

# Small Group Discussion Guide

*Setbacks and Setups: For the week of May 31 - June 4, 2020*

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## **Main Thought and Scripture:**

The pivotal moment that propelled young David to eventually becoming the King of Israel was his victory over the Philistine champion Goliath. What prepared him for this victory?

*"But David said to Saul, 'Your servant has been keeping his father's sheep. When a lion or a bear came and carried off a sheep from the flock, <sup>35</sup>I went after it, struck it and rescued the sheep from its mouth. When it turned on me, I seized it by its hair, struck it and killed it. <sup>36</sup>Your servant has killed both the lion and the bear; this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them, because he has defied the armies of the living God. <sup>37</sup>The Lord who rescued me from the paw of the lion and the paw of the bear will rescue me from the hand of this Philistine.' Saul said to David, 'Go, and the Lord be with you.'" (1 Samuel 17:34-37 NIV)*

David recognized that God used the smaller crisis in his life to prepare him to fulfill his calling. Overcoming the lion and the bear prepared him to face Goliath. Like David, God uses each crisis that we face to shape and prepare us to face greater challenges and to fulfill our calling as well. God wants to use this crisis to prepare us and turn our setbacks into setups to fulfill His purpose.

## **How do we turn our setbacks into setups? (See John 15:1-12)**

- Remain intimately connected to Jesus.
- View challenges as shaping and training.
- Make God's purpose your priority.
- Focus on God's faithfulness.

## **Discussion Questions:**

- What stands out to you from the main thought and scripture above?
- How has God been shaping you through this crisis? What are you learning about yourself, life, God, etc.? Explain.
- What area of your life do you still need to allow God to further shape (attitudes, behaviors, habits, practices, etc.?) What will you do to allow God to continue to shape you in these areas?

## **Prayer:**

- Pray for one another that we would allow God to continue to shape us through this crisis.
- Pray for opportunities to help others to see through Christ and that their setbacks can become setups as well.