

## 2 Samuel 15

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## Sermon Study Guide

(Reminder: The purpose of the questions is to explore the text and themes of the sermon. **Do not feel a need to go through all of the questions.**

The goal is to stimulate discussion/reflection and transformation related to the sermon text and themes.)

1. In vv. 1-6, Absalom manipulated people using his celebrity, words, and actions. Discuss any Bible truths that serve to warn and protect Christians from cults of personality, celebrity etc.? What messaging does the Lord want the Christian to communicate?
2. In vv. 7-12, Absalom used worship as a cover for his subversive behavior, even duping 200 innocent men. What does this teach us about the power of “influence” and our vulnerability to it? The apostle Paul didn’t shy away from calling people to follow his example and teaching (Phil. 3:17ff; 2 Tim. 1:13; 3:14; cf. 1 Tim. 4:6). Discuss ways to discern whether you are being called to follow a subversive influence or a godly one.
3. Not only was his son working against him, but the very people David delivered are willing to overthrow him. Further, even David’s trusted counselor Ahithophel was involved, and yet many stayed loyal to David. Discuss what this passage reveals about the limitations of loyalty and its proper place?
4. When pursued by Saul, David was a man of decisive action. We sense the king has grown dispassionate about his responsibilities but under threat from Absalom has once again become an active leader. Discuss how this applies to you in your areas of leadership within your family, home, work, etc. What changes need to be made, what preventative steps will keep you on point.