

**Lesson Plans That Work**  
**Year B Proper 11**  
**Lessons Plans for Older Children**  
*Revised Common Lectionary Old Testament Readings – Track One*

**Scripture: 2 Samuel 7:1-14a (adapted)**

**Background:** We continue to remember Israel’s leaders and how they strived to serve God. Each had their own challenges and gifts. The need for faithful leadership continues today and we seek wisdom from how these leaders sought the welfare of their people and showed their devotion to God.

**Notation for this Week’s Lesson:** David wants to build a temple for the Ark of the Covenant. God tells David that establishing his legacy is more important. God promises that David’s lineage will enjoy special favor with God.

**Theme: God promises David an Important Place in History**

**Before Class:** Gather supplies for the mural (large banner paper, markers), the interviews or letters, and find the music/words and/or recording of the music.

**Beginning:** ask the children their hopes for the future. Sing “Peace Before Us” from Wonder, Love and Praise.

**Opening Prayer:** O God of all time, we have hopes for the future - hopes only you can grant. Be with us all our lives and be with those coming after us. For you are a God of all times and places. Amen.

**Story: 2 Samuel 7:1-14a (adapted)** - Use the adapted story below

King David moved into his new palace, and the Lord let his kingdom be at peace. Then one day, as David was talking with Nathan the prophet, David said, “Look around! I live in a palace made of cedar, but the sacred chest has to stay in a tent.”

But God said, “David, you are my servant, so listen to what I say. A tent has always been my home. David, this is what I, the Lord All-Powerful, say to you. I brought you in from the fields where you took care of sheep, and I made you the leader of my people. I have given my people Israel a land of their own where they can live in peace, and they won’t have to tremble with fear any more.

Now I promise that you and your descendants will be kings. I’ll choose one of your sons to be king after you. I’ll make him a strong ruler. He will be the one to build a temple for me. I will be like a father to him, and he will be my son.

**Reflection Questions:**

- I wonder what hopes David had for the future?
- I wonder why God didn't want David to build a temple?
- I wonder what David did instead of building a temple?

**Activities:**

**Mural:** Work together to make a mural of a peaceful city in the future with all God's blessings and everyone's hopes for the future. What would make the future really great? Consider playing meditative music while they work (like Taize).

**Interviews:** Meet with a few folks from outside the class to interview them on their hopes for the future. Come back and collect the responses. (This could inform the banner images.)

**Notes:** Set out blank cards and invite students to write notes to those who will come after them. The cards can be kept in the church office and mailed in the future or given to the parents to share later on. Encourage the students to include their wishes for the future in the cards.

**Closing:** Share the Peaceful City banner, the interview responses, or the notes with the group.

**Sing:** "I've Got Peace Like a River"

**Closing Prayer:** Dear God, we thank you for this time together. Help us to listen to you and follow in your way. Bring peace to the world and be with those who come after us. Amen.