

Chapter 12 – A King Makes Bad Choices Day One – Turning Around

Today's reading: Bottom of page 163 through bottom of page 164

This reading covers: Psalm 51

Summary: When told about his sin, David tells God he is sorry and is going to change.

Do together: Draw the outline of a tee shirt. Write "S I N" on the front of the shirt. Then with Liquid Paper, correction fluid or tape, or a white crayon, cover up the letters so that they can no longer be seen.

Think about: Tell everyone about a time you spilled some food on your clothes or played outside and got them muddy. What did you have to do to get them clean? David wrote a song after he realized he had made a mistake with Bathsheba. He sort of compares his sin to dirt and to God's forgiveness as making him clean. When you tell God you are dirty (sorry that you have sinned) and ask him to wash you clean (forgive you) will he do it?

Also read: Psalm 32:5; 1 John 1:9

Prayer: Father, when I do things you don't want me to do, make me realize it so I want to do better. Thank you for always forgiving me when I say I am sorry. In Jesus' name, Amen.

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Day Two – Giving Freely

Today's reading: Top of page 171 through page 172

This reading covers: 1 Chronicles 29

Summary: God's people find great joy in freely giving to him.

Do together: Draw a picture of a big treasure chest filled with gold bars, silver coins, necklaces and bracelets, diamonds, rubies and other jewels.

Think about: It sounds like David had plenty of sad times, but still David loved God with all his heart. What did he want to build in order to show God how much he loved him? Which do you think made God the happiest: having a pretty temple or seeing that David and the people wanted to express their love to him by giving back some of what he had given them? Do you think it makes God smile when you and your family give gladly to show him your love?

Also read: Matthew 6:19-21; Luke 6:38; 2 Corinthians 9:7

Prayer: Heavenly Father, I can't think of one thing I have that isn't a gift from you. You are so good to me and my family! Let me always be thankful to you. Let me always be a cheerful giver! In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

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Day Three – Trust God

Today's reading: Page 173.

This reading covers: Psalm 23

Summary: David writes a beautiful song expressing his trust in God.

Do together: Number a page from 1 to 7 and then answer each question either T or F to test your sheep IQ.

1. A baby sheep is called a puppy.
2. A female sheep is called a ewe.
3. A group of sheep is called a flock.
4. Sheep are covered in white feathers.
5. The sound sheep make sounds like this: Baaaaaah.
6. There are white sheep and black sheep.

Think about: Lambs and sheep need lots of care from their shepherd. They need food, water and protection so they don't get in trouble or get hurt. Why do you think David compared himself to a sheep and God to his shepherd? Sheep trust their shepherd and follow his voice. Do you trust Jesus to be your shepherd? Can you think of a time when you were scared or sad and you remembered to trust God?

Also read: Proverbs 3:5; John 10:11-15

Prayer: Father God, David's song makes me smile because it reminds me just how much you love me, just like a shepherd loves his sheep. Help me always trust in you and always follow your voice just like sheep trust their shepherd. In Jesus' name, Amen.