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2 SAMUEL

An 8-Week Group Bible Study

By Greg and Kayla Gibson

WEEK 1 OF 8 • GENERAL / MIXED GROUP EDITION

How the Mighty Have Fallen — 2 Samuel 1:1–3:39

Scripture Scope: 2 Samuel 1:1–3:39 (ESV) • Session Length: 75–90 Minutes

PARTICIPANT STUDY EDITION

Synchronized Section-by-Section with the Leader Guide Edition · Includes Group Reflection Workspace

2 Samuel — 8-Week Group Bible Study (Participant Study Edition)

Week 1: How the Mighty Have Fallen (2 Samuel 1:1–3:39)

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- **The title:** In the Hebrew Bible, 1 and 2 Samuel were one book, named for the prophet who anointed Israel's first two kings. 2 Samuel continues the story without a break.
- **The setting:** The reign of David, from Saul's death to the end of David's life, roughly 1010 to 970 BC. David reigned seven and a half years in Hebron and thirty-three years in Jerusalem (5:4–5).
- **The main characters:** David, Joab, Abner, Michal, Nathan, Bathsheba, Uriah, Amnon, Tamar, Absalom, Ahithophel, Hushai, Mephibosheth, and Shimei.
- **Its place in the Bible:** 2 Samuel fulfills Hannah's song about the LORD's anointed king (1 Samuel 2:10). Its seventh chapter, the LORD's covenant with David, is the foundation of Israel's hope for the Messiah, built on by the Psalms, the Prophets, and the New Testament. In the Hebrew Bible it belongs to the Former Prophets (Joshua, Judges, Samuel, Kings), and it leads directly into 1 Kings.
- **The structure (three parts):**
  - David's rise to full kingship and the LORD's covenant (chapters 1–10).
  - David's sin and its consequences in his family and kingdom (chapters 11–20).
  - An epilogue of six sections arranged in a mirror pattern (chapters 21–24).
- **Why it matters:** 2 Samuel shows the LORD keeping his promises to a king who is both a man after God's heart and a grievous sinner. It holds together covenant kindness, honest confession, real forgiveness, and lasting consequences, and it points beyond David to Jesus, the Son of David, whose kingdom has no end.

How This 8-Week Study Works

Designed for weekly small groups, mini-churches, and community gatherings (75–90 minutes per session) rather than daily homework checklists, each week of 2 Samuel invites you to walk through the story of David's reign together through six repeatable sections:

- **Section X.1 — Opening:** Sets the scene, the Week at a Glance, Head, Heart, and Hands objectives, the Opening Frame, and the Opening Entry Question.
- **Section X.2 — Historical & Literary Context:** Places the week's chapters inside the structure of 2 Samuel and the ancient Near Eastern world.
- **Section X.3 — Movement 1:** The week's first guided passage: Guided Scripture Reading, Anchor Verses, Teaching Narrative, and Group Discussion Questions.
- **Section X.4 — Movement 2:** The week's second guided passage, following the same flow.
- **Section X.5 — Canonical Horizon:** Traces how the passage echoes across Scripture and finds its fulfillment in Jesus Christ.
- **Section X.6 — Application, Looking Ahead, and Closing Prayer:** Moves the week's study into everyday life, previews next week, and closes in prayer.

Key anchor verses are printed in each section for quick reference. Longer focal passages are read aloud together from the ESV. 2 Samuel includes war, murder, and two scenes of sexual abuse of power. The study retells those scenes briefly and carefully in its own words rather than printing or reading them in full, so the group can understand what happened without dwelling on graphic detail.

Choosing a Bible Translation: Top 5 Translations Compared

Every English Bible translation falls along a spectrum between two primary approaches: word-for-word translation (formal equivalence, which prioritizes literal accuracy to the original phrasing and sentence structure) and thought-for-thought translation (dynamic equivalence, which prioritizes immediate modern readability by translating idioms and ideas into natural contemporary expressions). Here is how five widely used English translations compare:

- **ESV (English Standard Version) — Word-for-Word**
  - Pros: Follows the wording and sentence structure of the original Hebrew and Greek closely while using modern English; well suited to close study.
  - Cons: Because it tracks the original sentence structure, some phrasing can feel more formal than everyday speech.
- **NIV (New International Version) — Balanced (Between Word-for-Word and Thought-for-Thought)**
  - Pros: Widely read; balances accuracy to the original languages with natural, everyday readability.
  - Cons: Because some idioms are rendered as modern expressions, a few literal wordplays or technical terms can be less visible.
- **NLT (New Living Translation) — Thought-for-Thought**
  - Pros: Warm and conversational; reads smoothly aloud and helps readers follow the big picture of long passages.
  - Cons: Because it prioritizes meaning over literal phrasing, it can be harder to use for close word study.
- **CSB (Christian Standard Bible) — Optimal Equivalence (Balanced)**
  - Pros: Stays close to the original words where possible while smoothing awkward phrasing into natural modern English.
  - Cons: Because it is a newer translation, some well-known verses may sound different from the wording many readers remember.
- **KJV / NKJV (King James Version & New King James Version) — Traditional Word-for-Word**
  - Pros: Historic cadence that shaped English literature and church history; the NKJV updates archaic pronouns ("thee/thou") while keeping the classic rhythm.
  - Cons: Often reads like older English poetry, with complex sentences and archaic or formal vocabulary that can be harder for modern readers to follow.

This study quotes the ESV.

Greg & Kayla's Recommended Study Bibles

Having a trusted study Bible on hand is one of the best ways to go deeper as you read through 2 Samuel:

- **Greg's Favorite Study Bible:** The MacArthur Study Bible (ESV), which contains extensive explanatory notes beneath almost every verse, ideal for detailed study.
- **Kayla's Favorite Study Bible:** The ESV Study Bible, containing over 20,000 study notes, articles, and explanations.

The 8-Week 2 Samuel Study at a Glance

Week	Title & Passage	Movement 1 / Movement 2	Canonical Horizon
1	**How the Mighty Have Fallen** (1:1–3:39)	David's Lament and Anointing in Hebron (1:1–2:7) / The Long War and Abner's Death (2:8–3:39)	The King who weeps over his enemies; the kingdom that comes God's way
2	**A House for David** (4:1–8:18)	King over All Israel, Jerusalem, and the Ark (4:1–6:23) / The LORD's Covenant with David (7:1–8:18)	The Davidic covenant fulfilled in Jesus, the Son of David
3	**Kindness and Corruption** (9:1–12:31)	Kindness to Mephibosheth and War with Ammon (9:1–10:19) / David's Sin, Nathan's Rebuke, and Repentance (11:1–12:31)	A seat at the King's table; forgiveness through the true King
4	**The Sword in David's House** (13:1–14:33)	Amnon, Tamar, and Absalom's Revenge (13:1–39) / Absalom Brought Home (14:1–33)	God's justice for the wronged; the God who brings the banished home
5	**The King Flees** (15:1–17:29)	Absalom's Conspiracy and David's Flight (15:1–16:14) / Rival Counsel in Jerusalem (16:15–17:29)	The rejected King who goes out weeping; God overrules human plans
6	**O Absalom, My Son** (18:1–19:43)	The Battle and Absalom's Death (18:1–33) / The King Returns (19:1–43)	The Father's grief; mercy to enemies and the restored King
7	**Rebellion, Famine, and a Song** (20:1–22:51)	Sheba's Revolt, the Gibeonites, and the Giants (20:1–21:22) / David's Song of Deliverance (22:1–51)	The LORD our Rock; steadfast love to the anointed forever
8	**Last Words and an Altar** (23:1–24:25)	David's Last Words and Mighty Men (23:1–39) / The Census, the Plague, and the Altar (24:1–25)	The righteous Ruler; the costly sacrifice that stops judgment

WEEK 1 OF 8

WEEK 1 SESSION GUIDE · 2 SAMUEL 1:1–3:39

Week 1: How the Mighty Have Fallen

Scripture Scope: 2 Samuel 1:1–3:39 (ESV) • Focal Passages: 2 Samuel 1:1–16; 1:17–27; 2:1–7; 3:1, 6–21; 3:31–39 • Session Length: 75–90 Minutes

Section 1.1

Opening: How the Mighty Have Fallen (2 Samuel 1:1–3:39)

Passage 2 Samuel 1:1–3:39

Opening

Saul is dead on Mount Gilboa, and Jonathan with him. When a messenger arrives at Ziklag carrying Saul's crown and expecting a reward, David does not celebrate. He tears his clothes, weeps, and sings one of the most moving laments in Scripture: how the mighty have fallen. Then, rather than seizing the throne, he asks the LORD where to go, and the men of Judah anoint him king at Hebron.

A long war follows between the house of Saul and the house of David. Abner, Saul's commander, finally comes over to David, only to be murdered by David's own commander. Once again David mourns. The road to the throne runs through grief, waiting, and a refusal to build the kingdom on bloodshed.

Week 1 At a Glance

Scripture Scope	2 Samuel 1:1–3:39 (the news of Saul's death, David's lament, David king in Hebron, the war with Saul's house, and Abner's death)
Focal Passages	2 Samuel 1:1–16; 1:17–27; 2:1–7; 3:1, 6–21; 3:31–39
Literary & Structural Anchor	David mourns Saul (ch. 1) and Abner (ch. 3), enemies whose deaths opened his way to the throne. His question to the Amalekite continues 1 Samuel's theme of the LORD's anointed. The refrain "how the mighty have fallen" frames his lament (1:19, 25, 27). David inquires of the LORD before moving (2:1). "House" recurs: the house of Saul and the house of David (3:1), preparing for the house the LORD will build for David (ch. 7). Joab and Abishai, the sons of Zeruiah, are fierce, loyal, and violent, and David's weakness in restraining them becomes a lifelong problem (3:39).
Big Idea	David receives the kingdom from the LORD's hand, mourns rather than celebrates the fall of his enemies, and refuses to build his throne on bloodshed.

Week 1 Learning Objectives (Head, Heart, Hands)

HEAD	**Know the Story:** Understand how David responded to Saul's death, became king over Judah, and handled the war with Saul's house and Abner's murder.
HEART	**Grieve and Wait:** Learn to grieve even over those who hurt us and to wait for what God gives rather than grabbing it.
HANDS	**Refuse the Shortcut:** Take one concrete step to seek the LORD before acting and to refuse a shortcut that would hurt others.

Opening Frame: The Way to the Throne Is Open

1 Samuel ended with Saul and his sons dead on Mount Gilboa and the men of Jabesh-gilead honoring their bodies (1 Samuel 31). David, the LORD's anointed, has waited years for the throne, hunted, hiding, and refusing to take it by force. Now the way is open. A messenger arrives expecting a reward for news of Saul's death, but David tears his clothes and weeps, and then sings a lament for the king who tried to kill him. He asks the LORD where to go before he moves, and still the house of Saul does not give up without a long and bloody war. The question for this week: now that the way is open, how will David take the throne? Before we read together, take a moment to share with the group:

Opening Entry Question (Icebreaker)

> **1.1 Q1 (Opening Entry Question):** Think of a time when waiting turned out better than grabbing something right away. What happened?

Section 1.2

Historical & Literary Context: From Gilboa to Hebron (2 Samuel 1:1–3:39)

Passage 2 Samuel 1:1–3:39

Entering the World of Hebron and the House of Saul

1. Historical Background

About 1010 BC. Saul and three sons have died on Mount Gilboa. David is at Ziklag in the Negev. Abner, Saul's commander, makes Saul's surviving son Ish-bosheth king over Israel, while Judah anoints David at Hebron. A civil war follows.

2. Cultural Setting

Tearing clothes and putting dust on the head were signs of mourning. Royal insignia such as a crown and armlet symbolized authority. Hebron, an ancient city tied to Abraham (Genesis 13:18; 23:2), was a natural first capital for a king of Judah. Taking a dead king's concubine could be a claim to his throne.

3. Literary Structure of 2 Samuel 1:1–3:39

- **The Amalekite's report** (1:1–10)
- **Mourning and judgment** (1:11–16)
- **The Song of the Bow** (1:17–27)
- **David inquires of the LORD** (2:1–4a)
- **Thanks to Jabesh-gilead** (2:4b–7)
- **Ish-bosheth made king** (2:8–11)
- **The contest at Gibeon** (2:12–17)
- **Asahel's death** (2:18–32)
- **A long war** (3:1–5)
- **Abner's defection** (3:6–21)
- **Joab murders Abner** (3:22–30)
- **David's mourning** (3:31–39)

4. Key Themes

Mourning rather than rejoicing; the LORD's anointed; waiting on the LORD; two houses; the violence of the sons of Zeruiah.

5. Theological Considerations

David receives the kingdom as a gift from the LORD rather than seizing it. Those who expect a reward for killing his rivals find no welcome.

6. Relevant Scholarly Insights

The Amalekite's account conflicts with 1 Samuel 31:3–5, and most interpreters conclude that he lied to win David's favor. The name "Ish-bosheth" ("man of shame") may be a scribal substitute for "Ishbaal" (1 Chronicles 8:33), replacing the name of the god Baal.

Group Discussion Questions (Section 1.2)

1.2 Q1: David waited years for the throne after he was anointed. Why do you think God's timing for David was so slow?

1.2 Q2: Several people in these chapters try to help David by killing his rivals. Why is that kind of "help" so dangerous for a new king?

1.2 Q3: The word "house" keeps appearing: the house of Saul and the house of David. What do you think the narrator is preparing us for?

Section 1.3

Movement 1: David's Lament and Anointing in Hebron (2 Samuel 1:1–2:7)

Passage 2 Samuel 1:1–2:7

Guided Scripture Reading

Open your Bible to **2 Samuel 1**. Read aloud in this order, with brief connecting summaries between readings:

- **Reader 1: 2 Samuel 1:1–12** (focal passage) — An Amalekite arrives at Ziklag with Saul's crown and armlet and claims to have killed the wounded king; David and his men tear their clothes, mourn, weep, and fast.
- **Summary of 2 Samuel 1:13–16** — David asks the Amalekite how he was not afraid to destroy the LORD's anointed. Because the man claimed to have killed Saul, David has him put to death.
- **Reader 2: 2 Samuel 1:17–27** (focal passage) — David's lament for Saul and Jonathan, the Song of the Bow: how the mighty have fallen.

- **Reader 3: 2 Samuel 2:1–7** (focal passage) — David inquires of the LORD, goes up to Hebron, is anointed king over Judah, and blesses the men of Jabesh-gilead for burying Saul.

Anchor Verses (ESV)

> **2 Samuel 1:19:**
>
> "Your glory, O Israel, is slain on your high places!
>
> How the mighty have fallen!
>
> **2 Samuel 1:25–26:**
>
> "How the mighty have fallen
>
> in the midst of the battle!
>
> "Jonathan lies slain on your high places.
>
> I am distressed for you, my brother Jonathan;
>
> very pleasant have you been to me;
>
> your love to me was extraordinary,
>
> surpassing the love of women.
>
> **2 Samuel 2:1:** 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."

Teaching Narrative: A Lament and an Anointing

1. A Messenger Expecting a Reward (2 Samuel 1:1–10)

The Amalekite's story does not match 1 Samuel 31. He brings Saul's crown to David, the rival, expecting thanks.

2. Mourning, Not Celebrating (2 Samuel 1:11–12)

David and his men tear their clothes and weep and fast until evening for Saul, Jonathan, and the people of the LORD.

3. The LORD's Anointed (2 Samuel 1:13–16)

David will not reward anyone for violence against the LORD's anointed. His throne will not be built that way.

4. The Song of the Bow (2 Samuel 1:17–27)

David honors Saul's courage without hiding Israel's loss, and he grieves Jonathan's covenant love. The refrain frames it all: how the mighty have fallen.

5. Shall I Go Up? (2 Samuel 2:1–4a)

David's first act after Saul's death is to ask the LORD. Only then does he go to Hebron, where Judah anoints him.

6. Kindness to Saul's Friends (2 Samuel 2:4b–7)

David blesses the men of Jabesh-gilead for their loyalty to Saul and promises them kindness.

Group Discussion Questions (Section 1.3)

1.3 Q1: The Amalekite expected a reward for bringing news of Saul's death. Why did David respond with grief instead?

1.3 Q2: David asked the Amalekite how he was "not afraid to put out your hand to destroy the LORD's anointed" (1:14). What does David's question show about how he saw Saul, even after years of being hunted?

1.3 Q3: David sang, "How the mighty have fallen!" (1:19). What can we learn from David about grieving someone who hurt us?

1.3 Q4: David said of Jonathan, "your love to me was extraordinary" (1:26). What made Jonathan's friendship so remarkable?

1.3 Q5: After Saul's death, David "inquired of the LORD" before he went anywhere (2:1). Why is that first step so significant for a new king, and for us?

Section 1.4

Movement 2: The Long War and Abner's Death (2 Samuel 2:8–3:39)

Passage 2 Samuel 2:8–3:39

Guided Scripture Reading

Read aloud in this order, with brief connecting summaries between readings:

- **Reader 1: 2 Samuel 2:8–11** (focal passage) — Abner makes Saul's son Ish-bosheth king over Israel, while David reigns over Judah in Hebron.
- **Summary of 2 Samuel 2:12–32** — At the pool of Gibeon, a contest between twelve men from each side ends with all of them dead, and a fierce battle follows. Joab's young brother Asahel chases Abner, who warns him twice and then kills him. Abner and Joab agree to stop the fighting.
- **Reader 2: 2 Samuel 3:1–21** (focal passage) — The war is long, and David's house grows stronger; Abner quarrels with Ish-bosheth and offers to bring all Israel to David; Michal is returned to David; Abner meets David and leaves in peace.
- **Summary of 2 Samuel 3:22–30** — Joab returns, rebukes David, and lures Abner back to Hebron, where he kills him to avenge Asahel.
- **Reader 3: 2 Samuel 3:31–39** (focal passage) — David declares his innocence, mourns Abner publicly, and fasts; the people see that David had no part in it; David confesses his weakness before the sons of Zeruiah.

Anchor Verses (ESV)

> **2 Samuel 3:1:** There was a long war between the house of Saul and the house of David. And David grew stronger and stronger, while the house of Saul became weaker and weaker.
>
> **2 Samuel 3:36:** And all the people took notice of it, and it pleased them, as everything that the king did pleased all the people.
>
> **2 Samuel 3:39:** And I was gentle today, though anointed king. These men, the sons of Zeruiah, are more severe than I. The LORD repay the evildoer according to his wickedness!”

Teaching Narrative: A House Divided and a General Mourned

1. Two Kings (2 Samuel 2:8–11)

Abner props up Saul's son as king. David reigns in Hebron and waits.

2. The Cost of Civil War (2 Samuel 2:12–32)

A "contest" turns into a slaughter, and a young man's eager pursuit ends in his death. Brothers fight brothers.

3. Stronger and Weaker (2 Samuel 3:1–5)

The war drags on, but David's house grows stronger and Saul's weaker. God's purpose moves forward slowly.

4. Abner Changes Sides (2 Samuel 3:6–21)

A quarrel over Saul's concubine drives Abner to David. David's demand for Michal strengthens his claim to Saul's house, but the scene of her weeping husband is painful.

5. Murder at the Gate (2 Samuel 3:22–30)

Joab avenges his brother by murdering Abner in Hebron, a city of refuge, in peacetime.

6. A King Who Mourns (2 Samuel 3:31–37)

David publicly condemns the murder, walks behind the bier, and fasts. The people see his heart and are pleased.

7. Gentle and Weak (2 Samuel 3:38–39)

David admits that he is gentle, though anointed king, and the sons of Zeruiah are too fierce for him. He leaves justice to the LORD, but his weakness will cost him.

Group Discussion Questions (Section 1.4)

1.4 Q1: The contest at Gibeon began almost as a game and ended in slaughter. How can conflicts between people who should be on the same side escalate so quickly?

1.4 Q2: "David grew stronger and stronger, while the house of Saul became weaker and weaker" (3:1). How does it help to know that God's purposes can move forward slowly, even during a long struggle?

1.4 Q3: Michal was taken from her weeping husband to strengthen David's claim to the throne. What do you notice about how people are treated in this scene?

1.4 Q4: After Abner's murder, "everything that the king did pleased all the people" (3:36). What did David's public grief show the people about his kingdom?

1.4 Q5: David said, "I was gentle today, though anointed king" (3:39), and admitted he could not restrain Joab. What happens when a leader will not confront violence or wrongdoing among his own people?

Section 1.5

Canonical Horizon: The King Who Weeps over His Enemies and the Kingdom That Comes God's Way

Passage 2 Samuel 2:1

Tracing the Thread Across Scripture

David's grief over his enemies and his patient seeking of the LORD point forward to the King who wept over his enemies and received his kingdom God's way, through the cross. Turn to each passage as the connections are traced.

1. The King Who Weeps (Luke 19:41–44; 23:34)

David wept for Saul, who had hunted him. Jesus wept over Jerusalem, the city that would reject him, and prayed for those who crucified him.

2. No Pleasure in Death (Ezekiel 33:11; Matthew 5:44)

The LORD takes no pleasure in the death of the wicked, and Jesus calls his followers to love their enemies.

3. No Shortcut to the Throne (Matthew 4:8–10; 28:18; Philippians 2:8–11)

David did not seize the throne; he waited until the LORD gave it. Jesus refused the devil's offer of the kingdoms of the world and received all authority after the cross.

4. Not by the Sword (Matthew 26:52; John 18:36)

Jesus' kingdom does not advance by the sword.

5. A Kingdom That Grows (Matthew 13:31–32)

The house of David growing stronger points to the kingdom of God, which grows like a mustard seed.

Anchor Verse (ESV)

> **2 Samuel 2:1:** 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.”

Group Discussion Questions (Section 1.5)

1.5 Q1: When Jesus drew near Jerusalem, he "saw the city" and "wept over it" (Luke 19:41). How does David's grief for Saul help us understand Jesus' grief for those who reject him?

1.5 Q2: On the cross Jesus prayed, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do" (Luke 23:34). What would it look like to pray that way for someone who has wronged you?

1.5 Q3: The devil offered Jesus the kingdoms of the world by a shortcut, but Jesus received "all authority in heaven and on earth" after the cross (Matthew 28:18). Why does it matter that Jesus' kingdom came God's way?

Personal & Group Application (Head, Heart, Hands)

HEAD	David mourned Saul and Jonathan, inquired of the LORD before going to Hebron, and mourned Abner after Joab murdered him, while the house of David grew stronger.
HEART	God's kingdom comes his way, not by violence or shortcuts, and his King grieves even over enemies.
HANDS	Faith seeks the LORD before acting, grieves honestly, and refuses to grab what God has not yet given.

Section 1.6

Application, Looking Ahead, and Closing Prayer

Application

Take a few minutes to move this week's study into everyday life. Discuss these three questions together and write down what you want to remember:

1.6 Q1: Is there a decision ahead of you that you need to bring to the LORD before you act? What would asking him first look like this week?

1.6 Q2: Is there someone who has hurt you whom you need to grieve over or pray for, rather than resent?

1.6 Q3: Where are you tempted to take a shortcut to something you believe God has promised?

Looking Ahead to Next Week

Recap: In Week 1, David mourned Saul and Jonathan, was anointed king over Judah at Hebron, and mourned Abner, refusing to build his throne on bloodshed.

Transition: The house of David is growing stronger. Next week the whole nation comes to him, and the LORD makes him a promise that will shape the rest of the Bible.

Week 2 Overview — A House for David (2 Samuel 4:1–8:18): Movement 1, King over All Israel, Jerusalem, and the Ark (4:1–6:23), covers Ish-bosheth's death, David's anointing over all Israel, the capture of Jerusalem, and the ark's journey to the city. Movement 2, The LORD's Covenant with David (7:1–8:18), covers the LORD's promise of an everlasting house and David's victories. The Canonical Horizon traces the Davidic covenant fulfilled in Jesus, the Son of David.

Focal Readings to Preview

- 2 Samuel 5:1–12
- 2 Samuel 6:12–23
- 2 Samuel 7:1–17
- 2 Samuel 7:18–29

My One Concrete Step for the Week Ahead

Write down or name aloud the specific rhythm, boundary, or conversation you want to practice before next week's gathering:

Closing Prayer

Close your time together by inviting each person to share a one-sentence takeaway or prayer request, then pray together along these lines:

> **Closing Group Prayer**
>
> LORD our God, thank you that you give your kingdom in your own time and in your own way. Forgive our impatience, and forgive us for the times we have quietly rejoiced when others fell. Give us hearts that grieve as David grieved, even over those who have wronged us. We pray for those who have lost loved ones to violence; comfort them and bring them justice. Teach us to seek you before we act, and to wait for your answer. Thank you for Jesus, who wept over his enemies, prayed for those who crucified him, and received his kingdom through the cross. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.