Samuel

“David and Jonathan’s Friendship”

Series Objective:

Students will learn:

* The story of how Eli’s sons and Samuel chose different roads under Eli’s leadership
* The story of how Saul became the first king of Israel
* The story of David serving king Saul
* The story of David and Jonathan’s friendship

Series Theme Verse: “Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.” –Psalm 119:105

Lesson Objective: For students to understand the importance of good friends and being a good friend.

Lesson Passage: 1 Samuel 18:1-4, 1 Samuel 19:1-7

Materials Needed: Bibles, Butcher Paper or white board, marker, construction paper, crayons or markers, Series Theme Verse on poster

Lesson Plan:

Talking Points: 1 Samuel 18:1-4

* Who became close friends with David? (Jonathan, King Saul’s son)
* What does it mean that Jonathan loved David? (Jonathan saw David as a close friend, a brother, a best friend)
* When Jonathan and David became close friends, did David go live at home? (No, he stayed with King Saul and Jonathan)
* Why did Jonathan give David his Royal Robe and sword and belt? (Because he was showing David that what was Jonathan’s was now David’s. They were now bound together as the closest of friends, David was no longer just a servant)

Talking Points: 1 Samuel 19:1-7

* Who decided to kill David? (King Saul)
* Why would he want to kill David? (Maybe because he saw David as a threat, remember, David was chosen by God to be the next king of Israel)
* Who did Saul tell to kill David? (Jonathan and his servants)
* Did Jonathan kill David? (No, he warned David to hide)
* What was Jonathan’s plan to save David’s life? (He will have David hide in a field and then Saul will go with Jonathan to the field and Jonathan will tell Saul all the good things about David. He will then tell David what his dad says)
* Did Jonathan do what he said he would do? (Yes, he told Saul good things about David and begged Saul not to kill David)
* Here you can summarize the story of David and Goliath if it helps the students understand the context, especially if some have never heard the story.
* Does Saul spare David’s life? (Yes, he agrees not to kill David because he has no reason to)
* What did Jonathan do after Saul agrees not to kill David? (He tells David that he is safe and David returns to serve Saul.)
* This would not be the only time that Jonathan saved David’s life; he does it again in 1 Samuel 20. Jonathan was a true friend to David.

The Story Retold:

* Remind students that it is important to have good friends who help you be a better person and who are there to help you.
* It is also important that we learn to be good friends to others in our lives.
* Jonathan and David show us what friendship should look like.
* On a white board or butcher paper, record the answers of students to the question, “What makes a good friend?”
* List as many things as possible and maybe even help the students get started, tying back some characteristics to the story of David and Jonathan, like loving – David and Jonathan loved each other like brothers.
* After you have a good list, give each student a piece of construction paper and have them write their names down the long edge to make an acrostic poem.
* For each letter in their names, have them put an element of what makes a good friend, turning their name into a list of qualities that they should strive for in being a friend.
* As a group, you can do one with your name to help students understand how to create their own Friendship Acrostic.

The Story and Me:

* This is the last week for the Series Theme Verse, so give students a chance to say the verse from memory as an individual.
* Ask the group of students how they can live out the verse they have been learning for the last four weeks.