



David's Heart: David Praises God

Lesson Aim: To explore ways to praise the Lord.

THE WORSHIP

Who God is: The King Who Knows Our Hearts

THE WORD

Bible Story: 2 Samuel 6:5, 12-15

What He has done: God saw David praise Him.

THE WAY

Whisper Verse: "Praise the Lord."

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 Psalm 28:1-9. Please join us in praying, "Lord, You know our hearts. Fill us with Your Spirit so our hearts might worship You and trust You with everything. Help the children to be boys and girls after Your own heart. Amen."



**THE WORSHIP
THE WORD &
THE WAY**

Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	Treasure Chest	Treasure chest, stamp or sticker of music notes or a musical instrument
		Whisper Verse	Sign language for "Praise the Lord."
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: Cedarмонт 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 41
THE WORD	Up to 10	Watch the Word: 2 Samuel 6:5, 12-15	Teacher's Bible with bookmark at 2 Samuel 6:14 Visual: Tambourine or other musical instrument
THE WAY	Up to 25	Craft: David's Harp	Brightly-colored sturdy paper, stickers, ribbon or yarn, crayons or markers, tape
		Game: David Says...	None, optional: musical instruments
		Game: Dancing Chairs	Chairs, song: "Let Everything That Has Breath," CD player
		Snack: Trumpet Treat	Horn or tube-shaped snack
	Circle of Prayer	None	
Final 5	Final Five	Ponder, Pray & Play: Unit 8, Lesson 41 Color This Story: "David Praises God"	
GOT TIME?	Up to 10	Say & Do: 2 Samuel 6:5, 12-15	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 praising God

RESOURCES: Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



Praise the Lord

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 music notes or a musical instrument. **Let this music sticker help you remember King David praised God with music and dancing. Today's Whisper Verse is "Praise the Lord."** 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: "Praise the Lord."

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

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

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| "Praise" | The forefinger is upright and moves straight forward from the mouth. Clap hands. |
| "(the) Lord." | Extend thumb and index finger of right hand to create an "L" shape. Bring "L" shape diagonal across chest from the left shoulder to the right hip as a royal sash. |

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:** "Praise the Lord," Psalm 103:1. 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. He knows we love Him. He knows our hearts want to praise Him. To praise the Lord is to tell Him how great He is. That is today's Whisper Verse: "Praise the Lord." Let's whisper it together. Review Whisper Verse together: "Praise the Lord." Include sign language.

We can praise the Lord now as we give Him our offering. Sing: "My God Is So Big" while collecting the offering.

Today, we will learn how King David praised the Lord. He loved to praise God with instruments like the harp. Let's pretend we are playing our harps as we sing praises to our King. Sing: "Sing Praises."



Our friends Delbert and Lello love to praise God, too. 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 41.



King David liked to praise the Lord by dancing. Let's dance before the Lord and praise Him like King David did! Sing: "Let Everything That Has Breath."

We praise God because He is great. He made us, He is with us, and He helps us to not be afraid. Let's praise Him for all those reasons! Sing: "Do Not Let Your Hearts Be Troubled."



David praised the Lord

THE WORD

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

With my eyes on my teacher;

Point to eyes.

My mouth quiet as can be,

Place index finger over mouth as quiet sign.

I will listen to hear,

Cup hand around ear.

How God loves you and me.

Hug self, point to others and then self.

Last time, we learned how God gave David and Jonathan to each other as friends. Today, we will hear how King David praised God with music and dancing. Handle Bible as a special treasure, leaving it open to 2 Samuel 6:14.

WATCH THE WORD: 2 SAMUEL 6:5, 12-15

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 tambourine or other musical instrument. Other visual options include the craft sample, Color This Story, or any related picture.

- David danced with all his might.
- He danced before the Lord.
- The people celebrated, too.
- They loudly played their horns.

- They beat their tambourines.
- They strummed and plucked their harps.
- They played their cymbals and their drums,
- For the King who knows our hearts.



Who danced to praise the Lord? (David.) Let's find our answer in the Bible. Read 2 Samuel 6:14 from the teacher's Bible.

David danced to praise the Lord. That's our Whisper Verse! Let's say it together: "Praise the Lord." Include sign language or hand motions. **Remember, "Lord," is one of God's special names! To praise the Lord is to tell Him how great He is.**



You can praise the Lord

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: DAVID'S HARP

Purpose: To remind the children of one of the ways King David praised God.

Supplies: Brightly-colored sturdy paper, stickers, ribbon or yarn, crayons or markers, tape or glue

Prepare: From sturdy paper, cut a large 2-3 inches thick "C" shape for a harp. On the harp, print "**Praise the Lord.**" **2 Samuel 6:5, 12-15**. Print or draw three small "x" shapes on the top and bottom of the harp to serve as a guide for the children to know where to tape the ribbon or yarn. Make sure the top "x" shapes are directly across from the bottom "x" shapes. Cut three lengths of ribbon or yarn long enough to go between the top and bottom "x" shapes.

Directions:

1. Color the harp.
2. Tape or glue one end of each piece of ribbon or yarn to each "x" shape to create the harp strings.
3. Decorate the harp with stickers.

Craft Discussion:

- **David liked to play the harp to praise God. Let's make a harp like David's.**
- **What else did David do to praise God?** (He danced with all his might.)
- **David loved God and he loved to praise the Lord.**
- **That's like our Whisper Verse! Let's say it with our motions right now!** Say Whisper Verse together with hand motions: "Praise the Lord."
- **What does it mean to praise the Lord?** (To tell Him how great He is.)
- **God saw David praise Him and He was very happy.**
- **What can you do to praise God?** (Sing, play music, dance, pray.)
- **Let's pretend we are like David and praise God by playing our harps right now.** Children pretend to play harps.

THE WAY *continued...*

GAME: DAVID SAYS...

Purpose: In this version of the game, Simon Says, children practice the different ways David said we can praise God in Psalm 150.

Supplies: None, optional: musical instruments

We can praise God, just like David did! Let's play "David Says..." Listen and do what David says to praise the Lord. But, listen carefully! Wait for the words, "David says." If you do not hear "David says" first, then don't do it!

Directions:

1. Children stand together and face the leader.
2. When the leader says "David says..." before a direction, the children follow the leader's direction.
Example: **"David says, clap your hands."** (Children clap their hands.)
Example: **"Clap your hands."** (Children hold still and do not clap their hands.)
3. Use the following suggested directions:
 - **David says, raise both hands high in the air.** (Raise hands.)
 - **David says, play the piano.** (Play an imaginary piano.)
 - **Clap your hands.** (Children do not move.)
 - **David says, clap your hands.** (Clap hands.)
 - **David says, sing your Bible Memory Verse Song "Do Not Let Your Heart Be Troubled."** (Lead children in singing.)
 - **David says, play the harp.** (Play an imaginary harp.)
 - **Read your Bible.** (Children do not move.)
 - **David says, read your Bible.** (Hold hands open as if reading a Bible.)
 - **David says, make a cymbal clash.** (Clap loudly once.)
 - **David says, play your tambourine.** (Shake an imaginary tambourine.)
 - **Tell others, Jesus loves them.** (Children do not move.)
 - **David says, tell others Jesus loves them.** (Children say, "Jesus loves you.")
 - **Dance.** (Children do not move.)
 - **David says, dance!** (Dance.)
 - **David says, practice your Whisper Verse.** (Whisper Verse with hand motions.)

GAME: DANCING CHAIRS

Purpose: Children will play this version of musical chairs to dance as David danced.

Supplies: Chairs, song "Let Everything That Has Breath," CD player

Teacher Tip: In this version of musical chairs, no chair is removed; all children remain in the game. Encourage quick listening and affirm those who are the first to hear the music stop and are seated.

David danced to praise God. Let's dance like David danced!

Directions:

1. Place the same number of chairs as there are children in a line, back-to-back.
2. As music plays, children dance around the chairs.
3. When the music stops, children sit in an empty chair and say and sign the Whisper Verse.
4. Play several more times. (In this version, there are always enough chairs for everyone.)

THE WAY *continued...*

SNACK: TRUMPET TREAT

Purpose: Children enjoy a snack to remind them to praise the Lord with instruments.

Snack Suggestion: Horn or tube-shaped snack

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.
 - **To praise the Lord is to tell Him how great He is. Who remembers our Whisper Verse?** Choose a child to demonstrate motions to Whisper Verse: "Praise the Lord."
 - **David danced and played his harp and sang to praise God.**
 - **David's friends played trumpets. Trumpets are horns. Our snack looks like a horn! Let's pretend to play our horns to praise God, just like David's friends!** Children make horn noises as they pretend to blow on their snack.
 - **How can you praise God?** (Dance, sing, play an instrument, pray, etc.)
 - **God sees when you praise Him. When you praise God, you make Him very happy!**



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 "David's Harp" craft. Tell someone how David played his harp to praise God.

PONDER, PRAY & PLAY: Distribute Ponder, Pray & Play cards, if available. **Show this card to your family. Talk about how you can praise God with all your might, just like David did!**

COLOR THIS STORY: "David Praises God." 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: 2 SAMUEL 6:5, 12-15

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.

- **David danced with all his might.** (Dance in place.)
- **He danced before the Lord.** (Whisper Verse motions.)
- **The people celebrated, too.** (Children hug one another.)
- **They loudly played their horns.** (Pretend to play a horn.)

- **They beat their tambourines.** (Shake imaginary tambourines.)
- **They strummed and plucked their harps.** (Pretend to play harp.)
- **They played their cymbals and their drums,** (Pretend to play drums.)
- **For the King who knows our hearts.** (Point to 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 praising God.

PONDER, PRAY & PLAY

Unit 8, Lesson 41: David's Heart: David Praises God

PONDER! Read 2 Samuel 6:5, 12-15 with your family. David praised God. To praise God means to tell Him how great He is. How did David praise God? What instrument did David play? Show your "David's Harp" craft to your family. Talk about your favorite way to praise God.

PRAY! Pray this prayer each day this week: "We praise You, God, with all our hearts because You are so good to us. Amen."

PLAY! Praise God in a new way every day. Draw a picture of the trees, flowers, or mountains God made. Sing a song to God. Make up a dance for God. Show your friends and family. Then, ask them to praise God with you! God is so happy to see you praising Him.

Unit 8 Bible Memory Verse: John 14:1

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