

## **Week 48            Mephibosheth [2 Samuel 9] and Bathsheba [2 Samuel 11]**

**Series:**                 **David**

**Application:**         **D1&2 God wants us to help each other.**  
                               **D3 Don't even think about taking what's not yours.**

**Memory Verse:**      **"The Lord is King for ever and ever." Psalm 10:16.**

### **Preparation Notes (D1&2)**

David remembered how Jonathan had been such a good friend so he asked one of the servants from Saul's house if there was anyone left from Saul's family who he could show God's kindness to.

Ziba, one of Saul's servants, told David about Jonathan's son Mephibosheth, who was crippled in both feet. So David had him brought to Jerusalem. He told him not to be afraid and that he wanted to show him kindness for the sake of his father Jonathan, David gave Mephibosheth back all the land that had belonged to his grandfather Saul and told Ziba and his sons to farm the land. He also told Mephibosheth that he was always welcome to eat at his table. So Mephibosheth moved to Jerusalem and ate at David's table for the rest of his life.

### **Preparation Notes (D3)**

One evening while David was walking on the roof of the palace, he saw a woman bathing. He should have looked away, but he didn't. She was very beautiful and he sent someone to find out about her. The man said "Isn't that Bathsheba, the wife of Uriah the Hittite?" David sent messengers to go and get her. She came to him and he slept with her. She went home, but sent word to David that she was pregnant.

Uriah had been at war. David tried to get him to go home and sleep with his wife so that he would think that he was the father of Bathsheba's baby, but instead he stayed with the soldiers and wouldn't go home, even when David got him drunk!

David sent a letter to Joab who was fighting in the war, telling him to place him in the front line of the battle where the fighting was fiercest, so that he would get killed. Uriah died in the battle. A little while later, Bathsheba married David and gave birth to a baby boy.

God sent a message to David through Nathan the prophet:

'There were two men in a town, one rich and the other poor. The rich man had very many sheep and cattle, but the poor one had only one little lamb. He cared for it like it was one of his children. Now a traveller came visiting and

the rich man decided to prepare some food for him, but instead of using one of his own sheep, he killed the poor man's lamb'

David was angry when he heard the story and said that the rich man should pay for the lamb four times over. Then Nathan said "You are that man!" God anointed you king, protected you from Saul and gave you many wives and yet you took Uriah's wife and had him killed.

David was very sorry and admitted that he'd sinned. God forgave David but told him that his son would die. Sure enough, the baby became ill and died seven days later. David comforted Bathsheba and a while later they had another son who they called Solomon.

### **Learning Points (Discoverers 1&2)**

- David remembered his good friend Jonathan.
- David found out about Jonathan's son Mephibosheth, who was crippled. He provided for him and welcomed him into his home.

### **Learning Points (Discoverers 3)**

- David looked at Bathsheba when he knew he shouldn't.
- David committed adultery with Bathsheba.
- David covered up his sin by having Bathsheba's husband, Uriah killed.
- God showed David his sin using a parable.
- David was truly sorry.

### **Discoverers 1**

#### **Bible Bit.**

This is a very simple story with a clear message that this age group will be able to understand.

#### **Suggested Activities.**

Play games that give the children the opportunity to be kind; remind them of this as they play.

### **Discoverers 2**

#### **Bible Bit.**

Use the flannel graph to tell the story. Help the children to think of ways that they can show kindness, especially to those who are suffering.

#### **Suggested Activities.**

Using DWK48:1, the children can make the 'Cups of Kindness'.

## **Discoverers 3**

### **Bible Bit.**

Have some pictures of things that the children would very much like to have, e.g. electronic games, pets, trendy clothes, motor boats, swimming pool, money, tasty looking food etc. Explain about lust and that lusting after something is seeing something that looks good and wishing it was yours. Point out that even people who seem to have everything, such as David still suffer the temptation to lust after more.

### **Suggested Activities.**

Using the instructions DWK 48:2, make the 'Hands off if it belongs to somebody else!' pictures.

### **Talk time.**

- Is it ever right to steal what's not yours? What about Robin Hood?
- Some people say; 'there's no harm in looking'. Is this true?

### **Prayer and worship.**