

A.L.I.V.E. Bible Study
Date: March 1, 2023
2 Samuel 13

1. What happened in our texts over the last couple of weeks in 2 Samuel 11-12
 - a. David slept with a married woman, she got pregnant, and then he had her husband killed.
 - b. God sent the prophet Nathan to David and Nathan told David a story.
 - c. David repented of his sin, but there were still consequences and his child died.
 - d. David was told that the sword would never depart from his family and: ‘Out of your own household I am going to bring calamity on you. Before your very eyes I will take your wives and give them to one who is close to you, and he will sleep with your wives in broad daylight. You did it in secret, but I will do this thing in broad daylight before all Israel.’

2. When do you think all of that will start? _____

3. What is happening now in 13:1-2?
 - a. Amnon, son of David, fell in love with Tamar...the sister of Absalom son of David.
 - b. Amnon became so obsessed with his sister...wait, what?
 - c. ...Tamar was a virgin and it seemed impossible for him to “do anything to her”...what was he even trying to do?

4. This sounds like a really bad situation. I’m interested to know how this gets resolved in a positive way...probably with Amnon being redirected by a godly advisor who tells him he’s off track. What happens in 13:3-5?
 - a. Amnon’s adviser (and cousin), Jonadab, asked Amnon why he looked so haggard morning after morning.
 - b. Amnon told him, “I’m in love with Tamar, my brother Absalom’s sister.”
 - c. Jonadab told him to go to bed and pretend to be ill...
 - d. Jonadab told him to tell his father that he would like his sister Tamar to come in and feed him...and something creepy about watching her prepare it.
 - e. Wow, talk about having a partner in crime rather than a godly adviser.

5. What happens next, according to 13:6-14?
 - a. Amnon followed Jonadab’s instructions and Tamar came to make him bread and serve it to him.
 - b. Amnon refused to eat and asked Tamar to send everyone away.
 - c. Amnon asked her to feed him by hand, but when she did he grabbed her and told her to come to bed with him.
 - d. Tamar tried to convince Amnon not to disgrace her, but rather to talk to the king and she could be married to him...
 - e. Amnon refused to listen to her and overpowered her and raped her.

6. Well, I'm just about done with this text. What could possibly happen next?
- ...Amnon _____ her with an intense _____. In fact, he _____ her more than he had _____ her.

Why did Amnon hate this person who he had supposedly loved?

- Well, first, he had clearly never loved her. What he felt is called lust because love would never do such a thing to her.
 - He didn't really hate her (any more than he already did, if you remember our study of 1 John). But she was a constant reminder of this terrible thing that he had done.
7. What did he do next, because of this hatred, according to 15b? _____
- How did she respond in verse 16? _____

8. How did King David respond, according to verse 21? _____
- How did Absalom respond in verse 20-29, when he found out what had happened?
- Well, at first he did nothing but tell her to keep it quiet and she lived in his house, "a desolate woman."
 - Absalom didn't say anything to Amnon, but hated him.
 - Two years later, Absalom convinced David to send Amnon to come out where he and his sheepshearers were shearing the sheep.
 - Absalom ordered his men to wait until Amnon is drunk and then strike him down and kill him.
 - Absalom's men did what he said and then all of the king's other sons fled.

9. How did David respond to what Absalom had done?
- Well, first he heard that Absalom had struck down all of his sons, so he stood up and tore his clothes and laid on the ground.
 - Jonadab helpfully let the king know that it was not all the king's sons, just Amnon who Absalom had intended to kill ever since he did what he did...but when the rest of his sons came, he wailed with them so I don't think this was any consolation.

10. What do we learn about Absalom and David in verse 38? _____

11. Is there anything good in this story at all? Yes _____ No _____ Explain. _____
- Why is this even included? _____
- What should we learn from this? _____