



UNIT 11 | SESSION 5

## GOD IS GOOD TO GIVE GRACE

PSALM 51

### KEY PASSAGE:

Ephesians 1:7-8

### BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

What is grace? Grace is when God gives us something good even when we do not deserve it.

### CHRIST CONNECTION:

David confessed his sin and asked God to change his heart so that he would not want to sin again. When we realize our sin, we can confess to God and ask for His forgiveness. Jesus covers our guilt and changes our hearts so we can have life with Him forever.



PRIOR TO TEACHING THE SESSION



## LEADER Bible Study

One of the most glorious ways God shows us His grace is through salvation. Though there are many common graces that apply to everyone—life, breath, relationships, and more; salvation is a gift of God’s grace experienced by those who profess faith in Christ.

In Psalm 51, David recalled the holiness of God, repenting of his sin, and ultimately seeking to enjoy the nearness of His gracious God once again. In the midst of this confession, David asked God for many things, one of which was to restore to him the joy of salvation.

Why, in the middle of this moment of confession and repentance, did David ask God to bring back the joy of salvation? If you’ve ever felt the true weight of your sin, you know that these moments can bring the temptation to lose all joy. Sin can take you to a place that brings misery and heartache. Sin causes us to feel far off from God.

In David’s lowest moment, he knew he needed a reminder that through faith in the Lord, he had total forgiveness.

David had come to know the depth of his own sin. He understood the implications of the thoughts and actions derived from his wicked heart. And as he discerned these things, he couldn’t help but realize that he

needed God’s full forgiveness. And so David asked the Lord to take him back to the foundational truth of God’s salvation.

In moments of failure, it is good for us to return to the cross. It is good for us to remember the salvation that God has given us. When we do, we can recall the fullness of God’s forgiveness through the sacrifice of Christ—the shed blood of our Savior who has provided what we need for every moment.

Would you pray today for God to restore the joy of His salvation to you? Ask God to help you remember, with gladness, the blood Jesus shed to pay for your sin. Jesus takes our sin and completely frees us to live for Him. God is good to give grace, and He is worthy of all praise.

### TERMS TO KNOW

**Grace:** Undeserved acceptance and love received from another. Divine grace is the undeserved favor of God in providing salvation for those deserving condemnation.



## WELCOME Kids

Greet each kid as he or she arrives. Use this time to collect the offering, fill out attendance sheets, build relationships, and help new kids connect to your group.

**SAY** “Have you ever asked someone for forgiveness after you had done something wrong? How did that person respond to you?”

### 1 ACTIVITY PAGE (5 minutes)

Invite kids to complete “Dot to Dot David” on the activity page.

**SAY** “Today, we will see, through the life of David, how God gives forgiveness and grace. I cannot wait to share this story with you!”

### 2 SESSION STARTER (10 minutes)

#### OPTION 1: CONFESSION TIME



Direct kids to listen closely as you read a “would you rather” question to them. Some suggested questions are: Would you rather have a magic carpet or your own personal robot? Would you rather be able to create a new language or a new holiday? Would you rather be able to jump into a pool of ice cream or a pool of chocolate pudding? Make your way around the room, allowing each kid to answer the question. If time allows, move onto another question.

**SAY** “In this silly game, you confessed what you would rather do out of two choices. Confess means to tell the truth about something. In today’s story, we will see how David confessed his sin to God and how God responded.”

#### OPTION 2: NOT BY WORKS

Before meeting together, create a maze, or several mazes, depending on the size of your group, on the floor of the room using masking tape. The mazes should be just wide enough for a ping pong ball to go through. Form kids into even groups in front of each maze. Challenge kids to use a hand held fan to get the ping pong ball through the maze. Continue until each kid has had a chance to complete the maze.

**SAY** “It took a lot of work to get the ping pong ball through the maze! Today’s story reminds us that we cannot work hard enough to earn God’s grace. Grace is not about works; it is a free gift from God.”



LEARN

## THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

### LEARN the Bible Story

#### 1 TELL THE BIBLE STORY: VIDEO OR STORYTELLER (10 minutes)

Open your Bible to Psalm 51. Use the Bible storytelling tips to help you tell the story, or show the Bible story video “God Is Good to Give Grace.” Use the bold text to retell or review the story.

#### GOD IS GOOD TO GIVE GRACE

“**King David wrote a psalm, confessing his sin. David prayed, “God, be gracious to me because of Your faithful love. Because of Your great compassion, wipe away the wrong things I have done. Wash away my guilt and make me clean from my sin.”**

**David said, “I know what I did was wrong. I think about it all the time. I disobeyed Your commands and have sinned against You. You are right to punish sin. You are a fair judge who always does what is right.**

“The truth is, I have always been a sinner. You want more for me, so please give me wisdom. **Take away my sin and make me new. Wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.”**

**David’s heart was broken over his sin.** “Let me hear sounds of joy and happiness again,” **he prayed.** “Look away from my sins and take away my guilt. **God, create a clean heart for me. Make my spirit strong. Do not send me away or take your Holy Spirit from me.** Then I will teach others about You so they will turn to you.

**“You are the God who saves, and I will sing about how righteous You are. I will praise You. I will give You the sacrifice You really want—a humble spirit.”** David knew that **God will not turn away from anyone who puts his faith in Him.**

Christ Connection: David confessed his sin and asked God to change his heart so that he would not want to sin again. When we realize our sin, we can confess to God and ask for His forgiveness. Jesus covers our guilt and changes our hearts so we can have life with Him forever. ”

#### STORYTELLING TIPS

**Explain the story:** Pause and ask kids to explain or summarize at certain points of the story to ensure they understand and are staying engaged.

**Give a gift:** Illustrate the concept of grace by giving the kids a small gift or treat that they did nothing to earn it.

## 2 REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY

**SAY** “ David wrote Psalm 51 as a confession of his sin with Bathsheba. David’s prayer demonstrates how we can pray when we sin. Why did David ask God to be gracious to him? Look at Psalm 51:2. **[Choose a volunteer to read Ps. 51:2.]** David realized the seriousness of his sin and that he deserved to pay for his sin. He called out to God to ask Him for grace; something good that he did not deserve. David was confident that if he asked God for grace, God would forgive him.

David did not want to keep sinning. He realized that He needed God to change him. What did David ask God to do? Look at Psalm 51:10. **[Choose a volunteer to read Ps. 51:10.]** That’s right! David prayed that God would clean his heart and give him a spirit that pleased the Lord. David wanted to be used by God and he knew that in order to be used by God, he needed to be cleansed from his sin.

When we sin, we can confess our sin and ask for forgiveness. By faith, we can receive the grace God offers us through Jesus. We can also ask Him to clean and change our hearts so that we will have a heart that is more like His. ”

## 3 CHRIST CONNECTION

**SAY** “ David confessed his sin and asked God to change his heart so that he would not want to sin again. When we realize our sin, we can confess to God and ask for His forgiveness. Jesus covers our guilt and changes our hearts so we can have life with Him. ”

(Tip: Use Scripture and the Gospel Plan Poster to explain how to become a Christian. Make sure kids know when and where they can ask questions.)

## 4 QUESTIONS FROM KIDS (3 minutes)

Show the “Unit 11, Session 5” questions from kids video. Prompt kids to discuss:

1. If you sin but don’t realize it, what happens if you don’t confess?
2. How can you be sure that you are forgiven?

## 5 MISSIONS MOMENT (3 minutes)

**SAY** “ We’ve seen a few of the ways that missionaries creatively use video and radio to tell people about Jesus. Missionaries also use print media like newsletters, magazines, and pamphlets to help spread the gospel all over the world. ”

Explain that artists, bakers, mechanics, crafters, and musicians all have knowledge and skills that can be used as a tool for telling people about Jesus. Every Christian has some interest or ability that could be useful in sharing the gospel.

**SAY** “ Would you be more likely to use video, radio, or print media to tell people about Jesus? Why? ”