

AFTER GOD'S HEART

A STUDY IN THE LIFE OF DAVID

After God's Heart Part 9—How to Get Back Up Pastor Dave Patterson 8.15.2021

USING THIS SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

We have provided all the Scriptures references in the sermon and some discussion questions for you to use to discuss the weekend message.

This Sermon Discussion Guide is only a tool to aid you in meeting the needs of your group. For most groups, there are too many questions to answer in one session together. Give priority to the needs and pace of your group members.

While the questions are important, remember your group's goal is to create an atmosphere that will foster true friendships. Use the discussion questions as you see fit but emphasize the relationships.

[Acts 13:22]

“...God said, ‘I have found David son of Jesse, **a man after my own heart**. He will do everything I want him to do.”

[Romans 3:22-24, NLT]

We are made right with God by placing our faith in Jesus Christ. And this is true for everyone who believes, no matter who we are.

For everyone has sinned; **we all fall short of God's glorious standard**. Yet God, in his grace, freely makes us right in his sight. He did this through Christ Jesus when he freed us from the penalty for our sins.

Your sentence is not your identity; your title is NOT what you have done but what Jesus has made you.

[2 Samuel 11:1-5]

In the spring of the year, when kings normally go out to war, David sent Joab and the Israelite army to fight the Ammonites. They destroyed the Ammonite army and laid siege to the city of Rabbah. However, David stayed behind in Jerusalem.

Late one afternoon, after his midday rest, David got out of bed and was walking on the roof of the palace. As he looked out over the city, he noticed a woman of unusual beauty taking a bath. He sent someone to find out who she was, and he was told, “She is Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam and the wife of Uriah the Hittite.” Then David sent messengers to get her; and when she came to the palace, he slept with her. She had just completed the purification rites after having her menstrual period. Then she returned home. Later, when Bathsheba discovered that she was pregnant, she sent David a message, saying, “I’m pregnant.”

[Proverbs 27:12]

A wise person foresees danger and takes precautions.

The simpleton goes blindly on and suffers the consequences.

[2 Samuel 11:6-13]

Then David sent word to Joab: “Send me Uriah the Hittite.” So Joab sent him to David. When Uriah arrived, David asked him how Joab and the army were getting along and how the war was progressing. Then he told Uriah, “Go on home and relax.” David even sent a gift to Uriah after he had left the palace. But Uriah

didn't go home. He slept that night at the palace entrance with the king's palace guard.

When David heard that Uriah had not gone home, he summoned him and asked, "What's the matter? Why didn't you go home last night after being away for so long?"

Uriah replied, "The Ark and the armies of Israel and Judah are living in tents, and Joab and my master's men are camping in the open fields. How could I go home to wine and dine and sleep with my wife? I swear that I would never do such a thing."

"Well, stay here today," David told him, "and tomorrow you may return to the army." So Uriah stayed in Jerusalem that day and the next. ¹³ Then David invited him to dinner and got him drunk. But even then he couldn't get Uriah to go home to his wife. Again he slept at the palace entrance with the king's palace guard.

[2 Samuel 11:14-17, 22-27]

So the next morning David wrote a letter to Joab and gave it to Uriah to deliver. The letter instructed Joab, "Station Uriah on the front lines where the battle is fiercest. Then pull back so that he will be killed." So Joab assigned Uriah to a spot close to the city wall where he knew the enemy's strongest men were fighting. And when the enemy soldiers came out of the city to fight, Uriah the Hittite was killed along with several other Israelite soldiers.

So the messenger went to Jerusalem and gave a complete report to David. "The enemy came out against us in the open fields," he said. "And as we chased them back to the city gate, the archers on the wall shot arrows at us. Some of the king's men were killed, including Uriah the Hittite."

“Well, tell Joab not to be discouraged,” David said. “The sword devours this one today and that one tomorrow! Fight harder next time and conquer the city!”

When Uriah’s wife heard that her husband was dead, she mourned for him. When the period of mourning was over, David sent for her and brought her to the palace, and she became one of his wives. Then she gave birth to a son. But the LORD was displeased with what David had done.

[2 Samuel 12:1-10]

So the LORD sent Nathan the prophet to tell David this story:

“There were two men in a certain town. One was rich, and one was poor. The rich man owned a great many sheep and cattle. The poor man owned nothing but one little lamb he had bought. He raised that little lamb, and it grew up with his children. It ate from the man’s own plate and drank from his cup. He cuddled it in his arms like a baby daughter. One day a guest arrived at the home of the rich man. But instead of killing an animal from his own flock or herd, he took the poor man’s lamb and killed it and prepared it for his guest.”

David was furious. “As surely as the LORD lives,” he vowed, “any man who would do such a thing deserves to die! He must repay four lambs to the poor man for the one he stole and for having no pity.”

Then Nathan said to David, “You are that man! The LORD, the God of Israel, says: I anointed you king of Israel and saved you from the power of Saul. I gave you your master’s house and his wives and the kingdoms of Israel and Judah. And if that had not been enough, I would have given you much, much more. Why, then, have you despised the word of the LORD and done this horrible deed? For you have murdered Uriah the Hittite with the sword of

the Ammonites and stolen his wife. From this time on, your family will live by the sword because you have despised me by taking Uriah's wife to be your own.

Reaping a harvest and defining a life are two separate things.

When you are in Christ, you don't live in your past failures. That is not your dwelling place.

Even on your worst day, God is planning for your redemption.

HOW DAVID GOT BACK UP—

- 1. David kept the door open to the prophetic voice** (Stay in proximity to the Word).

God loves you too much not to send His Word. Conviction is the road to repentance and convincing is the road to restoration.

- 2. David brought his brokenness to God.**

[Psalm 51:1-4, 16-17]

Have mercy on me, O God,

because of your unfailing love.

Because of your great compassion,

blot out the stain of my sins. Wash me clean from my guilt.

Purify me from my sin.

For I recognize my rebellion;

it haunts me day and night.

Against you, and you alone, have I sinned;

I have done what is evil in your sight.

You do not desire a sacrifice, or I would offer one.

You do not want a burnt offering. The sacrifice you desire is a

broken spirit.

You will not reject a broken and repentant heart, O God.

[2 Corinthians 7:10]

For the kind of sorrow God wants us to experience leads us away from sin and results in salvation. There's no regret for that kind of sorrow. But worldly sorrow, which lacks repentance, results in spiritual death.

3. David refused to live at a distance from God.

There are no second-class citizens in the Kingdom of God; He makes a place for each of us at His table.

[Ephesians 2:13]

But now you have been united with Christ Jesus. Once you were far away from God, but **now you have been brought near to him through the blood of Christ.**

[Psalm 51:10-13]

Create in me a clean heart, O God.

Renew a loyal spirit within me.

Do not cast me from your presence

or take your Holy Spirit from me.

Restore to me the joy of your salvation,

and make me willing to obey you.

Then I will teach your ways to rebels,

and they will return to you.

Open my lips, Lord,

and my mouth will declare your praise.

[Acts 13:36]

“For David, after he had served the purpose of God in his own generation, died and was buried with his ancestors”

FOR MONDAY—

1. Read Acts 13 and Psalm 51 and let the description of David’s life and God’s character encourage you.
2. Open your mouth and declare God’s praise for his restoration. Let him renew your song and restore your joy!

TALK IT THROUGH

1. What do people tend to let define them? In your experience, is that usually negative or positive?
2. Why do you think you can be a man or woman of God and your heart can still betray your destiny?
3. How do people give the enemy a foothold? What areas of compromise can seem minimal but that can grow and give birth to something greater?
4. To whom, does Romans 3:22-24 speak? Who has a propensity toward sin, and who needs God’s grace? Yet, what’s God’s heart for us?
5. What is your story? How does God desire to redeem or rewrite your story?
6. In what ways, does David’s life show us how to recover and get back up, in the midst of life’s patches and challenges? Of the prophetic voice, brokenness, and intentional proximity to God, which one has been a saving grace for you?
7. What does it look like to bring your brokenness to God? What does it take to experience godly sorrow, and who has modeled that for you? [Consider 2 Corinthians 7:10]
8. Where do you think God is calling you to serve His purposes for your generation?