

Honor and Shame (part I)

2 Samuel 14-15

We tend to justify our sins of COMMISSION,
and rationalize our sins of OMISSION.

We are shown the danger of UNFORGIVENESS
or withholding RECONCILIATION

Those who are CLOSEST to us, can HURT us the most!

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Application

- Practice humility – it is so easy to see the sins of others and overlook our own
- When convicted, be quick to confession and repentance
- The importance of healthy confrontation (Matthew 18, Matthew 5:23, 18:21 - 70x7)
- To be generous with forgiveness and tireless toward reconciliation

For Further Study and Reflection

- *Misreading Scripture With Western Eyes* by E. Randolph Richards
- *How to Read the Bible for All its Worth* by Gordon D. Fee and Douglas Stuart
- *Good and Angry* by David Powlison
- *The Peacemaker* by Ken Sande
- *Winsome Conviction* by Timi Muehlhoff and Richard Langer

Small Group Questions:

1. What do you know about honor/shame cultures? How do they differ from our own? In what ways does honor and shame show up in David's life, since his sin with Bathsheba/Uriah?
2. What are the family calamities God is visiting upon David?
(2 Samuel 12:11-12)
3. 2 Samuel 12 seems to indicate God is responsible for punishing David with these calamities, but the stories in Chapters 13-15 seem to showcase David reaping what he has sown. Which is it? Are these Divine consequences or natural consequences from David's sin?
4. In Exodus 2:5-7 the ESV says "...forgiving... though He by no means clears" or as Eric translated: "clearing He does not clear". What is meant by this? What does God clear, what does God not clear?
5. What personal application can we learn from David's story of shame?