

## Are you wondering what it means to be a Christian?

Jesus said, "All that the Father gives me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will never drive away" (John 6:37). Jesus also said, "No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent me draws him; and I will raise him up on the last day" (John 6:44).

If you are feeling drawn to Christ, it is because God the Father is drawing you; it is not a desire we can or will create within ourselves. This also means that there is no sin too great to be forgiven, and no past too sinful to be overcome. You can trust Christ to receive you because it is God the Father who is drawing you to find true repentance and receive the gift of faith. You can know a new life in Jesus Christ.

We would love to talk and pray with you about this or any other spiritual needs you may have. Please see Pastor Mark or one of our elders after today's service to do so.

## Are you interested in Baptism or Church Membership?

Please indicate your interest on the back of your Connection Card and Pastor Mark or one of the elders will be in touch with you this week to set up a time to meet with you.

## CONSPIRACY, FLIGHT, & FRIENDSHIP

### 2 Samuel 15-16

**Main Thought:** In 2 Samuel 15-16, we discover some truths about friendship, God's faithfulness and sovereignty, and how God uses difficult times to mature our faith and strengthen our character.

#### 1. REVIEWING THE TEXT...

1) Absalom's \_\_\_\_\_

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ Absalom-style (15:1-6)

(2) Taking \_\_\_\_\_ Absalom's way (15:7-12)

2) David's \_\_\_\_\_

(1) Absalom's \_\_\_\_\_ (15:13-15)

(2) Fleeing \_\_\_\_\_ (15:16-22)

(3) David orders the \_\_\_\_\_ returned to Jerusalem (15:23-29)

(4) Ahithophel's \_\_\_\_\_ (15:30-31)

(5) David receives some \_\_\_\_\_ (15:32-16:4)

(6) Shimei \_\_\_\_\_ David (16:5-13)

3) Ahithophel \_\_\_\_\_ Absalom (16:14-23)

#### 2. APPLYING THE TEXT...

1) True \_\_\_\_\_ is revealed during tough times.

2) God always keeps His \_\_\_\_\_, and sin does not pay.

3) God's sovereignty is a comforting \_\_\_\_\_.

4) God uses difficult times to grow our \_\_\_\_\_.

### **ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS FOR GROWTH GROUPS**

1. Read 2 Samuel 15-16 and ask the Holy Spirit to reveal God's truth to you as you read.

2. What do you learn about God (Father, Son, Holy Spirit) from this passage?

3. What do you learn about human beings/yourself from this passage?

4. What verse meant the most to you? Why?

5. What didn't you understand in the passage? What answers did you find for your questions?

6. What application(s) for your life do you take away from this passage?

Digging deeper:

7. How does Absalom go about undermining David in 15:1-6?

8. Why do you think Absalom waits four years to carry out his conspiracy plot? When else has he shown patience in devising evil plots?

9. Why do you think he goes to Hebron to launch his kingship?

10. Why does David decide to flee Jerusalem? Who went with him? Who and what did he decide not to take with him? Why?

11. Who revealed themselves as David's true friends in the midst of his flight? How did they show their allegiance to him?

12. Who was Shimei? Why was he cursing David and why did David allow it to continue?

13. How did Hushai gain Absalom's confidence?