

David's Sins

Theme: Repentance — Seeking God's forgiveness



Sunday Morning Lesson

Pre-Class Activity

Bible Facts: Working Hard on Bible Facts

Memory Verse: Have Memory Verse strips face down and out of sequence on the floor in front of the pocket chart. The students unscramble the strips and place them correctly in the pocket chart.

Prayer

Teaching Today's Lesson

1. For non-reading students, read 2 Samuel 12:13. Have reading students find and mark 2 Samuel 12:1-7, 13 in the classroom Bibles.
2. Ask students to bring the Bibles and move to the Bible story area.
3. Establish the setting of the lesson by asking a student to point to the place on the time line when today's events took place.
4. Further establish the setting by helping students locate the following places on the map of Israel in the time of David, found on page 71 of this Guide – Jerusalem, Ammon, Rabbah.
5. Introduce the Lesson Graphics using the “Loving & Working Toolbox”.
6. Tell the story using the *Loving Hearts & Working Hands Lesson Graphics* and other props such as a stuffed or plastic lamb.
7. Tell the story and teach the lesson emphasizing the following scenes and points, tailored to the students' ages:
 - David was good, but not perfect, and he sinned with Bathsheba.
 - To try to hide his sin, David then had Bathsheba's husband Uriah sent into battle where he was sure to be killed.
 - David and Bathsheba married and had a baby son.
 - God sent His prophet Nathan to tell David a story about a rich man, a poor man, and the poor man's little lamb.

- Nathan then used the story to confront David with his own sin.
 - David confessed that he had sinned against the Lord, and with a broken and contrite heart, asked God for forgiveness.
 - David was forgiven, but still had to accept the consequences and punishment, so David's and Bathsheba's baby son died.
 - Any time we sin, it is sin against God, but He gives us grace and mercy through the death of His Son Jesus.
 - We must repent and obey God, and we can be forgiven.
8. Use the Lesson Graphics to tell the story of David's sin with Bathsheba and his having Uriah killed. Use a plastic or stuffed lamb to tell Nathan's story of man and his lamb, but don't say that this is what Nathan told David. Ask students what should be done. Read 2 Samuel 12:7-9. Discuss the fact that this was how Nathan made David aware that he had sinned.
 9. Read 2 Samuel 12:13-14. Emphasize David's reaction to being made aware of his sin against God, and relate that to how we should react when we realize we have done wrong.
 10. Let children use the Lesson Graphics, lamb, and Scripture to retell lesson story.



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Wednesday Night Lesson

Pre-Class Activity

Bible Facts: Working Hard on Bible Facts

Memory Verse: Have the Memory Verse strips scrambled in the pocket chart. Have the students straighten them out and arrange them correctly. Talk about the Memory Verse and why it is good to learn it.

Prayer

Starter

Lynnette was the troop leader for twelve Girl Scouts. Lynnette was a good leader. She was organized, energetic, and always prepared. When the girls had a meeting, Lynnette had everything ready for the girls' projects. When the girls went on camping trips, Lynnette's arrangements made the trips fun.

During one camping trip, Lynnette left the girls for a short time to be by herself. She left the senior scouts in charge while she tended to some other matters. Actually, in the last few months, Lynnette had started smoking cigarettes and she was becoming addicted. Smoking was against the Scouts' rules. Lynnette had agreed to follow all the rules and knew she couldn't be a Scout Leader and be a smoker.

Lynnette decided she was far enough away from the camp to take a quick smoke, and no one would know. She didn't know one of the girls had followed her so she could talk with her alone. Quite a distance from the camp and in some trees, Lynnette lit a cigarette. The girl who was following caught up with her just when she took the third puff.

Lead into the lesson about David doing what is right accept what he did with Bathsheba (See 1 Kings 15:5).

Briefly review the lesson from Sunday morning and read 1 Samuel 12:7-9, 13-14.

Illustrations and Applications

1. *Objective: Reinforce the account of David's sins.*

Retell the story of David's sins from 2 Samuel 11:1-12:14, but make mistakes in telling it. Have the students catch the mistakes. In the process, bring out these lessons:

- we have to look away from some things and not keep looking
- marriage is to be respected and honored
- we try to cover up sin and think we can get away with it
- another person might help us recognize and admit our sin
- we should admit our sin and ask God to forgive us
- even when we receive forgiveness, sin has consequences
- after forgiveness, we are valuable to God
- big important powerful people make mistakes and sin
- we may be able to hide sin for a while, but it will come out

Ask students to tell what part of the story relates to each of these points. Begin this activity with all students on one side of the room. As students answer, move them from one side of the room to "God's Side."

2. *Objective: Taking responsibility for our own actions.*

Prepare a few scenarios where a child would be tempted to blame someone else for their own bad actions. As a class, decide who is really to blame. Following are possible scenarios:

- My room was a mess. Mom told me I had 30 minutes to clean it up. I played around until I only have 10 minutes left. I couldn't possibly get it finished in ten minutes, so I got punished. Whose fault is it that I was punished?
- The guy behind me in the lunch line shoved me. Even though it didn't hurt me, I shoved him back. I got caught and punished for it. Whose fault is it?
- Two girls chase me on the playground all the time. While I was running from them, I knocked down another girl, so I got punished. Whose fault is it?

3. *Objective: Illustrate the story of Nathan and David.*

Emphasize how we can easily see wrong in others, but not so easily in ourselves until we are hit in the face with our guilt. Explain that no matter what our sin is, if we will confess and repent, God will forgive. We can be "a person after God's own heart" if we will love God and repent of our sins.

Have an adult visit class and role play Nathan. "Nathan" can go through the Bible story with "David," the teacher. "David" will react as the Bible story is told.

4. *Objective: Illustrate lifting the burden of sin.*

For older students, read and discuss Psalm 51.

BIG HEART Display: A teardrop