

Background Scripture: 2 Samuel 6**Print Passage: 2 Samuel 6:1-5, 14-19**

L2 Celebrate with Enthusiasm



REFLECT



Major's dad moved his family to the United States from Africa. Major's family joined their new church in America because his family was attracted to the different musical instruments the band played during worship. The band used drums, tambourines, a keyboard, and on a few songs even included a trumpet. Major was so impressed by the variety of musical instruments that he brought his rattles—a percussion instrument he played in Africa—and asked the minister of music for permission to play his rattles. At first, the minister of music said that he would have to talk to the pastor because band members are paid. Major said, "It is not about the money." Since he was from Africa, he was hoping to add something to the music ministry to which he could relate. Major explained that music is a type of communication in their culture, and it involves all areas of their lives. The pastor heard about Major's proposal and said, "Yes!" Last week was the first time Major played his rattles with the band, and several people commented to the pastor that that is what worship is all about! Major also had bells he would play, depending on the song. The church's appreciation for music diversity has expanded, and

those of different ethnic backgrounds have joined enthusiastically in singing praises to God with their cultural musical instruments. When the church can recognize the importance of culture, ethnicity, gender, language, and generation as factors in worship preference, there is something for everyone to which to relate!

What are your thoughts about appreciating culture in any setting when there is a group of people?



David and all Israel were celebrating with all their might before the LORD, with castanets, harps, lyres, timbrels, sistrams and cymbals. (2 Samuel 6:5)



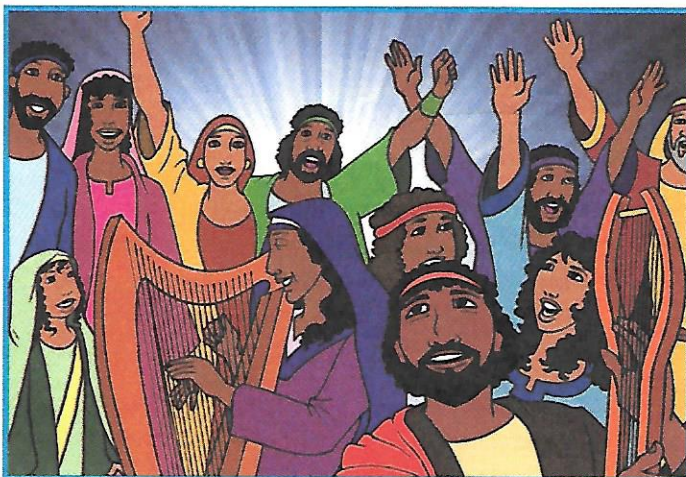
INSPECT

2 Samuel 6:1-5, 14-19

1 David again brought together all the able young men of Israel—thirty thousand. **2** He and all his men went to Baalah in Judah to bring up from there the ark of God, which is called by the Name, the name of the LORD Almighty, who is enthroned between the cherubim on the ark. **3** They set the ark of God on a new cart and brought it from the house of Abinadab, which was on the hill. Uzzah and Ahio, sons of Abinadab, were guiding the new cart **4** with the ark of God on it, and Ahio was walking in front of it. **5** David and all Israel were celebrating with all their might before the LORD, with castanets, harps, lyres, timbrels, sistrams and cymbals.

.....

14 Wearing a linen ephod, David was dancing before the LORD with all his might, **15** while he and all Israel were bringing up the ark of the LORD with shouts and the sound of trumpets. **16** As the ark of the LORD was entering the City of David, Michal daughter of Saul watched from a window. And when she saw King David leaping and dancing before the LORD, she despised him in her heart. **17** They brought the ark of the LORD and set it in its place inside the tent that David had pitched for it, and David sacrificed burnt offerings and fellowship offerings before the LORD. **18** After he had finished sacrificing the burnt offerings and fellowship offerings, he blessed the people in the name of the LORD Almighty. **19** Then he gave a loaf of bread, a cake of dates and a cake of raisins to each person in the whole crowd of Israelites, both men and women. And all the people went to their homes.



INTERSECT

THE ARK OF THE COVENANT, ISRAEL'S HOLY SYMBOL OF GOD'S PRESENCE, WAS CAPTURED BY THE PHILISTINES IN 1 SAMUEL 4. THE PHILISTINES TREATED THE ARK AS A TROPHY OF WAR. They suffered so much sickness while they were in possession of the ark that they dropped it off after seven months in Kiriath Jearim, where it remained for about twenty years (see 1 Samuel 6–7). When David defeated the Philistines, David desired to bring the ark to Jerusalem. No one was to touch the ark but the priests because the ark was so sacred. When the ark was initially being carried to Jerusalem, one of the men reached over to keep the ark from tumbling; that person was immediately struck dead. On the second attempt, David brought together thirty thousand young men to move the ark. The ark was placed on a new cart and brought from Abinadab's house. Since Abinadab's house was on a hill, the men were very careful. While the caravan walked along with the ark, David and all the people of Israel began praising God! As they praised God, they played a variety of musical instruments. When the procession neared Jerusalem, David's wife, Michal, saw David dancing and praising God, and she despised him. Once the ark was placed inside the tent, David made sacrificial offerings before the Lord. David blessed the people, then shared with them bread, dates, and raisins. The people then went to their homes after the ark was safely in Jerusalem.

Inside Out

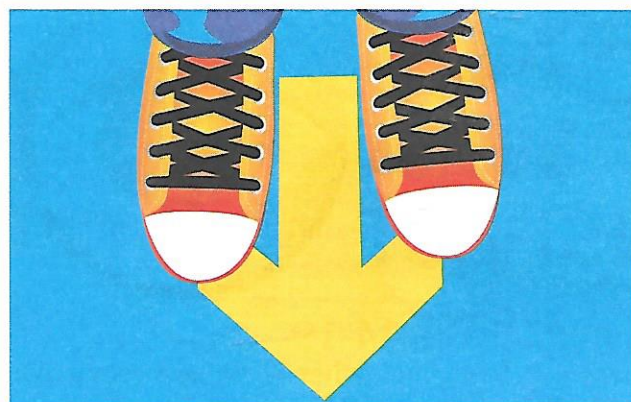


Refer to the "Print Passage" and respond to the following questions/statements: (1) Summarize in your own words what the word *holy* means. (2) Why do you believe the ark of the covenant was sacred? (3) Compare David's joy and Michal's contempt for David when the ark of the covenant arrived in Jerusalem. (4) Describe ways that different people celebrate the presence of God. (5) How can we embrace and appreciate the many ways in which people celebrate God's presence?



THERE'S AN APP FOR THAT!

Working in groups, create a dance in praise to God. Your group will be asked to share your dance creation with the class. On a separate sheet of paper, list your choreography steps.



STEPPING OUT!

This week, you are challenged to create a poster characterizing the various kinds of worship noted in the biblical text and those that are present today. The poster can contain words and/or pictures. Take a photo of your finished poster for posting on the church's Web site to be displayed throughout the quarter to celebrate the quarterly theme.



CONNECT

David was overcome with joy when the ark was retrieved and brought to Jerusalem. He expressed his emotions with dancing. It is easy to connect with the deep emotions expressed in this story; and you should feel free to connect with God's holiness and power in worship.



MEDIA MISSION

Search online for images or videos of "dancing like King David." Select an image that catches your attention. Share the image with the class and why this image was selected.