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## “Heart of Repentance“

**Review: David, a man after God’s own heart.**

3 points: 1. The power of sin. 2. The greatness of God’s grace and mercy, 3. How a heart of repentance leads to forgiveness.

2 Samuel 11:1-17 (NIV) 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. <sup>2</sup>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, <sup>3</sup>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.” <sup>4</sup>Then David sent messengers to get her. She came to him, and he slept with her. (Now she was purifying herself from her monthly uncleanness.) Then she went back home. <sup>5</sup>The woman conceived and sent word to David, saying, “I am pregnant.” <sup>6</sup>So David sent this word to Joab: “Send me Uriah the Hittite.” And Joab sent him to David. <sup>7</sup>When Uriah came to him, David asked him how Joab was, how the soldiers were and how the war was going. <sup>8</sup>Then David said to Uriah, “Go down to your house and wash your feet.” So Uriah left the palace, and a gift from the king was sent after him. <sup>9</sup>But Uriah slept at the entrance to the palace with all his master’s servants and did not go down to his house. <sup>10</sup>David was told, “Uriah did not go home.” So he asked Uriah, “Haven’t you just come from a military campaign? Why didn’t you go home?” <sup>11</sup>Uriah said to David, “The ark and Israel and Judah are staying in tents, 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!” <sup>12</sup>Then David said to him, “Stay here one more day, and tomorrow I will send you back.” So Uriah remained in Jerusalem that day and the next. <sup>13</sup>At David’s invitation, he ate and drank with him, and David made him drunk. But in the evening Uriah went out to sleep on his mat among his master’s servants; he did not go home. <sup>14</sup>In the morning David wrote a letter to Joab and sent it with Uriah. <sup>15</sup>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.” <sup>16</sup>So while Joab had the city under siege, he put Uriah at a place where he knew the strongest defenders were. <sup>17</sup>When the men of the city came out and fought against Joab, some of the men in David’s army fell; moreover, Uriah the Hittite died.

### 1. The Power of Sin.

- Through David’s complacency and arrogance, David was in the wrong place at the wrong time creating an opportunity for sin.
- What’s in the human heart that can lead us to such a broken place?

Jeremiah 17:9 (NIV) The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure. Who can understand it?

- The heart is the center of our will, desires and emotions.

James 1:14-15 (NIV) but each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed. <sup>15</sup>Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death.

- Sin is powerful, don’t hide your sin, *Kill your sin or your sin will kill you.*

Romans 8:13 (NIV) For if you live according to the flesh, you will die: but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live.

- The great news is that God offers us grace and mercy in our brokenness. Romans 5:8

### 2. The greatness of Grace and Mercy.

*Grace* is receiving what we can’t earn, *mercy* is not receiving what we deserve.

- God sent Nathan the prophet to confront David, but to also offer grace and mercy.

2 Samuel 12:1-7 (NIV) 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. <sup>2</sup>The rich man had a very large number of sheep and cattle, <sup>3</sup>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. <sup>4</sup>"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." <sup>5</sup>David burned with anger against the man and said to Nathan, "As surely as the LORD lives, the man who did this must die! <sup>6</sup>He must pay for that lamb four times over, because he did such a thing and had no pity." <sup>7</sup>Then Nathan said to David, "You are the man!"

- Why didn't Nathan come right out and accuse David? Because he was going for *conviction of the heart and repentance, not condemnation*. This is grace.

John 3:17 (NIV) For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

- Nathan disarmed David - Let's be a Nathan, loving others to repentance.

Hebrews 3:12-13 (NIV) See to it, brothers and sisters, that none of you has a sinful, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God. <sup>13</sup>But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called "Today," so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness.

- Be a Nathan - care enough to speak the truth in love.

### 3. Repentance leads us to the forgiveness God offers.

Psalms 51:1-7 (NIV) Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions. <sup>2</sup>Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin. <sup>3</sup>For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me. <sup>4</sup>Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight; so you are right in your verdict and justified when you judge. <sup>5</sup>Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me. <sup>6</sup>Yet you desired faithfulness even in the womb; you taught me wisdom in that secret place. <sup>7</sup>Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.

- David's confession and repentance was specific. "I have rebelled and missed the mark of your righteousness, please forgive me Lord".

- Confession and repentance restore our relationship with God.

1 John 1:9 (NIV) If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

- When we are honest with God and repent of our sins, God will forgive us. Psalm 32:5, Acts 3:19

- God's Grace doesn't cancel consequences.

- Grace and forgiveness renewed David's heart. Consequences helped remind him of lessons learned. 2 Corinthians 12:9

#### Small Group: Discussion Questions: 2 Samuel 11:1-17, 12:1-14, Psalm 51:1-7

1. What does killing your sin look like? Be specific Romans 8:13
2. How will you be a "Nathan"? How will you receive a "Nathan"?
3. Read Psalm 51 and discuss what a repentant heart looks like.

Reference: K.P. Youhanon book, "When you failed"



Serve Info



Group Questions



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