

THE LIFE OF DAVID THE MESSAGE CONNECT

The Message Connect is a devotion that goes deeper into Sunday morning's message, intentionally connecting it to our lives throughout the week. Through a 15-20 minute video and discussion guide, we challenge everyone to go deeper in their faith because we believe growing people change for God's glory and their God-honoring life purpose.

WEEK FIVE: ROCK BOTTOM

Go online to ringgoldchurch.com/themessageconnect to watch this week's Message Connect video.

Series Overview:

Every hero has flaws, even the ones we read about in the Bible. In the life of David—a king of Israel and a man after God's own heart—we see a hero with glimpses of greatness and wounds of pride. Through David's failures, challenges, and triumphs, we see a greater Hero. The hero was not David, but God Himself. God humbled David and pointed people back to the one, true, King.

Key Scriptures:

2 Samuel 11-12

Next Steps:

1. Start Talking. Find a conversation starter for your group.

What was the worst trouble you ever got into as a kid?

2. Start Thinking. Ask a thoughtful question.

What did God teach you during the message this weekend? Did anything in particular stand out?

3. Start Sharing. Here are questions to help you dig deeper into God's Word.

2 Samuel 11:1-12:15 — What occurred when David stayed in Jerusalem while his army went to battle? How did David try to cover up the consequences of his sin? What was the result?

In this passage, we see that David had "arrived" as king of Israel and his faith was on cruise control. Have there been times in your life when you felt like you had arrived and were no longer depending on God? How do you keep from putting your faith on cruise control when life is going well?

David taking Bathsheba as his wife after Uriah's death seemed to be the honorable thing to do in the eyes of the community, but God was not pleased. Describe what happens in your relationship with the Lord when you cover things up instead of dealing with them.

Nathan confronts David about his sin, and David is either in denial or he had convinced himself that what he had done was okay. Have you ever lived with a secret so long that you rationalized it and were no longer convicted by it?

This weekend, we learned that nothing healthy grows in the dark. God led David to confess in order to kill his sin. Describe a time when you brought a hidden sin from the dark into the light. What happened as a result?

Nathan was willing to confront David about his sin, and he had David's best interests at heart. Do you have someone like Nathan in your life right now? Have you given anyone permission to call you out in your sin? If you haven't, why not?

4. Start Praying. Be bold, and pray with power.

Take some time to pray over identified action steps and life issues. Pray that God would continue to actively grow and mature you in Christ.

5. Start Doing. Commit to a step and live it out this week

2 Corinthians 7:10 (NLT) says, "For the kind of sorrow God wants us to experience leads us away from sin and results in salvation. There's no regret for that kind of sorrow. But worldly sorrow, which lacks repentance, results in spiritual death."

We are not called to carry around our sin; it will slowly kill us. Jesus died for our sin so we could live a life of freedom from the guilt, regret, and pain that our past sin may have caused us.

What sin have you been tolerating and need to bring to light?

Take time to repent and to pray.

For more information about taking the next steps in your faith, visit: ringgoldchurch.com/nextsteps.

LET PASTOR DON LEAD YOUR DISCUSSION.

Pastor Don created The Message Connect videos for *The Life of David*. Go deeper and wider in your faith walk with us by going to ringgoldchurch.com/messageconnect.