



Week of Sunday,
September 6, 2026

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Living out our God-given calling as we follow Jesus and make disciples every day.

Growing in the MARCS of a disciple every day!

SEPTEMBER FOCUS - ACCOUNTABLE

Select a question below to ask the group to gauge how you are growing in the MARCS of a disciple.

1. How can we respond to temptations in the moment to help us overcome them?
2. How do we grow through overcoming temptations and engaging in accountability?
3. Do you have people in your life you can be completely honest with, and why is it important to have accountability like this?

INTRODUCTION

In 2 Samuel 11, we see David, a man after God's own heart, fall into sin. Not only that, but we witness the spiraling effect sin can have as it slowly destroys not only our lives but also the lives of those around us. David stands as a warning of the destructiveness of sin, but also the importance of a repentant heart before God. David's sin cost Uriah his life, but the truth is that our sin comes with an even higher cost: the blood of Christ. How can we learn from David to quickly repent of our sins before they spiral into a destructive cycle of sin?

2 Samuel

READ ALOUD

2 Samuel 11:1-5 and **2 Samuel 11:11-15**

DISCUSS

Opening Question

When was a time you saw a bad situation turn much worse because of one bad decision?

- What were some key events that led to David's sin with Bathsheba in this passage?
- What does Uriah's response tell us about his priorities, and how do they differ from David's priorities?

*Have someone read aloud **2 Samuel 12:1-7**.*

- What does Nathan's parable reveal about David's sin?
- What does David's response to Nathan's parable tell us about the weight of his own sin?
- Why do you think God refers to David as "a man after my own heart" while knowing the sins he would later commit?

DISCUSS & APPLY

- What can we learn from the mistakes of David in this passage, and how does that apply to our own lives?
- How can one sin lead to many more sins in our own lives, and how can we break that pattern of sin?
- Why do you think it is easier to attempt to hide or "fix" our own sin instead of confessing and repenting to God?

RESPOND

What roles do accountability and discipleship play in resisting temptation and developing a repentant heart?

Praying as a Church - Week 32 Prayer Prompts

(Share and pick some to pray through as a group.)

Praise

- As you read Psalm 150, let it guide you in praising the Lord. Let everything that has breath praise the Lord!
- Praise God that He is a God who hears us and listens to us when we pray. 1 Kings 8
- Reflect on some of God's promises. Praise the Lord that not one word of all His good promises has failed. He is a promise-keeping God. 1 Kings 8:56

Silence & Solitude

- Sit quietly with the Lord, meditating on the Proverbs. Where do you need wisdom? Is it something you value?
- Ask God to show you where you are leaning on your own understanding. Proverbs 3:5

Ask - Allow the Word to Guide Your Prayer Requests

- Let Proverbs 1-3 guide you as you pray for wisdom and understanding. James 1:5 assures us that when we ask God for wisdom, He will generously provide it.
- Reflect on the qualities of King David described in 1 Kings 3:6. Ask God to help you walk in truth, righteousness, and uprightness of heart.
- Pray 1 Kings 3:14 for your family and our church. May we walk in God's ways, keep His statutes, and obey His commands.
- Use Solomon's prayer of dedication in 1 Kings 8:22-53 to guide your own prayers and requests to the Lord.

Lament - What Has Grieved You as You Have Read the Word?

- Lament the things that have stolen your praise from the Lord. Let Psalms 149 and 150 restore praise to your heart and mind.
- Repent of the times when you have not walked in God's ways or kept His commands. Ask Him to reveal specific sins or areas of your life that need to be surrendered to Him. 1 Kings 3.

Mission

- Reflect on 2 Samuel 24:23-24 and David's desire to offer the Lord something that cost him something. Ask God to reveal what that sacrifice might look like in your own life. It may be financial, time, comfort, or resources.
- Pray for our missions partner, Mission Discovery. Ask God to use Mission Discovery to impact more communities around the world with the Gospel. Pray for the upcoming banquet, future mission trips, and His provision for the ministry He has placed on their hearts.
- Ask God to reach the Tai Khang people group in Laos with the Gospel. Pray for creative access strategies that would allow workers to share the Good News. Pray that many would hunger for truth, seek the One True God, and place their faith in Christ.

This Week: Mission Discovery Banquet, September 10, 2026

Here are some questions you can discuss with the whole family.

2 Samuel 11

Why do you think David stayed home instead of going with his army like he usually did?

Guide younger kids to talk about the choice to stay back and relax instead of doing his job; older kids can discuss how avoiding responsibility can put us in situations where we're more tempted to make bad choices.

When David saw something he shouldn't have, what could he have done differently instead of taking it?

For younger children, focus on the idea of looking away and telling a trusted adult; with teens, explore the idea of self-control and stopping a wrong desire before it grows into a bigger sin.

Instead of admitting he made a mistake, David tried to hide it and it led to something worse. Why do you think it's hard to tell the truth when we've done something wrong?

Young kids can share a time they didn't want to admit a mistake; older kids can discuss how covering up sin often causes more harm than the original mistake, and why honesty and repentance matter.

GET INTO THE WORD

A YEAR-LONG JOURNEY THROUGH THE OLD TESTAMENT

Week 32

- 2 Samuel 24 / Psalm 149
 - 1 Kings 2 / Psalm 150
 - 1 Kings 3 / Proverbs 1
 - 1 Kings 6 / Proverbs 2
 - 1 Kings 8 / Proverbs 3
- MEMORIZE: Matthew 5:16
Matthew 6:33

Other Resources

The Bible Project - David the Priestly King

The story of David ultimately points to the arrival of Jesus, the true priestly king who will bring the blessings of Eden to all creation and restore humans to their divine calling.

WATCH

The Bible Project's Guide - Samuel

See a collection of videos, classes, and articles that dives into 1 and 2 Samuel and their themes.

The Bible Project's Guide - Proverbs

See a collection of videos, classes, and articles that dives into Proverbs and its themes.

What's Going On at Long Hollow

- **Women's Night** - Sunday, September 13, 5:30PM Hendersonville Campus
- **Even Greater Launch** - Sunday, September 13: Visit an Even Great Booth around campus this Sunday for more information.
- **Parent Conference** - Sunday, September 20, 6- 8 PM, Hendersonville Campus; registration required.
- **Fall Equipping Classes** - New classes starting in September and October.

Starting a D-Group

If you or someone you know would like to start a D-group, we have everything you need, including reading plans, journals, and a launch guide to walk you through the first four meetings.

longhollow.com/dgroups

What's Going On?

While Israel's army campaigns against the Ammonites, David remains in Jerusalem, where one evening he spots a beautiful woman bathing from his palace roof. ([2 Sam 11–12](#)) She is Bathsheba, wife of Uriah the Hethite. ([2 Sam 11–12](#)) David summons her, and they sleep together. ([2 Sam 11–12](#)) When Bathsheba becomes pregnant, David attempts damage control by recalling Uriah from battle, hoping he'll sleep with his wife and assume paternity. ([2 Sam 11–12](#))

However, Uriah refuses — even after David gets him drunk — choosing instead to stay with the king's servants. ([2 Sam 11–12](#)) As a soldier consecrated for war, Uriah honors the divine law requiring sexual abstinence that David has violated. Desperate, David arranges for Uriah to be positioned in the heaviest fighting where he's killed in battle. David then takes Bathsheba as his wife, and she bears him a son.

The narrative's focus, however, shifts dramatically. While Uriah's murder spans twenty verses, God's rebuke through the prophet Nathan occupies fourteen verses and represents the narrative's most important scene. Nathan confronts David with a parable about a wealthy man who steals a poor man's only lamb for a guest. David, outraged, declares the man deserves death and must restore the lamb fourfold. Nathan then pronounces the verdict: "You are the man!" — exposing that David's actions "despised the word of the LORD." David acknowledges his sin, and remarkably, God extends mercy. Solomon is subsequently born to David and Bathsheba, fulfilling the Davidic Covenant and demonstrating that God will use repentant kings to accomplish his purposes.

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A Bit of Background Context

The military campaign against the Ammonites provides the narrative’s essential backdrop—Joab commands Israel’s forces in a siege of Rabbath Ammon while David remains in Jerusalem. This occurs “at the turn of the year,” specifically the first month of the Jewish calendar (Nissan), which precedes Passover in spring. Ancient Near Eastern armies typically conducted major battles during spring rather than winter, as colder months endangered soldiers and required more resources.

The narrative demonstrates a kingdom no longer merely defending itself but initiating military campaigns. David’s decision to send Joab rather than leading the army himself may subtly signal that something is amiss. This separation of David from his army—with troops engaged in combat while he remains safely in his palace—creates the conditions for the domestic crisis that follows.

Significantly, the narrative of David’s adultery and Uriah’s murder (11:1–12:25) is bracketed by accounts of Israel’s victory over the Ammonites, yet the parallel account in 1 Chronicles omits this entire episode entirely. This structural choice underscores the theological importance of what occurs during the military campaign. The backdrop of warfare—where soldiers sacrifice and endure hardship—throws David’s behavior into sharp relief. David violates the very rule of sexual abstinence for active soldiers that he himself had self-righteously invoked in an earlier episode. The contrast between Joab’s faithful prosecution of the siege and David’s moral failure in Jerusalem sets up the narrative’s central tension.

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In the spring when kings march out to war, David sent Joab with his officers and all Israel. They destroyed the Ammonites and besieged Rabbah, but David remained in Jerusalem.

One evening David got up from his bed and strolled around on the roof of the palace. From the roof he saw a woman bathing—a very beautiful woman. So David sent someone to inquire about her, and he said, “Isn’t this Bathsheba, daughter of Eliam and wife of Uriah the Hethite?”

David sent messengers to get her, and when she came to him, he slept with her. Now she had just been purifying herself from her uncleanness. Afterward, she returned home. The woman conceived and sent word to inform David, “I am pregnant.”

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Living out our God-given calling as we follow Jesus and make disciples every day.

MISSIONAL

Engaging with the world to share the Gospel intentionally.

ACCOUNTABLE

Being transparent with Christ and other believers about your walk.

REPRODUCIBLE

Disciples who make disciples; the mentee becomes the mentor.

COMMUNAL

Living in deep community with other believers; never alone.

SCRIPTURAL

Grounded in the Word of God as the ultimate authority.



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CHURCH