

# THE HEART OF THE BROKEN

2 Samuel 11:1-27, 2 Samuel 12:1-14, 26-31

Pastor Alan Dionson

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## INTRODUCTION

1. The reality of **disaster** caused by negligence
2. The reality of **restoration** caused by forgiveness

## A. THE **DOWNWARD SPIRAL OF SIN**

1. **Complacency** that leads to weakness (2 Samuel 11:1-2)
2. **Temptation** that leads to the fall (2 Samuel 11:3-5; James 1:14-15)
3. **Covering up** that results in disaster (2 Samuel 11:6-17; Proverbs 28:13)

## B. THE **CONSEQUENCES OF SIN**

1. **Personal** consequences (2 Samuel 12:1-13)
2. **Family** consequences (2 Samuel 12:13-18)
3. **National** consequences (2 Samuel 13-21)
4. **Spiritual** consequences (Psalm 51:14-19; Galatians 6:7-8)

## C. THE **PATH OF RESTORATION**

1. David's **sorrow** and **repentance** (2 Samuel 12:13, Psalm 51)
2. God's **mercy** and **forgiveness** (2 Samuel 12:13-14)
3. God's **restoration** and **renewal** (2 Samuel 12:20; 26-31)

## CONCLUSION:

Two responses:

1. Look for practical support where **accountability**, **transparency** and **correction** are provided.
2. Reflect on areas of life where **complacency**, **temptation**, secret and unconfessed **sin** may be present and seek God's forgiveness and pursue a life of integrity and purity.

## LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

1. **Icebreaker.** Have you ever made a decision that seemed small at the time but had significant consequences later?
  
2. **Overview.** Read portions of 2 Samuel 11-12. David, staying back while his army is at war, sees Bathsheba bathing and, despite knowing she is married, summons her and commits adultery. When Bathsheba becomes pregnant, David attempts to cover up his sin by bringing her husband, Uriah, back from battle, but when Uriah refuses to go home, David arranges for his death. The prophet Nathan later confronts David, leading to David's repentance.
  
3. **Study Questions**
  - What factors contributed to David's initial sin with Bathsheba? (2 Samuel 11:1-5)
  - How did David try to cover up his sin, and what were the consequences? (2 Samuel 11:6-22)
  - How does Nathan's confrontation of David in 2 Samuel 12:11-12 illustrate the role of accountability in a believer's life?
  - What was David's response to Nathan's rebuke, and what does it teach us about repentance? (2 Samuel 12:13)
  - Read 51 and what can you learn about David's repentance and contriteness?
  - Despite David's repentance, there were still consequences for his actions. What does this tell us about the nature of sin and forgiveness? (2 Samuel 12:14-23)
  
4. **Application Questions**
  - How can we guard ourselves against the kind of temptations that led David into sin?
  - What steps can we take to ensure that we respond rightly when confronted with our sin?
  - How can we support each other in our small group to live lives of integrity and faithfulness?
  
5. **Prayer.** Pray for humility, accountability, and the strength to resist temptation. Ask God to help each group member walk in integrity and seek forgiveness quickly when they fall.