

THE SNARE OF LUST.

David was a man after God's own heart, a beloved & successful king, and a poet whose words connect us with God to this day... and he struggled with sexual sin.

David's son Samuel was a given wisdom directly from God, built an incredible temple for God, was blessed beyond belief... and just like his father, he struggled with sexual sin.

These two men's stories are written down for the ages, but the truth of the matter is sexual brokenness has been passed down for thousands of generations and still runs *absolutely rampant* in our culture today.

Sex is not sinful. Don't hear that. However, when twisted outside of God's plan for intimacy, sex can quickly & easily lead to shame, emotional hurt, physical pain, and deep trauma. It can be used to control and manipulate. Plenty of other complicated & painful things can follow for everyone involved. Worse still, is when we do fall into sexual sin, we often don't feel comfortable talking about/confessing it to anyone... thus allowing that shame to grow deeper & deeper.

Thankfully, Jesus can & will redeem us from brokenness. You are not in this alone. And you are not too far for grace & redemption.

IN THE BIBLE.

2 SAMUEL 11:2-5, 14-17, 26-27

One evening David got up from his bed and walked around on the roof of the palace. From the roof he saw a woman bathing. The woman was very beautiful, 3 and David sent someone to find out about her. The man said, "She is Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam and the wife of Uriah the Hittite." 4 Then David sent messengers to get her. She came to him, and he slept with her. (Now she was purifying herself from her monthly uncleanness.) Then she went back home. 5 The woman conceived and sent word to David, saying, "I am pregnant."

14 In the morning David wrote a letter to Joab and sent it with Uriah. 15 In it he wrote, "Put Uriah out in front where the fighting is fiercest. Then withdraw from him so he will be struck down and die."

16 So while Joab had the city under siege, he put Uriah at a place where he knew the strongest defenders were. 17 When the men of the city came out and fought against Joab, some of the men in David's army fell; moreover, Uriah the Hittite died.

26 When Uriah's wife heard that her husband was dead, she mourned for him. 27 After the time of mourning was over, David had her brought to his house, and she became his wife and bore him a son. But the thing David had done displeased the Lord.

1 KINGS 11;1-8

King Solomon, however, loved many foreign women besides Pharaoh's daughter — Moabites, Ammonites, Edomites, Sidonians and Hittites. 2 They were from nations about which the Lord had told the Israelites, "You must not intermarry with them, because they will surely turn your hearts after their gods." Nevertheless, Solomon held fast to them in love. 3 He had seven hundred wives of royal birth and three hundred concubines, and his wives led him astray. 4 As Solomon grew old, his wives turned his heart after other gods, and his heart was not fully devoted to the Lord his God, as the heart of David his father had been. 5 He followed Ashtoreth the goddess of the Sidonians, and Molek the detestable god of the Ammonites. 6 So Solomon did evil in the eyes of the Lord; he did not follow the Lord completely, as David his father had done.

7 On a hill east of Jerusalem, Solomon built a high place for Chemosh the detestable god of Moab, and for Molek the detestable god of the Ammonites. 8 He did the same for all his foreign wives, who burned incense and offered sacrifices to their gods.

IN THE BIBLE.

PROVERBS 6:27-29

Can a man scoop fire into his lap
without his clothes being burned?
28 Can a man walk on hot coals
without his feet being scorched?
29 So is he who sleeps with another man's wife;
no one who touches her will go unpunished.

MATTHEW 5:27-30

You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery.' 28 But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart. 29 If your right eye causes you to stumble, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. 30 And if your right hand causes you to stumble, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to go into hell.

ROMANS 5:8-10

But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners. 9 And since we have been made right in God's sight by the blood of Christ, he will certainly save us from God's condemnation. 10 For since our friendship with God was restored by the death of his Son while we were still his enemies, we will certainly be saved through the life of his Son.

QUESTIONS.

Feel free to talk through some or all of these questions

- 1.) What sticks out to you in the verses above?
- 2.) What does this tell you about God?
- 3.) What does this tell you about yourself and the world?
- 4.) How is this going to change who you are and how you live?
- 5.) Is there a Jesus follower in your life who you can speak openly to about any struggles with sexual sin?

TAKE TEN:

- How did you see God work in your life this week?
- What has God been teaching you in His Word?
- What kind of conversations are you having with your pre-Christian friends?
- What good can you do around here? (in your life/circumstance)
- How can we help you in prayer and what do you want us to ask you about next week?

Whenever you read the Bible, ask yourself these three questions:

- 1. What does this tell you about God?
- 2. What does this tell you about yourself and the world?
- 3. How is this going to change who you are and how you live?