2 Samuel 11:26-27; 12:1-13 NIV | A Choral Reading

Youth Councils 23 | In the Making | Session Two

*Light is more powerful than darkness*

Arranged by Kathryn Higgins

A choral reading of 2 Samuel 11:26-27 & 12:1-13 NIV for 5 voices. This arrangement is the scripture ‘as written’ with nothing added or removed; a great alternative to a single-voice scripture reading. Books in hand encouraged. All actors stand in a semi-circle facing the audience, with David standing center. He has very few lines, but his emotional journey – responding to the story he is told and hearing what the Lord thinks of him – should all be visible in his expressions as we watch the piece unfold. David does not speak the ALL lines.

NARRATOR When Uriah’s wife heard that her husband was dead, she mourned for him. After the time of mourning was over, David had her brought to his house, and she became his wife and bore him a son.

(beat)

ALL But the thing David had done displeased the Lord.

(beat)

NARRATOR The Lord sent Nathan to David. When he came to him, he said,

NATHAN “There were two men in a certain town,

RICH -one rich-

POOR -and the other poor.

RICH The rich man had a very large number of sheep and cattle,

POOR -but the poor man had nothing except one little ewe lamb he had bought.

NARRATOR He raised it, and it grew up with him and his children.

POOR It shared his food-

NARRATOR -drank from his cup-

POOR -and it even slept in his arms.

ALL It was like a daughter to him.

(beat)

NARRATOR “Now a traveler came to the rich man,

RICH -but the rich man refrained from taking one of his own sheep or cattle to prepare a meal for the traveler.

ALL Instead…

RICH -he took the ewe lamb-

POOR -that belonged to the poor man-

RICH -and prepared it for the one who had come to him.”

(beat)

NARRATOR David burned with anger against the man and said to Nathan,

DAVID “As surely as the Lord lives, the man who did this must die! He must pay for that lamb four times over, because he did such a thing and had no pity.”

NARRATOR Then Nathan said to David,

NATHAN “You are the man!

ALL This is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says:

NARRATOR ‘I anointed you king over Israel.

RICH I delivered you from the hand of Saul.

POOR I gave your master’s house to you, and your master’s wives into your arms.

NARRATOR I gave you all Israel and Judah.

RICH And if all this had been too little -

ALL -I would have given you even more.

POOR Why did you despise the word of the Lord by doing what is evil in his eyes?

NATHAN You struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword and took his wife to be your own.

RICH You killed him with the sword of the Ammonites.

POOR Now, therefore, the sword will never depart from your house,

NARRATOR -because you despised me and took the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your own.’

ALL “This is what the Lord says:

RICH ‘Out of your own household I am going to bring calamity on you.

NATHAN Before your very eyes I will take your wives and give them to one who is close to you, and he will sleep with your wives in broad daylight.

POOR You did it in secret, but I will do this thing in broad daylight before all Israel.’”

NARRATOR Then David said to Nathan,

DAVID “I have sinned against the Lord.”

(beat)

NARRATOR Nathan replied,

NATHAN “The Lord has taken away your sin.

ALL You are not going to die.”

END