

# THE LIFE OF DAVID

*Your servant has been keeping  
his father's sheep.*

**1 Samuel 17:34**

## MAN AFTER GODS OWN HEART (10 BIBLE STUDIES)

**EXAMINAPPLICATION**  
**BIBLE STUDIES**

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## THE SMALL PRINT

THE HOLY BIBLE, NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION®, NIV®

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## GETTING THE MOST OUT OF THESE STUDIES

### Your Commitment

I would encourage you to make a commitment to attending your group regularly. I realise that sometimes there are things that get in the way, but do prioritise studying the Bible with other. This will involve sacrifice, and effective use of your time, but I really believe that in doing so you will get the most out of studying the Bible and praying together in your small group.

### Your Contribution

What you put into the group is going to determine what you get out of the group. I encourage you to contribute honestly to the discussion and workings of the group. I understand people come from different backgrounds with unique personalities & life experiences. But, we all have a big part to play, so I encourage you to be fully present and take ownership of your group.

### Your Preparation

These materials are primarily for use in preparing and/or leading group discussions, but they will also be useful in keeping your thoughts together in one place. The materials provide you with the passage so that you can identify and highlight recurring themes and note down your own thoughts and questions. Also, the materials include questions designed to provoke thought, and help you reflect on what the passage meant, both at the time it was written, and also what it means for us now.

I would encourage you to make good use of these materials, as doing so will help you contribute and get the most out of the group discussions. The materials are, however, only “tools” – they are there to help you, and not to restrict you, or force you to think in a certain manner. I want to see God speaking to you through these passages, and if the questions or notes don't help you, simply don't use them!

I have also included within these materials an introduction to the book. Make of this what you will, but I hope that it is helpful in getting you started with these studies!

### Your Leadership

Here are some useful pointers in how to lead your Bible study group. Be aware that included in this study guide are more questions than you can possibly ask and/or answer in one session. They are not designed to be used rigidly, and there will rarely be a need to ask every question! Make sure that you spend some time praying at the start and ensure you read & re-read the passages as much as possible. In relation to the passages, then consider the suggested questions with an open mind. There is rarely “a single right answer” and I would encourage you to share your thoughts with your group.

I have also included a number of quotations from relevant Christian literature, most of which are readily available online if you want to do further thinking or study. My prayer is that as you study together you would grow to love Jesus and experience Him more deeply.

I would appreciate your feedback and suggestions on how to make these materials even better!

Steve McClure  
Spring 2019

## INTRODUCING “THE LIFE OF DAVID”

I always find it amazing to delve into the Old Testament and study one of its key characters. If you are using this booklet let me say that David is a great choice because there is more about him than any other person in the Bible. There are approximately 139 chapters about David and much of it is his own writings. It's not merely a story but a lot of it is David himself telling us what it was like, sharing his experiences. In this study series we are going to look at David's life and what it might mean to experience God over a lifetime. We can learn a lot from a doing a character study but we must be careful to set the story in its right context – we will aim to do that and as we do so we trust that there will be plenty of challenges to apply what we are learning to our own lives.

David is the greatest King Israel ever had. He is also a very tragic story. We first meet David when things had not been going well with King Saul. Samuel is sent to anoint a new King – he is sent to Jesse who has 8 sons. The first 7 are rejected and the one who had been overlooked, the one who was not even invited; namely a young 13 year old David is chosen to be King. Next we have the story of Goliath, a giant warrior from Israel's arch enemy, the Philistines. With only 5 stones this shepherd boy defeated this great warrior with the help of his God. Seventeen years later, after a period of civil war and many years in the wilderness (building character), David finally takes the throne from Saul (initially in the South) and then 7 years later (across all Israel 7). David unites Israel and makes chooses to make Jerusalem, which is slap bang in the middle, the capital city. David offers to build a house for God but God says no. Instead God says he is going to build a house for David: God is going to build the nation of Israel through his family line. Moreover one of his descendants would come to save the world.

The second half of David's life did not go so well. Most famously there is story of Bathsheba. David sees her bathing on a nearby rooftop. He wants her, sends for her and ends up getting her pregnant. In order to cover up his mess he gets himself into a dangerous web of lies and even has Bathsheba's husband Uriah killed. After God's rebuke David is incredibly sorry! After that there are also lots of stories about David's children. Amnon rapes his half-sister Tamar. Absalom ends up killing Amnon and ends up challenging David for the throne. A fierce battle follows until David eventually wins out. This was supposed to be the golden age of Israel – the largest geographic expanse they ever experienced and yet David's story (here on earth at least) ends after these tragedies. Even at his death two of his sons were fighting for the crown which eventually passes to Solomon.

What I like about David's story is that it is so real. There is no hiding and we see his life warts and all. David is someone we can identify with – he is not always the hero and he does not always get it right! It feels like there was little hardship that David did not have to face. Some of this he brought on himself but the thing that helped him through it all was his relationship with God. Through David's life we see that God used him powerfully in the lives of His people. I find the story of his life an inspiration to continue following Jesus. For not only do we have the history but around half the Psalms are written by David. They record much of his life with God both in the good times and the hard times.

As you work through these studies I pray that you will encounter God in the kind of way that David did and that God will find in you, a man or woman after His own heart.

*Steve McClure, Spring 2019*

**Compiled by Mike Treneer, International Navigators**

*"He chose David his servant and took him from the sheep pens; from tending the sheep he brought him to be the shepherd of his people Jacob, of Israel his inheritance. And David shepherded them with integrity of heart; with skilful hands he led them." (Psalm 78:70-72)*

**c 1040 B.C.**

**DAVID BORN (Ruth 4:13-22; 1 Chronicles 2:13-17)**

The great-grandson of Ruth and Boaz (Ruth 4:13-22)

The seventh or eighth son of Jesse of Bethlehem (1 Chron. 2:13-17 and 1 Sam. 16:1-13)

**DAVID'S RISE TO FAME (1 Samuel 16:1 - 18:30)**

- David, the shepherd (1 Sam. 16:1-17:58)
  - David anointed by Samuel (1 Sam. 16:1-13)
  - David plays the harp at Saul's court (1 Sam. 16:14-23)
  - David fights Goliath (1 Sam. 17:1-58)
- David, the army captain (1 Sam. 18:1-30)
  - Jonathan's love for David (1 Sam. 18:1-4)
  - Saul's jealousy of David (1 Sam. 18:5-9)
  - Saul throws his spear at David (1 Sam. 18:10-15)
  - David and Saul's daughters (1 Sam. 18:16-30)

**DAVID ON THE RUN FROM SAUL (1 Samuel 19:1 - 26:25)**

- Jonathan and Michal protect David from Saul (1 Sam. 19:1-20:42)
  - Jonathan dissuades Saul from killing David (1 Sam. 19:1-7)
  - David dodges Saul's spear for the 2nd time (1 Sam. 19:8-10)
  - David escapes from his house (1 Sam. 19:11-17; Psalm 59)
  - David flees to Samuel (1 Sam. 19:18-24)
  - David seeks Jonathan's help (1 Sam. 20:1-42)
- David on his own (1 Sam. 21:1-15)
  - David lies to Ahimelech the priest (1 Sam. 21:1-9)
  - David feigns madness at Gath (1 Sam. 21:10-15; Psalms 34 and 56)
- David and his band of discontents (1 Sam. 22:1-26:25)
  - David flees to Adullam, Moab and Hereth (1 Sam. 22:1-5; Psalm 142)
  - Saul kills the priests at Nob for helping David (1 Sam. 22:6-23; Psalm 52)
  - Three of David's men bring him water from Bethlehem (1 Chron. 11:15-19)
  - David and his band protect Keilah (1 Sam. 23:1-13)
  - Jonathan comes to David in the Desert of Ziph (1 Sam. 23:14-18; Psalm 63)
  - The Ziphites betray David to Saul (1 Sam. 23:19-29; Psalm 54)
  - David spares Saul's life in a cave at Engedi (1 Sam. 24; Psalm 57)
  - Men from Gad and Benjamin defect to David (1 Chron. 12:8-12)
  - David in the Desert of Maon—the meeting with Abigail (1 Sam. 25)
  - David and Abishai creep into Saul's camp at Ziph (1 Sam. 26)

**1012 B.C. David aged 28**

## **DAVID AT ZIKLAG AMONG THE PHILISTINES (1 Samuel 27:1 - 2 Samuel 1:27)**

- David takes refuge with the Philistines (1 Sam. 27:1-12)
  - David and his 600 men and their families go to Achish (1 Sam. 27:1-4)
  - David is given the town of Ziklag by Achish (1 Sam. 27:5-12)
  - More men defect to David at Ziklag (1 Chron. 12:1-7)
- War between Israel and the Philistines (1 Sam. 28:1-29:11)
  - David expected to fight for the Philistines (1 Sam. 28:1-2)
  - Saul overcome with fear (1 Sam. 28:3-6)
  - Saul consults the medium at Endor (1 Sam. 28:7-25)
  - The Philistine chiefs object to David marching with them (1 Sam. 29:1-5)
  - Achish sends David back to Ziklag (1 Sam. 29:6-11)
  - More defectors join David from Manasseh (1 Chron. 12:19-22)
- The Amalekite raid on Ziklag (1 Sam. 30:1-30)
  - The raid discovered (1 Sam. 30:1-6)
  - The initiative recovered (1 Sam. 30:7-15)
  - The families rescued (1 Sam. 30:16-31)
- The deaths of Saul and Jonathan (1 Sam. 31:1 - 2 Sam. 1:27)
  - Israel routed at Mt. Gilboa, Saul and Jonathan killed (1 Sam. 31:1-13)
  - The news of their deaths reaches David at Ziklag (2 Sam. 1:1-16)
  - David's lament for Saul and Jonathan (2 Sam. 1:17-27)

### **c 1010 B.C. David aged 30**

## **DAVID AS KING OVER JUDAH AT HEBRON (2 Samuel 2:1 - 5:5)**

- Rival kings chosen (2 Sam. 2:1-11)
  - The tribe of Judah anoint David as king at Hebron (2 Sam. 2:1-7)
  - Saul's son Ishbosheth anointed king over Israel (2 Sam. 2:8-11)
- Civil war between David and the house of Saul (2 Sam. 2:12 - 4:12)
  - Victory for David's men at Gibeon (2 Sam. 2:12-32)
  - The sons born to David at Hebron (2 Sam. 3:1-5)
  - The split between Ishbosheth and Abner (2 Sam. 3:6-21)
  - The murder of Abner by Joab (2 Sam. 3:22-39)
  - The murder of Ishbosheth (2 Sam. 4:1-12)
  - Men from all Israel rally to David at Hebron (1 Chron. 12:23-40)

### **c 1003 B.C. David aged 37**

## **DAVID AS KING OVER ALL ISRAEL AT JERUSALEM (2 Sam 5:6 - 9:1 (also 1 Chron 11:1 - 18:17)**

- David established as king of all Israel (2 Sam. 5:1-25; Psalm 18)
  - David anointed king over Israel (2 Sam. 5:1-5; 1 Chron. 11:1-3)
  - David captures Jerusalem (2 Sam. 5:6-14 and 1 Chron. 11:4-9)
  - David twice defeats the Philistines (2 Sam. 5:15-25; 1 Chron. 14:8-17)
- David brings the Ark of God to Jerusalem (2 Sam. 6:1-7:29; 1 Chron. 15:1-17:27)
  - The first attempt and the death of Uzzah (2 Sam. 6:1-11; 1 Chron. 13:1-14)
  - The Ark enters Jerusalem (2 Sam. 6:12-19; 1 Chron. 15:1-16:43)
  - The break with Michal (2 Sam. 6:20-23; 1 Chron. 15:29)
  - The idea for the temple (2 Sam. 7:1-3; 1 Chron. 17:1-2)

- God's response to David (2 Sam. 7:4-17; 1 Chron. 17:3-15)
- David's prayer (2 Sam. 7:18-29; 1 Chron. 17:16-27)
- David's victories over his enemies (2 Sam. 8:1-10; 1 Chron. 18:1-13; Psalm 60)
  - David subdues the Philistines (2 Sam. 8:1; 1 Chron. 18:1) ...
  - David defeats the Moabites (2 Sam. 8:2; 1 Chron. 18:2)
  - David defeats Hadadezer of Zobah (2 Sam. 8:3-4; 1 Chron. 18:3-4)
  - David defeats the Arameans of Damascus (2 Sam. 8:5-8; 1 Chron. 18:5-8)
  - David receives gifts from the king of Hamath (2 Sam. 8:9-10; 1 Chron. 18:9-11)
- David's fame and generosity (2 Sam. 8:11-9:13)
  - David dedicates the spoils and gifts to the Lord (2 Sam. 8:11-12)
  - David's fame and military strength (2 Sam. 8:13-14; 1 Chron. 14:17)
  - David's justice (2 Sam. 8:15)
  - David's officials (2 Sam. 8:16-18; 1 Chron. 18:14-17)
  - David's generosity to Jonathan's son Mephibosheth (2 Sam. 9:1-13)
  - Possibly about 995 B.C. (2 Sam. 4:4; 9:12)

### **c 994 B.C. David aged about 46**

#### **DAVID'S TRAGIC FAILURE AND ITS CONSEQUENCES (2 Samuel 10:1 - 15:6)**

- War, adultery and murder (2 Sam. 10:1-11:27)
  - Joab fights the Ammonites (2 Sam. 10:1-19; 1 Chron. 19:1-19)
  - David commits adultery with Bathsheba (2 Sam. 11:1-5)
  - David attempts a cover up (2 Sam. 11:6-13)
  - David arranges the death of Uriah, Bathsheba's husband (2 Sam. 11:14-25)
  - David marries Bathsheba (2 Sam. 11:26-27)
- Repentance, recovery and victory (2 Sam. 12:1-31)
  - Nathan confronts David (2 Sam. 12:1-12)
  - David's repentance (2 Sam. 12:13-23; Psalm 51)
  - The birth of Solomon (2 Sam. 12:24-25)
  - Possibly about 992 B.C.\*
  - Victory over the Ammonites (2 Sam. 12:26-31)
- Incest, murder and rebellion (2 Sam. 13:1 - 15:6)
  - David's son Amnon rapes his half-sister Tamar (2 Sam. 13:1-22)
  - Possibly about 991 B.C.\*
  - Absalom, Tamar's brother kills Amnon and flees (2 Sam. 13:23-39)
  - Possibly about 989 B.C. (2 Sam. 13:23)
  - Joab persuades David to allow Absalom's return (2 Sam. 14:1-33)
  - Possibly about 986 B.C. (2 Sam. 13:38)
  - Absalom plots rebellion (2 Sam. 15:1-6)
  - Possibly about 980 B.C. (2 Sam. 14:28; 15:7)

### **c. 980 B.C.(?)\* David aged about 60**

#### **DAVID FLEES FROM ABSALOM'S REBELLION (2 Samuel 15:7 - 20:25)**

- David flees from Jerusalem (2 Sam. 15:13-16:14; Psalm 3)
  - Leaving Jerusalem and the commitment of Ittai the Gittite (2 Sam. 15:13-22)
  - Crossing the Kidron and sending the ark back to Jerusalem (2 Sam. 15:23-29)

- Climbing the Mount of Olives and planning with Hushai (2 Sam. 15:30-37)
- Ziba slanders Mephibosheth (2 Sam. 16:1-4)
- Shimei curses David (2 Sam. 16:5-14)
- David's friend Hushai outwits the counselor Ahithophel (2 Sam. 16:15 - 17:29)
  - Hushai feigns allegiance to Absalom (2 Sam. 16:15-19)
  - Ahithophel's advice to Absalom (2 Sam. 16:20-17:4)
  - Hushai's advice preferred to Ahithophel's (2 Sam. 17:5-14)
  - Hushai sends a message to David (2 Sam. 17:15-21)
  - Ahithophel's suicide and David's escape to Mahanaim (2 Sam. 17:22-29)
- Absalom defeated and killed (2 Sam. 18:1-19:8)
  - David's men defeat the army of Israel (2 Sam. 18:1-8)
  - Joab kills Absalom (2 Sam. 18:9-18)
  - Runners bring the news to David (2 Sam. 18:19-32)
  - David mourns for Absalom (2 Sam. 18:33-19:4)
  - Joab rebukes David (2 Sam. 19:5-8)
- David magnanimous in his victory and restoration (2 Sam. 19:9-40)
  - David wins over Judah and Absalom's general Amasa (2 Sam. 19:9-15)
  - David refuses to punish Shimei (2 Sam. 19:16-23)
  - Reconciliation with Mephibosheth (2 Sam. 19:24-30)
  - David blesses Barzillai (2 Sam. 19:31-40)
- Sheba's rebellion (2 Sam. 19:41 - 20:25)
  - Trouble between the men of Judah and the men of Israel (2 Sam. 19:41-43)
  - Sheba the Benjamite leads the men of Israel in rebellion (2 Sam. 20:1-5)
  - Joab murders the new army commander Amasa (2 Sam. 20:6-13)
  - Joab crushes the revolt (2 Sam. 20:14-26)

## **DAVID'S FINAL YEARS (2 Samuel 21:1 - 1 Kings 2:11 (also 1 Chronicles 20:4 - 29:30))**

- Three years of famine (2 Sam. 21:1)
- The appeasing of the Gibeonites (2 Sam. 21:1-14)
- Battles with the Philistines (2 Sam. 21:15-22; 1 Chron. 20:4-8)
- David "Israel's singer of songs" (2 Sam. 22:1 - 23:7)
- David's mighty men (2 Sam. 23:8-39; 1 Chron. 11:10-47)
- David numbers Israel (2 Sam. 24:1-25; 1 Chron. 21:1-22:1)
  - David's command and Joab's opposition (2 Sam. 24:1-9)
  - The plague that resulted (2 Sam. 24:10-17)
  - David builds an altar (2 Sam. 24:18-25)
- Adonijah's attempt for the throne (1 Kings 1:1-53)
  - Abishag looks after David (1 Kings 1:1-4)
  - Adonijah conspires for the throne (1 Kings 1:5-10)
  - Nathan and Bathsheba warn David (1 Kings 1:11-27)
  - David swiftly has Solomon anointed (1 Kings 1:28-53; 1 Chron 23:1)
- The co-regency between David and Solomon (1 Chron. 22:1 - 29:25)
  - David's organisation of the Kingdom (1 Chron. 23:1 - 27:34)
  - David charges Solomon to build the temple (1 Chron. 28:1-21; 22:2-19)
  - David raises the funds for the temple (1 Chron. 29:1-9)



David's prayer of thanksgiving (1 Chron. 29:10-20; Psalm 30)

Solomon acknowledged as King (1 Chron. 29:21-25 )

David's final charge to Solomon (1 Kings 2:1-9)

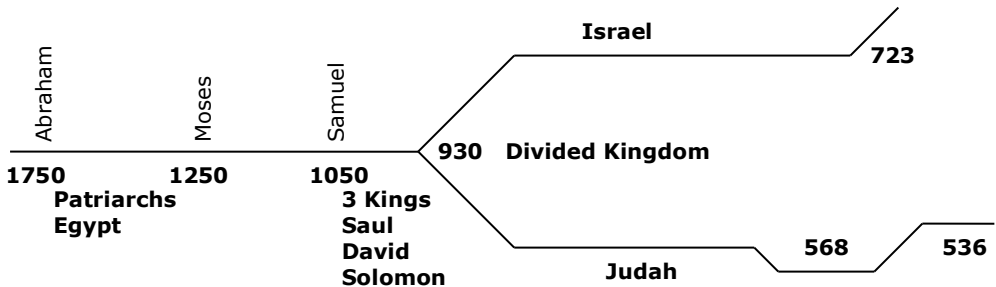
**c 970 B.C.**

**DAVID DIES AT ABOUT AGE 70 (1 Kings 2:10-12; 1 Chronicles 29:26-30)**

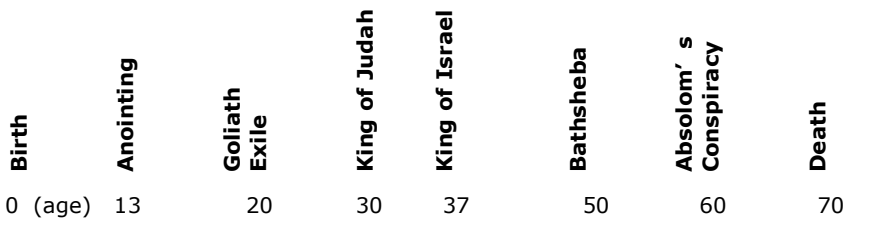
**DAVID'S EPITAPH:** *"After removing Saul, he made David their king. He testified concerning him: 'I have found David son of Jesse a man after my own heart; he will do everything I want him to do.'... when David had served God's purpose in his own generation, he fell asleep; he was buried with his fathers and his body decayed."* (Acts 13:22; 36)

\* (Dates are calculated from the date of Solomon's accession to the throne, usually reckoned as 971/970 B.C. Dates marked \* are estimated from biblical data on the approximate ages of Absalom and Solomon.)

### Historical Setting



### David 1010-970 as King



*"When you come to the end of your life and you have nothing but death to look forward to and nothing but memories to look back upon, what will you need to see in order for you to come to the conclusion: My life was not in vain? You are not ready to live the rest of your life until you have answered that question."* **Mike Treneer – Spiritual Leadership 2005**

*"Focus on Giants – You Stumble. Focus on God – Your Giants Tumble."*  
**Max Lucado – 'Facing your Giants'**

**INTRODUCTION:** Our culture revolves around outward appearances and does not value the kind of things that God values. In this study we look at how God rejects Saul and in his place selects David as King; a weak shepherd boy but a man after his own Heart.

**SETTING THE SCENE:** Before turning to the passages brainstorm what you know about the life of David. Specifically think about what you like about David, what impresses you about him and how does what you know about his life give you hope and encouragement?

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**GOD’S REJECTION OF SAUL AS KING (13:7b-14, 15:24-26, 16:1):** What do you think caused God to reject Saul as His anointed King (specifically what motivated Saul to sacrifice to the LORD)? Why was Saul not a ‘man after God’s own heart’ (v14) like David was?

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**SAMUEL’S MOURNING AND FEAR (16:1-3):** Why do you think Samuel was having such a hard time letting go of Saul (v1, 14)? Why do you think God is so eager to get him moving again? What do you think made Samuel so fearful for his life about approaching Jesse?

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**TRUST AND OBEDIENCE (16:4-6):** In-spite of the risk to his own life why do you think Samuel trusts and obeys God (v4) and what can we learn from this? What will it mean for us to trust and obey God in the things that He is calling us to do?

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**HEART MATTERS (16:6-13):** What sorts of 'outward' things do we tend to look at in people? How does our culture reinforce this emphasis on appearance? Why are outward qualities an unreliable way to judge a person? When the Lord looks at our hearts, what qualities do you think He values the most? How should we view ourselves and/or others in light of this?

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On what grounds did Samuel think Eliab would be God's choice (v6)? What was God teaching Samuel in making him look through all of Jesse's sons before revealing He had chosen David? How do you understand the reason that God chose David (examine what the passage actually says about David and compare with the statements in 13:14 and Acts 13:22)?

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**IN SAUL'S SERVICE (16:14-23):** Having been anointed King, how did David conduct himself during his time serving King Saul? How do you respond to the notion of God giving Saul an evil spirit to torment him (v14)? What is the significance of the 'Spirit of the Lord' coming on David (v13) and departing from Saul (v14, 23)? How does the Spirit work / come on people today?

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**DRAWING IT TOGETHER (1 COR 1:20-31):** What can we learn from these verses about the way in which God acts and the people He chooses? To what extent do you think that God could use you and discuss your reasons for such thoughts?

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**IDEAS FOR PRAYER:** Thank God that He chooses to use the foolish things of this world to shame the wise. Ask God to make you into a man/woman after His own heart and thank Him that God wants to use such people, people like you in His service.

**MEMORY VERSE: 1 SAMUEL 16:7**

## STUDY 2 – 1 SAMUEL 17 – ‘THE LORD’S BATTLE AND VICTORY’

**INTRODUCTION:** God demonstrates shows why He chose David as King by defeating Israel's enemies through him and thus upholding His name. This study looks at how David confronts not only Goliath, but our myths of human sufficiency without God.

**SETTING THE SCENE:** What human reasons made the Israelites 'dismayed and terrified' of Goliath (v1-11) and what spiritual reasons should have encouraged them to stand up to him (Deuteronomy 20:1-4)? What was the heart of the problem that Israel faced?

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**FOCUSING ON GOD RATHER THAN OUR GIANTS:** Throughout the account what was David's chief concern (See esp. v26, 36 & 45)? What is the significance of this word “defiance” (and its derivatives) which are used repeatedly in v10, 23, 25, 26, 36, 42 & 45?

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How do you respond to the Max Lucado quote about this passage (pg. 30)? Which ratio of *God* to *Giant* thoughts would you most identify with and why? What practical steps can we take to focus more on God and our relationship with Him rather than on our ‘giants’?

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**AN UNLIKELY HERO:** What makes David an unlikely hero for Israel (v12-19, v33, v38-40)? How is he despised and rejected by Eliab (v28-29), Saul (v32-39) and Goliath (v42-44)? In what sense do they look at the ‘outward appearance’ (see 16v7) and how does David respond?

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**SAUL’S DECISION TO SEND DAVID:** What risk was Saul taking in allowing David to fight Goliath and why do you think he does so (v8-9, 32-39)? Why do you think that David is so confident of Goliath's certain defeat (v34-37); was it faith or youthful bravado?

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**THE ABILITY TO DO ANYTHING:** Society teaches us “if you set your mind to it you can do anything”; evaluate this message and discuss how this chapter teaches otherwise (See esp. v45-47)? How have you been encouraged by spiritual victories in the past and how can these victories encourage you in the future?

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**DAVID’S VICTORY:** How did the Israelites respond to David’s victory (v52-53)? There are parallels here between David and Jesus; how do we fall in to the traps of looking only at the outward appearance? What would be a good and a bad response to Jesus’ victory for us?

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**A SPIRITUAL BATTLE:** We too are in a spiritual battle (see Eph 6:12); what “Goliaths” do we face OR are we facing individually, corporately or as a wider church? What can we learn from this story about how these giants will be overcome?

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**DRAWING IT TOGETHER:** What can we learn here from David’s example? Clearly David did not always get it right (see later studies) but what do you think was his secret of success here?

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**IDEAS FOR PRAYER:** Think about Jesus’ victory at the cross and all that He has done for us. Spend some time thanking God for these things. Pray for people you know who look only on outward appearances and regard Jesus as weak, irrelevant, and not worthy of their interest.

**MEMORY VERSE: 1 SAMUEL 17:47**

## STUDY 3 – 1 SAMUEL 20 – ‘TRUE FRIENDSHIP’

**INTRODUCTION:** After killing Goliath, David becomes Jonathan's friend (and was in favour with Saul) but then in chapter 19 Saul tries to kill him. In this study we explore the relationship between David and Jonathan and consider the qualities of true friendship and its necessity in our lives.

**SETTING THE SCENE:** What is or isn't true friendship; what does or doesn't it look like? What are your experiences of such friendship (receiving it and giving it, both positive and negative)? Have you ever been surprised by what a friend has (or hasn't) said or done?

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**JONATHAN & DAVID – SEEKING OUT THE HELP OF A TRUE FRIEND (v1-23):** Why do you think that David approaches Jonathan at Ramah and what risk was involved in doing so? What does Jonathan's response in v4 tell us about the significance and depth of their relationship?

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In what ways does Jonathan's relationship with God impact on his relationship with David (see v12-23)? How do you understand Jonathan's comment in v17 that he loved David 'as he loved himself'? What do we learn here from their interaction about the nature of true friendship?

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**JONATHAN & SAUL – THE COST OF TRUE FRIENDSHIP (v24-34):** What risks/sacrifices does Jonathan make for his friendship with David (see also 1 Sam 18:1-4, 23:15-17)? How did Jonathan's choices impact on his relationship with his Father and his future prospects (v31)?

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Why do you make of the fact that Jonathan seems more concerned about David rather than himself (contrast his grief in v33 with his anger in v34)? What might it look like for us to be motivated by the interests of others rather than our own (see also Philippians 2:1-4)?

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**DAVID & JONATHAN – STRENGTHENED BY FRIENDSHIP (v35-42):** What surprises you about these final exchanges between David and Jonathan? How could (or should) we learn from their tears and kisses; to what extent is this still culturally relevant?

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What might it mean to help someone “find strength in God” (see also 1 Sam 23:15-17)? How do you think our relationship with God should transform our relationships with others?

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**DEPTH OF FRIENDSHIP:** What strikes you about the depth of Jonathan and David’s friendship (see also 1 Samuel 18:1-4, 2 Samuel 1:25-27)? In what ways does this jar with our culture? What is it going to take to cultivate this kind of friendship in our own lives?

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**DRAWING IT TOGETHER:** How would you compare your own friendships to some of the principles we have seen from the lives of David and Jonathan? What steps could you take to be a better friend to others in the coming weeks and months?

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**IDEAS FOR PRAYER:** Give thanks for those friendships that God has blessed you with at this time. Ask God to help you to demonstrate more of the qualities of David and Jonathan’s friendship in your relationships with others.

**MEMORY VERSES: 1 SAMUEL 23:16-17**

**INTRODUCTION:** In this study watch how David responds when he is insulted by Nabal. His response and Abigail's timely intervention provide much food for thought when people mistreat us. The events of this chapter are recorded between two accounts where David had a chance to kill King Saul.

**NABAL'S INSULT (v1-11):** What do we learn about Nabal (v2-3, v17)? What do you think motivates him to pretend he had not heard of David (saying "Who is this David?") and scoff at his request, v10-11, v14-17) when he knew David had been watching over his property (e.g. v15-16 & v21)?

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**DAVID OFFENCE AND RESPONSE (v12-13):** Why is David so offended by Nabal's response (v4, v13, v21-22)? Even if his offence is justified what do you think of his plan to get even (v13, v34)? What lie did David tell himself as he prepared to take vengeance (v21-22)? At this point what would you conclude that David is putting his security in?

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**ABIGAIL'S INTERVENTION (v14-25):** What impresses you about the initiative Abigail takes when she finds out what has happened from the servants? What kind of influence does she have on David and what are the consequences of her shrewd and timely intervention?

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What do you think motivated Abigail to do what she did? Can you think of examples from your own life where humility, kindness and/or gentleness averted evil, disagreement and/or division?

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**GOD CENTRED INFLUENCE (v26-35):** Who kept David from taking vengeance (v26) and why is this significant? Why was it so important that David not shed blood so needlessly? What impresses you about all that Abigail has to say about the LORD in her conversation with David? How does Abigail help David to put his security in God and not in circumstances or military success?

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How do these events help David focus not merely on Abigail's beauty but on the beauty of another? In what ways might what Abigail did parallel/prefigure what Jesus did for us at the cross?

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**THE VENGEANCE OF THE LORD (v36-44):** How do you respond to the stories conclusion; i.e. heart failure, drunkenness & marriage? What do you think David would have learned from these events in preparation for being King? How would Nabal's fate further encourage David to be secure in the LORD and to trust God about Saul?

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**DRAWING IT TOGETHER:** What relevant principles do you see in Romans 12:19-21 and Proverbs 15:1 and how are they applied (or not applied) in this chapter? How have you experienced these principles at work in your own life? What might God be saying to you through this passage?

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**IDEAS FOR PRAYER:** Pray that God would help you find security in Him alone and give you grace to show love towards those who hurt you; entrusting the matter into His hands. Ask God to help you do all you can to live at peace with everyone and to encourage others to do the same.

**MEMORY VERSE: 1 SAMUEL 25:29**

## STUDY 5 – 1 SAMUEL 30 – ‘FINDING STRENGTH IN THE LORD

**INTRODUCTION:** David and his men had been off on a military mission with King Achish of Gath. They had left their families unprotected and on their return they find the Amalekites had raided Ziklag and taken their families captive. This chapter is about how David found strength in God amidst crisis.

**SETTING THE SCENE (1 SAM 27 & 29):** Why was David now residing in the land of the Philistines (27:1) and what were the consequences of this decision (27:10-12, 29:3-7)? What does this decision tell us about where David and his sense of security was at?

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**WALKING INTO CRISIS (v1-6a):** How do you think that David and his men felt when they returned home to find their houses burned and families captured? In what ways does (or doesn't) their response to this distress surprise you? When have you felt overwhelmed by distress and how did you respond?

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**STRENGTH IN GOD (v6b):** In knowledge that During David's time in Ziklag there is no mention of him seeking the Lord, why is it so important that he 'found strength in the Lord his God'? What do you think this looks like in practice (see also 1 Sam 23:16)? What is your experience of finding new perspective and clarity of vision from the Lord (e.g. Lamentations 3:19-24, Psalm 73:16-17)?

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**MOVED TO ACTION (v7-10):** What impresses you about the difference in David's leadership seen in the contrast in the men as they turn from near mutiny (v6) to hot pursuit? Is there anything we can learn here from the way that David enquires of the Lord (v8)?

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**ENJOYING GOD'S FAITHFULNESS (v11-20):** Why do you think David's men agree to his ambitious plan to pursue the Amalekites despite the odds being increasingly stacked against them? How did God open the door to victory through the unlikely figure of the famished and dehydrated Egyptian whom David's men showed kindness? What is surprising about the 'completeness' of the outcome?

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**EQUAL SPOILS FOR ALL (v21-30):** To what extent would you say (or not say) that the soldiers who did not go up to fight with David do wrong in staying behind (see Lucado Quote 3 on p30)? How do you respond to David's decision to share the plunder with the 200 men who had stayed behind (v10 & 24)?

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What was wrong with the logic of those who said that they should get nothing (v22-24)? What might be a present day situation in which you could honour those who are tired and weary?

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**DRAWING IT TOGETHER:** How might David's actions anticipate the following words from Jesus?

*28-30 "Are you tired? Worn out? Burned out on religion? Come to me. Get away with me and you'll recover your life. I'll show you how to take a real rest. Walk with me and work with me—watch how I do it. Learn the unforced rhythms of grace. I won't lay anything heavy or ill-fitting on you. Keep company with me and you'll learn to live freely and lightly." Matthew 11:28-30 (MSG)*

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**IDEAS FOR PRAYER:** Pray to God asking Him to strengthen you amidst the challenges, difficulties and pressures that you currently face. Ask God to help you respond like David in response graciously to others amidst the undeserved blessings that God lavishes upon each of us every day.

**MEMORY VERSE: 1 SAMUEL 30:6**

## STUDY 6 – 2 SAMUEL 6 - 'GOD'S WRATH AND BLESSING'

**INTRODUCTION:** David learns the hard way that God isn't safe but he also gains a greater appreciation of God's goodness. In this study we compare God's goodness and holiness, at times they appear contradictory, but both ultimately bring His just blessings and salvation.

**THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE ARK (v1-5):** What was so special about the ark and what did it mean to Israel? Why do you think David wanted to bring the ark of God to Jerusalem? Why do you think David and the people of Israel saw this event as such a cause of celebration (v5)?

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*NB: God commanded Moses to build the Ark of the Covenant 400 years before David; it was a wooden chest/box completely covered with gold and with an ornate gold lid called the mercy seat. The ark of God represented the immediate presence and glory of God in Israel.*

**THE WRATH OF GOD (v6-7):** What was wrong with how and who transported the Ark via this 'new cart' (1 Chronicles 15:11-15 & Exodus 25:12-15)? How do you respond to the LORD's anger against Uzzah? How does the idea God's wrath fit with your own understanding of His character?

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**DAVID'S REACTION (v8-10):** How do you respond to David's reaction after Uzzah's death? Do you generally sway towards being 'irreverent' or being 'afraid' of God, and how does this affect your relationship with Him? How should we respond rightly to God's holiness?

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**BLESSING FOR OBED-EDOM (v10-12):** What does the fact that God blessed the house of Obed-Edom while the ark resided there teach us about God? What is it significant that the Ark resided with Obed-Edom (contrast Numbers 4:15 with 1 Chronicles 26:1-4)?

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**TRANSPORTING THE ARK TAKE II (v13-15):** What do the Israelites do differently when they try again to transport the Ark to Jerusalem (v12-15)? What can we learn from this about how we can experience God's presence and blessing?

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**MICHAL'S COMPLAINT (v16-23):** To what extent can you identify with Michal's feelings (despising David in her heart) and her words (distinguished and disrobed)? How would you evaluate her reaction (see also 1 Chronicles 15:27)? What was David's priority, and what was Michal's?

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**CELEBRATING BEFORE GOD:** This is the only record of David dancing; why do you think he dances so energetically here? What does it mean to do things 'before the Lord' (v5, 14, 15, 17, 21)? What would help you worship without holding back? How can your worship be a more joyous celebration?

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**DRAWING IT TOGETHER (PSALM 132):** What light does this Psalm (thought to be associated with the events of this chapter) shed upon David's enduring motivation to bring the Ark to Jerusalem?

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**IDEAS FOR PRAYER:** Ask God to give you a fresh vision of His holiness and goodness. Praise Him for all that Jesus accomplished for us at the cross; the price that His holiness demanded so that we might enjoy acceptance, forgiveness and eternal life.

**MEMORY VERSES: PSALM 132:13-14**

*"Don't you know who is the King of Beasts? Aslan is a lion—the Lion, the great Lion." "Ooh!" said Susan, "I'd thought he was a man. Is he—quite safe? I shall feel rather nervous about meeting a lion."*  
*"That you will, dearie, and no mistake," said Mrs. Beaver. "If there's anyone who can appear before Aslan without their knees knocking, they're either braver than most or else just silly." "Then he isn't safe?" said Lucy. "Safe!" said Mr. Beaver. "Don't you hear what Mrs. Beaver tells you? Who said anything about safe? 'Course he isn't safe. But he's good."*  
*From C.S. Lewis, The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*

**INTRODUCTION:** We've have seen how God raised up His chosen king to the throne of Israel. God gave Israel victory over their enemies and in this chapter it is clear that this is only the beginning! Through the line of David even greater blessing will come to God's people.

**A HOUSE FOR THE LORD (v1-7):** What prompts David to want to build a house for the Lord? Nathan initially tells David to go for it (v3) but what did both he and David fail to take into account (v4-7)? What do we need to keep in mind when we are keen to do something for God? (See also Isaiah 55:8-9)

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What does God's response to David's plan teach us about His character? Through history, sincere people have built monuments for the Lord that He never asked for; what are some unwanted 'monuments' that we have built for the Lord?

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**THE DAVIDIC COVENANT (v8-17):** These verses are sometimes referred to as the 'Davidic covenant'. What specific promises does God make to David here? How do these promises find their ultimate fulfilment in Jesus Christ (see for example Luke 1:30-33)?

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**DAVID'S RESPONSE (v18-24):** After hearing God's promises to him, what does David pray for and praise God for? Why is he so astonished not only by God's promises but also with God himself? When have you been astonished to discover both God and His plans for you are far greater than you imagined?

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**DAVID'S REQUEST (v25-29):** After praising God for his greatness, what requests does David make? If the 'Sovereign Lord' has already guaranteed to fulfil his promises, then why do you think David asks Him to do so? What insights does this give us into the relationship between God's sovereignty and our responsibility?

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**GOD'S PROMISES TO DAVID:** What is the temple that would be built (see 1 Kings 8:17-19 & John 2:19-21)? How and why would the son be punished (compare v14 with 2 Cor 5:21 & Galatians 3:13)? How and why would God's everlasting love be shown to the son (see John 10:17)? How will the promises of v10-11a one day be fulfilled (see Revelation 21:1-4 & 22-27)?

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**DRAWING IT TOGETHER:** In what ways has the Lord demonstrated His greatness or goodness to you recently? What can we learn and put into practice from the way that David prays to God (note esp. his reference to himself as the LORD's 'servant' and to God as 'Sovereign LORD')?

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**IDEAS FOR PRAYER:** Ask God to help you have confidence as you wait for the promises He has made to you, and to live in the light of the certainty of His promised return. Thank God for the fulfilment of His promises to David in Jesus.

**MEMORY VERSE: 2 SAMUEL 7:28**

STUDY 8 – 2 SAMUEL 11-12 – ‘FACING TEMPTATION’

**INTRODUCTION:** In this study we see the contrast between the dire consequences of sin, and the wonderful grace of God. The passage shows us that God uses weak sinful humans to further His amazing plans and promises.

**DAVID’S SIN (11:1-5):** What were the events and decisions that led to David’s sin with Bathsheba? Is temptation sinful; if not, at what point does it become sin? At each stage what could David have done to prevent himself from sinning? What can we learn here about resisting temptation?

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**THE CONSEQUENCES (11:6-27):** How do you respond to the lengths that David goes to in order to cover up his sin? What impact does this ‘cover up’ have on others? Why are we tempted to cover up our sins rather than confess them? What examples from your own life can you think of where a sin has led to a series of subsequent sins as you try and cover it up?

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How do you explain what led to ‘*a man after God’s own heart*’ to then be described as having ‘*displeased the LORD*’ (v27)? What can we learn from David’s experience in our own lives?

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**CONFRONTING SIN (12:1-10):** Why doesn’t Nathan raise the issue with David straight away, choosing to tell a story rather than confronting him directly? Why do you think it is so hard to be objective about our own sin?

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What does God mean when He says that David had ‘*despised*’ Him and His Word (v9-10)? How do we show contempt for God and His Word when we sin? To what extent do you take God’s sin as serious as this strong language implies?



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**GOD'S JUSTICE AND MERCY (12:11-14):** How do you respond to David's admission of guilt in v13 (compare with Saul in 1 Samuel 13:11-15, 15:19-26)? How do we see God's justice and mercy in how He deals with David's sin (v10-14)?

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**GOD'S FORGIVENESS (12:15-22):** How can God forgive David's sin (see Leviticus 20:10, 24:17 & Romans 3:23-26 for context)? What do the loss of David's illegitimate child and the birth of Solomon teach us about how God deals with sin (See also Hebrews 12:5-13)?

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**GOD'S GRACE (12:23-31):** How is God's grace evident in David's life following this event? Compare 11:1 with 12:28-29; why is it so significant that David goes to battle with his army rather than staying at home and sending Joab?

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**DRAWING IT TOGETHER:** Looking back over the story, what has God taught you about human hearts and sin's consequences, God's judgement and/or God's forgiveness? How do David's failures and weaknesses encourage you that God can use someone like you to fulfil His purposes? What have you learned about being 'a man after God's own heart'?

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**IDEAS FOR PRAYER:** Pray that God would guard and protect your hearts from the seemingly 'small' temptations. Pray that He will enable you to stop the snowballing effect of temptation and sin. Reflect back over the past week and ask God for His grace, mercy and forgiveness.

**MEMORY VERSES: PSALM 51:1-2**

## STUDY 9 – 2 SAMUEL 15 – ABSALOM'S CONSPIRACY

**INTRODUCTION:** Absalom was David's 3<sup>rd</sup> son and is described in 2 Samuel 14:25 as the most handsome man in the kingdom. His sister Tamar was raped by his brother Ammon (2 Samuel 13) and after 2 years he avenged this by murdering Ammon. Absalom fled and it was not until 3 years later that he was restored to his father's favour. In this passage we read of his conspiracy against David.

**SETTING THE SCENE:** Do you agree that it is sometimes the people who are particularly dear to us who hurt us the most? What have we learned about the dynamics in David's family?

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**MOTIVATORS FOR A CONSPIRACY (2 Samuel 13-14):** What are the key moments that motivate and set the scene for Absalom's conspiracy plan? Why do you think David kept Absalom at such distance for so long? Why could David not extend the grace God has shown to him?

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**INITIATING THE CONSPIRACY (v1-12):** What steps does Absalom take to set in motion his conspiracy plan (v1-6)? What do you think made the conspiracy so appealing (v12)? What could Absalom and/or David have done differently to avoid this situation arising?

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**FLEEING FROM TROUBLE (v13-30):** Do you think that David was right to flee from Jerusalem? How do you think he would have felt as he did so? What do the verses suggest would have been the hardest aspects of this whole sorry incident (see also 2 Samuel 16:5-14 & 18:33)?

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**A FRIENDS BETRAYAL (v31-37):** 2 Sam 16:23 says the "advice Ahithophel gave was like that of one who enquires of God." How devastating would the news of Ahithophel's betrayal have been for David (v31)? Was David too reliant on this man and how does he work to frustrate him?

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How does Psalm 55 (esp.12-14 & 20-21) help us understand how David felt about this betrayal? How do things turn out in the end for Ahithophel (2 Samuel 17:23)?

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**FINDING FAITH IN SUFFERING (v25, 31, 16:5-14):** What clues do we have here about how being back on the run helps David finds some perspective and faith in God? In 2 Samuel 18-19 we have the record of the battle between David and Absalom's forces which David wins. How does the aftermath show how David has rediscovered his compassion (See 18:5, 9-15, 33)?

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In Psalm 3 writes passionately to God about this period in his life. What does the Psalm reveal about David's perspective on the situation and the strength of his relationship with God? What truths about God comfort him during this time?

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**DRAWING IT TOGETHER:** Read 2 Samuel 18:18. What do you find most sad about this verse (See also the somewhat contradictory 2 Samuel 14:27)? What would you like to be your legacy at the end of your life? What steps do you need to begin taking to make this a reality?

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**IDEAS FOR PRAYER:** Think together about the kind of relational breakdown in David's family from which these sad events unfolded. Pray about your own relationships in your families and close communities. Ask God to help you communicate and resolve conflict better

**MEMORY VERSE: 2 SAMUEL 18:18**

**INTRODUCTION:** David reflects back on how God had watched over him; such knowledge helps him to live in the present and glorify God. As we finish our series on David the challenge for is to ask ourselves to what extent we know this ‘awesome God’ who as we have seen David truly knew.

**IMAGES OF GOD (v1-20):** What are the different images David uses to describe God? How does each image help us to understand God better? What was David's first port of call in his time of distress? What are the ways that David says that God has saved him (v17-20)?

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**UNDERSTANDING GOD'S CHARACTER (v8-20):** What do these verses teach us about David's understanding of God and His character? Are there any hints from these verses as to where David's understanding of God came from? (Compare with Exodus 19v18)

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What things can prevent us from praying, as David did (v7) when we are in difficulty? How will praying help us in difficult situations? How would an understanding of God, like David's, help us to live as Christians? How can we help ourselves to develop this kind of understanding and experience of God?

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**DAVID'S HEART AND DESIRES (v21-31):** What do these verses tell us about David's desires and heart? How is David able to win victory over his enemies? How are David's victories over his enemies described, and what impression does this give of them?

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**LESSONS FROM THE LIFE OF DAVID:** What qualities have you seen in the life of David, which, as a Christian you would like to imitate in your own life? From looking at the life of God's own king, David, what have you learned about God's true King, Jesus? And how will this affect your life?

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**DRAWING IT TOGETHER:** How does Jesus fulfil these verses? For example consider *His victory* (compare v32-43 with Heb 2v14-15 & Col 2v13-15), *His rule over the nations* (compare v44-46 with Matt 25v31-46 & Rev 19v11-16) and *His final exaltation* (compare v47-52 with Philippians 2v9-11)

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**IDEAS FOR PRAYER:** Praise God for all that He has done in the past, for how He has made you righteous, how He helps you day by day and for what He is going to do in the future. Ask God to help you to put into practice particular lessons that you have learned from the life of David over this series.

**MEMORY VERSES: PROVERBS 3:5-6**

## QUOTATIONS

**QUOTE 1 (from Study 2):** "Giants. We must face them. Yet we need not face them alone. Focus first, and most, on God. The times David did, giants fell. The days he didn't David did. Test this theory by listing the observations David made regarding Goliath. I find only two. One statement to Saul about Goliath (v36) and one to Goliath's face (v26). That's it. Two Goliath-related comments (and tacky ones at that) and no questions. No inquiries about Goliath's skill, age, social standing, or IQ. [...] But he gives much thought to God. I count nine references (v26, 36, 45, 46 & 47). God-thoughts outnumber Goliath-thoughts nine to two. How does this ratio compare with yours? Do you ponder God's grace 4 times as much as you ponder your guilt? Is your list of blessings 4 times as long as you list of complaints? Is your mental file of hope 4 times as thick as your mental file of dread? Are you 4 times more likely to describe the strength of God as you are the demands of your day? No? Then David is your man. Some note the absence of miracles in the story. [...] But there is one. David is one. A rough-edged walking wonder of God who neon-lights this truth: Focus on giants – you stumble. Focus on God – Your giants tumble. Lift your eyes, giant slayer. The God who made a miracle out of David stands ready to make one out of you."

**Max Lucado, Facing Your Giants, pg. 9**

**QUOTE 2 (from Study 4):** "Four hundred men rein in their rides. Some gape at the food; others gawp at the female. She's good lookin' with good cookin', a combination that stops any army. (Picture a neck-snapping blonde showing up at boot camp with a truck full of burgers and ice cream.) Abigail's no fool. She knows the importance of the moment. She stands as the final barrier between her family and sure death. Falling at David's feet, she issues a plea worthy of a paragraph in Scripture. "On me, my Lord, on me let this iniquity be! And please let your maidservant speak in your ears, and hear the words of your maidservant. She doesn't defend Nabal but agrees that he is a scoundrel. She begs not for justice but forgiveness, accepting blame when she deserves none. "Please forgive the trespass of your maidservant (25:28). She offers the gifts from her house and urges David to leave Nabal to God and avoid the dead weight of remorse. Her words fall on David like July sun on ice. He melts."

**Max Lucado, Facing your giants pg. 57-58**

**Quote 3 (from Study 5):** "David did many mighty deeds in his life. He did many foolish deeds in his life. But perhaps David's noblest deed was to honour his tired soldiers at Brook Besor." Someday someone will read what David did and name their church the congregation at Brook Besor. Isn't that what the church is intended to be? A place for soldiers to recover their strength?...Brook Besor blesses rest. Brook Besor also cautions against arrogance. David knew the victory was a gift. Let's remember the same. Salvation comes like the Egyptian in the desert, a delightful surprise on the path. Unearned. Undeserved. Who are the strong to criticise the tired? Are you weary? Catch your breath. We need your strength. Are you strong? Reserve passing judgement on the tired. Odds are you'll need to plop down yourself. And when you do, Brook Besor is a good story to know."

**Max Lucado, Facing your Giants, pg. 78**



# MEMORY VERSES

## STUDY 1: 1 SAMUEL 16 – THE LORD LOOKS AT THE HEART

<sup>7</sup> But the LORD said to Samuel, 'Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The LORD does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.' **1 Samuel 16:7**

## STUDY 2: 1 SAMUEL 17 – THE LORDS BATTLE AND VICTORY

<sup>47</sup> All those gathered here will know that it is not by sword or spear that the LORD saves; for the battle is the LORD's, and he will give all of you into our hands.' **1 Samuel 17:47**

## STUDY 3: 1 SAMUEL 20 – TRUE FRIENDSHIP

<sup>16</sup> And Saul's son Jonathan went to David at Horesh and helped him to find strength in God. <sup>17</sup> 'Don't be afraid,' he said. 'My father Saul will not lay a hand on you. You shall be king over Israel, and I will be second to you. Even my father Saul knows this.' **1 Samuel 23:16-17**

## STUDY 4: 1 SAMUEL 25 – FINDING SECURITY IN THE LORD

<sup>29</sup> Even though someone is pursuing you to take your life, the life of my lord will be bound securely in the bundle of the living by the LORD your God, but the lives of your enemies he will hurl away as from the pocket of a sling. **1 Samuel 25:29**

## STUDY 5: 1 SAMUEL 30 – FINDING STRENGTH IN THE LORD

<sup>6</sup> David was greatly distressed because the men were talking of stoning him; each one was bitter in spirit because of his sons and daughters. But David found strength in the LORD his God.  
**1 Samuel 30:6**

## STUDY 6: 2 SAMUEL 6 – GOD'S WRATH AND BLESSING

<sup>13</sup> For the LORD has chosen Zion, he has desired it for his dwelling, saying, <sup>14</sup> 'This is my resting place for ever and ever; here I will sit enthroned, for I have desired it.' **Psalms 132:13-14**

## STUDY 7: 2 SAMUEL 7 – AN AMAZING PROMISE

<sup>28</sup> Sovereign LORD, you are God! Your covenant is trustworthy, and you have promised these good things to your servant. **2 Samuel 7:28**

## STUDY 8: 2 SAMUEL 11-12 – FACING TEMPTATION

<sup>1</sup> Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions. <sup>2</sup> Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin. **Psalms 51:1-2**

## STUDY 9: 2 SAMUEL 15 – ABSALOM'S CONSPIRACY

<sup>18</sup> During his life-time Absalom had taken a pillar and erected it in the King's Valley as a monument to himself, for he thought, 'I have no son to carry on the memory of my name.' He named the pillar after himself, and it is called Absalom's Monument to this day. **2 Samuel 18:18**

## STUDY 10: 2 SAMUEL 22 – AN AWESOME GOD

<sup>5</sup> Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding;  
<sup>6</sup> in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight. **Proverbs 3:5-6**