

OUTLINE:

INTRO: This guy who was a giant killer.... becomes passive. One of Paul's deep concerns with ourselves is that men become passive at critical times in leadership.

What we'll see is this thread going through David's life....Starts in Genesis 3.

SHOW CLIP- BACK TO THE FUTURE: "I'm not good at Confrontation"

1. DAVID'S LEADERSHIP AT HOME

1. AMNON & TAMAR

1. Amnon's Sin—*he wants his sister.*

2. Tamar's Shame—*She goes to live with Absalom— and Absalom broods for two years.*

2. DAVID'S "RESPONSE": 13:21—"When King David heard of all these things, he was very angry." *AND...?*

3. Who is in charge here? (The Leadership Moment.) The Leader's main job is to confront the brutal facts— Jim Collins.

1. The Power of a Father—> David isn't just the leader of a nation, he's dad.

AMNON and TAMAR need someone to step in. WHO is GOD's appointed leader? DAVID!!

2. What happens when leaders fail to face reality—

- *"The art of managing and leading comes down to a simple thing. **Determining and facing reality** about people, situations, products, and **then acting decisively and quickly on that reality**...That's all managing is, defining and acting. Not hoping, not waiting for the next plan. Not rethinking it. Getting on with it. Doing it. Defining and doing it." – Jack Welch, Former CEO General Electric*

- *"All of the great leaders have had one characteristic in common: it was **the willingness to confront unequivocally the major anxiety of their people** in*

their time. This, and not much else, is the essence of leadership.” – John Kenneth Galbraith

1. **Chaos**— *it’s as old as ADAM (this thread is all throughout the Bible)*
2. **Lack of Trust**— *(decisiveness plays a part here!)*
3. **Injustice**— *for TAMAR, for the country. (Giving people hope for the future!— no hope for tamar, no hope for absalom.)*

3. FEAR OF CONFLICT- leads to **artificial harmony. (from Patrick Lencioni)**

1. **David’s Delays**—*2 years... Absalom doesn’t speak to Amnon. Then he murders him. (what was he thinking?— i’ll just ignore it)*

1. **Why?** Disordered Love/ Disordered Fear.

2. **Ignoring the problem**— *So Joab brought Absalom to Jerusalem. And the king said, “Let him dwell apart in his own house; he is not to come into my presence.” So Absalom lived apart in his own house...two full years in Jerusalem, without coming into the king’s presence.”*

3. **Sweeping it under the rug**—*“Now therefore let me go into the presence of the king, and if there is guilt in me, let him put me to death.’ ” So he came to the king and bowed himself on his face to the ground before the king, **and the king kissed Absalom.**” **And...?”***

4. **Insubordination**—Absalom stages a conspiracy against David.

5. **David’s lowest point**— **2 Sam 15:13-14** *“And a messenger came to David, saying, “The hearts of the men of Israel have gone after Absalom.” Then David said to all his servants who were with him at Jerusalem, “Arise, and let us flee, or else there will be no escape for us from Absalom.”*

4. COST/ BENEFIT ANALYSIS—>**the PAIN of conflict vs the PAIN of Passivity**

If by not acting, you shift the pain off yourself onto someone else... thats cowardice. Thats the opposite of manly leadership. One of our main roles as leaders is absorbing the pain of doing the right thing for your organization. Don’t just sit there! DO SOMETHING!!!

- “Nothing in the world is worth having or worth doing unless it means effort, pain, difficulty... I have never in my life envied a human being who led an easy life. I have envied a great many people who led difficult lives and led them well.”
—Theodore Roosevelt

- “The only man who never makes mistakes is the man who never does anything.”
— Theodore Roosevelt

QUESTIONS:

1. What struck you?
2. What reality do you need to face?
3. What reality are you avoiding?
4. What fear is most likely to make you passive?
 1. Fear of Rejection
 2. Fear of Failure
 3. Fear of Pain
5. How are these fears really just expressions of disordered loves?