International Bible Study Commentary
Verse-by-Verse Bible Lessons Thru the Bible
L.G. Parkhurst, Jr.

2 Samuel 5:1–12 Discussion Questions

Choose 1 or more Questions from each of the five below.

1. The LORD called David to shepherd His people and to be prince over Israel (2 Samuel 5:1–2).

Why did the tribes of Israel recognize David as a fitting leader, even though Saul had been their king?

What does the picture of a shepherd teach us about how leaders should care for those entrusted to them?

How can we help others look to the LORD as their true King when they look to us for guidance?

2. David made a covenant with Israel before the LORD, and the elders anointed him king (2 Samuel 5:3–5).

Why is it significant that David and the elders made their covenant before the LORD?

What can David's years of preparation and his reign over Judah teach us about waiting for God's purposes to unfold?

How should remembering our accountability to God affect the promises we make and the responsibilities we accept?

3. David captured Jerusalem and became greater because the LORD was with him (2 Samuel 5:6–10).

How did the capture of Jerusalem show that the Jebusites had misplaced their confidence?

What reason does verse 10 give for David's growing greatness, and why should we remember that reason?

When others discourage us from doing what God has called us to do, how can we respond with faith and humility?

4. David knew that the LORD had established his kingdom for the sake of His people Israel (2 Samuel 5:11–12).

What did David recognize about the source and purpose of his position as king?

How can remembering that God gives us opportunities to serve others guard us against pride and selfishness?

What ability, resource, or responsibility has God given you that you can use to meet someone's real needs this week?

5. David called the coming Messiah his Lord, and Jesus later asked about David's words (Psalm 110:1; Matthew 22:41–46).

Why did Jesus ask how the Messiah could be both David's son and David's Lord?

How does David's calling as a shepherd help us appreciate the care and leadership of the Lord Jesus?

What specific step can you take this week to follow Jesus as your Lord and trust Him to lead you in paths of righteousness?