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EPISODE 17: HOW TO TEACH 2 SAMUEL 11 - 12:15

SUMMARY

This is the story of David and Bathsheba. It is a heavy and sobering text as we witness David's sin. A man who God chose whose sin has ripples of consequences to many around him. We see our own nature reflected in this story and demands us to take a long look at the details. We are all vulnerable to sin and our acknowledgement of that fact leads to humility. This story also shouts God's abounding forgiveness and grace. Consequences remain in the wake of sin, but His heart is to restore His people to Himself. A repentant heart who acknowledges the weight of disobedience against the Holy God is met with love.

SPECIFICS

In leading the conversation on this text, don't miss these big ideas:

The relationship between small acts of disobedience and larger moral failure is strong.

To be Gospel fluent, is to be immersed in the good news of Jesus and able to see the areas of unbelief we all have. The sins we entertain, commit and live in reveal our hearts ultimate devotion. We want our women to identify sin and learn to recognize and name it. This always begins with our own selves before we attempt to disciple others. This text gives us a case of the layering of sin. The domino effect of what a mess we make when we live with ourselves at the center disregarding God.

Apply the fruit to root exercise we discussed in the previous episode as you unpack this passage.

- Name the sins present in the passage (adultery, deceit, murder putting others at risk, etc).
- Look at the deeper motivations as you move towards the root (idleness, lack of fear of God, pride, arrogance, etc)
- Lead your women through the effects of sin, the consequences, the cover up.
- Identify with each of the characters and take note of what details the Scripture highlights.
- In this conversation, be ready for what strikes your women personally and triggers their own experiences as they take in the Word.

Small disobediences matter.

We see this in David's life. The place we all occupy is the mundane, everyday rhythms of life. Help your women to see the beauty of these unseen parts of life and what fertile ground it is for disciple making. As they grow in naming sin in their own life and receiving the grace offered by Jesus, they will become humble ambassadors of the good news. The Spirit will grow an awareness, sensitivity and love for the people in their sphere of influence.

Model how to identify with the people in the Bible.

Talk through what impacts them about David. What did they notice about Bathsheba? Uriah? Nathan? God? Give space for their questions. Scripture teaches us to hold both the tension of sinning and being sinned against. Teach them to acknowledge both of these realities and modeling how the Gospel applies towards ultimate freedom. Giving them permission to hold and give space for that tension will equip them in sitting with others and humbly listening to the complexities of people's lives.

Loving others is not ignoring sin.

Nathan's rebuke in 2 Samuel 12 gives an example of speaking truth in love. He is bold and creative in his approach to David. He uses story and gives space for David come to his own conclusion about what he had done. Take note of the importance of naming sin and bringing it into the light. God's kindness is seen in Him sending Nathan and how the Spirit moved David to repentance. We aren't prophets, but we have the Spirit to rely on, to trust in as we have conversations with people. We aren't responsible for repentance, but God uses us to share His law and ultimate provision in

Jesus as we miss the mark. You can direct your women to Psalm 51 for David's fuller song of confession and repentance. Galatians 6:1 is important to reference as it speaks to gentleness as the means of restoration for someone in sin.

Feel the depth of God's love and forgiveness.

God's love and forgiveness is astounding. He extends forgiveness after the mess of sin David found himself in. This is a time to press on the believe question: Do you believe God forgives you as He forgave David?

Stories of brokenness restored is a way God displays His Glory.

God's love and redemption is as real as sin's persistent presence in our lives. It is greater than the power of sin's hold and He sets people free. A person forgiven is one who is sent to declare what God has done. You get to help your women see the immense privilege it is to be in other's lives and part of the transforming work He does. This should energize them towards loving the women in their lives, knowing them and not shrinking back from addressing sin.

Catch the Vision

Imagine the women in your church having these conversations! Sin being forgiven, washed clean. The Gospel is the go to language. Gospel fluency has enabled deep conversation and connection where the seeds of sin are being put to death. Your women are believing the Gospel and turning from sin. The result is joy, freedom, unity and life in your church. It would be so contagious within your community that it couldn't help but be shared to those you are sent. Let it be, Lord!

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