

Message: Release SZN

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A desired goal for all of New Covenant is that each person develops and deploys spiritual and leadership qualities in all areas of their life. With this in mind:

- Where are you spiritually right now? (ex. infant, toddler, child, youth, adult)
- Do you have a vision of where you want to be?
- Do you have a plan on how to get there?

Read Genesis 3:1-7 & 2 Samuel 11:1-4

- What are some euphemisms people use today for sin (ex. “white lies”)? Why do you think people use them? Do you ever hear the word “sin” used outside of the church? Why do you think that is?
- How are trials/temptations setting you up for spiritual growth? *See James 1:2-4*
- How does the Bible define sin? What is the difference between being tempted and sinning? OR is temptation equivalent to sinning?
- What attracted Eve to eat the forbidden fruit? Why did David desire a woman that was not his wife? What is the connection between desire and disobedience? How does this relate to *1 John 2:15-17 & Matthew 6:21*. What does this tell us about where our focus/desire should be?
- Sin in the Bible is not just breaking rules, but can also be described as fracturing a relationship. What relationship was fractured by Adam & Eve’s sin? What relationship(s) was ruined because of David’s sin? Where have you seen or been responsible for a damaged relationship because of sin?
- In both the narrative of the Original Sin & David’s adultery, both try to cover up their sin. Instead of covering up their sin, what should they have done? Is there something in your life that needs to be brought to the light?
- Even though David is one of the heroes of our faith, his life also gives us a picture of how Christians fall. How does your perspective of leaders change after a hidden sin is made public? Does what you think of others play a role in why you hide your sin?



ENGAGE THE SCRIPTURES

- Why do we still sometimes choose to sin knowing that our action is not right and will damage a relationship?
- Do our sins impact our relationship with God?
- When or where do you feel most vulnerable to temptation?



SPIRITUAL FRIENDSHIP

- What is the primary sin you struggle against on a daily basis?
- What steps are you taking to actively fight this sin?
- Dusty provides five steps to process sin. Discuss these steps as a group and talk through anything you find challenging:
 - a. Recognize sin
 - b. Recognize which door is ahead
 - c. Recognize your sin before God
 - d. Recognize your sin before trusted community
 - e. Recognize God's grace
- Share about a time when you have followed these steps and found relief and joy to the burden (sin) you were carrying.