

2 Samuel

**FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SCRIPTURE STUDY CLASS
REV. JULES GRISHAM
FALL 2026**

Scripture Study Schedule

2 Samuel – Fall 2026

Week	Date	Chapter	Title
1	Sept. 6, 2026	2 Sam. 1:1-2:7	David Mourns Saul, Becomes King of Judah
2	Sept. 13, 2026	2 Sam. 2:8-5:5	Civil War & Consolidation of David's Rule
3	Sept. 20, 2026	2 Sam. 5:6-6:23	Jerusalem Made the Capital of the Kingdom
4	Sept. 27, 2026	2 Sam. 7:1-29	God's Covenant with David
5	Oct. 4, 2026	2 Sam. 8:1-10:19	David's Kingdom at Its Height
6	Oct. 11, 2026	2 Sam. 11:1-27	David's Sin with Bathsheba
7	Oct. 18, 2026	2 Sam. 12:1-31	Confrontation, Repentance, Consequences
8	Oct. 25, 2026	2 Sam. 13:1-39	Sin within David's House: Amnon & Tamar
9	Nov. 1, 2026	2 Sam. 14:1-15:12	The Return of Absalom & Growing Division
10	Nov. 8, 2026	2 Sam. 15:13-17:29	David in Exile During Absalom's Rebellion
11	Nov. 15, 2026	2 Sam. 18:1-19:43	Absalom's Defeat & David's Grief
12	Nov. 22, 2026	2 Sam. 20:1-21:22	Final Rebellions & National Crisis
13	Nov. 29, 2026	2 Sam. 22:1-23:7	David's Song & Final Reflections
14	Dec. 6, 2026	2 Sam. 23:8-24:25	David's Census & the Altar of Mercy

Description:

2 Samuel chronicles the turbulent, forty-year reign of King David, tracing his rise to kingship over a unified Israel and his establishment of Jerusalem as the nation's capital, then presenting us with the awful consequences of his moral failures. But through it all, we see God's faithfulness to his covenant promise concerning the House of David, through which the Promised One, the son and greater-than David, would come.

Recommended Commentary:

Davis, Dale Ralph. *2 Samuel: Out of Every Adversity*. Fearn, Ross-shire, Scotland: Focus on the Bible Commentaries, 2013.

Other Commentaries on 1 Corinthians:

Tsumura, David T. *The Second Book of Samuel*. (New International Commentary on the Old Testament.) Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans, 2019.

Baldwin, Joyce G. *1 & 2 Samuel*. (Tyndale Old Testament Commentaries.) Lisle, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1988.

**See the Adult Discipleship webpage (4thpres.org/adultdiscipleship)
for links to class notes and slides (at the top of the page)
and audio recordings (at the bottom of the page)**

WEEK 1 – 2 SAMUEL 1:1-2:7

DAVID MOURNS & BECOMES KING OF JUDAH

SEPTEMBER 6, 2026

1. Read 1:11-12 and 17-27. How does David respond when he hears of Saul and Jonathan's deaths, and what does his response reveal about his character? (See Prov. 24:17-18.) David had repeatedly refused to kill Saul even when he had the opportunity (see 1 Sam. 24:5-7; 26:8-11). What does David's lament for Saul, despite Saul's persecution of him, tell us about forgiveness, loyalty, and honoring those who have wronged us?
2. It is clear from 1 Samuel 31:1-6, that Saul had killed himself when faced with defeat by the Philistines. Why do you think that the Amalekite lied about killing Saul (1:4-10)? Obviously, this proved to be a bad idea, given the result in verse 15. What was David's rationale for killing the Amalekite (1:13-16)? What did David believe about Saul's position as "the LORD's anointed"? Why is it important that David refused to take God's judgment into his own hands?
3. There is a deeper dynamic at work here. Recall God's anger at Saul for not killing Agag, the king of Amalek (1 Sam. 15:17-19, 23). Why was God angry at Saul? (Ex. 17:8-16; and Deut. 25:17-19.) What do you think is the significance of Amalek in Scripture, with whom "the LORD will have war... from generation to generation," and concerning whom he would "blot out the memory of Amalek from under heaven"?
4. In 2:1-3, why does David seek the LORD's direction before moving to Judah? (See 1 Sam. 23:1-5, 9-12; and compare this with Saul's failure to do so, per 1 Chron. 10:13-14.) David could reasonably have assumed that he should immediately go to Judah. Why does he nevertheless ask God first? What does this tell us about David's dependence upon God at a significant turning point in his life? How might we apply this principle when we face decisions where the "obvious" course seems clear? (See Proverbs 3:5-6 and James 1:5.)
5. APPLICATION QUESTION: Think about David's actions in this chapter and what they reveal about his character. Now read Rom. 12:17-21. What practical lessons can we draw from David's response to Saul's death and his actions at the beginning of his reign? Consider how David demonstrates grief without bitterness, restraint without revenge, dependence upon God, patience in waiting, and respect for others. Which of these areas is most difficult for you personally: letting go of resentment, refusing revenge, waiting on God's timing, seeking God's direction, or honoring someone who has hurt you? What specific step can you take this week to respond more like David did?