



Dear Parents:

This page lets you know what your child learned today at church. Included are suggested discussion questions and possible activities that you may use to reinforce the Bible story at home. Please ask your child to share today's story with you. You may be surprised at how much he or she remembers!

TODAY'S STORY: DAVID

God does create a great kingdom from Abraham's descendants. From this kingdom comes a great king – a man after God's own heart (1 Samuel 13:14). David does nothing to deserve becoming king, but God chooses him. Then God shows even more extravagant love by promising King David that his dynasty will endure forever.

Today your child learned about how God keeps His promises and uses ordinary people to do great things. The children were also taught that God doesn't think or judge the way people do. God sees our hearts and is looking for people who will faithfully obey Him in whatever task they have been given. In this instance, God made a promise to David that will affect the whole world. David believed that God would do what He promised.

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE:

1 SAMUEL 16:1-13; 2 SAMUEL 5:4; 7:1-28

FOCUS FOR YOUNGER CHILDREN:

"God chooses me to do great things."

NEXT WEEK'S STORY: DAVID & BATHSHEBA

(2 Samuel 11)

** This story will be told in an age-appropriate way!*

PRAYER:

God, even though others can only see what I look like on the outside, please help me change on the inside to be who You made me to be. Thank you!

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What did God tell His prophet to do?
- Which of the man's sons did God choose to be the next king?
- How would you feel if you were one of the older sons and not chosen to be the next king? How would your feelings change when you find out your baby brother is chosen?
- How would you feel if you – like David – were not invited to meet the prophet but had to stay outside with the sheep? When you are called inside, how would it make you feel to be chosen as the next king instead of one of your older brothers?
- After David became king, what did God promise Him?
- What can you learn from David's response to God's promise?

(Help your children discover ways that they can be boys/girls "after God's own heart." Teach them that God can do great things through their lives.)

SUGGESTED PARENT/CHILD ACTIVITIES

Gift-wrap a number of various items. Some items should be packaged nicely and some in an unattractive way. Make sure the wrapped items are a combination of treats (lolly, toy, coin, fruit, sweet, etc) and some "bad" ones (rock, rotten apple, toilet paper, rubbish, dirty sock, etc). Some of the "good" gifts should be wrapped poorly, and some of the "bad" gifts should be wrapped attractively. Let your children choose a gift and open it. Talk about how you cannot judge what is inside by the outside wrapping. You may have them guess which remaining gifts they think are good or bad before they open them.



"OUTSIDE-INSIDE" SCIENCE PROJECTS

Two eggs look and feel the same, but there is a big difference. One is raw and the other hard-boiled. Let you children discover which is which as you remind them that "people look at the outside of a person, but God looks at the heart!"

What you'll need:

- ~ One raw egg
- ~ One hard-boiled egg; left in the fridge long enough to be the same temperature as the raw egg

Instructions:

1. Ask your children if they can tell the difference between the eggs by looking at them or holding them.
2. Spin the eggs and watch what happens. One egg should spin while the other wobbles.
3. You can also lightly touch each of the eggs while they are spinning. One should stop quickly while the other keeps moving.

The raw egg's centre of gravity changes as the egg white and yolk move inside the shell – causing the wobbling motion. After touching the shell, the insides keep moving.



Writing with invisible ink hides your message until you take action to reveal it. Let your children discover how to read your secret message as you remind them that "people look at the outside of a person, but God looks at the heart!"

What you'll need:

- | | |
|----------------|----------------------|
| ~ Half a lemon | ~ Bowl & spoon |
| ~ Water | ~ White paper |
| ~ Cotton bud | ~ Lamp or light bulb |



Instructions:

1. Squeeze lemon juice in the bowl and add a few drops of water. Mix with a spoon.
2. Dip the cotton bud in the mix, and write a message on the paper.
3. Wait for the message to dry (so it becomes invisible!).
4. To read the message, heat the paper by holding it close to a light bulb.



SONG: D-A-V-I-D

(Sing to the tune of B-I-N-G-O)

There was a boy who would be king,
And David was his name – oh!
D-A-V-I-D, D-A-V-I-D, D-A-V-I-D
And David was his name – oh!

There was a shepherd with his sheep,
And David was his name – oh!
D-A-V-I-D, D-A-V-I-D, D-A-V-I-D
And David was his name – oh!

There was a boy who killed a giant,
And David was his name – oh!
D-A-V-I-D, D-A-V-I-D, D-A-V-I-D
And David was his name – oh!

There was a king who wore a crown,
And David was his name – oh!
D-A-V-I-D, D-A-V-I-D, D-A-V-I-D
And David was his name – oh!

Repeat. Each time you sing the song again, leave out a few words. By the end, you should only be humming the song.

Optionally: Have your children act out the song as they sing it, or develop some hand motions to accompany the verses.