



God Forgives David

2 Samuel 11–12



LESSON GOAL

Students will turn to God's grace after disobeying God's Word.

LESSON OBJECTIVES

The student will be able to

- Explain how David disobeyed God's Word.
- Describe how God confronted David's sin.
- List some elements of how God judged David.
- Analyze how God forgave David.

KEY VERSE

"So David said to Nathan, 'I have sinned against the LORD.' And Nathan said to David, 'The LORD also has put away your sin; you shall not die'" (2 Samuel 12:13).

APPLICATION

- Receive God's forgiveness after you repent of breaking His commands.
- Accept the consequences of your sin.
- Rejoice that you can be restored to God.
- Find hope in God's mercy.

Symbol Key



Craft



Memory Verse



Object Lesson



Game



Visual Aid



Activity



Q & A



Work Sheet



2 Grade Level

PREPARE WITH THE TRUTH

“Therefore you shall lay up these words of mine in your heart and in your soul.... You shall teach them to your children” (Deuteronomy 11:18–19).

Please take time to prepare your mind and heart to accurately handle the truths of God’s Word (2 Tim. 2:15). Read through the Bible background and study the truths contained in this lesson. Crucial background information is included here to aid you in understanding the Scripture.

Bible Background

After recording God’s covenant with David in 2 Samuel 7, the author of 1 and 2 Samuel continues to show David’s success as a king. Chapter 8 summarizes David’s military victories against the surrounding nations, and chapter 9 demonstrates his covenant faithfulness to the family of Saul. Just as David had promised Jonathan in 1 Samuel 20:14–16 and Saul in 1 Samuel 24:21–22, he showed kindness to Saul’s last relative, Jonathan’s son Mephibosheth. David’s success continues in chapters 10–12, beginning with his kindness toward the new Ammonite king, continuing with Israel’s war with the Ammonites and Syrians, and ending with David’s defeat of the Ammonites.

Throughout chapter 10 and in the end of chapter 12, David appears to be the model king. But in the midst of David’s conflict with the Ammonites, chapters 11:1–12:25 record a much darker episode in David’s history. These chapters expose David’s adultery with Bathsheba and his murder of Uriah. They also include the Lord’s confronting and punishing of David. Even though David had “displeased the LORD” (2 Sam. 11:27) and “despised the commandment of the LORD” (2 Sam. 12:9), the Lord still had mercy on him. While sin may have dreadful consequences (as did David’s), God will graciously forgive those who repent of despising His Word.

The Lord’s Displeasure (2 Sam. 11:1–27)

The Lord’s evaluation of David’s actions at the end of chapter 11 summarizes the chapter succinctly: “But the thing that David had done displeased the LORD” (2 Sam. 11:27). The Hebrew literally says that what David had done was “evil in the eyes of the LORD.” Beginning with a covetous look and ending with murder, chapter 11 is a sober warning of how much even a man after God’s own heart can displease the Lord.

The first stage of David’s wickedness was adultery. David’s wickedness began while his soldiers were away besieging the Ammonite capital of Rabbah (2 Sam. 11:1). As he had done previously (2 Sam. 10:7; cf. 18:3; 21:17), David sent Joab to lead his military into battle while he remained in Jerusalem (2 Sam. 11:1). One evening, David was enjoying the coolness of his palace roof and saw a beautiful woman bathing down below. While God was clearly sovereign over the situation, David was solely to blame when he was “drawn away by his own desires and enticed” (James 1:14). David’s desire quickly “conceived” and “[gave] birth to sin” (1:15). He sent messengers to find out who the woman was. David discovered that the woman, Bathsheba, not only was married to Uriah the Hittite, one of David’s mighty men, but also was the daughter of Eliam, another of David’s mighty men (2 Sam. 23:34–39), and the granddaughter of his counselor Ahithophel (2 Sam. 15:12; 23:34). Rejecting God’s law and ignoring common sense, David sent for Bathsheba and slept with her. The text notes Bathsheba was cleansed from her

monthly impurity to indicate that she could not have been pregnant before coming to David (2 Sam. 11:4; cf. Lev. 15:19–30). Before long, David found out the sad news that he was going to be a father (11:5).

David foolishly refused to confess his sin and tried to hide his wickedness. Chapter 11:6–13 records David's desperate attempts to get Uriah to sleep with his wife, Bathsheba. If David could get Uriah to do so, then Uriah would assume that Bathsheba's baby was his own. David recalled Uriah from the battlefield and pretended to be interested in how the war was going (2 Sam. 11:7). David then encouraged Uriah to go home and enjoy time with his wife (11:8). Uriah left the king's palace but instead of going home, slept with the servants outside David's door (11:9). When David asked him why he hadn't gone home, Uriah countered that the rest of David's army was in the fields and that it would be unfair for him to go home to his wife (11:11). Although David's conscience must have been bothered, Uriah's loyalty did not lead David to repentance. Instead, David had Uriah come to dinner and got him drunk, hoping that Uriah would then go home to his wife. Uriah again unknowingly thwarted David's plans by sleeping outside David's palace. Uriah was more faithful drunk than David was sober.

Every day, the news of Bathsheba's pregnancy was closer to becoming public knowledge. David worked out a plan that would allow him to admit to being the baby's father without admitting that he had committed adultery. David sent a letter to Joab commanding that Uriah be placed in the fiercest part of the battle, only to be abandoned by Joab and then killed by the Ammonites (2 Sam. 11:15). David's heart was so cold that he sent Uriah to deliver the letter (11:14)! After Uriah had been killed in battle, Joab sent a message to David saying that he had done what David had commanded even though other Israelites were also lost in the senseless battle (11:16–24). David pitifully tried to ease Joab's conscience by saying that "the sword devours one as well as another" (11:25).

After the period of Bathsheba's mourning was over (2 Sam. 11:26–27), David took her as his wife. Bathsheba could now have a child with David without anyone knowing what David had done. If anything, people may have thought David admirable for taking care of the wife of one of his fallen mighty men. David continued in disobedience to the Lord for many months until a son was born to him and Bathsheba. After the child was born, the Lord finally rebuked David for his sin.

The Lord's Rebuke (2 Sam. 12:1–9)

Although the Lord would have been just in simply taking David's life, He chose to rebuke David for his wickedness. Knowing David's heart perfectly, the Lord sent just the right message to David through His prophet Nathan. Nathan's story of the rich man who had stolen the beloved sheep of the poor man rightly made David angry (2 Sam. 12:2–5). Although not a crime punishable by death (Ex. 22:1), David declared that the wicked man deserved to die. David insisted that the man return four sheep for the one he had stolen, thus satisfying the Law (2 Sam. 12:6). When Nathan said to David, "You are the man!" David realized the story was really about how he had had stolen Bathsheba from Uriah. When David proclaimed the justness of God's Law, he was unknowingly admitting that he deserved death, the Law's punishment for adultery and murder (Lev. 20:10). David had no defense before God. God had poured out his grace on David by anointing him, protecting him, and exalting him as king over all Israel (2 Sam. 12:8). David had responded to God's grace by despising God's commandments (12:9).

The Lord's Judgment (2 Sam. 12:10–12)

Because David had despised the Lord (2 Sam. 12:10), the Lord's judgment on him was severe. The Lord promised David that his family would be devastated by

violence (“The sword shall never depart from your house”; 12:10); that his own sons would revolt against him (“I will raise up adversity against you from your own house”; 12:11); and that David’s son would publicly sleep with David’s wives (“I will take your wives before your eyes and give them to your neighbor, and he shall lie with your wives in the sight of this sun”; 12:11–12). Second Samuel 13–20 records the terrible fulfillment of David’s punishment as his daughter Tamar is raped by his son Amnon (13:1–14), Amnon is murdered by his brother Absalom (13:28–29), Absalom rebels against David, who has to flee Jerusalem (15:1–37), and Absalom sleeps with his father’s concubines (16:21–22). After David’s death, Solomon executes Adonijah, another son of David (1 Kings 2:23–25). David’s family would be torn apart because of his sin.

The Lord’s Grace (2 Sam. 12:13–25)

The Lord’s terrifying judgment was immediately followed by His grace. God graciously granted David repentance (Acts 11:18). Instead of making excuses, shifting blame, promising reform, or offering sacrifices, David simply confessed, “I have sinned against the LORD” (2 Sam. 12:13). David’s repentant attitude is more fully developed in Psalm 51. David admitted that his offense against the holy God was a manifestation of his sinful nature, not just a mistake he had made (Psalm 51:4–5). He humbly submitted to God’s perfect judgment (51:4). He trusted in God alone for forgiveness (51:1–2, 7–9). David recognized that there was nothing he could do to earn reconciliation (2 Sam. 12:15). God granted David the only thing that He would accept—a broken and contrite heart (12:17).

God revealed his grace by forgiving David after He granted him repentance. After his confession, Nathan announced to David, “The LORD also has put away your sin; you shall not die” (2 Sam. 12:13). The Law commanded that David be put to death, but the Lawgiver commuted David’s sentence. Looking forward to the death of Christ, the Lord forgave David’s sin. David was restored to fellowship with God. The sin that had separated God the Father from His son David was taken away. For the first time in months, David was clean before the Lord.

After granting David repentance and forgiveness, the Lord began his judgment against David. While his sin had been forgiven, David still had to bear the consequences of having “given great occasion to the enemies of the LORD to blaspheme” (2 Sam. 12:14). David’s sin had resulted in God being mocked. In addition to the previously announced judgments, Nathan prophesied that Bathsheba and David’s newly born child would die. When Nathan left, the sovereign “LORD struck the child that Uriah’s wife bore to David, and it became ill” (12:15).

David demonstrated his restored walk with the Lord when he “pleaded with God for the child” and “fasted and went in and lay all night on the ground” (2 Sam. 12:16). While the child was sick, David would not stop praying to God. He ignored the pleas of the “elders of his house” to get up and eat (12:17). When the child died on the seventh day, David “arose from the ground, washed and anointed himself, and changed his clothes; and he went into the house of the LORD and worshiped” (12:20). His servants were confused at David’s weeping while the child was alive and eating after the child died. David explained that he had prayed because he did not know whether God would be gracious and heal his son (12:22). Just as Moses pleaded before God to have mercy on Israel even though God had announced coming judgment, David prayed that God would grant mercy to his baby. But when the baby died, there was no more reason to pray. The baby could not come back, although one day David would see him again (12:23).

God’s grace is seen even in David’s punishment. Not only had God not taken David’s life, but also God was with David while He took the life of his child. God

intentionally allowed the baby to be ill for a week before dying. The baby's sickness was a time of David pleading his desires before the Father to whom he had been restored. In prayer and fasting, David confessed his absolute dependence on God, his unworthiness of God's grace, and his hope in God's mercy. The evidence of God's grace in David's punishment is how David worshiped God as soon as he discovered the death of his child. The Lord had brought David closer to Himself when He punished Him.

God's grace was lastly demonstrated when God blessed David with another child (2 Sam. 12:24–25). After David comforted his wife Bathsheba concerning the death of their baby, they again had a child together. Their boy, named Solomon, was specially loved by the Lord. God sent the prophet Nathan to name the baby Jedidiah, which means literally "beloved of the LORD" (12:25). How unsearchable is the wisdom and plan of God! Although David and Bathsheba's marriage had been the result of adultery and murder, the gracious and sovereign God gave a special child to the couple. God had kept His promise to David of a son who would build God a temple, who would be the beginning of an unending dynasty, and whose throne would last forever and ever. God chose to use the results of David's wickedness to fulfill His promises to him.

Conclusion

David despised the Lord's commandment and followed his own lust. Despite the heinous nature of his sin, God still had mercy on David. God graciously granted him repentance and then granted him forgiveness. Even through the terrible consequences of David's sin (including the death of his son and the misery brought to his house), God graciously disciplined David. God ultimately worked through the terrible situation to bless David with his son Solomon, who would be the initial fulfillment of God's covenant with David. Believers today can also trust in God's grace when they repent of their sins.

POINT TO THE TRUTH

"Give ear, O my people, to my law; incline your ears to the words of my mouth"
(Psalm 78:1).

This section includes questions to review last week's lesson and ideas to prepare students for this week's lesson. Choose from the following ideas to point to the truths of this lesson.



Review Questions

Use these questions to review and reinforce key truths.

What kind of house did David live in?

David lived in a house of cedar.

What kind of house was the ark of the Lord in?

The ark of the Lord was in a tent (with curtains).

What did King David tell Nathan the prophet he wanted to do? Why?

David told Nathan that he wanted to build a house for the ark of God. When David looked at the nice house he lived in, he thought that the ark of God should be in a nice house, too, not just a tent.

What did the Lord tell Nathan about David's idea to build a house for the ark of God?

The Lord told Nathan to tell David that he was not to build a house for the ark of God.

After God told David that he wasn't to build a house for Him, what else did He say to David?

God told David that he would make his family a dynasty. That means that David would always have descendants who would be kings, and the name of David would be great, well known to everybody.

What are the three things the Lord promised David in verse 16?

The Lord promised David a house, a kingdom, and a throne.

How long would David's house, kingdom, and throne last?

Verse 16 says that they would last forever.

According to Luke 1:30–33, who would receive "the throne of His father David?"

Jesus would receive the throne of His father David. Even though Jesus was not yet born to Mary, the angel Gabriel told her what God had planned for the future.

How long does Luke 1:33 say that Jesus will reign, and how long will His kingdom last?

Luke 1:33 says that Jesus will reign forever.



The Life Cycle of Sin

David's temptation, fall, and restoration represent a full cycle in the life of sin. Various objects can be used to show the students this cycle.

Spectacles: temptation to sin

Picture of a fork in the road: decision to sin

Box or blanket: attempt to hide sin

Sad face: guilt

Bible: God's prophet (Word) reveals sin

Rod: God's discipline and judgment of sin

Praying hands: confession

Sign of U-turn: repentance (turning away from sin)

A wrapped gift: God's free gift of forgiveness



A Biblical Definition of Marriage

Although many children can quote the seventh commandment, not many know what adultery is. To help explain adultery in an age-appropriate, sensitive manner, begin by giving the students a biblical definition of marriage. Marriage is a special relationship given by God in which a man and a woman leave their parents and make one new family together. David committed adultery when he hurt the family God gave Him by taking another man's wife as his own. God hates this terrible sin.



True Repentance

Tell the students a story about a child who does something he knows he should not do. Explain how the child tries to get out of being caught by lying and hiding the effect of his sin. When the child is caught, he tells his mother that he is sorry. While the students may be happy at this apparent resolution, explain to them that the child is not a model of repentance. Go through the story again and explain how the boy could have shown true repentance: by admitting his sin before God, trusting that Jesus died for the sin that deserved punishment, asking Jesus to help him obey, admitting his sin to his parents, asking forgiveness from his parents, and making a plan not to fall into that sin again.



The Weight of Sin

Materials: grocery bags or blocks

Directions: Today's lesson provides a good picture of the effect and consequences of not dealing with sin. The longer a person fails to confess and repent of sin, the greater the burden that he carries becomes. Bring some bags to class. Each bag will represent a different sin. Give each bag a name, such as temptation, sin, guilt, concealing sin, further sin, confrontation by God's Word, discipline, further guilt, consequences, etc. As you relate each stage of David's sin, pick up and carry a bag to demonstrate the growing burden of sin. Turning from sin to God in confession will not remove the consequences of sin, but it will remove the burden. Illustrate the same concept by stacking labeled blocks on top of one another to form a growing tower of unconfessed sin. The tower can be demolished by confession and repentance.

PROCLAIM THE TRUTH

"Telling to the generation to come the praises of the LORD, and His strength and His wonderful works that He has done" (Psalm 78:4).

This section includes the Bible lesson, lesson questions, and praise and worship ideas. Song suggestions are included that you can use to proclaim your worship to God. Use the lesson questions to check the students' understanding. This section also includes various presentation ideas to use during the teaching time. Read the Bible passage several times before you read these pages. All teaching should be done directly from the Bible.

Bible Lesson

Reading of the Text

Read 2 Samuel 11:1–12:25.

Introduction

Have you ever done something wrong and felt guilty about it? We are told in 1 John 1:9 that if we confess our sins, God will forgive our sins and cleanse us from them. In today's lesson we will learn about David's sin and how he responded to God's correction. Even though there were terrible consequences for David and his family because of his sin, God forgave David and later blessed him with a son named Solomon. When we sin, God will be faithful to forgive us as He did David.



Leadoff Questions

LOQ: What did David do that displeased the Lord?

Answer: While David was on his roof, he saw a beautiful woman and wanted her to be his wife. He had his servants go and get the woman and bring her to him. She became pregnant with David's child.

LOQ: Why was this wrong?

Answer: David wanted someone else's wife who was not his own. He disobeyed the Lord's commands.

LOQ: What did David do to cover his sin?

Answer: David did not want Bathsheba's husband, Uriah, or the people to find out what he had done, so he encouraged Uriah to go home to Bathsheba. This would make it appear as though the baby in Bathsheba's belly was Uriah's.

LOQ: Did David's plan work?

Answer: No; Uriah would not go home to Bathsheba because all his soldiers were still out on the battlefield.

LOQ: What did David try next?

Answer: David gave Uriah alcohol so that he would not think clearly and would go home to Bathsheba, but this did not work. Instead, Uriah slept on the doorstep of David's house.

LOQ: Since his plans did not work, what did David do next?

Answer: David sent a message back with Uriah to the commander of the army. The note said that Uriah should be put in the front of the battle and that the other soldiers were to leave him to fight alone.

LOQ: What would happen to Uriah if there was no one to fight with him?

Answer: The enemy would kill him, just as David had planned.

LOQ: Did David repent for the wrong things that he had done?

Answer: No; he wasn't sorry for displeasing God until Nathan spoke with him.

LOQ: What did Nathan say to David?

Answer: Nathan told David a story about a rich man and a poor man. The rich man had many sheep, but the poor man had only one, which he loved. When a visitor came to town, the rich man took the poor man's sheep and gave it to the visitor for dinner.

LOQ: What did David say about this?

Answer: David was very angry at the rich man for doing something so terrible. Nathan then said that David was the rich man. David became sorry for what he had done and repented.

LOQ: What was the consequence for David's sin?

Answer: David's son, who would be born to Bathsheba, would die. God also promised that David's family would be devastated by violence.

LOQ: Did God forgive David for his sin?

Answer: Yes. Although there were great consequences for David's sin, such as his son's death, God forgave him and had mercy on him. After the death of David's son, God blessed David and Bathsheba with another son, named Solomon.

Summary

Ever since Adam sinned, every person who has lived has sinned except for Christ Jesus. Because of this sin, man is separated from God. Even though David was "a man after God's heart," he was still a man, and he sinned. His sin with Bathsheba stands out in biblical history as one that "displeased the LORD" (2 Sam. 11:27). Not only did David take the wife of Uriah and commit adultery with her, but he also committed murder to cover it up. Because of David's sin, there were devastating consequences on his family, beginning with the death of his newborn child. Even though it was a terrible crime, God was merciful to David and forgave him of his sin.

Application

David's life and sin are an example to every believer. They should be seen as a warning lest we also fall into temptation and sin. Although he was "a man after God's heart" and was blessed with all that he could desire, David still was susceptible to fall into sin. As temptations come into our lives each day, we should not think that we will be able to defeat them by our own strength, but instead we must trust God for the strength to be victorious over sin.

Presentation Ideas



A Beka Book Flash-A-Cards

Use appropriate A Beka Book Flash-A-Cards with the lesson.



Betty Lukens Flannelgraph

Use appropriate flannelgraph pieces with the lesson.



Nathan's Story

As a pre-lesson, read Nathan's story to David from 2 Samuel 12:1–4. Ask the students to judge the story, determining what was wrong from a biblical perspective. Read Exodus 22:1, which reveals the law about stealing and slaughtering sheep. Also talk about lust, coveting, greed, and loving and being kind to one another. Talk about the students' consciences, which help them. Talk about the difference between just knowing the law and obeying it (James 1:22). In today's lesson, we'll hear about King David's sin, which he lingered in, and how God's prophet Nathan told him this story to help him confess his sin and repent.



Repentance Required

David's sin provides a vivid picture of the effect of unrepentant sin. God's solution for sin is repentance—turning from sin and turning to God. This can be highlighted by stopping the lesson at various stages and asking the students what David should have done. You can then tell them what he actually did and how this resulted in even more sin and pain. At each point, David could and should have repented, and the downward spiral could have been halted.



The Gift of God's Grace

Despite David's sin and its consequences, God demonstrated His grace toward him. God granted him a son by Bathsheba who would be called Jedidiah, meaning "beloved of the LORD." After telling the story, a wrapped box can be brought out as a sign of God's grace toward David. The students will never be able to guess what God gave David to show His great mercy. Open the box and show them a baby inside, explaining the significance of the child's name. This is a wonderful opportunity to relate to the students the gift of God's own Son, who was given in order that we, too, might be restored to God.

Praise and Worship

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

God Is So Good

Grace Greater than Our Sin

I Will Sing of the Mercies

Praise Him, All Ye Little Children

Rejoice in the Lord Always

PRACTICE THE TRUTH

"That they may set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep His commandments" (Psalm 78:7).

Choose ideas from this section to review and apply the truths of the Bible lesson.



A Man after God's Own Heart Sins

Materials: copies of the "A Man after God's Own Heart Sins" craft pages; black, red, and yellow crayons; scissors; glue; hole puncher; key ring or paper clip

Directions: Give each student a copy of the craft pages, and instruct them to color the hearts according to the directions on the page. Then they can cut out the hearts (not cutting along the broken line of the red heart). Have them cut out the Bible verses and glue each one to the proper heart. Have the students put the hearts in the correct order. Demonstrate how to punch a hole in the upper left corner of each heart, and allow the students to do the same. Last, instruct the students to slide their hearts onto a key ring or paper clip.



Asking for Forgiveness Quickly

All people (except for Christ) have sinned. We all are guilty of sinning against a holy God. We will battle with our flesh nature until the day that we die. What should we do when we transgress God's Word? David is a good example for us of what not to do. David sinned against God but instead of confessing his sin and turning from it, he tried to cover up his sin by sinning more. What should David have done? David should have confessed his sin and turned from it instead of trying to hide it. Because he tried to hide his sin, he sinned even more greatly. God knows all that happens and sees when we sin. We can never hide anything from Him. When we sin against God, we must remember to confess our sin and turn from sinning any more.



Repentance versus Remorse

We often confuse remorse with repentance. They are two very different things but can seem very similar. Both a remorseful person and a repentant person may cry when caught in sin. Both may say that they are going to change—and both may actually do so. Outwardly, the two can seem very much alike. But the truth is that they are very different. When someone is caught in sin and stops what he is doing because of the consequence or because others are watching, this is remorse. But when someone stops what he is doing, is sorry for what he has done, and goes in another direction, this is repentance. It is an issue of the heart. What motivates the change is not what others think but a desire to please the holy God. Discuss with the students the difference between repentance and remorse. Help them to understand that when we are caught doing something wrong, it is important how we respond, how we change, and what the condition of our heart is.



More than Coloring

Materials: construction paper, scissors, pencil, crayons, glue, second coloring sheet
Directions: If time and resources permit, allow the students to add to their coloring page from today's lesson. Begin by giving each student a half-piece of construction paper. The paper should be large enough for them to trace their hand. Ask the students to trace their hand with a pencil and then cut out the paper hand. The students should then fold and glue down all the fingers except the index finger. It should look as though the hand is pointing. The students should then glue the hand to their coloring page so that the hand points up to David. Nathan said to David, "You are the man!" David was guilty of some terrible sin and he knew it.



The Name Game

The Lord's giving Solomon the special name Jedidiah ("beloved of the Lord") is a wonderful testimony to God's mercy. Print out the name Jedidiah in large letters, one copy for each group of students in your class. Cut out each letter in its own square. Tell the students that they have one minute to try to arrange the letters into the name Jedidiah (and make sure they don't look up the spelling!). Go around the room and tell each group how many letters they have correct, and then give them another minute to try to fix the spelling. When all the students get the name right or time runs out, end by reminding the students of how merciful God was to give Solomon, the son of David and Bathsheba, the name Jedidiah. Give older students additional words along with Jedidiah, such as "Solomon" or "Beloved."



"God Forgives David"

Use this work sheet to reinforce the key truths of today's lesson. The work sheet is located at the back of the lesson.



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Journal Page: "Consequences of Sin"

Give each student a copy of the journal page at the back of this lesson. The students can complete the page individually, in small groups, or at home.

Coloring Sheets

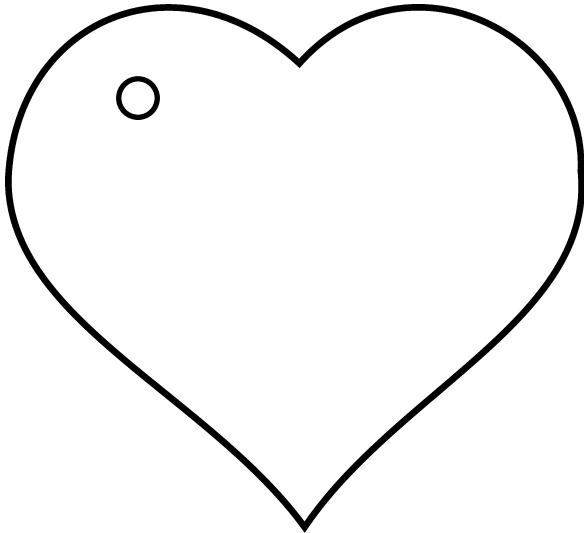
Give each student the coloring sheets from the back of the lesson. Students can color the pages in class or at home.



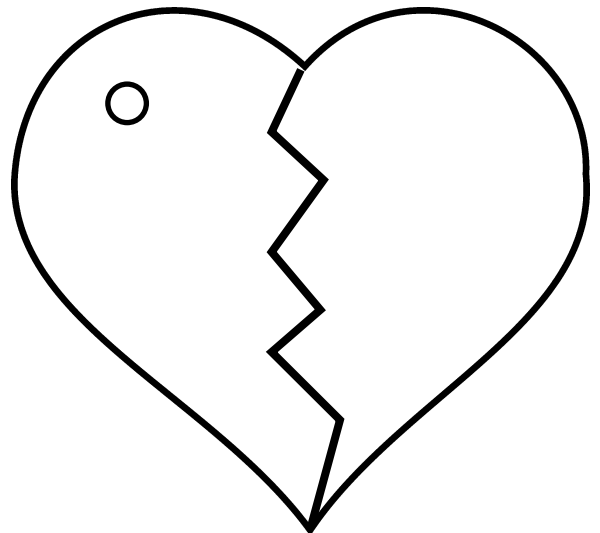
MEMORY VERSE

"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9).

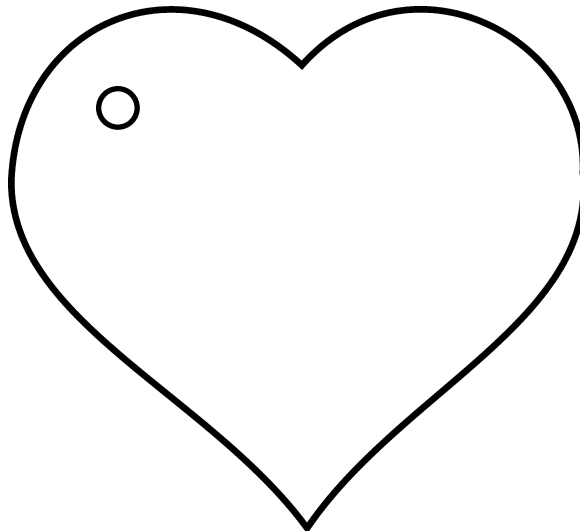
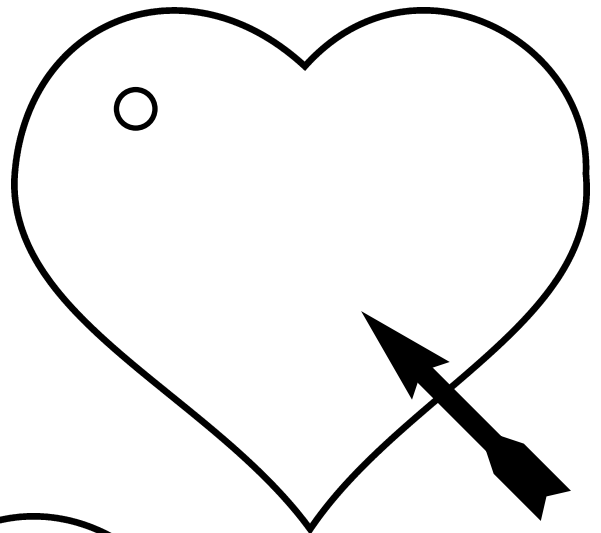
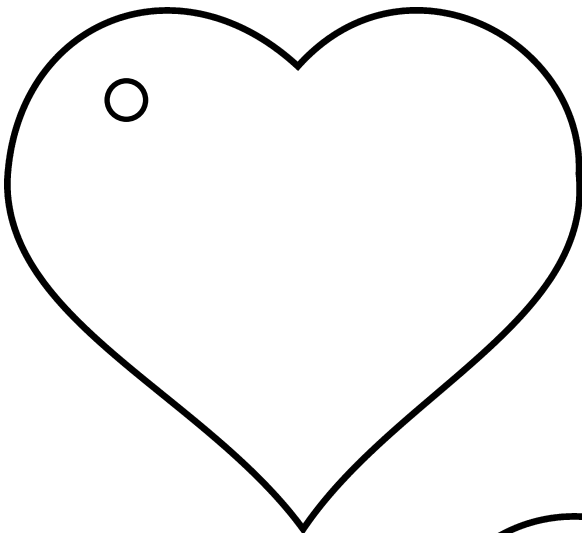
A Man after God's Own Heart Sins



Color this heart black.



Color this heart red.



Color this heart yellow.

A Man After God's Own Heart Sins

David Sins

"But the thing that David had done displeased the LORD" (2 Samuel 11:27b).

Glue to black heart.

David Repents

"The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit and a contrite heart" (Psalm 51:17).

Glue to red heart.

David Is Forgiven

"So David said to Nathan, 'I have sinned against the LORD, and Nathan said to David, 'The LORD also has put away your sin; you shall not die'" (2 Samuel 12:13).

Glue to white heart.

David Is Punished

"However...the child who is born to you shall surely die" (2 Samuel 12:14).

Glue to white heart with arrow.

David Is Blessed

"So she bore a son, and he called his name Solomon" (2 Samuel 12:24b).

Glue to yellow heart.

David Sins

"But the thing that David had done displeased the LORD" (2 Samuel 11:27b).

Glue to black heart.

David Repents

"The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit and a contrite heart" (Psalm 51:17).

Glue to red heart.

David Is Forgiven

"So David said to Nathan, 'I have sinned against the LORD, and Nathan said to David, 'The LORD also has put away your sin; you shall not die'" (2 Samuel 12:13).

Glue to white heart.

David Is Punished

"However...the child who is born to you shall surely die" (2 Samuel 12:14).

Glue to white heart with arrow.

David Is Blessed

"So she bore a son, and he called his name Solomon" (2 Samuel 12:24b).

Glue to yellow heart.

God *Forgives* David



2 Samuel 11–12

Name _____

1. Why was David's relationship with Bathsheba wrong? _____

2. David devised a plan to _____ Uriah (2 Sam. 11:14–17).
3. True or False: The thing David did pleased the Lord. _____
4. The Lord said that the _____ will never depart from David's house (2 Sam 12:10).
5. David confessed that he had _____ against the Lord (2 Sam. 12:13).
6. Who would die because of David's sin? _____
7. When David heard of his son's death, he _____ God (2 Sam. 12:20).
8. God showed mercy to David by giving him another son named _____.

Consequences of Sin

“David said to Nathan, ‘I have sinned against the LORD.’ And Nathan said to David, ‘The LORD also has put away your sin; you shall not die.’” (2 Samuel 12:13).

When you sing songs such as “The B-I-B-L-E” and “Thy Word,” you are exalting and honoring God’s Word, but did you know that when you knowingly sin, you are despising God’s Word? In today’s lesson, David is an example of someone who despised God’s Word. Even though he knew God’s commands, he chose sin over obedience. Look up the following verses to find out which commands of God David disregarded. Next to each verse, write which command was disobeyed and tell how David disobeyed it.

Exodus 20:17 _____

Exodus 20:14 _____

Exodus 20:13 _____

By David’s actions, he was saying that he valued his sin more than God’s Word—that is, he despised God’s Word. Just as David chose sin, so do children. How do children disobey God’s Word?

What should you do when you sin? To find out what David did, unscramble the following word:

ESSECFNOD _____

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Even though David confessed his sin, there were consequences. Sin has consequences. This is important to remember before you sin. Some people think that God is not punishing sin today because they see their friends getting away with sin. But God is keeping record of their sin, and He will hold them accountable when they stand before Him, if not before.

If you are a Christian, when you sin, you can be sure that God will discipline you because He loves you. In Hebrews 12, we are told that God disciplines His children. If God is not disciplining you and you are getting away with sin, maybe you are not one of His children. You need to talk to Him about this. Ask your parents or Sunday school teacher how you can become a child of God. If God has disciplined you, write about it in the space below.

Aren't you glad that God disciplines you? When He disciplines you, you are partaking of His holiness! If you respond to His discipline, He will not have to deal with you in a harsher way.

PRAYER

Thank God for loving you and for teaching you at a young age how to please Him. Ask Him to help you choose to obey His Word and not despise it. Pray for your friends who are getting away with sin, and ask that they will confess their sin and become children of God.

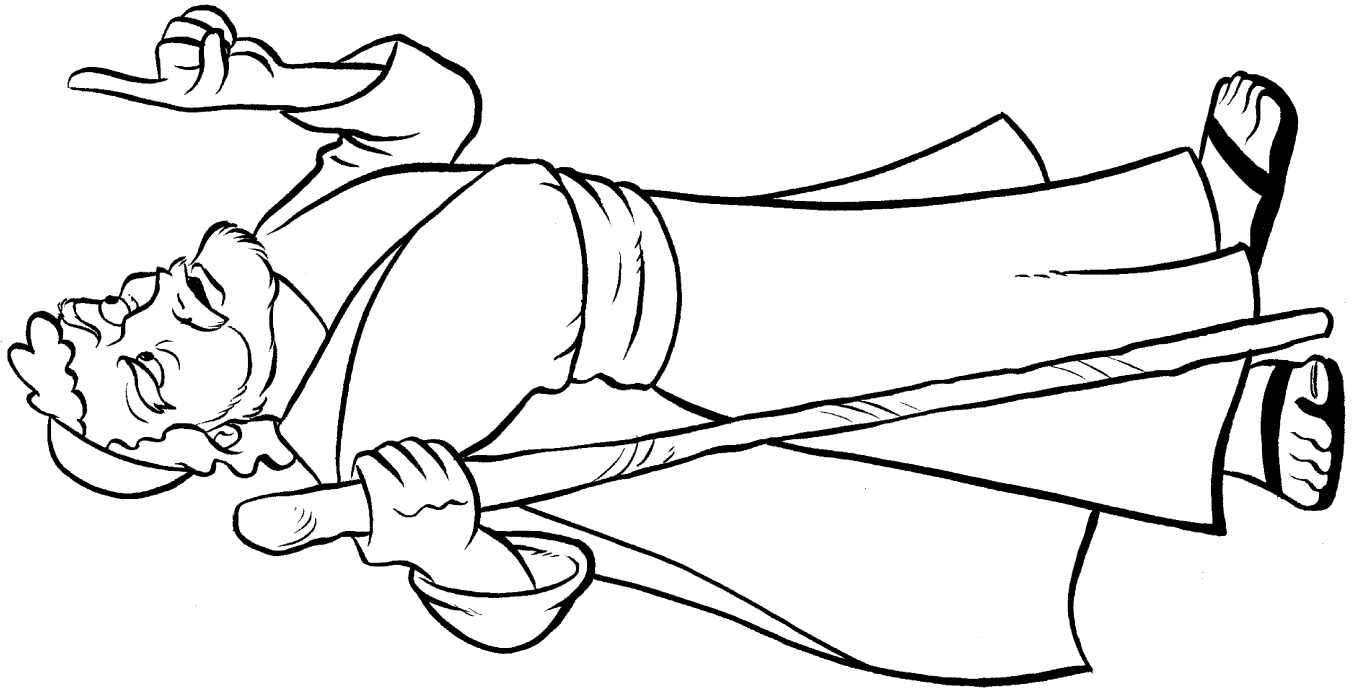
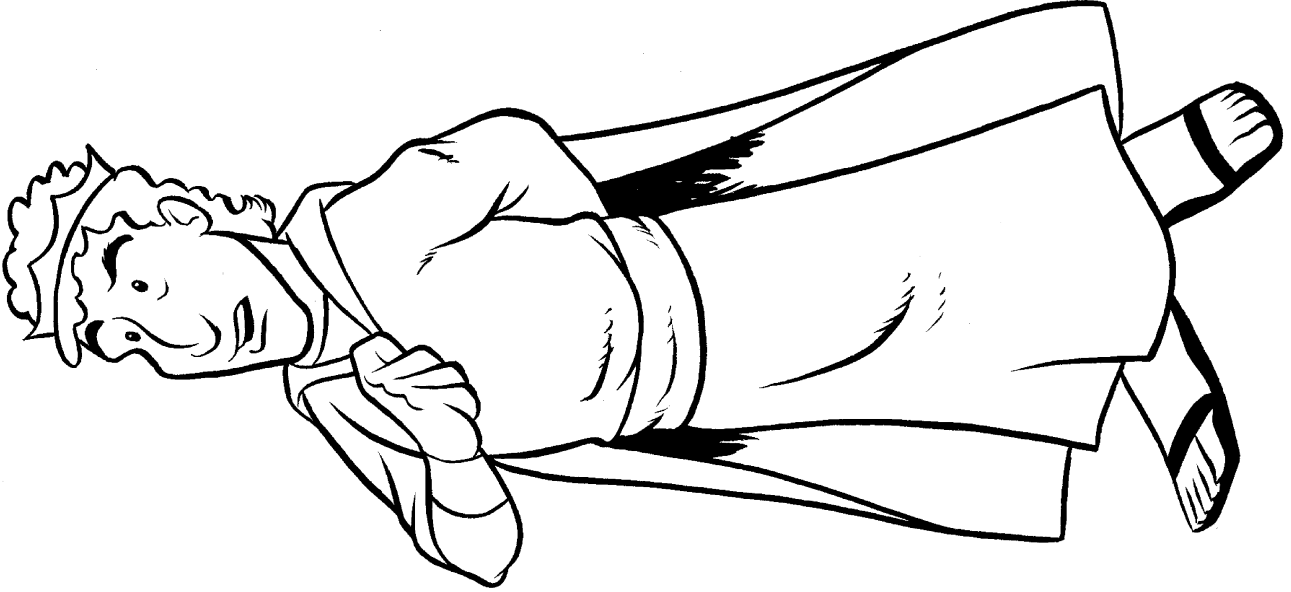
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“Set Uriah in the forefront of the hottest battle, and retreat from him, that he may be struck down and die” (2 Samuel 11:15).



“Then Nathan said to David, ‘You are the man!...Why have you despised the commandment of the LORD, to do evil in His sight?’” (2 Samuel 12:7, 9).

