

SERMON 2 Samuel 12 v15 to v23 PUSHING PAST THE PAIN OF YOUR PAST

- This sermon deals with **pushing past the pain** caused by tragic events, such as the death of a loved one.
- Too often we treat our sins the way David treated his: we sweep them under the rug and try to forget about them. Our failure is not to be the end of the story. The Lord confronts us with sin in order to show us his awesome power to forgive!

2 Samuel 12:15–23 (NIV)

¹⁵After Nathan had gone home, the LORD struck the child that Uriah's wife had borne to David, and he became ill.

¹⁶David pleaded with God for the child. He fasted and spent the nights lying in sackcloth on the ground.

¹⁷The elders of his household stood beside him to get him up from the ground, but he refused, and he would not eat any food with them.

¹⁸On the seventh day the child died. David's attendants were afraid to tell him that the child was dead, for they thought, "While the child was still living, he wouldn't listen to us when we spoke to him. How can we now tell him the child is dead? He may do something desperate."

¹⁹David noticed that his attendants were whispering among themselves, and he realized the child was dead. "Is the child dead?" he asked. "Yes," they replied, "he is dead."

²⁰Then David got up from the ground. After he had washed, put on lotions and changed his clothes, he went into the house of the LORD and worshiped. Then he went to his own house, and at his request they served him food, and he ate.

²¹His attendants asked him, "Why are you acting this way? While the child was alive, you fasted and wept, but now that the child is dead, you get up and eat!"

²²He answered, "While the child was still alive, I fasted and wept. I thought, 'Who knows? The LORD may be gracious to me and let the child live.'

²³But now that he is dead, why should I go on fasting? Can I bring him back again? I will go to him, but he will not return to me."

FEELING LIKE A KING, BUT NOT ACTING LIKE A KING IN THE KINGDOM OF GOD.

King David looked like a king, but he didn't act like a king under God's kingdom authority when he took a soldier's wife for himself, got her pregnant and then had her husband killed to keep her husband from learning the truth. Though David did have the favor of God upon his life, he acted as though he was above the laws of God. David did not start out with the thought of murder, but his lustful eyes - led to his deceitful lies, his attempted trickery deeds – led to him falling on his knees to beg for mercy on his son. But all of those sins - brought on the death of his son, just as the prophet Samuel had said.

- Hebrews 4:13 (NLT) ¹³**Nothing in all creation is hidden from God.** Everything is naked and exposed before his eyes, and he is the one to whom we are accountable.
- Luke 12:3 (NLT) ³**Whatever you have said in the dark will be heard in the light,** and what you have whispered behind closed doors will be shouted from the housetops for all to hear!
- James 1:14–15 (NKJV) ¹⁴**each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed.** ¹⁵**Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death.**
- Romans 6:23 (NKJV) ²³**For the wages of sin is death,** but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

SERMON LESSONS:

1. Sin leads to **DENIAL, DEATH, DEVASTATION**
2. BUT, IT CAN ALSO LEAD TO **DELIVERANCE** WHEN WE GET RIGHT WITH GOD.
3. We must **Repent** (sins), **Release** (the past) & **Renew** (relationship with God & get back to worship) as David did.
4. Deal with the small sins in your life or they will surely become bigger.
5. There are consequences for our actions even with the favor of God upon us.
6. When we sincerely ask for forgiveness, God is faithful to forgive us. His forgiveness is still granted in spite of our mess.
7. The path to push past the pain of our past is by repenting, releasing and renewing as David did.
8. God continued to show His love to David:
 - a. He spared David's own life.
 - b. He later gave David another son name Solomon who became king.
9. David showed us how to not get stuck in our past pain, through being grateful and worship.

Let us not forget the story of King David and the loss of his son, when we find ourselves in denial of the seriousness of our sins. This whole episode began with one little sin. One harmless little lustful thought where David thought, “wow, look at how fine and beautiful she is – I have got to have her!”

It began innocently enough. David probably didn't intend to commit a grievous sin that evening. What went wrong here? Sin after sin after sin after sin. A failure to check sin when it was small. And a denial of sin after it had gotten out of control.