

# David Cares for a Friend

**Scripture:** 1 Samuel 20:14, 15; 2 Samuel 4:4; 9:1-13

**Key Verse:** “*Be kind to each other.*” (Ephesians 4:32)

**Lesson Goal:** To teach that real kindness means caring for those who need it most!

## Attention Getter

[Teacher, come into the class room using crutches or a cane with an arm bandaged up in a sling and your ankle bandaged. Lead a discussion about how it may feel for someone to have a disability by asking some of these questions:]

- What do you use your feet for?
- What would be hard for you to do if you didn't have any?
- Have you ever broken a leg or an arm?
- Do you know anyone that has?
- What do you think it's like for someone that can't use their arms or legs?

Today we are going to hear about what King David did when he met a person who couldn't walk.

## Opening Prayer

Father, teach us this morning how to show kindness to people who are hurt. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

## Lesson

A long time ago, in a palace in Jerusalem, there lived a little boy named Mephibosheth (ma-fee-bo-sheth). In one sad day Mephibosheth's whole life changed. Both his dad (Jonathan), and his grandfather (Saul) died in a battle.

Mephibosheth's babysitter heard the terrible news. So, she picked him up and ran away from the palace as fast as she could to save his life. Little Mephibosheth must have felt very frightened.

Then, the babysitter was in such a hurry that she dropped the little boy and his feet were hurt.

In those days they didn't have hospitals to go to like we do and the poor boy was never able to walk again.

- What do you think it was like for Mephibosheth as he was growing up?
- How would you have felt if you were Mephibosheth?

He wasn't able to run and jump and play like all the other boys. Life was hard for Mephibosheth.

Many years later, after David had been king for a long time, he found out about Mephibosheth and he wanted to show kindness to him.

David invited Mephibosheth to live at the palace! And, David took care of him for the rest of his life.

- What do you think David did to take care of Mephibosheth?
- How could you help someone that couldn't walk?

God expects you to show kindness to others.

- Who can you help? Is there someone you can show kindness to?

## Closing Prayer

Dear Jesus, help us to be kind to others this week. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

## Activities

### 1. Memory Verse Toss

After reciting the verse several times, toss a small object (ball, potato, orange, or stuffed animal) to a child to say the verse alone. Let the child then toss the object to another child who in turn must say the verse.

### 2. Help Me Get Well Worksheet

Let the kids circle the items that can help you get well. Discuss how the praying hands and the Bible can also help us get well. The Bible teaches us about Jesus, who can heal us not only when we are sick, but also from our sins. When we pray, God hears our prayers, and is always willing to give us what we need.

### 3. Mat Race



### Materials:

1. Bath towels (one for each team)
2. Stuffed Animals (one for each team)
3. Four or more children

### What you will do:

First, divide the class into two teams. Have the kids in each team grab part of the bath towel, corners or sides etc., and stretch it out to make it like a trampoline. The teams will start at one end of the room, and while staying together keeping hold of the towel, race to the other end of the room. At this end, you will put a stuffed animal on the top of the outstretched towel. (Choose stuffed animals that can sit upright or stand up easily.) Then the teams will then race back to where they started while attempting to keep the stuffed animal from falling.

After getting the teams lined up, explain that they will be racing to the other side of the room, where they will be getting a sick animal placed on their mat. Then, without letting the sick animal fall off the mat, they race back to where they started. (Older children can race without letting the animal fall over.) Tell the children that if the animal falls, they must stop and count to 10 before continuing, as the teacher places the animal back up on the mat. The team that finishes first can cheer on the other teams until everyone has finished. Ready, Go!

### What you will say:

If we are sick or hurting, we can know that Jesus is there for us. Just as David cared for Mephibosheth, Jesus can help us get better when we are sick or feeling bad.

### 3. Get Well cards for Louise

Let the children color and decorate Get Well Cards for Louise who has had a bout with bronchitis.