

Continuing After Sin

Reminders For This Series:

1. Sin is a disease that all people share. However, the Bible tells us how to properly deal with our sin. David is an example of that!
2. After we have sinned and processed it appropriately, life will never be the same, but it can be better!

The Scripture

“David noticed that his servants were whispering among themselves and he realized the child was dead. “Is the child dead?” he asked. “Yes,” they replied, “he is dead.”²⁰ Then David got up from the ground. After he had washed, put on lotions and changed his clothes, he went into the house of the LORD and worshiped. Then he went to his own house, and at his request they served him food, and he ate.²¹ His servants asked him, “Why are you acting this way? While the child was alive, you fasted and wept, but now that the child is dead, you get up and eat!”²² He answered, “While the child was still alive, I fasted and wept. I thought, ‘Who knows? The LORD may be gracious to me and let the child live.’²³ But now that he is dead, why should I fast? Can I bring him back again? I will go to him, but he will not return to me.”²⁴ Then David comforted his wife Bathsheba, and he went to her and lay with her. She gave birth to a son, and they named him Solomon. The LORD loved him;²⁵ and because the LORD loved him, he sent word through Nathan the prophet to name him Jedidiah.²⁶ Meanwhile Joab fought against Rabbah of the Ammonites and captured the royal citadel.²⁷ Joab then sent messengers to David, saying, “I have fought against Rabbah and taken its water supply.²⁸ Now muster the rest of the troops and besiege the city and capture it. Otherwise I will take the city, and it will be named after me.”²⁹ So David mustered the entire army and went to Rabbah, and attacked and captured it.³⁰ He took the crown from the head of their king — its weight was a talent of gold, and it was set with precious stones — and it was placed on David’s head. He took a great quantity of plunder from the city³¹ and brought out the people who were there, consigning them to labour with saws and with iron picks and axes, and he made them work at brickmaking. He did this to all the Ammonite towns. Then David and his entire army returned to Jerusalem.”

- 2 Samuel 12:19-31

Moving On After Sin

- David prayed and fasted for the life of the child conceived in sin.
- For whatever reason, God took the life of that child.
- David’s servants were afraid to tell him of the child’s death.
“On the seventh day the child died. David’s servants were afraid to tell him that the child was dead, for they thought, “While the child was still living, we spoke to David but he would not listen to us. How can we tell him the child is dead? He may do something desperate.”
- 2 Samuel 12:18
- David understood and accepted that we cannot change the past.
- He wasn’t bitter. He didn’t look back. He didn’t quit.

<p style="text-align: center;">This Series Confronting Sin Consequences of Sin Confessing Sin Continuing After Sin</p>

How Did David Continue After Sin?

1. He continued in his relationship with himself.
“Then David got up from the ground. After he had washed, put on lotions and changed his clothes...”
- 2 Samuel 12:20
“So Jacob said to his household and to all who were with him, “Get rid of the foreign gods you have with you, and purify yourselves and change your clothes.” - Gen. 35:2
2. He continued in his relationship with God.
“Then David said to Nathan, “I have sinned against the LORD.” Nathan replied, “The LORD has taken away your sin. You are not going to die.”
- 2 Samuel 12:13
“Then David got up from the ground. After he had washed, put on lotions and changed his clothes, he went into the house of the LORD and worshiped...”
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Psalms 32 — Of David. “Blessed is he whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.² Blessed is the man whose sin the LORD does not count against him and in whose spirit is no deceit.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.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.”
- Psalm 32:1-5
3. He continued in his personal relationships.
“Then David comforted his wife Bathsheba, and he went to her and lay with her. She gave birth to a son, and they named him Solomon.”
- 2 Samuel 12:24
 - The next king, Solomon, is born to David and Bathsheba!
4. He continued in his responsibility or gift of leadership.
“Now muster the rest of the troops and besiege the city and capture it. Otherwise I will take the city, and it will be named after me.” So David mustered the entire army and went to Rabbah, and attacked and captured it.”
- 2 Samuel 12:28,29
5. He continued in his role as king.
“Then David and his entire army returned to Jerusalem.”
- 2 Samuel 12:31

Lessons

1. David knew the difference between hating himself and hating his sin.
Do you know the difference?
2. David confessed his sin appropriately and accepted the consequences. He also accepted forgiveness. *This took time!*
3. David understood that all are sinners and we will accomplish nothing if we wallow in our sin. *At least get up and try again!*
4. Others (*Bathsheba, Joab, the fighting men, etc.*) understood forgiveness and gave David another chance.

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Lessons

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3. David understood that _____ are sinners and we will accomplish nothing if we wallow in our sin. *At least get up and try again!*
4. Others (*Bathsheba, Joab, the fighting men, etc.*) _____ forgiveness and gave David another chance.

For Further Discussion

Continuing After Sin

Let's Review

What Do We Learn About Continuing After Sin?

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4. Others (Bathsheba, Joab, the fighting men, etc.) understood forgiveness and gave David another chance..

Consider and Discuss the Following:

1. Have you been able to forgive yourself from past sin?
Have you been able to hate sin and not the “sinner”?
2. How would you describe your pattern of confession in the past?
How could you do better from here on?
3. Do you believe that you can be effective even after you've sinned and sought forgiveness? Do you allow the same for others? Where do you draw “the line” on forgiveness and usefulness?
4. Are there some friends or family members to whom you need to offer a second chance? If so, how will you communicate that to them?
5. For you personally, what was the best lesson about sin from this series? Why? How will you work to remember this lesson?

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