The Trials of a King

The Story Ch.11 p.p. 161-173

VIDEO:

Go to http://vimeo.com/album/1514042
When prompted for a password enter: **TheStory** (case sensitive)
Find and watch the video titled "The Story For Groups Chapter 12"

Summary:

David lives out every aspect of real life. His heart for God is captured in psalms of repentance (Psalm 51), gratitude for forgiveness (Psalm 32) and trust (Psalm 23).

Think about:

- God had protected David from lions, a giant and a jealous king. He had given him military savvy, a position of power and abundant possessions. Yet somehow greed led to lust, adultery and murder. (*The Story*, pages 161-163) The Bible tells us we should always keep our guard up regarding temptation. (See 1 Peter5:8)
- Read: Psalm 119:9-16; Galatians 5:16-18.
- What important promise has God given us regarding temptation? (See also 1 Corinthians 10:13)
- What were some of the consequences of David's sinful behavior?
- Yet in Psalm 51, David writes, "Against you, you only, have I sinned." Why do you think David penned these words considering his actions had cause harm to so many others?
- God used the prophet Nathan to confront David about his sin. What should our role regarding accountability be with fellow Christians? (See Galatians 6:1-3 and Matthew 18:15-17)
- In Psalm 32, David joyously expresses his thanks to God for the forgiveness he received. What are some
- ways we should show our gratitude to God for his forgiveness?
- How should knowing that God forgives us affect our relationships with those who wrong us? (See Colossians 3:12-14)
- Why is the analogy used in Psalm 23 of a sheep and its shepherd perfectly suited to show the relationship between God and us? In it, David writes "even though I walk through the valley…," not "even if." Does that mean even Christians should expect tough times? (See John 16:33 and Acts 14:21-22)
- Psalm 23 is often read at funerals or turned to in times of danger or sorrow, but how is its message always relevant?
- We can and should always rely on God's protection and provision.

Take away:

David's life was filled with tragedy and triumph. Above all, it was filled with an abiding faith. His story of repentance, gratitude and trust is an example to us all.

Prayer:

Heavenly Father, show us how to apply the lessons learned from David's extraordinary life to our own lives. We thank you for the forgiveness you give when we repent of our sins. Help us always to put our trust in you. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.