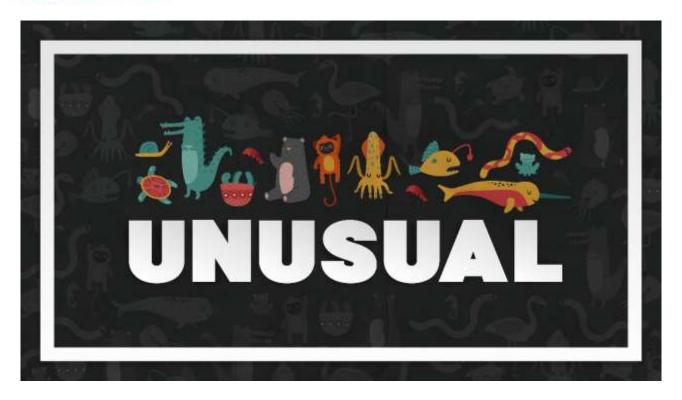


July 25, 2021 Elementary Online Lesson



Series Overview: "Unusual" is going to have us look with the kids at the life of David in the Bible, as well as, learn that God does not think the same way we do or act in the same way we do. Just like we do not think or act in the same way as the animals in our world. God sees a bigger picture and understands things we cannot, so He will not always make sense to us. God uses unlikely people, He gives the unexplainable, He does the unexpected, and His love is unchangeable. Now that definitely sounds unusual...and amazing!

Bible Story: David and Bathsheba: 2 Samuel 11:1-15; (Psalm 51)

Big Idea: God's love is unchangeable.

Series Memory Verse: "For My thoughts are not your thoughts neither are your ways my ways," declares the Lord. –Isaiah 55:8

Lesson Guide:

- 1. GATHER & SHARE TIME
- Sit together with your child/ family.
- Have everyone share something they heard from the Bible story message online or a question they have from it.

2. BIBLE STORY REVIEW

Supplies: Bible(s)

- Let me ask everyone a question. Have you ever found yourself in a place you weren't supposed to be? (Allow the kids time to answer. Feel free to share your own age-appropriate experience.) Well, that's what happened in our Bible story today. King David wasn't exactly where he was supposed to be, and that got him into some trouble.
- I have another question for you. Who here has ever seen something really, really cool and you just had to have it, but it would really hurt someone else if you took it? Well, that's exactly what position David was in, and guess what? He didn't make a great choice.
- David was supposed to be with the rest of his troops at battle, but David decided to stay at home. One day, he noticed a woman named Bathsheba who he thought was very beautiful. David decided he was in love with Bathsheba. But there was a problem. Bathsheba wasn't available! She was already married to a man named Uriah!
 - But David cared more about his own feelings than about whether Uriah might be hurt, and honestly, we're not really sure if anyone asked Bathsheba how she felt at all! Yikes!
- And believe it or not, it gets worse! David knew that he'd be in big trouble for falling in love with a married woman since that was way against the rules, even for a king who could do pretty much whatever he wanted.
 - He tried a bunch of different things to make Uriah go away, but nothing seemed to work. One bad decision kept leading to another until David made the worst decision of all . . . he sent Uriah into battle knowing that he'd be killed.
- Even though David messed up big time, God doesn't abandon him. Of course David would have to face the consequences of his poor choices, but God still loved him and did not take away the promises about his future. God's love for David stayed the same.

THE BIG IDEA | God's love is unchangeable.

3. BIBLE STORY APPLICATION ACTIVITY

*Supplies: Paper (1 piece per participant), pencils (1 per)

- Have one volunteer come see you. Write two animals (be creative...sea animals, jungle animals, farm animals, bugs, birds, etc.) or whisper them in his/ her ear (while everyone else looks away and/or covers their ears and hum)
- Then have the volunteer draw a combination of the two animals on a piece of paper where everyone can see. (e.g., a cow with octopus' tentacles instead of legs).
- The first person to guess the correct two animals gets a point!
- Then call another volunteer to be the drawer, and continue to play like that.
 -OR-
- Just have your whole family draw their interpretation of a combination of two animals and then share your drawings with each other.
- Repeat this a few times.
- Talk about how God's thoughts and ways are higher than ours similarly to how our thoughts and ways are higher than those of the animals.
- Then discuss how you guys changed up all the animals in the game . . . which is impossible in real life.
- Just like how it will be impossible to change God's love for us! God's love is unchangeable!

4. MEMORY VERSE PRACTICE & ACTIVITY:

*Supplies = plastic ball or balloon

• Work with your kids on the new July memory verse by reading it from the Bible in Isaiah 55:8.

- Make up some motions to go along with the verse or try to follow these:
 - For (hold up 4 fingers) my thoughts (point with both hands to your temples) are not (cross your arms back and forth in front of you and shake your head no) your thoughts (point with both hands to your temples) neither are (cross your arms back and forth in front of you and shake your head no) my ways (walk to the right) your ways (walk to the left), declares the Lord (touch your mouth with both hands and then point up with both hands)
- Next, try this game with your kid/ family:
 - Give each person a piece of paper and have them make a paper ball.
 - ▶ Write 100 on a piece of paper, then 200 on another, 300, 400 & 500.
 - > Tape the numbers papers to the floor with the highest number farthest from the participants.
 - Have the participants line up at a certain spot each with their paper balls.
 - Have them all say the memory verse to start each round of play.
 - After they say the verse aloud together, allow them to roll their paper balls one at a time and try to land them on one of the number pages.
 - > If someone knocks someone else's off or to a new page, that is where it stays.
 - > Once everyone has rolled, right down their scores.
 - Play 10 rounds (like in bowling) adding up the score from each round (be sure to change up the order the participants roll in each round).
 - > After 10 round, whoever has the highest score wins!
 - Talk about how God is the winner because He is the highest....His thoughts and His ways are higher than ours...and the best part is that all His thoughts and all His ways are bathed in the strongest love ever!
 - > And God's incredible love is unchangeable.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- Where was David supposed to be?
- Why was it wrong for David to be in love with Bathsheba?
- How did David try to cover up what he had done?
- Re-read II Samuel 11:1. It can be dangerous when we're not where we're supposed to be. When have you found yourself in trouble because you were not where you were supposed to be or doing what you were supposed to do?
- How do you respond when you see something you really want, but can't have?
- What do you do after you've made a big mistake?
- Read Psalm 51 with the kids, and talk about how David wrote this Psalm when he really regretted the mistakes he had made and was asking God for forgiveness. The great thing is, God's love is unchangeable, so David received forgiveness, and so can we, through Jesus!
- Why does God still love us after we've done wrong things?

5. PRAY WITH YOUR FAMILY.

If you have a printer, the next page is for your kids to take notes while watching the online service

