



UNIT 11 | SESSION 3

GOD MADE A COVENANT WITH DAVID

2 SAMUEL 6-7

KEY PASSAGE:

Ephesians 1:7-8

BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

What is grace? Grace is when God gives us something good even when we do not deserve it.

CHRIST CONNECTION:

God promised David that future kings of Israel would come from David's family, and David's kingdom would last forever. God kept His promise by sending His Son, Jesus, as one of David's descendants. Jesus is our King who will rule over God's people forever.



PRIOR TO TEACHING THE SESSION



LEADER Bible Study

David is described in the Bible as a man after God’s own heart (1 Sam. 13:14). Though at times David showed the depth of his depravity, he also demonstrated a sincere faith in the Lord through his love for Him. In 2 Samuel 6, we see David love God with full abandon as he danced before Him.

David demonstrated his love for God in many ways. David wrote songs, played instruments, and danced for the Lord. We also see how David’s prayers showcased a profound love for God.

In 2 Samuel 7:18, after David heard from the Lord through Nathan, we find the beginning of an incredibly humble prayer of thanksgiving to God. David’s first response to the great things God had promised Him was to say, “Who am I, Lord GOD, and what is my house that you have brought me this far?”

David didn’t stand up taller or display an attitude that suggested he deserved God’s blessing. He actually did just the opposite. David recognized he simply didn’t deserve the good things God had promised to do.

God’s promise to David was ultimately fulfilled through Jesus Christ. And like God’s covenant with David, the gospel story is one of grace. We have done nothing to deserve the good gift of salvation. And God also continues to fulfill His promise to complete

the good work He began in us through the sanctifying work of the Holy Spirit.

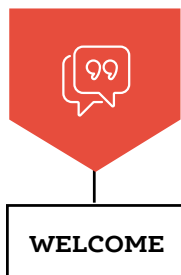
When you think about God’s great work in your life or when you read His Word and recall His precious and very great promises, what is your response? Do you find yourself believing you deserve it and wish there was more? Or do you rightfully understand that God alone has brought you this far, leading you to respond in praise and thanksgiving?

This week, take the time to remember some of the great things God has done in your life; how He saved you and others. Remember how He has given you victory over sin. Remember the things you’ve seen God do in the lives of friends and family members.

Humbly thank God for what He’s done, and boldly ask Him to continue to work—not because you deserve it but because you desire to see, know, and love God more.

PEOPLE TO KNOW

Nathan: Prophet in royal court during reign of David and early years of Solomon. The name *Nathan* means “gift of God.”



WELCOME Kids

Greet each kid as he or she arrives. Use this time to collect the offering, fill out attendance sheets, build relationships, and help new kids connect to your group.

SAY “ Have you ever made a promise that you did not keep? Has anyone promised something to you that never happened? How did that make you feel? ”

1 ACTIVITY PAGE (5 minutes)

Invite kids to complete “Covenant Word Search” on the activity page.

SAY “ Have you ever heard of the word covenant? [Allow kids to respond.] In today’s story, we will learn about a special covenant, or promise, God made with David and how God always keeps His promises. ”

2 SESSION STARTER (10 minutes)

OPTION 1: CAN YOU REMEMBER?



Ask for four kid volunteers to come to the front of the room. Show a variety of classroom objects arranged on a table. Invite the volunteers to look at the objects and remember as many as they can in 20 seconds. Then instruct kids to turn around.

Ask the first volunteer to name one thing from the table. Continue with the other volunteers, asking all four kids to name one object. If a player can’t think of an object or repeats an object that has already been named, he is out. Continue until kids name all the objects or only one player remains. If time allows, play another round with different kids and a different set of objects.

SAY “ Was it hard to remember everything on each slide? Absolutely! It is easy to forget! Today’s story will remind us that God always remembers His promises and is always faithful to do what He says. ”

OPTION 2: PROMISE KEEPER

Form groups of four kids. Provide each group with a pool noodle. Instruct the four kids in each group to divide further into pairs. Lead the groups to have each pair of two kids hold the pool noodle while the other kids run to break through it. Explain that the goal is not allow anyone to break through the pool noodle. Switch and allow the other pair to try and break through the pool noodle. (Tip: To make this even more competitive, leaders can create a bracket style tournament to see which team can hold their pool noodle without anyone breaking through.)

SAY “ Was it easy or hard to break through the pool noodles? Some of us were able to hold strong and others were not able to hold up the noodles against the force of others. Today’s Bible story helps us to remember that God is always able to hold up His promises. He will never break a promise and He will always fulfill promises He makes. ”





LEARN

THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

LEARN the Bible Story

1 TELL THE BIBLE STORY: VIDEO OR STORYTELLER (10 minutes)

Open your Bible to 2 Samuel 6–7. Use the Bible storytelling tips to help you tell the story, or show the Bible story video “God Made a Covenant with David.” Use the bold text to retell or review the story.

GOD MADE A COVENANT WITH DAVID

“**God had chosen David to be the next king of Israel.** King Saul had died, and God gave His people a time of peace. David lived in a beautiful palace in the city of Jerusalem. **David brought the ark of the Lord to Jerusalem and set it inside a tent** he had pitched for it.

One day, David was talking with Nathan the prophet. David said, “I live in a palace of nice cedar wood, but the ark of God sits inside a tent!” It hardly seemed fair. “Shouldn’t God have a nicer house than I do?” **David wanted to build a temple for the ark of God.**

Nathan said, “God is with you. Do what you want!” But God did not want David to do whatever he wanted. God wanted David to do what God wanted. **That night, God gave Nathan a message for David. This is what God told Nathan to say:**

“David, are you going to build a house for Me to live in? I brought My people out of Egypt. I gave them leaders to guide them. The entire time I have been with them, My house has been a tent. Did I ever ask anyone to build a temple for Me?”

“You used to be a shepherd, David, but I made you a king. I helped you defeat your enemies, and My people now live peacefully in their own land. I promise you, David, that you and your descendants will be kings. When you die, one of your sons will be king. He will be a strong king, and no one will be able to take his kingdom away from him. He will build a house for Me. I will love him, and I will never leave him. When your son dies, his son will be king. Someone in your family will be king forever.”

Nathan told David everything God said. David went into the tabernacle. He sat down and prayed: “God, I don’t deserve anything You have done for me, and You promise to do so much more! You are so great! There is no one like You! You chose the Israelites to be Your own people. You rescued them from slavery in Egypt. **God, please keep Your promises. I know Your words are always true.”**

Christ Connection: God promised David that future kings of Israel would come from David’s family, and David’s kingdom would last forever. God kept His promise by sending His Son, Jesus, as one of David’s descendants. Jesus is our King who will rule over God’s people forever. ”

STORYTELLING TIPS

Use drama: Use a dramatic voice as you tell the story to help kids stay engaged and interested.

Provide a change of scenery: Set up a “tabernacle” in your room by using a camping tent or outdoor canopy tent. Invite the kids to sit in the “tabernacle” as you tell the story.

2 REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY

SAY “ God set David apart as a young man to lead the people of Israel. Now God made a covenant with David and he used the prophet Nathan to tell David all about it. Do you know what a covenant is? A covenant is a promise that will be kept whether or not the other side keeps their promise. When God makes a covenant, He will always do what He says, whether or not we do what we say. It is another way God shows His grace to us; giving us something good even when we do not deserve it.

What did the Lord tell Nathan to say to David? Look at 2 Samuel 7:16. **[Choose a volunteer to read aloud 2 Sam. 7:16.]** God wanted David to know that He would establish David’s family, by promising that his throne would be established forever. This was an amazing promise!

How did David respond when He heard God’s promises? Look at 2 Samuel 7:18. **[Choose a volunteer to read aloud 2 Sam. 7:18.]** David was overwhelmed that the Lord would choose to use him and his household. David realized that he had not done anything to deserve all the blessings the Lord had given him. God kept the promise He made to David, because God always keeps His promises. Later on, God would send Jesus, through David’s family, to be the Forever King and rule over God’s people for all eternity. ”

3 CHRIST CONNECTION

SAY “ God promised David that future kings of Israel would come from David’s family, and David’s kingdom would last forever. God kept His promise by sending His Son, Jesus, as one of David’s descendants. Jesus is our King who will rule over God’s people forever. ”

(Tip: Use Scripture and the Gospel Plan Poster to explain how to become a Christian. Make sure kids know when and where they can ask questions.)

4 QUESTIONS FROM KIDS (3 minutes)

Show the “Unit 11, Session 3” questions from kids video. Prompt kids to discuss:

1. How can I know if what I want to do is what God wants me to do?
2. How can you trust that God’s plan and desires for your life are good?