



**Sermon Series:** “Story”

**Series Description:** As we set out to examine the theme of ‘story’ over these twelve weeks, we’ll be zooming in on twelve well-known Old Testament characters. In these real life, historical stories, we will see the way God takes lives filled with small successes and great failures and, as a master craftsman, turns them into a grand masterpiece of divine origin. We will also see that all of our stories and all the stories that make up our city are no less a part of God’s story than any other.

**Story of the Week:** David from 2 Samuel 7

**Sermon Summary:** After the chaotic years of the judges, Israel needed a king who would bring order, peace, and a new direction for the people. After the disaster that was Saul, God anoints David to be the king that Israel needed. But even David wasn’t enough to bring the kind of lasting peace that the people (and we) so long for. Jesus, David’s direct descendant, is the better and eternal King who not only brings peace to His people but does not carry any sinful baggage like his ancestor, David. Through Jesus, we find our peace and our righteousness.

1. What were some of your general take-aways from Pastor Will’s sermon? If Jesus is the better David, then how is Jesus the better [insert your name here]?
2. Some of us think we’re awesome...and why wouldn’t God want us on His team? Some of us think we’re awful... and have a hard time believing God actually loves us. The Bible says that, through Christ, we are anointed! God anoints (chooses) us in spite of our sin and weaknesses and adopts us into His family. In what ways do you see yourself as gifted by God? In what ways are you using your gifts to serve God’s people and build God’s house?
3. We all have competing voices in our hearts and minds trying to convince us of who we are and how to live. What are the different voices competing for your attention? Which voice do you heed most often? What are the differences between all of those voices... and God’s voice? What does God’s voice say to you about who you are?
4. Have you ever felt overlooked? Do you not feel worthwhile in school, work, life? What does it mean to be God’s anointed (chosen)? Do you know that you have been chosen by God? What are some Bible verses that can remind you that you have been chosen?
5. When David fought Goliath, he did so with faith that God was the one who was actually going to battle for him. How likely are you to look to the Lord to fight your battles? What’s a battle you’re in the middle of right now? In what ways are you trusting in God to fight for you and what do they look like?
6. Have you ever used your own power and authority to crush someone else? Your coworkers, friends, kids? Have you ever voluntarily been crushed for someone that you loved? Have you ever voluntarily been crushed for someone that hated you? What does it mean that Jesus was crushed for you?
7. How does Jesus being crushed for your sin affect the way you see yourself, your identity, and your mission?