**Chapter 11: from shepherd to king**

**Icebreaker Question**: In your childhood, when a team was chosen, were you closer to the first one chosen or the last?

1. When Saul disobeyed God at the end of chapter ten (p. 143), Samuel told Saul that the LORD had sought out a man after God’s own heart and appointed him as the ruler for His people. What does it mean to be a man or woman after God’s own heart based on David’s example? (See Acts 13:21-22.)

2. In his battle with Goliath, “*David ran quickly toward the battle line to meet him*” (pg. 149). What does this phrase reveal about the type of man David was? Can you relate at all to David’s approach to impending conflict?

3. Contrast Saul’s downward trajectory and David’s upward trajectory. When you set them side by side, what were the fatal flaws of Saul and redeeming qualities of David?

4. What was the fundamental reason for David’s choice to spare Saul’s life in their encounter at En-Gedi (p. 153-154)? How does this choice reflect David’s view of submission and of God?

5. What do you learn about God’s character and His ways from the episode of David and the ark (p.156-158)? (For further insight, see Exodus 25:14 and Numbers 4:15.) Would you characterize your own worship as reserved or unbridled?

6. In humility, David offered to build a house for God, but instead God promised to build a “house” for David. What prompted David’s concern for God’s dwelling place?

7. Through no merit of his own, David received God’s grace through God’s covenant with him (p. 159). What specific covenant promises did God make with David? How is this covenant with David later fulfilled in Christ (Luke 1:32-33)?

8. Identify some episodes from David’s life that demonstrate David’s clear view of God’s Upper Story. How were his choices influenced by that macro view?

In the time remaining ask your group members to share any of their personal reflection insights from their journal entries.