

Control

Talk About It

Bottom Line:

Know better than to follow a leader who knows better.

Scripture

1 Samuel 15:1-6 ; Psalm 18:9-10

Conversation Questions

1. As a group, summarize what you know about David's relationship with Saul. Now: what do you know about his relationship with his own son Absalom? Skim 2 Samuel 13 for some background on Absalom's rage towards his father.

2. In spite of that context, the author of 2 Samuel does not wish to present Absalom as a hero in our story this week. He is the villain. The message suggested that "Absalom" becomes a verb. How so?

3. Note the thievery that opens our passage in 15:1 and that which closes it in 15:6. Summarize what gets stolen and what that tells you about Absalom.

4. Absalom controls the narrative by insisting "if only I". How vulnerable are you to new or potential leaders making the same claim: "if only I were in charge ..." Be specific.

5. Where do you see the modern church in North America "Absaloming God"?

6. The message concluded with the mercifully unfinished Sparkle Creed. How do you explain its existence? What does it tell you about the nature of people when confronted with the truth of the Gospel? What a marvelous time to declare the Apostles Creed together in your group.

7. Who will you invite to Week 5 of Control?

Icebreaker

When have you followed a leader you shouldn't have?

Activity

We are excited to launch a Family Advocacy Ministry (FAM) that assists foster and kinship families in our church and our local area. To launch this ministry, we're hosting a Lunch and Learn event on Sunday, May 5 at noon in the K-Zone. To find out more or to sign up, visit gscharlotte.org/connect