



DAVID AND JONATHAN

BIBLE PASSAGE (1 SAMUEL 20)

Summary: Saul was still the king of Israel, but God had anointed David to replace him. Saul brought David to live in his house. Saul's son Jonathan and David became best friends and promised to always take care of each other. Saul grew very jealous of David and tried to kill him multiple times. David and Jonathan made a plan to figure out if Saul truly intended to harm David. Jonathan helped David escape. Jonathan was a good friend to David even though that meant he would never be the king himself.

Today's Brite Idea is: God's plan comes first.



MONTHLY Memory Verse

*For nothing will be
impossible with God.*

(LUKE 1:37)



BIG QUESTION

Will God ever fail us? No, never!



God has a
good plan.



We can trust
God's plan.



I can trust
God's plan.

LEADER TRAINING: EXPECT MOVEMENT

Jesus made preschoolers to move, and expecting them to sit perfectly still can be unrealistic (and exhausting!) for both kids and leaders. Some preschoolers actually burn more calories trying to stay seated than they do running, jumping or dancing! Jesus wired their brains and bodies to explore, wiggle, and engage with the world around them.

- **See movement as natural.** Wiggles, jumps and spins are part of learning and development, not necessarily misbehavior. Kids need to move to engage both their minds and bodies.
- **Provide structured opportunities.** Transition songs, stretch breaks or active games help kids channel energy in positive ways, keeping the classroom calm while allowing natural movement.
- **Recognize the benefits.** Movement supports physical, cognitive and emotional growth. Kids process information, release tension and develop self-control through activity.

NAVIGATING A BROKEN WORLD: MAKING FRIENDS

Preschoolers are developmentally at such a vital age to learn how to not only make but also choose friends. Friends will have a big impact on a kid's life. Helping them learn how to make and choose friends wisely is key. Preschoolers are learning how to practice friendship skills such as talking to others, inviting them to play, sharing ideas, paying attention to how their actions make others feel and learning to express themselves. Adults can help foster an environment where preschoolers feel safe to try new things and learn from them. Friendships matter because they help kids feel a sense of belonging. Utilize "Belong" experiences to help kids connect with each other and discover similarities. When kids work in partners or groups, help pair them in varying groups so they have the opportunity to know others. Most of all, help kids understand that great friendships help them grow closer to God.

PRESCHOOL GLOSSARY:

Trust: to believe in someone or something that they will do what they say

*For more resources on this topic, check out: britecurriculum.com/resources

1

BELONG

Small Group (15 MINUTES)

GOAL: For kids to experience God's love through a welcoming community

BIG CHEER

SUPPLIES: None

OR

FIND A FRIEND

SUPPLIES: None

2

BIBLE TEACHING

Large Group (20 MINUTES)

DAVID AND JONATHAN

(1 SAMUEL 20)

SUPPLIES: Bible, teaching slides, teaching pictures (printed/shown from teaching slides), video player, music player, 3 stuffed animals (1 large and 2 smaller), plastic crown

3

BELIEVE

Small Group (10 MINUTES)

GOAL: For kids to discover who God is by engaging with the Bible

BALLOON PASS

SUPPLIES: Balloon

OR

HIDE

SUPPLIES: None

4

BECOME

Small Group (15 MINUTES)

GOAL: For kids to learn to follow Jesus by applying faith to their lives

TRUSTING GOD

SUPPLIES: Take-Home page, coloring supplies, glue, jumbo craft sticks (1 per kid) cardstock, ribbon, scissors (prep)

OR

ARROW RELAY

SUPPLIES: Take-Home page, coloring supplies, 20 beanbags, 2 baskets, painter's tape



BIG CHEER

SUPPLIES:

None

PREP:

None

ADAPTATION FOR DIFFERENT LEARNERS: For active learners, stand close to them and place your hand on their shoulder to help them wait for their turn.

ACTIVITY INTRO:

Welcome, everyone! My name is _____. Can you each tell us your name? *Welcome each kid by name and welcome any new kids to the group.*

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. **Say:** Let's stand in a big circle together. We will cheer for each friend.
2. *Gather kids together to stand in a circle.*
3. *Invite one kid to step into the circle.*
4. **Say:** Jump three times, then we'll cheer together!
5. *After the kid jumps, lead the group in cheering: "God loves [name]!"*
6. *Continue until every kid has had a turn.*
7. **Ask:** Who loves you?
8. **Ask:** Does God love all of us?



ACTIVITY WRAP-UP:

We cheered because God loves each of you very much. God loves you and has a good plan for you!



FIND A FRIEND

SUPPLIES:

None

PREP:

None

ACTIVITY INTRO:

Welcome, everyone! My name is _____. Can you each tell us your name? *Welcome each kid by name and welcome any new kids to the group.*

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. **Say:** We will find friends and do a fun movement together. Are you ready to play?
2. *Call out directions:*
 - Find a friend and stomp together.
 - Find a friend and twirl.
 - Find a friend and clap your hands three times.
 - Find a friend and give a high-five.
 - Find a friend and give a fist pump.
 - Find a friend and make up a handshake.
 - Find a friend and jump up three times.
3. *Keep going with different actions until everyone has had fun together.*
4. **Ask:** Was it fun to do things with a friend?



ACTIVITY WRAP-UP:

God loves each of us very much, and He gives us friends to love too! Today we will learn a Bible story about two friends who took care of each other.

INTRO:

Play Countdown Video and guide kids to sit together for large group teaching time.

WELCOME:

Say: Welcome! I am so glad you are here today and I'm excited to learn about a true story from the Bible with you.

RECAP FROM *Last Week*

Say: We learned about how God did what He said He would do. He made the sun stand still so Joshua could win the battle.

Show teaching image: Joshua Prays & Sun Stands Still.

Say: Then we learned about how God was victorious and helped Deborah, Barak and the Israelites win over their enemies!

Show teaching image: Barak Asks Deborah to Come With Him.

Say: Last week we learned about how God showed His care for a woman named Hannah. He answered her prayer and gave her a son named Samuel who grew up to be a great leader for the people of Israel.

Show teaching image: Hannah Prays for a Baby.

Say: Today, we will learn a true story from the Bible about David and his best friend, Jonathan.



BIG QUESTION

Say: Let's take a look at this month's Big Question. Can you help me do a drumroll? Ready? 1, 2, 3 drumroll!

Show Big Question Teaching Slide.

Say: Will God ever fail us?

Play the "Find It in the Bible" song.

Hold up a Bible.

Say: Who can tell me the name of this book? *Allow kids to respond.*

Say: Yes! This book is called the Bible. The Bible is the most important book of all. The Bible is full of true stories about how God takes care of His people and loves them. Today we will hear a story from the Old Testament in the book of 1 Samuel. The Old Testament is filled with lots of stories about God's creation, His people and the things that happened before Jesus came to Earth.

SUPPLIES:

Bible, teaching slides, teaching pictures (printed/shown from teaching slides), video player, music player, 3 stuffed animals (1 large and 2 smaller), plastic crown

PREP:

None

LEADER TIP:

Trust can be a hard concept for preschoolers to understand. Use the preschool glossary to help preschoolers better understand this word and how it applies to their faith.



PLAY FIND IT IN THE
Bible Song

DAVID AND JONATHAN (1 SAMUEL 20)

Say: God's people wanted to be like all of the other people around them.

Hold up the plastic crown.

Say: They wanted a king. First, God made a man named Saul the king.

Put the crown on the big stuffed animal.

Say: But Saul didn't follow God, so God was going to pick a new king who loved Him. He picked a boy named David. David was going to be the next king!

Hold up one of the smaller stuffed animals.

Say: God had already used David in some really big ways, so King Saul brought David to live in his home. Saul's son, Jonathan, and David became very best friends.

Show teaching illustration: Jonathan and David Become Friends.

Grab the other smaller stuffed animal, and set it next to the David stuffed animal.

Ask: How many of you have a best friend?

Say: As the son of the king, Jonathan should have been king next. But Jonathan knew that God had planned for David to be king instead. Jonathan **trusted** that God's plan was the best plan.

Carry the David stuffed animal up to the larger, Saul stuffed animal.

Say: Saul didn't like that David was going to be king. Instead, he wanted to be king for a really long time. One day, David was playing the harp for King Saul. A harp is a beautiful instrument that makes music! Saul became really mad and tried to hurt David.

Remove the David stuffed animal from the scene and bring in the Jonathan stuffed animal. Motion the Jonathan stuffed animal to talk to the Saul stuffed animal as the story is being told.

Say: Jonathan tried to help David by talking to his father.

Bring the David stuffed animal back on the scene.

Say: But the very next day, Saul tried to hurt David again! David had to run away and hide!

Have the David stuffed animal run off of the scene and pick up the Jonathan stuffed animal.

PRESCHOOL GLOSSARY:

Trust: to believe in someone or something that they will do what they say

 (CONTINUED)



Say: The friends made a plan to find out if Saul was really going to hurt David. David would hide in the field during a special dinner. If Saul got mad that he wasn't there, Jonathan would see that he wanted to hurt David, and he would let David know by shooting arrows into the field and saying where the arrows landed.

Sit the Saul stuffed animal and the Jonathan stuffed animal across from each other. When Saul speaks, move the Saul stuffed animal angrily.

Say: At the meal, Saul became really mad when he saw David wasn't there. He yelled at Jonathan, "Don't you know that as long as David is alive, you can never be king!" He even tried to hurt Jonathan. Jonathan had to let his friend David know that his dad really did want to hurt him.

Show teaching illustration: Jonathan Puts God's Plan First.

Pick up the Jonathan stuffed animal and walk to the David stuffed animal.

Say: Jonathan hurried to the field. He shot the arrows and said, "The arrows are farther ahead of you!" This was the signal for David to escape. Because Jonathan put God's plan first, David was kept safe from King Saul and became the king just like God promised.

Remove the crown from the Saul stuffed animal and put it on the David stuffed animal.



POINT TO JESUS

Say: Not only was David the king, but God promised him that somebody in his family would always be king. That person was Jesus. Jesus is King forever!

Say: Let's close in prayer as we wrap up our Bible story time together. Reach your hands up really high.

Reach hands up high.

Say: Now clap them together like this.

Clap hands together.

Say: Let's pray.

Pray: Dear God, thank You for Your good plan. Help us to trust in You and know that nothing is impossible for You to do. Amen.



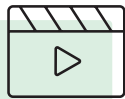
BIG QUESTION

Say: Now it's time to answer our Big Question. Can you all help me do a drumroll?
1, 2, 3... drumroll!

Show the Big Question Teaching and Answer Image.

Say: Will God ever fail us? No, never!

Say: That's right! The Bible teaches that God is always victorious. He is always what is right and He is the greatest of all.



VERSE VIDEO

*Play Memory Verse
Motion Video after the
verse is read.*

MEMORY VERSE MOTIONS:

Help kids recite and retain the memory verse by teaching it with motions. Before you teach the verse, be sure to explain what it means.

- For nothing (shake finger "no")
- will be (spread arms out again)
- impossible (cross arms in front of you again)
- with God. (point up)
- Luke 1:37 (open hands like a book)



MONTHLY

Memory Verse

*For nothing will be
impossible with God.*

(LUKE 1:37)



REVIEW:

Say: It's been so great being with you today, friends! Before we end our teaching time, let's review what we have learned. Let's all point up really high and say, "God has a good plan."

Have the kids point up and say, "God has a good plan."

Say: Now let's reach our hands out to the side and say, "We can trust God's plan."

Have kids reach out and say, "We can trust God's plan."

Say: Now let's point to ourselves and say, "I can trust God's plan."

Have kids point to themselves and say, "I can trust God's plan.."



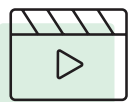
God has a good plan.



We can trust God's plan.



I can trust God's plan.



** Consider showing the Bible Review Video as kids eat snack, are waiting for pick-up, or another time that fits your church's schedule.*



BALLOON PASS

SUPPLIES:

Balloon

PREP:

Inflate the balloon.

LEADER TIP: If you have any kids with a latex allergy, use a lightweight ball instead. If you have more time, repeat this activity while playing the Memory Verse Song.

ADAPTATION FOR DIFFERENT LEARNERS: For kids with hearing and vision needs, place them close to you for audio or visual support with hand-over-hand assistance as needed.

ACTIVITY INTRO:

The Bible teaches us true stories about God. Today we learned that God had a plan for David, and His plans will never fail.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. *Gather kids to sit in a circle.*
2. **Say:** We will pass this balloon around the circle. Each time you touch it, we will say part of our memory verse.
3. **Say:** Let's say our memory verse all together before we start. *For nothing will be impossible with God. (Luke 1:37)*
4. *Begin by saying the first part of the verse aloud while tapping the balloon up.*
5. *Let kids take turns tapping it around the circle while repeating the words together.*
6. **Ask:** Can God do anything?



ACTIVITY WRAP-UP:

Nothing is too hard for God to do! Our memory verse teaches us something amazing about God. He can do anything; nothing is impossible for Him to do!



HIDE

SUPPLIES:

None

PREP:

None

LEADER TIP: If space is small, adapt by having the kids put their heads down and covering their heads with their hands instead of running.

ADAPTATION FOR DIFFERENT LEARNERS: For kids with mobility needs, allow extra space and time for specialized equipment or buddy them up with a familiar friend to assist.

ACTIVITY INTRO:

The Bible teaches us true stories about God. Today we learned that Jonathan helped David stay safe.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. **Say:** Let's play a game to help us remember our lesson.
2. **Say:** When I call out "Danger!" you find a close hiding spot. When I call "Safe!" you will walk back to me.
3. *After calling out "Danger," pretend to look for the kids.*
4. *Repeat with different motions for the kids to do on their way to their hiding spots, like tiptoe, hop, or crawl.*
5. **Ask:** Who helped David know when it was safe?
6. **Ask:** Who always has a good plan?



ACTIVITY WRAP-UP:

Jonathan helped David stay safe. God takes care of us too, and His plan is always good.



TRUSTING GOD

SUPPLIES:

Take-Home page, coloring supplies, glue, jumbo craft sticks (1 per kid), cardstock, ribbon, scissors (prep)

PREP:

Print the Take-Home page (1 per kid). Cut out triangle shapes from the cardstock (2 triangles per kid). Write "God's plan comes first" on the craft stick. Cut pieces of ribbon (3 per kid).

LEADER TIP: Give suggestions if kids need help knowing what they can trust God with. Some ideas are family, friends, school, being afraid of something, struggling to learn something new, knowing God loves them, cares for them and provides for them.

ADAPTATION FOR DIFFERENT LEARNERS: For active learners, as needed give them one supply at a time.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. **Say:** Jonathan sent David a message with arrows. Jonathan trusted in God's plan, and we can trust in God's plan too. Let's make our own arrows to remember how we can trust God!
2. Give each kid a jumbo craft stick, coloring supplies and two triangles to decorate.
3. **Ask:** What is something you can trust God with?
4. Help kids glue their triangles onto the jumbo craft stick one on the front and the other on the back side of the craft stick. Then glue the ribbon to the jumbo craft stick.
5. Write the kid's name on their paper/craft and set aside for parent pick up.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- Who were best friends in our Bible story?
- How did Jonathan help David?
- Whose plan did Jonathan trust?
- Can we trust God's plan too?



PRAY TOGETHER:

God, thank You for giving us friends. Thank You that Your plan is always good. Help us to trust You. Amen.

ACTIVITY WRAP-UP:

Give each kid a Take-Home page. With remaining time, kids can play in centers or color the Take-Home page.



ARROW RELAY

SUPPLIES:

Take-Home page, coloring supplies, 20 beanbags, 2 baskets, painter's tape

PREP:

Print the Take-Home page (1 per kid). Tape two starting lines on the floor.

LEADER TIP: If you have limited space, have kids sit in a line and pass the beanbags down the line.

ADAPTATION FOR DIFFERENT LEARNERS: Remind kids of expectations for running and demonstrate safe methods. Praise kids for following directions well.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. **Say:** Jonathan shot arrows to give David a message. This message kept David safe. It showed that Jonathan trusted in God's good plan. God has a good plan for you too! You can trust Him too.
2. **Say:** Let's race our beanbag "arrows" to the basket.
3. *Divide kids into two groups. Each group lines up on one side of your space.*
4. *The first kid carries a beanbag and drops it in the basket, then runs back.*
5. *The next kid takes a turn until all the beanbags are in the basket.*
6. **Say:** You worked together to finish the game. We can trust in God's plan and know that God is always good.
7. **Say:** Let's think of some ideas that you can trust God with. Some things could be family, friends, something you're afraid of, or trying something new.
8. **Ask:** What is something you can trust God with?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- Who were best friends in our Bible story?
- How did Jonathan help David?
- Whose plan did Jonathan trust?
- Can we trust God's plan too?

PRAY TOGETHER:

God, thank You for keeping us safe. Thank You that Your plan is always best. Amen.

ACTIVITY WRAP-UP:

Give each kid a Take-Home page. With remaining time, kids can play in centers or color the Take-Home page.

CENTERS:

Set up 3–4 centers around the room for kids to explore and learn as they play. While kids explore the centers, leaders can work with individuals or small groups to make the craft. Set up each center in a separate part of the room, making sure all kids are visible at all times. Show the whole group what is in each center and give simple instructions on what kids should do in each center.

- **Arrow Toss:** Lay out beanbags and baskets as targets. Encourage kids to toss the “arrows” into the basket.
- **Sensory Bin:** Fill a large bin with dry beans, rice or shredded paper. Put in craft sticks and small toy people. Place cups or spoons for scooping. Have kids hide the objects in the bin and then find them again.
- **Block Center:** Lay out blocks and encourage kids to build “hiding places” for David or a castle for King Saul.

BONUS SCRIPT:

Preschoolers learn best through repetition. Use the script below to review the story at any opportunity. You could review the story while kids play in centers, while they work on their craft, during snack time or while waiting for parents.

Say: David and Jonathan were best friends and promised to take care of each other. Jonathan’s dad was Saul, the king of Israel. But God had chosen David to replace him as king. King Saul was jealous of David. Jonathan helped to keep David safe. Jonathan was a good friend to David and trusted in God’s plan.



BIG QUESTION

Will God ever fail us? No, never!