

Westwood Baptist Church *Grounded. Growing. Going.*

Worship Guide for December 3, 2023

Sermon Notes

God's Covenant with His Chosen One

2 Samuel 7:1-17

The city of Jerusalem has been established as the capital of Israel. The ark has been brought into the city, the symbol of God's presence is with his people and the place of worship has been established. King David reigns over a unified country, his enemies have been subdued, his people have rest from their enemies, and he is comfortable in his palace. David must have been thinking, "Return, O my soul, to your rest; for the LORD has dealt bountifully with you." (Psalm 116:7)

But in the quiet and comfort of his palace, David sees a problem. He seems to be embarrassed by this stark contrast: "*See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells in a tent*" (2 Samuel 7:2). A beautiful palace for the king and a ratty old tent for God?? David is a doer – he is a man of action. He wants to do something about this; he wants to do something for God. He sees a problem, and he wants to fix it. His spiritual advisor, Nathan says, "Go for it!" But while this seems like a good idea to David and Nathan, God won't have it. God will be the 'housebuilder', not David! God's kingdom will not be built by man's ideas and intentions (even the best ideas and intentions). God's plan and purpose, and what He will accomplish through David is eternally bigger and better than anything David could imagine.

In the beginning, God blessed his creation (Genesis 1:22). God made a promise to Abraham to bless the nations of the world through one of his descendants (Genesis 12). That promised blessing finds its ultimate fulfillment in the eternal reign of the Jesus, the crucified and resurrected King of kings and Lord of lords (Matthew 1:1, Acts 3, Galatians 3, Revelation 7). The connecting link between all these promises is here in 2 Samuel 7 in God's covenant promise to David. The significance of this passage in God's redemptive plan cannot be overstated. The significance of this passage in our lives, in our families, in our church, and in our mission must not be overlooked.

A Reasonable Ambition (2 Samuel 7:1-3)

An Unexpected Rejection (2 Samuel 7:4-7)

An Eternal Promise (2 Samuel 7:8-17)

Applications: _____

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

Yvonne Hager: Executive Assistant

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DECEMBER

3 Children's Christmas Musical @ 6:00pm
8-9 AHG Tenderheart Lock-in
9 Leaf Clean-up For Seniors @ 8:00am
13 MEMBER'S MEETING @ 6:30pm
17 Meet Someone New Fellowship @ 10am
17 Deacon's Christmas Luncheon @ 12pm
18 AHG Troop Christmas Party @ 6:30pm
19 Elder/Staff Christmas Dinner @ 6:00pm
20 Christmas Caroling @ 6:00pm
24 Worship Service ONLY @ 10:30am
24 Candlelight Service @ 6:00pm