

LESSON SNAPSHOT

BOTTOM LINE:

I can help others because God is with me.

OBJECTIVE:

Kids will learn that, "God helps me help others."

KEY PASSAGE:

1 Samuel 16:14-23, David Serves Saul

MEMORY VERSE:

"God has said, 'I will never leave you. I will never desert you.'" Hebrews 13:5b (NirV)

SUMMARY:

David went to work for King Saul. It wasn't easy; Saul was a difficult and sometimes angry king. God gave David the strength and talent to serve Saul. You can believe God will give you what you need to serve other people.

SIMPLE PRAYER:

Dear Jesus,

We know that you are with us. Help us to help other people.

Amen

MEMORY VERSE

“God has said, ‘I will never leave you. I will never desert you.’” Hebrews 13:5b (NirV)

LARGE GROUP MV ACTIVITY: Say the verse together slowly. Repeat the verse, speaking a little faster. Say the verse together as many times as you can, saying it faster and faster each time.

Hand motions: “God has said” [Lift your arms and point to the sky] “I will never leave you” [with your arms, make a sweeping down ‘x’ motion in front of your body] “I will never desert you.” [Make another sweeping down ‘x.’]

SMALL GROUP MV ACTIVITY: As a group, see how loudly you can shout the verse together.

SKIT OR PUPPET SHOW

TITLE: David Plays

ITEMS NEEDED: Crown, Biblical costume

CHARACTER BREAKDOWN: 1M

CHARACTERS: David

David enters, in biblical costume and wearing a crown. He addresses the audience directly.

DAVID: I am David, king of Israel. King of God's people. You could say I'm a pretty big deal. But I wasn't always king.

David takes off his crown and sets it down.

DAVID: I was just an ordinary person, like anyone else. I worked for my family, watching over the sheep. I liked to help them. I loved music; I played my harp and made up songs about how great God is.

Then one day, I was asked to play my music for the king. King Saul. King Saul was having lots of trouble. He would get into these moods where he would be very angry and his anger would get out of control. They thought music would help him.

I went, of course, and played for the king. It worked. I played my harp, and the king's anger went away. The king asked me to come work for him. And I did. Any time the king needed my help, I would play my harp for him.

God helped me to help King Saul. God can help you to help others as well. Who do you know that could use a little help? Ask God to help you help them.

End.

SNACK

ITEMS NEEDED: Graham crackers, frosting, pretzel sticks

ADVANCED PREPARATION: Frost squares of graham crackers. Break the pretzel sticks down so that they are the same length as the graham cracker square. Place 3 or 4 of the shortened pretzel sticks onto the frosted graham cracker, like strings on a harp.

Post a sign outside the preschool area that says: "Today's snack contains graham crackers, frosting, and pretzels. Please let your child's teacher know if it is not ok for your child to have this snack."

CONNECTION: Today's snack looks a little bit like a harp, reminding us that David played his harp to help King Saul. Whatever our talents and abilities, God helps us to help others.

CRAFT

Rubber Band Harps

ITEMS NEEDED: Craft sticks, colored rubber bands, glue, crayons or markers.

ADVANCED PREPARATION: Create the frames of the harp by gluing four craft sticks into a harp shape – almost a square but with the side pieces turned in slightly at the top, so the top craft stick extends beyond the side pieces. Do this at least several hours – preferably a day – in advance to ensure complete drying.

DIRECTIONS: Give kids a harp frame to color as they like.

Give kids 4 or 5 rubber bands to “string” their harps.

Now they can “play” their harps to their heart’s content. (The harps will not make much sound, but kids can hear them when they play them close to their ears.)

Remind kids that David used his harp to help King David. Our harps can remind us that God helps us help others.

HANDS-ON ACTIVITY

ITEMS NEEDED: Large pipe cleaners, O-shaped cereal

ADVANCED PREPARATION: None

DIRECTIONS:

Today, we learned that David helped King Saul by playing his music for him. There are many ways to help someone. Let's see how many we can name.

Give each kid a pipe cleaner and some cereal. Go around the room. Each time someone names a way that we can help another person, have everyone string a piece of cereal onto their pipe cleaner. Keep going until there's just enough room left on the pipe cleaner to tie it in on itself.

Wow, there are a lot of ways we can help others. Sometimes you might think you are too small or too young to help. Someone else might think they are too old or not smart enough. But God helps us to help others.

Today, we're going to help out some birds. Give them a little something to eat.

Take your pipe cleaner and tie it into a circle. Take one of the kid's pipe cleaners and tie it, looping it through the first circle. Make simple birdfeeders of 3 or 4 loops. Take your group outside and hang the birdfeeders in a tree or from a building overhang.

MAIN LESSON

BOTTOM LINE: I can help others because God is with me.

OBJECTIVE: Kids will learn that, “God helps me help others.”

KEY PASSAGE: 1 Samuel 16:14-23, David Serves Saul

WORSHIP TIME:

Prior to the lesson, sing one or two songs with the kids. Use CDs or live lyrics of songs that the kids are familiar with.

LESSON:

Today’s story comes to us from the Bible. (*Hold up a Bible.*) The Bible is God’s word to us, so we know that everything it says is true. (*Open the Bible and set it down in front of you as you give the lesson.*)

David was the greatest king that God’s people ever knew. His life didn’t begin so great though. But God was with David every step of the way and God is with you too.

God helps us to help others.

King Saul needed help. He was not a happy person. Sometimes he seemed okay, but then he would get very angry. Very very angry, and nobody could stop it.

King Saul’s servants said, “Let us search for someone who can play the harp for you. They can help you. When you are angry, they can play for you and make you feel better.” King Saul agreed.

David, the son of Jesse, knew how to play the harp. He was brought to King Saul to play his harp. King Saul liked David and David became one of the king’s servants.

When King Saul got into one of his evil moods – his angry moods – David would come and play his harp for the King. David’s music would help King Saul feel better. The anger would leave him.

Through it all, David trusted in God. God helped David to help King Saul. God can help you to help those around you.

MAIN LESSON

Remember: God helps me to help others.

SIMPLE PRAYER

Dear Jesus,

We know that you are with us. Help us to help other people.

Amen

MAIN LESSON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

WIGGLE TAMER: Do the Hokey Pokey.

SMALL GROUP MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY: As a group, see how loudly you can shout the verse together.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Why did King Saul need help?

Who was brought in to help King Saul?

How did David help King Saul?

SMALL GROUP GAME OR ACTIVITY: Bring out the musical instruments. Have kids select their favorite. *(If you do not have kid-appropriate instruments on hand, give each kid a sheet of paper to roll into a cone and play as a horn.)* Stand in the middle of the group and give a frown. As they play, slowly turn your frown into a smile. When you smile, the kids should stop playing. Do this several times, varying the speed with which you transform your face.

SPECIAL 1 PAGE LESSON FOR 1 & 2 YEAR OLDS

PLAY TIME: Spend the first 15 minutes on the floor playing with the kids. Cars, dolls, blocks, and simple puzzles are great for this time.

BIBLE TIME: Seat the kids in the place they will be having snack. Hold up a Bible or Illustrated Kids' Bible and say, "This is the Bible. God wrote the Bible. Everything in the Bible is true." Then allow each child to pat the Bible with his hand.

LESSON: (*Sung to the tune "Twinkle Twinkle Little Star"*)

*God helps me and I help you,
You help him and he helps too.
God wants us to go help out.
It is good, there is no doubt.
God helps me and I help you.
You help her and she helps too.
God helps me help others.*

MAKE IT REAL: After the lesson say, "God loves you, and he wants you to love him too." Then point to each child and say, "God loves you (child's name)."

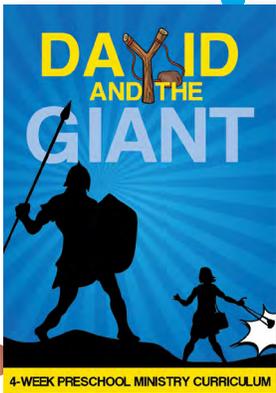
MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY: "God has said, 'I will never leave you. I will never desert you.'" Hebrews 13:5b (NIRV) – Teach the kids the verse, using the following hand motions: "God has said" [Lift your arms and point to the sky] "I will never leave you" [with your arms, make a sweeping down 'x' motion in front of your body] "I will never desert you." [Make another sweeping down 'x'.]

PRAYER TIME: Ask the children to fold their hands and bow their heads. Say, "Let's pray before our snack. Thank you God for our mommies and our daddies. Thank you for loving me. Thank you for this snack we get to eat. Amen."

SNACK TIME: Wash each child's hand with a wet wipe and then serve the snack. At this age crackers or goldfish with water are generally best, but you always want to be mindful of any food allergies.

POTTY BREAK: After snack is a great time to ask those who are potty trained if they need to use the bathroom, or change diapers of those who are not yet potty trained.

PLAY TIME: Finish the day with more playtime until it's time for dismissal.



MAKE IT STICK

4 Simple Ways You Can Make This Lesson Stick With your Kids

David and the Giant Lesson 2

THIS WEEK'S LESSON: THE GOOD SERVANT



IN THE CAR:

Have each person in the vehicle talk about their favorite song. Why do they like it, how does it make them feel, etc. Talk about how music can help us slow down, feel better, or even focus on God. Play worship music, and praise God for his help.



HANGING OUT:

Role play with your kids a profession that helps others: like a doctor, nurse, or a school teacher. Focus on what it means to help another person in need. After you're finished playing, talk about how good it is to help other people. God helps us and he wants us to go out and help others when we can.



AT DINNER:

During the meal, have one family member "in charge" of a certain dish. Place that dish next to them. They are responsible for serving up their dish onto every family member's plate. Each time your kids serve up a plate, thank them for their help. Remind kids that God asks us to help other people.



AT BEDTIME:

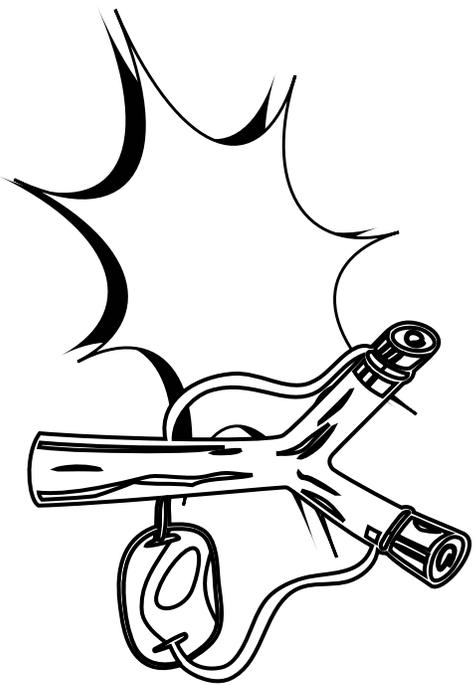
Snuggle up together and talk about what it means to help someone. While we are not responsible for how another person feels, we can try to help when we see someone in need. Encourage your kids by pointing out a moment that day – or in the past few days – when you witnessed them being helpful. God helps us to help others.

KEY PASSAGE:

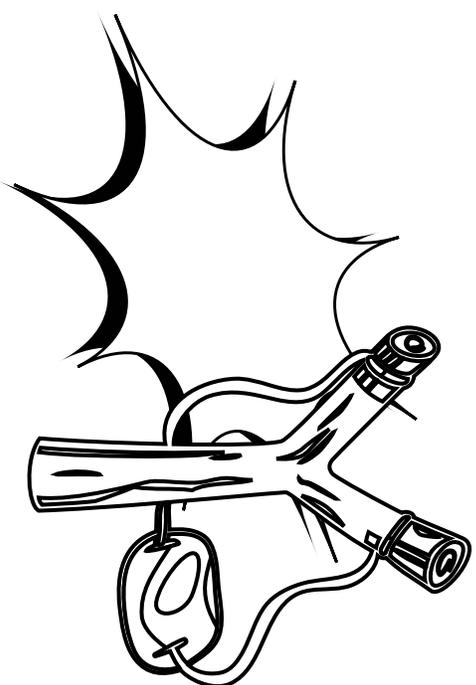
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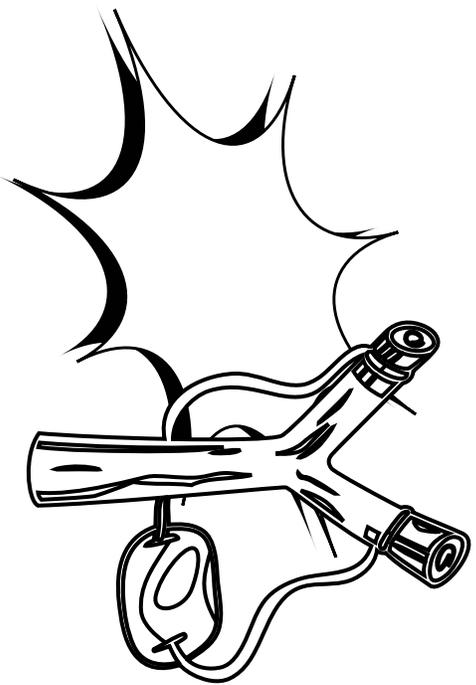
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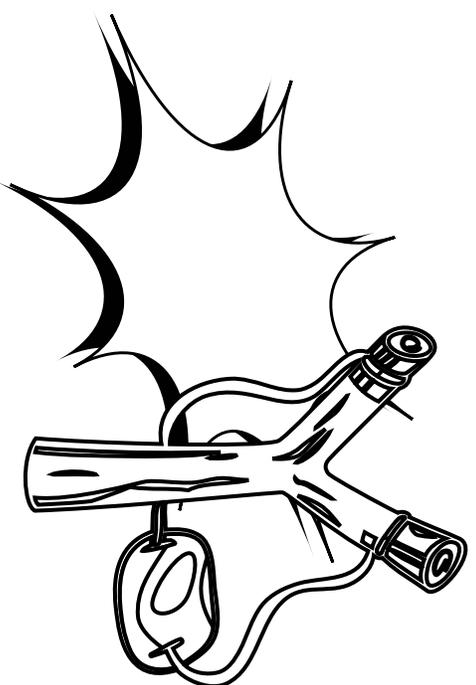
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