



## Small Group Discussion Guide

June 11, 2017

### Sermon Title:

“Family Matters: Getting Along with the In-Laws”

**Sermon Text:** 1 Samuel 18:20-30, 19:8-12

**Scripture Reading:** Ruth 1:1-18

**Leader:** *Please allow a moment for introductions/visiting, and then have someone offer a brief prayer for God to meet with your group.*

**Getting Started:** Are you a part of an “in-law” relationship? In what capacity? Perhaps as both Father/Mother AND Son/Daughter? Discuss. How long has that relationship been in place? What have you learned about your In-law during that time? Have you learned anything about yourself as an in-law?

### Discussion:

1. The Bible is filled with “in-law” stories. During the service Sunday, there were two specific ones highlighted: 1) Naomi and Ruth, and 2) Saul and David. What do you know about either? What place did each occupy in the “in-law” relationship?
2. How were David and Saul first introduced? **(Reference: 1 Samuel 16:14-23)** What service did David perform for Saul?
3. How did David become Saul’s son-in-law? **(Reference: 1 Samuel 18:20-22, 27)**
4. What was Saul’s motive for wanting David to marry his daughter? **(Reference: 18:21)**
5. The Pastor mentioned 4 guidelines for giving your “in-law” relationship the best possible chance for success. Consider these and discuss the results of failing to live by them.
  - \* **Show Unconditional Love.** How can you best do this?
  - \* **Let Go of Your Child.** As a parent, we are told our children are to leave us. **(Reference: Genesis 2:24)** What is our child then instructed to do?
  - \* **Allow the Relationship to Develop Naturally.** Do not “force fit” an expected relationship. Give it time to form.
  - \* **Respect Boundaries .** We all like to set limits. Do you respect those set by others?

**Closing:** Close by sharing pray requests. Praying for one other and each other’s families.  
**Go Share Jesus in Service!**