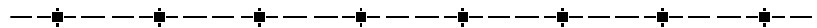


# Old Testament

Mission Arlington • Mission Metroplex Curriculum • 2008

# Families of the Old Testament



Created for use with young, unchurched learners  
Adaptable for all ages including adults

# Old Testament

## A Foolish King Destroys a Family

David and Bathsheba

II Samuel 11-12

A Foolish King  
Destroys a Family  
II Samuel 11:1-17

### Memory Verse:

David was the father of  
Solomon. Solomon's mother  
had been Uriah's wife.  
(Matthew 1:6 NIV)

### Lesson Goals:

1. Understand that David sinned against God.
2. Understand that God wants us to take responsibility for our sin and to repent.
3. Learn that Nathan confronted David about his sin.
4. Recognize that sin (disobedience) has consequences.

Last week we learned that King Saul disobeyed God. Samuel tried to help Saul follow God. Saul did not repent, instead he made excuses for his sin. Saul refused to take responsibility for his sin, so God rejected him as king.

### Read the Bible

**READ: II Samuel 11:1-17 (Hold your Bible open throughout the story.)**

### Begin With Prayer

You may remember that Samuel had anointed David as king. After Saul died, David became king. One year in the spring when the kings were supposed to go off to war, David did not go. He sent Joab with special troops and the whole army of Israel. They fought against the Ammonites and destroyed them. They got ready to attack another city, but King David stayed in Jerusalem. (II Samuel 11:1-2)

One night David got up and saw a beautiful woman. David found out who she was and sent for her. Even though David knew that she was the wife of another man he spent the night with her. Bathsheba became pregnant and she sent David word. ( II Samuel 11:3-5) [Teachers: If you choose to tell the children about this, remind them that it is sin for one man to take another man's wife. This may be more information than your children need. You may want to leave some of it out. Be sensitive.] When David found out that Bathsheba was pregnant he sent for her husband, Uriah. He wanted Uriah to stay with Bathsheba so that she would think it was his baby. David even got Uriah drunk. But Uriah did not stay with his wife. Since his men were in battle he did not think it was right for him to go home. (II Samuel 11:6-17) When David could not get Uriah to go home, he came up with an evil plan to have Uriah killed. David asked Joab to help him. His plan worked and Uriah died. (II Samuel 11:14-17) [Teachers: You may want to tell more about David's plan to kill Uriah or this may be more information than your children need. You may want to leave some of it out. Be sensitive.]

Joab sent David a report of all that happened in the battle where Uriah was killed. David responded to Joab and told him to keep fighting. (II Samuel 11:18-25)

When Bathsheba learned that Uriah was dead, she cried and mourned. But when the time of mourning was over, David brought her to his house. Bathsheba became his wife. But God was not happy with what

### David — Bible Facts

1. David was the king of Israel.
2. David sinned against God.
3. David tried to cover up his sin.
4. God sent Nathan to tell David about his sin.
5. David repented of his sin.

David had done. (II Samuel 11: 26-27)

God sent Nathan the prophet to tell David about his sins. Nathan told David a story about a rich man and a poor man. The poor man had only one little lamb that he loved, while the rich man had many, and he also had many cattle. One day the rich man had a guest come. He took the poor man's little lamb and killed it to feed his guest. (II Samuel 12:1-4)

When David heard the story he was very angry. He told Nathan the prophet that the rich man deserved to die. (II Samuel 12:5-6) Then Nathan said to David, "You are the man! ... 'Why did you turn your back on what I told you to do? You did what is evil in my sight. You made sure that Uriah, the Hittite, would be killed in battle. You took his wife to be your own. You let the men of Ammon kill him with their swords. " (II Samuel 12:7-12)

Unlike Saul who refused to take responsibility, David repented and said, "I have sinned against the Lord." (II Samuel 12:13) Nathan, the prophet, told David that he would not die, but that the baby born to Bathsheba would not live. (II Samuel 13-15) When the baby was born, the baby became very ill. David begged God to heal the baby, but the baby died. (II Samuel 12:13-20) After the baby died, David got up and worshipped God. Later when the Bible talks about another son that David and Bathsheba had, it says, "David was the father of Solomon, whose mother had been Uriah's wife." (Matthew 1:6 NIV) We will learn about him later. (II Samuel 12:20-24) Sin has consequences. David's sin destroyed a family, destroyed a man's life, and caused the death of a child. God wants us to love and obey Him. He sent Jesus to help us learn how to do that.

### Review Questions

1. **Who was David?** (David was the king of Israel.)
2. **What did David do?** (David sinned against God.)
3. **What did David do after that?** (David tried to hide his sin.)
4. **What did God do?** (God sent Nathan, the prophet, to confront David.)
5. **What did David do in response to Nathan's message?** (David repented.)

### Do you know Jesus?

God sent Jesus to help us learn how to love and obey Him. Jesus was obedient to God. He was willing to die on the cross for our sins. Because Jesus died on the cross and rose from the dead, we can have a personal relationship with God. Do you know Him? Would you like to invite Him to be a part of your life?

### Prayer Time

1. Take a moment to listen to God.
2. Thank God for sending Jesus to help us obey God.
3. Ask God to help you repent from sin.
4. Pray for friends and family members who need to know God.

### Application

David chose to sin against God. The Bible says, "David was the father of Solomon. Solomon's mother had been Uriah's wife." (Matthew 1:6 NIV) Even after David repented of his sin, after being confronted by Nathan, the prophet, the circumstances did not change. Bathsheba was still identified as the wife of Uriah. Sin has consequences. Unfortunately, when sin is brought to light, its effects linger for a long time.

**Planning for the next week:  
Solomon (A Wise King Makes Foolish Choices) — I Kings 1-11**

# Preschool Lesson

## Read the Bible

**READ: II Samuel 12:1-13 (Hold your Bible open throughout the story.)**

(Decorate your class with sheep and cattle. Have someone dress up like Nathan the prophet and someone dress up like David the king.)

David sinned against God. God sent Nathan the prophet to tell David about his sins. Nathan told David a story about a rich man and a poor man. The poor man had only one little lamb that he loved, while the rich man had many, and he also had many cattle. One day the rich man had a guest come. He took the poor man's little lamb and killed it to feed his guest. (II Samuel 12:1-4)

When David heard the story he was very angry. He told Nathan, the prophet, that the rich man deserved to die. (II Samuel 12:5-6) Then Nathan said to David, "You are the man! ... Why did you turn your back on what I told you to do? You did what is evil in my sight...." (II Samuel 12:7-12)

Unlike Saul who refused to take responsibility, David repented and said, "I have sinned against the Lord." (II Samuel 12:13) David's sin destroyed a family. God wants us to love and obey Him. He sent Jesus to help us learn how to do that.

### Prayer Time

1. Take a moment to listen to God.
2. Thank God for sending Jesus to help us obey God.
3. Ask God to help you feel sorry when you do wrong.

**Did you know?** Preschoolers can learn true repentance.

Consider this: Create two rows on the floor with masking tape or rope. Place arrows made of construction paper to help direct the flow. At the end of one row place a picture of someone fighting or being mean. At the end of the other row, going in the opposite direction, place a picture of someone being a helper. Have the children walk down both rows. Tell the children that repentance is choosing to go in the opposite direction and feeling sorry for doing bad things. So that when we repent we stop doing what is wrong and start doing what is right.

## Learning Activities

**Memory verse activity** — Write the letters for the name “Nathan” on construction paper. On the other side write the memory verse. Practice the verse. Talk about Nathan’s role in this situation. (N— Nathan was a messenger, A—assigned to tell a king about his sin, T— telling the king could mean he would die, H— human—David could have used the excuse that he was only human, A—acknowledge and admit—David admitted his sin before God, N—next—David repented and asked for God’s forgiveness.

**Test your memory** — Create several pictures of the story. Use the pictures to tell the story. Have the children retell the story.

**Taste activity** — Bring a cake in the shape of a lamb. Or bring treats that are shaped like lambs (Animal Crackers) or make lambs with marshmallows.

**Think about it** — David prayed to God. Read Psalm 51 aloud. This is something David wrote after he repented. Ask the children to pray and ask God for forgiveness for things they have done that are wrong. You may need to lead them.

David was a king. He already had several wives. He didn’t need another wife. Talk about how sin leads us to want what belongs to others or to want what others have. Ask God to help keep your desires in check.

David sinned, that sin led to other sin, and that sin led to murder. Talk about how sin drives deeper and deeper than we ever intend to go.

**Touch activity** — Bring costumes and let the children take turns pretending to be Nathan, the prophet, and King David.

**Run and play** — Create two rows on the floor with masking tape or rope. Place arrows made of construction paper to help direct the flow. At the end of one row place a picture of someone fighting or being mean. At the end of the other row, going in the opposite direction place a picture of someone being a helper. Have the children walk down both rows. Tell the children that repentance is choosing to go in the opposite direction and feeling sorry for doing bad things. So that when we repent we stop doing what is wrong and start doing what is right.

**Listen** — As they take time to listen to God, remind the children that God wants us to repent of our sins. He also wants us to love Him and obey Him.

**Sing** — Sing “Obedience,” “Trust and Obey,” or other songs related to the story.

## Memory Verse Activity

**N**

**A**

**T**

**H**

**A**

**N**

## Memory Verse

David was  
the father  
of Solomon.  
Solomon's mother  
had been  
Uriah's wife.

Matthew 1:6 NIV

## Word Art

Trace the letters.

David

sinned,

but

repented

of his

sin.



# Word Puzzle

D T D U D E T N E P E R  
H A E E R T S L O I B P  
S X V S Y I R S O A R N  
J C T I E E A S T F A S  
B O M I D O B H G T I F  
K S A M P S S O H N V E  
L E N B E H H A N E P V  
F O E N E F N E R I A S  
Y D R B V E D I G C D S  
B M A D F G R S D N J S  
A R R R P O L A O T I V  
C O N S E Q U E N C E S

DAVID

BATHSHEBA

URIAH

JOAB

NATHAN

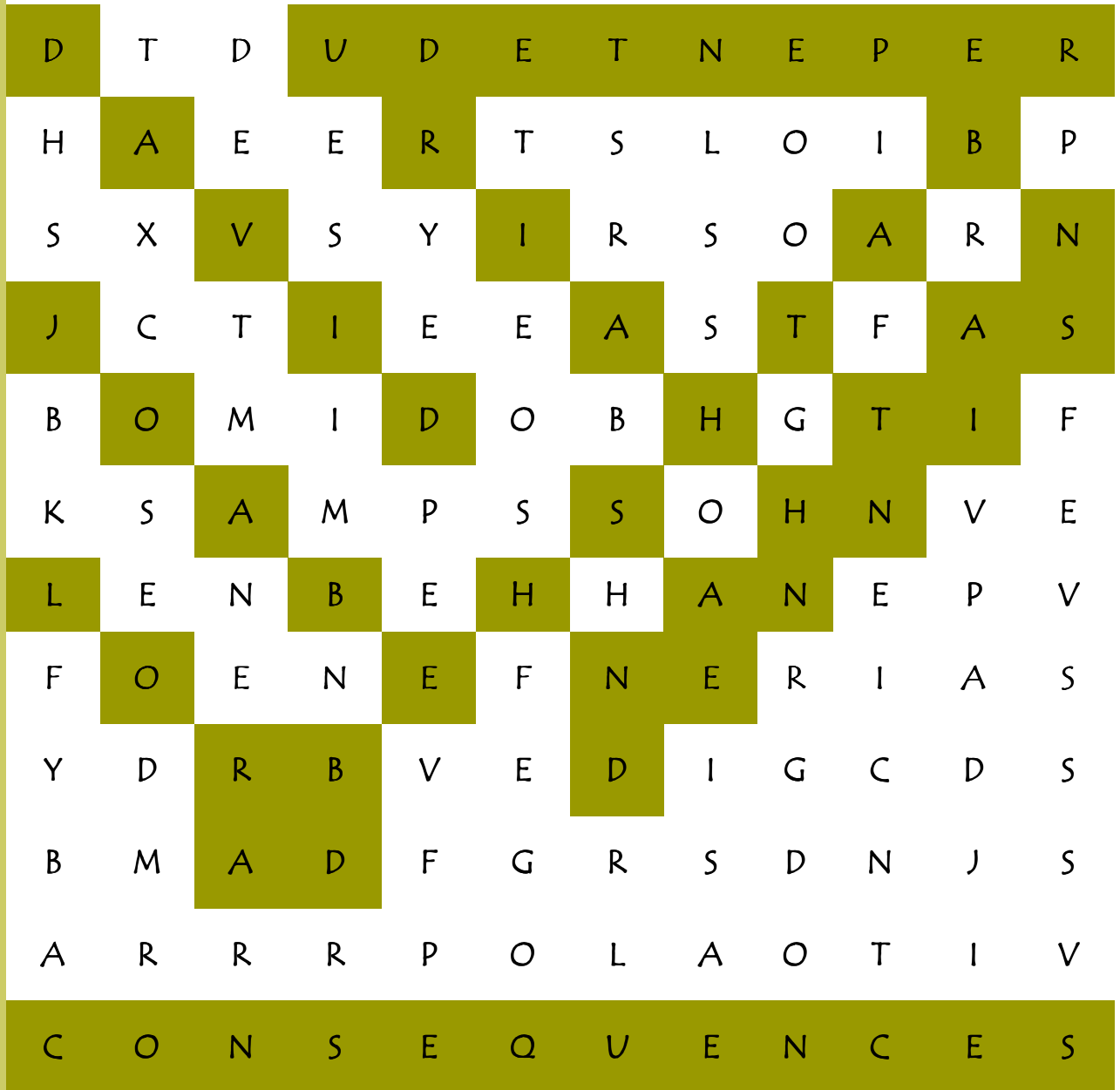
SINNED

LORD

REPENTED

CONSEQUENCES

# Word Puzzle



DAVID

BATHSHEBA

URIAH

JOAB

NATHAN

SINNED

LORD

REPENTED

CONSEQUENCES

## Word Puzzle For Younger Children

F Q N K B N T P M C W N  
P D B M S F N T J S V W  
L O R D K N F S R G P L  
S I N N E D N K D S C H  
R E P E N T F J P W R S  
D I S O B E Y E Y D K L  
N A T H A N T M L F G W  
D A V I D F P G H E R D

DAVID

NATHAN

DISOBEY

REPENT

SINNED

LORD

# Word Puzzle For Younger Children

F Q N K B N T P M C W N  
P D B M S F N T J S V W  
L O R D K N F S R G P L  
S I N N E D N K D S C H  
R E P E N T F J P W R S  
D I S O B E Y E Y D K L  
N A T H A N T M L F G W  
D A V I D F P G H E R D

DAVID

NATHAN

DISOBEY

REPENT

SINNED

LORD

## Anagram

1. EDIYBOS -

2. OCREV PU -

3. EEERPD -

4. EEICTD -

5. NDURK -

6. AENNDLP -

7. EILLKD -

8. DFTNNRCOOE -

## Anagram

1. EDIYBOS – DISOBEY
2. OCREV PU – COVER UP
3. EEERPD – DEEPER
4. EEICTD – DECEIT
5. NDURK – DRUNK
6. AENNDLP – PLANNED
7. EILLKD – KILLED
8. DFTNNRCOOE – CONFRONTED