

- **David - How not to be a good parent!**

- **Amnon, Absalom and Adonijah**
- David had 20 kids -19 lads and 1 lass, Tamar. 8 wives.
8 mothers-in-law
- **2 Samuel 13** - bleakest, most ugly, vilest chapter in Bible
- **Son 1 - Amnon**
- Amnon fell in love with Tamar his ½ sister, sister of Absalom. Hatched a plot with Jonodab. V 5-19

- Abuse – sexual, emotional, physical, verbal, racial (Black lives Matter)
- Bleak chapter with no happy ending.
- No-one has been more abused than Jesus at his public torture and crucifixion. He is able to help.
- Back to story. What was the reaction? V 20 and 21

- What was David's role in all this?
- V7 she lived in David's Palace. His only daughter.
- When he was told what had happened David was furious (v 21)
- Tamar went away from the palace and lived in her brother Absalom's house v20
- What did David do? Nothing. What did David say? Nothing. He hid his head in the sand. Pretended nothing happened. 'It will go away'

- There is always a need to confront injustice
- There is always a need to confront abuse
- As a parent David needed to speak boldly into the situation
- (Also what kind of example did David set for his family ? (Bathsheba story)).

- Result?- Tamar was a ruined, desolate woman.
- Absalom's hatred festered. 2 years later he got Amnon drunk and had his men murder Amnon.
- V 32 'This has been Absalom's express intention ever since the day that Amnon raped his sister Tamar.'
- David was distraught v 31 The king stood up, tore his clothes and lay down on the ground; and all his attendants stood by with their clothes torn.
- Absalom ran away. For 3 years. David wanted him back

- **Son 2 Absalom** After 3 years he came home.
- **2 Samuel 14 v 33** **'Then the king summoned Absalom, and he came in and bowed down with his face to the ground before the king. And the king kissed Absalom.'**
- David welcomed him back but never dealt with Absalom's heart. Still carried anger and resentment. No repentance
- Became embittered and hardened by his father's lack of discipline-
- Resulted in the Absalom conspiracy

- Absalom desired to be King . Courted key people turned hearts from David to himself
- David flees
- Battles ensue
- Absalom is killed
- **2 Samuel 18v 33 ‘The king was shaken. He went up to the room over the gateway and wept. As he went, he said: “O my son Absalom! My son, my son Absalom! If only I had died instead of you—O Absalom, my son, my son!”**

- **Son 3 Adonijah**

- **I Kings 1**

- David old – wanted Solomon, Bathsheba’s son to succeed him as king.
- V5 Now Adonijah, whose mother was Haggith, put himself forward and said, ‘I will be king.’ So he got chariots and horses ready, with fifty men to run ahead of him. (**His father had never rebuked him by asking, ‘Why do you behave as you do?’**)-
- Result was Adonijah proclaimed himself to be King!

- Thanks to quick thinking Bathsheba, Solomon's mother, David was told of Adonijah's conspiracy and together with Nathan the prophet and Zadok the priest, Solomon was anointed king
- Again, David failed to speak into the situation.
- +ve note- Solomon seems to have benefitted from his father's advice and teaching!!

- **Proverbs 22 v 6 Train up a child in the way he should go and even when he is old he will not turn from it.**
- **Proverbs 22 v 15 Folly is bound up in the heart of a child, but the rod of discipline will drive it far away.**
- Not always require corporal punishment but children always need training and correction. Children all need quality time with their parents in an atmosphere of love

God is the perfect father. How does he deal with us, his kids?

Hebrews 12 v 5-11 'God disciplines his sons'

Begins with quote from Solomon – Proverbs 3 v 11& 12 “My son, do not make light of the Lord’s discipline,

and do not lose heart when he rebukes you,
because the Lord disciplines the one he loves,
and he chastens everyone he accepts as his
son.”

- **David –respect those who God has anointed**

- King Saul wanted to kill David. He hunted him down.
- David fled with a gang of faithful men
- Twice David could have killed Saul
- **1 Samuel 24 v 3-10**
- **He came to the sheep pens along the way; a cave was there, and Saul went in to relieve himself. David and his men were far back in the cave. The men said, “This is the day the LORD spoke of when he said to you, ‘I will give your enemy into your hands for you to deal with as you wish.’” Then David crept up unnoticed and cut off a corner of Saul’s robe.**

- Afterward, David was conscience-stricken for having cut off a corner of his robe. He said to his men, “The LORD forbid that I should do such a thing to my master, the LORD’s anointed, or lay my hand on him; for he is the anointed of the LORD.” With these words David sharply rebuked his men and did not allow them to attack Saul. And Saul left the cave and went his way.

Then David went out of the cave and called out to Saul, “My lord the king!” When Saul looked behind him, David bowed down and prostrated himself with his face to the ground. He said to Saul, “Why do you listen when men say, ‘David is bent on harming you’? This day you have seen with your own eyes how the LORD delivered you into my hands in the cave. Some urged me to kill you, but I spared you; I said, ‘I will not lay my hand on my lord, because he is the LORD’s anointed.’

- And again in 1 Samuel 26 v 7-9
- So David and Abishai went to the army by night, and there was Saul, lying asleep inside the camp with his spear stuck in the ground near his head. Abner and the soldiers were lying around him.
- ⁸ Abishai said to David, “Today God has delivered your enemy into your hands. Now let me pin him to the ground with one thrust of the spear; I won’t strike him twice.”
- ⁹ But David said to Abishai, “Don’t destroy him! Who can lay a hand on the LORD’s anointed and be guiltless?”

- What can we learn?
- 1. David respected those who God had anointed, those God had put in place, even though he knew that one day he would replace Saul.
- 2. David did not take revenge on others but allowed God to handle the consequences
- 3. David had to be patient and wait for God's timing for him to become King
- 4. God used both Samuel and Saul to shape David's character.