

King David

Theme: Did God forgive David and will God forgive us?

Opening game:

Hit the target: Set up three different target games around the room and divide the children into three teams eg bean bags in a hoop, ping pong balls in a jar and tennis balls in a bucket. Each team visits each activity for two minutes, trying to score as many points as possible.

Anyone who: Children sit on chairs in a circle except for one who stands in the centre. The leader shouts “anyone who had cornflakes for breakfast!” and everyone who did must get up and change seats with another child who is standing. The child in the middle has to sit down quickly on someone else’s chair so there’s a new person left in the centre. Think of lots of statements before you begin, eg. “anyone who has been to France”; “anyone who has a brother”; “anyone who is in year 4.”

Memory verse: “I will forgive their sins and I will no longer remember their wrongs.” Jeremiah 31 verse 34b. Write the memory verse on card and chop it up into jig-saw type pieces. Have one prepared for each team. The children start with the complete memory verse and say it together then, as in a relay race, one child at a time takes a piece of the puzzle, runs to put it in the bin then returns to tag the next child who runs to the bin with the second piece and so on.

Introduction: Set out a tray with a number of different items on it. The children look at the items for 30 seconds then, when the items are covered up, they have one minute to write down as many items as they can remember. Many people have good memories, particularly for the bad things that others have done to them. Even the most popular and successful people do things wrong and, as in our story today, God can forgive them.

Story: 2 Samuel 11. See story in resources section.

Application: Have the children ever done something wrong but then said sorry and been forgiven by their parents, friends or teachers? Why do they think that person forgave them? God loves us and even though sometimes we miss the target, as in our earlier games, and do really bad things, when we ask Him to forgive us, He will. And He doesn’t just forgive us. Because Jesus died for our sins, He wipes them out as though they never happened. Why do they think they had to put the memory verse in the bin? What did it say?

Prayer: See resources section for Prayer Diary. Get the children to complete the “thank you”, “sorry” and “please” sections for the relevant day of their Kingsquad then encourage them to take the diaries home to continue during the rest of the week.

Final game:

Captain’s Coming: The leader gives instructions and the last child to follow them is sent to the “brig” for one turn but then they are forgiven and allowed to rejoin the game. There is a set of call-out instructions in the resources.

Song: God’s love is big – Track 1 Great Big God 3 CD

Resources: There is a funsheet, story, prayer diary and ‘captain’s coming’ game instructions in the resources section.

The Story of David and Bathsheba

The Israelite army was away fighting whilst King David stayed at home, in Jerusalem, relaxing. He saw a beautiful lady, called Bathsheba, and David wanted to be with her but there was a BIG problem: Bathsheba was already married! However, David didn't let that stop him: if the King wanted something, he took it!

David called Bathsheba's husband, Uriah the Hittite, back from war and summoned him to the palace. Uriah was a loyal soldier and refused to leave the palace gate but David felt no loyalty towards Uriah. David told the army commander, Joab, that Uriah was to be sent back to the fighting and Joab was to make sure that Uriah was in the front line. Joab was then to retreat and let Uriah be killed! And that is what happened. Uriah went back to war, was ordered to go where the fighting was heaviest and was killed. A messenger was sent to tell David the news and, once Bathsheba had mourned for her husband, David sent for her to join him at the palace. David and Bathsheba were married and had a baby boy but God was not pleased with what David had done.

God sent Nathan, the prophet, to tell David that God was unhappy because David had taken Uriah's wife and arranged for Uriah to be killed in battle. David realised that he'd done a very bad thing and he asked for God's forgiveness. And God forgave him.

‘Captain’s Coming’ game instructions

“Port” – run to North wall

“Starboard” – run to South wall

“scrub the decks” – children on knees pretending to clean floor

“climb the rigging” – pretend to climb ladder

“Captain’s coming” – salute

“Captain’s daughter” – say “ooh lah lah!”

“Line up at the mess” – children make a straight line at designated spot;

“Man the lifeboats!” – children get into pairs, sit opposite each other and pretend to row.

King David and Bathsheba



"I will forgive their sins
and I will no longer
remember their wrongs."
Jeremiah 31 verse 34b

Word Search Puzzle

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

'YOUR SINS ARE FORGIVEN'
 DOES GOD MEAN HE'S DECIDED TO
 OVERLOOK OUR SINS?

No. He means that through his power of good over evil they are melted away completely, drowned in his love.

WOW! ONLY GOD COULD DO THAT.

Yes, that's right. We can forgive each other in the sense of 'dropping the charges' and coming to a loving agreement, but even then it's God's forgiveness we're tapping into.

SO GOD CAN GIVE US A COMPLETELY FRESH START, THEN?

He certainly can.

Can you find these words
in the grid?

- | | |
|------------------|--------------------|
| DAVID | SOLDIER |
| JERUSALEM | ARMY |
| URIAH | FORGIVENESS |
| BATHSHEBA | KILLED |
| GOD | WIFE |

Prayer Diary

Thank you

Sorry

Please

Sunday			
Monday			
Tuesday			
Wednesday			
Thursday			
Friday			
Saturday			