

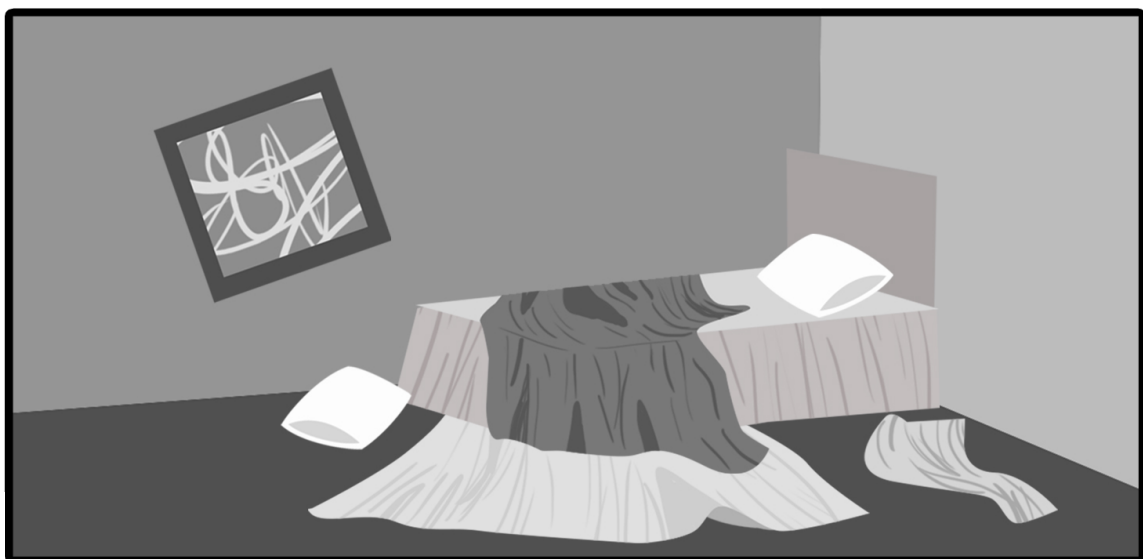
Pick out a designated area in your home to clean. Leave that area uncleaned for several days up to a week before your planned activity day. The messier it is, the better.

On the activity day, tell the kids: We are going to clean this area of our home. We will all work together and everyone will have something to do. (You can assign age-appropriate tasks to your kids.)

After cleaning, congratulate everyone for a job well done!

Say: Which do you think is more fun - to mess up a clean place or to clean up a messy place? (Let the kids answer.). You know, this is just like our hearts. God gives us a clean heart but we mess it up with sin.

Let's read about this in David's life.





Read the Word

Sin is when you've done something wrong. Sin is ugly. But all people sin.

Even David, our favorite Bible character this month. David did something wrong in the eyes of God. He sinned big time! In 2 Samuel 11, David took someone's wife and he sent her husband to the frontlines during wartime to be killed. How horrible! But when Nathan the prophet pointed it out to him, David was deeply sorry for what he did.

In Psalm 51:1-6, he came to God with a humble heart, seeking mercy:

*God, be merciful to me
because you are loving.
Because you are always ready to be merciful
wipe out all my wrongs.
Wash away all my guilt
And make me clean again.*

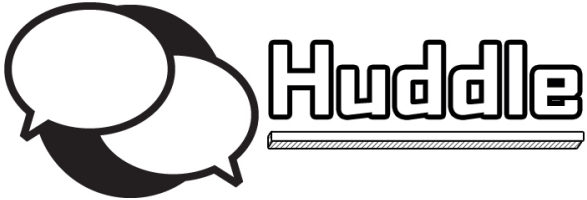
*I know about my wrongs.
I can't forget my sin.
You are the one I have sinned against.
I have done what you say is wrong.
So you are right when you speak.
You are fair when you judge me.
I was brought into this world in sin.
In sin my mother gave birth to me.*

*You want me to be completely truthful.
So teach me wisdom.*

No, David did not make excuses for his mistakes. He knew he made God very sad and he was very sorry. Although he sinned, he knew one very important truth about God: **God is merciful and loving.** David believed that

he can run to God any time to ask for His forgiveness. God looked at David's heart and not at how bad his sin was. It was only God's love and mercy that made David's heart clean again.

No matter what we have done wrong, we do not have to run away from God. He wants us to come to Him and tell Him about it. He loves it when we pour out our hearts to Him just like David did and we can be sure that He will listen. And He is more pleased when we come with humble hearts, sorry for what we have done.



Parent to Kid/s:

2-6 years old

- Who picks you up from school or Kids' Church? Are you sure that s/he will come pick you up every time s/he says so?
- Have you ever done something your parents told you not to do? Do you think it is right to do it?

7-12 years old

- Who cooks your food? Do you trust that the person who cooks your food puts only good ingredients that will be good for your health?
- What is the first thing you do when you know you've done something wrong?

Kid/s to Parent:

- Who are the people you trust the most?
- Have you ever done something you know is wrong? What did you do about it?

Whenever we do something wrong, we often want to hide it from others. But the truth is, it is always better to tell a person you can trust than to keep it hidden. We tell someone so they can help us learn from it.

And the best person we can run to is God. We can trust Him and tell Him what we did. God knows everything we did, whether we come to Him or not. He knows what's in our hearts. When He sees that we are truly sorry for what we did, He will forgive us.

At this point, you may be thinking, "So I can just sin and sin because God will forgive us?" First and foremost, you cannot trick God. He knows if you are already making a fool out of Him. So He knows when you are truly sorry and when you are not. Secondly, David did horrible things, and what happened? He also experienced horrible consequences or effects because of the sin he did. That is why we should still be careful even though we know God will forgive us. But then again, God will forgive us if we are truly sorry.



Dear God,

The Bible says I can run to You at all times. Teach me to trust in You even when I do wrong things. Thank You for loving and forgiving me each time I do wrong. Please change my heart so I can be more like Jesus.

Amen!



Undo your mistakes

Surely you all know about the UNDO function on most of the programs on your computer. This is one of the most useful features you can ever use.

The UNDO command brings you right back to where you last made any changes to your work. It deletes anything you added that you have decided you want to take out and it restores back anything that you may have deleted but decided you want to bring back.

You can read more about it here:

<https://edu.gcfglobal.org/en/basic-computer-skills/undo-your-mistakes/1/>

How awesome it is that mistakes we make on a computer can easily be deleted or restored by a tap of a key. But it's even more amazing that we have a God who can completely wipe out our sins and restore us to be the best we can be!

