

# Let's Worship God

11th-16th May 2026

2 Samuel



# II SAMUEL

## Monday - 2 Samuel 7:4-17 - Responding to the Promises

The Bible doesn't suggest we pray - it commands us to pray and expects us to pray. Nor does it leave us without any guidance in terms of how to pray. Instead it gives us both instruction and examples. Jesus' disciples were men who had been praying all their lives, but when they hear Jesus praying, and realise how different it is from their prayers, they say 'Lord, teach us to pray'. He doesn't respond by saying that that would be unspiritual. Rather, he teaches them the Lord's Prayer. So the Bible gives us specific instruction on prayer. It also gives us examples as to how we should pray. And we have one of those examples in the second half of 2 Samuel 7. This passage has been described as teaching 'the nature of true prayer'. Of course describing it as the nature of true prayer implies that there's such a thing as false prayer. So we need to examine our prayers in light of God's Word - just as we do every other part of our lives.

The first thing we see about prayer in this chapter is: true prayer is fuelled by God's Word. The way this chapter is structured is very significant. The first part of the chapter contains what's referred to elsewhere in the Bible as God's covenant with David. As we saw last week, it's one of the most significant chapters in the whole Bible. It's really God revealing the next stage in his great plan of salvation, or at least God beginning to fulfil promises that he'd made centuries beforehand. We're told in the first part of the chapter that at the centre of God's promises is going to be a king on the throne. We're told that a king descended from David will reign forever on the throne - and will be known as the Son of God. It's only really when the New Testament comes that we can begin to fully grasp all that that meant. As it is, David is just overwhelmed with God's goodness to him. In a sense, we could nearly skip from v17 of chapter 7 on over into chapter 8 because the second half of chapter 7 doesn't add any new information. It doesn't tell us anything we don't already know. But actually, David's prayer here is the only appropriate response to God's gracious promises in the first half of the chapter.

### Question

1. How does David respond to the promises of God?

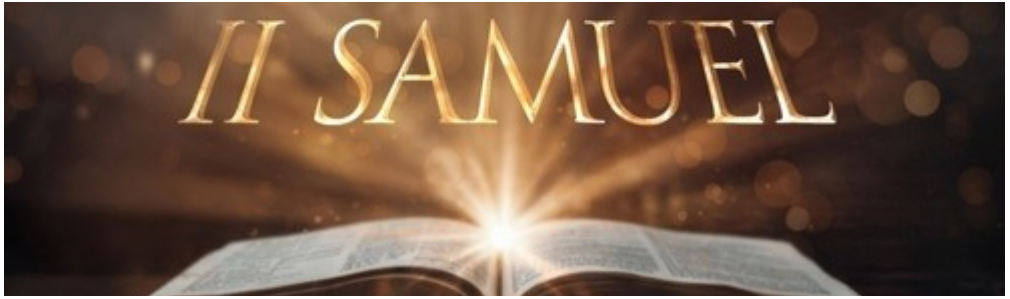
### Prayer Points

1. Pray that God's Word would fuel our prayers.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

### Memory Verse

"For you, O LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, have made this revelation to your servant, saying, 'I will build you a house.'" 2 Samuel 7:27a

**Praise:** Psalm 8A:1-4 - See [www.rpglobalalliance.org](http://www.rpglobalalliance.org) for Psalm tune helps.



## **Tuesday - 2 Samuel 7:18-25 - True Prayer is Fuelled by God's Word**

David responds to God's word both by praise, in verses 18-24, and then by petition in vs 25-29. In other words he responds to what God has said both by praising him for it - and by asking that God would do what he's just said he will. Even that structure teaches us something very simple, but also very significant about prayer. And that is, that true prayer is fuelled by God's word.

If a brand-new Christian asked me how they should structure their personal devotions, if they asked for advice about a quiet time, I would say, what I think anyone would say, that the two main parts of it should be reading the Bible and prayer. But I would also suggest that they do it in that order. I would tell them that they will probably find it easier to pray if they read the Bible first. Of course, it's good to pray before we read the Bible. Along the lines of Psalm 119:18: 'Open my eyes that I may see wonderful things out of your law'. But I would tell them to leave their main prayer time until after they've read. Then use what they've read to shape and fuel their prayers. Perhaps the passage you've read has told you something about God. Use that truth as something to praise and thank him for. Maybe the passage has highlighted a particular sin that you need to confess. If you pray after you read, it will give you a natural opportunity to do just that. Or maybe you've just read some great promise of God. Well then turn that into prayer, that God would do what he's said he would.

It's that last one in particular that we see in this passage. David has received amazing, mind-blowing promises from God. In response he does the only obvious thing. He turns round and prays that God would do what he's said that he'll do. We tend to think that if God has promised us something, then it means that we don't need to pray for it. When actually, what we see in the Bible is that God's promises are meant to drive us to prayer. It's not that he's forgotten and needs reminded. But one of the reasons he gives us these promises is to stir us up to pray. He gives us the promises that we might turn them back to him in prayer. True prayer is fuelled by God's word.

### **Question**

1. Why is it good to pray after we read God's Word?

### **Prayer Points**

1. Pray that God would fulfil His promises - be specific.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

### **Memory Verse**

“For you, O LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, have made this revelation to your servant, saying, ‘I will build you a house.’” 2 Samuel 7:27a

**Praise: Psalm 8A:5-7 - See [www.rpglobalalliance.org](http://www.rpglobalalliance.org) for Psalm tune helps.**

# II SAMUEL



## **Wednesday - 2 Samuel 7:18-22 - True Prayer is Marked by Gratitude and Humility**

David is almost overwhelmed as he begins his prayer in v18: 'Who am I, O Lord God, and what is my house, that you have brought me thus far?' He's just amazed at what God has already done for him to this point. Which is a reference to God bringing him from the sheepfolds to reign as king over Israel. Yet as David realises in v19, that's nothing compared to what God has now promised to do for him. At this point, David is almost lost for words. v20: 'And what more can David say to you?'

David's 'Who am I?' here is similar to his 'What is man?' in Psalm 8. 'What is man that you are mindful of him, and the son of man that you care for him'. We live in a society where people have a sense of entitlement. But that sense of entitlement should be so far from us as Christians. People are quick to shout 'I know my rights!'. But what rights do we really have? The only thing we deserve is Hell.

David can't get over the fact that God has chosen him. When he says in v20 'for you know your servant', that's almost certainly 'know' being used in the deeper, Biblical sense. Like when God tells the people through Amos 'You only have I known of all the families of the earth'. It's not that God doesn't know facts about certain people. But he has only truly known - he has only chosen - some. It's all of grace, and David's just amazed at that. God knew all about David. Yet he still chose him, and David is just so humble and grateful.

Did you notice how he refers to himself over and over again in his prayer? 10 times he calls himself 'your servant'. He says in v22: 'Therefore you are great. For there is none like you, and there is no God besides you'. He's the polar opposite of Nebuchadnezzar who a few centuries later would say: 'Is not this great Babylon, which I have built by my mighty power for the glory of my majesty?' Whereas David says, v29, 'with your blessing shall the house of your servant be blessed forever'. It's all God's blessing - it's all of grace.

## **Questions**

1. What amazes David?
2. How can we show gratitude and humility in our prayers?

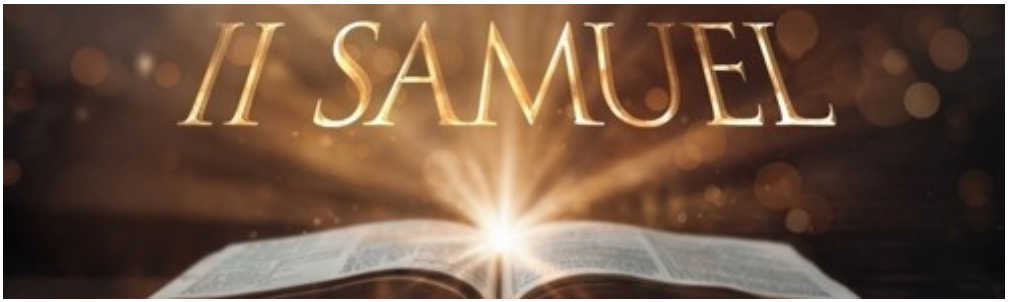
## **Prayer Points**

1. Give thanks for all that Christ has done for you.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

## **Memory Verse**

"For you, O LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, have made this revelation to your servant, saying, 'I will build you a house.'" 2 Samuel 7:27a

**Praise: Psalm 78A:1-7 - See [www.rpglobalalliance.org](http://www.rpglobalalliance.org) for Psalm tune helps.**



## **Thursday - 2 Samuel 7:122-26 - Praying For The Glory of God**

The heart behind the prayer is more important than the words. The Puritan, Thomas Manton reminds us: 'the heart must be the fountain of the words; otherwise it is but a vain babbling. Much speaking is not praying'. What we need above all is to have our hearts right before God. That means having a heart that longs for God to be glorified.

We could summarise vs 25 and 26 as: 'Do as you promised, so that your name will be great for ever. Then people will say, 'The LORD Almighty is God over Israel'' It's so easy for us to talk about the glory of God, and to mention it in our prayers. But how much do we really desire people to say, 'The LORD Almighty is God over Israel'. Or to put it the other way: how much does it grieve us when people live in this world without acknowledging the God who made them? When they speak of him as they speak of the gods of the nations?

True prayer is marked by gratitude and humility. For that to happen we must have a sense of awe at the majesty of God - and a sense of wonder at the grace of God. We need the wonderful blend Christ gives us in the first line of the Lord's prayer: 'Our Father - who art in Heaven'. He's exalted - he's in heaven - the sun is like a pin-prick compared to his glory. At the same time he's our Father. 'Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God'.

David praises God in v23 that he had redeemed the nation of Israel to be his people - a people he redeemed for himself from Egypt. Redeeming his people from Egypt was God's greatest act of salvation in the Old Testament. For us, of course, it's the cross where we were redeemed by his precious blood. But how prominent a role does thanksgiving for our salvation have in our prayers? Do we thank God for lesser blessings - but not the greatest blessing? True prayer is marked by gratitude and humility. Not just in the face of God's blessings on our lives, but also wonder at his grace in giving us spiritual life in the first place.

### **Question**

1. What are some things we could be praying for more in our prayers?

### **Prayer Points**

1. Pray that God would be glorified in your town.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

### **Memory Verse**

“For you, O LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, have made this revelation to your servant, saying, ‘I will build you a house.’” 2 Samuel 7:27a

**Praise: Psalm 78A:8-14 - See [www.rpglobalalliance.org](http://www.rpglobalalliance.org) for Psalm tune helps.**

# II SAMUEL

## Friday - 2 Samuel 7:19-26 - Going Narrow to Go Big

Jesus commands us to 'seek first the kingdom of God'. The extent to which we're doing that will be reflected in the sort of things we pray for. How often do you pray 'your kingdom come'? How often do you pray for the proclamation of the gospel, for people to be added to the kingdom, and for Christ to do what he's promised and build his church in the face of the gates of Hell itself?

David prays here with a special focus on the nation of Israel. Does that mean he's not interested in the rest of the world? Is he just a narrow, provincial kind of king? Not at all! When the ark was brought to Jerusalem, 1st Chronicles records David singing words which would later serve as the opening of Psalm 96: 'Sing to the LORD, all the earth! Tell of his salvation from day to day. Declare his glory among the nations, his marvellous works among ALL the peoples!' He says here in v19: 'This is instruction for mankind'.

But if David really is concerned about the whole world, why the focus on Israel which we have in v23: 'And who is like your people Israel, the one nation on earth whom God went to redeem to be his people', and v24: 'And you established for yourself your people Israel to be your people forever', and v26: 'The LORD of hosts is God over Israel'? Do we say: In the Old Testament God was just concerned about Israel, but now in the New Testament he's concerned about the whole world? That's clearly not the case. This very chapter talks about instruction for mankind. David has elsewhere called on all the nations to worship God. So what's going on? Well God goes narrow in order to go big. At this point in the Bible, God's plans and purposes have narrowed in a sense from all humanity, (Adam and Eve), to the nation of Israel (represented by Abraham). Now God is actually narrowing in again by focusing on the king. But the intent is always to move in the other direction. God is here blessing the king, so that the king could bring blessing to Israel, which in turn would bring blessing to humanity.

### Questions

1. How will a godly king be a blessing to Israel?
2. How will a godly nation be a blessing to the world?

### Prayer Points

1. Pray that our nation would become a godly nation again.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

### Memory Verse

“For you, O LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, have made this revelation to your servant, saying, ‘I will build you a house.’” 2 Samuel 7:27a

**Praise: Psalm 78A:15-21 - See [www.rpglobalalliance.org](http://www.rpglobalalliance.org) for Psalm tune helps.**

# II SAMUEL

## **Saturday - 2 Samuel 7:26-29 - True Prayer Loves What God Loves**

The focus on a king of Israel who is also described as the Son of God is preparing the ground for the coming of Jesus Christ, the true seed of Abraham in whom all the nations of the earth will be blessed. Just in case we still think this covenant with David is irrelevant to the New Testament, the Apostle Paul quotes it in 2nd Corinthians 6, but very significantly he changes it slightly, and he quotes it not as 'I will be to him a father and he will be to me a son' as it is back up in v14. But 'I will be a father to you, and you shall be sons and daughters to me'. So the promise becomes plural, and daughters are added as well as sons. The promise to the king becomes a promise to all God's children. In fact, the only reason we can be called God's children is because of God's covenant with David, which was ultimately fulfilled in the coming of Jesus Christ.

God focuses in on Israel here for the sake of the world. The application for us is that if you want to see God's glory recognised in this community and around the world, then your prayers too need to have a specific focus. And for us that's not Israel, but the church, of which the true Israelites of old were members.

We can say of the church today, just as David does of Israel in v23, that it's 'the one people on earth whom God went to redeem to be his people'. The church is God's priority. Not because he doesn't care about the rest of the world, but because he plans to bless them through his church. So the mission of the church must be a central theme of our prayers. True prayer loves what God loves. If the church is right at the centre of God's plans and purposes for history - it should be right at the centre of our prayers. By God's grace, and with the Spirit's help, may David's prayer refocus and reinvigate our own prayer lives in the week ahead.

### **Questions**

1. How does the promise of David become a promise to you?
2. What should be a focus of our prayers?

### **Prayer Points**

1. Pray for the preaching and hearing of God's Word tomorrow.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

### **Memory Verse**

"For you, O LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, have made this revelation to your servant, saying, 'I will build you a house.'" 2 Samuel 7:27a

**Praise: Psalm 78A:22-27 - See [www.rpglobalalliance.org](http://www.rpglobalalliance.org) for Psalm tune helps.**

The goal of Let's Worship God is to encourage and help you in your worship of God each day.

**God tells us that  
Ezra read from  
the book of the Law  
day after day  
and that  
the people of God  
were filled with joy!**

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If you have any queries please contact - [rpchurchscotland@gmail.com](mailto:rpchurchscotland@gmail.com)