



July 13/14, 2019

Unit 11, Session 4

4th-5th Lesson

David's Kindness

2 Samuel 9

Story Point: David showed kindness to Jonathan's son.

Open your Bible and read aloud 2 Samuel 9, or tell the story from the following Bible story script.

David was a good king for Israel. He defeated his enemies, and he obeyed God to do what was fair and right for God's people. One day, David thought about King Saul and his family. David and Saul's son Jonathan had been best friends. He had promised to be kind to Jonathan's family. David wondered if anyone from that family was still alive.

David said to one of Saul's servants, "I want to show kindness to someone from Saul's family. Is anyone still alive?"

The servant said, "Yes, Jonathan's son—the one whose feet were injured—is still alive."

The servant told David where Jonathan's son lived. His name was Mephibosheth (meh FIB oh sheth). David called for him to his palace in Jerusalem. When Mephibosheth arrived, he bowed down before David to show respect.

"Mephibosheth!" David said.

Mephibosheth answered, "I am your servant."

"Don't be afraid. I made a promise to your father, Jonathan, and I want to show you kindness for your father's sake."

David told Mephibosheth what he would do for him. "I will give you all the land that belonged to your grandfather, Saul. Also, I want you to eat all your meals at my table."

Mephibosheth bowed down. "Why would you show such kindness to someone like me?" he wondered.

David made sure that Saul's servants would take care of the land and farm it for Mephibosheth. From that time on, Mephibosheth lived at the palace and ate his meals at King David's table as if he were one of King David's own sons.

Christ Connection: King David showed surprising kindness to Mephibosheth even though he didn't have to. In a greater way, God shows surprising kindness to us. Because of Jesus, He invites us into His family and gives us life with Him forever.

Supplies: Bibles, cardstock, construction paper, glue, scissors, markers, crayons
Take Home: 4th-5th Learner Guide

Opening Activities



INTRODUCE the Story

WELCOME TIME

Greet each kid as he or she arrives. Use this time to collect the offering, fill out attendance sheets, and help new kids connect to your group. Prompt kids to answer this question: If you could invite anyone over for dinner, who would you invite? Why?

OPTION 1: Is there anyone who ... ?

We know some rooms have a lot of kids and option 1 may not work. Choose 1 game option that works best for your group.

Instruct kids to sit in a circle. Choose one player to stand in the center. This player is *It*. *It* should begin, “Is there anyone in your family who ...” and then complete the question with a statement such as “... has a birthday this month?” or “... likes to play football?”

Any kids who have a family member meeting the criteria should stand up and find an unoccupied seat. *It* should also find a seat. The player left without a seat becomes *It* and asks a new question. Play several rounds.

- David asked, “Is there anyone from Saul’s family who is still alive?”
Why do you think he wanted to know?

OPTION 2: Eliminator

Supplies: Eliminator game and 4 eliminator game buzzers

Eliminator

Each of you has your own buzzer with your own unique color (red, blue, yellow and green). That color is the team that you are on. Can you each take turns buzzing that for me one time just to make sure it works? (let each kid press their buzzer one at a time) Great! We are going to play the game called Eliminator!

Up on the screen you’re going to see a spinning wheel and 4 different pillars of light. Each pillar is a different color and matches each of your buzzers. When we start, I’m going to have the RED player press his/her buzzer and that will let our tech know when to stop the wheel. Any color that the red ball stops on will eliminate one of the colored lights of that team’s pillar. But be careful, you could accidentally stop on your OWN color, too! Then, the BLUE player will get to stop the wheel, and then YELLOW and then GREEN. If your pillar runs out of lights, you are out of the game. We will do this over and over until one player is left and they will be the Eliminator Champion. OK, get your buzzers and buzzer fingers ready! Let’s play Eliminator!



Sing

["Movin Me" song](#)
["God is on the Move" song](#)

TEACH the Story

[CG Giant timeline](#)

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

David was one of Israel's great kings. He remembered a promise he had made to Saul's son Jonathan and showed kindness to Saul's family. Whether this is your first time or your tenth time hearing this story, there is always something new to learn in God's Word.

Read 2 Samuel 9.

- What does this story teach us about God?

[CG Question 1](#)

King David showed surprising kindness to Mephibosheth even though he didn't have to. In a greater way, **God shows surprising kindness to us**. Because of Jesus, He invites us into His family and gives us life with Him forever.

[CG Question 2](#)

- How can we respond to the good news of the gospel?

Jesus invites us into God's family. **We can respond by accepting the invitation and trusting in Jesus**. We can turn from sin and self and turn to Him.

CHRIST CONNECTION

King David showed surprising kindness to Mephibosheth even though he didn't have to. In a greater way, God shows surprising kindness to us. Because of Jesus, He invites us into His family and gives us life with Him forever.



TEACH the Story

MISSIONS MOMENT

["Meet the Harrell's" Video](#)

The Harrell family obeyed God and went to Mozambique as missionaries. They chose to live and work in a part of the country where very few people believe that Jesus is King so that they could share with them the good news. It has taken a long time for them to see anyone choose to follow Jesus, but they are finally seeing people believe! God has been faithful to this family and their work. We can pray for the Harrell's and other missionaries working worldwide.

BIG PICTURE QUESTION & ANSWER

[CG Big Picture Q & A](#)

How is Jesus the perfect king? Jesus perfectly rules over the universe as the king of kings.

PRAY

God, You are good and kind. We confess that we are not always kind. Forgive us, Lord. Your love is in us through Your Spirit. Help us love others well by showing kindness and sharing the gospel. Amen.

THE GOSPEL: GOD'S PLAN FORME

The gospel is the good news, the message about Christ, the kingdom of God, and salvation. Use Scripture and the guide provided below to explain how to become a Christian. Make sure kids know when and where they can ask questions.



GOD RULES. Ask: "Who is in charge at home?" Explain that because God created everything, He is in charge of everything. Read Revelation 4:11.



WE SINNED. Ask: "Have you ever done something wrong?" Tell kids that everyone sins, or disobeys God. Our sin separates us from God. Read Romans 3:23.



GOD PROVIDED. Explain that God is holy and must punish sin. God sent His Son, Jesus, to take the punishment we deserve. Read John 3:16.



JESUS GIVES. Ask: "What is the best gift you've ever received?" Say that Jesus took our punishment for sin by giving His life, and He gives us His righteousness. God sees us as if we lived the perfect life Jesus lived. This is the best gift ever! Read 2 Corinthians 5:21.



WE RESPOND. Explain that everyone has a choice to make. Ask: "Will you trust Jesus as your Savior and Lord? You can turn from self and sin and turn to Jesus." Read Romans 10:9-10.



APPLY the Story

Big Picture Question

How is Jesus the perfect King? Jesus perfectly rules over the universe as the King of kings.

Praise God when earthly leaders show kindness! But even when they don't, we know the Lord is a greater King. His kingdom will last forever.

- How can you show kindness to others?
- What will you do to show kindness to someone this week?

Distribute Bibles. Guide boys and girls to open their Bibles to 2 Samuel 9. Choose a volunteer to read aloud 2 Samuel 9:7. As king, David led the Israelites in many military victories. Israel was strong, and God blessed David. One day, David thought about his friend Jonathan, who had died. David showed kindness to Jonathan's son.

Choose another volunteer to read aloud 2 Samuel 9:7 again. Then lead the group to discuss the following questions.

1. How did David show kindness to Jonathan's son?

Lead kids to discuss details from the Bible story. David restored to Jonathan the lands belonging to Saul, and he invited Mephibosheth to eat at his table as if he were one of David's sons. (Option: Choose a volunteer to read 2 Sam. 9:7.)

2. How does God show kindness to us?

Allow kids to discuss ways they have experienced God's kindness in their lives. Emphasize the good news of the gospel. God showed His kindness and love by sending His Son, Jesus. He saved us – not because we deserved it, but because He is compassionate and merciful. (Option: Choose a volunteer to read Titus 3:4-7.)

3. How can showing kindness help people understand God's kindness?

Guide kids to discuss ways they can show kindness (smiling, encouraging others, sharing, showing patience, helping others, and so on). Help kids recognize that choosing kindness often means putting others first. The Bible instructs us to be kind; Jesus showed the greatest kindness by giving up His life for us. (Option: Choose a volunteer to read Col. 3:12.)



APPLY the Story

KEY PASSAGE ACTIVITY

Instruct kids to open their Bibles to Psalm 145:13. Lead the kids to read the key passage together. Then guide kids to “popcorn” the passage. Explain that when you point to a kid, she should say the next word of the key passage.

Point to one kid to begin. Then point randomly to other players until kids say the entire passage. Allow kids to look at the key passage poster as they master the verse. Then hide or cover the poster and play again. Emphasize that David was a kind king, but the Bible tells us about an even greater King—Jesus!

PRAY

Invite volunteers to share prayer requests. Then pray, thanking God for showing great kindness to His people. Ask God to open kids’ eyes to people in need, and pray that kids would show God’s love to others as they choose to show kindness.

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITY: Surprising kindness cards

Supplies: cardstock, construction paper, glue, scissors, markers or crayons

Invite kids to make pop-up cards. Provide a piece of cardstock for each kid. Instruct kids to fold the cardstock in half. Demonstrate how to cut two parallel slits at the center of the fold. The cuts should be about one inch long and one inch apart. Open the card and push the paper toward the inside to form the pop-up tab.

Direct kids to glue the cardstock to a piece of construction paper slightly larger than the cardstock to cover the front and back of the card. Allow kids to draw and cut out an image on construction paper to use as the pop-up feature. Kids should glue the image to the front side of the pop-up tab.

Encourage kids to decorate their cards and give them to someone in church, at school, or in their neighborhood this week. Challenge kids to use the card as an opportunity to share how God shows surprising kindness to sinners.

As kids work, remind them that David showed kindness to Jonathan’s son. This was surprising kindness because David didn’t have to show kindness to Mephibosheth, but he wanted to. Guide them to think about how God shows surprising kindness to us. As sinners, we were His enemies. But because of Jesus, He invites us into His family and gives us life with Him forever!