

David and Bathsheba

LESSON 7

2 Samuel 11



Old Testament 6
Part 1: David

SUNDAY MORNING

Old Testament 6 [Class Attendance Sheet](#) provided in activity sheets (NOTE: The document is interactive, allowing the teacher to type in the Class, Teacher, and the children's names.)

SCRIPTURE REFERENCES:

2 Samuel 11; 12; Psalms 32; 51

MEMORY WORK:

YOUNGER CHILDREN: "Create in me a clean heart, O God..." (Psalm 51:10a).

OLDER CHILDREN: "Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me" (Psalm 51:10), or "Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap" (Galatians 6:7).

SONGS AND FINGERPLAYS (SEE END OF LESSON FOR WORDS):

A [song book](#) and [audio recordings](#) of many of the curriculum songs are available on the curriculum Web site.

- ["David and Bathsheba"](#)
- ["Oh, Be Careful Little Eyes What You See"](#)

LESSON VISUALS AND TEACHING AIDS (NOTE ANY DISCLAIMERS):

- See [AP's Pinterest page](#) for ideas on bulletin boards, visuals, crafts, etc. [DISCLAIMER: Pins may sometimes need to be adjusted to be Scriptural.]
- [King David and His Sons](#) Bible fact cards (provided under "O.T. 6 Bible Facts" on curriculum Web site)
- "Summary of the Bible" from "[Kids Prep](#)" CD by Jeff Miller
- Betty Lukens' felt pieces
- David the King A Beka Flash-A-Card Series (DISCLAIMER: use the cards, *not the lesson book*; card 2.1: No one knows what the cherubim looked like, other than having wings; card 5.6: The text says that Absalom's head was caught. Whether it was by his hair or neck is unknown.)
- "David, Bathsheba and Nathan's Parable" pictures: <http://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/david-bathsheba/>



PERSONAL APPLICATION:

YOUNGER CHILDREN: When I think about doing something I know is wrong, I need to remember that God is with me all the time, and He will be very sad if I don't do the right thing.

OLDER CHILDREN: When I am tempted to do wrong, I need to remember that bad choices always have consequences (hurt my relationship with God and with others; damage my reputation, etc.).

LESSON STARTS HERE

INTRODUCTION: (YOUNGER CHILDREN)

Have you ever done something wrong you thought no one else knew about? God always knows what we do and, most of the time, so do our parents. David made some really bad choices and thought no one else knew about them. But God knew. Let's see what happened.

INTRODUCTION: (OLDER CHILDREN)

Have you ever done something wrong you thought no one else knew about? Even when we think no one is watching, God is always watching, and, most of the time, our parents or teachers are watching, too. David made some very bad choices and thought no one else knew what he had done. But God did! Let's see what we can learn from David's mistakes.

POINTS TO EMPHASIZE:

1. As king of Israel, David's power and influence grew. His army grew larger and larger. For several years, he led the army of Israel in battle after battle, defending its land and gaining more land. Through all of those years, David continued to follow God with all his heart. "And the Lord preserved David wherever he went" (2 Samuel 8:6,14). He was a good king—loved and respected by his people. "So David reigned over all Israel; and David administered judgment and justice to all his people" (2 Samuel 8:15).
2. One of the times that his army went out to fight (in the spring), David decided to stay in Jerusalem instead of going to war with his troops. There was nothing necessarily wrong with him staying in Jerusalem, but because he decided to be idle while he was at home and not use his time wisely (unlike the other kings who went out to battle—2 Samuel 11:1), he made a terribly bad choice that would affect him and his entire family for the rest of his life.
3. One afternoon while he was at home, he got out of bed to take a walk. Whatever his reason for getting up, he decided to take a walk on the roof of his palace. From the roof of his palace, David looked over to the roof of another house and saw a beautiful woman taking a bath. Instead of looking away, as he should have done, he continued to watch her. He sent for servants to ask who the woman was. He was told that she was Bathsheba, the wife of Uriah, one of David's bravest and most devoted soldiers.



NOTE: The text says that David got up from his bed or couch to go to the roof, even though it was only late afternoon. This could indicate that David was being idle, laying around in his bed, but it could also be that David was taking an afternoon nap in the heat of the day, as was common, like modern oriental countries, as well as the modern "siesta" of Mexico.



HISTORICAL NOTES: In Bible times, most buildings in the area we know today as Israel and Palestine had flat roofs with ledges around them to prevent anyone from falling off. Because family homes had few windows (to prevent thieves from coming in), people often slept on their rooftops when the weather was hot. Flat roofs were also used to dry or store grain (as in the story of Rahab in Joshua 2:6).

4. David knew that the woman’s husband was Uriah, and David knew Uriah was away at war serving him. The king sent messengers to bring Bathsheba to the palace. David treated Bathsheba as if she were his wife—even though she was already married. He sinned against her husband and against God because he took another man’s wife. He committed adultery. He disobeyed at least two of the Ten Commandments (which are repeated, in one form or another, throughout Scripture): “You shall not commit adultery,” and “You shall not covet...your neighbor’s wife” (Exodus 20:14,17).



NOTE: Use terminology describing adultery that is appropriate for the age group. Examples: “Sleeping with someone else’s wife,” “having sex with someone else’s wife,” or “treating someone else’s wife as if they are your wife.”

5. **WITH YOUNGER CHILDREN:** It is not necessary to include the details of how David tried to get rid of Uriah or of the death of David and Bathsheba’s baby. Continue the story with Nathan’s visit to rebuke David (in 2 Samuel 12) and the “Mine and Yours” activity.
6. **OLDER CHILDREN:** Sadly, most children have seen many such stories on TV or have parents who divorced because of sexual immorality. So they will have little trouble understanding David’s sin with Bathsheba or his attempts to hide it. Discuss this as much as you feel is appropriate with your class. Use James 1:14-15 to describe the progression of sin: David was tempted because of what he saw. Instead of having self-control and turning away from that temptation, he lusted after Bathsheba (he had feelings for her that he should only have had for his wife). Then he wanted her so much that he acted on his strong feelings, rather than remembering what God’s Word said and choosing not to do wrong.



NOTE: If Psalm 32 relates to this time in David’s life, as Bible students think, it indicates that he became physically ill and emotionally distraught during this time of trying to hide his sins of adultery and murder from everyone.



RECOMMENDED READING FOR TEACHERS: See the articles “[Should David have been Stoned?](#)” and “[The Death of David’s Son](#)” by Kyle Butt on the Apologetics Press Web site for a response to accusations against God concerning His actions and inactions regarding David. See “[But What About David and Bathsheba’s Marriage?](#)” and “[To Whom Does Matthew 19:3-12 Apply?](#)” by Dave Miller for a discussion of the scriptural legitimacy of David’s marriage to Bathsheba.

7. Some time later, the prophet Nathan came to David with a powerful message from God. Nathan told David a story about a rich man with many flocks and herds of animals who took away a poor man’s only lamb to provide meat for a feast. The lamb was a pet to the poor man’s children and was very special to him, Nathan said. When Nathan had finished his story, David was very angry, thinking the

story to be true. He said that the rich man who did this terrible thing deserved to die! Nathan looked at David and made this chilling statement: “You are the man!”

8. Nathan reminded David how much God had blessed him and asked him, “Why have you despised the commandment of the Lord, to do evil in His sight?” David understood immediately the point of Nathan’s story, and he also understood that **God** knew about his sins, even if no one else did. David asked for forgiveness, as he should have done many months before, and Nathan told him that God would forgive his sincere repentance. [Psalm 51:4: “Against You, You only, have I sinned, and done this evil in Your sight.”]
9. There are temptations to do wrong (to make choices other than what God’s Word says) around us all the time. We can choose to ignore what God tells us to do and do what “feels good ” for the moment. **Or** we can (1) get away from the temptation as quickly as possible, (2) pray for strength and conviction to make right choices, and (3) remember that there are no temptations so big that we cannot overcome them with God’s help (1 Corinthians 10:13). [Describe some of the temptations put before the children every day to make wrong choices because “everyone else is doing it” (or because TV characters or famous people are doing it). Examples: smoking, talking back to teachers or parents, using bad language, having physical relationships intended only for marriage, etc.]
10. Even though we might make bad choices that we think no one knows about, **God always knows!!!** There is nothing we can hide from God. Eventually other people will find out, too, damaging our influence for good. God forgave David, but the consequences of David’s sin would last for many years to come, as they do for ours. God will forgive us if we ask Him, but there will still be consequences for our bad choices.

PRE-CLASS ACTIVITIES/LEARNING CENTERS (TO BE USED AS CHILDREN ARE ARRIVING—BEFORE CLASS, AND UP TO THE FIRST FIVE MINUTES OF CLASS; OR AS HOMEWORK):

- Click here for complete [Activity Book](#).

Ages 2-5:

- “[David and Nathan Coloring Sheet](#)” (provided in activity sheets)
- “[Mine and Yours](#)” (provided in activity sheets): Have four or five small boxes individually labeled “Daddy’s,” “Mommy’s,” “Brother’s,” “Sister’s,” and “Mine.” Have several small items or pictures of different things that might belong to each family member (i.e., a hammer and a man’s jacket for Daddy, a purse and bracelet for Mommy, a toy truck and soccer ball for brother, etc.). As you look at each item, ask the children to help you decide what belongs to each family member and put the items in appropriate boxes. Talk about the importance of respecting other people’s things. We don’t take what is not ours; we don’t bother things that are not ours. Taking/“borrowing” things without permission that do not belong to us is stealing and is selfish. We hurt ourselves and others when we are selfish and do not behave the way Jesus behaved.

1st-2nd Graders:

- “[Memory Verse Review](#)”: Write the words of each memory verse of this unit on index cards, one word per card. (Would be a good idea to use a different color for each verse.) Put the set of cards for each verse in separate Ziploc® bags. Divide the children into pairs or small groups. Give each pair/group a bag of cards and let them unscramble the memory verses. As

each group successfully unscrambles its verse, let them swap bags and unscramble other verses. (memory verse cutouts for this lesson's verse provided in activity sheets)

- “[What Did I Do?](#)” (provided in activity sheets): Write the names of characters from this unit on index cards (e.g., Saul, David, Jonathan, Jesse, Samuel, Eliab, Michal, etc.). Put the cards in a box/bag. Let each student take a turn drawing a name out of the bag, and then telling something about that Bible character. (Can divide the class into two teams, awarding points for correct answers.)

3rd-4th Graders:

- Hang-man: Play Hang-man with key words or characters' names from this and previous lessons.
- “[Memory Verse Review](#)”: Write the words of each memory verse of this unit on index cards, one word per card. (Would be a good idea to use a different color for each verse.) Put the set of cards for each verse in separate Ziploc® bags. Divide the children into pairs or small groups. Give each pair/group a bag of cards and let them unscramble the memory verses. As each group successfully unscrambles its verse, let them swap bags and unscramble other verses. (memory verse cutouts for this lesson's verse provided in activity sheets)
- “[What Did I Do?](#)” (provided in activity sheets): Write the names of characters from this unit on index cards (e.g., Saul, David, Jonathan, Jesse, Samuel, Eliab, Michal, etc.). Put the cards in a box/bag. Let each student take a turn drawing a name out of the bag, and then telling something about that Bible character. (Can divide the class into two teams, awarding points for correct answers.)
- Have the children read:
 - 2 Samuel 10-12
 - *David and the Kingdom of Israel*, Contemporary Bible Series, Scandinavia Publishing

SONGS:

“DAVID AND BATHSHEBA”

Author: Jewel Kendrick

(Tune: “Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross”—verse only)

(Words: See *Sing a Story: Volume I*, by Jewel Kendrick)

“OH, BE CAREFUL LITTLE EYES WHAT YOU SEE” ([Click to Hear](#))

Author: Unknown*

Oh, be careful little eyes what you see.

(REPEAT)

For the Father up above,

Is looking down in love.

So, be careful little eyes what you see.

Oh, be careful little feet where you go.

(REPEAT)

For the Father up above,

Is looking down in love.

So, be careful little feet where you go.

Oh, be careful little ears what you hear.

(REPEAT)

For the Father up above,

Is looking down in love.
So, be careful little ears what you hear.

Oh, be careful little mouth what you say. (REPEAT)
For the Father up above,
Is looking down in love.
So, be careful little mouth what you say.

Oh, be careful little hands what you do.
(REPEAT)
For the Father up above,
Is looking down in love.
So, be careful little hands what you do.

*Author Unknown: Please contact us through the feedback button for this lesson if you are aware of any copyright information for this song.

*** IF YOU HAVE SUGGESTIONS PERTAINING TO THIS LESSON, PLEASE CLICK THE “SUGGESTION” BUTTON BESIDE THE BUTTON FOR THIS LESSON ON THE CURRICULUM WEB SITE.



David and Bathsheba

LESSON 7

2 Samuel 11



Old Testament 6
Part 1: David

WEDNESDAY EVENING

Old Testament 6 [Class Attendance Sheet](#) provided in activity sheets (NOTE: The document is interactive, allowing the teacher to type in the Class, Teacher, and the children's names.)

SCRIPTURE REFERENCES:

2 Samuel 11; 12; Psalms 32; 51

MEMORY WORK:

YOUNGER CHILDREN: "Create in me a clean heart, O God..." (Psalm 51:10a).

OLDER CHILDREN: "Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me" (Psalm 51:10), or "Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap" (Galatians 6:7).

SONGS AND FINGERPLAYS (SEE END OF SUNDAY'S LESSON FOR WORDS):

A [song book](#) and [audio recordings](#) of many of the curriculum songs are available on the curriculum Web site.

- ["David and Bathsheba"](#)
- ["Oh, Be Careful Little Eyes What You See"](#)

LESSON VISUALS AND TEACHING AIDS (NOTE ANY DISCLAIMERS):

- See [AP's Pinterest page](#) for ideas on bulletin boards, visuals, crafts, etc. [DISCLAIMER: Pins may sometimes need to be adjusted to be Scriptural.]
- [King David and His Sons Bible fact cards](#) (provided under "O.T. 6 Bible Facts" on curriculum Web site)
- "Summary of the Bible" from ["Kids Prep"](#) CD by Jeff Miller
- Betty Lukens' felt pieces
- David the King A Beka Flash-A-Card Series (DISCLAIMER: use the cards, *not the lesson book*; card 2.1: No one knows what the cherubim looked like, other than having wings; card 5.6: The text says that Absalom's head was caught. Whether it was by his hair or neck is unknown.)
- "David, Bathsheba and Nathan's Parable" pictures: <http://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/david-bathsheba/>



PERSONAL APPLICATION:

YOUNGER CHILDREN: When I think about doing something I know is wrong, I need to remember that God is with me all the time, and He will be very sad if I don't do the right thing.

OLDER CHILDREN: When I am tempted to do wrong, I need to remember that bad choices always have consequences (hurt my relationship with God and with others; damage my reputation, etc.).

INTRODUCTION:

Review [O.T. 6 Bible Fact Flash Cards](#) (provided under "O.T. 6 Bible Facts" on curriculum Web site)

POINTS TO EMPHASIZE:

Review Sunday's lesson. (See [O.T 6 Review Questions](#) for example questions.)

Remind the children that David took another man's wife and disobeyed God. Discuss faithfulness in the marriage relationship and emphasize God's plan from the beginning: one man, one woman, for life—not to be changed or broken by taking the husband or wife of someone else (treating another person as if he/she is your husband/wife).

PRE-CLASS ACTIVITIES/LEARNING CENTERS (TO BE USED AS CHILDREN ARE ARRIVING—**BEFORE** CLASS, AND UP TO THE FIRST FIVE MINUTES OF CLASS; OR AS HOMEWORK):

See Sunday morning's lesson

*** IF YOU HAVE SUGGESTIONS PERTAINING TO THIS LESSON, PLEASE CLICK THE "SUGGESTION" BUTTON BESIDE THE BUTTON FOR THIS LESSON ON THE CURRICULUM WEB SITE.

