

## David: Redirection in Rejection

### 2 Samuel 7

We will all face a moment when our plans fall apart. When that time comes, we often find ourselves Standing, Surrendering, or Scrambling for all the wrong reasons. When David's purely motivated plans were rejected by the Lord, he remained still and continued to seek the Lord's will.

#### Intro – Parents ate my candy (video)

- You've probably seen Jimmy Kimmel's YouTube genius that is his challenge to parents to upload videos of their kids after they tell the kids they've eaten all their Halloween candy.
- What's so crushing about this scene isn't just that the parents are claiming to eat the candy, it's the fact that the parents are eating their kids' dreams! The kids had this awesome eating plan lined out over the next 365 days, but their parents have disrupted the entire thing!

#### The Truth is...

- We've all seen our dreams get crushed: College Experience, Relationship, Academic, Organization
- So how should Christians respond **when their plans fall apart**? What makes a Christian different?

#### This Semester...

- We're studying **the Life of David through his stories and Psalms** in order to understand what made him a "man after God's own heart." I want us to understand what defined him because I want to have that heart, and I want you to have that heart. Last week we looked at David's response to Success.

#### This Morning...

- We're looking at **David's response to Failure. When his plans fall apart, David is Still.**

#### The Setup

- **Read: 2 Sam 7.1** – David literally has "**Shalom**" – he has the peace and fullness of God's blessing – no needs!
- Ex: Forrest livin' the baby life – constant care, attention, and response to every single grunt – "Shalom" indeed

#### David's Plan

- **Read: 2 Sam 7.2-3** – David begins seeking God and thinking about what "could be" and realizes God needs a **better house**! He tells his buddy/prophet Nathan, and he totally affirms David's idea!
- **Read: 2 Chr 6.7-8** - God affirms **David had pure motives** – David already brought the ark to the city, now he wants a temple for the nation to worship. **This is a good desire!**
  - **David's Desire was simple: Glorify God**

#### Our Plan

- We're all **constantly making plans** ranging from lunch today to where should I study tomorrow to what should I do with my college degree.
- And as Christians, these plans should always flow through the same filter: **What's my Reason?** God told Samuel at the beginning of the semester that He looks at a person's heart –where's your heart?
  - Our reason should be simple: **Glorify God**
  - Ex: Why join an organization that fights slavery? Why apply for that internship in Dallas? Why date that guy/girl?

#### God's Redirection

- **Read: 2 Sam 7.4-5** – But despite David's great intentions, God says "no." Why? **Your good desire is not always God's desire.**

- Ex: Robert wanted to become a Christian counselor, but his first semester of seminary was Rough & his wife got pregnant – God had a different desire!
- **Read: 2 Sam 7.8** – God still affirms David because His “no” is not a Rejection, but a Redirection – God goes on to explain that He wants a temple, but He wanted it at a different time through a different person
  - Ex: Robert is now in Dallas with family and friends who have been crucial in supporting his family & he’s discovered a passion for roasting coffee.
- **The truth is that even when we have the right reasons, God will redirect our paths – so how will we respond?**

#### Our Response

- **Stand** – Sometimes we refuse to watch our plans fail, so we take a Stand and simply dig ourselves deeper into failure
  - Ex: Chinese “Nail Houses”
  - Tough Ex: The relationship is bad. You know it. Your friends know it. But you’re taking a Stand when Redirection is needed.
- **Surrender** – Sometimes we’re so deeply hurt when our plans fail, we Surrender and simply give up
  - Ex: “It’s too heavy” (video)
  - Tough Ex: Your grades are bad. You know it. Your parents know it. But you’ve Surrendered when Redirection is needed..
- **Scramble** – Sometimes we’re so scared to see our plans fail, we Scramble and frantically search for a new one
  - Ex: Buddy in college who was Always interested in Someone – friend from back home girl, commons lobby girl, coffee shop girl, concert girl, new coffee shop girl – but a problem would arise and he’d go to the next gal, so we set up a “no date/no name” policy to keep ourselves from getting too attached
  - Tough Ex: You didn’t get that position or internship or transfer you were planning on. You’re confused and scared. But you’re **Scrambling** when Redirection is needed..
- All of the responses say one thing: **I don’t trust God.**

#### David’s Response

- **Read: 2 Sam 7.18** – I love this scene because it brings the passage full circle back to where we started: David is still before the Lord. In calm and in confusion, David trusts God. In the face of Redirection, David didn’t **Stand** or **Surrender** or **Scramble**.
  - Instead, **David was Still**. David humbly sits and thanks the Lord for what He has done, so he trusts what He will do.
  - **Read: Psalm 118**
- **David was still because he trusted God.** Christians should be still as we should be known by our trust in God.
  - Ex: Susan in the ER – her trust sets her apart

#### Our Plans

- Check your Reason
- Check your Response
  - Seek
  - Be Still
- **A person after God’s own heart trusts Him enough to be still.**
  - Tell the Lord you trust Him. Seek Him by listening to Him, reading His word, talking with His people

## **2 Samuel 7:1-18 ESV**

### *The Lord's Covenant with David*

[1] Now when the king lived in his house and the LORD had given him rest from all his surrounding enemies, [2] the king said to Nathan the prophet, "See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells in a tent." [3] And Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that is in your heart, for the LORD is with you."

[4] But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan, [5] "Go and tell my servant David, 'Thus says the LORD: Would you build me a house to dwell in? [6] I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent for my dwelling. [7] In all places where I have moved with all the people of Israel, did I speak a word with any of the judges of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?"' [8] Now, therefore, thus you shall say to my servant David, 'Thus says the LORD of hosts, I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, that you should be prince over my people Israel. [9] And I have been with you wherever you went and have cut off all your enemies from before you. And I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. [10] And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may dwell in their own place and be disturbed no more. And violent men shall afflict them no more, as formerly, [11] from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel. And I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover, the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house. [12] When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. [13] He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. [14] I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son. When he commits iniquity, I will discipline him with the rod of men, with the stripes of the sons of men, [15] but my steadfast love will not depart from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I put away from before you. [16] And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever.'" [17] In accordance with all these words, and in accordance with all this vision, Nathan spoke to David.

### *David's Prayer of Gratitude*

[18] Then King David went in and sat before the LORD and said, "Who am I, O Lord GOD, and what is my house, that you have brought me thus far?"

## **2 Chronicles 6:7-8 ESV**

[7] Now it was in the heart of David my father to build a house for the name of the LORD, the God of Israel. [8] But the LORD said to David my father, 'Whereas it was in your heart to build a house for my name, you did well that it was in your heart.