

# DEEP IMPACT WITH DAVID

## LIFE GROUP MATERIAL

### Meeting no 15      THEME: Holiness honoured

**Prepare** yourself: pray, read II Samuel 11:1-5 and Matthew 1:18-21 (and listen to the sermon).

**20.00 – 20.10 Start** In an intercultural church different cultures, with different values meet. People from another culture than yours may sometimes do or say things that you would NEVER do or say (if you would, you would feel ashamed of doing so). In their culture it is not a problem, but in yours, it is. Or sometimes you do something that is normal or approved of in your culture, but at once you discover in another culture it is not done. Can you share some of these experiences?

**20.10 – 20.15 Pray.**

**20.15 - 20.35 Bible passage:** Read II Samuel 11:1-5, verse 26 and Matthew 1:18-21

Look again at the passage from II Samuel. Although people might have wondered about Bathsheba, whether she has tempted David and has been a bad woman, the Scripture doesn't give any support to this idea. To the contrary, we see how the author shows that she was a righteous woman, living according to the Scriptures. She cleansed herself to purify her (after her period) – according to Leviticus. She confronted king David with what he had done (also according to Leviticus). And when her righteous husband had died, she didn't feel relieved (that she wouldn't have to see him, with her problem), but she lamented.

- Try to imagine you were Bathsheba. What would you feel and think?

Look again at the passage from Matthew. Mary was very privileged. But at the same time, this wasn't the way people looked at her, in her time.

- Try to imagine you were Mary. What kind of feelings and thoughts did she have?
- What was Joseph's dilemma first? And what would be the consequence of taking Mary as his wife?

**Lesson: When you connect to Jesus / grow in obedience to Jesus / testify to your faith in him it is inevitable that you will be exposed to shame.**

- Why did so much shame come on Jesus?

**20.35 – 20.50 Digging deeper**

Perhaps the real thing that hinders us to grow is sometimes that we want to avoid shame.

- Do you know a biblical promise/warning relating to this?

Take two minutes of silence, pray that the Holy Spirit brings to you mind a situation where fear of shame possibly hinders you to grow or to be obedient. Share and pray about this.

**20.50 – 21.00 End** the Life Group meeting with praying together.