For the week of February 14, 2016

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Warning Signs

26th week in the series "A Life of Passion: The Story of David."

2 Samuel 8:1-18

There are warning signs along the road of life—warning signs that can appear even when we're experiencing great victories. Unfortunately, in both David's life and our own, the warning signs can often be missed, misread, or simply ignored, leading eventually to disaster. 2 Samuel 8 records a number of the warning signs in David's life—warning signs in the midst of victory—and, as we'll see in a few weeks when we come to 2 Samuel 11, the missed, misread, and ignored warning signs will prove disastrous.

Discussion Questions:

- 1. When you look back at your own life, do you see any failures, disappointments, or disasters? If so, in retrospect, do you also see any warning signs that you now wish you would have understood or heeded?
- 2. In David's life or your own, why do you think that he (or you) either missed, misread, or failed to heed the warning signs along the way? Why is hindsight often 20/20 while our understanding of the present often so limited?
- 3. Do you think that God wants you to see any warning signs that are in your life right now? If so, how do you think that's possible—possible to see the warning signs now rather than only later in hindsight? If not, why not? Why don't you think that God wants you to alert you to the possibility of danger ahead?
- 4. What do you think our responsibility is to alert others to warning signs—warning signs that may be in their own lives but which they either don't see or aren't heeding?
- 5. Do you think there are currently any warning signs in our collective life as a congregation? If so, what are they? If not, well... spend the rest of the morning praising God!