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BIBLE ADVENTURES SCRIPT:

A1511 ~ David and Nathan, the Prophet.

Welcome to Bible Adventures. Help for today. Hope for tomorrow. Jesus is Lord of all.

In an Australian hospital around fifteen years ago, a little baby girl was born very early, well before the time when she should have been. She was placed in a specially warmed box, given oxygen to breathe and liquid food through a feeding tube. Each day the nurses cared for her needs. To help the baby keep warm, the nurses put a little cap on the baby's head. This little girl did not like her cap and didn't want to wear it. Young and feeble as she was, she communicated this clearly to the nurses. So they folded the cap and put it at the top of her head instead.

After months of growing in this box, the baby gained enough weight to be able to live like a normal, full term baby. Sadly though, not all babies born too early, survive. It is a source of great sorrow to a mother when her little one dies. Sometimes the mother is wracked with guilt. She wonders how she might have done things differently so her little one could have lived? Often there are no easy answers to this question and the mother carries her grief all her life.

Nathan the Prophet visited David and told him that Bathsheba's baby would die. David prayed fervently to God, hoping that He might spare the child.

DRAMA - [The Bible In Living Sound.](#)

For months after Uriah's death, David kept his sin hidden. God took a disciplinary role with David; one that David never forgot. After grieving much, David wrote Psalm 32 about this bad time in his life: "When I did not confess my sins, I was worn out from crying all day long. Day and night you punished me, Lord. My strength was completely drained. Then I confessed my sins to you; I did not conceal my wrongdoings. I decided to confess them to you, and you forgave all my sins."

God gave David opportunity for repentance but at first, he refused to admit his sin of adultery with Bathsheba and the murder of Bathsheba's husband Uriah. God's discipline is proof that God loves us. Our yielding and repentance to God proves our love and loyalty to Him. In Hebrews, Chapter 12, it says to pay attention when the Lord corrects you, and do not be discouraged when He rebukes you. "Because the Lord corrects everyone He loves, and punishes everyone He accepts as a child."

In Proverbs, Chapter 28, it says: "You will never succeed in life if you try to hide your sins. Confess them and give them up; then God will show mercy to you. Always obey the Lord and you will be happy. If you are stubborn, you will be ruined."

Because David had hidden his sin for so long, Nathan used a parable to help David to listen and understand what he'd done. This worked. By the end of Nathan's story, David was angry at the unmerciful action of the rich man who had stolen his poor neighbour's only sheep. From this, David pronounced his own punishment.

One of the Israelite laws was about restitution. If a thief had stolen someone else's property, he had to restore it back to the owner, plus some extra. The amount of extra that had to be returned depended on what had been taken. You can read about such cases in the Bible book of Exodus, Chapter 22.

The loss of a sheep as in Nathan's story required restoring double. But David in his anger at the rich man's injustice, declared that the rich man had to restore four times as much. And this became David's punishment which affected his own family. In the next six or seven years, Bathsheba's son had died, David's daughter was raped and two of his sons were killed.

In the first letter of John, Chapter 1, it says: "If we confess our sins to God, He will keep his promise and do what is right: He will forgive us our sins and purify us from all our wrongdoing." This great promise is not an excuse that allows us to sin. And once a sin is forgiven, there may still be years of pain caused by the consequences of that forgiven sin.

After years of self importance, King David was humbled by the road of repentance and he came back to God for forgiveness of his sin. David's sin had become a barrier with God for both himself and his people. God was no longer bringing success to the Israelite army in the way He had before. The war with the Ammonites dragged on and on, whereas many of David's early battles had been settled victoriously within a day or two.

Some people may sit in judgment about David's sin. How could he do such a thing! But with God, all sin is sin, including ours. There is no difference between big sins and small sins, or any that we can treat more lightly and brush away as if unimportant. All sin causes separation from God. However, sexual sin creates deep problems for people – it hurts the people directly involved as they sin against themselves. In Proverbs, Chapter 6, it says: "Can you walk on hot coals without burning your feet? It is just as dangerous to sleep with another man's wife." Unless repented of, sexual sins prevent a person from being right with God and going to heaven.

David wrote Psalm 51 as a prayer for forgiveness. The words: "Create in me a clean heart O God and renew a right spirit within me," have been a consolation to many a sorrowing believer repenting to the Lord Jesus.

After David confessed his sin, God forgave him. God was pleased David had turned back to Him. In time, Bathsheba had another baby boy. The Scriptures say God loved this little boy. His name was Solomon. After David's sorrow over his sin and confession, God gave David victory over all the Ammonite cities and the Ammonite king's crown was placed on David's head.

Have you become aware of some sin in your life? Sin is a word that covers a large number of rebellious acts and thoughts against God. It also includes all the good things that we do to earn favour with God. Only Christ is the way to God. Our good works, without Christ's Lordship in our lives, are like filthy rags in God's sight. God knows our hidden motivations and whatever is not pure before Him, falls short of God's heavenly standards.

Sin is such a terrible thing. It cost the Lord Jesus Christ everything to make us right with God: separation from His father God in heaven, His own good standing among earthly people, and His whole life. Jesus took the world's sin on Himself to make a way for people to enter into a right relationship with God and continually live this way. Don't treat sin as a light matter. Tell God all about it, reject it, forsake it. And don't give yourself an opportunity to return to it.

In Hebrews, Chapter 6, there is a warning for those who have tasted Christ's forgiveness for their sin but then turn back to their wickedness. This backtracking holds the Lord Jesus in contempt and public disgrace. In Hebrews, Chapter 10, it says there is no further sacrifice for such sins. If God's Holy Spirit is speaking to you now about your walk with Him, confess all your sin to Him, beg for His mercy and let Him lead you through His Spirit to do what honours Him the most. In all that God has done for you, rejoice and be thankful. From a heart that is clean, give praise to His glorious name.

The drama is from The Bible In Living Sound.

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