



NOVEMBER THEME

SPOTLIGHT

BIBLE STORY

1 Samuel 18:1-9; 19:1-7; 20:1-42
Project Runaway | David and Jonathan

BOTTOM LINE

Honor others by putting them first

MEMORY VERSE

“Love one another deeply. Honor others more than yourselves.”
Romans 12:10, NIV

LIFE APP

Honor—letting someone know you see how valuable they really are

BASIC TRUTH

I should treat others the way I want to be treated

FOR LEADERS ONLY

GOD VIEW: the connection between **HONOR** and God’s character, as shown through God’s big story

This WEEK: We continue our look at Honor in **1 Samuel 18:1-9, 19:1-7, and 20:1-42**. Jonathan was the prince of Israel. He was set to follow in his father’s footsteps. He could have ignored God’s plan for David and done his own thing to ensure his own place on the throne. Yet, Jonathan saw God was doing something different and showed kindness to David in spite of what Saul thought.

Bottom Line: Honor others by putting them first. When we see people as God sees them, we start to realize that how we treat them matters. One of the easiest ways we can show people honor is by putting their needs before our own. This is exactly what God did for us when God sent Jesus to be our Savior.

SOCIAL: PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION

Welcome kids and spend time engaging in conversation and catching up. Get ready to experience today’s story.

Before kids arrive, **PRAY** for each regular attendee by name. Pray for those who might visit your group for the first time. Every kid could use more practice putting others first! Ask God to remind kids constantly this week to put others ahead of themselves. Pray that kids would learn the importance of honoring others this way. Pray that, as the ministry hour unfolds today, God would bring to mind opportunities and ideas for how kids can put others first.

•• EARLY ARRIVER IDEA

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

- Ask kids the following questions:
 - What’s something you’ve gotten to be first at sometime this week?
 - How do you feel when you get to be first for something?
 - What’s something you would like to be first for but haven’t gotten the chance?

•• YOU’RE #1

What You Need: Blank name tags, crayons

What You Do:

- Give each kid a blank sticker.
- Tell kids to write a #1 on their sticker and decorate them.
- When kids are finished decorating, tell them to give their sticker to someone else. They should make sure everyone has one at the end.



- If you have time, let kids decorate another sticker if you have more.
- Instruct kids to stick their sticker on their shirts and wear them to Large Group Worship.

What You Say: “You guys did a great job making some really creative stickers for your friends! It feels good when someone tells you that you are number one. **[Transition] Today in Large Group Worship/WOW, we are going to hear/we heard about a guy who put his friend first, even though it was very hard.**”

[Sunday Leaders: Lead your group to the Family Room for Large Group Worship. Wednesday Leaders: Continue with the study.]

GROUPS: CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT

Create a safe place to connect and learn how the Bible story applies to real life experiences, through interactive activities and discussion questions.

●● **TAG! YOU’RE SAUL** *(application activity/review the Bible story)*

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

- Choose one kid to be “Saul,” and the rest will be “Davids.”
- Explain that you are “Jonathan.”
- Instruct kids to scatter around the room as Saul tries to tag the Davids.
- When Saul tags someone, that kid must stay frozen until Jonathan [you] unfreezes him by touching his arm.
- After a minute, choose a new Saul and continue to play. Play as long as time and interest allows.

What You Say: “In our story today, Jonathan could have chosen to be enemies with David and try to block him from becoming the next king. But, instead, he chose to protect his friend from his father, Saul, who was trying to kill David. Jonathan and David came up with lots of plans to protect David from Saul, including shooting arrows a certain way so Jonathan could tell David if Saul wanted to kill him or not. In the end, the two friends had to leave each other in order to keep David safe. Jonathan could have chosen to put himself first, but instead he chose to honor God and **[Bottom Line] honor others by putting them first. [Make It Personal] (Tell kids about a time when someone put you first. How did it make you feel?)** It feels good when others put us first, so we should remember to honor others that way too.”

●● **BIN BALL** *(application activity)*

What You Need: Leader bins, ball pit ball, paper, crayons

What You Do:

- Empty out your leader bins and set them in the center of the table.
- Explain that the small bin is worth three points, the large bin is worth two points, and the table is worth one point.
- Guide kids to stand in a circle around the bins and then take 3 steps back.
- Give the ball to one kid. Tell him he can either throw it toward the bins to try to get points, or he can pass the ball to the kid on his left, and take a step closer to the bins.
- If all kids choose to pass the ball, the next time around they must all throw the ball.
- Keep score as the kids play.
- Play as long as time and interest allow.



What You Say: “You guys did a great job letting others go first. When we let others go first, we show them that we love them and we honor God and **[Bottom Line] honor others by putting them first.** We can honor people with our words and actions. Letting someone go before you is an easy way to honor them because it makes them feel special and important. This week, remember to give others the opportunity to be first whenever you have the chance.”

•• **LOVE IS BLIND** *(memory verse activity)*

What You Need: Magazines, scissors, glue sticks, butcher paper, crayons

What You Do:

- Say the memory verse together as a group. See if kids can say it together without looking at any of the words.
- Show kids the magazines and let them each cut out a few pictures of people. Encourage them to cut out all sorts of different people.
- Draw a big heart in the center of a piece of butcher paper. Lay it on your small group table.
- Let kids take turns gluing their cutout pictures of people to the inside of the heart.

What You Say: “Not all the people in these pictures look like you, do they? Some have a different skin color, or they are older or younger, or they are a boy or a girl, but they all have one thing in common—God loves all of them and so should we. One way we can honor God and spread God’s love is to **[Bottom Line] honor others by putting them first.**”

PRAY AND SEND

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

- Have kids stand in a line, one behind the other.
- Explain that as you say their names during the prayer, the kid at the front of the line should go to the end of the line until you have said every kid’s name.

What You Say: “God, please help [insert kid’s name] to honor you and **[Bottom Line] honor others by putting them first.** Please help [him or her] to put others first whenever they can.” *(Repeat for each kid.)*

[Apply] Give each parent a Faith Five Family Tools as they come to pick up their child and remind them to use it as a family devotional tool this week. Let parents know that we are growing around the theme of honor this month and that, this week, we explored how we can honor God when we **[Bottom Line] honor others by putting them first.** Encourage kids to tell their parents one way they will honor God and **[Bottom Line] honor others by putting them first.**