

1-2 SAMUEL: DAVID AS KING

Exile and War **2 Samuel 16-18**

1. Would you rather someone give you wise counsel and help you reach your own conclusion or give you advice based on their experiences? Why? What's the difference?
2. Usually when someone tells us what we want to hear it does not turn out so well. When has this happened to you? Why did you listen to their counsel?
3. What makes Hushai's words to Absalom seem credible in 2 Sam 16.16-19? Do you think it was okay for him to mislead Absalom? Why?
4. Based on the circumstances in 2 Samuel 17, whose counsel do you think was better for Absalom, Ahithophel's or Hushai's? Why did Absalom go with Hushai's plan?
5. When have you seen God work in someone's life because of your prayers? Was it because of your prayers or because of His will? Are you praying for God to work in somebody's life right now?
6. What do you think of Joab's decision to disobey David's orders and kill Absalom? Was it justified? Why?
7. Why does Ahimaaz persist on taking the news of victory and death to David in 2 Sam 18.19-23? Which approach would you have taken, that of Ahimaaz or the Cushite? Why?
8. How does this passage help you understand God? How does it exalt Jesus?
9. If you are a follower of Jesus but facing the consequences of sin, what does it do for your heart to know that those adverse consequences are not the final word on your life? Do you believe that Jesus has spoken a better word for your future?
10. How can your experience of sin and consequence be brought to the church as gifts God can use to build His people?