



JUNE 29, 2025

# DAVID PLAYED FOR SAUL

1 SAMUEL 16

## CHRIST CONNECTION

God is our good and kind King.

## BIG PICTURE QUESTION

Who is our King? Jesus is our King.

## MEMORY VERSE

The LORD rules over everything. Psalm 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?

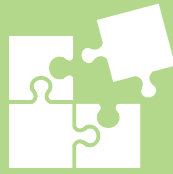
When God rejected Saul as king, the Spirit of the Lord left him, and an evil spirit tormented him day and night. After one of Saul's young men heard David play the lyre, Saul sent his servants to retrieve the young David, believing he could relieve his distress. Previously, we learned David was a man 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.

# OPENING & ACTIVITIES



Connect with children through games and activities.

## WELCOME

Play music in the background as you greet children coming into the classroom. Help them transition in and feel welcome as they play games and interact with others.

### ACTIVITY #1: SING A SONG

Gather children and sing the song below to the tune of “Mary Had a Little Lamb”:

The LORD rules over everything,  
everything, everything.  
The LORD rules over everything.  
Psalm 103:19

*(Repeat)*

### CONNECT THE DOTS



Our memory verse phrase says, “The LORD rules over everything.” God chose David to be the new king over the Israelites, but God is our good and kind King who rules over everything!

### CONNECT THE DOTS



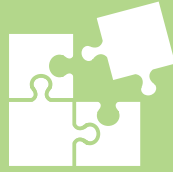
Music can help us when we feel sad or discouraged. David played music for Saul. Saul’s servants suggested that when Saul felt sad, music could help him feel happy again, and they asked David to come play his harp. When David played, Saul felt much better.

### ACTIVITY #2: WORSHIP TIME!

Have an extra special worship time in connection with our lesson today!

Play worship music on your TV or have everyone play the provided instruments. Invite children to dance and wave the provided scarves to the music as you worship together.

# OPENING & ACTIVITIES



Connect with children through games and activities.

## ACTIVITY #3: SMILING GAME

Invite children to help you think of as many ways as they can to make someone smile. Encourage them to be specific with their answers.

Ideas may include helping a friend clean up toys, calling a grandparent on the phone or on a video call, inviting someone to play, helping a parent prepare a meal, or just smiling at someone.

Write the ideas on strips of paper. Invite a child to choose one of the paper strips. Lead the group to act out the idea. End each reenactment with a smile.

## CONNECT THE DOTS



We thought of several ways to help make someone smile! David played music for King Saul to make him smile. God's Spirit had left Saul, and a mean spirit came and made him feel bad. Saul's servants asked David to come and play music for Saul. David knew he would be a king one day, and he still helped Saul. Jesus, the most special King, came to earth to save us from our sins so we can follow God. God is our good and kind King.



## DAVID PLAYED FOR SAUL

Saul was the king of Israel, but something sad happened to him. God's Spirit left Saul, and an evil spirit made him feel very bad. Saul's helpers wanted him to feel better, so they had an idea.

They said, "Let's find someone who can play music really well. When the bad spirit bothers you, the music can make you happy again!" Saul thought it was a good idea, so he told them to find a good musician.

One of the helpers said, "I know a young man named David. He's from Bethlehem, and he is very good at playing a small harp. He's brave and handsome. It seems like God is always with him!"

Saul's servants told David to come play music for him. When David played, Saul felt much better.

Saul liked David so much that he asked David to stay and help him all the time. And whenever the bad spirit came, David's music made Saul feel better.

## CHRIST CONNECTION

David knew he would be a king one day, and he still helped Saul. Jesus, the most special King, came to earth to save us from our sins so we can follow God. **God is our good and kind King.**



# SNACK & CLOSING



Continue to engage children near the end of the morning.

## SNACK & DISCUSSION

**Wash hands or use hand sanitizer. Serve a snack. Show children the Bible story picture as you ask the following questions and retell parts of the story as needed.**

1. What was your favorite part of today's Bible story?
2. What did you learn about God in today's Bible story?
3. What instrument did David play for King Saul?
4. Who is our King? Jesus is our King.

## CLOSING ACTIVITIES

Pick up toys and games from around the room and put them away. After the room is cleaned up, set out markers or crayons and let children work on today's Bible story coloring page or activity page until their parents arrive.

You can also choose a book to read to children as they work or for those who don't want to work. Please make the effort to have children quietly engaged in the last few minutes of the service. When parents arrive to pick up their child, share about something their child enjoyed doing or did well today.

## BEFORE YOU GO...

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

1. Spray down toys with disinfectant.
2. Spot sweep if needed.
3. Return toys to closet, close door.
4. Throw away any trash left on counters and in room.
5. Return storage cubes to Rm 108.

**THANK YOU FOR SERVING WITH US!**