

ROTATION UNIT 10 – YOUNG DAVID

Rotation Objectives

- Children learn three stories about David as a young person.
- Children learn that David was blessed by God because David had a heart for God.

Weekly Kickoff Topics

- Introducing Young David, and the stories of his anointing, David and Goliath, and playing for King Saul.
- Recap David, with a focus on anointing.
- Recap David, with a focus on the Goliath story.
- Recap David, with a focus on playing lyre for King Saul.

STATION 1 - GAMES

Station Overview: The children make a Goliath target, and then play a game trying to knock down the target, as a way to remember the story of David and Goliath.

Supplies Needed:

- Cardboard or cardstock
- Markers
- Three pairs of socks
- Scissors

Lesson Plan:

1. Remind the participants that we are exploring three stories from the life of King David before he becomes king: being anointed by Samuel; the fight with Goliath; and playing music for King Saul.
2. Share that one of the most famous Bible stories is the one of David and Goliath. It is an epic tale of courage and faith, and of the little guy standing up to face a giant. It is also a good reminder of having faith that God is with you, even when you face challenges.
3. Share that today we are going to have some fun by playing a game where we try to battle with Goliath.
4. Preparation:
 - a. Take a piece of cardstock, and hold it vertically. Carefully fold back about 1" of the left and right sides so the paper can stand upright.

b. Use the markers to draw a picture of Goliath on the paper.



c. Get a sock. Starting at the toe, roll up the sock into a ball (tucked into itself to hold it together). Repeat with the other socks.

5. Playing the Game

- Find a space in which it is safe to throw socks.
- Set up the Goliath target at a distance suitable for the age of the participants.
- Take some practice rounds to throw the sock balls at the target, and to make sure it is at a reasonably challenging distance.
- When ready to play, explain that each person will throw their sock balls, one at a time, at the Goliath target. The person who knocks the target down the most times will win and be the hero of this battle.
- If there is a tie, move the target back, and play again, repeating as necessary until there is a winner.

STATION 2 – ARTS & CRAFTS

Station Overview: The children make a paper bag sheep puppet. As they do, they discuss the things shepherds do to protect their sheep. They then discuss the idea that Jesus is like a shepherd to us.

Supplies Needed:

- Paper lunch bag (white if possible)
- Black construction paper
- Scissors
- Glue or Glue Stick

- White tissue paper, white tissues, or cotton balls
- Googly Eyes (or drawn googly eyes)

Lesson Plan:

1. Remind the participants that we are exploring three stories from the life of King David before he becomes king: being anointed by Samuel; the fight with Goliath; and playing music for King Saul.
2. Share that today we are going to talk about the first job David had as a boy: a shepherd. Discuss what a shepherd does, and the important role the shepherd plays in protecting the flock from danger, guiding the flock to safe water and grazing fields, and keeping the flock together.
3. Next share the ideas that we call Jesus the Good Shepherd, because he watches over his flock of believers. (Jesus leads us in the right direction, protects us from evil and death, looks for us when we wander off, etc.)
4. Share that today we are going to make a sheep, so that we can remember David was a shepherd, and that we are the sheep for the Good Shepherd, Jesus.
5. Crafting:
 - a. Using the paper bag as a guide for size, cut out a sheep's head (broad egg shape, with the broad end being the top of the head) and two ears (flattened ovals) out of the black construction paper.
 - b. Glue the head and ears onto the flap of the paper bag.



- c. Cut square pieces off the tissue paper or tissues. Crumple them up and glue them to the main portion of the paper bag. You can put these on the front and the back. Note: if using cotton balls, you can simply glue the balls to the bag.
- d. Glue two googly eyes, or two drawn eyes to the face of the sheep.

6. Enjoy playing with your sheep!

STATION 3 – PHOTOGRAPHY

Station Overview: The children take photos to capture elements from the three stories of young David. These photos can either be re-enactments of the stories, or images reflecting aspects from the stories.

Supplies Needed:

- A cell phone with a camera or a digital camera
- A means of printing the photos (optional)

Lesson Plan:

1. Remind the participants that we are exploring three stories from the life of King David before he becomes king: being anointed by Samuel; the fight with Goliath; and playing music for King Saul.
2. Share that in our activity today we are going to create photographs that will remind us of these stories. There are two ways you can choose to do this, depending on your preferences:
 - a. Option 1 - Act out these stories, and take photos to capture the action. This is a great option for getting a family involved in this activity. Gather up some suitable props and simple costume elements to help set the scenes, and have fun.
 - b. Option2 - Go out and find real-world examples of the main themes of each story: a heart for God; courage; and, comforting others. This option works better for families with older students who can think a bit more abstractly.
3. After taking your photos, print them out.
4. Call or visit a friend or family member. Use the photos you have taken to share the stories you have learned, or how you see the lessons of the stories in the world today.

STATION 4 - MUSIC

Station Overview: The children explore the 23rd Psalm as an example of David's prayers and praise set to music.

Supplies Needed:

- Computer, phone, or tablet to watch video
- A Bible

Lesson Plan:

1. Remind the participants that we are exploring three stories from the life of King David before he becomes king: being anointed by Samuel; the fight with Goliath; and playing music for King Saul.

2. Share that David had many talents, including the gifts of writing poetry and playing the lyre. In our story about David, we see that David was brought to play for King Saul when Saul was tormented, and David's music was able to bring King Saul some peace and rest.
3. Open a Bible to the Book of Psalms. Explain that Psalms are poems that were set to music. Many of these psalms were written by David, and they were written down so that God's people could know them. We read Psalms in our worship services even today!
4. Share that Psalm 23 is one of the best known and best liked Psalms. (Open your Bible to the 23rd Psalm.) Explain that it is thought that this Psalm was written by David. In it, David compares all of the good and wonderful things God does to the work of a good shepherd taking care of his sheep. Read the 23rd Psalm together.
5. Share that while we do not know the original tune to which the 23rd Psalm might have been sung, there are many people who have taken the words and set them to modern music.
6. On your digital device, go to the following link on YouTube:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4cp478Gxs-0> (Kids Worship: Psalm 23). Listen to the video.
7. Discuss the following:
 - a. Which way of hearing the 23rd Psalm did you like more? Why?
 - b. Does hearing the psalm being sung help you to remember the words at all? Why or why not?
 - c. If you were trying to make the 23rd Psalm into a song, what kind of tune and/or musical instruments would you use? How does this compare to the ones in the video?
8. Share that the remarkable thing about Psalms is that they were written thousands of years ago, but they still can inspire our worship and praise. The same can be true in works of art, architecture, literature, and music. It is important to remember that using our artistic and creative talents can often inspire others in their faith for many, many years. So if you have gifts in these areas, be sure to think about how you can use them to share God's love with others!