

# God Forgives a Sinful King

The Story — Lesson 12

**Scripture:** Psalm 51:1-12; 1 Chronicles 29:1-20

**Key Verse:** Wash away all of the evil things I've done. Make me pure from my sin. —Psalm 51:2 NIRV

**Bible Truth:** God is just and forgiving.

**Age 2—rising 2nd grade:** Read *The Story for Little Ones*, Chapter 12: “David is Sorry”

**Rising 3rd—5th grades:** Read *The Story for Kids*, Chapter 12: “A King Makes Bad Choices”

## STEP 1: Come Together

Gather the family and tell them you're going to spend a few minutes studying God's word together. Pray and thank God for giving you time together and for calling us to himself.

Ask your younger and older children about a time they've broken something. Perhaps it was an accident, or perhaps it was an act of disobedience. Regardless of the motivation, talk about what happens next. Maybe the item can be put back together, but it will never be the way it once was. Or maybe it can't be put together and had to be thrown away. The Bible calls the bad and wrong things we do sin, and all sin has to be punished. Because God loves us so much, he sent his son Jesus to take the punishment for our sins. Now instead of God's wrath, we get God's forgiveness. Say, **In today's story, we'll hear about a man who made a big mistake, but God forgave him and used him to do big things for his kingdom.**

## STEP 2: Hear the Story

Read today's story from your copy of *The Story*, or read Psalm 51:1-12.

## STEP 3: Explore More

Review these catechism questions and answers to follow up on today's story. Read the questions and answers, then repeat each one, having your child repeat back the answer.

**Question 38:** How sinful are you by nature? (I am corrupt in every part of my being.)

**Question 39:** What is the sinful nature that we inherit from Adam called? (Original sin.)

## STEP 4: Dig Deeper

Read (or have your older children read) Psalm 23, another Psalm of David, in your Bible. There is only one way any of us could enjoy God's mercy and live in heaven with him forever. God sent Jesus, his only Son, to die on the cross for our sin. Now all those who trust in Jesus are forgiven and get to live in the house of God (in heaven) forever. Jesus is the way God kept the promises David sang about. When we trust in Jesus we can live forever in heaven. One day, everyone who goes to heaven will meet David, the man who wrote Psalm 23. When David sang, “The Lord is my shepherd,” he was exactly right. Hundreds of years later, when Jesus began his ministry, he said, “I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep” (John 10:14–15).

**MONDAY** .....

**Read** 2 Samuel 7:16-17

**Ask** What did God promise David?

**Read** Luke 1:30-33

**Pray** and thank God for keeping his promise to David, and to us, by sending his Son Jesus to rescue us and to rule forever.

**TUESDAY** .....

**Read** 2 Samuel 7:18

**Ask** What does David ask for?

**Read** Psalm 51:1

**Pray** and ask God to help you understand your own sin, and thank God for the mercy he shows us.

**WEDNESDAY** .....

**Read** 2 Samuel 12:13

**Ask** What did David say he had done?

**Read** Psalm 32:5

**Pray** and confess your sin to God. Thank him for his forgiveness.

**THURSDAY** .....

**Read** 1 Chronicles 22:7-10

**Ask** What did David want to build? Who would build it instead?

**Read** Psalm 51:16-17

**Pray** and thank God that we don't have to be in a special building or offer special gifts in order to worship him. Worship God where you are right now!

**FRIDAY** .....

**Read** 1 Chronicles 28:9

**Ask** How are we to serve God?

**Read** Psalm 32:11

**Praise** God for his mercy and grace. Tell him how great he is, and thank him for loving us and sending his Son Jesus to rescue us!