

Rise & Redemption: (Week 8)

July 6th, 2025

Bird's Eye Review:

- David was called a man after God's own heart.
- David had good, bad, and ugly times in his life.
- As a young man, David's zeal for God enabled him to defeat the giant.
- The sins of David affected many innocent people.
- The **Psalms** of David reveal that throughout his "ups" and "downs" he clung to God for strength.
- David showed mercy and compassion to the son of Jonathan who was helpless.

A Curse or a Prediction?

2 Samuel 12:10-12 NIV—"10Now, therefore, the sword will never depart from your house, because you despised me and took the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your own. 11This is what the Lord says: 'Out of your own household I am going to bring calamity on you. Before your very eyes I will take your wives and give them to one who is close to you, and he will sleep with your wives in broad daylight. 12You did it in secret, but I will do this thing in broad daylight before all Israel.'"

The Tragic Story of 2 Samuel 13-19

We Have the Advantage of Looking Back on King David's Life and Choosing to be Proactive in Three Ways to Avoid His Mistakes:

1. Stop believing that failure is your fate and you cannot avoid it.

- You are not a victim of the inevitable. (**Proverbs 19:3 NIV**)
- You have been given the ability to make choices. (**Psalm 119:59 NIV**)
- The Bible gives you examples to learn from and be encouraged by. (**Hebrews 12:1-3 NIV**)

2. Play the movie forward.

- Ask yourself what the effect will be and what results you will get.
- **Galatians 6:7-10 NIV**

3. What would have changed if David had been proactive?

- If he had resisted the temptation of Bathsheba...
- If he had invested in his family as much as he invested in his troops...
- If he had taken the time to see through Ammon's scheme...
- If he had dealt with Ammon's crime against Tamar...
- If he had taken measures to care for Tamar...
- If he had dealt with Absalom's crime...
- If he had not fallen for Joab's trap with the "widow"...
- If he had reconciled with Absalom instead of ignoring him...

What steps do I need to take to change my story?

For Small Group Discussion

Opening Question: The sermon mentioned the importance of "finishing well." What does "finishing well" mean to you in your faith journey?

Main Point: While David was a man after God's own heart, his failure to address and rectify his family's issues and his own sins led to a tragic end that resulted in he and his family struggling to finishing well.

Main Scripture: 2 Samuel 13-19

Discipleship Questions:

HEAD:

- Reflect on the story of David and Absalom. What lessons about decision-making and consequences do you think are most relevant to your life today? How can you apply these insights to your current circumstances?

HEART:

- In the sermon, the speaker mentioned the ache of not finishing well, as seen in David's grief over Absalom. What unresolved emotional or spiritual issues might be holding you back from finishing well? How can you begin addressing these with God's help?

HANDS:

- Considering the message about proactive steps over passivity, how can you use your gifts and talents to serve more actively within our church community? Are there specific ministries or areas where you feel called to contribute?

FEET:

- The sermon emphasized avoiding passivity and taking proactive steps in our personal lives. What is one area in your work, home, or hobbies where you feel you could improve or make a positive change? What steps will you take to begin this transformation?
- How can the lesson of finishing well and being proactive influence the way you engage with your community? What practical actions can you take this week to demonstrate God's love and wisdom in your neighborhood or social circles?