



# WEEK 4

April 9 & 10

## I Care Too Much What Other People Think

*This sermon study is designed to be used the week after the sermon it supplements. Before using the study in your life group, it might be helpful to work through the questions on your own. The purpose of this guide is to help facilitate discussion and to help your group, collectively and individually, grow closer to Jesus.*

### SERIES OVERVIEW

Two of the most powerful words in the English language: "Me Too." At some point in our lives, we all wonder, "Am I the only one who feels this way?" We often don't share our fears because we're afraid others can't relate, or they might even laugh. Whenever we're going through a crisis, it's natural to feel all alone yet still wanting to reach out to others. Often, we're not looking for a solution to our problem—we're looking for someone who identifies with what we're going through and says, "I've been through that. I understand." In the moment that happens, we find comfort and encouragement, knowing other people struggle with this too, and we'll get through it together.

### MAIN TEXT

1 Samuel

### ADDITIONAL TEXT

Hebrews 2:17-18; Psalm 119:103-105

### GETTING STARTED

If your house was burning down, what three objects would you try to save?

### DIGGING DEEPER

1. The way we see ourselves can easily become distorted. How have you experienced this? What was the cause? How did it affect you?
2. Read Hebrews 2:17-18. What speaks to you from this passage? How does knowing that Jesus understands how you feel change your perspective?

3. 1 Samuel tells us the story of Saul and how he self-destructed because he cared too much what other people thought of him. Can you relate to Saul's story? In what ways?
4. How can trying to manage other people's perception imprison you? How can you break out of that prison?
5. Aaron said that humility isn't thinking more or less of yourself, it's thinking of yourself rightly. How do we think of ourselves rightly?
6. The words of others are powerful things. Have you ever been hurt by what someone said to you or about you? How did it affect you? Have your words ever hurt someone? What did you do about it?
7. Everyone likes to be liked, but why is it unhealthy to like being liked too much? Why should the voice of God be louder than the thoughts of others?
8. Read Psalm 119:103-105. What are the benefits of reading God's Word daily? How can it counter the effects of damaging words from others?

### NEXT STEPS

*Saul wrecked his influence because he cared more about what others thought of him than what God said about him. Review the following list of things God has said about you in His Word. Each day for the next week, focus on one and pray that God would help you to claim it for your life.*

- You are His child. (John 1:12)
- You are not condemned. (Romans 8:1)
- You are an heir with Christ. (Romans 8:17)
- You have wisdom. (1 Corinthians 1:30)
- You can be confident. (Ephesians 3:12)
- You are forgiven. (Isaiah 43:25)
- You are loved. (Romans 8:35-39)