Footprints of Faith

Testimony and Perseverance Through Temptation

Lesson Three: Recognizing the Turns in the Road

Facilitator Guide

Purpose: Recognize a recurring pattern and connect awareness with preparation before the next difficult situation.

Readings: Proverbs 4:20–27; 2 Samuel 11:1–17; 2 Samuel 12:1–13; Proverbs 22:3; Matthew 26:41.

Opening question: What becomes possible when a difficult turn is recognized before it is reached?

Conducting the lesson

1. Consider heart and conduct. Use Proverbs 4 to connect inward intentions with the direction of action. Ask what it means to ponder a path.

2. Follow David's choices. Identify inquiry, pursuit, concealment, and further harm. Keep David's power and responsibility visible. Do not invent his unrecorded thoughts or blame Bathsheba.

3. Recognize a repeated pattern. Use the late-night conversation illustration. Examine circumstance, desire, explanation, and action without making the outcome inevitable.

4. Move toward preparation. Read the watchfulness passages. Ask what could be decided earlier and how prayer and assistance support that preparation.

Discussion

1. What explanation can make a compromise appear insignificant?

2. How does acknowledging vulnerability differ from excusing wrongdoing?

3. When does recognition become proactive preparation?

Application: Invite a private description of one pattern and one preparation. Include a remembered occasion when a better response was made.

Close: Connect an earlier choice with learning from the footprints of others. Save observations for the final account.

Facilitator reminder: Discuss the biblical actions actually recorded. Do not assume another person's intentions when examining a personal pattern.