

# KINGDOM

## **“David and Jonathan’s Son”**

Series Objective:

Students will learn:

- How David became King of Israel and Jerusalem became the capitol.
- How David showed favor to Jonathan’s descendants.
- That King Solomon asked for wisdom.
- The story of Job

Series Theme Verse: “Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.” – Proverbs 3:5-6

Lesson Objective: For students to understand how David shared God’s love.

Lesson Passage: 2 Samuel 9:1-11

Materials Needed: Bibles, Suckers and buckets, Bubbles for each child, Series Theme Verse on poster

Lesson Plan: (Remind students that one of David’s closest friends growing up was King Saul’s son, Jonathan. Our story picks up and David is king, Saul and Jonathan have died)

Talking Points: 2 Samuel 9:1-11

- What was David’s question? (Is anyone from Saul’s family still alive?)
- Why did David ask that question? (He wanted to show kindness to them, as Jonathan had shown kindness to him)
- Who does he call on to find out if any of Saul’s family are still alive? (Ziba, one of Saul’s former servants)
- King David told Ziba he wanted to show what to any living relatives of Saul? (God’s kindness)
- Did Ziba know of any living relatives of King Saul? (Yes, a son of Jonathan)
- What is special about this son of Jonathan’s? (He is crippled in both feet and cannot walk) 2 Samuel 4:4 tells how the son was crippled
- What was Jonathan’s son’s name? (Mephibosheth)
- When he was brought to see King David, how did Mephibosheth respond? (Bowed low out of respect for the king and told David he was David’s servant)
- Why do you think he responded this way? (He was worried the king wanted him dead so he would not be a threat to the throne)
- What did David say to Mephibosheth when he saw how he responded? (Don’t be afraid, I want to show you kindness)

- Why was he going to show Mephibosheth kindness? (Because Jonathan had showed David kindness and saved David's life, so David was fulfilling his promise to Jonathan)
- What did David give Mephibosheth? (All of King Saul's possessions and a seat at the palace table with the king)
- Was Mephibosheth surprised? (Yes, he did not understand why David was being so kind)
- Did David keep his promise? (Yes, Mephibosheth ate at King David's table regularly like David's own son)

#### The Story Retold:

- Option 1: Sucker Race
  - Divide the children into teams or groups.
  - Set a timer for the length of time you want the relay to last.
  - When the timer starts, team members will take turns running to a bucket filled with small suckers and will take ONE sucker and run back to the team and put it in the team bucket.
  - The relay will continue until the time is up.
  - When the time is up, the children will count their suckers and see which team has the most.
  - Tell the children that each sucker represents other boys and girls who need to be shown God's Love, just like David showed Mephibosheth God's love.
  - Ask students how they can show God's love to other kids?
  - One way would be to let kids take two suckers, one for them and one to give away.
- Option 2: Bubbles Away
  - Give each child a small bottle of bubble soap and let them blow as many bubbles as possible during a specified time limit.
  - Tell children that there are more boys, girls, men and women who need to know about God's love than all the bubbles they have blown.
  - We need to show God's love to others, just like David showed to Mephibosheth.
  - Ask students how they can show God's love to other kids?
  - One way would be to let kids take their bubbles to keep and an unopened bubbles bottle to give away.

#### The Story and Me:

- Have the Series theme verse written on a poster or white board.
- Have the students read the verse together.
- Explain to students that God wants us to trust him, just like David did during his life. Ask students how we trust God? (By asking God to lead us, not just do whatever we want.
- Give students an example of how you trust God.
- Let students sit in a circle and say the verse one word at a time around the circle.
- Do this several times, helping them learn the verse.