

2 Samuel 14:1-33

Invoke the Lord Your God

- Where are you being deceptive?
- Who do you need to forgive?
- Who do you need to encourage to forgive?
- When you are having issues, do you seek the Lord to help you?
- What area of your life do you need to ask the Lord for help?
- Where are you being prideful and you need to humble yourself?

Vs 1-7 Absolon killed his brother Amnon for raping their sister.

Absolon ran and hid because he was afraid of what David would do.

When you sin, do you own your sin? Do you confess it? Do you admit it is wrong? Do you ask forgiveness or do you run and hide?

Romans 6:23 *For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

1 John 1:5-10 *This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. 6 If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. 7 But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. 8 If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 10 If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.*

1. **David commits adultery and murders.**
2. **Amnon commits rape and does not own his sin and there are consequences.**
3. **Absalom kills his brother and runs and hides and does not own his sin.**

What sin are you hiding instead of confessing and giving it to Jesus? If you do not deal with it, the consequences will still be there, but you not dealing with it, with God, and with others will make it worse.

Joab wants there to be family reconciliation and forgiveness. He tries to bring people together.

Do you need to forgive someone? Do you try to bring others together to honor God?

Joab finds an arbitrator to help. Where do you need an arbitrator? Did you know that God uses the elders/pastors of a church to help in disputes. We will be arbitrators and helpers if needed.

I do not know if this is good or bad, but in each of these stories we see people not being open and honest. We see stories and manipulation. This could be wisdom, but they should really just be open and honest. David, you need to forgive your son and reconcile. Seek the Lord as to whether you need to do this. David, this murder and sin is because of your actions. Humble yourself and admit your fault and seek to lead your son in a way that honors the Lord.

This story is very familiar. David will understand. The heart of the parable is that the family needs to come together, forgive, and reconcile.

Vs 8-11 David inquires of where the woman came from and why she is bringing this forward. He is seeking openness and truth. The woman finally opens up.

Vs 11 is the key verse. She asks David to seek the Lord. She asks him to invoke the Lord! Where do you need to ask the Lord for wisdom and direction? Where do you know what God says, but you are ignoring it and choosing sin, bitterness, unforgiveness, and you make excuses for your sinful behavior? God is the avenger. You are a human that should submit to God and trust the outcome to Him.

Vs 12-20 The woman is finally open and says that David is convicting himself before God and others. He is not forgiving and reconciling with his son.

Jesus forgives us and we are to forgive others.

Matthew 6:14-15 *For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, 15 but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.*

Jesus forgives us and we must forgive others. Do you ask Jesus for forgiveness of sin or do you blame others? Do you remember God's forgiveness of you through faith in Christ and yet you are unwilling to forgive others?

The woman confesses everything. David knows his buddy is trying to help reconcile. She is honest.

Vs 21-27 David says his son can come back and he will not hurt him. Absalom can come back but David does not want to be with him.

Absalom is handsome, but he is not pure in his heart. Looks can be deceiving. God cares more about the heart than outward appearance. The world cares more about outward appearance.

Do you care more about godly character and doing what is right, or do you care more about the desires of the flesh?

Vs 28-33 A lot of time passes, and the son Absalom wants to see his father. At this point it is not clear why. It appears he wants reconciliation, but we will see later that he is bitter, angry, and wants his way and not others. He will try to usurp the authority that God put over him.

What area(s) of your life are you angry and bitter and it is causing you to do bad things? Are you faking things on the outside to appear good, but you have sin and darkness and shame on the inside that you are unwilling to confess and bring to light?

It does not seem nice to set a field on fire to get someone's attention. It does work. He gets to meet his father.

The sin is great in this family because David lived for sin and set that example for his family.

Where do you have hidden sin that you are unwilling to expose and God might be bringing you consequence?