

David: Life Lessons

Week 8 – The Danger and Cost of Sin
(2 Samuel 11:1-27)

OPENING QUESTION

When sin enters our lives, will we bring it into the light and **turn from it**, or will we hide it, excuse it, and **allow it to grow**?

KEY VERSE

“When the time of mourning ended, David had her brought to his house. She became his wife and bore him a son. However, the LORD considered what David had done to be evil.”

-2 Samuel 11:27

THE STORY UNFOLDS

1. David **sees, desires, takes**. (2 Samuel 11:1-5)

David sees Bathsheba, learns that she is another man’s wife, but sends for her and takes what does not belong to him.

“I am pregnant.” Private sin now has a consequence David cannot hide.

Lesson: Sin begins in the heart and grows when sinful desire is **entertained rather than resisted**.

2. David tries to cover **what he has done**. (2 Samuel 11:6–13)

Instead of confessing his sin, David tries to manage its consequences by bringing Uriah home. But Uriah’s faithfulness exposes the contrast with David’s self-serving deception.

Lesson: Hidden sin **does not stay contained**; covering one sin often leads us into another.

3. David sacrifices Uriah **to protect himself**. (2 Samuel 11:14-17)

David sends Uriah back to battle carrying his own death sentence. He is not the only soldier who dies because of David’s scheme.

Lesson: Sin never affects **only the sinner**; its consequences spread into **the lives of others**.

4. David becomes comfortable with **the cost**. (2 Samuel 11:18-25)

“Don’t let this matter upset you because the sword devours all alike.” David speaks casually about the very death he arranged.

Lesson: Unrepentant sin **hardens the heart** and **dulls the conscience**.

5. David appears to have **covered up everything**. (2 Samuel 11:26-7)

Uriah is dead. Bathsheba becomes David's wife. A son is born. From a human perspective, David appears to have covered his tracks. But sin is never truly hidden because others cannot see it.

Lesson: Successful concealment does not mean **sin has been dealt with** or that **God does not see it**.

6. The Lord sees **what David has done**. (2 Samuel 11:27b)

"However, the LORD considered what David had done to be evil." David could manipulate people and circumstances, but he could not manipulate God.

Lesson: We may hide sin from people, but **nothing is hidden from the Lord**.

THE MAIN IDEA

What is true? Sin is rebellion against God that deceives the heart, spreads beyond the sinner, and brings destructive consequences. It promises satisfaction but produces bondage. It promises secrecy but often demands concealment. And even when unseen, it remains exposed before God.

What should we do? Resist sin before it grows, bring hidden sin into the light, and run to God for mercy rather than hiding from Him.

Main Idea: Because sin is rebellion against God that deceives, spreads, and destroys, we must turn from it and run to the mercy of the God who sees and judges it.

GOSPEL CONNECTION

David's sin shows that even God's anointed king needed mercy, pointing us to Jesus, the greater Son of David. Through His death and resurrection, Christ bore sin's judgment and makes forgiveness possible for all who repent and believe.

APPLICATION

1. Kill sin **before it grows**. Do not flirt with what God tells you to flee. Bring temptation before God early, establish wise boundaries, and resist sinful desire before it becomes deliberate action. Fight sin while it is asking for permission, before it demands concealment.
2. Bring your sin **into the light**. Stop minimizing, renaming, rationalizing, and hiding what God calls sin. Where your sin has harmed others, repentance may require confession, asking forgiveness, and making things right where possible. Stop managing appearances. Call sin what God calls it and bring it into the light.
3. Run toward God's mercy, **not away from Him**. The answer to guilt is not hiding from God but coming to Him in repentance and faith. God's forgiveness does not necessarily remove every earthly consequence, but in Christ there is real forgiveness and cleansing for repentant sinners. When God exposes your sin, do not run farther into darkness. Run toward His mercy in Jesus Christ.