

# David and Mephibosheth

## Lesson 4



**Scripture:** 2 Samuel 9

**Bible Memory:** Proverbs 17:17

“A friend loves you all the time.” (ICB)

“A friend loveth at all times.” (KJV)

**Focus:** ♥ God wants us to be kind.











### Heart to Heart Teacher Devotion

Today’s lesson will explore being kind to people with disabilities. For some children, this may be their first time to explore this information. *Lord, we thank You that You cherish people of all abilities. Help us understand this even more as we seek to pass on to the children a heart for those who have disabilities. In Jesus’ name, amen.*

### Bible Background for the Teacher

David and Jonathan promised to be friends for a lifetime (1 Samuel 20:14, 15, 42). In God’s timing, David became king of Israel. In the changeover, Jonathan and King Saul were killed in battle. Jonathan left a son, Mephibosheth (pronounced Meh-fib-o-sheth). At age 5 this son had been crippled by a fall (2 Samuel 4:4). Now David set about honoring his word to Jonathan by caring for King Saul’s grandson, Mephibosheth. Saul’s servant Ziba and Ziba’s family and servants became servants of Mephibosheth. Mephibosheth also had a son, Mica (9:12).

## Lesson 4 at a Glance

<p><b>1 GETTING STARTED</b> Use one or more of these learning centers to help children <i>explore being injured or disabled.</i></p>	<p> <b>Quick Step</b> Things That Help</p> <p> Kindness Banner</p> <p> Hand Talk</p>	<p><b>HeartShaper Materials</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teaching Picture 4, Resources sheet 2 Kindness cards 4a–4f</li> <li>• Make-n-Share for lesson 4 and sticker</li> <li>• Heart Tugs issue 4</li> </ul>	<p><b>Other Materials</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• none</li> <li>• crayons, blunt-tip scissors, hole punch, yarn</li> <li>• none</li> </ul>
<p><b>2 BIBLE DISCOVERY</b> Use all these activities to help children <i>tell how David was kind to Mephibosheth.</i></p>	<p> <b>Sing and Pray</b></p> <p> <b>Bible Time</b> David and Mephibosheth</p> <p> <b>Bible Review</b></p> <p> <b>Bible Memory</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Resources CD; Resources sheet 2 applause sign 4i, King David 4g and Mephibosheth 4h story pictures; Resources CD Unit 1 Bible Memory Motions printable file</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CD player, Bible</li> </ul>
<p><b>3 GROW AND GO</b> Use one or more of these learning centers to help children <i>name ways they can be kind.</i></p>	<p> <b>Quick Step</b> Kindness Clap</p> <p> Kindness Picture Paint</p> <p> Bag of Kindness</p> <p><b>Closing the Hour</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• none</li> <li>• Make-n-Share WATERPAINT™ picture for lesson 4</li> <li>• Resources sheet 2 Kindness cards 4a–4f</li> <li>• Heart Tugs issue 4</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• none</li> <li>• cups of water, cotton swabs, paper towels, paint shirts</li> <li>• paper lunch bag</li> <li>• none</li> </ul>

# Getting Started (10–15 minutes)

- 1** Use one or more of these learning centers to help children **explore being injured or disabled**.

## Welcome

- Use a Scamper puppet to greet the children.
- Place a name tag on each child, gather necessary information from the adult bringing the child; then guide the child to a learning center.
- Provide a container in which children can place their offering money.

## Quick Step Things That Help

Show the teaching picture and point out the crutch. **SAY: Today we will learn how King David was kind to someone who needed help. Sometimes our bodies need help when they don't work the way they should. Let's talk about these pictures of things that can help our bodies.**

Show the cards one at a time and let volunteers say what the items are and what the items are used for. Ask if these things are needed forever or just for a little while.

**ASK: Have you ever used one of the things in these pictures?**

**Do you think that some people who use these things might need some help?**

**SAY: Because ♥ God wants us to be kind, we should help people who are hurt or who have a disability.**

## Kindness Banner

**SAY: Today we're going to find out how King David was kind and helped someone. Sometimes when I fall down, I get a boo-boo. We're going to help the boy in this picture by putting a bandage on his boo-boo. That will help us remember that ♥ God wants us to be kind.**

Assist children as needed in coloring and assembling the banner.

**ASK: How is the boy in the picture helping the boy who is hurt?**

**How does it feel when you get hurt and can't do what you want to do for a while?**

**Who wants us to be kind? (God)**

## Hand Talk

**SAY: Today we are going to learn about a man named Mephibosheth (Meh-fib-o-sheth) and how King David was kind to him. Mephibosheth had a disability. There are all kinds of disabilities. Some people have ears that don't hear well. But we can talk to them in a special way. Let's learn how to say "Jesus loves you" using our hands.** Teach children the signs, using today's issue of *Heart Tugs*. Have them practice several times.

**ASK: Have you ever seen anyone talk using her hands instead of her mouth?**

**What would you like to learn to say if you could say anything using your hands?**

**SAY: ♥ God wants us to be kind to people who can't hear well.**

**Especially for 2s!**



Teach the children only the sign for the word *love*. Let them practice signing to everyone in class.

## Focus

♥ God wants us to be kind.

**Save all visuals for reuse throughout the quarter.**



Invite someone who has a disability to visit your class. Ask whether there is anything your class can do for the person.

## Materials

Teaching Picture 4,  
Resources sheet 2  
Kindness cards 4a–4f



## Materials

Make-n-Share for lesson 4 and sticker (or a real adhesive bandage!),  
crayons (or washable markers),  
blunt-tip scissors,  
hole punch, yarn



## Materials

*Heart Tugs* issue 4



## Something More!

Borrow a sign-language book from the library to help children learn words they would like to know.

## Cleanup

Remind children that it is important to be thankful for the healthy bodies God has given us. Ask children which special body parts God has given them to help clean up.



## Focus

♥ God wants us to be kind.

# Bible Discovery (20–25 minutes)

**2** Use all these activities to help children **tell how David was kind to Mephibosheth.**

### Materials

Resources CD tracks 1 and 4, CD player, Bible

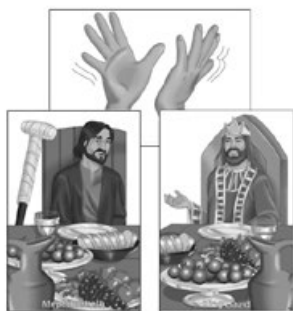


### How to Say It

MEPHIBOSHETH. Meh-*fib*-o-sheth.

### Materials

Resources sheet 2  
applause sign 4i,  
King David 4g and  
Mephibosheth 4h story pictures



### Materials

King David and  
Mephibosheth pictures  
and the applause sign  
used in Bible Time



### Teaching Tip

Hold up the applause sign even if a child repeats something someone else said.

### Materials

Resources CD Unit 1  
Bible Memory Motions  
printable file, Bible, applause  
sign used in Bible Time



## Sing and Pray

Sing “God Teaches Us to Care” and “A Friend Loves You.”

PRAY: **Dear God, help us always be kind to everyone. In Jesus’ name, amen.**

ASK: **Can you think of one way you could be kind to someone today? In our Bible story we are going to learn about King David and how he looked for a way to show kindness to a man named Mephibosheth. Can you say *Mephibosheth*? Teach the children how to say this name. Show 2 Samuel as you begin the Bible story.**

## Bible Time

Before class, place the story pictures where the children can see them. When you hold up the applause sign, hold it under the picture of King David. SAY: **David made a promise to Jonathan that he would always be kind to his family. Jonathan’s father was King Saul. Saul was king before David. David made this promise because he knew that ♥ God wants us to be kind. Today we’ll learn about how David kept his promise to show kindness to Jonathan’s family. Whenever I hold up this sign (show sign), I want you to clap your hands and say “Yay, David!” Practice a few times.**

**After David was king, he asked his helpers one day if there were any relatives of Saul’s left where David lived. David knew that ♥ God wants us to be kind, and he wanted to do something kind for them. Hold up sign.**

**One helper remembered that Jonathan had a son named Mephibosheth, whose feet did not work. Help children pronounce *Mephibosheth*. David knew that ♥ God wants us to be kind. King David asked for Mephibosheth to be brought to the palace. Hold up sign.**

**When Mephibosheth got there, David gave him all the land that had once belonged to Mephibosheth’s family. Hold up sign. David also said that Mephibosheth could live at the palace and always eat his meals with him. Hold up sign. David treated Mephibosheth like his own son (hold up sign) because David knew that ♥ God wants us to be kind. Hold up sign.**

## Bible Review

Let children take turns saying one thing about the story. If they say something about Mephibosheth, they should point to Mephibosheth. If they say something about David, they should point to King David. After each comment, hold up the applause sign for the children to cheer and applaud.

ASK: **Who was kind to Mephibosheth? (David)  
Name one thing David did that was kind.**

## Bible Memory Proverbs 17:17

Before class, print and display the motions from the CD.

Open your Bible to Proverbs 17:17, and point to the words as you read them. Repeat the verse and have the children say it with you. Allow each child to try to say the verse, along with the motions, without help from you. Hold up the applause sign for each effort and encourage other children to cheer for each other.

# Grow and Go (15–20 minutes)

**3** Use one or more of these learning centers to help children **name ways they can be kind**.

## Focus

♥ God wants us to be kind.

### Quick Step Kindness Clap

**SAY: In our story today, King David kept his promise to be kind to people in Jonathan’s family. We are learning that ♥ God wants us to be kind. Let’s take turns naming ways we can be kind, while we clap.**

Show the simple rhythm of two slaps on the knees, followed by two claps. Using the rhythm, **SAY: To be kind, I can \_\_\_\_** (have children name a new way to be kind each time you do the rhythm).

**ASK: What is your favorite way to be kind?**

**Is it hard or easy to be kind?**

**Can you think of someone you can be kind to today?**

#### ***Especially for 2s!***

Saying the rhyme, slap your knees twice and then pause to let 2s name ways to be kind before clapping. Remember to praise their ideas.

### Kindness Picture Paint

**SAY: In our story today, King David kept his promise to be kind to people in Jonathan’s family. Being kind is a great way to be someone’s friend. ♥ God wants us to be kind. Let’s paint a picture of someone being kind to Scamper.**

Distribute materials. Place a paper towel under each picture to absorb extra water. Encourage children as they paint, using the cotton swabs as paintbrushes. As children paint their pictures, encourage them to say the Bible Memory from Proverbs 17:17 with you.

**ASK: How is the girl being kind?** (by giving food to Scamper)

**How can you be kind?**

### Bag of Kindness

Before the activity, put the cards inside the lunch bag.

**SAY: Today we learned about how King David was kind to someone with a disability. We’re going to play a game as we think of ways we can be kind to people who have disabilities.**

Give each child a turn to pull a card out of the bag and name a way to be kind to someone who has the disability pictured.

**ASK: Was it hard or easy to think of ways to be kind to people with disabilities?**

**How does it make you feel when someone is kind to you when you need help?**

**SAY: ♥ God wants us to be kind. Let’s pray and ask God to help us to remember to be kind to everyone this week.** Lead children in prayer.

### Closing the Hour

• Be sure children who are leaving have their activity projects and this week’s *Heart Tugs*. Encourage parents to use the Kindness Prayer with their children. Note: A *Family Together Time* page is available online for families to download. See [www.heartshaper.com](http://www.heartshaper.com).

#### Materials

none



#### Materials

*Make-n-Share*

WATERPAINT™ picture for lesson 4, cups of water, cotton swabs (or paintbrushes), paper towels, paint shirts



#### Materials

*Resources* sheet 2

Kindness cards 4a–4f, paper lunch bag



When children pull a card out of the bag and have trouble describing the action, simply articulate it for them by saying, “\_\_\_\_ (child’s name) has found a picture of \_\_\_\_ (name of disability). He can \_\_\_\_ (name a way he can help the person with the disability).”

# David and Mephibosheth

## Lesson 4 Extra Hour



**Scripture:** 2 Samuel 9

**Bible Memory:** Proverbs 17:17

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“A friend loveth at all times.” (KJV)

**Focus:** ♥ God wants us to be kind.

### Heart to Heart Teacher Devotion

Today’s lesson will explore being kind to people with disabilities. For some children, this may be their first time to explore this information. *Lord, we thank You that You cherish people of all abilities. Help us understand this even more as we seek to pass on to the children a heart for those who have disabilities. In Jesus’ name, amen.*

### Bible Background for the Teacher

David and Jonathan promised to be friends for a lifetime (1 Samuel 20:14, 15, 42). In God’s timing, David became king of Israel. In the changeover, Jonathan and King Saul were killed in battle. Jonathan left a son, Mephibosheth (pronounced Meh-fib-o-sheth). At age 5 this son had been crippled by a fall (2 Samuel 4:4). Now David set about honoring his word to Jonathan by caring for King Saul’s grandson, Mephibosheth. Saul’s servant Ziba and Ziba’s family and servants became servants of Mephibosheth. Mephibosheth also had a son, Mica (9:12).

## Lesson 4 at a Glance—Extra Hour

### 1 MORE! GETTING STARTED

Use one or more of these learning centers to help children *explore being injured or disabled*.



**Quick Step**  
Tricky Towers  
My Arm Hurts  
Can You Do It?

### HeartShaper Materials

- none
- none
- none

### Other Materials

- blocks
- arm sling
- none

### 2 MORE! BIBLE DISCOVERY

Use all these activities to help children *tell how David was kind to Mephibosheth*.



**More! Sing and Pray**  
**Bible Time—Another Way!**  
David and Mephibosheth  
**More! Bible Review**  
**More! Bible Memory**

- Resources CD, Teaching Picture 4, Resources CD Unit 1 Bible Memory Motions printable file

- CD player, Bible, highlighter, crown, yardstick, towel

### 3 MORE! GROW AND GO

Use one or more of these learning centers to help children *name ways they can be kind*.



**Quick Step**  
Scamper Puppet Story  
K-I-N-D-O  
**Saying Good-bye**

- Heart Tugs issue 4
- Resources CD K-I-N-D-O printable file
- Heart Tugs issue 4

- Scamper puppet, happy-face stickers
- crayons, construction paper, scissors, envelopes
- none

# More! Grow and Go (15–20 minutes)

- 1** Use one or more of these learning centers to help children **explore being injured or disabled**.

## Focus

♥ God wants us to be kind.

### Transition Time

- Greet new arrivals, giving each a name tag.
- Gather children to repeat the Hand Talk activity from Getting Started, first hour.
- Serve a snack. Follow your congregation's policy for restroom breaks.

### Quick Step Tricky Towers



**SAY: In our Bible story today, we will hear about someone who could not walk. Lots of people have disabilities, and there are lots of different kinds of disabilities. Some people can't see very well. Let's all close our eyes and find out how it feels to build a block tower when you can't see.**

Give each child five blocks to build a tower. Encourage children to keep their eyes closed and keep trying, even when it gets frustrating.

**ASK: Was it hard to build a tower when you couldn't see it? Could you do it if you kept trying?**

**SAY: Because ♥ God wants us to be kind, we should help people who can't see, whenever they need help.**

### My Arm Hurts



Show children the sling. **SAY: Have you ever needed to use one of these on your arm? Lots of people use slings when something is wrong with an arm. In our Bible story today, we will hear how King David was kind to a man whose feet did not work. Let's see what it would be like to use a sling.**

Allow each child to have a turn trying on the sling and trying to do various tasks. (Examples: stand up from a seated position on the floor, carry more than one item, color on a sheet of paper)

**ASK: What was the hardest thing for you to do while wearing the sling? How could someone have helped you?**

### Can You Do It?

Have half the children sit in chairs or on the floor, and have the rest stand. **SAY: Today we are learning about a person in the Bible who had a disability. Some people cannot do things that other people can do. Let's play a game. I'll say something and you have to do it. If you are sitting, you have to stay sitting.**

Give a mix of instructions that all children can do and some that only children who are standing can do. (Examples: clap your hands, go get a block, do jumping jacks) After a few commands, have the children switch positions so that everyone can play both roles.

**ASK: How did you feel when you couldn't do some things? ♥ God wants us to be kind. What kinds of games should we play? (games that everyone can participate in)**

#### ***Especially for 2s!***

Have all 2s sit down. Mention things they cannot do while they're sitting. Then have them stand up and do those things that you mentioned.

**Save all visuals for reuse throughout the quarter.**

#### Materials

blocks (optional):  
blindfolds)



#### Materials

arm sling (or strips of  
cloth)



#### Materials

none



## Focus

♥ God wants us to be kind.

# More! Bible Discovery (20–25 minutes)



Use all these activities to help children **tell how David was kind to Mephibosheth.**

### Materials

Resources CD track 1, CD player, Bible



### How to Say It

MEPHIBOSHETH. Meh-*fib*-o-sheth.

### Materials

highlighter, *Teaching Picture 4*, crown, yardstick, towel



### Teaching Tip

A crown is provided on the *Resources CD*.

### Materials

crown, yardstick, towel, *Teaching Picture 4*



### Teaching Tip

If you don't have three student volunteers, you or an adult helper can help to act out the parts.

### Materials

Resources CD Unit 1 Bible Memory Motions printable file and track 4, CD player, Bible



## More! Sing and Pray

Sing "God Teaches Us to Care."

PRAY: **Thank You, God, that You are so kind to us. It helps us learn to be kind to others. In Jesus' name, amen.**

SAY: **Do you know people at school or in your neighborhood who can't walk by themselves? The Bible, God's special book, has a story in the book of 2 Samuel (show 2 Samuel) about a man named Mephibosheth who couldn't walk.** Have the children repeat the name. **Let's listen to find out what King David did for him.**

## Bible Time—Another Way!

Before class, highlight the word *David* on the back of the teaching picture.

SAY: **I need your help telling our Bible story today. When you hear me say the name *David*, I want you to say, "David was kind."** Practice this a few times. Then choose one child to be David, one to be Mephibosheth, and one to be Ziba. Give the child playing David a crown to wear, Mephibosheth a yardstick to pretend to use as a crutch, and Ziba a towel to drape over his or her arm as a helper might do.

Show the teaching picture and read the story on the back. Encourage children to act out the events as you read. Remember to pause each time you say David's name to give children a chance to respond.

## More! Bible Review

SAY: **I need three children to help us review our story!** Select three children to be David, Mephibosheth, and Ziba. Give them the crown, yardstick, and towel. Read only the bold lines from the back of the teaching picture. Make sure each child who wants to participate is given a turn to act out the story.

ASK: **Why did David want to help Mephibosheth?** (because he was Jonathan's son and because ♥ God wants us to be kind)

**How was David kind?** (He let Mephibosheth live with him and gave him back his family's land.)

**Who wants us to be kind?** (God)

## More! Bible Memory Proverbs 17:17

Before class, print and display the motions from the CD.

Have a child hold the Bible opened to Proverbs 17:17. Point to each word as you read the verse. Review the motions. Play "A Friend Loves You" and have children do the motions as they sing along.

ASK: **Whose special book is the Bible?** (God's)

**Can you point to the word *friend* in the Bible?**

## More! Grow and Go (15–20 minutes)

- 3** Use one or more of these learning centers to help children **name ways they can be kind**.

### **Quick Step** “Scamper Is Kind” Story

Bring out Scamper. SAY: **Hi, Scamper. How are you today?** Scamper whispers to you. **Really? That’s so cool. We’ve been talking about that today.** Scamper whispers more, getting excited. **Well, I’m very proud of you. We’ll try to help you! Let me tell the boys and girls all about it.**

**Scamper was out in the neighborhood and saw some children wearing bright stickers. Scamper listened to what they were talking about.** Put Scamper’s paw up to his ear. **They were naming ways they could be kind to others. They said ♥ God wants us to be kind. Their Sunday school teacher had given them stickers for being kind and said they could have more stickers if they thought of more ways to be kind.** Scamper nods excitedly. **Scamper wants to think of ways he can be kind. But he’s having trouble.** Scamper hangs his head sadly. **He wants to know if we can help him.** Scamper perks up. **And for every idea you think of, I’ll give you a happy-face sticker you can wear!** Allow children to give ideas to Scamper. Give children stickers for their answers.

ASK: **Where can we read that ♥ God wants us to be kind?** (the Bible)

**Let’s tell God thank You that the Bible teaches us to be kind.** Use the Kindness Prayer in *Heart Tugs*. Have children repeat the prayer after you as you say it one line at a time.

### **K-I-N-D-O**

Before class, make copies of the game board. Cut construction paper into small squares, eight per child, to fit the squares on the game board.

SAY: **Today we learned how King David was kind to a man named Mephibosheth. ♥ God wants us to be kind. Let’s play a kindness game to learn ways we can be kind.**

Give children the boards and let them color the scenes. Give each child eight squares of construction paper. **Let’s play K-I-N-D-O! If I say a kind thing that is shown on your game board, place a square of paper on that picture.** Randomly name each of the kind things pictured on the game board. Help children recognize and cover the squares as you name them.

ASK: **Do you see anything on your game board that you could do for someone to show kindness?**

SAY: **This is a game everybody wins, because ♥ God wants us to be kind.** Make sure children put all their construction paper squares in an envelope so they can take them home.

#### ***Especially for 2s!***

Let 2s scribble-color the pictures on the game boards. Then have them point to each picture as you describe them in the order they appear.

### **Saying Good-Bye**

- As you wait for parents, lead children in the Kindness Prayer from *Heart Tugs*.
- Be sure children have projects made in class and this week’s *Heart Tugs*. Encourage parents to use the Kindness Prayer with their children.

### **Focus**

♥ God wants us to be kind.

### **Materials**

Scamper puppet, happy-face stickers, *Heart Tugs* issue 4



### **Something More!**

Put a sticker on Scamper for each idea the children name. Then give children extra stickers to take home.

### **Materials**

*Resources CD*  
K-I-N-D-O printable file, crayons (or washable markers), construction paper, scissors, envelopes



### **Teaching Tip**

Some children may feel that games aren’t fun unless there is just one winner. Encourage them to be glad that when everybody wins, everyone can celebrate.



If you are concerned that some children aren’t going to be able to follow the action of the game, have them play in pairs with a buddy.

### **Cleanup**

Have children work in pairs and show kindness by helping each other clean up designated areas of the room. Have them report to you on how they showed kindness during cleanup.

