

# DAVID SINNED AND WAS RESTORED

2 SAMUEL 11-12; PSALM 51

**KEY PASSAGE:** Jeremiah 10:6-7a

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION:** Is anything or anyone greater than God? No, God is greater than everything and everyone.

**CHRIST CONNECTION:** When David admitted his sin before the Lord, he was forgiven. When we confess our sins to the Lord and believe in Jesus, God is faithful and just to forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

**STORY POINT:** David sinned, repented, and was forgiven.



## PREPARE

### PRIOR TO TEACHING THE SESSION

## LEADER Bible Study

David was a king after God's own heart, but he was also a sinner. As we study 2 Samuel 11–12, we learn how David fell into temptation and sinned against God and others. Yet, we also witness the incredible mercy offered to those who repent of their sin. Out of David's brokenness we see what it looks like to have a broken and contrite heart, and we gain a glimpse of the redemption offered to us through faith in Christ.

What transformations do we see in David's life? How do these passages lead us to walk in restoration rather than in sin?

In our previous session, we read that David was established as king over Israel. Yet from the start of 2 Samuel 11, we see how David's temptation to follow his heart led to sin. As other kings and soldiers went to war, David idly passed his time in Jerusalem. Rather than lead his men in battle, David allowed the lust of his eyes to rule him. Through one choice at a time, David plummeted into covetousness, adultery, lying, and murder.

Only after being confronted by the prophet Nathan did David repent of his sin, leading him to pen the words of Psalm 51. In this psalm, David declared God's righteousness in contrast to his own unrighteousness. He begged God to cleanse him of his sin. He asked for a new heart and spirit to be able to teach sinners the way of repentance.

This psalm models repentance to us, showing us what it looks like to turn from sin and to receive the mercy only God provides. David's hope was in the God of His salvation who promised a future descendant to rule with justice and righteousness. Unlike David, Christ lived a perfect, sinless life and died for sin so that our hearts may be made clean.

Through confession of sins and profession of faith in Christ, we are saved, forgiven, and cleansed of our unrighteousness. Lead boys and girls to see the weight of the sins that separate us from God and the gift of grace that reunites us with the Father who sent His Son to redeem us. Pray for kids to see their need for the Savior and to cling to the hope only He provides.



## PREPARE

### THE WEEK PRIOR

Prepare your heart to teach; plan the session



## WELCOME

### 10–15 MINUTES

Greet kids and open the session



## LEARN

### 25–30 MINUTES

Teach kids the story of the gospel



## LOVE

### 15–20 MINUTES

Lead kids to love the God of the gospel



## LIVE

### 15–20 MINUTES

Lead kids to live out the mission of the gospel



## PREPARE

PRIOR TO TEACHING THE SESSION

## GATHER Supplies

Keep a regular supply of the following items available at all times: Bibles, pens or pencils, markers, crayons, colored pencils, scissors, glue or tape, paper.



### WELCOME

#### Activity Page

- ☐ "Pairing Lambs" activity page

#### Session Starter (Option 1)

- ☐ paper cup
- ☐ play dough or modeling clay
- ☐ bowl
- ☐ water

#### Session Starter (Option 2)

- ☐ dry erase board
- ☐ dry erase marker and eraser



### LOVE

#### Review & Bible Skills

- ☐ Small Group Timeline and Map Set (optional)



### LIVE

#### Activity Choice (Option 1)

- ☐ foam hearts, 2 per kid
- ☐ chenille craft stems or ribbon
- ☐ hole punch

#### Reflection and Prayer

- ☐ Bible story coloring page



### LEARN

#### Introduce the Session

- ☐ countdown video
- ☐ Story Point Poster

#### Big Picture Question

- ☐ Big Picture Question Poster

#### Review the Timeline

- ☐ Giant Timeline

#### Tell the Bible Story

- ☐ "David Sinned and Was Restored" video
- ☐ Bible Story Picture Poster

#### Questions from Kids

- ☐ "Unit 11, Session 4" Questions from Kids video

#### Missions Moment

- ☐ "I Have a Mission" missions video

#### Key Passage Activity

- ☐ Key Passage Poster
- ☐ "You Are Great, You Are Great (Jeremiah 10:6-7a)" song
- ☐ worship song of your choice (optional)
- ☐ dry erase board
- ☐ dry erase marker



## WELCOME Kids

Greet each kid as he or she arrives. Use this time to collect the offering, fill out attendance sheets, build relationships, and help new kids connect to your group.

**SAY** “Have you ever seen something someone else had, like a toy or a pet, and wanted it too? What was it?”

### 1 ACTIVITY PAGE (5 minutes)

Invite kids to complete “Pairing Lambs” activity page.

**SAY** “Today, we will see how David sinned against God and how the prophet Nathan helped David recognize his sin.”

### 2 SESSION STARTER (10 minutes)

#### ☐ OPTION 1: CAN YOU FIX IT?

Hold up a paper cup, and using a sharp pencil or scissors, poke holes all around the cup and on the bottom of the cup. Ask kids if they think the cup will be able to hold water. Then use some play dough or modeling clay to cover the holes. Consider inviting kids to help you cover the holes. Ask kids if they think the cup will be able to hold water now. Hold the cup over a bowl and pour water into the cup. Demonstrate how even though you tried to cover the holes, the cup wasn’t fixed.

**SAY** “Like this cup, we are all broken because of sin. We can’t fix ourselves, and we can’t cover up our sin. Today, we will learn how David sinned. When he tried to cover up his sin, it only made things worse. Only God can fix our sin problem. Let’s get ready to hear how **DAVID SINNED, REPENTED, AND WAS FORGIVEN.**”

#### ☐ OPTION 2: WHAT AM I?



Form kids into two teams, and play a game of pictionary. Choose a kid to go first, and whisper the name of an animal or object in her ear. Lead her to draw the animal or object on a dry erase board while her teammates try to guess what is being drawn. Allow 30 seconds for teams to guess. Award a point if the team guesses correctly. Play several rounds as time allows. The team with the most points wins.

**SAY** “As you drew the pictures, the more details you added, the better your teammates could guess correctly. Sometimes we need someone to help show us a clear picture before we truly understand what it is. Today, we will see how God sent the prophet Nathan to David to help him see his sin more clearly.”





## INTRODUCE the Bible Story

### 1 INTRODUCE THE SESSION (3 minutes)

Show the countdown video as you transition to introduce the Bible story. Set it to end as the session begins.

**SAY** “Hi, kids! My name is [your name], and I’m happy to see you today. If you have a Bible with you, will you take it out? [Distribute Bibles to kids who need one.] Today, we will be in two books from the Old Testament: 2 Samuel and Psalms. Can you find the book of Psalms in your Bible?

In our Bible story, we will learn how David was a good king, but he was not perfect. We will see how **DAVID SINNED, REPENTED, AND WAS FORGIVEN**. [Display the Story Point Poster.] We’ll learn that, like David, we all sin and need to ask God to forgive us of our sin. Let’s pray together: ‘Lord, thank You for being merciful and offering forgiveness even though we don’t deserve it. Help us recognize sin, repent of it, and seek Your forgiveness. Amen.’ ”

### 2 BIG PICTURE QUESTION (1 minute)

Display the Big Picture Question Poster.

**SAY** “Girls, can you say the big picture question? [Allow girls to respond.] **Is anything or anyone greater than God?** Boys, can you say the answer? [Allow boys to respond.] **No, God is greater than everything and everyone.**

Today, we will learn that David sinned in secret, but God knew because He is greater than everyone and everything. We cannot hide our sin from God, and we can’t fix our sin. God is great because only He can forgive our sin and makes us right before Him. He already knows our sin and has made the way to take our sin away when we trust in Jesus. ”

### 3 REVIEW THE TIMELINE (1 minute)

Show the Giant Timeline. Point to individual Bible stories as you review.

**SAY** “After David became king, he built a palace in Jerusalem. God was with David and gave him rest from wars. David wanted to build God a house, but instead, God told David that He would build a forever kingdom through a descendant of David’s family. Eventually, the Israelites’ enemies came to fight against them. Rather than go to war with his army, David chose to stay in Jerusalem. Today, we’ll see how David sinned against God, a woman named Bathsheba, and a man named Uriah. ”





## LEARN the Bible Story

### 1 TELL THE BIBLE STORY: VIDEO OR STORYTELLER (10 minutes)

Open your Bible to 2 Samuel 11:1–12:14; Psalm 51. Use the Bible storytelling tips to help you tell the story, or show the Bible story video “David Sinned and Was Restored.” Use the bold text to retell or review the story.

#### DAVID SINNED AND WAS RESTORED

“Most kings went out to fight wars in the spring, but David stayed home in Jerusalem and sent his commander Joab and the army out instead. **One evening, David was walking on the roof of his palace and saw a beautiful woman.**

**David asked who the woman was. A servant told him, “This is Bathsheba, the wife of Uriah.” Even though she was someone else’s wife, David sent messengers to get her and bring her to him.**

When **David found out that Bathsheba was pregnant with his baby**, he wanted her to be his wife. **But she was already married. So, David made a plan to kill her husband Uriah.**

Uriah was a soldier in the Israelite army. **David wrote a letter to Joab and told him to put Uriah at the front line so Uriah could be easily killed. Joab obeyed King David, and Uriah died. David took Bathsheba to be his wife, and she gave birth to his son. David sinned in secret, but the Lord knew the evil David had done.**

**The Lord sent Nathan to David. Nathan told David a story: “There was a rich man and a poor man. The rich man had lots of sheep, but the poor man had just one lamb he loved very much. When the rich man needed a lamb to prepare a meal, he took the lamb from the poor man rather than using a lamb from his own flock.”**

**David was extremely angry with the rich man in the story, saying that he deserved to die! Nathan replied, “You are the rich man! God has given you so much, and yet you decided to take the life of Uriah because you wanted his wife Bathsheba. You have done evil.”**

**David responded, “I have sinned against the LORD.”**

**Nathan replied, “The LORD has taken away your sin. You will not die.”**

**Then David wrote a song to God:**

**“Be gracious to me, God, according to your faithful love.**

**Wash away my guilt and cleanse me from my sin.**

**Against you alone I have sinned, so You are right when You judge.**

**“Purify me, and I will be clean;**

**Wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.**

#### STORYTELLING TIPS

**Active listening:** Invite kids to “baa” like a lamb when they hear the word “lamb” in the story.

**Emphasize it:** Vary the tone and volume of your voice to emphasize certain grievances and graces in the story.



## LEARN

### THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

Create a clean heart for me and renew my spirit.

“Do not remove Your Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore the joy of Your salvation to me,  
And I will teach sinners to return to You.”

Christ Connection: When David admitted his sin before the Lord, he was forgiven. When we confess our sins to the Lord and believe in Jesus, God is faithful and just to forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ”

## 2 REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY

**SAY** “ David loved God and wanted to obey Him. But like all people, David was a sinner. David took something that didn’t belong to him when he had Bathsheba brought to his house. What did David do to try to cover up his sin? **[Allow responses.]** David tried to cover up his sin by having Uriah killed in battle. By trying to hide his sin, David sinned again and made things worse. No one can hide his or her sin from God. The Bible tells us that God is everywhere and sees everything, even the hearts of people.

God sent the prophet Nathan to David. What story did Nathan tell David? **[Allow responses.]** Nathan told David the story of the rich man who had taken the lamb from the poor man. David realized he was like the rich man in the story because he took something that didn’t belong to him, and he also killed Uriah. David deserved punishment from God for his sin. All people sin and deserve death because of their sin.

David wrote Psalm 51 to show he was very sorry for his sin. What did David ask God to do to his heart in the psalm? **[Allow responses.]** David asked God to give him a clean heart. **DAVID SINNED, REPENTED, AND WAS FORGIVEN.** When David admitted his sin before the Lord, he was forgiven. When we confess our sins to the Lord and believe in Jesus, God is faithful and just to forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ”

## 3 GOSPEL DISCUSSION

**SAY** “ David was a good king, but he wasn’t a perfect king. The Bible tells us that, like David, we have all sinned against God. But God sent His Son, Jesus, to be the perfect King. Jesus took the punishment we deserve by dying on the cross for our sins. When we ask God to forgive our sin and believe in Jesus, we are saved. ”

(Tip: Use Scripture and the Gospel Plan Poster to explain how to become a Christian. Create an environment where kids are welcome to ask questions about what it means to follow Jesus.)

## 4 QUESTIONS FROM KIDS (3 minutes)

Show the “Unit 11, Session 4” Questions from Kids video. Prompt kids to discuss:

1. How does God know if we sin?
2. How can our sin be washed away and forgiven?



## LEARN

### THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

#### 5 MISSIONS MOMENT (3 minutes)

Tell kids that missionary Bennett Ekandem, who is originally from Nigeria, began an after-school tutoring ministry called Family Heritage Foundation in Clarkston, Georgia. Discuss how he started this program as a way to help kids with their homework. But more importantly, Bennett desires that the kids will know and believe in Jesus. Play the missions video.

**SAY** “When Bennett was nine years old and living in Nigeria, he trusted in Jesus. Years later, he and his wife, Idong, came to America. Eventually, God put the desire in Bennett’s heart to help people who had also come from other countries. Now, he and his wife serve the refugees of Clarkston, Georgia, through the Family Heritage Foundation. When kids come to their after-school program, they receive a snack, sing songs, listen to a Bible story, and receive help with their homework.”

Pray for Bennett and Idong as they serve refugees and tell them about Jesus.

#### 6 KEY PASSAGE ACTIVITY (5 minutes)

Show the Key Passage Poster. Lead kids in reading aloud Jeremiah 10:6-7a together.

**SAY** “There is no one wiser than God. David thought he knew best, but as our key passage reminds us, God knows everything, and there is no one as great as Him!”

Write the key passage on a dry erase board. Lead kids in saying the key passage aloud together. Then erase one word of the key passage and say it again. Repeat, until all the words of the key passage are erased.

Lead kids to sing “You Are Great, You Are Great (Jeremiah 10:6-7a).” You may also choose to sing a worship song of your choice.

#### 7 PRAY (2 minutes)

Invite kids to pray before transitioning to Love.

**SAY** “Dear God, we know that only You can take away our sin and forgive us. Help us confess our sin to You and not try to hide it. Give us hearts that love You and trust in Your Son, Jesus. Amen.”

Transition from **LEARN** to **LOVE**







THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

## LOVE God by Applying the Story

### 1 REVIEW & BIBLE SKILLS (5 minutes)

Distribute Bibles, and display the Old Testament Kingdoms Map. Guide kids to open their Bibles to Psalm 51. Explain that the book of Psalms is a collection of songs and poems. Share that many of the psalms were written by David and help us see how God was faithful in David's life.

Consider pointing out Jerusalem (H5) on the Old Testament Kingdoms Map. Choose a volunteer to read aloud Psalm 51:17, or ask the kids to follow along as you read the verse aloud.

**SAY** “David tried to cover his sin, but God already knew what David had done. When David wrote Psalm 51, he understood that God doesn't want us to try to hide our sin. Instead, God wants us to come to him with hearts that are broken by sin. God wants us to confess our sin to Him. Going to God with our sin is the only way to be forgiven and fix our hearts. God sent Jesus to take away our sin and give us hearts that are clean.”

### 2 GROUP DISCUSSION (10 minutes)

Ask the following questions. Lead the group to discuss.

**SAY** “In Psalm 51:4, why do you think David said he had sinned against God alone?”

Tell kids that all sin is against God because He made us and created us to love Him. When we sin—whether we lie, hurt someone, or steal—it is first a sin against God. Also, doing wrong to others is a sin against God because all people are made in His image, and He has commanded us to love one another.

**SAY** “If God knows our sin, why should we confess our sin to Him?”

Help kids understand that while God already knows our sin, when we confess our sin we are showing that we agree with Him about our sin. “If we say, ‘We have no sin,’ we are deceiving ourselves, and the truth is not in us” (1 John 1:8). We come into the truth when we acknowledge our sin and turn away from it. The Bible also tells us that, “If we confess our sins, he is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness” (1 John 1:9).

**SAY** “What sin might you need to confess to God?”

Pause for a moment of contemplation, inviting kids to think about some of their actions this past week. Allow time for kids to pray to God and confess their sins. Help kids understand that we can turn to God at any time to ask Him for forgiveness. Remind kids that we are made “clean” or right with God when we repent of our sin and trust in Jesus.

Transition from **LOVE** to **LIVE**





## THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

### LIVE the Mission

#### 1 ACTIVITY CHOICE (10 minutes)

##### ☐ OPTION 1: FORGIVEN HEART

Provide each kid with two 6 inch foam hearts. On one heart, lead the kids to write the word SIN. Consider inviting kids to write different sins they have committed such as lying, disobeying, saying mean things, etc. Use a hole punch to punch two holes at the top of each heart. Place the “clean” heart on the bottom and the “sinful” heart on the top. Then use chenille craft stems or ribbon to tie the hearts together. Kids can flip up the “sinful” heart to reveal the “clean” heart underneath.

**SAY** “ Today, we learned that **DAVID SINNED, REPENTED, AND WAS FORGIVEN.** We all sin. But when we repent of our sin and trust in Jesus, God will forgive us. We repent by telling God our sin and by turning away from our sin. Each of us can have a forgiven heart through faith in Jesus. ”

##### ☐ OPTION 2: CREATE A SONG



Remind kids that David was sorry for his sin and wrote Psalm 51 as a prayer to God. Encourage kids to work together to write a song of thankfulness to God for how He forgives sin. As the kids come up with the words, help them write the words on a sheet of paper. Prompt them to create motions to go with the words to the song. This will help them to recall the lyrics to their song more easily. Once the song is finished, invite kids to sing it and perform the motions together.

**SAY** “ David’s psalm reminds us that we all sin, but God has shown us great mercy through Jesus. We can share God’s mercy with others by telling them about Jesus and how we can be forgiven of our sin by trusting in Him. ”

#### 2 REFLECTION AND PRAYER (5 minutes)

Distribute a sheet of paper and pencil to each kid. Ask kids to write about or draw a picture to answer the following questions:

- What does this story teach me about God or the gospel?
- What does the story teach me about myself?
- Who can I tell about this story?

Be sure to send the sheets home with the kids along with the activity pages so parents can continue to discuss the Bible story with their kids. If time remains, take prayer requests or allow kids to complete the Bible story coloring page. Pray for your group.