

Grades 3, 4, and 5
Session 12

Use the attached workbook pages for this week's session titled "We Celebrate Our Covenant with God". If you did not pick up your packet at church, you will need to print it off from our website.

Please use this to instruct your children along with your child's Children's Bible, You will want to focus on 2 Samuel 6:12-15 and the extra Story pages on pg 424-425.

After the opening prayer on the front of the workbook pages, I might suggest these opening questions before you go into the scripture.

1. Have you ever been so happy you didn't even know what to do with yourself?
2. What was the best gift you ever got?
3. What did you do when you got it? Did you do a happy dance?
4. What is your happy dance?

Why was King David so happy that he danced like crazy? Why was the Ark of the Covenant such a big deal? The Ark of the Covenant was a kind of portable throne for God. It was commissioned by God through Moses and in this holy box contained the 10 commandments and probably some other religious articles. This Ark went with the Israelites wherever they went when they were on their way to the promised land after God freed them from the Egyptians. God was with His people and with the Ark of the Covenant and present in the Tabernacle that God also instructed the Israelites to build. Check out Exodus 40:34-38. This passage is set right after the final touches are made to the Tabernacle and everything is in place.

Not everyone thought King David was acting very king-like. Some thought he was making a fool of himself. But this story isn't in the Bible to show that King David was an idiot. He had his flaws, but this story is not about that. This story is about one of the times that he was doing the right thing, even if not everyone thought so, not even his wife. Can you imagine how great it would be to have something like that with you, close to you so you could go and worship in the very presence of God? Of course King David was excited, he knew what a big deal this was, so much so that he had to break out in his happy dance!

King David had a lot to be thankful to God for,

- He made David, a shepherd boy, King of Israel (1Sam 16:10-13)
- He made him a good warrior (1Sam 17:1-54)
- He made sure he had loyal friends for when the chips were down (1Sam 20:17-42)
- He made a covenant with him that sounded quite a bit like the one with Abraham (2Sam 7:1-17)

And good reason to rely on God and ask for His help

- Every nation wanted to conquer Israel, so Israel needed a smart and strong king
- David knew that the smartest thing he could do was not to rely only on himself, but on God.

- David knew he would make mistakes in his life, so he would need to go to the Lord to help him be a better man.
- His former friend, Saul, wanted him dead
- His own son, Absalom, tried to kill him so he could be king.
- He had great sadness as well since at least 3 of his children died before him

Just a note, you can worship like King David, in God's presence. When you go to church, look for the Tabernacle. Our Tabernacle looks different from the one that King David brought to Jerusalem, and it does not contain the 10 Commandments, but it is where Jesus is among us for real every day. Every time we go to church, we can be with Him.

We might not have the same reasons exactly as King David to want to be near the Lord, but we all have reasons. What are your reasons?

Make sure to check out the back page too. The Family page is full of really good stuff.

*Additional option- take your kids to church and spend some time in the chapel in front of the Tabernacle. You can be silent or not. It is up to you, but explaining and letting them explore is a great way to facilitate their relationship with Jesus.