



**Jan 27-28, 2024**

### **Break the Ice**

Ask the group which dessert would tempt them ever most. Then talk about personal temptations.

Say something like: "No one is immune to temptations. There is nothing that will make us immune to them." Then transition to a discussion about David's temptation in 2 Samuel 11-12.

### **Up**

**Read 1 Samuel 11-12 and Psalm 51.** The question is not whether we will surrender to temptation. Rather, the question is what we will do when we do surrender to temptation. David's response was one of humility and repentance. His wasn't a regret based on the horrible consequences of his sin. His response was true repentance because he knew he had broken the heart of God. And when he repented and turned to God, he discovered that God was forgiving and redemptive. Ask your group the following questions:

- What do you think would have happened to David if he did not respond the way he did?
- How is God's character revealed in David's repentance?
- What part of Psalm 51 means the most to you regarding God's response to our repentance when we surrender to temptation?

### **In**

When we are facing temptation, we often have a sort of tunnel vision that blinds us to the impact of our potential sin in others' lives. David's sin not only impacted his own self but also Bathsheba, her husband, and all of Israel. Giving into temptation has a ripple effect that touches the lives of others. However, we often don't remember this until it is too late. Ask the group to consider how giving into temptation would impact the following groups of people in their lives:

- Our immediate family and relatives

- Our peers
- Those we work with
- Our neighbors
- Others we may not know but who know us

Ask your group whether giving into temptation is worth the consequences that follow ...

### **Out**

Like it or not, our response to temptation can be a gospel witness to others. We can either draw people toward God or away from Him. While most people pay more temptation when we give into temptation, others may notice when we refuse to give in. Ask the group to ponder the following:

- Are you drawing people *to* or *away from* God by your life?
- How can you tell others about God's forgiveness and redemption that is available to them when they sin?

### **Prayer**

Conclude your time in prayer by leading the group in praying the following:

- For awareness of when temptation is knocking at their door
- For vision to what the consequences of giving into temptation are
- For gratitude in the reality of God's forgiveness and redemption when we do sin