



Grades 4–5 • Unit 9 • Lesson 84

Absalom Rebels

2 Samuel 14:25–26, 15:1–6, 15:13–14, 18:6–9, 18:33, 24:14–17

Sin causes a mess of problems! Follow the paths to find the consequence for each sin on the left then write the letter in the boxes.

Sin

1. David's murder of Uriah.
2. David's failure to punish Amnon.
3. Absalom's murder of Amnon.
4. Absalom's plot to steal the throne.
5. Absalom's pride and rebellion.
6. David's census of Israel's fighting men.



Consequence

- A. Humiliating death in a tree.
- B. Plague from the Lord.
- C. Defeat and death of 20,000 men.
- D. Flight to Geshur.
- E. Murder of Amnon.
- F. Trouble in David's family.

Name _____

Memory Verse

Unscramble the missing words to complete the verse.

I acknowledged my _____
SNI

to you, and I did not _____
OERCV

my _____; I said,
QTYNUIII

"I will _____
SEOSNFC

my transgressions to the

_____, "and
OLRD

you _____
OERFAVG

the iniquity of my sin.

Psalm 32:5

What You Heard *In the Word*

- David's son Absalom killed his brother and tried to take the throne. David relied on the Lord, and God gave him the victory.
- David took a census of the fighting men of Israel, and God punished all of Israel with a plague.

OutWord *For Family Discussion*

Suppose your friend says that because she's a child of God, it doesn't matter how much she sins because God has forgiven her.

What would you say?

It's wonderful to be a child of God and know that your sins are forgiven. But when you're a child of God, you should want to obey God's commands. When God's children sin, he will punish them because he wants them to repent and stop sinning. And God's children still face the consequences of sin here on earth. The Bible is full of examples of godly men, like David, who experienced terrible consequences when they sinned. As God's children, we should avoid sin and want to please God.



HomeWord *For Parents*

It wasn't long until David's sons committed the same sins as their father did with Bathsheba and Uriah, but without his repentance. David's son Absalom had his servants kill his oldest brother Amnon for a wrong done to his sister, Tamar. Absalom fled, and David eventually brought him back to Jerusalem and forgave him. But Absalom used his father's mercy to steal the hearts of the people. Absalom used his good looks and popularity to gain supporters (2 Samuel 15:1–6). Absalom made his move for the throne, forcing David and his household and loyal guards to flee from Jerusalem.

Absalom gathered an army and crossed the Jordan River to face his father's army. The battle took place in the forest of Ephraim, a dense forest that claimed more lives than the sword (2 Samuel 18:6–8). Absalom got caught in the branches of an oak tree. His mule ran out from under him, leaving him dangling helplessly. David's commander Joab and his armor-bearers found Absalom and killed him (2 Samuel 18:14–15). David lost two sons, almost lost his kingdom, and struggled to reunite the tribes when he was restored to the throne.

David not only faced the consequences of his sin with Bathsheba, but he also faced punishment for his decision to count the fighting men of Israel (2 Samuel 24). Given the choice of famine, enemies, or pestilence, David chose pestilence from God. The plague killed 70,000 men, and David begged God to punish him instead of the people. God stopped the plague, and David built an altar and offered sacrifices where the plague ended. The land David bought to build the altar is where the temple would be built by Solomon.

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