



Our Next Guest – David

Sermon Discussion Questions – June 12, 2022

Scripture Passages:

2 Samuel 11:1-4 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. 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, 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." Then David sent messengers to get her. She came to him, and he slept with her.

2 Samuel 11:11 "The ark and Israel and Judah are staying in tents,^[a] and my commander Joab and my lord's men are camped in the open country. How could I go to my house to eat and drink and make love to my wife? As surely as you live, I will not do such a thing!"

2 Samuel 11:14-15 "In the morning David wrote a letter to Joab and sent it with Uriah. In it he wrote, "Put Uriah out in front where the fighting is fiercest. Then withdraw from him so he will be struck down and die."

2 Samuel 11:26 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 12:1-9 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. 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.” 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. 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.

2 Samuel 2:1 Then David said to Nathan, “I have sinned against the LORD.”

2 Samuel 12:24-25 Then David comforted his wife Bathsheba, and he went to her and made love to her. She gave birth to a son, and they named him Solomon. The LORD loved him; and because the LORD loved him, he sent word through Nathan the prophet to name him Jedidiah.

Warm Up

This week pastor Mark started off his sermon by telling a funny fail story from one of his families boat trips on the lake. What funny fails, mishaps, or accidents have you had or seen?

Discussion

- 1) Pastor Mark started his sermon by introducing us to David, “a man after God’s own heart.” What do you remember about the person of David? What was his biggest fail/sin recorded in the Bible? (Hint read 1 Samuel 11).
- 2) After describing the sin of David pastor Mark asks, how did David get to the place of such sin? After looking closer as 1 Samuel 11:1 He answered, “**Failure creeps in when we lose focus on our mission and purpose.**” How did David lose focus on his mission and purpose? Mark warned, “When you lose focus on who you are, who you’re following, and who you’re called to serve you start treading into dangerous waters.” What might be some warning signs to help you know you might be losing focus on your mission or purpose?
- 3) Read 2 Samuel 12:1-9.
What happened in these verses? How did Nathan point David back to the work and goodness of God? What was so risky about Nathan’s actions? How did David respond? How might you respond to a Nathan in your life?
- 4) Pastor Mark said, “Not only is Nathan calling out David’s sin, but he is realigning his focus. We all need a Nathan in our lives.”
Do you have someone who loves you and God enough to ask the difficult questions? Someone who can speak difficult truth into your life? Do you have people who help keep you focused? What character traits might you look for in a Nathan in your own life?
- 5) Why do you think we all need Nathan’s in our lives? How have you seen accountability done well? What might good accountability look like?

6) Read 2 Samuel 12:24-25.

Although there is loss in these verses there is also redemption.

How do these verses show that David's failure was not final? How can this encourage us in that our failures are not final?

7) Read Psalm 51.

Because of David's repentance he is restored and still known as "a man after God's own heart."

How does this passage along with 2 Samuel 12:24-25 show that God gets to define us, not our failures? What are some times when you've had a fail or a mishap that wasn't so funny? How did you respond?

Next Steps:

Who could you go to, to help keep you focused on the purpose and mission God has for you?

How can you live in a way where God defines you, not your failures?

How could you offer to be a Nathan to a close friend?