



Community Group Questions

2 Samuel - In Search of the King, Part II

Thy Kingdom Come – 2 Samuel 2:1-3:1

Focus

David's kingdom points us ahead to God's kingdom purposes in Jesus, and therefore serves as a *type* of the kingdom of God even today. In 2 Samuel 2 we specifically learn that God's kingdom is often small, marginalized, opposed, imperfect, and seemingly unpromising, and yet His kingdom is slowly advancing and its outcome is sure.

Opening Question

What are the names of some missionaries you know from church history? Share some of the details of their story that you're familiar with.

Read

2 Samuel 2:1-3:1

(NB: with some of the longer narratives, you might find it more helpful to simply summarize the text for your group)

Some Questions for Study and Reflection

Why is what takes place in verses 1-4a so significant?

Can you think of where else in the Bible the location of Hebron is mentioned? What might the location of Hebron for David's coronation tell us about its significance in God's plans for the world?

What do you think David is trying to accomplish by reaching out to the men of Jabesh-gilead?

Why do you think Abner, Ish-bosheth, and the people of Israel oppose David?

What was the outcome of all the conflicts that took place between David's men and Saul's men?



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Closing Reflection and Application

The recognition of David as king here in 2 Samuel 2 took a long time to finally happen (he was first anointed all the way back in 1 Samuel 16). Put yourself in David's shoes... what do you think it must have been like for him during all those years of waiting? What do you think that period of waiting might have taught him about God and what it means to trust God?

David shows grace and kindness to the men of Jabesh-gilead, even though they were essentially his enemies. In what ways have you experienced the grace, kindness, gentleness, and mercy of Jesus?

Sunday's sermon identified three kingdom of God principles that span history from David's kingdom to Jesus' kingdom and which continue still even today.

1. God's kingdom is both present and future.
2. God's king and kingdom are often opposed in this world, but never defeated.
3. God's kingdom often seems small and utterly insignificant in this world.

Take each of those three kingdom principles that were mentioned in Sunday's sermon, and with each one:

- Discuss how that kingdom principle is seen in 2 Samuel 2.
- Discuss how that kingdom principle is evident in Jesus the King and His kingdom.
- Discuss the implications that that kingdom principle has for our lives and ministry as citizens of God's kingdom today.

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