

ALLEY SG – November 11- 13, 2023

Today's Bible Story: Permission to Dance (David Dances) • 2 Samuel 6:12b-22a

Today's Key Question: How can you show God you're grateful?

Today's Bottom Line: Celebrate what God has done.

Monthly Memory Verse: Give thanks to the Lord, because he is good. His faithful love continues forever. Psalm 136:1 (NIV)

1. Bible Story Extension

Bible Story Review

What You Need: Dice (2 per group)

What You Do:

- Have the kids take turns rolling both dice. (If you are in a big group, call a kid up to roll each round)
- Encourage them to answer the review question that corresponds with the number they rolled.
- If someone rolls a number already called, move onto someone else until all questions are answered.

Review Questions:

2. Who was the King over Israel in the story today? (*David*)
3. What was the gold chest that God instructed the people to build called? (*The ark of the covenant*)
4. What was kept inside the ark of the covenant? (*The 10 commandments*)
5. Why was the ark of the covenant such a big deal? (*because it was God's presence among the people*)
6. Where were they taking the ark of the covenant? (*To Jerusalem*)
7. What did David start doing when they were bringing the ark to Jerusalem? (*dancing*)
8. Why was David dancing? (*He loved the Lord and was celebrating what God had done*)
9. Why was David's wife Michal angry with his dancing? (*She thought he looked foolish*)
10. Did David stop dancing when he realized what she thought of his dancing? (*No*)
11. What is one way you can celebrate what God has done for you? (*dance, sing, tell others about God, serve Him, etc.*)
12. What is one thing you want to remember from this story? (*Answers will vary.*)

2. Take a Snapshot

Application Activity

What You Need: Paper plates (one per kid)

What You Do:

- Place paper plates (one per kid) on the floor in a circle a few feet apart.
- Ask kids to each choose a plate and place one foot on it.
- Explain that you will read a statement and the kids are to respond based on your statement.
 - If a kid agrees with the statement, instruct them to move in the direction you indicate and place their foot on top of another paper plate.
 - If a kid does not agree, instruct the kids to remain where they are.
 - There CAN be more than one kid's foot on a plate.
 - If there's not enough room for each kid's foot on a plate, direct them to put their foot on top of someone else's.

- Share the following statements, pausing for the kids to move appropriately.
 - Move two plates to the right if you thanked someone today.
 - Move four plates to the left if you thanked God for a meal this week.
 - Move two plates to the left if you know how to say THANK YOU in another language.
 - Move five plates to the right if you feel grateful to God right now.
 - Move three plates to the right if you could have been more grateful this week.
 - Move one plate to the left if you thanked a teacher for something this week.
 - Move one plate in any direction if you think it's easy to show God you're grateful.
 - Move two plates to the right if you wrote a note or text to thank someone recently.
 - Move three plates to the right if someone thanked you for something today.
 - Move one plate to the left if you want God to help you be more grateful.
 - Move two plates to the right if you got upset about something that happened this week.
 - Move four plates to the right if you sang a song of praise this week.
 - Move one plate in any direction if you danced this week.
- Continue with additional statements of your own that pertain to your kids or repeat some of the above.
- Play until several kid's feet are stacked up and everyone has had a chance to move around the circle.
- Finish the game by saying, "Move to your original plate if you think it's important to celebrate what God has done."
- If time allows, go back to some of the statements and invite kids to share details and stories behind the responses they gave.

3. Discussion Questions

- It's easy to forget all of the things God does for us. What can you do to help you remember and celebrate what God has done every day?
- Who else can you remember to appreciate?
- What can you do if you can't think of a reason to celebrate what God has done?
- Why does God deserve to be celebrated?

4. Verses to Take with You

Memory Verse Activity

What You Need: Bibles, "Psalm 98:4" Strips (5 sets per group)

What You Do:

- Instruct the kids to get into pairs.
- Give each pair a set of shuffled "Psalm 98:4" word strips.
- Challenge teams to race to arrange the strips in the order that makes most sense without them knowing the verse ahead of time.
 - Clue them in that the verse is something we should shout out every day.
- Instruct the kids to say "Done" when they think they have the correct order.
- Read Psalm 98:4 to see how closely their order matches the verse:
"Shout for joy to the Lord, everyone on Earth. Burst into joyful songs and make music."
- Discuss the meaning of Psalm 98:4.
 - Do you think God wants us to literally SHOUT for joy? Why or why not?
 - How does a grateful attitude impact how joyful you are?
 - When would remembering this verse help you have gratitude?
 - If you could give a shout out to God right now, what would you want to say?

5. Pray

- “Dear God, You are worthy of our greatest expression of gratitude and our most joyful celebration. We praise You for what You have done in the past and look forward to all You will do in the future. Help us remember to take time to say thank You. When we know Jesus, we always have something to celebrate as we follow Him. Amen.”

PARENT PICK UP POINT: Ask the kids to tell their parents one way they will celebrate what God has done for them this week.