

The Life of David: Part 5:

“David and Bathsheba, a story of US all...”

“Both of these people bring him to a field of testing and encounter that reveals David’s heart and character.”

“Story is the Gospel Way”

“The David story serves to train us in seeing, accepting, and participating in the miracles hidden in the ordinary life.”

The story of David and Bathsheba has been primarily taught around the dangers of sex, temptation, and even provocation on Bathsheba’s part.

- Have sex before marriage bad things will happen
- Being somewhere he should not be
- He looked way to long
- She tempted David

“David’s great failure was having sex with Bathsheba. Every other bad thing came out of this primary sin, all born out the act of sex.”

1. It teaches both directly and indirectly that David, and all men are the victims of the story.
2. Women are reduced to a tool of temptation.
3. It teaches only the perspective of David matters.

When we misread these ancient and sacred stories, we also misread our lives...

The real measure of someone’s heart, character and spirituality is how they view, interact, and treat the weak, oppressed, and those “under” us.

2 Samuel 11:1-5

“Sent”

“Impersonal exercise of power”

By following this word, we can trace David’s descent from love and obedience into taking and cruelty

Her washing was a faithful and personal act of devotion to God

“According to the laws at that time, Bathsheba could not have resisted had she desired, for woman in these ancient times were completely subject to a king’s will. If he desired her, he could have her, take her.”

“I am pregnant”

2 Samuel 11:11

2 Samuel 11:26-27

“But the thing David had done displeased the Lord.”

“Sin stories after a while pretty much sound alike. Virtually all sin rings on the theme of wanting to be in control, like God, taking charge of our own lives, including asserting control over the lives of others...The precise details of our sin may not correspond to David’s but the presence and reoccurrence of our sin does. The moment we recognize our common sin bond with David, we are ready for the real surprise here—the gospel story that develops out of the sin story.”

- Eugene Peterson Leap Over a Wall

The rest of the story...part 2

2 Samuel 12:1

“The Lord sent...”

2 Samuel 12:1-6

“David burned with anger...”

2 Samuel 12:7a

“You are the man!”

The gospel is about actual people, real pain, actual trouble, actual sin, you and me, what you have done, what I have done...

It is so easy to lose this focus...to let the gospel blur into general pronouncements, cosmic opinions, religious indignation.

This kind of religious response is worthless

2 Samuel 12:7-12

David became Spiritually blind

2 Samuel 12:13

“David recognizes his need for help, for grace, for forgiveness, a human being in need of God”

“In Christian living, maybe our primary task is not to avoid sin, which is almost impossible, maybe it is to see and recognize sin.”

Matthew 7:3-5

Psalm 51 (Don't put in, just slide that says Psalm 51)

David's sin, as enormous as it was, was wildly outdone by God's grace

The Gospel comes not as an accusation but as recognition and invitation.

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The real measure of someone's heart, character and spirituality is how they view, interact, and treat the weak, oppressed, and those “under” us. Because when we understand and let the gospel penetrate the deepest parts of our souls, we understand that Jesus chooses to love us deeply, personally not for his gain, but for our gain! Then we will love others with His love!

Where have we become like David in this story? In how we view others, and treat others?

Where are we guilty of seeing the speck in others eye's but missing the plank in ours?

Where do we need to see more like Christ when it comes to others? Especially those that we tend to think less than...

Have we become complacent like David?

1 Corinthians 11:28

Communion