

ABOV- Session 5: The United Kingdom **Script Facilitator**

Slide: A Bible Overview- Session 5: The United Kingdom

Start video- (SR-05a) United Kingdom

Welcome to session 5 of A Bible OverView called The United Kingdom. In our last session we learned how Israel became an orderly nation when it received the Ten Commandments, the law, and the Tabernacle, which housed the Ark of the Covenant. The Ark was in the section of the Tabernacle called the Most Holy Place, which was separated from the rest of the Tabernacle by a curtain. Only once a year, on the Day of Atonement, could the High Priest enter the Most Holy Place. We also learned how the Israelites entered the Promised Land under the leadership of Joshua and Caleb.

Now we'll read what happened with those living in the Promised Land. **Judges 2:10-15-**

10 After that whole generation had been gathered to their ancestors, another generation grew up who knew neither the LORD nor what he had done for Israel. 11 Then the Israelites did evil in the eyes of the LORD and served the Baals. 12 They forsook the LORD, the God of their ancestors, who had brought them out of Egypt. They followed and worshiped various gods of the peoples around them. They aroused the LORD's anger¹³ because they forsook him and served Baal and the Ashtoreths. 14 In his anger against Israel the LORD gave them into the hands of raiders who plundered them. He sold them into the hands of their enemies all around, whom they were no longer able to resist. 15 Whenever Israel went out to fight, the hand of the LORD was against them to defeat them, just as he had sworn to them. They were in great distress.

- Here we see the condition of the people's **hearts** in **disobedience**, and why God had to send **judgment** after **graciously** giving them a warning.
- To get their attention God sent **judgment** in the form of surrounding nations who attacked and oppressed them. God's purpose for such punishment was to encourage them to turn back to Him. Indeed, in their distress, the Israelites would repent and call out to God for help, and He would raise up a judge to help them. The Judges in this time were not judges as we know them, men and women who preside over a courtroom, but they were men and women whom God chose to lead the Israelites in a specific time of distress. Thus, when the people called out to God to help them defeat their enemies, God provided a military leader called a Judge. This was **grace**.
- The book of Judges, then, is about 300 years of Jewish history when the following "cycle of sin" was repeated six times. (show first cycle of sin slide)

First, the nation was blessed to live in peace; then the people forgot God and sinned, worshipping idols; so, God allowed enemies to oppress them; then, they would repent, promising to turn back to God; so, God would raise up another judge who would help

bring peace to the land. In the end, because their **hearts** hadn't truly repented, the cycle would start over again.

The judges were not perfect. In fact, they included an assassin, a sexually promiscuous man, and other fallen people. But the judges were submissive to God at times, and God used them. Overall, the Bible includes some pretty shocking stories about people and how He works with or through, them and their imperfections. This is encouraging because it means God can even work with us!

- Several of the Judges whose names you may know are Samson, Gideon, and Deborah.

The last verse in this book is **Judges 21:25** which says:

25 In those days Israel had no king; everyone did as they saw fit.

End video- (SR-05a) (info above: sin cycle)

Slide- What Were Israel's Sins?

10 After that whole generation had been gathered to their ancestors, another generation grew up who knew neither the Lord nor what he had done for Israel. 11 Then the Israelites did evil in the eyes of the Lord and served the Baals. 12 They forsook the Lord, the God of their ancestors, who had brought them out of Egypt. They followed and worshiped various gods of the peoples around them. Judges 2:10-12

Slide- Remember

... another generation grew up who knew neither the Lord nor what he had done for Israel. Judges 2:10

- What had the Israelites failed to **remember**?
 - God brought them out of Egypt with many miracles and wonders
 - He provided their every need in the desert
 - They'd miraculously crossed the Jordan River and taken Jericho.
- What had God provided the Israelites to help them **remember**?
 - He'd given them the Law and Tabernacle and festivals.

Slide- No Obedience

11 Then the Israelites did evil in the eyes of the Lord and served the Baals. 12 They forsook the Lord, the God of their ancestors, who had brought them out of Egypt. They followed and worshiped various gods of the peoples around them. Judges 2:11-12

- What was the result of not remembering?
 - They forsook the LORD and served Baals and various gods of surrounding peoples

Slide- Judgment

14 In his anger against Israel the Lord gave them into the hands of raiders who plundered them. He sold them into the hands of their enemies all around, whom they were no longer able to resist. 15 Whenever Israel went out to fight, the hand of the Lord was against them to defeat them, just as he had sworn to them. They were in great distress. Judges 2:14-15

- What was God's judgment?
 - God no longer protected them from their enemies who won fights and then plundered them.

Slide- Israelites "Cry Out"

Again the Israelites cried out to the Lord, and he gave them a deliverer... Judges 3:15

- Since this will happen six times, what does this tell us about the Israelites?
 - They only wanted God in their lives when they were in trouble. They never truly repented for following other gods.
- What does this tell us about God?
 - He is merciful and kept giving them time and chances to return to following Him
 - He is compassionate, cares about people, answered their prayers by raising Judges to help them.
 - He is sovereign over what happens to them as He continually raised up Judges

Slide- Responses

Then the Lord raised up judges, who saved them out of the hands of these raiders. Judges 2:16

But when the judge died, the people returned to ways even more corrupt than those of their ancestors, following other gods and serving and worshiping them. They refused to give up their evil practices and stubborn ways. Judges 2:19

- What did God do?
 - He kept raising up Judges to help save them from the raiders
- What did the people do?
 - The people returned to increasingly corrupt ways worshipping other gods.
 - They refused to give up evil practices and were stubborn
- How do you see this same action/reaction today?

Slide- Remember

6 These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. 7 Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.... 12 be careful that you do not forget the Lord, who brought you out of Egypt... Fear the Lord your God, serve him only... 14 Do not follow...the gods of the peoples around you. Deuteronomy 6:6-14

- How had the adults failed to **obey** God's commands given while they were in the desert?
 - They'd forgotten all that God did for them in delivering them from Egypt
 - Thus they didn't teach their children about God nor His commandments
- How crucial is it we live obediently before our children and teach biblical truths?
 - If we don't, they won't follow God

Slide: Period of Judges- 300 years: 6 cycles of sin (picture of sin cycle on screen):

People blessed-> People forgot God-> Oppression-> People "cry out"->Leader-> Relief->

In the end: "...people did whatever seemed right in their own eyes." Judges 21:25

- What lessons apply to us?
 - When we're blessed it's easy to not remember God.
 - When we start living our ways, there can be consequences
 - We then cry out to God but without sincere repentance we repeat sins instead of learning from them.

Start video: (SR-05b) Samuel and Call for a King

The last judge was Samuel, who also became the first of many prophets. Prophets were men called by God to communicate His messages to the people. This gave people a continuing **relationship with Him**. In addition, through the prophets, God gave **grace** in showing them how to live and, through His warnings of **judgment**, if they **disobeyed**.

Prophets were often not popular because they told the people they must truly repent. The people, of course, did not want to hear this, which we might expect, since the **human heart** does not like the message of the need to repent.

We'll pick up the story in **1 Samuel 8:4-9-**

4 So all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah. 5 They said to him, "You are old, and your sons do not follow your ways; now appoint a king to lead us, such as all the other nations have."

6 But when they said, "Give us a king to lead us," this displeased Samuel; so he prayed to the LORD. 7 And the LORD told him: "Listen to all that the people are saying to you; it is not you they have rejected, but they have rejected me as their king."

8 As they have done from the day I brought them up out of Egypt until this day, forsaking me and serving other gods, so they are doing to you. 9 Now listen to them; but warn them solemnly and let them know what the king who will reign over them will claim as his rights."

In the continuing verses of 10-18, Samuel tells the people how much the king will demand from them.

But the people have this response in **1 Sam. 8:19-22-**

19 But the people refused to listen to Samuel. “No!” they said. “We want a king over us.20 Then we will be like all the other nations, with a king to lead us and to go out before us and fight our battles.”

21 When Samuel heard all that the people said, he repeated it before the LORD. 22 The LORD answered, “Listen to them and give them a king...”

Up to this point the Israelites had been led by God- called a Theocracy. But now the people want to be like their neighbors and have a king, in other words, a monarchy.

Let's look once again at the Old Testament Historical Highway. Notice the books of 1 & 2 Samuel, 1 & 2 Kings, and 1 & 2 Chronicles are all about the kings of Israel.

End video- (SR-05b) info above: Samuel first prophet & anoints Saul)

Slide- Change in Government

6 But when they said, “Give us a king to lead us,” this displeased Samuel; so he prayed to the Lord. 7 And the Lord told him: “Listen to all that the people are saying to you; it is not you they have rejected, but they have rejected me as their king...9 but warn them solemnly and let them know what the king who will reign over them will claim as his rights.” 1 Samuel 8:6,7,9

- By rejecting God, what do the people think a king will provide?
 - A physical king to fight for them and take care of them.

Start video- (SR-05c) Kings of United Israel: **Saul/ David/ Solomon**

Three Kings would lead Israel as a United Kingdom.

God told Samuel to find a young man named Saul and anoint him as the first king of Israel. In this time, when someone was made king, he was anointed with oil. You can read all about Saul in 1 Samuel, chapters 8-31 but I want to mention a few things.

Saul looked like we think a king should look: tall, dark, and handsome. But he was lacking some important qualities that make a good king. Saul's **heart** was self-centered and he didn't do what was best for his people.

Saul was **disobedient** in some serious ways:

- First, he took over the priestly duty of offering sacrifices, a duty which only priests from the tribe of Levi could perform. (1 Sam. 13:8-13)
- Second, he did not fully destroy the enemy. God had told the Israelites to do this because their enemies would influence them to worship idols. (1 Sam. 15)
- Third, although Saul was commanded not to keep certain treasures of war, he did hold back treasure for himself. (1 Sam.15)

Lets' read about this in **1 Samuel 15:19-26-**

19 Why did you not obey the LORD?

20 *"But I did obey the LORD," Saul said. "I went on the mission the LORD assigned me. I completely destroyed the Amalekites and brought back Agag their king. 21 The soldiers took sheep and cattle from the plunder, the best of what was devoted to God, in order to sacrifice them to the LORD your God at Gilgal."*

22 *But Samuel replied:*

"Does the LORD delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices as much as in obeying the LORD?"

*To obey is better than sacrifice,
and to heed is better than the fat of rams.*

23 *For rebellion is like the sin of divination,
and arrogance like the evil of idolatry.
Because you have rejected the word of the LORD,
he has rejected you as king."*

24 *Then Saul said to Samuel, "I have sinned. I violated the LORD's command and your instructions. I was afraid of the men and so I gave in to them. 25 Now I beg you, forgive my sin and come back with me, so that I may worship the LORD."*

26 *But Samuel said to him, "I will not go back with you. You have rejected the word of the LORD, and the LORD has rejected you as king over Israel!"*

This teaches us a Biblical theme: It's not religious activities that make us **right with God** but having a **heart of faith that acts in obedience**. Indeed, it is **spiritual conflict** when religious activities become a person's way of trying to make themselves right with God. As **verse 22 says**: *"To obey is better than sacrifice..."*

In verse 23 we saw the consequence and **judgment** of Saul's disobedience: God rejected him as king.

End video- (SR-05c) (info above: Saul & his excuses & obedience better than sacrifice)

Slide: Saul as King

"Why did you not obey the Lord? Why did you pounce on the plunder and do evil in the eyes of the Lord?"

"But I did obey the Lord," Saul said...took sheep and cattle from the plunder...in order to sacrifice them to the LORD your God..." 1 Samuel 15:19,20

"To obey is better than sacrifice,"...1 Samuel 15:22

*"Because you have rejected the word of the Lord, he has rejected you as king over Israel!"
1 Samuel 15:26*

- How did Saul disobey the Lord?
 - Took plunder he wasn't supposed to and rationalized he was right to do so

- Took over priestly duty of sacrifice when not allowed to do so
- What do we learn about Saul's heart?
 - He made excuses for disobedience, even appealing to a religious activity as making it right
- What lesson might we learn?
 - When we disobey God's ways, we can easily justify our actions.
 - Religious rituals and words do not justify a disobedient heart.

Start video: (SR-05d) David

Then God directed Samuel to go to Bethlehem & find a man named Jesse because amongst his sons would be the next king of Israel. This was done in secret since Saul was still king.

When Samuel meets Jesse and his oldest sons, Samuel picked a son he thought would be the new king. But God had a different idea in **1 Samuel 16:6-13-**

6 When they arrived, Samuel saw Eliab and thought, "Surely the LORD's anointed stands here before the LORD."

7 But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The LORD does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart."

8 Then Jesse called Abinadab and had him pass in front of Samuel. But Samuel said, "The LORD has not chosen this one either." 9 Jesse then had Shammah pass by, but Samuel said, "Nor has the LORD chosen this one." 10 Jesse had seven of his sons pass before Samuel, but Samuel said to him, "The LORD has not chosen these." 11 So he asked Jesse, "Are these all the sons you have?"

"There is still the youngest," Jesse answered. "He is tending the sheep."

Samuel said, "Send for him; we will not sit down until he arrives."

12 So he sent for him and had him brought in. He was glowing with health and had a fine appearance and handsome features.

Then the LORD said, "Rise and anoint him; this is the one."

13 So Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and from that day on the Spirit of the LORD came powerfully upon David. Samuel then went to Ramah.

Verse 7 is worth rereading because one of the major themes in the Bible is the **human heart.**

7 But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The LORD does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart."

God began to prepare David to become the next king when Israel was in battle with the Philistines. The army was being threatened and intimidated by a giant named Goliath.

1 Samuel 17:8-11 reads-

8 Goliath stood and shouted to the ranks of Israel, "Why do you come out and line up for battle? Am I not a Philistine, and are you not the servants of Saul? Choose a man and have him come down to me. 9 If he is able to fight and kill me, we will become your subjects; but if I overcome him and kill him, you will become our subjects and serve us."

10 Then the Philistine said, "This day I defy the armies of Israel! Give me a man and let us fight each other."

11 On hearing the Philistine's words, Saul and all the Israelites were dismayed and terrified.

To summarize the next part of the story: David's brothers were in the army. Providentially, David was bringing food and supplies to them from their father. When David saw Goliath making fun of the God of Israel and that no one was responding, he asked Saul if he could fight the giant by himself. Saul discouraged David but allowed him to try. David didn't want the usual armor and sword but instead put stones in his shepherd's bag and took his sling to go out and meet Goliath. Goliath then mocked David and cursed him. David's response is in **1 Sam. 17:45-51-**

45 David said to the Philistine, "You come against me with sword and spear and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the LORD Almighty, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. 46 This day the LORD will deliver you into my hands, and I'll strike you down and cut off your head. This very day I will give the carcasses of the Philistine army to the birds and the wild animals, and the whole world will know that there is a God in Israel. 47 All those gathered here will know that it is not by sword or spear that the LORD saves; for the battle is the LORD's, and he will give all of you into our hands."

48 As the Philistine moved closer to attack him, David ran quickly toward the battle line to meet him. 49 Reaching into his bag and taking out a stone, he slung it and struck the Philistine on the forehead. The stone sank into his forehead, and he fell face down on the ground.

50 So David triumphed over the Philistine with a sling and a stone; without a sword in his hand he struck down the Philistine and killed him.

51 David ran and stood over him. He took hold of the Philistine's sword and drew it from the sheath. After he killed him, he cut off his head with the sword.

When the Philistines saw that their hero was dead, they turned and ran.

A result of this was Saul made David stay and join his army. The story continues in **1 Samuel 18:5-9-**

5 Whatever mission Saul sent him on, David was so successful that Saul gave him a high rank in the army. This pleased all the troops, and Saul's officers as well. 6 When the men were returning home after David had killed the Philistine, the women came out from all the towns of Israel to meet King Saul with singing and dancing, with joyful songs and with timbrels and lyres. 7 As they danced, they sang:

*"Saul has slain his thousands,
and David his tens of thousands."*

8 Saul was very angry; this refrain displeased him greatly. "They have credited David with tens of thousands," he thought, "but me with only thousands. What more can he get but the kingdom?" 9 And from that time on Saul kept a close eye on David.

Then, Saul's son, Jonathan, became David's closest friend. As Saul's **heart** grew more and more jealous of David, he tried several times to kill him and even tried to kill his own son because Jonathan was loyal to David. This meant David was forced to run for his life. Saul spent many years hunting David, forcing him to hide in the barren wilderness.

In 1 Samuel chapters 24 and 26 we read about two chances David had to kill Saul but he chooses not to. When Saul acknowledges David spared his life, Saul says "I'm sorry" but he continued to try to kill David anyway. Thus, Saul repented in words only- not with **a true change of heart**. The Bible makes it clear that repentance must be accompanied by changed attitudes and actions.

Saul continued to disobey God and finally consulted a medium. God had specifically forbidden this, which we read in session 4.

In the end, Saul kills himself in a battle.

End video- (SR-05d) (info above: David anointed, fights Goliath, Saul's jealousy, Saul dies)

Slide- David Next King

"The Lord does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart." 1 Samuel 16:7b

- On what basis do people judge others?
 - We easily judge people by what they look like or what they own or can offer us.
- What does it mean that "...*the LORD looks at the heart.*"
 - God judges by what's inside us- our choices of what we think about and say and do
- How do these verses further explain the **heart**?
 - 18 But the words you speak come from the heart—that's what defiles you. 19 For from the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, all sexual immorality, theft, lying, and slander. Matthew 15:18,19*
 - It is the source for how we think and act.

Start video- (SR-05e) David as King

Now we are to the book of 2 Samuel which is about David.

David became the second king of Israel at age 30 and was known as a man after God's own **heart**. (1 Sam. 13:14 & Acts 13:22)

David had matured from the little shepherd boy, to the young man who killed Goliath, to a hunted fugitive, and then to king. Many times David chose to follow God, even in the worst of times.

Let's read another character quality of David, found in **2 Samuel 5:12-**

12 Then David knew that the LORD had established him as king over Israel and had exalted his kingdom for the sake of his people Israel.

David realized God had placed him as king. He defeated many enemies of Israel, and the kingdom grew in size.

He was also known for his love of worshipping God and returning the Ark of the Covenant to Jerusalem.

In the early years of his reign he was careful to show justice, compassion, and righteousness. He even went out of his way to take care of Saul's grandson.

But David also showed great weakness as a father, and in his own lack of self-control.

Now we're going to look at one of David's great weaknesses which will teach us how sin can progress in our lives, too. We will call this the sin cycle.

As we **read 2 Samuel 11:1-17**, let's see where each part of the cycle occurs in these two connected stories.

11 In the spring, at the time when kings go off to war, David sent Joab out with the king's men and the whole Israelite army. They destroyed the Ammonites and besieged Rabbah. But David remained in Jerusalem.

2 One evening David got up from his bed and walked around on the roof of the palace. From the roof he saw a woman bathing. The woman was very beautiful, 3 and David sent someone to find out about her. The man said, "She is Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam and the wife of Uriah the Hittite."

4 Then David sent messengers to get her. She came to him, and he slept with her. (Now she was purifying herself from her monthly uncleanness.) Then she went back home. 5 The woman conceived and sent word to David, saying, "I am pregnant."

6 So David sent this word to Joab: "Send me Uriah the Hittite." And Joab sent him to David. 7 When Uriah came to him, David asked him how Joab was, how the soldiers were and how the war was going. 8 Then David said to Uriah, "Go down to your house and wash your feet." So Uriah left the palace, and a gift from the king was sent after him. 9 But Uriah slept at the entrance to the palace with all his master's servants and did not go down to his house.

10 David was told, "Uriah did not go home." So he asked Uriah, "Haven't you just come from a military campaign? Why didn't you go home?"

11 Uriah said to David, "The ark and Israel and Judah are staying in tents, and my commander Joab and my lord's men are camped in the open country. How could I go to my house to eat and drink and make love to my wife? As surely as you live, I will not do such a thing!"

12 Then David said to him, "Stay here one more day, and tomorrow I will send you back." So Uriah remained in Jerusalem that day and the next. 13 At David's invitation, he ate and drank with him, and David made him drunk. But in the evening Uriah went out to sleep on his mat among his master's servants; he did not go home.

14 In the morning David wrote a letter to Joab and sent it with Uriah. 15 In it he wrote, "Put Uriah out in front where the fighting is fiercest. Then withdraw from him so he will be struck down and die."

16 So while Joab had the city under siege, he put Uriah at a place where he knew the strongest defenders were. 17 When the men of the city came out and fought against Joab, some of the men in David's army fell; moreover, Uriah the Hittite died.

In verses 1-5 of the story about David and Bathsheba, we see this progression in the sin cycle:

Steps 1 and 2, are when David saw Bathsheba bathing.

Step 3, is when he sent a messenger to find out who she was.

Step 4, is when he had her brought to the palace.

Step 5, is when he has sexual intercourse with her.

In verses 6-17 of the story about Uriah:

Steps 1&2, are when David must have been worrying about the pregnancy.

Step 3, is when David creates an opportunity to solve the problem by getting Uriah home.

Step 4, are the times David tries to get Uriah to go home to Bathsheba.

Step 5, is when he has innocent Uriah killed. Notice: other innocent soldiers died too.

End video (SR-05e) (info above: David & Bathsheba & Uriah)

Slide: Sin Cycle Daily Life (picture on screen)

1. Senses stimulated (observation)->
2. Second look->
3. Opportunity->
4. Plan->
5. Action->
6. Consequences->
7. Repentance->
8. Forgiveness (grace)

- Where in the sin cycle should David have stopped?
 - After senses stimulated, he should have turned away from the temptation
- What can we do to stop at steps 1 or 2?
 - Step 1: Don't purposely go to where temptations are: immoral activities, pornography, over indulgence in food, movie choices, etc...
 - Sep 2: When unsolicited temptations come, turn away. Choose to leave.

Start video- (SR-05f) Repentance & Judgment

In addition, David was **heartless** about his actions. In **2 Samuel 11:22-25**, we read his reaction to the report from the battlefield-

22 The messenger set out, and when he arrived he told David everything Joab had sent him to say. 23 The messenger said to David, "The men overpowered us and came out against us in the open, but we drove them back to the entrance of the city gate. 24 Then the archers shot arrows at your servants from the wall, and some of the king's men died. Moreover, your servant Uriah the Hittite is dead."

25 David told the messenger, "Say this to Joab: 'Don't let this upset you; the sword devours one as well as another. Press the attack against the city and destroy it.' Say this to encourage Joab."

To treat Uriah's death callously, as if it was random, shows the **human heart** theme.

Let's finish this story by **reading 2 Samuel 11:26- chapter 12:14-**

26 When Uriah's wife heard that her husband was dead, she mourned for him. 27 After the time of mourning was over, David had her brought to his house, and she became his wife and bore him a son. But the thing David had done displeased the LORD.

12 *The LORD sent Nathan to David. When he came to him, he said, "There were two men in a certain town, one rich and the other poor. 2 The rich man had a very large number of sheep and cattle, 3 but the poor man had nothing except one little ewe lamb he had bought. He raised it, and it grew up with him and his children. It shared his food, drank from his cup and even slept in his arms. It was like a daughter to him.*

4 "Now a traveler came to the rich man, but the rich man refrained from taking one of his own sheep or cattle to prepare a meal for the traveler who had come to him. Instead, he took the ewe lamb that belonged to the poor man and prepared it for the one who had come to him."

5 David burned with anger against the man and said to Nathan, "As surely as the LORD lives, the man who did this must die! 6 He must pay for that lamb four times over, because he did such a thing and had no pity."

7 Then Nathan said to David, "You are the man! This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: 'I anointed you king over Israel, and I delivered you from the hand of Saul. 8 I gave your master's house to you, and your master's wives into your arms. I gave you all Israel and Judah. And if all this had been too little, I would have given you even more. 9 Why did you despise the word of the LORD by doing what is evil in his eyes? You struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword and took his wife to be your own. You killed him with the sword of the Ammonites. 10 Now, therefore, the sword will never depart from your house, because you despised me and took the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your own.'

11 "This is what the LORD says: 'Out of your own household I am going to bring calamity on you. Before your very eyes I will take your wives and give them to one who is close to you, and he will sleep with your wives in broad daylight. 12 You did it in secret, but I will do this thing in broad daylight before all Israel.'"

13 Then David said to Nathan, "I have sinned against the LORD."

Nathan replied, "The LORD has taken away your sin. You are not going to die. 14 But because by doing this you have shown utter contempt for the LORD, the son born to you will die."

It is finally here, in verse 13a- or the first part of the verse- that David confesses his sin. Then we read God's response to David's confession: he's forgiven but there is **judgment** in the form of consequences.

- In verses 10,11 and 14, we read what those consequences were: family problems and the baby would die.

It was when David finally accepted responsibility for his sin, that we see two important steps added to the sin cycle": repentance and forgiveness.

A lesson we learn from this account is that although our **hearts** are often sinful, it's also from our **hearts** that we can choose to repent and accept God's forgiveness, which is **grace**. This account is a good example of how to apply Scripture to our lives as we read it. In this case, when we are tempted to sin we need to stop the sin cycle right away and **obey** God's ways, or the cycle continues and there are consequences.

And, very importantly, as in the case of David, we are not the only ones to suffer when we sin. Many innocent people also suffer.

End video- (SR-05f) Repentance & Judgment (info above: David told of Uriah's death & Nathan's confrontation)

Slide: David's **Heart**

David told the messenger, "Say this to Joab: 'Don't let this upset you; the sword devours one as well as another.'" 2 Samuel 11:25

- How was David's **heart** callous about Uriah's death?
 - Shrugs off Uriah's death as if it just happened to happen. And he dismisses Joab's feelings.
 - He didn't take any responsibility.
- What had to happen in David's **heart** to receive God's **grace**?
 - True repentance.
- What grace did David receive?
 - Forgiveness
- What does this kind of **grace** mean to you?

Start video- (SR-05g) Psalm 51

Let's read part of **Psalm 51** which David wrote after he repented. **Verses 1-8 say:**

*1 Have mercy on me, O God,
according to your unfailing love;
according to your great compassion
blot out my transgressions.
2 Wash away all my iniquity
and cleanse me from my sin.*

*3 For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is always before me.
4 Against you, you only, have I sinned
and done what is evil in your sight;
so you are right in your verdict
and justified when you judge.
5 Surely I was sinful at birth,
sinful from the time my mother conceived me.
6 Yet you desired faithfulness even in the womb;
you taught me wisdom in that secret place.
7 Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean;
wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.
8 Let me hear joy and gladness;
let the bones you have crushed rejoice.*

End video- (SR-05g) (info above: Psalm 51:1-8 David repents)

Slide: Repentant Heart

*Have mercy on me... blot out my transgressions.
2 Wash away all my iniquity... cleanse me... 3 ... my sin is always before me.
4 Against you, you only, have I sinned... you are... justified when you judge.
5 Surely I was... sinful from the time my mother conceived me.
... 7 Cleanse me... wash me...
8 Let me hear joy and gladness;
let the bones you have crushed rejoice. Psalm 51:1-8*

- What does this tell us about David's heart?
 - He was desperate for forgiveness. He recognized his sin against God & that he deserves justice. He was crushed. He wanted joy again.

Start video (SR-05h) Psalm 32

Let's read part of another Psalm David wrote regarding repentance. **Psalm 32:1-5-**

*1 Blessed is the one
whose transgressions are forgiven,
whose sins are covered.
2 Blessed is the one
whose sin the LORD does not count against them
and in whose spirit is no deceit.
3 When I kept silent,
my bones wasted away
through my groaning all day long.
4 For day and night
your hand was heavy on me;
my strength was sapped
as in the heat of summer.*

*5 Then I acknowledged my sin to you
and did not cover up my iniquity.*

*I said, "I will confess
my transgressions to the LORD."
And you forgave
the guilt of my sin.*

Here we see the importance of repenting & receiving forgiveness: it gives a person freedom from guilt, and joy is again possible. This is **grace**.

Here are a few more details to David and Bathsheba's story:

- Their son died.
- David and Bathsheba have deep personal grief.
- There will be many family problems.
- The kingdom will divide.
- There is **grace**, in that another son was born to them. His name is Solomon.

Now let's go back to when David was made king and read what is known as the Davidic **Covenant**. God tells him in **2 Samuel 7:16**-

16 Your house and your kingdom will endure forever before me; your throne will be established forever.

This promise will be fulfilled when Jesus Christ, who was in the lineage of David, is born as the **Redeemer**.

As David neared the end of his life, he was again a man after **God's own heart**. Although he wanted to build a permanent temple for God, God told him that Solomon would be the one to build the temple. David did what he could, making plans for it and gathering the materials to build it.

He told his son, Solomon, who would become the next king, that he and the people of Israel needed to **devote their hearts and souls** to seeking God.

When David died, the kingdom of Israel was the largest it would ever be.

Stop video (SR-05h)

Slide: Forgiveness (grace)

*1 Blessed is the one... forgiven... sins are covered.
2 ...whose sin the Lord does not count against them
3 When I kept silent, my bones wasted away...groaning all day long.
4 For day and night your hand was heavy on me; my strength was sapped
5 Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity.
I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord." And you forgave
the guilt of my sin. Psalm 32:1-5*

- How do we know David is grateful for God's **grace**?
 - He acknowledges the heaviness of his sin and is now relieved- feeling blessed- because His sins are covered with no more heavy hand of God upon him.
 - His description of how his sin affected him along with the statements of being forgiven shows his relief.

Slide: Davidic Covenant

“Your house and your kingdom will endure forever before me; your throne will be established forever.” 2 Samuel 7:16

Remember the Abrahamic **Covenant**:

2 I will make you into a great nation ...and you will be a blessing.

3 I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.” Genesis12:2-3

- How does the Davidic **Covenant** relate to the Abrahamic **Covenant**?
 - God had made a covenant with Abraham that all people would be blessed through his line. Since David is in the line of promise, God is assuring David that through his line the Messiah will still come.

Start video (SR-05i) Next: Session 6. The Davidic Covenant

In this session we learned that God provided leadership for the Israelites through the judges, and then King Saul, and then David. The kingdom was united.

In session six, we'll learn about why and how the kingdom divides.

End video (SR-05i)

Slide: A Bible OverView

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