

Long Live the King!

2 Samuel 2-5

The opening chapters of 2 Samuel describe the zenith of David's career. It also describes the practices that will lead to his downfall. David succeeded when he trusted God. He failed when he indulged his own passions.

❑ God established David's kingship

- David asked for God's direction and waited for God's timing (2:1-7)
- Israel invited David to reign over the nation (5:1-5)
- David achieved greatness because God was with him (5:6-12)
- David lived and ruled in dependence on God (5:17-25)

❑ David sowed the seeds of his own downfall

- Indulging his own passions, David made some decisions he would live to regret
Deuteronomy 17:17

David's Immediate Family¹

Children born in Hebron—David, age 30-37

(2 Samuel 3:2-5, 13-14; 13:1; 1 Chronicles 3:1-4)

Wives	Children
Ahinoam	Amnon
Abigail	Chileab (Daniel)
Maacah	Absalom and Tamar
Haggith	Adonijah
Abital	Shephatiah
Eglah	Ithream
Michal (barren)	

Children born in Jerusalem—David, age 37-70

(2 Samuel 5:14-16; 1 Chronicles 3:5-8; 2 Chronicles 11:18)

Wives	Children
Bathsheba (Bath-shua)	Shammua (Shimea), Shobab, Nathan, Solomon (Jedidiah)
Unnamed Wives	Ibhar, Elishua (Elishama), Eliphelet, Nogah, Nepheg, Japhia, Elishama, Eliada (Beeliada), Eliphelet, Jerimoth

The total size of David's immediate family is twenty sons and one daughter (excluding concubines and their offspring, who are not named in Scripture, see 2 Samuel 5:13, 15:15; 1 Chronicles 3:9).

❑ Principles to Practice

- Don't be selective in your obedience. Obey God completely and wholeheartedly.
- Don't separate your public life from your private life. Live with integrity.
- Don't allow success to breed self-sufficiency and pride. Live in dependence on God.
- Don't fail in the second half of life. Finish strong.

¹ Chart taken from - Swindoll, Charles R. *David: A Man of Passion & Destiny*. Dallas, TX: Word Publishing, 1997, p. 134)