

## **Sermon Discussion Questions: October 12, 2025**

### **Divine Grace in Human Relationships**

#### **Call to Worship: Psalm 103:6-14**

1. Verses 9-12 are a great comfort to Christians. How does this teaching differ from the widely-accepted doctrine of Karma?

#### **Sermon: 2 Samuel 19-20**

##### **I. Chapter 18**

2. David mourns his son Absalom (verse 33). If you have been in this situation – passionately loving someone who betrayed you, and continuing to love them after the betrayal, please share your story. How did Christian principles, and your Christian faith, shape your relationship?

##### **II. Confront with Compassion – 2 Samuel 19:1-15**

3. Was Joab being a good or bad servant when he chastised his King? (verses 5-6)
4. Was Joab giving good or bad advice in verse 7?
5. What quality of character is David demonstrating in verses 11-13 that distinguish him from Absalom, Joab, and Solomon's son, Rehoboam?
6. *AI Question:* Are there situations in your life where patience, humility, and timing are crucial for reconciliation or leadership? How can you cultivate discernment to act at the right moment without forcing outcomes prematurely?

##### **III. Forgiveness Over Vengeance – 2 Samuel 19:16-23**

7. When David forgave Shimei, what message did David send to all the citizens who rebelled against him? (verses 22-23)
8. When David chastised Abishai for recommending Shimei's execution, what message did he convey to those who had sided with David during the rebellion?

#### IV. When Grace Gets Messy – 2 Samuel 19:24-30

9. In verses 24-30, King David deals with an ambiguous situation, in which he is unable to determine the truth.
  - a. Do you believe he handled the conflicting claims of Mephibosheth and Ziba well? If not, what do you believe David should have done differently?
  - b. Are there other examples in Scripture of leaders dealing with conflicting testimony?
  - c. Share a time in your life that you had to make decisions when dealing with conflicting “facts”.
10. What does Mephibosheth’s reply in verse 30 imply about his sincerity?

#### V. Generous Support in Grace – 2 Samuel 19:31-40

11. *Last scene of all, That ends this strange eventful history / Is second childishness and mere oblivion / Sans teeth, sans eyes, sans taste, sans everything. (As You Like It, W. Shakespeare.)* In verse 35, Mahanaim details, much as did Shakespeare, the losses of aging. What comfort does the Christian have when facing these losses: (Support your answer with scripture)
  - a. In this life?
  - b. In the next life?
12. What principle did Pastor Paul derive from Chimham going in Mahanaim’s stead?
13. What 3 conditions did Pastor Paul say were necessary to providing assistance to someone?

#### VI. When Grace Is Absent – 2 Samuel 20:1-26

14. Give three examples from this chapter of the people acting without the grace that David displayed in Chapter 19.
15. When the wise woman asked Joab for an opportunity to negotiate, to what element of the Mosaic law was she appealing?

#### Prayer Points:

- Ask God for the ability to extend grace and forgiveness to those who have wronged you, even when it is costly.
- Pray for a grateful and loyal heart, asking God to help you actively honor and appreciate the faithful friends He has placed in your life.
- Pray for wisdom and patience to navigate complicated and messy relationships, seeking reconciliation even when perfect solutions are not possible.