



Date: _____
Series: Lookin' for a Leader
Fall Year 3, Lesson 17

David Gets Trapped in Sin

Take Home Point: *Resist the devil and he will flee from you.

*Repeat this phrase throughout the lesson.

Bible Event: 2 Samuel 11

Key Verses: James 4:7b, 8a, "Resist the devil, and he will run away from you. Come close to God, and he will come close to you."

We will help kids know:

- The Bible event of David's sin in coveting Bathsheba, committing adultery, and murdering Uriah.
- Sin is very serious and we can be trapped by it. When we try to cover up sin, it only gets worse.
- We receive freedom when we turn to Jesus and his forgiveness.




We will help kids feel:

- Confident that they can talk about their failures with other Christian kids.
- Caution over the seriousness of sin.

We will help kids do:

- Identify times they have covered up sin.
- Pray today about resisting temptation in the future.
- Pray immediately when tempted.
- Trust in Jesus to come to them in victory over sin.

THIS LESSON'S ROADMAP

DESTINATION	PAGE #	DISCOVERIES ON YOUR JOURNEY	SUPPLIES NEEDED
Small Group Warm-Up 	3	Have you ever done something wrong and hoped you didn't get caught? Trying to cover up sin can trap us. Kids play a game that challenges them not to get their pencil trapped in a mousetrap.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • inexpensive wooden mousetrap with a coil spring and metal bar for each group • five to six pencils with erasers
Large Group 	4 7 10 13	Overview Puppet Presentation: "Gordy Gets Trapped" Bible Presentation: "Interview with the Trapper" Puppet Conclusion: "Gordy Gets Trapped"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • three to five mousetraps • mini Tootsie Rolls • pencils • Gordy with a mousetrap in his hair • outfit for sharply dressed figure who has an aura of being slick and deceiving (the devil) • bag of traps that includes a mousetrap, rattrap, and a gigantic mousetrap that can be made out of cardboard and wire
Small Group Application 	4	The shepherd uses the visual of a mousetrap and two pencils to demonstrate how Jesus' forgiveness frees us from the trap of sin.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • cheese and crackers for the kids • half sheet of yellow paper for each group • pencils • hole punch • mousetrap for each group

Small Group Warm-Up: 15 minutes



Purpose: *Get pointed in the right direction!* Build relationships and help guests feel at ease. Do the learning readiness activity that will point your group in the right direction for the lesson.

Today's warm-up involves mousetraps. Since mousetraps spring with great force, much caution should be used in today's activities in which kids will be near loaded mousetraps. An adult should load the mousetrap to ensure kids' safety.

Today's theme will use the metaphor of "trapped in sin." The Warm-Up game challenges kids to spring the mousetrap with the eraser end of a pencil and pull the pencil out before the trap is sprung. Be sure kids hold the tip of the pencil and are nowhere near the eraser end. The challenge will be intriguing for the kids.

Have kids answer the following question before taking a turn trying to spring the mousetrap.

Tell about a time when you did something you knew you shouldn't have—but hoped you would not get caught.

To start the discussion, share an experience from your childhood where there was a cover up that only added to the sin.

After each child tells his story, he can try the challenge with the mousetrap. Some of the kids' stories might include how they tried to cover up their sin and were found out. Others might include how they seemingly got away with it. As the lesson progresses, your group will discover that we never completely get away with sin. Say:

When we try to cover up sin, we can become trapped by sin. Jesus came to give us freedom from sin. If any of us are feeling bad about something we have done in the past or something we have tried to cover up, we can know for sure that God will give us freedom because of Jesus.

Kids, remember that we are in a series about God lookin' for a leader. Last week we found out that David was a leader who said, "Whatever you want, Lord." This week we will discover that he also had a serious failure when he did not do what God wanted. David got trapped by sin.

Today you can learn to **resist the devil and he will flee from you.*

Large Group Overview: 20-30 minutes



Purpose: *Help kids observe what the Bible says. Present the Bible event in creative fashion. Help kids begin to interpret what it means.*

Carnival Game with Puppet Presentation: “Gordy Gets Trapped” –Gordy tried to get a Tootsie Roll and got trapped—in a mousetrap. The contestants for this carnival game try to spring mousetraps and send Tootsie Rolls flying.

Bible Presentation: “Interview with the Trapper”—An actor, B.L.Z. Bub (alias Satan) tells the story of how he trapped King David into sinning with Bathsheba and killing her husband. Nathan, the prophet, pointed out David’s sin to him.

Puppet Conclusion: “Gordy Gets Trapped”— Gordy learns that Jesus frees us from the traps of sin and we can resist the devil.

Small Group Application: 20-25 minutes



Purpose: *Help kids map out the meaning of the Bible event in their lives. Use the questions to stimulate discussion but don't feel tied to them. Allow the Holy Spirit to guide you. Include personal examples from your own faith journey. The example of Christ at work in your life will leave lasting impressions of how Christ can work in the children's lives.*

Use your Bibles! Children need to learn how to look up references and follow along when scripture is read aloud. Allow for quality time of prayer at the close of the lesson.

Observation Questions: What happened?

Let the kids snack on cheese and crackers to fit the metaphor of mousetraps. The kids can refer to 2 Samuel 11 in their Bibles as you review the Bible event with the following.

What was the name of the woman David saw when he looked down from his palace’s roof? (2 Samuel 11:3. Bathsheba.)

Who was her husband? (2 Samuel 11:3. Uriah.)

What did David think about? (2 Samuel 11:4. He wanted Bathsheba to be his wife.)

The next thing he did was take action. This was a bigger trap. He stole her to pretend to be his wife. Where was her husband and what was he doing? (2 Samuel 11:6-7. Uriah was in a distant land fighting battles in David’s army.)

David called Uriah back home so he could get Uriah and Bathsheba together. David was trying to lie and cover up. Did Uriah go back to his home to sleep? (No.)

Where did Uriah sleep and why? *(2 Samuel 11:9. Uriah slept outside because that is where all of his soldiers were sleeping. He did not think it would be fair if he got to go home for the night.)*

Finally, this led to the biggest trap. David had Uriah killed to cover up his sin. How did David do this? *(2 Samuel 11:14-17. He sent secret orders to the general to put Uriah in the front lines. When they were close to the city wall, the men drew back.)*

Interpretation Questions: What does this mean?

David had been trapped by sin. What do you think was his only way out? *(To confess his sin, repent, and turn to God. That is what happened when the prophet Nathan came to talk to him. We will study this more next week.)*

Application Questions: What does this mean to me?

Application Activity:

Hold up a yellow piece of paper and ask the group to imagine it is like cheese in a trap.

The “cheese” is the thing that might tempt us to do something we should not do. It is usually something we want to do so much that we finally give in and do it. Let’s talk about what some of those things are. As we list those things, we will write them on this piece of paper. Who can tell us about a time when you did something wrong and tried to cover it up? How was it like a trap getting bigger and bigger?

Collect temptations from the kids. Especially remember those stories told during Warm-Up.

Next, share the Bible verse, James 4:7, 8:

“Resist the devil, and he will run away from you. Come close to God, and he will come close to you.”

How do we resist the devil?

As kids give their suggestions, use a hole punch or pencil to punch holes in the paper.

These holes remind us that we have power over temptation, but we need to do what God says. We need to resist the devil and tell him no. We need to come close to God. We do that as we pray for strength. Jesus taught us to pray to deliver ourselves from temptation.

The finished product of the cheese-like paper will be a visual presentation of how God has power over our temptation. The learning point follows.

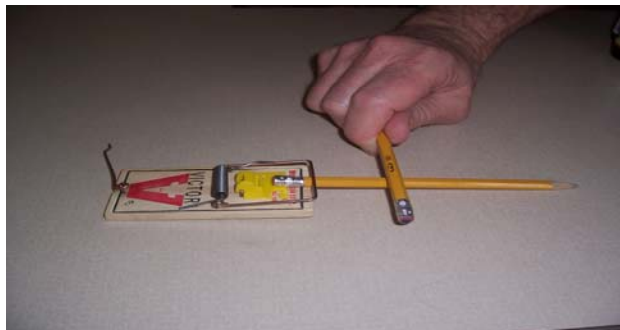
Jesus took the punishment of our sin upon himself so we could eventually become freed of the traps of sin. The truth is that we have all sinned and been trapped. Jesus took the pain of the traps for us when he died on the cross. He was the only man who was never trapped by sin because he never sinned. He was the Son of God. Yet, he took our punishment, just like stepping into the mousetrap for us.

Snap the mousetrap.

Because Jesus died for us, he set us free by giving us the power of forgiveness. We simply need to trust in him as our Savior and the gift of forgiveness is ours. Because of Jesus, we also have strength to resist the devil and he will run away from us.

I will load the mousetrap again. Can you use your pencil to push down on the loaded part of the mousetrap to make it snap? Do this in such a way that your pencil is not hurt at all.

The secret is to lay another pencil across the mousetrap without snapping it. With your own pencil, press against the pencil resting on the mousetrap. The mousetrap will snap onto that pencil but leave your pencil untouched. These two intersecting pencils form a cross.



Jesus took our punishment upon himself so we could go free. Since he has done this one time, we don't need to be held in the grips of sin anymore. Jesus empowers us to **resist the devil and he will flee from us.*

Closing Prayer:

Ask for strength to resist temptation. Encourage the kids to be as specific as possible. Be sure to express faith in Jesus and thanksgiving that he has given his life for us to free us from sin's trap.

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Large Group Presentation

Gordy Gets Trapped

Puppet Presentation

Two mousetraps are used in today's carnival game. These mousetraps should be loaded with great caution. *Kids should not be allowed to prepare the traps.*

The mousetrap metaphor will leave kids with the visual image that Satan would want to trap them in sin. Through Jesus, we can have freedom from Satan's traps. This freedom comes through the forgiveness we receive because of Jesus taking our punishment on himself. Because of the freedom of forgiveness, we are empowered to avoid the traps of sin and live for Jesus.



Here are some details as to how to load the mousetraps for the game: 1. Place the traps on the floor with the bait lever closest to the audience. The traps should be approximately two feet apart; 2. After the traps are set, place a mini Tootsie Roll on the corner of the wire section that slams shut.

Once the trap is activated and the wire slams shut, it will throw the Tootsie Roll into the audience. Two contestants will take turns throwing pencils onto the trap. The large group presenter should set up and practice the game ahead of time so he knows how it works.

A contestant receives a piece of candy when he is able to spring a trap.

Mr. King: Hi, boys and girls! Welcome to Kingdom Quest Carnival where we are still lookin' for a leader. I'm Mr. King and this is Gordy.

(Gordy does not appear.)

Mr. King: Uh . . . and I said, "This is Gordy, my assistant."

(Gordy still does not appear.)

Mr. King: Gordy! Where are you?

(Gordy appears with a mousetrap in his hair.)

Mr. King: My goodness! What happened to you?

Gordy: I think I got trapped.

Mr. King: I hope you weren't playing with the mousetrap when your shepherd told you not to.

Gordy: Well, it was only for a second when my shepherd turned his back. You see, there was a Tootsie Roll on this mousetrap. I didn't want to get my finger caught in the trap, so I got really close and blew on the Tootsie Roll to get it free and . . .

Mr. King: It looks like it trapped your hair. Here, let me help you get that off. I hope you have learned a lesson.

Gordy: Thanks, Mr. King. Phew! Is it great to be free. I don't know if you could tell, but it wasn't a whole lot of fun wearing a mousetrap in my hair.

Mr. King: I can believe it. That is exactly what we are talking about today.

Gordy: It is?

Mr. King: Yes. We are talking about getting trapped and getting free.

Gordy: Free from what?

Mr. King: Free from sin.

Gordy: Free from sin? I thought we were talking about King David. We learned last week that King David said, "Whatever you want, Lord." He didn't sin or have any failures.

Mr. King: That's not true, Gordy. He did sin and he had some failures. We'll talk about that today. First, let's play our carnival game. I need some contestants to come forward to play the game, "Spring the Traps."

(Invite two kids forward to be the contestant for the game.)

Gordy: How does this game work?

Mr. King: I will practice today's Bible verse and if the contestant can remember his line, he gets to toss a pencil to try to hit the trap. When the trap is sprung, it will throw a Tootsie Roll.

Gordy: Oh, I see! So this is "Free the Tootsie Roll."

Mr. King: Well, I guess you could say it is.

Gordy: But I think we should play "Free the Tootsie Roll and Give It to Gordy!"

Mr. King: Let's just play "Spring the Traps." Kids, here is the Bible verse from James 4:7. I will say the first part and you will have to remember the

second part. The first part is “Resist the devil.” The second part is “...and he will run away from you.” Shall we try it all together?

“Resist the devil...”

(Kids respond, “...and he will run away from you.”)

Mr. King: Here is the second sentence of the verse. My part is, “Come close to God...” Your part is “...and he will come close to you.” Let’s try the whole verse together. I’ll say my parts and you say yours.

“Resist the devil...”

(Kids respond, “...and he will run away from you.”)

Mr. King: **“Come close to God...”**

(Kids respond, “...and he will come close to you.”)

Mr. King: Now I will pick one of these contestants to see if he/she can remember his/her part of the verse.

(Give the first part of the phrase and have the first contestant finish it. Then say the first part of the second phrase and see if the other contestant can complete it. When a contestant can say his line, give him a pencil to toss and spring the trap. [It is a more effective toss in springing the trap if the pencil is tossed lengthwise, not pointed at the mousetrap.] When through playing, conclude with the following.)

Mr. King: Gordy, as we look for a leader today, we will have an opportunity to find out more about David. We will interview someone who has done some special research on the subject of getting trapped by sin.

Gordy: Who’s that?

Mr. King: His name is Mr. Bub. I would like to introduce him to the group right now so he might better explain how it is that sin can trap us.

Interview with the Trapper

Bible Presentation

Mr. B.L.Z. Bub is a sharply dressed figure with a slick and deceiving aura. The actor playing this role can embellish these characteristics as he sees fit. The audience needs to get the impression that this person is, in fact, the devil.

Mr. Bub will have three traps in his bag that are easily retrievable. The first trap is an ordinary mousetrap, the second is a rattrap, and a third trap is a gigantic mousetrap that can be made out of cardboard and wire. (Use your imagination.) Another option is to use two small mousetraps and one rattrap.

Mr. King: Boys and girls, I would like to introduce to you a special guest who is going to tell us about King David and how he got trapped. Please give a warm welcome to Mr. Bub, Private Investigator.

Mr. Bub: Hello, Mr. King. Hello, kids.

Mr. King: Yes, Mr. Bub. Can I call you by your first name?

Mr. Bub: Well, I don't go by my first name. My first initials are B.L.Z.

Mr. King: That's rather odd, B.L.Z?

Mr. Bub: Yes, B.L.Z. Bub. Beelzebub.

Mr. King: Isn't that another name for the devil?

Mr. Bub: Oh, some have said so.

Mr. King: So, should I call you Mr. Bub?

Mr. Bub: No, you may call me The Trapper because that is what I love to do.

Mr. King: Okay, Mr. Trapper. I understand you have been investigating King David. He is a man after God's own heart and his success and leadership were because he always said, "Whatever you want, Lord."

Mr. Bub: Well, not always.

Mr. King: Not always? Please explain.

Mr. Bub: King David fell into a little bitty trap and he got caught. One day when he was on top of his palace, he looked over the side and saw a beautiful girl. He said, "Ooohhh, baby. She's looking fine!" So he asked some people, "Who is that girl?" His servants told him, "Don't ask! Her name is Bathsheba and she is married to one of your great soldiers, Uriah."

Mr. King: Did David just drop it and forget about Bathsheba?

Mr. Bub: *(Laughs, takes out mousetrap, and snaps it.)* If he would have, he would not have fallen into the trap. Instead, he said, “I want her. I want her. I want her. I can’t stop thinking about her.”

Mr. King: So is that when David got trapped?

Mr. Bub: *(Snaps the mousetrap again.)* He got trapped when he continued thinking about the wrong desires in his heart. As long as he did that, he could get trapped into something bigger.

This is what he did. King David had one of his servants go down and get Bathsheba. He wasn’t just thinking about her now. He was going to do something about it. He was going to steal her as his own wife.

I love this because now my trap is getting bigger. First, it was just a thought, now it’s an action. *(Reaches into bag and snaps the bigger trap, laughing again.)*

When David stole Bathsheba as his wife, she was still married, but her husband, Uriah, wasn’t around the palace. He was one of David’s great captains in the army. He was away fighting in a battle for David.

Ha! While Uriah was helping to fight David’s battles, David was stealing his wife. That’s when it gets even better and the trap gets bigger. *(Reaches into bag and snaps the biggest trap, laughing again.)* Now David tried to hide what he was doing. He was trying to cover up, just the way I like it.

David gave special orders to the general at the battle where Uriah was fighting. He told the general, “When Uriah is at the very front of the battle near the city walls, everyone else should back up. Then Uriah will be all by himself and the enemy will kill him.”

And that’s just what happened. Uriah was killed. And, it was all because David got trapped by his own sin. What started as a thought led to an action, and now David was covering it up by killing Uriah.

Mr. King: That’s terrible!

Mr. Bub: I think it’s wonderful! Ha! Ha! Ha! Again, David was trapped and people got hurt.

Mr. King: This is terrible. Did David get away with it?

Mr. Bub: Well, David thought he did. After Uriah was dead, he had Bathsheba as his wife. Everything would have worked out fine except for that nosey prophet, Nathan. Nathan was poking his nose into the whole affair.

Mr. King: What do you mean? Did he help David get out of the trap?

Mr. Bub: Yes, but I don't want to talk about it.

Mr. King: *(Mr. King's body language and inflection needs to strongly communicate that God defeated the Trapper's scheme. God's power over the Trapper and sin needs to be clearly emphasized.)* **Ah, yes. I remember now. David did get freed from the trap because he learned not to cover up. Instead, David learned go to God and ask for his forgiveness. Because of Jesus and his life given for us, we can have forgiveness and get freed from the trap.**

Mr. Bub: That's not what I would recommend. I would recommend that you just keep covering your sin up. It is much better that way. You'll never get found out.

Mr. King: What do you think, boys and girls? Is Mr. B.L.Z. Bub, The Trapper, right?

(The kids respond, "No!")

Mr. King: Well, Mr. Trapper, we know all about your plans and we don't like them. Thank you for telling us about David, but we don't want you around anymore. Good-bye.

Mr. Bub: Oh, so you don't want me around. Well, I'm leaving but I think I'll see some of you again. Ha! Ha! Ha!

Gordy Gets Trapped

Puppet Conclusion

Gordy: Wow, Mr. King. That guy is creepy.

Mr. King: And, he's dangerous.

Gordy: Yeah. David got trapped by sin. I know how he feels.

Mr. King: What do you mean?

Gordy: Once I got trapped. I asked my mom if I could have a candy bar, but she said no. I just kept thinking about how much I wanted that delicious wonderful huge candy bar.

Mr. King: What happened?

Gordy: When she wasn't looking, I took it anyway. I didn't eat it all, though. I knew she would miss it, so I only ate half of it.

Mr. King: But she would find out if she found the candy bar half eaten.

Gordy: Not if she found the candy bar half eaten under my sister's bed.

Mr. King: Is that where you put it?

Gordy: Yeah, she would get blamed instead of me!

Mr. King: You mean you were trying to hide your sin and blame someone else?

Gordy: Yeah. I guess I got trapped.

Mr. King: What happened then?

Gordy: When my sister found the candy bar, she asked my mom why there was a half eaten candy bar under her bed. Then my mom figured it out.

Mr. King: So it didn't work when you tried to hide it.

Gordy: I'll say! I really got in trouble. But I learned my lesson because I sure don't like getting trapped.

Mr. King: But we always have a way out of the trap.

Gordy: Yeah, doesn't God forgive us when we don't try to hide it from him?

Mr. King: He sure does. We can always remember that God gave us Jesus. And we can remember that Jesus is God's own Son, whose love for us is so big and wonderful that he took all of our punishment on himself so we could be freed from those traps. That's what happens when we're forgiven.

Gordy: And when I get freed, I don't even want to get in those traps anymore.

Mr. King: I don't want to either. Why don't you close our time together in prayer.

Gordy: Dear God, thank you for freeing us from those traps that we get caught in when we do stuff that's wrong. Help us to say no to the devil when we're tempted so he can't hang around with us anymore. Help us remember we can **resist the devil and he will flee from us*. And best of all, thank you for Jesus, and the great way he loves us and frees us. Amen.