



October 26, 2025
A Man After God's Heart
A Sinner Saved by Grace
2 Samuel 11:1-17

1. **Opening Discussion:** (You will probably want to use only one of these openers)

- a. Americans probably have more leisure time than any people in history. What do you do with your leisure time? How important is it to you?
- b. Our political history includes many cases where an intended cover-up causes more trouble than the event that was trying to be hidden would have. Have you ever seen that in your own life —perhaps a son or daughter who gets themselves into more trouble by trying to conceal an indiscretion?

2. **Prayer:**

- a. Adoration – Pray a Psalm or other Scripture to focus on praising God.
- b. Confession – Spend time confessing any known sins. 1 John 1:9
- c. Thanksgiving – Thank God for answered prayers, blessings, gifts, and opportunities to serve.
- d. Supplications
 - i. Pray for the activities of His Church locally and around the world.
 - ii. Pray for the spiritual and physical needs of others and yourself.
- e. **Least Reached People Group: Sidi Bedouins of Algeria** (*from the IMB “Loving the Lost Through Prayer” guide.*)

“In the stark, gritty beauty of Northwest Algeria’s mountains and valleys, the Sidi Bedouins (see-Dee BEH-doo-ins) make their home. They number 139,000 and are Sunni Muslim. They speak Hassaniyya, a type of Arabic. Traditionally, they raised livestock and traversed the Sahara to find food and water for their animals. Their tribal and nomadic lifestyle, as well as their unique language and commitment to Islam, make it difficult to find them and communicate the gospel in their language. Pray for God to reveal Himself through visions to the Sidi Bedouins, much like He did with Saul on the Damascus Road. Ask God to make a way for these nomadic people to hear the gospel and believe it.”

3. **Sermon Key Points:**

- a. The Man After God's Heart Broke 3 of the 10 Commandments.
 - i. King David walked the timeless path to sin.
 - ii. David desperately tried to cover his sin with more sin.
- b. Guard Yourself - Nobody Is Immune to Temptation!
 - i. If David can fall into sin, so can you and I!
 - ii. Understand when you're most vulnerable and don't fight alone.

- c. Quickly Repent and Embrace God's Grace When You Fall Into Sin.
 - i. David's sin brought disaster but not damnation.
 - ii. God's grace is always available to you through Jesus Christ

4. Bible Study:

- a. **Sunday Afternoon** – As soon as possible after the sermon, make time to consider:
 - i. What stood out to you the most in this sermon?
 - ii. What new truth did you learn, or what truth were you reminded of?
 - iii. Is there a particular Scripture passage you feel God is leading you to meditate on or commit to memory?
 - iv. What is one thing God is leading you to do after hearing this message?
 - v. Did God convict you of a need to make any changes in your life and walk with Him?

- b. **Monday:**

- i. This week's focal passage deals with David's sin with Bathsheba and the subsequent cover-up. To see the big picture, start the week by reading 2 Samuel 11:1-12:15.
- ii. Thinking back over the events in David's life that we have studied over the past couple of months, why do you think that 2 Samuel now reports on such a striking change in David?
 - 1. What insights, both good and bad, do these verses provide into David's true character?
 - 2. What does this passage teach us about the character of God?
- iii. How/why should this passage be of great importance to us in today's society?
 - 1. With such a vivid illustration of the consequences of sin (which is followed by chapters reporting on the impact it has on the rest of David's life), why do you think so many Christian leaders, who have obviously studied the passage, fall to the same temptation (see 1 Corinthians 10:11-12)?
 - 2. What takeaway should we apply to our lives (see also 1 John 1:9)?

- c. **Tuesday:**

- i. Read and meditate on 2 Samuel 11:1-3a.
- ii. In these three verses, we are told of at least three mistakes or steps that led to David's sinning with Bathsheba.
 - 1. What condition did David allow himself to be in according to verses 1 & 2a? What does the New Testament say about this condition (see 1 Thessalonians 5:14, 2 Thessalonians 3:6 & 11-13, and 1 Timothy 5:13-15)? Why is this a crucial lesson for us today?
 - 2. According to verse 2b, what was David's second step in his progress to sin? Had David sinned at the first sight of Bathsheba? What should he have done?

Why can we be confident if we find ourselves facing a similar temptation (see 1 Corinthians 10:13)?

3. What was David's third step on his path to sin, according to verse 3a? What practical lessons can we gain that should apply in our age, particularly concerning new-age philosophies, spiritualism, witchcraft, etc.?
- iii. According to Jesus in Matthew 5:27-28, when did David sin? If David had confessed and repented at that point, how would the story have been different?

d. Wednesday:

- i. Read and meditate on 2 Samuel 11:3b-4.
- ii. When told that Bathsheba was Eliam's daughter, whose granddaughter would David have known she was (see 2 Samuel 23:34)? Why should that have made any difference to David (see 2 Samuel 16:23)?
- iii. What is the second fact that David is told, which should have caused David to rethink what he was considering?
- iv. What does verse 4 tell us about how clandestine David's rendezvous with Bathsheba really was? If David had been thinking logically, would he have realized the affair could not be hidden even from men, much less God?
- v. Some commentators have tried to transfer some of the guilt to Bathsheba by suggesting that she deliberately exposed herself to the king and came willingly when summoned. Why are such considerations, even if they were true, absolutely irrelevant to this account? Who alone is responsible for David's actions?

e. Thursday:

- i. Read and meditate on 2 Samuel 11:5-17.
- ii. When David found out Bathsheba was pregnant, what did he do first? What pretense does David use to get Uriah back to Jerusalem? What does David's sending for Uriah specifically and the subsequent conversations they had suggest about their possible relationship before Uriah went to war?
- iii. What causes David's initial plans for a cover-up to fail? What do Uriah's actions and his comments in verse 11 tell us about his character?
- iv. How would you describe David's attitude when his second attempt to get Uriah to go home to Bathsheba failed? When you compare David's response when given the water his warriors brought him from the well at Bethlehem (2 Samuel 23:13-17) with his attitude about Uriah and those who died with him (see 2 Samuel 11:25), how thoroughly has sin affected David?
- v. Read Proverbs 28:13. Does it seem likely that at least in part, Solomon may have come to this bit of wisdom after hearing the account of his father and mother?

f. Friday:

- i. Read and meditate on 2 Samuel 12:1-14.

- ii. How did Nathan respond to God's instruction to confront David with his sin? As Christians, how are we given a similar mission (see Matthew 18:15 and James 5:19-20)?
- iii. Given David's background, what made the story Nathan told particularly relevant?
- iv. How was the last sentence of verse 3 carefully crafted to remind David of Uriah's speech (2 Samuel 11:11)?
- v. As Nathan transitions in verse 7 from the story to the actual event, whose words are David hearing? Who does God tell David is responsible for his successes? What possible answer could David have given to God's question in verse 9?
- vi. How is David's response to the exposure of his sin markedly different from Saul's response in 1 Samuel 15:16-26? How does God's response to both David and Saul show how absolutely serious sin is?
- vii. What lesson should we take away from the fact that even though David confessed and was forgiven, there were still serious consequences to be faced?
- viii. If you are familiar with the rest of David's life, how is God's judgment carried out?

g. Saturday:

- i. Read Psalm 51 and Psalm 32.
- ii. Psalm 51 is David's prayer of confession following Nathan's confrontation. In it, David presents three major requests.
 - 1. What does David ask God to do in verses 1-7? How does verse 4 echo David's response to Nathan in 2 Samuel 12:13?
 - 2. What is David's request in verses 8-12? How does his prayer in verse 11 relate to what David knew had happened to Israel's first king (1 Samuel 16:14)? In what way are we more privileged than David in this respect (see John 14:15-18 and Romans 8:14-17)?
 - 3. What is David's final request of God? How does Ephesians 2:10 apply this request to us as Christians?
- iii. Many see Psalm 32 as a partial fulfillment of the promise David makes in 51:13. How do you see David's response to his sin and subsequent forgiveness reflected in this Psalm? How do verses 3 and 5 point ahead to the message of 1 John 1:8-9?

5. Application:

- a. Every attempt to hide sin has failed from the moment we start. Even if we succeed in concealing it from others, the One we have sinned against, the One whose laws we have broken, knows. And that is true even if the sin is just in our heart (mind). The only valid response to sin is to confess and repent immediately.
- b. All sin is an abomination to God, and we should flee from it, but in our society, sexual sin is particularly prevalent. Many passages in the New Testament warn us of the seriousness of this matter (see 1 Corinthians 6:18-20 and Ephesians 5:3). We should prayerfully consider the practical applications of what it means to "flee from sexual immorality" in our lives in 2025 America, and how we teach this truth to our young people.