

SUMMARY AND REVIEW

Take 5-10 minutes to discuss this week's sermon, *The Legacy of King David*

READ Familiarize yourself with 2 Samuel Chapters 21-24 (encourage members to read before small group).
Read 1 Kings 2: 1-4 & 10

INTRO TO THE TEXT:

1 and 2 Samuel attempt to address the overall question, "Who may serve suitably as king of Israel?" In the final four chapters of 2 Sam. and the first two of 1 Kings, David's "portrait" is completed with a variety of materials (poetry, lists, historical narratives, etc.). The final four chapters of 2 Sam. can be broken into six individual units: (1) Yahweh's wrath against Israel, (2) David's heroes, (3) David's song of praise, (4) David's last words, (5) David's mighty men, and (6) Yahweh's wrath against Israel. The bookends of this section show David offending God and then David reconciling with God which brings about answered prayer. Between these book ends we see the lists and songs that refer to other themes captured in other parts of 1-2 Sam. such as Hannah's song, which draws parallels to David's song in chapter 22 (we read Hannah's song during our first lesson in this series).

The question that must be asked is what do we do with David? We thought he would be the king that would deliver God's people, yet he turns out to be a broken man: his legacy has positive and negative aspects (sound like any of our lives?). The Lord, though, in his gracious and abounding love, works through broken vessels. If we look back to Deut. 17 and the Ten Commandments, we realize that David does not measure up to the ideal king. When we measure ourselves to these passages, we see that we do not measure up either. How beautiful and precious this makes the reality of the gospel. Just like David, we will stand before our God. And just like David, we will be loved and accepted because there is a King who has come and fulfilled the responsibilities of the ultimate king, and that man is Jesus.

ANALYZE THE TEXT

1. God answers David's prayers in 2 Samuel 21:14 and 24:25 to end a famine and a plague respectively. While David is not without sin, what characteristic(s) does David exhibit to bring about answered prayer? Refer to 2 Samuel 22:26-28 for a suggestion.
2. Two key words used in David's song of praise in chapter 22 are "rock" and "save" (also mentioned in David's Psalm 28). What is David conveying with these repeated references?
3. How is David's prayer in 2 Samuel 22:51 similar to Hannah's in 1 Samuel 2:10? Which word is shared between the two and to whom does it refer or what theological significance does it have?
4. Part of God's original promise to David and then to Solomon is mentioned in 1 Kings 2:4, a conditional promise. What is the promise? Another part of God's promise was unconditional originally mentioned in 2 Samuel 7: 11-16. What was that part of the promise?

APPLY

1. How do you rationalize the selection of David and God's promise to use his lineage for Jesus? Do you find him inadequate for representing that lineage of God's son? How would you compare your own failures to his?
2. Even though we continually fall short of God's expectations of us, how can you work towards praying boldly to God to see him answers? What specific steps might you need to take?
3. The reality that God uses broken vessels should encourage us but also bring us to our knees in thanks to our savior. Spend some time with your group in prayer repenting and praising our good king.

MEMORIZE Romans 3:22-24