

Unit 11 • Session 4 David's Kindness

K-1st Lesson

BIBLE PASSAGE:

2 Samuel 9

STORY POINT:

David showed kindness to
Jonathan's son.

KEY PASSAGE:

Psalm 145:13

BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

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

INTRODUCE THE STORY

Opening Activities
(20 MINUTES)



Opening Activity Supplies

"Show Kindness" activity
page (1 per kid)
Paper, pencils, crayons, or
markers

TEACH THE STORY

Large Group
(20 MINUTES)



Large Group Supplies

4 Eliminator game
buzzers
Lunch box
Bible

APPLY THE STORY

Small Group
(20 MINUTES)



Small Group Supplies

Bible
Construction paper (1
per kid), markers,
crayons, pencils
Bible story coloring page
(1 per kid)

LEADER Bible Study

Though King Saul was an adversary to David, Saul's son Jonathan loved him as much as he loved himself. (See 1 Sam. 18:1) Before David fled from King Saul and journeyed toward Moab, Jonathan appealed to his friend David, "If I continue to live, show me kindness from the LORD, but if I die, don't ever withdraw your kindness from my household" (1 Sam. 20:14-15a).

Following the deaths of King Saul and his son Jonathan, David was made king over Israel. The Lord was with David, and he experienced numerous military victories. David remembered the promise he made to his best friend Jonathan and was determined to keep it.

David asked a servant of Saul's family if anyone remained from Saul's family. The servant mentioned Jonathan's son. Jonathan's son Mephibosheth (meh FIB oh sheth) had been injured when he was five years old, so his feet were crippled. (2 Sam. 4:4) David brought Mephibosheth to his house. Mephibosheth fell facedown before David. As a descendant of Saul, he was right to fear the king. But David said, "Don't be afraid."

David showed kindness to Mephibosheth, promising to restore to him all of Saul's fields. He appointed servants to work the fields. The fields would provide an income for Mephibosheth. David also announced that Mephibosheth would eat meals at David's table, just like one of the king's sons. So Mephibosheth lived in Jerusalem and always ate at the king's table.

As you teach kids the story of David's kindness toward Mephibosheth, go beyond the lesson that we can be kind like David. Highlight King David's surprising and gracious kindness to Mephibosheth. Then point them to Jesus. In a greater way than David, God shows surprising kindness to us. (Eph. 2:7) Because of Jesus, He invites us into His family and gives us life with Him forever.

The BIBLE Story

David's Kindness

2 Samuel 9

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."

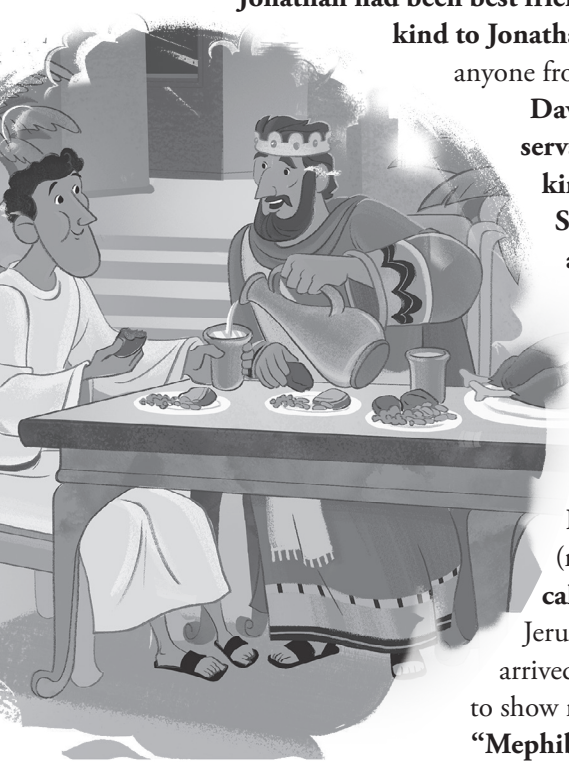
The servant told David where Jonathan's son lived. His name was Mephibosheth (meh FIB oh sheth). David called for him to his palace in Jerusalem. When Mephibosheth arrived, he bowed down before David to show respect.

"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.

INTRODUCE the Story



Opening Activities

SESSION TITLE: David's Kindness

BIBLE PASSAGE: 2 Samuel 9

STORY POINT: David showed kindness to Jonathan's son.

KEY PASSAGE: Psalm 145:13

BIG PICTURE QUESTION: How is Jesus the perfect King? Jesus perfectly rules over the universe as the King of kings.

Play Intro Music

Intro/Welcome time

Greet each kid as he or she arrives. Help new kids connect to your group. Prompt kids to talk about times they showed kindness to someone or were shown kindness.

SAY • What does it mean to be kind?

[Allow responses.]

Kindness means treating people in a way that makes them feel loved, special, and cared for. We can show kindness in many different ways. At times showing kindness may feel easy, like when you are kind to a good friend. Other times, showing kindness may feel impossible, like being kind to an enemy. We'll learn more about being kind soon.

Activity page (5 minutes)

Invite kids to complete the "Show Kindness" activity page. Kids will look at each scene and circle the children showing kindness or draw an X over the children not showing kindness.

SAY • God wants us to show kindness to one another because He shows kindness to us. In today's Bible story, we will hear how King David showed surprising kindness to someone from King Saul's family.

- "Show Kindness" activity page
- pencils or markers

Note: The activity page can be used as an opening activity, but it needs to be sent home with the parents.

Session starter (10 minutes)

OPTION 1: Chain of kindness

Have the kids sit in a circle. Select a kid to go first. He will say something kind about the kid to his right, who will say something kind about the kid to her right, and so forth. Be prepared with kind things to say about each kid, in case any kid has a hard time thinking of what to say.

SAY • Using our words is a great way to show kindness to other people. Saying something nice about others is easy, and it can go a long way toward helping that person feel good. God wants us to show kindness to everyone we meet, even people who are unkind to us. That could be difficult. We'll learn more about kindness today.

OPTION 2: Draw for dinner

Provide the kids with paper, pencils, and crayons or markers. Ask the kids to draw two pictures on their paper. In the first picture, kids should draw what they would serve for dinner if their best friends were coming over. In the second picture kids should draw what they would serve if their worst enemies were coming over.

SAY • Great drawings. Today we will learn about a time David invited someone over for dinner. It wasn't his best friend or his worst enemy. In fact, it was the son of his best friend and the grandson of his worst enemy! Why do you think King David had that man over for dinner?

**LOW
PREP**

Note: These activities are designed to help you connect with kids prior to Large Group.

· Paper
· Pencils
· Crayons
or
markers

Transition to teach the story

TEACH the Story



Large Group

SESSION TITLE: David's Kindness

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KEY PASSAGE: Psalm 145:13

BIG PICTURE QUESTION: How is Jesus the perfect King? Jesus perfectly rules over the universe as the King of kings.

Countdown video

Countdown

Show the countdown video as you transition to the Large Group game.

Eliminator game

4 Eliminator buzzers

LGL will select four kids to play the game (choose 2 boys and 2 girls)

LEADER • Hey everyone! Welcome to KidCity! We have some brand-new kids in here this morning. Let's give them a big round of applause! (Pause) 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!

"Movin Me"
song

"God is on the Move" song

Sing (4 minutes)

LEADER • When we allow God's love to move in us, we feel encouraged to show others Jesus. Let's sing together now! Sing "Movin Me" and "God is on the Move".

LGL enters carrying lunch box

LEADER • Before we get started, I have a story for you. Ok, so Friday I was sitting at the lunch table about to enjoy my amazing lunch. Let me tell you a few things that were in my lunch box: I had a Lunchables - the chicken nuggets one, Pringles, Oreos, a Go-Gurt (that was still cold) and a bottle of water - because, you know, I'm a healthy person!

Anyway, then I notice that someone sat across from me. I look up and it's Kenny - the guy who is always mean to me and makes fun of me all the time. I start to open my Lunchables and I see that he didn't have any food. I ask him why and he said that he lost his lunch. So...I gave him my lunch.

You know, some people might hear a story like that and think, *You just gave him your lunch? That makes no sense. He is mean to you! He didn't deserve your lunch.* But showing kindness isn't about who deserves it, it's about spreading the goodness and grace of Jesus. You know, I think I know just the story to help me explain.

Big picture question (1 minute)

LEADER • Our story today is from the Bible about David. He did something very kind for someone who did not deserve it.

[CG Big picture question](#)

David was a great king, but he was not a perfect king. Only Jesus is our perfect King. ***How is Jesus the perfect King? Jesus perfectly rules over the universe as the King of kings.*** Jesus always does what is good and right. He has all power and all authority, so His perfect plans will always come true.

Giant timeline (1 minute)

Show the giant timeline. Point to the story and tell kids about how all the Bible stories point to one big story about God's love for us.

[CG Giant timeline](#)

LEADER • Saul disobeyed God, so **God chose David to be king instead of Saul.** That made Saul jealous, so he wanted to kill David. **David showed mercy even though Saul hated him.** David consistently trusted God. In fact, David was known as a man after God's own heart, and **God promised that the Messiah would come from David's family.** This week we will learn what David did when he learned about Saul's grandson who was alive after the rest of Saul's family had been killed.

["David's Kindness" video](#)

Watch the Bible story (10 minutes)

[CG Story point](#)

Show the Bible story video "David's Kindness."

Christ connection

LEADER • King David showed surprising kindness to Mephibosheth (meh FIB oh sheth) 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.

Even though we all sin and were separated from God, He still sent Jesus to die for us and make the way for us to live with Him forever. When we trust Jesus, God forgives our sin. God gives us new hearts that love Him, and He fills us with the Holy Spirit, who guides us and helps us obey God.



Missions moment (3 minutes)

Show the “Meet the Harrell’s” missions video.

LEADER • The Harrell family obeyed God and went to Mozambique more than 16 years ago as missionaries to tell people about Jesus. It has taken a long time for them to see anyone choose to follow Jesus, but they are finally seeing people believe! Watch this video to see the ways God has been faithful to the Harrells.

[“Meet the Harrell’s” missions video](#)

Key passage

Show the key passage. Open the Bible to the bookmark and read Psalm 145:13.

LEADER • David wrote Psalm 145. In it, he talks about God’s wonderful kingdom. David explained that God’s kingdom lasts forever. It never ends and will fill the whole earth. And who is the King of God’s perfect, everlasting kingdom? [*Allow responses.*] That’s right—it’s Jesus, the perfect King of kings!

• Bible

• [CG Key passage](#)

Pray

Pray before dismissing to apply the story.

LEADER • God, thank You for Your goodness to us. We know that we do not deserve Your grace, but you love us more than we could ever imagine. Help us to love You more each day, and obey Jesus as our King of kings. Amen.

Dismiss to apply the story

APPLY the Story



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BIG PICTURE QUESTION: How is Jesus the perfect King? Jesus perfectly rules over the universe as the King of kings.

Key passage activity

Have kids stand up and use hand motions to say Psalm 145:13
"Your kingdom (*crown your head*) is a kingdom (*crown your head*)
that will last forever (*stretch arms wide*). Your rule (*point up*) will
continue for all time to come (*stretch arms wide*)."

Feel free to make up your own motions. Practice several times.

SAY • David wrote many of the poems and songs collected in the Book of Psalms. In our key passage, David wrote that God's kingdom goes on forever. It never ends because Jesus is the perfect King forever. ***How is Jesus the perfect King? Jesus perfectly rules over the universe as the King of kings.***

OPTION: Kind cards

Provide the kids with paper and markers or crayons. Help them fold their sheets of paper in half and write kind, encouraging messages inside. Allow them to decorate their cards. Encourage the kids to give the cards to someone they know this week. Challenge them to give the cards to a person they might not normally show kindness.

SAY • David showed kindness to Jonathan's son, even though he did not have to. In an even greater way, Jesus showed us kindness. We were sinners and enemies of God, but Jesus laid down His life for us anyway because He loves us. When we trust Jesus, God forgives our sin and gives us new life.

• Bible
marked at
Psalm
145:13

**LOW
PREP**

• Paper
• Crayons
or
markers

Reflection and prayer

Distribute a sheet of paper to each child. Ask the kids to draw a picture to answer the following questions:

Pencils and
crayons
paper

Bible story
coloring page,
1 per kid

- What does this story teach me about God or about the gospel?
- What does this story teach me about myself?
- Whom can I tell about this story?

Make sure to send the Bible story coloring page home with kids so that parents/influencers can see what their kids have been learning.

If time remains, take prayer requests or allow kids to complete the Bible story coloring page provided with this session. Pray for your group.