

SHARE THE BIBLE LESSON  
**WEEK 22**

God makes a covenant with David  
2 Samuel 7:1-29



**DAY 1**

David wanted to build a house for God • 2 Samuel 7:1-7

**READ** 

2 Samuel 7:1-7

**EXPLAIN** 

The truth of 2 Samuel 7:1-7

Man-made religions all try to earn something from God. In David's time, other rulers would build temples to try to win the favor of their gods. But the true God is not like that. The true God is gracious. Instead of requiring His favor to be earned, He freely loves. He did this with David, making him king (2 Sam 5:3), giving him victory over Jerusalem (5:6-10; Josh 15:63), defeating the Philistines (2 Sam 5:17-25), providing a palace (5:11), and bringing the ark to the nation's new capital (2 Sam 6). Then, when David wanted to build a temple for God, God said no. David's desire was not wrong, for he was simply showing his gratitude and honor for God (7:2). But God wanted to avoid all confusion: He did not need a temple, nor had He ever demanded one (2 Sam 7:6-7). There would soon be a temple, but like the tabernacle before it, the temple would be God's gift to His people. It would be the gracious gift of God's own presence coming down to be with His unworthy people (Isa 7:14; Phil 2:6-8).

**ASK** 

1. How was David able to become king and have victory and peace?  
*God was present with him.*
2. Why did David want to build a house for God?  
*David didn't think it was right for him to live in a palace while the ark was in a tent. He wanted to honor God.*
3. Did God need David to build Him a house?  
*No.*

**DISCUSS** 

1. Does God need anything from you (Ps 50:10)? Why do you give Him your time, talents, energy, obedience, devotion, and money?
2. Why is God's presence with us the best gift ever (Gen 3:8; Exod 25:8; Ps 16:11; Isa 7:14; Gal 2:20; Rev 21:3)?

## DAY 2

God promised to build a house for David • 2 Samuel 7:8–17

### READ

2 Samuel 7:8–17

### EXPLAIN

#### The truth of 2 Samuel 7:8–17

Do you see why God stopped David from building the temple? God's promise here is greater than all that God had already done for David, and God wanted to make it clear that this great gift was entirely unearned. First, God promised to make David's name great (7:9), a special promise He had not made to anyone except Abraham (Gen 12:2). Second, God promised land and peace to His people Israel (2 Sam 7:10–11). Third, God promised to build David a house, a *dynasty, a line of kings from the same family* (2 Sam 7:11). David had wanted to build a house (a temple) for God, but God says, "No, I am the Giver. I will build a house (a dynasty) for you." So this covenant is full of God's grace. It is also unchanging. It cannot be broken by death (7:12), by time (7:13, 16) or even by sin (7:14–15). Though any individual king in David's line may be removed for his sin, God will never destroy the line of David. Three times the word "forever" emphasizes that God's gracious covenant is unbreakable (7:13, 16).

### ASK

1. What did God promise for David?  
*God promised to make his name great in all the earth.*
2. What did God promise for Israel?  
*God promised that through the Davidic reign Israel would live in their land in peace.*
3. What did God promise about David's descendants?  
*David's son would build a temple for God and be like a son to God. David's dynasty—a line of kings from his family—would last forever.*
4. How would God keep His promise about David's dynasty?  
*God kept His promise through Jesus, the Son of David, whose reign will last forever.*

### DISCUSS

1. Do you delight in God's unearned favor, or do you go through life feeling like you have to somehow be good enough or do something special to earn it?
2. Has God made any unbreakable promises to you (Rom 8:38–39)?

## DAY 3

David praised God and prayed that God's promise would come true • 2 Samuel 7:18–29

### READ

2 Samuel 7:18–29

### EXPLAIN

#### The truth of 2 Samuel 7:18–29

The proper response to God's grace is gratitude, and the way to receive God's gift is faith. David was overwhelmed with gratitude (2 Sam 7:18). God had already done so much for him, and now God promised to do much more, promising blessing that would reach far beyond David (7:19). Through David's line God would bless the entire world (Gen 49:10; Num 24:17). Yet David also recognized again God's special blessing on His chosen people Israel (2 Sam 7:22–24). Just as

God's covenant with David was permanent, so God's commitment to the nation of Israel is permanent (2 Sam 7:24; Lev 26:44–45; Rom 11:26–28). After expressing his gratitude, David then expressed his faith in prayer (2 Sam 7:25–29). David teaches us to pray (1) according to God's will and kingdom (7:25); (2) for the purpose of God's glory (7:26); and (3) on the basis of God's promise (7:27). This is faith, when you have confidence to ask for God's promises to come true because you believe that God keeps His promises. Is your life a life of gratitude, and is it marked by prayer rooted in God's word?

DAY 3 CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

**ASK** 

1. How did David respond to God's grace?  
*With gratitude. He praised God.*
2. How did David accept God's promises?  
*By faith. He prayed on the basis of God's promises.*
3. How long will Israel be God's people?  
*Forever.*
4. Who is the focus of David's prayer, God or man?  
*God: His glory, His will, His promises.*

**DISCUSS** 

1. When is the last time you thanked God for His blessings in your life? Spend some time making a list of His blessings to you and your family.
2. We need to learn how to pray (Luke 11:1). Let God's word shape your prayers this week as you thank Him for the grace His word reveals and ask from Him based on the promises His word contains.

**DAY 4***Jesus prayed that God's promises would come true • John 17:20–26***READ** 

John 17:20–26

**EXPLAIN** **The truth of John 17:20–26**

How do you know what to pray for? And how do you know that God will hear your prayers? We saw with David that God's promises are the basis for our prayers. God's promises show us what to pray for and give us confidence that He will hear those prayers. Jesus shows us the same thing. On the night before His death, Jesus asked His Father to fulfill His promises to the disciples and to all future believers (John 17:20). If you are a believer, this last part includes you (17:20–26). Jesus asked God to grant unity to all believers, unity as intense as the unity between Father and Son (17:21–23). This oneness comes when believers are committed together to God's word, and it is made possible by the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:4). When the world sees this kind of unity, it proves that God has sent His Son into the world in order to redeem sinful man (17:23). This unity will be complete when God unites all believers together with Christ in heaven (17:24–26). This is God's will for us, and it is Christ's prayer.

**ASK** 

1. What was the last thing Jesus did on the night of His arrest?  
*He prayed for His disciples and all Christians, including us.*
2. What formed the basis of Jesus' prayers?  
*Jesus prayed based on the Father's promises.*
3. What is unity the result of?  
*A shared commitment to God's word.*

**DISCUSS** 

1. What does Jesus' commitment to prayer show you about the importance of prayer for you?
2. Can a Christian have true unity with someone who doesn't believe the Bible is God's word?

# DAY 5

Jesus' thousand year reign • Revelation 20:1–6

## READ

Revelation 20:1–6

## EXPLAIN

### The truth of Revelation 20:1–6

God's covenant with David was a big part of His great rescue plan. This covenant came true in part through David's son Solomon. Solomon built the temple, was like a son to God, and had a lasting dynasty (1 Chron 22:7–10). But the Davidic covenant ultimately comes true in the Messiah, the Son of David. The prophets looked forward to His eternal, righteous reign (Isa 9:6–7), and Gabriel told Mary that Jesus would fulfill the Davidic Covenant (Luke 1:32–33). Jesus is the Son of the Most High (Heb 1:5), He will sit on David's throne and reign over Israel (Luke 1:32), and His kingdom will never end (1:33). When Israel rejected their Messiah, this delayed Christ's earthly reign (Matt 23:39). But one day Jesus will return and reign over Israel and over all the earth, exactly as God promised (Isa 24:23; Ezek 37:24–25; Zech 14; Matt 25:31; Rev 19). At this time the redeemed will reign with Christ for a thousand years (20:4; cf. Dan 12:2; 1 Thess 4:13–18). Do you look forward to joining in the blessing God promised to David so long ago?

## ASK

1. Did God's covenant with David come true in David's son Solomon?  
*Yes, but it came true in an even greater way in Jesus.*
2. Why was Jesus' earthly reign delayed?  
*Because Israel rejected their Messiah.*
3. How long will Jesus reign on Earth?  
*A thousand years.*
4. Who will reign with Jesus?  
*All the redeemed: those who have been saved by faith throughout all time.*

## DISCUSS

1. How big is God's great rescue plan? Who is at the center of His plan? What is your place in His plan?
2. What are the reigns of normal kings like? How will Jesus' reign be different?

## NEXT WEEK

### God forgives David

2 Samuel 11:1–12:25

