

1. Describe a situation in your life where you had a clear opportunity to do something alluring that you knew would be destructive. What conversation did you have with yourself? What convinced you to either participate in the destructive behavior or back up from it?
2. Read 2 Samuel 11:1. How does this verse demonstrate the state of David's heart and mind? How does it serve as a warning for us against spiritual lethargy?
3. Read 2 Samuel 11:2–3. What "next steps" does David take that he could have justified as innocent, and yet led to even more destructive behavior? What "next steps" do we sometimes take that leave us vulnerable to sin?
4. Read 2 Samuel 11:4. How does this verse describe David's initiative in his sin with Bathsheba? What does it tell us about Bathsheba's complicity, or lack thereof?
5. Read 2 Samuel 11:5–27. What steps does David take to cover up his sin? How do these steps compound the enormity of it? Why do you think David kept going? What about his spiritual state created the environment by which he could justify such deplorable behavior? What (if anything) about David's coverup of sin convicts you of trying to hide your own?
6. What things can we learn about resisting sin by observing the anatomy of David's? What is the most important thing you can do today to step back from sin's threshold and avoid the same kind of failure?
7. If this text has reminded you of guilt that remains unconfessed, take a moment to do just that. Confess your sin, recognize Christ's sacrifice, and recommit (or commit for the first time) your life to Jesus.