

## ***The Elephant In The Family Room***

#1- *The Family Pet*

Kevin Caudle – October 31, 2021

Pretense = Pretending

2 Samuel 11 – David and Bathsheba

*12 So the Lord sent Nathan the prophet to tell David this story: “There were two men in a certain town. One was rich, and one was poor. 2 The rich man owned a great many sheep and cattle. 3 The poor man owned nothing but one little lamb he had bought. He raised that little lamb, and it grew up with his children. It ate from the man’s own plate and drank from his cup. He cuddled it in his arms like a baby daughter. 4 One day a guest arrived at the home of the rich man. But instead of killing an animal from his own flock or herd, he took the poor man’s lamb and killed it and prepared it for his guest.” 5 David was furious. “As surely as the Lord lives,” he vowed, “any man who would do such a thing deserves to die! 6 He must repay four lambs to the poor man for the one he stole and for having no pity.” 7 Then Nathan said to David, “You are that man! 2 Samuel 12:1-7 NLT*

Problems we don't own eventually own us

Family elephants lose their power when uncovered

How to eat an elephant:

1 Step

*13 People who conceal their sins will not prosper, but if they confess and turn from them, they will receive mercy. Proverbs 28:13 NLT*

Intentionality

Be candid and courageous

Refuse to drift

Do not put it off

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## ***Life Group Questions***

*The Elephant In The Family Room #1 – The Family Pet*  
For the week of October 31, 2021

This guide is designed to help you digest this week's teaching in a deeper way. It is intended to be used alongside the Sunday teaching notes. While the questions are written to be used in Life Groups, you can also use it individually or as a family.

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### **WARMING UP:**

1. If you're married, or been married, share one expectation that you had about marriage that turned out to be different. If you've never been married, but you're open to marry, what is one desire you would have for your marriage?

### **JUMPING IN:**

2. Why do you think we have a tendency to accept dissatisfaction in our meaningful relationships? Why do we think that ignoring situations might be the best way to deal with them?
3. In 2 Samuel 12 David is faced with a decision to come clean or to mastermind a cover up. He chooses the cover up. That's not unfamiliar to us. Talk about a time where you faced a similar dilemma.
4. Kevin said, "You weren't out looking to drag an elephant into your living room, you were just out breathing the fresh air on the patio". How does this speak to how the enemy works in our lives?

5. We're comfortable sweeping things under the rug and acting like they didn't happen, but God is not. He's always working a plan to bring to light what's been done in the darkness. What comes to mind when you think about that concept?

6. How come pretending as children is so healthy and so unhealthy in adults?

7. Kevin said "Coming clean is different than getting caught." Do you agree with this? Why or why not? He also shared that he felt Misty was willing to work things out because she knew he was still listening to the Holy Spirit. Why do you think that would be the case?

8. Coming clean can bring incredible hurt and pain, but it's the only way to truly heal. Why is it still so difficult to come clean?

9. Read Proverbs 28:13. Why do you think holding in your sins will keep you from prospering? How does confessing them lead to receiving mercy?

### **BRINGING IT HOME:**

10. Kevin said, "If our goal is just being a better person, better spouse, better parent, it won't work, it's the wrong goal. The goal is to be more like Christ." What is one practical way that you could live into this in the coming weeks?