

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.

Social: Providing Time for Fun Interaction (15 minutes)

Activities that encourage preschoolers to enter the classroom and begin engaging with peers and small group leaders by providing age appropriate and hands on fun while introducing new concepts they will hear in the day's Bible story.

Follow the Right Path:

What You Need: Pool Noodles (4 per group), masking tape, sheep hats (5 per group)

What You Do:

- Mark a taped path on the floor.
- Talk about how shepherds lead sheep on safe, good paths.
- Then give 5 kids a sheep hat to be the sheep.
- 4 kids will get pool noodles to help herd the sheep to keep them on the path.
- When you say "Go" shepherd will try herd the sheep crawling on their knees around the taped path.
- They can gently use the pool noodles to help nudge the sheep to stay on the path.
- You might want to spend some time talking about words the shepherds could use to help direct the sheep.
- Give kids about 4 minutes to move the sheep through the path.
- If time allows switch sheep and shepherds and repeat the whole process again.

What You Say: "Did your sheep follow your commands? Why/Why not? As David is growing as a king, He is learning about listening to God and following His commands. David said, God is like a shepherd. A shepherd takes care of His sheep and makes sure they do not wander into danger. God is so great and mighty He can help direct our paths. Let's find out more about David today in our Bible Story.

Worship

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."

Story Time: Communicating God's Truth in Engaging Ways

Engage kid's hearts through a dynamic and interactive Bible story and prayer experience in a Large Group setting.

Bible Story

What You Need: Bible

What You Do: Place a book mark in 2 Samuel 11-12 in your Bible. Invite a preschooler to open it.

What You Say: The Bible is God's Word. Everything we read in the Bible is true. Today's Bible story is from the Book of 2 Samuel. 2 Samuel is in the Old Testament.

PLAY BIBLE STORY VIDEO

Talk about the Bible 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."

Learn the Big Picture Question

What You Say: Our big picture question asks, Is anything greater than God? No God, is greater than everything. King David did so many good things, but he also did wrong things. He was a sinner, just like all of us. The only One who has no sin is Jesus. Jesus is the perfect King, and He will rule over everything forever!

Practice the Memory Verse:

Open your Bible to Jeremiah 10:6. Read the memory verse aloud several times.

What You Say: "Even God's name is powerful. That means that God rules over every person who has ever lived and ever will live. That is a long time! In fact, that is forever! God is great forever!"

Groups: Creating a Safe Place to Connect (25 minutes)

Create a safe place to connect through activities that are written to reach every learning style while reinforcing the Main Point that was introduced during the Bible Story and applying it to real life experiences. In addition, these activities provide preschoolers with an opportunity to build relationships with their Small Group Leaders.

1. Remove Leaves

What You Need: plant or bush in a pot (can be fake), walking rope, Allergy alert poster

What You Do:

- Post an allergy alert poster if you are using a real plant or taking kids outside.
- Guide kids on a walk outside or place the pot in front of the group and go on a pretend walk.
- If you are going on a pretend walk, ask kids to close their eyes and imagine what they see as they walk out of the room. Encourage creativity.
- As you walk near the bush/plant instruct kids to take several leaves off the plant or tree.
- Ask kids to try to put the leaves on the tree.
- Encourage kids to share what they observe by trying to put the leaves back on the tree.

What You Say " Removing leaves from a plant is easy, but putting them back is impossible! It is also easy to sin. God hates sin because it dishonors Him and hurts us and other people. WE need changed hearts that no longer want to sin, but we cannot change our own hearts, just like we cannot put leaves back on a plant. When we believe in Jesus, God forgives us because Jesus was punished for our sin when He died on the cross. Jesus changes our heart so that we no longer want to sin. God forgave David, and God will forgive us, too when we believe Jesus was the perfect man sent by God to save us from our sins and conquer death by coming back.

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: coloring page

What You Do:

- Pass out coloring pages for kids to color while waiting for their family or send the coloring page home.
- **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."

What You Say: Tell parents something that their child enjoyed doing or did well during your small group session. Send home the coloring page and tell families, we are talking about how great our God is.