

Prayer: "David Called on the Name of the LORD"
2 Samuel 7:1-29

When we pray...

1. Sometimes our **RIGHT** prayers are answered: "**WRONG** time" vv. 1-2, 10, 12-15, 18-20 (cf. *Deuteronomy 3:23-28; 1 Kings 8:17-18; 1 Chronicles 22:6-11; Galatians 4:4-7*).
2. Sometimes our **BIG** prayers are answered: "too **SMALL**" vv. 2, 5-16, 19-20, 25-29 (cf. *Isaiah 55:8-9; Ephesians 3:16-21; Matthew 6:33; 14:13-21; John 14:8-14; Philippians 1:6*).
3. Always our **FUTURE** prayers are answered: "I am **FAITHFUL**" vv. 2, 6-9, 21-29 (cf. *Gen. 9:15; Deut. 7:9; 1 Chron. 22:1-6; Psalm 105:8; Isaiah 41:8-10; 2 Corinthians 12:7-10; 2 Thessalonians 3:1-5; Hebrews 11:1-3*).



David heard God's word through the prophet Nathan (2 Sam. 7:4, 17) and went to a holy place (the "tent" from cf. 2 Sam. 6:17) to speak with God (7:18).

His prayer was then filled with gratitude for what God has said and done, and confidence for what God will do.

- How do we primarily hear God's word today?
- Where do we speak with God?
- What do we normally pray for?
- How are our prayers to God different from David's?
- How are they the same?

For Further Study, Thought, and Discussion:

Read **2 Samuel 7** in its entirety.

1. What prompted David to want to build a house for God? Where is David when he prays in v. 18? What words could you use to describe his response in vv. 18-20 after God has said "no"? What does this say about David's relationship with God? How does that relationship play a key role in David's prayer?
2. Make a list of the attributes of God that He highlights about Himself in vv. 5-16. Now read vv. 18-29 and note when David affirms or praises those very attributes. How has David seen them displayed in his own life? How has he seen them in the life of God's people as a whole? What lesson is there for us as we call on the Name (attributes, reputation, etc.) of the LORD, both individually and in community with other believers?
3. David wants to build a temple for God, but God instead promises that his offspring would do that. What do you think would have happened if David "claimed the promise" given about his son and started building the temple? Will David see God's promise completely fulfilled in his lifetime? So what does David do in response (cf. 1 Chron. 22)? What lessons can we learn about obedience and faith with regard to how God answers our prayers? What should we do "in the meantime" while we're waiting for the promises we have prayed for?
4. What is David's main point of prayer in vv. 25, 29? How does his prayer align with the prayers of the people in Gen. 4:26, Abraham in Gen. 12:7-9 and Isaac in Gen. 26:23-25? Are you beginning to see a trend?
5. **Word FUN**: This chapter includes some interesting use of words. For example, how many times is the word "house" used? Does it always mean the same thing? Why or why not? What are the different definitions of "house" in this chapter? How is that instructive for how we approach interpreting a passage?

NEXT WEEK:

Prayer: "Solomon Called on the Name of the Lord,"
 1 Kings 8