

# SELFISH AMBITION

[2 Samuel 15:1-13]

1. What we do with our hands begins in our **HEAD** and **HEART**. (Philippians 2:13; 2 Corinthians 10:5; Proverbs 4:23-27; Romans 12:2; Philippians 4:8; Colossians 3:1-2)
2. Flattery and **SCHMOOZING** can be super destructive. (Proverbs 26:28, 29:5; Romans 16:18; Psalm 5:9, 12:3, 55:21; 1 Thessalonians 2:5; Jude 1:16; 1 John 4:1)
3. Do not think too **HIGHLY** of yourself. (Romans 12:3-5,16; Galatians 6:3; Proverbs 16:18, 26:12; 1 Peter 4:10-11; 2 Corinthians 12:7; Micah 6:8; Luke 18:11)
4. Stealing someone's heart...is stealing, which is taking something that **DOES NOT** belong to us. (John 10:10; Proverbs 24:3, 27:6; Philippians 4:7; John 14:27)
5. Be careful of appearing **SPIRITUAL** while having ulterior or improper **MOTIVES**. (2 Timothy 3:5; Matthew 7:21-23; 1 John 2:3-5; Mark 7:9; John 13:35; Galatians 5:22; Proverbs 21:2; 1 Thessalonians 2:4; 1 Timothy 1:5; 1 Samuel 16:7)
6. **UNHEALTHY** things grow too. This is why we must recognize them and cut them off. (Revelation 18:4; 1 John 1:9; Colossians 3:5-15; Ephesians 4:22-31; Proverbs 28:13; James 4:7)



## ***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. The outward workings of Absalom's conspiracy actually began years prior in his head and heart. We have to be careful where we allow our thoughts to take us. 2 Corinthians 10:5 says we are to take every thought captive to the obedience of Christ. How do we do this? What might this look like as it relates to preventing us from doing (acting) in ways we should not?
3. How should we respond when others betray our trust or friendship? Should we simply cut off the relationship and move on? What might be some better ways of handling this?
4. We have seen that sin affects more than just ourselves. In what ways do Absalom's motives and actions 'hurt the innocent' in this account? How do we hurt others when we elevate our value and significance beyond its rightful place?
5. In what ways is Absalom's behavior manipulative? How do we guard our own hearts against and 'Absalom spirit'?