

For the week of April 3, 2016
Pastor: Paul Taylor

Murder and Mayhem

31st week in the series "A Life of Passion: The Story of David."

2 Samuel 13: 23–14:33

The story of David has taken a dark turn. First, we saw him sexually assault a woman and murder her husband. Then we saw his son Amnon rape his half-sister Tamar. Those actions cry out for a response from David. But he does nothing. Instead, his other son Absalom exacts revenge and flees in fear. And still David does nothing. By considering the consequences of David's passivity, we'll be challenged to think about areas in our life where we might be stuck. What keeps us from acting? How can we be free?

Discussion Questions:

1. David fails to respond to Tamar's rape. His passivity makes him unable to bring justice. Are there areas where you are afraid to speak out against evil? Cultural issues? Family issues?
2. David then fails to respond to Amnon's murder. Now his passivity renders him unable to extend mercy. Are there areas where you can't extend mercy? Where do you find it difficult in your life to forgive or reconcile?
3. David is stuck in passivity? Why do you think this man, who has shown such courage in the past, is so unable to act?
4. What makes you unable to act in different situations?
5. Is there an area in your life where you feel stuck or paralyzed? What are you afraid of? How can your faith in Christ give you freedom?