

Following After God's Heart

2 Samuel - Chapters 7 & 8

Looking Back...

David has **finally** been anointed king over all of Israel! His first action as king is to seize the stronghold of Mt. Zion and make it his own. After his conquest, King Hiram of Tyre sends David cedars along with carpenters and stonemasons to build a house for David.

David decided it was time to bring the ark to Jerusalem. After a failed first attempt (due to disregard for God's specific requirements), David humbly does it God's way. With shouting, sounds of trumpets, joy and dancing, the ark is set in its place inside the tent David had pitched for it. What a sight that must have been! What glorious joy the Israelites must have felt as David offered burnt offerings and peace offerings and blessed the people in the name of the Lord of hosts!

Looking Ahead...

Something just doesn't sit right with King David. He has a desire to do a really good thing, but he will soon discover that the desire to do a good thing is not necessarily God's will. We will find out in this lesson that you can't out give God. Even when we love Him with all our heart, strength and mind, He loves us back with blessings exceedingly above and beyond all that we can ask, think or imagine! Soooooo sweet!!



This week's Memory verse is John 1:14. Begin memorizing the verse(s) today. Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to help you memorize this passage and for opportunities to apply it...

"And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth." John 1:14

Write out John 1:14: _____

Write this verse(s) on your index cards... keep one with you and post the other one in a prominent place.

DAY ONE

Pray, and read **2 Samuel 7:1-3**

1. Look back at 2 Samuel 5:11. How did Hiram king of Tyre honor David? _____

A. According to 2 Samuel 7:1, what had the LORD given to David when he “lived in his house”? _____

1. For the most part, David’s life was characterized by war and bloodshed. How is his son Solomon’s life characterized in I Kings 4:29? _____

Define: REST _____

♥ Is your life “characterized” by rest? _____ Perhaps, today, you find yourself in a “whirlwind” of everything **EXCEPT** rest. As a Believer in the Lord Jesus Christ, you may experience His “rest” **at any time, and in every situation**. According to Matthew 11:28-30, what must you “do” to experience *His rest*? _____

Share a practical way of “applying this passage in your daily life. Please be willing to share this in your group.

2. Who are we introduced to in v.2a? “_____ the _____...”

“This is the first time the prophet Nathan is mentioned. There was always a prophet living during the reign of each one of the kings of Israel. The prophet’s function was two-fold: to communicate God’s Word to the king, and to urge the people to follow the Lord. Remember that judges and priests used to act as prophets until Samuel, who was a judge, priest, and prophet, bridging the gap between the time of judges and the monarchy.” Kelly Bell

3. According to v.2b, what weighed heavily upon David’s heart, and why? _____



Read Psalm 132:1-5. This passage describes David’s zeal, his intense desire in this matter. Share your thoughts: _____

4. Write out Nathan’s *personal* response to David in v.3: _____

A. Uh-oh... do you notice *anything* missing from Nathan’s “prompt” response to David? _____

“He spoke too fast. Even prophets, who are inspired of God, must wait upon their Master for their message; and when they utter words which only come out of their own mouths, they say what they will have to unsay before long. It did look very clear that this was the proper thing for Nathan to say to David; but he had not a “Thus saith the Lord” for it.” Charles Haddon Spurgeon

♥ Oftentimes the Lord wants to use us to speak a word of truth, reproof, encouragement *etc.* to someone (family, friend &/or foe 😊). How do you obtain confirmation that it is indeed the Lord prompting you, rather than your own “*personal response*”? Please share in your group.



Time to practice our memory verse: "And the _____ became _____, and _____ among us, and we _____ His _____, glory as of the _____ from the Father, full of _____ and _____." _____ : _____

DAY TWO

Pray, and read **2 Samuel 7:4-11**

1. According to v.4-5, we discover that Nathan’s initial response to David’s “idea” was, well... **wrong**. Explain.

A. Before continuing with the LORD’S Word to David via Nathan, let’s look at a couple of “things”:

** v.5b – Four words *declare* Nathan is now speaking on behalf of the LORD. What are they?

** v.5c – The LORD asks of David... “Are you the one who should build Me a house to dwell in?” Read 1 Kings 8:17-18. Was the LORD angry toward David’s desire? Explain. _____

“David’s desire was commendable, but his gift and mission were to fight the LORD’S battles until Israel was securely at rest in the Promised Land.” NIV Study Note

♥ Are you like David, zealous in your desire to serve the Lord via ministry opportunities, etc., and yet so busy with many things, “good things” – but they are NOT God’s call for you? Check your heart. Be sure that you are *busy* being faithful with the specific things that God has called you to. When I stop trying to “do it all” *I will experience rest in my work for the Lord, excel in my area(s) of God’s gift(s) given to me!* It will also *open up areas of ministry, giving room so that other women have a place to use their God given gifts too!* 😊

2. According to v.6, to this point, what had been the LORD’S dwelling place? _____

Define TENT _____

TABERNACLE _____

A. Compare Leviticus 26:11-12 with 2 Corinthians 6:16. Where does God, the Holy Spirit dwell, right now? _____

“With what wonderful grace and condescension the Lord speaks of Himself, in that the Ark, the symbol of His presence, had been within a poor tent and tabernacle. Reader! Do not overlook the sweet and precious spiritual sense of this blessed truth. Our nature is indeed a poor and wretched tent and tabernacle; and yet Jesus made it His dwelling, when He came to tabernacle among us. Precious Lord! Thou hast dwelt in no other; thou dost now dwell in no other; but in the heart of every poor sinner whom Thou hast brought out of the spiritual Egypt of our fallen state.” Robert Hawker

B. Share how this commentary blesses you. _____

3. Specifically written to David, what does the LORD declare? *“Thus says the LORD of hosts:*

** v.8 – I took: _____ to be _____

*Where were you “taken from”? _____

* In what way is He using you, today? _____

** v.9a – I have: _____

*How do you remember, daily, that He is with you, everywhere? _____

** v.9b – and have: _____

*How do you remember to “practice” walking in victory, daily? _____

** v.9c – and I will: _____

* Although we are not to desire a “great name”, as an “overcomer” in Christ, what amazing news are we given about our “new name”? (Revelation 2:17) _____

♥ In v.10-11a, the LORD declares hope for Israel, *the people/Nation*. We know that Israel is far from a “restful, peaceful” place. Stop and pray for the Nation of Israel. Pray for: 1) their hearts to be turned to the LORD, 2) for peace and rest *within their hearts*, until the soon return of Jesus Christ. Pray for America, too!

4. According to v.11b, the LORD declares that *He will build a house for David*, not a physical house, but a royal dynasty. Look back at 1 Samuel 25:28. Record the words that Abigail spoke to David at that time in regard to the “house” that the LORD would someday make for David. _____

“Whatever we do for God, or sincerely design to do though Providence prevents our doing it, we *shall in no wise lose our reward*. He had promised to make him a name (2 Samuel 7:9); here He promises to make him a house, which should bear up that name. It would be a great satisfaction to David, while he lived, to have the inviolable assurance of a divine promise that his family should flourish when he was dead. Next to the happiness of our souls, and the church of God, we should desire the happiness of our seed, that those who come of us may be praising God on earth when we are praising Him in heaven.” Matthew Henry



PERFECT segue to practice John 1:14: _____

DAY THREE

Pray, and read *2 Samuel 7:12-17*

1. God now declares through Nathan, when this “house” for the name of the LORD will be built, and through whom this shall be accomplished. Answer the following questions:

* Who would succeed David and establish his kingdom, and build the Temple? (v.12-13)

** Who is this son? (2 Samuel 12:24) _____

* How long will the throne of Solomon be established? (v.13b) _____

* God will be faithful in His correction/discipline of all iniquity incurred by His children (v.14), BUT what will never *depart* from Solomon (or us)? (v.15a) _____

“God’s Lovingkindness-Heb., *hesed*, steadfast love. In the O.T., communion, deliverance, enablement, enlightenment, guidance, forgiveness, hope, praise, preservation, are all based on God’s *hesed*.”



Why did God **NOT** want David to build Him a house? (1 Chronicles 22:6-8; 28:3) _____

Share your thoughts about this: _____

2. Ultimately, the enduring house that the LORD promised to give to David is fulfilled in Jesus Christ, God's Son... God, The Son, the King of kings and LORD of lords. Read Hebrews 1: 1-3 and answer the following questions:

** What are we taught about Jesus in Hebrews 1:1-2? _____

** How is Jesus described in v.3a? _____

"radiance = effulgence or flood of resplendent light. The word means outshining, not a reflection. *the exact representation of God's essence or nature.*" Ryrie Study Bible

A. What does it mean that Jesus "*upholds all things by the Word of His power*"? (Colossians 1:17)

1. How did Jesus accomplish "purification of sins"? (Hebrews 10:10, 12) _____

** Where is Jesus Christ right now? (Hebrews 1:3d) _____

♥ Jesus is now at the right hand of the Father in heaven. Before leaving His disciples, Jesus comforted them as He told them He had to go. According to John 14:15-17; 25-26, how does God dwell within us, right now?

Take a few moments and worship Him for His promise to never leave you alone... never! (John 14:18-20)

"John 1:14 says, "And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth..." The word "dwelt" means "pitched His tent" among us. Instead of meeting man in a flimsy tent made of linen, God met man in a flimsy tent made of flesh. He came to identify Himself with us. God has always identified Himself with His people." J. Vernon McGee



Time to practice John 1:14: _____

DAY FOUR

Pray, and read **2 Samuel 7:18-29**

1. How does David respond to God's words? (v.18a) _____

A. Write out the question David asks of the **Lord GOD**: (v.18b) _____

1. What do you believe this reveals about his heart? _____

"Who am I, O Lord God? and what is my house? This prayer breathes throughout a spirit of joyful surprise and overflowing gratitude. The exordium shows that David's thoughts had been taking a rapid retrospective survey of his marvelous career, from his humble origin until his elevation to the throne-a career distinguished in every stage by signal tokens of the divine favour, the crowning expression of which was the promised prosperity of his royal line." Jamieson, Fausset and Brown

2. Which of David's "praises" mentioned in this passage ministered to you the most, and why? _____

3. How many times does David refer to himself as "Your servant" *within this passage*? (v.18-29) _____

A. How does Mary refer to herself in Luke 1:38, and how important is this? _____

1. How do you refer to yourself when talking with the Lord and why? _____

4. According to v.28, what did David understand about the LORD? _____

Challenge: Using your "study tools" find one verse for each: (*Be prepared to share with your group*)

** ALL of God's Words are TRUTH: _____

**God is FAITHFUL to all of His PROMISES: _____

The following is taken from David Guzik's commentary

What promise do you need from God/ Be ready to share which one of these areas spoke to your heart the most and why.

*****Is it forgiveness?** *"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."* (1 John 1:9)

*****Is it for peace?** *"Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid."* (John 14:27)

*****Is it for guidance?** *"I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will guide you with My eye."* (Psalm 32:8)

*****Is it to keep growing?** *"He who begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ."* (Philippians 1:6)

*****Is it for God's help?** *"Let us therefore come boldly before the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace in our time of need."* (Hebrews 4:16)

Remember: God's "normal" way of granting His promises to us is to wait until we appropriate them by faith



Time to practice John 1:14: _____

Ask someone if you may share John 1:14 with them. If you did... share with your group 😊

DAY FIVE

Pray, and read 2 Samuel 8:1-18

1. Who did David have victory over in:

** v.1? _____

** v.2? _____

** v.3-4 _____

A. According to v.6 & 14, **Who** was responsible for these victories? _____

Challenge: Using your study helps, according to II Sam. 8:4, David hamstringed some of the chariot horses following a great victory. Why was this done? Was it a strategic decision, for practical reasons, or in obedience to God's laws given to kings in Deuteronomy 17:16? Share your information and your resources.

2. Who came to greet and bless David and why? (v.9-10) _____

3. Who was over David's army? (v.16) _____

A. According to 1Chronicles 11:6, why was he chosen? _____

1. On his death bed, David had not forgotten Joab's brutal murder of Abner, but allowed him to serve as the commander of his army for many years. Read 1 Kings 2:5-6. As punishment for Abner's death as well as for other crimes, what did King David instruct his son Solomon to do?

a. According to 1 Kings 2:29-34, how was the order carried out? _____

4. What two things characterized David's reign over Israel? (v.15) _____

A. Hmm... David truly was a man after God's own heart. According to Psalm 89:14, what two things are the foundation of God's throne? _____

1. What role were David's sons given? (v.18) _____

♥ Perhaps you have the opportunity of serving in a particular ministry alongside of your child(ren)... briefly share your experience. _____



Time to practice & write out your memory verse: _____

*"He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High;
and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David;
and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever,
and His kingdom will have no end."*

Luke 1:32,33

