



3RD - 5TH

11.3
David Became King



CONNECT TIME

Greet kids by name and play table games as kids arrive. Be sure to welcome any new families. Ask kids:

Have you ever wanted to do something but were told 'no'? How did that make you feel?



SNEAK UP

Start by 9:20/10:45

Choose one kid to be "It" and have them stand facing a wall with their eyes closed. The other kids line up on the opposite side of the room. One at a time, invite kids to quietly sneak toward It. If "It" hears someone, they may point to where they think the person is standing. If It points correctly, that child becomes the new "It". If "It" is incorrect, continue letting kids take turns sneaking closer. Play several rounds as time allows.

Today we'll hear how David was hiding in a cave while King Saul was searching for him. Saul had no idea David was there. David had the perfect chance to get back at Saul, who had been trying to kill him. But instead of taking revenge, David chose to show mercy because he trusted God. Let's find out why David made that choice.

START BY
9:30/10:55

REVIEW **3** BE, LISTEN, FOLLOW



LARGE GROUP

SMALL GROUP



BIBLE REVIEW

Distribute Bibles and guide kids to open to 1 Samuel 24. Choose a volunteer to read 1 Samuel 24:10.

- Why do you think David chose not to hurt Saul when he had the chance?
- What would have been easy for David to do in that moment? Why?
- How did David show that he trusted God?
- How is showing mercy different from simply ignoring when someone does something wrong?

David had the opportunity to get revenge on Saul, who was trying to kill him. Instead, David chose mercy because he trusted God to judge rightly and make things right. Mercy means choosing kindness and forgiveness instead of getting back at someone. God has shown us the greatest mercy through Jesus. Jesus never sinned, yet He chose to die on the cross to forgive our sins and bring us back to God. Because we have received God's mercy, He helps us show mercy to others.



DISCUSSION

Why is jealousy a sin? Jealousy is wanting something someone else has and letting that desire become more important than trusting God. Saul's jealousy showed he wanted the praise and attention of the people more than he wanted to honor God. His jealousy grew until he wanted to hurt David. God calls us to be thankful for what He has given us and to love others instead of comparing ourselves to them.

Is it easy to show mercy to someone who has hurt you? Why or why not? Showing mercy can be difficult, especially when someone has treated us unfairly. But God helps believers show mercy through the power of the Holy Spirit. We can choose kindness and forgiveness because we trust God is the perfect Judge and because He has already shown us great mercy through Jesus.

Saul said David was more righteous than him. What makes someone righteous?

David was not righteous because he was perfect. David was righteous because he trusted God. When we trust in Jesus, God forgives our sins and gives us the righteousness of Jesus. Jesus lived a perfect life, died for our sins, and rose again so we can be made right with God.



SHOW MERCY

Read the following situations. After each, ask the kids what showing mercy could look like.

- A friend leaves you out of a game.
- Your brother or sister breaks something that belongs to you.
- Someone says something mean about you.
- A classmate blames you for something you didn't do.
- A teammate gets upset and yells at you after you make a mistake.
- Someone accidentally spills a drink on your homework or project.
- A friend forgets to invite you to a birthday party.
- Someone apologizes after hurting your feelings.

David had the chance to get back at Saul, but he chose to show mercy instead. Mercy means choosing kindness and forgiveness, even when someone has hurt you. God has shown us the greatest mercy through Jesus. Because God has been merciful to us, He helps us show mercy to others.



Take prayer requests and allow kids to pray.



Match parent pick-up numbers, with child name tag numbers.
Build relationships with parents, encourage them to take a picture of the parent recap page to go over on the ride home.