

Personal weekly Bible readings to go deeper into Scripture.

Memory Verse: 1 Kings 3:9a

Day 1 – Chapter 13 of The Story

Day 2 – 1 Kings 1-4

Day 3 – 1 Kings 5-8

Day 4 – 2 Chronicles 5-7

Day 5 – Proverbs 1-3

Questions to consider while reading the Bible:

Is there an example to follow?

Is there a sin to avoid?

Is there a promise to rely on?

Is there a command to obey?

Is there a challenge in which to respond?



The Story: The Trials of a King

December 8-9, 2012

"The Story" Chapter 12; 2 Samuel 12:1-9, 13

Please use this space to take notes during the message today.



Then David said to Nathan, "I have sinned against the LORD." 1 Samuel 12:13

Scan to go to
the message blog or go to
www.gloriadeionline.wordpress.com.

Adult and teen small group discussion points

Please use these discussion questions in your small group or with your teens.

1. Share a time when you made a wrong turn on a road trip and the results created a real hardship.
2. What were the steps in David's sin and cover-up? Compare David's steps leading to sin with Eve's (p. 4). How can your group help hold each other accountable to guard against the same pathway?
3. David's sins did not just affect him but others around him. Note the effects on the following: Bathsheba, Uriah, The prophet Nathan, The military commander Joab, other soldiers under Joab's command, the baby conceived by Bathsheba, other people in David's life.
4. Once Uriah was dead, David seemed to think he had gotten away with his coveting, adultery, lying, and murder. But when Nathan confronted him, David realized that God knew everything. What are some of the ways we can deceive ourselves into thinking we have covered our tracks and hidden our sins (from ourselves, others, and even God)?
5. Psalm 32 describes what David felt before and after his confession. (p. 135) If all our sins were forgiven by Christ dying on the cross, then what value does confession have today? Why is it so important?
6. God forgave David, but there were still consequences to his sinful actions. What were some of the consequences David faced immediately and over the long term because of his sinful choices?
7. Following his sin, David's family unraveled. He was betrayed by his son Absalom and deeply mourned his death. How have you responded to betrayal?
8. How did the people feel about giving to the work of the temple that Solomon would build? Why were they so willing?
9. Why is it important that we walk in God's grace, but still realize we might face very real consequences of our sins?
10. What do we learn about the holiness and heart of God when we consider Nathan's interactions with David?
11. Look back at Psalm 23. Why do you think this passage continues to be so meaningful to people?

12. David's life, even with his falls and frailties, still pointed people to God. How can God use our lives—the good and bad—to show his presence, love, and grace to the people around us?

Close in prayer.



Family's with kids discussion points

Please use these discussion questions with your children.

Key verse: Wash away all of the evil things I've done. Make me pure from my sin. Psalm 51:2

1. God forgave David, but there were still consequences for his sin as David and Bathsheba's first son died. Can you think of any consequences you've faced after doing something wrong?
2. Later, David's son Absalom rebelled against him. Absalom was very proud of his hair, which ended up getting caught in a tree and led to his death. (Can anyone say, "Pride comes before getting your hair stuck in a tree"?) Why is pride such a big deal to God?
3. Are there any areas of pride that you need to look at in your life?
4. Talk about some of David's greatest accomplishments and mess-ups. What can you learn from his life?
5. King David was called a man after God's heart, but made a huge mistake and tried to cover it up. Is hiding sins ever a good idea? Why?
6. The prophet Nathan came to let David know that God knew about David's sin. David was totally embarrassed and felt awful. Have you ever sinned and tried to hide it? What happened? (As a parent, if you have a story to tell about your childhood, please share it here.)
7. Talk about what it feels like when you're trying to hide something that you've done. How does it make you feel?
8. What wrong actions do you battle with the most? (gossip, stealing, lying, anger, etc.)
9. What's the best thing to do when you mess up?

Pray together: Dear Lord, we thank you for the forgiveness of sins! Your forgiveness covers every single sin in the world. Help us to confess our sins and accept the forgiveness you give. Be with us as we grow into the person you want us to be. Amen.

