

Critics

When My **Critics** Speak the **Truth**

2 Samuel 12:1-25

2 Samuel 12:1-2

The LORD sent **Nathan** to David.
When he came to him, he said,
“There were two men in a certain town, one rich and the other poor.
²The rich man had a very large number of sheep and cattle,

2 Samuel 12:3

but the poor man had nothing except one little ewe lamb he had bought. He raised it, and it grew up with him and his children. It shared his food, drank from his cup and even slept in his arms. It was like a daughter to him.

2 Samuel 12:4A

“Now a traveler came to the rich man, but the rich man refrained from taking one of his own sheep or cattle to prepare a meal for the traveler who had come to him.

2 Samuel 12:4B

Instead, he took the ewe lamb that belonged to the poor man and prepared it for the one who had come to him.”

2 Samuel 12:5-6

David burned with anger against the man and said to Nathan, “As surely as the LORD lives, the man who did this must die! ⁶ He must pay for that lamb four times over, because he did such a thing and had **no pity.**”

2 Samuel 12:7

Then Nathan said to David, “You are the man! This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: ‘I anointed you king over Israel, and I delivered you from the hand of Saul.’”

2 Samuel 12:8

I gave your master's house to you,
and your master's wives into your
arms. I gave you all Israel and Judah.
And if all this had been too little, I
would have given you even more.

2 Samuel 12:9

Why did you despise the word of the LORD by doing what is evil in his eyes?

You struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword and took his wife to be your own. You killed him with the sword of the Ammonites.

2 Samuel 12:10

Now, therefore, the sword will never depart from your house, because you despised me and took the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your own.'

2 Samuel 12:11

This is what the LORD says: 'Out of your own household I am going to bring calamity on you. Before your very eyes I will take your wives and give them to one who is close to you, and he will sleep with your wives in broad daylight.

2 Samuel 12:12

You did it in **secret**, but I will do this thing in broad daylight before all Israel.””

1. Admit my failures to God and to my critics.

2 Samuel 12:13-15

2 Samuel 12:13

Then David said to Nathan, “**I have sinned against the LORD.**” Nathan replied, “The LORD has **taken away your sin.** You are not going to die.

2 Samuel 12:14

But because by doing this you have shown utter contempt for the LORD, the son born to you will die.”

2 Samuel 12:15

After Nathan had gone home,
the LORD struck the child that
Uriah's wife had borne to David,
and he became ill.

2. Repent to God and my critics.

2 Samuel 12:16-17

2 Samuel 12:16

David **pleaded** with God for the child.
He **fasted** and spent the nights lying
in **sackcloth** on the ground.

2 Samuel 12:17

The elders of his household stood beside him to get him up from the ground, but **he refused**, and he would not eat any food with them.

3. Accept the **consequences** of
God and my critics.

2 Samuel 12:18-23

2 Samuel 12:18A

On the seventh day **the child died.**

David's attendants were afraid
to tell him that the child was dead,
for they thought

2 Samuel 12:18B

“While the child was still living, he wouldn’t listen to us when we spoke to him. How can we now tell him the child is dead? He may do something desperate.”

2 Samuel 12:19

David noticed that his attendants were whispering among themselves, and he realized the child was dead. “Is the child dead?” he asked. “Yes,” they replied, “he is dead.”

2 Samuel 12:20

Then David got up from the ground. After he had washed, put on lotions and **changed his clothes**, he went into the house of the LORD and **worshiped**. Then he went to his own house, and at his request they served him food, and he ate.

2 Samuel 12:21

His attendants asked him, “Why are you acting this way? While the child was alive, you fasted and wept, but now that the child is dead, you get up and eat!”

2 Samuel 12:22

He answered, “While the child was still alive, I fasted and wept. I thought, ‘Who knows? The LORD may be gracious to me and let the child live.’”

2 Samuel 12:23

But now that he is dead, why should I go on fasting? Can I bring him back again? I will go to him, but **he will not return to me.**”

4. **Live righteously** before God
and my critics.

2 Samuel 12:24-25

2 Samuel 12:24

Then David comforted his **wife Bathsheba**, and he went to her and made love to her. She gave birth to a son, and they named him **Solomon**.

The LORD loved him;

2 Samuel 12:25

and because the LORD loved him, he sent **word through Nathan** the prophet to name him **Jedidiah**.

When My **Critics** Speak the **Truth**

- 1. Admit** my failures to God and my critics.
- 2. Repent** to God and my critics.
- 3. Accept** the consequences of God and my critics.
- 4. Live righteously** before God and my critics.

When My **Critics** Speak the **Truth**

Come **Clean** – **Walk In Truth**