



JUNE 29, 2025

# DAVID PLAYED FOR SAUL

1 SAMUEL 16

## CHRIST CONNECTION

Even though David knew he would be king one day, he served King Saul faithfully. Even though Jesus is God, He humbled Himself and took the form of a servant. He served His disciples by washing their feet, and He served His people by dying on a cross for their sin and rising again.

## BIG PICTURE QUESTION

Who is our King? Jesus is our King.

## MEMORY VERSE

Psalms 103:19

# PREPARE



Take time to reflect  
on today's lesson.

## LEADER BIBLE STUDY

In 1 Samuel 16, we see that the newly anointed future king of Israel served his predecessor with humility and grace. Though David was promised the throne of Israel, his time had not yet come. Therefore, David returned to his life as a shepherd. God would use the period of waiting and trials for David's good and to point us toward the Suffering Servant, Jesus, in whom we place our ultimate hope.

How did God use David's humility for His glory and David's good? How do we see this idea fully exemplified in Jesus?

When God rejected Saul as king, the Spirit of the Lord left him, and an evil spirit tormented him day and night. After one of Saul's young men heard David play the lyre, Saul sent his servants to retrieve the young David, believing he could relieve his distress. Previously, we learned David was a man after God's own heart, and here we see a humble, servant-like heart as David played the lyre in Saul's time of distress.

Saul didn't know then that David would be his successor. Saul loved David so much that he even gave him the role of armor-bearer, asking Jesse for permission for David to remain in his service. David faithfully and humbly served Saul.

We see an even greater picture of service in Christ, depicted as the Suffering Servant in Isaiah 53. While David's humble service offered temporary relief for King Saul, Jesus' humble and sacrificial death offers eternal rescue from sin for all who believe in Him.

May a humble, obedient adoration of the Lord mark us as His faithful followers. Pray that boys and girls see Christ's humility both as our example and the means of our salvation through faith. Like Saul, we need the peace that only God can provide through Christ.

# WELCOME



Connect with kids as they arrive.

## OPENING ACTIVITIES

Greet each kid as they arrive. Use this time to build relationships and help new kids connect to your group. Before heading to Large Group, you can play a game, chat with kids, or do the Memory Verse Activity below as a group!

## MEMORY VERSE

There is none like you, O Lord; you are great, and your name is great in might. Who would not fear you, O King of the nations? For this is your due.

**Jeremiah 10:6-7a, ESV**

## MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY

Get a head start on memorizing next month's memory verse! Our verse for July, written above, is Jeremiah 10:6-7a.

On the TVs in your classroom, select and play the motion video to teach kids the hand motions to aid in memorizing the new memory verse. As a class, repeat the motions on the video 2-3 times to get the hang of it.

Remind kids that we memorize God's Word so we can have His words with us at all times. The more we read God's Word and spend time with Him, the more we learn about Him!



# LARGE GROUP LESSON



Review what we're learning in Large Group.

## DAVID PLAYED FOR SAUL

The Spirit of the Lord had left Saul, and an evil spirit began to torment him. So, Saul's servants said to him, "You see that an evil spirit is tormenting you. Let us look for someone who knows how to play the lyre. Whenever the evil spirit comes on you, that person can play the lyre, and you will feel better."

Saul commanded his servants, "Find me someone who plays well and bring him to me."

One of the young men answered, "I have seen a son of Jesse from Bethlehem who knows how to play the lyre. He is also a brave warrior, a great communicator, and handsome. The Lord is with him."

Saul sent his servants to Jesse and said, "Send me your son David, who is with the sheep." So, Jesse took a donkey and loaded it with bread, a wineskin, and one young goat. Then Jesse sent David, along with the donkey loaded with gifts, to Saul.

When David came to Saul and began to serve him, Saul loved him very much. David became his armor-bearer. Saul sent word to Jesse: "Let David remain in my service, for he has found favor with me." Anytime the evil spirit came on Saul, David would pick up his lyre and play. Then Saul would feel better, and the evil spirit would leave him.

## CHRIST CONNECTION

Even though David knew he would be king one day, he served King Saul faithfully. Even though Jesus is God, He humbled Himself and took the form of a servant. He served His disciples by washing their feet, and He served His people by dying on a cross for their sin and rising again.

# K12 ACTIVITIES



Do crafts and games with younger kids after Large Group.

## MAIN ACTIVITY

Invite kids to spread out around the room. Pull up the [Elementary Spotify playlist](#) to play during the activity by scanning the QR code below.

**Scan with your camera to open the playlist!**



When the music starts, kids can dance, walk, or act silly. When the music stops, have kids freeze like a statue and make a sad face. Kids who don't freeze and make a sad face are out for the next round. Play until someone wins, or as time allows.

## CONNECT THE DOTS



Music can be so fun! When we hear music, we may want to dance or sing. Sometimes when we're sad or discouraged, music can help us feel better. Today, we learned how Saul became very upset, but when David played music for him, he felt much better.

## CONNECT THE DOTS



The Bible is so important because it's the Word of God! It's also a big book that's hard to understand sometimes, which is why we want to grow in our Bible skills! By growing in these skills, we can better understand God's Word and learn where to turn to find the truth of who God is and how much He loves us.

## BIBLE SKILLS ACTIVITY

Introduce your group to Bible drills. Have kids form teams of 2-3 and give each team a Bible.

Use the provided list to write Bible verse references on the board one at a time. Taking turns, each kid will find the verse you write on the board as quickly as they can. The teammates not looking for the verse can help if needed.

Encourage kids when they struggle and offer tips, like referencing the table of contents, showing them how the big number is the chapter and the small number is the verse, etc.



# 345 ACTIVITIES



Do crafts and games  
with older kids after  
Large Group.

## MAIN ACTIVITY

Split your group into two or more teams. On the TV in your room, open the folder labeled “Guess the Instrument” and go through the instructions together. Then, play the game by having kids guess the instruments!

Award a point for every correct answer. At the end of the slides, the team with the most points wins!

## CONNECT THE DOTS



We have so many musical instruments that can play a variety of sounds. Playing music can calm us, excite us, cause us to dance, bring us joy, or even be a way to play games. Today we learned how Saul was very troubled and how David played a lyre to calm and comfort him.

## CONNECT THE DOTS



Even though David knew he would be king one day, he served Saul faithfully. Jesus is God, but He humbled Himself and took the form of a servant. He served His disciples by washing their feet, and He served His people by dying on a cross for their sins and rising again.

## BIBLE SKILLS ACTIVITY

Split kids into teams of three or four and provide each team with a Bible. Tell kids that you’re going to call out a Bible reference from the sheet provided, and the first team to find it gets a point.

Each time, invite the winning team to read that Bible verse aloud. Then, discuss how the verse points to Jesus as the ultimate servant.

At the end of the list (or available time), the team with the most points wins!

# CLOSING ACTIVITIES



Continue to engage kids before parent pick-up.

## BIBLE STORY REVIEW

**Ask the following questions and lead your small group to discuss.**

1. What makes you feel better when you are sad or upset? Does someone serve or help you? Who?
2. Does it please God when we serve other people? Why?
3. How does serving others bring glory to God?
4. What is humility? How did David show it in our lesson today?
5. How can you serve someone out of humility this week?

## HAVE EXTRA TIME?

Go to the Leader Folder on one of the TVs in your room. (*Hit the back button until you see it.*) There, you'll find games and activities to do with your group!



## BEFORE YOU GO...

**Second service leaders, please clean up by doing the following:**

1. Put all extra supplies and binders back in the curriculum bins.
2. Clean all trash off the tables.
3. Put all crayons, markers, etc. back in the appropriate containers and cubbies.
4. Erase the whiteboards and put markers/erasers back in the holder.
5. Turn off the TVs as you leave.

**THANK YOU FOR SERVING WITH US!**