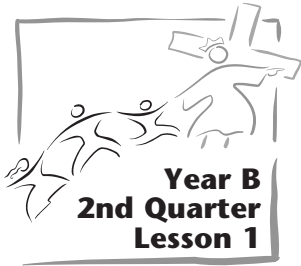


LESSON



Little David, the Shepherd Boy

COMMUNITY We treat each other like God treats us.

References

1 Samuel 16:7, 11, 12; 17:34, 35; *Patriarchs and Prophets*, pp. 637-644.

Memory Verse

"Children, obey your parents in everything" (Colossians 3:20, NIV).

Objectives

The children will:

- Know** that they are part of a family.
- Feel** loved by their family.
- Respond** by being helpful and obedient.

The Message



I am part of a family.

Getting Ready to Teach

The Bible Lesson at a Glance

David comes from a large family. It is his responsibility to look after his father's sheep. Although he is only a boy, he is brave and does his job well.

This is a lesson about community.

David is a faithful and loyal shepherd. He takes special care of the sheep entrusted to his care. He is obedient and loving to his father. David demonstrates his character in the way he behaves to his family. We also are called to be loving and obedient to our family.

Teacher Enrichment

"David, in the freshness of boyhood, kept watch of his flocks as they grazed on the hills surrounding Bethlehem. The simple shepherd boy sang the songs of his own composing, and the music of his harp made a sweet accompaniment to the melody of his fresh young voice. The Lord had chosen David, and was preparing him, in his solitary life with his flocks, for the work He designed to commit to his trust in after years" (*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 637).

"David had proved himself brave

ONE



and faithful in the humble office of a shepherd. . . . As humble and modest as before his anointing, the shepherd boy returned to the hills and watched and guarded his flocks as tenderly as ever" (*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 641).

Room Decorations

The room decorations are designed for the three lessons for the quarter. Some things may be added or removed as appropriate for the monthly story. Remember to keep things very simple for children of this age. A few large, well chosen decorations are better for very

young children.

Create a Bible-times scene. Place green and brown fabric or paper on the floor to represent grass and soil. Place the house (from the previous quarter) and/or a small tent there. Off to the side, place as many toy sheep as possible in the field, along with rocks, trees, stream, and shepherd's cloak and staff. A stream can be fashioned from cellophane or blue fabric and stones. You might also use a small wading pool to create a drinking pool for the sheep. Use any other room decor you might have to create a pastoral scene: leaves, branches, bushes, flowers, etc.

Program Overview

LESSON SECTION	MINUTES	ACTIVITIES	MATERIALS NEEDED
Welcome	ongoing	Greet students	
1 Parent Time	up to 5		
2 Arrival Activities	up to 10	<p>A. <i>Book Basket</i></p> <p>B. <i>Animal Corner</i></p> <p>C. <i>Peekaboo Basket</i></p> <p>D. <i>Basket of Sheep</i></p> <p>E. <i>Puzzles</i></p> <p>F. <i>Rocking Chair</i></p>	<p>books about sheep, shepherds, caring for animals, pets, children being kind</p> <p>toy stuffed animals</p> <p>hand towel, play objects</p> <p>toy sheep or pictures of sheep</p> <p>sheep puzzles</p> <p>adult-size rocking chair</p>
3 Getting Started	up to 10	<p>Welcome</p> <p>Prayer</p> <p>Visitors</p> <p>Offering</p> <p>Birthdays</p>	<p>wooden sticks or rhythm sticks</p> <p>offering device with pictures of children being helpful</p> <p>artificial birthday cake, candles, matches, small gift (optional)</p>
4 Experiencing the Story	up to 30	<p>A. <i>Memory Verse</i></p> <p>B. <i>David Had a Family</i></p> <p>C. <i>Woolly Lambs</i></p> <p>D. <i>Calling and Finding the Sheep</i></p> <p>E. <i>Feeding the Sheep</i></p> <p>F. <i>Harp Music</i></p> <p>G. <i>We Have Families</i></p> <p>H. <i>We Can Obey</i></p> <p>I. <i>We Can Help</i></p> <p>J. <i>We Care for Animals</i></p> <p>K. <i>God's Children</i></p>	<p>felt or cardboard "Bibles"</p> <p>toy stuffed lamb or piece of unspun wool</p> <p>shepherd's crook or staff, small toy stuffed sheep or plastic sheep or pictures of sheep</p> <p>little bundles of paper, grass, or straw (real or artificial)</p> <p>cardboard harps (see p. 69, David's Harp)</p> <p>basket of toys</p> <p>toy cleaning items</p> <p>toy stuffed or felt or finger puppet animals</p> <p>felt boys and girls</p>

5	LESSON SECTION	MINUTES	ACTIVITIES	MATERIALS NEEDED
	Make and Take (Optional)	up to 10		
	Week 1		<i>Toilet Roll Sheep</i>	tubes from toilet paper rolls or similar sized tubes, sheep pattern (see p. 66), glue, scissors, cotton balls
	Week 2		<i>Sheep Mask</i>	sheep mask pattern (see p. 67), lightweight card stock or paper plates, stapler, elastic, scissors, marker
	Week 3		<i>Kind Hands Book</i>	colored paper, crayons, pictures of children being kind or items used to do kind deeds, glue sticks, scissors
	Week 4		<i>Shepherd's Scene</i>	shepherd's scene pattern (see p. 68), heavy paper, crayons, cotton balls, glue, pipe cleaners, scissors
	Week 5 (Optional)		<i>David's Harp</i>	harp pattern (see p. 69), card stock or heavy paper, crayons, yarn, scissors, glue sticks
	Snack Center (Optional)			napkins, crackers or fruit

1

PARENT TIME

Busy parents often arrive at church tired and worn out from the week's activities and from getting the family ready for the "day of rest." Share a word of encouragement with them sometime during Sabbath School (possibly during Arrival Activities), something that will express your care and concern for them. The following statements were prepared by young mothers and fathers as suggestions and may be used at your discretion at any time you wish.

Week 1

It was Friday evening. I had picked up my daughter from child care and made it home to my less-than-tidy house. As I prepared dinner for my family it became

mysteriously quiet. Motherly instinct told me it was time to investigate. I walked into my toddler's room to discover that she had found my craft paint supply. All over the door of her closet and the drawers of her dresser, she had painted her own little mural. I fell apart.

Yelling loudly, I scooped her up and put her into the tub under Daddy's care. Then I set to work on the bedroom. I was so angry! Scrubbing worked out some of the frustration, and, as I began to calm down, I actually began to laugh a little. Finally I decided to leave the closet door alone. In weeks to come when I looked at that closet door, I began to say thanks to God for the paint job. Many times in the next few years, a quick glance at the

closet door helped to remind me that my child was more important than any piece of furniture or paint on the wall.

Share your reaction to a time when your child ruined something. Take courage, and remember that Jesus is with you in the middle of every frustration!

Week 2

"Listen to Mommy!" I yelled. "Do *not* pull tapes apart!" In my anger I stomped up the stairs to my bedroom to try to fix yet another cassette tape that my son had pulled apart.

Why is he doing this? I thought heatedly. *I've told him so many times not to pull the tape out.* I was especially irritated when I realized that this was his favorite lullaby tape. I sat down on the bed in frustration and scolded myself for yelling at my son.

Shortly, a quiet toddler voice spoke up. "I sorry, Mommy. I sorry," he said meekly.

My irritation vanished at the sincere little apology. After all, it was only a cassette tape. I scooped him up into my arms. "I forgive you, honey! Please forgive me for yelling."

When little annoyances discourage you, remember that Jesus understands. "Don't sweat the small stuff."

Share a time when the small stuff overwhelmed you. What can you do to keep the small stuff in perspective with the preciousness of family members?

Week 3

I am so thankful for my husband's help with raising our children. He is great at giving baths, reading to them, playing with them, putting them to bed, etc. I love seeing him wrestling with the boys and teaching them things they need to know to be good men. Being a stay-at-home mom, I am very grateful for his help in the evening so I can have a break. I have often thought about single parents. How do

they do it all? If they don't have the luxury of family around to help, how do they get a break? I can imagine the pain they feel for their children, knowing they are missing another parent's influence. If you are a single parent, God sees the trials you are going through. He can fill all your needs. He promises to be "a father to the fatherless" (Psalm 68:5, NIV).

Single parents: What do you want God to do for your children that you cannot do? Other parents: How can you be supportive of single parents?

Week 4

When my second child was born, Wesley was 3 years old. Everything went well at first, but after a month or so Wesley was not too pleased with the new baby. My parents had come to visit and help out. I appreciated their efforts, but it was stressful in that Wesley and my dad were having conflicts. I thought my dad was expecting too much from Wesley. Wesley was being belligerent and disobedient. I was taking Wesley's side and having conflicts with my dad in front of Wesley. I didn't like Wesley's talking back to my dad, but *I* sure did it!

I prayed about it, and God showed me that I was being a very poor example to my child. I was not respecting and honoring my parents as I should have. When I stopped confronting my dad in front of Wesley and began to be more kind and polite to my parents, Wesley began to change. What a lesson I learned!

Have you ever noticed how your attitude toward something influences your child's attitude? How can you better teach your child to honor and respect others?

Week 5 (or optional)

We were working outside together. The baby was in a walker, the toddler was digging in the dirt, and my wife and I were making a brick edging for

her flower garden. After a while I noticed that Michael was watching us intently. "Daddy, you and Mommy are a good team!" he said. We laughed together and gave each other a kiss. "Yes, Michael.

Mommy and I are a good team!" "How good and how pleasant it is . . . to dwell together in unity!" (Psalm 133:1).

Share ways in which parents can be "a good team" in their homes.

2

ARRIVAL ACTIVITIES

Plan simple play activities on a blanket, sheet, or quilt for children who arrive early. The children participate in these activities under the supervision of an adult until the program begins. The materials should relate to the program, which is based on the monthly Bible story.

Choose from the following suggested activities for this month. Be sure to include something for the span of children's ages.

A. Book Basket

Provide a basket of sturdy board books about sheep, shepherds, caring for animals, pets, children being kind, etc.

B. Animal Corner

Provide toy stuffed animals (some that make noises) and soft sculptured objects for children to hold.

C. Peekaboo Basket

This basket includes a hand towel and play objects (a block, ball, rattle, or toy stuffed animal including toy sheep, if possible). Parents hide an object under the towel. The children will enjoy playing peekaboo to find something that God has made, as the parent says this rhyme:

Peekaboo!

Let's see who

Finds a [name of object]

God made for you. (*Child picks up the object.*)

(Name) did! (*Hug child. Affirm child.*)

D. Basket of Sheep

Have a basket with toy sheep or pictures of sheep. Help the children count the sheep by taking them out of the basket and putting them back into the basket. Encourage the children to make sheep sounds.

E. Puzzles

Cut out pictures of sheep from magazines. Mount these on foam core or cardboard and laminate. Then cut the pictures in half and place them on a table or quilt. Older toddlers will enjoy matching the two halves of the pictures.

F. Rocking Chair

Have an adult-size rocking chair available for parents to hold and rock children who are too tired or shy to join in the activities.

3

GETTING STARTED

A. Welcome

You Need:

- wooden sticks or rhythm sticks

Say: **Good morning, boys and girls! I'm so happy to see you today. Sabbath is a special day. We see many friends at church on Sabbath. Let's greet each other in a special way to say good morning.** Greet each

child with a smile, hug, kiss, or handshake as you sing the welcome song. Sing "Good Morning" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 1).

Good morning, Good morning, Good morning we say;
We're happy, so happy to see you today!

—Janet Sage

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Say: **Sabbath School is a special place to be every Sabbath morning. Make your sticks sound like the tick-tock of a clock as we sing.**

Distribute the sticks for the children to tap together as you sing together "Tick-tock Song" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 2).

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B. Prayer Time

Say: **When we pray we are talking to Jesus. I want to ask God to help us to be kind to everyone today at Sabbath School.** Prepare for prayer by singing "Prayer Song" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 18).

Listen, little children, quiet as can be.
Can you kneel, fold your hands,
Close your eyes, and pray with me?
—Norma June Bell

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As a response, sing "Thank You for Hearing Our Prayer" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 20).

Thank You, God,
Thank You, God,
Thank You for hearing our prayer.
Amen.

—Janet Sage

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C. Visitors

Welcome each visitor individually, and then sing the adapted words to "I'm Glad I Came to Sabbath School" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 5).

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D. Offering**You Need:**

- offering container decorated with pictures of children doing helpful things

Say: **One of the ways we can be kind to others is to bring our money for the offering. This money will go to help other children learn how to be kind to others.**

Children can bring their offerings and place them in the designated offering container while you sing "Hear the Money Dropping" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 31).

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Say: **Thank you for bringing your offering to Jesus. Close your eyes now while we ask Jesus to bless the money.**

Pray a simple prayer similar to the following: **Dear Jesus, this money is for You. We want others to know about Your love. Amen.**

E. Birthdays

Say: **God gives us our birthdays. Someone here has a birthday. Who has a birthday?** Lead the birthday child to a special birthday chair. Light the birthday candles; then lead in singing "Count the Birthday Money" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 37).

You Need:

- artificial birthday cake
- candles
- matches
- small gift (optional)

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While the candles are still lit, sing "Happy Birthday!" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 38).

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Encourage the child to blow out the candle(s). Say: **Jesus loves you so much, and we want to thank Him for making you.** Say a special prayer for this child. If possible, give the child a small gift from Sabbath School.

4

EXPERIENCING THE STORY

A. Memory Verse

You Need:

- felt or cardboard "Bibles"

Say: **It's time to look in our Bibles.** Give each child a small "Bible." **Let's look inside our Bible as we sing.** Sing "The Bible Is God's Word to Me" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 52).

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Say: **The Bible also tells us that God gave us our families. We want to obey our mommies and daddies. We want to be loving to everyone in our families. Our memory verse says, "Children, obey your parents in everything" (Colossians 3:20, NIV). Let's sing our memory verse song together.** Sing the adapted words to "Praise Him, Praise Him" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 221).

Children, children, obey your parents,
In everything, in everything.
Children, children, obey your parents,
In everything, in everything.
—Arr. by Hubert P. Main. Adapted.

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B. David Had a Family

Say: **The Bible tells a story about a young boy named David. He was part of a family. He had a mommy and a daddy and seven brothers! Can you count to seven on your fingers with me?** Slowly count to seven, holding up your fingers.

David loved his family. David obeyed his parents. David was lov-

ing and helpful to his family. Let's sing and clap about how David made his home a happy home. Sing "God's Ways" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 259).

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C. Woolly Lambs

You Need:

- soft toy stuffed lamb or piece of unspun wool

Say: **Because David was part of a family, he helped his family. He was a shepherd boy. It was his job to take good care of his father's sheep. There were big**

sheep and little sheep in the flock.

Baby sheep are called lambs. Jesus made lambs feel soft and woolly. I'm sure David petted the little lambs. You can come up front and touch this soft, woolly lamb.

Sing "Woolly, Woolly Lamb" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 171).

Woolly, woolly lamb,
Woolly, woolly lamb,
Jesus made you soft and woolly;
Woolly, woolly lamb,
Woolly, woolly lamb,
Jesus made you soft and woolly.

—Janet Sage

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D. Calling and Finding the Sheep

You Need:

- shepherd's crook or staff
- small toy stuffed or plastic sheep, or pictures of sheep

Say: **David loved his family and their sheep. The sheep must have loved David, too. When he called them, they came running to him. You can pretend to be little sheep. You can come up front to the grass and pre-**

tend to be sheep. When you hear me call, come running quickly.

Repeat this several times as the children run and come to you as you walk around the room, holding the shepherd's crook or staff. Sing the adapted words to "When a Mother Calls" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 274).

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Have some toy sheep hidden in obvious places around the room. Say: **Sometimes the sheep didn't obey David, and they would wander away. David had to find them.**

Some little sheep are hidden in our room. You can be kind helpers like David. Go and see how many sheep you can find. Then come and put them on the grass.

As the children look for the sheep, sing "Rejoice, I Have Found My Sheep" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 176).

Rejoice, I have found my sheep.
Rejoice, I have found my sheep.
I have found my sheep,
Rejoice, Rejoice, Rejoice,
I have found my sheep.

—Janet Sage

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Say: **David took good care of his father's sheep. That was his family job. He was obeying his daddy. Let's sing our memory verse song again.**

Sing the adapted words to "Praise Him, Praise Him" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 221).

Children, children, obey your parents,
In everything, in everything.
Children, children, obey your parents,
In everything, in everything.

—Arr. by Hubert P. Main. Adapted.

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E. Feeding the Sheep

You Need:

- little bundles of grass or straw (artificial or real)

Say: **David always carefully watched his sheep. God helped him protect them from wild animals, such as bears or lions, that might hurt the sheep.**

Can you make a sound like a bear or lion? Encourage the children to growl or roar.

Ooh, you sound scary! I'm sure that the sheep would have been afraid of bears and lions. David protected his sheep. David also made sure that his sheep had food to eat.

What do sheep eat? Allow answers. **Yes, they eat grass. David led them to green grass to eat. You can help to feed these sheep while we sing.**

Give each child a little bundle of real or artificial grass or straw to feed to the toy sheep that are part of the room decorations. Sing "The Good Shepherd" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 123).

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Say: **The sheep got thirsty, too. David showed them where to drink fresh water. Do you like to drink cool water? Sheep like to drink cool water too. Let's pretend that you are sheep. You can follow me to our river and pretend you are drinking.**

Repeat the song while you lead the

children to your "river."

Say: **David protected and took care of his family's sheep just as his daddy asked him to do. Let's sing our memory verse song again.**

Sing the adapted words to "Praise Him, Praise Him" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 221).

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In everything, in everything.

Children, children, obey your parents,
In everything, in everything.

—Arr. by Hubert P. Main. Adapted.

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F. Harp Music

You Need:

- cardboard harps (p. 69)

Say: **David liked to play his harp and sing. He would play and sing praises to God. Harp music is beautiful and soothing music. The sheep must have liked to hear the music David was making for God. Let's pretend we are playing the harp and singing as David did.**

Give each child a small harp made from cardboard and string. (See pattern idea on p. 69, David's Harp.) Sing the adapted words to "I'll Be Happy" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 201).

I will play my harp for Him;

I will be like David.

I will play my harp for Him;

Then I'll be like David.

—Kathryn B. Myers. Adapted.

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G. We Have Families

Say: **Jesus gave you families too. You have parents who love you very much. You may also have a brother or sister who loves you very much. Can you give someone here in your family a big hug while we sing about our families?**

Sing the adapted words to "Jesus Gave Me a Mommy" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 251).

Jesus gave me a family.
They say, "I love you."
Jesus gave me a family.
They say, "I love you."
—Joy Hicklin Stewart. Adapted.

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H. We Can Obey

You Need:
 basket of toys

Say: **Because you are a part of a family, you have special little jobs to do in your home. One of**

your jobs is to obey. Because we love our mommies and daddies, we obey them. When you are asked to pick up your toys, do you obey? I'm glad to hear that! You can help pick up these toys and put them in the basket as we sing together.

Spread toys around floor. Sing "I Obey" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 267).

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Say: **When we obey our mommies and daddies, everyone is happy. Let's sing our memory verse song again.** Sing the adapted words to "Praise Him, Praise Him" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 221).

Children, children, obey your parents,
In everything, in everything.
Children, children, obey your parents,
In everything, in everything.
—Arr. by Hubert P. Main. Adapted.

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I. We Can Help

Say: **Because we are part of a family, we all work together. Another special job you have is to help at home. Do you help your mommies and daddies?**

You Need:
 toy cleaning items

Allow responses.

I'm so happy to hear that! Let's pretend that you are helping at home; come up front and help me clean.

Give each child a toy cleaning item, such as a small broom, rake, dust cloth, vacuum, etc. Sing the third verse of "My Family" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 252) as they "work."

I like to help my family,
I like to help my family,
I like to help my family,
I love my family.

—GC Sabbath School Department/
Edith Smith Casebeer

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J. We Care for Animals

You Need:

- stuffed toy or felt or finger puppet animals

Say: **David was kind to his sheep. He made sure that they had enough water to drink and enough food to eat.**

When we care for our pets and are kind to animals, we make Jesus glad. Let's sing about being kind to animals.

Give each of the children either a stuffed toy or felt or finger puppet kitty, dog, or bird to hold or place on the felt board. Sing "I Will Be Kind" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 284).

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K. God's Children

You Need:

- felt boys and girls

Say: **Did you know that you are God's children? Children are very important to God. David was important to God. You are important to God.**

Being a child of God means that we are helpful, we obey, we are

friendly, happy, and kind. You can bring your little felt boy or girl up to the felt board as we sing together.

Sing "God's Children Are Helpful" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 287).

Little children are helpful,
Little children will mind;
Little children are friendly;
They are happy and kind.

—Dorothy Robison/
Arr. By Margaret Edge.

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Say: **Just like David we can obey our parents, be helpful, loving, and kind to our families, and take care of animals. Let's sing our memory verse song one more time.**

Sing the adapted words to "Praise Him, Praise Him" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 221).

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In everything, in everything.
Children, children, obey your parents,
In everything, in everything.

—Arr. by Hubert P. Main. Adapted.

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5

MAKE AND TAKE (Optional)

Have the children sit around small tables. Parents or other adults should assist children to do one of the following each week as you review the story.

Week 1**Toilet Roll Sheep****You Need:**

- tubes from toilet paper rolls (or similar size tube)
- sheep pattern (see p. 66)
- glue
- scissors
- cotton balls

Copy the reproducible sheep pattern on page 66 for each child. Parents can cut out the front and back of the sheep and assist children with gluing cotton balls around the toilet paper roll tube; then glue the front and back of the sheep to the ends of the toilet paper roll.

Week 2**Sheep Mask****You Need:**

- sheep mask pattern (see p. 67)
- lightweight card stock or paper plates
- stapler
- elastic
- scissors
- marker

Copy the sheep mask pattern (see p. 67) on lightweight card stock, or draw a sheep's face on a paper plate. Have the parents cut out the pattern or cut out the eye holes on the paper plate. Cut out ear shapes and staple them to the top of card stock or the paper plate.

Measure the amount of elastic necessary to hold the mask in place.

Tie double knots at each end of the elastic, and staple the elastic in place.

Week 3**Kind Hands Book**

Have parents trace around their child's hands on the top fold of a folded piece of colored paper. Write the child's name above the hands, and below write "has kind hands." Inside, glue pictures of children doing kind deeds or things that can be used by the child to do kind deeds.

You Need:

- colored paper
- crayons
- pictures of children being kind or items used to do kind deeds (broom, bouquet of flowers, glass of water, etc.)
- glue sticks
- scissors

Week 4**Shepherd's Scene**

Copy the reproducible shepherd's scene pattern on page 68 onto heavy paper. Children can color the grass, trees, and shepherd. Assist them with gluing cotton balls onto the sheep. Cut the chenille stick or pipe cleaner to fit the shepherd's staff outline on the picture. Bend it into a shepherd's staff shape, and glue it onto the appropriate place on the picture.

You Need:

- shepherd's scene pattern (see p. 68)
- heavy paper
- crayons
- cotton balls
- glue
- pipe cleaners or chenille sticks
- scissors

Week 5 (or optional activity)

David's Harp

You Need:

- harp pattern (see p. 69)
- card stock
- crayons
- yarn
- scissors
- glue sticks

On card stock, copy the reproducible harp pattern on page 69 for each child. The children can color the harps. Parents can then help them glue pieces of precut yarn over the dotted lines of the pattern to represent the harp strings.

Snack Center (Optional)

You Need:

- napkins
- crackers or fruit

Gather the children on the "grass" with the sheep for a picnic in the "pasture." Serve each a small cracker or piece of fruit. Remind the children that David often ate in the pasture with his sheep as he took care of them.

Bible Activities

If there is still time, families may choose from a variety of activities that reinforce this month's Bible story. Those activities listed as Arrival Activities may be used again. In addition, you may want to provide a snack at one table.

Closing

Say: **David was part of a family. He obeyed by taking care of his daddy's sheep. He was always kind and loving to the sheep. Let's sing our memory verse song one more time.**

Sing the adapted words to "Praise Him, Praise Him" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 221).

Children, children, obey your parents,
In everything, in everything.
Children, children, obey your parents,
In everything, in everything.

—Arr. by Hubert P. Main. Adapted.

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Say: **Let's thank Jesus for our families before we go.**

Say a short prayer similar to the following: **Dear Jesus, thank You for our families. Help us to obey and be kind and loving to them. Amen.**

Say: **It's time to say goodbye now. Let's sing a goodbye song together.**

As the children prepare to leave the room, sing "Good-bye to You" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, No. 45).

Good-bye to you,
Good-bye to you,
Good-bye each little one;
And don't forget,
Jesus is coming soon for you and me.

—S. Vance

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Notes

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for students to take notes during the lesson. The word "Notes" is printed at the top center of the box.

STUDENT LESSON

Little David, the Shepherd Boy

References

1 Samuel 16:7, 11, 12; 17:34, 35; *Patriarchs and Prophets*, pp. 637-644

Memory Verse

“Children, obey your parents in everything” (Colossians 3:20, NIV).

The Message

I am part of a family.

Fluffy Kitty is eating. Billy pets the kitty. Billy shows love to Fluffy Kitty. In the Bible, little David shows love to his sheep.

See little David, the shepherd boy. (Point to David.) See David’s sheep. (Point to sheep.) See the new lamb. (Point to the lamb.) David shows love to the little lamb. He pets the lamb. (Stroke your child’s arm gently.)

“Come, sheep!” David calls the sheep. See the sheep coming to little David. (Call child to you; hug him or her.) The sheep come to David. He shows love to them.

Little David shows love for his sheep. (Point to David.) He leads them to a pool of water. (Point to the water.) The sheep drink water.

(Clasp hands; close eyes.) Thank You, God. You love David. You teach him to show love for the sheep. Help me show love to others today. Amen.

Little David shows love for his sheep. He finds grass. (Point to the grass.) The sheep eat the grass. (Pretend to be sheep eating grass.) Yum-yum! The sheep like grass.

Little David plays his harp. (Point to the harp.) The sheep like to hear his music.

Look out, David! A lion is after your sheep.

Grrrrr! The lion is hungry. (Rub your tummy.) Shooooo, lion!

Little David chases the lion. (Pretend to chase a lion.) David shows love for his sheep. (Encourage your child to chase you; hug him or her.)

Look out, David! A bear is after your sheep.

Grrrrr! The bear is hungry. (Rub

your tummy.) Shooooo, bear!

Little David chases the bear. (Pretend to chase a bear.) David shows love for his sheep. He keeps them safe.

“Come, sheep! Time to go home!” David calls. The sheep follow David. (Point to the sheep.) They love David. He helps them find grass. He shows love for his sheep.

We can show love too. We show love when we care for our pets. And we show love to others when we are kind to them.



1. Hide a toy sheep in the house, and help your little one to find it. Explain that sometimes David's sheep would run away and he would have to look for them.

2. Count things in your home that are made from wool.

3. If possible, get some unspun wool for your child to feel, or use cotton balls. Explain that wool comes from sheep, and that it is used to make many different things.

4. Help your child imagine that he or she is a shepherd. Talk about ways to look after their sheep.

5. Let your child hide and bleat like a sheep until you find them. Say: "David often had to look for his sheep."

6. Visit a petting farm, or go for a walk or ride in the country to see some sheep and lambs.

7. Make different fierce animal noises with your child (bear, lion, etc.). Talk about how David protected his sheep from the wild animals.

8. Ask your child to help you pick up some-

Do & Say

Study these suggestions for something to do each day. Select those that are appropriate for your child's developmental stage and repeat them often.

thing, find something, or carry something to the table. Thank them for being helpful.

9. Show your child a picture of a harp. If possible, listen to some harp music. Talk about how it would soothe and calm David's sheep to hear this music.

10. If you have a pet, ask your child to help feed it. Or ask a friend if your child can help them care for their pet.

11. Talk about how to be kind to animals (don't pull kitty's tail, don't throw rocks at animals, etc.).

12. Go for a walk and count the number of animals you see.

13. Visit a place where you can feed ducks. Or put some food out for the birds at home. Talk about being kind to animals like David was.

14. Count on your child's fingers the number of brothers (7) that David had. Then look at a family picture, and count how many people are in your family.

15. Show your child pictures of family members. Talk about how your child is a part of your family.