



FAITH AT HOME

Aldersgate Church ~ St. Louis Park, MN

Week of October 23, 2022: 2 Samuel 11:1-5, 26-27; 12:1-9, Psalm 51:1-9

Memory Verse

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

A Family Prayer

God, you made us, you
love us, you know us.

You know we are not
perfect; you know we make
mistakes, but still you offer
to forgive us when we say
sorry.

Even more than that
you invite us to make
changes so that we learn
from our mistakes.

Thank you God, for your
amazing love and wise
judgement.

Help us to want to be more
like your Son, Jesus. Guide
us to be the best that we
can be. Encourage us to be
honest with ourselves and
others.

Give us wisdom to help us
see our faults and find ways
to change. Amen.

The Story: David & Bathsheba

NOTE: This week's Bible story deals with heavy content, not necessarily suitable for young children. You know your family better than anyone, use what works for you! Also, the Psalm is added today because it is attributed to David in direct connection to today's story.

Rich Man/Poor Man

A prophet is a person who tells people what God is thinking. Once Nathan, a prophet, told King David a story:

A rich man and a poor man had sheep. The rich man had lots, the poor man had only one. The rich man had too many to know their names. The poor man loved his lamb, fed it, cared for it, and let it sleep in his arms.



Activities:**Mirror, Mirror (any age)**

You will need: hand-held mirrors, preferably ones children can hold easily and then decorate; small stick-on "gems", glass pebbles, etc. to create a border; glue

Begin by having your child look in the mirror and 'mirror' funny faces that you make. Talk about learning from what other people do and how David learned from his friend Nathan. Talk about the people around us from whom can learn good things.

Decorate the mirror, creating a frame around it.

Little Lamb (age 3-5)

You will need: a printed or drawn silhouette of a lamb; cotton balls, glue

Instruct children to put wool on the lamb. Then give the lamb a name. Let it be a reminder through the week that we should treat people in gentle and kind ways.



The rich man had a party but instead of using his own sheep he stole the poor man's sheep.

Kind David listened to the story and was angry at what the rich man had done. Nathan, the prophet, said to Kind David, "You are a king and you behave just like that rich man. Remember how angry you felt about what the rich man did. Imagine how God feels when you behave the same way."

The prophet left David to think about the story and how David could live in a better way.

Family Discussion: Nathan used a story to help David understand what he was doing. Jesus used stories, called parables, to help people understand difficult ideas. Ask your children what their favorite story is. Does it teach something, have a moral?

Discuss how sometimes we can see other people doing bad things, such as lying or being mean to someone else. We do not always see it when we are the ones doing the same thing.

Prayer: *Dear God, thank you for giving us stories so we can understand what you want us to do. Help us to act in a good way. Help us to do what is right. Thank you for your forgiveness when we do something wrong. Amen.*



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