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Bible Study | Missions Project

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# myMISSION Bible Study | Praying with Perseverance

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Passage: **2 Samuel 7:18–29**

## Prepare

- Bible
- Journal
- Pen/pencil

## Get Started

What are you praying for in your life? How have you seen God answer those prayers?

When you pray for something and God is responding in His time, how have you learned to wait and persevere through that?

This month, we will look at David's prayer in 2 Samuel 7:18–29 to learn how David prayed with perseverance.

## Study and Learn

**Read 2 Samuel 7:1–29; Matthew 1:5–6; and Revelation 5:5.**

David's faith and subsequent persevering prayer throughout his life got him to this moment—praising God despite not getting to do what he wanted, which was build the Temple.

Even though God denied David what he wanted, God still answered his prayer—just in a way David didn't expect. David wanted to build God a physical house, but God wanted to build through David an everlasting, spiritual one. This would lead to (as 2 Samuel 7:26 says) God's name being magnified and people knowing God is Lord over all Israel.

The everlasting house God promised David was fulfilled through Jesus Christ. Jesus is the true son of David who established God's everlasting kingdom.

**Read Psalms 27–28.**

David also prayed to God when things weren't going well for him and he needed God's divine deliverance or in response to being convicted of sin. Prayers of praise, repentance, lament, and deliverance are equally important. The different situations we find ourselves in daily call for different kinds of prayers.



### Read Ephesians 3:14–21.

Part of praying with perseverance means praying for others. In this prayer, Paul prayed for the church at Ephesus. He prayed through faith, the church would “know this love [of Christ] that surpasses knowledge” and would “be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God” (v. 19). That prayer would not have been possible without God’s covenant with David and as a result, David’s prayer in 2 Samuel.

### Apply

According to the ESV Student Study Bible footnotes, David used the phrase “O Lord God” eight times as an expression of intimacy toward God. How does praying with perseverance increase your intimacy with God?

Think about things you are praying for. What is one thing you’re praying for you’ve not seen God answer yet? Invite a friend to persevere in prayer with you as you wait together to see how God answers.

### Follow Up

David’s prayer in 2 Samuel 7:18–29 was a praise in response to God’s covenant with him that instead of David building God a house, God would build an everlasting kingdom through David’s line. Think about the way God has answered your prayers. In your journal, write a prayer of praise similar to David’s you could pray anytime you want to praise God for answering your prayers.

### Commit to Memory

Verses: **2 Samuel 7:18, 22**

Challenge: **Ephesians 3:16–19**

## Project: **Host a Prayer Night for Human Trafficking Victims and Traffickers**

In the Bible study, you learned how David's life led him to pray with perseverance and praise God no matter how God answered his prayers. To put your new knowledge of prayer into practice, gather your family, friends, or church members and take one night together to pray for human trafficking victims and traffickers since January is National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month.

### BEFORE THE PROJECT

- Read Luke 4:16–21. What did Jesus say He came to do? What does this mean for followers of Jesus? Think about how you and others could pray for human trafficking victims and traffickers.
- Research organizations that help human trafficking victims such as End It Movement, A21, Hope for Justice International, Send Relief, and Christian Women's Job Corps/Christian Men's Job Corps. Look for small businesses and WorldCrafts artisan groups that serve human trafficking victims through employment or funds from sales. Look at the prayer and action points these organizations provide, and if desired, reach out to an organization to find out how you can pray for it.
- In a large meeting space, set up prayer stations that cover prayer points and facts about human trafficking. Consider including a station highlighting the countries most affected by human trafficking, the causes of human trafficking, local and global leaders and law enforcement officials who work to rescue trafficking victims, and even traffickers. Set up several prayer stations with photos and stories of trafficking victims and ways to pray for them. Designate one station for participants to praise God and thank Him for how He is already at work bringing justice to trafficking victims, and praise God for who He is.

### DURING THE PROJECT

- Start your time with worship and Scripture reading. Read Scripture passages like Psalm 89:14; Isaiah 1:17; Micah 6:8; and Matthew 25:31–46 that call Christians to justice and to care for the “least of these” (Matt. 25:40, 45).
- Direct participants to cycle through the prayer stations and spend five to ten minutes praying.
- After everyone has had time to pray at each station, bring the group together for one final group prayer.

### AFTER THE PROJECT

- Encourage participants to regularly pray for human trafficking victims and traffickers. Provide a tangible reminder to pray—a bookmark, a magnet to put on their fridge, etc.
- Provide resources about organizations that support human trafficking victims in your area or globally so participants can learn more and connect with opportunities to support and serve.

### ADAPTATION

Pray for human trafficking victims and traffickers on your own. Read Scriptures calling Christians to justice and to care for the “least of these.” Research nonprofit organizations and businesses that help trafficking victims. Look for prayer guides on their websites, or contact them for prayer needs. Commit to praying regularly. Pray victims would be rescued and find hope in Christ, traffickers would be brought to justice and find hope in Christ, and trafficking would be stopped. Consider getting involved in a ministry to trafficking victims and helping meet their physical as well as spiritual needs.