

GAME PLAN (Imaginarium)

WEEK 3 (Sept 21 2025)

BIG IDEA

Showing kindness is in God's game plan.

BIBLE

David and Mephibosheth: 2 Samuel 9:1–13; Psalm 34:9–14

ABOUT THIS WEEK

There's more to playing a game than winning—you'll need good sportsmanship, too. This week, we'll take a look at the time when David was a "good sport" by showing kindness to Saul's descendant, Mephibosheth. Even though Mephibosheth's family once caused David great pain, David's care for Mephibosheth inspires us to remember that showing kindness is in God's game plan.

SERIES FOLDER DOWNLOAD

Hey Grow Curriculum user! You're currently inside of our tool called The Lesson Builder, but did you know there's a lot more included with this teaching series? [CLICK HERE](#) to access all of the resources and downloads for this series including videos, graphics, PDFs, Word docs, and more!

Felix Bucks Store (15 MIN)

Felix bucks store will be open every week (15 min before the experience begins 9:15am, 10:55am, 12:55pm).

Kids can shop as they arrive. Simply write their names and the date on a paper so you know who has already shopped that day. Same rules apply they can buy 2 small items or 1 large item each week.

Still start countdown right at the start of the experience (9:30am, 11:10am, 1:10pm). Store is closed with 1 min left on countdown so you can begin the experience right as the countdown ends.

CHECK-IN/PLAYTIME (5 MIN)

Check-In Opens 15 min before the Experience begins and closes 15 min after it begins

Kids will play until the main experience begins and then you will start lesson (check in will still be open for 15 more minutes station one of your helpers at the door for the remainder of check in)

Start countdown as soon as the main experience starts (9:30am, 11:10am, 1:10pm)

Whoever is doing check-in should stay there and welcome all kids. An Adult (18years or older) must drop kids off and check for name-tag with phone number on it.

Large Group Time

Welcome (5 MIN)

Introduce yourself and the other teachers

Welcome any first time kids (Have them come up front, introduce them, give them their 5 Felix Bucks and explain what Felix bucks are)

Pass out Felix Bucks (those attending more than one experience can receive Felix Bucks for all experiences they attend)

- Bible (1 Felix Buck)
- Notebook (1 Felix Buck)
- Paper from previous week (5 Felix Bucks)

Welcome back to *Game Plan!* Today, we will continue learning about how David followed God's game plan and how we can.

Sports games usually have cheerleaders who hype up the crowd.

Do cheerleaders cheer for themselves or others? How would you describe someone who cheers for others?

Maybe ... *kind*? Think about the characteristics of good sportsmanship as we cheer David on and see what we can learn today.

Rules (5 MIN)

Go over Rules quickly but thoroughly:

1. No Talking without Permission
2. Be Kind!
 - Use Kind words (no curse words)
 - Keep your hands and feet to yourself (no fighting/shoving)
3. No Running
 - No leaving the classroom without a leader
4. No personal Toys or Electronics
5. HAVE FUN!

You can give Felix bucks to those who know the rules (ex. what is rule #1? whoever can tell you gets a Felix Buck then quickly move to next rule)

Generosity Time (5 MIN)

Briefly explain what a tithe and offering is. That a tithe is giving back to God what is His and then he blesses the rest. An offering is anything more than our tithe. Everytime we sacrifice and give it opens the door for God to bless us even more.

MEMORY VERSE | Psalm 33:11 (NIV) (5 MIN)

- **PRE SUNDAY PREP:** Have the scripture written out on the white board
 - **INSTRUCTIONS:** Write out the scripture on the white board; Have the kids say the scripture with you a couple of times then erase one or two words each round and have the kids recite it to see if they can say it with the missing words until there are no words left and they are saying it from memory
- **"But the plans of the Lord stand firm forever, the purposes of his heart through all generations."**

Worship (8 MIN)

- - Play one worship songs from Pro Presenter
 - **1st Experience:** [Praise You Anywhere](#) (motions) by LifePoint Kids
 - **2nd Experience:** [Tell the World](#) (Motions) by Hillsong United (FWC Kids)
 - Lead Teacher go on stage and have 2 volunteers on either side of you (remind the volunteers what they are doing on the stage. Leading their friends in worship not playing)
 - Don't be afraid to teach the kids about worship for a minute if you feel it is needed or explain the meaning of some of the words in the songs
 - Make sure you pray out of worship. (pray for upcoming week, families, the kids, whatever Holy Spirit is leads you to pray)
 - Don't forget to do Salvation Prayer.
 - make sure helper grabs green salvation bag from the back of Imaginrium, where the shirts are for those who said "yes".
 - Place bag by the door and give to kid(s) who said "yes" to Jesus as they leave. Also, let parent know the decision they made.

WHAT? What are we talking about today?

ACTIVITY | Finding Kindness (10 MIN)

PRE SUNDAY PREP: Print the printable below and laminate; we can either hide them already or have

them ready for the teachers to hide while the kids close their eyes.

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *For this activity, you'll need to cut out the images from [this printable](#) to hide under chairs and in plain sight. For larger spaces, consider using actual sports balls, writing letters of the word "kindness" on masking tape to stick on each ball, and then hiding them around the room. To play, set a timer on your phone or computer for two to five minutes, depending on the size of your room, and have kids find all the images or balls. Blow the whistle when time's up.*
- Look how quickly you found all these different sports balls! **Now, how fast can we unscramble them to make a word?**
- You did it! You found "kindness!" Just like the real deal, you found kindness in unexpected places. Today's Bible story will tell us about a time when someone showed unexpected kindness, too!

POLL | Five Kinds Of Choices (5 MIN)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *For this poll, you'll need to number the four corners of the room. The middle of the room will be for the answer "other." Ask the poll questions. There will be five choices for answers, and the kids will go to the corner of the corresponding answer to the question. They can go to the middle if the answer is "other," but they must explain! The questions and corner answers can be shown on a screen for clarity.*
- **What is your favorite sport?**
 - Soccer
 - Tennis
 - Basketball
 - Football
 - Other
- **What is your favorite energy food?**
 - Fruit
 - Protein bar
 - Pasta
 - Broccoli
 - Other
- **Somebody said something mean to you a long time ago. They forgot and want to be friends. You are most likely to ...**
 - Remind them of their mean words.
 - Be their friend.
 - Say something mean to them.
 - Be their friend, but plan revenge.
 - Other
- **The cousin of someone who bullied you sits next to you in class. They ask for help with a question. You are most likely to ...**
 - Tell them to get lost.
 - Help them.
 - Give them incorrect info with a smile.
 - Tell them what their cousin did.
 - Other
- That last question is actually kind of close to the situation David was facing. It's not easy to show kindness to people sometimes, especially if that person or someone close to them wronged you in the past. Let's check out what he did.

SO WHAT? Why does it matter to God and to us?

VIDEO | Game Plan, Episode 3 (8 MIN)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Play this week's episode of [Grow TV](#).
- Or download the months videos [here](#).

BIG IDEA | Showing kindness is in God's game plan. (5 MIN)

PRE SUNDAY PREP: Have 7 11x14 poster boards in the room and markers

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give a large piece of butcher paper or poster board to each team of three to five kids. Assign each team a word or group of words from the Big Idea. Give them five minutes to design a banner with their word in large letters in the middle. Other things on the sign include "Go team!" or "Yeah, sports!" and fun sports-themed doodles. Afterward, line up the teams in order of the Big Idea words, and have two of the team members hold the banner while a third runs through the middle of the banner, tearing it and yelling their word. If you are short on time, create the banner beforehand and invite kids to run through it together. Afterward, chant the Big Idea together as a cheer!
- **K-I-N-D-N-E-double-S!**
- **K-I-N-D-N-E-double-S!**
- **Showing kindness**
- **Is in God's game plan!**

NOW WHAT? What does God want us to do about it?

RESPONSE | God's Plan Playbook (10 MIN)

- **PRE SUNDAY PREP:** Print Game three page on the printable one per kid; Print an example of what it could end up looking like (the "like this" link below)
 - **INSTRUCTIONS:** For this activity, you'll need to print out "Game #3" of the [printable](#). During the activity, have kids draw up a "play" based on a situation where they can make peace. Invite them to use Xs and Os to represent different people and arrows to indicate how they'll move or what they'd do. It can end up looking something [like this](#).
- Okay, team, here's the situation: you are faced with a decision—to be kind or unkind? That is the question.
 - **Is it a sibling who keeps asking for help with a chore?**
 - **Is it someone you don't really get along with asking you for a favor?**

- **How could you respond in kindness? What would that conversation sound like?**
- Draw up the play on your play sheet, using Xs and Os like a team coach would.
- Think about all the ways we are shown kindness by the people who love us, and, sometimes, even by people who don't know us very well. Most importantly, think about the loving-kindness of God that sent Jesus to us! Doesn't it remind you that **showing kindness is in God's game plan** and always has been?

REFLECTION | Pass It! (5 MIN)

PRE SUNDAY PREP: Have a pom pom in the room

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *For this activity, you'll need one cheerleader pom-pom for the group. The one who has the pom-pom is the one who gets to speak. Start with the pom-pom yourself, and then ask the first question and pass the pom-pom to a person who wants to answer. Keep the pom-pom moving around with all who wish to share.*
- **Showing kindness is in God's game plan.** When playing sports, we are often told to win at all costs.
 - **Does this help or hinder our ability to be kind?**
 - **How does this mindset (win at all cost) sometimes sneak into our everyday lives and prevent kindness?**
- It might feel strange to associate sports with kindness because we often think sports are about competing, winning, and being aggressive ... *be-e aggressive!* But if you watch any sports movie that's made you cry, you find beautiful moments of love and compassion that go beyond the game itself and remind us we can show kindness to others just the way God shows us.
 - **When did someone go out of their way to show kindness to you, like David did for Mephibosheth? How did this make you feel?**
 - **What is one thing you can do to make someone else feel kindness the way that you did when someone showed kindness to you?**
- Following God in our Bible story looked like David seeking out and showing kindness to Mephibosheth, and inviting him to eat at David's table.
- **What might showing kindness look like for us in our day-to-day life?**

Small Group Time

DISCUSSION (if needed)

- **SCRIPTURE QUESTIONS**
 - **Who was David's friend, who was like a brother to him?** *Jonathan. Jonathan was also King Saul's son.*
 - **What was something David offered Mephibosheth in his acts of kindness?** *He offered him land, a seat at the King's table for meals, and many servants.*
 - **What was the name of the servant David talked to about Mephibosheth?** *Ziba. He was the one who told David that Jonathan had a living relative to whom David could show kindness.*
 - **Read Psalm 34: 9-13. What does "fear of the Lord" mean in this passage? What do those who have love and respect for the Lord do?** *Fear of the Lord means we listen to God. Those who love the Lord turn from wrong things and do good.*
- **APPLICATION QUESTIONS**
 - **Who are some people you can think of right now that you can begin to show the kindness of God to?**

- **What are some ways that we can show them kindness?**
- **When we see someone teasing or treating another person poorly, what are some things we can do?**