

Welcome to the Connecting Class

Lessons from the Life of David

Confrontation,
Consequences. Confession,
and Compassion

2 Samuel 12:1-7a

- The LORD sent Nathan to David. When he came to him, he said, “There were two men in a certain town, one rich and the other poor. The rich man had a very large number of sheep and cattle, but the poor man had nothing except one little ewe lamb he had bought. He raised it, and it grew up with him and his children. It shared his food, drank from his cup and even slept in his arms. It was like a daughter to him.

- “Now a traveler came to the rich man, but the rich man refrained from taking one of his own sheep or cattle to prepare a meal for the traveler who had come to him. Instead, he took the ewe lamb that belonged to the poor man and prepared it for the one who had come to him.”
- David burned with anger against the man and said to Nathan, “As surely as the LORD lives, the man who did this must die!” He must pay for that lamb four times over, because he did such a thing and had no pity.”

Confrontation Prerequisites

Get the facts first.

Proverbs 22:20-21 Have I not written thirty sayings for you, sayings of counsel and knowledge, teaching you to be honest and to speak the truth...

Proverbs 18:15 The heart of the discerning acquires knowledge, for the ears of the wise seek it out.

Confrontation Prerequisites

Get the facts first.

Examine your own motives.

Matt. 7:3-5 "Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye? How can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' when all the time there is a plank in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye.

Confrontation Prerequisites

Get the facts first.

Examine your own motives.

Avoid anger.

Psalms 37:8 Refrain from anger and turn from wrath; do not fret—it leads only to evil.

Ephesians 4:30-31 And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander----

Confrontation Prerequisites

Get the facts first.

Examine your own motives.

Avoid anger.

Pray for the right timing.

Ecclesiastes 3:1, 7There's a time for everything that is done on earth.....There is a time to be silent. And there's a time to speak.

Confrontation Prerequisites

Get the facts first.

Examine your own motives.

Avoid anger.

Pray for the right timing.

Choose your words carefully.

Proverbs 12:18 The words of the reckless pierce like swords, but the tongue of the wise brings healing.

Ecclesiastes 9:17 The quiet words of the wise are more to be heeded than the shouts of a ruler of fools.

Confrontation Prerequisites

Get the facts first.

Examine your own motives.

Avoid anger.

Pray for the right timing.

Choose your words carefully.

Have courage.

Proverbs 18:21 The wicked flee though no one pursues, but the righteous are as bold as a lion.

Corinthians 16:13 Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong.

Confrontation Prerequisites

Get the facts first.

Examine your own motives.

Avoid anger.

Pray for the right timing.

Choose your words carefully.

Have courage.

Confront in private first.

Mat 18:15 "If your brother sins against you, go and show him his fault, just between the two of you. If he listens to you, you have won your brother over."

Then Nathan said to David,

“You are the man!

What should be David’s punishment?

David should die!

Genesis 9:6 “Anyone who murders man will be killed by man. That is because I have made man in my own likeness.;

Leviticus 20:10 “Suppose a man commits adultery with his neighbor’s wife. Then the man and the woman must be put to death.

Consequences

2 Samuel 12:7-14 This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: 'I anointed you king over Israel, and I delivered you from the hand of Saul. I gave your master's house to you, and your master's wives into your arms. I gave you all Israel and Judah. And if all this had been too little, I would have given you even more. Why did you despise the word of the LORD by doing what is evil in his eyes? You struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword and took his wife to be your own. You killed him with the sword of the Ammonites. Now, therefore, the sword will never depart from your house, because you despised me and took the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your own.'

“This is what the LORD says: ‘Out of your own household I am going to bring calamity on you. Before your very eyes I will take your wives and give them to one who is close to you, and he will sleep with your wives in broad daylight. You did it in secret, but I will do this thing in broad daylight before all Israel.’” because by doing this you have shown utter contempt for the LORD, the son born to you will die.

- **The sword would never depart from David’s house.**
- **David would be humiliated by trouble in his own household.**
- **“...the son born to you will die.”**

2 Samuel 12:13-23 Then David said to Nathan, “I have sinned against the LORD.” Nathan replied, “The LORD has taken away your sin. You are not going to die..... After Nathan had gone home, the LORD struck the child that Uriah’s wife had borne to David, and he became ill. David pleaded with God for the child. He fasted and spent the nights lying in sackcloth on the ground. The elders of his household stood beside him to get him up from the ground, but he refused, and he would not eat any food with them.

On the seventh day the child died. David’s attendants were afraid to tell him that the child was dead, for they thought, “While the child was still living, he wouldn’t listen to us when we spoke to him. How can we now tell him the child is dead? He may do something desperate.”

David noticed that his attendants were whispering among themselves, and he realized the child was dead. “Is the child dead?” he asked. “Yes,” they replied, “he is dead.”

Then David got up from the ground. After he had washed, put on lotions and changed his clothes, he went into the house of the LORD and worshiped. Then he went to his own house, and at his request they served him food, and he ate.

His attendants asked him, “Why are you acting this way? While the child was alive, you fasted and wept, but now that the child is dead, you get up and eat!”

He answered, “While the child was still alive, I fasted and wept. I thought, ‘Who knows? The LORD may be gracious to me and let the child live.’ ²³ But now that he is dead, why should I go on fasting? Can I bring him back again? I will go to him, but he will not return to me.”

Genuine Confession

- His response was immediate and direct, with no excuses.
- He prayed for mercy for his son.
- He showed remorse for his sins. David dressed in sackcloth and fasted until he had a right relationship with God.
- He accepted his punishment. He didn't dwell on his mistakes, but instead looked to the future.
- God 's word was true and reliable. He took the child. But that meant his mercy was also true and reliable. David's sin had been forgiven.

God's Compassion

- David is forgiven of his sins.
- David remains king.
- Another son is born to David and Bathsheba.
- God kept his promise to David.

Lessons from David's Experience:

- Do we have a heart for God?
- God abhors sin.
- Yet we all sin.
- Sin separates us from God.
- There are consequences from sin.
- Sin does not only affect us, it affects others.
- God is just.
- Reconciliation to God requires repentance.
- God is merciful and forgives.

Questions and Discussion

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APT TO TEACH DIDAKTIKON

A bishop then must be ... apt to teach 1 Timothy 3:2



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Welcome to my site

This is a work in process. I am frequently updating content as I gain more or better understanding. I encourage you to return often and to share your insights and ask questions.

Jim Abrahamson ThM
Chapel Hill, NC



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APT TO TEACH DIDAKTIKON
A bishop then must be ... apt to teach 1 Timothy 3:2

Welcome to my site

This is a work in process. I am frequently updating content as I gain more or better understanding. I encourage you to return often and to share your insights and ask questions.

Jim Abrahamson ThM
Chapel Hill, NC

Romans 1:19-20
Psalm 19:7
"that which is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them. For since the creation of 'the law of the Lord is perfect...; the testimony of the Lord is sure,' have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse"

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