

Nov 8 | Sunday
King David's Story of Sin and Redemption
2 Samuel 11:1-3



09 | Mon – David forfeited moral authority | Read 2 Samuel 11:1-27

David did not choose his first wilderness experience - he was running for his life. But the second was by choice. Once David veered off course, each step seemed to flow logically from the previous. Our self-made wildernesses seldom spring from one huge mistake but grows out of trying to avoid consequences of previous choices. Have you ever felt trapped in a bad course of action? What does it take, for David or you, to stop and turn back toward God's path?

10 | Tue – David had to face up to the wrong he had done | Read 2 Samuel 12:1-14

At first David was only interested in covering up his sin until a trusted advisor confronted him. Then he confessed with a truly repentant heart. His deeds were horrible with severe consequences but David's sin was not beyond the reach of God's grace. What does this tell you about God's character? What does it tell you about yourself?

11 | Wed – Repentance and divine forgiveness | Read Psalms 51:1-10 and 32:1-5

David did turn away from his destructive course. Psalm 51 reflects what a wholehearted repentance sounds like. Can you be that honest with God? Think of a time when you repented of something (turned around, changed direction). Did you experience the relief and freedom expressed in Psalm 32? It takes true humility to 'get right' with God.

12 | Thu – Rebellion - led by David's own son | Read 2 Samuel 15:1-16 & 16:15 - 17:14

David's repentance and God's forgiveness did not wipe out the consequences. David's actions cost him the respect of his people and his own family. His son Absalom led a revolt and proclaimed himself as king, driving his father back into the wilderness. Yet in this painful crisis, David exhibited a deep trust in God's ability to bring things to a right conclusion. Can you trust God to redeem all things, even the wreckage of bad choices?

13 | Fri – David's costly, painful victory | Read 2 Samuel 18:1-18 and 18:31 - 19:8

Although David's wounds were self-inflicted, he did not let himself be paralyzed with shame. His military training allowed him to organize the army under experienced commanders who defeated Absalom's army. The unity of the nation was preserved but victory came at the cost of his son's life. Think of times when it is important for you to act rather than hide away. How can God help you during those times?

14 | Sat – David outlived his errors | Read 1 Chronicles 28:1-10; 29:1-9; 2 Samuel 23:1-5

Because he made peace with God and continued to fulfill his kingly responsibilities, David's bad choices did not end his service to God or to his people. He spent his later years gathering resources for the magnificent temple his son Solomon would build. His final words praised God for guiding him in his duties as king (2 Sam. 23). What about David's story gives you hope for yourself when you are in a wilderness?

November 15 | Sun – The God Who Sees | Read Genesis 16:1-6

