

David's Legacy

If you've ever studied the life and reign of David as king of Israel, it is honestly baffling. His life and relationship with God is really representative of Israel's past. I like to call it the Old Testament sin loop. People begin by living in relationship with God, then they mess it up and disobey God in some form or fashion. Next, they are made aware of their shortcomings which is followed by sacrifice and return to relationship with God. Eventually, they mess it up again. David was not much different. Somehow, he is not remembered that way. He is remembered as a "man after God's heart," the promised king of Israel and the king from whose lineage the Messiah would come. Despite the way he is remembered, reading about David's life still reveals a sea of mistakes and bad decisions.

In the military, we called guys like this one of two things. First, "can't get right." The nickname is fairly self-explanatory. No matter how hard these folks try, they just can't seem to get things right. The other is "a soup sandwich." The imagery there is important. Imagine a few pieces of bread sopping wet from chicken noodle soup. Go ahead and throw some noodles between the bread if you want and then dunk it all in the pot. When you try to pick it up or do something with it, it just falls apart and slips between your fingers. It's enough to make you want to throw the sandwich...or what you can of it!

You see, that is what David did not do with his life. When it all fell apart, he did not throw a fit. Instead, he reoriented himself and pressed on. This is how he handled failure and, in part at least, why he is remembered as a great and mighty king.

To the book!

1. **Read 1 Samuel 17:38-40.** This passage is part of the famous story in which David, the shepherd boy and would-be king, took down Goliath, the Philistine giant and warrior. As David prepared to engage the giant, Saul, the king at the time, dressed the boy in his armor. David had to try things out and ultimately shed the armor because it just wouldn't fit him. He recognized the possibility for failure and made adjustments.
2. **Read 2 Samuel 12:4-7a & 13.** Unlike our first passage today, David did not see his failure coming this time or at least if he did, he made no attempts to change directions. He had slept with Bathsheba, gotten her pregnant and then murdered her husband. The prophet Nathan confronted David. The result of the confrontation is David recognizing, confessing and reorienting himself after this failure.

This was the pattern in David's life. It's actually the pattern for all of us. We live. We get some things right. We get some wrong. Where the men are separated from the boys is in their response to failure. Men, accept it when they fail. Men ask for forgiveness. Men allow failure to shape them to be better leaders in the future and help others.

Family Night Big Idea

When mistakes happen, we can learn from them.

Discussion: Read 1 John 1:9

- **Elementary School** – Ask, "What is something you felt bad about until you admitted it?"
- **Middle/ High School** – Ask, "Why do you think we feel less guilty after talking about our mistakes?"

Prayer

"Father, help us admit our wrongs so that you can help us live with joy about you instead of our shame. Amen.

Velocity (Middle and High School Students)

Velocity: Velocity this Wednesday, May 3rd.

Gravity: Students stay and enjoy the service.

Today's Songs

Great Things.....Phil Wickham

Me On Your Mind.....Matthew West

Speak to the Mountains.....Chris McClarney

Running Home.....Cochren & Co.

Building Dino-sized Faith in God's Big Plan

Summer Camp for current Pre-K through 2nd graders is June 12-16 from 9am-Noon. Registration online and in the lobby begins May 14th. Cost is \$10.

SubSplash Software Change

In order to continue receiving churchwide messages you will need to get the new App. Go to Play Store or App Store and type in "gccstatesboro" and look for the church's logo. Turn notifications "on" to receive messages.

Graduate Recognition

Sunday, May 7 in both services. If you are a graduate, contact Tyler at 912-230-5681.

Baby Dedication Service

May 14th. Sign up in the Lobby. Be specific about which service you want to attend and take an Information Sheet.