



David and Jonathan

Lesson Aim: To know God sends us friends.

THE WORSHIP

Who God is: The King Who Knows Our Hearts

THE WORD

Bible Story: 1 Samuel 18:1-4; 20:17, 42

What He has done: God gave David and Jonathan each other as friends.

THE WAY

Whisper Verse: "A friend loves at all times."

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God." John 14:1

Unit 8: The King Who Knows Our Hearts			
	Bible Story	What He Has Done	Lesson Aim
38	Samuel and Saul, 1 Samuel 10:1, 6-8, 20-24	God chose Saul to be king.	To know God helps us do what He chooses us to do.
39	David and Goliath, 1 Samuel 17:4-9, 32-45, 47-50	God helped David defeat the giant.	To know we can trust God to help us with our problems.
40	David and Jonathan, 1 Samuel 18:1-4; 20:17, 42	God gave David and Jonathan each other as friends.	To know God sends us friends.
41	David's Heart: David Praises God, 2 Samuel 6:5, 12-15	God saw David praise Him.	To explore ways to praise the Lord.
42	David and Mephibosheth, 2 Samuel 9:1-11	God helped David include Mephibosheth.	To learn the importance of showing kindness to everyone.

TEACHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT

This week, read John 15:14-16. Please join us in praying, "Thank You, Lord, for Your love and protection that we receive through faithful friends. Give the children faithful friendships centered on You. Amen."



THE WORSHIP THE WORD & THE WAY

Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	Treasure Chest	Treasure chest, stamp or sticker of an arrow or heart
		Whisper Verse	Sign language for "A friend loves at all times."
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	Worship Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs available at ResourceWell.org.	Unit 8 Bible Memory Verse Song: "Do Not Let Your Hearts Be Troubled" Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions: "It's Praise Time" "I Can Do Everything" "Let Everything That Has Breath" "Sing Praises" "We Love" Additional Hymn Suggestions: "My God Is So Big" "Jesus Loves Me" Additional Song Collection Suggestions: Cedarhurst Toddler Bible Songs The Ultimate Bible Song Collection for Kids Vol. 1
		Offering	Baskets
		Worship Illustration	<i>The Adventures of Delbert and Lello</i> puppet script or storybook: Kings & Kingdoms Unit 8, Lesson 40
THE WORD	Up to 10	Watch the Word: 1 Samuel 18:1-4; 20:17, 42	Teacher's Bible with bookmark at 1 Samuel 20:17 Visual: Toy bow and arrow or picture of a bow and arrow
THE WAY	Up to 25	Craft: Friendship Heart	Sturdy red paper, yarn, crayons or markers, glue or glue sticks, assorted craft supplies (glitter with glue, paint, jewel stickers, dried pasta, craft foam, etc.)
		Game: Jonathan's Arrows	Rock (or any other object used as a target), two toy arrows for each pair of children (see optional)
		Game: Heart Match	Colored sturdy paper
		Snack: Friendship Hearts	Heart-shaped cookies or cookies with heart decorations
		Circle of Prayer	None
	Final 5	Final Five	Ponder, Pray & Play: Unit 8, Lesson 40 Color This Story: "David and Jonathan"
GOT TIME?	Up to 10	Say & Do: 1 Samuel 18:1-4; 20:17, 42	None
	Up to 10	Game: Trust in God!	None
	Up to 10	Game: "Trust in God" Cheer	None
	Up to 10	Story Time	Any story about friends

RESOURCES: Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



A friend loves at all times

THE WELCOME

Welcome each child as they arrive. **Hello _____. I'm glad you are here! Come open the Treasure Chest to find today's treasure.** Child unlocks the Treasure Chest to receive a stamp or sticker of an arrow or heart. **Let this sticker of an arrow or a heart remind you that David and Jonathan were friends who loved each other at all times. Today's Whisper Verse is "A friend loves at all times."** Teach the Whisper Verse in spoken language and in sign language below. **We call it the Whisper Verse so you can whisper it to others.***

SIGN LANGUAGE: "A friend loves at all times."

(For visual demonstrations, see www.signingsavvy.com.)

Each time we say today's Whisper Verse, let's say it with three hand motions:

- | | |
|------------------------|---|
| "(A) friend" | Alternately hook the second knuckle of each index finger into the opposite index finger while rotating the wrists. |
| "loves" | The hands hug something over the heart to indicate the concept of love. |
| "at all times." | (Sign is for "always.") With the index finger of the right hand pointing up, rotate the right arm in a large circle in front of the body. |

Allow children to enjoy free play until everyone has arrived. **Let's sing the "Clean Up Song" as we put toys away before Praise Time.** Praise any child who helps. Allow several minutes for clean up.

**"Clean Up Song": Clean up! Clean up! Everybody, everywhere!
Clean up! Clean up! Everybody do your share!**

Gather and seat children in Praise Time area.

***Today's Whisper Verse:** "A friend loves at all times," Proverbs 17:17. The Whisper Verse is a tool to help the children learn a major point in the lesson. It is coupled with sign language or hand motions as a memory aid. The verse is not necessarily chosen from today's Bible story.



The King who knows our hearts

THE WORSHIP

Teacher Tip: To help children identify time set aside for worship, designate a special corner or area for singing, collecting offering, and watching the worship illustration. Play “It’s Praise Time!” as children move to that designated area.



It’s Praise Time—that means it’s time to praise God as the King who knows our hearts. By giving our offering, we show God our hearts want to praise Him and give to His church. Play: “Let Everything That Has Breath” while collecting the offering.

God knows our hearts need the love of good friends. He gives us friends who will love us at all times. That is today’s Whisper Verse, “A friend loves at all times.” Let’s whisper it together. Review Whisper Verse together: “A friend loves at all times.” Include sign language. **We can love our friends because God first loved us.** Sing: “We Love.”

God gave David a good friend. His name was Jonathan. Have you ever had a good friend? (Children respond.) **God gives us good friends when we need them! We can trust God to do that, just as David trusted Him. Let’s sing the words David sang.** Sing: “Do Not Let Your Hearts Be Troubled” and “My God Is So Big.”



Do you know a lamb and a donkey who are best friends? (Delbert and Lello!) **Let’s see if Delbert and Lello know anything about the story of David and Jonathan. Let’s call them both to come out for a visit.** Perform *The Adventures of Delbert and Lello* puppet script or read storybook: Kings & Kingdoms Unit 8, Lesson 40.



Let’s sing to thank God for giving us the best friend of all: Jesus. Jesus loves us at all times! Sing: “Jesus Loves Me.”



David and Jonathan

THE WORD

Before we begin our Bible Time, let's say our Classroom Promise with the motions.

With my eyes on my teacher;

My mouth quiet as can be,

I will listen to hear,

How God loves you and me.

Point to eyes.

Place index finger over mouth as quiet sign.

Cup hand around ear.

Hug self, point to others and then self.

Last time, we learned how God helped David win the battle against the giant. Today, we will hear how God gave David and Jonathan to each other as friends. Handle Bible as a special treasure, leaving it open to 1 Samuel 20:17.

WATCH THE WORD: 1 SAMUEL 18:1-4; 20:17, 42

Read the points below or retell the passage in your own words using the points below as a general guide. To illustrate the story, display a toy bow and arrow or picture of a bow and arrow. Other visual options include the craft sample, Color This Story, or any related picture.

- A friend loves at all times.
- Jonathan and David were friends.
- Jonathan and David made a promise
- To be best friends to the end.

- Jonathan gave David his robe and belt.
- He gave David his bow and sword.
- They promised to show to each other's families,
- The kindness of the Lord.



Who was Jonathan's friend? (David.) Let's find our answer in the Bible. Read 1 Samuel 20:17 from the teacher's Bible. **Jonathan loved David just as much as he loved himself!**

Who loves you at all times? (A friend.) Our Whisper Verse tells us the answer. Let's say it together: "A friend loves at all times." Include sign language or hand motions.



God gives us friends

THE WAY

Teacher Tip: Craft and games can be presented at the same time in different areas or one at a time depending on class size and teaching style.

CRAFT: FRIENDSHIP HEART

Purpose: To remind the children of the friendship between David and Jonathan.

Supplies: Sturdy red paper, yarn, crayons or markers, glue or glue sticks, assorted craft supplies (glitter with glue, paint, jewel stickers, dried pasta, craft foam, etc.)

Prepare: From sturdy red paper, cut a large heart shape. Print: **“A friend loves at all times.” 1 Samuel 18:1-4; 20:17, 42** on the left and the right sides of the heart. Cut the heart in half from top to bottom, as if cutting a puzzle. Punch a hole in the top of each half. Cut two 10-inch lengths of yarn.

Directions:

1. Color the two halves of the heart.
2. Decorate with assorted craft supplies.
3. Thread a length of yarn through each hole and tie into a circle.
4. Encourage children to give half to a friend.

Craft Discussion:

- **Who was Jonathan’s friend?** (David.)
- **Who gave Jonathan and David to each other to be friends?** (God.)
- **What did Jonathan give David?** (His robe, belt, sword, and bow.)
- **Jonathan and David promised to be friends for all times. That’s like our Whisper Verse! Let’s say it with our motions right now!** Say the Whisper Verse together with the hand motions: “A friend loves at all times.”
- **You can show love to a friend. Take your “Friendship Heart” craft home and give half to a friend. Tell them about Jonathan and David.**

THE WAY *continued...*

GAME: JONATHAN'S ARROWS

Purpose: By shooting arrows together, children connect with Jonathan and David's friendship.

Supplies: Rock (or any other object used as a target), two toy arrows for each pair of children (see optional)

Prepare: Place rock (or target) in the center of the room.

Optional: Instead of toy arrows, use plastic drinking straws or foam sticks. To give them an arrow-like appearance, attach an arrow shape cut from paper on one end and a feather to the other end.

Teacher Tip: To ensure safety, make sure toy arrows cannot cause injury if thrown at another child. Be sure children all stand on one side of room and arrows are retrieved only after all arrows are thrown.

David and Jonathan were friends. Jonathan gave David his robe, belt, sword and bow. What would Jonathan and David have used with their bows? (Arrows.) Let's pretend to be David and Jonathan. We can share our arrows as friends!

Directions:

1. Help each child find a partner. One partner is "David" and the other is "Jonathan."
2. Have the Jonathans stand in a line shoulder-to-shoulder a few feet away from the target rock with their David partner behind them.
3. Give two arrows to each Jonathan.
4. All the Jonathans throw their arrows to land as close to the rock as possible.
5. All the Davids say and sign the Whisper Verse: **"A friend loves at all times."**
6. After all the arrows have been thrown, the Jonathans each pick up two arrows and share them with their David partner.
7. Have the Davids and Jonathans switch places and repeat steps 4-6.
8. Repeat as time allows.

GAME: HEART MATCH

Purpose: Children will find their friend and practice telling each other the Whisper Verse.

Supplies: Colored sturdy paper

Prepare: For every two children, cut a heart shape from sturdy paper. For easier identification, cut each heart from a different color paper. Cut each heart in half as a unique puzzle piece.

Who loves at all times? (A friend.) Find the other half of your heart to find your new friend!

Directions:

1. Give each child a heart puzzle piece.
2. Help each child find the friend who has the matching heart puzzle piece.
3. Friends say and sign Whisper Verse to each other: **"A friend loves at all times."**
4. Collect the heart halves.
5. Play again to make another new friend.

THE WAY *continued...*

SNACK: FRIENDSHIP HEARTS

Purpose: Children enjoy a snack which reminds them to show love to their friends.

Snack Suggestion: Heart-shaped cookies or cookies with heart decorations

Directions:

1. Serve snack and drink.
2. **Let's sing the "Blessing Song."** Sing to the tune of "Frere Jacques" or other familiar tune.
God our Father, God our Father. Once again, once again.
Thank you for our blessings. Thank you for our blessings. Amen. Amen.
3. Lead discussion below while children enjoy their snack.
 - **Let's share a snack together as friends!**
 - **Who remembers our Whisper Verse?** Choose a child to demonstrate motions to Whisper Verse:
"A friend loves at all times."
 - **Who is your friend?** Children say the names of their friends. **God gave your friend to you!**
 - **How can you show you love your friend?**
 - **Can you play together?** (Yes.)
 - **Should you fight with each other?** (No.)
 - **If your friend wants to play with your toy, what should you do?** (Children respond.)
 - **You can show you love your friend by helping them.**
 - **If your friend falls down, how can you help?** (Children respond.)
 - **If you know how to ride your bike and your friend wants to learn, how can you help?** (Children respond.)
 - **If your friend is sad, how can you help?** (Children respond.)



CIRCLE OF PRAYER

God made you and He cares for you. He loves to hear you pray with private words or words you say out loud. Let's fold our hands and close our eyes. As I lift up your name to God in heaven, I will lay my hand on your shoulder. Let's pray together.

Dear God, thank You for making us and loving us. We lift up to You a special prayer for ____, ____, ____ (say each name). We pray for our families and friends. Thank You for teaching us how to love one another. Amen.



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

FINAL FIVE MINUTES

COMPLETED CRAFT: Take home your "Friendship Heart" craft. Give half of your heart to a friend. Tell your friend, "A friend loves at all times."

PONDER, PRAY & PLAY: Distribute Ponder, Pray & Play cards, if available. **Show this card to your family. Talk about how Jonathan and David loved each other as friends.**

COLOR THIS STORY: "David and Jonathan Are Friends." Discuss Bible story and play Unit 8 Bible Memory Verse Song "Do Not Let Your Heart Be Troubled" as children color.



If time remains, choose from the connected activities below.

GOT TIME?

SAY & DO: 1 SAMUEL 18:1-4; 20:17, 42

Purpose: This pantomime version of the Bible story helps children remember the story details.

Supplies: None

Directions: Assign a partner to each child. With each phrase, the teacher says the phrase and acts it out with hand motions; then repeats the same phrase and motions with the children.

- **A friend loves at all times.** (Whisper Verse sign language.)
- **Jonathan and David were friends.** (Hold partner's hand.)
- **Jonathan and David made a promise** (Give partner a handshake.)
- **To be best friends to the end.** (Hold hands with partner.)

- **Jonathan gave David his robe and belt.** (Pretend to buckle a belt.)
- **He gave David his bow and sword.** (Pretend to shoot an arrow into the sky.)
- **They promised to show to each other's families,** (Give partner a handshake.)
- **The kindness of the Lord.** (Point to heart and then towards heaven.)



BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES

"Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God." John 14:1

GAME: TRUST IN GOD!

Purpose: Children will realize they can trust in God.

Supplies: None

The Bible says, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God." To trust in God is to know He will do what is best. Can you help each other remember to trust in God?

Directions:

1. Have children stand in a circle.
2. Choose one child to be the "Troubled Heart."
3. Child stands and says, "**I am troubled when I child's activity.**" (For example: try to ride a bike, tie my shoe, go to a new place, play a hard game, tell time, etc.)
4. Children say, "**Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God.**" **John 14:1**
5. Give a gentle group hug to the Troubled Heart.
6. Play until each child has a turn as the Troubled Heart.

GOT TIME? *continued...*

GAME: "TRUST IN GOD" CHEER

Purpose: Children memorize and review the Unit 8 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: None

Our Bible Memory Verse says, "Do not let your hearts be troubled." That means "Don't worry!" Then it says, "Trust in God." To trust in God is to know He will do what is best. Let's tell each other our Bible Memory Verse!

Directions:

1. Say Bible Memory Verse pausing after each word for children to repeat it. Practice verse twice.
2. Divide children into two groups (give each group a name, for example the Bears and the Lions). Each group stands on opposite sides of the play area.
3. From across the play area, the Bears whisper, "**Do not let your hearts be troubled!**" to the Lions.
4. The Lions answer by whispering, "**Trust in God!**" to the Bears.
5. Repeat steps 3 and 4 three more times, getting louder each time, until the children are using their strongest voices.
6. Play again. This time the Bears whisper, "**Trust in God!**" and the Lions whisper, "**Do not let your hearts be troubled!**"



STORY TIME

Gather the children and read a favorite story. This can be a Bible story, a chapter from *The Adventures of Delbert & Lello*, or a story about friends.

PONDER, PRAY & PLAY

Unit 8, Lesson 40: David and Jonathan

PONDER! Read 1 Samuel 18:1-4; 20:17, 42 with your family. David and Jonathan were friends. They promised to be friends forever. What did Jonathan give to David to show his love? Who are your friends? How can you show love to your friends?

PRAY! Pray this prayer each day this week: "Thank You, God, for giving us friends. Help us to show love to them at all times. Amen."

PLAY! Jonathan and David both had bows and arrows. Gather toy arrows, foam sticks, drinking straws, or paper airplanes as arrows and imagine a game they may have played together. Everyone stands behind a line. Put a rock or other target a few feet away from the line. Take turns throwing the arrows close to the rock. Talk about games you enjoy playing with your friends.

Unit 8 Bible Memory Verse: John 14:1

"Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God."