

David, Part 4: David and Us

Have you discovered that you are often better in the boardroom than in the living room? Are you better at YouVersion than you are being a better version of you? Have you ever been your own worst enemy?

BIG IDEA: Failure isn't final!

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. Tell us about a time when you were your own worst enemy? When did you discover that you were headed toward disaster? Why did you keep going?
- 2. With your Bible or Bible App, read 2 Samuel 11:1-3

In the spring of the year, when kings normally go out to war, David sent Joab and the Israelite army to fight the Ammonites. They destroyed the Ammonite army and laid siege to the city of Rabbah. However, David stayed behind in Jerusalem. Late one afternoon, after his midday rest, David got out of bed and was walking on the roof of the palace. As he looked out over the city, he noticed a woman of unusual beauty taking a bath. He sent someone to find out who she was, and he was told, "She is Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam and the wife of Uriah the Hittite."

2 Samuel 11:1-3 (NLT)

- 3. How did David set himself up for sin? Was Bathsheba an innocent victim?
- 4. Assuming the temptation and the sin were progressive, at which points could David have stopped before going further downward?
- 5. With your Bible or Bible App, read 2 Samuel 11:14-27

So the next morning David wrote a letter to Joab and gave it to Uriah to deliver. The letter instructed Joab, "Station Uriah on the front lines where the battle is fiercest. Then pull back so that he will be killed." So Joab assigned Uriah to a spot close to the city wall where he knew the enemy's strongest men were fighting. And when the enemy soldiers came out of the city to fight, Uriah the Hittite was killed along with several other Israelite soldiers. Then Joab sent a battle report to David. He told his messenger, "Report all the news of the battle to the king. But he might get angry and ask, 'Why did the troops go so close to the city? Didn't they know there would be shooting from the walls? Wasn't Abimelech son of Gideon killed at Thebez by a woman who threw a millstone down on him from the wall? Why would you get so close to the wall?' Then tell him, 'Uriah the Hittite was killed, too.'" So the messenger went to Jerusalem and gave a complete report to David. "The enemy came out against us in the open fields," he said. "And as we chased them back to the city gate, the archers on the wall shot arrows at us. Some of the king's men were killed, including Uriah the Hittite." "Well, tell Joab not to be discouraged," David said. "The sword devours this one today and that one tomorrow! Fight harder next time, and conquer the city!"When Uriah's wife heard that her husband was dead, she mourned for him. When the period of mourning was over, David sent for her and brought her to the palace, and she became one of his wives. Then she gave birth to a son. But the Lord was displeased with what David had done

2 Samuel 11: 17-23(NLT)

6. Why do you think a person who used be "a person after God's own heart" could spiral down so badly?

- 7. During the message Carlo said, "Until we own it we'll never get victory over it. Until honesty replaces deception there can be no transformation. Until community replaces isolation there can be no victory that is sustained." Do you agree with this statement? Why or why not?
- 8. How can you acknowledge your vulnerabilities and seek God's help before small sins become big ones? How can this group help you this week to avoid becoming your own worst enemy?

WHAT WILL YOU DO?

Do you have a Nathan in your life? Do you have a trusted confidante, someone of the same gender as you, to whom you have revealed where you are weak? Have you given someone the right to ask you the hard questions, to confront you with the hard truths?

CHANGING YOUR MIND

Oh, what joy for those whose disobedience is forgiven, whose sin is put out of sight! Yes, what joy for those whose record the Lord has cleared of guilt, whose lives are lived in complete honesty! When I refused to confess my sin, my body wasted away, and I groaned all day long. Day and night your hand of discipline was heavy on me. My strength evaporated like water in the summer heat. Finally, I confessed all my sins to you and stopped trying to hide my guilt. I said to myself, "I will confess my rebellion to the Lord." And you forgave me! All my guilt is gone.

Psalm 32:1-4 (NLT)