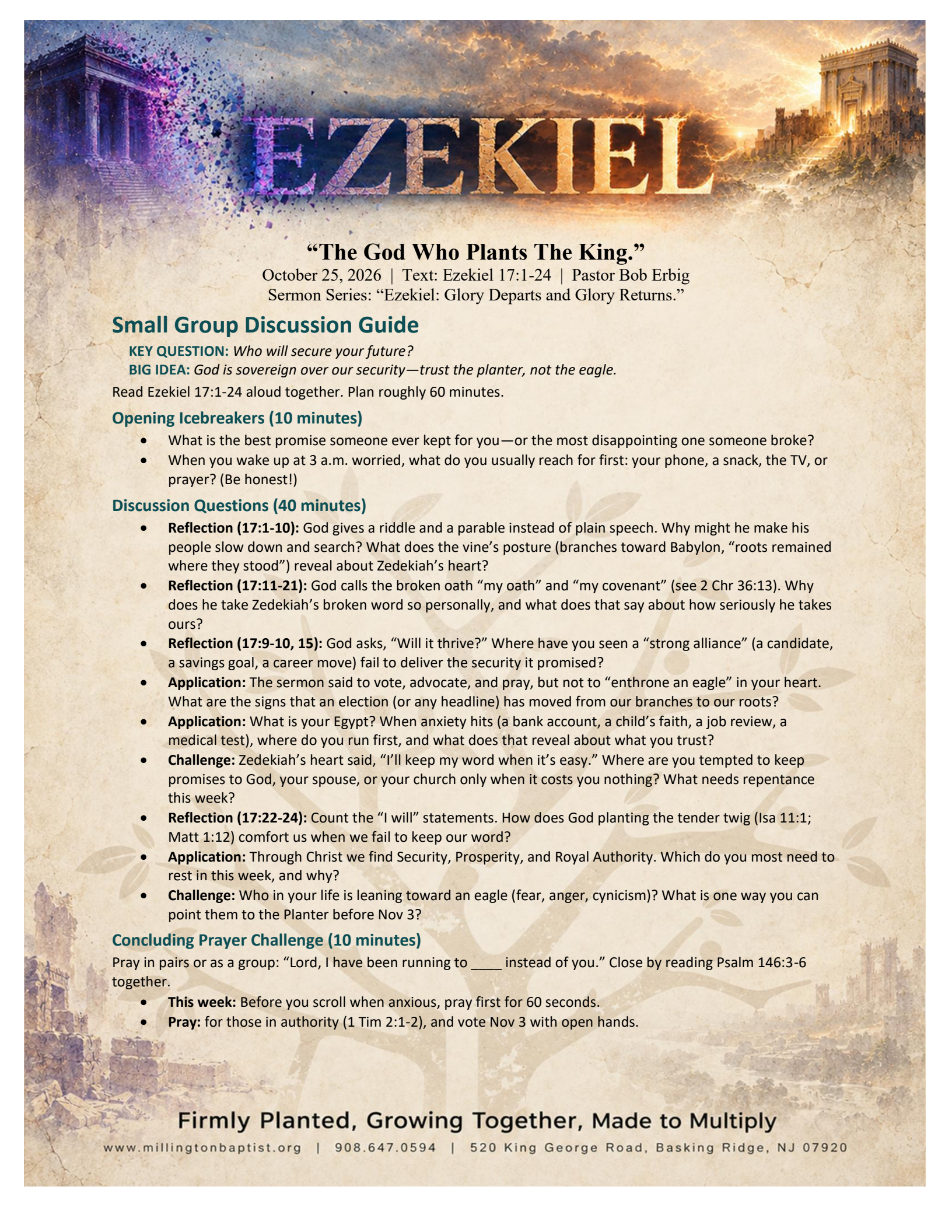




EZEKIEL

“The God Who Plants The King.”

October 25, 2026 | Text: Ezekiel 17:1-24 | Pastor Bob Erbig
Sermon Series: “Ezekiel: Glory Departs and Glory Returns.”

Small Group Discussion Guide

KEY QUESTION: *Who will secure your future?*

BIG IDEA: *God is sovereign over our security—trust the planter, not the eagle.*

Read Ezekiel 17:1-24 aloud together. Plan roughly 60 minutes.

Opening Icebreakers (10 minutes)

- What is the best promise someone ever kept for you—or the most disappointing one someone broke?
- When you wake up at 3 a.m. worried, what do you usually reach for first: your phone, a snack, the TV, or prayer? (Be honest!)

Discussion Questions (40 minutes)

- **Reflection (17:1-10):** God gives a riddle and a parable instead of plain speech. Why might he make his people slow down and search? What does the vine’s posture (branches toward Babylon, “roots remained where they stood”) reveal about Zedekiah’s heart?
- **Reflection (17:11-21):** God calls the broken oath “my oath” and “my covenant” (see 2 Chr 36:13). Why does he take Zedekiah’s broken word so personally, and what does that say about how seriously he takes ours?
- **Reflection (17:9-10, 15):** God asks, “Will it thrive?” Where have you seen a “strong alliance” (a candidate, a savings goal, a career move) fail to deliver the security it promised?
- **Application:** The sermon said to vote, advocate, and pray, but not to “enthroned an eagle” in your heart. What are the signs that an election (or any headline) has moved from our branches to our roots?
- **Application:** What is your Egypt? When anxiety hits (a bank account, a child’s faith, a job review, a medical test), where do you run first, and what does that reveal about what you trust?
- **Challenge:** Zedekiah’s heart said, “I’ll keep my word when it’s easy.” Where are you tempted to keep promises to God, your spouse, or your church only when it costs you nothing? What needs repentance this week?
- **Reflection (17:22-24):** Count the “I will” statements. How does God planting the tender twig (Isa 11:1; Matt 1:12) comfort us when we fail to keep our word?
- **Application:** Through Christ we find Security, Prosperity, and Royal Authority. Which do you most need to rest in this week, and why?
- **Challenge:** Who in your life is leaning toward an eagle (fear, anger, cynicism)? What is one way you can point them to the Planter before Nov 3?

Concluding Prayer Challenge (10 minutes)

Pray in pairs or as a group: “Lord, I have been running to ____ instead of you.” Close by reading Psalm 146:3-6 together.

- **This week:** Before you scroll when anxious, pray first for 60 seconds.
- **Pray:** for those in authority (1 Tim 2:1-2), and vote Nov 3 with open hands.

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