2 Samuel Lesson 2 (2021)

**DAVID IS ANOINTED KING OVER JUDAH**

2 Samuel 2:1-3:5

Key Verse: 3:1

**Open it:**

1. Why is a civil war often the most fierce kind of war?

**Explore it:**

1. Read verses 1-7. Where had David been, and why was he so prayerful about going back to Judah? (1) What happened when he settled in Hebron? (2-4a) As a king, what did David do first? (4b-7) What does this show about the nature of his kingship?
2. Read verses 8-16. Who was the leader who rallied Israel behind Saul’s remaining son instead of accepting David as king? How long did David remain in Hebron as king of Judah? How did Abner propose to deal with the rivalry between the kings? What was the outcome of the duel between the representative young men? (16)
3. Read verses 17-23. Which side prevailed in the fighting between the armies of Saul’s son Ish-Bosheth and David? Who were the three sons of Zeruiah who followed David? What unique ability belonged to Asahel? (18) What rash action did Asahel take in battle? What did Abner try to get Asahel to do once he realized Asehal was chasing him? (20-21) What finally occurred when Abner turned to confront Asahel?
4. Read verses 24-28. Where did Abner and his fleeing troops take a stand and gather reinforcements? (24-25) On what basis did Abner appeal to Joab? (26) Why did Joab decide to call off his pursuit of Abner and his men? (27-28)
5. Read verses 2:29-3:5. Where were the losses on each side of the battle? (30-31) What became of the body of the fallen Asahel? (32) What gradually happened in the war between the rival kings David and Ish-Bosheth? (3:1-5)

**Apply it:**

1. In what contexts are you in the position to help ease the tension in the community and between family members? How can we appeal to our common humanity the next time we are caught between “warring factions”?