CORNERSTONE REFLECTION GUIDE
NOVEMBER 9, 2025

Title: **David: On the Heels of Success**
Preacher: **Rev. Matt Tuggle**
Scripture: **2 Samuel 7:1-18; Isaiah 30:15**

After years of hardship and struggle, David finally experiences peace. The battles are over, the throne is secure, and his home is established. From this place of stability and success, David desires to honor God by building Him a house—a temple worthy of His name. But God gently reminds David that He doesn't *need* anything from David; what He desires most is a heart that remains faithful. Rather than allowing David to build Him a house, God promises to build one *through* David—an enduring "house," a royal line that will find its fulfillment in Christ.

It's natural to cling to God out of need or desperation. But what happens when the pressure lifts? When life finally settles and success arrives, our hearts face a new kind of test. Will we continue to depend on God, or will comfort make us forget the One who brought us here?

Isaiah speaks to this same truth. God's people were searching for strength in their own strategies and alliances, yet God calls them back to quiet trust:

> In repentance and rest is your salvation; in quietness and trust is your strength. —Isaiah 30:15

Both David and Israel needed the same reminder—and so do we: **true faithfulness isn't found in what we do for God, but in staying near to Him.**

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What stuck out to you about this sermon? Was there an idea that was particularly meaningful or challenging for you?
2. Read 2 Samuel 7:1-7. How does God's response to David's desire to build a house for Him challenge our usual ideas about "doing something for God"?
3. How might success or stability distort our view of God's role in our lives?
4. Read 2 Samuel 7:8-16. God's promise to David extended beyond David's lifetime. What does it mean to you to consider your story as part of God's grand story?
5. When life feels stable, do you find it easier or harder to rest in God? Why? What practices (Sabbath, prayer, solitude) help you stay centered in Him?

WEEKLY PRACTICE

In repentance and rest is your salvation; in quietness and trust is your strength.

Isaiah 30:15 captures the heart of faithfulness: repentance, rest, quietness, and trust. God's people wanted speed and strength; God offered stillness and surrender.

Stay Grounded Through Gratitude

This week, begin practicing gratitude through journaling. This is a great way to remind yourself of all that God has done and is currently doing in your life. If you already keep a gratitude or prayer journal, focus specifically on those areas where you are experiencing blessing and success during this season.

Take 15 minutes each day to "sit before the Lord" (2 Sam. 7:18) in prayerful silence. Reflect on your current season—successes, accomplishments, moments of peace, and challenges—connecting each to God's presence in your life. Then spend some time answering the following questions:

- How have I seen God at work in this blessing or situation?
- Am I leaning on my own strength or trusting God's guidance?
- How can I respond with humility and gratitude in this situation?

When we rest in Him, we remember that our identity and security don't come from our work, but from His covenant love. When we pause to thank God—especially in seasons of abundance—we remind ourselves of the reason for the success.