



Community Group Questions

2 Samuel - In Search of the King, Part II

Thy Will Be Done – 2 Samuel 3:1-4:12

Focus

Chapter 3, verse 1 summarizes the trajectory of David's house strengthening, and Saul's house weakening. The end result is chapter 5 when David becomes king of all Israel. Chapters 3 and 4 reveal to us how God ultimately worked through the messiness of humanity and history to finally and fully establish His chosen king.

Opening Questions

Just for fun: who is your favorite superhero?

More serious: Why might it be unhelpful to think of humanity simply in terms of heroes or villains?

Read

2 Samuel 3:1-4:12

(NB: with some of the longer narratives, you might find it more helpful to simply summarize the text for your group or to break up the reading into smaller chunks)

Some Questions for Study and Reflection

What do we learn – both positive and negative – about each of the characters in both this passage and chapter 2?

- Abner
- Joab
- Ish-bosheth
- David

Come back to verse 3:1. In what ways have the events of these chapters contributed to that trajectory of David's house strengthening and Saul's house weakening?

How would you describe the tone and tenor of these chapters?



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Closing Reflection and Application

The storyline of this whole section is about how God's chosen king is finally and fully established on the throne of all Israel. What should we learn, therefore, about how God achieves His purposes in this world?

Some important passages to look up and consider on this topic include:

- Genesis 45:4-8; 50:15-21
- Acts 2:23; 4:27-28
- Romans 8:28

As such, how should we react when terrible things happen?

How can we encourage each other to trust in God's sovereign purposes when life is a mess?

How might reflecting on the messiness of these chapters and the failings of these leaders, make us hunger for Jesus and drive us to Him? Think specifically about how Jesus succeeds where these people failed.

In what ways are the faults of people like Abner and Joab not that far from each of us? In other words, how are their sins sometimes expressed in the church and maybe even our own lives at times today?

How can we encourage leaders we know? What do we need to remember about all of them?

As you reflect on this chapter, how does it point you to Jesus and help you to love and worship Him?