DAVID – Developing a Heart for God

Lessons 9 & 10: Facing Temptation and God's Severe Mercy
Women in the Word Scripture Reference Notes – October 27, 2026

Scriptures quoted from the ESV

2 Samuel 8 – David's Military Victories
2 Samuel 9 – David and Mephibosheth – David fulfills his promise to Jonathan
2 Samuel 10 and 12:26-31 – David Defeats the Ammonites

Lesson 9 – Facing Temptation – 2 Samuel 11

The time – Approximately 10 years after returning the ark to Jerusalem
David is probably in his early 50's

Verse 1 – The setting

Verses 2-5 – David sins with Bathsheba

- David controls the action – he saw, he sent, he inquired, he took

Verses 6-13 – David and Uriah – The cover up attempt

- David controls the action – sent word, send Uriah, Uriah came, David asked, David directed

Verses 14-15 – David's plan to have Uriah killed

- David controls the action – David wrote, David sends his plan to Joab

Verses 16-24 – The plan put into action and the battle report

- David's plan is carried out – Uriah is killed along with others in the army and Joab sends his report to David stressing that Uriah was killed.

Verse 25 – David's callous response to the loss of Uriah and others

Verses 26-27a – Uriah's wife mourns, David marries Bathsheba

Verse 27b – The Lord is displeased

God is mentioned for the first time. God will control the narrative going forward. God's silence does not indicate His absence.

Lesson 10 – God's Severe Mercy – 2 Samuel 12
Grace Greater than all our Sin

Verses 1-4 – Nathan rebukes David

- God sends Nathan. Nathan speaks God's words to David.

Verses 5-6 – David's angry response to Nathan's story

- Exodus 22:1 – Penalty of four sheep for one that is stolen or killed

Verses 7-12 – The accusation and the Lord's judgement

7a – You are the man!

7b-8 – God reminds David of all He has done for him.

9 – God says David has despised His word (to despise God's word is to despise the One who has given the word).

10-11 – God pronounces judgement on David – Four judgements (4 lambs)

1. The sword will never depart from your house.
2. Evil will come from your own house.
3. David's wives will be taken and given to another (2 Samuel 16:22).
4. The child will die.

- Four sons will die – the baby, Amnon, Absolom and Adonijah.

Verse 13 – David's confession and God's mercy

- David's pure confession – *"I have sinned against the LORD."*

- Comparison to other kings confronted with sin:

    1. King Saul – 1 Samuel 15:24 – *"I have sinned, for I have transgressed the commandment of the LORD and your words, because I feared the people and obeyed their voice."*

    2. King Uzziah – 2 Chronicles 26:16-21 v. 19a – *"Then Uzziah was angry…."*

Verse 14 – The life of the child will be taken

- The guilty is spared and the innocent life taken.

Verse 15 – The Lord afflicts the child of Uriah's wife

Verses 16-17 and Psalm 51 – David pleads for the child's life

Verses 19-23 – Repentance marked by worship

- David rises, cleanses, and anoints himself, changes out of his mourning clothes, goes to worship and finally eats.

Verses 24-25 – David comforts Bathsheba and Solomon is born

- This is the first time Bathsheba is called David's wife.

David is the king to whom all other kings are compared.

> 1 Kings 9:4a – *"...if you will walk before me, as David your father walked, with integrity of heart and uprightness..."*
>
> 1 Kings 15:11 – *"Asa did what was right in the eyes of the LORD, as David his father had done."*
>
> 1 Kings 15:1-5 v. 5 – *"Because David did what was right in the eyes of the LORD and did not turn aside from anything that he commanded him all the days of his life, except in the matter of Uriah the Hittite."*

Psalm 32 – The blessing of God's severe mercy

Verses 26-31 – David takes Rabbah and ends the Ammonite war

The heart is the seat of our thoughts, emotions, and will. The heart – thoughts – attitude – actions.

David always came back and that's what made him a man after God's own heart!

Conclusion

What did we learn about God from the story of David and Bathsheba?

1. God sees all things – He is omniscient.
2. God hates sin and injustice and will deal with them as He sees fit.
3. God is generous and personal.
4. God's ordained consequences are just.
5. God offers grace and forgiveness upon genuine repentance.

You can fool an audience, impress a crowd, build a reputation, but you cannot hide your heart from God.

November 3 – Off for Election
Following Week – November 10
Lesson 11 – Misplaced Trust