

## Small GroUP Discussion Questions and Applications

2 Samuel 16-19 & Psalm 3 – “Dealing with Disappointment”

Pastor Sam Farlow – 7.5.2020

Read 2 Samuel 16:1-14

1. What stood out to you as you read this text?
2. When disappointed, do you typically find yourself asking the question, “I wonder what God wants to teach me through this disappointment?” If not, what response is more common for you?
3. What has been one of your biggest disappointments over the course of the last month or two? How did God use it in your life? Did your going through this disappointment open doors of opportunity to others who have suffered similarly?
4. The Apostle Paul gave us some powerful words to encourage us when we think we are almost to the end of our ability to handle disappointments and discouragements: Which portion **below** registers most pointedly for you today?
  - \* 2 Corinthians 4:7-10 – “But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, so that the surpassing greatness of the power will be of God and not from ourselves;  
<sup>8</sup> *we are* afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not despairing;  
<sup>9</sup> persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed;  
<sup>10</sup> always carrying about in the body the dying of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body.
  - \* 2 Corinthians 4:16-18 – “...For momentary, light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory far beyond all comparison...”
  - \* Romans 5:3-5 – “And not only this, but we also exult in our tribulations, knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance; <sup>4</sup> and perseverance, proven character; and proven character, hope; <sup>5</sup> and hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.”
  - \* Philippians 1:15-18 – “Some, to be sure, are preaching Christ even from envy and strife, but some also from good will; <sup>16</sup> the latter *do it* out of love, knowing that I am appointed for the defense of the gospel; <sup>17</sup> the former proclaim Christ out of selfish ambition rather than from pure motives, thinking to cause me distress in my imprisonment. <sup>18</sup> What then? Only that in every way, whether in pretense or in truth, **Christ is proclaimed**; and in this I rejoice.
5. How and to whom will you seek to “listen” and “observe” well, so as to perceive when others need someone to encourage them in the midst of disappointment?