

Bible Lessons for Children

Learning to Know the Triune God through His Holy Word

Beginner Lesson One Hundred Twenty-nine: David Spares Saul

- Overview** Bible Facts & Songs: Songs about the Bible and the Kings
Bible Reading & Discussion: I Samuel 26:1-25
Bible Memory & Craft: The Armor of God
Learning Objectives: (1) The Ziphites again told Saul where David was hiding. (2) A deep sleep from the Lord fell on Saul and his 3,000 men. (3) David went to the place where Saul was sleeping and took his spear and water jar. (4) David would not strike Saul because he was the Lord's anointed. (5) David trusted the Lord to strike Saul. (6) David asked why Saul pursued him since he had done no evil. (7) Saul admitted his sin. (8) Rather than trusting in their own abilities, believers must trust in the Lord for His strength.
- Opening** Get students' attention by using a pre-planned silence signal.
Have students sit in rows or a semi-circle facing you.
Open in prayer asking God's blessing upon the time.
- Bible Facts** Materials: Song visuals &/or props as needed
5-10 minutes Strategies: Sing It with Hand &/or Body Motions as appropriate
Instructions: Lead songs about the Bible & the Kings, including visuals and motions as appropriate. For free songs sung to familiar hymn tunes, use the following link.
<http://gardenofpraise.com/biblsong.htm>
- Bible Reading** Materials: Bibles for students to use
15 minutes Strategies: Leader Read Aloud & Picturing
Scripture: I Samuel 26:1-25
Instructions: Have students sit at tables. Tell students to close their eyes as they listen and try to picture what they hear. Read passage expressively using different voices for the different characters. Stop occasionally to allow students an opportunity to describe what they pictured.
- Bible Discussion** Materials: None
10 minutes Strategy: Popcorn
Instructions: Have students sit in a fellowship circle. The leader asks a question and students that want to answer the question "pop" up, share their answer, and then sit down.
Questions:
- The Ziphites told Saul where someone was hiding. Who? (David)
 - How many men did Saul take to seek David? (3,000)
 - David went to the place where Saul slept. He was not seen "because a deep blank from the Lord had fallen upon them." (Sleep)
 - David refused to strike Saul. He said, "The Lord forbid that I should put out my hand against the Lord's anointed...As the Lord lives, the blank will strike him..." (Lord)
 - What did David take that was near Saul's head? (Saul's spear and water jar)
 - David asked Saul why he pursued him. David said, "What blank is on my hands?" (Evil)
 - Saul said to David, "I have blank..." (Sinned)
 - David said, "The Lord rewards every man for his righteousness and his faithfulness, for the Lord gave you into my hand today, and I would not put out my hand against the Lord's anointed...may my life be precious in the sight of the blank and may he deliver me out of all tribulation." (Lord)
- Transitional Thought: Although Saul pursued David to kill him, David would not strike Saul because Saul was the Lord's anointed. Saul was still the king of Israel. David trusted that the Lord would strike Saul. David also trusted the Lord for his own safety. Just as David trusted the Lord and did not rely on his own strength, so must believers in Jesus Christ trust Him and rely on His strength.

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Group Prayer Through prayer, praise God for Who He is and that believers in Jesus Christ can trust Him for protection and strength.

Bible Memory Materials: White board with word cards
10-15 minutes Strategy: Scrambled Words

Instructions: Have students sit in a semi-circle or rows facing a white board with the following passage written on word cards & taped to it:

“Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might.” Ephesians 6:10

Read in unison pointing to each word as it is read. Students cover their eyes as the words are re-arranged, scrambling the passage. Students uncover their eyes. Read again, pointing to each word as it is read. Have students re-arrange words into the correct word order. Students repeat the passage in unison after they have corrected it. Repeat several times until quoting. (Students that do not read will associate the location on the board with the words.)

Bible Craft Materials: Construction paper, markers, scissors, envelopes, sample project (option: glue, verse)
As time allows Activity: Verse Puzzle

Instructions: Have students sit at tables. Give each student a piece of construction paper and an envelope. Have students copy or glue the verse onto the paper. Encourage students to be creative, writing with different colors, using fancy lettering, and decorating with borders or icons. Have students cut their paper into a few large pieces, scramble them, and then see how fast they can put them together again. Students should store the puzzle pieces in their envelopes. Have each student write his/her name on the envelope.

Closing Have students assist with clean-up.
Remind students to practice their memory work throughout the week.
Close in prayer & dismiss.

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Ephesians 6

"The Armor of God"

Verse 10: "Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might."

Verse 11: "Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil."

Verse 14a: "Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth,"

Verse 14b: "and having put on the breastplate of righteousness,"

Verse 15: "and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace."

Verse 16: "In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one;"

Verse 17a: "and take the helmet of salvation,"

Verse 17b: "and the sword of the Spirit which is the word of God,"

Verse 18a: "praying at all times in the Spirit..."