Date | November 7, 2021 Family Theme | Necessity of Repentance Study Text | 2 Samuel 11:1 – 12:25

Objective: Children understand the high cost of sin and turn away from all sinful practices.

How This Lesson Fits in the Story of the Bible: This lesson is set around 995 BC, later in David's reign as king of Israel. This account illustrates the truth that all have sinned and fallen short of God's perfect standard.

Bible Basics: Review 1 John 1:9 this week and work with family members to do so as well.

Read the Word: 2 Samuel 11:1-12:25

Disciple Your Kids

Talk with your children or grandchildren about how we all sin, and sin brings consequences. Encourage them to acknowledge their sin to God and to turn away from it.



Key Truth: No One Is Above Falling Into Sin (2 Samuel 11:1-27)

David remained in Jerusalem while the army went to fight the Ammonites. His palace looked down on the rest of the city. One evening, he noticed a woman bathing. Instead of turning away, he indulged his unhealthy lust. He eventually sent for her and slept with her. When she later sent word that she was pregnant, David tried to hide his sin. First, he brought her husband Uriah back from battle in hopes that he would go home to his wife. But Uriah would not rejoin his family as long as his comrades in arms were separated from theirs. David's next plan took him from lust and adultery to murder. He sent a sealed message via Uriah to Joab, the commander of the army: Put Uriah into the most deadly part of the combat, and withdraw so that he dies in battle. With Uriah dead, David legally married Bathsheba, the grieving widow of a brave warrior. It seems inconceivable that David, the man after God's own heart (Acts 13:22), could undertake such a spiral of lust, adultery, and murder — yet he did. We must not let down our guard regarding temptation.



Key Truth: Our Sin Must Be Dealt With (2 Samuel 12:1-9)

Despite David's efforts to cover his sin, he could not hide it from God. God sent Nathan, the prophet, to confront David. Nathan got his point across with a brief parable. It described an obvious injustice: a rich man with many sheep took by force the one lamb a poor man possessed in order to entertain a traveler. Nathan declared that David had done what that rich man did in the parable. This was a despicable act from a privileged recipient of God's blessings. It was time for David to take his sinful misconduct as seriously as God did.



Key Truth: Repentance and Confession Result in Forgiveness, but Do Not Negate All of Sin's Consequences (2 Samuel 12:10-25)

The punishment would fit the crime: David had ripped apart Uriah's family by the sword — the sword would rip apart his own family. He had violated Uriah's wife. David's own son would violate his wives. David had sinned in secret, but these acts would be open to all the people. To his credit, David did not rebel; he

acknowledged his sin. God forgave, and let him live. Yet David's sin would have consequences. The ill-conceived son would die. God showed grace to Bathsheba, too. She bore David other children, one of whom they named Solomon. Sin carries consequences. David wrecked his family. Several died. Yet God was gracious and continued to work through David and his son Solomon. The principle holds true today as well. We are not exempt from the consequences of our sin. Neither are we excluded, however, from God's grace and promises.

Discussion Starters

Use one or more of the following questions as discussion starters with your kids this week.

- What is repentance?
- · Why is repentance necessary when we have sinned?
- Why is it true that no one is above falling into sin?
- What can we do to help us be on guard against temptation?
- What could we do to avoid being tempted in the first place?
- What can we do to keep from giving in to temptation when it strikes?
- · How will you avoid putting yourself in a position in which you would likely be tempted this week?
- How will you plan this week to overcome a temptation that you often deal with?
- For Elementary: How can learning about the wrong choices that David a man after God's own heart —
 made remind us to constantly be on guard against Satan's temptations?
- For Elementary: Why is repentance necessary when we have sinned?

Everyday Extras

Ask your children to undo something. Start with a reasonable request: Would you please untie this knot? Would you please restack these magazines? But move to more difficult situations: Would you please un-burn this toast? Would you please un-spill this juice? We cannot fix some problems; what is done is done. We can be sorry for the situation, and we can try not to let it happen again. Here's the good news about God. When we trust Him and turn away from our sins, He will forgive us — every time, no matter what (1 John 1:9).

This week, when someone needs to repent, ask that family member to do more than saying "I'm sorry." Ask that person to give or give up something to show their repentance. Here are some ideas: give up half your dessert, give up screen time, give time reading to someone else, give a music recital. Help your children express their repentance in memorable ways.

Preschool Highlights for SQUARE & ROUND

Today your child learned a parable Jesus told His followers about a shepherd who had 100 sheep, but lost one. He left the 99 to search for the one. When the shepherd found it, he celebrated with his neighbors. We are like the sheep, and Jesus is our Shepherd. Jesus celebrates when we are found because **We Are Special to God**.