

Unlikely
Unlikely Repentance- Session #9
Small Group Notes

Introduction:

- When was the last time that you were physically lost?
- What did you use as a way to get back on the right track?

With today's technology, we rarely find ourselves lost on a trip as every turn is made. However, there can still be those moments when we miss a turn or we didn't hear the directions coming through and we end up off track. And before long those words, "recalculating" show up on a screen telling us to take a u-turn. Just as last week we see David at his best, this week we are going to see David at his worst moment. And for David it was a time that God was going to use someone in his life to help him to return to walking with the Lord. And we will see how repentance is the gift that gets us back on God's path for our lives.

Discuss:

1. Warnings before stepping off the path

- 2 Samuel 12:1-7
- Sin blinds us
- The consequences of sin are real.

Explain: In verses 1-4, the prophet Nathan began by telling a parable about a rich man who stole a poor man's lone pet lamb and cooked the lamb for a meal. Nathan brought his parable to dramatic climax by contrasting two possible choices that the rich man could have made (v.4). David's first reaction to Nathan's parable was personal (v. 5-6) David's rage over the rich man's wicked actions exploded in absolute condemnation. With his powerful words, You are the man, Nathan drove home the application of the parable to what happened in 2 Samuel 11.

Ask:

Why must sin always be confronted?

How was Nathan being a good friend to David? Explain.

What judgment did God pronounce on David through Nathan?

When has God used a close friend or family member to bring conviction to your life? Were you grateful for their influence at the time?

2. How do I get back on the path?

- Read 2 Samuel 12:13-14, 20
- We have to believe that God's grace is so much greater than our sin
- Definition of confession: being honest about what is going on inside of you with God and a trusted friend/mentor
- Repentance is not accepting defeat; it's taking hold of a victory that is ours in Christ!

Explain: According to verses 5-6 and 13, Nathan's story worked. David confessed his sin to God and was moved to repentance after Nathan brought him face to face with his sin and its consequences (Psalm 51:1-17). We too need to confess our sins to the Lord. By doing so we become more sensitive to the ways we rebel against Him and hurt others and ourselves. We also experience in a far greater way His mercy and cleansing power. Once we have confessed and experience forgiveness, we then need to recommit ourselves to faithful obedience (1 John 1:8-9)

Ask:

What did David admit after Nathan spoke?

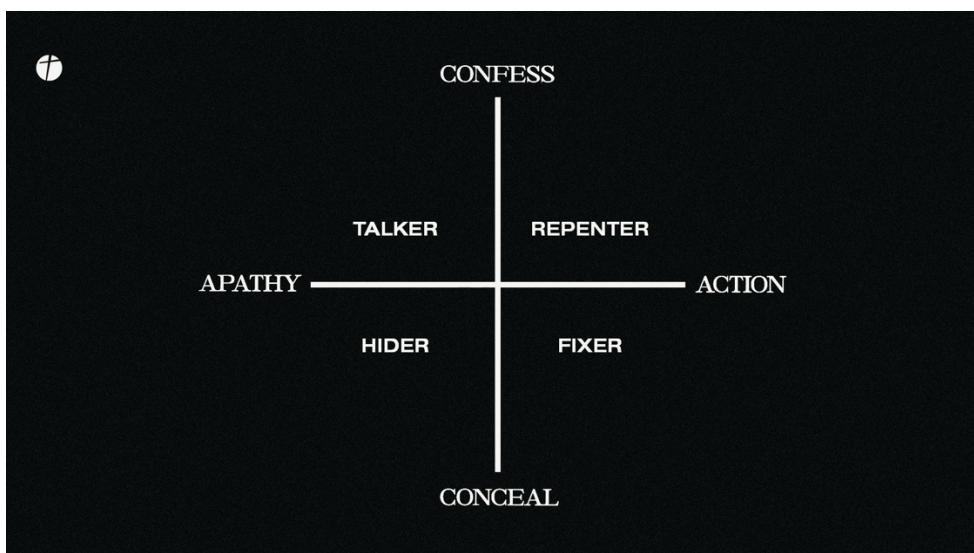
Turn to Psalm 51, David's prayer of confession. Which words and phrases point to David's 1) admission of sin, and 2) his desire to be fully restored in his walk with God?

From this psalm, is it evident that David is truly repentant? How do you know?

Why is confession an integral part of receiving forgiveness?

3. Application

- View the illustration below:



- There are four categories of people that exist when it comes to being confronted with sin and moving towards repentance.
 - o There are TALKERS: Those that talk about confession and yet do not act upon it because they are apathetic in their actions.
 - o There are HIDERS: Those that remain apathetic toward repentance and even want to conceal their actions from others.
 - o There are FIXERS: Those that want to take action but rather than their sin being exposed, they will try and fix their own problems without others knowing.
 - o There are REPENTERS: Those that take both action of repentance and are willing to confess their sin and need of repentance.

Ask:

How would you describe the lives of people in these categories? Do you feel that you fall into one of these quadrants more than others?

How does this illustration help you to address sin that happens in your life?

What have you learned from this discussion today that it takes to move from to the REPENTER area of our lives?

Group Prayer Time

- **Local**
 - **Endure Athletics** Pray for the parents of the children to be involved in their lives.
- **National**
 - **Anchor Church Georgia** Pray that we would have weekly opportunities to share the good news of Jesus Christ with the lost in our community.
- **International**
 - **CHINESE IN EUROPE.** Ray, a Chinese pastor in Ukraine, has served food to people sheltering underground in subway stations and cared for orphans. Ask God to uphold and strengthen him as he learns to minister in wartime.