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## SERMON OUTLINE

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### Misguided mercy for an arrogant man

2 Samuel 14:1-15:12

- I. Misguided mercy – Joab prodded David to bring his son Absalom home from exile (2 Samuel 14:1-23).
  - A. Joab recruited a woman to tell a story urging David to let Absalom return (14:1-17).
    1. Stirring sympathy in David (1-11)
    2. Misapplying God’s mercy to Absalom (12-17)
  - B. David gave in, letting Absalom return (14:18-23).
    1. David realized Joab sent the woman (18-22).
    2. Absalom returned, but not to David (23).
      - *Can I discern when to pursue justice or mercy (Micah 6:8)?*
- II. Self-willed – Absalom returned arrogant and unrepentant (2 Samuel 14:24-33).
  - A. Narcissistic and vain (24-27)
  - B. Demanding and destructive (28-30)
  - C. Resentful and self-righteous (31-32)
  - D. Joab and David gave in to Absalom’s demand to be reinstated in the court (33).
    - *Where do I demonstrate self-will (Titus 1:7; Ephesians 5:21)?*
- III. Selfish ambition – Absalom began a subversive campaign against his father (2 Samuel 15:1-12).
  - A. Political pandering to undermine David (15:1-6)
  - B. Planning revolt to declare himself king (15:7-12)
    - *In what way am I driven by selfish ambition (Philippians 2:3-4)?*