

March 3, 2019
La Jolla Christian Fellowship
The CROWN : Episode 7
REST ON ALL SIDES
Pastor Adam Stadtmiller

2 Samuel 7:8-11

⁸“Now then, tell my servant David, ‘This is what the LORD Almighty says: I took you from the pasture, from tending the flock, and appointed you ruler over my people Israel. ⁹I have been with you wherever you have gone, and I have cut off all your enemies from before you. Now I will make your name great, like the names of the greatest men on earth. ¹⁰And I will provide a place for my people Israel and will plant them so that they can have a home of their own and no longer be disturbed. Wicked people will not oppress them anymore, as they did at the beginning ¹¹and have done ever since the time I appointed leaders over my people Israel. I will also give you rest from all your enemies.

What are you aiming at? _____

- **Making a name for yourself.** - **Vs. 9b** *Now I will make your name **great**, like the names of the greatest men on earth.*
 - David never pursued greatness, greatness pursued David and ensued a life well lived and it was God who make a name for him rather than one which was self conjured.
 - One of the curses of our age is convincing everyone that they must be great to have value and meaning.
 - Many are willing to pursue greatness at the cost of their own physical, emotional and spiritual peace.
 - **Vs. 11b** *I will also give you rest from all your enemies.*
 - Are you comfortable with obscurity and peace?
 - **John 3:30** *“He must become greater; I must become less.”*

David allowed his life to be crafted by God.

- When you live trying to make a name for yourself, you are negotiating with life from a position of poverty.
 - God says to David “I took you”, “I have been with you”, “I cut off for you”, “I will make you”, “I will provide for you”, “I will give you rest”.

Let God Take You. – Vs. 8 *Now then, tell my servant David, ‘This is what the LORD Almighty says: I took you from the pasture, from tending the flock, and appointed you ruler over my people Israel.’*

- David did not begin as a shepherd boy in the field with aspirations for the crown.
- You never want to ascend to any place, no matter how great, where God has not first made a place for you.

Ending where we began - David was a deeply flawed man, desperately in love with God.

Food for the journey: These questions are for deeper personal reflection or for discussion in one of our small groups.

1. Pastor Adam asked, “What are you aiming at?”. The next question is, Why are you aiming at it and will it ultimately bring you peace and rest?
2. Do you find yourself dogged by a feeling that you “should” be doing more? Would doing more give you more internal value, worth or peace?
3. David was a man made by God. How do we allow God to make us, but also be part of the process without striving to become something that we were never meant to be?
4. Pastor Adam said that when we strive on our own rather than acknowledging God’s great resources for our life, we are coming from a position of poverty. What is he getting at with this statement?
5. Are you a person who values rest over the struggle?