

## INTRODUCTION

- \* In recent weeks we have been considering the transition from Saul to David.
- \* Last week we looked at the events and the effects surrounding Saul's death which ended with David's lamentation for Saul and Jonathan.
- \* In considering that the true cause of Saul's death was unfaithfulness, we were reminded that our unfaithfulness can have unintended consequences such as demoralizing those who look to us for spiritual leadership. And in the process, our enemy, the devil, rejoices over our failures.
- \* Today, we will pick up the storyline perhaps expecting David to quickly step into his God-ordained role as King of Israel.
- \* But before that will happen, we will once again see how unfaithfulness to God's plans, this time through Abner, Saul's general, leads to some very unpleasant consequences including a tragic end to Abner's life.
- \* And we will see a contrast between David's willingness to patiently stay on God's trail and Abner's desire to cut his own selfish and prideful path.

## INSTRUCTION

### I. THE EXAMPLE OF DAVID: S\_\_\_\_\_ ON GOD'S TRAIL

- A. A\_\_\_\_\_ God for direction (1 Samuel 22:5, 1 Samuel 23:1-13; 2 Samuel 2:1; James 4:2)
- B. C\_\_\_\_\_ the directions, if necessary (2 Samuel 2:1)
- C. F\_\_\_\_\_ the directions (2 Samuel 2:2-4)
- D. W\_\_\_\_\_ for future direction (2 Samuel 2:11)

### II. THE EXAMPLE OF ABNER: S\_\_\_\_\_ FROM GOD'S TRAIL

- A. Abner as K\_\_\_\_\_ (2 Samuel 2:8-32)
- B. Abner as N\_\_\_\_\_ (2 Samuel 3:1-21)
- B. Abner as V\_\_\_\_\_ (2 Samuel 3:22-39)

## INTROSPECTION

- \* Where do you need to start or continue exhibiting patient endurance in your life?
- \* Are you willing to wait on God's timing even when it seems to take longer than you think it should?
- \* Are you more of a "stayer" or a "strayer" when it comes to following God's will?
- \* With whom do you need to pursue peace even when the road to do so may be difficult?
- \* Is there a need to change the way you think... and therefore act?