



IT'S NOT ALL ABOUT YOU

A study guide based on 2 Samuel 11

Created by Trish Morris

Sometimes we are not the cause of the storm we are standing in. Sometimes we are living in the aftermath of someone else's choices.

Begin with Scripture

Read 2 Samuel 11:1–5 slowly.

Notice who acts, who speaks, who holds power, and whose inner experience is left unspoken.

1 Sitting with the story

List the actions attributed to David in verses 1–5. What does the repetition of David's actions reveal about who is directing this part of the story?

What does the passage tell us about Bathsheba? What does it leave unsaid?

How does the difference in power between David and Bathsheba affect the way you read this passage?



2 When the weight is not yours

Bathsheba lives inside the consequences of choices she did not initiate or control. This part of the study invites honesty about the weight you may have taken onto yourself.

Think of a painful or confusing situation in your life. What happened, without first explaining or interpreting it?

Which choices in that situation were made by someone else?

What consequences of those choices have you been living with?

Have you treated another person's actions as evidence that God is punishing, correcting, or abandoning you? If so, what have you believed?



3 Placing responsibility honestly

God names where responsibility belongs

Read 2 Samuel 11:26–27 and 2 Samuel 12:1–13.

Notice whom Nathan confronts, what David is called to acknowledge, and how clearly God identifies the wrongdoing.

What belongs to the other person in the situation you are considering?

What have you been carrying that may never have belonged to you?

Is there responsibility that genuinely does belong to you—not because you caused everything, but because there is something for you to confess, change, grieve, or do?

What changes when you stop treating all responsibility as though it were the same?



4 Not forgotten

Bathsheba's story continues

Read 2 Samuel 12:24–25; 1 Kings 1:11–31; 1 Kings 2:19; and Matthew 1:6.

These passages do not erase Bathsheba's losses. They do show that her life was not discarded or reduced to its most painful chapter.

What do these later glimpses of Bathsheba add to the way you understand her story?

Bathsheba may have appeared to be a minor figure in David's story, but she became part of the genealogy of Jesus. What does this reveal about how God saw her and continued her story?

Where have you been tempted to believe that a painful chapter has the authority to define your whole story?

What might it mean for you to believe that God sees clearly what you chose, what was done to you, and where responsibility belongs?

What truth from this study do you sense God asking you to sit with rather than solve immediately?

5 Bring the truth before God

Use the space below to speak honestly with God. You may want to name what happened, what you have carried, what belongs to someone else, and what you believe God is showing you now.



A truth I want to carry with me:

**The painful chapter you are in may shape your story,
but it does not get the final word over it.**