

K-5th Grade
David Sinned and was Restored
Parent Devo & Bible Study

BIBLE PASSAGE: 2 Samuel 11–12; Psalm 51

STORY POINT: David repented and God forgave him.

MEMORY VERSE: Psalm 145:13

BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

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

Parent Devotional

The Ammonites were no strangers to the Israelites. They often fought over the region of Gilead, which stretched east of the Jordan River. David had tried showing kindness to the Ammonites, but they humiliated the Israelite ambassadors. (See 2 Sam. 10:1-5.) Thus began a war between the Israelites and Ammonites. This context sets the scene for the story of David's sin and restoration.

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.

David Sinned and Was Restored
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.

Memory Verse:

Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,
and your dominion endures through all generations.
The Lord is trustworthy in all he promises
and faithful in all he does.

Psalm 145:13