

### **Small group questions: 1 Samuel 5:1-12**

-What do the events in V1-12 reveal about who God is? How would you describe who God is from these verses? How does this affect our personal relationship with God/how you live out your faith?

-In v3-4 the statue of Dagon falls twice, the first time falling at the feet of the ark, the second time losing its head and hands, what do these events tell us about Dagon? What do they tell us about God and the ark of God?

-God's power and sovereignty defies the expectations of the people of Ashdod, revealing the one true God.

How does this impact our individual and corporate missional contexts today? In what areas of life are you in faith for God's sovereignty to be revealed?

-As the ark is moved from city to city, God's 'hand' upon the Philistines inflicts tumors/plagues wherever the ark goes. Why was the similarity with the plagues in Exodus significant?

-God's actions remind us of the Biblical teaching regarding the 'fear the Lord', eg Proverbs 1:7, Psalm 111:10, 2 Cor 7:1.

What does it mean to fear the lord? How does this challenge us as followers of God today?

-Thinking about the events in 1 Samuel 5:1-12 what encourages you about this passage, and what do you find challenging?