

2 Samuel 17 - “Good Advice, Bad Advice, and Hardship”
February 19, 2023 - Pastor Jarrod Stueve

2 Samuel 17:1-14 The Advice of Two Counselors

2 Samuel 16:23 2 Samuel 23:8 2 Samuel 14:25
2 Samuel 15:31 Romans 11:33

- 1) The longer you run from God, the more likely you are to commit sins that were previously _____
- 2) Sometimes God answers our prayers differently than we _____

Verses 15-29 Provision in the Wilderness

John 3:36 2 Samuel 15:25-26 Romans 8:22 NIV
Revelation 22:3-4 Matthew 16:24 2 Corinthians 5:14-15

Recommended Resource: www.stayhere.live/

- 3) The only sin that is *unforgivable* is the sin of not _____ in _____

Why Does Life Have to Be So Hard?

- a. We live in a fallen _____ among fallen _____
- b. This life is not _____
- c. We tend to make _____ our God. God allows hardship so that we make *God* our _____
- 4) GOD doesn't exist for our _____ -
We were created for *His*.

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2 Samuel 17:1-14 The Advice of Two Counselors

2 Samuel 16:23 2 Samuel 23:8 2 Samuel 14:25
2 Samuel 15:31 Romans 11:33

- 1) The longer you run from God, the more likely you are to commit sins that were previously UNTHINKABLE
- 2) Sometimes God answers our prayers differently than we EXPECT

Verses 15-29 Provision in the Wilderness

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- 3) The only sin that is *unforgivable* is the sin of not BELIEVING in JESUS

Why Does Life Have to Be So Hard?

- a. We live in a fallen WORLD among fallen PEOPLE
- b. This life is not THE END
- c. We tend to make COMFORT our God. God allows hardship so that we make *God* our COMFORT
- 4) GOD doesn't exist for our PLEASURE -
We were created for *His*.

Romans 5:3-4 - "[3] And not only that, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; [4] and perseverance, character; and character, hope."

2 Corinthians 1:3-4 - "[3] Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, [4] who comforts us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort those who are in any trouble, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God."

John 9:1-3 - "[1] Now as Jesus passed by, He saw a man who was blind from birth. [2] And His disciples asked Him, saying, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" [3] Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned, but that the works of God should be revealed in him."

APPLICATION FOR TODAY

11) This week we were challenged to surrender to Jesus and live for His glory, rather than live for ourselves. What can you do this week to continue in that direction?

12) What do you most need to do or remember from this week's message or homework?

PRAYER REQUESTS

- ▶
- ▶
- ▶

Life Group Homework For the week of February 19, 2023

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

1) What is some of the best (or most memorable) advice you've been given?

How well have you followed that advice?

What are some steps you typically take when making big decisions in life?

REVIEW

2) In your own words, what happened in 2 Samuel 17?

3) What stood out to you from this week's message? What questions did you have?

DIGGING DEEPER

4) Last week we saw Absalom commit rape, the very sin he killed his brother for. Ahithophel was Bathsheba's grandfather, and apparently he was bitter against David for committing adultery with her. Yet, he advised Absalom to do even worse towards David. What stands out to you from the following passage?

Romans 1:28-32 - "[28] And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a debased mind, to do those things which are not fitting; [29] being filled with all unrighteousness, sexual immorality,

wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, evil-mindedness; they are whisperers, [30] backbiters, haters of God, violent, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, [31] undiscerning, untrustworthy, unloving, unforgiving, unmerciful; [32] who, knowing the righteous judgment of God, that those who practice such things are deserving of death, not only do the same but also approve of those who practice them."

What do you think it means that God gave them over to a debased mind?

Why do you think people tend to become more sinful as they continue rejecting God?

5) What stands out to you from the following quote?
Creatures are not born with desires unless satisfaction for those desires exists. ... If 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 earthy 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. ... I must keep alive in myself the desire for my true country, which I shall not find till after death; I must never let it get snowed under or turned aside; I must make it the main object of life to press on to that other country and help others to do the same. - C.S. Lewis, Mere Christianity

Read the following statements and related passages.

Write down any comments or questions - and try to give more examples (biblical or personal) of these truths.

The following statements have been adapted from Charlie Campbell's article, "Eight Ways God Works in the Midst of Evil and Suffering" (www.AlwaysBeReady.com)

6) God uses suffering to help advance the gospel.
Philippians 1:12-14 - "[12] But I want you to know, brethren, that the things which happened to me have actually turned out for the furtherance of the gospel, [13] so that it has become evident to the whole palace guard, and to all the rest, that my chains are in Christ; [14] and most of the brethren in the Lord, having become confident by my chains, are much more bold to speak the word without fear."

7) God uses suffering to draw prodigals back to Himself.
2 Corinthians 7:10 - "For godly sorrow produces repentance leading to salvation, not to be regretted; but the sorrow of the world produces death."

8) God allows suffering to train you to live a righteous (and therefore more joyful) life.
Psalms 119:67, 71, 75 - "Before I was afflicted I went astray, but now I keep Your word....It is good for me that I was afflicted, that I may learn Your statutes....in faithfulness You have afflicted me."

9) God uses suffering to keep you humble and to humble the proud.
2 Corinthians 12:7 - "And lest I should be exalted above measure by the abundance of the revelations, a thorn in the flesh was given to me, a messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I be exalted above measure."

10) Read each passage below. Then, explain in your own words how each passage gives another example of God using suffering for good.