

Small Group Discussion Questions

Series: Rise and Fall: Life of David

Speaker: Jay Haugh

Message: Overcoming the Odds

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Memory Verse: 2 Samuel 7:22 NIV

How great you are, Sovereign LORD! There is no one like you, and there is no God but you, as we have heard with our own ears.

These questions aim to foster meaningful discussion and encourage participants to reflect on God's Word to lead to heart transformation. Feel free to modify or expand upon these questions based on the dynamics and needs of your Small Group.

Big Idea: The works of our hands won't give life, but those who turn to the rejected king will never be condemned.

Read 2 Samuel 4

1. Consider the significant and prolonged strife David has experienced from the house of Saul and the respect he continues to show them. Share about a time when you struggled to respect someone in authority. What can we learn from David about respecting our present-day authority figures who we do not like or agree with?
2. We are not told the motives of the two raiders (Baanah & Rechab) for killing Ish-bosheth, but it is apparent that they believed they were doing right. How can we ensure biblical principles guide our decision-making rather than personal motives or societal pressures? How can we hold each other accountable to live according to biblical values, even when difficult?
3. How do the raiders frame their actions when they present Ish-bosheth's head to David? What does David's response convey about where he believes deliverance comes from? How do you see the world and where your victory comes from?



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4. David is being put in a position where he would benefit from the transgression of the raiders. What are the potential risks for David in accepting their “gift?” How would you react in a situation where you are expected to reward an unethical act that benefits you?
5. Reflecting on David's refusal to align himself with evil, how can we ensure that we also distance ourselves from wrongdoing and maintain our integrity in all circumstances? How do we balance that with a need to build relationships with the lost?
6. By executing the raiders, David showed to all of Israel that he abhorred this behavior. What are some contemporary examples of wickedness that stir your emotions and sense of justice? Do these grievances lead you to action? If so, what?

Read 2 Samuel 5:1-4

7. The Lord declared that David would serve as a “Shepherd over Israel.” When you think about a shepherd of people, what characteristics come to mind? Thinking about your circles of influence, who are you shepherding? If no one, what steps can you take to help others develop in their faith?
8. David has waited approximately 15 years for God to fulfill His promise of becoming king. How often do you find yourself waiting on God's promises? How does this story encourage you to persevere in faith? What practical steps can you take to be more patient and trusting in God's timing?



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