

Message Notes | The Life of David

Part 9: Crossing the Kidron

2 Samuel 15:13-29

→ forgiven and facing consequences – **2 Sam 12:10-11**

→ Absalom stole their hearts – **vs. 13-17**

#1 Face your consequences with honesty and humility.

→ no obligation for Ittai to stay – **vs. 18-22**

#2 Own the burden your consequences put on others.

→ take the ark back - **vs. 24-28**

#3 Entrust the pain, cost, and outcome to God.

→ the king also crossed the Kidron – **vs. 23, 30**

#4 Remember God is preparing you for the future, not punishing you for the past.

Group Questions | The Life of David

Part 9: Crossing the Kidron

2 Samuel 15:13-29

1. Was this section from 2 Samuel 15 familiar to you? What stood out to you the most, and why?
2. Why are we sometimes tempted to minimize, avoid, or escape the consequences of our own choices?

Are you quick to “own up,” or do you tend to use excuses?
3. **Read 2 Samuel 15:13-18.** What differences do you see between how David responds here and how he responded to his sin in 2 Samuel 11?
4. “Own the burden your consequences put on others.” What might this look like practically in relationships, finances, work, parenting, or other areas of life?
5. **Read 2 Samuel 15:19-22.** Who is someone that’s been an “Ittai” for you?
6. **Read 2 Samuel 15:24-26.** What do David’s words reveal about his relationship with God at this point? What makes this kind of surrender difficult?
7. Is there a consequence in your life that God may be using to shape or prepare you? What would it look like this week to face it honestly and humbly, own it, and entrust it to God?

Bible Reading

2 Samuel 15:13-29

¹⁷ So the king set out, with all the people following him, and they halted at the edge of the city. ¹⁸ All his men marched past him, along with all the Kerethites and Pelethites; and all the six hundred Gittites who had accompanied him from Gath marched before the king.

¹⁹ The king said to Ittai the Gittite, “Why should you come along with us? Go back and stay with King Absalom. You are a foreigner, an exile from your homeland. ²⁰ You came only yesterday. And today shall I make you wander about with us, when I do not know where I am going? Go back, and take your people with you. May the Lord show you kindness and faithfulness.”

²³ The whole countryside wept aloud as all the people passed by. The king also crossed the Kidron Valley, and all the people moved on toward the wilderness.

²⁴ Zadok was there, too, and all the Levites who were with him were carrying the ark of the covenant of God. They set down the ark of God, and Abiathar offered sacrifices until all the people had finished leaving the city.

²⁵ Then the king said to Zadok, “Take the ark of God back into the city. If I find favor in the Lord’s eyes, he will bring me back and let me see it and his dwelling place again. ²⁶ But if he says, ‘I am not pleased with you,’ then I am ready; let him do to me whatever seems good to him.”

²⁷ The king also said to Zadok the priest, “Do you understand? Go back to the city with my blessing. Take your son Ahimaaz with you, and also Abiathar’s son Jonathan. You and Abiathar return with your two sons. ²⁸ I will wait at the fords in the wilderness until word comes from you to inform me.” ²⁹ So Zadok and Abiathar took the ark of God back to Jerusalem and stayed there.