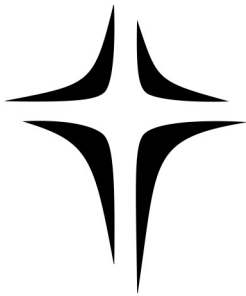


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Westview Church of Christ Greeley, Colorado

August 16, 2026

The Purpose

From here to heaven... Following God wherever He leads us.

Commentary from a common Terry *Guilty and in a fog*

People who study such things will tell us that when a person is carrying around unresolved, unacknowledged guilt, it can cause other problems. That person may become depressed or self-loathing. He or she may act out, behaving in ways that are unusual. Patience thins. Anger increases. And common sense judgment, especially when it comes to the actions of others, becomes clouded.

Welcome to David in II Samuel 12. A thumb-nail review: David was not at war as he usually was. He had time on his hands and kingly power to exert if he wanted. He spotted a beautiful woman, Bathsheba, bathing in her private residence (he saw her from the vantage point of the high rooftop of the royal palace). He sent for her. He had sex with her. She became pregnant. He tried to get her husband to spend intimate time with her, perhaps, then, convincing everyone that the child wasn't his. Her husband, Uriah, refused. He had been brought back from the battlefield. He would not, under any circumstance, enjoy the comforts of home while his fellow soldiers remained in the battlefield. So, David instructed Joab, his general (in a sealed letter that *Uriah* carried back) to make sure Uriah was left unprotected in the heat of the battle, guaranteeing his death. And it happened just that way. The chapter ends with Bathsheba mourning for her husband, her marriage to the king, and the birth of their son.

Whew! That's a lot in one chapter. Did David know he had sinned? You bet he did! Why else did he send for Uriah when he found out Bathsheba was pregnant? Did he know his commands to Joab to make sure Uriah died in battle were so very wrong? Absolutely. When a messenger came from the frontline and told David of Uriah's death, he sent back a message to Joab, saying, "Do not let this matter displease you...." II Samuel 11:25

Chapter 12 fast forwards a bit. The child is born. Enter the prophet Nathan, who consults with, encourages, advises, and, most importantly, informs the king of God's words. Nathan traps King David in his own guilt. He tells him of a rich man who had many sheep. His neighbor, a poor man with very little, has one sheep. It is a pet, loved as only a family pet can be. This man fed this little ewe lamb from the table. He let it drink

from his own cup. The lamb was, "...like a daughter to him." II Samuel 12:3

The rich man had a visitor drop in. Instead of taking a sheep from his flock, he took the poor man's pet lamb, killed it, and served it. *David's anger was greatly kindled against the man...and he said..., "As the LORD lives, the man who has done this deserves to die, and he shall restore the lamb fourfold, because he did this thing, and because he had no pity."* II Samuel 12:5-6

David was absolutely right under the Law that the rich man would repay the poor man four times over. Exodus 22:1 But, deserving of death? That's not the Law. There was nothing in the Mosaic Law about capital punishment for the theft of livestock. Did David really want to enact the death penalty? I'm not sure. But he was indignant enough that he wished it! He said that the man, "...deserves to die!" David could see the offense so clearly in someone else, and perhaps even overreact in his assessment, but could not yet see the message Nathan had brought to him.

Nathan then speaks one of the boldest single sentences by a prophet in scripture. *Nathan said, "You are the man!"* II Samuel 12:7 David had taken another man's wife—a much more severe action than the theft of one solitary sheep. God had anointed him king, delivered him from Saul and his enemies, and blessed him with the kingdom. How had he repaid God? By doing this evil thing!

David said the rich man in Nathan's scenario would have to pay back fourfold the sheep he had taken. Is it coincidence that the Bible narrative from that time on will record the tragic death's of four—four!!—of David's sons—the child born to him and Bathsheba, Amnon, Absalom, and Adonijah. David had inflicted terrible pain through his sin. He could not recognize it until Nathan forced him to look at himself.

The one saving aspect of this is that once David's eyes were opened and he could see himself more clearly, he did what we all need to do. He repented. He did not justify or defend himself. "I have sinned against the Lord." II Samuel 12:13

Next week—repentance.

Love one another,

Terry

Young At Heart luncheon today

We will have our *Young At Heart* luncheon today after our morning classes. We usually have everything ready to eat between 11:30 and 11:45 a.m. If you were unaware of the luncheon or a visitor, please join us. We always have plenty of food!

The Women's Bible Study group meets on Tuesday

The next meeting for the *Women's Bible Study* group is this coming Tuesday, the 18th. The group meets every first and third Tuesday of the month at 10 a.m. We will meet in Barb Henderson's home. The address is available through the church office. All the ladies are encouraged to join us.

WELCOME VISITORS!

We are thankful you are with us today as we worship our God and Savior. Our prayer is that you will encounter Him today.

A nursery for small children is available in the east hall off the lobby.

What will you experience at Westview?

- **Praise through song.** It is the tradition of our heritage to sing a cappella (without instruments) as we encourage everyone to be involved in uplifting praise.
- We value the **Bible**. You will hear God's Word read and all sermons will give the utmost respect and priority to Scripture.
- We share the **Lord's Supper** every week remembering Christ's sacrifice that provides us forgiveness as we celebrate our salvation through Him.
- **We do not expect our guests to give financially** to our work. We depend on the generous and godly giving of all Westview members to provide the funds needed to implement God's plans for this church.

We invite you to stay for Bible classes following our worship time. We hope you have been blessed today!

Today's Order of Worship

*I Will Call Upon the Lord
Humble Yourself*

Meet & Greet

Announcements & Reminders

Jesus Is Lord

Prayer

Scripture Reading:
Psalm 145:17-21

Nearer, Still Nearer

We Remember Christ's Sacrifice

Contribution Collected
Lord, Take Control

Elder blessing/prayer

My Hope Is Built

Sermon

The Invasion:
*If you do well....
If you do not do well*

How Great Thou Art

Unison Reading:
Psalm 86:10-11

Our God, He Is Alive

Events, opportunities, and reminders:

Memorial for Leonard Thompson is this coming Wednesday

The memorial to honor Leonard Thompson will be this coming Wednesday, August 19th. The service will begin at 11 a.m. at the Westview building. It will also stream through our website. *We will serve a meal afterwards.* Check the sign-up that was sent through email if you would like to help provide food. We'll also need help with setup, serving, and cleanup.

Young Families Discovery group meets this afternoon

The Young Families Discovery Group will meet this afternoon at 5 p.m. in the fellowship room. The menu is Taco Salad. Check with Cory & Katie for more information.

Band of Brothers weekend—Sept. 10th-13th; see Doug Blount for details

Tuesday night singing with the worship leaders—7 p.m. at the building

Laurie Hammer memorial—Tuesday evening, September 1st, at 6:30 p.m. at Westview. (We'll send meal information the week before the service.)

The Kitchen is CLOSED this week, August 19th

The Kitchen will **NOT** be open this Wednesday, the 19th, at the building. We will resume preparing burritos for the homeless shelter residents on the 26th.

Sunday morning classes: The fellowship room class is a verse-by-verse textual study, led by Randy McCrain and Tom Lininger. The class is studying the book of *Hebrews*, taught by Randy.

Terry's class, which meets in room #14, is entitled *The Fortress*. It is based on Psalm 18. Can we actually *experience* the power and protection and guidance of God, moving forward and growing in our faith?

The kids' worship handout is on the table at the back of the auditorium.

Servers for Worship today (16th)

Scripture Reading Taylor Wikum
Prayer Doug Blount
Todd Zwetzig (communion prayers)
Taylor Hegarty (contribution prayers)
Kim Hegarty
Abner Morales
Ian Sebold
Tyler Wade



The Westview Men's Coffee is every Tuesday morning from 6 to 8 a.m. in the fellowship room.

The Westview Women's Coffee is every Wednesday morning from 9 to 11 a.m. in the fellowship room.

We will NOT have a congregational meal on Sunday, August 30th, as first announced. It will be rescheduled in the fall.



Prayer reminders

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.
Philippians 4:6

We do not include personal information, such as the prayer list in our online bulletin. If you would like that information, it is available in the hard copy bulletin at the building. Or, you can contact the church office to receive a copy.