

After God's Heart

Trouble in David's House
Taken from 2 Samuel Chapters 13, 14, and 15

Lesson 15

FIRST DAY: Review and Overview

1. From last week's lesson share an insight you received about sin and repentance.

2. Sin has consequences! Galatians 6:7 states, *Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap.* Sin, by its very nature, is destructive. It affects more than the sinner. Though God forgave David's sin, the reverberations and damage extended to his household and beyond to the kingdom. Yet God in His grace upheld David even through the consequences of his sins. Scan the following verses and record the trouble that came to David's house:
 - a. 2 Samuel 13:12-14

 - b. 2 Samuel 13:30-32

 - c. 2 Samuel 14:28

 - d. 2 Samuel 15:12

3. Take a moment to thank God for His grace and ask Him to lavish it upon you.

The LORD will deliver him in time of trouble.
Psalm 41:1b

SECOND DAY: Read 2 Samuel 13:1-20

1. Describe the scene presented in 2 Samuel 13:1-2.

2. What advice did *crafty* Jonadab give Amnon? 2 Samuel 13:5
 - a. How would you characterize Jonadab's friendship?
 - (1) Read Proverbs 12:26. How is this a warning to you concerning friendship?

3. Comment on Amnon's deception and its outcome from 2 Samuel 13:6-14.
 - a. According to 2 Samuel 13:15, what resulted from this tragedy?
 - (2) What does this reveal about Amnon's *love* for Tamar?

4. Tamar insisted that Amnon not bring further disgrace by sending her away, but *he would not listen to her*. Record what happened when he *put her out*. 2 Samuel 13:18-19

5. How did *her brother Absalom* respond when he heard what had happened? 2 Samuel 13:20

6. Compare David's actions in 2 Samuel 11:4 with Amnon's. What similarities do you find?
 - a. Link Galatians 6:8 with these events. Share your thoughts.

7. What warning do you find in this story?

THIRD DAY: Read 2 Samuel 13:21-39

1. When David *heard of all these things*, what was his reaction? 2 Samuel 13:21
 - a. According to Deuteronomy 22:28-29, what was the proper way to handle this situation?
 - (1) Why do you think David was so lenient?
 - b. What do you think would have been a more appropriate response for David? See also Proverbs 19:18.
2. Describe Absalom's attitude at this time. 2 Samuel 13:22
3. Summarize the events of 2 Samuel 13:23-29.
4. An incorrect report *came to David* that Absalom had *killed all the king's sons*. Record Jonadab's explanation of what really happened. 2 Samuel 13:32-33
5. After this, *Absalom fled* and the rest of *the king's sons* returned home. What was the result of these tumultuous events? 2 Samuel 13:37-39
 - a. Why do you think David *longed to go to Absalom*?
6. Link these events with Nathan's prophecy to David in 2 Samuel 12:10 and share your thoughts.
7. Proverbs 14:34 states, *Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people*. Describe the reproach David's sin brought to his house.
 - a. Even in these tragic consequences, the situation was not as bad as first reported (2 Samuel 13:35-36). How was this a demonstration of God's grace?
 - (1) How are you comforted by God's grace?

FOURTH DAY: Read 2 Samuel 14:25-33

1. In 2 Samuel 14:1-24 Joab arranged for Absalom to return to Jerusalem. From 2 Samuel 14:25-27 describe Absalom.

2. What was Absalom's predicament? 2 Samuel 14:28-29
 - a. What did he decide to do? 2 Samuel 14:30
 - (2) What does this decision reveal about Absalom's character?

3. When Joab finally responded to Absalom, what was Absalom's complaint? 2 Samuel 14:32

4. Record the reunion of David and Absalom from 2 Samuel 14:33.

5. Although Absalom wanted justice for his sister Tamar, what did he receive instead? See 2 Samuel 13:21, 2 Samuel 14:24, and 2 Samuel 14:33.
 - a. Link Hebrews 12:15 with Absalom's growing resentment. What do you see?
 - (3) What dangers have you observed from bitter attitudes?
 - b. What connection do you see between David's sin and Absalom's bitterness?
 - c. How can you avoid bitterness?

FIFTH DAY: Read 2 Samuel 15:1-14

1. Notice the escalation of trouble in David's house as you record what Absalom *provided for himself*
2 Samuel 15:1

2. Use 2 Samuel 15:2-6 to describe Absalom's subsequent actions.
 - a. Remark on how he *stole the hearts of the men of Israel*.
 - (4) Why do you think Absalom was able to undermine David so effectively?

 - (5) Why do you think Absalom felt he was better able to administer justice than David?

3. What did *Absalom* ask of David in 2 Samuel 15:7-8?
 - a. How did David answer? 2 Samuel 15:9

4. According to 2 Samuel 15:10, what was Absalom's true intention?

5. From 2 Samuel 15:11-12 describe the growing *conspiracy*.

6. What was David told concerning Absalom? 2 Samuel 15:13
 - a. Describe David's course of action from 2 Samuel 15:14.

7. What had David's sin cost him so far?
 - a. What does this convey to you about sin?

 - b. Considering the tragic consequences of sin, how would you warn someone against it?

