

## 1& 2 SAMUEL STUDY SERIES

# Sin

Week of May 3: 2 Samuel 11

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## Observation

1. Read 2 Samuel 11. What do you notice as you read?

2. What questions do you have?

3. How would your group define sin?

### **Observation: What does it say?**

1. What do you notice about the text?  
Things to look for:
  - repeating words and phrases
  - Answers to the questions: who, what, when, where and how?
  - contrasts and comparisons
  - similes and metaphors (images used in the text)
  - cause and effect relationships
  - details regarding: time, geography, place, people, action in the text
  - grammar
  - larger themes in the passage
  - key words and themes
2. What questions do you have?

# Interpretation

1. Look at how David's sin escalated in this account. What do you imagine was going through his mind as he took each action in the text? Do you think that he would have anticipated that watching a woman bathe from his rooftop would have ended in murder?

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2. David was at the height of his reign and his power. Things had been going very well for him as he had victory after victory. How might these circumstances have contributed to what happened with Bathsheba? Could anything have prevented this?

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## Interpretation

The goal here is to answer questions raised by the text and to get at the central message of the passage itself.

What did the text mean for the original audience?

How might you summarize the central point of the passage?

# Application

1. Recently there have been some well-known Christian leaders whose reputations have been tainted by sex scandals. Why do you think this is a problem in our world today?
2. Do you think that the circumstances of our lives make us more susceptible to sin, or do you think it is rather the condition of our hearts? How might these be related?
3. In our own lives do you think that sin can be cumulative, where one sin will lead to another? How can we build accountability into our lives?

# Suggestion for Prayer

Take some time to pray for leaders. Pray both for political leaders in our country, as well as for leaders in our church.