

Old Testament

Mission Arlington • Mission Metroplex Curriculum • 2009

Through the Old Testament in Two Years

Part One



Created for use with young, unchurched learners
Adaptable for all ages including adults

Old Testament

David and Jonathan

Last week we learned that David listened to God and helped defeat the giant, Goliath. Everyone loved David and sang songs about how he won many battles.

I Samuel 20

Read the Bible

READ: I Samuel 20:14-29 (Hold your Bible open throughout the story.)

Memory Verse:

I give you a new command.
Love one another. You must
love one another, just as
I have loved you.
(John 13:34 NIV)

One day, David came to Jonathan and asked why King Saul was trying to kill him. Jonathan knew that Saul was jealous of David but he never thought that he would try to kill him. He tried to assure David that Saul would never kill him. He told him that he would know if Saul had ordered men to find him and kill him. David told Jonathan that he knew of Saul's evil schemes. Jonathan could not understand why Saul would do this. (I Samuel 20:1-3)

Goals

1. Understand that David would become king instead of Jonathan.
2. Learn that Saul wanted to kill David.
3. Recognize that Jonathan and David were best friends.
4. Understand that God protected David.

David knew a way to see for sure if King Saul meant good or harm to him. He told Jonathan that the king had invited him to a banquet at the palace. He told Jonathan that if he did not show up for the banquet and the king became very angry, and then he surely wanted David killed. Jonathan promised to find out what his father was planning and let David know. (I Samuel 20:4-13)

Jonathan worked out a way to tell David how his father reacted to the news. He would shoot arrows into the field where David was hiding. If things were unsafe, he would give a secret password sign. They also told each other that they would always take care of each other's families. (I Samuel 20:14-23)

Sure enough, that night at the banquet, King Saul asked about David. Jonathan told him that he was not coming. King Saul was furious! (I Samuel 20:24-29)

Saul yelled at Jonathan and told him that as long as David was alive, he would never become king. Then Saul ordered that David be captured and killed. Jonathan asked why David must be killed. At that, Saul grabbed a spear and threw it at his son, Jonathan. It missed Jonathan. With that, he knew that Saul would try to kill David. Jonathan and David

David and Jonathan – Bible Facts

1. David told Jonathan that Saul wanted to kill him.
2. Jonathan told David he would find out what he could and let David know.
3. Jonathan discovered that Saul wanted to kill David.
4. God protected David.

were best friends. When we saw his father's anger, he was so upset that he did not eat for the whole day. (I Samuel 20:30-34)

The next morning, Jonathan went to the field where David was hiding. As he was shooting arrows, he said the password that told David that he was in danger of being killed. (I Samuel 20:35-40)

After his servant left, David came out of hiding. Jonathan ran to him and hugged him. They both cried together because they knew that they would never see each other again. Jonathan told David to go in peace. He made a promise that they would be friends forever and he would always take care of his family just as David promised he would take care of Jonathan's family. (I Samuel 20:41-42)

Jonathan and David are good examples of how friends treat each other. They should love each other and care about their needs. They should encourage them and help them in tough times. Jonathan could have been upset that David would be king instead of him. After all, he was the next in line. However, God had anointed David to be king and Jonathan knew that he must follow God. Jonathan loved David and was happy for him to be the next king. Friends are happy when others succeed. They are not jealous or envious. They care and love at all times.

Review

1. **What did David tell Jonathan?** (David told Jonathan that Saul wanted to kill him.)
2. **What did Jonathan say?** (Jonathan told David he would find out what he could and let David know.)
3. **What happened next?** (Jonathan discovered that Saul wanted to kill David.)
4. **What did God do?** (God protected David.)

Do You Know Jesus?

Jesus loves us so much that he died for us on the cross. You see, because we have done wrong, we must take the consequence of our wrongs. Jesus loved us so much that He took our punishment for us when He died on the cross. He did it for us! If we believe in Him and ask Him to come into our life and be our best friend, He will clean out all our wrongs and make us like new. He will help us do things God's way and promise to be our best friend forever. Is Jesus your best friend? He can be. Talk to your teacher.

Prayer Time

1. Take a moment to listen to God.
2. Thank God for sending Jesus to die for our sins.
3. Ask God to help you love Him.
4. Pray for friends and family members who need to follow Him.

Application

Jonathan and David were best friends. David would become king instead of Jonathan. Saul was jealous of David and wanted to kill him. God protected David. God will protect us, too.

Planning for the next week:
Solomon's Wisdom – I Kings 3

Preschool Lesson

Read the Bible

READ: I Samuel 20:14-29 (Hold your Bible open throughout the story.)

Teachers: Make little bows and arrows out of straws or sticks to use during the story. Keep the "arrows" with you so that they are not a distraction.

We have been talking about a man in the Bible. His name is David. He loved God very much. His best friend was Jonathan. Jonathan was King Saul's son. They were great friends and did many things together.

King Saul was jealous of David because God helped David do many things. Saul tried several times to chase after David. He wanted Jonathan to be the next king instead of David.

Jonathan loved David. He knew that God had decided that David would be the next king. He was happy for his best friend.

One day, David talked to Jonathan about King Saul. David was scared of the king and had been hiding in the fields. David wanted to know if he was safe or in danger. Jonathan told David that he would always be his friend and he would promise to take care of his family if something ever happened.

There was a banquet the next day at the king's house. David told Jonathan that if he did not show up for the banquet and the king became very angry, then he surely he was in danger.

Jonathan told David that he would shoot an arrow in the field and give a secret sign to let him know if he was safe or in danger.

Sure enough, that night at the banquet, King Saul asked about David. Jonathan told him that he was not coming. King Saul was furious!

Saul yelled at Jonathan. Jonathan knew that David was in danger.

The next day, Jonathan shot the arrow in the field and gave the secret sign to let David know that he was in danger. (Let the kids throw their arrows into the air)

David and Jonathan were very sad. They knew that they would never see each other again. They again promised to care for each other's families and be forever friends.

God wants us to be friends like Jonathan and David were friends. He wants us to love others and care for them.

Prayer Time

- 1. Take a moment to listen to God.**
- 2. Thank God for sending Jesus to die for our sins.**
- 3. Ask God to help you love Him.**

Memory verse for younger children

Love one another. John 13:34

Learning Activities

- **Memory verse activity** — Ask everyone to draw a heart (or have some patterns that they can cut out). Write the memory verse on it. Memorize the verse. Cut the heart in a zigzag pattern and have the kids keep half with them and the other half on a mirror at home or in their desk at school.

- **Test your memory** — Play harp music in the background as you tell the story. Bring dolls or puppets to represent the characters in the story.

- **Taste activity** — Bring heart-shaped candy for a snack.

- **Think about it** — Talk about how important it is to be a friend to others.

Talk about the qualities you want in a friend.

David was supposed to be king in place of Jonathan. Talk about how that affected each of them.

- **Touch activity** — As a group, make a fun sign or password for the day. You can use a sign, a phrase or even a fun handshake!

Create Bow and arrows by using straws or Popsicle sticks. Attach paper to look like the “arrow” and “quills.”

- **Run and play** — Jonathan shot arrows into the air and told his servant to run home. Play races. Create two groups. One group will shoot arrows into the air. The other group will run and pick up the arrows. Have the groups trade places.

- **Listen** — As the children take time for silence, remind them that God wants us to love Him.

- **Sing** — Sing “What a Friend We Have in Jesus,” “No, Not One,” or another song related to the story.

- **Reach out** — During class, pray (by name) for kids that did not come today. Ask the children to go with you to deliver the handouts to those who were absent. Take the hearts with the verse for each child. Encourage them to read the story in the Bible.

Memory Verse

I give you a new
command.

Love one
another.

You must love
one another,
just as I have
loved you.

John 13:34

Word Puzzle

Trace the letters.

David

and

Jonathan

were

friends

Word Search

H F G D D H P K H V M S T P H D J S
P F K I T H S C D P K S N C R L A H
S R B V R N R A M C I O S E C U P R
Y D T K C B V D V L O R H H L D V D
P S B D H I D G J M N P K B V M L B
H S V B D N K H S K E G J V P K L K
S K R L K D P L L H N O H M K L J T
D K N B L R A K S E N H B K I T G B
N B S K S V P I L A N A R K S N H A
S K H D I G N L T C K S S E N K R H
H S T T V F B H N M M S W T E R J T
J B S L N H A G O G D L P D O F N Y
G E S W C N M K V N K H L W R A A N
F M B L K K H G E R N D S A V B S C
M J U K D I N I E S T T T R R N T M
L A F B S K R T K R S S E F P L V P
S B N V K F N G W F R S S K W B M L

DAVID

JONATHAN

SAUL

FRIENDS

FESTIVAL

MOON

KILL

ARROWS

SERVANT

Word Search



DAVID

JONATHAN

SAUL

FRIENDS

FESTIVAL

MOON

KILL

ARROWS

SERVANT

Word Search

F C K F B G K T B N L J
S A U L L D P B C V S T
P R G F O R T Y S N L K
S B M S N B L D A V I D
J R V D K V P D C N F H
J O N A T H A N B P M R
W S V G I A N T J M C M
P D R G F J B V K I L L
S M V P N F M Y G I D F
F R I E N D S L M B J S
F G S F P K T H P K C D
V L D B R S A R R O W S

DAVID

JONATHAN

FRIENDS

SAUL

KILL

ARROWS

Word Search

F	C	K	F	B	G	K	T	B	N	L	J
S	A	U	L	L	D	P	B	C	V	S	T
P	R	G	F	O	R	T	Y	S	N	L	K
S	B	M	S	N	B	L	D	A	V	I	D
J	R	V	D	K	V	P	D	C	N	F	H
J	O	N	A	T	H	A	N	B	P	M	R
W	S	V	G	I	A	N	T	J	M	C	M
P	D	R	G	F	J	B	V	K	I	L	L
S	M	V	P	N	F	M	Y	G	I	D	F
F	R	I	E	N	D	S	L	M	B	J	S
F	G	S	F	P	K	T	H	P	K	C	D
V	L	D	B	R	S	A	R	R	O	W	S

DAVID

JONATHAN

FRIENDS

SAUL

KILL

ARROWS

Anagram

IVGE

ACDMMNO

VELO

NEO

AEOHNRT

HOJN

AAHONNTJ

IADDV

EIDFNRS

Anagram

GIVE

COMMAND

LOVE

ONE

ANOTHER

JOHN

JONATHAN

DAVID

FRIENDS