



*October 16, 2016*

Dear Teacher,

This week we continue to learn about the consequences of David's sin with Bathsheba. One of those consequences is Absalom's rebellion against David. David flees for his life, and just as before, the Lord takes care of David while he hides. It is important to note that even in the worst of times, as in this story, God has not left nor forsaken David, but fully intends to keep His promise to David. That promise is that God will always be with David, and the other is that David will be king. We also see an unbelievable picture of God's love in our story. Despite Absalom's wish for David to die, David only wants what is best for Absalom and loves him greatly. In our own rebellion against God, He deals gently and kindly with us; so much as to suffer death for us to live. This kind of love is unparalleled and we see a glimpse of it in our story.

We encourage all classrooms to engage with the story from the options provided in class. Teachers, tell the story using any of the provided helps (Vos, Jesus Story Book Bible, Gospel Story Book Bible or printed Handout). If you would like, read the selected Scripture passages aloud in class, discuss or explain what the passages mean, and use the questions below to help guide the discussion. Also, use time in class to teach the Scripture Memory and the Catechism Questions.

## Morning Overview

**Lesson:** *Kings: David Is Restored*

**Lesson Objective:** To communicate to children that God always keeps His promises despite circumstances and even our inability to trust Him. God wants us to trust Him and obey His commands.

**Scripture:** 2 Samuel 17-19 (selected portions)

**Story:** Vos Children's Bible, Chapter 75 (Pages 159-163).

### Teaching Summary:

- God's promises do not change despite circumstances, people and even our inability to believe them. God keeps his promises even when we do not trust Him or follow His commands.
- God had given His people a king in the shepherd, David.
- King David loved and trusted God, but King David sinned against God by taking Bathsheba as his wife. This has severe consequences.
- Nathan confronts King David about his sin; David looks to God for forgiveness, which God gives willingly.
- King David though has to endure the consequences of his sin, and one of those is his son, Absalom, taking the kingdom from David.
- David is forced to flee and once again trust that God will keep His promises to him.
- Absalom takes bad advice from one of his advisors. King David is able to gather a large army to fight Absalom.
- Absalom dies in battle and David mourns for his son.
- David is able to return to Jerusalem as king once the rebellion is put down. Many people were glad that David was still king.

## 9:30am Sunday Schedule

For the Sunday Schedule, please see "Sunday Schedule for Preschool" found in Handbook on the teacher's table

### Cherub Church

- Kindergarten/5's – 9:35-10:00 (Classroom's: 162, 163, 121, 123, 124)
- 3's/4's – 10:05-10:30 (Classroom's: 166, 165, 164)

*Craft:* Arrow

*Supplies:* Black triangles, straw, feathers, verse circle, tape, stapler

*Instructions:* Place black triangle on either side of straw end and staple to straw, place feathers in opposite end of straw (tape if needed), place verse circle on triangle.



**Snack**

## 11am Sunday Schedule

*Craft:* Tamborine

*Supplies:* 2 paper plates, bells, ribbon, verse sticker, note stickers, ribbon, crayons/markers, stapler

*Instructions:* Place verse sticker in center of plate, decorate plate, add note stickers, place several bells on second plate, staple plates together, tie ribbons through holes in plate.



**Story:** *Kings:* David Is Restored

1. **PRAY** for your time and any requests the children may have.
2. **ASK** the Transition Question: Children, one of our catechism questions (Question 11), says, "Where is God?" (Allow the children to answer). God is everywhere. Does this mean God is with us when we are in safe places (home, school, church, etc.) Yes. And does this mean God is with us when we are in scary places? Yes. Today we learn that David was in a scary place, but we learn that God was with David the whole time.
3. **TELL** the Story. Use the Vos Children's Bible, the Jesus StoryBook Bible, the Beginner's Bible, or the story below to aid in telling the story.
4. **REVIEW** the questions to help children understand the story.

### Questions for Review

**Scripture Memory (Psalm 51:1)**

**Catechism Questions (1-11)**

**Sing Songs (optional)**

**Free Play**

### Questions for Review

Questions for Younger Children:

- Who was king of Israel in our story?
- How many advisors did Absalom have?
- Did Absalom follow the advice of the first or second advisor?
- What was the advice?
- Did Absalom fight his father, David?
- Was God always with David even when he was hiding?

Questions for Older Children:

- How did Hushai warn David about Absalom's plan?
- Where did the two servants hide?
- What did David receive from people as he traveled to the large city?
- Did God take care of David and his men?
- Did God keep His promises to David? How?

### Scripture Memory for October:

"God, be merciful to me because you are loving. Because you are always ready to be merciful, wipe out all my wrongs." Psalm 51:1

### Catechism Questions:

- Question 1 – Who made you? *God*
- Question 2 – What else did God make? *God made all things.*
- Question 3 – Why did God make you and all things? *For his own glory.*
- Question 4 – How can you glorify God? *By loving him and doing what he commands.*
- Question 5 – Why are you to glorify God? *Because he made me and takes care of me.*
- Question 6 – Is there more than one true God? *No. There is only one true God.*
- Question 7 – In how many persons does this One God exist? *In three persons.*
- Question 8 – Who are they? *Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.*
- Question 9 – What is God? *God is a Spirit and does not have a body like men.*
- Question 10 – Where is God? *God is everywhere.*
- Question 11 - Can you see God? *No; I cannot see God, but He can always see me.*

## Story

### **Review**

Boys and girls, last week we learned that David's son, Absalom, became king in a very sneaky way. Do you remember? Today we are going to find out what happens next to David. Will David ever be king again? Let's find out.

### **Hushai**

Absalom was now king and his father King David had run away. David knew that Absalom no longer wanted him around and meant to hurt him. Absalom came to Jerusalem with lots of men in his army. There was a big parade as he entered the city of Jerusalem. As Absalom came to the palace, a man ran out to greet Absalom saying, "Long live the king! Long live the king!" This man's name was Hushai [**pronunciation:** huh-shy]; Hushai was actually a good friend of King David and loyal to him. But King David wanted Hushai to stay in Jerusalem to spy on Absalom. Absalom replied back to Hushai, "I thought you were David's friend? Why didn't you run away with him?" Hushai said to Absalom, "No, for whomever the Lord, His people and all the army of Israel have chosen, I will serve that person as king and will be loyal to them." Hushai said, "I served your father faithfully, now I will serve you."

### **Ahithophel**

Absalom had a trusted advisor and his name was Ahithophel [**pronunciation:** ah-hith-o-fell]. Ahithophel was loyal to Absalom from the very beginning. Absalom wanted to know what to do next now that he was king of Israel; so Absalom had a meeting with Ahithophel and Hushai. Absalom asked Ahithophel what he thought he should do, and Ahithophel told him, "Let me choose 12,000 men and I will go and pursue David right now. David is tired, lonely and

discouraged! I will overcome him in battle easily! Once the people that are with David see how great of an army that I have, they will run away from David. David will be left all alone for me to capture. And the rest of the people, well I will bring them back to you Absalom.” Absalom and the leaders of Israel heard this advice and it sounded good to them. Hushai thought so too, but remember Hushai was loyal to David. So when Absalom asked Hushai what he thought he should do, Hushai said, “This plan of Ahithophel’s isn’t a good plan. It’s a bad time to do this. David and his men are mighty and strong men and they are very angry. If you try to fight them, it will be like fighting a bear. Your father is an expert in fighting and will not likely spend the night with the people.” Hushai explained more to Absalom and the leaders of Israel, “I bet David has hidden himself out in the country and has a plan to take over the kingdom. I don’t think Ahithophel’s plan is a good one my king.” Hushai then told Ahithophel what to do, “Gather all of Israel, everyone from all the tribes that can come, and then go to battle with David. Your army will be huge and with so many men, David will be defeated in battle quickly. He won’t be able to escape this great army of yours!” Then Absalom, the new king of Israel, said, “Hushai’s plan is better. Let’s gather all the men of Israel to prepare for battle.”

Absalom followed Hushai’s advice because, as the Bible says, “The Lord had planned to destroy the good advice of Ahithophel. In this way the Lord could bring disaster on Absalom.” (2 Sam 17:14).

### **Two Messengers Sent**

As soon as Hushai left his meeting with Absalom and the leaders of Israel he went to Zadok [**pronunciation:** za-dik]; and Abiathar [**pronunciation:** ah-bee-a-thar]; they were priests. He told them what happened in the meeting with Absalom and that someone needed to warn David quickly. He then said to the priests, “Send your sons quickly to David and tell him it will not be safe for him to stay tonight on this side of the Jordan River. He must hurry and cross to the other side.” The priests sent their sons at once to warn David.

As the priests’ sons were leaving to warn David, a boy saw them and thought they were spies. So the boy ran and told Absalom what he saw. Absalom sent soldiers to arrest the priests’ sons. The priests’ sons soon knew that they were being chased, so they stopped at a house that had a well in the ground (may need to explain what a well is). The two men slid down into the well and hid. The woman who lived in the house spread a cloth over the mouth of the well and covered the cloth with grain and dirt. Soon Absalom’s servants came to the house and asked the woman of the house, “Did you see two men come by your house? Are they hiding here?” The woman replied back to the soldiers, “They went over the brook.” The soldiers went on and looked for the men, but never found them and eventually gave up.

### **A Message for David**

As soon as it was safe to come out of hiding, the two men did so. They climbed out of the well and then ran to find David. Once the two men found David they told him everything; they spoke of Ahithophel’s plan, Hushai’s plan and Absalom’s decision to follow Hushai’s plan to gather a large army. Once David heard this he decided he needed to do something.

So David began to travel towards a large city that was far away from Jerusalem. As he traveled along to this city, many people came out to greet David and give him gifts. People gave David and his men beds to sleep on, pots to cook food in and many other gifts. The people of Israel were very sad because they still loved David and wanted him to be king. But not only did David and his men receive gifts, but other men started to join David’s company to fight for their king should there be a battle with Absalom.

Soon David had a large army. There were thousands with him ready and eager to fight for their king. And soon Absalom learned where David was hiding with his large army. Absalom and his army started to march towards the city and David. David gave his generals their orders, and then told his soldiers two important things. The first was that David would lead the whole army into battle, but once the soldiers heard this they begged him to stay back.

The soldiers did not want David to get hurt, so David did not lead the army into battle. The second thing David said to his generals, "If you see Absalom on the battlefield, please be kind to him. I love him greatly." This meant David did not want Absalom killed in battle, but saved.

### **The Battle**

Soon Absalom's army arrived outside of the city, and David commanded his troops to go out and fight. The two armies fought in a wooded area right outside the city walls. Soon David's army overtook Absalom's army; when Absalom saw his army would lose the battle, he fled. Absalom fled on his mule, but as he was fleeing his hair was caught in the limbs of a tree. Absalom hung by his hair completely stuck in the tree. Soon soldiers from David's army came upon Absalom still hanging by his hair. David's general, Joab, saw Absalom and threw three spears into him. Absalom was dead.

A messenger was sent to tell David about the news of the battle. Once David heard that Absalom was dead, he cried and wept aloud. Many people in the city heard David crying, and despite winning the battle, the people of the city were sad. Joab, David's general, came to David and told him, "You cannot cry, at least not anymore. I know you are sad about Absalom, but everyone thinks you would rather him live and your whole army die in battle. You need to go out and congratulate your army on winning the victory." David did this and the people became very happy.

### **David Is Restored**

Now that Absalom was no longer alive, David could return to Jerusalem and his palace. All of Israel was happy to have David back as king. As David got closer to the city of Jerusalem, people came out of the city to clap and shout for joy that King David had returned. The closer David got to the city, the louder the noise became! People were very excited to have David back. There was much singing and celebrating that happened once David was sat upon his throne.

David was reminded that the Lord was always with him while he was hiding. In fact, David wrote these words when he thought about all the Lord had done and the ways in which the Lord had kept His promises to him:

"So I will praise you, Lord, among the nations.  
I will sing praises to your name.

The Lord gives great victories to his king.  
He is loyal to his appointed king,  
to David and his descendants forever."