

THEME: FACING YOUR GIANTS

KEY VERSE(S): “Then Nathan said to David, “You are that man! The Lord, the God of Israel, says: I anointed you king of Israel and saved you from the power of Saul. I gave you your master’s house and his wives and the kingdoms of Israel and Judah. And if that had not been enough, I would have given you much, much more.” 2 Samuel 12:7-8 (NLT)

MEMORY VERSE(S): “Pride goes before destruction, and haughtiness before a fall.” Proverbs 16:18 (NLT)

******Remember to listen to this week’s sermon, review the Sermon Notes Sheet and complete the discussion questions BEFORE attending your Connexion Group!***

INTRODUCTION: In 2 Samuel 11, David is suffering from the giant, Affluenza; a nasty disease caught from being too rich and powerful. He’s been too affluent for too long. He can’t hear or see as he used to. He can’t hear the warnings of a subordinate or the voice of his conscience. Nor can he hear his Lord. The pinnacle of success has dulled his ears and blinded his eyes.

This week we will explore the symptoms of the giant, Affluenza. And see how David and his family never quite recovered from this bout with this giant. We will also learn to pray for those suffering from Affluenza and how to inoculate ourselves from the devastating disease.

GROUP LESSON DISCUSSION

1. What was most helpful, encouraging, or challenging from this week’s sermon? This series thus far?
2. Why does Affluenza foster a sense of entitlement; causing wealthy, powerful people to feel they have earned their way to success with superior intellect or talent, and thus standard rules of society do not apply to them?

Why are so many successful men, like David, with wealth, power, palaces, and trophy wives, so unfulfilled that they need to sexually assault women?

When are you most in danger of suffering from Affluenza?

3. Read 2 Samuel 11: 1– 27. What was the start of David’s problems in this chapter?

How is your hearing? Do you hear those whom God sends? Do you hear the conscience that God stirs?

And your vision? Do you still see people? Or do you see only what they can do for you? Do you see people who need you, or do you see people beneath you?

4. Read 2 Samuel 12:1-26 God’s words reflect hurt, not hate; bewilderment, not belittlement. What do you think hurts God the most about David’s sin? What do you think hurts God the most about our decisions to sin?

Is there a relationship between David sexually assaulting Bathsheba and Amnon raping his sister Tamar?

5. Read Proverbs 16:18. How does pride destroy a person? In what way did David show himself prideful in the incident with Bathsheba?

What kind of destruction and fall did David experience when God revealed his sin?

Read 1 Peter 5: 5-6. What command are believers given in verse 6? What promise is given to those who heed the command?

This week’s assignment:

In what area of life do you most need to humble yourself? Determine some practical steps you can take this week to humble yourself in this area.