

PERSONAL REFLECTION

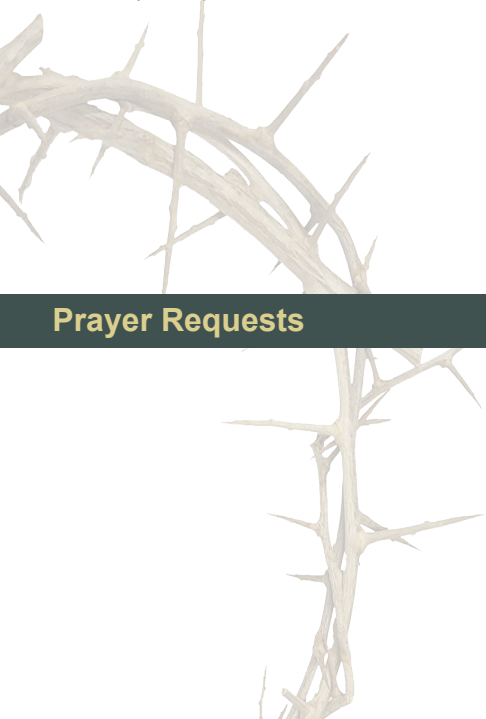
The SHADOW KING

2 Samuel 1-5
God's Plan. Our Story.

Pastor Marcel deRegt
Gateway Community Church
January 21, 2024

Personal Reflection Question

READ 2 Samuel 1:19-27, Psalm 121. In Samuel, David laments about Saul's death that took place in this "high place," referring to both Mount Gilboa, and the high places of worship in Psalm 121. Suggesting that Saul, the Lord's anointed, was not ultimate King who would reign over this nation, and like the Israelites, they've placed hope and trust in the wrong places. Where you might have misplaced your trust?



Prayer Requests

Weekly Bible Reading Plan

Used from the **READ SCRIPTURE** app. Available for both Android and Apple devices.

- January 21: Exodus 13-15 | Psalm 21
- January 22: Exodus 16-18 | Psalm 22
- January 23: Exodus 19-21 | Psalm 23
- January 24: Exodus 22-24 | Psalm 24
- January 25: Exodus 25-27 | Psalm 25
- January 26: Exodus 28-29 | Psalm 26
- January 27: Exodus 30-31 | Psalm 27

Grab your copy of **The Shadow King** series introduction booklet from the lobby, or find it online at the livestream page of gatewaycrc.org!



2 Samuel 1: 1-12

- We need to keep our _____ focused on _____ plans, not ours.
- An _____ story for _____ gain ends in _____.
- God has a _____ and it is way better than your _____ plan.
- We need to keep our _____ focused on the _____ and their _____.
- David chose to become _____ instead of _____.
- You need to look past the _____ and see the _____ and take time to _____ their story.

1 Chronicles 29: 11



GETTING TO KNOW YOU

1. Where was your last vacation? What is a highlight from it that you still remember?
2. What activity or interest is a huge stress reliever for you?

QUICK REVIEW

1. Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?
2. The two main points of Pastor Marcel's message were: "*Keep your eyes focused on God's plan, not yours*" and "*Keep your heart focused on the person and their story.*" Take some time to share how you have seen God's plan work out in your life OR share when you heard a person's story, and it softened your heart towards them?

SCRIPTURE REVIEW

READ 2 Samuel 1:1-12

1. What does this passage say about the character of God?
2. What does this passage say about fallen humanity and the world we are in?
3. Where does this passage specifically expose sin or unbelief in my own life? How does it specifically call me to change my thinking, redirect my affections, replace behaviors, and trust in my Savior?

DIGGING DEEPER

1. **READ 2 Samuel 1:1 & 11-12.** Saul's death was a terrible event for the nation of Israel, and yet his death meant that David would be crowned king. What is it that drives David to mourn, rather than celebrate?
 - Instead of crowning himself, David mourns; he understands that God's will cannot be forced, but that it must be approached with faith and patience. Talk about a time in your life where you saw the Lord working but needed to wait.
2. **READ 2 Samuel 1:2.** For two days there was no king and the future of Israel was uncertain. A similar reference to something happening on the "*third day*" happens in **Matthew 17:22-23 & 28:1-6**. Why might this parallel be significant?
3. **READ 2 Samuel 1:8-10.** As the young man's lie about his role in Saul's death was becoming clearer, what do you think were his intentions? What did this young man have to gain in his lie?
 - **READ 2 Samuel 1:14-15, Proverbs 19:9.** The young man didn't kill Saul, yet here, he's held accountable. Why is this?
 - **READ James 1:12-15.** In our own patterns of lies and self-deception, what do we try to gain? How do we stop the cycle of self-deception?

TAKING IT HOME

READ 2 Samuel 5:17-25, 2 Chronicles 7:14. Saul's failure was twofold: 1. Not calling upon the Lord, & 2. Not following through with the Lord's instructions. Both the Philistines and Amalekites have been defeated, showing David's obedience. How might God's words to Solomon impact your faith now, as surely, they would have been the same words to both Saul and David? How are you left challenged?