

Sunday morning
teaching plan

Date: 6th July

TITLE:	David and Bathsheba 2 Samuel 11-12
THEME:	Adultery and murder. One sin to hide another!
AIM:	YP to understand that secret sin will be found out and has consequences

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

David, renowned for his faithfulness to God and described as “a man after God’s own heart,” falls prey to the sin of lust. Desiring the wife of another man. David already had six wives when he stumbled across Bathsheba taking a bath! David’s head was turned and he ended up committing adultery. Bathsheba ends up pregnant and David tries to cover it up by encouraging Uriah, Bathsheba’s husband, to sleep with her. However, this fails as Uriah feels he would be disloyal to his comrades fighting a war! In the end David has him murdered and marries Bathsheba. A silver lining is that Bathsheba’s second son Solomon became the one through whom God fulfilled His promise to David!

WARM UP

Play “Cheat” using 3-4 packs of cards. Deal out all the cards to the group. In turn each person lays down one or more cards face down and calls out what they are EG: “3 Threes, 4 Kings” etc. If someone thinks they are lying they call out “Cheat.” If they are correct then the person who laid down the cards picks up ALL cards. If they are wrong and the person wasn’t lying then they pick up ALL the cards. Game ends when one person runs out of cards!

MAIN TEACHING

Activity 1. Watch the cheesy animated video

1. What are your initial reactions to this story? Was it right? Wrong? Harsh?

Read: 2 Samuel 11:1-5

2. What should David have been doing when he was tempted?
3. After David had seen Bathsheba, what mistake did he make?
4. Once David had met Bathsheba, how could he have avoided sinning?

Key teaching point David makes 3 mistakes! **1.** David was not acting as he should. He was king, he should have been at war with his troops (v1). When we are not doing as we should we open ourselves up to opportunities to do wrong things. **2.** David was bored, so he went for a walk and then saw Bathsheba in the bath! He could have turned away and walked on, but he stopped and stared. He allowed himself to linger looking at something he should not. He decided to take a closer look and asked to meet her. It is easy sometimes to get hooked on something just by lingering, taking a second look. It can lead to poor choices.

3. Even then, David could have sent her back, but by now he was hooked! He made a third poor choice and ended up sinning. Doing something he knew was wrong. The consequence of the sin became real when Bathsheba became pregnant.

Activity 2. Choices matter

Game: Choose one person to make a choice. Scene is this. There are two boxes, one labelled “Choose me and you will benefit. Others may not.” The other labelled “Choose me. You may benefit, others definitely will.” The first box contains a small bag of sweets, enough for one or two. The second contains several bags of sweets with the instruction to share them out to everyone else before you take yours. What will they choose?

Read 2 Samuel 11:6-15

1. What other sins does David commit in an attempt to cover up his adultery?
2. What are the consequences of David’s actions and decisions?
3. Why do you think he chose the course of action that he did?
4. How could he have chosen to respond to Bathsheba’s pregnancy?
5. What were the consequences of his choices?

Key teaching point

David is in a pickle! But instead of confessing his mistakes and being honest, which would have cost him his reputation and been embarrassing, he chooses to lie to cover up his mistakes. When the first lies fail to work he tries more lies and then takes further drastic action. He gets sucked deeper and deeper into a web of deceit which ends up costing someone else their life! He was frightened of being honest and confessing as it would have ruined his reputation. Sometimes we try to cover up our mistakes and it makes things worse. It is always better to come clean, even if it is embarrassing or there is a personal consequence. We must remember that it is impossible to hide our sin from God. David discovered this when Nathan the prophet spoke to him. NB: There is always a spiritual consequence to sin, if not a human one. Sin needs to be dealt with. **Either Jesus has taken it from us, when we put our faith in Him or we will have to face up to it ourselves. This is the biggest choice we have to make, with the biggest consequence!**

TAKEAWAY

Discuss what we can do to avoid falling into temptation ?

Key ideas: Do what God has asked of you. Don’t be idle/ lazy. Be aware of what you look at/ listen to. Is it uplifting and Godly or not? Keep company with Christian friends who can support you.

EXTRA INFORMATION