

Destin Church of Christ

June 4, 2023

Lesson 12: King David: “The Trials of a King”

2 Samuel 11 – 12; 18 – 19; 1 Chronicles 22; 29; Psalms 23; 32; 51

When we stand a large number of dominos one next to the other on a hard surface, then gently push one over, we cause a chain reaction — a “domino effect.” In Lesson 12 of *The Story*, we read about another domino effect, one having to do with sin.

When we commit a sin, our one action can begin a chain reaction of other sins. This week we look at the latter part of King David’s reign, and our focus is primarily on David’s fall and the subsequent challenges within his own family.

Lesson Breakdown:

- David and Bathsheba (2 Samuel 11)
- Conviction and Repentance (2 Samuel 12; Psalm 51)
- Consequences (2 Samuel 12; Psalm 32)
- Absalom (2 Samuel 18-19)
- Solomon (2 Chronicles 22, 29)
- The Shepherd (Psalm 23)

Plot Points:

- Not even a king is above the law; what is done in secret will one day be revealed.
- When called out for our sin, the only proper response is honest repentance.
- Our sins can be forgiven, but that does not mean the consequences will be erased.

As you watch the video for Session 12 of The Story, notice some of the main points.

- ✓ There is something inside us that compels us to do wrong.
- ✓ Uriah’s integrity exposes the contrast with David’s integrity.
- ✓ Nathan earned the right to be heard.
- ✓ Sometimes when we do wrong, we set unstoppable consequences in motion.
- ✓ God includes the least likely candidates in his Upper Story.

UNDERSTAND THE STORY:

As Lesson 12 of *The Story* begins (2 Samuel 11; pp. 161), we see David enter into sin and begin a domino effect of other sins that followed. There are multiple steps to sin, as we see in James 1:14-15.

In the “evening time”, David gets out of bed and walks around on the roof. He sees a beautiful woman bathing. (pg. 161) [2 Samuel 11:2]

The process of committing sin begins as a thought, and if we don’t “nip it in the bud” at that point, it will turn into a full-fledge temptation.

1. Would it have been a sin if David had stopped at this point?
2. What was actually David’s first mistake? (pg. 161) [2 Samuel 11:1]

David should have been out at the battle, but he remained behind. We know David did go with his army into battle because 2 Samuel 10 tells us how the army of the Israelites had a decisive victory against the Syrians and the Ammonites when David led the battle. (NIB) [2 Samuel 10:17-19]

3. Why would David have gotten up from his bed and walked around on the roof of the house in the middle of the night? (2 Samuel 11:2)
4. What time of the year did this incident take place? Why?

If not stopped, temptation turns into desire. (pg. 161) [2 Samuel 11:4]

Surrendering to the desire will yield your will to evil, and sin takes place. (pg. 161) [2 Samuel 11:4]

Bathsheba sends David word that she’s pregnant. (pg. 161) [2 Samuel 11:5]

David brings Uriah home from battle and tries to get him to sleep with his wife so he and others would think that the coming child belonged to Uriah. Uriah, being a man of integrity, stayed focused on his mission. (pg. 161-162) [2 Samuel 11:6-13]

5. What did David ask Joab, the commander of the army, to do about Uriah? (pg. 162) [2 Samuel 11:15, 25]

After learning her husband was dead, Bathsheba 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.

6. What was God’s attitude about what happened? (pg. 162) [2 Samuel 11:27]

The LORD sent Nathan to confront David. (pg. 162) [2 Samuel 12:1]

7. After Nathan confronted David, what was David's reaction?
(pg. 163) [2 Samuel 12:13]

Humbled and broken in heart, David acknowledged his sin and poured out his feelings in a prayer. (pg. 163-164) [Psalm 51]

Even though Nathan tells David that God has taken away his sin and he's not going to die, he tells David the child would. (pg. 165) [2 Samuel 12:14]

8. What was the result of Nathan confronting David over his sin with Bathsheba?
(pg. 162) [2 Samuel 12:16; 18]

9. Instead of making excuses for his sin, what did David do? (pg. 165) [2 Samuel 12:20]

David is filled with remorse. When he asks God to forgive him, God said yes. David expressed his gratitude for God's gift of forgiveness in Psalm 32.
(pg. 165-166) [2 Samuel 12:13-14; Psalm 32]

Bathsheba gave birth to another son, and he was named Solomon. The LORD loved him and sent word through Nathan the prophet to name him Jedidiah.
(pg. 166) [2 Samuel 12:24-25]

10. Is the son's name Solomon or Jedidiah?

2 Samuel 13-17 (pg. 166-167) ...

- 2 Samuel 13: Amnon rapes his sister Tamar. Absalom kills Amnon.
- 2 Samuel 14: David forgives Absalom for killing Amnon.
- 2 Samuel 15: Absalom leads a revolt and forces David to flee Jerusalem.
- 2 Samuel 16: Absalom sleeps with David's concubines in Jerusalem.
- 2 Samuel 17: Absalom attempted to overthrow his father and usurp the throne, resulting in a rebellion. David's and Absalom's forces prepare for battle.

The Story picks up ... 2 Samuel 18 ... (pg. 167)

David's and Absalom's forces go to battle. David appoints commanders over his army but instructs them to be gentle with his son. (pg. 167) [2 Samuel 18:5]

11. What ultimately happened to David's son Absalom? (pg. 167-168) [2 Samuel 18:9-15]

King David mourned his son's death when he heard the news. He went up to the room over the gateway and wept. He covered his face and cried aloud, "*O my son Absalom! O Absalom, my son, my son!*" (pg. 169) [2 Samuel 18:33; 19:4]

1 Chronicles 22 ... The Israelites build the temple.

12. What did David do to build the temple for the Lord? (pg. 169) [1 Chronicles 22:2-4]

David charged Solomon to build the temple. (pg. 169-170) [1 Chronicles 22:6-8]

David also left them with a hundred thousand talents of gold, a million talents of silver, and bronze and iron beyond measure. (pg. 170) [1 Chronicles 22:14]

13. How did the people respond? (pg. 171) [1 Chronicles 29:6-8]

The people rejoiced because they had offered willingly. (pg. 171) [1 Chronicles 29:9]

After a humble prayer (pg. 171-172) [1 Chronicles 29:10-13], David hands the kingship over to his son Solomon. All the officials and all the sons of King David pledged allegiance to King Solomon. (NIB) [1 Chronicles 29:24]

14. How old was David when he died? (NIB) [1 Chronicles 29:28; 2 Samuel 5:4]
(Not sure in the amount of time between 1 Chronicles 29:23 and 1 Kings 2:12.)

According to 1 Kings 2:10, he is buried in the city of David (Jerusalem). (NIB)

David was a man full of drive and passion, but what ruled his life and consumed his heart was a deep love for God. God was the generous Giver and loving Father who led David from childhood to old age. David's poetry paints a beautiful picture of his relationship with his God — a protector, Father and Lord. (pg. 173) [Psalm 23]

- Sin costs us more than we ever dream. Just because we admit that we have done the wrong thing, and even make it right, doesn't mean the consequences will go away.

Even though David suffered grave consequences and turmoil for his actions, he did the right thing and enjoyed the Lord's forgiveness and favor. His genuine sorrow and regret over his sins revealed his repentant heart, with which the Lord was pleased.

NEXT WEEK ... We'll look at the story of how God blessed Solomon with the most amazing kingdom in Israel's history. Take time this week to read Lesson 13 of *The Story* 1 Kings 1 – 8; 10 – 11; 2 Chronicles 5 – 7; Proverbs 1 – 3; 6; 20 – 21.