



The Gift of Grace: David and Mephibosheth (2 Sam 13-14)

Notes: Week Seven

Amnon and Tamar - [2 Samuel 13:1-22](#)

Topics: [Alone](#), [Anger](#), [Arguments](#), [Beauty](#), [Deceit](#), [Desires](#), [Despair](#), [Dishonesty](#), [Evil](#), [Foolishness](#), [Friendship](#), [Frustration](#), [Grief](#), [Guilt](#), [Hatred](#), [Honor](#), [Hopelessness](#), [Hospitality](#), [Immorality](#), [Instructions](#), [Intentions](#), [Love](#), [Lust](#), [Marriage](#), [Mourning](#), [Rejection](#), [Self-Centeredness](#), [Sex](#), [Shame](#), [Sickness](#), [Sin](#), [Strength](#)

Open It

1. In your mind what character, real or fictional, best personifies the evil instigator?
2. *Why, when we finally get the thing we have wanted most, are we often less than satisfied?

Explore It

3. Which of David's sons fell in love with one of David's daughters? ([13:1](#))
4. Why was Amnon frustrated? ([13:1-2](#))
5. What was the reputation of Jonadab? ([13:3](#))
6. What plan did Jonadab propose for Amnon to get what he wanted? ([13:4-5](#))
7. When Amnon feigned illness, what request did he make of King David? ([13:6](#))
8. How did David respond to Amnon's request? ([13:7](#))
9. What did Amnon do when Tamar had followed all of his instructions? ([13:8-10](#))
10. *What proposition did Amnon make to Tamar when they were alone? ([13:11](#))
11. How did Tamar respond to Amnon's advances? ([13:12](#))
12. *What were Tamar's arguments to try to get Amnon to leave her alone? ([13:12-13](#))
13. How did Amnon finally get what he wanted from Tamar? ([13:14](#))
14. *How did Amnon feel about Tamar after he had slept with her? ([13:15](#))
15. Why didn't Tamar want Amnon to send her away? ([13:16](#))

16. How did Amnon get rid of Tamar when he no longer wanted her? ([13:17](#))
17. What did Tamar do when Amnon turned her out? ([13:18-19](#))
18. What did Absalom guess had happened to his sister Tamar? ([13:20](#))
19. What became of Tamar after she was raped by Amnon? ([13:20](#))
20. What was David's reaction when he heard about the incident involving Amnon and Tamar? ([13:21](#))
21. What did Absalom do with his anger toward Amnon? ([13:22](#))

Get It

22. How would you characterize the advice given to Amnon by his "friend" Jonadab?
23. In what way was Amnon's sin like the sin of his father David with Bathsheba?
24. On what did Tamar base her resistance to Amnon's advances?
25. What more could David have done with his anger at Amnon?
26. *Why is obsession with a person or thing dangerous?
27. *Why are lust and genuine love seldom related?
28. What should we do when we become angry—act immediately, store it up for a future occasion, or something else?

Apply It

29. *What overwhelming desire should you examine for its purity before you pursue it at all costs?
30. What steps can you take to evaluate objectively the character and motives of your "advisors"?

Absalom Kills Amnon - [2 Samuel 13:23-39](#)

Topics: [Acceptance](#), [Advice](#), [Affections](#), [Bitterness](#), [Blessing](#), [Death](#), [Deceit](#), [Drinking](#), [Emotions](#), [Escape](#), [Family](#), [Fear](#), [Feelings](#), [Grief](#), [Instructions](#), [Intentions](#), [Invitation](#), [Mourning](#), [Murder](#), [Plans](#), [Questions](#), [Revenge](#), [Running](#), [Sorrow](#)

Open It

1. *What are the pitfalls of taking justice into your own hands?
2. What invitation have you received that turned out to have a hidden agenda behind it?

Explore It

3. *How long did Absalom harbor anger against Amnon? ([13:23](#))
4. For what occasion did Absalom invite the king and all his officials? ([13:24](#))
5. Although he would not agree to go himself, whom did David agree to send to Absalom's feast? ([13:25-27](#))
6. *What order did Absalom give to his men concerning his brother Amnon? ([13:28](#))
7. How did David's other sons react when Amnon was murdered? ([13:29](#))
8. What rumor reached David concerning what had happened at Absalom's feast? ([13:30-31](#))
9. Who stepped in with "inside information" to clarify the rumor David had heard? ([13:32-33](#))
10. What did Absalom do after the murder of Amnon? ([13:34](#))
11. How did David learn that Jonadab's version of events was true? ([13:34-35](#))
12. *What was the mood among David and his sons and servants following the news of Amnon's murder? ([13:36](#))
13. Where did Absalom go into self-imposed exile? ([13:37](#))
14. How did David view what had transpired between his sons? ([13:39](#))
15. What did David want to do more than anything once the incident was past? ([13:39](#))

Get It

16. What should have alerted David that Absalom's motives for holding the feast were less than pure?
17. Why did David's other sons flee from the banquet after Amnon's murder?
18. What might we surmise about Jonadab's involvement in the second part of the Amnon/Tamar incident?
19. What did it mean that David was "consoled concerning Amnon's death"?
20. Why do you suppose David was hesitant to speak to either Amnon concerning his sexual sin or Absalom when he contracted a murder?
21. *Why is enmity and injury between close family members so painful for everyone involved?
22. *What does it take to keep good relationships between family members?
23. Ultimately, why isn't it loving for a parent to withhold discipline from an unruly child?

Apply It

24. What would be a constructive way to express anger you feel toward someone you love?
25. *What interpersonal "disaster waiting to happen" could you deal with before greater harm is done?

Absalom Returns to Jerusalem - [2 Samuel 14:1-33](#)

Topics: [Appearance](#), [Blessing](#), [Change](#), [Children](#), [Complaining](#), [Conflict](#), [Death](#), [Deceit](#), [Determination](#), [Evil](#), [Family](#), [Forgiveness](#), [Grief](#), [Guilt](#), [Help](#), [Heritage](#), [Honor](#), [Instructions](#), [Life](#), [Mourning](#), [Name](#), [Parents](#), [People](#), [Persistence](#), [Restoration](#), [Revenge](#), [Separation](#), [Words](#)

Open It

1. What is the most bizarre thing anyone has done to get your attention?
2. *What sort of extenuating circumstances, if any, do you think should bar a person from having to bear the full punishment for a crime he or she has committed?

Explore It

3. What did Joab know about the king's true desires? ([14:1](#))
4. *What elaborate ruse did Joab arrange to help David do what he wanted to do? ([14:1-3](#))
5. What dilemma did the "widow" present to David? ([14:4-7](#))
6. What promises did David make to the woman before he knew her real purpose? ([14:8-11](#))
7. After David had promised to help the woman who came to him, what did she reveal about her real purpose for coming? ([14:12-14](#))
8. What did the woman say "the people" felt about Absalom's exile? ([14:15](#))
9. What question did David have for the woman when she had finished her plea? ([14:18-19](#))
10. *Whom did the woman admit had put her up to her encounter with the king? ([14:19-20](#))
11. *What did David tell Joab to do? ([14:21-23](#))
12. What limitations were put on Absalom when he returned to Jerusalem? ([14:23-24](#))
13. What were the unique aspects of Absalom's physical appearance? ([14:25-26](#))
14. How long did Absalom live in Jerusalem again without seeing David? ([14:28](#))
15. When Joab did not answer Absalom's request, what did Absalom do to get Joab's attention? ([14:29-32](#))
16. What did Absalom demand that Joab ask of the king? ([14:32](#))
17. On what terms were David and his son reunited? ([14:33](#))

Get It

18. Why did Joab devise such an elaborate plan rather than simply asking David to send for Absalom?
19. Why did David take the halfway measure of allowing Absalom to return but not to see him?
20. What did Absalom's insistence on his rights reveal about his character?
21. *How far should a friend go in helping you fulfill your desires?
22. *What is good or bad about overcoming your own barriers of principle?

Apply It

23. *With what close friend could you share your spiritual goals so that he or she is not placed in the position of helping you compromise?
24. What judge or official do you know of who needs prayer in order to make wise judgments?