

2 Samuel 23:8-39

God made David an extraordinary promise with an eternal impact: "...your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever" (2 Sam 7:16). Today's passage highlights one of the ways God worked to fulfill this promise. As covenant king, David, on one hand, stands indebted to the Lord who is the ultimate source of his success (2 Sam 23:10 & 12). On the other hand, David is indebted to the "mighty men" who, with valor and selfless service, did so much on behalf of their king, his kingdom, and their God.

The last words of David speak of the influence and blessings that come from a king who "rules justly ruling in the fear of God" (2 Sam 23: 3-7). Even with his faults and failures, David leads this way, and his influence is seen in the men whom he leads. They are like their king in strength and valor.

The King's Influence: Flourishing & Strength Under the God-fearing King (2 Sam 23:3-7)

The King's Men: Extraordinary Valor & Success (2 Sam 23:8-12, 18–23)

The King's Recognition: God Alone is Due Our Ultimate Devotion & Effort (2 Sam 23:13–17)

The King's Failures: David's Sin Shows Us the Need for the Better King (2 Sam 23:33–39)

Applications: Trust Christ as your Savior King: He is the true and better David.

Praise God: He kept his promises to David; He keeps His promises to us. (2 Sam 3:18; 2 Cor 1:20)

Thank God: He doesn't need us yet chooses to use us to fulfill his purposes.

Step Up, Christian Brothers: David's men fought in the strength of God, were devoted to God's king, and sought the honor of God; How much more should we do likewise for the King of kings!

Life Group Preparation Guide

"Let the Word of Christ dwell in you(all) richly teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom..." - Colossians 3/6a

Focus #I : GOD

- / What does this passage reveal about the character or nature of God?
- $\mathcal{2}$ What does this passage reveal about God's eternal plans and purposes?
- ${\mathcal S}$ 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?
- \mathcal{S} 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

- \mathcal{P} . What is one truth that I can share meaningfully with someone, and with whom?
- & 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:

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Westwood Staff

Gerald Hodges: Lead Pastor Jonathan Taylor: Associate Pastor Jason Engle: Pastor of Students & Discipleship

Contact Us

(336)599-1982 westwoodroxboro@gmail.com www.westwoodfamily.org

Church Office Hours: Monday - Friday 8:30am-4:00pm

Mailing Address: 970 Leasburg Road Roxboro, NC 27573-5470

<u>APRIL</u>

18 BBA Spring Meeting @ 5:30pm 21 Compassion Sunday 28 Ministry Fair @ 9am-10:15am 29 AHG End of Year Awards @ 6pm <u>MAY</u> 2 National Day of Prayer 3 Membership Class 4 Student Ministry Yard Sale 10 Fisher's of Men Banquet 11 Women's Ministry Family Event

Yvonne Hager: Executive Assistant