

3s/4s

OCTOBER 4, 2026

KEY QUESTION:

WHO WANTS ME TO HELP OTHERS?

BIG IDEA:

GOD WANTS ME TO HELP OTHERS.

VERSE OF THE MONTH:

“LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.” MATTHEW 22:39

BIBLE STORY:

DAVID HELPS MEPHIBOSHETH – 1 SAMUEL 20:14-17; 2 SAMUEL 9:1-13

OVERVIEW

Centers

Large Group

Circle Time

Table Time

Play Time



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FLOOR CENTER

FRIENDSHIP PUSH

In this activity, we'll help a "friend" by pushing them in a laundry basket. Today we'll hear how King David helped Jonathan by taking care of his son.

Supplies:

1. Sturdy laundry basket
2. Cone
3. Stuffed bear

How-To:

1. Instruct the children to line up on one side of the room behind the laundry basket.
2. Place the cone on the floor on the other side of the room.
3. Place the stuffed bear inside the laundry basket.
4. Encourage each child to take turns pushing the "friend" in the basket to the cone and back.

Say This:

Before the Activity:

Everyone, line up! We have a furry friend here (*hold up stuffed bear*), and he's going to sit in this basket (*place bear in the laundry basket*). We need to help our friend get across the room to that cone (*point to cone*) and then right back here (*demonstrate*). Can you help our friend by pushing the basket all the way around the cone and back to the line? (*Let children respond.*) Everyone will have a turn helping our friend.

During the Activity:

(*Help the children line up and get ready to play.*) Go, go, go! You can do it! Keep going! (*Help the children if they can't push the basket all the way to the cone.*) You made it to the cone! Now push the basket back to the line. Great job!

After the Activity:

What a fun way to help our little friend! Today we're going to hear about a man who helped his friend in some really big ways.

BIBLE STORY: DAVID HELPS MEPHIBOSHETH – 1 SAMUEL 20:14-17; 2 SAMUEL 9:1-13
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CIRCLE TIME

What You Need:

1. Bible
2. Stickers

Say This:

Prompt the children to remember what they learned in The Playhouse. Celebrate when they remember!

- Jonathan and David were best friends, and David grew up to become a *(king)*.
- Jonathan’s son, Mephibosheth, had hurt legs and needed *(help)*.
- King David helped Mephibosheth by taking care of him and giving him yummy *(food)*.
- Just like God wanted David to help others, God wants me to *(help others)*.

Practice the Verse:

Open the Bible to remind the children that our verse comes from the Bible.

Are you ready to practice our Bible verse? *(Let children respond.)* Okay, let’s all say it together.

“Love *(hug self)* your neighbor *(point all around)* as yourself *(thumbs to chest)*” Matthew 22:39.
(Open hands like a book.)

Now, who wants to try saying it by yourself? *(Reward each child with a sticker for saying the verse.)*

Talk About It:

David was a good friend to Jonathan and promised that he would always help take care of him... and that meant his family too! David helped Jonathan’s son, Mephibosheth, in lots of ways! Can you think of ways your friends have helped you? *(Help the children think of ways their friends have helped them. Examples might be when a friend helped them clean up their playroom after a playdate or when a friend drew a picture for them when they were feeling sad.)*

Let’s pray and thank God for loving us and showing us how to help others.

Pray:

Dear God, thank you for loving us. Please help us remember to help the people we love by *(talk about the things you discussed)*. We love you, God. Amen.

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TABLE TIME

MY PLACEMAT

Supplies:

1. “My Placemat” Activity Page (1 per child, printed on white cardstock)
2. “My Placemat – Food Stickers” Activity Page (multiple pages, printed on OL2088 labels)
3. Blue tissue paper squares
4. Glue sticks
5. Crayons

How-To:

1. Give each child a placemat.
2. Instruct them to add food stickers to the plate.
3. Help them glue blue tissue paper squares to the cup.
4. Encourage each child to color their placemat.

Say This:

Before the Activity:

Today we heard about King David helping a man. Does anyone remember the man’s name? *(Let the children respond.)* It’s kind of hard to say, isn’t it? His name was Meh-fib-o-sheth. Do you remember what King David did to help Mephibosheth? *(Let children respond.)* Right! He gave Mephibosheth lots of help and even invited him to dinner. Wow! Can you imagine being invited to dinner by a KING? What kinds of food do you think a king has for dinner? *(Let children respond.)*

During the Activity:

Well, we all have plates here. I’d eat carrots if a king invited me to a fancy dinner *(hold up carrot sticker)*. I’m going to add that to my plate. What do you want to eat? *(Assist the children in adding stickers. Encourage them to glue blue tissue paper squares to the cup and color the placemat.)*

After the Activity:

King David knew God wanted him to help others, just like God wants you to help others. **[Key Question] Who wants me to help others? [Big Idea] God wants me to help others!** When you show your plate to your family, you can tell them, **[Big Idea] “God wants me to help others.”**