

Computer Generated Transcript - We are going to be finishing our sermon series on the life of David today I know we haven't covered everything in his life that would take a lot longer than five weeks but we are going to. To finish it up this week we're going to kind of bring things to a close last week we left off with David becoming king we left off where David has finally been anointed king or not annoying to King but he's finally become king we see that his first act as King though is the covenant with people before God he realizes that he is a king not the king all right and that is important and that's going to be important for us to remember throughout this day he's finally become king but he immediately bends need to God and to the people and he says that the covenants with the people before God and says I will be a king but there is a king that above me and so we're going to talk today I'm going to kind of warn you I'm not really going to preach today so much as I'm going to story tell today which is kind of been the theme of this this entire message but we're going to be continuing that today I'm going to be telling a story the story that I'm going to cover is going to go from about Second Samuel fourteen to about Second Samuel Chapter eighteen or nineteen OK I'm not going to read the whole thing but that's where we're going to be I'm going to stop and read specific parts of that but if you want to see those words and you want to see the story that's about where we're going to be Second Samuel All right. And really there's a theme and a drive today that we see toward the end of David's lives and it's a tough thing it's a kind of a hard way to end a series because it is almost a little sad too in one way but there is hope found in it and there's this there's this truth in life that sometimes things don't go as planned but how many of you are planners out there you're like you're a planner which if you take a trip like every single party I only raise my hand cause I want you to know I want you. Raise hands I'm not a planner any amount of planning that I have in my life is a learned skill and my wife is a detailed plan or she she is a very good planner but sometimes things just don't go to plan right and sometimes we have dreams for our life. The don't come true. Right sometimes you have a plan and you have a dream and it just doesn't come true and sometimes when that happens you blame God. Right like there's this list of things we hang on to these promises of Scripture and we should write but we'll hang on to things like God I trained them up in the way that they should go and they didn't go that way and God you're the giver of every good and perfect gift how come it seems like my gift didn't happen. And there are other verses that we can use and we can we can look at that So what do you do when a dream. Fails right what do you do when a plan that looks so good and you might have even felt like God was leading you to it what do you do when the plan fails. If you remember over the last few weeks. David was in his early twenties maybe his mid twenty's when the actions of Saul meant a few of his dreams were going to come true right it was no fault of his own the actions of another person meant that some of his dreams weren't going to happen David did not dream of being a fugitive some day on the run from the king living life off of the land right that was never part of his plan for his life but because of the actions of another some of his plans were not able to come true. When he got older. We see that some of David's own actions make it so his. Dreams won't come true we're going to hit there for a little bit but but when his dreams didn't come true as a young man right we talked about this in the second week that we went through this series. When some of those dreams didn't come true he takes off from solemnly panics and makes a bad decision he tells a little lie that seems like it won't matter that much. Right but the end result of that lie was that the high priest and his entire village is up paying the price for that lie with their lives. He panics and one bad decision led to the next bad decision which led to another bad decision which leads to another bad decision just like happens to us so often times in life but during this time fortunately David learned some valuable lessons and we're going to talk about that again about twenty two years after David becomes king he makes his own bad decision David becomes king in his thirty's you can see he starts in his early thirty's as the king of of his tribe and then seven years later he becomes the king of all of Israel right and then about twenty two years later he's in his mid fifty's OK which in this day not last not our day but in his day is a pretty old man OK I mean some of you who are teenagers like mid fifty's that's an old man to write but but David's in his mid fifty's which to them I mean the average life expectancy of a person in this day and age was in their late thirty's early forty's it's not it's not like now where seventy's

eighty's even ninety's can become commonplace All right this is David is is an older man in his mid fifty's and he sends this man off to war and most of you know this story even if you're not from church you've heard parts and bits of this this story he sins is man off to war and for whatever reason he does. Go OK for whatever reason he stays back he does not go with his min to fight the battles that they are going to be fighting he stays back in one night he's walking on a rooftop right David's just chill and he's taking an evening walk. And he sees your wife he doesn't know this is the time but her name was back Sheba and back she was taking a bath on the roof OK now I know that sounds really weird to us but that's a lot what's one thing that mostly rich people were able to do and this time the reason I say rich people is because they didn't have plumbing OK so if you want warm water on the rooftop that means somebody has to take warm water to the roof top for you because you're probably not going to fill up a tub bucket by bucket all by yourself by the time you're done with that the water I'm going to be warm anyway OK but this is a common practice that happens sometimes just the heat they would leave the water in there and he would go there but it was a common practice for this to happen but he sees her he calls a servant and I says Who is that lady and he says Oh that's your right of the Hittites wife and David says go get her for me right now David knows your rider the Hittite OK he knows or or he knows him he had a hit Hittite is listed in David's mighty men OK one of his closest friends one of the people who had supported him for the longest the people that had been with him since the cave of agile and when they were fugitives together he knows this guy. And this isn't just your riders girlfriend this is your ideas wife this is a problem. This is not OK in any way shape or form but you know when God warned the nation of Israel that having a king might not be the best thing for them he warns them before Saul is even King through Samuel he says listen if. KING If you take a king they're going to do some things that you don't like one of the things that's really hard to do to a king is to tell them no. Because the king has absolute authority the king can do whatever the king wants to do so they go and so the servant goes and gets bashed she comes in they spend the night together maybe more we don't really know they have an affair and one day she sends a message to David and she says. I'm pregnant. Not a good day but David's a smart guy OK and he thinks he can cover it up so we call zero the Hittite back OK he pretends he's like I want a report of what happened on the field so you're either his eye comes back and David just kind of assumes that you're right the Hittite after being off a war is going to want to go in and have some relations with his wife because he hasn't seen her in a while right and that'll cover it all up oh it's your kid but you're right as a good man and he's a leader of men he's one of the mighty men and he will not go in to be with his wife while his men are dying in the field so he actually sleeps outside on that day so there's no way to confuse that something might have happened on that day so the next day there was like stay one more day David get some drunk. Read the story it's in there I'm not making up any of this. OK David gets drunk and now he assumes all right now he's drunk now all of his inhibitors are going to go he's going home for sure but even in a drunken state you're rial will not go home. He won't he won't do it while his men are dying you're rial will not go and be with his wife so David writes a message to your RA is Qur'an commander Joab who is the leader of the entire Israeli army he is the top general and there are many writes a note that says I want you to put your ride in the hottest part of the battle I want you to put him where the best warriors are and at a given signal when things look the worst I want you to pull everyone else back and leave your eye out there. And the coldest thing about this ISN'T THAT HE GOES TO KILL YOUR that's not the coldest thing the coldest thing is he signs seals and hands this letter to your Ryad to deliver himself to Joab So your RAW is carrying his own death sentence and delivering it to his general that is cold. That is cold. And Joab we don't know of Joab argues it all we don't know but you don't tell the king No So Joab does exactly what his king tells him to do it puts your eye in the hottest part of the fight at a given time the whole Army falls back and your eye is left out facing the fiercest warriors all by himself. And he's killed in battle OK I say. So David could cover up his sin David the man after God's own heart. Could covers sin. Right so that's feeble more. Than David brings her in. And. It would probably even look kind of magnanimous to a lot of people from the outside oh poor Bathsheba. This poor pregnant woman is now husband less and our good king.

Brings her in to take care of her. Right that's how it can start to look David starts to look like a hero. But eventually we can see that the prophet Nathan comes to David and he tells us a fictitious story about a man stealing a sheep from a poor man and David is furious right at this at this fictional character and Nathan looks him and gives him that incredibly famous quote and he says. You are that man right and David to his credit. Breaks and he allows the God of the law. To break him. I think honestly the big difference between David and saw live talk about this at other times but I think the biggest difference between the man after God's own heart and the man who lost the annoying thing is the fact that David repented when he was wrong and Saul wouldn't. Sell just made excuse after excuse after excuse David was absolutely wrong but he repents. And he still called the got the man after God's own heart but I want you to hear something there's a truth that is in this story OK And we're going to this is in Second Samuel Chapter twelve we're going to read and in verse eleven here in just a second. There is a truth found in this story that is important for us to know today David was forgiven by God we're going to read that. But there were still consequences to his decision here on Earth. And we need to understand that too. When we said we can be forgiven before Jesus absolutely we can be more washed clean and we will stand with him but many times there are still consequences to be found here on Earth even though we're forgiven by God. That's not fun. But it's true Second Samuel Chapter twelve versus eleven Nathan says that David this is what the Lord says because of what you have done I will cause your own household to rebel against you I will give your wives to another man before your very eyes and he will go to bed with them in public view you do that secretly but I will make this happen to you openly in the sight of Israel you are the King David and you covenanted with the people before me David So you're accountable not only to me but to the kingdom. OK You understand that's what's happening David you are the king so you're accountable to the kingdom. Tough words. Hard to read. Then David says something very powerful This isn't a lesson we need to have in our hearts first thirteen then David confess and I've sinned against the Lord. David shows us again. That he's a king but he's not the king. And he surrenders back to God he surrenders his life back to him. And replies Yes the Lord is forgiven you and you won't die for this son the sin nevertheless because you have shown utter contempt for the word of the Lord by doing this your child will die and one of the hardest stories in the Bible happens after this I mean there is no way shape or form to make this easy. David's child dies the church the child that he has with dies and listen I I do not believe that today I know many people in this room more than we even know because so many times this is such a private hard thing many of you in this room have lost a child. And God isn't blaming your kid for something you did all right this is a pretty isolated incident in Scripture we don't know exactly all the things that are happening here. But this is a hard thing. This child that Bathsheba dies dies but that's not all that happens. That's that's not it that wasn't what God said would be the end of the story for what David was going to have to go through because of his sin. That's that's not even it I mean it's horrible and as terrible as that is and it is horrible and terrible God is still with Him God has forgiven him God can put a hand of comfort on him. But we're not done yet. Ten years later the rest of the consequences come and they kill some more David's dreams David's oldest son is named Amnon OK because he's the oldest he's next in line to rule right he's the heir and lying. David to rule. And this is gross just brace yourself because we're going to talk about some gross stuff here but he is consumed with lust for his half sister OK David is both of their dads but they have a different Mom I know that's disgusting it is very common in this day for a half sister for you to to marry a half sister as a male but it doesn't make it any less gross his oldest son is just consumed with desire for his half sister named Tamar Ari can't get her out of his head all right we can see the story is kind of brief here but we can see that that she ignores him completely. But one day he can't take it anymore so he gets advice from somebody and the dude like just pretend to be sick for to just pretend to be really ill and then when our dad comes and sees you just tell him I would like Tamar to come and visit me in my room and make some food for me OK So he's like oh that's a good idea he does that he pretends to be sick he sends a message to David says I'm so sick to my sister Tamar prepare a special meal for me. She makes the food I am nonsense everyone else out of the room and he tries to talk her into sleeping with him right and she

refuses she will not do that she says absolutely not this thing should not be done this is chapter thirteen OK she says Do not force me. This should not be done in Israel she saying this is wrong verse twelve of Chapter thirteen The Bible tells us that Amnon did not listen and because he was stronger than her he rapes her. OK And we see this happening this thing that is told of David all this year and years ago we see it start to come forward so then verse fifteen as if this story could possibly get more ugly in verse fifteen we see maybe one of the worst verses in the entire. The Bible he is he has raped his sister and in verse fifteen of Chapter thirteen it says then suddenly Amnon love turned to hate and he hated her even more than he had loved her get out of here he snarls at her. She's devastated in this culture it means she'll never marry him and she'll never have children I mean she's going to live as an outcast for the rest of her life all right that's just kind of the culture of the Bible and when David finds out he's furious but David does. Nothing. And we don't know why maybe he feels like he's lost his moral authority since he had had an affair with Vashti but ten years earlier maybe David just doesn't want to take that much time with one of his adult children we don't know why I honestly have no idea why David would do nothing but we see this happen from this point on in his life when it comes to his kids and their mess ups we see David do a lot of nothing and we see a third or another one of David's kids we've met Amnon we've met Tamar and now we see a third one of his kids come into play in this story and his name is Absalom short of Solomon Absalom is probably the most famous of David sons for not good reasons OK but but Absalom is David's third son OK he's the third born son of David You can find this out if you study through all the scripture here we believe by this time the second son has died OK So Absalom if Amnon doesn't rule Absalom would be the next one in line to rule OK Absalom is Tamar's full brother they share the same father and the same mother and we see Absalom is furious with Amnon as most of us probably would be right if our half brother rapes our sister. Probably not a good day to sit around the family dinner table. He's furious he takes Tamar in he gives her a place she's destitute but but he brings her and lets her live at his home. But Absalom is smart Absalom is crafty. And two years he says absolutely nothing. And then two years go by and he throws a big feast in a big party he actually even invites David and David says if I come it'll be too big a burden right David would have to bring all of his wives and his servants and it's this big party every time every David goes somewhere and he's just like I'm too big a burden right I'm not going to come and Absalom says well can I invite all all of my brothers and sisters and David says Oh have a party good you know have fun so they invite everybody he gets everybody really drunk right we see a common theme here Absalom gets really everybody really dug in particularly when Amnon is drunk he orders his own private men to kill him in front of everybody and they kill Amnon in the middle of this party they slaughter him in front of the whole family. It's really nice story right this is the one you want to put on your Christmas card. All of David's other sons run back to Jerusalem. Absalom flees into now what would be known as Syria. When David finds out that his oldest son was murdered by the son that's described in scripture around the time as his favorite son. Guess what he does. Nothing. He does absolutely nothing. And life goes on. Three years pass. David is missing Absalom So he invites him to live back in Jerusalem he's he's kind of gotten over the death. Of Amnon and he invites him he says you can come live in your old house you can't come see me OK he won't be associated with him necessarily he invites him back to Jerusalem but he won't associate himself with the son who killed another son. Now Absalom gets angrier and angrier and angrier because for two years he tries to get in to see his dad. Finally he sends messengers to Joab small army member Joe out from a four job the chief General OK he sends messengers to his farm and the message that he sends is burning his farm OK they don't deliver a note he burns Joab farm because he's been trying to see Joe out too because Joe out a lot of times we see in scripture is kind of the go between between people and David but if they couldn't get into David if they got a message to Joab Joab could set up the meeting and do that and so he said jobs for farm on fire Joe Webb obviously goes to see Absalom OK probably not in a real good mood OK but he goes to see him and Absalom is like also glad you finally remembered me. Thanks for finally knowing that I'm alive. Joe says What do you want and he says I just want to talk to my dad. Set up set up the meeting and you'll have agrees but Joe I have a smart recognizing a

theme here a lot of smart guys here that make dumb decisions. OK. Joy since a woman in with a story. And she tells another story and David gets all emotionally involved in this story. And again she delivers a line very similar to Nathan she doesn't say you are that man but it's very similar David why do you get upset at my fake story when you're doing the exact same thing and you won't see Absalom. And David Smart. It's like Hey Joe I put you up to this. She says yes. So David calls in Joab and Joab says you need to see your kid man you need to you need to talk it out. And David brings in Absalom. You can see in David's way if you look through this story you can see David in his way apologized Absalom he kneels before and you know I mean he's trying to say we're OK I'm sorry everything's going to be all right from this point on but see there's an issue here and that even though David was OK Absalom was an. Absolute hurt. And we're never shown any evidence in scripture that David ever calls to see Absalom again. And Absalom is still upset with his dad for being ignored for being what he probably felt like was abandoned. Absalom is now in line to rule the kingdom. And he probably thinks it's going to be mine eventually So let's just make it happen a little quicker. And Absalom sets out to overthrow. David as King. OK. When David has promised years before this that his house was going to be full of bloodshed it's coming through right before his eyes. In Chapter fifteen we see Absalom smart. Smart guy and he sits in one of the main gates in Jerusalem and when people come in to see David Wright you can imagine trying to set up an appointment to see the King takes time right you just get into the throne room and get to talk to David It takes time an absence of the gate and he starts to listen to people's issues and he starts to say all. That should not be right oh if I were king. This is what it would be. Like and we can see in scripture that the Bible says that he slowly stole the hearts of the people he's so sly for for years he sits at this gate and he listens to people's complaints and he pretends to be that listening ear that really cares when David doesn't. And he sets in motion this plot for rebellion you can see in chapter fifteen verse ten. He goes to Hebrew and it says but while he was there he sent secret messengers to all of the tribes of Israel to stir up a rebellion against the king as soon as you hear the ram's horn his message read you are to say Absalom has been crowned king in Hebrew and listen this is really effective because people don't have one of these. OK now we've got one of these nobody even has a newspaper the News isn't going to play that night right all that people have in this day and age to deliver information is to either write things down and send it out slowly or to make public announcements like this this is not an uncommon thing for somebody in a household to make a cup public announcement especially the king's thing and they say they stand up and say Absalom is king most people in Israel probably thought well David's dead. Not like let's kill David but they probably just thought David's dead. Because Absalom is king now right but he's still in the heart of people so even if they know David's alive. They're cheering he sends them out to do this announce Absalom is king. And the people rise up with absent from so it's been sixteen years since David had an affair with it with best Shiva. It's been sixteen years. And the final piece. Of that prophecy is. Coming through today. And David's world gets turned on its head his firstborn son has raped his daughter and he was killed by another one of his sons and now the hearts of the people have been turn the nation is rejoicing that Absalom is their king and a messenger in this moment comes to David and he says the heart of the people is without. Looking to say David we know that you've been a great king but the people don't care. They're for Absalom. David says in verse fourteen. Of Chapter fifteen and we must flee at once it will be too late. David urges man hurry if we get out of the city before absolute live arrives both we in the city of Jerusalem will be spared from disaster David is concerned about the city of Jerusalem he doesn't want innocent people to die he knows that if Absalom comes in in power all of his friends and all of his counselors are going to die. And so they run he could have stayed in Jerusalem and mounted a solid defense this is David. But he doesn't. He runs. And this is where we can probably begin to see ourselves in the story right you had a dream or a plan you saw it was from God and things just didn't work out David is really living the time when he was twenty one and he had to flee from the palace for his life before a Mad King. Saul says I'm going to kill you and David has to run. Now this time though he's not twenty two if you do the math David is sixty one. And he thinks life this is not where he thinks his life is going to happen this is supposed to be his

final years as King this is supposed to be good times and instead he's a fugitive in front of a Mad King running for his life again. And we can probably relate to the fact that we had a dream or a plan and it just didn't work out. We thought things were going to go well you might not be able to record too to relate to being a king or a queen but you can relate to the fact that you thought things were going to go one way and they just didn't everything got stood on its head and nothing was what you thought it was going to be. Plans change dreams aren't coming true and there's one that I haven't even talked about yet in particular that cannot come true. And David is probably wondering how in the world did it come to this we've thought about that right have you ever had that thought God could have stopped this right. If God would have wanted to stop but he could have stopped it I lost my job I lost my marriage I lost my kid I lost fill in the blank. So horrible things. And we begin to blame God. And this is where a lot of times we as human beings make really bad decisions. When we thought things were going to go one way and I just don't. Begin to blame God we begin to make bad decisions but David is older and wiser last time this happened. David runs away and he tells a lie and a bunch of people die. Things aren't like that this time David is leading a caravan out of the city you can see in verse fifteen. We are with you his advisors replied Do what you think is best so the king and all his household set out at once he left no one behind except ten of his concubines to look after the Palace everyone cried loudly as the king and his followers passed by the cross the kids are on Valley and went out toward the wilderness Zaki in the Levites also came along carrying the Ark of the Covenant of God they set down the ark of God and Abiathar offered sacrifices until everyone had passed out of the city you got to hear this right a lot of us read this and if you think the Ark of the Covenant may be the first thing you think is Indiana Jones right if you. That old some of you maybe don't have a real good concept of anything that's happening here but the Ark of the Covenant there's a place on the ark between two Serafin OK that is called the Holy of Holies the Holy of Holies isn't just a room it's a spot on this ark and it's the people of Israel believe that the physical presence of Jehovah of their god the god of gods the King of Kings the Lord of Lords rests in this place in the ark so when they take the ark out of Jerusalem and follow David everybody in Jerusalem is thinking God is leaving. And he's following David. This is a big deal. And for whatever reason it doesn't sit right with David that they would take the presence of God out of the City of David. And so we actually sends the Ark back to Jerusalem. I'm a king. I'm not the king. I'm a King I'm not the king first twenty five Then the king instructed Zantac to take the Ark back into the city I guarantee everyone with him moaned when he said this because the ark was fought if you brought the ark with you into battle you would always win it was the presence of God And when David says send it back everybody who heard him said I probably want to really. Send it back and David says one of the most powerful things that you will see in scripture if the Lord sees fit if it's not sure he's not making a prophecy if. The Lord should see fit. He will bring me back to see the ark and the tabernacle again if God chooses to bring me back I'll be back first twenty six but if he is through with me. Let him do what he thinks is. Yes. He says the exact opposite thing that he said when he left the first time we left the first time he tried to take matters into his own hands. And this time he leaves and he says. God's going to do what God's going to do. And I trust him even though my world is on it's head I trust him to bring about what's best. That's hard. That is a difficult thing to do when life doesn't make sense. That is an incredibly hard thing to do he basically says what Jesus says later not my will. But yours be done. Not my will your will God. He doesn't blame God He doesn't think God is a band of them he's just not the king and he's not one hundred percent sure he's even supposed to be a king anymore. So we lose. Absalom shows up takes a city without a fight some horrific things happen. He takes a city but he doesn't get to kill his dad so now there's the threat of rebellion somewhere right and all this stuff is happening out there the only way in his mind to say I am the king is to take matters into his own hands and kill his dad. OK So there's a man there OK here's a fell we've got a lot of fun names in this story OK here's the fellas there and here's the fellow was one of David's counsellors but when he sees the heart of the people turning he changes sides and he joins up with Absalom and he gives them some great advice in chapter seventeen OK now here's the fell verse one chapter seventeen verse one now here's a fellow urged Absalom let me to twelve thousand men to

start out after David tonight I will catch up with him while he is weary and discouraged he and his troops will be panicked and everyone will run away then I will kill only the king. And I will bring all the people back to you as a bride returns to her husbands after all it's only one man's life that you seek then you will be at peace with all the people this plan seemed good to Absalom and all the others the people but then there's another counsellor David Sands one of his current counsellors back and he's like Listen here's a fellow smart and he's going to give really good advice so why don't you go back there and do your best to counter his advice All right so Absalom calls in this other this other counsellor and and this man says That's terrible advice the bell just gave you bad advice what you should do is man this is David and this is David you know all the stories you grew up on here and what these guys did that's who they are and they're not scared they're like a mama bear when you're between her and her cubs. Read it that's that's what he says. Like this is a bad idea to just go after him right now let's get the whole army of Israel together so everybody's ready the march on David. Has a film knew that if David and his men had a chance to make a plan. There was no way that any army was going to stop them and when he sees Absalom say listen or when he sees this other counselor tell obsolescent you should go out there yourself and lead this glorious mutiny if your dad leave this glorious thing so you can be the one to kill him yourself when he sees Absalom leans that way and hit the fellow actually if you read the story goes home and he knows he knows he's in trouble he's already switched sides once you don't get to do it twice he goes and hangs himself. Because he knows. There's no way Absalom wins this war David goes to a city that you will not be able to pronounce because neither can I maybe you can pronounce it I can't here's Absalom is coming. So David divides up his army to three sections he puts three chiefs over these armies and it winds up being this huge amazing thing because what happens he tells these commanders in front of everybody do what you've got to do but be gentle with my son I know he's a punk I know he has done everything wrong but he's my kid. Be gentle with him. And the army goes out in this battle is not fought in an open plain this battle is fought in the forest of. Which means superior numbers mean almost nothing. They're not lined up across from each other it's a warfare in and out of this forest What matters is experience and communication and David's got three commanders not one and they cut Israel's armies apart. You can see if you look through the story chapter eighteen verse six so the battle began in the forest of Africa and Israel troops were beaten back by David's men there was a great slaughter that day and twenty thousand men laid down their lives the battle raged all across the countryside and more men died because of the forest than were killed by the sword I know it's kind of silly but I'm a fan of The Lord Of The Rings and when I read this I kind of think about Treebeard in the forest as they swallow up the orcs you know after the big battles that's not what happened it's not living trees eating people right this probably means they're running and riding as fast as they can through a forest and they're hitting branches and those kind of things and they die as a result of that all of this stuff happens eventually Absalom is caught and Joab kills him in front of everyone he completely ignores David's advice and he kills Absalom in front of everybody and as soon as the army hears that Absalom is dead it melts away they all just go home they drop their weapons and they run. David is told Absalom is dead and he mourns the death of his son so hard that people are afraid to even celebrate a victory. And Joab goes into David's space and he gets all in his face and he says this is wrong. Your men are afraid to even celebrate they think that you wish they had died instead of your son. Get out there and celebrate with your son. Or celebrate with your army. But this victory is incredibly hollow for David because even though Absalom made terrible decisions. David son was dead and he goes back to Jerusalem as King. But his world is never the same. His world is never what it was. David as a man of war. He wants to build the temple of God see they still were worshipping in the tabernacle that Moses created a thousand years before this. Moses if you remember that incredibly boring part of Exodus right where they list exactly how many yards of fabric and how many pounds of this and that and all of those things and they build this amazing tabernacle and God's presence comes in and all these things happen I mean it's a great story but it's kind of boring to read how many unless you're really into sewing how much fabric is use and all of this stuff. They build this ten thousand years later and a thousand years later they're

still using the tabernacle as the place of God and David wants to build a permanent home for God and God says you cannot your house has been nothing but a house of blood and battle. And one of David's dreams dies. He's allowed to collect all the materials and his son Solomon builds the temple he wasn't allowed to. But David doesn't blame God. He just does what he can do and nine years after this story at the age of seventy David dies. The office of authenticity of the story. It's so likely because people didn't hide any of David's faults and why would you why would you tell all of these faults and all of this horrible stuff of your greatest came. On last it's true. And although this is kind of sad. Learn and here from what I know I just talked for a long time and told a story that many of you are familiar with some of you don't but I've been talking for a long time so I need you to kind of reorient yourself set up and lean in and pay attention here OK if your person actually was asleep elbow in the ribs really gentle and get them to pay attention for just a few moments here. The foundation of our faith is not answered prayer. The foundation of our faith is not things going our way. The foundation of our faith is not happily ever after ending. The foundation of our faith is a God who remains the same even when our circumstances spin out of control. And so if you the foundation of your faith is on one of those first three things is just on answered prayer God does answer prayer but it's not the foundation of our faith. If it's just circumstances going good life goes good sometimes and sometimes doesn't. If it's just happily ever after ending sometimes people do stupid things and it causes endings to not be so happy. But God is there. Through it all these things do not speak about God's presence or God's ability to act David would probably be the first to tell us don't assume from circumstances that God is or isn't there God just is there even in your bad circumstances you can see that as he goes through life through the ups and the downs the good and the bad God is still with David even in the midst of this chaos. Like crazy story that we just walked through today God does not abandon David he is still forgiven in the sight of God He is still with him he is still called the man after God's own heart even with all of this stuff happening your bad circumstances your unanswered prayers do not equate to the fact that somehow God is ticket you and doesn't care about you anymore. God loves you. And he is there with you in the midst of the storm. And we would do well to echo David if the Lord says he's fit he will bring me back to see the ark of the covenant. But if you screw with me then let him do what he sees seems best not my will. But yours be done. God my faith will not rest on my will. My faith will rest on who you are one of the dangers of church. Is sometimes we look around and everybody looks good. And everybody looks like they've got it together. But if I for the next eighteen hours lets you one by one come up and tell your story into a microphone most of them would be stories of broken this and pain and hurt. But redemption. Nobody in here is got it all together. We're all just a bunch of broken people serving an amazing God. We grow and God makes us holy but none of us are capable of that in and of ourselves it is only God that makes that stuff even close to possible. And if you could hear every story in here you would hear story after story. After story of pain and broken this and rejection but of people who didn't give up on God but chased after him in those moments and they found him in the midst of their pain. And that's why they're still here. And I want you to hear from me today that some of you I know in this room are dealing with on answered prayer and because of that you feel like God has a band then you are rejected you some of you in here are dealing with loss and it hurts and it's real. But God is there. Waiting to bring comfort. And it's just. Truth. Sometimes our feelings are really bad indicators and what's actually happening sometimes when our feelings are all out of whack we just need to hang on to what we know. And we can know that God is good. He is there. And I want you to know. If there is something happening in your life today. Don't be David in his twenty's don't try and take everything on yourself. Be David that learned from his mistakes and be the David that says God Not my will but yours be done. Don't abandon God because of a circumstance in your life cling to him and run the him. Because he is a good God who loves you. He is there even when we can't feel him. We're going to in the service today. I want you to hear from me if you don't know Jesus is going to be a little different. A lot of times we give people a chance to respond with a raise. But I want you to hear from me today if you're in this place in this whole Jesus thing this whole church thing is new to you. You don't know Jesus. Jesus came to this earth two thousand years ago was a man he lived he taught he



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died but he rose and he conquered sin and death so that you could be made right with God and if you've never chosen him before but you want to This Morning Talk to the person that brought you if the person that brought you doesn't have those answers come and talk to me I would love to talk to you. But it's it today I just want to do this different I just want I want to make this a place. Where we can just respond to what's going on and this message. Here's what we're going to do I'm going to pray and again we've done this last few weeks if you want to talk if you're done and you're ready to go when I'm done praying by all means feel free to go you can go out to the foyer there's a giant foyer out there with plenty of room for you all to stand and talk but as you keep your conversation out there. If you're in this place and you need God to work in your life maybe circumstances are bad maybe you feel like God doesn't care maybe you feel like God has an answer your prayers maybe your life is just in chaos and you just need to spend some time with God Maybe it's something else completely and I haven't talked about of the all but it's all you can think about this morning I want to encourage you not to go without meeting with Jesus I'm going to ask and to just turn on some music quietly. And I want you to come and pray. God is good and he cares for you. Don't turn your back on him because circumstances are out of control. And I pray if you need to go you can go. And stay and pray stay and pray. Jesus. You're good. And I thank you for that. I thank you that we can be given examples like David's in the midst of all of this stuff. God that when a world maybe couldn't have been more upset God when circumstances maybe couldn't have been more out of his control when he was watching dreams die before his very eyes and. He trusted you. Thank you for those kind of stories it's hard to read some of those details. But the detail that's stood out to me and preparation for this entire series is this moment right here. That in the midst of the storms. You will not waver. In our faith doesn't have to either. Help us to trust you. God for those who are breaking in this place for those who are hurt for those who are wounded for those who feel abandoned. Or that you speak for that you be the god. Of all comfort be the God of answers. For those in this place God that are just kind of bored. And it's leading to bad decisions. Or questions about who you really are. Pray for your voice. God we trust in you no matter what. You decide. Your will is not ours become. A man. You need to go you can go don't leave this place without meeting with God If you need to meet with him have a great afternoon.