Victoria Fellowship Church

International & Interdenominational

Bible Study Worksheet – February 02, 2025

Theme: The impact of unsung heroes in the Bible. Topic: Hushai: A faithful servant and loyal friend. Main Texts: 2 Samuel 15:32-37, 16:15-19, 17:1-21.

Key verse: Proverbs 17:17 – "A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for a time of adversity." (NIV)

INTRODUCTION: Hushai, a faithful servant and loyal friend, is one of the lesser-known but deeply significant figures in the story of David's life. His role during the rebellion of Absalom illustrates the profound impact of loyalty and courage in the face of adversity. As a trusted companion of King David, Hushai's unwavering commitment to David's cause, even when the odds were against him, serves as a powerful example of true friendship and devotion. His actions, as recorded in 2 Samuel 15-17, not only contribute to David's survival but also demonstrate how God can use individuals with faithful hearts to further His purposes.

1. (a) Read 2 Sam 15:1-6, 11-13, 31, 37. Compare the responses of the two hundred invited leaders (v11), Ahithophel, and Hushai to Absalom's rebellion. What might have led to the differing responses (hint: Ahithophel was Bathsheba's grandfather)? (b) What can we learn from Hushai's unwavering commitment to David's cause during the rebellion? (c) What does Hushai's story teach us about loyalty, friendship, devotion, and courage in difficult times?

In 2 Samuel 15:32-37, Hushai appears as David flees from Jerusalem due to Absalom's rebellion. David, recognizing the strategic advantage Hushai could provide, asks him to return to Jerusalem as a spy within Absalom's court. Hushai agrees, despite the personal risk, demonstrating his loyalty and trust in David's leadership. This sets the stage for his role as a double agent. In 2 Samuel 16:15-19, Hushai enters Absalom's camp, feigning loyalty to him while secretly working to protect David. His true intentions are not known to Absalom, who receives him warmly. Later, in 2 Samuel 17:1-21, Hushai advises Absalom against following the counsel of Ahithophel to pursue David immediately, offering an alternative plan that buys David crucial time. This series of events reveals Hushai's wisdom, courage, and tactical mind, as he serves both as a loyal servant to David and as a faithful friend, working behind enemy lines for the greater good.

2. Read 2 Sam 15:31 – 32, and 2Sam 17:1-7, 23(a) What was Hushai's initial intention in coming to David (2 Sam. 15:32)? (b) Hushai deceived Absalom to rejecting what he (Hushai) knew to be wise counsel. Was he justified for so doing? Have you ever faced a similar dilemma? How did you deal with it? (c) What impact did Hushai's advice have on Ahithophel, and how did it contribute to David's survival (2 Sam. 17:21-23)? Why did Ahithophel kill himself?

From Hushai's actions, we can learn valuable lessons about loyalty, courage, and faithfulness. Like Hushai, we are called to be loyal in our relationships and to act with wisdom when serving those we care about. His story teaches us that sometimes, loyalty requires acting in ways that others may not immediately understand or appreciate. Moreover, Hushai's example highlights the importance of using one's gifts and position for the greater good. As we navigate our own challenges and relationships, we can draw strength from Hushai's unwavering faithfulness, understanding that even in the most difficult circumstances, God can use our actions for His purposes and His glory

3. (a) Hushai appears in v32, immediately after David learned of Ahithophel's treachery and offered a prayer in response. Are there times when God has answered your prayer almost before you have finished praying? (b) How can we apply lessons from Hushai's story of loyalty, wisdom, and courage in our relationships and our work for God's kingdom?

Prayer: Dear God, thank you for teaching us faithfulness and loyalty using the service of Hushai to David as example. Help us to fully imbibe the lessons to enhance a life of faithfulness and love for you and for one another in Jesus' name. Amen.