The Story

Chapter 12 Questions

1. As chapter 12 of *The Story* begins (2 Samuel 11; *The Story*, pp. 161-162), we see David enter into sin and begin a domino effect of other sins that followed. Identify each of David's sins and how it led to another sinful choice of action in his life.

2. David's sins did not just affect him but others around him. Note the effects on the following:
   - Bathsheba
   - Uriah
   - The prophet Nathan
   - The military commander Joab
   - Other soldiers under Joab's command
   - The baby conceived by Bathsheba
   - Other people in David's life

3. Once Uriah was dead, David seemed to think he had gotten away with his coveting, adultery, lying, and murder. But when Nathan confronted him, David realized that God knew everything. What are some of the ways we can deceive ourselves into thinking we have covered our tracks and hidden our sins (from ourselves, others, and even God)?

4. King Saul (when confronted by Samuel the prophet) did not admit his sin, repent, and really seek forgiveness...he made excuses. That is why God rejected him. How is David's response to facing the reality of his sinfulness different from Saul's (2 Samuel 12; *The Story*, pp. 162-163)?

5. God forgave David, but there were still consequences to his sinful actions. What were some of the consequences David faced immediately and over the long term because of his sinful choices?

   Why is it important that we walk in God's grace but still realize we might face very real consequences of our sins?

6. What do we learn about the holiness and heart of God when we consider Nathan's interactions with David?

7. If you could have asked David at the end of his life, "What advice and insight would you give me about temptation and sin?" what might David say to you if you are presently dabbling in sin?

8. Randy pointed out that David's life, even with his falls and frailties, still pointed people to God. How can God use our lives - the good and bad - to show his presence, love and grace to the people around us?

9. Read movement 3 of *The Story* (p. 11 of this participant's guide). How has the death and resurrection of Jesus become a bridge for you to cross and enter a more intimate relationship with God?