



SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Week of May 10, 2020

During this time that we are not able to meet together, please use these questions to stay connected as a church to meditate on the same sermon preached from God's Word this week. May this be a fruitful time for the building up of our church and for the spread of the gospel.

Sermon Text

2 Samuel 14:25-15:12

If you were not able to listen to this week's sermon, then please refer to this link to listen prior to answering these questions, <http://hawaiiKaichurch.org/sermononline>

Summary

In today's passage we learn through the lives of king David and his son Absalom, the dangers of forgiveness without repentance; the snare of external appearance; the danger of wanting to be sovereign; and the need for parents to love their children rightly.

Discussion Questions

1. In our passage today, we are told that Absalom was a handsome capable man, which probably helped him in his conspiracy against king David. Why is it that humans can be so enamored with outward appearances? How can a person see beyond the external and discern what's really inside a person?
2. Although Absalom had been forgiven so much, there was no humility in his response. FB Meyer said that "*in Absalom, we see what would happen if sin could be forgiven, apart from repentance and regeneration. Justification (being declared 'not guilty') without sanctification (being made in the image of Christ), would turn heaven into hell.*" Elaborate on this and discuss why repentance is crucial to salvation.
3. How did Absalom steal the hearts of the people? Who is to blame for this? How are Absalom's actions similar to the devil's in the garden of Eden?

4. Pastor Dan said that stories like this one about Absalom, are meant to be checkpoints and mirrors for our own souls. How is it possible to be kissed by the king, offered restoration, be brought near, and to even offer your sacrifices and your vows and your so-called worship, and yet still be so far away? Check your own hearts this morning. Hold up a mirror to your own soul. Where is your heart in relation to the King? Do you desire to be close to the King? Or is your desire to be sovereign?

5. Parents have a high calling to love their children but not be infatuated with them. What do you think this means? How can parents ensure that they raise their children rightly and not superficially?