

**CHILDREN WITH DISABILITY  
IN THE CHURCH**

"ROOM  
For More" U

**LESSON 3  
A KING WHO WAS VERY KIND**

RAMP

People with disabilities  
at Home in the Church  
[www.rampup.co.za](http://www.rampup.co.za)

<b>Bible Story</b>	<b>Message that will be taught *</b>
2 Sam 9 – David showed kindness towards Mephibosheth	Be kind to other people

\* The goal of a Bible lesson is to teach the children a specific Biblical message. Children learn through repetition, and therefore this message should be repeated throughout the lesson.

**TEACHING AIDS**

Pictures of King David that the children would be familiar with, such as David fighting Goliath.

Pictures from a children's Bible story book or the internet on the story of Mephibosheth.

**INTRODUCTION**

Who can remember King David? What did he do?

*(You can show pictures of David that the children would be familiar with, such as David fighting Goliath.)*

Did you know that David was also kind to other people?

**STORY**

David had a good friend, Jonathan. Jonathan was the son of King Saul, who was the king before David became king. But Saul was not a good king, and he was very mean to David. However, David didn't want to be mean to Saul. Instead, he chose to be kind to other people, just as we should also be kind to other people. When Saul and Jonathan were both killed in a war, David was very sad.

Now Jonathan also had a son, called Mephibosheth. Mephibosheth was therefore the grandson of King Saul. However, when Mephibosheth was still small, he fell very hard and hurt his legs so badly, that he could never walk on them again.

One day, when David was walking in his palace, he was thinking about his good friend Jonathan and about all the fun things they did together. Even though Saul was mean to David, David made a choice to be kind to other people. Although Saul has died, David wanted to be kind to Saul's family. He started to ask around if there was anyone from Saul's family who was still alive.

They told David about Mephibosheth, and David immediately called Mephibosheth to come and see him. Although Mephibosheth was already a grown man, people had to carry him to David, as he could not walk. David wanted to be kind to Mephibosheth, so he gave him a big farm with enough people to work on the farm, because Mephibosheth could not work on the farm himself. David also told Mephibosheth that he must come and stay with him so that David can take care of Mephibosheth. From then on, Mephibosheth stayed with King David in the palace and ate with David at his table, and David was very kind to Mephibosheth.

We must also be kind to other people like David.

## ACTIVITIES

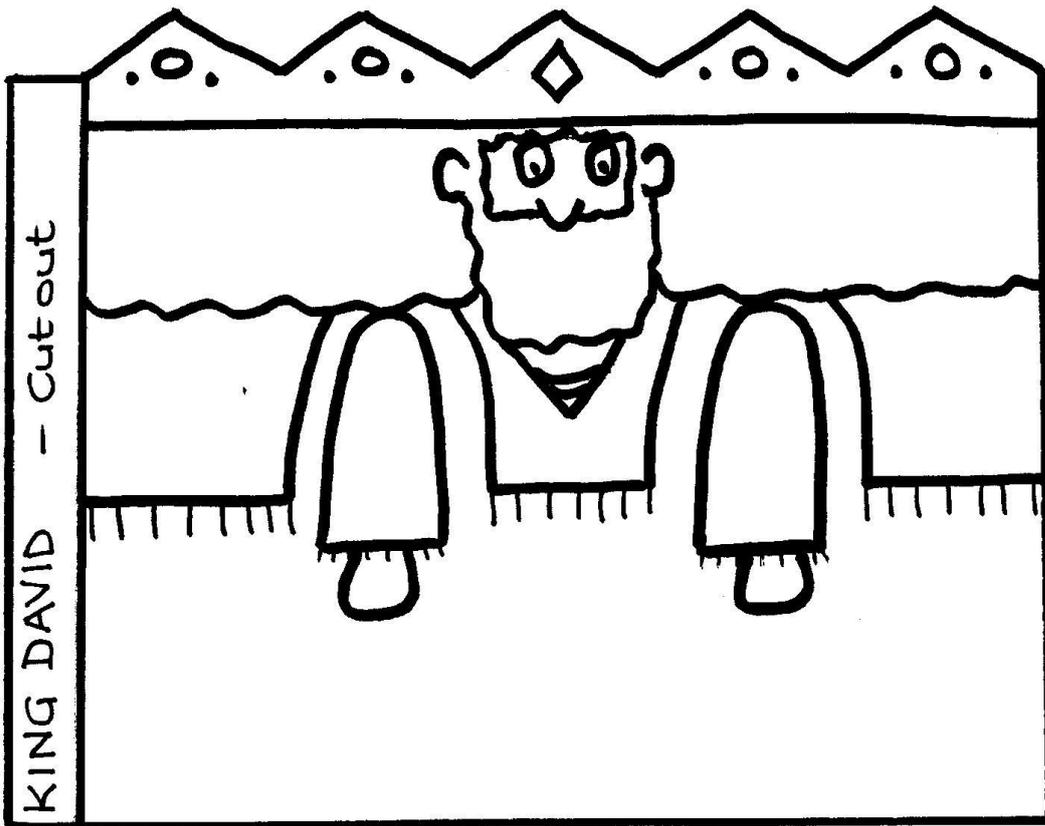
- Cut out figures attached. Paste figures onto empty toilet rolls so that they can stand up.

### Materials needed:

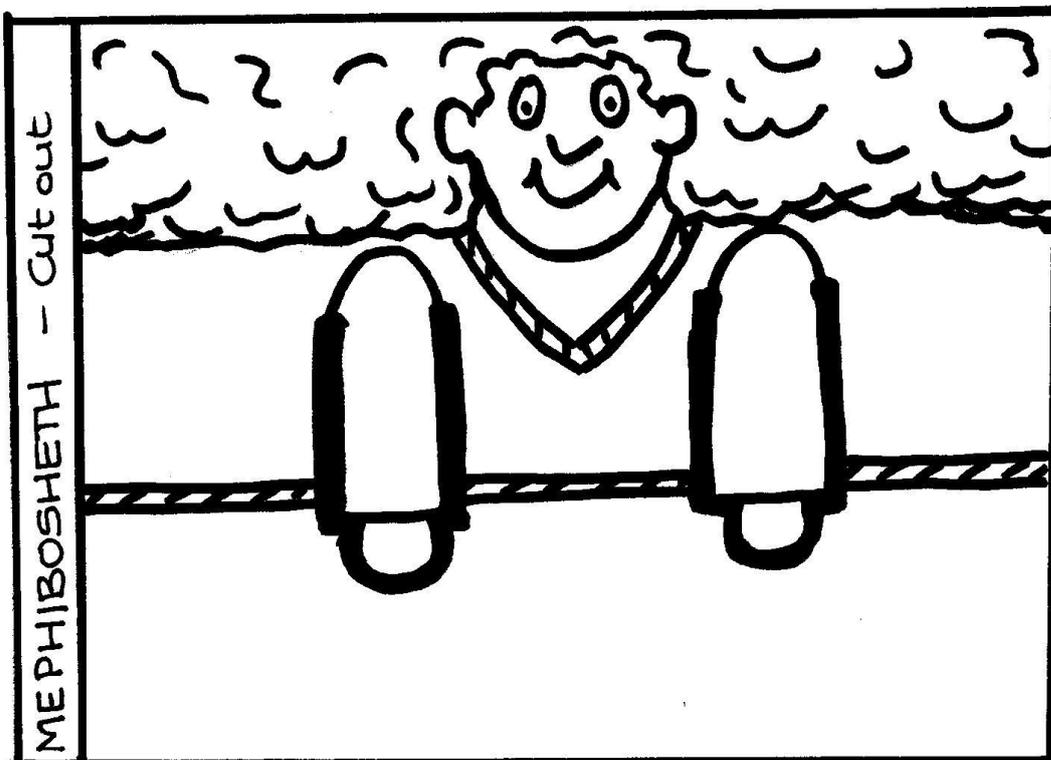
- Empty toilet rolls, 2 for each child
  - Scissors to cut out figures
  - Glue
  - Crayons to colour in
  - Small Y-shape twigs from the garden that can serve as crutches for the Mephibosheth character (See illustration)
  - A small sharp point scissor that older children/adults can use to cut the bottom part of Mephibosheth's arms loose so that the twigs can fit under his arms.
- If possible, introduce children to assistive devices such as wheelchairs, walkers, crutches, hearing aids etc. Explain to the children that only one part of the body needs support, but the rest of the body can function as it used to do. The disability is only a small part of who the child is.



*Author: Dr Annemarie Oberholzer, registered nurse focussing on the spiritual support of children in health care. She also holds a Diploma in Children's Ministry from the Petra Institute.*



PRINT A4 SIZE



(Cut lower part of arms loose on thick line)