



## **Digital Borrowing Box for 1 August, 2021**

2 Samuel 11:26-12:13a  
Psalm 51:1-12  
Ephesians 4:1-16  
John 6:24-35

Hello!

Over the summer, we will continue to produce the Borrowing Boxes as well as the Sunday morning video for children--but are happy for more ideas and feedback. Please don't hesitate to reach out to Steve at [stevechaffee@greenbankchurch.org](mailto:stevechaffee@greenbankchurch.org).

Lastly, make sure to register now for our Holiday Club, Megamakers, from 9-13 August! The most direct way to register is at <https://www.greenbankchurch.org/youth/holiday-club/registration-form/>. We're looking forward to having Holiday Club IN PERSON! Wahoo! Once registered, you'll be on our mailing list for more details as we get closer to August.

For this week, our box includes:

- A Parent's Brief for you
- A Painting and Reflection
- A Word Search for use during the service
- Some Activity Ideas for the week!

### **Before Livestream:**

Print off materials, prepare markers and paper for drawing throughout the service.

### **During:**

Have markers and paper to hand for your children through the service.

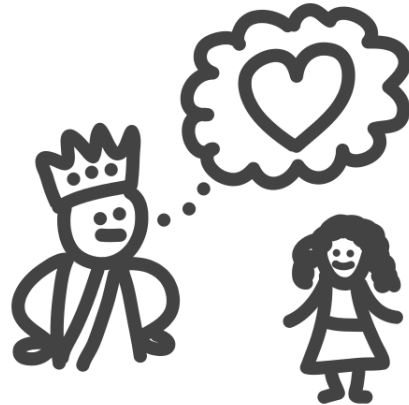
### **After:**

Give some of our activities a try! We've divided them up into different categories to help you decide when to do them.

Steve Chaffee and the Young Church Team

## Parent's Brief: 2 Samuel 11:26-12:13a

Today's story belongs with the story of David and Bathsheba. In that story, David commits grievous error in leveraging his authority as king to commit both adultery and murder. (It's useful to remember here: The OT is particularly harsh against adultery, though less so because of the sexual connotations and rather because of the spiritual dimension--if Israelites are willing to violate that agreement they've made, who is to say they won't do the same with the covenant?)



Enter Nathan. The prophet of David's court, whose job was to speak as a mouthpiece for God--and to speak truth to power. Nathan tells a parable to David about a rich man and a poor man. The rich man leverages his authority to take from the poor man, though the rich man has plenty. David falls for the story hook, line, and sinker! David's sense of justice was ignited--and he rightly pointed out that the rich man was in error.

'David, you are the man!' Nathan's reply came. It's common to read this as an accusative thunderbolt--but we don't *have* to read it that way. David and Nathan were close--it was within a relationship of trust that Nathan was allowed (maybe even afforded the right!) to correct David so. And this is a fundamental point I see emerging for today: correction is only heard within the space of love and trust.

**1) David's Blindness:** Seeing our own patterns is hard. We all have patterns of acting (and reacting!) built out of our lives and hurts. It's ironic that David could so easily call out the error in the parable, but not his own! Have a think today with your kids: in what sorts of ways do we see our actions--and crucially--our mistakes?

**2) Nathan's Rebuke:** Correction is hard. It's not a surprise that it can often feel like a personal attack--but it takes a sort of spiritual discipline to recognise the spirit in which correction is given. Have a think about times when you've been corrected (or corrected others!), and chat with you kids about how it feels to be corrected, and when it's useful to correct others.



***Thou Art The Man*, Peter Rothermel. 1884**

Peter Rothermel's *Thou Art The Man* is a favourite of mine for a bit of imaginative contemplation.

It's striking that here, Nathan is correcting David in public, though no sign of that is given in the text of 2nd Samuel. We get to be agnostic on that point--which means we can imagine the story either way.

Notice too how light and dark play across the scene: Darkness on the left, behind David, and light coming from the right, illuminating his face and shifting body language.

Finally, while Nathan's outstretched hand directs us to David's face, the shepherd's crook in his hand is angled almost perpendicular to it. We may cast blame on the horizontal plane, but God's concern is always for our ultimate well-being--as the consummate good shepherd.

# Nathan Rebukes David

D	N	D	I	V	A	D	O	N	F	L	U	C	P
R	R	D	E	P	H	E	A	A	M	A	R	V	O
O	R	D	G	D	O	B	F	T	E	O	I	M	H
O	R	L	E	H	R	O	N	H	R	O	A	D	N
S	A	I	A	I	N	N	R	A	F	N	H	B	O
H	E	H	C	B	F	O	H	N	R	G	N	I	K
E	D	C	O	A	O	L	D	A	R	R	B	R	T
P	E	D	L	T	U	D	A	L	I	H	H	P	L
H	L	F	O	H	R	I	D	R	O	L	C	O	P
E	P	O	L	S	F	D	T	G	L	R	R	I	U
R	P	D	D	H	O	E	A	L	H	U	O	I	R
D	O	T	H	E	L	I	L	O	D	H	B	S	O
H	B	V	L	B	D	A	F	N	O	D	H	L	O
D	O	I	O	A	T	H	H	I	N	H	I	L	D

BATHSHEBA  
 URIAH  
 RICH  
 KING  
 FOURFOLD  
 CHILD  
 MAN  
 LORD  
 POOR  
 NATHAN  
 DAVID  
 SHEPHERD

Play this puzzle online at : <https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/2618813/>

## Steve's Bonus Words:

Road, HBO, Rid, The, Nod, Bono, Old

## **Activity Ideas:**

### **(Game, Bible Story) Follow**

**My Lead:** This game is similar to Simon Says in structure. However, this time the children have to follow the good actions you do, but not the bad ones.

It's up to you to decide on which actions to choose, but as children do (or don't!) follow your lead, it can open up the conversation as to what's right and wrong.

### **(Game, Important People) Who Do You Think You Are?**

On index cards, write out a variety of important people. (Ranging from the Queen to your local head teacher even!) Then, distribute these cards to all the players, who cannot look at their card but must place it on their forehead facing out. Then, players have 5 minutes to go to each other and ask twenty yes/no questions. After 5 minutes, they must guess who they are.

Once players have figured out, ask each other about how you'd act around these people--and why? How difficult might it be to correct some of these people?

## **All Age Prayer, Spill The Beans**

Loving God,  
we ask you to be with us  
today and every day  
as we seek to learn with you  
and with your people;  
to grow with you  
and with your people.

Help us today  
as we try to see you  
in all the people that we  
meet; help us to understand  
what makes us 'us';  
help us to be happy  
with who we are;  
help us to see that  
every person is different;  
help us, not to judge others,  
but to love them  
for who they are.

In our busy lives  
guide us towards each other;  
help us, not only to be self  
centred,  
but to care for the world  
and the people all around us;  
help us to see,  
that you love us now and  
forever,  
and help us to live our lives  
spreading this same love  
today and everyday.  
Amen.