



UNIT 12, SESSION 3

DAVID THE SHEPHERD BOY

1 SAMUEL 16

KEY POINTS

God uses little things to prepare us for big things. • We need to be patient and wait on God's promises. • God looks at the heart.

BIG PICTURE QUESTION

What does God use to prepare us? **The little things.**

MEMORY VERSE

He will cover you with His feathers, and under His wings you will find refuge. **Psalm 91:4**

PREPARE



Take time to reflect
on today's lesson.

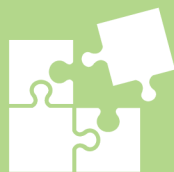
LEADER BIBLE STUDY

David was the youngest son in his family, and when Samuel came to anoint the next king of Israel, David wasn't even invited to stand with his brothers. While everyone else looked at the older, stronger brothers, God saw something different. God told Samuel that people look at the outside, but God looks at the heart. David was faithfully caring for sheep in the field, and God saw that David could be trusted with small things before giving him bigger things.

Focusing on what looks important or successful on the outside comes easily to us. But God cares deeply about our hearts and our faithfulness. The quiet moments matter. As you comfort crying children, clean up spills, repeat memory verse songs over and over, and show patience to busy preschoolers, remember that these small acts of love are never small to God. David cared well for his sheep, and God used that faithfulness to prepare him for leadership. In the same way, God uses the loving care you show children each week to point them toward Him.

This story also reminds us that God's timing is different from ours. Even after David was anointed king, he had to wait many years before he actually became king. During that waiting, God was preparing David's heart. Sometimes we pray, serve, or wait for God to move and wonder why it takes so long. But God always keeps His promises, and His timing is always good.

WELCOME & OPENING



Connect with children as service starts.

WELCOME

Play music through the undercabinet radio (flash drive), or connect your phone to Bluetooth through the radio and play Christian preschool/Bible songs as you greet children coming into the classroom. Help them transition in and feel welcome as they play games and interact with others.

MEMORY VERSE SONG

Gather children and sing to the tune of “Oh My Darling Clementine”:

He will cover you
with His feathers.
and under His wings
you will find refuge.
Psalm 91:4

THE LORD’S PRAYER/TEN COMMANDMENTS

Toddlers & Twos: Use the provided poster to review the Lord’s Prayer with the children in your class.

Threes & Fours: Using the provided poster, review the Ten Commandments with the children in your class. Read through each one, then have children repeat after you as you say them together.

CRAFT



Help children with a craft connected to the lesson.

CRAFT: HEART MAGNIFYING GLASS

Give each child one of the provided magnifying glass templates, a glue stick, and crayons/markers. Give them a few minutes to decorate their magnifying glass. Then, help them glue the two sides of the magnifying glass together, with the piece of clear plastic in between. them, covering the heart hole in the middle.

Need help? Scan the QR code for a short video tutorial!

As you work, review today's Bible lesson.





BABIES & TWOS BIBLE LESSON

King Saul began to do bad things. God told Samuel it was time to find a new king. God told Samuel to go to Bethlehem and find a man named Jesse. One of Jesse's sons would be the next king.

Samuel asked Jesse to bring his sons to him so Samuel could anoint one of them to be king. Jesse's first son was tall, strong, and handsome. He looked like a king. But God said "No." Jesse brought his other sons, but God kept saying, "No."

Samuel asked Jesse if he had any other sons. Jesse said, "Only the youngest in the fields looking after the sheep." David was just a boy. Nobody thought he could be king. But as soon as Samuel saw David, he knew he was the one God had chosen. God saw David's heart. Samuel took oil and anointed David. David would later become the king.

THREES & FOURS BIBLE LESSON

Not long after Saul became king, he started to become proud. He stopped obeying God and began to do his own thing. Saul thought he could do what he wanted as long as he said sorry afterwards. Samuel was sad. God told Samuel it was time to find a new king.

God told Samuel to go to Bethlehem and find a man named Jesse. Samuel asked Jesse to bring his sons to him so Samuel could anoint one of them to be the next king. Jesse's first son was tall, strong, and handsome. Samuel thought he looked like a king. But God said, "No." Jesse brought his other sons, but God kept saying, "No, not this one."

Samuel asked Jesse if he had any other sons, and Jesse said, "Only the youngest, but he is out in the fields looking after the sheep." David was just a boy. Nobody thought he could be king. Still, Samuel told Jesse to bring David to him.

As soon as Samuel saw David, he knew David was the one God had chosen. God saw David's heart. Samuel took oil and anointed David. David did not become king right away, but he knew God had a special plan for him.

KEY POINTS: God uses little things to prepare us for big things. • We need to be patient and wait on God's promises. • God looks at the heart.

SNACK & CLOSING



Continue to engage children near the end of the morning.

SNACK & DISCUSSION

Have everyone wash their hands, then serve a snack. Ask the following questions and retell parts of the lesson as needed.

1. What was your favorite part of today's Bible lesson?
2. What did you learn about God in today's Bible lesson?
3. Who did God choose to be the next king?
4. What does God use to prepare us? **The little things.**

CLOSING ACTIVITIES

Sing the clean up song. Have children help put toys on tables.

Gather them on the rug in a circle and have one volunteer read today's Bible lesson from the children's Bible. Have a regular Bible ready as well.

Sing the "B.I.B.L.E." and "Everything in the Bible is Absolutely True" songs. Remind children that the Bible is God's Word and the most important book in the whole world!

The other volunteer should stand at the door and help with pick up, matching stickers, gathering children's things, etc.

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 binders to the cabinet.

THANK YOU FOR SERVING WITH US!