

HOW GREAT THOU ART STUDIO

Golf Course Road Church of Christ Children's Ministry

Bible Background

I Samuel 17-20

Focus

Friends Help Each Other

Memory Verse

Micah 6:8 The Lord has shown you what is good. He has told you what he requires of you. You must treat people fairly. You must love others faithfully. And you must be very careful to live the way your God wants you to.

Materials Needed

- Pencil erasers
- PVC pipe precut
- 1/4" dowel rods (arrows)
- Thick nylon string (32")
- Lighter to seal string
- Scissors
- Duct Tape
- Hot glue gun
- Pipe insulation
- Target



Lessons in this Rotation:

Sunday Morning:

Museum of Biblical History: To Obey is Better than Sacrifice

How Great Thou Art Studio: Friends Help Each Other

Matters of Faith Lab: The Bond of Friendship

Let there be Light Theatre: Who is on the Throne?

Wednesday Night:

Good News Game Room: Review

World Changers Central: Giving Friends

Soul: Facing the Giants

Connect: Humility

Sunday Rotation Schedule:

DATE	MUSEUM	ART	SCIENCE	DRAMA
4/29/2018	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
5/6/2018	2nd	1st	4th	3rd
5/13/2018	3rd	4th	1st	2nd
5/20/2018	4th	3rd	2nd	1st

Focus: Friends Help Each Other

Bible Story

The story is found in I Samuel 17-20. You may choose to read it from the Bible or retell it in your own words.

After David killed Goliath he was brought to King Saul. (David was still holding the Philistine's head.) Saul invited David to live at the palace with him. Saul's son, Jonathan "became one in spirit with David, and he loved him as himself". That means they were VERY BEST friends. In fact, they even made a covenant, or an agreement with each other. Jonathan took off the robe he was wearing and gave it to David, along with his tunic, and even his sword, his bow and his belt. That is how close they were.

In the military, whatever Saul sent him to do, David did it so successfully that Saul gave him a high rank in the army. This pleased all the people, and Saul's officers as well. In fact, when Saul and David and the men were coming home from battles, the people came out to meet them with singing and dancing. As they danced, they sang:

"Saul has slain his thousands,
and David his tens of thousands."

Saul was very jealous when he heard this song. "They have credited David with tens of thousands," he thought, "but me with only thousands. What more can he get but the kingdom?"

Saul told his son Jonathan and some other people to kill David. But Jonathan was David's friend, and warned him.

Then Jonathan spoke to Saul about David and reminded him that David had not done anything wrong, and that what David had done had benefited Saul and the kingdom.

Saul listened to Jonathan and took this oath: "As surely as the LORD lives, David will not be put to death."

So Jonathan called David and told him the whole conversation and David and Saul were friends again.

Saul again sent David out to war. David did great, but that just made Saul even more jealous.

Over and over Saul and David had conflict because of Saul's jealousy. Saul would threaten to kill him and David would run away. Finally, David went to Jonathan and asked, "What have I done? What is my crime? How have I wronged your father, that he is trying to take my life?"

"Never!" Jonathan replied. "You are not going to die! Look, my father doesn't do anything, without confiding in me. It's not so!"

But David said, "Your father knows we are best friends. He will not tell you. But as surely as the LORD lives and as you live, there is only a step between me and death."

Jonathan said to David, "Whatever you want me to do, I'll do for you."

So David said, "Look, tomorrow is the New Moon festival, and I am supposed to be there. Let me go and hide in the field until after the festival. If your father misses me at all, tell him, 'David earnestly asked my permission to hurry to Bethlehem.' If he says, 'Very well,' then I am safe. But if he loses his temper, you can be sure that he is determined to harm me."

So Jonathan agreed to sound out his father. Then Jonathan said to David: "Tomorrow is the New Moon festival. You will be missed, because your seat will be empty. The day after tomorrow, toward evening, go to the place where you hid when this trouble began, and wait by

the stone. I will shoot three arrows to the side of it, as though I were shooting at a target. Then I will send a boy and say, 'Go, find the arrows.' If I say to him, 'Look, the arrows are on this side of you; bring them here,' then come, because, as surely as the LORD lives, you are safe; there is no danger. But if I say to the boy, 'Look, the arrows are beyond you,' then you must go, because the LORD has sent you away."

So David hid in the field and Jonathan went home. When the New Moon festival came, the king sat down to eat. He sat in his customary place by the wall, opposite Jonathan, but David's place was empty. The next day, David's place was empty again. Then Saul said to his son Jonathan, "Why hasn't David come to the meal, either yesterday or today?"

Jonathan answered, "David asked me for permission to go to Bethlehem. That is why he has not come to the king's table."

Saul's anger flared up at Jonathan and he said to him, "Don't I know that you have sided with David! Shame on you! As long as David lives on this earth, neither you nor your kingdom will be established. Now send and bring him to me, for he must die!" Then Jonathan knew that his father intended to kill David.

Jonathan got up from the table in fierce anger; and he did not eat, because he was grieved at his father's shameful treatment of David.

In the morning Jonathan went out to the field for his meeting with David. He had a small boy with him, and he said to the boy, "Run and find the arrows I shoot." As the boy ran, Jonathan called out after him, "Isn't the arrow beyond you?" Then he shouted, "Hurry! Go quickly! Don't stop!" The boy picked up the arrow and returned to his master. Then Jonathan gave his weapons to the boy and said, "Go, carry them back to town."

After the boy had gone, David got up from beside of the stone and bowed down before Jonathan. Then they kissed each other and wept together—but David wept the most.

Jonathan said to David, "Go in peace, for we have sworn friendship with each other in the name of the LORD forever." Then David left, and Jonathan went back to the town.

Discuss the story, especially the part when Jonathan shoots the arrows and that message to David.

Why did David fear Saul?

Why was Saul jealous of David?

Why did Saul want to kill David?

How did Jonathan find out Saul wanted to kill David?

How did Jonathan warn David?

Now, who wants to shoot a bow and warn David?

Art Project

PVC PIPE BOW & ARROWS

Give children a piece of precut PVC pipe and some duct tape to cover it with. Be sure and start the duct tape decorating below where the slit is. Do not cover up the slit (or the hole) on either end.

Next they choose a piece of string and with adult help, they need to "melt" the ends to keep them from fraying. Next, they need to insert their string into their pipe. This will take some grown up help. The string has been pre-cut to 32" stretched out. Insert the string through the end of the PVC pipe with the hole in it and knot it. Next, you need to tie a knot in the other one end of the string and you want the distance between knots to be 31-32 inches.

Place your foot on the bow to bend it so you can get the other knot into the slit on the other end. This takes a bit of strength. You want the string to be tight but short enough so that it makes the pipe bow when the string is in both ends.

After the string is in, wrap some more tape around the top and bottom of the bow where the string is inserted.

After your bow is decorated and strung you will add a hand grip onto the bow using a 6 inch piece of pipe insulation. This will also be used to rest the arrow on so you don't want it too high or too low. Use more tape to wrap around it to keep it in place.

For the arrows, each child can choose one 16" pre-cut 1/4" dowel rod. They may also choose one pencil eraser to place on the tip. The slit is used to place the arrow against the bow string for stability.

The dowels will be slightly smaller than the eraser tips so use some hot glue to glue the erasers onto the dowels.

Holding the bow and arrow at the same time may be a bit tricky for a few of them but have them keep trying. For some of them it might be easier to hold and shoot the bow horizontally rather than vertically.

(Explain how to shoot bows. Explain the safety rules. Allow each child to shoot an arrow. After they shoot, have them say, "Isn't the arrow beyond you?" to warn David.)

¥ Why was Saul angry with David?

¥ What differences did Jonathan and David have to overcome to be friends?

¥ Why was David afraid of Saul?

¥ How was David a friend to Saul?

¥ What did Jonathan promise to do for David?



Resources
