Lesson Overview

Today, we're going to learn about an outrageous story in the Bible about King David and one of his many sons. David was first famous for killing the big giant, Goliath when he was just a kid. When David grew up, he became the powerful king of Israel and a dad to many kids. One of his sons, Absalom, was a very handsome guy that became very popular among the people. One day, Absalom decided that he should use his power to overtake his dad, David. He planned a rebellion and arranged for his dad to be killed! But here's where the story gets outrageous. When David heard about what Absalom tried to do, he didn't hate him or disown him. He still loved his son and was sad when he heard Absalom died in battle. David had outrageous love for his son even though he didn't deserve it and God has outrageous love for us!

Big Idea

God loves us even when we don't deserve it.

Key Question

How has Jesus proven his love for us?

Memory Verse

Romans 5:8 | "But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners."

Classroom Agenda

- 1. (5 min) PLAY: Let kids start working on Activity Page #1. 2nd-5th puzzle key: Absalom, David, Betrayal, Love. Message: God's love is outrageous.
- 2. (5 min) WARM UP: Make a list of all the people you love. What can you do to show them your love this week? (Tip:In the story today, we're going to learn about David's outrageous love for his son. And, we'll learn about God's outrageous love for us. Make sure you love the people in your life outrageously, too.)
- 3. (5 min) PREVIEW: Write out the Big Idea, Memory Verse, and Key Question on a whiteboard. Have the kids copy it down on Activity Page #1 (if applicable).
- 4. (20 min) LARGE GROUP: Gather for songs and videos with other kids. Then return to class to finish this guide.
- 5. (2 min) RECAP: Read the Lesson Overview (see above).
- 6. (3 min) **KQ: Answer the Key Question.** (Answer: **By dying on the cross for our sins.** (This is the most outrageous example of love ever in history! Jesus came to die in our place to pay for our sins. Even though we're the ones that sinned and deserved to be punished, Jesus took our punishment on himself by dying on the cross.)
 - **Bonus Questions:** Why do we deserve to be punished? What did Jesus do for us? **4-5th:** How can you show your appreciation to Jesus for all that he has done for you?
- 7. (5 min) EXPLORE: Read Philippians 2:6-8. What does this passage say about all that Jesus gave up for us? Why did he do it? (Answer: Jesus is God so he left heaven to come live among us. And, he gave up his privileges as God to live like a normal person. Jesus could have stopped any of the mistreatment any time he wanted but he chose to subject himself to all the humiliation in order to save us. He did it because he loves us and because he wanted to pay for our sins.)
- 8. (10 min) PLAY: Choose a group activity from Activity Page #2.
- 9. (5 min) CLOSE: Share prayer requests and pray as a class. Encourage kids to use the Family Guide at home with their parents and remind them to go online to pursueGOD.org/kids to find this week's lesson video.

Teacher instructions: Choose an activity for your classroom.

OPTION 1: GOD LOVES ME HEART CRAFT

Instructions:

- Give each kid a heart template (page 5). (Pre cut by only cutting along the dotted line at the top)
- Give kids some colored tissue paper.
- Have kids rip up pieces of tissue paper and glue them onto the heart.
- As they work, remind the kids of the story of David and Absalom. Even though Absalom was a big jerk, his dad still loved him. That's how God loves us, too. God loves us even when we don't deserve it.

Supplies needed:

Heart template (pg. 5, pre cut just along dotted line, 1per kid), Colored Tissue paper, Glue

Bonus Activity: "Fast Facts"

See who's the quickest to answer correctly.

- 1. Absalom was David's __(son).
- 2. David was famous for killing a __(giant)
- 3. Absalom tried to __(kill) David.

OPTION 2:MEMORY VERSE GAME

Instructions:

- Have the class divide into teams of 4. Give each team a set of memory verse words(page 6-7)
- When you say, "Go!", have teams race to get the words in the right order to say the memory verse. First team to do it correctly, wins.

Supplies needed:

Memory verse template (pg 6-7 pre cut, 1 set per team)

Bonus Activity: "True or False"

See who's the quickest to answer correctly.

- 1. Absalom was David's nephew. (F)
- 2. David was famous for killing a giant. (T)
- 3. Absalom tried to kill David. (T)

2nd -**3rd**

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As an adult, David became the greatest king of Israel. And he had lots of kids. One of his kids was named Absalom. Now kids, that doesn't mean he had a really long torso. That was just his name. So Absalom was a pretty good looking guy. In fact, he was the most handsome guy in all of Israel! He had long flowing hair that he only cut once a year and really really big muscles. But there's something else you need to know about Absalom.

Handsome Absalom Wa	as on the Inside
he did something really mea	trying to get all the other people in Israel to really like him. Eventually it worked! But then n. He convinced all those people who liked him to turn against his dad, David. He gainst David and stop listening to him and even kill him! That doesn't sound like a good
David's Army	Against Absalom's Army
	battle! Absalom's long flowing hair got stuck in a tree and he got caught. And then he the naughty son lost. Good ending! Right?
Nope. Here's the lesson in the	ne story.
David's Heart Was	When Absalom Died
David still loved his son. That	om died he ran up to his room and cried. Even though Absalom was trying to kill him, it's what good parents do. Even when kids are naughty, they still love them. David hen he was making really bad choices. That's outrageous!
	s outrageous in the same way toward us? He loves us even when we make really bad s to die for our sins, even though we deserve it! God loves you even more than David
So kids, have you asked Jes	sus into your heart? If not, talk to a parent or teacher about it today!
Answers: Ugly, Fought, Brok	Parent Signature:
Questions:	

Questions:

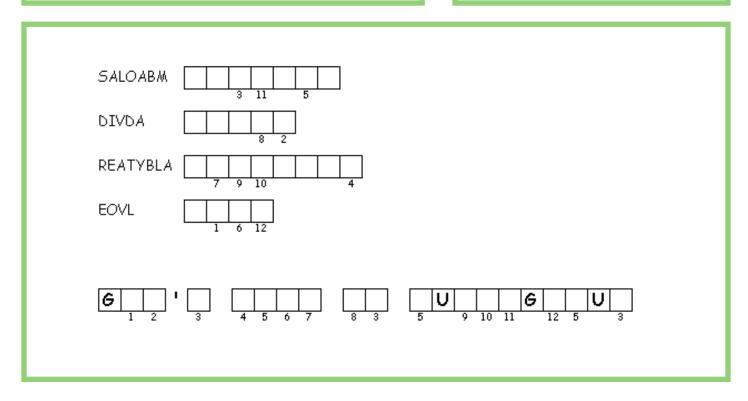
- 1. What was your favorite part of the video? What is one thing you learned from the video?
- 2. Make a list of all the people you love. What can you do to show them your love this week?
- 3. What was David famous for doing? Who was Absalom?
- 4. What did Absalom do to his dad?
- 5. How did David respond to Absalom's betrayal?
- 6. Read Philippians 2:6-8. What does this passage say about all that Jesus gave up for us? Why did he do it?
- 7. How will you apply this lesson to your life this week?

Instructions: Solve the puzzles.

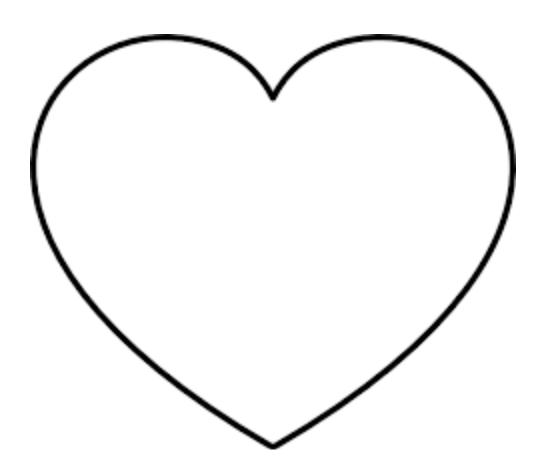
ABSALOM WAXGBWVDSENMAIV ARMY V R A M D R Q G I X A B B B E BETRAY CHARIOT BTKLPABKLVZLXQN DAVID DECEIVED E S I U M L R H K W A J I I G GATE GRIEF J Q T H D E V I E C E D U C W HONOR MFYNFKNYHRJYOZI JERUSALEM KING MAEKEGGAUODRXTD LOVE PARENTS J W U P S R R S R D N Q B I G LVRPIIABSALOMAC I C S E O L E P R C B N R H J TZFTETOMHBMZHGY GKTMRPYVDXSJUZH ULRAGJFWEZAZNMN PJYODSTOUNSBEGX SIVCRGEQYOSIXZV

Big Idea		
Key Question		
Memory Verse		
Romans 5: "But		
showed his great		
for us by sending		
to for us while we		

were still



GOD LOVES ME TO PIECES



ROMANS 5:8 "BUT GOD SHOWED HIS GREAT LOVE FOR US BY SENDING CHRIST TO DIE FOR US WHILE WE WERE STILL SINNERS."



BUT	GREAT
GOD	LOVE
SHOWED	FOR US BY
HIS	SENDING

CHRIST	WE WERE
TO DIE	STILL
FOR US	SINNERS
WHILE	ROMANS 5:8