

Lesson #1-7*Nathan and King David*

2 Samuel 11:1-5; 26-27; 12:1-9; Psalm 51: 1-9

**Key Verse:**

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love.
Psalm 51:1

The Point:

We can always seek forgiveness when we sin and stray from God.

Unit Theme (October 14—November 4)

Living Faithfully in the Promise

Confession

Gracious God, we are sinners, and we confess our many sins to you today:

Leader: For all the times that we did not put you first in our lives, but instead valued wealth, power, prestige, or comfort...

All: Forgive us, Lord.

Leader: For making you in our own image, and for assuming that our understanding of you is the only correct one...

All: Forgive us, Lord.

Leader: For using your name to our advantage instead of to call upon you to help those in need...

All: Forgive us, Lord.

Leader: For forgetting our limits and failing to gather together in community...

All: Forgive us, Lord.

Leader: For thinking we know best and not listening to the wisdom of our parents and elders...

All: Forgive us, Lord.

Leader: For the times we have hurt others, for the times when we did not stop someone from hurting another, and for all the times we did not provide for the basic needs of others...

All: Forgive us, Lord.

Leader: For the times we broke our promises and sought our own desires even when others would be harmed...

All: Forgive us, Lord.

Leader: For the times we took what was not ours, exploited our environment for our own profit, or sought our own comfort despite the suffering of others...

All: Forgive us, Lord.

Leader: For the times we gossiped, lied, or did not honor others...

All: Forgive us, Lord.

Leader: For the many times we wanted what was not ours and neglected to give thanks for all that we have...

All: Forgive us, Lord.

Leader: For all the ways that we have broken your covenant, destroyed relationships, harmed the earth, and engaged in injustice...

All: Forgive us, Lord.

Bringing It Home

This week:

- ✠ Confession can be done in a group or individually. Take some time this week to engage in individual reflection and confession. Follow the pattern from Psalm 51 of confession: prayer for forgiveness, prayer for renewal, and reflection on how God's forgiveness brings renewed passion in serving God.
- ✠ In this week's story, Bathsheba is seen as property and not given control in her own life. Even today there are people trapped in similar situations through human trafficking. Adults can research local efforts to stop human trafficking, and families might be able to participate in a fundraiser or other service project to assist a local shelter.
- ✠ Learn about the sinful people that God chose to use in the Bible. What were the sins of Noah, Abraham, Jacob, Joseph, and Moses, for example? Reflect on why God would use them despite their sinfulness.