



Dear Parents:

This page lets you know what your child learned today at church. Included are suggested discussion questions and possible activities that you may use to reinforce the Bible story at home. Please ask your child to share today's story with you. You may be surprised at how much he or she remembers!

TODAY'S STORY: NATHAN

David repents, and God forgives and restores his relationship. He keeps His promise to David, but there are still consequences of his sin – both for himself and others.

Today your child learned more about King David. When God's prophet Nathan confronts David about the bad things he has done, David understands that he has disobeyed God. He is sorry for all the wrong things he has done. God forgives David for everything, but there are some consequences because of his sins. David continues to worship God. Then when David and Bathsheba have a son named Solomon, God loves Solomon very much.

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: 2 Samuel 12:1-25

FOCUS FOR YOUNGER CHILDREN:

"When I'm sorry, God forgives me."

NEXT WEEK'S STORY: ISAIAH

(Isaiah 53; 9:6-7)

PRAYER:

Talk with your children about the wrong things that we do and the need to be forgiven. Remind them that God will forgive them when they are sorry. Have your child pray simple prayers asking God for forgiveness for the things he/she has done to make God sad. Then remind your children to thank God: "Thank you, Jesus, for forgiving me when I _____."

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Why did God send Nathan to tell David a story?
- What story did Nathan tell David?
- Why was David angry after hearing Nathan's story?
- When David realised the story was about him, what did he do?
- Have you ever been selfish like the rich man in Nathan's story? What are some examples?
- Why do you think God forgives David?
- Do you ever do things that make God sad? Do you think God will forgive you for the bad things you do? Why?

SUGGESTED PARENT/CHILD ACTIVITIES

Even after David's child died, he continued to worship God. (2 Samuel 12:20)

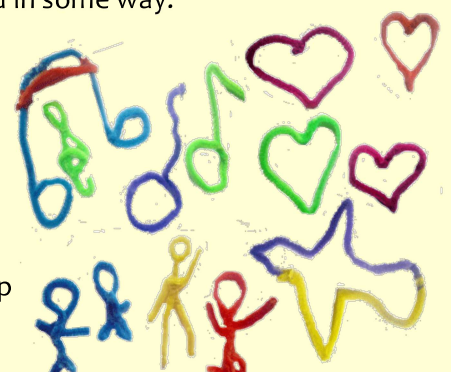
Optional Discussion Topics:

- ~ Describe God in three words.
- ~ What do you like about God?
- ~ Share about an answered prayer.
- ~ What does it mean to worship God?
- ~ What form(s) can worship take? What can it look like?

Encourage your children to talk about what worshipping God means to them. Let them use pipe cleaners to make shapes that represent worship of God in some way.

The pipe cleaners can simply be a reflection of how amazing God is. Then take some time to worship together with your family ...

singing songs, reading the Bible, dancing, praying, drawing or anything else that brings glory to God!



A HEART LIKE HIS

Discussion: Remember that a few weeks ago we learned that even though people often judge others by looking at the outward appearance, God looks at the heart. God wants us to have a heart like His. How can we do that?

The following craft can be used as a reminder that God wants us to have a heart like His. Even David recognized his need for a clean heart.

What you'll need:

- ~ Wooden clothespins
- ~ Glue
- ~ Scissors
- ~ Paint & paintbrushes (or markers)
- ~ Heart shapes (wooden, thick paper or felt)
- ~ Magnets



Instructions:

1. Help your child glue a magnet to the back of a clothespin.
2. Cut a heart from felt/paper or paint a wooden heart. Glue this to the end of the clothespin (on the side without the magnet).
3. Decorate the clothespin, and put it on your refrigerator to hold photos or other papers.

REMEMBER THE STORY

What you'll need:

- ~ White index cards
- ~ White crayons
- ~ Diluted paint
- ~ Paintbrushes



Instructions:

1. Using a thick layer of white crayon, draw a picture or write a word on each card to represent a different part of the story.
2. Allow your child to paint on the card to reveal the image.
3. Then arrange each card in order, and try to tell the story!



COMMANDMENT BOWLING

When David did bad things in today's story, he disobeyed God's commandments.

This game can teach your children about the Ten Commandments that God gave His people. As you prepare the bowling pins, ask your children which commands they think David disobeyed.

What you'll need:

- ~ Ten empty water bottles
- ~ Scissors, paper, markers & tape
- ~ A lightweight ball
- ~ Items to place in the bottles that can represent the meaning of each commandment

Examples:

- #01 – A first place ribbon or medal
- #02 – Coins with heart stickers on them
- #03 – Toothpaste (to keep your mouth clean)
- #04 – Small calendar, photo of praying hands or a drawing of a Bible
- #05 – Photo (or drawing) of Dad & Mum
- #06 – Toy weapon or drawing of one
- #07 – Drawing of a heart or wedding rings
- #08 – A paper hand with a piece of candy taped to it
- #09 – A drawing of someone lying to others
- #10 – A bracelet, bouncing ball or some other item your child desires

Instructions:

1. Cut each water bottle in half.
2. Place selected items inside each bottle. Allow your children to help create these. *Optional: Include a piece of paper with the scripture stating that commandment.*
3. Tape the bottles back together.
4. Go bowling! *Optional: As each pin is knocked down, discuss that command.*