

Week of 6-04-2023

Series: The Story, Ch. 5, Pt. 3

Sermon: The Destructive Nature of Sin

Text: 2 Samuel 11-12

Sermon Outline:

Biblical Truth: Personal sin destroys you and the world around you.

Grace Ignored (ch11)

1. David was not walking with God. (1-27)
2. David was not with his people. (1)
3. David was not doing his job. (1)
4. David was in the wrong place at the wrong time. (2)
5. David was always in control. (1-17)

Grace Received (ch12)

1. Nathan speaks. (1-6)
2. God convicts. (7-12)
3. David repents. (13)
4. God forgives. (13)
5. David suffers. (14-23)
6. God redeems. (24-31)

Discussion Questions:

Read 2 Samuel 11.

1. Romans 3:23 says: "for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God". Sin is simply not living up to God's standard. It's doing what God has commanded us not to do & not doing what God has commanded us to do.
 - Can you name any types of sins that bring no consequences? Discuss whether or not they exist.
 - Can you name any types of sins that only impacts the one committing the sin? Discuss whether they exist.
 - How do all sins have consequences on the person and the world around him?
2. God is mentioned 172 times in 2 Samuel, but only one time in ch11 and that's in the last sentence of the last verse: "But the thing that David had done displeased the LORD." How difficult or easy is it for you to go throughout your day w/o hearing from (*God's Word*), talking to (*prayer*), or thinking about (*meditation*) God?
3. Most everyone had left except for a few of David's assistants. It's possible to be with people, but not with the right people. And it's also possible to be with the right people, but keep them at arm's length. God's grace often comes through brothers and sisters in Christ who you allow to speak truth into your life. What kind of relationships do you have?
4. Read Ephesians 6:11-12. It just makes logical sense. If you are walking with Jesus and engaging in His battles, then your mind is way less likely to get distracted and your time is way less likely to get consumed with temptations that will sideline you. But this takes intentional effort on your part. How are you doing and where might you need help in putting on the "armor of God"? (*See picture and caption on the other page.*)
5. For David, the wrong place at the wrong time was a roof. Where is that place or situation for you and why?

6. David could have made a 180 at any time. But he kept ignoring all the means of grace made available to him. Read 1 Corinthians 10:13. Have you ever felt you were a victim of the other person, situation, or even Satan? Or do you recognize that God is always providing a “way of escape”? Discuss ways in which God does this.
7. Read Ephesians 4:27. How did David “give the devil a foothold” (NIV) and how could you be doing the same?
8. Read Psalm 51. David told Nathan in 2 Samuel 12:13 that he had “sinned against the LORD.” Why does biblical repentance start with first recognizing that it’s ultimately against God that you have sinned?
9. In one verse (2 Samuel 12:13), David confesses AND Nathan tells him that “the LORD has put away your sin.” Aren’t you glad that those two sentences in verse 13 are not separated by list of things David needed to do! Can you identify (or have you at some point been able to identify) with one or more of these statements:
 - “My sin is so bad that God could never forgive me.”
 - “The consequences of my past sin are overwhelming.”
 - “I know God forgives, but I still feel like I have to do something to make up for it.”
 If so, what is it about the gospel that you need to preach to yourself?

Reference for Question #4:



If David had lived out our wall, he would have got off his roof!

Bonus Question: How do you think the story would have turned out if shortly after the adultery David had repented and confessed his sin to Uriah?