

# king's chapel

Community Group Discussion Guide

Week of January 13, 2019

**This Week's Focus:** Jesus experienced rejection and abandonment at Calvary when he took our sin, died in our place, and bore our judgement so that we can be heirs of God's kingdom as his beloved children.

**This Week's Text:** 2 Samuel 14

"He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not. Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed." **Isaiah 53:3-5**

## **Observations and Questions for Discussion:**

- What has the Holy Spirit impressed on your heart and mind from this week's sermon/text? What have you learned so far from our study of 1 and 2 Samuel?
- What events transpired in chapter 13 that led to Absalom's exile? With Absalom in Geshur, what's going on in David's heart and mind (2 Samuel 13:39,14:1)? In what way have father and son reached an impasse?
- What does Joab hope accomplish through the hired, wise woman from Tekoa? Discuss the similarities and differences between Joab's scheme and the prophet Nathan's rebuke in 2 Samuel 12? Does Joab's plan work?
- Are feelings (fear, anxiety, apathy, etc.) driving your decision-making? Discuss how the gospel frees us from being controlled by our feelings toward God-glorifying obedience.
- After allowing Absalom back to Jerusalem, why does David refuse to visit or invite Absalom into his presence? Why do you think Joab ignored Absalom's request for a meeting?
- What does the narrator want us to conclude from his physical description of Absalom (1 Samuel 9:2, 16:7)? Why do we and why does our culture typically value charisma over character? How do we cultivate personal godliness over public giftedness (1 Peter 3:3-4, 1 Timothy 3)?
- Compare David and Absalom's meeting with Genesis 45:1-15 and Luke 15:11-32. How do we know that meeting between father and son was not genuine reconciliation? Have you neglected to address the deep issues underneath the dysfunctional relationships in your life?

- Discuss why we should be careful not to interpret circumstances as signs of God's approval or disapproval. What should be our guide for a God-honoring life? How is gospel-centered community important to this end?
- Share how this passage drives you to the good news of Jesus Christ. How does this passage encourage you to live on mission by demonstrating and declaring the gospel to those in your community and spheres of influence?