

Holy Moments

Week 4: Bathsheba

Scripture

Matthew 1:1-6; 2 Samuel 11:1-5; 12:1-15; Psalm 32

Motivation

We're studying some of the women in the genealogy of Jesus, the Savior of the world.

I like how Nolan, last week, reviewed our series so far...

- Week 1: Tamar (Yikes...)
- Week 2: Rahab (Labels are bad...)
- Week 3: Ruth (Sigh of relief...)
- Week 4: Bathsheba (And good feeling gone...)

Why study these women? It shows how Jesus stepped into a family line marked by both sinners and those who have been sinned against to...

- Confront evil
- Forgive sin
- Heal the broken
- And, offer the gift of salvation to the world

That's what Christmas is about, isn't it?

Man needed someone to save him from sin and God sent His own Son to pay the penalty you and I should have paid.

Matthew 1:21 (ESV) She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” **22** All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: **23** “Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel” (which means, God with us).

These women, as messy as their lives were, show up in the genealogy of Jesus to show what it looks like to be forgiven, accepted, and brought into the family of God.

Information

We've been looking at the genealogy of Jesus through the eyes of Matthew's gospel. "Matthew gave Jesus' lineage through His legal father, Joseph. Thus, this genealogy traced Jesus' right to the throne of David, which must come through Solomon and his descendants." – Bible Knowledge Commentary

Matthew 1:6 (ESV) ...and Jesse the father of David the king. And David was the father of Solomon by the wife of Uriah...

Wait a minute. Why isn't Bathsheba mentioned by name?

By omitting Bathsheba's name and mentioning Uriah, Matthew draws attention to a pivotal moral failure in King David's legacy. This interruption in the genealogy highlights that the Messiah's lineage includes troubled moments in Israel's past.

Maybe you're wondering, "What happened?" Let's remember.

Glimpses of Bathsheba's Past...

- **Bathsheba is used by David for her beauty; she's taken by coercion or force**

2 Samuel 11:2 (ESV) It happened, late one afternoon, when David arose from his couch and was walking on the roof of the king's house, that he saw from the roof a woman bathing; and the woman was very beautiful. **3** And David sent and inquired about the woman. And one said, "Is not this Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite?" **4** So David sent messengers and took her, and she came to him, and he lay with her. (Now she had been purifying herself from her uncleanness.) **5** And the woman conceived, and she sent and told David, "I am pregnant."

- ✓ David is using his power and authority (Bathsheba is not the one seducing)
- ✓ The adultery leads to a child (who eventually dies after birth)

- **Bathsheba's husband, Uriah, is murdered to cover up David's sin**

2 Samuel 11:14 (ESV) ...David wrote a letter to Joab and sent it by the hand of Uriah. **15** In the letter he wrote, "Set Uriah in the forefront of the hardest fighting, and then draw back from him, that he may be struck down, and die."

- ✓ David seems to get away with it, but he doesn't

2 Samuel 12:9 (ESV) Why have you despised the word of the Lord, to do what is evil in his sight? You have struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword and have taken his wife to be your wife and have killed him

- ✓ Consequences would come upon David's house (a home is shattered, a child dies, and a nation is affected.)

▪ **God doesn't forget about Bathsheba**

2 Samuel 12:24 (ESV) Then David comforted his wife, Bathsheba, and went into her and lay with her, and she bore a son, and he called his name Solomon. And the Lord loved him **25** and sent a message by Nathan the prophet. So he called his name Jedidiah, because of the Lord.

“Jedidiah meant ‘Beloved of the LORD.’ It was Nathan’s name for Solomon, who was loved in the sense of being chosen by the Lord to be the successor to David’s throne, a remarkable instance of God’s goodness and grace considering the sinful nature of the marriage.” – MacArthur Study Bible

- ✓ Bathsheba’s story is not a footnote in David’s biography (God sees her)
- ✓ God brings forward the line that leads to Jesus without calling evil “good”
God brings beauty out of the broken without pretending it wasn’t broken. The genealogy doesn’t remove the pain; it announces the pain isn’t the conclusion.

Application

At Christmas we celebrate that God didn’t love us from a distance.

He came near...and Matthew shows us just how near.

Jesus steps into a family line with real mess, sin, and pain... even “the wife of Uriah.”

And now we come to the Lord’s Supper because the baby in the manger didn’t come just to be born.

He came to give His body and shed His blood.

So, as we take the bread and the cup, we’re remembering...

Christmas is God entering our story, and communion is God redeeming it.

- If you have trusted in Jesus, The Lord’s Supper is for you, even if you are coming with tears and repentance
- If you are not yet a Christian, we’re glad you’re here. I’d kindly ask you to let the bread and cup pass, and consider the Christ they point to

In Jesus Christ, there is forgiveness for the repentant and comfort for the wounded.

I’m going to give you a moment to examine your heart and confess sin.

While you're doing that, we'll have individuals passing the elements down the row.

Give time for people to pray and get the bread and juice.

At this time, I'd like to ask you to join me in reading Jesus' words to His disciples at the final supper before His death.

Here is what Jesus said regarding His body that would be given for the forgiveness of sin...

Matthew 26:26 (NLT) As they were eating, Jesus took some bread and blessed it. Then he broke it in pieces and gave it to the disciples, saying, “Take this and eat it, for this is my body.”

Nod to the people to take the bread and partake as you also partake.

Let's also remember Jesus' blood which was shed for our sin.

Matthew 26:27 (NLT) And he took a cup of wine and gave thanks to God for it. He gave it to them and said, “Each of you drink from it, **28** for this is my blood, which confirms the covenant between God and his people. It is poured out as a sacrifice to forgive the sins of many.

Nod to the people to take the juice and partake as you also partake.

As we have remembered Jesus' death on the cross for our sin, let's close with these words of celebration from David.

This is his confession of his sin with Bathsheba.

Psalm 32:1 (NLT) Oh, what joy for those whose disobedience is forgiven, whose sin is put out of sight! **2** Yes, what joy for those whose record the Lord has cleared of guilt, whose lives are lived in complete honesty! **3** When I refused to confess my sin, my body wasted away, and I groaned all day long. **4** Day and night your hand of discipline was heavy on me. My strength evaporated like water in the summer heat. **5** 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.