



Kids Club

Leader Guide

June
Week 3

June 16, 2024

SUPPLIES NEEDED:

Memory Verse Sheet

Coloring Page

A roll of toilet paper

Cardstock/thick paper, Markers/crayons, Scissors, Popsicle/craft sticks (1/kid), glue, optional stickers/decorative items

SUGGESTED SCHEDULE:

5 minutes - Pick up kids/kids arrive - bathroom, wash hands, water break

20 minutes - Snack, Games, Prayer/Devotion, Quality Time, Clean-up

30-40 minutes - RBKids Lesson & Prayer

10-15 minutes - Free time, Clean-up and Dismissal

TODAY'S FOCUS:

We should always do things God's way.

WEEKLY VERSE:

"He will fill your mouth with laughter. Shouts of joy will come from your lips."

Job 8:21 (NIRV)

KEY PASSAGE:

1 Samuel 24, David Spares Saul on the Potty

ROCK BRIDGE MISSION:

We love God and love others, so we are committed to getting love right. That means following God's ways with how we treat people, no matter what.

PRAYER:

Dear God, help us to listen to you and give us the courage to do what's right, even when no one else will. In Jesus' name, Amen.

INTRODUCTION:

ASK THIS AS KIDS ARRIVE: What's the funniest movie you've ever seen? Offer a [coloring page](#). *Remember our kids are from all walks of life, so these glimpses into their lives outside of church may lead you to share responses like, "Well, I don't prefer it, but here is one that did make me laugh!..."*

SAY THIS: When you go into a bathroom stall, there are things you expect to see. A toilet. Toilet paper. But the last thing you expect is to find your sworn enemy lurking in the shadows, close enough to cut off a piece of your clothes and show it to you when you leave!

In today's true story from the Bible, we're going to hear about a time when David had the upper hand on Saul. He could have done anything to him, but chose not to. David had a heart that wanted to obey God, and even when all his men urged him to kill Saul, he chose to obey God. David shows us that even when everyone else is disobedient, we can still make the right choice. If we do things God's way, we will never have any regrets. We will know we made the right call. We will know God will bless our choices.

ASK THIS: What are some ways you have chosen to obey God?

SAY THIS: There are certain Bible stories that surprise you if you've never read them before and come across them in the scriptures, passages that make you do a double take and say, "Wait, did that really say what I think it said?" Take the story of Ehud, one of the Judges who ruled Israel in the days before the kings. We know that Ehud was left-handed, and his left-handedness allowed him to take the life of a king who was persecuting Israel.

But that's not the part that makes you do a double take. The part that catches your eye is when the writer says this king was so fat, the fat in his belly covered up the handle of Ehud's sword so he could not take it back out. Wait, what???

We don't expect things like that in the Bible, do we? But the Bible has all kinds of things that make us say "gross," that make us blush, and yes, that make us laugh. We expect to learn from the Bible. We expect serious lessons about living for God and making the right choices. We expect to learn these lessons from people like David, the shepherd boy who killed a giant and later became king. We don't expect these instructional stories to take place in the bathroom.

That's right you heard me. There's potty humor in the Bible. We briefly mentioned Elijah's potty joke last week, when Elijah suggested that the false god Baal was not answering his prophets because he was in the bathroom. Today's funny story actually takes place in the potty – sort of.

It wasn't really a restroom as we know it, of course. It was a cave, a cave that King Saul chose to use as a potty when he needed a break from hunting for David. Saul was very jealous of David and thought that David was plotting to kill him and steal the throne. God had chosen David to be the next king, unbeknownst to Saul, but on this day, David would have the chance to make Saul's worst fear come true. All because Saul needed to go to use the bathroom.

READ: 1 SAMUEL 24

TALK ABOUT THIS: Can you imagine the look on King Saul's face when he walked out of the cave and heard David's voice coming from the darkness behind him? Saul had searched high and low for David and his men, and in that moment, he knew God had just delivered him right into David's hands!

David had cut off a piece of his robe, but he had received a heaping helping of guilt for doing so. David knew that God had chosen Saul to be king before him. He knew God would bring Saul's reign to an end in His own time, and even though Saul wanted him dead, David ignored the pleas of his own men and did the right thing. David showed Saul what it was to be a righteous man. David shows us that even in the strangest of circumstances, we can always choose to do things God's way instead of our own.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

DO THIS: Ask kids to retell the Bible story. If they need help, use these questions to remember key parts.

1. Why was Saul looking for David?
2. Why did Saul go into the cave?
3. What did David's men want him to do?
4. What did David choose to do? Why didn't David kill Saul?
5. How did Saul respond when he found out David was in the cave?

DRIVE IT HOME - SAY THIS: If you look at the story from Saul's perspective, there's nothing funny about this scene at all. Saul was on a murderous rampage. David had done nothing to harm Saul, nothing to even make Saul think David was a threat to him. He knew it was wrong. He knew David was a good man. Now, with David standing at the entrance to the cave holding a sword and a piece of his robe, he was not only shamed in front of his men, he was shaking. He knew only David's good heart had saved his life. He was terrified at how close he had come to death.

On the other hand, I could believe that David and his men had a big laugh about this. Here was the king of Israel, as vulnerable as man could be, taking a potty break in a cave inches away from the man he wanted dead. Every one of David's men wanted David to kill Saul right there. Every one of them would have defended David and his decision. Every one of them would have made that choice if they were David.

David valued God's opinion more than the opinion of his men. He was a man after God's own heart. He wanted to honor God with everything that he did. David was by no means a perfect man, but in that moment, he set an example for all of us to follow. We can ignore the crowd. We can shut out everyone else's voice but God's. We can make the right choice when the whole world is urging us to make the wrong one.

One day all of us will be faced with a choice like that. When it happens, I hope all of you will remember the day David had to listen to his sworn enemy use the potty. David could have ended his misery. He could have made the wrong choice and been cheered.

He did things God's way and taught his men and his enemy a lesson. Righteous people do things God's way, even when no one else will. Let's pray that all of us can make that choice the way David did.

ACTIVITY:

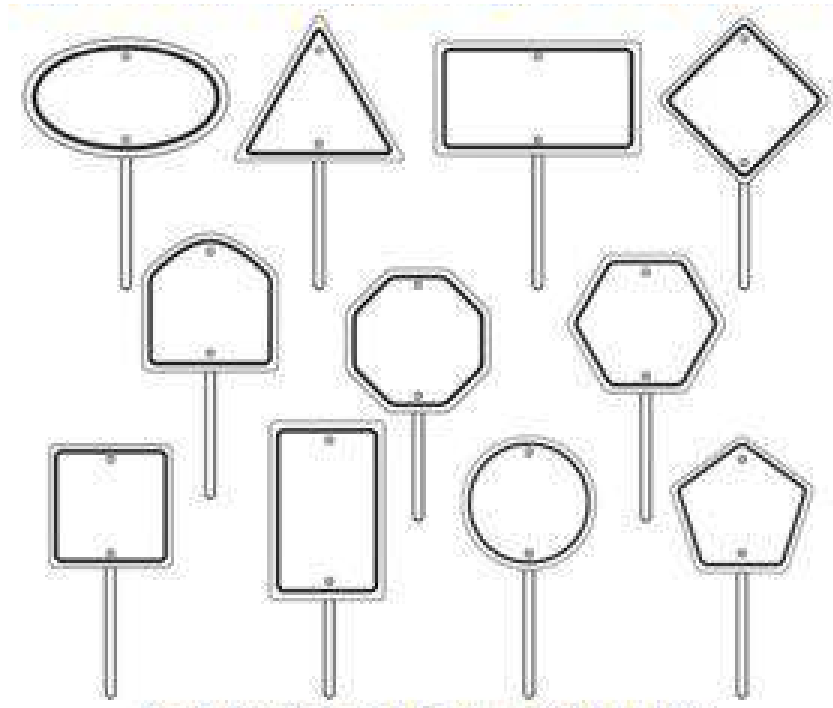
DO THIS: To reinforce the idea that David spent years running and hiding from Saul, print the **words of the memory verse** on separate papers, two or three words per page. Hide papers around the room. Let kids search for hidden papers and then arrange them in verse order, referring to their Bibles as needed.

OPTIONAL ACTIVITY 2:

- Cardstock or thick paper
- Markers or crayons
- Scissors
- Popsicle sticks or craft sticks
- Glue
- Stickers or decorative items (optional)

Instructions:

1. Create the Sign: Show kids the different sign shapes below. Have them pick one to make and cut out from cardstock (e.g., arrows, stop signs).
2. Decorate the Signs: Have the kids decorate their signs with messages like "God's Way," "Stop and Pray," or "Go with God."
3. Attach to Sticks: Glue the signs to popsicle sticks to create road signs.
4. Decorate: Allow the children to further decorate their signs with stickers or other decorative items.
5. Discussion: Use the signs to discuss how David's actions in the cave showed he was following God's way and making choices that honored God.



OPTIONAL ACTIVITY 3:

DO THIS: Play a game of Hot Potato with a roll of toilet paper. When someone is holding the toilet paper when the music stops, they get to say the memory verse aloud! (If they don't know it, everyone gets to say it together!) If everyone knows the Memory Verse pretty well, let them answer one of these questions, instead!

1. Tell me about a time someone was mean to you? What did you do?
2. Have you ever wanted to get even with someone who was mean to you
3. How is it possible to obey God even when no one else is doing it?
4. How can we make wise choices when no one else is doing it?
5. How can our obedience be a good example to other people?
6. True or False: Saul and his 3,000 men tried to capture David. (True.)
7. Where was David hiding? (In a cave.)
8. Why was Saul trying to kill David? (Saul was jealous of David and thought he was a threat to the throne.)
9. True or False: When David found Saul alone in a cave, David wanted to attack Saul, but his men told him not to. (False.)
10. What did David's men want David to do to Saul while he was in the cave? (Kill him.)
11. Why didn't David kill Saul? (David respected Saul because God had chosen him to be the first king of Israel.)
12. How did David show Saul he had the opportunity to kill him? (He cut off a piece of Saul's robe.)
13. True or False: Saul stopped trying to kill David after the first time David showed kindness to him (False.)
14. When David spared Saul's life, what was Saul's response? (He felt ashamed, verse 17.)
15. True or False: David was kind to Saul, even though Saul was unkind to him. (True.)

“He will fill
your mouth
with laughter.

Shouts of joy
will come from
your lips.”

Job 8:21

“He will fill
your mouth
with laughter.

Shouts of joy
will come from
your lips.”

Job 8:21

Memory Verse Sheet - cut and hide a
complete verse!