



**David and Jonathan Say
Goodbye I Samuel 20:24-42**

WEEK 4

POINT ➡ **WE'RE KIND TO OUR FRIENDS.**

Set out drawing supplies, and have children draw and color pictures of King Saul, David, and Jonathan, each on separate pieces of paper. SAY: **Give King Saul a crown, and use different colors to draw David and Jonathan so you can tell them apart. As I tell what the Bible says, you'll use your pictures to help act it out.**

Open your Bible to 1 Samuel 20, and show children the words. They should have their three pictures ready. SAY: **The Bible tells us there was a festival—a big party. When King Saul realized David wasn't at the festival, he asked Jonathan where David was. Have your Saul and Jonathan pictures pretend to talk to each other.** Pause.

Jonathan said David went to his hometown. Saul got really angry. Make Saul jump up and down like he's mad. Pause. Then Jonathan got mad and ran off because he knew Saul wanted to hurt David. Have Jonathan turn from Saul and run. Pause.

The next day Jonathan went out to the field where David was hiding. Bend David forward to hide. Pause. Have Jonathan walk toward him. Pause. David came out from behind a pile of stones. Have David stand and walk to Jonathan. Pause.

Jonathan told David that Saul wanted to hurt him and that David had to leave. David and Jonathan hugged and said goodbye. Bring David and Jonathan together, and then have them turn from each other and walk away. Pause.

ASK: **David and Jonathan had to say goodbye to each other. Tell about a time you had to say goodbye to someone you cared about.**

David and Jonathan knew they'd be friends forever. What are some things they could do to help remember each other after they said goodbye?

SAY: **David and Jonathan always showed kindness when they were together, and they promised to keep showing kindness even if they never saw each other again.** ➡ **WE'RE KIND TO OUR FRIENDS while they're with us and when they're gone.**





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Build It!

POINT ➡ WE'RE KIND TO OUR FRIENDS.

Have children work in pairs using the *Buzz Boing Putty*. SAY: **Work together and roll your putty into little stones.** Allow time. **Now make a stone pile like David hid behind. Build your pile as high as you can!** Allow time.

Now that you've built your pile, take turns naming one way ➡ **WE'RE KIND TO OUR FRIENDS.** Every time you name something, take a stone off the pile and put it back in the putty container. Have children continue until all the stones are gone.

ASK: **Share about a special friend and why that friend is special to you.**

What have you done to be kind to that friend?

SAY: **Jonathan showed kindness to David by helping him find a safe place to hide, behind the stone pile. And he showed kindness by telling him how to stay safe and giving him a big hug goodbye. Like Jonathan and David, ➡ WE'RE KIND TO OUR FRIENDS.**



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Miss It!

POINT ➡ **WE'RE KIND TO OUR FRIENDS.**

Gather kids in a circle. Choose one child to be King Saul. Have the others pretend to be guests at his big party. Then have Saul close his eyes while you silently choose one of the other kids to be David and to hide. Invite Saul to open his eyes. Challenge him to figure out which child is missing from his party. When he figures it out, have him say, "[Child's name] is David. Bring David to me now!" Have the rest of the kids wave and say, "Goodbye, David! Go safely. Goodbye!" As they're doing this, have "David" come out of hiding and run around the circle twice, waving at everyone as he does.

Invite "David" to rejoin the circle. Play again, letting others pretend to be King Saul and David.

SAY: When David was in danger, Jonathan and David had to say goodbye.

ASK: Tell about a time you had to say goodbye to people you love.

What kinds of things do people say and do when they tell friends goodbye?

SAY: Saying goodbye is a hard thing to do, but we can show our friends we care by how we say goodbye. We can let them know we'll miss them, we care about them, and we hope to see them again soon. And we can give them a big hug like Jonathan gave David. ➡ WE'RE KIND TO OUR FRIENDS.



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Brainstorm It!

POINT ➡ WE'RE KIND TO OUR FRIENDS.

SAY: David and Jonathan had to say goodbye. Saying goodbye kindly lets our friends know we care about them. There are many other kind words friends say to each other. When we greet a friend, we say hello. When a friend does something nice for us, we say thank you.

ASK: What are some other kind words we say to friends?

Make a written list of words and phrases kids think of. Include *good-bye*, *hello*, and *thank you* on the list. Use these additional suggestions if kids get stuck: *please*; *I'm sorry*; *you look nice today*; *how are you*?

Read the list aloud, asking the following questions about each item on the list.

ASK: Tell about a time you said [word or phrase from the list] to a friend or loved one.

What does it mean when we say [word or phrase from the list]?

Why is it kind to say [word or phrase from the list]?

SAY: ➡ **WE'RE KIND TO OUR FRIENDS.** One way to be kind is to choose kind words when we speak to them. David and Jonathan shared some kind words when they said goodbye, promising to always be good friends and help each other's families.



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Remember It!

POINT ➡ WE'RE KIND TO OUR FRIENDS.

Gather kids around you. Hold the *Buzz Hopper* in your hand.

ASK: **Tell about a friend you haven't seen in a while.**

SAY: **Saying goodbye is a hard thing to do. Sometimes we miss our friends when they go away, and we feel sad. When we're sad, we don't feel like jumping up and down.**

Put the *Buzz Hopper* down quietly in front of you.

ASK: **How will you show kindness when you see your friend again?**

Wind up the *Buzz Hopper* and let it hop. Encourage kids to hop with it. When the hopper stops hopping, choose one child to say goodbye and slowly walk away. Wind up the *Buzz Hopper*. As it hops, have the remaining kids hop over to the one who said goodbye and give that child a hug. Repeat the activity until every child has a turn to walk away and be hugged.

SAY: When David and Jonathan said goodbye, it wasn't just for a little while. They weren't sure if they'd ever see each other again! But they promised to always show kindness and help each other's families. And later on, when David was older, he kept his promise and showed kindness to Jonathan's son.

We're kind to our friends when we have to say goodbye, and ➡ **WE'RE KIND TO OUR FRIENDS** when we get to spend a lot of time with them.