

2 Samuel 18 - "The Folly and Fall of Absalom"
February 26, 2023 - Pastor Jarrod Stueve

2 Samuel 18:1-18 Absalom is Defeated

2 Samuel 14:27 Psalm 49:1-13 NLT Matthew 25:13

- 1) When a loved one makes a mistake - true love helps them repent and draw near to Jesus. False love _____ their sin and/or _____ them out of their consequences.
- 2) The _____ lives only for this life, while the _____ live for the afterlife.

Verses 19-33 The Two Messengers

Matthew 23:37 2 Peter 3:9 2 Samuel 18:33
2 Samuel 11:2 Proverbs 6:23-29 Psalm 32:1-2
Lamentations 3:22-23 ESV Philippians 1:6

- 3) God desires all to be _____ - but he allows you the right of _____.

How do I know if I have trusted in Jesus?

- a. Have you _____ Him to _____ you?
- b. Do you _____ Jesus?
- c. Has your life _____?
- 4) Do not toy with temptation - sin always _____ more than it _____.

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2 Samuel 18:1-18 Absalom is Defeated

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- 1) When a loved one makes a mistake - true love helps them repent and draw near to Jesus. False love **EXCUSES** their sin and/or **BAILS** them out of their consequences.
- 2) The **FOOL** lives only for this life, while the **WISE** live for the afterlife.

Verses 19-33 The Two Messengers

Matthew 23:37 2 Peter 3:9 2 Samuel 18:33
2 Samuel 11:2 Proverbs 6:23-29 Psalm 32:1-2
Lamentations 3:22-23 ESV Philippians 1:6

- 3) God desires all to be **SAVED** - but he allows you the right of **REFUSAL**.

How do I know if I have trusted in Jesus?

- a. Have you **ASKED** Him to **SAVE** you?
- b. Do you **DEPEND ON** Jesus?
- c. Has your life **CHANGED** ?
- 4) Do not toy with temptation - sin always **TAKES** more than it **GIVES**.

7) Use the passage below to write down several ways that Jesus chose *humility* instead of *pride*.

Philippians 2:3-8 - "[3] Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. [4] Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others. [5] Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, [6] who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, [7] but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. [8] And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross."

APPLICATION FOR TODAY

8) What are some ways you currently struggle with pride?

9) This week we were challenged to remember that this life is *temporary*. How can you better live for heaven?

Psalms 144:3-4 - "[3] LORD, what is man, that You take knowledge of him? Or the son of man, that You are mindful of him? [4] Man is like a breath; His days are like a passing shadow."

10) 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 26, 2023

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

1) As we've been studying the life of David, what has been most surprising to you?

What is one thing God has been speaking to you from our study in First and Second Samuel?

REVIEW

2) In your own words, what happened in 2 Samuel 18?

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

DIGGING DEEPER

4) This week we saw David at war with his son, while at the same time trying to "deal gently" with him. In some ways, Absalom represents our *flesh*, and David shows us the folly of trying to "deal gently" with our flesh. What stands out to you from the following passages?

Galatians 5:24 - "And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires."

Romans 8:13 - "For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live."

Why do you think God wants us to deal so *harshly* with our flesh?

In what ways do you think Satan tries to convince us to *protect* our flesh? What lies might we believe about this?

5) What stands out to you from the following passages?
Genesis 9:1, 11 - "[1] So God blessed Noah and his sons, and said to them: "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth. ... [11] "Thus I establish My covenant with you: Never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of the flood; never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.""

Genesis 11:1-9 - "[1] Now the whole earth had one language and one speech. [2] And it came to pass, as they journeyed from the east, that they found a plain in the land of Shinar, and they dwelt there. [3] Then they said to one another, "Come, let us make bricks and bake them thoroughly." They had brick for stone, and they had asphalt for mortar. [4] And they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city, and a tower whose top is in the heavens; let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be scattered abroad over the face of the whole earth." [5] But the LORD came down to see the city and the tower which the sons of men had built. [6] And the LORD said, "Indeed the people are one and they all have one language, and this is what they begin to do; now nothing that they propose to do will be withheld from them. [7] "Come, let Us go down and there confuse their language, that they may not understand one another's speech." [8] So the LORD scattered them abroad from there over the face of all the earth, and they ceased building the city. [9] Therefore its name is called Babel, because there the LORD confused the language of all the earth; and from there the LORD scattered them abroad over the face of all the earth."

What sins did the people commit against God?

Do you think God had another purpose in confusing the people's languages, other than to stop their united rebellion? If so, what?

The people of the tower of Babel wanted to make a name for themselves. Absalom had the same desire, seen by the monument he made for himself. What are ways people today try to *make a name for themselves*?

What would you say to a non-Christian friend who confesses they feel discouraged in life because, no matter how hard they try, they can't seem to accomplish their goals?

How would your message change if it was a Christian friend?

6) What stands out to you from the following quote?
Humility is perfect quietness of heart. It is to expect nothing, to wonder at nothing that is done to me, to feel nothing done against me. It is to be at rest when nobody praises me, and when I am blamed or despised. It is to have a blessed home in the Lord, where I can go in and shut the door, and kneel to my Father in secret, and am at peace as in a deep sea of calmness, when all around and above is trouble.
— Andrew Murray

Pride is easier to see in people like Absalom, who build monuments after their name. What are more subtle ways that pride shows itself, even in Christians?