Large Group

David Showed Mercy

Bible Passage | 1 Samuel 24
Memory Verse | Jeremiah 10:6-7a
Story Point | David showed mercy even though Saul was trying to hurt him.



Countdown Video (3 mins)

Memory Verse Song (4 mins)

Worship Leader connects the lesson to the memory verse, leads the memory verse song with hand motions, and closes in prayer.

Welcome (1 mins)

Large Group Leader tell kids what to expect to happen (1 minute)

- watch the lesson video
- retell the story.
- read the story from scripture

Watch the Lesson Video (4 mins)

Retell the Story (11 mins)

Lead the kids in a fun retelling of the story
Here are some resources to help you formulate this time.

Review what we learned:
David was a young shepherd boy when he was chosen to be the next king of Israel. Last week, we learned how David defeated Goliath with God's power. God was with David and gave him victory in other battles he fought. Today, we will discover how David continued to trust in God while he was chased by King Saul. Instead of harming King Saul, David chose to do what was right in God's eyes, and showed mercy to Saul.

Today's Lesson

David became a great military leader and was very well liked by the people of Israel. Saul was jealous of David and allowed his jealousy to overpower him. Saul wanted to hurt David, so David had to run away and hide. As David and his men were hiding, they watched Saul enter the cave. What did David do to Saul? [Allow responses.] David snuck up on Saul and cut off a small corner of his robe. David didn't hurt Saul, but David did make it known that he could have.

David immediately felt bad for cutting Saul's robe. When Saul left the cave, David called out to Saul and said he would never hurt Saul. **David showed mercy even though Saul was trying to hurt him.** Why did David say he would never hurt Saul? [Allow responses.] David knew that it was not his place to seek revenge on Saul. David understood that God is our judge. God has the power to ultimately declare someone innocent or guilty. David trusted God to help him and judge Saul for trying to hurt him.

When David showed Saul mercy, what did Saul say to David? [Allow responses.] Saul said, 'You are more righteous than I, for you have done what is good to me though I have done what is evil to you.' Because David trusted in God, David did what was right. It is always right to show mercy. We all sin, but God shows us mercy through Jesus, who died for our sin and rose again. Anyone who trusts in Jesus is saved from sin and death.

Gospel Discussion | Saul was trying to kill David, but David chose to show Saul mercy. When the people were killing Jesus, He showed them mercy and said, 'Father, forgive them.' Jesus never sinned but took the punishment we deserve for our sin. When we accept Jesus as our Savior, we receive the mercy of God.

Read from the Bible (4 mins)

1 Samuel 24:1–12, 16–20

Remind Kids of Four Questions (1 min)

- What did you like about today's story?
- What did you find confusing?
- What did you learn about people?
- What did you learn about God?

Worship Song (4 mins)

Worship Leader briefly introduces self, welcomes kids, leads 1st worship song, and prays for the time.