

A.L.I.V.E. Bible Study
Date: March 15, 2023
2 Samuel 14:24-15:12

1. What happened in our text last week in 2 Samuel 14:1-23?
 - a. Joab played a trick on David.
 - b. Joab sent a woman to David with a story, similar to the way the prophet Nathan spoke to David.
 - c. Joab convinced David to bring Absalom back to Israel.

2. What do we learn now, in 14:14? _____

3. What do we learn about Absalom in 14:25-27?
 - a. In all Israel there was not a man so highly praised for his handsome appearance as Absalom.
 - b. There was no blemish on him.
 - c. He had a lot of “hair, beautiful hair” and he had to cut it once a year because it was too heavy...there may be some foreshadowing here.
 - d. He weighed it’s hair and it weighed two hundred shekels (about 5lbs).
 - e. Three sons and a daughter were born to Absalom. His daughter’s name was Tamar, and she became a beautiful woman.

4. What happened in 14:28-31?
 - a. Absalom lived two years in Jerusalem without seeing the king’s face.
 - b. Absalom sent for Joab in order to send him to the king, but Joab refused to come to him.
 - c. Joab refused to come a second time too.
 - d. Absalom sent his servants to set Joab’s barley field on fire...that got his attention.What message did Absalom send to the king? _____

5. What happened next, according to 14:33?
 - a. David summoned Absalom.
 - b. David kissed his son.
 - c. Happily ever after, the end!

6. What do we learn in 15:1-6?
 - a. Absalom seems to be gaining influence.
 - b. Every day, Absalom went to stand by the road leading to the city.
 - c. Absalom struck up a conversation with all the people who were coming to David for a “judgment.”
 - d. Absalom would say “Look, your claims are valid and proper, but there is no representative of the king to hear you...If only I were appointed judge in the land! Then everyone who has a complaint or case could come to me and I would see that they receive justice.”
 - e. Absalom would bow down, reach out and grab embrace these people and kiss them.
 - f. He “stole the hearts of the people of Israel.”

7. What do you think about what Absalom is doing?
 - a. I think I need to hear the rest of the story before I answer.
 - b. I think it is great. He treats people well and gains their favor. We should all do this.
 - c. It would be better if he didn’t criticize the king’s leadership while he was doing it. Perhaps he could have went to the king and offered to help instead of trying to manipulate the people against the king.

8. What happened then in 15:7-12?
 - a. After four years, Absalom asked to fulfill a vow he made to God and go to Hebron to worship.
 - b. Absalom sent messages to Israel telling them to declare him king in Hebron.
 - c. Absalom had some of David’s men...some of them not knowing what was happening.

9. How long do you think Absalom had been planning this? _____
Have you ever undermined your leaders and done some of the things that Absalom did? _____