



# TRANSFORMED

DEVOTIONS CONNECTING TEENS TO CHRIST

**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 12:13*

## Pride

We've all been there before—even the heroes of faith. Caught in a sin. Maybe it was pride. Maybe laziness. Maybe selfishness. Whatever the case may be, we feel like we are backed into a corner. Internal temperatures rise to the max. Panic overtakes our bodies. Escape seems nowhere in sight. Our natural and instinctive response? Cover it up!

That's what David did after stealing his own soldier's wife and having him murdered. David's pride got him into this mess, and he certainly wasn't going to let his reputation be tarnished. So this hero of faith known by God "as a man after his own heart" thought he could manipulate circumstances and get away scot free. But no matter what he did, he couldn't cover it up completely. God knew what he had done. And the guilt remained.

Out of love for David, God stepped into the situation by sending Nathan to masterfully confront him. Rather than try to cover it up again, David admitted his wrongs (swallowed his pride) and expressed his sorrow for the things he had done to all involved.

David learned (or relearned) a valuable truth that day. The business of covering up wrongs is not his work. It's the Lord's work. It's what Jesus did with his life and death on the cross. Can you imagine the weight lifted off of David's shoulders when Nathan uttered those comforting words, "The LORD has taken away your sin. You are not going to die"?

Those same words of comfort are for you too! Your failures have been covered up by Jesus. Your guilt removed. Your life changed. No more do you have to cling to your pride for worth, acceptance, or salvation. You already have all those things through Jesus.

**PRAYER: Dear God, forgive me daily for going against your will and trying to cover up my own mistakes and failures. How foolish I am to think that I can make myself right with you. Thank you for sending Jesus to cover up my wrongs and giving me a new opportunity to step forward to honor your name. Thank you also for supplying me with people to steer me in the right direction when I go off track. They are a gift from you. Amen.**