



## Introduction

The following questions, prayers and comments are intended to assist you through a Bible study time this summer, especially if we are still practicing social distancing because of COVID-19. Pastor John Foss will continue to provide his sermon notes for each of his Sunday morning sermons. Watch on Facebook Live or [commhope.freeonlinechurch.com/live](http://commhope.freeonlinechurch.com/live) at 9 am on Sundays. This study and Pastor John's sermons will cover 15 men & women of the Bible. Weekly studies like these will be available each week. If you have any questions, please e-mail [koko@commhope.org](mailto:koko@commhope.org).

## **Week 6: David - Lost footing and sweet landings**

**Read:** 1 Samuel 16 through 1 Kings 2

A little history: The Torah, the first five books of the Hebrew Bible, have finally been written on scrolls. Israel is the first nation on earth to realize that there is only one God. The abacus is commonly used in Phoenicia in commerce. Cavalry warfare is newly rising to practice in Asia and iron has been combined with carbon to open the beginnings of metal-like steel.

### **Some important events to read about in David's life:**

David is anointed King privately by Samuel in front of his family, 1 Samuel 16

David is warned against slaughtering Abigail's family, 1 Samuel 25

David follows the Lord faithfully and is blessed with success 1 Samuel 26-2 Samuel 11

David hands over the war with the Ammonites, gives his General Joab charge of the army and stays home at a time when he traditionally would have been starting a military campaign, 2 Samuel 11:1

David comes to his first reason to admit that he has sinned against the Lord, 2 Samuel 12:13.

Through the rest of David's reign as King of Israel, he will find many reasons to confess his sins. All my life in the church I have been told about the need to confess sins. Perhaps, as a defense mechanism: I didn't always find anything like murder, theft, adultery, greed to confess and so confessing was definitely not a habit with me. When I went into the Christian Counseling field, I began to explore more about what it is to sin and ask forgiveness. Below is an interesting definition of the word sin, offered by the Dictionary of Hebrew Terms:

The word aveira means "transgression". And the word avone, or "iniquity", means a sin done out of moral failing. The word most translated simply as "sin", hata, literally means "to go astray." Just as Jewish law, halakha, provides the proper "way" (or path) to live, sin involves straying from that path.

As I came to understand that sin is my departure from the presence of God or the ways of God, I undertook a whole different approach to confession. I realized that confession is my strength, it is the way out of loneliness, sorrow, turmoil, fear, and a whole host of life difficulties. Confession is, for me an assessment of where I am in life, in any given moment, and from there I know the way back, to peace of

mind, confidence and strength, is through turning to God and saying I want back with you. He always says yes!

Below are some of the beautiful confessions of David and other brilliant Bible folks that realized what they were doing or had done and found the gracious way back to peace with God and the abundant life He gives us. See if there is a phrase or pattern of relationship that would be helpful to you:

Job 33:27   Daniel 9:4   Psalm 51   Jud 10;10   2 Chron 7:14   Nehemiah 9

Here are a couple of confessions where the speaker doesn't have any understanding of what they are saying: Exodus 10:16   1 Samuel 15:24-31

In Acts 13:22 Paul refers to how God called David, a man after my own heart. It is obvious from the stories of David that God did not call him that because of his perfect behaviors. I wonder if it is because of David's understanding of how to get back on track. If we understand that sin is merely the wandering or rushing away from God's presence, then we can, also, know that returning to the intimacy of our relationship with God, is as simple as realizing how far we have stepped away from Him. Two of my favorite Bible verses are 2Chronicles 7:14 and Romans 8:1. They help me realize that when I have discovered my departure from my Father, I can speak to Him, sort of face-to-face, in prayer and He will listen to me because there is now no condemnation for those who are at peace with Jesus. When I join my spirit with the Holy Spirit, I can expect healing for whatever threatens to harm me. How sweet it is to live with the Lord!

*Prayer: Thank you Jesus for all you did to make peace between me and God. Help me remember that essential truth every day. Help me give to others, especially my family, the joy and peace that come over me from your healing love. Amen.*