

**STORY**

David and Bathsheba - II Samuel 11:1-12:25

**TEACHER PRAYER**

O dearest Jesus, we daily sin much in thought, word, and deed. We so desperately need You for a Savior. You lived that perfect life which we could never live, keeping the commandments perfectly. You also suffered and died for all the sins of all mankind. Forgive our sins, O Savior, and help us to ever amend our sinful lives according to Your holy Word. Amen.

**VOCABULARY****OUTER AIM**

David's fall into sin and his repentance

**INNER AIM**

The snowball effect of sin

**BACKGROUND**

*(Rupprecht, Bible History References, Vol. 1, pp. 311-315)*

David was a mighty king for Israel. The Lord was with him and blessed him richly. One neighboring enemy after another was defeated and subdued by David and his army. Israel had become a great nation, richly blessed by the Lord. Not only was David concerned about the temporal welfare of his people but the spiritual as well. To this end, inspired by the Holy Spirit, David wrote many a psalm. In those beautiful psalms we find prayers, hymns, and prophecies. David, indeed, was a great king, a man of great faith; but he was not without sin. The devil led David into temptation, and he committed two terrible sins-adultery and murder.

Chapter 11 - David's Fall

vs. 1 Usually the king personally led his army into battle. On this occasion, David didn't. The Ammonites were descendants of Lot. Rabbah was their capital.

vs. 2 It was a flat roof.

vs. 3 Uriah was one of David's commanders in his army.

vs. 4 David committed adultery.

vs. 6 Uriah was called back from the battle.

vs. 8-9 David attempted to cover up his sin with Bathsheba by having Uriah return home for a few days so he could spend time with Bathsheba and Uriah might think the baby was his. The plan didn't work; Uriah didn't go home to Bathsheba.

vs. 12-13 David again attempted to cover up his sin by getting Uriah drunk and hoping he would go home to Bathsheba. This plan, too, didn't work.

vs. 15-17 David's third attempt to cover his sin was to have Uriah killed in battle.

vs. 18 Joab, David's commander-in-chief, shared in David's sin.



vs. 25 David was very cold about his sin and its seriousness. He pretended it never happened. He hoped all would view it simply as an act of war.

vs. 26-27 Bathsheba was not innocent in this case either. She was an active partner in the seduction and the adultery. David thought no one knew about his sins, but the Lord knew.

### Chapter 12 - David's Repentance

vs. 1-9 Nathan the prophet confronts David with his sin. He tells a little parable to get David's attention. David was the rich man in the parable; Uriah was the poor man.

vs. 10-12 The Lord's prophet reveals the consequences of David's grievous sins. There was to be fighting and killing and turmoil within David's house as long as he reigned as king.

vs. 13-14 David confesses his great sins, and Nathan immediately assures him of God's forgiveness. The prophet also reveals that David's son with Bathsheba would die.

vs. 23b David's faith in the resurrection of the dead and the life everlasting is clearly revealed.

vs. 24 The name Solomon means "peaceful."

### **STUDENT PRAYER**

Lord God, heavenly Father, we must confess our many, many sins. We so often do what we shouldn't, and we so often don't do what we should. We daily sin much in thought, word, and deed. We deserve only Your wrath and punishment. O Lord, forgive our many sins and help us live our lives unto You. For Jesus' sake. Amen.

### **PRESENTATION**

Point out that David was a great king. He did many good things for Israel. Scripture describes him as "a man after God's own heart." He was very concerned about both the temporal and spiritual welfare of his people. He was also blessed with the gift of spiritual song and prophecy. He was inspired by the holy Spirit to write and record many hymns and prayers in the Book of Psalms.

David, however, was not beyond temptation and sin. The devil succeeded in leading him into two grievous sins-adultery and murder. By God's grace, he was later brought to repentance and restored to God's family. Some of his greatest psalms reflect his experiences.

### **APPLICATIONS**

None of us is immune to temptation. If great men of faith like David succumbed, so can we. It's important that our sins, no matter how great, can be forgiven. "The blood of Jesus Christ, God's Son, cleanses us from all sin."

This lesson demonstrates how one sin can lead to another. We can clearly see in this lesson the snowball effect of sin.

This lesson also reveals that "where sin abounded, grace did much more abound."

Finally, we can see that even though our sins can be forgiven, they often carry with them certain consequences.

## **PASSAGES**

These passages can be assigned as memory work or simply discussed in class as to how they fit the lesson.

### Lower

Isaiah 1:18 - Come now, and let us reason together, says the Lord. Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall be as wool.

John 1:29 - Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!

Romans 3:23-24 - For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.

Romans 5:20 - But where sin abounded, grace abounded much more.

Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 8:1 - There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.”

Ephesians 1:7 - In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace.

I Timothy 2:4 - God our Savior desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

I Peter 1:5 - You are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

I Peter 5:8-9 - Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. Resist him, steadfast in the faith.

II Peter 3:9 - The Lord is not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

I John 2:1-2 - If anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world.

Middle any of the above and...

Upper any of the above and...

## **HYMN CHOICES**

“Jesus Sinners Doth Receive” (TLH #324:1)

“Rock Of Ages, Cleft For Me” (TLH #376)

“Lord, We Confess Our Numerous Faults” (TLH #382)

“Just As I Am, Without One Plea” (TLH #388)

“Blessed Are The Sons Of God” (TLH #391)

“Renew Me, O Eternal Light” (TLH #398)

“Oh, That The Lord Would Guide My Ways” (TLH #416)

“Rise, My Soul, To Watch And Pray” (TLH #446)