

God's Covenant with David

Bible Passage: 2 Samuel 6-7

Memory Verse: ⁶No one is like you, LORD; you are great, and your name is mighty in power. **Jeremiah 10:6**

Bottom Line: I believe in and love Jesus because He always keeps His promise.

Big Picture Question: Is anything or anyone greater than God? No, God is greater than everything.

Christ Connection: *God promised David that every future king of Israel would come from David's family, and David's kingdom would last forever. God kept His promise by sending His Son, Jesus, as one of David's descendants. Jesus is our King who will rule over God's people forever.*

Leader Notes:

CONTEXT

The path to Israel's throne was not easy for David. Saul had tried multiple times to kill him, and David had to flee for his life, leaving behind his good friend Jonathan. But God had appointed David to be king, and God was faithful. Leading up to 2 Samuel 7, Jonathan was killed in battle against the Philistines. Saul fell on his own sword, and David became the king of Israel.

David moved the ark of God to Jerusalem—a cause for joyous celebration—and settled into his palace there. God blessed David and gave him peace from his enemies. But when David looked around, something didn't seem right. He was living in a majestic palace while the ark of God was in a tent! David determined to build God a temple. That night, God gave the prophet, Nathan, a message for David. "Have I ever asked you to build Me a house?" God said. No, for four hundred years—since God brought the Israelites out of Egypt—He had dwelled in a tent.

David had been a shepherd, but God made him a king! God promised to give the Israelites a place to stay so they wouldn't need to move around anymore. God promised to give His people rest from their enemies so they could stop fighting. Though God denied David's desire to build God a house, God promised to make a house for David: a dynasty of his descendants and an everlasting kingdom.

As you teach kids about God's covenant to David, emphasize that God promised David that every future king of Israel would come from David's family, and David's kingdom would last forever. God kept His promise by sending His Son, Jesus, as one of David's descendants. Jesus is our King who will never die; He will rule over God's people forever.

TEACHING FOCUS (2 Samuel 6-7)

God chose David to be the next king of Israel. King Saul had died, and God gave His people a time of peace. **David lived in a beautiful palace in the city of Jerusalem. One day, David was talking with Nathan the prophet. David said, "I live in a palace of nice cedar wood, but the ark of God sits inside a tent!"** It hardly seemed fair. **"Shouldn't God have a nicer house than I do?" David wanted to build a temple for the ark of God.**

Nathan said, "God is with you. Do what you want!" But God did not want David to do whatever he wanted. God wanted David to do what God wanted. **That night, God gave Nathan a message for David. This is what God told Nathan to say: "David, are you going to build a house for Me to live in? I brought My people out of Egypt. I gave them leaders to guide them. The entire time I have been with them, My house has been a tent. Did I ever ask anyone to build a temple for Me?"**

"You used to be a shepherd, David, but I made you a king. I helped you defeat your enemies, and My people now live peacefully in their own land. I promise you, David, that you and your descendants will be kings. When you die, one of your sons will be king. He will be a strong king, and no one will be able to take his kingdom away from him. He will build a house for Me. I will love him, and I will never leave him. When your son dies, his son will be king. Someone in your family will be king forever."

Nathan told David everything God said. David went into the tent he had set up for the ark of the Lord. He sat down and prayed: "God, I don't deserve anything You have done for me, and You promise to do so much more! You are so great! There is no one like You! You chose the Israelites to be Your own people. You rescued them from slavery in Egypt. God, please keep Your promises. I know Your words are always true."

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forever.

TODAY'S TAKEAWAYS

- God's plans for David were even bigger than David could have imagined.
- David was a shepherd but God made Him a king.
- David wanted to build a house for God, but God promised to make David's family great.
- God said He would use David's family for the most wonderful part of His plan. **God promised that the Messiah would come from David's family.**
- **BL: I believe in and love Jesus because He always keeps His promise.**

Social: Providing Time for Fun Interaction (15 minutes)

Activities that encourage preschoolers to enter the classroom and begin engaging with peers and small group leaders by providing age appropriate and hands on fun while introducing new concepts they will hear in the day's Bible story.

Follow the Right Path:

What You Need: Pool Noodles (4 per group), masking tape, sheep hats (5 per group)

What You Do:

- Mark a taped path on the floor.
- Talk about how shepherds lead sheep on safe, good paths.
- Then give 5 kids a sheep hat to be the sheep.
- 4 kids will get pool noodles to help herd the sheep to keep them on the path.
- When you say "Go" shepherd will try herd the sheep crawling on their knees around the taped path.
- They can gently use the pool noodles to help nudge the sheep to stay on the path.
- You might want to spend some time talking about words the shepherds could use to help direct the sheep.
- Give kids about 4 minutes to move the sheep through the path.
- If time allows switch sheep and shepherds and repeat the whole process again.

What You Say: "Did your sheep follow your commands? Why/Why not? As David is growing as a king, He is learning about listening to God and following His commands. David said, God is like a shepherd. A shepherd takes care of His sheep and makes sure they do not wander into danger. God is so great and mighty He can help direct our paths. Let's find out more about David today in our Bible Story.

Worship

Gather children on a rug or in a specific area of the classroom to tell the story. Some kids (especially the younger ones) may wander. That's okay. They're still listening and learning!

Play the DVD of All Star Kids worship (choose 1 song for today)

What You Say: "Way to go! You are such amazing singers. Now let's sit down to learn from the Bible Story today."

Story Time: Communicating God's Truth in Engaging Ways

Engage kid's hearts through a dynamic and interactive Bible story and prayer experience in a Large Group setting.

Bible Story

What You Need: Bible

What You Do: Place a book mark in 2 Samuel 6-7 in your Bible. Invite a preschooler to open it.

What You Say: The Bible is God's Word. Everything we read in the Bible is true. Today's Bible story is from the Book of 2 Samuel. 2 Samuel is in the Old Testament.

PLAY BIBLE STORY VIDEO

Talk about the Bible Story:

"God made David the king of Israel after Saul. One day, King David said to Nathan the prophet, "I live in a nice palace, but God's ark is in a tent!" Nathan said, "Do what you like because God is with you." But God gave Nathan a different message for David. God said, "I did not ask you to build Me a house. You were a shepherd, but I made you king over My people. When you die, your son will be king after you. He will build My temple. A son from your family will be King forever." David praised God. He said, "Who am I, God, that You are so good to me? There is no one like You, God."

Learn the Big Picture Question

What You Say: Our big picture question asks, Is anything greater than God? No God, is greater than everything. The perfect King, Jesus, came from David's family. He is King over everything, and will perfectly rule over God's people forever.

Practice the Memory Verse:

Open your Bible to Jeremiah 10:6. Read the memory verse aloud several times.

What You Say: "Even God's name is powerful. That means that God rules over every person who has ever lived and ever will live. That is a long time! In fact, that is forever! God is great forever!"

Groups: Creating a Safe Place to Connect (25 minutes)

Create a safe place to connect through activities that are written to reach every learning style while reinforcing the Main Point that was introduced during the Bible Story and applying it to real life experiences. In addition, these activities provide preschoolers with an opportunity to build relationships with their Small Group Leaders.

1. Make Promise Book

What You Need: "God's Promises" printable (1 set per kid), construction paper to make book cover, staplers, staples, markers, stickers

What You Do:

- Give each a set of God's Promises cards and a piece of construction paper.
- Kids will fold the construction paper in half to make a book cover.
- Walk around and help kids staple their books together.
- After you have stapled their books they can decorate the cover.
- When everyone is done, review the promises in the book.
- Does anyone remember when we talked about these stories? God's Promises are part of the Big Story God tells in the Bible to help us know that He had a plan from the beginning of time to rescue us and give us a King that will last forever.

What You Say " God promised to make David's family kings. David trusted God because he knew God always keeps His promises. God sent Jesus through David's family. Jesus is our King that is greater than everything and last forever.

2. Practice signing the Memory Verse

What You Need: Memory Verse Poster

What You Do:

- Show the poster to the kids.
- As you say the words point to them on the poster.
- Create simple hand motions to teach toddlers the memory verse. Sample hand motions include, "No one is like you (shake your head, like saying no), Lord (point to the sky); you are great (sign for "great", both hands up like giving a double high five), and your name is mighty in power (flex your muscles)

What You Say " The Holy Spirit gave Jeremiah exactly the right words to say to God's people. God wanted them to know that God is perfect, and there is nothing and no one who can compare to Him. Only God is all powerful, perfectly holy, and eternally loving."

Pray and Dismiss:

What You Need: no supplies needed

What You Do:

- **Pray-** " Lord, You are wonderful and Your promises cannot be stopped. Thank You for sending Jesus through David's family. Thank You that Jesus died for us even though we did not deserve it. Help us to trust and obey Jesus. He is the King of kings. Amen." "

What You Say: Tell parents something that their child enjoyed doing or did well during your small group session. Send home the Promises book and tell families, we are talking about how great our God is.