



**Adult Sunday  
School at the  
sanctuary**

**Lesson-14:  
Absalom returns  
to Jerusalem**

**Date:  
9 Oct 2022  
(Sunday)**

**Time: 9.40am**

**Venue: Sanctuary**

# **Announcement**

There is no Adult Sunday School in the sanctuary next Sunday, 16 Oct 2022 (Sunday).

Sunday School will resume on 23 Oct 2022 (Sunday).





(1) Background: After killing Amnon, Absalom fled to Geshur.

(2) But, David longed for his son, Absalom.

2 Sam 13:37-38

(3) Joab, David's general, knew David longed for Absalom. Joab brought a wise woman to speak to David.

(4) She came to David on the pretext of a family problem. (2 Sam 14:5-11).

(5) She then said to King David that he was wrong for not forgiving his son, Absalom. (2 Sam 14:13)

(6) David was convicted by the saying of the Tekoa woman. He got Joab to bring back Absalom.

## (7) Spiritual Lessons:

### (a) David's inconsistency

	<b>Tekoa woman's problem</b>	<b>David's decision</b>	<b>Tekoa woman's question to David</b>	<b>Issue</b>
(i)	A son killed her other son.  The rest of the family wanted her to surrender the killer.			

	<b>Tekoa woman's problem</b>	<b>David's decision</b>	<b>Tekoa woman's question to David</b>	<b>Issue</b>
(ii)	<p>The family wanted to execute the killer.</p> <p>If she surrenders the killer to be executed, she will have no son left. Her husband's name and family will disappear from the face of the earth forever.</p>	<p>The killer son would be forgiven and spared from death.</p> <p>(2 Sam 14:11)</p>	<p>If David forgave and spared her killer son, why did David not forgive his own son, Absalom?</p>	<p>David was inconsistent.</p>

(b) Are we also inconsistent?

	<b>Biblical standard</b>	<b>Our conduct</b>	<b>How should we conduct ourselves?</b>
(i)	Love our enemies (Matt 5:44)	Our instinctive behaviour is hatred towards our enemies.	
(ii)	Forgiveness (Matt 6:14-15)	We have difficulty forgiving those who have done wrong to us.	

	<b>Biblical standard</b>	<b>Our conduct</b>	<b>How should we conduct ourselves?</b>
(iii)	Put away bitterness, wrath, anger, clamour, slander and malice. (Ephesians 4:31)	Due to hatred and unforgiveness, we turn bitter, angry and malicious towards our enemy.	<p>We must put aside:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• hatred,</li> <li>• unforgiveness,</li> <li>• bitterness,</li> <li>• anger and</li> <li>• malice.</li> </ul> <p>It is for our own good. If not, we will have no peace and God will not forgive us.</p>



	<b>Biblical standard</b>	<b>Our conduct</b>	<b>How should we conduct ourselves?</b>
(iv)	Be not anxious. (Philippians 4:6-7)	We are anxious: health, uncertain future, young children etc.	<p>We should rid ourselves of anxiety:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Remember God's goodness and protection to us in the past.</li> <li>• Focus our minds <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) God's comforting words</li> <li>(ii) sermons,</li> <li>(iii) hymns</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<b>Biblical standard</b>	<b>Our conduct</b>	<b>How should we conduct ourselves?</b>
(v)	Put away lust. (1 John 2:16)	Excessive love for wealth, opposite gender.	Occupy in wholesome activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Service in church</li> <li>• Hobbies</li> <li>• Exercise or outings</li> </ul>
(vi)	Put away pride. (1 John 2:16)	We have pride in our: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Achievement,</li> <li>• Wealth,</li> <li>• Knowledge,</li> <li>• Material possession.</li> </ul>	We should conduct ourselves with humility. Our Lord Jesus Christ was a humble carpenter.

(8) When Absalom came back, David refused to see Absalom and he lived outside Jerusalem.

(9) Absalom wanted Joab to bring him to see his father, King David. But Joab refused to see Absalom. (2 Sam 14:28-29)

(10) Absalom devised a wicked plan. (2 Sam 14:30-33)

## (11) Spiritual Lessons:

	<b>Absalom's action</b>	<b>Absalom's flaw in character</b>	<b>Our own flaw in character</b>
(a)	Absalom gave order to his servant to set fire to Joab's barley field in order to get to see Joab. (2 Sam 14:30)	(a) Lawless and unscrupulous character to destroy other person's property.  (b) Ungrateful man as it was Joab who helped Absalom to come back to David.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Do we make insinuations and pass malicious remarks on the character of other people?</li><li>• Do we treat other people's property with disregard?</li><li>• Do we show kindness to those who have been kind and helpful to us?</li></ul>

Questions from the class.