

STUDY GUIDE

2 Samuel 1-5

“The Blessing of Waiting on God”

- 1) What kinds of things do we wait for in everyday life? What has been the hardest thing in life you've ever waited for? In what ways has impatience affected our culture and our lives?
- 2) How do we see David's heart for God in the way he treated the young Amalekite man and the men of Jabesh-gilead? What lesson can we learn from the reason he treated them the way he did?
- 3) Discuss the varying relationships and actions in the war-like atmosphere of 2 Samuel 2-4 between Saul's family and David's family. Where do you see David's influence in these chapters?
- 4) In 2 Samuel 5 we see that after more than 20 years of waiting, David finally became the King of all of Israel after his third anointing. Share with one another something that you've waited a long time before it happened, and how you felt when that finally happened.
- 5) God used the process of waiting for over 20 years to shape and mold David's heart to be a man after God's own heart. What are the things that happened in 1 & 2 Samuel that shaped and molded David's heart? What things have happened in your life to shape and mold your heart for God?
- 6) Define the *principles* and discuss the *applications* from the following statements:

Waiting is not just something we have to do to we get what we want, but rather *waiting is the process of becoming what God wants us to be*. What God does in us while we wait is more important than what it is we are waiting for.

Those who wait on God can go about their assigned tasks, confident that God will provide the meaning and conclusions to their lives and the harvest to their toil. Waiting is the confident, disciplined, expectant, active, and sometimes painful clinging to God.

Waiting on the Lord is not passive; on the contrary it is active; it is building concentrated strength. Waiting on God is like lifting weights; our “spiritual muscles” gets stronger as, over time, God does His work in us, breaking us down and healing us up.

Then all the tribes of Israel came to David at Hebron and said, “Behold, we are your bone and flesh. In times past, when Saul was king over us, it was you who led out and brought in Israel. And the Lord said to you, ‘You shall be shepherd of my people Israel, and you shall be prince over Israel.’” So all the elders of Israel came to the king at Hebron, and King David made a covenant with them at Hebron before the Lord, and they anointed David king over Israel. 2 Samuel 5:1-3