

Life Group Discussion Guide
March 3, 2019

Read 2 Samuel 11:1 **In the spring, at the time when kings go off to war**, David sent Joab out with the king's men and the whole Israelite army. They destroyed the Ammonites and besieged Rabbah. But David remained in Jerusalem.

What do you notice about this scripture?

We are about to read about how David falls into temptation with Bathsheba. How does David's being in the wrong place (not off to war with his army) set him up for a trap from the enemy?

Read 2 Samuel 11:2 One evening David got up from his bed and walked around on the roof of the palace. From the roof he saw a woman bathing. The woman was very beautiful,³ and David sent someone to find out about her. The man said, "She is Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam and the wife of Uriah the Hittite." ⁴ Then David sent messengers to get her. She came to him, and he slept with her.

Do you find anything odd about this scene? If so, what?

In your group read 2 Samuel 11:6 through to the end of the chapter. Have each person read a verse or two, in order, until you get through to the end.

David carries on an inappropriate physical relationship with another man's wife. Clearly, he realizes that what he has done is wrong. How does David respond to this realization?

One sin isn't necessarily "worse" than another in terms of the balance sheet of heaven. The Bible says that "ALL have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God" and that the "wages of sin is death." BUT the consequences of sin can be more or less severe depending on the wrong that has been committed. In trying to cover up the sin of adultery, David had a man killed.

What was at the root of David's cover-up plan? Why do you think he tried to cover up his sin? How can pride make a difficult situation worse?

Read 1 John 1:5-9.

According to these verses, why is it so important to admit when we have sinned?

It says in 1 John 1:9 "But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness."

If you have ever fallen into a trap of the enemy, you know how painful the process of admitting your fault can be. We also know that even when you have been forgiven by God and cleansed from unrighteousness you still have to move courageously through the consequences of a mistake, large or small.

Take some time in your group to pray specifically against pride. Ask God to show you what areas in your life might be impacted by pride in ways that are setting you up for a fall or keeping you from walking in the forgiveness of our gracious king Jesus. Make a personal note of what the Holy Spirit reveals to you during this prayer time. Remember that confessing your faults to trusted, mature, believers who love you is an important part of the healing process.