



DAVID

A MAN AFTER GOD'S OWN HEART

Small Group Guide: David, Week 2

Key Takeaways:

1. **God does everything legally** according to His Word and established principles.
2. **Impatience leads to settling for less** than God's best.
(Saul instead of David)
3. **Christ redeemed us from ALL curses of the law** through His sacrifice.
4. **God's timing is perfect**, even when it requires waiting.
5. **The Bible doesn't hide the skeletons**—God can work through messy family situations.
6. **Kings come from Judah; warriors come from Ephraim**
—God has specific purposes for different people.

Discussion Questions:

Icebreaker Question

1. What's one time in your life when waiting for something turned out better than if you had rushed ahead?

Understanding the Text

1. **Why did Israel want a king?** What was the deeper issue beyond just wanting leadership? How does this reflect a lack of trust in God?
2. **What was the "curse of the bastard"?** What did it actually prohibit, and what did it NOT prohibit? Why is this distinction important?
3. **Why was Saul chosen as king instead of someone from Judah?** How does understanding David's genealogy help us see God's perfect timing?

Personal Reflection

1. **Trust in God's Defense:** The Israelites didn't trust God to defend them through unconventional means (untrained armies led by judges). In what areas of your life do you struggle to trust God's methods because they seem unconventional or insufficient?
2. **Taking Matters Into Our Own Hands:** Israel demanded a king rather than waiting for God's timing. Can you share a time when you rushed ahead of God's timing? What were the consequences?
3. **God's Legal Framework:** God works within His own established laws and principles. How does seeing God's faithfulness to His own Word increase your trust in Him?

Application

1. **Redemption from Curses:** According to Galatians 3:13, we are redeemed from the curse of the law. How might believing you're still under a curse (whether generational, circumstantial, or self-imposed) affect your

walk with Christ? How does understanding your freedom change things?

2. **Patience in Waiting:** The sermon emphasized that if Israel had just waited for David to come of age, things would have turned out differently. What situation in your life right now requires patience and trust in God's timing?
3. **God's Prophetic Faithfulness:** From Genesis 49:10 to King David to Jesus Christ, God fulfilled every prophetic word. How does God's track record of faithfulness encourage you regarding unfulfilled promises in your life?

Practical Application:

1. **Identify one area** where you're trying to force something to happen instead of waiting on God. Commit to releasing it to Him daily in prayer.
2. **Study your spiritual inheritance** in Christ. Make a list of what you've been redeemed from (curses, condemnation, sin's power) and what you've been given (righteousness, sonship, authority).
3. **Practice patience** in a specific situation by choosing to pray first before acting, asking God for His timing and wisdom.
4. **Share the gospel** using the concept that Christ became a curse to free us from the curse—with someone who feels trapped by their past or family history.

Closing Prayer:

Heavenly Father, we bring before you the specific areas where we struggle to trust your timing, our families, futures,

finances, and fears. Break every sense of curse, shame, or generational baggage; let the truth of your Word silence every lie.

Thank you that in Christ we are legally redeemed from every curse of the law, fully forgiven and completely yours. Teach us to wait on you with patience and faith, trusting that your plans are good, and your timing is perfect.

In Jesus' name, amen.

5-Day Devotional

Day 1: God Works Within the Law

Reading: Deuteronomy 23:1-8; Genesis 38:1-30

Devotional: God's ways are not arbitrary. He operates with perfect justice and order. The story of Judah and Tamar reveals uncomfortable truths about human failure, yet God worked through messy circumstances to fulfill His purposes. The curse of illegitimacy lasted ten generations, demonstrating that consequences are real, but God's redemption is greater. Even when we fail, God remains faithful to His promises. He doesn't bypass His own standards; instead, He works patiently within them. Consider areas where you've experienced consequences for poor choices. God hasn't abandoned you. He's working redemption even now. His timeline may require patience, but His purposes will prevail. Trust that God is moving legally and lovingly in your life, even when you cannot see the full picture.

Day 2: The Danger of Impatience

Reading: 1 Samuel 8:1-22; Judges 5:13-18

Devotional: Israel's demand for a king reveals humanity's persistent struggle with waiting on God. They wanted security now, a visible army and leader like other nations, rather than trusting the invisible God who had repeatedly delivered them. Their impatience cost them dearly. Saul's troubled reign brought decades of turmoil. How often do we make the same mistake? We rush ahead of God's timing, demanding solutions that fit our schedule rather than His perfect plan. The tribes that stayed home during battle showed the same lack of trust. When we cannot see God's deliverance, we create our own solutions. Today, identify areas where you're pushing ahead of God. What are you demanding now that God may be asking you to wait for? Patience is not passive; it's active trust that God is working behind the scenes.

Day 3: Temporary Solutions, Eternal Plans

Reading: 1 Samuel 9:1-2, 15-17; Ruth 4:13-22

Devotional: Saul was never meant to be permanent. He was a placeholder until David, the tenth generation from Judah's line, came of age. God had an eternal plan, but circumstances required a temporary solution. This teaches us that what appears permanent in our lives may simply be transitional. That difficult job, that challenging season, that temporary provision God may be using it to prepare you for something greater. David's genealogy shows God counting generations, patiently working toward His chosen king. Nothing was wasted; every generation mattered in God's timeline. Your current season matters too. Don't despise temporary assignments or transitional periods. God is positioning you for His ultimate purpose. Ask God today: What are you preparing me for? How can I faithfully steward this temporary season?

Day 4: Redeemed from Every Curse

Reading: Galatians 3:10-14; Deuteronomy 28:1-14

Devotional: Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us. This staggering truth means every Old Testament curse: disease, poverty, failure, illegitimacy, rejection was nailed to the cross. You are not bound by generational curses, family patterns, or past mistakes. Jesus legally satisfied every requirement, fulfilled every command, and paid every penalty. His resurrection proves the curse is broken. Whatever your family history contains: addiction, abuse, abandonment, it has no legal claim on your life in Christ. You stand redeemed, justified, and free. The enemy may whisper accusations about your past or your heritage, but Jesus silences them all. Today, speak this truth aloud: "I am redeemed from the curse of the law. Jesus paid it all." Walk in the freedom He purchased for you

Day 5: Love Fulfills the Law

Reading: Matthew 22:34-40; John 15:9-17

Devotional: Jesus fulfilled the entire law by perfectly loving God and loving others. His obedience in Gethseman, "not my will, but yours," demonstrated supreme love for the Father. His death on the cross, laying down His life for friends and enemies alike, demonstrated supreme love for humanity. When we struggle with legalistic thinking or religious performance, we miss the heart of the gospel: love. You cannot earn God's favor through rule-keeping, but love naturally fulfills what the law demanded. When you love God wholeheartedly, you want to obey Him. When you love others sacrificially, you fulfill the law's requirements without even trying. Today, focus not on religious duty but on deepening your love relationship with God. Ask Him to fill your heart with His love, then watch how naturally righteousness flows from that connection. Love is the fulfillment of everything.