



David

A man after God's own heart



Mission Arlington / Mission Metroplex Summer Curriculum

Religious Organization · Mission · Social Services

Let my words and my thoughts be pleasing to You, Lord,
because You are my Mighty Rock and my Protector.
Psalm 19:14

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Introduction to heart look

In this age of social media that we live in, our relationships can become distorted . . . including our relationship with God. That is why this summer we parody a well known social media site to get to the heart of the matter.

When we make time to connect with others, are we also connecting with God? As we seek to be surrounded by a multitude of friends, do we remember that in God we have a friend who sticks closer than a brother? Maybe we have even become very accustomed to wearing a mask as we relate to others, not realizing that God sees the condition of our heart. Join us on a journey to the depths of your own heart as we seek to be pleasing to God with our words and our thoughts.

David's Legacy

2 Samuel 7, 11, 12:1-14; Psalm 32, 51

Memory verse: "So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don't fall!" (1 Corinthians 10:12 NIV)



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Lesson 6 - Review

Do you remember what happened after King Saul and Jonathan's deaths? (David grieved.) Did David rush to the throne to become king? (No. He waited on God.) And once David was crowned king what happened? (He wanted to know if Jonathan had any family still living.) Did he? (Yes. Mephibosheth.) What did King David do for Mephibosheth? (Gave him back his grandfather's land and sat him at the king's own table.) Why do you think David did that instead of destroying him? (Because David had a heart like God's.)



Lesson 7

Do you think that because David had a heart like God's that maybe he was perfect and never did anything wrong? Let's see what the Bible tells us.

The Bible says that "After the king was settled in his palace and the Lord had given him rest from all his enemies around him, he said to Nathan the prophet, "Here I am, living in a palace of cedar, while the ark of God remains in a tent." (2 Samuel 7:1-2 NIV) You see, the ark of God represented God's presence among His people and David, whose heart was like God's, thought that if he could have a palace, surely God's presence deserved so much more than the tent that had once traveled around the desert so long before.

When God responded to David's request, He said something odd. God told David that He would make David's name great and that He would establish a house for David, a house and a kingdom that would never end! God was promising that His very own son, Jesus, would come from David's family!

God also told David that one of David's own sons would have the honor of building a house for God, the temple. God was pleased with David and with that came His blessings.

Something happened, though, as David rested from his enemies. There was a time when the kings went off to battle, but David decided to stay home. He sent his army instead. One evening he saw another man's wife, Bathsheba, and took her for his own. When David tried to cover up his sin, he actually made it worse by killing Bathsheba's husband.

David didn't confess his sin. David held on to it, thinking no one would ever know. And as he did he felt it in his bones, "groaning all day long." (Psalm 32:3b AMP) He felt God's displeasure like a weight on him. (Psalm 32)

Then, God sent the prophet Nathan to King David again. Nathan told David a story about two men who lived in the same town. One was rich the other poor. The rich man had a lot of sheep, the poor man had only one. A visitor came to see the rich man and in-

stead of killing one of his own sheep to entertain the visitor, the rich man took the only sheep the poor man had.

When King David heard this, he was furious. He told Nathan, "As the LORD lives, the man who did this deserves to die!" (2 Samuel 12:5 HCSB) "Then Nathan said to David, 'You are the man!'" (2 Samuel 12:7 NIV) God had given David the crown and He had saved him from Saul. And if David had wanted anything else, God would have given it to him. Nathan told David everything he had done. David thought he had done it all in secret, but nothing is a secret with God.

David listened to God's message from the prophet Nathan and knew what his response needed to be. Even in his sin, David had a heart like God's. David told Nathan, "I have sinned against God." Then David cried out to God. (Psalm 51)

In the instant David confessed his sin, God forgave him. There were consequences, though. Even in God's punishment He kept His promises to David. David's son Solomon built a grand and beautiful temple for God. And God built that "house" for David, a family line that led straight to Jesus Christ, the Savior of the World!



Memory Verse Activities:

"So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don't fall!" (1 Corinthians 10:12 NIV)

- ® Write the memory verse on the outline of a foot. Encourage your students to memorize the verses.
- ® Make up movements for each word or phrase of the memory verse and practice, practice, practice.
- ® How can you be careful not to fall? Read Psalm 119.



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Games and Activities:

- ® Make temples! Talk about David's son building a temple for God.
- ® Run relays. Talk about the need to run away from sin.
- ® The Psalms are a lot like David's diary. Begin a diary of your own. Write out what God is teaching you and how God is working in your life.



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Songs:

- ® "Amazing Love"
- ® "Trust and Obey"
- ® "Amazing Grace/My Chains are Gone"
- ® "The Lord Has a Will"



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Food for Thought:

- ® **Review:** What does it mean to "have a heart like God's"? "Seems to me, it means that you are a person whose life is in harmony with the Lord. What is important to Him is important to you." (Charles Swindoll, *David* p. 6) How do you see this at work in David's decisions?
- ® Read 2 Samuel 7:18-29. "When God says 'no' it is not necessarily discipline or rejection. It may simply be redirection. . . Well, what was David's response? It's beautiful. . . Just like a little boy, David sat down before the Lord and said, in effect, 'Dad, what is David, that You've blessed my house and You've blessed my life. . . Who am I?' You know, it's important that every once in a while we sit down, take a long look at our short lives, and just count our blessings. . . 'Dream or no dream, I'm a blessed person,' says David. Here is more evidence that David was a man after God's own heart." (Charles Swindoll, *David* p. 162-164)
- ® "This is a good time to remember that David was a man who loved God . . . He was still 'a man after God's heart.' He sinned, but his sin was no greater than your sin or mine; ours simply have not been recorded for all to read . . . Personally, when I step into this chapter of David's life, I am forever grateful that God has finished writing Scripture." (Charles Swindoll, *David* p. 179)
- ® Read 2 Samuel 12:1-10. "In a marvelous move on God's part He finally brought before David a man of great integrity, a man who told him the truth. I don't think any other confrontation has ever been so brief and so effective. Four three-letter words did the job: 'You are the man!' David crumbled in humility. And I think a fresh gush of relief came over his life." (Charles Swindoll, *David* p. 195-196) ." Is there anything you need to confess to God?
- ® Read through and discuss Psalms 32 and 51, written by David after his sin with Bathsheba.