

Can I Be Forgiven?

Scripture: Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin. ~Psalm 51:2

Have you ever of a guy named David? Remember the battle between he and Goliath? Did you know David became a king? Did you know David was considered a man after God's own heart? Yet, did you know David messed up? It happened in **II Samuel 12**. He was supposed to be out at battle, but he decided to stay home. He did follow through with what he was supposed to do, and it led him to getting into trouble. For example, it's just like when you don't follow through with what your mom's, dad's, teachers, or any other superior tells you to do. David saw a woman and decided he wanted to have inappropriate relations with her. He called for her to come to the palace. While her husband was away in battle, David revealed he had watched her bathe on the porch. He invited her to a nice, fancy dinner. After wining and dining her, he made an advance towards her and subsequently overpowered her. He sent her home after that one nightstand, and shortly afterwards David found out Bathsheba was pregnant. When he found out about it, David tried to cover it up by calling Uriah home and pleading for him to go be with his wife. When Uriah wouldn't do it, David ultimately had him killed. Yet, somehow we still today know that David was a man after God's own heart and know his story ended well. But how is that possible? Will the Lord ever forgive me for something really bad?

Do you have old clothes that are stained? Maybe there is a blob of ink or paint that just won't go away completely, no matter how many times it's been through the wash. What David did was really bad! He wanted something (someone) that didn't belong to him. He brought dishonor to the Lord and did not follow the Lord's rules. Do you think that David deserved to be forgiven after all that the Lord had done for him? No, David did not deserve forgiveness, BUT neither do we! Not one of us has an excuse for the wrong things we do. We certainly don't have any bargaining chips to offer God who is supremely holy. However, God is gracious. That means, He will forgive us for every sin—no matter how big it is! However, to be able to forgive us, someone had to take the blame and the punishment for that sin. That person is Jesus. He loved us so much that He chose to be nailed to a cross so that His blood can wash away our sin and make our hearts white as snow.

Prayer: Lord, please forgive for my sins and all that I have done wrong. Thank you for sending your Son, Jesus, to pay for my punishment of sin. I am not worthy of you, but I am grateful you were gracious and loving towards me. In Jesus name, Amen!

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