

When finished with activities, return all necessary items to bag and place in the hallway for pick-up.

Program A-1

David the Psalmist
Psalm 8, 23, 100, 103
Samuel & Kings Series: Lesson #12

Bible Verse: The LORD God is very great. Psalm 104:1
Past verses: I will celebrate before the LORD. 2 Samuel 6:21
Trust in the LORD with all your heart. Proverbs 3:5
A friend loves at all times. Proverbs 17:17
The LORD is my strength. Psalm 28:7
Help one another. Gal. 5:13
The LORD looks at the heart. 1 Samuel 16:7

Bible Story for children:

Focus on: David wrote many Psalms to praise God. We praise God when we read or sing Psalms.
Prop ideas: Star projector or Glow in the dark stars
Music/songs of thanksgiving or praise
Pictures to accompany a favorite Psalm
Children's Bible or book of Psalms (My Little Psalms, Word Publishing)

SAMPLE STORY

What do you remember about David? He was the youngest son of Jesse. He was a shepherd and would fight lions and bears to care for the sheep. He played his harp for King Saul to make him feel better. David was not afraid to fight Goliath because David put his trust in the strength of God. David loved his friend Jonathon. David fought the enemies of God as a strong and mighty warrior both before he was king and after he became king of Israel. David loved God very much and tried to obey God always. He was very happy when the Ark of the Covenant was brought to Jerusalem. We have learned a lot about King David.

Even though David was a tough warrior, he had a tender heart towards God. We learn about this in the many Psalms David wrote. Psalms are like poems and songs. David would write about his thoughts and feelings. Sometimes he would write about how great God is and how great His creations are. Psalm 19:1-4:

The heavens tell the glory of God.
And the skies announce what his hands have made.
Day after day they tell the story.
Night after night they tell it again.
They have no speech or words.

They don't make any sound to be heard.
But their message goes out through all the world.
It goes everywhere on earth.

David wrote about how God is his savior, a rock and a fortress. In the most well known Psalm, David calls God his shepherd. He filled Psalms with many promises from God. Many of our Bible verses each Sunday come from Psalms. We can read verses from Psalms, or even sing them to praise God.

ALTERNATE STORY IDEA:

If you have a children's Bible with pictures or a children's book of Psalms, read either a few short Psalms or verses and talk about them. You could also pick one of your own favorites to read from a modern translation. (8, 23, 100, 103, 104) Even if you pick a Psalm David did not write, you can still teach the children how we can praise God and worship him. The focus is on who God is and what he means to us.

FYI

Second Session Classes will be:

Making Stars Pictures
Playing With Play-dough
Singing Praises

FLOWERS

Materials: Flower Cutouts (white or light colored construction paper)
Bible verse stickers
Crayons (In room)

Do: Help children add bible verse sticker to flower. Let them color with crayons. If time and supplies permit, let them color more than one if desired.

Talk about: Seeing beautiful flowers reminds us of the wonderful world God made. Name some other beautiful things God created.

TEACHER EXTRA: Do you have flowers in your garden at home? Bring some to show your class. If you have an abundance of flowers, send one home with each child.

BUILD A FORTRESS w/BLOCKS

Materials: Blocks (In room)

Do: Help the children build a fortress using the blocks.

Talk about: A fortress was a place to be protected from enemies. It could also protect you from storms. It was a SAFE place. God can keep us safe. David wrote about being God being his fortress in many different Psalms.

TENT PLAY

Materials: Sheet
Blue Tape

Do: Either tape an edge of the sheet to cabinet doors using blue tape, or drape sheet over table and chairs to make a tent.
Use in any of the following ways or make up your own:

- Ask children to repeat a bible verse to you before going into tent to play. (Any verse is OK. Give hints to ones from past few weeks).
- Place some books and pillows or other toys inside for children to play with.
- Pretend to be camping in the wilderness.

Talk about: David spent a lot of time in the fields tending sheep and in the wilderness as a warrior. Many of the Psalms tell of the beauty he saw. What do you see when you go camping? God created a beautiful world. We see a lot of His creation when we go camping. We don't have to go camping to see His beautiful creations...what do you see around here or at home?

TEACHER EXTRA: Do you have a small tent? If it can be easily set up, bring it to class.

TEACHER EXTRA: Flashlight Fun

Bring flashlights from home. Turn out the light and let the children take turns making stars on the ceiling and walls.

- Use a piece of paper or cardboard and punch holes through it to make a design for the light to pass through.
- Cover the ends of flashlights with colored cellophane wrap to add fun.
- Place flashlight chase...use either a laser pointer or a flashlight with a colored cellophane cover. Move the colored light around the ceiling and walls as the children try to catch *you* with the plain lights.

Be sure that everyone gets a turn. Use a timer if necessary.