



David, son of Jesse, King of the Twelve Tribes of Israel will forever be remembered. He tended sheep. He fought giants. He betrayed his family. He forgave his enemies. He battled his son. He loved God. He wavered in faith. and he would somehow be forever known as the man after God's own heart. Join us this fall at CPC as we study the Rise and Fall of King David.

WEEK 8: SUNDAY, October 29th

"One Thing that can Change Everything- Prayers of Gratitude"
2 Samuel 7:18-29

Let's Warm Up

- 1) How hard is sitting still for you? Are you someone who prefers quiet conversation/reflection or to get out and do something?
- 2) How do you feel about being alone? Is that weird or relieving for you? What is your ideal off day (with everyone or by yourself)?

Let's Get Into the Word!

Background: After years and years and.. years of life on the run, often with a sword in his hand David the Shepherd boy has become David the King. Now, in addition to this God has just made a Covenant promise to secure David's line forever. The scripture we are about to read is David's prayerful response.

Read: 2 Samuel 7:18-29

- 3) What do you think it meant for King David to "sit" before the Lord? (v18) Are there times you recall "sitting with God?" What was this like?
- 4) David jumps right into the awe he feels looking back on what God has done. Can you remember a time you have been amazed by something you have seen God do?



5) David's prayer appears to be both very intentional and from the heart. When you pray to God, would you say you pray with authentic passion or is it more structured? What are the benefits of each?

6) Did you notice that David's prayer is entirely in response to things that have happened in David's life, but who is the "hero" in David's eyes when he looks back on the first half of his own life?

7.) Honestly, would you say you see God as the hero of your life? Why is this perspective or attitude hard or unnatural sometimes for us to maintain? What are the benefits to David of this perspective? How might this "God is the real hero here" affect David in everyday life?

8.) Notice something else, David spends a good bit of this prayer (v 22-27) talking not about the benefits of God's blessings for himself but for the nation of Israel. Why might it be significant that David saw that God and Israel were the real point, the "bigger thing," all along?

9.) In many of our Bibles this section is labeled "David's Prayer of Gratitude." In general, does gratitude come easily to you, or does it require intentionality? Why is gratitude so powerful?

10.) In the Psalms: David also had times when he cried out his complaints to God - for example Psalm 142. Why is this so important to recognize? How do you feel about praying these kinds of prayers? Why are they important?

Group Project!

Let's end today's group by praying together to God (He's in the room right now!) our prayers of gratitude. Before you begin, take a moment and share. What should we pray for?