



Community Group Discussion Guide

Week of March 3, 2019

**This Week's Focus:** The gospel of Jesus Christ is the call to come into his kingdom by receiving him as King, and it is the hope that one day "all the kingdoms of the world will become the Kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ, and he shall reign forever and ever" (Revelation 11:15).

**This Week's Text:** 2 Samuel 20

"I find in myself a desire which no experience in this world can satisfy, the most probable explanation is that I was made for another world. If none of my earthly pleasures satisfy it, that does not prove that the universe is a fraud. Probably earthly pleasures were never meant to satisfy it, but only to arouse it, to suggest the real thing." **C.S. Lewis**

**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 summarize the events of chapter 19. How were the conditions ripe for a revolt? What does the narrator mean by calling Sheba "worthless" (1 Samuel 1:16, 2:12, 10:27, 25:17)?
- Why do you think David confined and provided for his 10 concubines for the remainder of their lives? Discuss how verse 3 teaches us about sin, its long-lasting consequences, and its painful effects on others. How does it leave us longing for a King who will wipe away all tears of pain and sadness?
- What is biblical unity, and how is it different from our culture's definition? Does unity necessarily mean the absence of conflict? What is the source of unity in the church (1 Corinthians 1:9-10)?
- Why did Joab murder Amasa, and how did he use this gruesome deed to convince Amasa's troops to follow him? Have you justified sinful behaviors in your own life that you need to repent of? Are you enabling others to continue in a pattern of sin?
- How Sheba defeated and the city of Abel of Beth-maacah saved from destruction? What other women played important roles in this time in Israel's history (1 Samuel 1-2:10; 1 Samuel 19:11-17; 1 Samuel 25:3; 2 Samuel 14:8; 2 Samuel 17:19-20)?
- Contrast verses 23-25 with 2 Samuel 8:15-18. What does the most recent list of cabinet members indicate about the nature of David's kingdom? What does this teach us about the inevitability of all worldly kingdoms, no matter how well intended or structured?

- Discuss our need for a new heart (Matthew 15:19-20) and the internal longing for a new kingdom free from sin with a King who rules with perfect justice and peace.
- 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?