

CARE This Week...

September 29, 2024



Absalom Rebels Against King David

Scripture Discussed: 2 Samuel 15:1-18:33

For Sunday's lesson, we learned about Absalom's rebellion against his father, King David.

David had several sons by different wives. Absalom was his third oldest son. David's oldest son was called Amnon. Absalom also had a full sister called Tamar. There was big trouble in the family when Amnon raped Tamar. When Absalom found out what had happened to his sister he arranged for the murder of Amnon. Absalom fled to hide in the land of Geshur for the next three years. David, although longing to see Absalom again could not forgive him. Joab, commander of David's armies tried to resolve the problem by inviting a wise woman to see David. Because of the interaction with this woman, David summoned Absalom to come back to Jerusalem. However, the king added, "He may return to his house, but he may not see my face." So Absalom returned to his house, but he did not see the king for 2 years. After two years, however, Absalom connived his way back into the king's court. When he arrived he bowed face down before his father who kissed him. Absalom became very proud. Everyone praised him for his handsome appearance. Absalom was particularly proud of his hair, which he cut once a year. The weight of the cut hair was 5 pounds. Absalom would sit by the city gate to meet those coming to the king for a judgment. He would say, 'I can see that you are right in this matter. It is a shame the king doesn't have anyone to assist him in hearing these cases.' So in this way Absalom became very popular with the people of Israel. After four years of gaining popularity, Absalom plotted to become king instead of his father David. He went to the King and asked permission to go to Hebron. David gave him permission to go. Absalom and 200 supporters went to Hebron. When he got there he sent messengers to every part of Israel to announce, 'As soon as you hear the trumpets you will know that Absalom has been crowned in Hebron.' Absalom and his rebel army started marching towards Jerusalem. A messenger soon arrived in Jerusalem to tell King David, 'All Israel has joined Absalom in a conspiracy against you!' David decided to flee the city with his household and 600 loyal troops. There was deep sadness in the city as the king and his household left. David and the people with him covered their heads and wept. When Absalom arrived in Jerusalem, he wondered what to do next. David's former advisor Ahithophel urged him to pursue David while he was weary and discouraged. However, David had left a loyal advisor called Hushai in Jerusalem to give Absalom poor advice. Hushai told Absalom not to pursue David immediately as he was a great fighter and there were mighty warriors with him. Absalom listened to Hushai's advice and David had time to make his escape.

Absalom and his troops advanced to find David and battle broke out in the forest of Ephraim. The battle raged throughout the forest and 20,000 men were killed. During the battle Absalom came across some of David's troops and fled on a mule. As the mule went beneath the thick boughs of a great oak tree, Absalom's hair got caught in the branches. His mule went on, leaving him dangling in the air. One of David's men saw him and told Joab.

Joab asked the man why he had not killed Absalom. 'We all heard the king say to you and Abishai and Ittai, "For my sake, please don't harm young Absalom,"' the soldier replied. 'Enough of this nonsense,' Joab replied. Then he took daggers and plunged them into the heart of Absalom as he dangled from the oak. A messenger went to tell David of all the events. 'What of young Absalom?' the king demanded. 'Is he all right?' May all of your enemies be as that young man is!' the messenger replied.

Then the king burst into tears, and went up to his room wailing, 'O my son Absalom, my son, my son Absalom. If only I could have died for you! O Absalom, my son, my son.' As people heard of the king's deep grief for his son, the joy of victory was turned into deep sadness. David later returned to Jerusalem to reign as King of Israel once more.

Bible Verse: Love one another. John 13:34

Life Application: I will love my family no matter what.

SATURDAY ZOOM CLASS

Saturday ZOOM Bible Study met this past Saturday. Our study covered the account of Absalom Rebelling Against King David.

If you or a friend are interested in joining this Zoom Class you are welcome! Contact Anita at anita.bruck@huntersglen.org or call 972-867-1610, x2025 to be added to the list. **We meet every Saturday at 11:00 am!**



UPCOMING EVENTS:

Sunday, Oct. 27th

HG's Fall Fun Fest

4:00 to 6:00 PM

(CARE will be on Popcorn Duty)



Pictures from Last Saturday's Game Night on page 2....

CARE Game Night – Saturday, September 28th ...

It Was A
BLAST!

