



WEEK THREE – NOVEMBER 2019 – SECOND/THIRD

Bible Story: *Count on Me • 2 Samuel 9:1–13 (suppt: 2 Samuel 4:4)*

Bottom Line: *Honor others by keeping your promises.*

Memory Verse: *“Love one another deeply. Honor others more than yourselves.” – Romans 12:10*

Life App: *Honor—Letting someone know you see how valuable they really are*

Basic Truth: *I should treat others the way I want to be treated.*

Summary: We pick up David’s story in 2 Samuel 9:1–13. Time has passed, and David is now officially the new king of Israel. The only person left in Jonathan’s family was a man named Mephibosheth. David didn’t owe Mephibosheth anything. But he made a promise and he honored Jonathan and Mephibosheth by not only making good on that promise, but also going above and beyond to welcome Mephibosheth into his own family.

PRE-SERVICE ACTIVITIES

1. Early Arriver Idea

Connect: an activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding

What You Need: Paper strips; pencils

What You Do:

- Welcome kids and spend time engaging in conversation and asking about their past week
- Invite kids to place their offerings in the *For Everyone* box on the wall near the main entrance
- Ask:
 - What is a promise?
 - Why are promises important?
 - Has there ever been a time when you kept a promise? What was it?
 - Has someone ever broken a promise to you?
- As you discuss the questions above, pass out a strip of paper to each child and have them write down an object on the paper. It can be anything like a ball, shoe, chair etc.
- When they've finished, ask them to fold the slip of paper in half and collect them for Social

2. Don't Say the Word

Play: an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group

What You Need: Prepared strips of paper from Early Arriver, a container

What You Do:

- Place all the paper strips written during Early Arriver in the container and mix them up.
- Let the kids take turns drawing out a paper slip and reading the object on the card without showing anyone in the group.
- The child will give clues to the group to guess the object written on the card WITHOUT saying the name of the object on the card.
- For instance, if the object is a ball, they might say, "This is something you bounce or kick or throw."
- The first child to guess the object gets to give the next clue.
- Continue play as time and interest allow.

What You Say:

“You guys are super guessers! In this game, you could say any word except the word on the card. You said one thing to get someone to guess something else. When someone breaks a promise, they say one thing but DO something else. [Transition] In our Bible story today, pay close attention to the promise that’s made. Let’s see if the person keeps that promise.”

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

LARGE GROUP

OVERVIEW:

Bottom Line: *Honor others by keeping your promises. When we keep the promises we make to others, we show others that we can be trusted. On top of that, keeping our promises to others can make them feel like they have value, that they were worth our time and energy to keep the commitment we made. We pray kids start to see that the promise they keep can be a powerful way to show others honor.*

SMALL GROUP

1. Promises, Promises

[Application Activity]

Connect: an activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding

What You Need: Paper plates; crayons; scissors

What You Do:

- Give each kid a paper plate.
- Instruct the kids to write the word “Promises” in the center of the plate and draw a circle around the word.
- Instruct the kids to use the scissors to cut eight slits from the edge to the center circle they’ve drawn.
- Inside each section (between the slits), ask kids to write one promise they would like to make and keep to a friend, family member, teacher, coach, etc.
- Encourage kids to take their plates home and put them in a place where they can see them every day.
- Each time they keep a promise, they can color in the corresponding section on the plate.

What You Say:

“What’s easier: making a promise or keeping a promise? (Pause for responses.) Yes! KEEPING a promise. It’s easy to say something and then not follow through. But the way we

*honor others is by doing what we say we will do! How could breaking your promises hurt your relationships with others? (Pause for responses.) I want you to HAVE good friends and to BE a good friend. One of the best ways you can do that is by keeping the promises you make, which makes the people you love feel important! Take this plate home and put it somewhere in your room where you'll see it every day. As you keep a promise, color in that section. The goal is to color in ALL the sections after you keep the promises you make! Let's **[Bottom Line]** honor others by keeping your promises."*

2. Passing on the Memory Verse

[Application Activity]

Move: an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body

What You Need: N/A

What You Do:

- Look up Romans 12:10 and review as a group.
- Have the kids stand in a line, shoulder to shoulder.
- Ask the kids to place their left hand out to their side, palm up.
- Then have the kids place their right hand out, palm up, and place it under the left hand of the person to their right.
- Starting with the first person in line, instruct them to say the first word of the verse as they slap (not too hard!) the left hand of the person on their right, and so on, sending the words down the line.
- Repeat the memory verse, this time starting at the other end of the line. Kids will slap the hand of the kid to their left as they repeat the words of the verse.

What You Say:

*"Great job! You are really learning this verse. Let's remember to love each other deeply by doing what we say we will do. Make sure the promises you make are promises you'll keep so that others can trust you. That's one big way to honor others. Remember, **[Bottom Line]** honor others by keeping your promises."*

3. Pray and Dismiss

[Prayer Activity]

Reflect: an activity that creates space for personal understanding and application

What You Need: Yarn; scissors

What You Do:

- Cut the string/yarn into four-inch pieces.
- Let kids help each other tie the string around a finger on their non-writing hand.

- If they tie the string around the part of the finger where a ring would normally go, they should be able to wear it for a few days.
- Explain that this string will serve as a reminder to keep their promises.
- Close in prayer, asking God to help kids line up their words and actions so they can honor others

What You Say:

“This string is our reminder to what? To keep your promises! Let’s make sure to honor others by doing what we say we will do! Let’s pray and ask God to help us with that this week.

“Heavenly Father, You are an awesome God! You keep Your promises always. Help us this week to show others just how valuable they are to us by doing what we will say we will do. Help us to honor the people around us by keeping our promises this week. We love You. In Jesus’ name we pray, amen.”

As adults arrive to pick up, encourage the kids to show them the string around their finger as a reminder to [Bottom Line] honor others by keeping your promise