**Chapter 12: the trials of a king**

**Icebreaker Question**: Share a time when you made a wrong turn on a road trip and the results created a real hardship.

1. What were the steps in David’s sin and cover-up? Compare David’s steps leading to sin with that of Eve’s in the Garden (p. 5). How can your group help hold each other accountable to guard against this same pathway to sin?

2. Which Ten Commandments did David break in his sin with Bathsheba and Uriah?

3. What does the death of David’s child reveal about the tragic consequences of sin for those under our influence?

4. Psalm 32 describes what David felt before and after his confession (p. 165-166). If all our sins were forgiven by Christ dying on the cross, then what value does confession have today? Why is it so important?

5. Who did David sin against—Bathsheba, Uriah or God? Find examples in the text that prove your point. What does this teach us about sin?

6. Compare David’s reaction when hearing the news that his baby had died (p. 165) to his reaction when his son Absalom had died (p. 169). Discuss with your group some explanations that could account for the differences.

7. Following his sin, David’s family unraveled. He was betrayed by his son Absalom and deeply mourned his death. How have you responded to betrayal?

8. How did the people feel about giving to the work of the temple that Solomon would build? Why were they so willing?

9. Look back at Psalm 23 (p. 173). Why do you think this passage continues to be so meaningful to people? What in particular do you find most moving about this psalm?

In the time remaining ask your group members to share any of their personal reflection insights from their journal entries.