

The Heart of Sin *2 Samuel 11*

“A sinful attitude precedes a sinful action”

1. David abdicated responsibility (1)

- a. God has a calling for each one of us
 - 1. Know your spiritual gift
 - 2. Examine your life experiences
 - 3. Consider your passions
 - 4. Consider the affirmation of others
- b. To neglect our calling is to invite temptation (2)

2. Temptation turned to Sin (3-5)

- a. A sinful action is preceded by a sinful attitude
- b. We battle temptation in the mind and the heart

3. Personal sin turned to public scandal (6-17, 26-27)

- a. Sin is progressive
- b. Sin's consequences are communal
- c. Sin is preventable

For Further Study and Reflection

- *Sin and Temptation* by John Owen
- *Not the Way its Supposed to Be (A Breviary of Sin)* by Cornelius Plantinga Jr.

Small Group Questions:

- 1.** In what ways had David made himself vulnerable to sin? What is the progression of sin?
- 2.** How can we guard against sin and temptation?
- 3.** Pastor Eric made the point that all sin is communal. Do you agree or disagree? Why?
- 4.** What are your spiritual gifts? (Review Romans 12, 1 Corinthians 12, Ephesians 4, 1 Peter 4). If you are unsure, ask those around you. In what ways are you using your spiritual gifts?
- 5.** What calling do you feel God has put upon your life? (consider gifts, experiences, passions, and affirmations of others).