

La Novela de Dios

Episode 6: David – A Man After God's Own Heart



connect with needs

- Find out how they are doing.
 - Pray for wisdom from God for the session.
 - Start by stating: **"How we react to failure can often tell more about us than the failure itself."**
- Then, surface experiences:
- "Let me tell you how I have experienced this."
- "Tell us how you have experienced this."
- Transition to the Bible by saying, "This is also true in the Christian life."
 - Illustration(s):

hear what God says

Read the following passages:

2 Samuel 11:1-16
2 Samuel 12:1-25
Psalms 51: 1-17

Commentary:

2 Samuel 11:1-16—In last week's lesson, we saw how God chose David based on his heart and not on outward appearances. And then, God used David, and unlikely warrior, to save Israel from Goliath. Now, we see David, who has become King, in a different light. After he has been given the entire kingdom of Israel, he wants something he can't have—another man's wife. In fact, David wants her so bad that he goes against God's will and sleeps with her. It doesn't stop there. In order to cover up his sin, David makes a really big mess of things.

2 Samuel 12:1-15—David's sin might have been hidden from everyone else, but God knew what he had done. God loved David, cared about His people in Israel, and didn't want David to continue down this path of destruction and disobedience. Instead of ignoring David's sin, he sends Nathan, a prophet, to confront David. Instead of continuing to hide, David admits his sin to Nathan and to the Lord. The Lord forgives David and takes away his sin. There are still consequences, though. David finds out that his son with Bathsheba will die.

1 Samuel 17:41-50—Here, we see a prayer that David wrote during this time in his life. David is repentant and wants to be right with the Lord. He knows that he can't be made clean unless the Lord changes his heart and washes him.

- Discuss each passage using these questions, or the alternate questions below:

"What do you think this passage teaches us?"

"What can we learn about God or our response to God?"

How do you think this passage relates to the statement we discussed earlier: "How we react to failure can often tell more about us than the failure itself?"

Last week, we saw some of David's shining moments. The Lord chose him as Israel's new king, and then used him to face one of Israel's biggest and scariest enemies. We saw David's faith in the face of difficult circumstances, and we saw him glorify the Lord in front of his enemy.

But this week, we see one of David's weak moments. Instead of trusting that God's ways are best, David goes outside of God's will to get something he wants, and then lies and commits murder in order to cover it up.

Even though David makes a big mistake here, we can see that he is not defined by his failure. When God used Nathan to show David his sin, David reacts in repentance and asks the Lord to forgive him and change his heart. Even though David sinned, the reaction to his sin shows us the condition of his heart. He wanted to walk with God and glorify him, and this is part of what made him a "man after God's own heart."

God chose David to be the warrior and King for His people, Israel. But that's not the end of the story. God will send a perfect King and Rescuer for His people—Jesus. And Jesus will be born into David's family.

apply that to life

- State the main lesson: **"Even people who love the Lord and walk with Him will sometimes sin. What matters is how we react to our sin."**
 - Discuss:
In this story of David, we see two examples of reactions to sin: hiding it and covering it up, or repenting and asking the Lord to change us. Think of an example from your own life where you've chosen one of these reactions. What were the consequences?
- God used Nathan to confront David. How should we respond when friends confront us with our sin?*
- How can this story encourage us when we sin? How can we react well when we've really messed up?*

"What is one action you can take this week to make sure your heart is soft towards the Lord so you respond rightly when you sin?"

- Have them write down their specific **action to take**. Then in groups of two or three, have them share what action they plan to take. Finally, have them pray for one another.

tell someone they know

- Ask whom they know who might be interested in hearing about what they are learning.
- Have them write the name after **person to tell**. Then, in groups of two or three, have them share whom they plan to tell. Finally, have them pray for one another.
- Encourage them to tell those people in the next few days.

notes & preparation checklist

pray

- Pray for wisdom.
- Pray for group members.

connect

- Think of a good personal example to share.
- Decide when and how to transition from **connect** to **hear**.

notes & preparation checklist

Hear (Alternate questions to ask:)

- **2 Samuel 11:1-16**
 1. What was the first thing David did wrong? How did that lead him to commit a "chain reaction" of sins?
 2. In the end, how many people were affected by David's sin?
 3. Last week, we saw David's faith in the Lord. How do you think he got to a place where he could make such a big mistake?
- **2 Samuel 12:1-25**
 1. Why did God send Nathan to speak to David? Why did Nathan tell David a story to reveal his sin?
 2. How did David react to this confrontation? What does this tell us about his heart?
 3. Nathan tells David that his sin is forgiven. Why did God forgive him?

- **Psalms 51**
 1. What kind of imagery does David use when he asks the Lord to change Him?
 2. What kind of insight does this prayer give us into David's heart and his desires?
 3. 1 Samuel 13 calls David a "man after God's own heart." This is a pretty big compliment! How do you think this title can be given to someone who messed up so badly?

notes & preparation checklist

apply

- Decide when and how to transition from **hear** to **apply**.
- Be prepared to encourage people to a specific action step. Have an example in mind.
- Print Mini Journal

notes & preparation checklist

tell

- Commit to encourage people to do this despite their natural tendency not to.
- Look for group members who "tell" easily. They may be good at leading their own group soon.

La Novela de Dios
Episode 6



La Novela de Dios
Episode 6



La Novela de Dios
Episode 6



After God's Own Heart



lesson learned



action to take



person to tell

After God's Own Heart



lesson learned



action to take



person to tell

After God's Own Heart



lesson learned



action to take



person to tell

La Novela de Dios
Episode 6



La Novela de Dios
Episode 6



La Novela de Dios
Episode 6



After God's Own Heart



lesson learned



action to take



person to tell

After God's Own Heart



lesson learned



action to take



person to tell

After God's Own Heart



lesson learned



action to take



person to tell
