

## **Series: Living the Dream.**

### **Scripture and Background Information for February 20-27.**

To prepare for your group discussion each week, group members should use the **Community Group Discussion Guide** to complete the **GOD'S WORDS** and **MY WORDS** columns using the scripture below.

This week start our new series: Living the Dream: The Power and Pitfalls of a God-Sized Life. The new series deals with Salomon's life. Today we will look at **1Kings 2:1-4**, the beginning point of Salomon's kingship in Israel.

#### **Background for 1Kings 2:1-4:**

David, the king of Israel, became old so that it was time to set another on the throne. At the end of David's life, his family had a turbulent time. Three of David's sons tried to make themselves the new king. Salomon, in contrast, was promised to become the heir of the throne. Today, our text deals with David giving Salomon the scepter of the kingdom and setting him on Israel's throne.

Solomon received the kingdom not in a huge inauguration ceremony but in private, with his father's final words. David knew that his life would come to an end soon, so he prepared his son with a final charge to become the new king. David charged Solomon to be courageous and obedient to God so that He would bless his life.

Some questions to engage with the text:

1. Note the similarity of David's charge to Solomon to the Philistines' charge during the war (1 Samuel 4:9). When the Philistines called each other to be "like men," what was their intention with that charge?
2. When charging Solomon, whose charge gives David to Solomon?
3. What are the parts connected to David's charge to be like a man?
4. When David charges Solomon, what success-perspective of life does he has in view (immediate vs. long-lasting)?

*Remember: David learned in his own life that a successful life is always connected to obedience to God. If we follow God, he will care for the rest. Obedience to Him leads to "real" success in God's eyes.*

#### **Scriptures for upcoming weeks:**

February 28-March 06

1. Kings 3:1-15

March 07-13

1. Kings 5-9:9