

Fellowship Kids

4th-5th Grade Lesson Plan

Sunday, November 9

UNIT 11 | SESSION 2

DAVID SHOWED MERCY

1 SAMUEL 24

MAIN POINT / CHRIST CONNECTION: God is merciful. Saul was trying to kill David, but David chose to show Saul mercy. When the people were killing Jesus, He showed them mercy and said, “Father, forgive them.” We all sin, but God shows us mercy through Jesus, who died for our sin and rose again.

CATECHISM QUESTION : Q) What kind of death did Christ die? A) The painful and shameful death of the Cross in the place of sinners. (*Psalm 22; Isaiah 53; the Gospel records*)

MEMORY VERSE of the Month: JEREMIAH 10:6 - “There is none like you, O LORD; you are great, and your name is great in might.” (ESV)

Preparation

Lesson Context

This Unit: After protecting his family’s flock of sheep, David was called into a role of shepherding God’s flock—the nation of Israel. He showed his trust in God through defeating Goliath, his heart for mercy in sparing Saul, and his willingness to put God’s plans above his own. But King David was still a broken human who gave in to his sinful desires. Yet, God showed His love and grace by forgiving and restoring David upon his repentance.

Volunteer Huddle | **8:45 a.m.**

Meet in the Threes classroom (first floor) for prayer and important info for this Sunday.

Prep Room | 8:50 a.m.

- Put out activity pages (in Activity Box) and markers (in Teacher Box) on desks.
- If you'd like, put music on the Spotify app on the Roku TV.
- You can push tables back or to the sides to make space in the center or front of the room for activities.

Fellowship Time | 9:00 - 9:15 am

FELLOWSHIP TIME

Greet families at the door as they arrive. Allow children time to engage with one another and catch up. Use this time to get to know your students and hear about their week. What was a good part/hard part or “yay duck”/“yuck duck” of their week? If you'd like a prompting question for discussion, you can use the one below:

SAY: *Has anyone ever hurt your feelings? What did you do in response?*

ACTIVITY PAGE

Lead children to choose a desk and give them an Activity Page and markers (in Activity Box). You can also give them blank paper to draw or some playdough (in Teacher Box) if you prefer.

SAY: *Today, we will see how David hid in a cave because Saul was trying to hurt him.*

REVIEW CLASSROOM RULES

Post the Rules Poster (in Activity Box) somewhere in the room.

1. **Be kind and respectful:** to your friends and teachers. Raise your hand and wait to be called; speak kindly to one another; use words and actions that build up and do not tear down; etc.
2. **Have a heart of obedience:** Listen to your teachers' instructions and obey fully, quickly, and joyfully!
3. **Have self control:** Keep your hands, feet, and objects to yourself; keep all chair legs on the ground; no running or rough housing. Do not touch one another; let's not poke each other, hit, kick, etc.

Group Activity | 9:10/9:15 am

SNEAK UP

Choose one kid to be *It* and lead him to face a wall with his back toward the other kids. Place a **blindfold** on *It* (in Activity Box). Guide the kids to line up on the opposite side of the room. Tell kids that they can only try to sneak up on *It* one at a time. If *It* hears a kid, he can turn around and point to where he thinks she is. Remind *It* to not remove his blindfold. If *It* is right, the kid who was caught becomes the new *It*. If *It* is wrong, the other kids take turns trying to sneak up on *It*. Play as time allows.

SAY *Was it hard to know where someone was when you had the blindfold on? Today, we will see how David was hiding in a dark cave because Saul was trying to hurt him. Saul didn't know David was hiding in the cave. We'll learn how David snuck up on Saul and cut off a piece of his robe.*

Lesson | 9:20 am

Ask students to return to their desks and pass out **Bibles** (in Teacher Box). Let them know of your expectations during the lesson: listening to the teacher, sitting quietly with hands and feet to themselves, etc.

1. Introduce the Lesson + Pray

SAY *Hi, kids! My name is [your name], and I'm glad you are here so we can study God's Word together. If you have a Bible with you, will you take it out? [Distribute Bibles to kids who need one.]*

Today, we will be in the Old Testament book of 1 Samuel. As we hear our story, we will see how David showed mercy even though Saul was trying to hurt him. Let's pray and ask God to prepare our hearts to hear from His Word.

2. Catechism Question

Use the **Catechism Question** posters to review previous questions and learn the new one for this week (in Activity Box).

SAY: *You were learning some catechism questions last quarter, so we will review those and also learn a new question for this month. Our new question asks:*

Q) What kind of death did Christ die?

A) The painful and shameful death of the Cross in the place of sinners.

Jesus was sinless and yet he took on all of our sin and paid the price for that sin, which is death, by dying on the cross in our place.

Let's review all of the catechism questions together:

Q) What is sin?

A) Sin is going our own way instead of God's way.

Q) What is righteousness?

A) It is God's goodness.

Q) Did our Lord Jesus Christ ever sin?

A) No. He was holy, blameless, and undefiled.

Q) What kind of death did Christ die?

A) The painful and shameful death of the Cross in the place of sinners.

3. Using Bibles

SAY: *Today, we will be in the book of 1 SAMUEL. You ended your last class talking about how David defeated the giant, Goliath. Today, we will learn how David, who was anointed to be the next king, showed mercy to King Saul.*

1. *Turn to the Table of Contents at the front of your Bibles and look under the Old Testament category to find the book of 1 SAMUEL. Turn to that page number.*
2. *Once you've found 1 SAMUEL, I would like you to find chapter 24.*

4. Tell the Bible Story

Open your **Bible** to **1 SAMUEL 24** and ask children to turn in their Bibles.

DAVID SHOWED MERCY

David became a great military leader for the Israelites and was more successful in battle than all of Saul's army. Saul was very jealous of David. Saul was hunting down David to kill him, because he did not want David to become king instead of him.

While Saul and his army chased after David to kill him, Saul went into a cave to go to the bathroom. It just so happened that he went into the very cave where David and his men were hiding. Saul did not see David and the men in the cave.

The men whispered to David: "Look, the Lord has handed Saul over to you, just as He said He would." David snuck up behind Saul while he was going to the bathroom and cut off a corner of his robe.

Afterward, David felt terrible for cutting off a corner of Saul's robe. David said to his men: "I should have never done such a thing to a man anointed by the Lord!" The men wanted to go fight Saul, but David did not let them.

Then Saul left the cave and went on his way. David followed him out of the cave and called to him, saying, "My lord the king!"

When Saul turned around, David knelt low before him and said, "Why do you listen to the people who say I want to hurt you? I could have killed you in the cave, but I showed mercy because you are the Lord's anointed. See, I have the corner of your robe in my hand! I cut it off, but I didn't kill you. I haven't sinned against you even though you are hunting me down to take my life."

David told Saul that God is their judge. Only God could decide what is right and rescue David from Saul. Then David said he would never harm Saul.

Saul wept and said to David, "You are more righteous than I am. You have done good to me even though I have done evil to you. May the Lord repay you with good for what you've done for me today. Now I know for certain you will be king over the kingdom of Israel."

4. Christ Connection

SAY: God is merciful. *Saul was trying to kill David, but David chose to show Saul mercy. When the people were killing Jesus, He showed them mercy and said, "Father, forgive them." We all sin, but God shows us mercy through Jesus, who died for our sin and rose again.*

Review & Video | 9:30 am

Bible Story Video

If you'd like, watch the **Bible lesson video** on the YouTube app on the TV (*YouTube account should be Fellowship Kids* (switch accounts on the top of the left sidebar if not) > go to Library on the left side bar > Choose Playlists on the top > choose your classroom).

Review the Bible Story

Invite children to **open their Bibles to 1 SAMUEL 24:3-7.**

SAY - Let's review a section of scripture from our Bible lesson today. Please turn to **1 SAMUEL 24:3-7. Have a volunteer read the passage.**

- 1. What did David do to Saul when he was in the cave?**
 - a. *He snuck up and cut off a corner of Saul's robe.*
- 2. Why did David say he would not kill or harm Saul?**
 - a. *David knew that Saul was still the king the Lord had anointed. David trusted that God would make him king in his own timing.*
- 3. David showed mercy to Saul. He did not hurt him when he could have and when Saul was trying to hurt him. Can you think of a way that God has shown you mercy?**
 - a. *We have sinned and rebelled against God and rightly deserve punishment. But God was merciful to us and offered us a way to be saved through Jesus' life and death on the cross.*

Pray

Ask students if they have any **prayer requests**. Pray about what you learned in the lesson and for any requests.

Memory Verse | 9:35 am

Show the **memory verse poster** (in Activity Box). Open your Bible to **JEREMIAH 10:6** and lead the kids to read the verses together. You can also write the verse on the whiteboard so that children can see it more clearly.

“There is none like you, O LORD; you are great, and your name is great in might.”

- JEREMIAH 10:6

ERASE A WORD

Print the whole memory verse and reference on the whiteboard. Have the children repeat it aloud several times, then start randomly erasing words, one at a time, and have the children continue to recite it. You can repeat until the whole verse is erased.

SAY: *God is the greatest because no one is holy and righteous like Him. David also recognized that God is great and chose to trust in His righteousness, rather than seek vengeance on Saul.*

Extra Time Activity

PLAY “SAUL’S COMING”

Encourage the students to walk around the room freely. Shout “Saul’s coming!” Instruct the students to find hiding spots around the room to hide from Saul, like David did. Say “Saul’s gone,” and lead children to begin walking around the room again. Repeat the game for as long as time and interest allow.

SAY *You found great hiding spots around the classroom when you heard Saul was coming. Today, we learned why David was hiding from King Saul and what David did when Saul did not know David was hiding in a cave.*

Dismissal | 9:50 am

As parents arrive,

- Match the 4 digit code on the parent's tag to the child's tag
- Check out the child on the tablet by clicking the check box to the left of their name on the roster.
- **Give feedback!** Tell parents how the student did that morning.

Clean Up

- Wipe down tables if any messes were made with activities. [Magic eraser sponges can erase markings on desks.]
- Put teacher and activity items back in the Activity Box or Teacher Box.
- Place the TV remote in the white holder on the dry erase board.
- Return the small Activity Box, class tablet, and your lanyards to the check-in desk.