**David: A Man After God’s Own Heart**

**Introduction**

Israel is at war with the Philistines and Samuel has instructed Saul to wait to offer the sacrifice until he arrives. The situation is less than ideal and there are several of the army of Israel who are abandoning the army and fleeing. Saul offers the sacrifice before Samuel appears and when Samuel shows up he rebukes him and says that his line of kingship will not endure.

* 1 Sam 13:14: God has found man after his heart to serve as king
* 1 Sam 16:1-13: David anointed by Samuel
* 1 Kings 9:4; 14:8: Followed God with full heart
* Acts 13:22: David is a man after God’s heart

As the story of Israel unfolds there are some amazing statements made about David and his devotion to the Lord (1 Kgs 14:8; 15:5). The kings of Judah are often judged by his behavior (i.e. if they lived up to his standard).

However, many people wonder how David could have been a man after God’s own heart. After all, David made a lot of mistakes!

a) Bathsheba and Uriah (2 Sam 11-12; 1 Kgs 15:5)

b) Sinful census (2 Sam 24; 1 Chron 21)

c) Mistakes as a father (1 Kgs 1:6)

d) God told him not to build a house for him b/c he was a man of blood (1 Chron 22:8; 28:3)

***Purpose of these Lessons***: The point of these lesson is not to be really pro-David but it is to show how he was a man after God’s own heart. If we understand that then we can imitate his good points and avoid his bad points.

**1. Response when confronted with Sin**

* 2 Samuel 12: Confronted by Nathan the prophet

Nathan comes to David and tells him a parable and David responds to the story without being promoted by Nathan. His initial answer reveals his anger (12:5) but David shows his knowledge of the Mosaic Law (12:6; see Ex 22:1).

It is at this moment that Nathan reveals David is the guilty party and harshly rebukes him (12:7-12). He explains that David will face several consequences for his sin (12:10-12).

***What is David guilty of?***

a) Despised the word of the Lord (12:9)

b) Killed Uriah (2x in 12:9)

c) Took his wife to be your wife (2x in 12:9, 10)

d) Despised the Lord (12:10)

***What are the consequences?***

a) Sword will never depart from your house (12:10)

b) Will raise up evil from your own household (12:11)

c) Give wives to “companion” who will sleep with them in daylight (12:11-12)

d) Child will die (12:14)

**DAVID’S RESPONSE: *I have sinned against the Lord (12:13)***

**Contrast David’s response to other righteous kings**

All of these kings are said to be righteous. How do they respond when God sends a prophet to rebuke them?

**a) Asa**

* Righteous (2 Kgs 15:11-15)
* Hanani the seer put in prison, oppresses some people (2 Chron 16:7-10)

**b) Joash**

* Righteous (2 Kgs 12:2; 2 Chron 24:2)
* Killed Zechariah, son of Jehoida the priest (2 Chron 24:20-22)
* Many oracles against him (2 Chron 24:27)

**c) Amaziah**

* Righteous, but not with whole heart (2 Chron 25:2)
* Prophet rebukes (2 Chron 25:15); Silence prophet and threatens with death (2 Chron 25:16)

**d) Uzziah**

* Righteous like father, Amaziah (2 Chron 26:4)
* Opposed by priest (2 Chron 26:16-17); Uzziah enraged but gets leprosy (2 Chron 26:19)

**e) Hezekiah**

* Righteous (2 Kgs 18:3, 5-6; 2 Chron 29:2)
* Isaiah the prophet rebukes (2 Kgs 20:12-18; Isaiah 39:1-7)
* Hezekiah does not care because it will not affect him (2 Kgs 20:19; Isaiah 39:8)

**What made David a man after God’s heart?**

1) He repented when confronted with sin

No: excuses; justification; what about what this person did?; Oh your so perfect!; Well, I am never coming back here again;

I am not sure that I have ever seen this attitude.

**Why it so hard?**

1. It is embarrassing

We would rather avoid the embarrassment of the moment than restore our relationship with God. We think that people will think less of us and would rather deny wrongdoing for as long as we can. We prioritize our “reputation” and influence than we do of our relation with God. It shows that we have our priorities in the wrong direction.

1. It takes humility!

Just to be honest we have a pride problem. We are used to putting a face on that makes everyone think that everything is okay. It takes humility to say that we have sinned and to admit that in a public fashion.