" or distractions that drown out God's voice in your life?
2. What attitude did Samuel show when he said, "Speak, for your servant is listening"?

Bottom Line

God is speaking, we just need to tune in.

Weekend Groups Youth.

Week 15

Looking at the Heart

1 Samuel 16:1-13

Scripture

Read: 1 Samuel 16:1-13
Notice how Samuel was sure Eliab was the king based on his height and good looks.

Observation

Ask: What stands out to you from this passage?

Leader Tip: Be okay with long silences as students think.

Application

Ask: How can you apply this to your life today?

Say: You don't need to be the most popular, tallest, strongest, or most attractive person to be used by God. God is looking for a heart that belongs entirely to Him.

Prayer

Prayer: "God, teach us to stop obsessing over what people see on the outside. Cleanse our hearts and help us see others through Your eyes of love and value. Amen."

Hook

Ask: Have you ever bought something solely because the packaging looked cool, but the product inside was awful?
Follow Up: Why are we so easily tricked by outward appearances?

Key Questions

1. How does it feel knowing that God sees and values you, even when others overlook you?
2. What does it actually mean to have a "heart after God"?

Bottom Line

People judge by outward appearance, but God looks at the heart.

Weekend Groups

Week 16

Facing Giants

1 Samuel 17:32-50

Scripture

Read: 1 Samuel 17:32-50
Compare King Saul's fear and Goliath's taunts with David's confidence.

Observation

Ask: What stands out to you from this passage?

Leader Tip: Be okay with long silences as students think.

Application

Ask: How can you apply this to your life today?

Say: David didn't focus on how big the giant was; he focused on how big God was. Whatever giant you are facing, remember that the battle belongs to the Lord.

Prayer

Prayer: "Lord, when fear makes our problems look giant, remind us of how great and powerful You are. Give us courage to step forward in faith, knowing You go before us. Amen."

Hook

Ask: What is something in your life right now that feels way bigger than your ability to handle it (a test, a conflict, a fear)?
Follow Up: How do you usually react when an obstacle feels massive?

Key Questions

1. What is the difference between fighting in your own strength versus letting God fight for you?
2. How can remembering how God helped us in the past give us courage today?

Bottom Line

The battle belongs to the Lord.

Weekend Groups

Youth.

Week 17

The Power of Repentance

2 Samuel 12:1-13; Psalm 51:1-12

Scripture

Read: 2 Samuel 12:1-13; Psalm 51:1-12
Listen to how Prophet Nathan uses a story to help King David see his hidden sin.

Observation

Ask: What stands out to you from this passage?

Leader Tip: Be okay with long silences as students think.

Application

Ask: How can you apply this to your life today?

Say: God doesn't expect you to be sinless, but He asks you to be honest. Repentance isn't God punishing you; it's God cleansing you so you can be restored to Him.

Prayer

Prayer: "God, create in us clean hearts. Give us the humility to own our mistakes, to repent quickly, and to trust in Your overwhelming forgiveness and grace. Amen."

Hook

Ask: What is your natural instinct when you get caught doing something wrong (defend yourself, blame someone else, hide)?
Follow Up: Why is owning up to our mistakes so difficult?

Key Questions

1. Why did God call David "a man after His own heart" even though David committed huge sins?
2. What is the difference between feeling bad because you got caught vs. true repentance?

Bottom Line

God's grace meets us when we stop making excuses and confess our sins.

Weekend Groups

Week 18

The Good Shepherd

Psalm 23:1-6

Scripture

Read: Psalm 23:1-6
Notice all the ways the Shepherd provides, protects, and restores His sheep.

Observation

Ask: What stands out to you from this passage?

Leader Tip: Be okay with long silences as students think.

Application

Ask: How can you apply this to your life today?

Say: You don't have to carry the weight of your life alone. Jesus is your Good Shepherd who guides, protects, and rests you. When you follow Him, you have everything you truly need.

Prayer

Prayer: "Lord, thank You for being our Good Shepherd. When we walk through dark valleys or feel overwhelmed, help us rest in Your presence and trust Your guidance. Amen."

Hook

Ask: What is a place, person, or activity that makes you feel 100% safe, calm, and cared for?
Follow Up: Why is it so rare to feel fully relaxed?

Key Questions

1. How does knowing God is with us change how we experience fear or grief?
2. What is the difference between trusting God to guide us vs. trying to shepherd our own lives?

Bottom Line

With God as your Shepherd, you have everything you need.