

Jesus' Dysfunctional Family

Matthew 1



David: The Moral Failure

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Psalm 51

Timothy Keller, *Logos Sermon Archive*.

Francis Spufford, *Unapologetic: How Christianity Makes Surprising Emotional Sense*

Head: Understanding the Bible

“Normal life contains moments that are as bad as any moments of insanity, moments in which radical evil takes over and takes its turn.” ~Paraphrase of William James, psychologist

- 1) Read 2 Samuel 11. Is there anything about the text you do not understand? Does it stir any immediate thoughts, emotions or questions?
- 2) How does the story indicate that David is about to do something foolish?
- 3) Read Psalm 51:1-4, 12. What does David say is the root cause of why he did this?
- 4) Read 2 Samuel 12:7-10. How does God describe David's sin? What is David's disposition towards God in the midst of his evil and sin? (vs. 10)
- 5) What is sloth? Where do we see the sin of sloth in David's actions in 2 Samuel 11?

“Sloth is the accomplice of the other sins and their worst punishment. It is the sin that believes in nothing, cares for nothing, seeks to know nothing, interferes with nothing, enjoys nothing, loves nothing, hates nothing, finds purpose in nothing, lives for nothings, and remains alive only because there is nothing it would die for.” ~Dorothy Sayers

Sloth is an indifference that leads to boredom that eventually leads to despair. ~Pastor Steve Froelich

Heart: Using the Gospel on Our Affections

“...let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.” Hebrews 12:1c-2

6) How did Jesus fight sloth, a restlessness? What led Jesus to fight for his people?

7) Sloth leads to moral failure and despair. How does the gospel bring us joy?

Hands: Applying the Gospel to Our Lives

8) Have you found yourself bored with God? How do you fight the joylessness?

9) Think of some moral failure. How does sloth accompany the fall? How do you make yourself miserable with God's mercy that leads to joy?

10) Take time to pray for God to restore unto us the joy of His salvation so that we might overcome our boredom with our God, become more effective missionaries and lovers of our neighbors.