

AFFIRMATION OF GROWTH (15 MINUTES)

- **Check in:** Let each person share how their challenge went this week and one thing that God has taught them in facing it.
- **Opening Prayer:** Pray specifically for both those who struggled with the challenge and those who met their goal. Ask God to reveal the truth and continue the work he began in each person.

BIBLE DISCOVERY (35-45 MINUTES: WHAT 10 MINUTES, SO WHAT 10-20 MINUTES, AND NOW WHAT 15-20 MINUTES)

- **Watch Video**
- **Big Idea for gGroup:** Even when we cannot see it, God is working during the good and bad times. For parents our role is to trust God, pray faithfully, and lead our children toward His wisdom.
- **WHAT? (To allow great discussion we will not cover every Bible verse read on Sunday or in the chapter)**
 - **Read 2 Samuel 15:1-14**
 - How did Absalom win the hearts of the people of Israel?
 - **Read 2 Samuel 15:14-23,**
 - What did David do when he heard about Absalom?
 - **Read 2 Samuel 15:24-32**
 - What does David's actions tell us about his relationship with God during this hard time?
 - **Read 2 Samuel 15:33-37**
 - What was David's plan with Hushai?
 - **Read 2 Samuel 16:20-17:16**
 - What did we learn about Ahithophel and was his advice wise?
 - In 15:31, David prayed that God would "turn the counsel of Ahithophel into foolishness." How do we see God answer that prayer in chapter 17?
- **SO WHAT? (If you like to get this section started you can ask, "what stood out to you from the Bible?")**
 - How did we see God's unseen work in this passage?
 - David's relationship with Absalom was deeply broken. How do you see the ripple effect of David's parenting choices in these chapters?
 - How can parents help their children discern which voices are wise and which are foolish?
- **NOW WHAT?**
 - What are some examples of "wise-sounding counsel" that could actually lead us away from God?
 - What practices can we adopt as parents (or mentors) to build trust and point children (or others) toward God's wisdom? (Think about the "mature believers" we talked about on Sunday).
 - In what ways can unresolved conflict lead to bitterness or rebellion? How can we handle unresolved conflict?

CHALLENGE FOR LIFE (10 MINUTES)

- **One Challenge:** Has this passage revealed a point of growth or a needed change? Is there something you must do or voice in order to better obey God? Be specific and narrow it down with an "I will" statement
 - I will _____
- **Closing Prayer**
- **Gather some ideas from your group and see what/when you want to do an outreach project.**