

Sunday, June 7

Crossgates
Preschool

Crossgates
Kids



David Showed Mercy

1 Samuel 24

Scripture:

1 Samuel 24

Story Point:

David showed mercy to Saul. God shows us mercy and forgives us for sinning against Him when we trust in Jesus as our Lord and Savior!

Christ

Connection:

David showed mercy to Saul, his enemy, because David trusted God's plan. Jesus trusted His Father's plan too. He died on the cross so His enemies could have God's mercy and live forever as part of God's family.

David Showed Mercy to Saul

1 Samuel 24

David was hiding in the hills. He had served King Saul and won many battles, but now Saul was jealous of David and wanted to kill him. Saul went looking for David.

David and his men were hiding in the back of a cave when Saul happened to pass by. Saul decided to go inside the cave. David's men saw Saul. "Look!" they said. "God said He would give you your enemy. This is the day! You can do whatever you want to him!"

David got close to Saul and secretly cut off the corner of Saul's robe. Saul did not see David. After that, David felt upset about what he had done. He told his men, "I will not fight the king. God chose him."

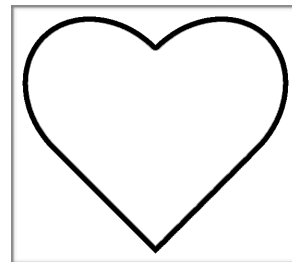
Saul left the cave and went on his way. David followed him and called out, "My lord the king!" Saul turned around, and David knelt low before him. "Why do you think I'm trying to hurt you?" David asked. "Look, I had a chance to hurt you, but I showed mercy."

David showed Saul the corner of the robe that he had cut.

Saul began to cry. "You are more righteous than I," Saul said, "because you have done what is good to me even though I have done what is evil to you. Most people would hurt an enemy, but you have let me go. May God reward you for being kind."

Saul knew God was with David and that David would be the king of Israel. Saul said, "Promise me you will not hurt my family when you are king." So David promised. Then Saul went home, and David and his men went back to the hills.

Hands-On Activities



Make Heart Art

- Help your kids or direct them to cut a heart shape from construction paper.
- Write JESUS IS OUR KING on the hearts.
- Let your kids decorate their hearts with whatever art supplies you have around the house and use the heart to explain to your kids God's love for us and how he shows us mercy.
- Say, "King Saul wanted to hurt David. David showed mercy to King Saul and did not hurt him back. Jesus is our King. Jesus shows us mercy when we do not deserve it."

Talk About It

While your family is gathered around the table for lunch or dinner, talk about the lesson again and talk through these questions:

Why was Saul looking for David? (Saul was jealous of David and wanted to hurt him.)

Where were David and his friends hiding? (in a cave)

What did David do to Saul when he came into the same cave?
(secretly cut off the corner of Saul's robe)

Did David hurt Saul or let him go? (let him go)

Who would be king of Israel after Saul? (David)

What did Saul ask David to promise him? (Saul asked him to promise not to hurt his family.)

How is Jesus the perfect King? Jesus perfectly rules over everything.

Look and Find

INSTRUCTIONS: Find the nine hidden items in the picture using the key as a guide.



BIBLE STORY SUMMARY:

- Saul wanted to hurt David and went looking for him.
- Saul went into the cave where David and his men were hiding.
- David showed mercy to Saul and did not hurt him.

KEY PASSAGE: Psalm 145:13a

BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

- How is Jesus the perfect King? Jesus perfectly rules over everything.

FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS:

- Why did Saul want to hurt David?
- What would you have done if you were David?
- Why did David show Saul mercy?
- How does Jesus show us mercy?

FAMILY ACTIVITY:

- As you discipline this week, choose an instance to show mercy to a child. Point her to the mercy we have in Jesus.
- Ask family members to identify someone he or she does not get along with. Make a list. Pray as a family daily for each person on the list for a week. Ask family members to tell how they feel about that person at the end of the week.

