

# *Preschool Games*

# Day 1

## Bible Point: God knows you.

**Bible Story:** God identifies David as the future king. (1 Samuel 16:1-13)

**Bible Verse:** “O Lord, you have examined my heart and know everything about me.” (Psalm 139:1)

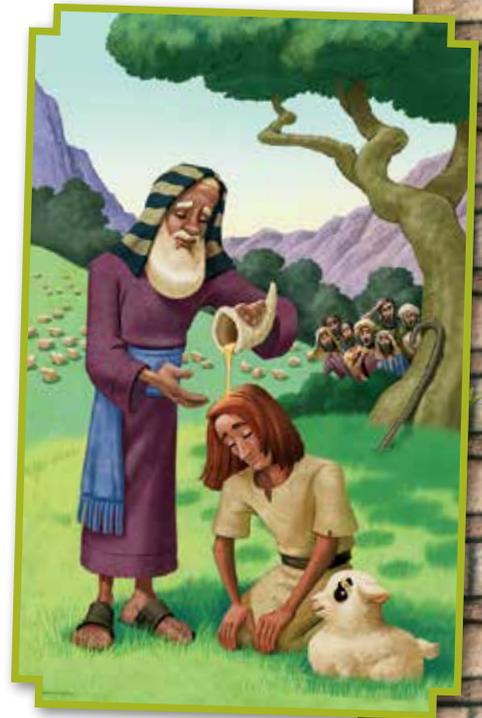
### Consider This:

- ◆ Through the prophet Samuel, God warned his people of the hardships they’d endure at the hand of a king (1 Samuel 8:10-18). Yet their desire to be led by a human king—rather than by God—overtook Samuel’s candid cautions. So God gave them a king in Saul.
- ◆ King Saul’s initial humility soon transformed into hubris. He became rebellious and arrogant, leading God to choose a new leader for his people (1 Samuel 15:22-23).
- ◆ It’s unlikely that David’s family understood exactly the significance of Samuel’s anointing. For safety’s sake, Samuel wouldn’t have wanted to broadcast God’s designation of a new king while Saul still sat on the throne!
- ◆ Samuel showed his humanity when he evaluated each of Jesse’s sons based on outward appearance. God wasn’t interested in someone who *looked* like a king; God knew that David had the *heart* of a king!
- ◆ David ranked so low in his family that his father didn’t even invite him to the sacrifice with Samuel (1 Samuel 16:11). Instead, he tended the sheep—the job of a servant.
- ◆ Scholars estimate that David was about 10 to 15 years old when Samuel anointed him.

### Why It Matters...

A recent survey found that more kids aspire to be a YouTube “star” than an astronaut, doctor, teacher, or musician. It’s no surprise that today’s kids crave fame and recognition. Yet as adults who love and lead kids, we need to ask “why?” *Why* do kids desperately desire to be known? What’s missing in their world? in their hearts?

In the technology-induced information overload, kids can feel invisible. Unimportant. Insignificant. That’s why today’s message brings hope! God, the creator of the universe, knows your heart. You can spark joy in kids as you affirm their value and visibility in God’s eyes. Kids don’t need to strive for celebrity when they discover that God knows and loves them.



### Supplies

◆ none



## Option 1: Animal Friends

**Say:** We have so many things that make us all different and special. We look different, act different, and even like different things.

1. **Say:** What animal do you like best? Is it a lion, a dog, a kitty, or a bird? Get ready to show it by acting like your animal and making its sound.
2. On your signal, encourage your child to start making sounds and acting like their chosen animals.

**Say:** That was fun, but God already knew which animals you like. **God knows you. (You are treasured!)** He knows everything there is to know about you!

## Option 2: Baa Tag

**Say:** Today we heard about a boy named David who took care of his family's sheep. Let's play a game and pretend we're sheep needing a shepherd.

1. Choose one willing child to be the first Shepherd.
2. Encourage kids to run around the play area *baaing* like sheep. As they do, encourage the Shepherd to try to catch them.
3. As Sheep are tagged, have them hold hands to make a chain, beginning with the Shepherd, and join him or her trying to catch the other Sheep.
4. When all the kids have joined the Shepherd, choose a new Shepherd and begin the game again.

**Say:** Being a shepherd is hard work! But David used the time he spent with the sheep to talk to his friend God. You can talk to God too. **God knows you. (You are treasured!)** He loves it when you talk to him!

