Recap of 10/26/25 message by Pastor Chris Sommerfield ("The Lingering Effects of Sin") 2 Samuel 2:1-17

This passage details the beginning of David's reign as king. He starts off strong by inquiring of the LORD and responding to God with obedience. David becomes king over the region of Judah, but we see the lingering effects of Saul's sin as the rest of Israel is claimed under Ishbosheth, Saul's son, who is installed as king by Abner. There is ensuing civil war showing the depth of destruction that can come from sin.

Representative armies gather at Gibeon and a contest is held between 12 men from each side to seemingly decide the fate of the people. The text tells us "They fell down together," implying their deaths and inconclusive results leading to a very severe battle that is detailed in the next passage. Throughout all of this we see the terrible effects of sin.

Do we take sin seriously in our own lives? Sin brings death and separation in our relationships, yet too often we develop a comfortability with some sin, and we tell ourselves "It's no big deal... I'm not hurting anyone." The reality is we have no idea the depths that may result from our sin. Saul could not have predicted his death and the deaths of his sons, but that's what happened. The people of Israel were thrust into a brutal civil war. As believers we should never be comfortable with sin. We are called to be holy, to be conformed into the image of Christ. We are being sanctified and will be fully sanctified by the power of the Holy Spirit. We have been washed clean by the blood of Jesus and can confidently proclaim there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus (Romans 8:1), but we are also called to put off the old self and put on the new self (Ephesians 4:22-24). When we sin, we must repent and turn away from it, confessing it to God. We need to seek God's help in prayer and seek help from brothers and sisters in Christ who will faithfully point us to Jesus as we walk together.