

king's chapel

Community Group Discussion Guide

Week of February 3, 2019

This Week's Focus: All who trust in Jesus' atoning work are freed from the burden of sin and its eternal consequences and can rest securely in God's love and good providence no matter their circumstances.

This Week's Text: 2 Samuel 16

"Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father." **Philippians 2:3-12**

Observations and Questions for Discussion:

- What has the Holy Spirit impressed on your heart and mind from this week's sermon/text? What have you learned so far from our study of 1 and 2 Samuel?
- Briefly recount the events of 2 Samuel 15. What's was Absalom's strategy for overthrowing his father David? What important lesson did David learn during this tumultuous time (Psalm 3)?
- Why did Ziba come bearing gifts for David and his entourage (reference 2 Samuel 19:24-27)? Who is Mephibosheth? Although initially suspicious, why do you think David was quick to believe Ziba's lies and give him Mephibosheth's fortune?
- Do you seek wisdom in your interactions with others to avoid being conned? Are you an opportunist like Ziba who objectifies people and takes advantage of other's fortunes/misfortunes for your own benefit? Discuss how Jesus is the antithesis to Ziba.
- What is Shimei's beef with King David? Do you insult those you disagree with including those in leadership? Do you need to repent of bitterness that you have against someone?
- Although Shimei is guilty of breaking God's law (2 Samuel 19:21, Exodus 22:28), how does David respond? Why is his response different than Abishai's (verse 12)?

- Like David, how can we have hope in the midst of affliction or when undergoing the painful consequences of our sin? Discuss how the gospel frees us from the burden of guilt or shame for your sin.
- How did Hushai infiltrate Absalom's operation to take over Jerusalem? Contrast the interaction between Hushai and Absalom with the interaction between Ziba and David.
- What did Ahithophel counsel Absalom to do? Discuss how this advice was at the same time a.) consistent with the cultural, pagan practices at the time and b.) the fulfillment of divine prophecy (2 Samuel 12:11-12).
- Read verse 23. Discuss the danger of placing anyone's counsel or teaching on par with or above the authoritative Word of God.
- Share how this passage drives you to the good news of Jesus Christ. How does this passage encourage you to live on mission by demonstrating and declaring the gospel to those in your community and spheres of influence?