



THE RISE AND FALL
OF A KING
THE LIFE OF DAVID

A Broken Legacy

Pastors Tommy, Christian, Jeff T, and Jon | 2 Samuel 13–18

NOTE: As a guide, use these questions to help with group discussion. Not all questions are needed. Select the ones that will best serve your group as you grow in Christ together through His Word. **Soli Deo Gloria.**

ICE BREAKER:

What's a little miscommunication that turned into a big deal?

UNDERSTANDING THE TEXT IN CONTEXT:

What were some of the events that led to the disasters within David's own family? How did the failure to rightly address situations lead to further tragedies?

Read Psalm 3. What was happening when David wrote this? What is his heart posture?

CONNECTING TO JESUS AND HIS GOSPEL:

Read over 2 Samuel 18:33 and consider David's earnest desire to die in the place of his son. How does this help us understand Jesus, the true and better David, who actually did die for the sake of his beloved children? (See also Mark 10:45; Romans 5:6-11; 2 Corinthians 5:18-21).

LIVING OUT THE TRUTH:

How does a passive approach to sin allow sin to compound?

The longer we sit in unrepentant sin, the harder it is to confront. Why is it so hard to confess the sins we feel comfortable committing? Is there a sin struggle or habit that you have allowed to fester in your life? What is a step you can take to change today?

There is freedom in our repentance. Read 1 John 1:9 for further encouragement.

PARENTING MOMENT AND FAMILY FOCUS:

God cares deeply about our hearts: how we treat others, how we handle power, and how our choices affect the people around us. Absalom, David's son, wanted to be king. Instead of trusting God to place the next right person as king of His people, Absalom used flattery and promises to win people over. He looked impressive and sounded caring, but his heart was focused on his own goals. Later, when Absalom dies, David doesn't respond with anger or 'I told you so.' Instead, he responds with deep sadness and love. Even after betrayal, David still loved his son.

Talk together and answer this question: How can we choose humility and honesty this week, in our family, school, or work? Pray for courage to follow through.

FURTHER STUDY:

Read a tremendous article about God as the Perfect Father. The article will encourage all of us, including the dads among us: 'What Does the Bible Say About God as Our Father?' at crossway.org.



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QUESTIONS FOR NEXT WEEK'S SERMON:

Rise and Fall of a King – Davidic Covenant
2 Samuel 7:1-17 — February 21-22

This page gets us into the text for the next sermon. The more familiarity we have with God's Word, the better we can see God and all that He has for us.

In the days leading up to next weekend, set aside a few minutes to read the text and reflect on these questions. A prayer to start: 'Open my eyes that I may behold wonderful things out of your law' - Psalm 119:18

- 1. How is David's well-intended desire to build a more permanent place of worship for the Lord interrupted? What does this show about the honor and esteem that both Nathan and David have for the Lord?**
- 2. What does God give (or promise) to David? How does this apply to David and beyond?**
- 3. How does Psalm 2 relate to the Covenant with David?**
- 4. Read Acts 4:23-31. How did the early church apply the Psalm 2 text — and the Davidic Covenant — to Jesus?**
- 5. What in this text confuses you?**
- 6. What in this text compels you?**
- 7. Read David's prayer in response to God's promises: 2 Samuel 7:18-29.**