

Be Warned!

7 easy steps so my sin destroys my life!

July 26 & 27, 2008

1 Samuel 11 & 12

1. Don't sweat the small stuff!

In the spring, at the time when kings go off to war, David sent Joab out with the king's men and the whole Israelite army.... But David remained in Jerusalem.

2 Samuel chapter 11 verse 1 (242)

- Why wasn't David where he was supposed to be???
- As King, David have been at war with his troops, a small detail, but a detail none the less
- What small detail are you dismissing or ignoring in your life? What God-given responsibility have you "opted out of?"

2. Create lots of "down time"

One evening David got up from his bed and walked around on the roof of the palace. From the roof he saw a woman bathing. The woman was very beautiful....

Samuel chapter 11 verse 2 (242)

- David was supposed to be at war with his army, not taking a nap & a leisurely stroll at the palace
- Work is good. School is good. Homework is good. Being busy in life is good. It's one of the ways God protects me
- When I "opt out" of my God-given responsibilities, the free-time I create tends to cause me to wander...into trouble

3. Give into your every curiosity

...David sent someone to find out about her.

2 Samuel chapter 11 verse 3 (242)

- Since David now found himself with free time on his hands, he figured he would satisfy his every curiosity
- Today, the internet, cable, etc., allows me to do the same thing
- Just because I am curious about something doesn't mean I should investigate it
- ***Do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature; rather, serve one another in love.***

Galatians chapter 5 verse 13 (893)

4. Ignore God's warning signs

...David sent someone to find out about her. The man said, "Isn't this Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam and the wife of Uriah the Hittite?"

2 Samuel chapter 11 verse 3 (242)

- Why did David dismiss the fact that this was someone's daughter & someone else's wife??
- Why do we dismiss the fact that being disobedient to God hurts us & those we love??

(over)

5. Live to satisfy your urges

Then David sent messengers to get her. She came to him, and he slept with her.

Then she went back home. 2 Samuel chapter 11 verse 4 (242)

- Sin is never as satisfying afterwards as it appears to be before hand
- When I am not busy fulfilling my God-given responsibilities, I will busy myself by satisfying my urges

6. Don't confess your sin, cover it up

The woman conceived and sent word to David, saying, "I am pregnant." ... (David's letter said) "Put Uriah in the front line where the fighting is fiercest. Then withdraw from him so he will be struck down and die." 2 Samuel chapter 11 verse 5 & 15 (242)

- When you are confronted by your sin & its consequences, are you humbled by it or do you start making excuses & covering up??
- ***God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.***
1 Peter chapter 5 verse 5 (937)

7. Forget that God is your constant & silent companion

David brought her to his house, and she became his wife and bore him a son.

But the thing David had done displeased the Lord. 2 Samuel chapter 11 verse 4 (242)

- Because God sees everything, I never get away with or cover up my sin...even if no other person ever knows about it!!

"I anointed you king over Israel, and I delivered you from the hand of Saul. I gave your master's house to you, and your master's wives into your arms. I gave you the house of Israel and Judah. And if all this had been too little, I would have given you even more. Why...???"
2 Samuel chapter 12 verses 7 & 8 (243)

More

- Read 2 Samuel 12:11-23 to see the consequences of David's sin. How did his sin impact his own life? His family? His marriage? This is a vivid picture of how sin destroys marriages & families & relationships.
- Read Psalm 51, the psalm David wrote after this episode in his life was brought to light. What do you learn about the consequences of sin by reading this psalm? What do you learn about true confession & humility? What do you learn about God's forgiveness?
- What area of your life is God seeking true confession & brokenness about?
- How has this sin already impacted your life and the lives of those you love? When will you come clean about it as David did in Psalm 51?

*The song used in the service today was "Slow Fade" by Casting Crowns,
off their "The Altar & The Door" release*

Next week: Be Patient