



S2.Prophets & Kings: The Ark Returns and King David Dances

2 Samuel 6:1-5; 14-22

Multi-age One-Room Sunday School Lesson Plans

Supplies: Construction paper; Jumbo (4 per student), mini (9 per student), and regular-sized (2 per student) craft sticks, one round 1-inch wood pieces for the head (I instead bought the adhesive-backed pads that are used to keep the legs of furniture from scratching wood floors), gold tinsel or pipe cleaners (optional), and gold spray paint/acrylic paint or gold markers. One printed picture from page 5; 1 picture per 2 students printed from page 6;

OPENING PRAYER

TELL

- For the opening question, I'm going to ask you a question and then we'll go around the circle and say our names and then our answer to the question.
- I'll ask the question and then I'll answer first, ok?
- Here's the opening question: *Have you ever felt embarrassed? When or why?*

GO AROUND THE CIRCLE

- During this session, we're talking about the prophets and some of the first kings of Israel.
- All of these stories that we're hearing and talking about in this Session are from the Old Testament. That means these things happened well before Jesus was born.
- Last week we read about how David fought Goliath. That was before he was king.
- In the story we're going to read now, David is now King David. And he's very excited about something.
- As I read the story, listen for why David is excited, and who is embarrassed.

READ 2 Samuel 6:1-5; 14-22 (The Message. Plus, some lesser character names were changed for reading comprehension)

1 King David gathered the best troops in all of Israel - thirty divisions of them. **2** Together with his soldiers, David headed for Balla to recover the ark of the Lord. **3** They placed the ark on a brand-new oxcart and removed it from Abe's house on the hill. Use and Ohio, Abe's sons, were driving the new cart **4** loaded with the ark, Ohio in the lead and Use alongside. **5** David and the whole company of Israel were in the parade, singing at the top of their lungs and playing mandolins, harps, tambourines, castanets, and cymbals.

14 David, ceremonially dressed in priest's linen, danced with great abandon before God. **15** So David and all the house of Israel brought up the Ark of the Lord with shouting, and with the sound of the trumpet. **16** As the ark of the Lord came into the city of David (aka Jerusalem), Michelle, one of David's wives, and the daughter of Saul (David's predecessor) looked out of the window, and

saw King David leaping and dancing before the Lord; and she despised him in her heart. **17** They brought in the Ark of the Lord, and set it in its place, inside the tent that David had pitched for it; and David offered burnt offerings and offerings of well-being before the Lord. **18** When David had finished offering the burnt offerings and the offerings of well-being, he blessed the people in the name of the Lord of hosts, **19** and distributed food among all the people, the whole multitude of Israel, both men and women, to each a cake of bread, a portion of meat, and a cake of raisins. Then all the people went back to their homes.

20 David returned to bless his household. But Michelle, David's wife and the daughter of Saul came out to meet David, and said sarcastically, "How the king of Israel honored himself today, uncovering himself today before the eyes of his servants' maids, as any vulgar fellow might shamelessly uncover himself!" **21** David said to Michelle, "It was before the LORD that I danced. The LORD who chose me in place of your father and all his household and appointed me as prince over Israel. **22** I will make myself yet more contemptible than this, and I will be humbled in my own eyes before the LORD; but there are others who worship the LORD and by them I will be seen with honor."

ASK

- So why was David excited and dancing around? (Because the Ark of the Lord was returning to Jerusalem)
- Who was embarrassed? (Michelle, David's wife)

TELL

- When the Israelites first came out of Egypt, Moses built the Ark by God's instructions. It was built to hold the 10 Commandments.
- It looked something like this: (Show picture on page 4 of Lesson Plan).
- We don't know for sure what it looked like because it has never been found (despite whatever Indiana Jones in *The Lost Ark* might claim).
- Wherever the Ark was held, it became a powerful reminder to the Israelites to pay attention to God.
- The reason David was so excited about the Ark returning to Jerusalem was because this powerful reminder to pay attention to God was now being placed in the capital/the center of Israel.
- So we're going to make our own Ark and our own reminder to keep paying attention to God.

TELL

- Take a piece of construction paper.
- Place it in front of you and turn it the long way up.
- Take 4 jumbo craft sticks, 2 regular-sized and 9 mini-sticks.
- Arrange them like you see in the picture (pass out copies).
- For the base: 3 jumbo sticks on the bottom; the two regular sticks, end to end above the 3 jumbo sticks; then another jumbo stick on top.
- For the angel: using mini-craft sticks, make a triangle, then on two sides of the triangle, fan out three more mini-craft sticks.



- Once arranged, glue these sticks to the paper.
- Optional: Glue gold tinsel/pipe-cleaner under the "angel."
- Paint (or color with marker) the sticks gold.
- If you have extra time, write underneath it: *King David leapt and danced before the Lord! 2 Samuel 6:16*

If there's time...TELL

- In the story, David's wife is upset with David for acting foolishly.
- We're going to play a game now where, in order to win, we have to act foolishly.
- We're going to play a modified game of Charades
- First, everyone get a partner. Now decide who will be the panda and who will be the koala
- Got it figured out? Good. Pandas are team 1 (over there) and Koalas are team 2 (over there).
- The first team up (that's the Pandas) will have one person act out a clue without talking (I will show the clue to the person standing up). The Pandas must correctly guess what the person is acting out in 60 seconds or less. You may make as many guesses as you want. If the Pandas do not guess correctly, then the Koalas team gets ONE official guess.
- If guessed correctly, the respective team gets...one point.
- Play then alternates between the two teams.
- The person who is to act out the clue rotates – so each person on team will act out a clue at some point.
- Again, the person acting out the clue may not say ANYTHING or make ANY noises...not even mouthing of words.

DO Activity – (see page 4 for list of words)

ASK

- Did you feel embarrassed when you were acting out the word?
- Do you like having people watch you?
- Why or why not? (a possible reason to not liking it is because the more someone watches you, the more you might look foolish or not-cool to that person and if you look or seem not-cool then that person and others won't be your friend)

TELL

- David's wife didn't like her husband looking foolish in front of her and other people.
- But David didn't care, because he knew God didn't think he was being foolish. God's opinion of David was more important to David than his wife's opinion.
- And if David's wife had been paying attention to God, then God's opinion of David would be more important to her than the opinions of the other people that she was worried about.
- If we'd been all worried about what we looked like during the game and had therefore just stood there looking cool, would it have been very fun to play? No, not at all, right?
- The Good News is that when we pay attention to God, then that's the opinion that becomes most important to us. AND, we are set free from worrying or caring so much about what others think of us and are able to live life freely with God as God intended us to live.

CLOSING PRAYER

TELL

- Let's close in prayer. This is a repeat-after-me prayer.

Dear God, (Dear God)

Thank you for loving us (Thank you for loving us)

Help us to rejoice like King David... (Help us to rejoice like King David)

...to dance with your joy... (to dance with your joy)

...and trust your love for us... (and trust your love for us)

...is the most important thing in our lives... (is the most important thing in our lives)

We pray these things in your name, (We pray these things in your name)

Amen (Amen)

List of Words for Charades Activity

Hide & seek

Diaper

Taking a shower

Artist

Roller coaster

Swing

Ballerina

Worm

Slow motion

Magnifying glass

Santa Claus

Pogo stick

Skunk

Snowball fight

Kite

Finger-painting

Weight-lifter

Dentist

Tarzan

Pin the tail on the

donkey

Hula dancer

Cotton candy

Earthquake

Vampire

Bumper cars

Home Run

Tug of war

Roller blading

Make-up

Grocery Shopping

Harder ones:

Setting an alarm clock

Watching a football
game

Getting your nose
pierced

Celebration

Baby sitting

Clothes pin

Electric fan

Snow

Spaghetti

Sprinkler

Suspicious



