

David Sinned and was Restored

Bible Passage: 2 Samuel 11–12; Psalm 51

Memory Verse: ⁶No one is like you, LORD; you are great, and your name is mighty in power. **Jeremiah 10:6**

Bottom Line: I believe in and love Jesus because He makes me clean.

Big Picture Question: Is anything or anyone greater than God? No, God is greater than everything.

Christ Connection: *When David sinned against God, God forgave him, but sin always comes with a price. God spared David's life, but David's son died. When we sin, we deserve death. But we can receive God's forgiveness because God sent His Son, Jesus, to pay the price for our sin.*

Leader Notes:

CONTEXT

David had experienced a season of blessing from God and success on the battlefield. The tribes of Israel united under David. But the upward trajectory of David's life did not continue much longer.

One evening, David looked from his rooftop and saw Bathsheba bathing. He found out that she was the wife of Uriah, one of David's elite soldiers. Her married status alone made her off-limits to David, but he nevertheless called for her and slept with her. David probably assumed his sin would go unnoticed, until Bathsheba told him she was pregnant. With Uriah gone to war, it was obvious the baby was not her husband's.

David called Uriah home from the battle and encouraged him to be with his wife. But Uriah refused. Uriah didn't think it was fair for him to be with his wife while other men were at war. So David instructed his army commander to position Uriah in the most violent part of the battle so he would be killed. This time, David's plan worked. Uriah was killed, and David took Bathsheba as his wife.

God knew David's sin and sent Nathan the prophet to confront David. David's confession is recorded in Psalm 51. God wanted David's heart to change so he would not want to sin again. God forgave David, but David still faced the consequences of his sin.

Like David, we need more than a changed lifestyle to be made right with God; we need new hearts. Jesus died to satisfy God's wrath against sin so that we could be made alive in Him.

TEACHING FOCUS (2 Samuel 11–12; Psalm 51)

David was the king of Israel. One spring, David sent out the army, but he put another man in charge of them. **David stayed in Jerusalem. One evening, David looked out from his palace and saw a beautiful woman named Bathsheba.** Bathsheba was the wife of Uriah, one of the best warriors in David's army. **David sent his messengers to get Bathsheba, and she came to David's house. Later, Bathsheba told David that she was going to have a baby; the baby would be David's.**

David knew what he had done was wrong. David should not have a baby with someone who was not his wife. **So David made a plan to make sure no one found out that Bathsheba's baby was his. David called Uriah home from the battle and told him to go spend time with his wife. But Uriah** didn't think it was fair for him to relax at home while the other men were at war. He slept on David's doorstep and **refused to visit his wife.**

So David made up another plan. He instructed Joab, the leader of the army, to send Uriah into the hardest part of the battle so he would be killed. This time, David's plan worked. Uriah was killed in battle. **David took Bathsheba into his house to be his wife, and she had a baby boy.**

God knew what David had done, and He was not happy with David. God sent Nathan the prophet to talk to David. Nathan told David a story: A traveler came to a rich man who had many animals. The rich man did not offer his own animal. Instead, he took a poor man's lamb—the only lamb he had—and gave it to the traveler to eat. **This story made David feel angry.** "The rich man should die!" David said. "You are the man!" Nathan said. **God had given David a position of great power, and David took what wasn't his. David realized he had sinned against God. David deserved to die.** "You won't die for this," Nathan assured David, "but God will punish you. Your son will die instead."

David confessed his sin and prayed, "God, create a clean heart for me." David realized he could try to please God with sacrifices, but

that wouldn't be enough to pay for his sin. **God wanted David's heart to change so that he would not want to sin again.**

Christ Connection: *When David sinned against God, God forgave him, but sin always comes with a price. God spared David's life, but David's son died. When we sin, we deserve death. But we can receive God's forgiveness because God sent His Son, Jesus, to pay the price for our sin.*

TODAY'S TAKEAWAYS

- David was far from perfect but he loved God and God loved him.
- When David sinned, he confessed it to God, repented, and was changed.
- We can't hide our sin from God.
- Like David, we need more than just a changed lifestyle. We need God's forgiveness.
- **BL: I believe in and love Jesus because He makes me clean.**
- When we sin, we can always turn back to God and ask for forgiveness and commit to follow Him in the future.

Worship and Story Time

Gather children on a rug or in a specific area of the classroom to tell the story. Some kids (especially the younger ones) may wander. That's okay. They're still listening and learning!

Play the DVD of All Star Kids worship (choose 1 song for today)

What You Say: "Way to go! You are such amazing singers. Now let's sit down to learn from the Bible Story today."

What You Do: Introduce the Story

"One day, King David saw a woman named Bathsheba, the wife of a soldier named Uriah. David wanted Bathsheba to be his wife. David sent Uriah to the hardest battle, and Uriah died. David married Bathsheba. David thought no one knew what he did, but God knew. Nathan told David a story about a rich man who had many sheep and a poor man who had one lamb that he loved. When the rich man had a visitor, he took the poor man's lamb to serve at a feast. David was upset. "The rich man should be punished!" Nathan said to David, "You hurt Uriah and took his wife. You did a wrong thing!" David asked God to forgive him, and God forgave David. David wrote a song about God's forgiveness."

PLAY BIBLE STORY VIDEO

Check diapers and serve snack.

Activities

Depending on the size of your group, you may lead each activity two or three times. Not every child may want to participate in the activities. That's okay.

1. Look at Psalm 51

What You Need: print and laminate copies of Psalm 51 for each kid, dry erase crayons or markers, wet wipes, hand sanitizer, Baptism Convo Guide (1 per kid)

What You Do:

- Let kids one at a time take turns coloring their paper and then wiping it clean.
- Each kid will take a copy home to show family how Jesus' sacrifice on the cross made it possible for our sins to be wiped clean as well.
- It might be a good time to talk about baptism and how baptism is a picture of how God washes our sins away from us when we believe in Jesus for life.

What You Say " David asked God to forgive him, and God forgave David. David wrote a song about God's forgiveness. God forgives us when we believe in Jesus for life.

2. Practice signing the Memory Verse

What You Need: Memory Verse Poster

What You Do:

- Show the poster to the kids.
- As you say the words point to them on the poster.
- Create simple hand motions to teach toddlers the memory verse. Sample hand motions include, "No one is like you (shake your head, like saying no), Lord (point to the sky); you are great (sign for "great", both hands up like giving a double high five), and your name is mighty in power (flex your muscles)

What You Say " The Holy Spirit gave Jeremiah exactly the right words to say to God's people. God wanted them to know that God is perfect, and there is nothing and no one who can compare to Him. Only God is all powerful, perfectly holy, and eternally loving."

Pray and Dismiss:

What You Need: no supplies needed

What You Do:

- **Pray:** "Lord you are good and You love us. We cannot earn Your favor, but You still favor us. Help us to trust You each day. We want to obey You, our perfect King of Kings. Amen."