

**Samuel Overview:** Samuel answered important questions for the nation of Israel. Despite asking for a king Samuel is a book that showed God still at work in the midst of a disobedient people. Ultimately it points to the establishment of an everlasting kingdom (2 Samuel 7:16). Samuel records events from Samuel's birth to Saul's death (1100-101 B.C.)

**Author and Date:** Unknown author around 950 B.C.

**First readers and their location:** The first readers are unknown but it may have been composed as an historical record and placed in the collection of Israel's sacred scriptures.

**Why was it written?:** Most likely, Samuel was written as an historical record of the events that happened between the time of Samuel and Saul.



### Open-up

What is your earliest recollection of having to confess something to someone? What was the event? What was the outcome? How did this shape your approach to confession?

### Into the Bible—Ask “What does it Say?”

**The events in 2 Samuel 11-12 begin with David sleeping with another man's (Uriah) wife (Bathsheba) which resulted in a pregnancy. David then sets in motion a plot to kill Uriah to cover up this indiscretion. 2 Samuel 12 is the account of the prophet Nathan confronting David and David's response.**

 **Read: 2 Samuel 12:1-25**

**What do you notice about the passage itself? (Structure, repeated words or ideas, unique words, main points, what did this passage say to the original author and audience)**

What role does Nathan play in the life of David? How does Nathan communicate David's sin? How does Nathan contrast the made up story with David's actual sin?

What were all of the consequences of David's sin?

What do you learn about Nathan in the story? David? God?

David wrote Psalm 51 out of this event. If you have time read the Psalm and discuss what comes out of it.



**Into my life**—Ask “What does this look like in my personal life?”

Why is it hard for us to acknowledge when we sin?

Who would you say have been the Nathan's in your life? If you don't have any, why not?

What hidden places would you say are strongholds in your life (Pride, anger, lust, idolatry...)? How can you trust God with these strongholds?

What is one next step you need to take in growing in confession?



**Into the World**—Ask “what does this look like in my world?”

Read Psalm 32:1-5 and 1 John 1:9. Spend time, either out loud or in silence confessing your sins to God and receiving his forgiveness (If you are doing this in groups it is good for guys and girls to be separate).