

David: Deviation in Legacy 2 Samuel 12

As people, we will often find ourselves faced with the consequences of our own or someone else's sin. As believers, we are called to respond to those consequences like David: with prayer, a healthy perspective, and praise for our Lord.

Read: Psalm 3

Intro: Broken Pencils and a Popped Ball – When I was 7yrs old, I received one of the greatest Christmas gifts ever: Pencils. But not just any pencils... they were shiny pencils with textured grips and crazy erasers! Unfortunately, I only got to enjoy their magnificence for approximately 24hrs, because I woke up the next day to discover they had all been broken in half!

- Immediately, I knew the only monster capable of such a crime was my 5yr old sister, and I knew her favorite Xmas gift was a brand new Disney Princess 4-square ball, so using my 7yr old supervillain mind, I found her ball and popped it with a broken pencil. For maximum irony.
- Naturally, we both got in huge trouble and had to apologize to one another (family is forever) so our relationship was mended, but our toys remain broken, even to this day. **The crime was resolved, but the consequence remained.**

The Truth is...

- **We've all had to face the consequences of our mistakes or others** – group project fails; house is filthy; financial trouble; dysfunction in family; poor choices with **sexuality** or **substance use**. When we face these consequences, we often feel bitter or frustrated or guilty, so we withdraw or lash out, but is that **how Christians should respond to the consequences of sin?**

This Semester...

- We're studying **the Life of David through his stories and Psalms** in order to understand what made him a "man after God's own heart." I want us to understand what defined him because I want to have that heart, and I want you to have that heart.

This Morning...

- We're looking at how **David responded to the Consequences of Sin**

The Sin

- **Read: 2 Sam 12.9** – Bathsheba recap; We often want to focus all of the blame for David's consequences on that one mistake with Bathsheba, but remember: **this started years before** when David **failed to search himself** in his success & kept using women as sexual objects

The Consequence

- **Read: 2 Sam 12.10-12** – God issues a **prophesy of pain**, which sounds like a Christian metal band, but plays out much worse
- **Read: 2 Sam 12.13-14** - The crime was resolved, but the consequences remained. **Galatians 6.7**
- It'd be great if our takeaway could be **"so don't sin,"** but the reality is that we will sin again and people around us will sin again, and we're going to face the consequences that we deserve and the ones we don't. **Read: Hosea 8.7**
 - **The Whirlwind is coming, so how will we respond?**

The Response

- **Read: 2 Sam 12. 15-16** – Prayer
 - David responded with **heartfelt Prayer** - When we're caught in the consequences, we don't often put a lot of thought into our prayer
 - **Ex: Quick Confession** – "Sorry about this and that, so good thing Christ died for it!"

Freedom in Christ! ‘Murica!’

- **App:** If I’m asking a **loved one** for forgiveness, I take it seriously. What sin or consequence do you just dismiss?
- But David was **Still and remembered God’s Grace** so he prayed and fasted in a quiet place rather than pulling in a ton of people
 - **Ex: Backhanded prayer requests** – “Hey, will you pray with me for Stephanie, because she’s the WORST”
 - **App:** Friends discovered they’re very **early in pregnancy**, so they’ve asked close friends to pray for them – not solo and not posting it on Facebook – healthy middle ground. What consequence do you need to take to a small group?
- **Heartfelt Prayer - David knew the sin was against God, so treated it as such**
- **Read: 2 Sam 12.21-23 – Perspective**
 - David responded with a **heavenly Perspective** – When we’re caught in the consequences, we don’t often have a healthy Perspective
 - **Forget** – many times we **dismiss the consequence too soon**
 - **App:** How many times have you fallen into the same sin over and over again? What consequence do you forget?
 - **Focus** – many times we **focus on the consequence too much**
 - **Video Ex: Dog Slo Mo Walk video (<http://youtu.be/QXlavl7Rw90>)**
 - **App:** How many times has sin crippled your ability to approach God or others? **What consequence do you focus upon?**
 - **Heavenly Perspective - David knew the consequence was legitimate & that it won’t last forever**
- **Read: 2 Sam 12.19-20 – Praise**
 - David responded with **high Praise** – When we’re caught in the consequences, we don’t think to Praise God
 - **Callback Ex: Getting spanked** with “I’m doing this because I love you” at beginning and end... yeah right!
 - **App:** How many times **have you blamed God** for the consequences of yours or someone else’s sin?
 - **High Praise - David knew the consequence was out of love, so he thanked God** – He realized that God was using the consequence to teach David about both Sin and Grace

More Consequences

- **Summarize 13-18:** Soon, David’s son, Amnon, lusts for his half-sister, Tamar, and rapes her. Tamar runs to her brother, Absalom. Absalom waits 2yrs and murders Amnon. Absalom flees the area and planning a revolt against David. A revolt that works and sets Absalom on the throne.
 - **Read: Psalm 3.1-2** – David is on the run as a consequence of sin
- **More Summary:** Absalom abuses the throne by setting up a tent on his roof in which to have sex with his dad’s wives and concubines. But David eventually gets back onto the throne, so his right-hand man murders Absalom. Which leads us to...
- **Read: 2 Sam 18.33** – David is broken and ashamed and facing the consequences of his sin. His 3rd son is dead due to David’s sin.
 - **Read: Gal 6.7** - David mocked God and his consequences were severe. David didn’t die, but 3 of his sons did. Yet through it all...
- **Read: Psalm 3.3-8** – David responds with Prayer, Perspective, Praise

Application

- **I don’t know what whirlwind you’re reaping right now.** I don’t know if it’s your fault or not. But I do know that God allows us to face the consequences of our sin **not to scare us off, but to draw us nearer to Him**
- **As broken people, we will face the consequences of sin. But as Believers, just like David, we can respond to those consequences with Prayer, Perspective, and Praise**

Psalm 3 ESV

O LORD, how many are my foes!
Many are rising against me;
many are saying of my soul,
there is no salvation for him in God.

But you, O LORD, are a shield about me,
my glory, and the lifter of my head.
I cried aloud to the LORD,
and he answered me from his holy hill.

I lay down and slept;
I woke again, for the LORD sustained me.
I will not be afraid of many thousands of people
who have set themselves against me all around.

Arise, O LORD!
Save me, O my God!
For you strike all my enemies on the cheek;
you break the teeth of the wicked.

Salvation belongs to the LORD;
your blessing be on your people!

2 Samuel 12:9-12 ESV

Why have you despised the word of the LORD, to do what is evil in his sight? You have struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword and have taken his wife to be your wife and have killed him with the sword of the Ammonites. Now therefore the sword shall never depart from your house, because you have despised me and have taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your wife.' Thus says the LORD, 'Behold, I will raise up evil against you out of your own house. And I will take your wives before your eyes and give them to your neighbor, and he shall lie with your wives in the sight of this sun. For you did it secretly, but I will do this thing before all Israel and before the sun.'"

2 Samuel 18:33 ESV

And the king was deeply moved and went up to the chamber over the gate and wept. And as he went, he said, "O my son Absalom, my son, my son Absalom! Would I had died instead of you, O Absalom, my son, my son!"

Galatians 6:7 ESV

Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap.

2 Samuel 12:13-14 ESV

David said to Nathan, "I have sinned against the LORD." And Nathan said to David, "The LORD also has put away your sin; you shall not die. Nevertheless, because by this deed you have utterly scorned the LORD, the child who is born to you shall die."

2 Samuel 12:15-16 ESV

And the LORD afflicted the child that Uriah's wife bore to David, and he became sick. David therefore sought God on behalf of the child. And David fasted and went in and lay all night on the ground.

2 Samuel 12:21-23 ESV

Then his servants said to him, "What is this thing that you have done? You fasted and wept for the child while he was alive; but when the child died, you arose and ate food." He said, "While the child was still alive, I fasted and wept, for I said, 'Who knows whether the LORD will be gracious to me, that the child may live?' But now he is dead. Why should I fast? Can I bring him back again? I shall go to him, but he will not return to me."

Hosea 8:7 ESV

For they sow the wind,
and they shall reap the whirlwind.
The standing grain has no heads;
it shall yield no flour;
if it were to yield,
strangers would devour it.

2 Samuel 12:19-20 ESV

But when David saw that his servants were whispering together, David understood that the child was dead. And David said to his servants, "Is the child dead?" They said, "He is dead." Then David arose from the earth and washed and anointed himself and changed his clothes. And he went into the house of the LORD and worshiped. He then went to his own house. And when he asked, they set food before him, and he ate.