

Games

Game 1: Shepherd's Hide and Seek

Objective: Understand David's flight from King Saul.

Players: 4-10

Materials:

- A large space for hiding
- Printed images of David (one for each player)
- Index cards with scripture references from 1 Samuel 23

Setup:

1. Spread out the printed images of David with scripture references on the back.
2. Select one player to be "King Saul" who will seek.

Instructions:

1. Players, except "King Saul," take an image and find a hiding spot.
2. "King Saul" counts to 20 with eyes closed and then searches for the players.
3. When found, the hiding players must recite their scripture or explain the context in simple terms.
4. Rotate roles so each player gets a chance to be "King Saul."

Reinforcement:

This game emphasizes how David had to hide from King Saul and illustrates God's protection and guidance as shared in the scriptures.

Game 2: David's Brave Path

Objective: Navigate a board illustrating David's escape while learning key points from 1 Samuel 23.

Players: 2-4

Materials:

- A simple board game layout (on paper or cardboard)
- Dice
- Pieces for each player
- Question cards with multiple-choice questions about 1 Samuel 23

Setup:

1. Place all pieces on the start position.
2. Shuffle and stack the question cards.

Instructions:

1. Players take turns rolling the dice, moving along the path.
2. If a player lands on certain spaces (marked with a question symbol), draw and answer a question from the stack.
3. Correct answers allow the player to advance by one additional space.

4. The first player to reach the end of the path wins.

Reinforcement:

This game provides a fun way to test their knowledge of the key events in 1 Samuel 23 such as David's consultation with God, his escape to Keilah, and interactions with Jonathan, reinforcing memory and learning through answering questions.

Game 3: Keilah Defense Strategy

Objective: Reinforce teamwork and problem-solving from David's defense of Keilah.

Players: 6-12

Materials:

- Hula hoops (or cones to mark areas)
- Balloon (representing Keilah)
- Timer
- Scripture cards with hints (take from different Bible stories)

Setup:

- Use hula hoops or cones to create two side-by-side circles ("Keilah" and "Philistines' Camp").
- Place the balloon in the "Keilah" circle.

Instructions:

1. Divide players into two teams. One defends Keilah and the other plays the "Philistines."
2. The defending team must strategize to protect Keilah by keeping the balloon in the circle.
3. The opposing team tries to softly tap the balloon to the "Philistines' Camp" within a set time.
4. After each round, read the scripture card and discuss how the strategy relates to David's story.
5. Swap roles after each round. Teams win points for keeping or capturing the balloon.

Reinforcement:

This game highlights the importance of teamwork and problem-solving akin to David's strategic mind when defending Keilah, and it allows students to engage in action related to planning and decision-making as David did.