

WEEK TWO – NOVEMBER 2019 – PRETEEN

Bible Story: You've Got a Friend • 1 Samuel 18:1–9; 19:1–7; 20:1–42 Key Question: What are the best ways to honor your friends? 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. Just for Fun

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

What You Need: N/A

What You Do:

- Welcome preteens and spend time engaging in conversation and asking about their past week
- Invite preteens to place their offerings in the *For Everyone* box on the wall near the Snack Shack
- Ask preteens to give examples of what they did this week to let someone know they see how valuable they really are.
- Allow time for preteens to share examples.
- Ask: What are ways we pick someone to go first?
- Encourage preteens to demonstrate ways we pick someone to go first. Examples could include:
 - Coin Toss
 - Rock, Paper, Scissors
 - Eenie, Meenie, Miney, Mo (or one potato, two potato, three potato)
 - Pick a number from one to ten, closest goes first

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

LARGE GROUP

OVERVIEW:

Key Question: *What are the best ways to honor your friends?* Preteens are learning how to be friends with all sorts of people, from those they like to those they "have to like." It can be difficult knowing how to navigate this new phase of relationships. We pray that the discussion this week will give them practical ideas for how to honor the people in their lives.

SMALL GROUP

1. Snapshot [Application Activity] Connect: an activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding

What You Nee: Markers/pencils, "Trophy" Activity Pages, tape, designated wall in next to your group that is llabeled "WALL OF HONOR"

What You Do:

- Ask preteens to think of three people who are valuable to them. (a family member, a friend, a mentor, a coach, a teacher, etc.)
- Give each preteen three "Trophies."
 - For each person they thought of, direct kids to write on a trophy "[Name of person] is valuable to me because . . . " and then fill in the blank.
- Encourage preteens to think more about who each person is, as opposed to what they do.
- [Make it Personal] (Join the preteens in this activity and fill out three trophies as well.)
- Allow preteens to share some of their trophies with the group.
- Encourage preteens to tape their trophies on the "WALL OF HONOR."

2. Discussion Questions

[Application Activity]

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

What You Need: N/A

What You Do:

- Ask:
 - How did Jonathan put David's needs ahead of his own?
 - How can we be like Jonathan and honor our friends by putting them first?
 - When is it hard to honor someone by putting them first? (For example: What if your friend asks for your help practicing for a soccer try-out but you will miss something fun to do so? Or what if putting someone first means he or she will get more credit than you do? What if putting someone first costs you something?)
 - \circ $\;$ What can you do when it's hard to put someone's needs ahead of your own?

3. Make It Personal with Prayer

[Prayer Activity]

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

What You Need: "Trophy" activity pages

What You Do:

- Gather kids in a circle.
- Go around the circle and let each kid know why he or she is valuable to you. If possible, give each kid a "Trophy" you have filled out for them specifically.
- Close by praying for the kids in your group, thanking God for each kid by name.