

Introduction

- Find out how everyone is doing: What was the worst & best parts of your weeks?
- Remind everyone of last week's lesson: What did we talk about last week? How did your application from last week go?
- Lead into this week's lesson: Can anyone share a time in their life when they ran away from something? [*One leader should volunteer an experience first as an example when they ran away from the Lord after sinning*]

Objective: When we sin, we should not run AWAY (from community, accountability, or the Lord), but instead run TO the Lord.

- How do we define sin?

We can all remember times when we have run away from the Lord after we have sinned. BUT that's not in the Lord's will for our lives. He loves us and wants us to come to Him. *Reference/connect to Adam & Eve story from week 1.* There are plenty of other stories in the Bible about people who ran away from God after falling into sin. Can anyone think of any Bible characters in particular?

David

David was King of the Israelites and the only person in the Bible described as “a man after God's own heart,” but he definitely did not live a perfect life. One day he saw a beautiful woman called Bathsheba that he lusted after. [*Define lust*]. He called her over, slept with her, and she ended up getting pregnant. So that her husband, Uriah, wouldn't find out, David tried to trick Uriah into sleeping with Bathsheba so he'd think the baby was his. When this didn't work, David sent Uriah to the front lines of war so that he would be killed off. [*Learn more about this story from 2 Samuel 11-12*]

-**Question:** How did David sin? [*Allow people to give multiple responses – lust, adultery, murder, etc.*]

-**Question:** In a similar way, where have you seen one sin lead to another sin in your life?

Even though David tried to hide everything he had done, God sent a man named Nathan to lead David to repentance. [*Define repentance*]. **Read Psalm 51.**

-**Question:** How can this chapter be a model for us in what do after we sin?

-**Question:** What does it mean to “restore to me the joy of Your salvation?” (vs. 12)

-*Feel free to ask more questions about this chapter*

Jonah

God told Jonah to go to a town called Nineveh to help turn people from their wickedness towards God. Instead of obeying God's command, Jonah ran away in the opposite direction. He jumped on a boat to sail away from Nineveh and the boat got caught in a big storm. To save themselves, the other men on the ship threw Jonah overboard and the storm stopped. Jonah was then swallowed by huge fish and stayed in that fish's belly for 3 days and 3 nights. During that time Jonah cried out to God and eventually the fish spit him up onto dry land. Once again, God commanded Jonah to go to Nineveh and he obeyed.

-**Question:** How did Jonah sin? [*Not doing something we are commanded to do is just as bad as doing something we are commanded not to do.*]

-**Question:** In what other, less obvious, ways do we sin? [*example: worrying – Matthew 6:25-24, Philippians 4:6-7*]

-**Question:** In what ways do we try to hide from God?

Lessons to take away

1. We are all going to sin.
2. We shouldn't run away or try to hide when we sin. Instead, we should confess, repent, and run closer to God. **Read 1 John 1:9.**
3. How God's love ties into not running away.

Application: [*Ask for their ideas in how to apply this week's lesson.*]

- Find an accountability partner within your familia. [*Define accountability partner.*]
- Confess your sin to community & take steps to turn away from that sin & towards God.
- Read Psalm 51 every night this week.
- Ask to Lord to highlight areas in your life where you are sinning. Pray to God for His powerful Holy Spirit to help you stop sinning & draw closer to Him instead. HE will make your paths straight. **Proverbs 3:5-6.**