



At-A-Glance: Ages 8-9
Kings & Kingdoms Part 2: Judges - Esther
Unit 8, Lesson 42

David and Mephibosheth

Lesson Aim: To promise to show kindness.

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 his father King Saul died in battle, David became king. David searched for Jonathan's relatives so he could show kindness. He found Jonathan's son, Mephibosheth. Let's learn his name. When I point to your group, say your part of his name. Group 1: "Meff" Group 2: "fibb" Group 3: "o" Group 4: "sheth." Repeat three times, each time getting faster.

Mephibosheth lived in Lo Debar. Point out the distance between Jerusalem and 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 PROMISE TO SHOW KINDNESS

What was the promise between David and Jonathan? (To show kindness to each other's families.) **Keeping a promise takes work. Did David wait for Jonathan's family to ask him to keep his promise?** (No.) **Who did David find?** (Mephibosheth.)

Do you think Mephibosheth would have asked King David to show him 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 all of Saul's land. Invited him to eat at his table.) **What new job did David give to Ziba, his sons, and servants?** (To farm the land and bring in the crops for Mephibosheth.) **As David did, we should look for ways to show kindness to others.**

The Bible says Mephibosheth was "crippled in both feet." Those are words used to describe feet that are unable to stand, walk, or run. Some people use words like disabled or lame. How might you feel if you could not stand on your feet? If a physically disabled child is present, honor this child, and acknowledge his or her challenges.

Some of us may have trouble with walking or talking. Some have trouble breathing, thinking, seeing, or getting their body to do certain things. These challenges are called disabilities. There are special needs that come with each of these challenges.

What are ways we can show kindness to those with special needs and their families? Let's make a "Mephibosheth Promise" to show kindness to those with special needs. Raise your right hand and repeat each phrase after I say it. Say each phrase, pausing to give children time to repeat it. I promise – to show kindness – to those with special needs – and to their families.

CHRIST CONNECTION:

More than 1000 years after David showed kindness to Mephibosheth, Paul challenges believers to put others first. Reveal Romans 12:10. Find It First. Highlight. Read.

To honor others above yourself is to treat others as more important than yourself. What are some ways we can honor one another?

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

FINAL FIVE MINUTES:

- TREASURE TREAT: Heart-shaped candy
- DAILY WAY CHALLENGE
- 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