

“Like Father, Like Son”
2 Samuel 13:23-39

“Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, ‘Vengeance is Mine, I will repay, says the Lord.’” (Romans 12:19; cf. Deuteronomy 32:35; Nahum 1:2-3a)

“Better is open rebuke than hidden love.” (Proverbs 27:5)

- The Plan (2 Samuel 13:23-27)
 - “After two full years”:
 - Tamar has been a desolate woman in Absalom’s house, with no action taken for Amnon’s crime. (2 Samuel 14:27)
 - David had come to peace over the rape of Tamar.
 - Absalom had been fueling his hatred for Amnon. (2 Samuel 13:32)
 - Jonadab had possibly known about this the whole time without mentioning it to anyone. (2 Samuel 13:32)
 - “All the king’s sons”:
 - Eight times in our text this phrase is used. It is pointing to the fact that if all of David’s sons died, then he would be without an heir to his throne (2 Samuel 7:12-17).
 - The King has changed....
 - David has lost his love for justice (2 Samuel 8:15) and David has lost his zeal to glorify Yahweh (2 Samuel 8:11-14).
- The Murder (2 Samuel 13:28-33)
 - Absalom has someone else do his “dirty work”.
 - Just like his father, Absalom had someone else take the life of his target (2 Samuel 12:9).
 - *“Revenge makes a man equally guilty with his enemy, but in letting God avenge, he is superior to his enemy.”*
 - The exaggeration of “bad news”.
 - We have a natural disposition to exaggerate the news, especially bad news (2 Samuel 1:6-10).
 - Jonadab strikes again....
 - Jonadab has no loyalty to anyone. He is nothing more than a creative troublemaker who likes seeing lives destroyed (2 Samuel 13:3).
- The Escape (2 Samuel 13:34-39)
 - David loses two sons....
 - David lost Amnon when Absalom murdered him and he lost Absalom when he ran away to his grandfather. Both of these losses were a result of David not handling his sons as a father or a king (1 Samuel 3:13).
 - Sin destroys families....

Announcements:

★**SERVICE TIME CHANGE & CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE: PLEASE TAKE NOTE OF THIS ANNOUNCEMENT!!** On Sunday, December 24th, we will be transitioning to our morning worship service time! This will be our Christmas Eve service, at 10:30am. *We will NOT be having an evening service on Christmas Eve!* Christmas Eve is a great opportunity to invite friends, relatives, and co-workers to join you for church.

*A note to all parents: There will be NO Children's Ministry for the Christmas Eve service. Please know that you are welcome to use the Flex Room at the back of the sanctuary if at any point you need to remove your child from our gathering. One parent must be in the Flex Room with their child at all times.

★**NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY:** Our annual New Year's Eve Party will be on Sunday, December 31st, at Andy Wesley's house (1062 National Drive SE; Hebron). The festivities will start at 6pm and last until midnight! Please plan on joining us for a fun night of games and food and fellowship!

★**LEGACY THEOLOGY PRACTICUM:** Starting on January 8 through March 11, 2024, we will be offering a 10-week course on "**Church History**" on Mondays from 6-9pm in the Fellowship Hall. We will be studying the birth of the Church in Acts 2 in 30AD up to our present time of 2023. Our Christian heritage is filled to the brim with fascinating figures whose lives we can learn from. Church history also records the teaching, movements, and mistakes of Christians who held to the truth of the Word and sought to reflect the invisible God. For the past two-thousand years of our history, Christians have wrestled with Scripture. The stories of Polycarp, Athanasius, Irenaeus, Augustine, Martin Luther, John Calvin, Jonathan Edwards, and John Wesley (just to name a few) help us to persevere in our faith during tough times and inspire us to live our lives in full for God's glory. We will study the major disputes of Heresy, such as the Council of Nicaea, that condemned Arianism in 325, the Council of Carthage that denounced Pelagianism in 418, and the Council of Chalcedon that rejected Eutychianism in 451. We also will study when Churches and Denominations begin. Please see the back of your sermon notes for more information about this course. Let Elder Richard know if you may be interested in this course so we can prepare a Syllabus for you. [(419)651-0053]

★**FELLOWSHIP DINNER:** We are having a Fellowship Dinner THIS Sunday, December 17th, immediately following the worship service. There is a sign-up list on the table in the entryway, please sign-up to bring something to the dinner. EVERYONE is invited to stay to enjoy the dinner and fellowship with us.