

FINDING TIME



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- How has trying to cover up a mistake you've made only made the situation worse?
- In the case of King David the prophets hold him accountable for his sin. Who holds our leaders accountable for their sins today? What role do individual Christians have in holding our elected leaders accountable? What role does the Church have?
- This represents a major failure on the part of David as King of Israel. How do you feel others have failed you? How have/will you respond to these failures? How do you think God will respond?
- God continues to work through David even after these major errors in his judgement. What does this say about who God is and who we are as servants of God?

In the spring of the year, the time when kings go out to battle, David sent Joab with his officers and all Israel with him; they ravaged the Ammonites, and besieged Rabbah. But David remained at Jerusalem. It happened, late one afternoon, when David rose from his couch and was walking about on the roof of the king's house, that he saw from the roof a woman bathing; the woman was very beautiful. David sent someone to inquire about the woman. It was reported, "This is Bathsheba daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite." So David sent messengers to get her, and she came to him, and he lay with her. Then she returned to her house. The woman conceived; and she sent and told David, "I am pregnant." So David sent word to Joab, "Send me Uriah the Hittite." Then David said to Uriah, "Go down to your house, and wash your feet." When they told David, "Uriah did not go down to his house," David said to Uriah, "You have just come from a journey. Why did you not go down to your house?" Uriah said to David, "The ark and Israel and Judah remain in booths; and my lord Joab and the servants of my lord are camping in the open field; shall I then go to my house, to eat and to drink, and to lie with my wife? As you live, and as your soul lives, I will not do such a thing." On the next day, David invited him to eat and drink in his presence and made him drunk; and in the evening he went out to lie on his couch with the servants of his lord, but he did not go down to his house.

In the morning David wrote a letter to Joab. In the letter he wrote, "Set Uriah in the forefront of the hardest fighting, and then draw back from him, so that he may be struck down and die." As Joab was besieging the city, he assigned Uriah to the place where he knew there were valiant warriors. The men of the city came out and fought. Uriah the Hittite was killed. Then Joab told David all the news about the fighting.

When the wife of Uriah heard that her husband was dead, she made lamentation for him. When the mourning was over, David sent and brought her to his house, and she became his wife, and bore him a son.

2 Samuel 11:1-18;26-27