

Sermon Discussion Guide

Mothers of Jesus: The Wife of Uriah

Matthew 1:1-6; 2 Samuel 11:2-4a; 2 Samuel 11:27-12:1

December 14 & 15, 2019

Part 1: Pray

Every time we study God's word, we should ask God to give us the Holy Spirit to prepare our hearts, teach us and mold us into who he created us to be. Ask God to reveal his truth to transform you through your discussion time.

Part 2: Read the Text

Read the passage(s) from the sermon, including the account of David and Bathsheba from 2 Samuel 11.

Part 3: Reflect on the Sermon

Introduction

1. This week Ray compared the genealogy of Jesus to a modern day resume. Imagine what the implications would be if you included some of the more regrettable parts of your education and employment history in a resume.
2. In Jesus' genealogy, people who have done some of the darkest, dumbest things make into the family tree. Think about some of the darkest, dumbest things you've done. Think even about this past week and some of the mistakes you've made and reflect on the fact that you are that kind of person in the family tree of Jesus too.

The Wife of Uriah: A Sobering Scandal

1. Recount together as a group the events of David's sexual relationship with Bathsheba. Discuss the scandal of Bathsheba being the daughter of Eliam and the wife of Uriah; the forced sexual engagement of David with Bathsheba and the persistent plot of David to have Uriah killed.

2. How does a reconsideration of this story change some of your previous views of David? Does it seem or feel even more unbelievable that David is included in the genealogy of Jesus?

3. The story of David and in his inclusion in the lineage of Jesus might offend us, but the profundity of his sin should not shock us. Why is this?

4. If the seed of every sin is in your heart, then David's story being in the genealogy of Jesus should also be encouraging. This is because if there's compassion for David, then there is compassion us. Reflect on this truth.

5. Ray also asked whether, in our sin, we have compassion on the moral failures of other. Is this true of you? What keeps you from having compassion on others who fail in general or who have failed you specifically?

The Wife of Uriah: A Shocking Grace

1. David's story ultimately becomes one of God's grace. In his case, it was the grace of God to be displeased with David's sin and to confront him in it. How in the world is this grace? Has there been a time(s) when you've experienced God's grace in this way?

2. God is ferocious and persistent in his pursuit of us. What idols do you feel yourself constantly moving towards instead of relenting to God? (This is a question for nonbelievers and believers.)

3. Grace gives us the freedom to be real and honest. Would you say that grace has done this for you? Do you feel comfortable sharing the ugly truth about yourself?

4. Where in your life do you need to experience the rest of grace from performance, duty and the burden of sin? Do you relate more to the nun or the prostitute in the story from the sermon?

Part 4: Summarize the Message

How would you summarize the sermon to someone who has never heard it? What are your two or three key takeaways from the message and your discussion?

How does this sermon change your perspective on God? Your own heart? And/or, how to follow him?