

4th-5th Lesson

Unit 11, Session 5

David Sinned and Was Restored

2 Samuel 11–12; Psalm 51

Story Point: David repented and God forgave him.



Open your Bible and read aloud 2 Sam. 11–12; Ps. 51, or tell the story from the following Bible story script.

David was the king of Israel. One spring, David sent out the army, but 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 he had done 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 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 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.

Opening Activities



INTRODUCE the Story

WELCOME TIME

Greet each kid as he or she arrives. Help new kids connect to your group. Prompt kids to share about a time they told someone they were sorry. Were they forgiven?

Large Group Game: True, False, Run!

LEADER Everyone stand up and move to the middle of the room. Ok, on this wall we have the word “TRUE” and on this wall we have “FALSE”. I am going to give you a True or False trivia question and you all are going to pick which one you think is the right answer by running to either this wall or that one. Then I will tell you the correct answer and if you got it right, you get to keep playing! If you got it wrong, you sit down and are out of the game. We will play this over and over until there is one winner. Got it? Let’s play True False Run!

- Cows sleep standing up. True.
- Japan has square watermelons. True.
- A compass always points South. False. North.
- Abraham Lincoln had no middle name. True.
- Fortune Cookies were invented in China. False. They were invented in the United States.
- Venus is the closest planet to the sun. False. Mercury is.
- Mount Kilimanjaro is the tallest mountain in the world. False. Mount Everest is.
- The giant squid has the largest eyes in the animal kingdom. True.
- Dave the minion has one eye. False. He has 2 eyes
- Ariel is the main character in Frozen. False. She’s the main character in The Little Mermaid.
- New York City is nicknamed “The Big Apple”. True.
- Paddington Bear keeps a marmalade sandwich under his hat in case of emergency. True.
- Silver is heavier than gold. False.
- The ancient Egyptians used picture writing called hieroglyphics. True
- In bowling, if you get 3 strikes in a row, it’s called a Chicken. False. It’s called a Turkey.

"God is for Us"

song

"Let it Be
Known" song

Sing

Everyone! Let's worship by singing. Sing God is for Us and Our God Reigns. That news gives us encouragement and we want to share it!



TEACH the Story

CG Giant timeline

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

Saul was not the perfect king for Israel. He sinned, and God rejected Saul as king. David was a great king, but he was not perfect. As we will see in today's Bible story, he sinned too. Whether this is your first time or your tenth time hearing this story, there is always something new to learn in God's Word.

Read 2 Samuel 11–12; Psalm 51.

- What does this story teach us about God?

CG Question 1

When David sinned by taking Uriah's wife, did David think anyone would find out? (*no*) David even made a plan to make sure no one found out—he had Uriah killed in battle! But who knew about David's sin? (*God*) **God sees all of our sin.**

- How did David react when he realized God knew his sin?

CG Question 2

God sent the prophet Nathan to confront David. Nathan told David a story, but David didn't realize that the story was actually about him. David was the man who had taken something that was not for him. **David was sorry for his sin.** He repented, and God forgave him. In Psalm 51, David asked God to give him a clean heart.

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.



MISSIONS MOMENT

We have been learning about the African country of Mozambique. We have also been hearing from the Harrell family. They have been missionaries in this country for a very long time but are only now seeing people choose to put their trust in Jesus, the perfect King. Pray for the believers in Mozambique who gather in a church they made with wood and mud.

Big Picture Question & Answer

CG Big Picture Q & A

How is Jesus the perfect king? Jesus perfectly rules over the universe as the King of Kings?

PRAY

God, You are so good. Your pour out Your mercy on us even though we don't deserve it, and we are thankful. We can turn from our sin and turn to You, knowing that we will find forgiveness through Jesus. God, make us truly sad over our sin. Like David wrote, give us clean hearts. We love You. Amen.

THE GOSPEL: GOD'S PLAN FOR ME

The gospel is the good news, the message about Christ, the kingdom of God, and salvation. Use Scripture and the guide provided below to explain how to become a Christian. Make sure kids know when and where they can ask questions.



GOD RULES. Ask: "Who is in charge at home?" Explain that because God created everything, He is in charge of everything. Read Revelation 4:11.



WE SINNED. Ask: "Have you ever done something wrong?" Tell kids that everyone sins, or disobeys God. Our sin separates us from God. Read Romans 3:23.



GOD PROVIDED. Explain that God is holy and must punish sin. God sent His Son, Jesus, to take the punishment we deserve. Read John 3:16.



JESUS GIVES. Ask: "What is the best gift you've ever received?" Say that Jesus took our punishment for sin by giving His life, and He gives us His righteousness. God sees us as if we lived the perfect life Jesus lived. This is the best gift ever! Read 2 Corinthians 5:21.



WE RESPOND. Explain that everyone has a choice to make. Ask: "Will you trust Jesus as your Savior and Lord? You can turn from self and sin and turn to Jesus." Read Romans 10:9-10.



APPLY the Story

Big Picture Question

How is Jesus the perfect King? Jesus perfectly rules over the universe as the King of kings.

The Lord is our King even now. His kingdom will never end. What a wonderful King to serve, who keeps His promises and cares for His people.

- Does God always forgive?
- Why can it be difficult to believe we are fully forgiven by God?

Distribute Bibles. Guide boys and girls to open their Bibles to Psalm 51. Choose a volunteer to read aloud Psalm 51:2-3. Point that today's Bible story came from the Book of 2 Samuel, but in response to his sin, David wrote a psalm. We can find his words in Psalm 51. Explain that David wrote nearly half of the psalms in the Bible.

Choose another volunteer to read aloud Psalm 51:2-3 again. Then lead the group to discuss the following questions.

1. In Psalm 51, what did David ask God to do?

Suggest kids find Psalm 51 in their Bibles. Help them identify David's requests: "be gracious," "blot out my rebellion," "wash away my guilt," "cleanse me," "purify me," "create a clean heart," and so forth. Emphasize that God is willing to do all of these things when we repent of our sin and turn to Him! (Option: Choose a volunteer to read 1 John 1:9.)

2. Do you ever try to hide your sin? Why?

Lead kids to discuss reasons we try to hide our sin from others or from God. Guide them to recognize that we try to avoid shame, consequences, or embarrassment. We may be able to hide our sin from other people, but God sees our sin. He knows our hearts, and He sent His Son to be our Rescuer. (Option: Choose a volunteer to read Acts 3:19.)

3. Why can God forgive us?

Assure kids that though we may face consequences for our sin, those who trust in Jesus will never be separated from God. God sent His Son, Jesus, to pay the penalty for our sin. Jesus died on the cross and rose again. Though our bodies may die, we have forgiveness and life with God forever. (Option: Choose a volunteer to read Heb. 2:14-15.)



APPLY the Story

KEY PASSAGE ACTIVITY

Invite any kid who has memorized the key passage to recite it from memory. Then instruct kids to open their Bibles to Psalm 145:13. Lead the kids to read the key passage together. Explain that you will say the key passage. When kids hear you say an incorrect word, they should shout, “No!”

Read the key passage slowly, substituting some of the words and allowing kids to stop you and give the correct word. If time allows, allow volunteers to say Psalm 145:13 with incorrect words. The group should correct any errors.

PRAY

Invite volunteers to share prayer requests. Then pray, thanking God for sending Jesus to die on the cross for our sin. Pray that kids would not try to hide their sin but bring it before God and receive forgiveness and restoration.

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITY: Heart art

Supplies: paper, glitter glue, markers, crayons, Bibles

Give each kid a piece of paper. Demonstrate the following: Fold a piece of paper in half and then open it. Draw half a heart on one side of the paper with a pencil, then trace the line with glitter glue. Add additional lines inside the heart shape. Close the paper and press over the drawing. Open the paper to reveal a symmetrical print.

Allow kids to decorate the heart art. Provide Bibles and instruct kids to write the words of Psalm 51:10 around the outside of their heart.

Emphasize that David’s words in Psalm 51 show that David was sorry for his sin. David repented and God forgave him. *Repentance* is turning away from sin and self and turning to God. To repent, we recognize our sin, confess our sin, are sorry for our sin, ask for forgiveness, and turn away from our sin. God will forgive everyone who repents and trusts in Jesus.