

Today's Bible Story: We're Going to Be Friends (David and Jonathan) • *1 Samuel 20*
(supporting: *1 Corinthians 13:4-8*)

Today's Bottom Line: Friends love one another.

Monthly Memory Verse: *A friend loves at all times. They are there to help when trouble comes.* Proverbs 17:17 (NIRV)

Monthly Life App: Friendship—Using your words and actions to show others you care

Basic Truth: I should treat others the way I want to be treated.

Worship & Bible Story

READ TO CHILD

“David and Jonathan went through a LOT together. But through it all, they stayed friends! God had a big plan for David, and it would have been easy for Jonathan to feel jealous of him. But Jonathan chose friendship first. We can show God's love to each other through our friendships.

“Remember ... **Friends love one another.**”

“Here's the thing. If you really want to love people the way God wants you to, you need God's help. After all, God knows us better than anyone! He loves us so much that He sent Jesus to die on the cross for our sins. He gave us the BEST example of love. With His help, we can choose to be good friends to everyone around us. We can choose to **treat others the way we want to be treated.**

“What does love really look like? Well, the apostle Paul actually wrote about that.

1 Corinthians 13:4-7 (NIRV) and read.

“Love is patient. Love is kind . . . It does not brag. It is not proud . . . It does not keep track of other people's wrongs . . . It always protects. It always trusts. It always hopes. It never gives up.

“That's what love is! So, the next time you have an awesome new toy or gadget, show love by sharing it with a friend. Show love by letting your FRIEND decide what to do when you hang out together. If you have a friend who's going through a tough time, show love by spending time with them.

Application Activity

1. Hidden Pictures

What You Need: "David and Jonathan Story Pictures" Activity Pages (print pages 3-6)

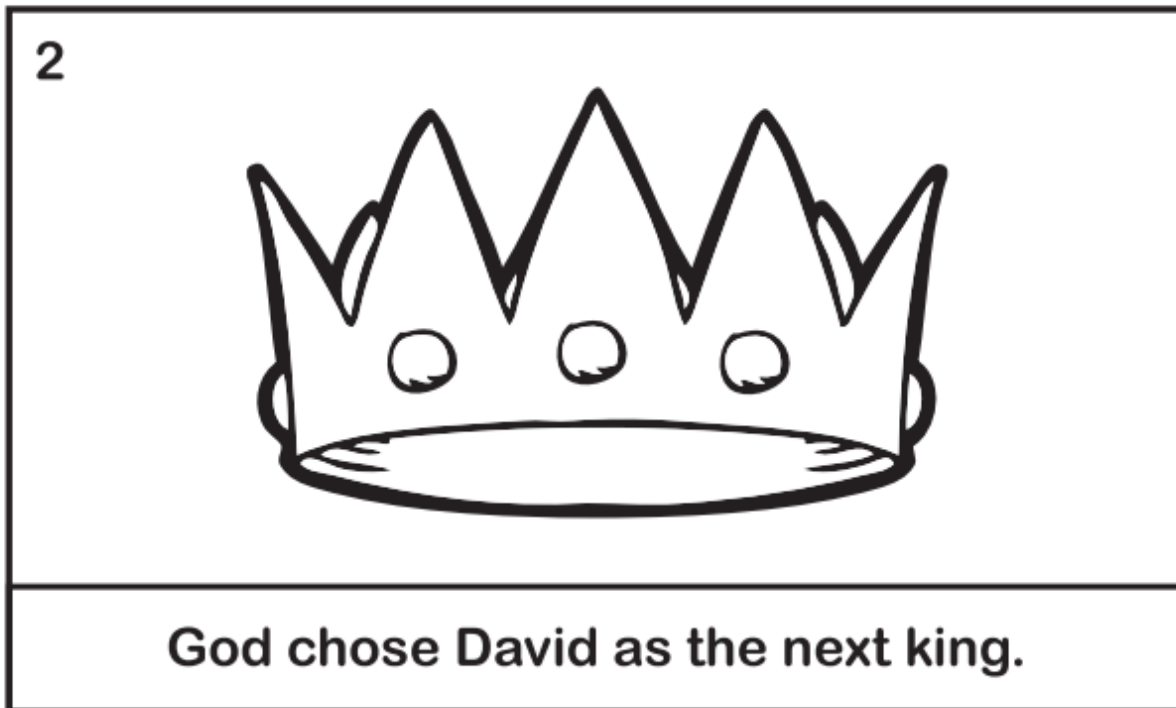
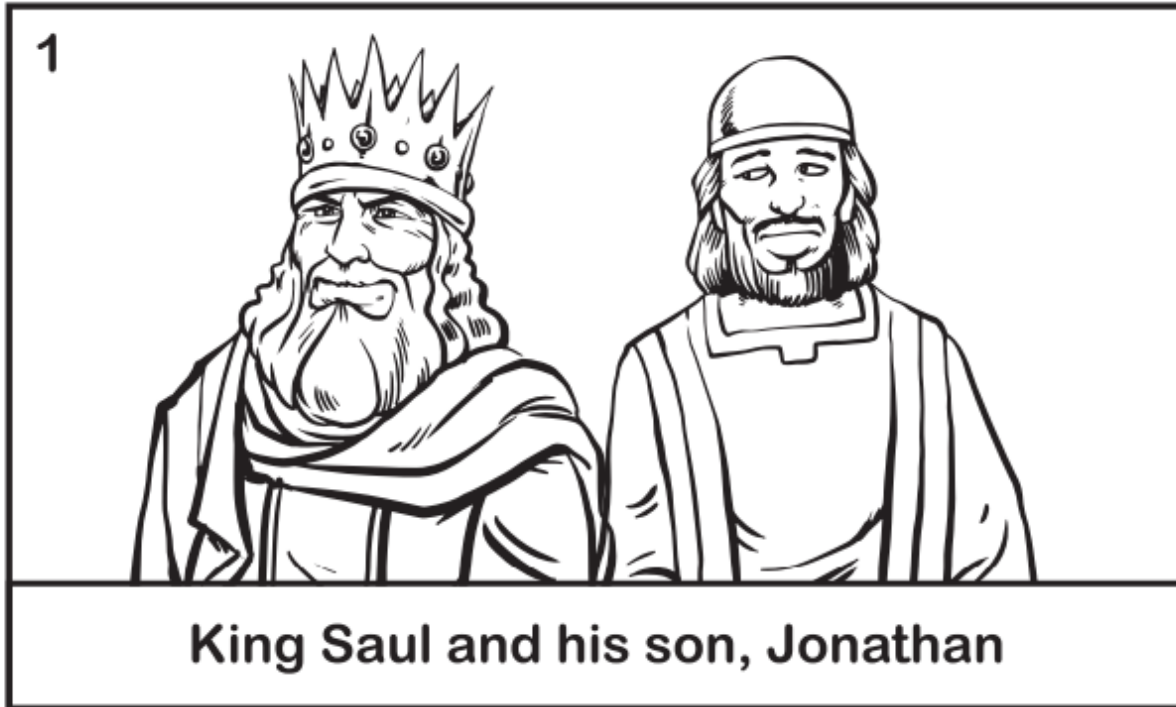
What You Do:

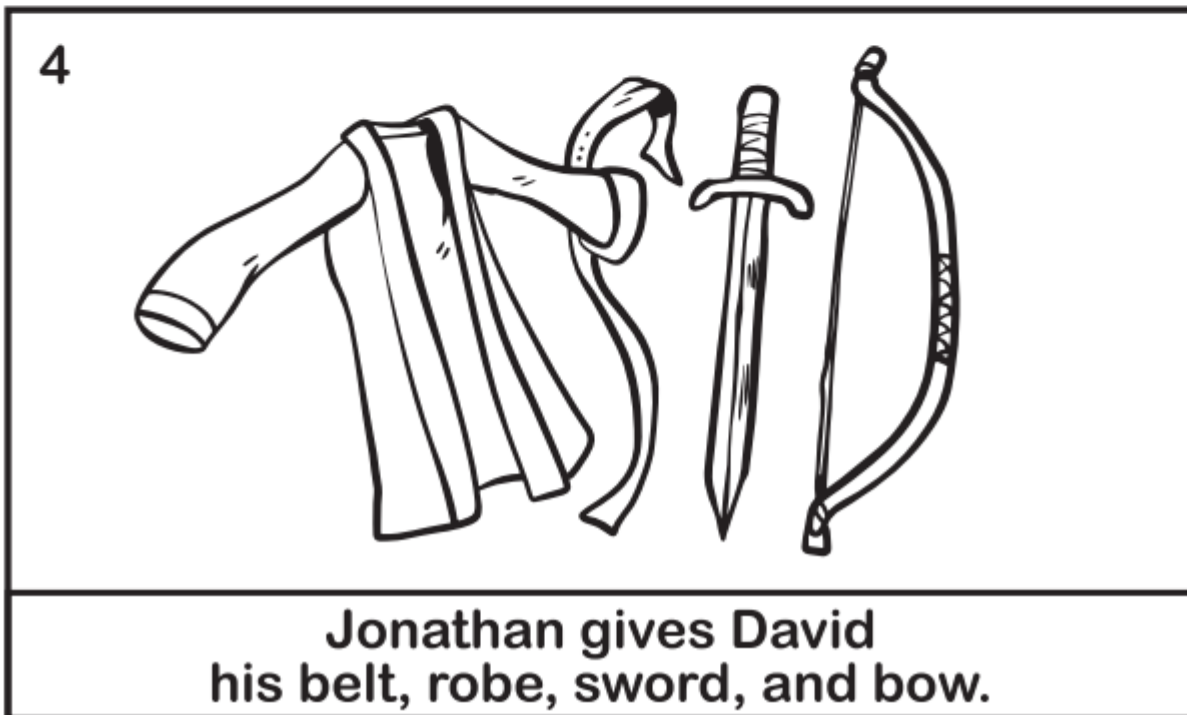
- Print and cut out the pictures from pages 3-6.
- Mix up the pictures and have child put in order.
- Hold up each picture as you use the text below to review the story:
 - Picture #1: King Saul was in charge, and his son's name was Jonathan.
 - Picture #2: God chose David as the next king.
 - Picture #3: Though David was chosen as king instead of Jonathan, the boys were still best friends.
 - Picture #4: Jonathan gave David his best things—his robe, belt, sword, and bow.
 - Picture #5: King Saul became so jealous that he tried to kill David.
 - Picture #6: Jonathan was worried for his friend. He had a secret plan to warn David.
 - Picture #7: When they realized David was in trouble, the two friends had to say goodbye.
 - Picture #8: Open your Bible to 1 Corinthians 13:4-8a and read it aloud.
- ASK:
 - How did Jonathan feel about David being the next king? Was he jealous? (*Jonathan was David's best friend. He wasn't jealous of David. He protected David.*)
 - What about David? Did he brag about being the next king or make Jonathan feel bad about it? (*No, David didn't brag. He was Jonathan's friend.*)
 - What does it mean to be patient and kind with your friends? (*You let them choose what game you play. You don't do something mean out of anger when they do something that frustrates you.*)

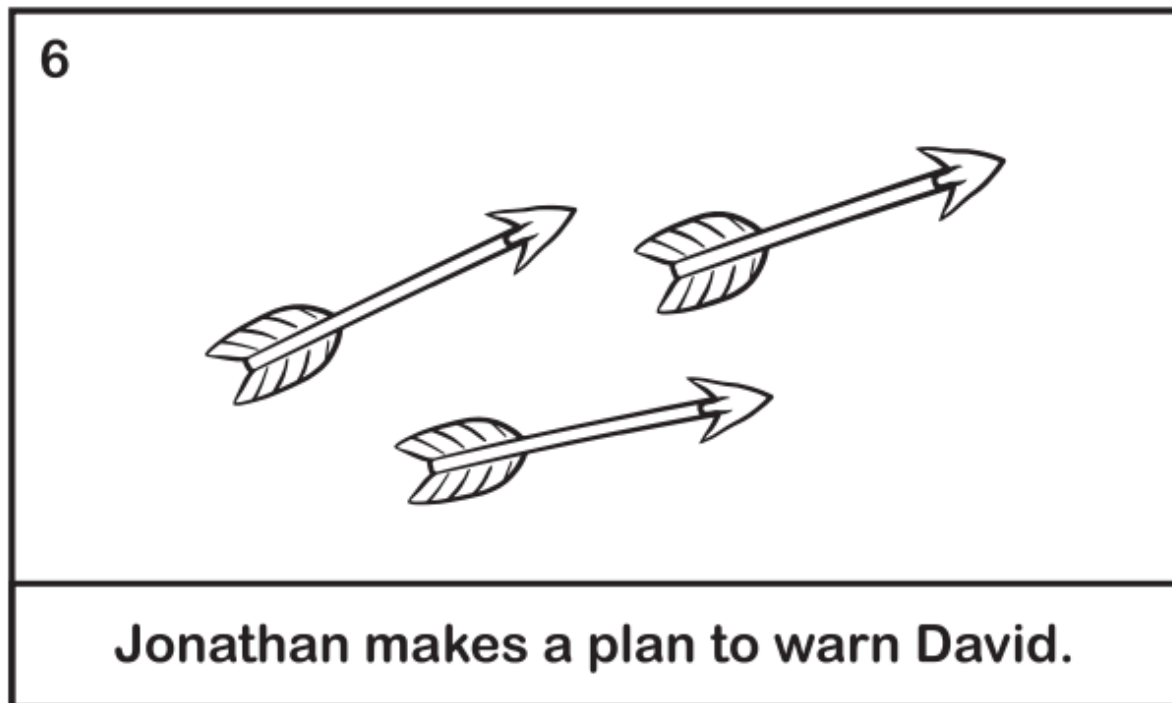
What You Say:

"I love this story of two best friends! David was chosen as the next king, but Jonathan, King Saul's son, wasn't angry. He loved David, and even gave David his favorite things. And when King Saul became jealous and tried to kill David, Jonathan stepped up to protect him. Jonathan and David show us that **[Bottom Line] friends love one another.**

"The verses from 1 Corinthians 13 show us what love looks like. When **[Bottom Line] friends love one another**, they are patient and kind. They aren't jealous or braggy, and they don't easily get angry. That's how David and Jonathan treated each other, and we can, too!"








7



David and Jonathan say goodbye.

8



1 Corinthians 13:4-8

Memory Verse & Prayer

What You Need: "Memory Verse Phrases" Activity Page, small paper bag.

What You Do: Print page 8, cut out strips and put in bag.

What You Say:

"I love this verse! It's a powerful reminder of how important it is to love your friends at all times. It's easy to love your friends when things are going well and it doesn't cost you anything. However, in today's story, Jonathan showed his love for David by sacrificing his stuff and his right to be the king. That's not easy to do! I hope you have the opportunity this week to practice this verse through your actions. When you find ways to give up something for your friends, you show them that **friends love one another.**"

PRAYER

"God, it's so cool to see how David and Jonathan stuck together—even in some pretty crazy situations. Please, help us have strong friendships like they did. Help us be willing to share with each other and defend each other when times get tough. Thank You for loving us so much that You sent Jesus for us. Help us share Your love with our friends every day. We love You, and we ask these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

(KEEP THIS ACTIVITY FOR NEXT WEEK.)

"A friend

loves at

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Proverbs 17:17, NIV

WHAT TO DO:

"Memory Verse Phrases, NIV" Activity Page