

Bible Challenge 2014
Going Deeper – Questions for Readings
Week 20

What type of song/prayer are Psalms 32, 51, and 86? Do you think David may have offered these songs/prayers after his affair with Bathsheba? Why or why not? Are these types of songs/prayers important for us to offer to God in our daily living? Why or why not?

Why do you think the story of Amnon, Tamar, Absalom, and David is included in the biblical text (2 Samuel 13-15)? What does it teach us about human nature? What does it teach us about anger, sin, violence, and vengeance? Where is God in this story?

Do you think Absalom saw his actions against his brother and father as sinful? Why or why not? How might the old adage, “The road to hell is paved with good intentions” apply to Absalom’s story?

What is David praying for in Psalm 3? Eugene Peterson (*The Message*) says that if we are not offering the same basic prayer that David does in Psalm 3 then we are not really praying. Why do you think he believes this? Do you agree with him? Why or why not?

What is David so hurt by and upset about in Psalm 55? What does it have to do, if anything, with Absalom and Ahithophel? Why does David pray to God about this? Would it help you to cry out to God about such things in your life? Why or why not?

How does Absalom’s story end (2 Samuel 18)? How does David react to this? How is he changed by it? How do you think you would have reacted if you were David? Why?

What metaphors are used in Psalm 42 to describe our relationship with God? What do they teach us?