

**Group Notes**  
**11<sup>th</sup> September 2011 – David' Legacy**

**Ice Breaker**

Think of five describing words you would like your friend and family to use about you.  
Think of five describing words they might use that you're less keen on!

**Word**

Read 2 Samuel 7:1-17

**Word Discussion 1**

This piece of the story of David tells about David's wish and desire and 'to put' right the fact that God's ark is in a tent while he lives in a palace of cedar. Nathan the prophet receives a revelation from God in a dream, where God is fairly firm (!) that he does not want or need a building for his ark.

**Word Questions 1**

- How closely can you identify with David and his desire to build something for God, is it important to you to have a defined formal worship space?
- Why do you think David felt it important to build a house for the ark?
- If you had a free rein and no restriction on finances, planning or responsibility to another person, what would be your preferred design of worship space? Dream dreams and think big picture.
- Church buildings are notoriously expensive to maintain and keep, how much does this get in the way of spreading the Gospel?
- Have you ever felt the urge to build something for God? If so did you do it?
- What do you think our church's legacy will be to Walsall town in years to come?

**Word Discussion 2**

In the middle section of the reading God tells David that he has always been with him, from when he was a shepherd boy through to the present moment. He affirms that He is always with His people and that a permanent homeland will be provided for them. God seems to be saying to David that he is a constant in David's life, always has been and always will be. God promises to always keep David safe from his enemies.

**Word Questions 2**

- Think back over the sermon series about David and identify the times when God was with him most?
- During your life can you think of times when God was with but at the time you weren't aware of it? If you feel comfortable share this with the group.
- God's promise to David to keep him safe from his enemies is a big promise, can you identify times in David's life where this was evident?

**Word Discussion 3**

The title of this study is 'David's Legacy', what David would be known for after his death. God affirms that David will be known by one of his ancestors who is yet to come. That ancestor will build the house for God and God's kingdom will be rooted in him. It's easy to see that this is referring to Jesus himself. Verse 14 however, is a particularly difficult verse, is it saying that Jesus might sin?

David's legacy is to be a spiritual legacy rather than a 'bricks and mortar' type of legacy. We too can leave a spiritual legacy for those who will follow us, but this takes some effort to do, and just as a monetary legacy we might leave, can be used in lots of different ways, a spiritual legacy can be used in different ways as well. Just because we feel it should be used in one way doesn't mean that the recipient agrees. Think of the prodigal son asking for his inheritance early and how he used it. The gift we could gift to someone, of the gospel, could be rejected.

**Word Questions 3**

- Read verse 14 outloud in the group and discuss among you what you feel this means, in the context of the whole reading. Is it saying that Jesus might sin and that God might punish him?
- Leaving a spiritual legacy, or giving someone the gift of the gospel takes courage and organising, have you been instrumental in telling someone the good news of Jesus? Share this experience with the group.
- What would you like your spiritual legacy to be? For your family? For your friends? For your town?

**Worship Ideas**

While some quiet music is playing spend some time in silence thinking through the questions raised tonight. Listen out for what God might be saying to you; take note of your emotions, allow yourself to be carried away with the music and your thoughts. Have a time of open prayer, where the whole group pray out loud.

**Witness**

As a group commit to each member inviting one person to the Alpha course and Back to Church Sunday.