

Weekly Devotional

*Material from "The Story" curriculum by Randy Frazee with Kevin and Sherry Harney.

Session 12 – The Trails of a King

"Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me." Psalm 51:10-12.

Most of us have at least a week for which we'd love to have total forgiveness. We learn that David definitely did when he sees Bathsheba. And God did with David's sin what he will do with yours and mine. He put it away (Psalm 103:12-13).

You can do what David did. Whatever you "want to erase" might be, sit down with it, yourself and God. Confess your sin. And then let another shepherd from Bethlehem forgive it.

Read Ch. 12 in The Story book or in your Bible (this week you will be reading from 3 different books of the Bible): **2 Samuel 11:1-17, 26-27; 12:1-13a; Psalm 51:1-12; 2 Samuel 12:13b-20a; Psalm 32:1-7, 10-11; 2 Samuel 12:24-25; 18:1-18, 21, 31-33; 19:4; 1 Chronicles 22:1-19; 29:1-20; and Psalm 23.**

Think on these questions:

1. What do these passages tell us about GOD? (Who is God? What is God like? What has God done?)
2. What do these passages tell us about US (Human Beings)? (What/how are we supposed to be? What has gone wrong?)
3. What do these passages tell us about HOW WE SHOULD LIVE? (What has God done about what has gone wrong? What does He expect of us? How should we live?)

Closing Prayer:

As you take time to pray, here are some ideas to get you started:

- *Pray for eyes to see the domino effect of your sins before you commit them. Ask God for an awareness of the cost to you and others so that you will desire holiness and not live with the collateral damage of sin.*
- *Pray that God will place people in your life who love you enough to confront you about your sins. Invite the Holy Spirit to soften your heart so that you will humbly receive their words of conviction and correction.*
- *Thank God that the grace of Jesus is always sufficient to cover all of our sins.*

Personal Action:

This is a big and bold action challenge. If you have a person or two in your life who are mature in faith and really care about you, consider meeting with them and humbly inviting them to speak truth into your life...any time. Let them know that you will seek to prayerfully listen and receive their words, even when those words are difficult.

Next Session: Please read ch 13 of The Story, "The King Who Had It All" Come wise Solomon....