

WKNDR Slide

September 27-28

2 Samuel Series Slide

I decided to follow Jesus when I was 7 years old.

When I was 28, my entire concept of HOW to follow Jesus- and really what it meant to live life- drastically changed.

Now- 17 years later- what I started learning about Jesus at 28 has only deepened and expanded.

...and so my life has been deepened and expanded. This church is here because of that concept I learned at 28. My family is intact because of that concept I learned 17 years ago. That concept changed things as small as my day-to-day habits-- it changed the way I reacted to pain and difficulty and challenge...it changed the way I work everyday...and the way I treat my family. It changed the trajectory of my life...and if God has kindly used this church to change your life... It goes back to this concept I learned 17 years ago.

Title Slide- "The Bountiful Life: Why You Need to "Sit & Know" Before You "Go & Do"- 2 Samuel 7

Today- I'm going to teach you that concept from what is undoubtedly the most important chapter of 2nd Samuel- but also- one of the most important chapters in the Bible.

Its a game changer. A plot-twister. For David...and for us.

Since this passage a major piece in the bigger picture of the story the Bible is telling- we're going to set it up how the story developed in the book of Genesis.

Then we'll get into 1st Samuel 7 and show you this concept.

Genesis 1:26

On the first pages of the Bible- God creates man "in His image"- in other words like him. A picture of him. Another way this is put in Scripture is "IN THE NAME OF". God gives a NAME to humanity. They represent him. Just like my kids have my last name- they aren't me- but they are pictures and reflections of who I am. I taught them, raised them- and because they bear my name- what they say and do is a reflection of me.

Gen 1:31 & Gen 2:2-3

So these image bearing- name carriers were created on the 6th day- and they were given a job to do- rule over the whole earth. They are supposed to spread out and make more humans. To extend the beauty of God's Garden all over the earth. Be

Fruitful and multiply. Even so...with all this AGENDA...with ALL THIS TO DO...A HUGE PROJECT—the very first full day they spend in this creation is the 7th day. Its not work day...its a rest Day.

So- they receive a name- then they receive a mission- then they receive rest and fellowship with each other and God.

Gen 3:4-5

Well- a serpent comes into the garden- telling them that God has actually not really made them in his image...he hasn't really given them a name. In fact- if they want a name for themselves...if they want to be like God- they need to do it themselves.

So in a seemingly small act of rebellion- they go for it. And with their sin comes a curse.

When God speaks to the serpent- this is what he says

Gen 3:15

15 I will put hostility between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring. He will strike your head, and you will strike his heel.

Right here we get a clue. Look for a son. A son of the woman who though he is hurt by the serpents children...he will ultimately crush the serpents head.

So- the clue that we all start to look for at this point is a son who will restore humanity to our intended form and purpose...remove the curse of death and futility. Its a promise.

Well from here, things don't go so hot. When Eve does have two sons- one of them kills the other...so in the great mystery of who the snake crusher is going to be...it don't look good. And Cain ends up walking away from God...and he starts building stuff. He starts making cities...without God.

And then the whole of humanity turns away from God.

And then there's a flood- the world gets so bad God restarts it...but the same sort of cycles of sin keep going finally culminating in Genesis 11.

Gen 11:4

A bunch of people together- reject the Name God has given them- and decide they can make a name for themselves. Then without God- they go to work. They start to build. And look at the purpose- so they don't have to spread out over the earth. They are actively rejecting God's mission- by using the gifts God has given them to build....by themselves...with a name they make FOR themselves.

God sees what they're doing, and confuses their language and scatters them as an act of loving judgment.

Gen 12:2-3

Directly following this- almost exasperated at humans continually rejecting the name he has given them...to try and make a name for themselves...God just picks a guy out of the blue- Abram- and says "No matter what you do, I'm going to bless you. I'm going to make your name great...and you can't do anything to stop my promise. The blessing won't just be for you- it will be THROUGH you to the whole world!"

Like it or not Abram- IM BLESSING YOU! Like it or not world- I'm spreading this blessing to EVERY NATION.

Its another promise. -about a son...and a people...and blessing on the other side of a judgment.

Abram starts to doubt this promise...so God doubles down.

Gen 15:5-6

God says- "You're going to have more kids than you can count. Im going to make the people that will bless the world. You will have offspring...you will have the son I promised."

And this next phrase is another game changer.

"Abram believed the Lord and GOD counted his faith as righteousness."

You know what that means? It means he's not asking Abram to build SOMETHING he's asking him to believe SOMEONE. He's asking him to bring his life up under a promise about a son. BECAUSE he trusts God. And God counts this as RIGHTEOUSNESS. GOODNESS. COMPLETENESS. FULLNESS.

And to drive home the point...

Gen 15:17-18a (stop at "offspring") & 17:5

God makes an explicit covenant with Abram.

The difference in a covenant and a contract...is a that contract is based on a THING you can get from someone...and it has a limit..I will give you this THING...as long as it doesn't cost me more than THIS AMOUNT to give it.

But a covenant does not center on the THING...it centers on the RELATIONSHIP. And it doesn't have a backout clause...it has a curse for backing out.

And the way these covenants work...is that people would act out the curse that would happen to them if they broke the covenant.

So, commonly in the ancient near east- they would cut up an animal and both parties would walk between it.

But, when God turns his promise into an explicit covenant with Abram- He knocks Abram out cold into a deep sleep...and God himself- represented as fire- walks through the cut up animal alone...meaning...if you break this covenant- I'm taking the curse. BECAUSE I HAVE GUARANTEED YOUR BLESSING.

Eventually- in another promise keeping act- God changes Abram's name...he gives him a name- which means "Father of many nations"- once again driving home the point with a name- I AM GOING TO BLESS THE WORLD THROUGH YOUR SON! No matter how hard you mess this up. I'm giving you an identity that cannot fail.

Back to Title)

So the journey continues on through the Bible, Moses comes along- and seems like he might be the one, then Joshua- whose name literally means One who saves- then you have all these series of Judges- until finally Israel begs for a King- and they get SAUL- who turns out to be another dud- and then DAVID.

Last week David brought the Ark of the Covenant back to Israel- and things were looking up. Is David the one? Is he going to undo the curse of sin and death?

And so now we come to 2nd Samuel 7.

2 Samuel 7:1-3

When the king had settled into his palace and the Lord had given him rest on every side from all his enemies,

2 the king said to the prophet Nathan, "Look, I am living in a cedar house while the ark of God sits inside tent curtains."

3 So Nathan told the king, "Go and do all that is on your mind, for the Lord is with you."

Sitting out back- back 40- smoking a cigar- Old Tabernacle tent is a mess...and David thinks- "It aint right and I'm gonna do something about it."

2 Samuel 7:4-17

4 But that night the word of the Lord came to Nathan: 5 “Go to my servant David and say, ‘This is what the Lord says: Are you to build me a house to dwell in? 6 From the time I brought the Israelites out of Egypt until today I have not dwelt in a house; instead, I have been moving around with a tent as my dwelling. 7 In all my journeys with all the Israelites, have I ever spoken a word to one of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, asking: Why haven’t you built me a house of cedar?’

8 “So now this is what you are to say to my servant David: ‘This is what the Lord of Armies says: I took you from the pasture, from tending the flock, to be ruler over my people Israel. 9 I have been with you wherever you have gone, and I have destroyed all your enemies before you. I will make a great name for you like that of the greatest on the earth. 10 I will designate a place for my people Israel and plant them, so that they may live there and not be disturbed again. Evildoers will not continue to oppress them as they have done 11 ever since the day I ordered judges to be over my people Israel. I will give you rest from all your enemies.

“The Lord declares to you: The Lord himself will make a house for you.

God is saying to David- You got this all wrong. I have never asked for a Cedar Paneled house. Haven’t you paid attention to history? I’m the one who gives out names. I’m the one establishes kingdoms. You are not in a powerful position and I’m in a weak position- as if I need something done for me.

You are only in the position you’re in because I raised you up for it. I was with you, I gave you victory over your enemies. I’m the one who gave you your name. I have you given you rest from your enemies!...

So, no David- I’m not going to let you build a house for me- I’m GOING TO BUILD A HOUSE FOR YOU!

Notice what came up in that passage? God is the one giving the name, giving Rest, giving the promise...and he’s not going to let David BUILD for him- He will be the one to build.

He’s not going to let Babel happen again. Like with Abraham- he’s saying to David. No matter what you do to bring a curse- I’m bringing a blessing. Your job? Is to rest with me.

SO- we know what David means when he says “build a house for God- he’s talking about a physical building. But when God says he’s going to build a house for David- what is he talking about?

v12-16

12 When your time comes and you rest with your ancestors, I will raise up after you your descendant, who will come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. 13 He is the one who will build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. 14 I will be his father, and he will be my son. When he does wrong, I will discipline him with a rod of men and blows from mortals. 15 But my faithful love will never leave him as it did when I removed it from Saul, whom I removed from before you. 16 Your house and kingdom will endure before me forever, and your throne will be established forever.' ”

David was talking about building- God is talking about a people.

And I'm going to build this people...these descendants- through a son.

There it is! He's talked about a name. He's talked about rest. He's talked about building- now he's talking about a son.

Now- in one sense- David will have a son who will build a temple- Solomon. But look what God says.

He says, "Hey- I have experience with Kings like Saul- that muck things up with sin. Don't worry- Your son is gonna do the same thing. But this time- my promise keeping love- the same promise I made to Adam and Eve about the Snake Crusher...and the one I made to Abraham about blessing the whole world through a son--I'm going to see this thing through. I'm going to do something special through the Son of David.

And see where he says "Your house and kingdom will endure forever"- he can't be talking about David or Solomon- because David and Solomon will die. So who is he talking about? The Snake Crushing- Rest Giving- Name Making- Temple Builder- the Promised Son! I Don't want to give it away too early- but his name rhymes with Cheese and Rice.

Now look how David responds.

2 Samuel 7:18-29

18 Then King David went in, sat in the Lord's presence, and said, Who am I, Lord God, and what is my house that you have brought me this far?

Do you see what David does here. HE SITS DOWN! He RESTS. He says- I gotta just BE WITH the LORD! Now I'm not looking out on the Back 40 thinking about what I can do FOR GOD!...I'm looking UP AT HIM..and knowing what He's DONE FOR ME!

And ON one hand- its deep authentic humility. WHO AM I? I don't deserve this. On the other hand- he's cosmically encouraged and exalted.- "YET- you've blessed me."

19 What you have done so far was a little thing to you, Lord God, for you have also spoken about your servant's house in the distant future. And this is a revelation for mankind, Lord God. 20 What more can David say to you? You know your servant, Lord God. 21 Because of your word and according to your will, you have revealed all these great things to your servant.

Here he's talking about revelation. He has made a way to KNOW him. Through this promise that has endured from Adam and Eve- to Abraham, and Moses- has now come to David. And David knows that he can KNOW God because he has revealed himself through a promise. This is a God that loves us so much- that he guarantees a blessing through the covenant...by promising to take the curse on himself. And this isn't just for DAVID- ITS NOT JUST FOR ABRAHAM- ITS FOR ALL HUMANITY.

22 This is why you are great, Lord God. There is no one like you, and there is no God besides you, as all we have heard confirms. 23 And who is like your people Israel? God came to one nation on earth in order to redeem a people for himself, to make a name for himself, and to perform for them great and awesome acts, driving out nations and their gods before your people you redeemed for yourself from Egypt. 24 You established your people Israel to be your own people forever, and you, Lord, have become their God.

David is overflowing with worship! He's stopped talking about how much he has to offer God- and he's sitting and knowing that GOD wants to with him. And its blowing him away- all the lengths that the LORD has gone through- the things GOD has done to GET to DAVID- and to bless the nations. He's recounting the history of what God has done with and for his people...and he is amazed.

25 Now, Lord God, fulfill the promise forever that you have made to your servant and his house. Do as you have promised, 26 so that your name will be exalted forever, when it is said, "The Lord of Armies is God over Israel." The house of your servant David will be established before you 27 since you, Lord of Armies, God of Israel, have revealed this to your servant when you said, "I will build a house for you." Therefore, your servant has found the courage to pray this prayer to you. 28 Lord God, you are God; your words are true, and you have promised this good thing to your servant. 29 Now, please bless your servant's house so that it will continue before you forever. For you, Lord God, have spoken, and with your blessing your servant's house will be blessed forever.

Now he comes boldly with this prayer. Instead of being busy about doing things FOR GOD- David has sat and known God- has LISTENED TO GOD- and now prays back to GOD GOD'S WILL. GOD- I know you want to bless- So now you do what you are going

to do! I'm here for it. I'm along to receive it! Whatever you want me to do- I'm here to receive the blessing!

1)The Bountiful Life is "Sit & Know" Before "Go & Do".

Bountiful life. Bountiful means that you believe that life works like a waterfall.

Life and blessing come from God. And when I receive that- when I'm filled by the blessing of God...and when I'm sure the blessing of God isn't going anywhere...like I will never run out of it- I'm glad to overflow and pass that out.

I live a life of abundance. Not of scarcity. Where I believe there is only so much blessing to go around- and if I'm not constantly fighting for it...proving myself- it will run out.

Matthew 11:25-27

5 At that time Jesus said, "I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and intelligent and revealed them to infants. 26 Yes, Father, because this was your good pleasure. 27 All things have been entrusted to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son desires to reveal him."

Reveal- there's that word again. To make KNOWN.
And what's the deal with wise and intelligent vs Infants.

Infants can only receive. Wise and Intelligent think they have something to offer God- unless you come ready to receive- you can't know this blessing. You'll just GO and DO...and try to prove you're worthy of God's blessing. But you aren't. God is saying to you like he said to David- "You think you can build something for me? Like I need you to do for me?"

Now watch this.

Matthew 11:28-30

28 "Come to me, all of you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. 29 Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, because I am lowly and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. 30 For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

You know what a yoke is- a yoke is put on oxen to steer them while they are plowing a field. In other words- a yoke produces direction, obedience, guidance...and provides the labor that eventually yields a crop.

And look what Jesus says- He says- “are you weary and burdened...burned out by going and doing for whatever idol you serve...trying to make a name for yourself.- come to me- come to the true Son of David and find rest.”

When you sit and know me- when you live the bountiful life because you believe my promise— I will guide you in a way that you DO GO AND DO things in my name...not in yours.

David did.

2 Samuel 8:1 &15

The very next chapter- David leads out military victories for Israel...and administers justice and righteousness for all his people. In other words- after he sits and knows God- he goes and does likewise. He actually images God- acts in the name of God.

Back to 1)

There are 2 mistakes people often make when following Jesus.

One- is the “We just need to sit and bask in the love of God” crowd...don’t worry about doing anything. I know God loves me. Meanwhile- they completely ignore the commands and the mission God has for them. The love and grace of God becomes an excuse to do nothing.

The other is the “Lets get busy. God has called us to do something so lets go.” Crowd. What often happens here, is there is no rest...and people end up trying to earn God’s love...to make a name for themselves. They take on a primary identity of “laborer” “Missionary” “Soldier” instead of “son or daughter”.

But the thing is- neither of those are really living the bountiful life. Where sit and know leads to GO and Do. Both of those positions are prideful...they aren’t the humble confidence that David prays to the Lord with.

If you are just GO and DO- you are prideful because you end up thinking you earn your own name...or you come to this belief that you are an indispensable part of God’s mission. Which means you need to go back and listen to that old Beyonce song- Irreplaceable. **“To the left, to the left- everything you own in a box to the left...I can find another one of you in a minute- Don’t you ever go thinking you’re irreplaceable.”**

But if you are just Sit and Know- You have separated LOVE for GOD from obedience to God...and that is something that Jesus never does.

John 14:15

15 "If you love me, you will keep my commands.

When you are filled with the unconditional faithful promise keeping love of GOD- you give that love away. You are guided by the Holy Spirit into obedience...like a yoke guides the oxen pulling the plow.

You don't receive a name, and rest, and salvation from the son- while you also ignore what he calls you to do.

See- at the heart of all of this is the gospel.

The good news of who the Son really is...and what the Son did to bring us rest, and to give us a name, and make us a people...and give us hope.

2 Samuel 7:13-14

Remember this line- God says to David- I will build a house through a son- and I will be his Father. But he says- when he does wrong- he will receive blows from the rod of men.

This is pain, and the beauty of the cross of Jesus Christ.

The prophet Isaiah- who provided another clue in the puzzle of what to look for in the Snake Crushing savior put it like this

Isaiah 53:5

**5 But he was pierced because of our rebellion,
crushed because of our iniquities;
punishment for our peace was on him,
and we are healed by his wounds.**

Jesus- even though he did know wrong- was punished for the sin, the rebellion, the making a name for ourselves that we do everyday. So they we would not receive judgment for our sin...instead- we would be healed. And he would make us a people, give us a name, and build something for himself through us.

1 Peter 2:9-10

9 But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his possession, so that you may proclaim the praises of the one who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. 10 Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

Romans 8:12-17

12 So then, brothers and sisters, we are not obligated to the flesh to live according to the flesh, 13 because if you live according to the flesh, you are going to die. But if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. 14 For all those led by God's Spirit are God's sons. 15 For you did not *receive* a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear. Instead, you *received* the Spirit of adoption, by whom we cry out, "Abba', Father! " 16 The Spirit himself testifies together with our spirit that we are God's children, 17 and if children, also heirs — heirs of God and coheirs with Christ — if indeed we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

Matthew 28:18-20

Jesus came near and said to them, "All authority has been given to me in heaven and on earth. 19 Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe everything I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

Do you know God like this?

Are you tired- of doing for God- and ready to KNOW God?

You have to Sit and Know who Jesus is and what he has done- before you have the REST of knowing you are a son.

The gospel isn't D-O. Its D-O-N-E.

I don't bless others, without receiving the blessing first.

Because God calls us to "Sit & Know" then "Go & Do"- We value relational over transactional, cultivating over consuming, and commitment over "keeping our options open".