



MOSAIC Gospel Project

Volume 4, Unit 11, Lesson 5: David Sinned and Was Restored

Bible Passage: 2 Samuel 11-12, Psalm 51

Personal Preparation

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 (2 Sam. 10:1-5). This began a war between the Israelites and the Ammonites. This context set 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 this 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.

Take time to confess your sin to God. Thank God for his forgiveness. Thank him for sending Jesus to cleanse us from our unrighteousness. Pray that the individuals would see their own sinfulness. Pray that they would rejoice in knowing that Jesus provides a way for us to be forgiven of all our sin.

Memory Verse

Begin the lesson by sharing the memory verse with the group.

Psalm 145:13

"For your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom. You rule throughout all generations. The Lord always keeps his promises; he is gracious in all he does."

Points of Emphasis

1. David repented and God forgave him.
2. Jesus perfectly rules over the universe as the King of kings.

Activity #1

Lead the group to begin working on the activity sheet. Feel free to let the individuals continue working as you teach the lesson.

Video

We learned a few weeks ago that God chose David to be king instead of Saul. Saul was jealous and angry about this, and he tried to kill David. David showed mercy even though Saul hated him. After Saul died, David became the king. God promised David that the Messiah would come from his family. Later, David showed kindness to Jonathan's son, even though he did not have to. After all these stories, it may seem like David—who was a great king—never made any mistakes. But let me assure you, only Jesus is perfect. Our story today is called “David Sinned and Was Restored.”

Play the video for the lesson titled “David Sinned and Was Restored.”

Bible Lesson

As you can see, David was far from perfect. When David tried to cover up his sin with Bathsheba, it led only to more sin—eventually, even the killing of Uriah, Bathsheba's husband. It is very scary to think about other people knowing the sinful things we do, but trying to cover up our sin is never the wise choice. David repented, and God forgave him.

In a way, we can think about sin as being darkness. Imagine a room that is completely dark, with no light at all. You wouldn't be able to see anything, so you might stumble, fall, or hurt yourself. You cannot get rid of a dark room by covering it with more darkness; the only way to get rid of a dark room is to shine light into it. Then it won't be dark anymore! Jesus said that he is the light of the world. That helps us understand that only Jesus can get rid of sin. When Jesus enters into a sinner's life, he lights it up, forcing out sin.

Even after we have faith in Jesus, we still make sinful choices sometimes. That's kind of like trying to cover up the sun with your hand; it may cast a shadow, but it doesn't remove the light. When we confess our sin, it's like moving your hand away so the sun can shine warmly on your face again. Sin always has consequences, but Jesus rescues us from the punishment we deserve.

Activity #2

Guide the group to finish working on the activity sheet. Review the memory verse with the group and help them learn it. Encourage the individuals to write the verse using the Velcro pictures.

Christ Connection

Sin always comes with a price. God spared David's life, but David's son died. Even David, one of the greatest of Israel's kings and a man after God's own heart, was a sinner in need of salvation.

The Bible says we are all sinners. Because of our sin, we deserve death. But we can receive God's forgiveness because God sent his Son, Jesus, to pay the price for our sin. Jesus died the death we deserve so that we could be made right with God.

Review Questions

(Optional: Play the Questions from Kids (QFK) video to continue the discussion on David's sin and restoration. Today's episode asks if God always forgives.)

Group A

Early Learner

Encourage the individuals to point to the pictures provided or to draw in order to answer these questions.

1. Who did David bring to his house when the men were off at war? Bathsheba
2. Who was Bathsheba's husband? Uriah
3. Who became pregnant with David's baby? Bathsheba

4. **Who did David send to the worst part of the battle so that he would die?** Uriah
5. **Who repented of his sin after talking to Nathan the prophet?** David
6. **Who forgave David?** God
7. **Did David's sin have consequences?** Yes

Group B

1. **Where was David when he saw Bathsheba?** On the roof of the palace, not at war with his army
2. **How did David try to cover his sin with Bathsheba?** First, David tried to get Uriah to come be with his wife. Then David decided to get Uriah killed in battle.
3. **What did David say about the rich man in Nathan's story?** He deserved to die.
4. **What do you think David meant when he wrote that he had sinned against God alone?** God is our Creator and King. He is the one who makes all the rules, so all our sin is against him. Our wrong actions against God are the most serious part of our sin because God is the perfect Creator and King of the universe.
5. **If God always knows our sin, why do you think confession and repentance are so important?** Define confession as "the act of admitting our sin to God or others." Remind the individuals that repentance is turning away from sin and turning to Jesus. Confession helps us to see that we need God, and repentance is the act of turning to him for salvation.
6. **Do you have any sins in your life that you are trying to hide from God or other people?** Help the individuals think honestly about their life. If they choose to confess something, listen graciously, thank them for their honesty, and pray with them that God will begin healing the damage sin causes in our lives.

Group C

1. **In Psalm 51, what did David ask God to do?** Suggest the individuals find Psalm 51 in their Bibles. Help them identify David's requests: "be gracious," "blot out my rebellion," "wash away my guilt," "cleanse me," "purify me," "create a clean heart,"

and so forth. Emphasize that God is willing to do all of these things when we repent of our sin and turn to him!

2. **Do you ever try to hide your sin? Why?** Lead the individuals to discuss reasons we try to hide our sin from others or from God. We try to avoid shame, consequences, or embarrassment. We may be able to hide our sin from other people, but God sees our sin. He knows our hearts, and he sent his Son to be our Rescuer.
3. **Why can God forgive us?** Though we may face consequences for our sin, those who trust in Jesus will never be separated from God. God sent his Son, Jesus, to pay the penalty for our sin. Jesus died on the cross and rose again. Though our bodies may die, we have forgiveness and life with God forever.

Group D

Advanced Learner

1. **What does this story teach us about God?** God sees all of our sin.
2. **How did David react when he realized God knew his sin?** God sent the prophet Nathan to confront David. Nathan told David a story, but David didn't realize that the story was actually about him. David was the man who had taken something that was not for him. David was sorry for his sin. He repented, and God forgave him. In Psalm 51, David asked God to give him a clean heart.
3. **Does God always forgive?**
4. **Why can it be difficult to believe we are fully forgiven by God?**

Prayer

God, you are so good. You pour out your mercy on undeserving sinners, and we are thankful. We can turn from sin and turn to you, knowing that we will find forgiveness through Jesus. God, make us truly sorrowful over our sin. Like David wrote, give us clean hearts. We love you. Amen.

