

"FRUITFULNESS IN THE WAKE OF CONSEQUENCES"

II Sam. 12:13-31

I. INTRODUCTION:

A. The components of forgiveness: (Ps. 51:1-7; I Jn. 1:9)

Seeking forgiveness: 1) Look at the sin from God's perspective (how it hurt Him and how He hates what it does to others and ultimately to you; 2) take full responsibility for the offense; 3) ask God to help you hate the sin the way he hates it; 4) ask for His help to never to do it again; and lastly, 5) construct barriers that will keep you a safe distance from the temptation, so you won't repeat the offense. (I Jn. 1:9; Acts 26:20)

B. The joy of being restored: (Ps. 51:8-12)

"Joy is not the absence of trouble but the presence of Christ." William Vander Haven

- 1.
- 2.

C. The expectation of "more fruit" in the midst of consequences: (Ps. 51:13-19; Jn. 15:2)

1. The reality of "pruning" consequences: (Gal. 6:7; Jn. 15:2)

"You are free to choose but you are not free from the consequences of your choice."

2. How God uses our consequences to "open our lips" to "teach others": (Ps. 51:13, 15)

God wants to take your mess and make it your message. He wants to take your test and transform it into your testimony.

II. THE PROCESS OF STEPPING FORWARD AFTER TAKING A STEP BACK:

A. Acknowledge the sowing and take full responsibility for it: vv. 13-14 (Ps. 51:3)

- 1.
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B. Get alone to pray for an extended period of time: vv. 15-16, 18b (Lk. 22:40)

- 1.
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C. Face the consequences realistically: vv. 18-20

- 1.
- 2.

D. Claim the truths of Scripture: vv. 22-23 (II Thes. 4:13-14, 18)

- 1.
- 2.

E. Refuse to give up, and go on with your life and ministry: vv. 24-31

- 1.
- 2.

III. PRINCIPLES TO PERSONALLY APPLY: (Becoming "people of the Word" in principle AND in practice)

A.

B.

C.

SINNERS PRAYER

Dear Heavenly Father, I was made by you and I was made for you, but I have been living for myself. I am sorry for that self-rule you call sin. I believe that Jesus Christ being my creator God, died, was buried, and rose again to pay the insurmountable debt that my sin has created since birth. So right now, I am turning from a life of going my own way, to by faith, place my trust in Jesus Christ, to pay the debt of all my sin, and to get me to heaven, when I breathe my last breath. Lord Jesus, from today on, I am yours. Thanks for saving me, this very moment, in Jesus name, amen.