

# The Game David Didn't Play

Success is easy to bear. People give you the “high-five.” Everyone loves a winner. “Well done.” It’s said to you, you say it to yourself. The real test is how you deal with failure, with your sin.

King David’s sin is not a model for us; how he responded is. Nathan the prophet wisely confronts David with his own guilt by telling him a story about injustice. David knew what it was like to be threatened by a big guy like Goliath or King Saul. So David is incensed at Nathan’s story of a big man walking all over the little man. Then Nathan says, **“You are the man!”** In an instant, David realizes his sin.

Here’s what David could have said: “Off with his head! Get out of here! Don’t you know you are talking to the king?! None of your business! It wasn’t me. She seduced me. I was depressed. My parents didn’t understand me. I have this addiction.” There’s none of that.

Here’s what he did say, **“I have sinned against the LORD.”** David pours out his heart in prayer: **“Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions.”**

Blame was the game David didn’t play. We can always give reasons. David wouldn’t. He threw himself on the mercy of God. That is the best place to be. The proud miss this and the sin snowballs. There are consequences to David’s sin. People are hurt, life is lost, rebellion rises in his own household. Yet in God’s mercy none of this blows-up his life. Even Bathsheba is blessed. And from this bad situation, God eventually brings David a blessed son. Ever hear of SOLOMON?

When you sin (as you will), take a page from David’s playbook. Bypass the blame game. Step over the excuses. Shun the “reasons” list. Go straight to the mercy of God. Admit the sin. Seek his forgiveness. Make right what you can. Take no thought of what others might think. Care only for God’s approval. That’s the answer.

*Mark*

**Haircuts for Missions:** is Saturday, August 12<sup>th</sup>

**Next Fellowship Meal, AUG 20<sup>th</sup> 6:00 PM:**

We will have a special guest, Ron “Big Mac” McFarland who will tell us about his mission work in China where our own **Allison Cook** will be spending a year starting this fall! After our Pot Luck meal, Ron will explain more about the work of **“China, Now”** which has been a ministry of churches of Christ since 1993.

**Allison Cook Is Going to Wuhan, China to Teach English in a University With “China, Now”:**

She is taking on this Mission work for at least 10 months. There are some **costs** to this. Margaret, Tate, and Jeff, our Mission people, want to give us an opportunity to help her financially for her time abroad. Please see one of them if you can help. See the enclosed flier for more information.

**Lost and Found:** We found what you might be missing! Please take a look at the “Lost and Found” table downstairs in the Fellowship Hall. You might be surprised to find something of yours.

**Youth Group:** is on break this week.

**New Visions:** On August 22 we will be serving a home-made breakfast to the homeless who come to “New Visions” for food. If you can help serve, please see Brenda Collier.

**Camp Men's Retreat:** is coming up Sept. 15-16, Friday evening into Saturday, at Camp Manatawny. The theme is "**Relentless.**"

**To register & pay for the Men's Retreat:** go to manatawny.org and click on retreats. You must sign-up & be paid-up by Sept. 8 for the \$30 cost. Afterwards it is \$40. Boys 12 and under are \$5.

**We will have a rented van to ride in at no cost.** Be looking for a sign-up sheet so the right size van will be ordered. Questions? See Bill Ceraso

**Today's Worship Leaders**

**Worship Leader:** Dave Williams

**Welcome & Scripture:** Josh Henderson (Psalm 51:15-17)

**Opening Prayer:** Howard Mansdoerfer

**Lord's Supper:** Tony Sr., Tony Ceraso Jr., Bill Ceraso, Chris Ceraso

**Scripture Before Message:** Logan McEntire (1 Cor. 3:16-23)

**Announcements & Closing Prayer:** Rick Boyle

**Greeters:** Scott S., Jon Jon Cook, Bibi Williams, Chris Schoener

**Nursery:** Margaret & Tina Next Week: Sandra F. & Elizabeth

**Purple Cleaning Team** Aug. 9-12 **Becky** Coordinates

**OUTREACH/MINISTRY**

Mark Finn – Preacher

Church Office- (856) 854-0197

**ELDERS:**

Rick Boyle (856) 986-4876

Tony Ceraso, Jr. (856) 278-6276

Bret Goen (856) 996-5267

Chet Churchill (609) 560-7179

Howard Mansdoerfer (609) 790-9969

**Worship** ..... 133

**Bible Class** ..... 89

**Wednesday PM** ..... 44

**Contribution** ..... **\$2,798**

**Budget Goal** ..... \$4,260

**15-Minutes Daily with GOD: 20**

# Collingswood Church of Christ

Church Website: [www.ccc123.org](http://www.ccc123.org)

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Collingswood, NJ 08107

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“Now faith is being **sure** of what we hope for and **certain** of what we do not see.” (Hebrews 11:1)

