



Your house and your kingdom shall endure for ever before me, your throne shall be established for ever.

- 2 Samuel 7:16

Dear Parents/Carers,

This week we are returning to our covenant series with the Davidic Covenant, and the promise of an everlasting throne. So far, we have looked at the covenants God established with Noah and all of creation, with Abraham, and with all of Israel. Next week we will come to the climax of our series with the new covenant. Seeing how Jesus fulfilled the covenants of the Old Testament, as well as the impact this covenant has on us as believers today.

At the end of this session is an application for your children to put what they have learnt into practice. Throughout the week it is useful to check in with them to see how they are going.

If you have children in more than one age group, can I please encourage you to pick one program that you feel works best for all your children's ages and complete that together as a family.

Blessings,

Jess

Topics: Covenants of the Bible – God's Promise to David
Sessions Aim: Children will learn of God's promise to David of an everlasting kingdom.
Bible Passage: 2 Samuel 7:12-17

A Time of Prayer

Come together in a time of prayer with your children. Everyone can share something they would like to pray for or share a God Story. These are stories of where you have been able to see God at work in your lives or each other's lives during this week.

Dear Father,

We thank you for the promises that you have made in the covenants of the Bible,
Thank you for the kingdom you have created that will last forever,
Thank you that Jesus is our King,
We are sorry for when we don't treat Jesus as our King
Please help us to live the way you want us to, through the power of your Spirit.
Amen

Worship Songs

Please spend some time listening and singing to your family's favourite worship songs. This may have already been done in the worship period of Oaktree's service. Below are a few suggestions for songs you could use during your worship.

- Mighty to Save https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4yPN_q4BzQ
- As the World Shakes <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dcAG4PbNXaA>

Recap of Covenants

1: Before today's activity recap what we have already learnt about covenants.

A covenant is a promise that God makes with His people. These promises are to bring blessings and good things to God's people. Sometimes when God makes these promises he asks his people to promise something in return. But humans are not very good at keeping their promises to God.

Ask your children if they can remember any of the covenants and what the promises were that God made in them. As well as what the human response was in the covenant.

2: Everlasting Kingdom.

In today's passage God creates His covenant with David and promises David's descendants an everlasting kingdom. This kingdom would not be taken over by enemies or destroyed.

A fun illustration for your children is to give them 15 minutes to try and create a fortress which is indestructible. They can build this using whatever resources you have, possibly Lego or building blocks. They may like to try and build a pillow fort, they will need to reinforce it so it can't be knocked down or destroyed.

At the end of this session we will look at how all kingdoms made by humans will fall down. This includes the fortress that they have just made. The only kingdoms that can last forever are the ones that God makes.

Bible + Discipleship Questions

1: Have your children find 2 Samuel 7 in their Bibles. Encourage them to use the contents page to help them learn their way around the Bible.

Either you or one of your children pray for God's Spirit to be at work in our heart's revealing His meaning.

Watch the short clip from 'What's in the Bible' introducing the idea that the covenant with King David is very important in God's rescue plan.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SFCiYGDmzw>

You or your children reads 2 Samuel 7:12-17.

2: Each covenant we have looked at, God has made a series of promises and then throughout the Bible we read their fulfilments or look to the time when it will happen. Discuss the following promises that God made to David with your children:

1. God will raise up an offspring of David to succeed him.

It is important for a King to have an heir who can continue the family line on the throne. God gives David a son named Solomon to rule on his throne. At the start of Matthew's Gospel, we also see that Jesus is related to King David, just like they mentioned in the video.

2. David's successor will be the one to build a house for God.

David's son Solomon became the next King. Solomon is the one who built the temple for God presence to dwell in.

3. David's descendant's kingdom will last forever

Throughout history you see kingdoms and empires rise and fall. But God promised David that his house, kingdom and throne will be established forever. Jesus is the King that rules over this everlasting kingdom.

For God to make a kingdom and king that will last forever, the King needed to keep their promise, to be righteous, following God perfectly. No king was able to live this way. Jesus is the only sinless, perfect one, therefore fulfillment of the everlasting Kingdom needed Jesus.

Application

1: God has created his everlasting kingdom, keeping the promise he made to King David. Jesus is the King on the throne of the everlasting kingdom and he is a descendant of King David.

We need to live everyday with Jesus as King. Sometimes we live like we are the kings of our own lives doing what we think is right. But Jesus is King. We need to live the way he wants us to live.

2: One way to help your children remember what they learnt about treating Jesus as our King. Make a crown with your children but make sure that when you decorate it at the front there is a cross for the reminder of our true king.

Everlasting Kingdom Continued

1: Come back to the fortress that your children made. Ask them how hard they think it would be to destroy?

Help them find a way to continue to reinforce their fortress to make it stronger. Looking for any weak points in their structure.

Once they have reassessed their fortress, ask do they believe that nothing could destroy their fortress. They might like to try knocking it down if they are proud of their fortress and want to keep it, encourage them to use it as a reminder of today's lesson.

The only way a kingdom can last forever is if God is the one who creates it. We know that God has created an everlasting Kingdom and Jesus is the ever-ruling King!

This gives us hope and reassurance that we as Christians are a part of this everlasting Kingdom.