3. Install Accountability

Do you have the kind of relationships where people can safely ask you hard questions about your risky behavior? When has this happened in your group?

What prevents a group from accountability? What steps can your group take toward becoming the kind of group that will help “affair-proof” your marriage or help you have a pure heart.

- What steps will you take this week to “affair-proof” your marriage or your heart? Ask someone to pray for you.

INTRO: Lust is a monster in disguise. Like Eve’s fruit, what looks desirable and safe contains a germ of sin that will grow and destroy all who enjoy it. Someone said that leaders (and who isn’t a leader to someone) all deal with lust in three ways….money, sex, and power. David seemed to have faced down the giant of lust for power and money. But 2 Samuel 11 reveals there was a chink in his armor….As we study David’s negative example in 2 Samuel 11, we will learn some positive ways to maintain a PURE HEART.

- Read I John 2:15-17 and compare it to Genesis 3:4-6 and 2 Samuel 11. How do you see the lust of the flesh and eyes as well as the pride of life showing themselves in these 3 passages.

I. David’s Slip (vs. 1-3)

In the spring, at the time when kings go off to war . . . David remained in Jerusalem. One evening David got up from his bed and walked around on the roof of the palace. From the roof he saw a woman bathing. The woman was very beautiful, and David sent someone to find out about her . . .

2 Samuel 11:1-3a

David violated the first commandment.

- How do you deal with boredom and burnout?

- In what ways did David “fly close to the flame” in this section?
II. David’s Fall (vs. 4-5)  
Then David sent messengers to get her. She came to him, and he slept with her . . . 2 Samuel 11:4a  
David violated the tenth commandment.  
David violated the seventh commandment.

- Who or what was responsible for David’s affair: a) Spring fever, b) boredom, c) Bathsheba for setting David up, d) David for acting on his impulse?  
- Read Romans 13:10-14. How did David’s “love” for his neighbor violate the command to love his neighbor?

III. David’s Crash (vs. 6-27)  
A. Attempted Cover-up (2 Samuel 11:6-13)  
So David sent this word to Joab: “Send me Uriah the Hittite.” . . . Then David said to Uriah, “Go down to your house and wash your feet.” So Uriah left the palace . . . But . . . slept at the entrance to the palace . . . When David . . . asked him, “Why didn’t you go home?” Uriah said to David, “The ark and Israel and Judah are staying in tents, and my master Joab and my lord’s men are camped in the open fields. How could I go to my house to eat and drink and lie with my wife?” . . . 2 Samuel 11:6, 8-11a  
David violated the ninth commandment.

B. Arranged Murder (vs. 14-25)  
In the morning David wrote a letter to Joab and sent it with Uriah. In it he wrote, “Put Uriah in the front line where the fighting is fiercest. Then withdraw from him so he will be struck down and die.” . . . When the men of the city came out and fought . . . Uriah the Hittite died. 2 Samuel 11:14-15, 17  
David violated the sixth commandment.

- When does David think about the danger of adultery?  
  See Deut. 22:22  How does this put him in a difficult position as King?

C. Hypocrisy (vs. 26-27)  
After the time of mourning was over, David had her brought to his house, and she became his wife and bore him a son . . . 2 Samuel 11:27a

D. God’s Grief (v. 27)  
. . . But the thing David had done displeased the LORD 2 Samuel 11:27b

- Do you think David knew God was displeased? Read Psalm 51, 32.

THREE STEPS TO A PURE HEART

1. Look Ahead  
- Fill the hole in your heart with God

- Steer away from trouble.

- How does obeying the first command in Rom. 13:14 help in obeying the second?

- Read I Thessalonians 4:1-8 and compare it to I Corinthians 10:13. What do you learn here about staying clear of temptation?

2. Watch the Lights  
- Be Cautious at Yellow Lights.
  . . . Where You are vulnerable  
  . . . When Self-indulgence substitutes for serving

- Read Luke 12:42-26. As you look at God’s call to serve, how are you using your privileges for others rather than self? For self rather than others?

- Stop at Red Lights