

## 2 Samuel 11

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## Sermon Study Guide

(Reminder: The purpose of the questions is to explore the text and themes of the sermon. **Do not feel a need to go through all of the questions.**

The goal is to stimulate discussion/reflection and transformation related to the sermon text and themes.)

1. Read vv. 1-2 and consider the ways in which David seemed to be unguarded and indulgent when temptation came his way.
2. Why is it important that Christians understand both aspects of the Bible's teaching on temptation: (1) that in Christ there is strength to resist temptation (1 Cor. 10:13; Heb. 2:17-18; 4:15-16) and (2) that we are utterly weak in ourselves (James 1:13-14) which is why we need to pray for deliverance and pursue piety (Mt. 6:13; Gal. 6:1)?
3. David's sinful actions affected so many people: Bathsheba, Uriah, Joab, those unnamed souls that perished alongside Uriah, and the people of Israel. What does this teach us about the consequences of sin, can we limit the consequences? Do we try to justify our sin as small and insignificant?
4. Every person, regardless of age or employment, has some kind of status/influence. Think about the influence/status you have in the lives of those around you and share the areas in which you must avoid abusing that power and sin against the God who love you and those around you.
5. The last line of chapter 11 states: "But the thing that David had done displeased the LORD." Discuss the significance of this statement. If God saw this, why didn't He prevent it? Why is it so easy for us to think we can sin without God knowing about it? How might God's knowledge & presence be more than a deterrent but also a comfort?