

after God's heart

a series on the life of King David



Facing Sin

On Sunday, Pastor Ben and Eunice started us in the story of when David commits adultery with Bathsheba. Then this Sunday, Pastor Josh will be continuing the story of how David tries to cover up his sin and ends up killing Bathsheba's husband, Uriah, as a result. Adultery and murder are some of the worst things any human being can commit, much less for a man that is supposed to be after God's own heart. Tonight we'll be looking at these stories and considering what this might mean for us today.

LOOKING BACK:

- Vision Statement: Explain the purpose of lifegroup.
- Introduction Question: What's something you thought you would never do, but then ended up doing (whether good or bad)?
- Praise Reports and Prayer Requests.
- Accountability Question: How have I been creating space in my schedule to pursue God's heart?

LOOKING UP: 2 SAMUEL 11.2-17, 26-27

2 It happened, late one afternoon, when David arose from his couch and was walking on the roof of the king's house, that he saw from the roof a woman bathing; and the woman was very beautiful. **3** And David sent and inquired about the woman. And one said, "Is not this Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite?" **4** So David sent messengers and took her, and she came to him, and he lay with her. (Now she had been purifying herself from her uncleanness.) Then she returned to her house. **5** And the woman conceived, and she sent and told David, "I am pregnant."

6 So David sent word to Joab, "Send me Uriah the Hittite." And Joab sent Uriah to David.

7 When Uriah came to him, David asked how Joab was doing and how the people were doing and how the war was going. **8** Then David said to Uriah, "Go down to your house and wash your feet." And Uriah went out of the king's house, and there followed him a present from the king. **9** But Uriah slept at the door of the king's house with all the servants of his lord, and did not go down to his house. **10** When they told David, "Uriah did not go down to his house," David said to Uriah, "Have you not come from a journey? Why did you not go down to your house?" **11** Uriah said to David, "The ark and Israel and Judah dwell in booths, and my lord Joab and the servants of my lord are camping in the open field. Shall I then go to my house, to

eat and to drink and to lie with my wife? As you live, and as your soul lives, I will not do this thing.” **12** Then David said to Uriah, “Remain here today also, and tomorrow I will send you back.” So Uriah remained in Jerusalem that day and the next. **13** And David invited him, and he ate in his presence and drank, so that he made him drunk. And in the evening he went out to lie on his couch with the servants of his lord, but he did not go down to his house.

14 In the morning David wrote a letter to Joab and sent it by the hand of Uriah. **15** In the letter he wrote, “Set Uriah in the forefront of the hardest fighting, and then draw back from him, that he may be struck down, and die.” **16** And as Joab was besieging the city, he assigned Uriah to the place where he knew there were valiant men. **17** And the men of the city came out and fought with Joab, and some of the servants of David among the people fell. Uriah the Hittite also died.

26 When the wife of Uriah heard that Uriah her husband was dead, she lamented over her husband. **27** And when the mourning was over, David sent and brought her to his house, and she became his wife and bore him a son. But the thing that David had done displeased the Lord.

Discussion Prompts:

- What stands out to me from this passage?
- What do I learn about David?
- What do I learn about Uriah?
- What do I learn about God?
- What do I learn about being a person after God’s heart?

LOOKING FORWARD:

If David knew all that would end up happening (committing adultery with the wife of one of his mighty men then killing his friend in order to cover up his sin), would he still have gone up on that rooftop that evening? Would he still have inquired about the woman he saw bathing? Or sent for her? It seems as if things got away from David and that one compromise led to a greater compromise, that ultimately led him to do things he probably never imagined he would do. This is the nature of sin. If we’re not careful, sin threatens to consume us and cause us to do things we never thought we could do.

In same gender small groups, let’s create a space for people to share vulnerably about the places where sin is lurking and receive support for not compromising like David did.

- What are the Bathshebas in my life? That is, where am I being tempted to do something I know isn’t God’s best/will for my life?
- Can I share this tonight and trust my community and God to help me turn away from these temptations/sins?
- How can I continue to turn away from these things and to pursue God’s heart this week?
- Close by praying for each other to have freedom from these temptations/sins and to keep growing as people after God’s heart.