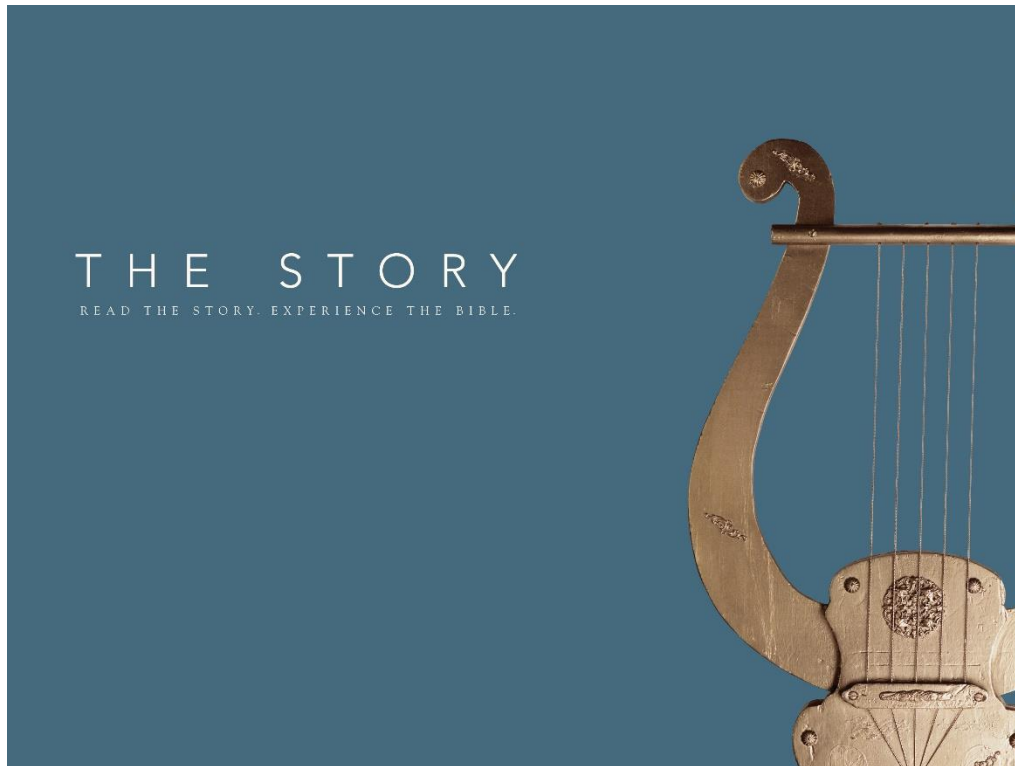


## Chapter 12: The Trials of a King



### Discussion Questions Chapter 12

1. Chapter 12 begins with David taking some “time off” and delegating what was the king’s duty. Have you observed in your own experiences when rest became an opportunity for sin?
  - a. How can a person make sure their rest/work ratio is appropriate?
2. What kind of advice or warning did David receive when he inquired about Bathsheba?
  - a. How easy is it to rationalize/ignore warning signs when there is an opportunity to sin?
  - b. What ways can a person regularly keep those rationalizations in check?
3. What do you think of Bathsheba’s character?
4. What was David’s plan to cover up his sin?
  - a. Why do we believe it is easier to cover up sin rather than confess and repent immediately?
5. What ways did Uriah (a non-Israelite) show his honor in contrast to David’s behavior?
6. It has been said that sin will take you further than you ever desired to go – What ways did this happen in David and Bathsheba’s life?

7. God revealed to Nathan what David had done, How do you think Nathan felt as he prepared and was confronting David with his sin?
  - a. Have you ever had to confront someone in their sin?
    - i. How did you go about it if yes?
    - ii. How did the conversation go?
  - b. What could have happened if David were unrepentant?
8. What was the parable that Nathan told to David to expose his hypocrisy?
  - a. How do you respond normally when you're confronted with your sinful behavior?
  - b. What was David's response?
9. What ways is David's psalm of repentance a model for those who are seeking God's forgiveness?
10. When we sin it never affects just you personally.
  - a. Who was David ultimately in need of forgiveness from?
  - b. What was the consequence of David & Bathsheba's sin?
  - c. When we work through the extended implications of our sins what is the proper attitude and course of action? *(David's example is key here)*
11. How did God show he had forgiven David?
  - a. What does Jedidiah mean?
12. What was Absalom's rebellion a direct result of?
13. What did David & those close to him have to do to combat Absalom?
14. How did Absalom die?
  - a. Does this strike you as excessive?
  - b. What ways were David's wishes ignored?
  - c. What was David's response to Absalom's death?
  - d. How would you have felt/reacted to seeing David mourn his son's death?
  - e. What could have occurred if Absalom had lived?
15. With Uriah and Absalom behind him, David's focus at the end of his life turned to preparing the temple for God.
  - a. What reason did God give that David not going to be the one to build it?
  - b. What promise did God give to David concerning his house and descendants?
16. When we don't get our wish/desire we often do what? Why do we act this way?

- a. When David was told his son would build the temple, while I'm sure he was disappointed, What did David do to make sure the temple would be great?
  - b. How can we take this example and apply it to our lives?
17. David also gave the people an opportunity to participate in the preparation of the temple building – What was their response?
- a. Why is it good to give and have an attitude of generosity?
  - b. What comes of sacrificial giving?
  - c. What kinds of priorities does it show in a person's life?
18. Psalm 23 is placed at the end of David's life – What are the implications of this Psalm having been written after all that David had experienced?
- a. What ways does this Psalm give comfort when we experience the ups and downs of life?
  - b. What is the hope that we can draw from David's confidence in the statements He's making here?
19. What do all of the events depicted in chapter twelve (*David's words and actions*) show about his heart for God?