

STUDY GUIDE

2 Samuel 13-18

“David’s Thorn”

1) How does this passage reveal David’s failure as king?

How does David’s passivity in 2 Samuel 13 affect his family and the entire nation of Israel?

2) In 2 Samuel 15, we see Absalom’s rebellion begin. Why is it that people tend to use people, or see people as a means to an end? How can we battle that?

What are some ways we can love people better? Both individually and as a church?

3) How might you see unhealthy ambition present in your life?

4) How does the failure of King David, and his family, help us to see the grace of God in spite of sin?

5) As Christians who feel the consequences of sin, how is it encouraging to you to know that Jesus is the one who has the final word on your life?

6) How can our sin and the consequences of our sin be brought to the church as gifts to use to encourage each other?

How can they be used to build up the church and glorify God?

7) Read Psalm 3. How is this prayer an encouragement to you as you battle sin and feel its effects and consequences in your own life?

*"And David said to Abishai and to all his servants,
"Behold, my own son seeks my life; how much more now may this Benjaminite!
Leave him alone, and let him curse, for the LORD has told him to."
- 2 Samuel 16:11*