



Date: _____

Series: God Is Our King
Fall Year 1, Lesson 16

David Dances with Joy Before the Lord

Bible Event: 2 Samuel 6:11-15

Take Home Point: *GOD IS OUR KING – *Dance, shout, and sing to the King.*

*Repeat this phrase throughout the lesson. The leader will say the first part of the phrase (CAPS). The children respond with the second part of the phrase (*italics*).

Jesus Link: Because Jesus sent us his Spirit, God is always with us. Therefore, we want to worship God.

What kids will learn about God in this worship experience:

- Kids will learn that King David worshipped with all of his might—even singing, shouting and dancing. We can do the same if we are happy about God's presence with us.
- King David danced and worshipped before the Lord as he was bringing the Ark of the Covenant to Jerusalem. The ark is a special reminder of God's presence.
- We are reminded of God's presence when we see the cross reminding us that Jesus gave his life for us and is still with us today.



Welcome Zone: (15-20 minutes)

Purpose: While kids arrive, give them a simple learning readiness activity that requires minimal supervision. This might include a video, games, blocks, or puzzles.

Video Suggestion: Choose a video and list it here.

Activity Suggestion: Blocks, toys, puzzles, paper, and crayons.



Opening Worship: (10-15 minutes)

Children can bring forward the cross, candles, Bible, offering plate, and treasure box. The treasure box contains the props used to tell or dramatize the Bible event. Open with a simple prayer, having the children repeat after you. Collect offering and talk about how God will use it.

Praise Songs:

Choose two or three songs and list them here.

Bible Event: The Mystery Box

The Mystery Box contains objects that will help the presenter tell the Bible event in creative fashion. They can be lifted out and shown as the story is told. Another option is to have a hole cut in the top of the box so that a child could put a hand in and guess what the object is before it is shown.

The mystery box is used to tell the Bible event with the aid of various objects. What can make today's Bible event exciting is that all the children can participate as they are handed musical instruments.

Tell the following story as you hand out the objects.

Many years ago, long before Jesus was born, there lived a king who loved God very much. Show the crown. The king's name was David. God had chosen him to be King over God's people.

King David lived in the wonderful city of Jerusalem. He wanted it to be a place where all of God's people could come and worship. He knew that singing songs to God and telling God that you love him is very important. Now, in the land of Israel was a special golden box called the Ark of the Covenant. Can everyone say, "Ark of the Covenant?"

Let me show you a picture. Show picture of the Ark of the Covenant. This golden box had two beautiful golden angels on top looking down.

It was very special because God had commanded the people to make it. It was to remind them that God was with them wherever they go. When people saw the ark, or thought about it, they could always remember how God kept his promises to them.

David wanted everyone to worship God, so he went to find the Ark of the Covenant and bring it to Jerusalem. He found it on the farm of a man named Obed Edom. As long as the Ark had been at Obed Edom's farm, good things had happened to him. God was showing the people that he was with them, even though they couldn't see him. To carry the Ark of the Covenant to Jerusalem, it was attached to two very long poles. Special men, called priests, would pick up the poles and carry the Ark. Everyone was excited that God was with his people and that the Ark of the Covenant was coming to Jerusalem.

The people began to walk toward Jerusalem. They walked six steps. Can you count with me? One, two, three, four, five, six and stopped. Then David announced, "We must dance, shout, and sing to the King." He was talking about God as the King.

All the people worshipped God. Would you like to do that now? Pass out the musical instruments. Let's use our instruments and play a song as we dance, shout and sing to the King.

After the song, gather the children together and conclude:

Today we no longer have an Ark of the Covenant that reminds us that God is with us. But we have something even better. God sent his own Son, Jesus. Does anyone know what Jesus did for us so our sins could be taken away and we could be friends with God? Right, he died on the cross. Did he stay dead? No, he rose again and is alive, right here, even though we can't see him. But there is something that reminds us that Jesus is with us. It's this. Show the cross. The cross is empty because Jesus is alive and with us right here. That is why we have a cross at the place where we worship. When we see it, we are reminded that we can dance, shout and sing to the King. The King we sing about and for is Jesus.



Action Zones: (20-30 minutes)

Purpose: Children move at their leisure to the activities according to their interest. Adults are assigned to oversee each of the zones, watching for safety, assisting any activity, and helping the children connect to the lesson of the day. All zones are introduced at the beginning of Zone Time. Some suggested zones are included below. It is usually best to have all children go to the Snack Zone first. Sing a blessing song or say a snack prayer together before dismissing to the zones. During the Zone Time, children may arrive from mid-service dismissal if this is an option at your church. Be prepared to welcome the children and invite them to choose a zone.

Snack Zone: Bugles – represent an instrument or a megaphone.

Drama Zone: Provide dress-up clothes for David and the priests, a box for the Ark, and musical instruments. Have the children lead a music parade.

Puppet Zone: Have the children use puppets to act out songs and dances of worship and praise. They may want to form a puppet parade!

Felt Zone: Use felt board materials to show the story of King David from today's Bible event. (For example, materials can be found in #68, "David Crowned King," from *Betty Lukens Through the Bible in Felt*.)

Craft Zone: Provide a blank sheet of paper for the children to color or decorate. Roll the paper into a megaphone shape and tape it. Attach a pre-made label that says "Dance, shout, sing to the King." Use the megaphones to shout to the Lord.

Play Zone: Play "David Says" (Simon Says). Phrases to use: shout to the King, jump in place, turn in a circle, sing la-la-la-la-la, do jumping jacks, hop from one foot to the other, etc. Do anything related to shouting, singing, or dancing.

Quiet Reading Zone: Basket of books, include any stories about King David.

Music Zone: Combine with Drama Zone to create a parade. Music: *The Spirit of the Lord*, by Doug Larsen, from the CD titled, *Jesus Just Hold Me*.

Coloring Zone: "David Dances with Joy before the Lord" coloring page.

Safety and Security: Safety and security procedures are important for each church to carefully define and implement according to their unique needs. The security, safety, illness and accident procedures described in this curriculum are provided for example purposes only and may not be appropriate, applicable or adequate for every situation. Each church is responsible for determining whether any security, safety, illness and accident procedures contained in the curriculum are appropriate, applicable or adequate for its unique situation. The activities described in this curriculum require adult supervision and may not be suitable for each child and each situation. Each church is responsible for ensuring that adequate adult supervision is provided for all activities and for determining whether an activity is appropriate for each child and each situation. Kids Kount Publishing disclaims all liability for the implementation of any procedures or the performance of any activities described in this curriculum.



Closing Worship: (20 minutes)

Purpose: As you empty the zones and clean up, begin the music so the children can start wandering over.

Worship Songs:

Choose one or two songs and list them here.

Bible Application with Puppet Presentation:

Purpose: The puppet demonstrates the need that will be met in today's lesson. The scripts are not written verbatim, but give a story line in which the group leader can interact with the puppet.

Props: tambourines, triangles, horns, and/or any item that might be used for music. Play your choice of praise music.

Judy comes out with a garland of flowers or a crown on her head. She sings and dances as she comes to the children. She said she heard some music and wanted to join them and dance. The presenter shares with the children the story of King David dancing and praising God for the return of the Ark of the Covenant to Jerusalem. King David even took off his robe and his crown and began to dance, shout and sing for the Heavenly King, God. All the people joined him in praising God.

Now, let's sing a song and use our instruments, as we pretend that we are carrying the Ark of the Covenant back to Jerusalem.

Judy can remain for the final song and dance and sing with the children.

Conclude by gathering the children around the cross and say once again ***GOD IS OUR KING—Dance, shout, and sing to the King,** as you sing a praise song for Jesus.

Prayer Time:

Purpose: Allow children to contribute their own prayers. This will teach them to turn to God in both good times and in times of trouble. End with the Lord's Prayer.

"Children Pray" Options: (select one from the options below)

_____ **Prayer Train Option:** Children line up and take turns stepping in front of the microphone and speak their brief prayers of thanksgiving.

_____ **Prayer Chair:** Children stand in a circle around one child sitting on a chair in the middle. All children in the circle will lay a hand on the child sitting in the chair as they say a prayer together.

_____ **Popcorn Prayer:** The leader moves through the crowd with a microphone and taps children on the head to stand and speak their prayer.

Lord's Prayer: Lead the children through the Lord's Prayer, phrase by phrase, or let them pray the entire Prayer along with you.

Blessing:

May God, who is all around you,
pour his love upon you.

(Beginning at the bottom of the circle, slowly make large circle with your hands. Finish by bringing your hands down and wiggling your fingers to resemble rain.)

And Jesus, his life a sacrifice,
walk right there beside you.

(Slowly make a large sign of the cross. Then move your hands out to the sides.)

And may God's Holy Spirit,
the one who lives inside you,

(Cross hands over your heart.)

keep you strong,
comfort, lead and guide you!

(Move to a "strong man" position. Then cross your arms with your hands on corresponding upper arms to communicate comfort. Bring one hand forward with "lead" and the other with "guide" to complete the blessing.)

Song of Sending:

Choose one song and list it here.



Closing Zones:

Purpose: Children go to an activity zone, such as the coloring zone, quiet reading zone, and children's Christian music video zone, as they wait for their parents.

Supplies:

Welcome Zone:

- blocks, toys, puzzles, paper, crayons

Opening Worship:

- cross, candles, Bible, offering plate
- The Mystery Box, with the following contents:
 - Bible
 - small cross
 - picture of the Ark of the Covenant
 - crown
- wide array of musical instruments or rhythm instruments (Try to have enough so all the children may participate.)

Action Zones:

Snack Zone:

- Bugles – representing an instrument or a megaphone

Drama Zone:

- dress-up clothes for David and the priests, a box for the Ark, and musical instruments

Puppet Zone:

- puppets to act out songs and dances of worship and praise; they may want to form a puppet parade

Felt Zone:

- Use felt board and materials to show the story of King David from today's Bible event (For example, materials can be found in #68, "David Crowned King," from *Betty Lukens Through the Bible in Felt*—order from www.bettylukens.com)

Craft Zone:

- a blank sheet of paper for each child
- crayons, markers, etc. to decorate paper
- tape
- stickers* (Avery 5160) that read "Dance, shout, sing to the King"

Play Zone:

- no supplies

Quiet Reading Zone

- basket of books, include any stories you have about King David

Music Zone:

- combine with Drama Zone to create a parade; Music: *The Spirit of the Lord*, by Doug Larsen, from the CD titled, *Jesus Just Hold Me* (order through Doug Larsen Ministries, 206 East Ciro, Truman, MN 56088) or use your own choice of music.

Coloring Zone:

- crayons and markers
- "David Dances with Joy before the Lord" coloring page[†]

Closing Worship:

- costumed characters (David, Obed Edom & Wife)

Closing Zones:

- colored pencils
- paper
- basket of books