

### **Welcome & Introductions**

# "How is it with you?"

How are you feeling?
How is your faith? your family? your health?
Are you struggling or celebrating?
Are you grieving or rejoicing?
Are you questioning faith?
Where have you found inspiration?

### **Praying Together**

1 Kings 2:1-10

Common English Bible

&

2 Samuel 23:1-7

Common English Bible

#### **Discussion**

What stands out to you in these passages? What piques your interest, raises questions, or is something new you've noticed about this story as you read it this time?

Last words can offer bits of enduring wisdom, a bit of witticism, and/or a glimpse of who a person was.

What do these last words say about who David was? Do the two different versions of David's last words offer different glimpses of David's character and life?

If you could dictate your own last words? What would be important for you to say (or not)? What would you include in your last words? And, who would you share them with?

Final Thoughts?

'Till We Meet Again

## 1 Kings 2:1-10

Common English Bible

David's time was coming to an end. So he commanded Solomon his son, <sup>2</sup> "I'm following the path that the whole earth takes. Be strong and be a man. <sup>3</sup> Guard what is owed to the LORD your God, walking in his ways and observing his laws, his commands, his judgments, and his testimonies, just as it is written in the Instruction from Moses. In this way you will succeed in whatever you do and wherever you go. 4 So also the LORD will confirm the word he spoke to me: 'If your children will take care to walk before me faithfully, with all their heart and all their being, then one of your own children will never fail to be on the throne of Israel.' 5 You should know what Joab, Zeruiah's son, has done to me and what he did to the two generals of Israel, Abner, Ner's son, and Amasa, Jether's son. He murdered them, spilling blood at peacetime and putting the blood of war on the belt around his waist and on the sandals on his feet. <sup>6</sup>So act wisely: Don't allow him to die a peaceful death. <sup>7</sup> As for Barzillai's sons from Gilead, show them kindness. Let them eat with you. When I was running away from your brother Absalom, they came to me. <sup>8</sup> Now as for this Shimei, Gera's son—a Benjaminite from Bahurim—who is with you, he cursed me viciously when I went to Mahanaim. When he came down to meet me at the Jordan, I swore to him by the LORD, 'Surely I won't execute you with the sword.' But you don't need to excuse him. You are wise and know what to do to him. Give him a violent death."

### 2 Samuel 23:1-7

Common English Bible

These are David's last words:

This is the declaration of Jesse's son David, the declaration of a man raised high, a man anointed by the God of Jacob, a man favored by the strong one of Israel.

<sup>2</sup> The LORD's spirit speaks through me; his word is on my tongue.

<sup>3</sup> Israel's God has spoken, Israel's rock said to me:

"Whoever rules rightly over people, whoever rules in the fear of God,

is like the light of sunrise on a morning with no clouds, like the bright gleam after the rain that brings grass from the ground."

<sup>5</sup> Yes, my house is this way with God! He has made an eternal covenant with me, laid out and secure in every detail.

Yes, he provides every one of my victories and brings my every desire to pass.

<sup>6</sup>But despicable people are like thorns, all of them good for nothing, because they can't be carried by hand.

<sup>7</sup> No one can touch them,

except with iron bar or the shaft of a spear.

They must be burned up with fire right on the spot!

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Then David lay down with his ancestors and was buried in David's City.