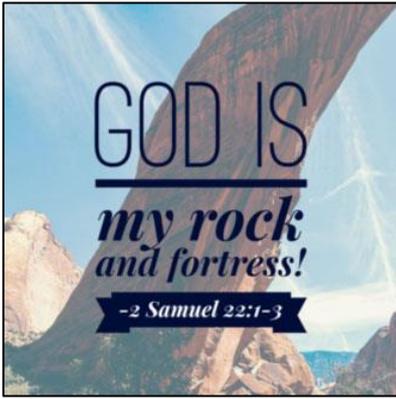


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## Growth Group Notes: David 8 – an awesome God

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### Warm Up...

When people you know talk about “a god” or “higher power” or “something out there”, what do you think their idea of “god” is like?

How does this agree or conflict with your own view of God?

Why do you think it is important to have a clear idea of who God is?

### Background to 2 Samuel 22

Today we come to our last session looking at the life of David. David’s rise from shepherd boy to king has taken us through the highs and lows of his life, but it would not give a fair picture of the man if we did not focus on one of his songs as part of the series. David is looking back over events in his life and remembering how God watched over him: this song recorded both in 2 Samuel 22 and Psalm 18 probably originally comes from the period of his life, shortly after he became king, but before the incident with Bathsheba and Uriah.

*(In order to read to the end of David's life, finish 2 Samuel and start the next book, reading up to 1 Kings 2v12.)*

### Read 2 Samuel ch 22:1-20      OUR GOD

What are all the different ways that David describes God in v2-4

How do these images help us understand God better?

What was David’s first port of call in times of distress?

What do v8-10 reveal about how David understands God?

### Reflecting on our God

What things can get in the way of us calling out to God when we are in trouble?

What experiences can you share of how God has helped you in times of difficulty?

How does having a good understanding of who God is help us in our everyday lives?

How can we increase our understanding of God and his character?

Is there a verse or phrase in this section that particularly speaks to you at the moment?

### Read 2 Samuel ch 22:21-31      TRUE RIGHTEOUSNESS

What do these verses tell us about David’s heart and his desires?

Last session we read 1 John 1v8-9 and Psalm 51, so we know David doesn’t actually think he is perfect and completely blameless. What does he reveal about his attitude to God and his law here?

How are these verses more fully fulfilled in the Lord Jesus Christ?

*<sup>8</sup> If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. <sup>9</sup> If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.  
1 John 1:8-9*

What has God done for David?

How?

What is David's response?

How does he feel about the future?

### Reflecting on our own story with God

What stories can you share with one another of God's work in your life across the years?

How does looking back help us face the future?

How does understanding who God is and how he has worked in the past help us look forwards?

### Reflecting on David as a whole

What qualities has you seen in the life of David which as a Christian you would like to imitate in your own life?

How can we see the image of Jesus revealed in David's life?

### Pray together:

Why not spend a few moments looking over the whole psalm and each choosing a verse that particularly stands out to you and each person read out and/or pray into that verse.

....what can we praise God for?

....what do we need to ask his forgiveness for?

....what do we need to ask his help for?

Does the group have any feedback on this series that would be helpful to share?