

Sermon Series: A Man After God's Own Heart:
A Study Of The Life Of David
Today's Title: "The Distant Rightful King"
(2 Samuel 2:1-11 ESV)

1 After this David inquired of the LORD, "Shall I go up into any of the cities of Judah?" And the LORD said to him, "Go up." David said, "To which shall I go up?" And he said, "To Hebron." 2 So David went up there, and his two wives also, Ahinoam of Jezreel and Abigail the widow of Nabal of Carmel. 3 And David brought up his men who were with him, everyone with his household, and they lived in the towns of Hebron. 4 And the men of Judah came, and there they anointed David king over the house of Judah. When they told David, "It was the men of Jabesh-gilead who buried Saul," 5 David sent messengers to the men of Jabesh-gilead and said to them, "May you be blessed by the LORD, because you showed this loyalty to Saul your lord and buried him. 6 Now may the LORD show steadfast love and faithfulness to you. And I will do good to you because you have done this thing. 7 Now therefore let your hands be strong, and be valiant, for Saul your lord is dead, and the house of Judah has anointed me king over them." 8 But Abner the son of Ner, commander of Saul's army, took Ish-bosheth the son of Saul and brought him over to Mahanaim, 9 and he made him king over Gilead and the Ashurites and Jezreel and Ephraim and Benjamin and all Israel. 10 Ish-bosheth, Saul's son, was forty years old when he began to reign over Israel, and he reigned two years. But the house of Judah followed David. 11 And the time that David was king in Hebron over the house of Judah was seven years and six months.

I. David Asks For Guidance. V.1

II. David Accepts Small Steps. Vv.2-4a

III. David Appeals To His Opponents. Vv.4b-7

IV. David Acknowledges His Rivals. Vv.8-11

Questions for discussion and meditation:

- I. What do we learn about David seeking guidance from God after Saul's death? How does this apply to the way you make decisions?
- II. How did David show patience in being anointed king of Judah in Hebron? How does this relate to the presence and growth of the Kingdom of God before Jesus returns? How does this apply to the way you view your work for God's Kingdom?
- III. How does David's appeal to the men at Jabesh-Giliad relate to the gospel and Jesus' call to follow Him? In what ways are you continuing to risk and take up your cross in following Christ?
- IV. How does Abner's opposition to David's kingship show us what to expect as citizens of God's Kingdom today?
Is the message of this text, be like David and God will love you? If not, then how does his life inspire us?