

Women's Bible Study

What's in the Heart

A Heart of Lust and Murder – 2 Samuel 11-12

Gretchen Steer – November 11, 2009

Intensive Study Questions

Key verse: "Then David said to Nathan, 'I have sinned against the LORD.'" (2 Samuel 12:13)

Remember to provide biblical references with your answers, especially when you are drawing a principle from scripture.

1. When David was confronted by Nathan in 2 Samuel 12:1-12, David immediately admitted his sin and appeared to repent. Even though David repented, his child died. What are some reasons that God might have done this? Did this child's death cause any good outcome in David's life?
2. List some of the people in these two chapters that David sinned against, and explain specifically how he sinned against them. Why would David say, then, that he had sinned against the Lord instead of all the people he had harmed? (2 Samuel 12:13) What does it mean to sin against the Lord?
3. By sleeping with Bathsheba, another man's wife, David was misusing the power of the kingdom. Yet when Jesus was tempted by Satan to use his power for his own ends (Matthew 4:1-11) Jesus refused to do so. How did Jesus escape temptation? Name three ways that David could have handled this temptation that might have led to a different outcome.
4. Nathan, the high priest, played the important role of confronting David. What did he tell David would be the outcome of his sin? What did Nathan later tell David about the second child to be born of David and Bathsheba? How was that prophecy borne out in Solomon's life?
5. Explain what David did to Uriah, giving references from chapter 11. Now read 2 Samuel 12:9. Was this murder, even though David had not killed Uriah with his own hands? Why or why not? How does Jesus expand the concept of what constitutes murder in Matthew 5:21-22? How can we avoid murdering others in our hearts?

