

Life lessons from Bathsheba

Various Scriptures

“When Uriah’s wife heard that her husband was dead, she mourned for him. When the period of mourning was over, David sent for her and brought her to the palace, and she became one of his wives. Then she gave birth to a son. But the Lord was displeased with what David had done.” -2 Samuel 11:26-27

Whether we realize it or not, all of our decisions, good or bad have consequences. It has been said, “Decisions are the hardest thing to make especially when it is a choice between where you should be and where you want to be.” In our lesson today we learn from Bathsheba, a woman who along with David, king of Israel, decided to commit _____ in order to fulfill their own desires. In discovering God’s will and His consequences, have you considered the outcome of your decisions? Will the Lord be pleased? What can you do today to help you be at peace with the consequences of your decisions?

Did you know?

- *Bathsheba’s personal name meaning; “_____”
- *She was the wife of _____. 2 Samuel 11:3
- *She is described as _____. 2 Samuel 11:2
- *She served as a _____ and _____ mother
- *She was the mother of _____
- *She was an ancestor of _____
- *Her story is told in 2 Samuel 11-12; 1 Kings 1-2 and Psalm 51

Decisions, Decisions... 2 Samuel 11

Have you ever noticed how one bad decision leads to another? How can you tell when you have made a bad decision? What do you typically do when you realize it?

Instead of going to battle as was the custom for kings to do, David however decided to send Joab and his army out and to stay behind for unknown reasons. It is often when we’re not _____ what we ought to be _____ that temptation arises.

As we consider God’s will, (Micah 6:8; Matthew 22:37-40; Ephesians 5:19; 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18) what are some things we do instead, that may lead to unwanted consequences? Why do we struggle with this?

While he at home walking on the top of his roof top, David noticed a woman bathing. After that moment he fell into a series of bad decisions:

1. Find out _____ she was (verse 3).
2. Take her by _____ (verse 4).

3. Commit _____ (verse 4).
4. Cover up his _____. He tried to cover up his affair by allowing Uriah to come home and be with his wife (verses 6-8). Then he tried to cover it up by allowing Uriah to be killed on the front line (verses 14-17).
5. Bathsheba consented to being his _____ (verses 26-27).

In the ancient world, kings would often suppress records of their failures, but this was not the case with the biblical records of kings. God was watching and verse 27 tells us the thing that David had done displeased the Lord. The KJV calls this displeasure evil.

Hebrew word: ra'a' (evil) means to be ethically wicked; Genesis 38:10; David and Bathsheba's decision to commit adultery, murder and marry each other like nothing had ever happened was _____ in the sight of God. No matter how good they tried to cover it up, God saw it.

Have you ever tried to cover up your sin from God? How did it turn out?

Notice how the Lord handled David and Bathsheba 2 Samuel 12

1. The Lord _____ David in his sin (verses 1-9).
2. The Lord _____ David for his actions (verses 10-12).
3. The Lord _____ the death of David and Bathsheba's son (verse 14-15)

How should we respond when God confronts and disciplines us for our sinful actions? Why? Psalm 51

The great lesson we learn here is although God forgives us when we sin, this does not mean there will be no _____ for our actions of disobedience. Simply put, the Lord will not be mocked or blasphemed.

After the death of their first son, David gives comfort to his wife Bathsheba. This time when they laid together it was right. As they grew closer, the Lord blessed their union, she bore another son, and he named him Solomon.

Solomon's personal name means: "_____ peace" or "_____ replacement"

2 Samuel 12:24 says, now the Lord loved him, and He sent a second word by Nathan the prophet: so he called his name Jedidiah; which means "_____ of _____" This was a sign to David that God had not removed His love from him.

Have you ever sinned and thought there is no way the Lord will forgive me? What would you say to someone who is feeling like that today?

More decisions... 1 Kings 1-2

As time passes by, not only do we read of turmoil in David's household, but as we come to the end of his life, we encounter the plot of Adonijah to claim the throne and become Israel's next king (1 Kings 1:7). The problem with his plot is both God and David have already chosen _____ to be the next king of Israel. In looking at the Bible, we see the conversation between David and Bathsheba and The Lord and David (1 Kings 1:17,30; 1 Chronicles 22:9-10).

What is Bathsheba going to do?

Nathan the prophet comes on the scene again; First he came to confront them in their sin, then he came to comfort them in peace, now he comes to confirm Solomon as the next king.

*Bathsheba took Nathan the prophet's advice (1 Kings 1:11-14).

*Bathsheba received king David's declaration with humility (1 Kings 1:28-31).

As a result of her decision, this encouraged David to declare Solomon the next king...

In looking at Bathsheba's decision to take advice and remain humble, how would you encourage others who are in need of good, sound advice to help them get through life's difficulties? Who should they turn to and why?

Why is it important to remain humble when God declares a blessing in our favor?

As you reflect on this study, what is the the greatest lesson that you are willing to share with someone else?

"But God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved." -John 3:17