

PERSONAL REFLECTION

The SHADOW KING

2 Samuel 13-21
Rock Bottom (Part 2)

Pastor Justin Carruthers

Gateway Community Church

March 10, 2024

Personal Reflection Question

READ Psalm 55. It is thought that David wrote this Psalm while being betrayed by Absalom his son, and several close advisors and confidants through **2 Samuel 13-21**. Have you ever been betrayed? How were you left feeling? Can you identify with David's pain and sorrow? Let this Psalm shape your prayers as you seek healing and reconciliation?

2 Samuel 18:5, 9-15, 24-33

2 Samuel 12: 13-14

THE QUESTION

- How are we, as Christians, to approach _____, it's _____, _____, and _____?

2 Samuel 12:13, Romans 6:23, 2 Samuel 13:1, 2 Samuel 13:15-21

2 Samuel 15:6, 2 Samuel 15:30, 2 Samuel 18:5, 2 Samuel 18: 32-33

Prayer Requests

THE GOSPEL RESPONSE

- A new King has come to _____ of sin against those who have _____ wronged, and those who have _____ wrong.

Isaiah 61:7, Isaiah 61:3

Weekly Bible Reading Plan

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

March 10: Judges 1-3 | Psalm 70

March 11: Judges 4-5 | Psalm 71

March 12: Judges 6-8 | Psalm 72

March 13: Judges 9-12 | Psalm 73

March 14: Judges 13-15 | Psalm 74

March 15: Judges 16-18 | Psalm 75

March 16: Judges 19-21 | Psalm 76

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



GATEWAY COMMUNITY CHURCH
fall 2023 / winter 2024 sermon series
an exploration of 1 & 2 Samuel

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GETTING TO KNOW YOU

1. What are five things that give you joy?
2. If you could go back 10,000 years ago and make a cave painting to confuse everyone in the future, what would you draw?

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. This past weekend, Pastor Justin talked about several references from our text that find their fulfillment in Jesus. For instance: Absalom hanging from a tree, Absalom getting javelins thrust in his side, David ascending the Mount of Olives, David wishing to die in place of his son, Absalom, etc. Which of these gospel-rich references was the most compelling to you? Why?

SCRIPTURE REVIEW

READ 2 Samuel 12:10-14, 18:5, 9-15, 24-33

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 18:5.** David encountered a lot of hardship in this scope of chapters, here David's heart appears to be in the right place. What do you suppose was at the forefront of his mind as he gave this order?
 - **READ 2 Samuel 12:5-6.** Compare David's response to Nathan in **2 Samuel 12**, and his response in chapter 18. What's the difference? What caused his change of heart?
2. **READ 2 Samuel 14:25-26, 15:10-12.** Absalom was attempting to overthrow David and his throne. What might have been his motivation? Why was his plan doomed from the start?
 - **READ Proverbs 16:5, James 4:6, & 1 Peter 5:6.** Like Absalom, we don't always see eye to eye with authorities placed over us. How does the example of Absalom and these additional texts seek to direct our paths?
3. **READ 2 Samuel 18:33.** David is deeply moved and shaken at the news of the death of his son, a son who deeply betrayed him, on more than one occasion. How could David respond the way he did?

TAKING IT HOME

READ 2 Samuel 18:28, & 2 Peter 3:9. Twice David's life was spared, and his kingship protected in **2 Samuel 15:13, & 17:14-16**, and now here again in ch.18. God was keeping His covenant with David made in **2 Samuel 7:15-16**. What do you understand to be the promises God has made to you? How have you experienced God keeping His word?