

DAVID: RISE & FALL

Part 1. GOLIATH

Read 1 Samuel 17.32-50 to get a fuller idea of the story for this week. Get someone to give a brief recap of the talk.

CALLING

- What kinds of thing come to mind when people talk about 'calling'? What does it mean to you?
- Matt talked about our calling being lifelong or seasonal - maybe a few years, maybe even only a week or so. Do you have an idea of what God is calling you to, in this season or in your life generally? Is it your job? The city? Your community? Within church?

GIFTING

Take some time to go round and tell each other what you think their giftings are.

Depending on how chatty your group are or how well you know each other, you can either do this as a whole group, a person at a time, or you could do it where each person writes their name at the top of a bit of paper, and then you pass it round and write something on other people's sheets.

Alternatively, if that seems a stretch, use these questions instead:

- Why do you think God gives us giftings that need practice, rather than just giving us each a fully formed expert skill?
- How can we recognise, in ourselves and others, giftings before they are fully formed?
- How can we get better at encouraging others in the giftings we see in them?

ANOINTING

- David had a long time between when he was anointed as King and when he was crowned as King. What do you think was the purpose of this time?
- How do you think David would've found it during this time?
- Matt talked about anointing as the presence of God being with someone, often in a particular area of their lives or a role they fulfilled. How do you think we can figure out the areas in our lives where we have God's anointing and blessing?
- How can we live in the tension, as David did, of trusting our own giftings, but also recognising our dependence on God?

BIG IDEA: If you want to realise your calling, you've got to practise your gifting and trust your anointing.

Take some time to pray for each other. In small groups, you could ask for prophetic words for each other about one of these three areas.