

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

Program A-2

Jonathan and David: Best Friends

1 Samuel 18:1-4, 19:1-7, 20:1-42

Samuel and Kings Series: Lesson #9

Bible Verse: A friend loves at all times. Proverbs 17:17

Past verses: 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: Friends love one another and are kind to one another.

Prop ideas: Something special you received from a friend

Coat, belt, bow and arrow (No swords, please)

Present wrapped in gift-wrap

SAMPLE STORY

After David killed Goliath, Saul kept David with him and did not let him return to his father's house to tend to the sheep. King Saul had a son named Jonathan. Jonathan became friends with David. The Bible tells us that Jonathan became one in spirit with David and that he loved him as himself. Jonathan made a covenant (promise) with David to always love him. He then took off his robe and gave it to David along with his tunic, his belt, his bow and even his sword! Jonathan loved David so much that he was willing to give him his possessions.

Whatever King Saul sent David to do, he did it successfully. He gave David a high rank in the army because he was so successful. God was with David and gave him victory over the enemies. When the men returned home from fighting, women would come out singing and dancing with joyful songs and tambourines and lutes. They cheered King Saul. This made him happy; but they cheered David even more...ten times more. King Saul was jealous of David. He thought that the people loved David more than him. Saul got so jealous that he wanted to hurt David. David had done nothing wrong. He was a good and faithful servant to the King. But the King wanted to kill David.

Now, Jonathan, the king's son, was confused and worried. He loved David and could not understand why his father wanted to hurt David. Jonathan told David to hide in a field one evening. Jonathan would find out if his father really meant to hurt David or not. Jonathan and a young boy would go to the field the next day to shoot arrows. If it were safe for David to stay,

Jonathan would tell the boy “Look, the arrows are on this side.” If it were not safe, then Jonathan would say, “Look, the arrows are beyond you.”

Jonathan discovered that his father really did hate David and wanted to kill him. Jonathan was so sad. He knew that his best friend would have to run away and that they could not be together anymore. Jonathan went to the field and shot arrows far away. He told the young boy with him, “The arrow is beyond you. Hurry, go quickly. Don’t stop.” Jonathan gave his weapons to the boy and said, “Take these back to town.”

After the boy had left, David came out of hiding to tell his friend good-bye. They kissed each other and they cried. Jonathan told David “Go in peace. We made a promise before God to be friends forever.” Jonathan went back to town and David left. Jonathan risked his life telling David that the King wanted to kill him. But Jonathan loved David so much that he was willing to do it.

FYI

First Session Classes will be:

Making Friends’ Hands Mural/Wrapping Paper Collage
Coloring Jonathan Helps David Page
Playing Card Matching Game

LAUGHING GAME/STICKY POPCORN GAME

Laughing Game

Materials: Lightweight Scarf

Do: Have the children gather in a circle around you. Tell them they may laugh and smile while the scarf is in the air. As soon as it touches the floor, they must stop. You can walk to them and try to get them to laugh or smile. No one is ever *out*. Repeat as often as you like. If your children want to take turns throwing the scarf, you can choose someone who did not laugh. But be sure everyone eventually gets a turn even if they always laugh and smile.

Talk about: Laughing makes you feel good. Friends make each other laugh and smile. David and Jonathan probably laughed and smiled a lot.

Sticky Popcorn Game

Materials: None

Do: Tell the children that they are popcorn kernels. They start out “popping” or jumping about slowly. As the heat increases, you shout out hotter and they should pop faster. Since this is *sticky* popcorn, if you bump into someone, you stick together and must hop around together. Continue until everyone is a giant sticky popcorn ball.

Talk about: How do you have fun with friends?

COLOR/CUT/PASTE

David Finds a Friend

Materials: Coloring Page
Crayons (In room)
Scissors (In room)
Glue sticks (In room)

Do: Let the children color their pictures. Help them cut out the sword and belt at the bottom. Let them glue to David's hands.

Talk about: Jonathan loved David very much. They became best friends. Jonathan gave David his robe, tunic, belt, sword and bow. Friends share with one another. Friends give gift to each other.

PRETEND PLAY / DRESS-UP & SHARING

Teacher Extra: Bring hats, ball-caps, scarves, jackets and sunglasses from home for dress-up.

Materials: Dress-up clothes (In home living area)

Do: Encourage the children to share the items in pretend play. Let them act out giving a best friend their coat and hat.

Talk about: Jonathan loved David so much that he gave him his robe, tunic, belt, sword and bow. Have you ever given a friend something that was special to you?