

**Seeds**  
Growth Group Discussion Guide  
2 Samuel 11:1-12:14

**Intro questions**

- Who is one of the role models in your life, who you look up to? How have their faults and failings impacted the way that you see them?
- What is your impression of King David at this point in our series?
- Take a moment to pray, asking for God's Spirit to lead your discussion.

**1. Read 2 Samuel 11:1-5, then discuss the following.**

- How did David set himself up for sin?
- Assuming the temptation and the sin were progressive, note each point that David could have stopped before going further downward.
- What do you think made David vulnerable to falling this way?

**2. Read 2 Samuel 11:6-13, then discuss the following.**

- What contrast do you see between David's actions and Uriah's actions? Describe.
- Uriah does not cooperate. David has another point when he could stop and repent. Why does he not do so?

**3. Read 2 Samuel 11:14-27, then discuss the following.**

- How do you think a person who God has called "a man after my own heart" could spiral down so badly?
- Pastor Josh claimed that David's failure shows us, "**The seeds of the worst sins live in every human heart.**"
  - Do you agree with this statement? Why or why not? (Note: the implication is that *you* are capable of doing the things David did.)
  - What are some ways that we justify harboring the seeds of sin in our hearts?
  - The idea of "seeds" provides us with an analogy to see how sin grows to full-blown. What are some examples of sins in "seed" form?
  - What are some of the ways we might "water" these sins?
  - How can we acknowledge our vulnerabilities and seek God's help before small sins become big ones?
- The sermon suggested that because of this reality, we need to pay attention to the darkness in our own souls. How might we go about doing that?
- Practically, how can we destroy the seeds of sin before they destroy us?

#### 4. Read 2 Samuel 12:1-14, then discuss the following.

- Note how many times the words “The Lord” appears in this passage. What does this tell you of His involvement in this confrontation?
- What do you learn from the Prophet Nathan as a master-confronter of the most powerful leader in his country?
- Do you have a “Nathan” in your life? A trusted confidante, to whom you have revealed where you are weak, who has the right to ask you the hard questions?
  - If not, what keeps you from doing this?
  - If so, how has this person been helpful to you? What might we all learn from your experience?
- What is noteworthy about David’s confession of his sin in this passage?
- This week’s sermon claimed that **God’s grace has the last word**. How do we see God’s grace shining through here?
  - How do we see God’s grace, on the one hand, and the consequences of David’s sin, on the other, playing out in the remainder of his life and reign?
- How does this truth about God’s grace help us to avoid falling into sin in the first place?
- Thinking about our role models again—if they all have the seeds of sin in their hearts, as we do—what distinguishes the ones who have walked in integrity from the ones who have fallen? What can we learn from them?
- What aspects of this story did you notice, which Pastor Josh did not mention? How do those aspects speak to you?

#### 5. Prayer

- Pray for the ability to act on what God has shown you through this study. Today might be a time to invite confession in prayer—perhaps even sub-dividing into gender-based smaller groups, if your group is at this level of vulnerability.
- Pray for one another about any other needs that have been mentioned.