



LIFE GROUP NOTES

Week Beginning: 24th December 2023



Bathsheba. 2 Samuel 11-12

Warm Up

If you knew you could get away with it, is there a crime you would commit? (please no true life confessions!).

Background and context

Matthew's Gospel uses 67 quotes from the Old Testament, he is determined to show Jesus as the Messiah foretold in the prophetic and historical writings of the Bible. His reference to Uriah's wife in his genealogy forces his readers to notice, not only that Jesus is from David's line but also in this sordid story, an innocent person dying to cover up sin.

It is also interesting to note that throughout the Old Testament God uses unexpected people and foreigners to Israel to fulfil His purposes. It is true of Tamar, Rahab and Ruth

Thinking it through: Main discussion/activity



Read 2 Samuel 11:1-17, 12:1-24. What are the surprising things in the passage? What is new? What don't you really understand? This could be a time to discuss and share reflections and ideas on the passage or watch a Bible project type video that helps explain things.

1. **Read Psalm 18:1 and Psalm 119:1.** How do these verses, written by David, align with the story in 1 Samuel 11-12? What can we learn about the man who was called "A man after God's own heart"?
2. How many of the Ten Commandments did David break in this story?
3. In how many ways did David try to cover his sin? What does this reveal about human nature?
4. Is David's reaction to Nathan's parable one that we would all share? What does this reveal about human nature?
5. Nathan says "The sword will never depart from your house." Has his prophecy come true? Scan the following chapters to see what happened to David's Children. Is the prophecy true today?
6. The son born to David and Bathsheba dies as a consequence of sin. What is the link to the Gospel message?
7. **Read 2 Samuel 12:24-25.** David is forgiven his sin, his son dies, but a second son is born, Solomon. What does God call Solomon? Why is this significant?
8. Review the whole story, reflect on how it reveals the Gospel.



Try to leave 15-20 mins to talk about prayer needs of the group and to pray.

We want to encourage the development of prayer, to help everyone grow in confidence in praying. There are many creative ways of praying together: writing prayers, using candles as a focus, reading prayers or praying for each other in pairs.