



UNIT 11 | SESSION 4

# DAVID SINNED AND WAS RESTORED

2 SAMUEL 11-12; PSALM 51

**CHRIST CONNECTION:** When David was sorry and repented of his sin, God forgave him. God wants us to be sorry for our sin and trust in Jesus, who died to rescue us from sin. When we do, He forgives all our sin.

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

**KEY PASSAGE:** Jeremiah 10:6

**STORY POINT:** David sinned and asked God for forgiveness.



## 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 our 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 preschoolers 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 preschoolers and open the session



#### LEARN

##### 25–30 MINUTES

Teach preschoolers the story of the gospel



#### LOVE

##### 15–20 MINUTES

Lead preschoolers to love the God of the gospel



#### LIVE

##### 15–20 MINUTES

Lead preschoolers to live 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, Allergy Alert, construction paper, copy paper, washable markers, crayons, blunt-tipped scissors, glue sticks, glue, tape, blocks, baby dolls, play dough, world map, snacks, paper cups, napkins.



### WELCOME

#### Welcome

- "You Are Great (Jeremiah 10:6)" song

#### Activity Page

- "Find the Lamb" Activity Page, 1 per child

#### Collect sheep

- cotton balls
- tongs
- bowl

#### Transition

- countdown video (optional)



### LOVE

#### Snack and talk

- hand sanitizer (optional)
- Bible Story Picture Poster
- Big Picture Question Poster

#### Fluff a sheep

- "Fluffy Lamb" printable on heavyweight paper, 1 per child
- cotton balls or craft pom-poms
- paper plates



### LIVE

#### Dance with scarves

- scarves or crepe paper streamers
- device that plays music
- "You are Great (Jeremiah 10:6)" song (optional)

#### Connect the hearts

- different-colored construction paper, 6 pieces

#### Spell with alphabet blocks

- index cards
- alphabet blocks
- letter tiles (optional)

#### Transition

- coloring page, 1 per child
- "You Are Great (Jeremiah 10:6)" song
- Big Picture Cards for Families



### LEARN

#### Learn about the Bible

- bookmark
- Giant Timeline or Small Group Timeline

#### Tell the Bible story

- Bible Story Picture Poster
- "David Sinned and Was Restored" video (optional)
- storytelling tips props (optional)

#### Review the Bible story

- cotton balls, 1 per child
- basket

#### Practice the key passage

- Key Passage Marker
- Key Passage Poster
- "You Are Great (Jeremiah 10:6)" song

#### Learn the Big Picture Question

- Big Picture Question Poster

#### Missions moment

- "I Have a Mission" missions video



## WELCOME Preschoolers

Post an Allergy Alert, if needed. Set out supplies to engage preschoolers as they arrive. Play music as you welcome preschoolers. Greet children by name at eye level. Follow your church's security procedures.

### 1 ACTIVITY PAGE

Lead preschoolers to complete "Find the Lamb" on the Activity Page.

**SAY** 🗨️ Great job finding the baby lamb among all the sheep! Today in our story, Nathan told David a story about a time when a poor man's only lamb was stolen by someone who had many sheep. Let's learn what Nathan meant in our story today. 🗨️

### 2 SESSION STARTER

Use one or both of the following options to engage curiosity about today's Bible story.

#### MODEL REPENTANCE



Explain that *repent* means turning away from sin. Choose a preschooler to stand up and begin walking in one direction. Instruct them to turn around and go in the opposite direction when you say the word "repent." Continue calling on children to stand until every child is participating.

**SAY** 🗨️ Sin is disobeying God. We all sin and are going toward sin until we choose to repent, or turn around, and go the other way. In today's Bible story, David needed to repent of his wrong choices. **DAVID SINNED AND ASKED GOD FOR FORGIVENESS.** 🗨️

#### COLLECT SHEEP

Place cotton balls on the floor around the classroom. Show preschoolers how to pick up the cotton balls with the tongs. For preschoolers having difficulty using tongs, suggest they pinch and pick up the cotton balls with their index finger and thumb. Consider placing a bowl on a table for children to place the collected cotton balls. Once all of the cotton balls have been collected, lead preschoolers to scatter the cotton balls around the room and repeat the activity.

**SAY** 🗨️ These cotton balls remind me of sheep. In our Bible story today, Nathan told a story about a rich man who took the only lamb a poor man had. David was like the rich man. God had made David king and had given him what he needed, but David took what was not his. **DAVID SINNED AND ASKED GOD FOR FORGIVENESS.** 🗨️

### 3 TRANSITION TO LEARN

Gain preschoolers' attention by showing the countdown video, turning the lights off and on, or clapping a simple rhythm for children to copy. Invite preschoolers to bow their heads as they transition to *Learn*.

Transition from **WELCOME** to **LEARN**





## LEARN the Bible Story

### 1 INTRODUCE THE BIBLE STORY

Remind preschoolers that sin is breaking God's rules. Tell preschoolers an age-appropriate story of a time you sinned and how God forgave you.

**SAY** “ We all sin and make wrong choices. I’m so thankful God sent His Son, Jesus, to take the punishment for our sin. When we choose to trust and follow Jesus, God forgives our sin. In today’s Bible story we will hear about a time King David made a wrong choice. **DAVID SINNED AND ASKED GOD FOR FORGIVENESS.** ”

### 2 LEARN ABOUT THE BIBLE

Place a bookmark at 2 Samuel 11 in your Bible. Invite a preschooler to open it. Reverently display the open Bible.

**SAY** “ Today we will read a story from the Old Testament part of the Bible. Our story is found in 2 Samuel, chapter 11. The big 11 is called the chapter [**Point 2 Samuel 11 in your Bible.**], and the little numbers are called verses. ”

Point to the Bible story picture on the Giant Timeline or Small Group Timeline. Remind children that all the stories in the Bible fit together to tell an even bigger story. The Bible tells us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

### 3 TELL THE BIBLE STORY

Tell the following Bible story using the provided storytelling tips or show the video. Use the bold version of the Bible story for younger preschoolers.

#### DAVID SINNED AND WAS RESTORED

“ Instead of going to war with his soldiers like most kings, David, the king of Israel, stayed home. One evening, he saw a lady named Bathsheba. David wanted her to come to his palace even though Bathsheba was married to Uriah.

David made a bad plan. He sent Uriah to the front of the battle, where it was dangerous, so Uriah would get hurt. Uriah did get hurt, and he died.

Then David married Bathsheba, and she had a baby. What David did was very wrong, David sinned, and God knew about it.

God sent the prophet Nathan to talk to David. Nathan told David a story. Nathan said, “There was a rich man and a poor man. The rich man had lots of sheep, but the poor man had just one lamb that he loved very much. When the rich man needed a lamb to prepare for a meal, he took the lamb from the poor man.”

This story made David angry. Then Nathan said, “You are the rich man in the story. You took something that wasn’t yours, and that was wrong.”

David felt sorry for his sin. He repented to God, and God forgave him.



## LEARN

### THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

After that, **David** wrote a song to God. He **asked God to forgive him** and make him clean inside. **He promised to teach others about God's love.** ”

#### 4 CHRIST CONNECTION

**SAY** “ When David was sorry and repented of his sin, God forgave him. God wants us to be sorry for our sin and trust in Jesus, who died to rescue us from sin. When we do, He forgives all our sin. ”

#### 5 REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY

Distribute a cotton ball to each child. Tell them this is a “sheep.” Tell preschoolers you need their help to get all the sheep back to their pen (basket). Invite preschoolers to take turns sharing something they remember from the Bible story as they walk, hop, or tip toe to the basket with their sheep.

**SAY** “ **DAVID SINNED AND ASKED GOD FOR FORGIVENESS.** Did God forgive him? (Yes) David wrote a song to praise God. Just like David, God will forgive us too if we believe in Him and repent of our sin. Because Jesus died and rose again for us, God can make our hearts clean, like He did for David. ”

#### 6 PRACTICE THE KEY PASSAGE

Place the Key Passage Marker at Jeremiah 10:6. Invite a child to open your Bible to the key passage. Read the key passage aloud. Encourage preschoolers to recite the key passage by memory. Assist preschoolers as needed. Celebrate that the children memorized the key passage.

**SAY** “ God is greater than everything, and God's way is always the right way. When David sinned, he did things his own way, but he realized that he was wrong and that God's way is right. **DAVID SINNED AND ASKED GOD FOR FORGIVENESS.** God is so loving, He will forgive all of us when we trust and believe in His Son, Jesus. ”

Sing the key passage song, “You Are Great (Jeremiah 10:6).” You may also choose to sing a worship song of your choice.

#### STORYTELLING TIPS

**Listen closely:** Lead preschoolers to form a crown on their heads with their hands each time you say “David.”

**Mark the heart:** Draw a heart on a piece of paper. Insert the paper into a plastic sleeve. As you tell the story, mark the inside of the heart with a black dry erase marker. Erase the marks when David is forgiven at the end of the story.



## LEARN

### THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

#### 7 LEARN THE BIG PICTURE QUESTION AND ANSWER

**SAY** “ Our big picture question asks, **Is anything greater than God? No, God is greater than everything.** When David sinned, he choose to disobey God’s rules. Sin separates us from God. But God is more powerful than sin! God had a plan to save David and other sinners by sending Jesus to die for sins and rise again. Jesus’ resurrection shows He is greater than the power of sin and death. God is greater than anything, and nothing can stop His plans! ”

#### 8 MISSIONS MOMENT

Comment that missionary Bennett Ekandem came to America from his home country of Nigeria, because he felt God leading him to work with kids from other countries who needed help with their homework and tell them about Jesus. Show the “I Have a Mission” missions video.

**SAY** “ Missionary Bennett Ekandem began an after-school ministry in Clarkston, Georgia. He knew the kids needed help with their homework after school because their parents cannot speak or read English to help them. ”

Pray for Bennett, his wife, and the helpers in the ministry as they tell the children who have moved to Clarkston from other countries about Jesus.

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





THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

## LOVE God because of what we learned

### 1 PRAY

Invite preschoolers to close their eyes and think about God as they talk with Him.

**SAY** “ God, thank You for being greater than anything. We are sorry for the times we do not obey You. Please forgive us, and help us make right choices. Thank You for sending Jesus to save us from our sin. We love You. Amen. ”

### 2 SNACK AND TALK

Post an Allergy Alert. Wash hands or use hand sanitizer. Serve a snack. Show the Bible Story Picture Poster as you ask the following questions. Retell parts of the Bible story as needed.

**SAY** “ What was your favorite part of today’s Bible story? ”

**SAY** “ What did you learn about God in today’s Bible story? ”

**SAY** “ What did David do when he realized he had sinned? ”

**SAY** “ Is anything greater than God? No, God is greater than everything. ”

### 3 FLUFF A LAMB

Print the “Fluffy Lamb” printable on heavyweight paper, one per child. Distribute a printable and cotton balls or craft pom-poms to preschoolers. Set plates of liquid glue on the table. Demonstrate how to dip the cotton ball in the glue and then stick it to the body of the lamb. Lead children to fill their lamb with cotton balls.

**SAY** “ You made a cute, fluffy, little lamb. What does a lamb say? Today in our Bible story, the prophet Nathan told David a story about a time when a poor man’s only lamb was stolen by a rich man who had many sheep. Nathan told David he was like the rich man because he took something that did not belong to him. **DAVID SINNED AND ASKED GOD FOR FORGIVENESS.** God forgave David. When we repent, God forgives us too! ”

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





## THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

### LIVE for God out of love

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- 1 Choose the activities that best fit your group, space, available resources, and time constraints. Set up activities in one of these ways: as a group—all at the same time, in small groups that rotate through each activity, or set up as centers—allowing preschoolers to browse and choose.

#### FIND THE DIFFERENCE



Instruct the preschoolers to close their eyes as you change one thing about your appearance (take off a bracelet, tie up your hair, take off a shoe, and so forth). Invite the preschoolers to open their eyes and guess what you changed. Play as many rounds as time allows.

**SAY** “You did a great job playing our game! Was it hard to spot the differences sometimes? **[Allow responses.]** We do not see everything, but God does. He knows everything about us and everything we do. He sees our sin, even when we think no one else does. God sent Jesus because we all need to be saved from our sin. When we repent, or turn from our sin, God forgives us.”

#### DANCE WITH SCARVES

Provide preschoolers scarves or crepe paper streamers. Play instrumental music or the key passage song, “You Are Great (Jeremiah 10:6).” Include a variety of worship music while preschoolers move and dance. Some musical selections should be slow, others fast. Allow preschoolers to dance as the music makes them feel.

**SAY** “People can use music to help others know what they are feeling. David wrote a song. In his song, he told God he was sorry for disobeying Him. **DAVID SINNED AND ASKED GOD FOR FORGIVENESS.** God wants us to be sorry for our sin and trust in Jesus, who died to rescue us from sin. When we do, He forgives all our sin. What are some ways we can praise God and obey Him?”



## THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

### CONNECT THE HEARTS

Before the session, gather six different-colored pieces of construction paper, and cut them into heart shapes. Cut each heart in half to make puzzle pieces, and lay the pieces on a table. Encourage the preschoolers to find and match the halves of the hearts. (Note: For an added challenge, cut the hearts into three-or four-piece puzzles.)

**SAY** “ Great job putting the hearts back together! These hearts make me think of love. When **DAVID SINNED AND ASKED GOD FOR FORGIVENESS**, God forgave David because He loved him. God loves and wants to forgive you too! That is why He sent His Son, Jesus, to die on the cross and come back to life. ”

### SPELL WITH ALPHABET BLOCKS

Write the words SIN, REPENT, FORGIVE, and LOVE on index cards, one word per card. Place letter blocks and cards on a table. Read the words to the preschoolers. Give each preschooler a prepared card. Invite them to select letter blocks to form their selected words, using the cards as guides. As the children work, talk about the words and how they relate to the Bible story. (Note: Letter tiles could be used in place of letter blocks.)

**SAY** “ You spelled the words sin, repent, forgive, and love. **DAVID SINNED AND ASKED GOD FOR FORGIVENESS**. David made a wrong choice and told God he was sorry. David repented, or turned away from his sin and chose to follow God. God forgave David’s sin because He loved him. God wants us to be sorry for our sin and trust in Jesus, who died to rescue us from sin. When we do, He forgives all our sin. ”

### 2 TRANSITION

Invite preschoolers to complete their coloring pages. Consider leading preschoolers to sing the key passage song or involving them in a simple game to practice the key passage or big picture question. If parents are picking up children at this time, tell them something that their child enjoyed doing or did well during the session. Give parents the completed Activity Page. Distribute the Big Picture Cards for Families. Encourage parents to review the Bible story and engage with the family discussion starters during the week.