## SBCC Daily On-Line Bible Study

Take time to read the selected passage and respond to the questions below. Allow God to draw near to you as you go deeper in His Word. Spend some time in prayer as you prepare to apply the Spirit's teaching to your daily life.

# January 5, 2022 The Advice of Hushai and Ahithophel

- 2 Samuel 16:15-17:29

### **Open It**

- 1. What are the pros and cons of a head of state relying on advisors?
- 2. To whom do you turn for advice?
- 3. What makes your favorite "chase" scene from a book or movie so exciting?

#### **Explore It**

- 4. Who was at Absalom's side when he entered Jerusalem? (16:15)
- 5. What question did Absalom have for Hushai the Arkite when they met? (<u>16:16-17</u>)
- What reasons did Hushai give to convince Absalom that he would change his loyalties? (<u>16:18-19</u>)
- What was Ahithophel's advice on how Absalom should proceed in his bid to become king instead of David? (<u>16:20-22</u>)
- 8. How was Ahithophel regarded as an advisor to kings? (16:23)
- 9. What plan of attack did Ahithophel recommend to Absalom? (17:1-4)
- What was Hushai's reasoning to convince Absalom that Ahithophel's plan was not good? (<u>17:5-10</u>)
- 11. What alternate advice did Hushai give to Absalom? (17:11-13)
- 12. Which advisor's plan was more likely to bring success to Absalom? (17:14)
- 13. Why did Absalom choose to follow Hushai's advice? (17:14)
- 14. What message did Hushai send to David via the priests? (17:15-16)

- 15. Why did the priests' sons end up hiding from Absalom's men? (17:17-18)
- 16. Who assisted Ahimaaz and Jonathan in hiding from Absalom's men? (17:18-20)
- 17. What did David and his followers do in response to Hushai's message? (17:21-22)
- 18. How did Ahithophel take the news that his advice had not been followed? (17:23)
- 19. Who led the armies of Absalom to Gilead in pursuit of David? (17:24-26)
- 20. Who brought provisions to David at Mahanaim? (17:27-29)

#### Get It

- 21. Why was Ahithophel such a valuable asset to Absalom?
- 22. In what sense was the struggle between Absalom and David more a struggle of wits than of armies?
- 23. What evidence do we have that intelligence and even wisdom can be used for either good or evil?
- 24. How can we filter the advice we receive to ensure that it is according to God's wisdom?
- 25. Why is teamwork often essential to achieving our objectives?
- 26. Why are outrageous and detestable actions used as a strategy of war?
- 27. How important is motivation and morale in the outcome of military fighting?

#### Apply It

- 28. What safeguards should you employ before taking the advice of a widely acknowledged expert?
- 29. How can you make a contribution this week to the teamwork of the people of God?