

# Westwood Baptist Church *Grounded. Growing. Going.*

Worship Guide for October 22, 2023

## Sermon Notes

### **How The Mighty Have Fallen: A Beautiful Lament**

2 Samuel 1

In the Hebrew Bible, 1 and 2 Samuel comprise one book. In that form, Samuel begins with Hannah's poetic prayer which announces God's anointed king (1 Samuel 2:10), and it ends with the poetic prayer of David (2 Samuel 22-23). In the middle is the account we examine today.

In this passage, we see a lying, conniving Amalekite bring the news of Saul & Jonathan's death. We see David's heartfelt grief and the high cost of the messenger's miscalculation. We hear David's beautiful poetic lamentation spoken by David and recorded for all Israel to remember.

The death of Saul and his sons was a necessary part of God's plan, but from a human standpoint – from David's brokenhearted perspective – it was a tragic loss to the mourned and remembered. There were some positive aspects of Saul's reign, and David loved Jonathan deeply. David was not exaggerating when he said of Saul and Jonathan that they were "beloved and lovely" (v. 23). These realities are highlighted as David grieves and laments their death. "How the mighty have fallen!" (v. 19, 25,26).

A Calculated Misrepresentation (2 Sam 1:1-10)

A Heartfelt Expression (2 Sam 1:11-12)

A Costly Miscalculation (2 Sam 1:13-16)

A Beautiful Lamentation (2 Sam 1:17-27)

Applications:

How is it that we do not fear? There is restraining, refining power in godly fear.

Ultimately no sin is hidden – and all sin is costly. (Luke 12:2-3)

Through Christ our risen Lord our grief is good, gracious and hope-filled.

## Life Group Preparation Guide

"Let the *Word* of Christ *dwell* in you(all) *richly*  
*teaching* and *admonishing* one another in all *wisdom*..."

- *Colossians 3:16a*

### Focus #1: GOD

1. What does this passage reveal about the character or nature of God?
2. What does this passage reveal about God's eternal plans and purposes?
3. What does this passage reveal about how God interacts with his creation?

### Focus #2: ME

4. How does this passage reveal sin in my own mind, heart, or life?
5. In what ways does this passage help us to see how we need to be aligned with God's will?
6. What is one tangible and measurable way that the Spirit is leading me to respond to his Word?

### Focus #3: OTHERS

7. What is one truth that I can share meaningfully with someone, and with whom?
8. How can I specifically encourage someone or everyone in my Life Group from this passage?

Three contributions (reflections, questions, observations, etc.) I plan to include in our next Life Group discussion:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

#### Westwood Staff

**Gerald Hodges:** Lead Pastor

**Jonathan Taylor:** Associate Pastor

**Jason Engle:** Pastor of Students  
& Discipleship

**Deborah Rudd:** Children's Ministry  
Coordinator

**Yvonne Hager:** Executive Assistant

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#### OCTOBER

**PASTOR APPRECIATION MONTH**

**27 Person vs. Williams @ 7pm**

**"SENIOR NIGHT"**

29 Fall Family Festival 5:30pm-7pm

#### NOVEMBER

4 Trail Life Hiking @ Eno

4 AHG OCC Packing Party

**5 Operation Christmas Shoeboxes DUE**

6-7 NC Baptists Annual Meeting (GSO)

13-15 NC Baptist Ministry Assistant's Conf.  
16 Red Cross Blood Drive - 10:30am-3:00pm