FAITHFUL Followers

Memory Verse: ***"God chose you to tell about the wonderful things He has done. He called you out of darkness into His wonderful light." 1 Peter 2:9b***

Big Idea: ***God calls His people because He loves.***

Bible Story: David Becomes King | 1 Samuel 16

Gear Up - Arrival

Greet children as they enter the classroom. Mark them present using your iPad and/or paper roster.

Opening Activities: Engage with the kids in your room as they play and interact with designated games and activities as time allows. Use this opportunity to ask kids about their week, discuss their interests, and encourage them to connect with one another!

Memory Verse Game – Bible Verse Relay

What you'll need: small pieces of paper with one word of the memory verse written on each piece (2 sets)

How to Play:

Divide the kids into two teams and place a leader with each team.
Give each team a set of cards.
Start a timer (stopwatch mode) and have the leaders guide the kids in putting the cards/words in the correct order of the verse.
See which team can finish in the shortest amount of time

Get-To-Know-You Game – What I Love About God

What you'll need: No supplies needed

How to Play:

Invite the kids to form a circle.
Ask them the question "What do you love about God and Jesus?"
Give them a few seconds to think about their response.
A leader will then call out a characteristic of God and if the kid's response matches, they will step into the middle of the circle.
Celebrate with them and send them back to their spot in the circle again.
Repeat with a new characteristic of God.
The kids that chose that new response would step into the middle.
And so on…
If a kid chose a characteristic that you didn't call out, ask them to step into the middle and share their unique response.

*Some characteristics of God to call out: His goodness, faithfulness, love, power, sacrifice, wisdom, creativity…

Gear Up - Welcome – 5 minutes

Begin 10 minutes after the service time starts (Ex. 9:40 at the 9:30 experience).

Gather kids together in a space where they can see the TV.
Take a moment to **welcome** the kids to KXP and let them know how glad you are that they are here!

PRAY FIRST! We want to model this for our kids. Take a moment to pray for the time together and for the kids in your room.

Lesson Introduction – 5 minutes

Share the Lesson Intro with the class before starting the **KXP lesson video**. Challenge them to listen and pay attention during the Bible Story.

Say: *"Hey KXP! We have been learning about the Faithful Followers that God called to be a part of Jesus' story. God's Big Rescue Plan was already in action in the Old Testament - long before Jesus was born. We have been talking about faithful followers and some of those were kings. Before we dive into today's true story from the Bible, let me remind everyone of our Big Idea. God calls His people because He loves."*

Play the KXP lesson video in your classroom.

Bible Story – 10 minutes

Leaders, please read the Bible story below before Sunday to prepare for discussion.

David Becomes King | 1 Samuel 16

Long before David became king, there was already a king over Israel named Saul. But Saul stopped obeying God. Because Saul was doing things his own way instead of God's way - God chose someone else who would one day be the new king.

God sent a prophet named Samuel to a town called Bethlehem. Does that town's name sound familiar to you? Bethlehem was a very important town. It is where Jesus was born. There Samuel met a family with many sons. God didn't choose the strongest or oldest of the sons. Instead, He chose the youngest—David!

In the book of 1 Samuel, chapter 16 -verse 12 says ***"So Jesse sent and had his youngest son brought in. He was a fine boy, tanned and handsome. The Lord said to Samuel, 'Go! Appoint him. He is the one!'"*** You see David was a shepherd boy who took care of the sheep. He loved God, trusted Him, and had a brave heart. Samuel poured oil on David's head to anoint him. This meant that one day, he would be king. Verse 13 says ***"…From that day on, the Lord's Spirit entered David with power..."***

Even though David was chosen, he didn't become king right away. First, he had to learn to trust God. Our true story from last week talked about when David fought Goliath, a huge warrior. Everyone else was afraid, but David believed God would help him. With just a sling and a stone, David defeated Goliath! This showed that David trusted God more than his own strength. Have you ever trusted God to do something you knew you couldn't do on your own? (pause) I certainly have!

After defeating a giant, David became very popular. People even sang songs about him! This made King Saul jealous. God doesn't want us to be jealous of others or want what they have. Jealousy takes our eyes off God and what He says is best for us. And because he was jealous that David would one day be king of Israel, Saul tried to hurt David many times. David had to run away and hide, even though he had done nothing wrong.

But David still respected Saul as king and refused to hurt him or fight back. This shows that David was patient and kind—even when life was unfair. David spent years waiting. He could have tried to take the throne himself, but he chose to wait for God's plan. During this time, David gathered friends and followers and became a strong leader. He learned courage, patience, and how to trust God no matter what. Eventually, King Saul died in battle. After that, David became king—just like God had promised! At first, he ruled only part of Israel, but later he became king over the whole nation. David led the people wisely and wanted them to follow God.

Lesson Recap –15 minutes

After the video has ended, **share the Lesson Conclusion** with the class.

Say: *"We can learn a lot from the kings of the past. God sees more than just how big, strong, or smart you are. He sees your heart and how you express His love to others. We can trust God, even when things seem scary – like David did when*

he faced Goliath. Do what's right, even when it's hard and try your best to be patient. God's timing is always better than our own. King David understood that. Thanks for joining me today in KXP! Make sure to come back next week. We have one more king to learn about this month. See you soon!"

Direct the kids to the **Memory Verse** and **Big Idea** posters in your room. Have your class read them together out loud. Celebrate the kids for paying attention and listening well!

Close in Prayer – 3 to 5 minutes

Ask the kids in your room to share any **prayer requests** they have. Give them a moment to **fill out prayer cards** or **choose a prayer prompt** to take home. Then **pray over them**!

- **P**RAISE - *Open with adoration.*
- **R**EPENT - *Recall and connect the Big Idea from the Bible Story to yourself and the kids.*
- **A**SK - *Petition the Lord on the kids' behalf.*
- **Y**IELD - *Close by giving thanks to God for His perfect plan.*

Live It Out – 5 to 8 minutes | **Write a Psalm**

What you'll need: paper, crayons, markers, various craft supplies, stickers

What to do: Leaders explain to the kids that King David wrote many songs and prayers in the Bible called Psalms. Have kids write their own psalms by finishing these sentence starters.

God helps me when _____.
I thank God for _____.
God is strong because _____.
God is good because _____.

Then have them decorate their psalm with images like music notes, stars, etc.

Ask while they finish the craft:

Why did God choose David?
What made David brave?
Was David perfect? (No—he made mistakes too.)
What makes a good leader?
How can kids trust God today?

Leave No Trace – End of the Hour

- As parents arrive to pick up children, have the **kids work together to clean up** the classroom.
- **Thank them** for coming and **encourage them to invite a friend** and come back next week!
- Children can **finish opening activities** while waiting on their parents.