

## Members' Handout - 2 Samuel 8:1-18

Series: 2 Samuel



*These CG Resources are meant to help our CGs facilitate a study of the Bible passage with a focus on applying God's truth to our lives together. Refer to the Summary, Fallen Condition and Good News sections at the beginning of the guide to keep the discussion focused. For a deeper dive into the passage, refer to the text notes on the passage.*

### Big Idea & Takeaway

God is faithful to prosper His king according to His covenant promises so that His king can rule justly over God's enemies and God's people. Christ is the true and better king who does this perfectly according to God's standards.

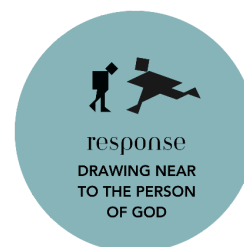
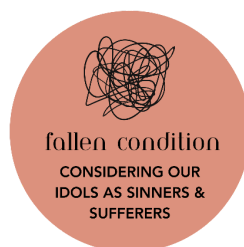
### Fallen Condition Focus

Force fitting and misinterpreting God's good promises to us according to our sinful desires or fulfilling them through our own sinful means.

### Connecting to Christ

*How specific people, events or institutions in the passage foreshadow Christ and His Work*

Unlike David who, in response to God's promises to establish his kingdom and make his name great, attempts to fulfill God's promises through ruthlessly conquering nations and excessively accumulating wealth, Christ is the true Davidic king who makes David's name great, not by raising an earthly kingdom for David's sake, but by laying down His life so that all the nations may enter God's kingdom and be truly blessed.



### Interpretation

1. Refer to God's covenant with David in 2 Sam 7:8-11. How does God empower David to fulfil these promises?
2. How does David rightly use his authority from God to rule as king over his enemies and over Israel? (8:11-12, 15-18)
3. How does David's God-given power and rule benefit Israel, other nation(s) (8:9-10), and David himself?
4. Read 2 Sam 7:8-11, Deut 23:3-7, and 17:14-17. How might David have gone beyond or gone against what God has commanded for him to do in this passage?
5. What might have been David's motivations for doing the above (contrast 7:9 and 8:13)?

### Fallen Condition

6. Consider some of God's promises to us for:
  - Healing (Revelation 22:2)
  - Comfort (Revelation 21:4)
  - Joy and satisfaction (John 10:10)
  - Redemption of brokenness (Luke 4:18-21)
  - Prosperity (Philippians 4:19)
  - Community and relationships (Mark 10:29-30)

Which of the promises above do we wrestle the most with presently – which do we most desire to see fulfilled or feel a sense of disappointment or discontentment?

7. God's promises to David were coloured by his own sinful interpretations to build a kingdom according to his own standards and desires. How might our understanding of God's promises toward us be similarly coloured by our own sinful desires, or how might we attempt to fulfill these promises through our own means?

### Personal Renewal

8. God's promises to David were fully fulfilled in Christ: God makes David's name great not through military conquests, but through Christ who establishes an eternal kingdom. Consider the promise that you struggle with. How has Christ fulfilled, is presently fulfilling, and will one day completely fulfill this promise?

## Response

9. Even though God's promises to us are being fulfilled in this life, we still continue to experience many unmet longings because our redemption is an "already-not yet" process that is unravelling until Jesus returns. Read Colossians 3:1-4 and 1 John 3:2. Strengthen one another with the hope of the gospel that has already fulfilled some of God's promises in our lives now, and also guarantees all of God's promises that are not yet fulfilled.