

## Lesson 83

# David Disobeys God

David sinned by taking another man's wife.

# Studying God's Word

## Introduction

Slide #3

Slide #4

Refer to Lesson 81 Theme Poster. We've learned that King Saul and his son Jonathan were killed in battle with the Philistines. David was serving a Philistine king to hide from King Saul, but after Saul's death he returned to Judah, where he was crowned king of his tribe. The rest of Israel followed Saul's remaining son, Ish-bosheth, until he was killed. Then the leaders of Israel came and made David king. David chose to rule from the city of Jerusalem.

Don't forget! Review the Optional Supplements and determine where you can use them.

Refer to Lesson 82 Theme Poster. Once David made Jerusalem his capital city, he wanted to bring the ark of God there. He prepared a tent and gathered the people to come with him to get the ark.

What terrible thing happened the first time David and the people tried to move the ark using a cart? One of the men driving the cart touched the ark and died.

Yes, they failed to follow God's specific instructions for how to carry the ark and who should do it. A man named Uzzah died because of this. But the second time, David and the people followed God's instructions and brought the ark safely to Jerusalem.

David decided he wanted to build a beautiful house for the ark of God. But God told David that he would not build it, one of his sons would. Then God gave David a special promise. The Savior would come from the family of David.

Who is this Savior? Jesus.

Things seemed to be going well for David. He was king over all Israel. He built a palace and took many wives and had many sons and daughters. God gave him success in battle. But even men like David can fall into sin. In today's lesson, we'll see how David sinned and tried to cover it up.

How many of you have ever done something wrong then tried to cover it up? Allow discussion or show of hands, or share a personal example.

## David's Sin

Pass out the Class Notes.

It was springtime in Israel, a time when kings went to war. David's army left to fight the enemies of Israel, but David stayed in Jerusalem. This was not a good

idea. David was a great, courageous king. He should have been leading his army, but he was at home instead. While he was home, he saw a beautiful woman, the wife of one of his fighting men, a man named Uriah. He wanted the woman, Bathsheba, for his own wife. His desires were against God's laws. God's people know that marriage is one man and one woman for life.

When he realized his desires were against God's laws, what could David have done? Allow discussion. Prayed, asked God to help him, turned away from it, asked someone to help him do the right thing, meditated on God's Word, resisted the temptation, etc.

But David didn't care—sin had gripped his heart. He was so caught up in his desire for Bathsheba that he tried several ways to cover up his sin. Nothing was working. Finally, David came up with a plan to get rid of Bathsheba's husband, Uriah.

Slide #5

Slide #6

2 Samuel 11:14–17

Turn in your Bibles to 2 Samuel 11. Who will read verses 14–17?

Assign readers.

So, David sent Uriah back to his commander, Joab, with a letter. What did David tell Joab to do in the letter? Put Uriah at the front of the fighting then pull back so he'd be killed.

And what happened when Joab obeyed David's order? Uriah and other fighting men were killed.

When David heard that Uriah had been struck down, he brought Bathsheba into the palace to become his wife. Bathsheba was expecting a baby that was David's child. But David's sin was great. He stole a man's wife and murdered the man!

Which of the Ten Commandments did King David break in this account? 6) You shall not murder; 7) You shall not commit adultery; 10) You shall not covet.

Prepare items for the cleansing sin object lesson: glass of water, food coloring, towel, bleach, and spoon. You will use the bleach and spoon later in the lesson.

Let's use some objects to help us understand what happened to David. Take out the glass and fill it halfway with water if you haven't already done so. This glass is like David. The water represents his heart. When David wanted Bathsheba as his wife when she was already married, he sinned. Add a few drops of food coloring to the water. David coveted another man's wife. Add more drops. David kept trying to cover up his sin, and he eventually had Uriah killed using Joab and the enemy. Add more drops. How does David's heart look now? Dirty or clean? Dirty.

David chose to ignore his sin. He thought he had covered it up by killing Uriah. Place a towel over the glass so it's hidden from the class. Now

Bathsheba was his wife. David got what he wanted and thought he could carry on as though nothing had happened.

Slide #7

Slide #8

Slide #9

Let's leave our objects for now and go to the Class Notes. You will find the answers to the blanks at the bottom of the page then copy the pictures in the boxes. Who will read #1 about the bad decision that led to David's sin? Choose a reader. Home. Have students complete #1.

Who will read #2? Choose a reader. Heart. Have students complete #2.

What laws of God did David break in #3? Choose a reader. Ten Commandments. Have students complete #3.

## **Nathan's Parable**

David's disobedience did not please God. So God sent one of his prophets, Nathan, to challenge the powerful king. Nathan was the prophet who had given God's promise to David that his descendant would rule on his throne forever. Well, this time Nathan had a far different message for David. The prophet told David a parable or story.

2 Samuel 12:1-4

Slide #10

Slide #11

Slide #12

Slide #13

We're going to find out what that story was about. Let's read 2 Samuel 12:1-4 together. Assign readers.

Show the Lesson Theme Poster. This parable was about two men. What does 2 Samuel 12:1 say about them? One was rich and the other poor. What did the rich man have? He had many flocks and herds. What did the poor man have? He had nothing but one little ewe lamb. How did the poor man feel about his one lamb? He loved the lamb like his family; it was like a daughter to him. Who came to the rich man? A traveler.

Yes. A traveler came to stay with the rich man. The Bible says that the rich man wanted to feed the traveler, but he didn't want to kill any of his many lambs.

What did this rich man do? He took the poor man's lamb and prepared it for the man.

What? The rich man, who had many lambs, was not willing to use one of his own. So he killed the poor man's lamb, his pet, the only thing he had, and they ate it for dinner!

What do you think King David's response to that would be? Allow guesses.

2 Samuel 12:5-6

Slide #14

Let's find out in the next verses! Who will read 2 Samuel 12:5–6? Assign a reader.

How did King David feel? He was angry.

What did King David say about the rich man? The man should die! He should restore the lamb fourfold.

David got very angry when he heard this story. He said the rich man deserved to die and should repay the poor man with four lambs (that is what fourfold means). What did David say about the rich man at the end of verse 6? He had no pity.

2 Samuel 12:7 & 9

Slide #15

Listen to what Nathan said next. Read verses 7 and 9.

What did Nathan say to David? You are the man!

What? Did David kill the poor man's lamb? No. He didn't.

This is a parable—a story, but all the characters stood for someone else. David was the rich man.

Who do you think the poor man in the story was? Uriah.

And who was the little lamb? Bathsheba.

That's right. Nathan told this story so David would see his own sin. Nathan was comparing David to the rich man. The rich man in the story had everything he needed—and so did David! The rich man took what he wanted from someone else even though it wasn't right. David did the same thing. The rich man in the story took the poor man's lamb and killed it! David took Uriah's wife and had Uriah killed.

How did Nathan say David killed Uriah? Look in verse 9. With the sword of the Ammonites.

David maybe felt like he hadn't committed murder because he didn't strike Uriah down himself. But, he gave the order that had Uriah killed by the sword of their enemies, the Ammonites.

It's pretty clear that God and Nathan knew about David's sin. David killed Uriah and took Uriah's wife, Bathsheba, to be his own. This was against God's commandments. David had sinned against God. He had stayed home from the battle, given in to temptation, and tried to cover up his sin. Then God, through Nathan, showed David how terrible the sin was by using a parable about a lamb.

Slide #16

Let's answer #4 on the Class Notes. What will you draw there? Choose a reader. Lamb. Have students complete #4.

**David's Repentance**

So how did David respond to Nathan, God's prophet?

## 2 Samuel 12:13–14

### Slide #17

Who will read 2 Samuel 12:13–14? Assign a reader.

What did David say about his sin? "I have sinned against the Lord."

Do you think David was sorry for his sin? Yes.

What did Nathan say the Lord would do? Put away David's sin. David would not die.

So, did God forgive David? Yes.

Even Israel's greatest king, the man after God's own heart, fell into sin.

How could a man like David commit such terrible sins? Allow discussion.

Because Adam sinned, all people are born sinners. David was a sinner like you and me. He was tempted by his sinful desires. And he chose to disobey God's laws, which is sin. Temptation forces us to make a decision. Either we can choose God's way and not sin, or we can choose our own way, which is sin.

Which way did David choose? His own way.

David was a rich and powerful king, so maybe he thought he could get away with his sin. But God always knows our hearts and everything we do. God knew every detail of David's sin. David was found out. It's like God removed the towel from the glass so David could see what was in his heart. Remove the towel from the glass.

Even though God would forgive him, David was punished.

What did Nathan say would be a consequence of David's sin in verse 14? The child would die.

Whose child was this? Bathsheba and David's child.

Nathan said that David would have conflict and trouble in his family because of his sin and his baby with Bathsheba would die. This was very sad news! But David understood that God may give consequences for sin even though he forgave him. David had to learn not to break God's commands.

We need to be careful and check our hearts often so that sin doesn't sneak in and take a hold of us! It's easy for that to happen because we are born sinners. Only by trusting in Jesus and his grace can we live a life pleasing to him.

## Psalm 51:1–4

### Slide #18

### Slide #19

We already read that David was sorry for his sin. Turn to Psalm 51 in your Bibles. This psalm was written by King David after this sin against God.

Who will read verses 1–4? Assign readers.

What did David ask God for in the very first line? Mercy.

What did David want to be washed and cleansed of in Psalm 51:2? His iniquity and sin.

That's right. David was asking for God's mercy and forgiveness.

Be ready to pour and stir bleach into the colored water. Let's use the bleach to represent God's mercy and forgiveness. When David asked God to cleanse his sin, God did! Stir bleach into the colored water until the color begins to disappear. Continue with the lesson as the bleach continues to work.

David knew whom he had sinned against. Who was that? Psalm 51:4. Against the Lord.

David knew he had sinned against the Lord. And although his sin did hurt others—Bathsheba and Uriah and his baby—David's sin was ultimately against God. David cried out for God's mercy, confessed his sin, and asked for forgiveness.

Refer to the Attributes of God Poster. What attribute of God means he cannot sin and hates sin? Holy.

What other attributes of God do we see in this account of David? Just: God must punish sin. Mercy: God withheld deserved punishment on David (he should have been killed for committing murder).

When we sin, we often hurt ourselves and others—just like David did. Yet, our sins, like David's, are against God first. God is the one we should fear. God is the one who will punish! But the good news is that God has promised to forgive us when we confess our sin and ask for forgiveness.

Look at the water now. What happened to the color of sin? It disappeared. It's gone.

That's what God does for us, too! We don't have to live with the guilt of our sin. Because of Jesus' death on the cross, we can be cleansed from our sins! God gives us the righteousness of Jesus instead.

Slide #20

Slide #21

Let's finish the Class Notes. Who will read #5? How did David respond to Nathan? Choose a reader. Repented. Have students complete #5.

Who will read #6 about what God did for David? Choose a reader.

Cleansed. Have students complete #6.

## Application

Slide #22

Refer to the Lesson Theme Poster. Today you heard about David's sin. What David did was horrible. God sent the prophet Nathan to tell David a parable—a story about a lamb, a rich man, and a poor man. When David heard the story, he acknowledged his sin. He repented and begged for God's mercy. And God

forgave David of all his sins. Refer to the clear glass of water from the object lesson.

God provides salvation from sin through Jesus Christ to all who will come to him, ask forgiveness, turn from their sins, and believe in Jesus Christ. Receiving Jesus is the only way we can be made right with God. Because of Jesus, we can experience the joy of forgiveness and peace with God. With God's help, we can choose to follow God when we face temptation. God's Word will help us do this, which is why we study it! We want the Bible to change how we live.

One person in our account today was obedient even when it was hard. Can you guess who I'm talking about? Allow guesses. Nathan.

Nathan the prophet was obedient to go to David and tell the parable God gave him. Nathan had to point out that David was the man in the parable. Think about how hard this must have been! Nathan knew David and was his friend. Most of us wouldn't like to go to a friend and tell them they've sinned.

Have any of you ever had to do this, tell a friend something they were doing wrong? Or maybe you had a friend like Nathan who pointed out something you had done wrong? Allow discussion or share a personal example.

Sometimes we may be the only one who can help a friend see a sin and repent of it. Not everyone responds with repentance the way David did, but we must still be obedient to do what God calls us to do, even when it's hard.

## Lesson Review

We all learn best with review and repetition! We encourage you to play a lesson review game.

## Bible Baseball

Students will answer questions and run the bases!

### Materials

Review Questions (included in lesson)  
Three chairs set out for bases  
Optional: gift wrap tube and a large balloon

### Instructions

Print one copy of the Review Questions for your use. Set out chairs as bases. Have the students line up by the home base area facing you (at the pitcher's mound). Each student up to "bat" will have a chance to answer a review question. If he can answer it correctly, let him run the bases. If he can't answer



correctly, give the answer and ask him to go to the end of the line and try again.

You may want the students to sit on the chair at each base while they wait to run to the next base or have them run all the way around and return to the line. Repeat the questions until all the students have run around the bases.

For some added fun, you can use a gift wrap tube as a bat and toss a large balloon for students to hit after they answer each question.

## Box Toss

Students will answer review questions then toss the beanbag at the holes in the box to gain points for their team.

### Materials

- Review Questions (included in lesson)
- Medium-sized cardboard box
- Scissors or knife
- Four beanbags
- Masking tape

### Instructions

Print one copy of the Review Questions for your use. Use scissors or a knife to cut two or three holes in the bottom of the box. Make sure they are large enough for a beanbag to easily pass through. Label each hole with a point number: 5, 10, and 15. Use masking tape to make a tossing line several feet away from the box.

Divide the class into teams. Have the teams line up behind the line across from the box. Give each team two beanbags. Alternate asking each team a review question. Students who answer correctly will toss the beanbags at the target holes in the box to earn points for their team. If they answer incorrectly, they may toss the beanbags for fun without the points counting. Students will go to the end of the line after tossing the beanbags. Keep score for both teams. Continue play until all questions have been answered correctly and students have all had a chance to toss the beanbags.

## Draw Dice

Teams will answer questions and complete a simple drawing to win. Who will finish their drawing first?

### Materials

- Review Questions (included in lesson)
- One drawing area for each team (paper, white board, etc.)
- Pencils or white board markers

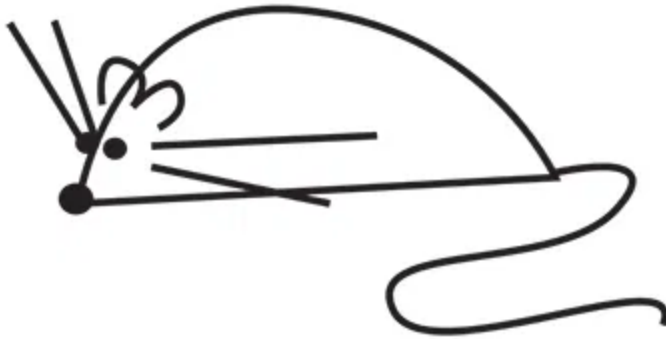
## One die

### Instructions

Print one copy of the Review Questions for your use. Divide the class into two teams. Give each team a sheet of paper and a pencil, or divide the white board in half. Draw a mouse on the board as an example.

Ask the first team a question from the lesson. If they answer correctly, have them roll the die.

To begin drawing their mouse, each team must wait until they get a six. They will then draw the mouse's body on their paper or the board. After they have drawn the body, as they give correct answers to the questions, they can continue to draw the other parts of the mouse according to the numbers they roll.



They can draw according to the numbers below:

6 = body

5 = nose

4 = whiskers

3 = eyes

2 = ears

1 = tail

Continue giving each team a turn to answer a question and roll the die. Repeat the questions as necessary. The first team to finish their mouse wins.

You may choose to draw a simple object from the lesson, such as a crown, an open Bible, a fish, etc. Be sure to assign numbers (as above) to each part of the object to be drawn before the game begins.

### Four in a Row

Students will answer questions and add a marker for their team onto the grid. Which team will be the first to get four in a row?

## Materials

Review Questions (included in lesson)  
Masking tape  
Red and black paper circles or other markers for each team

## Instructions

Print one copy of the Review Questions for your use. Use masking tape to make a 16-section grid on the floor. The grid should be four sections wide by four sections long. Each section should be equal in size. Use eight red circles and eight black circles cut from construction paper or other markers for the two teams.

Divide the students into two teams. Give each team eight markers. They will take turns answering the questions. If they answer correctly, they can put a marker in a square on the grid. The first team to get four markers in a row wins the game.

## Goofy Golf

Hit the sock with the noodle? Teams must work together to answer the questions and putt to get a hole-in-one in this crazy golf game!

## Materials

Review Questions (included in lesson)  
Swimming noodles or rolled up newspapers  
Rolled up socks  
Masking tape  
Ten sheets of paper  
Markers

## Instructions

Print one copy of the Review Questions for your use. Use the markers to number sheets of paper 1–10 (use more or less depending on class size and time). Tape down the sheets of paper around the room in a random pattern to form a golf course. You may want to add chairs as obstacles in the path.

Divide the class into teams. Give each team a rolled up sock and a swimming noodle. Ask the first student a review question from the lesson. If he answers correctly, allow him to use the noodle to drive the rolled up sock toward the first sheet of paper labeled #1. Continue with the next team. Take turns allowing team members to answer questions and continue putting the socks along the course to each hole, continuing from where the last teammate left

off. The sock must touch or roll over the sheet of paper to consider it in the hole. The first team to reach the tenth hole wins.

## Pick a Point

Answer the questions correctly to earn the right to pick a point.

### Materials

Review Questions (included in lesson)  
Small paper strips  
Cup or basket

### Instructions

Print one copy of the Review Questions for your use. Write various numbers in increments of 5 or 10 on strips of paper to use as point cards. Put the point cards into the cup or basket. Divide students into teams of 4–5 students each. Have each team take turns answering a review question. After each correct answer, let a member of the team draw a point card from the cup.

The number of points on the cards will vary, so the score will have nothing to do with how skilled one team might be. Keep track of each team's points. If time allows, repeat the questions!

## Racetrack

Who will reach the checkered flag first? Teams will race to the finish by answering review questions.

### Materials

Review Questions (included in lesson)  
White board or chalkboard  
Markers/chalk  
Optional: paper cutouts for each team (cars, animals, circles, etc.),  
tape/poster putty

### Instructions

Print one copy of the Review Questions for your use. Draw a racetrack on the board. It may be as simple as a straight horizontal path or a curvy circle. Label "Start" and "Finish" (with a checkered flag) at either end of the track. Add numbers along the track (e.g., 1–10) at equal intervals between Start and Finish. The numbers will be used as placement points for the racers as they progress along the track.

Divide the class into teams. You may draw a different symbol (e.g., stick figure, circle, X or O) to represent each team at the Start, or use paper cutouts as team markers and stick them to the board with tape/poster putty.

Ask the first team a review question. If they answer correctly, move their marker or redraw their symbol along the track at #1. If they answer incorrectly, give the next team a chance to answer and move to the first number. If they do not know, give the answer and ask that question again later. Continue to alternate asking review questions and moving teams' markers along the racetrack according to the numbers along the track. The first team to reach the Finish wins!

## Toss for It

How many points? Toss for it! Students answer the questions and toss the beanbag to earn points for their team.

### Materials

- Review Questions (included in lesson)
- A deck of numbered cards, or numbers and "wild" written on index cards
- One beanbag
- Masking tape
- Two baskets or containers for cards

### Instructions

Print one copy of the Review Questions for your use. Place several rows of numbered cards facedown with a few inches between them to form a grid pattern (make sure to put several wild cards or Jokers down, too). Use the masking tape to make a tossing line several feet from the cards.

Divide students into teams and have them line up behind the tossing line. Ask the first student a review question. If he gives the correct answer, have him toss the beanbag onto a card. Turn the card over to reveal the points he receives for his team. Face cards or word cards are 10 points each. Wild or Jokers are also 10—plus another turn. All other cards are face value.

Have the student pick up his card and put it in the team's basket to be counted at the end of the game. Next team's turn. If a student gives an incorrect answer, he should go to the end of the line. Give the answer and repeat that question later. Continue taking turns until all the questions have been answered. Add more cards to the grid if necessary.

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