



David, Jonathan, and Saul

**Lesson Aim: To build deeper friendships
that honor God.**

THE WORSHIP

Who God is: The King Who Knows Our Hearts

THE WORD

Bible Story: 1 Samuel 18:1-9; 19:1-5; 20:13-24, 30-34, 41-42

What He has done: God gave David a brave friend that helped him through hard times.

Key Verse: 1 Samuel 20:42

THE WAY

Christ Connection: John 15:13-15

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not be in want. He makes me lie down in green pastures, He leads me beside quiet waters, He restores my soul. He guides me in paths of righteousness for His name's sake. Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever." Psalm 23

Unit 8: The King Who Knows Our Hearts			
	Bible Story	What He Has Done	Lesson Aim
38	Samuel and Saul, 1 Samuel 9:15-16; 10:1, 6-7, 9, 20-24	God chose Saul to be the first king of Israel.	To know God has chosen us to do special jobs for Him.
39	David and Goliath, 1 Samuel 17:4-9, 32-42, 45, 47-50	God gave David the victory over Goliath.	To know God prepares us for our challenges and spiritual battles.
40	David, Jonathan, and Saul, 1 Samuel 18:1-9; 19:1-5; 20:13-24, 30-34, 41-42	God gave David a brave friend that helped him through hard times.	To build deeper friendships that honor God.
41	David's Heart: David Spares Saul, 1 Samuel 24:1-13	God helped David spare Saul's life.	To trust God for justice over our enemies.
42	David and Mephibosheth, 2 Samuel 9:2-3, 5-7, 9-11	God helped David keep his promise.	To promise to show kindness.

TEACHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT

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

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Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	Meet & Greet	None
		Game: Friendly Chain Match	Standard-size paper in five colors, tape
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: "The Lord Is My Shepherd" Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions: "Chosen People" "You Will Seek Me" Additional Hymn Suggestion: "Change My Heart, O God" "Open the Eyes of My Heart" "'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus" Additional Song Collection Suggestions: Songs 4 Worship Kids Volume 1 Sunday School Jamz by Worship Jamz
		Worship Scripture Reading: Proverbs 22:11	Bible
		Offering	Baskets
		Worship Illustration	Lesson 40 King City Chronicles script or storybook
THE WORD	Up to 10	Read the Word: 1 Samuel 18:1-9, 19:1-5, 20:13-24, 30-34, 41-42	Bibles, Bible Story Scripture reference poster, highlighters, Readers' Theatre scripts, props: harp, crown, robe, belt, sword, 2 bows
THE WAY	Up to 25	Discuss the Word	Bibles, Christ Connection Scripture reference poster, highlighters
		Christ Connection: John 15:13-15	
		Golden Bowl	Golden Bowl, pencils, note cards
GOT TIME?	Final 5	Final Five Minutes	Treasure Treat—"Ask me about Jonathan" sticker (Print "Ask me about Jonathan" on an adhesive label.), Daily Ways, baskets, paper, pencils, crayons or markers, prayer notebook, Unit 8 Bible Memory Verse Song "The Lord Is My Shepherd," CD player
	Up to 10	Snack: God's Table	Tablecloth (or large sheet), bread, fruit
	Up to 10	Game: Thumbs Up!	None
	Up to 15	Game: Friendly Four Corners	Four signs labeled 1, 2, 3, and 4
	Up to 10	Craft: Bow and Arrow Friends	Pipe cleaners, drinking straws, feathers, yarn, sticky back craft foam, scissors
	Up to 10	Bible Memory Verse Activity: Shepherd Psalm Shuffle	Note cards, timer, Unit 8 Bible Memory Verse poster
	Up to 15	Bible Memory Verse Activity: Psalm 23 Balloon Toss	1 inflated non-helium balloon, Bible, optional: Unit 8 Bible Memory Verse poster
	Up to 10	Bible Memory Verse Activity Discussion: Psalm 23	Unit 8 Bible Memory Verse poster
	Up to 5	Bible Timeline Review	Date with story title or name printed on card

RESOURCES: Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



Getting started

THE WELCOME

To spark anticipation, encourage arriving children to meet and greet one another with today's question.
Meet & Greet Question: What is the most amazing thing a friend has done for you?

GAME: FRIENDLY CHAIN MATCH

Purpose: To discover God gives us friendships that are very strong, even through difficult times.

Supplies: Standard-size paper in five colors, tape

Prepare: Cut each sheet of paper into 1-inch wide strips, creating at least five strips for each child.

Why do people use chains? (To hold things together.) **The links work together to be one strong chain. Let's play a game to make our own chain.**

Directions:

1. Give a paper strip and a piece of tape to each child. (Distribute at least two of each color so each child will find another child with the same color.)
2. Children race to find those with the same color paper strip. Children quickly tape their strips together in a chain-link style by looping the strips together and then taping the ends.
3. Designate a separate area for children to drop each color chain in a separate pile.
4. The goal is to be the fastest group to find each other, tape their links together, and place their chain in the correct pile.
5. Repeat steps 1-4 four more times or until there are no more paper strips.
6. After the last round, have each group sit together.
7. Assign one of the questions below to each group to discuss:
 - a. **What is the kindest thing you have done for a friend?**
 - b. **If you could share anything with your closest friend, what would you share?**
 - c. **What is your favorite thing to do with friends?**
 - d. **Do you share secrets with your closest friend?**
 - e. **What is the bravest thing you have ever done for a friend?**
8. Have groups share their answers with the other groups.
9. When the discussion is complete, have the children tape all of the chains together to form one large chain. Display it in your room.

Look at our chain. When we connect together, like each link of a chain, we are stronger. God wants us to have strong friendships with each other. He wants us to stay together and help each other, even during hard times. Let's listen to the story of David and Jonathan; two friends who promised to be friends forever. Their friendship was as strong as a metal chain.



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 music as children move to the designated area.



We worship the King who knows our hearts. Today, we will see that God gave David a true friend in Jonathan. Jonathan helped David when he was in danger. In Psalm 23, David sings about being in danger and being in the presence of his enemies. He was not afraid because God was with him. As the offering is collected, sing Unit 8 Bible Memory Verse Song "The Lord Is My Shepherd."

Just as God gave David a faithful friend in his time of need, He gives each of us a perfect friend in Jesus. Sing: "'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus."



Read Proverbs 22:11.



Let's ask God to give us pure hearts so that we may be good and faithful friends to Jesus. Sing: "Change My Heart, O God." You may also choose to sing songs that focus on Jesus as our friend.



Perform King City Chronicles script or read storybook: Kings & Kingdoms Unit 8, Lesson 40.



David, Jonathan, and Saul

THE WORD

Teacher Tip: As you move from worship to instruction, change rooms or locations within a room to help redirect the children's focus to the Bible story. During this transition time, have each child write his or her name on a card and place it in the Golden Bowl.

Before we read God's Word, let's go over our Class Covenant. A covenant is an agreement. Just as God made a covenant with His people, I ask each of you to make this covenant promise with me today. Listen as I read our Class Covenant: "I will keep my eyes on my teacher, my mouth in control, my ears on God's Word—knowing God is my goal."

If a Bible Timeline is available, point out David (Circa 1020 B.C.). For a Bible Timeline Review activity, see the Got Time? segment of this lesson. **Last time, we learned God prepared David to defeat the Philistine giant, Goliath. Who tried to give David the armor and sword to borrow for the battle? (King Saul.) What is your favorite part of that story? (Children respond.) What did David take with him for the battle? (His staff, a sling, and five smooth stones.)**

Today, we will learn God gave David a true friend in King Saul's son, Jonathan.



Let's play Find It First! Bring out your Bible; keep it right in front of you. Hand out spare Bibles. **Today's Scripture verse is behind the curtain** (or secret door, secret window, etc.). Child reveals the Bible Story Scripture reference: 1 Samuel 18:1-9; 19:1-5; 20:13-24, 30-34, 41-42. **Let's see who can Find It First. Ready? Set? Go!** Children race to find it first. The winner helps others find it. **Let's highlight our Key Verse: 1 Samuel 20:42.**

Before we read, let's stand and ask God to open our eyes, ears, hearts, and minds to His Word today. Who'd like to pray that for us? Child prays aloud. **Be seated.**

READERS' THEATRE: **Instead of reading our Bible passage, let's act it out.** Distribute Readers' Theatre scripts, assign roles, and hand out props. Read and act out 1 Samuel 18:1-9; 19:1-5; 20:13-24, 30-34, 41-42.

Teacher Tip: The Readers' Theatre replaces the reading of the above Bible passages. The script directly quotes those same passages.



True friends

THE WAY

How does the Bible describe Jonathan's love for David? (He "loved David as himself.") **Do you have a friend you love as much as you love yourself?** (Children respond.) **What did Jonathan give David?** (His royal robe and weapons.) **How did they promise to treat each other's families?** (To always show kindness to each other's families, including their future children and grandchildren.)

King Saul disobeyed God, so God's Spirit left Saul and came upon David in power. King Saul was angry and jealous that David was a more famous warrior. How did Jonathan show he was David's true friend when his father, jealous King Saul, tried to hurt David? (Jonathan spoke up to his father. He defended David and asked King Saul not to harm him.) **How have you shown you are a true friend to someone?** (Children respond.)

God gives each of us a true friend. That friend may be someone our own age, a brother, a sister, a cousin, a parent, or a grandparent. Think of the name of a true friend God has given you. Let's take seven seconds of silence to thank God for giving us true friends. Children pray silently for seven seconds.

What do true friends do to show their faithfulness and love for each other? Discuss specific examples of keeping promises, caring for, showing kindness to their friend's family, protecting, encouraging, etc. **Jonathan spoke up and defended David when King Saul wanted to hurt him. Let's talk about different ways to defend a friend if you hear hurtful plans being made.** (Children respond.)



Connecting the Old Testament, the New Testament and Us

CHRIST CONNECTION

Saul disobeyed God and God's Spirit left him. One thousand years later, Jesus died on the cross to take the punishment for all who have disobeyed God. God has promised that His Spirit will never leave those who believe in Jesus. Jesus gave His life for you because He is your true friend. Let's read more about that truth in the Bible.



FIND IT FIRST > **Everyone, place your Bible closed on your lap. Choose a child to reveal the Christ Connection Scripture reference: John 15:13-15. Let's see who can Find It First! Ready? Set? Go! Find it and highlight it. Read John 15:13-15.**

How did Jesus prove He loved us more than He loved Himself? (He laid down His life, dying on the cross to save us from the punishment of our sins.) **Why do you think He did that for us?** (He loves us more than He loves Himself.) **How can you show your love to Jesus?** (Children respond.)

THE WAY *continued...*



Revelation 5:8

GOLDEN BOWL

Teacher Tip: Write the names of classmates, local church leaders, and children in other nations or others who need prayer on small pieces of paper. Place the papers in a golden bowl.

The Bible says our prayers are like sweet smelling incense in the golden bowls at God's throne. I'm going to lift each one of your names to God's throne as you pray for each person silently. Then, we will pray the Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:9-13) aloud together. Let's pray.

Lord God, we lift up to Your throne the name of each child here. We trust You to watch over us and our needs, the ones we say aloud and the ones hidden in our hearts. First, we lift up to You ____, ____, ____. Read names in Golden Bowl.

Now, we pray the prayer Your Son taught us: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

FINAL FIVE MINUTES

TREASURE TREAT: Today, your Treasure Treat is an "Ask me about Jonathan" sticker! Wear it all day today. Tell everyone about David's faithful friend.

DAILY WAY CHALLENGE: Did anyone bring in their completed Daily Way from last time? Praise or reward those who return a Daily Way. Distribute Lesson 40 Daily Way 5-day Bible study. **Complete this week's Daily Way at home and let God speak to you through His own words in the Bible. Join the Daily Way Challenge by returning your completed Daily Way.**

Teacher Tip: Collect Daily Ways in a basket or other container and periodically reward children as a group for completing the challenge.

OFFERING OF ART: Until it is time to be dismissed, make an Offering of Art. For your offering, draw a picture of Jonathan shooting arrows as David hides behind the rock.

PRAYER REQUESTS: As children work on their Offering of Art, ask how you can pray for them this week. Write requests in a prayer notebook.

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SONG: Play the Unit 8 Bible Memory Verse Song, "The Lord Is My Shepherd," in the background as children wait to be dismissed.



If time remains, choose from the connected activities below.

GOT TIME?

SNACK: GOD'S TABLE

Purpose: Children eat a snack while discussing their thoughts about Jonathan and David's friendship.

Snack Suggestion: Tablecloth (or large sheet), bread, fruit

David was in danger. King Saul was jealous and wanted to hurt him. Who did God give to David to help him? (A friend named Jonathan.)

God helps you, too. Our Bible Memory Verse from Psalm 23 says, "You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies." That means God will always give us good things even while we are going through hard times. Many times, He sends true friends to be with us. Let's eat together as friends and talk about ways our friends have helped us.

Directions:

1. If possible, spread the tablecloth on one table and eat together as friends. Or create a "table" on the floor by spreading the tablecloth on the floor and children gathering around the edges.
2. Serve snack and drinks.
3. Child prays to thank God for the snack.
4. Ask the Snack Discussion Question: **"What do you like to do with your friends?"**

GAME: THUMBS UP!

Purpose: Review the facts of the David and Jonathan story.

Supplies: None

Let's see how much you can remember about today's story. I'm going to read some statements about the story. Raise your thumbs up if you believe the statement is true, give me a thumbs down if you believe the statement is false. If the answer is false, be ready to correct it. Move quickly through these, keeping the pace lively and challenging!

Directions:

1. **Jonathan loved David as much as he loved himself.** (Thumbs up.)
2. **Jonathan gave David his robe, tunic, sword, bow, and belt as a sign of friendship.** (Thumbs up.)
3. **Abraham was very jealous of David because David was more popular.** (Thumbs down.)
Correction: **Who was jealous of David?** (King Saul.)
4. **Jonathan threw three rocks to warn David to run from King Saul.** (Thumbs down.)
Correction: **What did Jonathan do to warn David?** (He shot three arrows.)
5. **David waited in a store for Jonathan to shoot the arrows.** (Thumbs down.) Correction: **Where did David wait?** (In a field.)
6. **Jonathan was brave to warn David to run from King Saul.** (Thumbs up.)

GOT TIME? *continued...*

GAME: FRIENDLY FOUR CORNERS

Purpose: This Four Corners game reminds children how friends stay together like David and Jonathan.

Supplies: Four signs labeled 1, 2, 3, and 4

Prepare: Post one of the signs in each of the four corners of the play area.

Optional: Play any favorite group game that incorporates partnership.

Jonathan warned his friend David to run and hide from King Saul. Now, we will team up with a friend and, together, try to avoid King Saul's corner!

Directions:

1. Choose a child to be "King Saul."
2. Divide children into pairs as "friends" who must stay together throughout the game.
3. King Saul counts aloud to 10 with his or her eyes closed.
4. Children rush to stand in a corner before King Saul says, "10."
5. King Saul calls out one of the four corner titles. Pairs in that corner sit down.
6. Continue playing until only one pair of friends remains.

CRAFT: BOW AND ARROW FRIENDS

Purpose: Children create a bow and arrow set to serve as a reminder that God wants us to have close, long-lasting friendships as David and Jonathan did.

Supplies: Pipe cleaners, drinking straws, feathers, yarn, sticky back craft foam, scissors

Prepare: Cut 1-inch triangles from craft foam. Cut 12-inch lengths of yarn.

Optional: Substitute any flexible stick for a bow and an inflexible stick for an arrow. If sticky back craft foam is not available, use regular craft foam or paper for arrow tips.

What did Jonathan do that showed he was a true friend to David? (He asked King Saul not to hurt David. He saved his life by using a bow and arrow to tell him to escape.) **God sent Jonathan as a true friend to David. Jonathan was very brave to defend and warn David. God wants us to be true friends to each other. We can help each other during good and hard times.**

Let's each make a bow and arrow set to remember how Jonathan was a true friend to David. Then, give either the bow or the arrow to a friend and keep the other part of the set. The bow and arrow must be together to work, so you will be sharing a special part of your friendship by sharing the bow and arrow.

Directions:

1. To make the bow, twist or braid three pipe cleaners together. Tie a piece of yarn to the ends of the pipe cleaners. Bend the pipe cleaners so the finished bow looks like a "D."
2. To make the arrow, push a pipe cleaner through a drinking straw until both ends of the pipe cleaner are extending out from the ends of the straw. For the bottom of the arrow, twist one pipe cleaner end around two feathers. For the tip of the arrow, take two craft foam triangles and stick them together with the other pipe cleaner end in between the triangles.
3. Give the arrow or bow to a friend. You will each have a part of the bow and arrow set to remember how God wants you to help each other as friends.

GOT TIME? *continued...*



BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES

"The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not be in want. He makes me lie down in green pastures, He leads me beside quiet waters, He restores my soul. He guides me in paths of righteousness for His name's sake. Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever." Psalm 23

GAME: SHEPHERD PSALM SHUFFLE

Purpose: To help children memorize the Unit 8 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: Note cards, timer, Bible Memory Verse Poster

Prepare: Divide Psalm 23 into brief three to six word phrases. Print each phrase on a separate note card. Display Bible Memory Verse poster.

Option: To make the game more challenging, cover the Bible Memory Verse poster, so the teams must order the cards from memory.

Directions:

1. Read or recite Psalm 23 together.
2. Divide the children into 4 teams.
3. Shuffle the note cards.
4. Toss the cards in the air so they land scattered on the floor.
5. On your signal, start the timer. The first team races to see how fast they can lay out the cards in the correct order.
6. When the cards are in the correct order, stop the timer.
7. Repeat steps 3-6 until each team has a turn. The team with the fastest time is the winner.

GOT TIME? *continued...*

GAME: PSALM 23 BALLOON TOSS

Purpose: To help children memorize the Unit 8 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: Inflated non-helium balloon, Bible, optional: Bible Memory Verse poster

Option: To make the game easier, allow each team to tap the balloon two or three times as they recite their verse, and display the Bible Memory Verse poster.

Directions:

1. Divide children into six teams.
2. Assign one verse of Psalm 23 to each team.
3. Give teams time to memorize their verses.
4. Children stand in a circle.
5. The first team tosses a balloon high into the air. They must recite their verse before the balloon touches the floor. Team members may help one another remember their verse.
6. As soon as the team completes its verse, a member of the next team taps the balloon as high as possible. That team recites their verse before the balloon touches the floor.
7. Continue until all six verses have been recited.

DISCUSSION: PSALM 23

Purpose: Children learn the meaning of the Unit 8 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: Unit 8 Bible Memory Verse poster

Teacher Tip: For older children, divide the children into seven teams. Assign each team one of the sentences below. Ask teams to brainstorm the meaning of their sentence and share it with the class.

Our Bible Memory Verse is Psalm 23. There are 150 psalms in the Bible. Psalms are songs or poems that were used to worship God. Do you know who wrote many of the psalms? (David.) David was the second King of Israel. He loved to worship God. Let's put each part of Psalm 23 into our own words. Lead children in discussion of each phrase.

- **"The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want."** (God will take care of all of my needs, just like a shepherd takes care of his sheep.)
- **"He makes me lie down in green pastures, He leads me beside quiet waters, He restores my soul."** (God makes sure my body and soul get rest.)
- **"He guides me in paths of righteousness for His name's sake."** (God shows me how to follow Him and do what is right in His eyes so more people will know who He is.)
- **"Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me."** (Even in hard times, I don't have to be afraid, because You are with me. I don't have to be afraid of evil, of death, or of my enemies. Your rules and the way You lead me will keep me calm when I am worried.)
- **"You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies."** (You have a good plan for me even when I'm surrounded by those who want to hurt me.)
- **"You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows."** (You have chosen a special job for me to do. My heart is like a cup that is filled and overflowing with blessings from You.)
- **"Surely goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever."** (God will always be good to me and love me. I will always be a part of His family.)

GOT TIME? *continued...*



BIBLE TIMELINE REVIEW

Kings & Kingdoms Part Two studies the miracles and stories of the Bible from Judges through Esther. Review recent Bible stories to see the continuing story of who God is and what He has done.

Samuel (Circa 1100 B.C.) God called to Samuel when he was a boy in the temple. God chose him to be a prophet and judge for the Israelites. What did the Philistines capture while Samuel was judge? (The ark of God) Why did they return it? (Their Dagon statue broke and their people became sick when the ark was in their town.) What did Samuel name the stone used to remember God's help? (Ebenezer stone.)

Saul (Circa 1050 B.C.) God chose Saul to be the first king of Israel. Samuel anointed Saul. What does anoint mean? (To anoint someone means to put oil on a person to show that God has chosen him or her to do a special job for God.) What happened to Saul's heart when the Holy Spirit came upon Saul in power? (God changed his heart.) Later, Saul disobeyed God and the Spirit left him. After the Spirit left Saul, who did Saul try to kill? (David.)

David (Circa 1020 B.C.) David had been anointed by Samuel. David trusted God to save him from his enemies. What was the name of the giant Philistine David defeated? (Goliath.) Who was David's true friend? (Jonathan.) What promise did they make to each other? (To show kindness to each other's families, including their children and grandchildren.) Who warned David to run away from King Saul? (King Saul's son, Jonathan.)

How to create a Bible Timeline from Judges through Esther:

1. Print each scroll on sturdy paper.
2. Choose a wall or other visible location to display the timeline.
3. Before each lesson, add the scroll for that lesson to the Bible Timeline using the list below. Add the Unit 10 card for Kings & Kingdoms Lessons 48-52.
4. To review, ask the corresponding questions as you point to the associated scroll.

Judges – Esther: Deborah (Circa 1350 B.C.) > Gideon (Circa 1250 B.C.) > Samson (Circa 1150 B.C.) > Ruth > Samuel (Circa 1100 B.C.) > Saul (Circa 1050 B.C.) > David (Circa 1020 B.C.) > Solomon (Circa 970 B.C.) > Josiah (Circa 640 B.C.) > Ezra (Circa 500 B.C.) > Esther (Circa 470 B.C.) > Nehemiah (Circa 430 B.C.)

Unit 10: Jesus on Earth (Circa 2 B.C.-33 A.D.)

Teacher Tip: To view Bible Timeline and lessons from Genesis through Joshua, see Year One, God of Wonders Lessons 22-47.