

# Small Group Study Guide

Don't Forget the Kids! |

1 Samuel 16:10-12

From Sunday June 14, 2020

## Appetizer:

**Question:** If you have kids, have you ever forgotten them somewhere? Tell some stories to the group.

**A couple questions from the passage:**

**Have someone read 1 Samuel 16:10-12**

Why do you think the town leaders trembled with fear when Samuel came to town?

## Main Course:

Kings typically had a certain look to them. Samuel was looking for someone who looked the part: tall, strong, handsome, perhaps confident and mature.

Studies have shown that people often vote for leaders who have certain physical attributes: they are typically tall. Studies have also shown that people trust leaders with beards.

It was pointed out that David didn't seem to fit the part of being a leader. He was rugged and full of life and was handsome, but he would have been the runt of the litter, and probably didn't have much facial hair going on.

**Question: In what ways do we dismiss young people who don't seem to "look the part" when it comes to leadership, or responsibility?**

In Sunday's sermon, Jeff suggested that the church in North America has often "forgotten" their youth. Studies have shown that kids start to question the faith as they move from elementary school to Middle School, and then again when they graduate from high school or college.

**Question: Why do you think these two milestones are challenging for the faith of our kids?**

**Question: In what ways has the church forgotten the kids at these stages of life?**

There were two suggestions as to why it is important that we don't forget the kids in Christian community:

1. We can't forget them because they are part of our maturing process in our discipleship journey. And,

2. We can't forget them because God continues to call kids into ministry.

**Question:** How do the kids help us grow in our relationship with God? And How does forgetting about them, or not giving them room in our church affect our own Spiritual Maturity?

Question: How do we encourage kids in their calling to ministry? What happens to the church when we do not provide space for our kids to experience what God is calling them to? And what happens to us, the generation that is tasked with "passing the baton"?

## Dessert:

**Try something risky when it comes to remembering our kids:**

1. Have every member of the small group commit to praying for, connecting with, and celebrating a youth or young adult (from Emmanuel or within their circle of influence). It can be someone you know; but if it is someone you don't, make sure you chat with the parents first...

2. Reach out to the different grads (or single out one grad) and celebrate them as a group. Tell them that you are thinking of them, praying for them and that there is a place for them in Christian community.

3. Discover different young adults that you know that have attended church but are now living in a different community, going to school or working. As a group, reach out to them and commit to sending them care packages while they are in school once every couple months.

Pray together, that God would give the group the wisdom and encouragement to invade the lives of the church's kids. And then pray for the young adults, youth and children of Emmanuel.