

Having a Heart for God:
A Heart of Repentance

A heart for God understands the causes and consequences of sin and then how to respond after sinning.

2 Samuel 11-12

Causes leading to sin. (11:1-17)

What led did David (a man after God's own heart) to adultery/murder...?

He chose to be in the wrong place. (at war) (11:1-2)

His heart was not where it should have been.

"Keep your heart with all diligence, For out of it spring the issues of life." (Proverbs 4:23, NKJV)

David's heart led to bad thinking.

Temptation of the eyes grew to sin in the mind. (11:3)

"Sent and inquired"

Sin should not be played with.

Proverbs 6:27-29 (NKJV)

²⁷ Can a man take fire to his bosom, And his clothes not be burned? ²⁸ Can one walk on hot coals, And his feet not be seared? ²⁹ So is he who goes in to his neighbor's wife; Whoever touches her shall not be innocent.

"You play with sin you will get burned."

David's bad thinking led to bad actions.

Sin of the mind grew into sin-filled actions. (11:6-17)

Sin leads to more sin. (6-17)

Calling Uriah home

Sent Uriah to his home/wife (Uriah rightly did not go)

Got Uriah drunk (trying to loosen Uriah's judgment)

Got Uriah killed.

David's sinful actions led to death.

Sin leads to death.

"For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Rom. 6:23)

The progression of sin.

James 1:13-15 (NKJV)

¹³ Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am tempted by God"; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone. ¹⁴ But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed. ¹⁵ Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death.

Why do we sin? We have a wicked heart that naturally craves to dishonor God.

Jeremiah 17:9-10 (NKJV)

⁹ "The heart *is* deceitful above all *things*, And desperately wicked; Who can know it? ¹⁰ I, the LORD, search the heart, *I* test the mind, Even to give every man according to his ways, According to the fruit of his doings.

Sin has its beginning point in the heart.

We do not need behavioral modification; we need a heart transformation.

"Create in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a steadfast spirit within me." (Psalm 51:10)

The sinner sees what is wrong in someone else's life before they see it in their life.
Because of our wicked heart we often need our sins pointed out.

Confrontation of sin. (12:1-9)

Since sin leads to death, confrontation of sin is a great thing!
God confronts sin. (12:1) "Then the Lord sent Nathan to David."
Ways that God confronts sin.

Holy Spirit- (John 16:8)

"And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:" (John 16:8, NKJV)

Scripture-

"For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart." (Hebrews 4:12, NKJV)

Friends/family/church

"Moreover if your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he hears you, you have gained your brother. But if he will not hear, take with you one or two more, that 'by the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established.' And if he refuses to hear them, tell it to the church. But if he refuses even to hear the church, let him be to you like a heathen and a tax collector." (Matthew 18:15-17, NKJV)

We need sin pointed out to us because we do not naturally see our sin. (12:1b-6)

We see the sin of others before we see the sins of self. (This is the reason Nathan told a story.)

"You are the man!" (7)

God had given David much and would have given more. (8)

Why have you chosen to do evil instead of trusting God? (9)

Consequences of sin. (12:10-12)

Always be at war (10)

Chaos/dysfunction in family (11)

However, this is the family of Jesus.

Private sin publically seen (12)

No one is perfect, what should I do?

(I have never murdered anyone so my consequences are not that bad?)

"For whoever shall keep the whole law, and yet stumble in one point, he is guilty of all." (James 2:10)

Confession of sin. (12:13)

David's confession- *"I have sinned against the LORD."*

God's forgiveness- *"The LORD also has put away your sin; you shall not die."* (2 Samuel 12:13)

Certain consequences may remain. (14)

“However, because by this deed you have given great occasion to the enemies of the LORD to blaspheme, the child also who is born to you shall surely die.” (2 Samuel 12:14, NKJV)

(What to do when we sin and cause others to question Christ/Christianity)
Confession of wrongdoing to someone is the hardest and most humbling act.
HOWEVER, it makes the name of the Lord famous.

Reality of David’s remaining consequences because of sin.

- Death of child (12:12-23)
- David at war (12:26-31)
- Incestuous rape (13:1-22)
- Hate and murder (13:23-33)
- Family split (13:34-)
- Son revolts against father (15:)
- Part of nation revolts against the king. (20:)

All of this is a result of a heart not being in the right place!
Each one of us is only one step from stupid! So, keep your heart focused upon God and not self.

Question:

Why should I confess if I am still going to face consequences?

The better question is, “Are you only living for this life or are you living for the life to come?”

Answer:

“For godly sorrow produces repentance leading to salvation, not to be regretted; but the sorrow of the world produces death.” (2 Corinthians 7:10, NKJV)

godly sorrow → repentance → salvation/eternal life

OR

worldly sorrow → _____ → death

Living for the life of salvation has NO REGRETS!

“God could never forgive me for all that I have done.”

God knows all you have ever done and has already demonstrated His love for you.

“But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”
(Romans 5:8, NKJV)

“If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.” (1 John 1:9, NKJV)

Prayer of Repentance- Psalm 51

Psalm 51 (NKJV)

To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David When Nathan the Prophet Went to Him, After He Had Gone in to Bathsheba. ¹ Have mercy upon me, O God, According to Your lovingkindness; According to the multitude of Your tender mercies, Blot out my transgressions. ² Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, And cleanse me from my sin. ³ For I acknowledge my transgressions, And my sin *is* always before me. ⁴ Against You, You only, have I sinned, And done *this* evil in Your sight— That You may be found just when You speak, *And* blameless when You judge. ⁵ Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, And in sin my mother conceived me. ⁶ Behold, You desire truth in the inward parts, And in the hidden *part* You will make me to know wisdom. ⁷ Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. ⁸ Make me hear joy and gladness, *That* the bones You have broken may rejoice. ⁹ Hide Your face from my sins, And blot out all my iniquities. ¹⁰ Create in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a steadfast spirit within me. ¹¹ Do not cast me away from Your presence, And do not take Your Holy Spirit from me. ¹² Restore to me the joy of Your salvation, And uphold me *by Your* generous Spirit. ¹³ *Then* I will teach transgressors Your ways, And sinners shall be converted to You. ¹⁴ Deliver me from the guilt of bloodshed, O God, The God of my salvation, *And* my tongue shall sing aloud of Your righteousness. ¹⁵ O Lord, open my lips, And my mouth shall show forth Your praise. ¹⁶ For You do not desire sacrifice, or else I would give *it*; You do not delight in burnt offering. ¹⁷ The sacrifices of God *are* a broken spirit, A broken and a contrite heart— These, O God, You will not despise. ¹⁸ Do good in Your good pleasure to Zion; Build the walls of Jerusalem. ¹⁹ Then You shall be pleased with the sacrifices of righteousness, With burnt offering and whole burnt offering; Then they shall offer bulls on Your altar.