

The Life of David

The Beginning of King David's Reign



We are performing a character study on David. The last several chapters in 1 Samuel depict several incidents in the life of David. In preparation for this class take a few moments to leaf through 1 Samuel chapters 16-31 and be prepared to list some of the major events recorded about David in these chapters. What do we learn about David's character strengths and weaknesses through them?

2 Samuel Chapters 1 - 7

Key scripture:

2 Samuel 3:36 *All the people took note and were pleased; indeed, everything the king did pleased them. (NIV).*

Chapter 1. Why did David behave the way he did over the death of King Saul and Jonathan?

Chapters 2-5. A quick overview of the last part of Saul's life and the beginning of David's reign.

- David reigns over Judah while Saul's son, Ish-Bosheth reigns over the rest of Israel.
- Events surrounding David's gaining reign over all Israel.
- **Everybody loves David. 2 Samuel 3:36** *All the people took note and were pleased; indeed, everything the king did pleased them. (NIV).*
 - Why? What character trait is seen in this episode?

Chapter 6. Moving of the Ark of the Covenant.

- Reminds us of one of David's strongest character qualities; he loved God. He loved the presence of the Lord. The presence of the Lord makes a real, tangible difference in a person's life. David corrected his life ... he adjusted himself to God's ways rather than visa versa. He pursued God on God's terms.
- What do we learn about worship from 2 Samuel 6:12-29?

Chapter 7. David lays out his heart's desire to build God a house.

- How did Nathan the prophet respond to David's plans to build a house for the Lord?
- What was David's reaction to Nathan's *second* message?
- What is implied by the manner in which David addresses God as "O Sovereign LORD" seven times in this prayer?
 - How can our referring to God's sovereignty be a cop-out in our prayer life?
 - How can it be glorifying to God?