#TargetPractice: How should we react after doing something wrong?

King David is known for some cool things. He was picked to be king, even though he was the youngest of his brothers. He defeated the giant Goliath even though no other soldier would face him. He wrote many of the Psalms.

But David also made some big mistakes. What did you hear in the message?

We all make mistakes. But what did David do after he realized he made a mistake?

A prophet named Nathan visited David and told David a story. (see 2 Samuel 12)

What was the purpose of the story? (to get David to realize he did wrong)

David realized he did wrong. In 2 Samuel 12:1**3a**, David said to Nathan, "I have sinned against the Lord.".

He recognized his sin and confessed it.

Then Nathan replied, "The Lord has taken away your sin. You are not going to die." (2 Samuel 12:13b) but Nathan went on to tell David the consequences of his actions. David did not like the consequences, but he accepted them because he knew he did wrong.

He faced his consequences.

When we do something wrong, we should…
- Recognize you did wrong and admit/confess it
- Ask God to forgive you
  - Anything we do against someone else is doing it against God
- Ask the person/people you hurt to forgive you
  - This shows you are truly sorry for what you have done
- Make it right (face consequences)
  - Being forgiven doesn't necessarily take away the consequences (stealing/pay back, lying/losing trust in you, …)
  - Helps you learn your lesson
- Learn from your mistake and don't do it again

David was always willing to accept when he made a mistake and then accept the consequences. It wasn't always easy, but he realized it was necessary. Because of this, God said that David was a man after His own heart. He wasn't perfect, but he recognized his mistakes and corrected them.