

This is why we want to connect with God daily. We want to hear His voice we want His conviction we want to repent quickly. If not, we want God to send others who can speak into our lives and help us see when we are being deceived.

If we still do not respond God will allow our sins and failures to become public and we will bear the scars of rebellion and pain that may stay with us the rest of our lives.

#### Conclusion: **HOW TO COME BACK FROM A DEFEAT**

- Quickly, don't wait until you feel bad or get hard and don't care.
- Repentance is not a feeling, it is like forgiveness you do it then your feelings follow.
- Determine that you will connect with God each day.
- Be someone who is humble and approachable and when someone does speak to you learn to appreciate that it is God in His love coming to you (even though the person may not communicate that well).

This week read and meditate on Psalm 32 and Psalm 51 and pray that God will show the condition of your heart and repent of those areas in which you are vulnerable.

Let's have the heart of a champion. David came back from this terrible defeat. He bore some scars but was used by God to communicate some of the greatest truths we have known.

The heart of a champion is to always come back after a defeat, stronger, wiser, and closer to God.

#### **There is no escaping God.**

*you may be sure that your sin will catch up with you. Num. 32:23*

*Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. 8 The one who sows to please his sinful nature, from that nature will reap destruction; the one who sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life. Gal. 6:7-8*

4 Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are proved right when you speak and justified when you judge.

5 Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me.

6 Surely **you desire truth in the inner parts**; you teach me wisdom in the inmost place.

7 Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.

8 **Let me hear joy and gladness**; let the bones you have crushed rejoice.

9 Hide your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquity.

10 **Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. RE-LIGHT DASH**

11 Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me.

12 **Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.**

13 Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will turn back to you.

14 Save me from bloodguilt, O God, the God who saves me, and my tongue will sing of your righteousness.

15 O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise.

16 You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it; you do not take pleasure in burnt offerings.

17 The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

18 In your good pleasure make Zion prosper; **build up the walls of Jerusalem. CITY WAS WEAK**

19 Then there will be righteous sacrifices, whole burnt offerings to delight you; then bulls will be offered on your altar.

### **Lessons in how God disciplines us.**

*“My child, don’t ignore it when the Lord disciplines you, and don’t be discouraged when he corrects you.*

*6 For the Lord disciplines those he loves, and he punishes those he accepts as his children.”*

*7 As you endure this divine discipline, remember that God is treating you as his own children.*

*Whoever heard of a child who was never disciplined? 8 If God doesn’t discipline you as he does all of his children, it means that you are illegitimate and are not really his children after all.*

Heb. 12:5-8

Notice three words that describes how God deals with us.

vs. 5, “correction” and vs. 6, “disciplines” and “punishes”.

**Correction** comes from elegchō which means to confront in private. **THE LOOK**

**Discipline** comes from paideuō which means to educate, usually by a teacher, personally.

**Punishes** comes from mastigoō which means to flog or spank, publically.

In others words, God comes to us **privately**, if He cannot get through He will send others to us **personally**, and if nothing else works He will deal with us **publically** through **experience**.

We refer to this as conviction. The Holy Spirit is bearing down on our conscience pointing to our guilt so we will turn to God and repent and be restored in relationship.

**Conviction** is always specific, VS. **condemnation** is always vague.

As he is unwilling to approach God He sends a man, Nathan, a prophet to confront David.

**THINK OF NATHAN'S ROLE. RISKING LIFE TO OBEY GOD. I KNOW A LITTLE HOW THAT FEELS.**

David is about to have an INTERVENTION. **PEOPLE LOVING ENOUGH TO CONFRONT**

David is **so spiritually dull and blind** Nathan cannot approach him directly.

Nathan connects with David on a topic he understands and is close to his heart, **sheep** .

*The LORD sent Nathan to David. When he came to him, he said, "There were two men in a certain town, one rich and the other poor. 2 The rich man had a very large number of sheep and cattle, 3 but the poor man had nothing except one little ewe lamb he had bought. He raised it, and it grew up with him and his children. It shared his food, **drank from his cup** and even slept in his arms. It was like a daughter to him. **(Gross but David got it)***

*4 "Now a traveler came to the rich man, but the rich man refrained from taking one of his own sheep or cattle to prepare a meal for the traveler who had come to him. Instead, he took the ewe lamb that belonged to the poor man and prepared it for the one who had come to him."*

*5 David burned with anger against the man and said to Nathan, "As surely as the LORD lives, the man who did this deserves to die! 6 He must pay for that lamb four times over, because he did such a thing and had no pity." (Not a capital offense)*

Tells the story and David buys in 100%, then he closes with **four three letter words** that **pierce David's heart and conscience, "You are the man." ( David's judgment on himself 4 SONS)**

**David repents.** *Then David said to Nathan, "I have sinned against the LORD."* 2 Sam. 12:6

This is the historical record but again lets read from David's journal about what was going on inside of him and we get a better picture of what it means to face God in true repentance.

**Psalms 51 (WHY DIDN'T GOD KILL DAVID? GET SOME INSIGHT IN HOW DAVID REPENTED)**

FOR THE DIRECTOR OF MUSIC. A PSALM OF DAVID. WHEN THE PROPHET NATHAN CAME TO HIM AFTER DAVID HAD COMMITTED ADULTERY WITH BATHSHEBA.

*1 Have mercy on me, O God, **according to your unfailing love**; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions. (APPEALED TO NEW COVENANT)*

*2 **Wash away** all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.*

*3 For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me.*

Pick-up story from last week... looked at why David fell.

David does not go out to battle with the army instead stays back in Jerusalem. He is bored, see Bathsheba, sends for her has sex, she gets pregnant, he has her husband killed to cover his mistake.

David got away from God's purpose, God's presence, and God's people.

David was spiritually disconnected from God.

Spiritual disciplines... Seeking God, reading and studying the bible. Not like "eating your veggies" to be a little stronger. This is life and death. Make no mistake there is a real Devil whose only desire is to set you up to destroy your life, and he know exactly where you are weak.

I have witnessed too many good people who love God destroy their reputation, ruin their career, and devastate their family all in a moment of weakness just like David. Like we said last week if he could fall so can you. **IT WAS SMALL STEPS**

**How God responded** *the thing David had done displeased the LORD.* 2 Sam. 11:27

We've all been in that place of feeling disconnected from God because of sin.

**GOD GAVE DAVID OPPORTUNITY AND TIME TO COME BACK. (LIGHT ON DASHBOARD)**

Now he is in a place of separation from God, **for months** carrying guilt and shame, unwilling to go to God, getting colder and harder and more convicted.

Remember what we said the first week. We not only have David's **history** AND his **journal**.

Psalms 32:3-5 David writes after this whole event and after he repented, what was going on inside during the period of several months after he commits these acts.

*3 When I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long.*

*4 For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was sapped as in the heat of summer. (GOD DRAWING YOU BACK, PAIN OF SEPARATION)*

**Selah**

*5 Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD"— and you forgave the guilt of my sin.*

**Selah**