

# THE BETTER PLAN

[2 Samuel 17]

1. The enemy desires to pounce upon us when we are **WEAK** and to throw us into a **FRENZY**. (1 Peter 5:8-9; Matthew 4:1-11; 1 John 4:4; Ephesians 6:11-17; 2 Corinthians 2:11)
2. Be careful when the advice you receive focuses on and elevates the **IMPORTANCE** of the one giving the advice. (John 5:44; 1 Thessalonians 2:6; Matthew 6:1; James 4:6; Philippians 2:3; Galatians 1:10)
3. Be careful when the advice you receive focuses on and elevates **YOUR** importance. (Romans 12:3; 1 Corinthians 1:31; James 4:10;)
4. Regardless of how hopeless it seems, there is no opposition, battle, diagnosis, kingdom, strategy, plan, or \_\_\_\_\_ that is a match for God's **SOVEREIGNTY!** (John 10:10; Psalm 2:1-4, 9:15, 21:11, 33:10-11, 140:8; Job 5:12-13; Proverbs 21:30; Isaiah 8:10, 9:3, 54:17; Exodus 23:22)
5. **PRAYER WORKS!** (2 Samuel 15:31; Mark 11:24; John 15:7; James 1:6, 5:16; Philippians 4:6-7; 1 John 5:14-15; 1 Thessalonians 5:17; Matthew 7:7; Hebrews 4:16)
6. God is at work behind the scenes making a **WAY** where there seems to be none. (1 Corinthians 10:13; Romans 8:26; Luke 1:37; Genesis 18:14; Isaiah 43:16,19; Proverbs 3:5-6;)
7. In times of weariness and great need, having true **FRIENDS** matters more than ever. (1 Thessalonians 5:11; Ecclesiastes 4:9-10; Job 6:14; Proverbs 17:17, 18:24, 27:9; Psalm 133:1; Romans 12:10; John 15:12-13; Luke 6:31)



## Taking it further to help you **THRIVE**...

THRIVE Groups are where life and growth take place. We don't want to just say "See you next week" as we leave each Sunday - we want to connect!  
For more info on joining a THRIVE Group, visit [thrivekg.org/thrive-groups](http://thrivekg.org/thrive-groups).

1. Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?
2. In 2 Samuel 15:31, David prayed, "O LORD, please turn the counsel of Ahithophel into foolishness." It appears that God ordained Hushai to be the answer to David's prayer! What do we learn about prayer from this? What do we learn about being involved in others' lives?
3. In what ways did Hushai appeal to Absalom's vanity? In what ways do pride and vanity lead to trouble for us? For our relationships with others? For our walk with the Lord?
4. In what ways do we see God's sovereignty displayed in this chapter? How can we trust in God's sovereignty when we are facing great challenges or seasons of discouragement?
5. God was of course ordaining the decision Absalom would make and the direction David would take. But for us today, what can help us discern when to heed and when to reject the advice we receive from others? When receiving conflicting advice, how are we to make good decisions?
6. We read in verse 19 where the woman hides Jonathan and Ahimaaz in the well and tells Absalom's servants that "they have gone..." Isn't this lying? Why / how did God use this to play into His plan?
7. Where do we 'see Jesus' in this chapter?