SEEKING GOD'S KINGDOM

PART 45

When God Feels Far Away

2 SAMUEL 13

1 2 Samuel 12 — *Grace does not erase consequences*

David was forgiven, but the sword remained in his house

- David confessed: "I have sinned against the LORD."
- Nathan replied: "The LORD has taken away your sin."
- David was saved by grace, not by being a good enough man.
- Nathan warned: "The sword will never depart from your house."
- Not everyone in David's family shared David's repentant heart.

2 2 Samuel 13:1–22 — *Tamar spoke truth*

The least powerful voice in the room showed the clearest moral wisdom

- Amnon became obsessed with Tamar, his half-sister.
- Jonadab helped him deceive David and get Tamar alone.
- Tamar refused: "Don't force me! … Don't do this wicked thing."
- She appealed to God's Word and named evil for what it was.
- Though helpless to stop him, Tamar did not surrender her understanding of what was right.
- Afterward she lived "desolate" — deeply devastated by what had been done to her.

3 Psalm 10 + *Our hope in Christ*

God sees, hears, and remains near

- Psalm 10 gives us words for painful questions: "Why, LORD…?"
- Bringing painful questions to God is an expression of faith.
- The LORD sees the trouble of the afflicted and takes it in hand.
- Tamar's story reminds us that God does not forget the suffering.
- In Christ, death will not get the final word.
- Jesus walks with us through suffering and renews us day by day.

SEES	HEARS	NEAR
The LORD sees the afflicted.	The LORD hears their cry.	The LORD has not forgotten us.

Psalm 10

1 Corinthians 15:26 • 2 Corinthians 4:8–9, 16, 18

MAIN TAKEAWAY

Even when God feels far away, He sees us, hears us, is near, and has not forgotten us.

REFLECTION QUESTION

Where do I need to bring my painful questions to the LORD and trust His presence today?

NOTES