



# AUGUST 16

## AT HOME LESSON

# BRAVE

## BIG IDEA

We can show others mercy.

## THE BIBLE

David Spares Saul's Life: 1 Samuel 24:1-18

### MUSIC | Who You Say I Am

Spend some time in worship with your kids! You can choose any song, but you might want to check out the following:

- [Who You Say I Am](#) by Hillsong
- [Brave](#) by Saddleback Kids
- [You Will Never Run](#) by Rend Collective

### PRAYER

After you sing the songs, pray together. Ask God to teach you and open your heart to God's word! Thank God for being with us to make us brave!

### QUESTION | What Does "Mercy" Mean?

- **How would you define the word "mercy"?**
- Mercy is another word for "compassion." It's often used to describe letting someone out of punishment or trouble even though they deserve it. Showing mercy means you are willing to be kind, loving, and to help someone else. . . especially when we feel like they don't deserve it. God shows us mercy and compassion by loving us and forgiving us when we sin and make bad choices.
- There are many ways to show mercy to someone. But sometimes showing mercy or compassion can be hard, especially when someone doesn't treat us well and needs our forgiveness. That's what we're talking about today.

### THE BIG IDEA | We can show others mercy.

This will transition you into the Bible story time. Say something like:

- **This week's Big Idea is: We can show others mercy. Let's look at today's Bible story to see how David showed mercy to King Saul.**



## **SCRIPTURE** | 1 Samuel 24:1-18

*Introduce the story by saying something like:*

- So far, we learned about how God helped David be brave by choosing him to become the king and using David to take down the giant Goliath. Today, we'll see how David showed he was brave by showing mercy and how we can show mercy to others, too.  
In the chapters leading up to today's passage, David had become a hero in the eyes of the Israelites, especially after he fought and defeated Goliath. Saul, who was king at the time, became jealous of David's success and popularity, so much so, that he wanted to harm David. David knew this, so he ran and hid from Saul, and that's where we pick up the story.

*Read the story from a Bible you have at home.*

## **VIDEO** | David Shows Mercy

Watch this week's video at <https://jcbc.org/jcbc-kids-online/>

## **DISCUSSION** | Bible Story

- How many troops did Saul send after David?
- Where did Saul and David end up together?
- What did David's men want David to do to Saul?
- How did David respond?
- David could have used that opportunity to get rid of Saul for good. After all, his own life would have been spared. But David chose another way. He showed mercy to Saul.
- How did Saul respond to David?
- Two lives were changed that day: David showed mercy to someone who wanted to harm him, and Saul received mercy that he did not deserve.
- The same thing happens when we show mercy to someone. We feel at peace and the other person feels gratitude.

## **DISCUSSION** | Connection Questions

- Read Luke 6:36. How has God been merciful to you this week?
- Instead of seeking revenge, what should be your response to someone who has hurt you?
- How can you respond to someone who has wronged you?
- Do you know anyone who needs to be shown compassion? How can you show compassion to them?

## **OBJECT LESSON** | Mercy Over Anger

- [Hold up the stress ball.] **Does you know what this is?** Yes, it's a stress ball. What do you use it for? You use it to help calm you down. You focus on rolling or squeezing it to get rid of your anger [Demonstrate how to use it.] There are sometimes when people disappoint us, hurt us, or make us angry, but we can choose to show mercy over anger by finding ways to focus on making the right choices instead of giving into our anger.



### **ACTIVITY** | Mercy Relay

*Use the printed instruction cards to create a relay. This can be fun for 1 kid or 10, however many you have with you! Spread the cards out around the room, or outside in the yard. The kid(s) run to each card and does the specified action for 10 seconds. Each activity earns them a letter in the word "MERCY." If you have more than one child, make a race to see who can get all 5 letters first!*

*M – Jump rope (if you don't have a jump rope, they can pretend)*

*E – Hop on one foot*

*R – Hula Hoop (if you don't have a hula hoop, they can pretend)*

*C – Jumping Jacks*

*Y – Spin in a circle*

*Once your child(ren) has/have all 5 letters, say: **Wow! You got it! You have mercy. Now you can use your mercy to help others and have compassion for those in need!***

**jump  
rope**

**jump  
rope**

**hop on  
one foot**

**hop on  
one foot**

**hula  
hoop**

**hula  
hoop**

**jumping  
jacks**

**jumping  
jacks**

**spin in  
a circle**

**spin in  
a circle**

