

## **Week 47      The Ark is brought to Jerusalem [2 Samuel 5:1-16 and 6:1-23]**

**Series:**                 **David**

**Application:**         **All sin is wrong in God's eyes. Take all sin seriously.**

**Memory Verse:**      **"The Lord is King for ever and ever." Psalm 10:16.**

### **Preparation Notes**

David became the king of Israel and made Jerusalem both the political and religious capital. It became called the City of David.

David got together 30,000 men and took them to collect the Ark of the Covenant from the house of Abinadab in Judah, where it had been kept during Saul's reign. Remind the children that the Ark was a symbol of God's presence to the people of Israel and so it was important that it was with the king.

When the Ark had first been made, God had given specific instructions on how the Ark was to be carried. Numbers 3:27-32 tells us that it was to be carried by members of a particular Levite family, i.e. priests, and on no account was it to be touched (Numbers 4:15). However, David's men put the Ark onto a cart pulled by oxen and set off down the hill from Abinadab's house. As they were walking along, one of the oxen stumbled. Uzzah, one of Abinadab's sons, reached out and took hold of the Ark to steady it. God was angry with him for touching the Ark and he was struck down and died.

David became angry with God because Uzzah had only tried to protect the Ark, but he was also afraid because he realised the consequences of not following God's instructions. He was scared to bring the Ark into Jerusalem while God was angry and so he took it instead to the home of a Levite called Obed-Edom. The Ark remained there for three months during which time God greatly blessed Obed-Edom and his household.

David realised that God was no longer angry and so he decided to bring the Ark to Jerusalem. This time the Ark was carried in the correct way. As the Ark was brought into the city, David danced before the Lord wearing just a linen Ephod (normally worn by priests) rather than his royal robes. With the sound of trumpets and shouting, the Ark was placed in a specially made tent. David blessed all the people and gave everyone a loaf of bread, a cake of dates and a cake of raisins.

### **Learning Points (Discoverers 1)**

- David became king,
- He brought the Ark of the Covenant to Jerusalem.

### **Learning Points (Discoverers 2)**

- David became king,

- He brought the Ark of the Covenant to Jerusalem.
- Uzzah died because he touched the Ark.

### **Learning Points (Discoverers 3)**

- David became king and made Jerusalem the capital city.
- As David was bringing the Ark of the Covenant into the city, Uzzah was struck down for touching the Ark.
- David realised the seriousness of God's instructions.

### **Discoverers 1**

#### **Bible Bit.**

This is a difficult story for this age group. Concentrate on the Ark being brought into Jerusalem and the people celebrating, rather than Uzzah's death.

#### **Suggested Activities.**

Possibly re-enact David dancing in front of the Ark. Celebrate with bread, raisins and dates – though be careful of allergies.

### **Discoverers 2**

#### **Bible Bit.**

Show the picture DWK 47:1 to remind the children about the Ark of the Covenant and what it contained. Explain that it was a symbol of God's presence with the Israelite people and so was very special. When you've finished the story show the children a picture of two people. Both people look the same until on closer inspection you can just see the small black dot on one. Explain that even a well-meaning sin like Uzzah's was disobedient to God. Explain that every one of us has sinned. Talk about how Jesus died to take away our sin and that if we love Jesus and are sorry, God sees us as perfect again.

#### **Suggested Activities.**

Using DWK 47:2, make the washing lines.

### **Discoverers 3**

#### **Bible Bit.**

Tell the story and when you've finished ask the children if they think it's fair that Uzzah died for touching the Ark? Explain that sin is anything which falls short of God's perfect standard, even if the person didn't mean it. Talk about how Jesus died as a punishment for our sin and that if we believe and trust in Him and are sorry for our sin, God will see us as sin-free!

#### **Suggested Activities.**

Using DWK 47:3, fabric paint '4 given' on to the hankies.

**Talk time.**

- Today's talk time is incorporated into the Bible Bit. The issues need talking through before the children start the activity.

**Prayer and worship.**