

**I. ME**

- A. Welcome/Online/So What About
- B. **You're safe.** I just need to reassure you b/c
  1. Today we are talking about something people like me have used to manipulate and even abuse people like you.
  2. Sin and guilt.

**3. Guilt is one of religion's most powerful tools.**

**II. WE**

- A. Easy to use b/c it's something we all deal with.
  1. The guilt that comes from stuff that we've done that hurt other people.
  2. What do we do about it?
  3. We know how to do better moving on but what do we do about the past?

**4. No amount of future can make up for your past.**

- B. We still try... Ordinary Response??
  1. Give money/Volunteer/Be super nice/Super religious
  2. Try to numb it... drink/smoke/snort/sleep with something
  3. Ignore it... Constant noise/work/drama
  4. Pray harder/serve more
  5. Doesn't change anything
- C. Guilt often feels like we owe a debt that we can't ever repay.
- D. Nothing new. Something humans have dealt with from the beginning of humans.
- E. 3000 years ago David experienced it too... and he had something to feel guilty about... something he could never make up for...

**III. GOD (2 Samuel 11 & 12)**

- A. Tell Story
  1. About 50. Been king for about 20 yrs.
  2. Sends out army to go fight Ammonites
  3. Doesn't go... takes it easy.
  4. Takes a walk on his roof one evening.
  5. Woman bathing- never trained himself to look away.
  6. Who is it? Wife of Uriah the Hittite one of your best soldiers. Gone fighting
  7. Sleeps with her... gets pregnant. CRAP
  8. Has Uriah come home... won't go home. Gets him drunk. Won't go home.
  9. Sends him with a message to commander... get him killed.
  10. David marries Bathsheba... "Does the right thing."

- B. **2 Sam 11:27b** (But the thing...)
  1. It was wrong.
  2. Not a mistake... SIN
  3. Your thing... not a mistake. SIN
  4. **You're still safe.**

**C. 12:1-6**

1. Thinks it's a real story.
2. Ready to give justice!
3. So easy to see other people's sins isn't it?
4. A lot more fun too.

**D. V. 7a** (You are the man)

1. Boom. Reality.
2. Penalty under their law... **Leviticus 20:10 and 24:17**
3. Then God lays out the case against David
  - a. Doesn't sugar coat it.
  - b. Calls it what it is

**E. V. 7-9**

1. No forgiveness until we see the reality of our evil.
2. **God shows us the magnitude of our sin in order to show us the magnitude of His forgiveness.**

### 3. Sin always has consequences.- Expand

#### F. V. 10-12

1. Rest of the book is all about the consequences of David's sin.
2. David now has a choice...
  - a. Excuses/loopholes/explanations/ignore/kill Nathan/grovel/make promises.
  - b. What do we usually do?

#### G. V. 13a (...against the Lord.)

1. Admits it... Repents.
2. His sincerity is seen in the simplicity of his confession.
3. No arguing/no but's/ "I didn't mean to"
4. "You're right. I sinned."
5. **It takes courage to face your sin and admit it.**
6. Every detail has been laid out. The full weight of how evil he was comes crashing down and all that is left to say is... I have sinned.
7. Nowhere to hide now... David admits it. God knows it. Nathan knows it. Everyone knows the penalty... so what does God do?
8. What would you do? What does David deserve?

#### H. V. 13

1. Wait! That's it?!
2. Used his power and position to seduce a married woman and then killed her husband (and others) to cover it up... Deserves to die!
3. All he has to do is admit it... and he's forgiven? YEP.
4. **If you're not offended by this...** you've either been in church too long or there is something wrong with you or both.
5. Where's the justice?!
6. He admits the evil. Knows there is nothing he can do to undo it. And God removes his guilt.
7. That's not fair! No it's not.

8. He doesn't have to do anything to make up for it? Nope. What could he do?
9. He confesses/repents. God forgives him. And David trusts that forgiveness and moves on
10. David still has to deal with the consequences of his choices... but his sin/his debt is removed.
11. God forgives the guilt of sin, but still allows, even inflicts, the consequences of sin.

#### I. V. 14

1. I was going to skip this part.
2. I don't have a great answer to this... one of the consequences David faces is the death of the child that was conceived at the beginning of this whole thing.
3. Somehow in God's perfect justice this baby dies.
4. Does that mean God kills kids when parents sin? No.
5. If that were true none of us would be here.
6. We don't get a clear explanation.
7. But if you are a Jesus-Follower there is this...
  - a. Was the death bad for the child?
  - b. Death is not always a bad thing.
  - c. God in his mercy/love/wisdom decided it was time for that child to be with Him.
  - d. **Autumn-** "God said, 'If you knew what I know. You would have asked me to do what I did.' "
8. But the truth **in this situation** is... David's innocent child died as a result of David's sin.
9. If this bothers you... it does me... let me remind you that another innocent descendent of David was killed b/c of David's sin. And my sin. And your sin.

## J. Jesus

1. We have all sinned. (Law of Love)
2. We all deserve punishment. Nothing we can do can take away the hurt we've caused.
3. Punishment is death.
4. God loves us and doesn't want to punish us but is just and must punish the sin.
5. Jesus. 100%/100%
  - a. Innocent- Killed in your place.
  - b. Guerilla Fighter??**
6. Receive this forgiveness... through repenting and trusting.
  - a. That's too easy!
  - b. True. But it wasn't easy for Jesus... He did the work for you.
  - c. What's easy is the ordinary reaction... try to make up for/ignore/cover up/excuses.
  - d. It takes courage to face your sin and admit it.**
7. Every other religious system will give things you have to do to try to make up for what you've done.
  - a. They will use guilt to get you to do what they think you should do.
  - b. Might make the feelings go away for a bit.
8. But only one person in the history of the world offered Himself as he solution. And then proved it by dying and rising.
9. **Jesus doesn't use guilt to control us. He removes our guilt to restore us.**
10. Once you admit it and accept his forgiveness there is an unexplainable peace...

## a. My story.

### IV. YOU

- A. The offer is made to you... you know what is in your past. You know what you've tried to do to make up for it. And you know it hasn't really helped.
  1. It's time to stop trying solutions and accept Jesus' gift.
  - 2. 1 John 1:8-9**
  3. What's the point of holding on to it? Trying to cover it up? Making excuses?
  4. Give it up. Acknowledge your guilt so you can be forgiven.
  5. If there's never been a time...
- B. Another point needs to be made... **v. 24**
  1. Solomon was the son God promised to David last week.
    - a. Maybe years before this whole Bathsheba thing.
  2. Solomon was the one who would carry David's lineage... and bring about Jesus.
  3. David's sin didn't surprise God and didn't ruin God's plan. Didn't make God forget his promise to David.
- C. Our sin does not terminate God's love.**
  1. "I will never drive away. "
  2. Consequences yes. Denial never.
- D. I've confessed and trusted, but I still feel guilty.**
  1. A chance to say thank you.
  2. Let those memories remind you of what you have been forgiven.
  3. **When guilt comes remind yourself... I sinned. But Jesus died.**

**V. WE**

- A. What if it could all be lifted off your chest?
  - 1. What if you could forgive yourself b/c you know God has forgiven you... and died to make it happen?
- B. What if we all looked at our sin full in the face... admitted it... and left it on the cross?
- C. Would there be more joy in your life? Would there be more peace? Thankfulness? Forgiveness of others?
- D. What if we stopped doing what we ordinarily do... working so hard to make up for/cover up/ignore our past and had the courage to accept the forgiveness Jesus offers?

**E. Defy the ordinary- Accept forgiveness.**