The David story has been lived time and time and time again. It echoes the other statement of Jesus about planks and splinters. The faults and failing we see in others are so much greater within ourselves but we fail to see them. Remember this whenever you find faults and failings in others or in groups of people!! Yet, it is the humility of David that is really striking. David acknowledges his sin, seeks forgiveness and does penance. The story also shows us that wherever sin takes place, all too often it is the innocent who suffer most while the sinner is given life through forgiveness.

For God is . . .

*Like an ethereal presence
who hang out everywhere.
Not a naughty or scary goblin,
rather, an inquisitive observer,
a concerned, caring custodian,
visiting every niche and closet
where we stuff the undesired
of our messy, blemished lives.
You haunt territories we ignore,
hoping we will find you there.*

Growing Closer to God in Every Situation

"As we open ourselves to spiritual growth, there is simply no part of our life that can be left out. Nothing is too dirty or smudged. Nothing is too ecstatic or passionate. Nothing is too mundane or ordinary. All of life is the food of our spiritual growth. We can grow closer and deeper in our relationship with God through every situation, depending on our attitude, our openness, and our awareness. Be aware of God teaching you through your life today." **Joyce Rupp**

14th Dalai Lama: *The true essence of humankind is kindness. There are other qualities which come from education or knowledge, but it is essential, if one wishes to be a genuine human being and impart satisfying meaning to one's existence, to have a good heart.*

After thought

A lawyer dies and goes to Heaven. "*There must be some mistake,*" the lawyer argues. "*I am too young to die. I am only fifty-five!*"

"*Fifty-five?*" says Saint Peter. "*Impossible, according to our calculations, you are eighty-two.*"

"*How did you get that?*" the lawyer asks.   St. Peter says, "*We added up your time sheets.*"