

## **SERMON NOTES**

**FEBRUARY 28, 2021**

*Start by praying and asking for God's help as you seek to grow as authentic followers of Jesus.*

### **LISTENING TO GOD'S WORD**

1. We've covered a lot of ground in 2 Samuel over the past two weeks. Take a minute to recap what happened in 2 Samuel 13-15 last week.
2. Summarize the storyline in 2 Samuel 16-18. What is the general plot? What stands out to you?
3. Read 2 Samuel 17:1-14 and 2 Samuel 18:9-15. What is significant about these two sections of the story? What role does God play?

### **LIVING IT OUT**

4. Why is the fact that everyone is a sinner in need of redemption so central to Christianity? Why do you think some people have such a hard time seeing themselves as broken people who need a savior?
5. What are some examples of evil in your life (personally, relationally, vocationally, globally, etc.) that you long for God to punish? In what ways do you try to solve the problems yourself and punish the evil on your own? What is the result?
6. The promise that God will finally and completely punish evil when Jesus returns might seem like unhelpful, wishful thinking to a non-Christian. However, how does the fact that God will in fact punish evil one day provide peace and hope for us as believers?
7. In light of the fact that everyone is a sinner in need of redemption and that God will punish evil in the end, how should we respond when people sin against us or disagree with us? What does this look like on social media? In your family? At work? What about with non-Christians? Other Christians?
8. If all we had was 2 Samuel 16-18 and no New Testament, we might be able to learn some things about ourselves and about God from these stories, but we wouldn't have the full picture. How does reading 2 Samuel 16-18 in light of the New Testament give us a better understanding of the truths we find in 2 Samuel? How does Jesus solve the problem of our sin and of evil in our world? How could you explain this good news to someone who has not yet trusted in Jesus?