Eric Johns
Regent Part 2
Week 11

November 1, 2026

Struggling in the Midst of Steadfast Love

2 Samuel 16-17:23

God is STEADFAST in His love for us,
in spite of sin's consequences visited upon us.

1. David experiences unexpected "blessing" (16:1-4)

2. David experiences unexpected cursing (16:5-14)

3. Absalom experiences conflicting counsel (16:15-17:23)

a. Ahithophel's counsel is aggressive and shrewd (16:20-17:4)

b. Hushai's counsel is passive and sneaky (17:5-14)

4. David is preserved by answered prayer, and a strategic plan (15:31-37)

For Further Study and Reflection

- *Ragamuffin Gospel* by Brennan Manning
- *Abba's Child* by Brennan Manning
- *Gentle and Lowly* by Dane Ortlund
- *Trusting God* by Jerry Bridges

Small Group Questions:

1. Read Psalm 3 and make observations about David's state of mind as he flees Jerusalem.

2. In 2 Samuel 15:31-37, David prayed that Ahithophel's counsel would be turned into foolishness. Did God answer that prayer? How? After praying, David conceived a crafty plan. Was his plan a lack of faith in God?

3. How should we understand the relationship between making plans, and praying for God to intervene?

4. How must David have felt when he heard from Ziba that Mephibosheth was looking to ascend the throne of his grandfather (Saul)? What was really going on? What lesson can we take from this incident?

5. Back in 2 Samuel Ch. 15, a messenger came and told David "the hearts of the people are with Absalom". However, in 17, people are working to protect David. What lesson can we take from this incident?

6. How can we be assured of God's steadfast love?