WOODVALE
PENTECOSTAL CHURCH

Connect Group Sermon Aligned Discussion Guide.

Series Title: THE SHIMEI ATTACK
Key Scripture: 2 Samuel 16:5-14
Recorded Sermon: www.woodvale.ca/pastservices/the-shimei-attack
Date + Speaker: November 24, 2024 | Pastor Mark Scarr

Starter: Can you recall a situation where staying calm was harder than reacting? Briefly share how you handled it.

The Big Idea: God uses opposition to refine us, not define us, and our response should reflect His grace and purpose, for we do not live by the world's culture but by Christ's standard.

Discussion:

1. Read 2 Samuel 16:5–14. What emotions are highlighted in this story.
2. Read 2 Samuel 16:5-11, Examine Shimei's words and actions. What do you notice about how he addresses David and David's response to his accusations in verses 10–11?
3. Read 2 Samuel 16:11. What do you think David's statement shows about his trust in God?
4. Examine 2 Samuel 19:18-20, what differences can you see in Shimei's approach to David compared to his earlier actions in chapter 16?

Diving Deeper:

5. In 2 Samuel 16:10-12, we witness David's attitude toward the situation?
    a. Why do you think David chooses to remain silent and not retaliate against Shimei, especially when Abishai is urging him to act (16:9-10)?
    b. How can we show similar trust in God's plan in difficult situations
6. Why is it hard to respond with humility instead of retaliation when someone attacks us, and what can we learn from David's example?
7. Accusations or discouragement hinder us from moving forward in God's purpose. Identify ways these can happen and how we can overcome these challenges through faith.

8. In 2 Samuel 19:23, David forgives Shimei. How do forgiveness and reconciliation differ, and why is forgiveness crucial for believers in maintaining peace with others?
9. In verses 16:12 and 19:23, both Shimei and David express hope for restoration. What do you think these passages teach us about faith and forgiveness in the midst of conflict?
10. What practical steps can we take to stay spiritually strong and refreshed after facing personal or spiritual attacks, as David did?

Personal Refection

When we face accusation/oppositions, it is very easy to react, however we should remember that God uses such moments to strengthen our faith. Let us pray that the Lord will guide our hearts to respond with forgiveness and trust in His perfect plans.

Additional Resources:



Additional resources appealing to those concentrating on emotional/spiritual health and healing: The Zoe Identity Course https://zoe-network-activate-u.teachable.com/p/identity44111311



Additional resources appealing to those concentrating on service, tasks, and activities: Is there someone in your Connect Group or church leadership who you sense needs refreshing? Decide how to bless them and act!



Additional resources appealing to those groups with a more studious or intellectual bent: An example of an article on Conflict Resolution - https://livingontheedge.org/2021/09/13/how-to-resolve-conflict/?srsltid=AfmBOooZ16e2dr199VnPFMCnvzsyeUlkgKn9d_jSgAgfVPiGIIK0x1N0