

## Jonathon and David Remain Faithful ■ Lesson 9

Bible Reference: 1 Samuel 20:41-42

Bible Point: Friends care for each other even when they're apart

Bible Verse: "A friend is always loyal" (Proverbs 17:17a)

### Preparing for the Lesson: Prayer

- Read John 15:12.
- What were the characteristics of Jesus' love for us? How can you be that kind of friend?
- Pray: God, help me to be the kind of friend that Jonathan was, giving up my own rights to support one who counts on me. I ask that the children in my class would learn the characteristics that make them God-honoring friends.

### Engage Pre-Story:

'Paper Friends'....Supplies: modeling dough

Ask each child to think about a friend who is not here today and then form a modeling-dough likeness of the friend.

While children are busy, circulate and praise their creative efforts with statements like "I can tell how much you like your friend. You made a big smile on your friend's face." Point out that God helps us remember our friends and that *friends care for each other even when they're apart*.

### Share the Story:

Check out the lesson video on dbKids.org. Below is a simplified version of the story found in Genesis. Depending on your children's ability to understand, you may lead them using the following poem or read directly from the Word of God. Other options would be to find a children's story bible to read from, watch a short video about Joseph, or act out the story with older family members.

Begin by asking the children what they remember from last week's bible lesson. They may even want to act out the story thus far. Sit with children in a circle on the floor and prompt them to recall the facts of the story thus far.

**Question Ask:**

- **Were David and Jonathan good friends at the beginning of the story? Explain.** (Yes, because they shared; Jonathan gave David his armor.)
- **What are David and Jonathan doing in this last picture?** (Saying goodbye to each other; promising to always be friends.)
- **Can they still be friends even if David goes away? Why or why not?** (Yes, they'll remember each other; yes, they could write letters.)

Say: **God wants us to know that we can love our friends even when we're apart. If we go on vacation or move away from our friends, we still care about those friends. Our love doesn't go away. The love and caring we feel for friends stays in our hearts no matter where we are.**

**Get the Bible Out and Read 1 Samuel 20:41-42**

Ask: • **Who can tell about a time you had to leave a friend?** (I moved when I was 4; my friend moved last summer.)

Allow a few children to share their experiences.

Say: ***Friends care for each other even when they're apart.* God can help us remember our friends, pray for them, and care for them even if they go away, just as the cool setting on this hair dryer kept the names from disappearing this time.**

Say: **There is another friend who had to go away— Jesus! Jesus came to live on earth for a while, but then he left to go back to heaven. But his love for us doesn't go away.**

**Question Ask:**

- **How do you know Jesus loves you?** (You told me that here at church; the Bible says he does.)
- **How do you think Jesus felt when he had to go back to heaven?** (I think he was sad because he had to leave all his friends; I think he was happy because he was going to heaven.)

Say: **David and Jonathan were sad to say goodbye to each other; but they knew in their hearts that *friends care for each other even when they're apart.* David and Jonathan's story shows us that love doesn't go away even if we are separated from our friends.**

Do the Bible Story: Jonathon and David Remain Faithful

Pick up a packet at DBCC with craft items prepared for each child. Remind children that *Friends stick up for each other.*