



SEEKING GOD'S KINGDOM

PART 42

When Everything's Going Great

2 SAMUEL 10

1 2 Samuel 10:1-5 — *When kindness is misunderstood*

David offers hesed; suspicion distorts it



- David sends envoys to show covenant kindness to Hanun.
- Hanun's commanders reinterpret David's sympathy as espionage and overthrow.
- Hanun humiliates David's representatives by shaving half their beards and cutting their garments.
- David protects the humiliated men by telling them to stay at Jericho until their beards grow back.

2) 2 Samuel 10:6–19 — *Faithfulness without control*

Act bravely; leave the outcome to the LORD



- Ammon realizes it has become odious to David and hires Aramean allies.
- Joab divides the army with Abishai and faces the battle on two fronts.
- Joab says, “Be strong... The LORD will do what is good in his sight.”
- Israel wins, but the point is not military power; it is faithful action and trust in God’s outcome.

3 2 Samuel 10 — Pay attention to the warning signs

Darkness can brew while everything seems secure



- Nahash's name recalls 1 Samuel 11–12 and echoes the Hebrew word for “serpent.”
- Like Genesis 3, a question reframes something good as a threat.
- David is at one of the strongest moments of his life, yet chapter 11 is right ahead.
- When everything is going great, we may be closer to losing our way than we realize.

DISTORT REALITY

David's condolences
become "spying."

MAGNIFY THE THREAT

David is portrayed as trying to overthrow Ammon.

ERODE TRUST

Kindness is rejected,
shame enters, and
war follows.



MAIN TAKEAWAY

Seeking God's Kingdom means slowing down, seeking King Jesus, and paying attention to what's shaping our perception of reality.



REFLECTION QUESTION

What voices are shaping the way I see God, others, and my circumstances right now?



NOTES



When Everything's Going Great

— 2 SAMUEL 10 —

*Darkness can brew while everything
seems secure.*

1

KINDNESS OFFERED

David extends genuine
hesed toward Hanun.



David sends envoys to show
covenant kindness to Hanun.
2 Samuel 10:1-2

2

SUSPICION DISTORTS IT

Hanun's advisers reinterpret
David's sympathy as
espionage and overthrow.



Suspicion twists kindness
into a supposed threat.
2 Samuel 10:3

3

CONFLICT FOLLOWS

Hanun humiliates the envoys,
war erupts, and Ammon hires
Aramean allies.



Joab leads Israel into battle
with faithful courage.
"Be strong ... The LORD will do
what is good in his sight."
2 Samuel 10:6-12

4

THE WARNING SIGNS

Nahash's name echoes the
serpent pattern of Genesis 3.



*A question reframes
something good
as a threat.*

*Not a one-to-one allegory,
but a recognizable
biblical pattern.*

5

CLOSER THAN ANYONE REALIZED

David is at one of the strongest
moments of his life — yet
chapter 11 is right ahead.



When everything seems great,
we are still not immune to
darkness, distorted perception,
and losing our way.



DISTORT REALITY

What is good is questioned
and misrepresented.



MAGNIFY THE THREAT

A perceived threat grows
into real conflict.



ERODE TRUST

Kindness is rejected,
shame enters, and
war follows.



MAIN TAKEAWAY

Seeking God's Kingdom means slowing down, seeking King Jesus, and paying attention
to what's shaping our perception of reality.