
Application Guide: 2 Samuel 20

1. Warm-up (5-10 min)

- a. Have you ever ignored a situation that you wished you had taken care of before it got out of control? What happened? What would have happened if you had taken action sooner?

- b. Has there ever been a situation where you acted too quickly and it turned out that waiting would have been a better option? What happened? What would have happened if you had waited?

- c. How can you tell the difference between the two types of situations?

2. Engaging the Chapter (15-20 min)

The Background: We know David was a man of war—but do you ever wonder if that’s what he wanted to be or if that’s what he had to be? He grew up a peaceful shepherd boy and musician who’s peace was occasionally interrupted by a lion or wolf that he had to fight in order to protect his flock.

The situation: Another revolt! Even though David probably didn’t like it he found himself in another situation where he had to go to war. He took decisive action to avoid even more trouble.

What could have happened if David had sat around crying about the situation instead of dealing with it?

What could have happened if Joab hadn’t listened to the wise woman on the wall of the town they were attacking?

Why do you think conflict is sometimes necessary to bring peace?

3. Applying the Chapter to Your Life (5-10 min)

- a. Is there a wise woman/man that you would do well to listen to more in your life (like maybe your mom)? Think about what you can do to pay more attention to the wise advice of those who are older and more experienced than you are. Make plans for how you can get regular advice from adults for your life.

Choose one:

- b. If you are a person who prefers to avoid confrontation what can you do to learn to take more decisive action when you need to? Make an action plan and reminder for how you plan to do this.
- c. If you are a person who tends to jump into conflict, what can you do to learn to take a step back and get some wise advice before you act? Make an action plan and reminder for how you plan to do this.

4. Prayer Time (3-5 min)

- a. Pray and ask Jesus to take away the conflict in your life and replace it with peace.
- b. Pray and ask Jesus to bring people into your life who can mentor you and give you wise advice.