



# groups

## David the King April 13-14, 2019

**Theme:** Through His covenant promises, God points us to the hope of the gospel.

- **What is something you're hoping for right now?**
- **What are the determining factors in whether or not that hope will one day be realized?**
- **Spiritually speaking, would you say your hope in the Lord is primarily based on something He will do in the future or something He has already done? Explain.**

Leader's Note: Sometimes we think, "Things will be better if..." Our circumstances determine our view of success in life. In today's passage, we'll find that King David hoped to leave a legacy. He thought that legacy depended on something he could do for the Lord. What he discovered, however, was that the entirety of his legacy and hope rested in something the Lord was doing for him and for all people.

Ask a volunteer to read 2 Samuel 7:1-7.

- **In your own words, summarize what happened in these verses.**
- **Based on verses 1-2, where would you say David was placing his hope?**
- **Obviously, it's not wrong to want to do something on earth to honor the Lord. Why, then, did God reject David's plans?**

Leader's Note: David felt bad that he lived in luxury, but God's dwelling was still a tent. He understood the irony in that and wanted to build God a more proper dwelling place. Even Nathan the prophet agreed it was a good idea. However, this was not God's plan. God hadn't asked David to build him a house. It was God who had destroyed their enemies and made the name of Israel great, and it wasn't because He resided in an earthly palace. In fact, the moveable tent He had instructed Israel to construct had moved with them and represented the glory of God to the nations they encountered along the way. God would build David's house, not the other way around.

- **What are some ways Christians today might move ahead of God's plans? What does this reveal about where we place our hope?**

Ask a volunteer to read 2 Samuel 7:8-16.

- **What does it tell you about God that He didn't get mad or shut David down altogether, but lovingly told David what He would do through his family?**

(over)

- **Jesus is sometimes called the “son of David” because He was born into David’s family line and is the fulfillment of this promise to David. Why do you think God told His people of Jesus’ coming centuries before His arrival?**

Leader’s Note: God made covenants with Noah, Abraham, and Moses before establishing a covenant with David. Because God kept His covenant with Noah, sinners continued to be born and inhabited earth. Because God kept His covenant with Abraham, his descendants became the nation of Israel. Because God kept His covenant with Moses, the nation of Israel settled in the promised land and, in doing so, set the stage for establishing a king to rule the Israelites. David was that king. God established a covenant with David, a covenant so weighty that David’s lineage included the future King of Kings, Jesus Christ.

- **What does this passage reveal about God? His nature, desires, and/or actions?**
- **Read Luke 1:30-33, Luke 4:18-21, Revelation 19:11-16, and Revelation 21:1-4. What words or phrases describe the type of ruler Jesus is and the type of kingdom He is establishing?**

Leader’s Note: The promise that Jesus the Messiah would someday come to earth and set people free from the bondage of sin was given to David and his people through a covenant made about 1,000 years prior to Jesus’ birth. Throughout Scripture, we read many texts that point to Jesus as the fulfillment of this covenant promise. For the people of Israel, this promise was one they could put their hope in when they struggled to understand God’s plans for them and the oppression they continually faced as His people. The same remains true for us, as we cling to the promise that Jesus will one day return to fully and finally establish His kingdom here on earth.

- **In light of this discussion, where is God calling you to change the way you think, speak, or act?**
- **As we live together as followers of Christ, what are some ways we can express our appreciation for King Jesus?**
- **How does the practice of continual gratitude to Jesus for what He has done help you remember where your hope is found in your daily circumstances and future?**

**Close in prayer, thanking God for His covenant promises that throughout history have pointed to the hope you have in Jesus. Pray He would give you a desire for this King and His kingdom in your heart, that you would live every day eagerly awaiting the joy that is to come when He comes and brings the kingdom in its fullness.**