

Called In  
Called to Repentance

2 Samuel 11:26-12:15 NIV

*When Uriah's wife heard that her husband was dead, she mourned for him. After the time of mourning was over, David had her brought to his house, and she became his wife and bore him a son. But the thing David had done displeased the Lord.*

*- 2 Samuel 11:26-27*

*<sup>1</sup>The Lord sent Nathan to David. When he came to him, he said, "There were two men in a certain town, one rich and the other poor. The rich man had a very large number of sheep and cattle, but the poor man had nothing except one little ewe lamb he had bought. He raised it, and it grew up with him and his children. It shared his food, drank from his cup and even slept in his arms. It was like a daughter to him.*

*- 2 Samuel 12:1-15*

*4“Now a traveler came to the rich man, but the rich man refrained from taking one of his own sheep or cattle to prepare a meal for the traveler who had come to him. Instead, he took the ewe lamb that belonged to the poor man and prepared it for the one who had come to him.” David burned with anger against the man and said to Nathan, “As surely as the Lord lives, the man who did this must die! He must pay for that lamb four times over, because he did such a thing and had no pity.”*

*- 2 Samuel 12:1-15*

*<sup>7</sup>Then Nathan said to David, “You are the man! This is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says: ‘I anointed you king over Israel, and I delivered you from the hand of Saul. I gave your master’s house to you, and your master’s wives into your arms. I gave you all Israel and Judah. And if all this had been too little, I would have given you even more.*

*- 2 Samuel 12:1-15*

*<sup>9</sup>Why did you despise the word of the Lord by doing what is evil in his eyes? You struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword and took his wife to be your own. You killed him with the sword of the Ammonites. Now, 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.'*

*- 2 Samuel 12:1-15*

*<sup>11</sup>“This 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. You did it in secret, but I will do this thing in broad daylight before all Israel.’”*

*- 2 Samuel 12:1-15*



*<sup>13</sup>Then David said to Nathan, “I have sinned against the Lord.” Nathan replied, “The Lord has taken away your sin. You are not going to die. But because by doing this you have shown utter contempt for the Lord, the son born to you will die.” After Nathan had gone home, the Lord struck the child that Uriah’s wife had borne to David, and he became ill.*

*- 2 Samuel 12:1-15*

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*'I anointed you king over Israel, and I delivered you from the hand of Saul. I gave your master's house to you, and your master's wives into your arms. I gave you all Israel and Judah. And if all this had been too little, I would have given you even more. Why did you despise the word of the Lord by doing what is evil in his eyes?'*

*- 2 Samuel 12:7b-9a*

“Nathan’s goal was not simply to call David out, but to call him in, to invite him to repent and reenter right relationship. It was not God’s will that David be dismissed but, rather, that his restoration might be deeply connected to the harm he had caused. A deeper examination of scripture creates a deep link between the harm incurred by David’s human victims and God’s displeasure. Precisely because David hurt people, he has simultaneously disappointed God.”

*“I have sinned against the Lord.”*

*“I have sinned against the Lord.”*

*Nathan replied, “The Lord has taken away your sin. You are not going to die.”*

*- 2 Samuel 12:13*



*Have mercy on me, O God,  
because of your unfailing love.  
Because of your great compassion,  
blot out the stain of my sins.  
Wash me clean from my guilt.  
Purify me from my sin.*

*- Psalms 51:1-2*

*<sup>9</sup> Don't keep looking at my sins.  
Remove the stain of my guilt.  
Create in me a clean heart, O God.  
Renew a loyal spirit within me.  
Do not banish me from your presence,  
and don't take your Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore to me the joy of your salvation,  
and make me willing to obey you.*

*- Psalms 51:9-12*

“Self- examination and awareness are born as a result of consistent work and discipline. Discipleship and Christian maturity can be understood not by lack of harm done, but by the ability to repent when harm is done. It requires a trust that, in Christ, transgression is a precursor to transformation, not to condemnation.”

“‘I forgive you.’ What wonderful words to hear. We have all been there. We have all done something that needed forgiving. As sinful creatures, we are accustomed with needing forgiveness. We fail our spouses. We fail our children. We fail at work. We fail our neighbors. Ultimately, we fail God (Psalm 51:4). ...In a prayer of confession of sin... we confess to God that we have not loved Him with all our heart, soul, and mind, nor have we loved our neighbors as ourselves.”

Almighty God, we acknowledge and confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed; we have not loved you with all of our heart, soul, mind, and strength; we have not loved our neighbor as ourselves. Deepen within us our sorrow for the wrong we have done, and the good we have left undone.

Lord, you are full of compassion and gracious,  
slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy; there is  
always forgiveness with you! Restore to us the joy  
of your salvation; bind up that which is broken,  
give light to our minds, strength to our wills,  
and rest to our souls. Speak to each of us,  
and let your word live in us until it has  
worked in us your holy will. Amen.