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The activation of the sinful nature spreads to the people around us

Chapter 13 of the book of 2 Samuel tells the story of Amnon, David's eldest son, and his abuse of his half-sister Tamar. Amnon desires Tamar and feigns illness to lure her to his bedroom. When she arrives, he rapes her and then casts her out. Tamar's brother Absalom, Tamar's full brother, becomes enraged and waits for two years before taking revenge on Amnon by having him killed. The chapter portrays a cycle of violence and abuse within David's family, highlighting the consequences of David's own sins with Bathsheba and Uriah. It also raises questions about the role of women in a patriarchal society and the duty of brothers to protect their sisters from harm. David was guilty of adultery and murder, and he seems to have lost his patriarchal position in the family and his role as a king judging and enforcing the law. He did not avenge Tamar for Amnon's adultery, nor did he punish Amnon for adultery as a criminal, and he did not bother with it. Because he did not act impartially in this matter and did not repair the broken relationship between the brother and sister, it indirectly led Absalom to kill Amnon in order to avenge his sister.

When we think about sinning, we often feel helpless and depressed. This inner struggle and impulse often makes us feel irresistible, as if we are being driven towards the abyss of sin by an invisible force.

In this case, we first need to recognize our own vulnerability and limitation. Human beings are weak and susceptible to temptation, and this weakness becomes especially evident when we have sinful thoughts in our hearts. We need to admit our powerlessness and not rely on our own willpower alone to resist the temptation of sin.

Second, we need to ask for help and support. This includes a deeper connection with God, seeking His guidance and strength through prayer and faith. At the same time, we can also seek help from others to find friends, family, or Christian communities who understand and support us. Their companionship and support can help us stay awake and determined in critical moments.

In addition, we need to learn to control our thoughts and emotions. Sin often begins with an impulse in the heart, so if we can control our thoughts and learn to shift our attention to the positive, we will be able to reduce the desire to sin. This may require some training and practice, but by focusing on positive mindsets, we can gradually change our mindset to reduce the likelihood of committing crime.

We need to be relentless in our pursuit of change and growth. Overcoming the temptation of sin is a long-lasting process that requires constant effort and perseverance. Even if we fail at some point, do not be discouraged, but learn from our failures, pick ourselves back up, and continue to move forward toward the goal of righteousness and holiness.

In conclusion, when we feel difficult to sin, we can gradually overcome the temptation of sin and embark on the path of righteousness and holiness by recognizing our weaknesses, seeking help and support, controlling our thoughts and emotions, and persevering in our pursuit of change and growth.

Once sin has found a foothold in the heart, it spreads, affecting both the individual and the entire community. As disciples of the Lord (Jesus), we are all members of the kingdom of heaven. Now that we have received the precious blessings (rights) of this identity, do we also shoulder the responsibility that comes with this identity to prevent sin from spreading in our communities? Spreading? Do we have such thoughts about God's kingdom that we are willing to put aside any thoughts that displease God? Do we do our best to watch each other out so that sin does not spread in our community?

Galatians 5:9 A little leaven will make the whole dough rise

1Cor 5:6 It is not good for you to boast. Don't you know that a little leaven can make the whole dough rise?

We pray

Heavenly Father, we pray for strength so that we can be most sincere in our daily lives with those around us. May the Lord grant us tolerance and understanding, so that we can care for those around us, respect their personal differences, and live in harmony with them. May God's love and peace fill our hearts and let us be the encouragement and support of those around us, contributing our strength to building a loving and respectful society. May God's blessings always be with us and lead us on the path of justice and love. Amen, in the name of Jesus Christ.

2 Samuel chapter 13

2Sa. 13:1 In the course of time, Amnon son of David fell in love with Tamar, the beautiful sister of Absalom son of David.

2Sa. 13:2 Amnon became frustrated to the point of illness on account of his sister Tamar, for she was a virgin, and it seemed impossible for him to do anything to her.

2Sa. 13:3 Now Amnon had a friend named Jonadab son of Shimeah, David's brother. Jonadab was a very shrewd man.

2Sa. 13:4 He asked Amnon, "Why do you, the king's son, look so haggard morning after morning? Won't you tell me?" Amnon said to him, "I'm in love with Tamar, my brother Absalom's sister."

2Sa. 13:5 "Go to bed and pretend to be ill," Jonadab said. "When your father comes to see you, say to him, 'I would like my sister Tamar to come and give me something to eat. Let her prepare the food in my sight so that I may watch her and then eat it from her hand.'"

2Sa. 13:6 So Amnon lay down and pretended to be ill. When the king came to see him, Amnon said to him, "I would like my sister Tamar to come and make some special bread in my sight, so that I may eat from her hand."

2Sa. 13:7 David sent word to Tamar at the palace: "Go to the house of your brother Amnon and prepare some food for him."

2Sa. 13:8 So Tamar went to the house of her brother Amnon, who was lying down. She took some dough, kneaded it, made the bread in his sight and baked it.

2Sa. 13:9 Then she took the pan and served him the bread, but he refused to eat. "Send everyone out of here," Amnon said. So everyone left him.

2Sa. 13:10 Then Amnon said to Tamar, "Bring the food here into my bedroom so that I may eat from your hand." And Tamar took the bread she had prepared and brought it to her brother Amnon in his bedroom.

2Sa. 13:11 But when she took it to him to eat, he grabbed her and said, "Come to bed with me, my sister."

2Sa. 13:12 "Don't, my brother!" she said to him. "Don't force me. Such a thing should not be done in Israel! Don't do this wicked thing.

2Sa. 13:13 What about me? Where could I get rid of my disgrace? And what about you? You would be like one of the wicked fools in Israel. Please speak to the king; he will not keep me from being married to you."

2Sa. 13:14 But he refused to listen to her, and since he was stronger than she, he raped her.

2Sa. 13:15 Then Amnon hated her with intense hatred. In fact, he hated her more than he had loved her. Amnon said to her, "Get up and get out!"

2Sa. 13:16 "No!" she said to him. "Sending me away would be a greater wrong than what you have already done to me." But he refused to listen to her.

2Sa. 13:17 He called his personal servant and said, "Get this woman out of here and bolt the door after her."

2Sa. 13:18 So his servant put her out and bolted the door after her. She

was wearing a richly ornamented [The meaning of the Hebrew for this phrase is uncertain; also in verse 19.] robe, for this was the kind of garment the virgin daughters of the king wore.

2Sa. 13:19 Tamar put ashes on her head and tore the ornamented robe she was wearing. She put her hand on her head and went away, weeping aloud as she went.

2Sa. 13:20 Her brother Absalom said to her, "Has that Amnon, your brother, been with you? Be quiet now, my sister; he is your brother. Don't take this thing to heart." And Tamar lived in her brother Absalom's house, a desolate woman.

2Sa. 13:21 When King David heard all this, he was furious. 2Sa. 13:22 Absalom never said a word to Amnon, either good or bad; he hated Amnon because he had disgraced his sister Tamar.

2Sa. 13:23 Two years later, when Absalom's sheep-shearers were at Baal Hazor near the border of Ephraim, he invited all the king's sons to come there.

2Sa. 13:24 Absalom went to the king and said, "Your servant has had shearers come. Will the king and his officials please join me?" 2Sa. 13:25 "No, my son," the king replied. "All of us should not go; we would only be a burden to you." Although Absalom urged him, he still refused to go, but gave him his blessing.

2Sa. 13:26 Then Absalom said, "If not, please let my brother Amnon come with us." The king asked him, "Why should he go with you?"

2Sa. 13:27 But Absalom urged him, so he sent with him Amnon and the rest of the king's sons.

2Sa. 13:28 Absalom ordered his men, "Listen! When Amnon is in high spirits from drinking wine and I say to you, 'Strike Amnon down,' then kill him. Don't be afraid. Have not I given you this order? Be strong and brave."

2Sa. 13:29 So Absalom's men did to Amnon what Absalom had ordered.

Then all the king's sons got up, mounted their mules and fled.

2Sa. 13:30 While they were on their way, the report came to David: "Absalom has struck down all the king's sons; not one of them is left."

2Sa. 13:31 The king stood up, tore his clothes and lay down on the ground; and all his servants stood by with their clothes torn.

2Sa. 13:32 But Jonadab son of Shimeah, David's brother, said, "My lord should not think that they killed all the princes; only Amnon is dead. This has been Absalom's expressed intention ever since the day that Amnon raped his sister Tamar.

2Sa. 13:33 My lord the king should not be concerned about the report that all the king's sons are dead. Only Amnon is dead."

2Sa. 13:34 Meanwhile, Absalom had fled. Now the man standing watch looked up and saw many people on the road west of him, coming down the side of the hill. The watchman went and

739 told the king, "I see men in the direction of Horonaim, on the side of the hill." [Septuagint; Hebrew does not have this sentence.]

2Sa. 13:35 Jonadab said to the king, "See, the king's sons are here; it has happened just as your servant said."

2Sa. 13:36 As he finished speaking, the king's sons came in, wailing loudly. The king, too, and all his servants wept very bitterly.

2Sa. 13:37 Absalom fled and went to Talmai son of Ammihud, the king of Geshur. But King David mourned for his son every day.

2Sa. 13:38 After Absalom fled and went to Geshur, he stayed there for three years.

2Sa. 13:39 And the spirit of the king [Dead Sea Scrolls and some

Septuagint manuscripts; Masoretic Text But the spirit of David the king] longed to go to Absalom, for he was consoled concerning Amnon's death.

Chapter 13 of the book of 2 Samuel tells the story of Amnon, David's eldest son, and his abuse of his half-sister Tamar. Amnon desires Tamar and feigns illness to lure her to his bedroom. When

she arrives, he rapes her and then casts her out. Tamar's brother Absalom, Tamar's full brother, becomes enraged and waits for two years before taking revenge on Amnon by having him killed. The chapter portrays a cycle of violence and abuse within David's family, highlighting the consequences of David's own sins with Bathsheba and Uriah. It also raises questions about the role of women in a patriarchal society and the duty of brothers to protect their sisters from harm.

Chapter 13 of the book of 2 Samuel tells the tragic story of Amnon's rape of his half-sister Tamar and the subsequent revenge carried out by Tamar's brother Absalom. Here are some important verses from this chapter: 1. "Now Absalom, David's son, had a beautiful sister named Tamar, and David's son Amnon fell in love with her." (2 Samuel 13:1) - This verse introduces the characters involved in the tragic story of rape and revenge. 2. "But Amnon had a friend named Jonadab son of Shimeah, David's brother. Jonadab was a very shrewd man." (2 Samuel 13:3) - This verse introduces the character of Jonadab, who devises a plan to help Amnon rape Tamar. 3. "But Amnon refused to listen to her, and since he was stronger than she, he raped her." (2 Samuel 13:14) - This verse describes the horrific act of rape committed by Amnon against Tamar, emphasizing the power dynamic and violence involved. 4. "Then Tamar put ashes on her head and tore the ornate robe she was wearing. She put her hands on her head and went away, weeping aloud as she went." (2 Samuel 13:19) - This verse shows the immediate aftermath of the rape for Tamar, as she mourns and grieves the violation of her body and dignity. 5. "When King David heard all this, he was furious." (2 Samuel 13:21) - This verse shows David's reaction to the news of Tamar's rape, highlighting his anger and distress over the situation. 6. "Now Absalom, David's son, had a man named Joab send a message to David, saying, 'I have just set fire to the field of Amnon, your son, at Tekoa. Send men to put it out.'" (2 Samuel 13:28) - This verse shows the beginning of Absalom's revenge against Amnon, as he sets fire to his field and initiates a plan to kill him. 7. "Then Absalom ordered his men, 'Listen! When Amnon is in high spirits from drinking wine and I say to you, "Strike Amnon down," then kill him. Don't be afraid. Haven't I given you this order? Be strong and brave.'" (2 Samuel 13:28-29) - This verse shows Absalom's plan to take revenge against Amnon for raping Tamar, highlighting the depth of his anger and determination to seek justice for his sister. 8. "Then all the king's sons got up, mounted their mules and fled." (2 Samuel 13:29) - This verse shows the chaotic aftermath of Amnon's murder, as David's other sons flee the scene and the family is plunged into further turmoil. Overall, chapter 13 of 2 Samuel is a tragic account of sexual violence and revenge within David's family. The chapter emphasizes the devastating impact of rape and the importance of seeking justice and accountability for those who commit such heinous acts.

. In 2 Samuel Chapter 13, we encounter a distressing account of the tragic events that unfolded within David's family, particularly the story of Amnon's rape of his half-sister Tamar. Here are some key reflections from the chapter:

The Consequences of David's Sin: Chapter 13 opens with the description of Amnon's desire for Tamar, who is his half-sister. This chapter serves as a sobering reminder of the far-reaching consequences of David's sin with Bathsheba. It highlights the impact of parental actions on the lives of their children and the potential for a cycle of sin to perpetuate within a family.

Abuse of Power and Betrayal: Amnon, driven by his lust, deceives Tamar and rapes her. This act reveals the abuse of power and the betrayal of trust within David's family. It reflects the devastating effects of unchecked desires and the consequences of using power and position for selfish purposes.

Tamar's Suffering and Cry for Justice: Tamar experiences profound pain and humiliation as a result of Amnon's actions. Her cry for justice and plea to Amnon to marry her reflects the profound injustice and violation she endured. It highlights the importance of standing up against injustice and the need to protect and support victims of abuse.

Absalom's Vengeance: Tamar's brother, Absalom, is filled with anger and bitterness over what happened to his sister. He waits for the opportune moment to avenge Tamar's honor and eventually kills Amnon. This act of vengeance further compounds the tragedy within David's family and demonstrates the destructive consequences of unaddressed pain and anger.

Broken Relationships and Grief: Chapter 13 paints a picture of broken relationships within David's family. It showcases the deep grief experienced by Tamar and Absalom and the devastating impact of sin on personal and familial bonds. It serves as a reminder of the importance of fostering healthy relationships, open communication, and addressing grievances in order to prevent further harm.

Overall, 2 Samuel Chapter 13 offers reflections on the consequences of David's sin, the abuse of power and betrayal within the family, the suffering and cry for justice by Tamar, Absalom's vengeance, and the profound brokenness and grief within David's household. It serves as a reminder of the destructive power of sin and the need for justice, healing, and restoration within families and communities.