

# David and Jonathan Are Kind

Lesson 11

## Bible Story

1 Samuel 16:15-23; 18:1-4; 19:1-7

## Teacher Challenge

King Saul was often troubled, but David's music calmed him. So David came to stay with the king. During this time, King Saul's son struck up a friendship with David that continued for years. David and Jonathan had a give and take relationship. Each one invested in the life of the other. They trusted each other with their very lives. Kindness was the basis for this deep friendship.

- ➔ How do you and your friends show kindness to each other?
- ➔ How can you model kindness to the children in your class? What are some practical ways you can encourage the children in your class to be kind every session?

The children in your class will learn some things by listening and observing. Some things can be explicitly taught. This instruction allows you to get feedback to see that each child hears and understands what you are teaching. One way to do this is to tell the class why you do certain things and give them a chance to do it, too. This lesson on being kind to each other is a perfect place to use explicit teaching and to see that they understand what you are teaching by their actions. Ask God to guide you as you develop a lesson that produces results.

**God's Word**  
"A friend loves at all times."  
Proverbs 17:17

**God's Word and Me**  
Being kind to my friends  
shows God's love.

## Teacher's Planning

1. Choose which centers you will provide and the order in which children will participate in them. For tips on schedule planning, see page 9.
2. Plan who will lead each center, making sure to have one adult for approximately every six children. For staffing tips and ideas, see page 12.



# Play to Learn

Lesson 11

## Active Game Center: Gift Pass

### Collect

Bible, *Preschool Music #1* CD and player, box (shoe box-size or smaller), wrapping paper, scissors, tape, ribbon.

### Prepare

Cut wrapping paper to fit box, and tape to box. Tie ribbon on box.

### Do

1. Children form a circle, sitting on the floor.
2. As you play "What Are You Gonna Do?" (track #4 on CD), children pass gift box around the circle. After a few moments, stop the music. Child holding the box when the music stops names a friend.

### Talk About

- ➔ **The Bible tells us, "A friend loves at all times." Giving gifts is one way we can show love for our friends. Let's play a game using a gift box.**
- ➔ **What gift has someone given you? Today in our Bible story, a man named Jonathan gave gifts to his friend David.**
- ➔ **The Bible tells us, "A friend loves at all times." Who is a friend you can show love to today?**
- ➔ **Being kind to our friends is one way to show God's love. What is something kind that someone did for you today?**



### God's Word

"A friend loves at all times."  
Proverbs 17:17

### God's Word and Me

Being kind to my friends  
shows God's love.

### For Younger Children

Younger children may hesitate or feel shy to name friends if they are holding the box when the music stops. Instead say, **Ethan has the box. Ethan can be kind to his friends.**

### For Older Children

Children pass more than one gift box around the circle. When music stops, each child holding a box tells or acts out a way to be kind to a friend.

# Play to Learn

Lesson 11

## Art Center: Arrows of Friendship

### Collect

Bible, construction paper, scissors, drinking straws, craft feathers, tape; optional—crayons or markers.

### Prepare

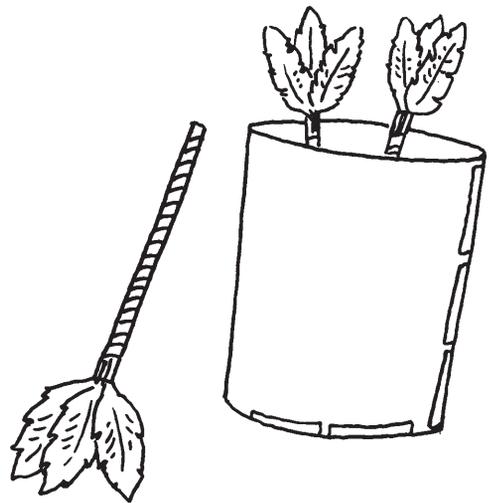
Cut construction paper in half to form 8½x5½-inch (21.5x14-cm) sheets.

### Do

1. Give each child two or three drinking straws and a number of craft feathers. Children tape feathers to the end of each straw to make arrows.
2. Give each child a half sheet of construction paper. Child folds paper in half and tapes bottom and side edges, leaving top open to make quiver. (Optional: Children decorate quivers using crayons or markers.) Children place arrows in quiver.

### Talk About

- ➔ **In our Bible story today, Jonathan showed kindness by giving gifts to his friend David. He gave David his bow and arrows. Let's make some arrows. The bag that holds arrows is called a quiver.**
- ➔ **We can show God's love by being kind to our friends, too. What's the name of one of your friends? How can you be kind to (her)?**
- ➔ **Abigail, I like seeing you show kindness to William by sharing the tape with him. The Bible says, "A friend loves at all times." Being kind is a way to show God's love.**



### For Younger Children

Prefold the paper. Cut tape into short lengths and place on edge of table, ready for use.

### For Older Children

Children make the quiver out of brown fabric, using craft glue to glue the two edges together.

# Play to Learn

## Block Center: Block House

### Collect

Bible, masking tape, blocks, pictures of friendly faces cut from magazines, tape; optional—Lesson 11 Friendly Face Patterns from *Discovering God's Love* CD-ROM.

### Prepare

Use masking tape to outline a street with several intersections. (Note: Remove masking tape immediately after activity.) Tape pictures cut from magazines onto small blocks to represent friends. (Optional: Print Friendly Face Patterns from CD-ROM, cut apart and tape faces to small blocks.)

### Do

1. Children use blocks to make the homes of their friends along the street outline.
2. Children use blocks with faces to act out visiting the homes.

### Talk About

- ➔ **The Bible tells us, “A friend loves at all times.” One way we show God’s love is by being kind to our friends. Let’s build houses for our friends and then pretend we’re going to visit them.**
- ➔ **Hannah, whose home are you visiting? When you play with your friend, what do you like to do? How can you be kind when you are playing with (dolls)?**
- ➔ **Who are some of your friends?**
- ➔ **What are some other ways to show kindness when you go to a friend’s home?** (Say “please” and “thank you.” Be careful with his or her toys. Help put away toys before leaving.)



### For Younger Children

Children build structures of their own choosing. As you observe their play, discuss children’s kind actions. **Cameron, thank you for handing a block to Anya. That is a kind thing to do. Being kind is a way to show God’s love. You’re doing what our Bible says to do!**

### For Older Children

On large index cards, children write, or dictate for you to write, names of friends. Place cards by the homes.

# Play to Learn

Lesson 11

## Science Center: String Harps

### Collect

Bible; masking tape; variety of string (curling ribbon, fishing line, yarn, strings of different weight) cut into 2-foot (61-cm) lengths.

### Prepare

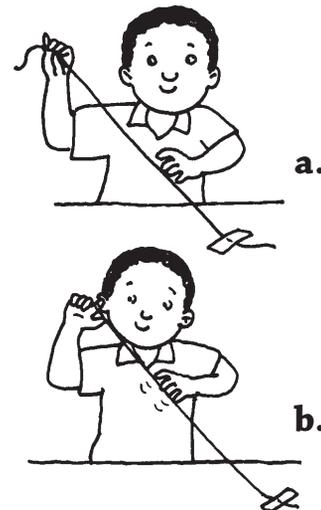
Tape one end of each type of string securely onto a table, allowing about a 1-foot (30-cm) space between each string.

### Do

1. Child holds a string taut. Child plucks string so it vibrates, and then holds end of string close to ear to listen (see sketch a).
2. At your signal, children rotate around the table to test each type of string.

### Talk About

- ➔ **In our Bible story today, David played an instrument called a harp. A harp has strings that make music when plucked. We're going to hear how different strings sound when they are plucked.**
- ➔ **Madison is being kind by waiting for Sarah to finish with her string. The Bible says, "A friend loves at all times." We show God's love when we are kind to our friends.**
- ➔ **What do you like to do with your friends? How can you be kind to your friends when you're playing with them?**



### For Younger Children

Teacher or an older child holds the string taut. Children stand close to listen to the vibrations.

### For Older Children

Child wraps end of string around finger several times, then puts the tip of their "string finger" in ear so that the vibrations sound louder (see sketch b).

# Listen to Learn

Lesson 11

1 Samuel 16:15-23; 18:1-4; 19:1-7

## Collect

Bible, Bible Story 16 pictures from *God's Story for Me Poster Pack #1*, *Preschool Music #1 CD* and player, aluminum foil, several small classroom items, ball.

## Prepare

Wrap each of several small classroom items (marker, toy car, beanbag, etc.) in aluminum foil, molding foil around item.



## Greet Each Other

Children stand in a circle. Toss or roll a ball to a child and insert their name in the verse. **A friend (like Madison) loves at all times.** Continue until all children have been named.

## Tell the Story

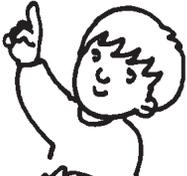
Open your Bible to 1 Samuel 16. Tell the story using the pictured motions (keywords in bold) or show Bible Story 16 pictures.

**Who are some of your friends? Today's Bible story is about two friends, David and Jonathan, who showed love and friendship to one another.**



King Saul felt **grumpy** and sad. King Saul felt so grumpy and sad that everyone tried to think of a way to make him feel happy. One of the king's helpers had an idea. "King Saul," the helper said, "if someone could play happy music on the harp, you might feel happy." King Saul thought that was a good idea!

The helper said, "David plays the harp very well. **God** is with him."



A helper went to talk to David's father. Step, step, step. David was taking care of his family's sheep. But his father said he could go help the king.

Soon David came to live in the king's house. David loved God and was glad to help King Saul by **playing** his harp. David's music helped King Saul feel happy again.



David liked living in the king's house. One of the people David liked best in the king's house was King Saul's son. His name was Jonathan. They became best friends. David and Jonathan made a special promise to each other. "We will ALWAYS be good friends!" they said. "We will ALWAYS help each other."



One day Jonathan did something to show how much he liked David. "David, I am **giving** you my coat," Jonathan said. Then Jonathan brought his best bow and arrow to David. "You may have my bow and arrow, too." Jonathan said.

David knew that Jonathan was his good friend. And Jonathan knew David was his good friend.

## Talk About the Story

**How did Jonathan show his love for his friend David?** (Gave him a coat. Gave him a bow and arrow.) **Giving gifts is one way Jonathan showed God's love and kindness to David. We can show God's love and be kind to our friends, too! How can you be kind to your friends at church today?** (Share toys. Give a hug. Say nice words.)

## Sing to God

**Let's sing a song about loving our friends!** Lead children in singing "Let Us Love" (track 11 on CD). **Helping others is one way to be kind and show God's love! Who is someone you've helped today?**

**Option:** Before class, on a large sheet of paper, print the words you will be using as substitutions in the Bible verse. Display paper and point to each word as you use it while repeating the Bible verse.

## Hear and Say God's Word

Holding your Bible open to Proverbs 17:17, say verse aloud.

**What does this verse tell us a friend always does?**

(Loves.) Lead children in repeating the verse two or three times. Then replace the words "all times" with a time of day (morning, lunchtime, bedtime, etc.). Children echo the phrase after you. Repeat several times, using different times of the day, days of the week or seasons of the year.

## Pray to God

Children repeat the following prayer after you, phrase by phrase: **Dear God, . . . thank You for loving us . . . Please help us . . . to be kind . . . and show love . . . to our friends. . . . In Jesus' name, amen.**

## Praise to God

**I'm so glad God gives us friends! Let's play a game that reminds us to show God's love to our friends.** Give item wrapped in foil to child. As children pass item, play "What Are You Gonna Do?" (track 4 on CD). Whenever you stop music, child holding item guesses what it is. After several guesses have been made, invite a volunteer to unwrap it. Volunteers tell a way to use the item to be kind to a friend. Repeat activity with each item.

# Talk to Learn

Lesson 11

## Bible Story Activity Pages Center

### Collect

A copy of Activity 16 from *The Big Book of Bible Story Activity Pages #1* for yourself and each child, crayons or markers, scissors, tape.

### Do

Lead children to complete pages following the instructions. Use the conversation suggestions as children complete their pages and retell the story.

## Preschool Puzzle Center

### Collect

Copies of Puzzles 21 and 22 (p. 49 and p. 51 from *The Big Book of Kindergarten Puzzles*) for each child; pencils, crayons or markers.

### Do

Children complete the puzzles and color pages. Use the conversation suggestions on the pages.

## Read-Aloud Story Center

### Collect

A copy of Story Picture 11 from *The Big Book of Read-Aloud Stories #1* for yourself and each child, crayons or markers.

### Do

Read the story and distribute pictures. Use the conversation suggestions as children complete their pages.

