



At-A-Glance: Ages 10-12
Kings & Kingdoms Part 2: Judges - Esther
Unit 8, Lesson 42

David and Mephibosheth

Lesson Aim: To keep our promises as David did.

THE WELCOME

MEET & GREET: What is your favorite thing to eat for dinner?

GAME: Guess Who David Invited!

THE WORSHIP THE KING WHO KNOWS OUR HEARTS

Read Worship Scripture: Psalm 145:13

Sing songs and worship God. Bless and collect the offering.

Perform King City Chronicles script or read storybook.

THE WORD DAVID AND MEPHIBOSHETH

Children sign note cards; place in Golden Bowl. Classroom Covenant.

Review: David spared King Saul's life.

Today, we will learn how David kept the promise he made to Jonathan. When Jonathan and King Saul died in battle, David became king. David searched for Jonathan's relatives and found his son, Mephibosheth. Divide in four groups to recite his name. Group 1: "Meff" Group 2: "fibb" Group 3: "o" Group 4: "sheth."

Mephibosheth lived in Lo Debar. Point out Mahanaim, Israel—the nearest city to Lo Debar. Reveal Bible Story Scripture Reference: 2 Samuel 9:2-3, 5-7, 9-11. Find It First. Highlight Key Verse: 2 Samuel 9:7. Pray. Read.

THE WAY KEEPING PROMISES

What was the promise between David and Jonathan? (To show kindness to each other's families.) **After Jonathan died, would anyone have known if David had not kept his promise?** (Only God.) **If you know what the right choice is, but you do nothing, is that wrong in God's eyes?** (Yes.) **Are there any promises you have made to friends or family members that you have not yet kept?**

Keeping a promise takes work. Did David wait for Jonathan's family to ask him to keep his promise? (No.) **Do you think Mephibosheth would have asked King David to show kindness?** He would have

been afraid because family members of a past king were usually enemies of a new king. **How did David show kindness?** (Gave him Saul's land. Invited him to eat with him.) **What new job did David give to Ziba, his sons, and servants?** (To farm the land and bring in the crops.) **As David did, we should look for ways to show kindness to others.**

The Bible says Mephibosheth was "crippled in both feet." He could not stand, walk, or run. How would you feel if you could not stand? If a physically disabled child is present, honor this child and acknowledge his or her challenges. Brainstorm ways to show kindness to those with special needs and to their families. **Let's make a "Mephibosheth Promise" to show kindness to anyone with special needs. Raise your right hand and repeat after me. I promise – to show kindness – to those with special needs – and to their families.**

When David made a promise of kindness to Jonathan and his family, he knew he could keep his promise. Why is it important to keep our promises? When is it right to break a promise? (If it involves danger or wrongdoing, we must tell to a trusted adult.)

CHRIST CONNECTION:

The Bible is filled with promises from God. Sometimes it takes hundreds of years to see them come true. Do you think God keeps all His promises? (Yes.) **Do you think God is too slow in keeping certain promises? Let's see what the Bible says about that.** Reveal 2 Peter 3:9. Find It First. Highlight. Read.

God is patient in keeping His promises. What reason does the Bible give for God's patience? (God wants to give everyone the chance to believe in Him and receive His promises. That takes time.)

THE GOLDEN BOWL: Pray for individuals. Pray the Lord's Prayer.

FINAL FIVE MINUTES:

- TREASURE TREAT: Heart-shaped candy
- W³ BETWEEN THE LINES Journal Entry #42
- OFFERING OF ART: David and Mephibosheth at King David's table.
- PRAYER REQUESTS
- BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SONG

GOT TIME?

SNACK: Dinner with David

GAME: Thumbs Up!, Mephibosheth Word List

CRAFT: Promise Placemats

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES: Shepherd Psalm Shuffle, Psalm 23 Balloon Toss, Discussion: Psalm 23

BIBLE TIMELINE REVIEW