

LESSON 2

DAVID SPARES SAUL'S LIFE

LESSON AT A GLANCE

WONDER TRUTH: God Helps Us

SCRIPTURE: 1 Samuel 26

GOD'S BIG STORY: After Saul, God chooses a new king named David. Saul is jealous and tries to kill David. With God's help, David spares Saul's life as a way to honor God.

WORD OF WONDER: Be still, and know that I am God. —Psalm 46:10a

Activity: Asleep and Awake

Activity: Helping Hands

Worship

God's Big Story

Snack

Word of Wonder

Prayer and Blessing

Game: Tiptoe Time

Activity: Asleep and Awake

Greet the kids warmly and welcome them to church.

Welcome! Are you awake? Allow the kids to respond. **Good! If you were asleep, what would you look like? Show me what you look like while you're sleeping.** Allow the kids to respond. **Show me what you look like when you're awake.** Allow the kids to respond.

Have the kids practice sleeping and being awake several times when you say, "asleep" and "awake." Ask the kids what they do when it's time to go to sleep. Tell them to lie on the floor and pretend to be asleep. **We're learning today about how God helped a man named David when someone was sleeping. We'll learn today how God helps us.**

Activity: Helping Hands

SUPPLIES: blocks

Let the kids help you build a tower out of blocks. If the blocks get knocked down, talk with that about how we can help one another by putting the tower back up.

I need your help! Can you help me build a tower with these blocks? Allow kids to build a tower. **You're such good helpers. Thank you! Isn't it nice to help someone? Today we'll learn that God helps us. God is the best. He helps us!** When the tower falls, let the kids help by rebuilding it. You can also pretend to drop the blocks on the floor and invite the kids to help you pick them all up. Or you can call on specific things in the room for kids to bring you as helpers.

You're being great helpers today. God helps us when we need help. We can trust Him. We'll learn about it today. Our Wonder Truth today is: GOD HELPS US.

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.

HELPS—Give yourself a high five.

US—Point to yourself.

Worship

Today we'll learn about how God helps us. Let's sing and praise God to thank Him for how He helps us.

Play songs from the Little Learners Playlist and encourage the kids to sing and dance as they praise God.

God's Big Story

SUPPLIES: Bible; pool noodle; empty, non-breakable water jug

Wonder Ink RESOURCES: [David Spares Saul's Life God's Big Story Video](#) [Bible Story Picture](#) (1/SG)

Our 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 him!**

Show the kids the God's Big Story Video, read the story from the Bible, or use the script provided. You can show the Bible Story Picture to give kids a visual depiction of the story.

Saul was Israel's king, but he didn't obey God. So God planned for a new king named David. David loved God very much. Saul was jealous of David and kept chasing David and trying to hurt him. Let the kids chase each other for a minute. Then have them sit back down.

But God helped David. David always got away and was able to hide. Of course, after all that chasing, Saul had to sleep. Saul slept in the middle of his army of men. Can you all pretend to be Saul and be asleep? Invite the kids to lie down and pretend to snooze.

In the middle of the night, David went down into Saul's camp. Saul and his army were all sleeping, so David was able to sneak right up to Saul. He got so close that he was able to grab Saul's spear and water jug that was right by his head. Pass around the pool noodle "spear" and water jug.

David had a chance to hurt Saul for being mean and chasing him. Instead, David didn't hurt Saul. David trusted God instead.

David left Saul's camp. Saul woke up. Encourage the kids to pop up as if awakening. **Saul saw that his spear and water jug were gone and knew that David was next to him while he slept. He realized that David didn't hurt him. Because of that, Saul said he would stop chasing David.**

God helped David that day. God helps us too! Our God is in charge, and He knows what's best. Just as He cared about David and Saul, God cares about us and about what's happening in our lives. We can always trust Him because God helps us.

Snack

Instruct kids to sit in the floor. Pass out snacks and say a prayer together.

Invite kids to repeat after you:

Dear God. kids repeat

You know me, love me, and lead me too. kids repeat

Please help me follow You. kids repeat

Thank you for snacks so yummy. kids repeat

That fill my happy tummy! kids repeat

Amen

Word of Wonder

SUPPLIES: Bible

WORD OF WONDER

Be still, and know that I am God.

—Psalm 46:10a

Our Word of Wonder for the Kings and Prophets series is from Psalm 46:10a. Let's practice saying the Word of Wonder together. Open a Bible to Psalm 46:10a and practice the verse with the kids.

Encourage the kids to do the motions and say the verse with you.

- **BE STILL**,—Open your palms, facing down. Move your palms downward at the same time.
- **AND KNOW**—Point to your head.
- **THAT I AM GOD**.—Point up.
- **PSALM 46:10a**—Hold your hands open in front of you, as if opening a book.

Prayer and Blessing

Let's talk to God.

God, thank You for helping David. Thank You for always helping us. Help us remember when we face problems, You're with us and You help us. We love You! In Jesus' name, Amen.

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

Blessing: May you receive God's help and always know how much you mean to Him. He loves you today and every day, and He's always ready to help you.

Game: Tiptoe Time

SUPPLIES: beanbags (1 per kid); empty, non-breakable water pitcher

Place beanbags in various places along one side of the room. Place the empty, non-breakable water pitcher on the other side. **David had to tiptoe very quietly around Saul's camp to grab his spear and water jug while Saul slept. Can we tiptoe just as quietly to get our beanbags into our water jug?**

Invite the kids to stand on the side with the water pitcher and tiptoe across the room, grab a bean bag and tiptoe back to place their bean bag in the water pitcher. When the pitcher is full, dump out the beanbags and play again.

God helped David when Saul was after him. God cares about us and helps us too!