

1st Week of April

The Most Important Request of A Lifetime

- **Text:** 1 Kings 2:1~3 (April 5)
- **Bottom line:** For those who obey God's word, God will be with them and help them wherever they are or whatever they do.

≡ 1. Praise

(Hymn) Nearer, Still Nearer

≡ 2. Prayer

Thank you, God for being the owner of our home, and for allowing us as a family to gather together to worship you. May it be a time to remember Your love and grace.

≡ 3. The Word

Read 1 Kings 2:1~3 together (read the verse 3 times).

* Reading the Word over and over again in different translations will help you to deepen your understanding of the material.

<ESV>

1 When David's time to die drew near, he commanded Solomon his son, saying, 2 "I am about to go the way of all the earth. Be strong, and show yourself a man, 3 and keep the charge of the Lord your God, walking in his ways and keeping his statutes, his commandments, his rules, and his testimonies, as it is written in the Law of Moses, that you may prosper in all that you do and wherever you turn,

<NASB>

1 As David's time to die drew near, he commanded his son Solomon, saying, 2 "I am going the way of all the earth. So be strong, and prove yourself a man. 3 Do your duty to the Lord your God, to walk in His ways, to keep His statutes, His commandments, His ordinances, and His testimonies, according to what is written in the Law of Moses, so that you may succeed in all that you do and wherever you turn,

Understanding Text

When David was nearing death, he left a will to his son Solomon. The first is to be strong and become a master, and the second is to live by God's word. Then, David told him that no matter what Solomon does, no matter where he goes, everything will work out. Since the rise and fall of the nation of Israel depends on God, David emphasized "obedience to God's word."

Understanding the text for leaders

David had a son named Adonijah, who seemed to be the likely heir to the throne. Amnon, the eldest son, was killed by Absalom the third, Gilead the second (Daniel, 1 Chronicles 3:1) seems to have already died, and the third Absalom was killed while rebelling against his own king (2 Samuel 3:2~4; 1 Chronicles 3:1~2). Thus, the fourth son, Adonijah, who was the oldest of the living sons, was considered the most likely heir to the throne. However, God had already said through the prophet Nathan that He wanted Solomon to be king (2 Samuel 12:24~25). David followed God's will and named Solomon as king and officially proclaimed him. David, who was old and about to die, told Solomon, who was to succeed to the throne, the last important story. Adonijah, Joab, the military chief who helped him, and Saul's relatives, the tribe of Benjamin, were still there, so Solomon was not in a comfortable position in Israel. So David strengthened Solomon and encouraged him to become a father-in-law. He told Solomon that he should only live according to God's word. When David was chased by Saul and his life was in danger, God was the only one who could help him. Even though he lost everything, he was able to become a king because he held on to God, and he was able to rule Israel until now. So David said to Solomon, "Live according to the word of God, and wherever you go and whatever you do, it will be all for you." That's what he said. It was the best advice David had ever had in his life, and it was the best way to live his life.

"Sons were born to David in Hebron: his firstborn was Amnon, by Ahinoam the Jezreelitess; and his second, Chileab, by Abigail the widow of Nabal the Carmelite; and the third, Absalom the son of Maacah, the daughter of Talmi, king of Geshur; and the fourth, Adonijah the son of Haggith; and the fifth, Shephatiah the son of Abital;" (2 Samuel 3:2~4).

"Now these were the sons of David who were born to him in Hebron: the firstborn was Amnon, by Ahinoam the Jezreelitess; the second was Daniel, by Abigail the Carmelitess; the third was Absalom the son of Maacah, the daughter of Talmi king of Geshur; the fourth was Adonijah the son of Haggith;" (1 Chronicles 3:1~2).

"Then David comforted his wife Bathsheba, and went in to her and slept with her; and she gave birth to a son, and he named him Solomon. Now the Lord loved him, and sent word through Nathan the prophet, and he named him Jedidiah for the Lord's sake." (2 Samuel 12:24~25).

4. Sharing

1) As David neared his death, what did he ask his son Solomon, who would rule Israel after him? (verse 3).

Upper Grades

What did King David want to say to his son Solomon? (verses 2~3)

Lower Grades

What was the most important message that David said to his son Solomon? (verses 2~3)

Question Guide

In the future, Solomon will have to deal wisely with hard and difficult things as a king. When David inherited the throne, Solomon taught him important attitudes of faith that he should remember as a king. Take the time to share what it is and affirm the right attitude of faith that each of you should have.

Comments for Leaders

David would have wanted to tell his son many stories as he became king, leaving behind many political enemies. However, because death was approaching and I was feeling weak and overwhelmed, I had to say something to Solomon that was most important. David told Solomon to work hard and become a captain.

Even if you are surrounded by enemies, don't be afraid, be courageous and be strong. The next advice was to remember the word of God and obey it thoroughly. He told me that if I follow his words and do them, everything will be fine wherever I go and whatever I do. This was probably the most important advice given David's experience.

2) Tell your child what you would like to lovingly exhort. Next, tell your child what you would like to ask of him out of respect.

■ **Upper Grades**

Share what you and your child would like to say to each other.

■ **Lower Grades**

What would you like to say to your parents?

□ **Question Guide**

Just as David told Solomon what he wanted to say to Solomon at the end of his life, express your love and respect with words of encouragement and blessing for each other, instead of dictating or complaining, communicate with love, understanding, acceptance, and respect.

□ **Comments for Leaders**

David can't be with Solomon anymore. David dies sooner or later, and Solomon has to walk the king's path alone. What he needs is to live in obedience to God's word. Parents can't be with their children for the rest of their lives. That's why you have to instill something important in your children. It is to live in obedience to God's word. Also, your children will have something to say to their parents. Steer the conversation so that your child feels comfortable sharing their thoughts and thoughts about you. Share with your family that all the values pursued by the world come and go for a while, but God's word is eternal, and it is most valuable and blessed to live according to it.

≡ **5. Be grateful**

Give thanks to God who gave us the Bible that contains God's Word and give thanks to God for allowing us to know and obey His will through worship and QT.

≡ **6. Prayer**

Thank you, God, for letting us know that keeping Your word and doing it is the wisest and most blessed thing to do. Please let us keep David's last exhortation in mind and read and obey God's word every day.

- End the family worship service with the Lord's Prayer.

* Preparing for Sunday Service

After the family worship service, we prepare for the Sunday service together.

1. Parents remind their children of the importance of the Lord's Day and the importance of worship.
 2. Prepare for Sunday worship with your heart.
 3. I try not to do anything else on Sunday so that I can focus on God. We carefully prepare offerings to God.
 4. Prepare modest clothing.
 5. I pray that it will be a Sunday service that God is pleased with.
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