

Lectionary Bible Study

For Sunday, March 15, 2026 (Lent 4)

1 Samuel 16:1-13

Discussion Starters

1. Why is Samuel in mourning, and why does God rebuke him?
2. Why does Samuel hesitate about going to Bethlehem? What does his hesitation suggest about Saul's character?
3. Why are the leaders of Bethlehem afraid when they see Samuel?
4. What characteristics was Samuel looking for in a leader? What was God looking for?
5. How might this passage be applied to the church today? To our country today?

Ephesians 5:8-14

Discussion Starters

1. What is a "fruitless deed of darkness?" What makes something fruitless or fruitful?
2. What specific things come to mind as you strive to "live as a child of the light?"
3. What does this text teach about darkness? What does it teach about light? What do each represent in this passage?
4. What things "please the Lord?" How do you discover them?
5. How might this be applied to our current situation today?

John 9:1-41

Discussion Starters

1. What belief is behind the question asked by the disciples in verse 2?
2. Is sin the cause of every bad thing that occurs? Why or why not?
3. Why did Jesus send this man to a pool instead of simply healing him on the spot?
4. Why does Jesus keep on healing people on the Sabbath if it upsets the Pharisees so much?
5. How is blindness a good metaphor for sin?

WRAP UP

What key insight did you gain from this Bible study? How might it make a difference in how you live today?