



S1.Lesson 5: Dancing David

Middle School Lesson Plans

Supplies Needed: Journals; tv or laptop to show movie clip (movie clip link is available at rfour.org/curriculum.html); paper and writing utensils

Opening Prayer

EXPLAIN OPENING ACTIVITY

- 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 and Koalas are team 2.
- 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 30 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 - Charades

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
Baby sitting
Clothes pin
Electric fan
Snow
Spaghetti
Sprinkler
Suspicious
Celebration

ASK

- Did you feel self-conscious when you were acting out the word?
- Do you like having people watch you?
- Why or why not? (a possible reason to not like 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)
- We're going to read a scripture story now about an instance where one person is concerned about image and another person is not (names in the story have been changed to help with outloud reading - see note at the end of the lesson)

READ 2 Samuel 6:12-23

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 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 abased in my own eyes before the LORD; but there are others who worship the LORD and by them I shall be held in honor."

ASK

- Why do you think David is dancing? (He thinks something good with God is happening)
- Why do you think Michelle despises David in his dancing? (She doesn't think a king – as well as probably her husband – should act like that. Plus, she's not paying attention to the WHAT, which is God, but only to the HOW which is how David looks).
- Do you think God had the same reaction as Michelle did about David's dancing?
- Why?

TELL

- Next, we're going to watch a clip from the movie "10 Things I Hate About You."
- In it, Heath Ledger's character is trying to "win the heart" of a girl, but he has made a recent mistake. The scene we're going to watch is of him trying to make-up for that mistake.

WATCH – 10 Things I Hate About You.

(Note: It's a short clip, about two minutes. If you want to watch it again, ask the students to pay attention to the lyrics of the song the second time through).

ASK

- Would you ever do what Heath's character did? Why?
- Heath's character acted crazy in order to get Julia's attention. Do you think that is why David acted crazy? (No, not really. Heath acts crazy to get attention, David acts crazy because he's already got God's attention: verse 21)
- Would you agree that both Heath and David don't seem to care what other's think about them?
- For those of you who do agree, why do you think Heath and David didn't seem to care about what other people thought? (Heath wanted to get through to Julia. David because God had already gotten through to him).

TELL (recap)

- David and the Heath character in the movie both did something that could be considered crazy and embarrassing. But they did these crazy, embarrassing things for different reasons:
 - Heath wanted Julia's attention.
 - David was excited and happy because God first loved him (verse 21), and now God is being honored in the way that David thinks God should be honored.
- So it is the same with you and me and all of us.
- God loves us first.
- And if we trust that we are loved, then we can live into a freedom that comes with not being afraid of losing that love.
- So not only does David dance half-naked in the middle of the street because he trusts that God loves him, but then he also feeds all of the city.

IF there's time....Journal questions:

- What are the things you do because you want to do them?
- What are some things that you think you should do or would really like to do, but you're afraid to try?
- Write down a prayer asking God what you should do in some of those situations.

CLOSING PRAYER

NOTES: In the scripture, I changed a number of the names to make it easier to read. The only name of real importance that I changed was "Michal" which I changed to "Michelle." I figured the students would just get hung up on "Why does David's wife have a guy's name?" Also, the students might have

some questions about the ark of the Lord (aka Ark of the Covenant) – so here’s some info on the ark, hopefully more than what’s in a Indiana Jones’ movie:

ARK INFO: God made a covenant/agreement with the people of Israel at Mount Sinai after leading them out of Egypt. This is when God gave Moses the Ten Commandments. God also gave Moses instructions to make a chest or box of acacia wood with poles in which to store these Ten Commandments (which were written on two stone tablets). The ark was to be set behind the inner curtain in the most holy place inside the sacred tent ([Exod 26:34](#); [40:3,21](#)). God would meet with the people by the sacred chest and tell them what to do ([Exod 25:10-22](#)). The sacred chest was called “Ark of the Covenant” because it held the tablets of the Ten Commandments and symbolized the presence of God.

The Levities (the priests of Israel) carried the Ark by the poles on their shoulders ([Deut 10:8](#)). It went with the people during their desert wanderings ([Num 10:17,33](#)). It was carried with them into battle ([Joshua 6](#)), was captured by the Philistines ([1 Samuel 4](#)), and was returned to Kiriath-Jearim where it stayed for twenty years ([1Sam 5:1-7:2](#)). David had it brought to Jerusalem and set under a tent ([2 Sam 6:1-19](#) - which we just read). Solomon (the king after David) moved it to the newly built temple ([1 Kgs 8:1-21](#)).

The Ark of the Covenant was no longer heard of after the fall of Jerusalem and the destruction of the first temple in 587 B.C.