

## **After God's Heart**

Lesson 10

2 Samuel 12:1-31;

Psalm 32; Psalm 51

March 10, 2019

### **Colossal Collapses**

#### **Introduction**

Music has a way of reaching into the deepest recesses of our hearts, communicating what our mouths cannot express. In David's Psalms, we see the longing he has to be right with God and his thankfulness toward a forgiving, comforting savior. David does not hold back; he knows how minuscule his contributions compare to God's. He knows that without God, he is nothing. In this story, we see just how far David has fallen, and what it will take to make it right. We can all relate, but not all of us will take the steps necessary to humble ourselves when we have been wrong.

***Memory verse: "I gave your master's house to you, and your master's wives into your arms. I gave you all Israel and Judah. And if all this had been too little, I would have given you even more. Why did you despise the word of the Lord by doing what is evil in His eyes? You struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword and took his wife to be your own. You killed him with the sword of the Ammonites. Now, therefore, the sword will never depart from your house, because you despised me and took the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your own."*—2 Samuel 12:8-10**

Pray and read 2 Samuel 12:1-31, Psalm 32, and Psalm 51. What questions or observations do you have about these passages?

## What do the passages say?

1. What was David's reaction when Nathan told the story about the poor man and the rich man? (2 Samuel 12:5-6)
2. What was David's response after Nathan made it known that David was the sinful man? (2 Samuel 12:13)
3. What were the consequences of David's sin? (2 Samuel 12:10-14)
4. What did the Lord do when David confessed his transgressions? (Psalm 32:5)
5. Against who alone did David sin? When did David become a sinner? (Psalm 51:4-5)
6. Finish the verse: Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a \_\_\_\_\_ Spirit within me. (Psalm 51:10)

## What do the passages mean?

1. In what ways were Nathan's actions toward David biblical? (Matthew 7:1-5, 18:15-17; Galatians 6:1-2) According to these passages, what is the proper way to approach someone we see sinning?
2. God forgave David, but there were still consequences for his actions. The world sees God's discipline as harsh and judgmental, lacking mercy. Do you think discipline portrays a loving God? Why or why not? (Proverbs 3:11-12; Hebrews 12:5-11) Why do you think the world views God's corrections as cold-hearted punishment?
3. What actions in this story did David take that show that he has a heart after God? David composed many of the Psalms. Pick two of the following verses and reflect on a characteristic of David that show that he is a man devoted to God. (Psalm 4:7, 9:1, 18:1, 18:3, 23:6, 25:11, 27:1, 31:9, 62:9)

4. As soon as David was confronted with his sin, he repented. What does repentance mean? (Ezekiel 14:6; 18:30; 33:11) What does true repentance look like in everyday life? (Leviticus 5:5; 2 Corinthians 7:10; 1 John 1:9)
  
5. James 1:2-3 says to “Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance.” Not all trials are the discipline of God, but God uses them to refine and sharpen us as followers of Christ. How else do trials refine us? (Romans 5:1-5)

### **Applying the passages**

1. In what ways have you experienced God’s discipline in your life because of sin? What was your response to this correction? Did you question God’s goodness or show humility as David did?

