



Week of Sunday,
September 13, 2026

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Living out our God-given calling as we follow Jesus and make disciples every day.

Growing in the MARCS of a disciple every day!

SEPTEMBER FOCUS - ACCOUNTABLE

Select a question below to ask the group to gauge how you are growing in the MARCS of a disciple.

1. How can we respond to temptations in the moment to help us overcome them?
2. How do we grow through overcoming temptations and engaging in accountability?
3. Do you have people in your life you can be completely honest with, and why is it important to have accountability like this?

INTRODUCTION

David's encounter with Araunah in 2 Samuel 24:18-25 challenges us to examine the cost of our worship. When offered everything he needed for free, David refused to give God something that required no sacrifice. This passage invites us to move from benefiting from the faithfulness of others to personally participating in what God is building. As your group discusses, consider where God may be calling you to obey specifically, give sacrificially, and ask honestly, "Lord, what is my part?"

2 Samuel

READ ALOUD

2 Samuel 24:18-25

DISCUSS

Opening Question

Think back to the first time you experienced genuine Christian community: a worship service, a camp, or a church. What did it cost you to walk through that door? Who paid for what you received?

- What does David's response to the plague and God's command teach us about the relationship between repentance, obedience, and worship?
- Why does David refuse Araunah's offer, and what does his response teach us about the nature of true worship?
- How can we distinguish between receiving salvation as a free gift of grace and responding to God with costly worship? Why is it important to hold both truths together?

Have someone read aloud 2 Chronicles 3:1.

- The threshing floor later becomes the site of the temple in 2 Chronicles 3:1, on Mount Moriah, where Abraham had offered Isaac in Genesis 22. How do these events point forward to Jesus as the ultimate sacrifice for sin?

DISCUSS & APPLY

- How does changing your mindset from "What can I spare?" to "Lord, what is my part?" affect the way you think about giving, serving, and participating in the mission of the church?
- Where are you most tempted to hold back in your relationship with God? (your time, your finances, your gifts, or your availability)
- How have you benefited from the legacies of others?

RESPOND

How would you describe the legacy you want to leave for your family, church, community, etc. What steps are you taking to leave that legacy.

Praying as a Church - Week 33 Prayer Prompts

(Share and pick some to pray through as a group.)

Praise

- As you read 1 Kings 11, praise God for remaining faithful even when His people are unfaithful. Thank Him for His steadfast love, mercy, and covenant faithfulness that never fails.
- Praise the Lord for His miraculous provision. 1 Kings 17
- Praise the Lord for the ways He has answered prayer in your life. 1 Kings 18
- Praise the Lord for times when He has revealed Himself to you. 1 Kings 19

Silence & Solitude

- Spend a few moments asking God to search your heart. Are there any divided loyalties or idols competing for your affection and devotion to Him?
- Sit in silence, asking the Lord to remind you of times when He has met you in hard moments. How has He comforted you?

Ask - Allow the Word to Guide Your Prayer Requests

- Use Proverbs 4:23 as a prayer to the Lord, to guard your heart with all diligence. Pray for discernment to seek godly counsel and humility to obey God's wisdom rather than personal opinion. 1 Kings 12
- Pray that the Lord would increase your faith. He may answer in ways you never imagined. 1 Kings 17
- Use 1 Kings 18 to pray for impossible situations in your life and the lives of others. What are some impossible prayer requests only God can answer?

Lament - What Has Grieved You as You Have Read the Word?

- Bring before God your fears, worries, or areas where you've struggled to trust His provision. 1 Kings 17
- Confess times when you have been so discouraged that you want to give up. 1 Kings 19
- Lament over times when you have withheld good from those whom it is due. Allow Proverbs 3:27-30 to reshape how you treat others.

Mission

- Use 1 Kings 19:5-8 to pray for the people in your life who need God's ministry. Ask Him to meet them where they are, strengthen them for the journey ahead, and surround them with His comfort and care.
- Pray for our ministry partner, Sleep in Heavenly Peace. Ask God to expand their ministry, provide for their financial needs, and open many opportunities for them to share the hope of the Gospel with the families they serve.
- Pray for the Bahing people of Nepal, an unreached people group without a written language. Ask God to awaken believers in nearby villages to build meaningful relationships with the Bahing people. Pray that He would prepare their hearts to receive the Good News and bring an awakening among this remote people group.

Here are some questions you can discuss with the whole family.

2 Samuel 24:18-25

God told David to build an altar, and David obeyed. What is something God wants us to obey Him in today?

For younger children, help them think of simple examples like telling the truth, sharing, or being kind. For older children and teens, talk about obedience in areas like friendships, habits, attitude, serving, or trusting God when it is hard.

David said he would not give God something that cost him nothing. Why do you think David wanted his gift to God to matter?

For younger children, explain that David wanted to show God love by giving something important. For older children and teens, discuss how real worship may involve sacrifice, giving time, money, comfort, or attention to God.

What is one way our family can worship God this week by giving Him our best?

For younger children, suggest ideas like singing, praying, helping someone, or bringing an offering. For older children and teens, invite them to think practically about serving, generosity, using their gifts, or putting God first in their schedule.

GET INTO THE WORD

A YEAR-LONG JOURNEY THROUGH THE OLD TESTAMENT

Week 33

- 1 Kings 11 / Proverbs 4
 - 1 Kings 12 / Proverbs 5
 - 1 Kings 17 / Proverbs 6
 - 1 Kings 18 / Proverbs 7
 - 1 Kings 19 / Proverbs 8
- MEMORIZE: Luke 14:26-27
Luke 14:33



Even Greater Initiative

evengreatervision.com



For more information and questions about our Even Greater Initiative visit our our webpage above or scan the QR code. You can also come by one of the Even Greater tables on Sunday mornings.

WATCH

The Bible Project's Guide - Kings



See a collection of videos, classes, and articles that dives into **1 and 2 Kings** and their themes.

The Bible Project's Guide - Proverbs



See a collection of videos, classes, and articles that dives into **Proverbs** and its themes.

What's Going On at Long Hollow

- **Parent Conference** - Sunday, September 20, 6- 8 PM, Hendersonville Campus; registration required.
- **Noche de Adoración** - domingo, 27 de septiembre a las 5:30PM en la Capilla de Hendersonville (This gathering is designed for Spanish speakers, those learning the language, and anyone who wants to support and worship alongside our Spanish-speaking Long Hollow family. No registration is required.)
- **Fall Equipping Classes** - New classes starting in September and October.

Starting a D-Group

If you or someone you know would like to start a D-group, we have everything you need, including reading plans, journals, and a launch guide to walk you through the first four meetings.

longhollow.com/dgroups

What's Going On?

David responds to the prophet Gad's instruction by building an altar on Araunah's threshing floor in Jerusalem (2 Sam 24:18–25). When Araunah, a Jebusite, sees the king approaching, he respectfully inquires about David's purpose, and David explains he wishes to purchase the threshing floor to construct an altar that will end the plague afflicting the people (2 Sam 24:18–25).

The exchange that follows reveals David's theological conviction. Araunah generously offers to provide the land, oxen, and materials for the sacrifice at no cost (2 Sam 24:18–25), but David refuses, declaring that he will not present burnt offerings to God that demand nothing from him (2 Sam 24:18–25). This refusal reflects David's understanding that authentic sacrifice requires personal cost—the meaning lies in what the giver surrenders. He purchases the threshing floor and oxen for twenty ounces of silver (2 Sam 24:18–25).

After building the altar and offering sacrifices, God responds favorably, and the plague ceases (2 Sam 24:18–25). Beyond the immediate resolution, this episode carries profound significance. The threshing floor's acquisition and sanctification through David's offerings establishes it as the future site of Solomon's temple. Throughout this sequence, David demonstrates his anguish over the suffering his people endure because of his actions, interceding that God's judgment fall upon him and his household rather than Jerusalem. The passage thus portrays David as a repentant leader willing to bear personal cost for his nation's welfare—a posture that foreshadows the redemptive sacrifice to come.

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A Bit of Background Context

This passage concludes 1–2 Samuel by depicting David’s response to divine judgment following a census. After his repentance and God’s forgiveness, David acquires Araunah’s threshing floor, which offers a hopeful resolution to the narrative.

David had initially accepted responsibility for the sin that prompted God’s judgment, pleading with God using shepherd imagery to spare his people and direct the penalty toward himself alone. When God responded through the prophet Gad, instructing David to build an altar on Araunah’s threshing floor, this signaled divine acceptance of David’s plea.

The negotiation between David and Araunah parallels Abraham’s purchase of the Machpelah field—in both cases, the owner offered the property freely, but the buyer insisted on paying full price. David’s refusal of Araunah’s free gift reflects a conviction that sacrifice demands personal cost; the meaning lies in what the giver surrenders. David understood that God had chosen this threshing floor as a permanent place of worship, making purchase essential rather than temporary use.

The acquisition of this site anticipates the construction of Solomon’s temple, which would occupy the same location. This threshing floor sat on Mount Moriah, the region where Abraham had nearly offered Isaac as a sacrifice—creating a theological continuity across generations. Christian interpretation sees in David’s willingness to bear judgment and make personal sacrifice a foreshadowing of Jesus, David’s descendant, who would ultimately sacrifice himself for humanity’s salvation.

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Living out our God-given calling as we follow Jesus and make disciples every day.

MISSIONAL

Engaging with the world to share the Gospel intentionally.

ACCOUNTABLE

Being transparent with Christ and other believers about your walk.

REPRODUCIBLE

Disciples who make disciples; the mentee becomes the mentor.

COMMUNAL

Living in deep community with other believers; never alone.

SCRIPTURAL

Grounded in the Word of God as the ultimate authority.



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