

Small Group Discussion Questions

Series: Rise and Fall: Life of David

Speaker: Jay Haugh

Message: Like Father, Like Son

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Memory Verse: 2 Samuel 7:22 NIV

How great you are, Sovereign LORD! There is no one like you, and there is no God but you, as we have heard with our own ears.

These questions aim to foster meaningful discussion and encourage participants to reflect on God's Word to lead to heart transformation. Feel free to modify or expand upon these questions based on the dynamics and needs of your Small Group.

Big Idea: We reap what we sow – either from our flesh or from God's transforming Spirit.

This passage deals with sensitive themes of sexual assault and abuse. Roughly one-third of Americans have experienced some form of sexual violence. Therefore, be mindful when facilitating a discussion that some intense emotions may surface.

Read 2 Samuel 13:1-22

1. When we meditate on our sinful desires, they become inflamed into an unhealthy obsession. This is what has happened to Amnon (with lust) and Absalom (with anger). What practical steps can we take to avoid dwelling on sinful desires? **Read Philippians 4:8.** What should we be focused on? What does that look like for you?
2. Amnon confesses to Jonadab about his infatuation, and instead of rebuking Amnon, Jonadab enables his sin. How can confessing our sin to a trusted Christian friend or spiritual leader help us overcome temptation? If you were struggling with a sin like Amnon, who would you connect with? Why have you selected them?



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3. It's possible Amnon was not originally planning to do anything until his friend Jonadab shared a plan. We need to be mindful of the people we surround ourselves with. The people we interact with can affect our character. Do you have any negative influences in your life right now? How can we build relationships with non-believers and not be negatively impacted by their influence?
4. Amnon believes himself to "love" Tamar. What do you perceive to be the cultural view of love? What does Scripture say about love? How are the two different? What can be done to influence and change the cultural view to become more like the Christian view?
5. The woman Amnon was first infatuated with, he now finds repulsive. Why is sin so alluring to us? Why does sin never fulfill or bring happiness? Do you agree with the statement that, "Sin is an attempt to satisfy ourselves when we were made to be satisfied by God?" Why or why not?
6. David had many wives and concubines. He also committed adultery with Bathsheba. How do you think observing this behavior in his father created an environment where Amnon's sinful desire flourished? Are you aware of your weaknesses, shortcomings, or sinful tendencies? Have you seen any of them passed along to the next generation?
7. After being thrown out of Amnon's house, how does Absalom show support and care for his sister Tamar? In what ways did Absalom fail to show maturity in his response? How can we care well for the abused and marginalized?
8. Other than being furious over the situation, we are not told of David doing anything to reprimand or punish Amnon, or to care for Tamar. What does Old Testament law say should happen? What would have been a proper response from David? Does David's previous misconduct with Bathsheba cause him to stumble when bringing reproof?



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