

WOMEN OF THE OLD TESTAMENT BATHSHEBA

Pray and ask God to help you to know Him better as you study His Word.

Read the Bible passage (preferably without using commentaries).

Begin to answer the questions using your own words.

Questions are based on the New International Version (NIV) 2011 edition.

Lesson 16 • February 13, 2013

1. What truth, verse or insight from last week's study of **Abigail** has been helpful to you?

SECTION I: Read 2 Samuel 11

2. In **V1**, where was King David to go, yet where did he remain?
3. Using **V2-4**, describe each step which led to the affair. (It might be helpful to take note of the verbs.)

David

Bathsheba

4. a) Do you think Bathsheba was discreet while bathing? Why or why not?

b) Explain whether you think she had a choice at any step along the way.
5. What are some ways women can be indiscreet, even suggestive, with the opposite sex?
6. In **V5-25**, summarize how David tries to cover up Bathsheba's pregnancy.
7. What happens next in Bathsheba's life in **V26-27**?

8. a) In **2 Samuel 12:9-10** and **13-14**, what are the ramifications of their adultery and why?
- b) What amazes you about God in **2 Samuel 12:24**?
9. Write a truth as you track the word “despised” (mentioned 3 times) in **2 Samuel 12:9-10** and **Psalms 51:17**. (Note: **Psalms 51** is David’s psalm of confession after his sin of adultery with Bathsheba.)

SECTION II: Read 1 Kings 1:1-31

10. Describe the situation in **V1-4**.
11. Looking at **V5-10**, who is Adonijah, and what is he up to?
12. In **V11-22**, what does Nathan advise Bathsheba to do and how does she respond?
13. When someone gives you advice, how do you determine if you should follow it?
14. In **V28-31**, what is David’s response to the situation in his kingdom?
15. What attributes do you see in Bathsheba at this point in her life?

SECTION III: Read 1 Kings 2:13-25

For background: Adonijah’s self-appointment as king was thwarted, and David made Solomon the king of Israel before dying.

16. Re-read **1:2-4** together with **2:13-18**. Summarize what Adonijah is asking of Bathsheba.
17. a) What does it say about Bathsheba in the way King Solomon interacts with her in **V19-20**?

17. b) What does it say about Bathsheba in the way King Solomon overrides her request in **V21-25**?
18. Read **Matthew 1:1, 6-7**. What legacy did God give to Bathsheba?
19. Once again, God famously turned “the bad, and the ugly” into an eternal “good” in Bathsheba’s story of adultery, but not without some extreme pain (losing her husband, Uriah, and her first son with David). How can you relate to the following chapters in her life?
- a) being lured into sin
 - b) bearing consequences for the sin
 - c) watching God graciously redeem the sin
20. Form a prayer request that ties into how you answered **Question 21**.

DIGGING DEEPER

1. There’s a question as to whether Bathsheba’s lack of modesty contributed to the sin of their adultery. What does **1 Timothy 2:9-10** say on the subject of modesty?
2. Read the story in **Genesis 39:6-12** where a person tried using a position of power to satisfy sexual desires. Contrast the steps that led to a very different outcome than Bathsheba’s.
3. If you’re tempted toward any sexual sin, what practical help do you find in the following steps?
 - a) Admit the sin: **1 John 1:9**
 - b) Remove yourself from the temptation: **1 Corinthians 6:18a**
 - c) Find 1 or more believers to hold you accountable & pray for you: **James 5:16**
 - d) Identify key Scriptures to strengthen you: **Psalms 119:9-11**
 - e) Believe God can give you victory: **Romans 8:37**
 - f) Believe God can redeem the scars of past sexual failure: **Psalms 103:2-5**
4. Suggested Memory Verse: **Ephesians 5:3**

