

BRINGING THE STORY HOME

Week of December 03, 2017

Timeless Truth: God is just and forgiving.

Bible Basis: Psalm 51:1-2; 1 Chronicles 29:1-20; 2 Samuel 11 & 12

The Story for Kids Weekly Reading:

Chapter 12 A King Makes Bad Choices

Memory Verse: “Turn from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it.”

Psalm 34:14



TABLE TALK

NOTE: These questions are designed to help prompt discussion among a wide range of ages. Please adapt them as they best fit YOUR family.

- **The prophet Nathan came to let David know that God knew about David's sin. David was embarrassed and felt awful. Have you ever sinned and tried to hide it? What happened? (As a parent, if you have a story to tell about your childhood, please share it here.)**
- **Talk about what it feels like when you're trying to hide something that you've done. How does it make you feel?**
- **What's the best thing to do when you mess up?**
- **David is known as a man after God's own heart. Why do you think that is?**
- **Regardless of what was going on in David's life, he never stopped talking to God. How do we know that we can always talk to God no matter what?**

EXTRA MILE

You'll need waxed paper, a tube of frosting, a rolling pin, and sugar cookie dough for this activity. The slice-and-bake dough from the store will work or you can make dough the night before and have it chilling in the refrigerator.

When you're ready, gather your family in the kitchen and ask: "Have you ever done or said something and then said, 'I wish I could take that back'?" David certainly did. Sometimes he did boneheaded things and wished he could turn back time.

Put out the waxed paper, tube of frosting, and rolling pin. Ask for a volunteer. Have that family member try to get all of the frosting out of the tube and onto the waxed paper by squeezing, crushing, and using the rolling pin. When they are finished say, "OK, now get all of the frosting back in the tube."

Just like it's impossible to reverse time and take back sin, it's impossible to get the frosting back in the tube. Talk about the importance of thinking before you act and trying to always follow God's will and teaching with your words and actions. As you talk, take out the cookie dough. Roll and bake cookies, using the frosting to decorate them. Point out that God can use the mistakes in our life to make something sweet. God will always forgive when we honestly ask him for forgiveness. He wants us to serve him with our whole heart.

PRAYER TIME

Dear God, thank you for always being with me and thank you for loving me no matter what! When I mess up, please help me remember to tell you that I am sorry and to look for how you might take my mistake and turn it into something good. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.



The Story for Kids 3x Week Reading Plan

DAY 1

Reading: *Turning Around*, pg 84 – pg 86 (blue–pg 99 - pg 101) (3 1/2 mins)

This reading covers: Psalm 51

Summary: When told about his sin, David tells God he is sorry and is going to change.

Do together: Draw the outline of a tee shirt. Write “S I N” on the front of the shirt. Then with Liquid Paper, correction fluid or tape, or a white crayon, cover up the letters so that they can no longer be seen.

Think about: Tell everyone about a time you spill some food on your clothes or played outside and got them muddy. What did you have to do to get them clean? David wrote a song after he realized he had made a mistake with Bathsheba. He sort of compares his sin to dirt and to God’s forgiveness as washing him clean. When you tell God you are dirty (sorry that you have sinned) and ask him to wash you clean (forgive you) will he do it?

Also read: Psalm 32:5; 1 John 1:9

Prayer: Father, when I do things you don’t want me to do, make me realize it so I want to do better. Thank you for always forgiving me when I confess to you that I am honestly sorry. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

DAY 2

Reading: *Giving Freely*, page 87 – top of pg 39 (blue- pg 102 – break on pg 104) (4 mins)

This reading covers: 1 Chronicles 29

Summary: God’s people find great joy in freely giving to him.

Do together: Draw a picture of a big treasure chest filled with gold bars, silver coins, necklaces and bracelets, diamonds, rubies, and other jewels.

Think about: It sounds like David had plenty of sad times, but still David loved God with all his heart. What did he want to build in order to show God how much he loved him? Which do you think made God the happiest: having a pretty temple or seeing that David and the people wanted to express their love to him by giving back some of what he had given them? Do you think it makes God smile when you and your family give gladly to show him your love?

Also read: Matthew 6:19-21; Luke 6:38; 2 Corinthians 9:7

Prayer: Heavenly Father, I can’t think of one thing I have that isn’t a gift from you. You are so good to me and my family! Let me always be thankful to you. Let me always be a cheerful giver! In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

DAY 3

Reading: *Trust God*—top of pg 89 - end (blue- break on pg 104- end) (1 1/2 mins)

This reading covers: Psalm 23

Summary: David writes a beautiful song expressing his trust in God.

Do together: Number a page from 1 to 7 and then answer each question either T or F to test your sheep IQ.

1. A baby sheep is called a puppy.
2. A female sheep is called a ewe.
3. A group of sheep is called a flock.
4. Sheep are covered in white feathers.
5. The sound sheep make sounds like this: Baaaaah
6. There are white sheep and black sheep.

Think about: Lambs and sheep need lots of care from their shepherd. They need food, water and protection so they don’t get in trouble or get hurt. Why do you think David compared himself to a sheep and God to his shepherd? Sheep trust their shepherd and follow his voice. Do you trust Jesus to be your shepherd? Can you think of a time when you were scared or sad and you remembered to trust God?

Read also: Proverbs 3:5; John 10:11-15

Prayer: Father God, David’s song makes me smile because it reminds me just how much you love me, just like a shepherd loves his sheep. Help me to always trust in you and always follow your voice just like sheep trust their shepherd. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.