

Andy Deane • November 8, 2020

## The Story: Avoidance of & Recovery from Sin

### THE “WAY OUT” OF TEMPTATION:

1 Corinthians 10:13, No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you're tempted he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it.

#### **A. Stay Focused on the Mission**

2 Samuel 11:1, *In the spring, at the time when kings go off to war, David sent Joab out with the king's men and the whole Israelite army. They destroyed the Ammonites and besieged Rabbah. But David remained in Jerusalem.*

1. Evading responsibility is often the first step to spiritual decline.
2. Be where you should be, when you should be there.
3. Galatians 5:16, ...walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.

#### **B. Flee Temptation! Don't Fantasize.**

2 Samuel 11:2-3, *One evening David got up from his bed and walked around on the roof of the palace. From the roof he saw a woman bathing. The woman was very beautiful, & David sent someone to find out about her. The man said, “She is Bathsheba...the wife of Uriah...”*

1. We aren't as strong as we think and our past success can lead to overconfidence.
2. 1 Corinthians 10:12, *So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don't fall!*
3. The victory over sin is fought when the thought begins to shape itself. Destroy the seed and the plant will never grow!

4. 2 Timothy 2:22, *Flee also youthful lusts...*

#### **C. Avoid Hanging Out in Wrong Places with the Wrong People**

2 Samuel 11:4a, *David sent messengers to get her. She came...*

1. To avoid sin we may need to avoid certain places and certain people for a season.
2. 1 Cor. 15:33, ...“Bad company corrupts good character.”

#### **D. Don't Dig the Hole Deeper Trying to Cover It Up**

2 Samuel 4b-27, ...and he slept with her. The woman conceived and sent word to David, saying, “I am pregnant.”...

1. Don't compound the tragedy by trying to hide it.
2. Sin begins incrementally and stopping at any point is better than continuing on further.
3. Temptation is more beautiful, easier, and less costly than reality.
4. James 1:14-15, ...each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed. Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death.

### THE EXAMPLE & HELP WE HAVE IN JESUS:

1. Hebrews 4:15, *we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are, yet he did not sin.*
2. Jesus was tempted in Luke 4. How did he resist?
3. Psalms 119:11, *I have hidden your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you.*

### THE WAY BACK FROM FAILURE:

1 John 2:1, *My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have an advocate with the Father—Jesus Christ, the Righteous One.*

### **A. Confess**

2 Samuel 12:13, *"...I have sinned against the Lord."*

1. Confess your sins to God and before people.
2. Prov. 28:13, *Whoever conceals their sins does not prosper, but the one who confesses & renounces them finds mercy.*

### **B. Repent**

Psalms 51:10, *Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.*

1. To repent is to change direction and make a 180° turn towards God.

### **C. Receive God's Grace**

Psalms 51:12-13, *Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me. 13 Then I will teach transgressors your ways, so that sinners will turn back to you.*

1. We must believe God will forgive and bless us again.
2. 1 John 1:9, *If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us...*

### **C. Endure the Consequences**

2 Samuel 12:10-11; 14

1. The consequences of David's sin were heartbreaking.
2. Don't try and short circuit your consequences, patiently endure them.