

GAME PLAN (P/O)

WEEK 3 (Sept 21 2025)

BIG IDEA

Showing kindness is in God's game plan.

BIBLE

David and Mephibosheth: 2 Samuel 9:1-13

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!

CHECK-IN/PLAYTIME (15 MIN)

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

Kids will play until check-in closes

Start countdown 5 minutes before check-in closes (9:40am, 11:20am, 1:20pm)

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.

Welcome Time!

Welcome (5 MIN)

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.

Rules (5 MIN)

1. Be Kind (make heart with hands)
2. Use Listening Ears (Cup ear with hand)
3. Use walking feet (walk in place)
4. Keep hands and feet to yourself (hold up hands then point to feet)
5. Help Clean up (pretend like your using a broom)
6. HAVE FUN!

Worship (8 MIN)

- INSTRUCTIONS: Play Videos loaded on the Sunday playlist on Youtube
 - **1st Experience:** [Jesus is Alive \(Freeze Dance\)](#) (**motions**) by Kids Spring
 - **2nd Experience:** [My BFF \(Motions\)](#) by Bible Adventure Worship (Life Way)
 - (other Locations: Click the song title to access youtube video's)

ACTIVITY | Race To Kindness (5 MIN)

PRE SUDNDAY PREP: Make a line with masking tape at one end of the room

- **INSTRUCTIONS:**
 - **ORANGE:** *For this activity, line the kids up behind a masking tape line. Have them take turns in pairs racing back and forth from the tape to the wall at the other end of the room. Encourage kids to cheer one another on. Remember to cheer on both those who win, and those who don't!*
 - **PURPLE:** *Toddlers may not be mobile or coordinated enough to race. Have them take turns just running or walking fast from one end of the room to the other*
- It's not always easy to be kind. But even when it's hard, God wants us to be kind. Today's story is all about God's game plan for us. God's game plan says we should be kind to others!

ACTIVITY | Set The Table (10 MIN)

PRE SUNDAY PREP: Have utensils, plates bowls, cups and napkins in a box, one box per room; Have a small folding table in the orange room

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *For this activity, set play utensils, plates, bowls, cups, and napkins in a box. Line the kids up in a straight line beside the box, with a table ten feet in front of them. Instruct the kids to grab something from the box, run it to the table, set the table, and run to the back of the line. Continue this until the table is set. Play a few times so all of the kids get to go.*
 - **PURPLE:** *Instead of racing just have each child grab one item and show them where it goes on the table*
- **Do you help set the table at home?** Setting the table is a big deal! It helps everybody who's sitting down for the meal to feel at home, loved, and cared for.
- In today's Bible story, King David sets his table for somebody to show him kindness. He chose to be kind even when he didn't have to!

Story Time

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

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Play an upbeat sports-themed track ([like this](#)) and have kids chant the Big Idea by repeating small chunks after you while doing the hand motions below.*
- In any sports game, players need to follow the coach's game plan. We all have the best coach—God—who always has the best game plan!
- Let's find out what's in God's game plan for us. Drumroll please ... *(Lead the kids in a drumroll.)*
 - **Showing kindness** ([Sign language for "kindness"](#) or have kids shake hands with each other.)
 - **is in God's** *(Point up.)*
 - **game plan** *(Open palms like a book.)*

VIDEO | Game Plan, Episode 3 (8 MIN)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Play this week's episode of [Cali's World](#).*
- *Other campuses: you can use the video linked above or download the videos for this month [here](#)*

Bathroom (10 MIN)

- Line Kids up (Lead Teacher in front/assistant in back)
- Exit room to left and walk kids to the kids bathroom
- Allow 4 girls at a time or 4 boys (boys and girls should never go in at the same time)
- Lead teacher stands at the door with foot in door so they can hear if there are any problems

- Assistant helps keeps the kids waiting entertained, quiet and in their spots against the wall
- Make sure to ask if they washed their hands when done
- Once all kids are done and out of the restroom, lead teacher checks to make sure it looks ok, toilets have been flushed and nothing has been placed in toilets.
- Then walk back to class
- We never assist with anything other than buttoning pants and lead teacher should be in view of assistant at all time.
- If a child needs assistance other than buttoning pants the parent/guardian must be contacted

Sharing Time

Prayer (5 MIN)

- Maybe select a different child each week to pray over the snack
- Give them pointers on praying like how to start..."Dear Jesus" thanking Him for something, praying for anything we might need and then thanking Him for the food.
- Dear God, thank you for being so kind to us. You teach us to be kind, too. Help us to show kindness to others. Amen.

SNACK | Goldfish (10 min)

- Have kids sit at table and pass out Goldfish and water

ONLY ONE SERVING OF GOLDFISH PER CHILD

YOU MAY GIVE AS MUCH WATER AS YOU WANT KEEPING IN MIND RESTROOM BREAKS

ACTIVITY | Circle Time (during snack)

- **PRE SUNDAY PREP: Print the Bible Story Images [here](#). (they are labeled by episode EX. eps1image1)**
 - **INSTRUCTIONS:** Use Bible Story Cards to have kids help you retell the Bible story and answer the following questions
- **Who was the king before David? Was he kind to David?** *Saul. No!*
- **Who was Saul's son and David's best friend?** *Jonathan.*
- **Why did David set the table?** *To show kindness to Jonathan's son, Mephibosheth.*
- **What is one way you can show kindness?**
- **Showing kindness is whose game plan?** *God.*

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

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Help kids learn this month's memory verse by setting the words to the tune of "Old MacDonald Had a Farm." You can also have kids repeat the verse after you in small chunks, say them using silly voices, or create simple hand motions for keywords.*
- **"But the plans of the Lord stand firm forever, the purposes of his heart through all generations."**

ACTIVITY | Kindness Tag (10 MIN)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:**
 - **ORANGE:** *Play a simple game of "Tag" where a leader is "it" and has to tag the kids. Once tagged, the kid has to sit down. Anyone else can tag a sitting kid to bring them back into the game.*
 - **PURPLE:** *Instead of playing "Tag," invite each toddler to give a hug to another friend by calling out their name. Then bring out some toys and talk about sharing*
- Great job being kind to each other so we could all keep playing!
- David showed kindness to Mephibosheth. He brought him to eat at his table and be a part of his family. He thought about what Mephibosheth needed, not just about himself.
- We can show kindness like that, too. We can care about what others need, not just what we need. And when it's hard to be kind, we can ask for God's help! **Showing kindness is in God's game plan.**

Play Time

ACTIVITY | Coloring Page (at home)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Print and distribute [this coloring page](#) along with crayons or markers. You can review today's Bible story, Big Idea, and memory verse as the kids color.*