

LESSON 3

JESSE AND DAVID

LESSON AT A GLANCE

WONDER TRUTH: God Sees the Big Picture

SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 11; 1 Samuel 16

GOD'S BIG STORY: God chooses Jesse's son David as Israel's king and reminds Israel that the Promised One—a branch from Jesse's family tree—will one day arrive and change everything.

ACTIVITY: Make a Tree

ACTIVITY: Puzzles

WORSHIP

God's Big Story

Prayer and Blessing

ACTIVITY: Human Christmas Tree

Wonder@Home™

Designed for families to engage in the wonder of God together at home. This resource includes a video, worship playlists, activities, and more!

Object Lesson: Make a Tree

SUPPLIES: green and brown pipe cleaners, craft sticks

Greet the kids warmly and welcome them to church.

Welcome! I have a question for you! What grows really tall outside and inside has birds and squirrels living in it? Allow kids to answer. **Right! A tree! Let's use these pipe cleaners and craft sticks to try to make our own trees!**

Place pipe cleaners and craft sticks out on the floor or table and allow kids to make trees. If you have trees outside your room, you can point them out to the kids, or even take a quick walk outside to look at them.

Activity: Puzzles

SUPPLIES: simple puzzle(s)

Set out a puzzle (or puzzles, if time permits) and mix up the pieces. Encourage the kids to help put the puzzle together. Let them look at the picture when it's complete.

It was hard to tell what the picture would look like when we could only see one piece of the puzzle! When we put the pieces together, we saw the whole picture. It reminds me that God sees the whole picture and knows everything, even when we don't! We'll learn more about that today in our story.

Set out more puzzles and let the kids play with them and help put them together.

Our Wonder Truth today is GOD SEES THE BIG PICTURE.

Encourage the kids to do the following motions while you repeat the Wonder Truth. Older toddlers can say the words with you as they do the motions.

- **GOD**—Point up.
- **SEES**—Cup hands around eyes.
- **THE BIG PICTURE.**—Wave hands in front of body with a sweeping motion.

Worship

Wonder Ink RESOURCES: songs from [The Jesus Family Tree Early Childhood Spotify playlist](#)

Today, we're learning that God sees the big picture.

We'll learn in our part of God's big story how a young boy was chosen as king even though other people didn't understand why he was chosen! God picked him because God sees the big picture.

Play songs from [The Jesus Family Tree Early Childhood Spotify playlist](#) and encourage the kids to sing and dance with you.

God's Big Story

SUPPLIES: Bible, scissors (prep only)

Wonder Ink RESOURCES: Jesse and David Puzzle Sheet (1 copy), [God's Big Story Video](#)

Our part of God's big story today is a great story from the Bible about a person named David. Encourage the kids to say "David." **Let's find out from the Bible what happened to David!**

Show the kids the [God's Big Story Video](#) or read the story from the Bible or use the Script provided.

Ahead of time, print one copy of the Jesse and David Puzzle Sheet and cut the pieces apart.

I need your help telling today's story! Can you find the picture that has a sheep on it? Allow kids to find the picture with the sheep. **Great job!**

There was a man named Jesse who had many sons. One of these sons was a shepherd who took care of the sheep. His name was David. David was small and did not look like he was special.



Can you find the picture that has the crown on it? Allow kids to find the right picture and place it with the first picture to start to form the full picture.

Good job! There was a man named Saul who was the king before King David. Saul was really tall and big, but he wasn't a very good king! God had another king in mind.

Can you find the picture with the butterfly on it? Allow kids to find the right picture and place it with the other pictures to form the full picture.

God said that one of Jesse's sons would be the next king! Everyone thought the oldest and tallest of the sons would be king, but God chose the youngest—David!

We have one piece of our picture left. What do you see in this picture? Allow kids to answer. **There is a tree in this picture!** Place this with the others to complete the full picture.

This tree reminds us that God said Jesse's family was like a big tree with lots of branches and someday a special baby would be born from this family—Jesus!

God saw what everyone else could not see. God looked at their family tree and saw Jesus. God sees the big picture.

Prayer and Blessing

Let's talk to God.

Father God, we thank You because You see the big picture. Help us to remember all the time that You love us and care for us and will always do what is best. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Encourage the kids to hold their hands out in front of them, with palms up, as if their hands were open to receive something. Tell them to listen and receive the blessing as you speak it over them.

Blessing: May you always remember that, even when you don't understand why something happens, God sees the big picture! May you find comfort in knowing that God always sees your heart and always sees the way to make all His plans come to pass.

Activity: Human Christmas Tree

SUPPLIES: bows, tinsel, garland, basket

Before kids arrive, fill a basket with bows, tinsel, and garland.

We've been talking about family trees, but this time of year we hear a lot about a different kind of tree: Christmas trees. We are going to play a game where you get to decorate me as a human Christmas tree!

Set out the basket with bows, tinsel, and garland in it.

This basket is full of things that you might see on a Christmas tree. When I say "Go," you can use all the things in this basket to decorate me like a Christmas tree!

Let the kids use the items in the basket to decorate you (or another leader) like a Christmas tree.