

**A.L.I.V.E. Bible Study**  
**Date: May 10, 2023**  
**2 Samuel 21:1-14**

1. What happened in our texts over the last few weeks?
  - a. David was king...and then he sort of wasn't.
  - b. David's son Absalom gained influence and then had himself anointed king.
  - c. David left peacefully rather than fight his son for the throne and some came with him and others threw stones.
  - d. David's men fought Absalom and Joab killed Absalom.
  - e. David came back and some people asked for mercy...and a lot of people argued over who should have the honor of bringing David back.
  - f. Sheba led all of Israel (but not Judah) to desert David over this argument...but when he held up in a city, a wise woman had him beheaded and threw his head over the wall to save the city from attack...and Davdi was again king over all Israel.
  
2. What do we learn now, in 21:1?
  - a. During the reign of David, there was a famine for three successive years.
  - b. David sought the face of the Lord.
  - c. The Lord told him "It is on account of Saul and his blood-stained house; it is because he put the Gibeonites to death.
  
3. Who were the Gibeonites?
  - a. They were people that God had already told Israel to destroy, so why is God so worried about this (Deut 20:16-20)?
  - b. They were Amorites who were supposed to be destroyed in the conquest of Canaan, but they tricked Israel into making a treaty with them (See Joshua 9).
  - c. They became laborers ("woodcutters and water carriers for the house of my God.").
  - d. The town of Gibeon was in the inheritance allotted to the tribe of Benjamin (where Saul's family was from).
  - e. They lived in Israel, though they were not Israelites.
  
4. What did David do, according to 21:2-3?
  - a. The king summoned the Gibeonites and spoke to them.
  - b. David asked them what he could do for them to remove the curse that was on Israel because of Saul's actions.
  
5. What did they ask for, according to 21:4-6? \_\_\_\_\_  
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6. What did David do in response to this request, according to 21:7-9?
  - a. He wasn't really going to allow this, was he?
  - b. This may seem unfair to us, but it was proper justice, according to the law.
  - c. David spared Mephibosheth son of Jonathan because of his oath to Jonathan.
  - d. David handed over the sons of Rizpah and five grandsons (sons of Saul's daughter Merab/Michal whom she bore to Adriel)
  
7. What did Rizpah do about this, according to 21:10? \_\_\_\_\_  
What did David do next, according to 21:11-14? \_\_\_\_\_
  
8. So much of what we have been reading in 2 Samuel offends our modern sensibilities. Although many of us might not think war, killing people, or the death penalty is ever ok, what God-inspired messages can we still be receiving from these texts? \_\_\_\_\_