

“Live Like A King” - LESSON 1

“Crippled”

Main Focus:

When we are “crippled” by what happens in life, God can restore us!



Power Verse:

“... restore me, for you alone are the LORD my God.”
– Jeremiah 31:18



Watt's Up:

“God Will Help Me Live Like A King!”

LEADER'S INFO

Life can be pretty hard. Circumstances and situations can cause a lot of hurt and damage to us - emotionally, physically, and spiritually. Often, we may feel “crippled” by life’s problems - unable to move forward or go on.

Through the story of Mephibosheth in the Old Testament, we discover a very interesting picture of grace and love. King David represents God - loving, kind, gentle, and ready to bless. Mephibosheth represents those of us who have been “crippled” by life’s difficulties.

The children will learn that God’s desire is to restore our hearts to the place He always intended for them to be.



“The Spark” Intro Video

Crippled



“Watt’s Up?” Teaching Video

Skittles teaches “Watt’s Up?”



Character Skit

“Chuck Foo”



Offering Time



Game On!

“Hop Along”



Bible Story

“David Remembers Mephibosheth”



Power Verse Video

“... restore me, for you alone are the LORD my God.” – Jeremiah 31:18



Call To Action

“Crippled”



Brain Drain

Review Game



Small Group Experience

Main Focus:

When we are “crippled” by what happens in life, God can restore us!



Power Verse:

“... restore me, for you alone are the LORD my God.”
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Watt’s Up:

“God Will Help Me Live Like A King!”

Lesson 1 Materials Needed:

“The Spark” Intro Video

- “Live Like A King Lesson 1” Intro Video

“Watt’s Up?” Teaching Video

- “Watt’s Up?” Teaching Video
- “Watt’s Up?” Trigger Video

Character Skit

- “Chuck Foo” Theme Graphic/Music

Offering Time

- “Offering Time” Bumper Video

Game On!

- “Game On!” Bumper Video
- “Hop Along” Graphic
- Two pairs of crutches

Bible Story

- “David Remembers Mephibosheth” Graphics

Power Verse Video

- “Power Verse” Video

Call To Action

- “Crippled” Graphics
- A pair of crutches (or wheelchair)

Brain Drain

- “Brain Drain” Bumper Video
- “Brain Drain” Lesson 1 Graphics

Small Group Experience

- Mephibosheth’s Testimonial Print Piece
- Materials that can be used for a “trash to treasure” restoration project (food boxes, plastics bottles, scrap paper, etc.)
- Pencils, crayons, or markers
- Tape and glue
- Scissors
- My Testimonial Print Piece

“The Spark” Intro Video

Crippled

“Watt’s Up?” Teaching Video

Skittles teaches “Watt’s Up?”

Character Skit

“Chuck Foo”

Offering Time

Game On!

“Hop Along”

Bible Story

“David Remembers Mephibosheth”

Power Verse Video

“... restore me, for you alone are the LORD my God.” – Jeremiah 31:18

Call To Action

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Brain Drain

Review Game

Small Group Experience



Introduction to “The Spark” Intro Video

Leader: Hey, kids! Welcome to our series - “Live Like A King.” Have you ever played the game “Follow the Leader?” *(allow a few children to respond)* It’s a lot of fun to be leader in that game, isn’t it? You get to choose where people go and what they do. Everyone has to follow YOU!

Now, imagine that you were the leader ALL the time. Even bigger than that - imagine if you got to be KING! You could create new laws and have servants who take care of you and do all of your chores for you. How awesome would that be?

Well, this series is all about a young man who got the chance to go from being sad and forgotten to being able to “Live Like A King.” But before we get into our lesson, let’s check out this video!

(play “The Spark” Intro Video)

Leader: Can you imagine what it must have been like for Mephibosheth to go from being a crippled beggar to being able to live like a king? Well, we are going to learn all about that in our lesson today. But right now, it’s time to check in with Skittles and find out “Watt’s Up?”

(play “Watt’s Up?” Teaching Video)



CHARACTER SKIT

Character: “Chuck Foo” *(a wanna-be karate expert with a slight Minnesota accent)*

CHUCK: *(Enters with his theme music, doing random karate poses)*

Leader: WHOAH! Hey, everybody! It's Chuck Foo!

CHUCK: Thaaaaat's RIGHT! The name is CHUCK FOO! I am a kung fu expert and amateur stuntman, and I'm here to MELT YOUR FACES with my brand new moves!

Leader: Whoah-whoah-whoah, did you just say, “Melt your faces?”

CHUCK: Yes, I did! It's gonna be AWESOME. Like a grilled cheese sandwich! *(Chuck slaps his hands together and makes a hissing noise, mimicking a grilled cheese sandwich)*

Leader: Chuck, I'm not sure I want my face melted.

CHUCK: You'll be THANKING me after I show you this amazing new kung fu move I just learned! It's called “Crouching Weasel, Whispering Hippo.” You guys want to see it? *(kids respond)* Ok! Here we go! *(gets into a ridiculous pose and tries to kick; immediately doubles over in pain)* OW...OW.....
OWWWWOWOWOWOWOWOWOW!

Leader: Chuck! Are you okay?

CHUCK: Am I okay?? Didn't you just hear me say “OWWWWOWOWOWOWOWOW”?! No, I'm not okay! Ohhhhh it burns.

Leader: What happened?

CHUCK: Oh...Oh, this is bad. This is REALLY bad.

Leader: What is?? Are you seriously hurt?

CHUCK: Yes! I've got...a CHARLIE HORSE!

Leader: A Charlie horse?? Chuck, that's just a muscle cramp. You'll be fine in a second!

CHUCK: FINE?! I'm CRIPPLED! Now I'll never be able to do kung fu or ANYTHING for God EVER AGAIN!

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CHARACTER SKIT

(continued)

Leader: Chuck, you're blowing this thing WAY out of proportion! Listen, today we're talking about the restoring power of God!

CHUCK: The whos-y whats-it now?

Leader: We're talking about how God can restore us! Sometimes in life, bad stuff can happen - someone you love gets sick or your parents are going through a divorce - and that can emotionally CRIPPLE us!

CHUCK: Does getting a Charlie horse fall into that category?

Leader: I doubt it. ANYWAY, God can restore us! He loves us and has the power to heal our broken hearts and lives! No matter how bad things get, God wants to build us back up and help us lead good lives for Him!

CHUCK: Are you for serious?

Leader: Yes! And when God restores us - it's AWESOME, and we should give Him ALL the glory!

CHUCK: *(lets go of his "hurt" leg, jumps up in the air in excitement)* WOOHOO!!

Leader: Hey! You're not hurt anymore!

CHUCK: *(looks down at his own leg in amazement)* BOO-YA! GOD RESTORED ME! HE IS SOOOOOO AWESOME! Now I can show you that brand new kung fu move! *(goes back into a ridiculous pose)*

Leader: I don't think that's such a good idea...

CHUCK: *(gives a high-pitched yell and kicks up into the air, only to immediately grab his back)* Oh dear....I think I just pulled my asparagus....or maybe my rutabaga...I'll see you later, boys and girls. My name's Chuck Foo! *(feebly karate chops the air)* Kick it!

(Chuck hobbles offstage as his theme music plays)



GAME ON!

“Hop Along”

Items Needed For Game:

Two pairs of crutches

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Preparation:

Choose five boys and five girls to compete in this game. Choose a “turn around spot” at the opposite end of the room from the “starting line.”

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How To Play:

In this relay race, the players will take turns going from a preset “starting line” to a “turn around spot,” where they will turn around and head back to the starting line. They will do this on crutches (*thus the “hop” in the game title*). When they return to the “starting line,” they will pass the crutches on to the next teammate.

The first team to have all five players make it through the course is declared the winning team!



Bible Story

“David Remembers Mephibosheth”

Materials Needed:

The graphic slides for Lesson 1; begin with the slide that says “Bible Story”; follow the instructions below, changing the slides to follow along with the story (*as shown*)

Preparation:

Familiarize yourself with the story in 2 Samuel 9; have your open Bible in your hands as you tell the story

The Story:

Today I want to tell you guys a cool story from the book of 2 Samuel about a guy name Mephibosheth. (*Have kids say “Mephibosheth”*) When Mephibosheth was young, his father, Jonathan, was fighting in a battle.

Mephibosheth’s nurse got word that Jonathan was killed in the battle, so the nurse became afraid that Mephibosheth’s life was in danger. She grabbed Mephibosheth and began to run away. But things didn’t go as she had planned. (*show pic*) As she was running away, she dropped Mephibosheth and broke both of his legs. At that moment, Mephibosheth became crippled, and he was never able to walk again.

Now, you heard me mention Mephibosheth’s dad, Jonathan. When he was younger, Jonathan was best friends with a young man named David. Jonathan had shown great kindness to David, even while Jonathan’s father, King Saul, was trying to kill David. Because of Jonathan’s kindness to David, David made a promise. David promised that he would always show the same love to Jonathan and his family that Jonathan had showed to him.

Many years later, David became the King of Israel. One day, King David was sitting in his throne room and suddenly remembered the promise he had made to Jonathan. Jonathan was no longer alive, so King David asked (*show pic*), “Is there anyone from the house of Saul that I can show kindness to for Jonathan’s sake?”

King David found out that one of Jonathan’s sons, Mephibosheth, was alive. He also found out he was crippled. King David told his servant to go find Mephibosheth and bring him to the palace. When Mephibosheth arrived at the palace, he didn’t know what to expect. (*show pic*) Was King David going to punish him? What was going to happen?

Mephibosheth bowed before the king. At that moment, King David looked at Mephibosheth and said, “Because of your father’s kindness to me and the promise I made to him, you will no longer be a crippled beggar in a far off town. Instead, you will eat at my table and be part of my family.” (*show pic*) Isn’t that amazing?

In today’s lesson, you are going to learn how God did the same thing for us that David did for Mephibosheth. Even though we’ve done nothing to deserve it, God allows us to live like a king!





Call To Action “Crippled”

Materials Needed:

The graphic slides for Lesson 1; a pair of crutches (or wheelchair)

Preparation:

Begin with the slide titled “Crippled”



The Message: *(title slide)*

(come out from backstage, using crutches or a wheelchair) Have you ever thought about what it would be like to be crippled? It would be pretty tough. You would have a hard time playing sports. You would most likely never be able to run in a race, and during recess, you’d have to sit down and watch the other kids play kickball. In the summer, you might have to sit on the side of the pool, watching people jump off the diving board and kick around in the pool—and you can’t join them.

But in the Old Testament times, being crippled was even more difficult than how I just described it. The people of that day did not see the value of crippled people. If you were crippled, you were seen as worthless. If you couldn’t fight in the army, then people considered you worth nothing.

Now, perhaps you don’t know what it is like to be physically crippled - your legs work just fine. But there is more than one type of “crippled.”



In Life, You Can Become “Crippled.” *(slide)*

Sometimes you can become emotionally crippled - something bad happens in your life and hurts you terribly. When that happens, you can feel like you’re in a place where you can’t move forward. You’re just stuck. Maybe your best friend turned his or her back on you. Perhaps your parents got a divorce. Maybe you got bullied at school or you moved to a new school and felt like you didn’t have any friends.

We all have things in our lives that can “cripple” us. They cause us to feel like the pain is too much and we’re just too sad. When those things happen, you feel like you just can’t move forward in your life. There’s an important lesson to learn from the story of Mephibosheth, though. Just as King David restored Mephibosheth to the place he belonged, the same thing can happen to you and me when we find ourselves “crippled” by life’s difficulties...

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Call To Action (Continued)

God Can Restore You. *(slide)*



No matter what it is in your life that has “crippled” you, God can restore you. God sees the things that have crippled you and says, “I want to restore you. I want to help you move forward. I want to help you move past the things that have hurt you and kept you stuck. I want to restore you and take you to the place where you belong.”

King David restored Mephibosheth and gave him the honor he deserved. But there’s a little more to the story than what we shared in our Bible Story time. Some time later, Mephibosheth had a son, and he named him Micah. The name “Micah” means “Who is like the Lord?” Now, isn’t it interesting that King David was the one who restored Mephibosheth but Mephibosheth didn’t name his son “Who is like David?” He named him Micah” - “Who is like the Lord?” Mephibosheth knew that GOD was the one who deserved the glory.

That is the most important lesson we can learn from the story of Mephibosheth...

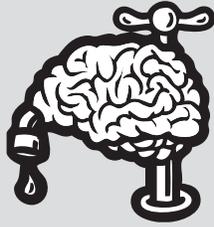
When You Are Restored, Give God The Glory *(slide)*



Just like Mephibosheth, God will restore you when you are crippled by life’s difficulties and problems. You must never forget that God is the one who restores. And just like Mephibosheth, you must give God the glory. When you are restored by God, the King of kings brings you to His table to receive from Him. You were crippled, but now you can “live like a king.”

ALTAR RESPONSE: *(play soft music)*

Pray with the children who have gone through “crippling” experiences. Pray that God will heal their hearts and help them move forward. Then, spend some time in worship, giving God the glory!



BRAIN DRAIN

Materials Needed:

The graphic slides for Lesson 1; “Brain Drain” Bumper Video

Preparation:

Play the “Brain Drain” Bumper Video; Begin with the slide titled “Brain Drain”; there is a slide for each question

1. Watt’s Up today?

Answer: “God Will Help Me Live Like A King!”

2. What was the name of the karate instructor who visited us today?

Answer: Chuck Foo

3. Who was the king in the Bible Story?

Answer: David

4. What was wrong with Mephibosheth?

Answer: He Was Crippled

5. Who dropped Mephibosheth when he was a baby?

Answer: His Nurse

6. According to our lesson today, “In Life, You Can Become _____.”

Answer: Crippled

7. According to our lesson today, “_____ Can Restore You.”

Answer: God

8. According to our lesson today, “When You Are Restored, Give God The _____.”

Answer: Glory

9. What is the name Mephibosheth gave to his son?

Answer: Micah

10. Where was our Power Verse found?

Answer: Jeremiah 31:18