



2 SAMUEL

BIBLE STUDY TERM 3 2017

ST LUKE'S
2020
VISION

Imagine a church:

Where delight in God
overflows into all of life

Where enduring truth
inspires courageous witness
and a heart for the nations

Where the lost surrender
to the mercy of Christ

Where a hunger to
know, love & serve Christ
renews every season

Where the broken find
a family and the outsider
is embraced

BIBLE STUDY PROGRAM - TERM 3 2017

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 St Luke's Anglican Church, Miranda

INTRODUCTION TO 2 SAMUEL

The Old Testament books of 1 and 2 Samuel follow the rise and fall of Saul and David, the first 2 Kings crowned over God's people. As we focus this term on the book of 2 Samuel, our focus will be on King David, a figure who looms large over the rest of the Bible.

2 Samuel, like many of the narrative sections of the Bible, can prove difficult to understand. This is not to say it is difficult to read: There is enough blood-shed, conspiracy and scandal to keep us interested. However, you can come away from the various stories feeling you may have missed the key message. The narrator maintains their poker-face throughout, rarely telling you explicitly who is good and who is bad or why a particular action is counted as righteous or unrighteous. God leaves some acts of evil unpunished and can seem to act with extreme prejudice against minor misdemeanours. Yet, huge vistas of meaning and depth open up as we learn to read 2 Samuel accumulatively and Christologically.

Reading Accumulatively

We read and hear 2 Samuel with the first 9 books of the Bible ringing in our ears. Specifically, with some key 'King' moments from these books ringing in our ears.

A Failed King

The first key moment is the Garden of Eden. It was here we see the rise and fall of God's first King. Adam had no crown or throne, but he was told to 'rule and have dominion'. However, a serpent would find a home in the Garden Adam was called to protect. Adam, called to rule as an image of the True King, becomes a law unto himself. At a number of points throughout David's story we will see him fail to deal properly with the 'snakes' in Jerusalem.

An Ideal King

The second key moment is Moses' articulation of a 'good king' in Deuteronomy 17. Here Moses lays out the character of a King worthy of ruling God's people. This character list will become key as we assess the actions and decisions of David and those who are vying for his throne.

A King like the Nations

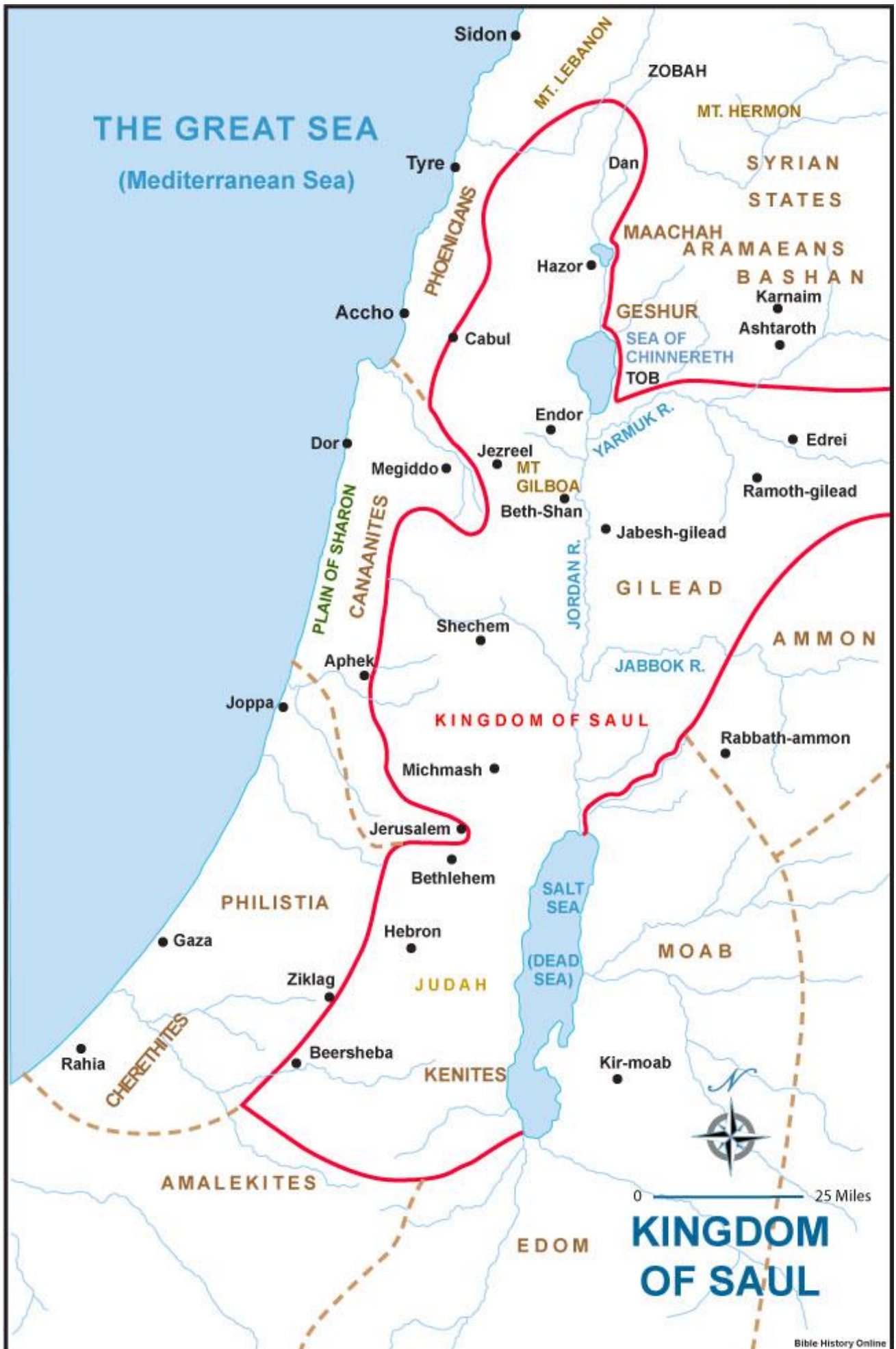
The third key moment to have in mind as you read about the rise and fall of David is Samuel's warning about the dark side of crowning a king. In 1 Samuel 8, Samuel fills out the implications of Israel's desire for a 'king like the nations'. Again, this will be a key way to assess David's actions and decisions throughout 2 Samuel.

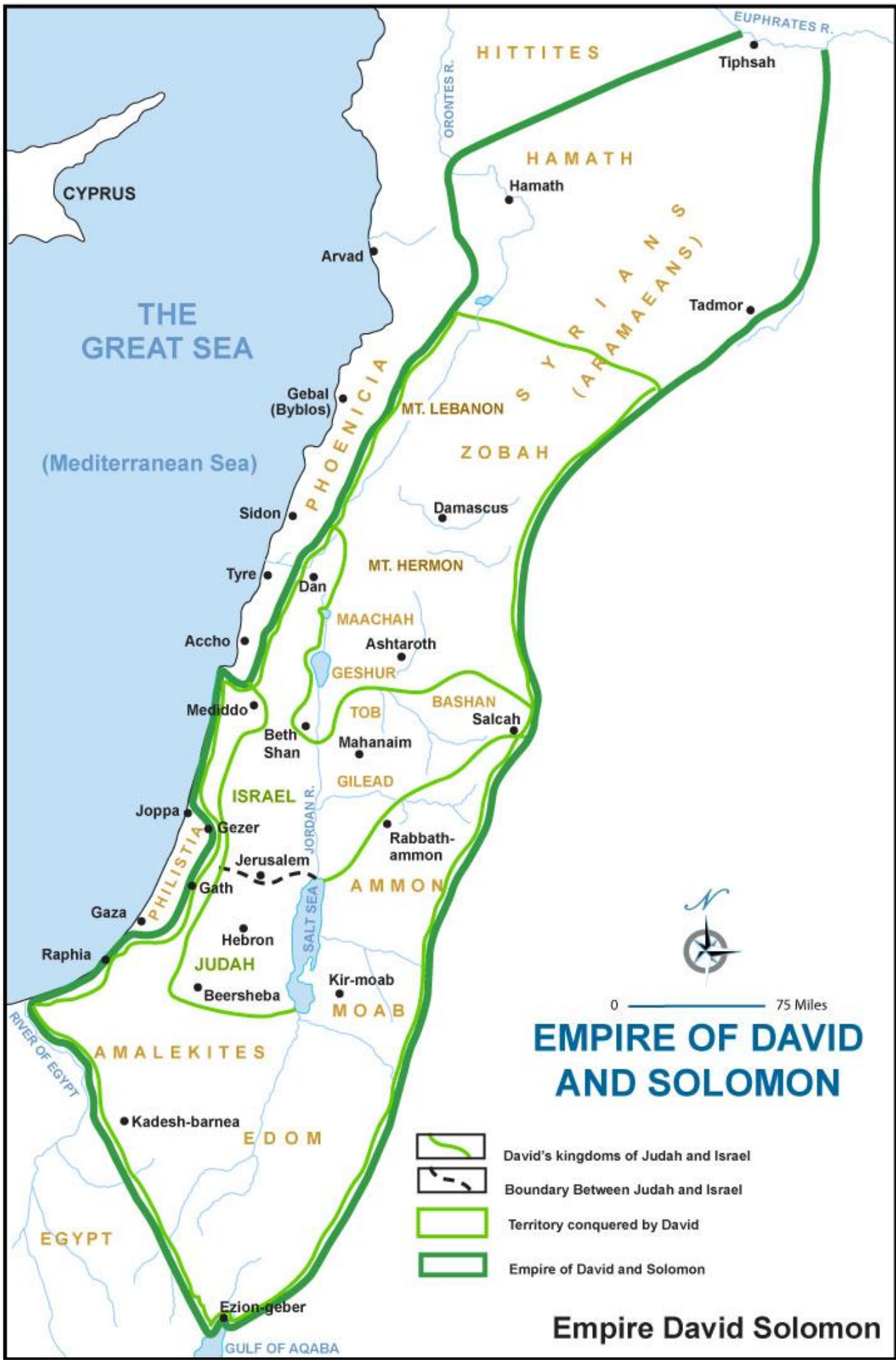
There are other moments from the Old Testament story that we will need to accumulate to understand 2 Samuel, and we will pick them up as we go. However, these 3 will provide the key to understanding much of the narrative tensions.

Read Christologically

We also want to be reading Christologically. David is a frustrating man. He is called a 'King after God's own heart', and is capable of heroic and selfless acts for God's glory.

Sometimes we will see glimpses of Jesus in his words, prayers and actions. However, he is also a weak father, an adulterer, a murderer and a man of violence. In the end, he is not enough and we are left longing for a better King. This better king is promised in the words of 2 Samuel 7, and he arrives 1000 years later: Jesus our King. The story of 2 Samuel can lead us to a deeper thankfulness and appreciation of our perfect King: the one who banished the serpent from his presence, who dies for us and rose to reign on high.





Study 1 – The King’s King

1 Samuel 31:1-2 Samuel 2:11

Talk

- 1) What makes a good ruler or king? What personal qualities would you love to see in a nation’s leader?**

Read 1 Samuel 31:1 – 2 Samuel 2:11

Note that in the Hebrew Bible there is no distinction between 1 and 2 Samuel. It is treated as a single story.

- 2) What initial thoughts and questions does the passage raise for everyone?**

Investigate 1 Samuel 31

- 3) Here we see the sad end to the life of Saul: Israel’s first King. Can anyone remember the events that led to God rejecting him as king?**

- 4) Can anyone think of another man previously in the Bible who is called to rule and ‘have dominion’, but who similarly failed to treat God as the true king?**

- 5) Check your map for the location of Saul's death at the hand of the Philistines. What does this tell you about the state of the Land and the Kingdom at the end of Saul's reign?
- 6) Saul was elected after Israel requests 'a king like the nations'. How does 31:7 provide a fitting conclusion to the 'King like the nations' project?

Investigate 2 Samuel 1:1-16

- 7) We catch up with David returning from fighting the Amalekites. Why isn't David fighting the Philistines with the rest of Israel (cf 1 Samuel 27:1-3)? How do you feel about David's current employment?
- 8) David hears of Saul's death from a man from Saul's camp. He is an Amalekite but describes himself as 'the son of an alien', that is, an Amalekite who had gone over to Israel. Why does this man lie to David about the death of Saul, and claim that it was by his hand?
- 9) This man holds out Saul's crown for David to take. Thinking of the 'garden of Eden' pattern, what does this scene remind you of? Are there any moments in the life of Jesus that this scene is reminiscent of?

Investigate 2 Samuel 2:1-11

- 10) David has been a king-in-waiting since his anointing in 1 Samuel 16. What signs of promise do we find in these chapters for David's reign?
- 11) What troubling details do we find in these chapters that may place David's reign on shaky ground?

Apply

- 12) Matthew 1:1 "*This is the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah, the son of David*". In what ways do you see David's strengths as a king revealed also in Jesus. In what ways has Jesus shown himself to be greater still?
- 13) In what areas of life might you be considered a 'ruler' or 'leader' (work, church, family, community groups, friendship groups). How aware are you that you rule and lead as a servant of a greater king?

Down the Rabbit Hole

- Why would the men of Jabesh-Gilead undertake such a risky mission in 2 Samuel 31:11-13? Check out 1 Samuel 11 for some back story.
- Why might God have singled out Hebron as the first step in David's ascension? Check out Genesis 13:18.

Pray

Weekly Prayer Points:

Staff

Pray for Stephen and Susie, Ben, and Tim Gibson. Pray for Stephen as he heads up our Maturity profile for St Luke's, and mentors and leads staff.

Missionaries

Pray for John-Francis and Anup Wallace and their mission work in Indore, North India. Pray for Sarah Prabhakar and her work in India with BCTI and SIM.

Community

Pray for our Church Wardens: Colin Adams, David Bull, and Jack Normand. Pray for our Parish Councillors: Greg Chambers, Laurie Davidson, Amanda Garlato, Joel Garlato, Angela Gowan, Nathan Pollock, Simon Veltmeyer (also our treasurer) and Brendan Carpenter. Pray for our Parish Nominators: Michael Easton, David Francis, Amanda Garlato, Louise Parkes, and Lloyd Zietsch. Pray for our Synod Reps: Michael Easton and Amanda Garlato.

Coming Events

Pray for the start of the term

TGE Reunion Service – 30th July

How to Tell your Mates about Jesus – 2nd August

Study 2 – A Snake in the Garden

2 Samuel 3:1-39

Talk

- 1) Has there ever been a 'bad influence' in your life, or the life of someone you know? Think of someone liked and trusted who is also a negative influence.

Read 2 Samuel 3:1-39

- 2) What initial thoughts and questions does the passage raise for everyone?

Investigate 2 Samuel 3:1-5

- 3) What has David been up to since our study last week? Are there any troubling signs here?

Investigate 2 Samuel 3:6-21

- 4) One of the practices in the ancient world, when one king conquers another, is that the conquering king will inherit the wives and concubines of the conquered king. How does this practice explain some of the accusations and agreements made within this passage?
- 5) Was David's action right or wrong? How do we feel about his demand that Michal be returned to him?

Investigate 3:22-39

- 6) Looking at 3:21-23, what word is repeated in each verse? Considering the 'good king' of Deuteronomy 17:14-20 and the 'bad king' of 1 Samuel 8:10-18, how is this a promising sign for David's reign?
- 7) Consider 3:24-28. How is David portrayed in these verses? How is this portrayal repeated in 3:29?
- 8) What 'garden of Eden' themes are you picking up in these verses?

Apply

- 9) Matthew 9:27 *"As Jesus went on from there, two blind men followed him, calling out, "Have mercy on us, Son of David!"*. In what ways do you see David's strengths as a king revealed also in Jesus, the son of David? In what ways has he shown himself to be greater still?
- 10) Are there any 'snakes in the garden' that you are tolerating? Tempting people or places that you are allowing to remain and failing to have dominion over?

Down the Rabbit Hole

11) Who is Zeruiah, mentioned in 3:39 (cf 1 Chronicles: 2:13-17)? What relation, therefore, is Joab to David?

Pray

Weekly Prayer Points:

Staff

Pray for Jennie and Don Everist. Pray for Jennie as Focus Pastor of the 8am congregation and as Pastoral Care Minister of St Luke's. Pray for Jennie's Pastoral Care ministries, especially in her work with women, of visitation and Bible Study in our local retirement villages.

Missionaries

Pray for Luke and Jess, Cooper, Axton, and Penelope Moran and their mission work with Pioneers in Indonesia.

Pray for Matt and Lauren, Ezra and Joanna Thomas and their mission work with OMF in South East Asia (currently home on medical leave).

Community

Pray for our Prime Minister, Malcolm Turnbull, and his government. Pray for our local and state members, Eleni Petinos, Mark Speakman and Scott Morison. Pray for our Premier, Gladys Berejiklian. Pray for our Mayor, Carmelo Pesce.

Pray for those who serve to protect our country. Pray for health and safety for the service men and women and their Chaplains both here and overseas. Pray for their families waiting at home.

Study 3 – All Israel’s King

2 Samuel 5:1-25

Talk

1) Have you ever experienced ‘disunity’ in a family, community group or church? Was it ever resolved?

2) Just from the headings in your Bible, what significant event has taken place in the immediate lead-up to chapter 5? Why is this significant?

Read 2 Samuel 5:1-25

3) What initial thoughts and questions does the passage raise for everyone?

Investigate 5:1-5

4) David has had many opportunities to claim the nation for himself, yet he waits to be called to the throne. Who does this remind you of (Philippians 2:5-11)?

- 5) All Israel is united under one man: King David. How important is the unity of God's people? Have a look at some of the following verses, describing what can be achieved when God's people are one:
Isaiah 11:12, Ezekiel 28:25, John 13:34-35, Ephesians 4:11-13.

Investigate 5:6-13

- 6) David had been reigning from Hebron. Why the sudden interest in claiming Jerusalem as his city? Consider what you know of the topography and geography (check its location on the map) of Jerusalem and also the role Jerusalem has played in the story of the Bible so far.
- 7) Why would the gift sent from Hiram of Tyre confirm for David that the Lord has established him as king over Israel?
- 8) What promising signs for David's reign do we find in these verses? What troubling signs?

God is with David, exalting his kingdom such that the nations pay tribute. However, again there is the mention of David's many wives.

Investigate 5:17-25

9) The moment God's people are strong and united under powerful leadership, the enemy rises against them. Whenever God is doing a mighty work, there is opposition. How is this expressed here? What other examples of this pattern can you think of? Have you ever experienced this?

10) David is given some strange advice here in verse 24. What is it? How does this episode establish David as a superior King to Saul?

Apply

11) How do you think David and the army felt as they waited for the sound of a heavenly army in the trees? As we encounter enemies, what strange advice has our King given us (cf. various sections of Matthew 5)? Do you ever feel like ignoring this advice?

12) Are you a unifying force in your family, church and community? Are there moments when our gospel driven desire for unity with others must be put in second place? You may want to think back to our series last term.

Down the Rabbit Hole

13) Do you think there is any significance to the numbers in 5:4?

Pray

Weekly Prayer Points:

Staff

Pray for Brett and Mardi, Evie, Harriet, Olivia, and Willow Middleton. Pray for Brett as Focus Pastor for 10am. Pray for Brett as he heads up our Ministry profile for St Luke's through the training program MTS.

Pray for Russ Denten as he undergoes his ministry traineeship; that his ministry and studies would bring glory to God.

Missionaries

Pray for Geoff and Liz, Johanna, Will, Tom and Zoe Robson and their work with TSCF (Tertiary Students Christian Fellowship) in Canterbury University, Christchurch, New Zealand.

Community

Pray for English as a Second Language classes each Friday. Give thanks for Marina and her team as they teach and encourage those who come along.

Coming Events

Base Camp – 12th August

- 5) Have a read of 1 Samuel 6:1-8. Who else transports the ark on a 'new cart'? Have a read of 1 Samuel 6:19-20. What happened last time people treated the ark with irreverence?
- 6) Considering this, how are we meant to feel about the way the house of Israel is treating the ark in 6:3-5?
- 7) How might this context explain God's anger?
- 8) Treating the ark with irreverence has terrible consequences. Yet what happens when it is treated correctly?

Investigate 6:12-23

- 9) How has David's treatment of the ark changed? What does this reveal about his character?
- 10) Why would Michal, David's wife, be referred to here as 'daughter of Saul'? How does she show herself to be part of Saul's house rather than David's?

11) How does David's response to Michal reveal what true kingship is about?

Apply

12) Matthew 21:9 "*The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted, 'Hosanna to the Son of David!'*" In what ways does Jesus show himself to be a king in the line of David: a king who understands the true nature of kingship (John 13:3-5; Philippians 2:7)?

13) To touch the ark, 'the throne of God', lead to Uzziah's death. Yet Hebrews 4:16 encourages us to approach the throne with confidence! What has happened that would lead to such confidence and familiarity (Luke 23:44-46)? Do you take advantage of this amazing invitation?

Down the Rabbit Hole

14) Why might Obed-Edom have been chosen to house the ark (cf. 1 Chronicles 15:17-18)?

Pray

Weekly Prayer Points:

Staff

Pray for Tim and Shona, Annika, Hamish, Edward and Hugo Goldsmith. Pray for Tim as he leads Miranda North. Pray for Tim as he heads up our local Mission profile for St Luke's and focuses on outreach and evangelism.

Missionaries

Pray for Andrew and Adele, Isaac, Lucy, and Finn Southerton and their church plant in Wellington, New Zealand. Continue to pray for Isaac's health.

Community

Pray for Miranda North; that there would be many opportunities to connect with the local community through school and other activities.

Study 5 – The Promised King

2 Samuel 7

Talk

1) Have you ever had grand plans that come to nothing?

Read 2 Samuel 7:1-29

2) What initial thoughts and questions does the passage raise for everyone?

Investigate 2 Samuel 7:1-3

3) David's plan is never explicitly stated in verses 1-3, but what do you think he has in mind?

4) Before we get into God's response to this plan, what is yours? Is this a good idea or a bad idea?

Investigate 2 Samuel 7:4-17

5) What is God's initial response to David's plan (5-7)?

Investigate 2 Samuel 7:18-29

10) What sort of response does God's grace and humility evoke in David?

11) While we do many things when we pray, at heart, praying is about asking. What does David ask for (v 25 and 29)? Do we see the same pattern elsewhere in the Bible? Is this part of our pattern of prayer?

Apply

12) Do the promises God has made shape your prayer life? There are innumerable promises from God throughout the New Testament. Which could shape the way we pray for our homes, our church, our world and ourselves?

Down the Rabbit Hole

13) Why didn't God allow David to be the 'house builder'? Check out 1 Chronicles 22:7-8.

14) Have a look at how formative this passage is for the rest of the Bible's story:

- Psalms 89, 110, 132
- Isaiah 9, 11
- Jeremiah 23, 33
- Ezekiel 34, 37
- Matthew 1
- 2 Timothy 2:8
- Revelation 5:5

Pray

Weekly Prayer Points:

Staff

Pray for Mike and Amelia, Ella, Ashleigh, and Ethan Begbie. Pray for Mike as Focus Pastor of 5pm. Pray for Mike as he develops music across the whole of St Luke's. Pray for Mike as he heads up our Magnification profile for St Luke's.

Missionaries

Pray for Shane and Ruth, Kye, Joel, and Finn Sparks and their mission work with Pioneers in Gijon, Spain.

Pray for Pastor John and Jodi, Gemma, Amber, Zoe, Jasmine, Claudia and Elias Lovell and their work with CMS in the Spanish Reformed Episcopal Church in Valencia, Spain.

Community

Pray for peace and wise leadership in our world, specifically in countries such as Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria, Sudan and South Sudan, Somalia, Pakistan, Mexico, Libya, Yemen, Saudi Arabia, Egypt and the Ukraine. Pray that there would be opportunities for Christians to share the love, peace and saving grace that Jesus offers to all.

Study 6 – A Snake in the Heart

2 Samuel 11-12

Talk

- 1) Can you think of some memorable ‘falls from grace’: politicians or celebrities who have been caught up in scandal and exposed?

Read 2 Samuel 11-12

- 2) What initial thoughts and questions does the passage raise for everyone?

Investigate 2 Samuel 11:1-27

- 3) What troubling signs do we see in the first 2 verses of the chapter?

- 4) In what way, in verses 1-5, do we see David acting like the sort of King Samuel warned Israel about (1 Samuel 8)?

- 5) Temptation arises when David should be in the field with the army. He had abdicated responsibility, and sin quickly takes its place. What can we learn from this?

6) David hatches a couple of plans to cover up his sin. What are they? How does this remind us of the first King, Adam? How do Uriah's words remind us of the righteous king of Deuteronomy 17?

7) Uriah is a soldier close to David's inner circle (2 Samuel 23:39). What can we learn about the particular power of sexual temptation from this?

Investigate 2 Samuel 12:1-31

8) Upon hearing Nathan's story, David invokes the Law (Exodus 22:1), demanding it be kept. His hypocrisy is exposed when Nathan says: "you are the man". How do David's own words in 11:25 and 12:5 come back to haunt him in the words of Nathan?

9) David's confession of sin might seem too brief for us to take seriously. However, considering Israel's Law, what would it mean for David having confessed?

10) Have a read of Psalm 51 to get the expanded version of David's confession. What parts of the Psalm ring true in your experience?

11) David's repentance is met by God's forgiveness. He is freed from the guilt and eternal consequences of sin. Yet is he freed from this-worldly consequences? Why is this important for us to recognise?

12) While we can all learn much from this horrible episode, we also must acknowledge that David's status as king leads to God dealing with him in an exceptional way. How is this alluded to in verse 14 (see NIV translation)?

Apply

13) "*The Lord has taken away your sin*": How does the forgiveness of David bring us hope when we are feeling heavily laden by sin?

14) "*And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.*" Where do we see Jesus within this story?

15) With this story in mind, have a read of 1 Corinthians 6:18, Matthew 5:27-28 and James 1:14-15. Are you growing complacent with the temptations in your life?

Pray

Weekly Prayer Points:

Staff

Pray for Sam and Jess, Percy and Lois Morton. Pray for Sam as Focus Pastor of Night Church and JNR Church. Pray for Sam as he heads up Youth Ministry at St Luke's – coordinating our youth groups on Friday nights and high school Scripture in our local schools.

Pray for Student Minister Zack Hankin and his work at Miranda North and Church at 5.

Pray for Music Student Minister James Peters and his work at Miranda North and at Night Church.

Missionaries

Pray for David, Kathryn and Reuben Luis and their work with AFES in University of Technology Sydney's Christian group CREDO.

Community

Pray for our ongoing and various Children's, Youth, and Young Adults Ministries; that God would be using the leaders and volunteers to sow seeds and help people grow into mature and loving relationships with Jesus and that this would be a great witness to the wider community.

Coming Events

Father's Day – 3rd September

Working Bee – 9th September

Word and Wine for Women – 9th September

Global Missions Week – 4th-10th September

Study 7 – A Snake at the Gates

2 Samuel 15 and 18

Talk

1) What is your earliest memory of rebellion against your parents?

Read 2 Samuel 15

2) What initial thoughts and questions does the passage raise for everyone?

Investigate 2 Samuel 15:1-12

3) At this stage of the story the unresolved question, raised by chapter 7, is “which son of David will build a house for the Lord”? Absalom becomes the focus as a possible but terrifying candidate. How does verse 1 make us immediately concerned about the possibility of him inheriting the throne?

4) Noting that ‘Israel’ serves as a short hand for ‘Northern Tribes’ in much of the book (as opposed to ‘Judah’ which refers to the ‘Southern Tribes’), what is Absalom trying to do at the city gates?

5) Why would Ahithophel be so eager to join Absalom?

6) The Eden narrative provides a template for many of the stories in 2 Samuel. If it does so here, what character is Absalom imitating? Do you think all sin is preceded by deception and doubt?

Investigate 2 Samuel 15:13-37

7) In 2 Samuel 12:11-12 we hear God's chilling punishment for David's sin. How is this being fulfilled here (cf. also 16:20-22)?

8) Does the exchange between David and Ittai the Gittite remind you of any other stories within the Bible (cf. Ruth 1:16)? How might both of these stories serve as a rebuke to God's covenant people?

9) How does God answer David's prayer in v31? What wisdom can we learn here about the way God answers prayers?

Read 2 Samuel 18

10) What initial thoughts and questions does the passage raise for everyone?

Investigate 2 Samuel 18

11) Considering Joab's usual mode of operation, and the command of David in verse 5, why do you think David is eager to be part of the battle?

12) Why do you think Joab is so resistant to Ahimaaz bringing news of Absalom's death to David?

13) What word is repeated in verse 26-27? If these men bring good news (the death of the serpent, Absalom) why does David respond the way he does in verse 33?

Apply

14) David's sin here bears its most bitter fruit. Do you think David would have slept with Bathsheba that day if he knew what it would lead to? How is this a warning to us as we are tempted to reach out and take the forbidden fruit before us?

Down the Rabbit Hole

15) The name Absalom means “my Father is peace”, yet he is a man dedicated to war. Where might he have learned to rule through violence? Chase up his family tree in 2 Samuel 3:3 and where he has spent the last 3 years (2 Samuel 13:38).

16) Betrayal and danger surround David. He flees Jerusalem, crosses the Kidron Valley and continues up the mount of Olives. Who does this remind you of (cf. John 18:1 and Luke 22:39)? Do you hear an echo of the words of Jesus in 15:25-26?

Pray

Weekly Prayer Points:

Staff

Pray for Cam and Katrina Harte. Pray for Cam as he heads up Children’s Ministry, including KOS (Kids on Sunday), Primary Scripture, Alive (lunch-time Christian group at Miranda North Public School), Homework Club, Children’s Thursday night programs, and Kids’ Clubs. Pray for Cam as he also heads up Young Adults ministry and Young Adults Bible Studies.

Pray for Joshua and Jordan Roberts as they work alongside Cam while doing Year 13.

Missionaries

Pray for Rob and Jo, Lili, and Jemma Copland and their work with AFES (Australian Fellowship of Evangelical Students) in Wollongong University’s ECU (Evangelical Christian Union), Sydney.

Community

Pray for our Scripture Teachers, Kids Hope Mentors, and the School Lunch program leaders as they go into the schools in our Parish in outreach to children and youth.

Study 8 – A House for my Name

2 Samuel 24

Chapters 21-24 for an epilogue to the books of Samuel. These are not arranged chronologically but look back over the whole period of David's reign. John Woodhouse offers the following structure to these chapters.

- 1) 21:1-14 *A Problem in David's Kingdom: God's Wrath, part 1.*
 - a) 21:15-22 *The Strength of David's Kingdom: His Mighty Men, part 1.*
 - i) 22:1-51 *The Hope of David's Kingdom: The Lord's Promise, part 1.*
 - j) 23:1-7 *The Hope of David's Kingdom: The Lord's Promise, part 2*
 - a) 23:8-39 *The Strength of David's Kingdom: His Mighty Me, part 2*
- 1) 24:1-25 *A Problem in David's Kingdom: God's Wrath, part 2.*

Talk

- 1) **Considering the story of 2 Samuel so far, how might we expect it to end? How would it end if it was being retold by Hollywood?**

Read 2 Samuel 24

- 2) **What initial thoughts and questions does the passage raise for everyone?**

Investigate 2 Samuel 24:1-25

- 3) This passage is not short of theological difficulty. What is the burning issue that kick-starts the chapter?**
- 4) “He (God) incited David against them saying ‘Go and take a census of Israel and Judah’”. Before we get to the implications of David’s census and why it was a sinful act, how do you respond to God inciting David to do it? Can a verse like this be held together with James 1:13? Consider also 1 Chronicles 21:1 and Proverbs 21:1.**
- 5) Regardless of what is going on in the mysterious council of God, David calls a census. Why is both Joab (v.3), David (v.10) and God (v.12) convinced of the evil of this action? Consider 24:9 and Samuel’s description of ‘a king like the nations’ in 1 Samuel 8.**
- 6) In verse 13 we have the only moment in scripture where someone may choose a judgement from various options. What is David’s motivation for choosing option ‘b’?**

- 7) Can you think of another OT 'King' who claims God's people for himself and is punished by the angel of death? How does this echo help us see the trajectory David's kingship will take if God does not act in judgement?**
- 8) How does David show himself to be 'a man after God's own heart' rather than a full-blown Pharaoh here?**
- 9) Back in Egypt the blood of the Passover lamb stayed the hand of the angel of death. There is a substitutionary death that turns aside the wrath of God. Here, the command of God stays the hand of the angel. Yet is there also a substitutionary death that turns aside God's wrath? Chase up the threshing floor of Araunah the Jebusite (elsewhere called Ornan the Jebusite) for some possibilities.**
- **2 Chronicles 3:1 *note also the location is Mount Moriah**
 - **Genesis 22:2**
 - **John 1:29 and 2:19**

Apply

10) David makes offerings so that God might be gracious and merciful (v.24-25), not knowing that God has already shown mercy in halting the plague (v.16). How does this remind us of the true basis of our relationship with God and how our worship fits into the picture?

11) John 7:42 *“Has not the Scripture said that the Christ comes from the descendants of David, and from Bethlehem, the village where David was?”* What echoes of Jesus, our greater Davidic King, do we hear in this passage? Compare:

- 2 Samuel 24:13 and Revelation 19:11

- 1 Samuel 24:17 and Romans 5:8

Down the Rabbit Hole

12) The Temple was built at the site of a Threshing Floor.

a) What is the purpose of a Threshing Floor and how is it, therefore, a good place to build the temple?

b) How does this affect our reading of verses such as Matthew 3:11?

13) The Threshing Floor was once owned by a Jebusite. What 'temple theme' does this hint at?

Pray

Weekly Prayer Points:

Staff

Pray for Sharyn Perry as she deals with the day to day running and administration of St Luke's.

Pray for Gabby Pearson as she juggles administration, database management, graphic design in the office and Young Adults Women's Ministry.

Missionaries

Pray for Kylie Zietsch and her work at Johannesburg Bible College, South Africa.

Pray for Elisha and Eleanor Bililiza and their church, Holy Trinity Church, in Bukoba, Tanzania.

Community

Praise God for our Bible Study leaders and for their faithful work in teaching and ministering to us throughout the term.

Coming Events

Police Remembrance Service 29th September

NOTES

NOTES

5 Goals for Bible Study Groups

Bible Study – Learning from God's word

Prayer – Talking to God

Pastoral Care – Mutual encouragement and awareness of others

Service – Participating in our church and community

Outreach – Sharing the message of God's love with others

BIBLE STUDY PROGRAM - TERM 3 2017

Week Commencing		Reading Plan	Page
24 th July	1. The King's King	2 Samuel 1:1-2:11	p.5
31 st July	2. A Snake in the Garden	2 Samuel 3:1-39	p.9
7 th August	3. All Israel's King	2 Samuel 5:1-25	p.12
14 th August	4. The Ark Returns	2 Samuel 6:1-23	p.16
21 st August	5. The Promised King	2 Samuel 7:1-29	p.20
28 th August	6. A Snake in the Heart	2 Samuel 11-12	p.24
4 th September	Global Missions Week	TBA	
11 th September	7. A Snake at the Gates	2 Samuel 15 & 18	p.29
18 th September	8. A House for my Name	2 Samuel 24	p.33

Bible Studies written by Brett Middleton
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