IN THE WORLD

John 17:9-19

LESSON 13
November 29, 2026

Connect timeless truths with today's news.

CEO FOR A NEW ERA

This year marked a leadership transition at one of the world's most valuable companies. Effective September 1, Tim Cook stepped down as CEO of Apple, with John Ternus succeeding him in the role. In the last fifteen years, the company's market value grew from roughly $350 billion to more than $4.5 trillion. At the same time, regulators in the European Union have intensified enforcement against Apple's ecosystem, charging that it unfairly locks users into services. Many tech reviewers wonder whether Ternus—a hardware engineer by training—will usher in an era emphasizing product design, or if Apple will continue to grow its expanding portfolio of subscription services.

KING FOR A UNITED KINGDOM

After seven years of civil war, the northern tribes of Israel are ready to make peace and to follow David. They were loyal to Saul, but they see that God has chosen David to be like a shepherd over all Israel. They make a solemn agreement before God. So David is at last the king over Israel and will reign as king for a total of forty years, first in Hebron and later in Jerusalem. Now that David has the support of all the tribes, he turns to the problem of taking Jerusalem from the Jebusites. Though they mock David, he is able to defeat them by sending men through a water shaft to breech the walls. David uses the strong and central city as his capital so that surrounding nations can see that God is with David.

1. What should be the requirements to lead a large and valuable company?
2. Why do you think that God sustained David as the anointed king for so long before he had control of all Israel? What was God teaching David?
3. What kind of leadership roles have you been called to fill, even in small contexts?

Additional Resources

Any videos or web materials are for your personal use. If you play any media files in class, be sure to have the necessary rights to do so.

Playlists

Contemporary Worship Weekly
Echoes Worship Weekly *(featuring African-American music artists)*
Traditional Worship Weekly

Study Resources

Commentary: Samuel Giere's "Commentary on 2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10"
Commentary: Amy G. Oden's "Commentary on 2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10"
Commentary: Alphonetta Wines's "Commentary on 2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10"

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