

York St Small Groups

Sermon Based Studies

SUNDAY 29 November 2020

Christmas is Coming – The Plan
2 Samuel 7:11b-16 Matthew 1:1,17



These studies are designed to be explored after hearing the Sunday sermon and also to be accompanied by a time of prayer/sharing.



YORK STREET
CHURCH OF CHRIST

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GETTING STARTED

Q1. Have you ever had a plan that you had total confidence in and believed you had mapped out perfectly, that went horribly wrong?

Q2. While planning is a wise thing to do with things like our finances, our time, and even caring for ourselves; eating, exercise, and sleep can all take planning too, especially for those who are striving to achieve 'planned' goals in life, or in the workplace. But what about faith? Can you plan faith? Can you plan what God can, would, or should do?

INTO THE WORD

Read 2 Samuel 7:11b-16 (the 'b' means you read the second half of the verse and 'a' is the first part)

Q3. In this passage we see the prophet Nathan speaking to King David with an agreement or 'covenant' between God and himself. David goes on to make some horrendous life decisions that impact other families, and end in the murder of an innocent man. God honours his 'covenant', yet David pays for his crimes for the rest of his earthly life. When it comes to Godly wisdom, who do you give authority to so that they can speak into your character, lifestyle and flaws? Who do you allow to invest into your life to bring Godly wisdom for direction, like Nathan who brought God's promise directly to David?

Read Matthew 1:1 and verse 17

Q4. We see God's promises fulfilled in the Messiah. Through the establishment for David's offspring, God created a Kingdom that would last forever in and through Jesus Christ. We remember David even with his flaws as he desired to follow God's call on his life. We see this in the later chapters of 2 Samuel (chapter 23 and 24) as a he is a changed man from the king of 2 Samuel 11:14-16 to the leader we see in 2 Samuel 23:16-17. How are you changing in a way that better reflects the character of our Lord and master?

GOING DEEPER

Read Luke 24:45-49

Q5. Here we read the reason for Jesus' birth, death, and resurrection. We see our part (v47) in this is to 'preach in his name'; as Christians our call in life is not just to receive but to be transformed. That transformation means that we model ourselves like Jesus and in doing so care for others, share the good news, and show love to God and our neighbours.

Q6. God had a plan, and that plan was Jesus. We have a part, and that part is to share Jesus with the world. Two of the greatest questions for us all are:

Will you "stick" to the plan?
and
Will you play your part?

Pray

Heavenly Father, thank you that no matter what our year holds, what our plans were or are or will be, that you have a master plan, and that plan is found in Jesus. We ask that we will stick to Him in all the seasons of life, give us the courage to play our part in becoming like Jesus, in modelling how he lived, led, and loved others. Through your spirit and others around us, speak into our lives in the areas we need it most, to change, challenge and encourage us in our journey towards you. In Jesus' name we pray.
Amen