
Part III: David's Kingdom Preserved

(Chapters 21-24)

Application Guide: 2 Samuel 21

1. Warm-up (5-10 min)

Choose one:

- a. Think of a time when someone showed you grace. What happened?

- b. Think of a time when someone didn't show you grace. How did it make you feel?

- c. What role does grace play in our society today? What role should it play?

2. Engaging the Chapter (15-20 min)

Background: In the Old Testament the Israelites were under the old covenant. In the old covenant there was a lot of bloodshed that is hard to understand. Besides the offering of lambs we see bloodshed amongst people as well. God commanded the Israelites to wipe out entire nations of people who were completely opposed to God and were trying to slaughter His chosen people (they had basically committed the unpardonable sin).

The Situation: Here, in this chapter, we see a group of people whom the Israelites had promised not to kill but then Saul broke the promise and killed many of them anyway. Now, there was a famine in the land until their blood had been avenged. (Kind of makes you wonder if this is where Hollywood got some ideas for their horror movies!)

How would you feel if the Old Testament principal, “an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth,” was still in effect today? Why?

Why do you think God waited to fully bring out His teachings on grace until New Testament times?

Do you think it’s more common for children, especially siblings, to naturally want “an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth” or to extend grace to each other? Why do you think that is?

What do you think we could do as a church to help people be more “graceful” towards each other?

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

- a. Do a word search for “grace” in the Bible and try to understand more clearly what it is?

Choose one:

- b. Think through some of the conflicts you have endured in your life. Do you naturally tend to be a person who extends grace or wants revenge? Have a discussion with some friends and try to think of ways you can extend more grace to others.
- c. Think of the person who has extended the most grace to you in your life. Sit down with that person and thank them and ask them how you can be more full of grace as well.

4. Prayer Time (3-5 min)

- a. Pray and thank Jesus for the grace He has shown you by dying in your place and offering to take you to heaven.
- b. Pray and thank Jesus for those who have shown you grace in your life.
- c. Pray and ask Jesus to help you to be a person of grace in the lives of others.

5. Outreach Idea

Choose one square block near your church or home and go around the block offering to extend grace to the residents by praying for any requests they may have.