

## Lesson 83

# David Disobeys God

David sinned by taking another man's wife.

# Studying God's Word

## Introduction

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

Refer to Lesson 82 Theme Poster. In our last lesson, we talked about the new king of Israel. Who was that? David.

### Slide #3

Right. David made Jerusalem his capital city and 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.

Since David had a fine house to live in, he decided he wanted to build a beautiful house, a temple, 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 Messiah, the anointed one, would come from the family of David and be the King of kings forever.

Who is the Messiah? 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 terrible 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

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 chose to stay home instead. While he was at home, he saw a woman, the wife of a man named Uriah, one of his fighting men. The woman, Bathsheba, was very beautiful, and David wanted her 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 what he wanted was against God's law, 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, meditate on God's Word, resisted the temptation, etc.

But David didn't care—sin and lust 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 terrible plan to get rid of Bathsheba's husband, Uriah.

#### Slide #4

#### Slide #5

#### 2 Samuel 11:14–17

Refer to the Books of the Bible Poster. 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? Look at verse 15. Put Uriah at the front of the fighting then pull back so he'd be killed.

What happened in verse 17 when Joab obeyed David's order? Uriah and other fighting men were killed.

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

#### Slide #6

Show the Illustration. Which of the Ten Commandments did King David break in this account? Commandments 6, 7, and 10: You shall not murder; you shall not commit adultery; you shall not covet.

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

Let's do an experiment to help us understand what happened to David. Fill the glass 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 even though 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 finally 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 had become David's wife. David got what he wanted and thought he could pretend nothing had happened.

Pass out the Class Notes.

Look at your Class Notes now. You will find the answers to the blanks at the bottom of the page then copy the picture in the box.

Slide #7

Slide #8

Slide #9

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.

Commandments. Have students complete #3.

## **Nathan's Parable**

David's disobedience did not please God. God sent one of his prophets, Nathan, to speak to David. Nathan was the prophet who had given God's promises to David. Well, this time Nathan had a very different message for David to hear.

2 Samuel 12:1-4

Slide #10

Slide #11

Slide #12

Slide #13

I'm going to read what Nathan told David. Turn to 2 Samuel 12:1-4 and listen carefully. Read the verses.

Show the Lesson Theme Poster. What does verse 1 say about the two men? One was rich and the other was poor.

What did the rich man have? He had many flocks and herds.

What did the poor man have? Verse 3 tells us. 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 in verse 4? A traveler.

Yes. A traveler came to stay with the rich man. When the rich man wanted to feed the traveler, 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.

The rich man, who had lots of lambs, didn't want to use one of his own. So he killed the poor man's lamb, his pet, the only thing he had, and served it for dinner! How terrible!

What do you think King David thought when he heard this? Allow guesses.

2 Samuel 12:5-6

Slide #14

Let's find out! Who will read 2 Samuel 12:5-6? Assign readers.

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 about this. He said the rich man deserved to die and should repay the poor man with four lambs (that's what fourfold means).

Then 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.

Nathan had told a parable—a story, but all the characters stood for someone else. He said 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 kill Uriah himself. But, he ordered his army commander, Joab, to put Uriah in a place where the enemy Ammonites would strike him down.

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. David had sinned against God; he had broken God's commandments.

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 what would David do now? His sin wasn't hidden like he had hoped.

2 Samuel 12:13–14

Slide #17

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

What did David say about his sin? Who did he sin 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.

Well, it goes all the way back to the first man God created. Because Adam sinned, all people are born sinners. That means David was a sinner like you and me. He was tempted by his sinful desires, wanting something he should not have. And he chose to disobey God's law, which is sin. When we are tempted by something, it forces us to make a decision; we can either choose God's way and not sin, or we can choose our own way and sin.

Which way did David choose? His own way.

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

Even though God would forgive him, David was still punished. 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 there would be consequences for his sin even though God 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 all 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

Refer to the Books of the Bible Poster. 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.

Let's see what these verses have to say about sin, repentance, and forgiveness.

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

What did David want to be washed and cleansed of in verse 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 him from 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. In verse 4, who did David say he had sinned against? Against the Lord.

David knew he had sinned against the Lord, our holy God. And although his sin did hurt others—Bathsheba, Uriah, and the baby—David's sin was really against God. But David repented of his sin. He cried out for God's mercy, confessed what he did, and asked for forgiveness.

Refer to the Attributes of God Poster. What attributes of God did we see in this account of David? Which word means God cannot sin and hates sin? Holy.

We also saw that God is just and must punish sin. How about mercy? God withheld the punishment David deserved—he should have been killed for committing murder.

When we sin, we often hurt ourselves and others. Yet, our sins 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 keep feeling guilty of our sin. Because of Jesus' death on the cross, we can be cleansed from our sins and forgiven.

Slide #20

Slide #21

Let's finish the Class Notes. Who will read #5? What did David do when Nathan told him he was the man in the story? 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.

Refer to the Memory Verse Poster. When David heard the story, he acknowledged his sin like our memory verse says. David understood what he did was wrong and knew he couldn't cover it up. He confessed it to God 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.

David did some terrible things, and it's easy to understand why God would need to punish him. But did you know that even the sins we might think are very small are really just as bad? God doesn't measure how big or small our sins are. He is holy, so any and every sin that we do counts.

There might be things we try to get away with thinking no one will notice, but God notices. Because he is just, he must punish all sin. So next time you're tempted to do something wrong—and it seems like such a little thing—think again. Ask God to help you make the right decision and say no to sin, no matter how "large" or "small" it may be.

The good news is that we don't have to do this on our own. God has provided a way for us to be saved from our sins through Jesus Christ. All who will come to him, ask forgiveness, turn from their sins, and believe in Jesus can be made right with God. We can have the joy of forgiveness and peace with God. Then, with God's help, we can make the right choices whenever we are tempted to sin. God's Word will help us do this, which is why we study it! We want God and his Word to change how we live.

## 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.

## Limited License to Reproduce

A limited, non-exclusive, non-transferable, nonsublicensable license is hereby granted to a single local church or organization to print copies of the PDF materials in the Teacher Digital Resources if 1) you are the original purchaser; 2) you are using the copies for noncommercial purposes (such as for teaching in class) exclusively within your single local church or organization (multi-campus churches, and national/regional denominations are not covered under this license); and 3) you follow the instructions provided in the curriculum pertaining to the printable materials.

This license is for the specific purchaser of the product and does not include affiliated groups or organizations, or other churches or groups in the same denomination as the purchaser, not identified as the actual purchaser. There is no limit to the number of printed copies for use within the single local church or organization which is the actual purchaser. None of the material in this curriculum may be reproduced for any commercial promotion, advertising, or sale of a product or service, or to share with any other persons, churches, groups, or organizations.

The media (audio/video) portions are copyrighted and duplication is prohibited. This license is for materials in the Teacher Digital Resources only and does NOT include reproduction rights for pre-printed teacher books, student guides, student take home sheets, or posters, except on an emergency basis when purchased quantities are not sufficient for a given week.

## Bible Version

Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.