

Parents: Please take the time to discuss our big idea(s) further at home this week.

## 7/22/12-King Jehoshaphat

**Big Ideas:** We are talking about God's power being revealed through the story of Jehoshaphat and the people of Judah and the important role of praising God for what God is doing for us.

**Life Application:** God's power is seen throughout the Old Testament not by people seeing God, but by seeing the results of things God has done. Jehoshaphat knew that God was powerful and trusted that God could do anything, but it was not until the king and his people stood looking out over the battle that had been won, while they were singing, that they really got it.

**Verse:** "Give thanks to the LORD, for God's love endures forever." 2 Chronicles 20:21b

Elementary:

- King Jehoshaphat loved God very much. He followed and obeyed God. One day, he got news that a big, mean army was coming to fight them. Jehoshaphat asked the people to come together to pray to God for help. The king prayed to God and celebrated how wonderful and powerful God is. The king asked God to help them win against this horrible enemy knowing that that they could not do anything without God's help. God heard King Jehoshaphat's prayer. God sent a messenger to speak to all of the people. He told them to listen to when the Lord said. He said, "Do not be afraid or sad because of this big army. For the battle is not yours, it is God's." When the king heard the news, he bowed down and worshipped the Lord. He was so glad for God's help and for God's kindness to him and his people. Jehoshaphat and his army went out as God told them. The king reminded the people to trust God and obey. Then the king did an amazing thing, he asked the people to follow the choir. They sang to God saying, "Give thanks to the Lord for God's love continues forever." When King Jehoshaphat and his army got to where they could see, the battle had already been won by God! When the army returned home, they praised God and thanked him for winning the battle. They celebrated God! See "*King Jehoshaphat's Story*" on the blog.
- Our story shows God's power once again winning in a seemingly unwinnable situation. King Jehoshaphat was faced by a huge, fierce army and he was in a lot of trouble. He was afraid and worried about what was going to happen. This game is going to help us to feel what it is like to be up against a bunch of people trying to beat us. However, this game, like our story, will have a good ending. Each child will find a way to overcome "unbeatable" circumstances and will be able to praise God for the victory. See "*Ambush Game*" on blog.
- We are making Wind Chimes this week, so that we can talk about God's power and how when we cannot see God, we can still recognize what God is doing in the world. King Jehoshaphat and his people did not have to fight to win the battle. God was with them, so they just had to sing and praise God! Their music forever reminded them of God's protection and power. We are going to make our own source of music to remind us of God's protection and power. When these chimes blow in the wind, we can be reminded that even though we can't see God, God is moving powerfully in the world! See "*God's Power Wind Chimes*" on blog.

Talking points:

- What did you learn?
- How was God's power revealed to everyone?
- What did Elijah do through sacrificing to God?



They might not know or be able to express all of the answers on their own, but discuss and reinforce the ideas talked about so that they can begin to retain them. Also, check out the blog for details/discussion at [wesleykids.wordpress.com](http://wesleykids.wordpress.com) or scan code above. Thanks!