

Text: 2 Samuel 4:1-12

Topic: Sin. Repentance.

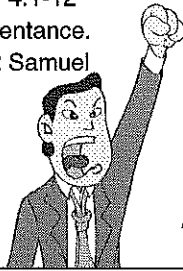
Series: Book of 2 Samuel

99-30

Pacific Coast Church

August 28 & 29, 1999

Pastor Mike



A Time for Severity

Dealing with Sin in Your Own Domain

1. Accept _____ (vv.1-10)

2. Always _____ (v.11)

3. Make _____ (v.12)

Application Questions

These questions are provided for your further study and application of today's message. It is recommended that you take time this week to write out your response to each of these questions. This will help to drive home the point of today's message and will help you apply the principles to your life situation. These questions are also used as the basis of discussion for many of our small group studies that meet throughout the week. For times and locations of PCC's small group gatherings that are meeting this week call the church office (949-489-2600).

1. It is easy to make excuses for sin in our lives. Actually, it comes quite naturally for the sons and daughters of Adam and Eve. Read Genesis 3:11-13 and list the very first excuses for the very first sin.
2. Read 1 John 1:9. In light of this verse, why are excuses for sin in the Christian life such a big deal?

What are some of other problems related to denying the reality of sin in our lives according to 1 John 1:8 & 10?

3. It is usually easier to identify excuses *as excuses* in the life of someone other than ourselves (with children it is particularly easy to see excuse-making in it's most unsophisticated form). Give a few examples of some standard excuses you have heard, made by people seeking to justify a wrong behavior.

Carefully consider your own life. What are some of your favorite excuses for sin? Be specific and current. Think back through the last few days. What rationalizations have you made for doing what is wrong? (If you have trouble identifying them, take a minute to ask God to bring them to mind.)

4. Sin is repulsive to God. In what ways has sin become commonplace and nondescript to you?

When we draw close to God, we naturally become more sensitized to sin (see Isaiah 6:1-5). How have you found this to be true in your own experience?

What spiritual disciplines need to be stepped up in your Christian life to ensure a sensitivity to the things that offend God?

5. What significant changes can you make in your life that will help to make a familiar sin unrepeatable?