2 Samuel: David's Great Reign

Listening Guide

This Listening Guide is designed to help you ask questions and take notes on what you're learning. The process will accomplish two things: first, it will help process the information in the lecture by keeping your mind engaged with the material. Second, it will allow you to collect your notes in one place for a summary of the lesson's content. If you choose to do additional study or want to teach the material to others, you will have a thorough set of notes to guide you.

You may print these Listening Guide pages separately and complete the information as you read, listen to, or watch the lessons. Or as an alternative, you can fill in the fields in this digital version and save to your computer once you are finished.

I. Triumph of David (2 Samuel 1:1-10:19)

A. The Defeat of Saul on Mt. Gilboa (1:1-27)

[1] Although David had been anointed as Israel's next king, why was there no reigning king after Saul was killed on Mt. Gilboa?

[2] Did David rejoice or mourn over Saul's death?

[3] What trait would you say David demonstrated in his lament over Saul?

B. King Over All of Israel (2:1–14:33) [4] Over whom was David anointed king?
[5] Who was not yet loyal to David?
[6] How did Israel's tribes traditionally split? What was the dividing line?
C. City of David [7] What city had Israel never been able to capture?
[8] What did David do with this city after he captured it?
[9] What contributed to Jerusalem's value as the capital city of Israel?

[10] What is significant about Jerusalem?
[11] What metaphorical significance did Jerusalem come to have?
D. Other Conquests[12] What was David's next act as king after capturing Jerusalem?
[13] What did David finish that the people from Joshua until his time had never completely done?
E. Davidic Covenant [14] Why did David want to build a temple for God?
[15] What was God's response to David?

[16] What name did Dr. Stuart give the covenant God made with David in 2 Samuel 7?
[17] How is David like and unlike Jesus of Nazareth?
II. David's Transgressions (11:1–27) [18] What was David's first sign of trouble?
[19] What was David's double sin?
[20] What is the meaning of "the sword will never depart from your house"?
III. David's Trouble (12:1–24:25) A. Family Discord [21] What tragic event is recorded in 2 Samuel 13?

B. Absalom's Revolt[22] What explains or at least contributed to Absalom's revolt against David?
[23] How did David feel after his troops, under Ahab's leadership, defeated Absalom and put down the revolt?
C. More Rebellion [24] What does Israel's history look like in 2 Samuel 21?
[25] Why does it look like that?
D. Census and Plague[26] Why was there a census, and what sin was involved?
[27] Why was David's act a sin? What was David doing here?

E. Concluding Thoughts [28] How would you summarize David's life? How was it like and unlike Saul's life?
[29] What led to the undoing of both Saul and David?
[30] Although he sinned grievously, what was it about David that allowed God to use him in such a mighty way?

Reflection

Record one new fact or insight you discovered in this lesson.

Application

A number of times in 1 and 2 Kings, written after David's death, we read that David followed God with his whole heart. David sinned grievously, yet his legacy is that his heart belonged to God. Read David's prayer in Psalm 51:1–19 as a model of repentance, confession, and restoration. The difference between Saul and David was not that Saul sinned and David didn't. The difference is that David knew what to do with his sin and Saul didn't. We all sin and so we all need to know how to respond to God when we do. Make Psalm 51 your prayer when you need to ask God to forgive your sins.