

Warrior. Poet. King.

The story of David

ICEBREAKER: Find A Conversation Starter For Your Group

If you had the opportunity to own your dream business, what skills would you look for in your future employees? List these skills in order of importance...

It's interview time, and you have found an employee that meets every skill set that you would want! However, this employee has questionable characteristics that you have noticed during your interview. What are the characteristics you would not compromise on no matter how skilled the employee was?

INTRODUCTION: Discuss The Sermon & Key Scriptures

The introduction of our "Warrior. Poet. King." series begins by telling the story of Israel rejecting God as their king. As the story unfolds in scripture, we see how David, by God's design, moves into place to become the mortal king of Israel. In **1 Samuel 16:7** it reads, "But the Lord said to Samuel, 'Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.'" God was looking for a ruler after His own heart, one who would be able to recognize that God was the true king.

START SHARING: Choose Questions That Create Openness

Examples...

- What qualities do you naturally tend to look for when picking your friends?
- Many people believe position creates influence. Discuss within your group what characteristics you would follow regardless of position.

START READING: Dig Deeper Into More Scriptures

Even though David found favor with God, he was still human and thus made many mistakes. One of his most infamous mistakes can be found in **2 Samuel 11:1-12:13**. **Read this scripture as a group, and discuss how even in his wrongdoing David shows that he is still a man after God's heart.** Use the following questions as a guide for group discussion.

Questions...

- Would the story have had a better outcome if David had confessed to Uriah instead of trying to control the outcome on his own?
- Have you ever had a "Nathan" speak truth into your life because of your disobedience?
- What hope do you see from the story as we look at the mistakes we have made in our lives?
- Reflect on a wrongdoing you have committed in your past that you have not made right. What are the action steps that you would need to take to rectify that mistake in order to show God that you are still a son/daughter after His own heart?

TAKE THE NEXT STEP: Commit To A Step & Live It Out This Week

David's real mistake was found in the first verse when he didn't go to war in the spring. He acted disobediently, and ignored his responsibilities as a leader and as a king. If he had been at war, the entire situation would have been avoided. Our struggle as humans is that too many times we make ourselves the king of our lives and disobey how God wants us to live.

- Giving up control of our *things* can be very challenging for us. What habits or desires do you naturally tend to want to control?
- Sometimes our *crowns* aren't so obvious. Many times we place a *crown* on things in this world that give us false security. Identify the *crowns* that control you due to worry.

START PRAYING: Be Bold & Pray Specifically

- Pray for your group to be a place where "Nathans" have the right to speak up. As a group, commit to pointing out each other's crowns in a **loving** way. Pray for each other's crowns as you work to continually place them at Jesus' feet.