



WEEK TWO – NOVEMBER 2019 – KINDER/FIRST

Bible Story: *You've Got a Friend* • 1 Samuel 18:1-11; 19:1-7; 20:1-42

Bottom Line: *Honor others by putting them first.*

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: In week 2, we continue David's story and his friendship with Jonathan. Throughout 1 Samuel 19-20 we discover that Jonathan should have been next in line for the throne, but instead he understood God's plans for David. Jonathan, in an ultimate act of honor and loyalty, gave David his robe, his sword, and his bow. In return, David makes a unique promise to look out for Jonathan and his family, even though they could be a threat to his kingdom.

PRE-SERVICE ACTIVITIES

1. Early Arriver Idea

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:

- 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
- Guide kids to stand with their hands on their knees.
- Ask a series of “Would you rather be first or last . . .” questions, guiding kids to stand up if they’d rather be first and squat low if they’d rather be last.
- Remind them to “get ready” for the next question by putting their hands on their knees again.
- You might ask: Would you rather . . .
 - . . . be first or last in line at a restaurant?
 - . . . be first or last in line for a kickball?
 - . . . be first or last in line for ice cream?
 - . . . be first or last to be called back at the doctor’s office?
 - . . . be first or last in line at school?
 - . . . be first or last in line for a carnival game?
 - . . . be first or last to choose a prize from a prize bucket?
 - . . . be first or last in line for a movie?

2. You’ve Got a Friend

Create: an activity that explores spiritual ideas through the process of drawing, building, and designing

What You Need: “You’ve Got a Friend” Activity Page; markers/crayons

What You Do:

- Give each child an Activity Page.
- Encourage kids to color the figures to look like themselves and one of their friends.
- ***[Make It Personal] Draw a “portrait” of you and one of your friends, too.***
- As kids create, invite them to tell you about their friends: how long they’ve known them, what they like about them, what they enjoy doing together, etc.
- If kids finish early, invite them to turn their papers over and draw something they enjoy doing with their friend.

What You Say:

*“I see a lot of special friends! **[Transition]** In our Bible story today, we’ll hear about two more very special friends. Let’s go learn more.”*

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

LARGE GROUP

OVERVIEW:

Bottom Line: *Honor others by putting them first. Kids can be very ego-centric where life is all about them all the time. In this phase of life, they can hardly help it. But at some point, kids should understand that putting others first is important. This is what Jesus did for us, and we can show others His love by doing the same.*

SMALL GROUP

1. Others First

[Application Activity]

Imagine: an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates biblical application through role-play

What You Need: “Others First” Activity Page

What You Do:

- Lead kids in a variation of “Mother, May I?”
- Lead kids to line up shoulder to shoulder at one end of your environment.
- Call a child’s name and read one of the scenarios from “Others First” (Activity Page), or call out a scenario that’s relevant to your group.
 - *NOTE: First graders may be able to “fill in the blank” and come up with a way that the child in the scenario could put others first. Kindergarteners may need to choose from the suggested options.*
- Guide the child who answers the question to choose another child to move forward.
- As in the game “Mother, May I?” give the kid who gets chosen a specific number and type of steps to move forward.

What You Say:

*“You all chose some great ways to put others first! What’s one way that YOU can put others first this week? (Allow time for a couple responses.) **[Make It Personal]** (Tell kids a way you’ll put others first this week, too.) So, remember: **[Bottom Line]** honor others by*

putting them first. *When you do, you'll be treating others like they matter to God, and that's a great thing!"*

2. Aim to Put Others First

[Bible Story Review]

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

What You Need: Bible marked at 1 Samuel 18-20, "Rock" and "David and Jonathan Cards" (Activity Pages), prepared arrows

What You Do:

- Guide kids to get into teams of three or four.
- Set a "Rock" Activity Page about six feet from each team. Place a set of "David and Jonathan Cards" face down on each "Rock."
- Give the first child on each team an arrow.
- Guide them to use a good pencil grip to hold the arrow, aim, and throw. (You can encourage gross motor development by guiding kids to aim the arrow, pull it back, step forward, release the arrow, and follow through.)
- If the arrow lands beyond the rock, the kid retrieves one of the "David and Jonathan Cards." If it doesn't land beyond the rock, the kid can try again before relinquishing his turn.
 - *NOTE: Adjust the distance between the kids and the rock as necessary to increase or decrease the level of difficulty.*
- When a team gathers all its cards, lead them to work together to put the scenes in order.
- Open the Bible to 1 Samuel 18–20 and briefly review the following key points:
 - After God chose David to be king of Israel after Saul, David became best friends with Saul's son, Jonathan. But instead of being jealous of David, Jonathan put David first. He gave him his robe, belt, sword, bow, and arrows.
 - David promised to always be kind to Jonathan and his family.
 - King Saul became very jealous of David and planned to kill him.
 - Jonathan told David to hide in the field by a stone. After a special feast, Jonathan would go to the field and pretend to practice shooting arrows. If he told his servant "the arrows are close," David was safe. But if he said, "the arrows are far beyond," then David should run away.
 - At the feast, King Saul noticed that David was missing. Jonathan said that David had gone with his family. Saul became so angry that he threw a spear at Jonathan!
 - Jonathan went to the field, shot the arrow, and told his servant that it went far beyond.
 - Jonathan sent the servant away and then met David. He said, "Go in peace. We have promised to be friends forever."

- David left the city to hide from Saul, while Jonathan went home. Jonathan could have allowed his father to kill David, and maybe become king himself. But instead, Jonathan trusted God and chose to put his friend first.

What You Say:

*“Jonathan was King Saul’s son. He was a prince! And as a prince, he was supposed to be king someday. But instead of thinking that he was better and more important than everyone else, Jonathan put his friend, David, first. He loved him and protected him. What are some ways you can put others first this week? Could you let your friend choose which game to play? Could you let someone go ahead of you in line? Could you let your brother or sister choose which movie to watch? How else could you **[Bottom Line] honor others by putting them first?** (Pause.) So remember: **[Bottom Line] honor others by putting them first.** Because when you do, you’ll be doing what God wants you to do—and that’s always a great thing!”*

3. Pray and Dismiss

[Prayer Activity]

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

What You Need: Portraits from earlier

What You Do:

- Guide kids to hold the portraits they colored during Social.
- Use the conversation below as a guide to lead kids into prayer.

What You Say:

*“Today you learned that God wants us to **[Bottom Line] honor others by putting them first.** How did Jonathan honor David by putting him first? (Instead of thinking that he was better than David, Jonathan put David first; He kept him safe; He gave him his robe, belt, sword, and bow and arrows; He promised to always be his friend.)*

*“What is one way that you can put YOUR friend first? (I can let them choose what to play; when they come to my house, I can let them choose what we eat for snack; I can share my favorite toy with them; if other people are mean to them, I can tell them to stop.) Those are great ideas! Let’s pray and ask God to help us **[Bottom Line] honor others by putting them first.**”*

*Lead kids in prayer, asking God to help both you and the kids **[Bottom Line] honor others by putting them first.***

As adults arrive to pick up, encourage kids to tell their parents one way they will honor their friend by putting them first.