

COMMUNITY GROUP GUIDE

Gods prince: The life of David ⑦

INTRODUCTION | King for eternity

It often happens that what we request to God is different from his will. How can we walk with God in that case? Firstly, let's remember God's grace, that actually fulfills all our real desires. Secondly, we will see how God is always by our side whatever the life we lead. It is a reality, he supports us. Thirdly, we should always remember about God's alliance with us, accomplished by Jesus Christ on the cross. God's plan and promises for us are the foundation for our lives.

SCRIPTURE | 2 Samuel 7:1-17

7:1 After the king was settled in his palace and the Lord had given him rest from all his enemies around him, 2 he said to Nathan the prophet, "Here I am, living in a house of cedar, while the ark of God remains in a tent." 3 Nathan replied to the king, "Whatever you have in mind, go ahead and do it, for the Lord is with you." 4 But that night the word of the Lord came to Nathan, saying: 5 "Go and tell my servant David, 'This is what the Lord says: Are you the one to build me a house to dwell in? 6 I have not dwelt in a house from the day I brought the Israelites up out of Egypt to this day. I have been moving from place to place with a tent as my dwelling. 7 Wherever I have moved with all the Israelites, did I ever say to any of their rulers whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?"' 8 "Now then, tell my servant David, 'This is what the Lord Almighty says: I took you from the pasture, from tending the flock, and appointed you ruler over my people Israel. 9 I have been with you wherever you have gone, and I have cut off all your enemies from before you. Now I will make your name great, like the names of the greatest men on earth. 10 And I will provide a place for my people Israel and will plant them so that they can have a home of their own and no longer be disturbed. Wicked people will not oppress them anymore, as they did at the beginning 11 and have done ever since the time I appointed leaders over my people Israel. I will also give you rest from all your enemies. "The Lord declares to you that the Lord himself will establish a house for you: 12 When your days are over and you rest with your ancestors, I will raise up your offspring to succeed you, your own flesh and blood, 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 punish him with a rod wielded by men, with floggings inflicted by human hands. 15 But my love will never be taken away from him, as I took it away from Saul, whom I removed from before you. 16 Your house and your kingdom will endure forever before me; your throne will be established forever.'" 17 Nathan reported to David all the words of this entire revelation.

QUESTIONS |

- 1: (verses 1-7) What was David's desire? What is God's answer to this desire?
- 2: When you feel like God does not answer to your requests, how do you tend to react? (reference: Proverb 19:21)
- 3: (verses 8-11) What does God insist on in his answer to David? In the history of Israel, the temple is a very important place, but during the 40 years David ruled on the country, there was no temple. What is the truth behind this fact?
- 4: How did David experience that God was always with him? And you, how do you experience the presence of God in your life? Please share a personal experience.
- 5: (verses 12-16) What does God promise to David? How is he going to accomplish his promise? (reference: Genesis 12:2-3)

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6: David's request was refused. But later, Christ came to accomplish God's promises. In our lives, we often need to correct our trajectory according to the gospel of Christ. Following today's Bible study, please think again of the desires of your heart and share. Let's pray for each other to be able to understand God's will better for our lives.

REFERENCES |

Proverbs 19:21

Many are the plans in a person's heart, but it is the Lord's purpose that prevails.

Genesis 12:2-3

"I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."

Michael Horton, A Better Way, p.57

Our goal is ... to accommodate ourselves to the real drama of history. Jesus Christ and the drama of redemption that begins, climaxes, and is consummated in him is the real world, the real setting of our life's play. ... In Christ, "change" means growth in Christ as we are transformed through perpetual immersion in Scripture as the story of our life.

PRAYER |

- God is always with you! This is greater anything you can wish for. Let's be thankful for our graceful God, and ask him to walk by our side.
- Our desires are not turned toward God. Let's pray for God to correct our life's trajectory toward the light of the gospel of Christ. If there are things you need to repent for, pray about them.

UPCOMING EVENTS | This Week & Next Week

Grace City Gospel (10/31)

Obento project (11/5): winter clothes wanted!

Member class (6)

Worship & fellowship (6 "The grace of the alliance")

Lunch time meeting (8 Kudanshita, 9 Kasumigaseki, Marunouchi, 10 Otemachi)

Worship & fellowship (13 "David's sin") @ PLAZA ANS building 2F (old Plaza Maam)