

WEEK 1
LESSON OUTLINE

RESTART

BIG IDEA

When you fail,
God offers you a fresh start.

BIBLE

2 Samuel 11:26–12:13;
Psalm 51:1,2,10–12; 145:8,9

ABOUT THIS WEEK

In video games, you can start over whenever you feel like it, but it's not so simple in reality. This week, we'll see how David might have wished for a way to do things differently when he was confronted by his mistakes. This story will remind us that while we can't go back and change what's already happened **when you feel like a failure, God helps you restart.**

WHAT?

Have you ever had a moment when you tried something, it didn't work out, and we wished we could start over again? A restart in life may not feel like a fresh chance. Honestly, it can feel like a failure. But what if there was a way to restart amid these letdowns? What if God makes a way for us even when we can't see one for ourselves?

SO WHAT?

In 2 Samuel 11:26–27, there's a story in the Bible of a king named David who needed a restart. He was an unlikely hero chosen to rule God's people. But even though he was someone who pursued God's heart, he had a massive moral and leadership failure. God didn't leave David alone in his shame and regret. God sent a safe and trusted friend in Nathan to help him see this wasn't right. He told David he had made a poor choice, and no matter how big his failure was, God would take away his sin and allow him to make things right. Sin and failure aren't game over for David. Yes, there will be consequences, but God will help him make things right. Sometimes, our actions have real and unavoidable impacts, and restarts may not be as simple as in video games, but they are always available.

David wrote a poem about this experience in Psalm 51:1–2,10–12. We get an insight into what it looked like for David to restart. He talked about how his mistake was big, but God's forgiveness was bigger. **When you fail, God offers you a fresh start.**

NOW WHAT?

If we need a restart in our lives, David's story shows us how God offers it to us. Here are a few ways you can do that this week:

- **LISTEN TO TRUSTED FAMILY AND FRIENDS:** Even if it is sometimes difficult to hear, learn to listen to the friends and trusted adults who want God's best for you.
- **ADMIT WHEN YOU'VE DONE WRONG:** Admitting we're not okay is okay with God. In your prayers, tell God the ways you have done wrong.
- **TRUST GOD FOR A RESTART:** Maybe you've never asked God for a restart, and you can do that for the first time today. When you ask for forgiveness, God gives it freely. So, trust God is with you, and mistakes won't define you.

Remember God's never-ending presence in our lives this week because **when you fail, God offers you a fresh start.**