

2 Samuel 12:1-10

1/11/26

**MPS: Don't settle for less when God wants to give you even more**

**INTRO:**

- One more stand-alone sermon before we get into Sermon on the Mount
- Let's be thinking Seek Week as we get into this passage.

**OPEN:**

I took a prayer retreat in August and it was there I knew I would be talking about this concept of 'even more'

**(2Sam 12:7b-8)** *I anointed you king over Israel, and I delivered you out of the hand of Saul. I gave your master's house to you, and your master's wives into your arms. I gave you all Israel and Judah. And if all this had been too little, I would have given you even more.*

- It says something about God and something about us.

**GOD:**

- God is generous to His people and desires to pour out even more on them.
- David pursued his hearts desires independent from God – Nothing wrong with wanting more... there is something wrong to strive for even more without dependency on God.

**US:**

- We all want "more" — more joy, more security, more love, more significance, more boldness, more identity understanding, more wisdom, more fun, etc
- "I want more, but I want more on my terms" –
- That's where David's life changed – he missed God's even more and ended up with much less.
- David is 55ish now, he has lived for years obedient to God!
- Man after God's own heart
- Courageous shepherd who fought lions and bears
- Faithful to do things the right way
- Fought Goliath FOR God - *but I come to you in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied*
- Didn't kill Saul when he could have
- Poured out the water from Bethlehem
- Played music that soothed Saul
- Depended on Lord over and over again through the scripture – always inquiring of Him – should we fight, should we go, etc.

WHAT happened to David?

**2 Samuel 11:1 (ESV)** *1 In the spring of the year, the time when kings go out to battle, David sent Joab, and his servants with him, and all Israel. And they ravaged the Ammonites and besieged Rabbah. But David remained at Jerusalem.*

- Staying home in such situations was not David's usual practice
- The connection of these two phrases 'the time when kings go out to battle' – 'but David remained in Jerusalem' hints that something is wrong: the kings go out to battle, but this king does not.
- David settled for less – he chose luxury, apathy, he settled on no being on mission,
- He delegated his duties instead of being dedicated to duties.
- When we settle for less, we miss out on even more.

**Don't settle for less when God wants to give you even more**

**2 Samuel 12:1–9 (NIV)**

**Vs 1** *The LORD sent Nathan to David. When he came to him, he said, "There were two men in a certain town, one rich and the other poor.*

- Nathan was the prophet of the day
- The prophets were servants of the word of God, which has authority even over kings.
- Nathan gives David a parable that will lead to conviction of David's sin.

**Vs 2** *The rich man had a very large number of sheep and cattle,*

- The rich man is David

**Vs 3** *but the poor man had nothing except one little ewe lamb he had bought. He raised it, and it grew up with him and his children. It shared his food, drank from his cup and even slept in his arms. It was like a daughter to him.*

- The poor man is Uriah
- The lamb is Bathsheba

**Vs 4** *"Now a traveler came to the rich man, but the rich man refrained from taking one of his own sheep or cattle to prepare a meal for the traveler who had come to him. Instead, he took the ewe lamb that belonged to the poor man and prepared it for the one who had come to him."*

**Vs 5** *David burned with anger against the man and said to Nathan, "As surely as the LORD lives, the man who did this must die!"*

- Ironically, according to the mosaic law, this was not a crime punishable by death. But, David's sins of adultery and murder were.

**Vs 6** *He must pay for that lamb four times over, because he did such a thing and had no pity."*

**Exodus 22:1 (ESV) 1** *"If a man steals an ox or a sheep, and kills it or sells it... and four sheep for a sheep.*

- David knew the Law; he knew 'the Word.'
- We can know the Word, yet not practice the Word.

**James 1:22, 25 (ESV) 22** *But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves...25 But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing.*

**Vs 7** *Then Nathan said to David, "You are the man! This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: 'I anointed you king over Israel, and I delivered you from the hand of Saul.*

- Everything David had was because God generously gave it to him. God is generous – we are needy.

**Vs 8** *I gave your master's house to you, and your master's wives into your arms. I gave you all Israel and Judah. And if all this had been too little, I would have given you even more.*

- There is no other record of David marrying Saul's wives, but he was certainly in a position to do so.
- This simply means that God in His providence had given David, as king, everything that was Saul's.
- Look the generosity of God here – 'even more'
- God is in the business of satisfying his people. He WANTS to give us even more.
- Even more of the right things of course (not a prosperity message)
- David settled for less and missed out on even more

1. **We always settle for less when we live only for ourselves.**

**Vs 9** *Why did you despise the word of the LORD by doing what is evil in his eyes? You struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword and took his wife to be your own. You killed him with the sword of the Ammonites.*

**Vs 10** *Now, therefore, the sword will never depart from your house, because you despised me and took the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your own.'*

- Since Uriah was killed by violence, the house of David would be continually plagued by violence. These words anticipated the violent deaths of Amnon (13:28, 29), Absalom (18:14, 15), and Adonijah (1 Kin. 2:24, 25).
- David in his independent quest for more, settled for less because He went outside the will of God. (That is the essence of sin).

"Self-sufficiency is Satan's net, wherein he catches men, like poor silly fish, and does destroy them. Be not self-sufficient. Think yourselves nothing, for you are nothing, and live by God's help. The way to grow strong in Christ is to become weak in yourself. God pours no power into man's heart till man's power is all poured out. Live, then, daily, a life of dependence on the grace of God." Spurgeon

- Kids eating dogfood – nothing wrong with the desire to eat, but somethings wrong with eating what's outside our desires for them. (nutrition, taste, family meals, etc.)
- God's not obligated to give David one single thing, yet he lavished all kinds of blessings on him. Rather than being grateful, David wants more... he goes and gets it himself rather than going to God. The Lord would have given David exactly what he needed.
- David acted like Adam – independently, ungratefully, ultimately regrettfully.
- The importance of thanking God – it can keep us from going outside God's will to get what we want when we slow down to remember what He has already done.
- Also, let's think outside ourselves this year and let's reach even more
- We must learn from David's mistake by asking and trusting God rather than seeking satisfaction independent from God.

## 2. Seeking God in everything sets us up for even more.

**Vs 8** *I gave your master's house to you, and your master's wives into your arms. I gave you all Israel and Judah. And if all this had been too little, I would have given you even more.*

- Implied in this sentence is that if David would just SEEK HIM – God would have given David EVEN MORE!
- David settled for less than God desired and missed out on even more
  - "We tend to use prayer as a last resort, but God wants it to be our first line of defense... God wants us to pray before we do anything at all." Oswald Chambers

- George Müller, a missionary in the 19<sup>th</sup> century England – ran orphanages for thousands of children—sometimes 2,000 at once—never asking a single person for money. No fundraising letters, no public appeals, just quiet, persistent prayer to God alone.
- From his journals, he recorded over 50,000 specific answers to prayer in his lifetime—more than 30,000 of them coming the very same day or even the same hour he prayed. That's roughly 500 definite answers every year, over 60 years of ministry—more than one a day!
- One morning, the orphanage had no food for breakfast. The tables were set, the children waiting, but the cupboards were bare. Müller gathered them, thanked God for the meal they were about to receive, and prayed. Before they said “Amen,” a knock came at the door. A baker, stirred awake early by God, had baked bread for the orphans. Moments later, a milkman’s cart broke down right outside—the milk would spoil, so he gave it all away.
- Müller didn’t strive for provision independently from God; he depended on the generous God who promises “even more” to those who trust Him fully.
- Church, that’s the God we serve—the One who gives even more when we stop striving and start seeking. Let’s open our hearts to that same generous Father today.

**Matthew 7:7–11 (ESV)** **7** “Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. **8** For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened. **9** Or which one of you, if his son asks him for bread, will give him a stone? **10** Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a serpent? **11** If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask him!

**Matthew 6:33 (ESV)** **33** But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

**James 4:1–8 (ESV)** **1** What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? Is it not this, that your passions are at war within you? **2** You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel. You do not have, because you do not ask. **3** You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions. **4** You adulterous people! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God. **5** Or do you suppose it is to no purpose that the Scripture says, “He yearns jealously over the spirit that he has made to dwell in us”? **6** But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, “God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.” **7** Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. **8** Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

### 3. Exchange what is less to receive even more

- a. Rid your distractions to have even more from God
  - SM
  - Entertainment
  - Hobby maniac (having a hobby is good, being a hobbyist is not so good)
  - Materialism
  - Consumerism (vacations, etc,)
- b. Narrow what you manage to have even more from God
- c. Decrease self to have even more from God (Don't think less of yourself, but think of yourself less)

**John 3:30 (ESV) 30** *He must increase, but I must decrease.*" Less of me; more of Him (even more)

#### CONCLUSION

- Jesus Himself embodied this ultimate paradox:
  - He emptied Himself completely ("much less"—Philippians 2:7), becoming poor so that through His death and resurrection we might become rich (2 Corinthians 8:9).
  - He lost everything on the cross (humiliation, rejection, death) so we could gain **even more**—forgiveness, adoption, eternal life, the fullness of joy in God's presence (Psalm 16:11).
- So, living with "much less" isn't asceticism or self-punishment. It's the gospel freedom of **self-forgetfulness** and **dependence**:
  - **Exchange what is less to receive even more**
  - **Don't settle for less when God wants to give you even more**

#### PRAYER TIME:

**James 1:17 (ESV) 17** *Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.*

Lord, thank you for the gift of \_\_\_\_\_

- Life and breath
- Salvation and forgiveness
- Your Word
- Family, relationships, and community
- Daily provision
- Grace and strength for today
- The Holy Spirit

Hope for eternity

**2 Samuel 12:8 (ESV)** *8 And I gave you your master's house and your master's wives into your arms and gave you the house of Israel and of Judah. And if this were too little, I would add to you as much more.*

- Consider 'even more' prayers may take a while to be answered... patience and hope

Lord, because you care and are a generous toward me/us, I/we boldly ask you for even more

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- Of Your presence
- Of Your Spirit
- Trust in You
- Knowing Your love
- Wisdom
- Financial freedom
- Joy
- Peace
- Boldness to witness
- Intimacy in relationships
- Fruitfulness in Your kingdom
- Hope
- Of a prayer life
- Conversions & baptisms
- Passion for God
- Comfort from God
- Growing in my identity in Christ
- Freedom from vices
- Churches planted
- Disciples made

QUESTIONS FOR GROUPS:

1. Where do you think you've settled for less in your life?
2. How do you get back to (or for the first time) put yourself in position of receiving "Even More" from the LORD?
3. Pray some 'even more' prayers together.