

## Israel Gets a King

### 1 Samuel 8-10

Samuel was getting old and nearing the end of his life. God's people knew this and were concerned about who would take his place as priest. Samuel's sons were not good men and therefore would not have been good rulers of the people.

The elders of Israel came to Samuel and told him that they wanted a king like the other nations around them. Samuel was very upset that they wanted a king. He talked to God about it and God reassured Samuel that they were rejecting God as king over them and they were not rejecting Samuel. God finally said that they could have a king, but He also warned Israel of how difficult it would be to have a king. The people didn't care how difficult it would be, they wanted a king. God told them they could have a king.

About this time, a man named Kish lost his donkeys. He sent his son Saul to look for them, but Saul could not find them. The servant that was with Saul said that they should go to Samuel and ask him what they should do. Before they got there, God told Samuel that Saul was to be the king over his people.

When Saul found Samuel, Samuel told him that his father's donkeys had been found. Samuel gave him a fine meal and a place to stay all night. In the morning, Samuel took oil and poured it on Saul's head. That showed that God had made Saul the first king of Israel.

Samuel told Saul about some things that would happen to him on his trip home. The Spirit of God would come on him and he would say things told him by God, just like the prophets did. Saul would be like a different man. All these things happened just as Samuel had said.

Later, Samuel called God's people together to make Saul the king in front of everyone. Saul was hiding by the baggage. When they went to get him, he stood up among the people. They saw that he was taller than any of the people. They liked the way he looked, so the people shouted, "*Long live the king!*"

#### Notes for Parents:

- Even though God's people were rejecting him by asking for a king, still, He loved them and cared about them.
- Saul was obedient to his father. Kish sent Saul to look for his donkeys. Saul went and he had genuine concern for finding the donkeys. He did not look a little while and go home, but stayed on the trail as long as he possibly could.
- God knows where we are and what we are doing at all times. Saul hid from the people out of humility (not thinking that he was good enough). The people could not find Saul, but God could.

### Getting the Main Points:

Draw a line from the blanks to the correct answer.

Kish	servant	God	Israel	Samuel	Saul
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1. When I was old, the people of God came to me and said they wanted a king. \_\_\_\_\_
2. I told Samuel to listen to them and give them a king. \_\_\_\_\_
3. I lost my donkeys and sent my son to look for them. \_\_\_\_\_
4. When we couldn't find the donkeys, I told Saul we should go see Samuel. \_\_\_\_\_
5. I am a very tall man. Samuel poured oil on my head to show that God was making me king.  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. I was the nation who wanted a king. \_\_\_\_\_

### For the More Advanced:

Read Chapter 9 verses 21-24 and answer the following questions.

1. What tribe and family was Saul from?
2. Where did Samuel make Saul sit during the meal?
3. What was placed before Saul for him to eat?
4. Why do you think were they treating him so well at this meal?

### Memory Work:

## 1 Samuel 12:24

*"Only fear the LORD and serve Him in truth with all your heart;  
for consider what great things He has done for you."*

## **Saul King / Samuel Exhorts**

### **1 Samuel 11-12**

The Ammonites were trying to take Jabesh, one of the cities of God's people. The people of Jabesh tried to make a deal with the Ammonites. They would serve the Ammonites if they would agree not to destroy them in battle. These people of Jabesh knew there was nobody in Israel to deliver them from the Ammonites.

The people of Jabesh sent word throughout all Israel asking for someone to deliver them from the Ammonites. When the word reached Saul's city, the Spirit of God came upon Saul and Saul gathered all Israel to go to battle against the Ammonites. Saul attacked the Ammonites early in the morning and defeated them that day. The new king, Saul, had led God's people to victory!

Samuel asked the people to go to Gilgal to offer sacrifices to God. The people rejoiced because Saul was their king.

Samuel talked to the people at Gilgal. He told them to remember all the ways that God had helped them. He said that they did not need a king because God was their king. Since they had asked for one, the people and the king would have to obey God if they wanted Him to keep helping them.

God sent thunder and rain on the wheat harvest to show that the people had been wicked in asking for a king. The people were afraid and asked Samuel to pray to God for them. Samuel said he would pray for them and God would not leave them. God told them that if they acted wickedly, they and their king would be swept away!

#### **Notes for Parents:**

- God's people were thankful for the victory by their new king. We need to be thankful for God's help, also.
- God forgives when we ask him. When the people asked Samuel to pray to God for them, Samuel assured them that God would not abandon them.
- The people of Jabesh thought they were defeated but they asked for 7 days to locate a deliverer. A nation who has God on their side should never feel like they are defeated! God showed that He would provide the victory for His people.

**Getting the Main Points:**

Write "T" if the statement is true and "F" if the statement is false.

- \_\_\_\_ 1. When Saul led God's people in battle, the Ammonites won.
- \_\_\_\_ 2. The people rejoiced because Saul was their king.
- \_\_\_\_ 3. Samuel said God would be with them if they listened to Him.
- \_\_\_\_ 4. God sent snow on the wheat harvest to show His unhappiness.
- \_\_\_\_ 5. The people asked Samuel to pray to God for them.
- \_\_\_\_ 6. God said He didn't care if they didn't obey Him.

**For the More Advanced:**

Read Chapter 12 verses 12-15 and answer the following questions.

- 1. Who was actually the king over Israel?
- 2. Who was the king that the Israelites chose?
- 3. What would Israel and the king have to do to "follow the Lord?"
- 4. What would happen if they would not listen to God and they rebelled?

**Memory Work:****1 Samuel 12:24**

*"Only fear the LORD and serve Him in truth with all your heart;  
for consider what great things He has done for you."*

## **Saul Sins / Jonathan Saved**

### **1 Samuel 13-14**

The Philistines were getting ready to attack the Israelites. Israel needed to talk to God before they fought against the Philistines. Samuel told Saul to wait for him in Gilgal for seven days and he would be there to offer the sacrifices. Seven days went by and Samuel did not show up. Saul became impatient and offered the burnt sacrifice to God. This was wrong because only priests were supposed to offer sacrifices. Saul should have waited for Samuel.

As soon as Saul finished offering the burnt sacrifice, Samuel came. Samuel told Saul that he had acted foolishly and had not done what God told him to do. God was going to punish him by putting a new king over the people.

Jonathan, Saul's son, was very brave. He believed God would help him win over the Philistines. One day Jonathan took his armor bearer and went to the Philistine camp. He told his armor bearer that God could defeat the whole camp of the Philistines with many men or with just a few. He fought against the Philistines, and with the help of God, he was winning. When the people saw that God was helping Jonathan, they went and fought too. God helped His people win that day.

Saul had told the people not to eat during the battle because he wanted to get revenge on his enemies that day. He probably thought the soldiers would fight harder knowing that they could not eat until the battle was over. In fact, it made the soldiers weak and unable to fight. Jonathan, however, did not hear about the oath his father made. He was going through a forest where there was a lot of honey, and he ate some. When Saul learned about this, he was going to kill his son Jonathan. The people told Saul that Jonathan should not die because he had worked with God that day. Saul let his son live.

Saul faced battle after battle with the Philistines during his reign as king. Their having a king only seemed to fill their lives with more problems. Maybe they were becoming more like the nations around them?

#### **Notes for Parents:**

- Saul did not show patience and wait for Samuel. Look at the trouble it brought him! Patience is something that is so critical for the Christian. It is at the heart of overcoming all kinds of temptations.
- Jonathan went against the Philistines with only his armor bearer because he knew he had God on his side. God gave him victory. Explain to your child what faith is, i.e. knowing that the one God exists, even though we cannot see him. Sing "Faith is the Victory."
- The Godly example of Jonathan helped a nation win a war. It will do the same for the Christian battle today.

### Getting the Main Points:

Circle the correct answer.

1. Samuel told Saul to wait for him in Gilgal for \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. one month                      b. seven days                      c. seven hours
2. When Samuel did not come, Saul \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. looked for him  
b. fought the Philistines  
c. offered the sacrifice himself
3. Samuel did come later, and he said that Saul \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. had not kept God's command  
b. had pleased God  
c. would die
4. Saul's son was named \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. David                      b. Jonathan                      c. Michal
5. Saul's son fought the \_\_\_\_\_ and won.  
a. Philistines                      b. Moabites                      c. Ammonites

### For the More Advanced:

Read Chapter 13 verses 10-14 and answer the following questions.

1. What three reasons did Saul give for offering the sacrifice? [v 11]
2. What did Saul say he "forced himself" to do?
3. How long would Saul's kingdom last if he had only obeyed?
4. What kind of man had God sought out for Himself?

### Memory Work:

## 1 Samuel 12:24

*"Only fear the LORD and serve Him in truth with all your heart;  
for consider what great things He has done for you."*

## God Rejects Saul

### 1 Samuel 15

Samuel told Saul that God wanted all the nation of Amalek to be destroyed. There were not to be any people or animals left in the city. This was to be done because they treated the children of Israel badly when they were coming up out of Egypt.

Saul called his soldiers together and they went against the Amalekites. They defeated the Amalekites, but they did not destroy all the city like Samuel and God had said. Saul and the people kept the king, Agag, and the best of the animals.

God knew what Saul had done and He was angry. He told Samuel that He was sorry He had made Saul the king. When Samuel came to meet Saul, Saul lied and said that he had done what God told him to do. Samuel asked Saul why he could hear the animals that Saul was supposed to have killed. Saul said that the people kept those for sacrifices. Samuel answered that God would rather have people obey than to offer sacrifices.

Saul finally admitted that he had sinned. He asked Samuel to go with him to worship God. When Samuel said he would not, Saul held to Samuel's robe and it tore. Samuel said that God had torn the kingdom from Saul. God was going to choose a new king. Saul again said he had sinned. This time Samuel did go with him to worship God when Saul asked.

Samuel then did what God had told Saul to do. He killed the king of Amalek.

Samuel went to his house, and Saul went to his house. Samuel was sad that Saul had disobeyed God, and God was sorry that He had made Saul king over His people. Saul and Samuel would not see each other again until the death of Saul.

#### Notes for Parents:

- God wants us to obey him, not to do what we think is best. Saul and the people thought it was a good idea to keep the animals for sacrifice, but it was more important to obey.
- God knows what we are doing at all times. God knew that Saul did not utterly destroy Amalek.
- We should never lie. God always knows when we are lying. Most of the time, other people do too. The sounds of the animals showed that Saul was a liar.
- God was executing the judgment on Amalek that He had promised when the Israelites were coming out of Egypt. God does things on His time tables.

**Getting the Main Points:**

Underline the correct answer.

1. God told Saul to destroy (some, all) of Amalek.
2. Saul destroyed (some, all) of Amalek.
3. God said he was (happy, sorry) he had made Saul the king.
4. Saul (lied, told the truth) to Samuel and said that he had destroyed all of Amalek.
5. Samuel said that God is happier when people (obey Him, offer sacrifices).
6. Saul finally admitted that (he sinned, he was a great king).

**For the More Advanced:**

Read verses 8-13 and answer the following questions.

1. What did they utterly destroy with the edge of the sword?
2. Why did they spare those things they spared?
3. What did Samuel do all night after this happened?
4. When Saul and Samuel met, what did Saul say he had done?

**Memory Work:****1 Samuel 12:24**

*"Only fear the LORD and serve Him in truth with all your heart;  
for consider what great things He has done for you."*



## David Anointed King

### 1 Samuel 16

God told Samuel that it was time to anoint a new king. Saul had not obeyed God, so God had already selected a better man to be king over his people. God told Samuel to visit a man named Jesse since one of his sons would be that next king. Samuel was afraid of Saul, but he went to find the man named Jesse anyway.

Samuel went to the city of Bethlehem. He asked Jesse to bring his sons and come to the sacrifice. One by one, Jesse's sons passed before Samuel. Samuel looked at Eliab, one of Jesse's sons, and thought that he must be the one God had chosen. At the same time that Samuel was seeing how they looked on the outside, God was looking at each of their hearts. That means that God looked to see if each one was a good person. God did not choose any of the seven sons that came to the sacrifice to be the new king.

Samuel asked Jesse if these were all of his sons. Jesse said that he had one more son, but he was outside taking care of the sheep. When they brought the last son in, God told Samuel to anoint him to be the new king. Do you know the name of this son? David, that's right. Samuel poured oil on David's head, and God was with him from that day.

Now God had left King Saul, and Saul had times that he felt very badly. His servants thought it would help if someone played the harp for him. Saul's servants searched for someone who could play the harp very well. One of them remembered that David could play the harp very well, so they sent for him. Jesse agreed that David could stay with him. When Saul was feeling badly, David would play the harp. Saul would feel better.

David made Saul feel so much better that he came to love him. He even made him his armor bearer. God had found a way to get David close to the throne so when the time was right, He would put him on the throne as then next king.

#### Notes for Parents:

- As you share this story with your child, stress the point that God looks at our hearts rather than our bodies. Talk about loving people because they are good and not because they are pretty or handsome. Even though David was handsome, it was because he was a "*man after God's own heart*" that he was selected as the next king.
- David let the goodness of God into his heart. It shone out in one way through his music which was able to make others happy.
- Even though Samuel was afraid of Saul, he still carried out God's work. He went to Bethlehem and anointed the new king just as God said.

**Getting the Main Points:**

Number the events of the lesson in the order in which they happened, from 1 to 6.

- \_\_\_\_ 1. Samuel anointed David as king.
- \_\_\_\_ 2. David went and played the harp to make Saul feel better.
- \_\_\_\_ 3. Samuel went to Bethlehem to offer a sacrifice to God.
- \_\_\_\_ 4. Seven of Jesse's eight sons passed before Samuel.
- \_\_\_\_ 5. David came in from taking care of the sheep.
- \_\_\_\_ 6. God told Samuel to go anoint the new king.

**For the More Advanced:**

Read verses 1-5 and answer the following questions.

- 1. Was Samuel feeling badly about Saul?
- 2. What did Samuel think Saul would do to him if he caught him?
- 3. Who would designate the one to be anointed as king?
- 4. How did the elders act when they saw Samuel coming to their city?

**Memory Work:****1 Samuel 12:24**

*"Only fear the LORD and serve Him in truth with all your heart;  
for consider what great things He has done for you."*

## David Victor Over Goliath

### 1 Samuel 17

The Philistines and God's people were enemies. They both wanted the same land. The Philistines had gathered their armies to fight against Israel. King Saul and his army were on one side of a mountain and the Philistines were on the other side of the mountain. They were about to have a battle to decide who would get the land.

Sometimes armies would have a champion come forward and fight a champion from the other army and the winner would take all. While the Philistines and the Israelites were facing one another, a Philistine came forward as a champion to fight against a champion of Israel. The name of the Philistine was a giant named Goliath. He was about 9 feet 9 inches tall. He was huge! He wanted to fight one of God's people, but not one of God's people was brave enough to fight him. For forty days the giant came out and offered the challenge to the God's people, but nobody would fight him.

It so happened that David was tending to the sheep in the field. Jesse, David's father, sent him to the battle to give some things to his brothers and to the king, Saul. While David was there, he heard the challenge offered by the giant Goliath. David was very upset and wondered why they were allowing this man to make fun of God and His people. When Saul heard about how angry David was, he called for him. David said he would go fight Goliath. He was not afraid because he knew God would help him.

The giant Goliath wore armor to keep from getting hurt. He carried a sword, a spear, and a javelin as weapons. King Saul told David he could wear the king's armor to fight Goliath. David said that he had never tried wearing this armor before, so he would not use it. He knew that God would help him as He had helped him kill the lion and the bear when they tried to get his sheep.

David went to the brook and took 5 stones and put them in his bag. He then approached Goliath with his bag and his sling shot. When Goliath saw David, he was upset and asked why they were sending out a boy with sticks out against him. David told Goliath that God would deliver Goliath into his hands this day and everyone would know that God does not deliver by swords or spears, but the battle is the Lord's.

David ran towards Goliath. He put one stone in his sling and threw it. Goliath's armor did not cover his face. The rock hit him in the forehead. The giant fell forward on his face. He was dead. God had helped David just as David knew He would.

#### Notes for Parents:

- David's anger burned when he saw someone making fun of God and His people. David was moved to action to show God's power through him.
- David's faith in God was clearly demonstrated by not wearing the armor nor of having others go with him. He knew God would deliver him from Goliath. He truly was a man after God's own heart.

**Getting the Main Points:**

Draw a line from the blank to the word with the correct answer.

head	God	giant	boy	armor	slingshot
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1. Goliath the giant was a \_\_\_\_\_.
2. He used \_\_\_\_\_ when he fought.
3. David took only his \_\_\_\_\_ and five stones to fight Goliath.
4. David's first stone hit the giant in the \_\_\_\_\_ and he died.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ helped David kill Goliath.
6. Goliath was upset that a \_\_\_\_\_ was sent to fight him.

**For the More Advanced:**

Read verses 32-36 and answer the following questions.

1. David said that he was Saul's \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Why did Saul say that David could not fight against Goliath?
3. What fighting had David done that taught him how to win?
4. What did Goliath do to the "armies of the living God?"

**Memory Work:**

**1 Samuel 26:23a**

*"The LORD will repay each man for his righteousness and his faithfulness"*

## Jonathan and David

### 1 Samuel 18

Jonathan, King Saul's son, was a good friend to David. He loved him so much that he gave him his robe and his armor. When David wore Jonathan's armor and went out to fight the Philistines, he won. The women sang a song about how many Philistines David had killed.

King Saul did not like it for the women to sing that David had killed more Philistines than Saul had. This made Saul jealous of David. One day when David was playing the harp for him, Saul threw a spear at David. Saul did this two times. Both times David got away.

Saul said that David could marry his daughter Merab if he would continue to fight the Lord's battles. Saul hoped that David would be killed fighting the Philistines. David was so humble, that he did not feel worthy to be the king's son-in-law. Saul then decided to give Merab to another man, Adriel, as his wife instead of to David. His plan had not worked very well.

Saul then said that David could marry his daughter Michal since she loved David. David again felt unworthy to be the king's son-in-law. This time Saul told him that he would be worthy if he killed 100 Philistines. Saul hoped that David would be killed fighting the Philistines. God helped David to kill the Philistines, so Saul let him marry Michal.

Saul saw that God was with David. His son Jonathan and his daughter Michal both loved David. The people thought David was a great man. Saul was so jealous of David that he was his enemy. All of this was causing Saul to lose control of himself.

#### Notes for Parents:

- We all need friends like Jonathan. He could have been jealous of David like his father was. Instead, he was unselfish in his love. Remember that Jonathan would lose his throne to David, but friendship was more important to Jonathan.
- Being jealous causes a person to do terrible things. Explain jealousy to your child. Talk about how being jealous of David caused Saul to want him dead, e.g. throwing a spear at him and putting him in battle and finding every opportunity to do harm to David.
- When God is with us, nobody can stop us. No matter how hard Saul tried to discredit or harm David, David continued to prosper and grow stronger. God is an awesome power to have on our side.

### Getting the Main Points:

Circle the letter of the best answer.

1. Jonathan loved David so much that he gave him his \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. armor                                      b. robe                                      c. both
2. Saul didn't like the women's song because they said that \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. Jonathan had killed more Philistines than Saul.  
b. David had killed more Philistines than Saul.  
c. Saul should not be king anymore.
3. Saul threw a \_\_\_\_\_ at David while he was playing the \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. spear, harp                                      b. shield, harp                                      c. spear, tambourine
4. David married Saul's daughter \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. Merab                                      b. Michal                                      c. Sarah
5. Saul was David's \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. friend                                      b. enemy                                      c. father
6. God was Saul's \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. friend                                      b. enemy                                      c. father

### For the More Advanced:

Read verses 28-30 and answer the following questions.

1. Who was with David?
2. Who loved David?
3. How did Saul feel about David?
4. Because David acted wisely, what happened to his name?

### Memory Work:

**1 Samuel 26:23a**

*"The LORD will repay each man for his righteousness and his faithfulness"*

## David Protected From Saul

### 1 Samuel 19-20

King Saul kept trying to have David killed. He told his son Jonathan and his servants to kill David. Jonathan loved David and he would not kill him. He talked to his father Saul and made him realize that David was a good man and made him promise not to kill David.

Saul broke his promise. He threw his spear at David while he was playing the harp again. David got away and hid. Then Saul sent men to his house to get David. David's wife, Michal, let David out through a window so he would be safe.

Saul and his men were not able to catch David. Saul even went out on a journey to find David, but David escaped before Saul could find him. David returned to visit his friend Jonathan. It was about time for a special feast to take place and David was expected to be at the feast. David was afraid to go to the feast because of Saul. Jonathan told David that he didn't think Saul was trying to kill him anymore.

David didn't believe this, since he had just escaped from Saul. He told Jonathan that Saul was no longer telling Jonathan everything that he was doing, especially when it dealt with David. But, David asked Jonathan to find out if Saul was still trying to kill him. Jonathan told David he would find out about Saul's plans at the feast.

They made a covenant, or an agreement, with each other. David would be hiding in a field and Jonathan would come and shoot his bow and arrow. If he shot the arrow past the young boy with him, that was a sign for David to hide from Saul. If he shot the arrows to one side of the boy, it would be safe for David to return to Saul.

Saul found out that Jonathan was trying to help David. He got so angry at Jonathan that he threw his spear at him just like he had at David. Jonathan then went to the field and shot his arrow past the young boy. David knew he had to keep hiding from King Saul.

After the boy left the field, David and Jonathan said goodbye to each other and they were both very sad that they could not spend time together because of Saul. They knew that the sin of Saul would not allow them to be together.

#### Notes for Parents:

- In studying this lesson with your child, discuss promises and explain the meaning of a covenant. The applications concerning jealousy and friendship also carry over from the last lesson.
- The consequences of sin sometimes spread to people who are not even involved. Sometimes good people are affected.

### Getting the Main Points:

Draw a happy face if the statement is true and a sad face if its false.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Saul told Jonathan and his servants to kill David.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ Michal let David out the back door to escape from Saul's men.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ Jonathan would not make a covenant with David because he thought David would be the next king instead of him.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ Saul threw his spear at his own son Jonathan just like he had thrown it at David.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ Jonathan gave David a sign that he should go away because Saul still wanted David to be killed.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ David and Jonathan were very sad because they could not be together.

### For the More Advanced:

Read Chapter 20 verses 30-34 and answer the following questions.

1. How did Saul react to Jonathan when he discussed David with him?
2. What could not happen as long as the son of Jesse lived?
3. After Saul hurled the spear at him, what did Jonathan know?
4. How did Jonathan react to knowing that Saul wanted David dead?

### Memory Work:

**1 Samuel 26:23a**

*"The LORD will repay each man for his righteousness and his faithfulness"*



## **Saul Pursues David Insanely**

### **1 Samuel 21-22**

Saul still wanted David to be killed, even though David and Jonathan were good friends. After David and Jonathan met in the field, David ran away from Saul and went to the tabernacle which was in a city called Nob. Ahimelech, the priest, gave him bread to eat because he was going to be travelling and needed food. David did not have any weapons to protect him during his journey, so Ahimelech let him have Goliath's sword that was being kept in the tabernacle.

David travelled to the land of the Philistines. The Philistines recognized David and they remembered that David had killed many of their people. They took David to the king and he was afraid of what they might do to him. He pretended to be crazy so they would let him go. The king of the Philistines told the people to let David go since he did not want any crazy people in his house.

From there, David escaped to the cave of Adullam and hid there. People who were not happy with Saul, and those who were having problems came to David and he became their captain. Altogether, 400 men came to him and became his army. David's parents came to see him while he was there and he found them a safe place to live.

One of Saul's servants told him how the priest at Nob had helped David. Saul was so angry that he had the 85 priests from Nob killed. He even had the people and animals in that city killed. Only one priest, whose name was Abiathar, escaped from Saul. After he escaped, Abiathar went to David for protection and help.

David felt so bad about Abiathar's family. He knew that Saul killed them because they had helped David. David told Abiathar to stay with him and he would be safe there.

#### **Notes for Parents:**

- Hatred can make us do awful things. Saul's hatred caused him to fight against God, kill His priests, and try to kill the next anointed king. It also caused him to hate his son Jonathan. We should love others.
- David was in danger, but he looked out for his parents and Abiathar. We should always care about others. David had great sorrow for what had happened to the priests at Nob.
- If we aren't careful, we can get others in trouble wrongly. We should be careful what we say. The man who told on David was actually working against God and for Satan.

### Getting the Main Points:

Draw a line to match the question to the answer.

- |   |                |
|---|----------------|
| 1. Gave David bread and Goliath's sword.            | a. Saul        |
| 2. They knew David had killed many of their people. | b. Philistines |
| 3. How David escaped the Philistines.               | c. 400         |
| 4. David hid here after he escaped the Philistines. | d. in a cave   |
| 5. How many came to join David's army.              | e. David       |
| 6. He had 85 priests killed.                        | f. Ahimelech   |
| 7. Promised to help the Abiathar, the priest.       | g. Acted crazy |

### For the More Advanced:

Read Chapter 22 verses 6-9 and answer the following questions.

1. Where was Saul when he heard David had been found?
2. Saul asked the Benjamites if David would give them these things.
3. Saul was upset because nobody told him this about his son, Jonathan.
4. Who finally told Saul where David had been seen?

### Memory Work:

**1 Samuel 26:23a**

*"The LORD will repay each man for his righteousness and his faithfulness"*

## God Guides David to Safety

### 1 Samuel 23

David and his army of 400 men were still in hiding from Saul. While they were hiding, they heard that the Philistines were attacking the city of Keilah. David could not stand by and watch his people being attacked by the Philistines. David asked God if he should take his men and go fight the Philistines. God said yes. The men were a little unsure if they should really go. David asked God again, and again He said to go and fight. David fought against the Philistines and won. God had given David this victory.

When Saul found out that David was at the city of Keilah, he decided to go there to capture him. God told David that Saul was coming and David did not know what to do. He thought about staying in the city and getting the people of the city to fight against Saul to protect him. He asked God if these people would protect him or would they give him to Saul. God told David that the people would give him to Saul, so David fled from the city.

When Saul heard that David had left the city, he decided to go back home. David and his men went to the wilderness and hid out wherever they could find places to hide. Saul looked for David every day, but God would not deliver him into the hands of Saul.

As Saul learned that David was in the wilderness, he decided again to go and find him. Jonathan, Saul's son, went and found David and warned him that his father was on the way. Jonathan told David not to be afraid because he would be the next king. Jonathan was David's friend. He tried to make David feel better and tried to help him to escape his father.

While Saul was in the area, he came very close to capturing David. David was running from Saul and he was on one side of a mountain and Saul was on the other side - right behind him. Saul was just about to capture David when word came that Saul had to go right away and fight the Philistines. Saul left and David was saved. Who do you think helped David escape this time? God had saved David again!

#### Notes for Parents:

- David asked God if he should fight the Philistines. He also asked God if he should stay in the city of Keilah. David was very interested in what God wanted him to do. God doesn't talk to us directly like He did to David, but He does speak to us in His word - the Bible.
- David talked to God, and God helped David. We should pray to God and ask for his help.
- Jonathan was a good friend to David. He tried to make him feel better when he needed it. He did not get mad at David because God wanted David to be the next king instead of him. We should try to be like Jonathan. When our friends are sad, we should try to cheer them up. When something good happens to our friends, we should be happy for them.
- We need to be careful because Satan is looking to get us just like Saul was trying to get David. If we will keep our eyes open and flee from Satan, God will help us escape too.

### Getting the Main Points:

Circle the correct answer.

1. David asked \_\_\_\_\_ if he should fight the Philistines.  
a. Saul                      b. Jonathan                      c. God
2. David did fight the Philistines and \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. lost                      b. won                      c. was captured
3. Saul looked for David every day but \_\_\_\_\_ did not let him find him.  
a. Samuel                      b. Jonathan                      c. God
4. David's friend \_\_\_\_\_ came to him and helped him escape.  
a. Michal                      b. Jesse                      c. Jonathan
5. Saul was on one side of a \_\_\_\_\_ and David was on the other side, but God kept David safe.  
a. desert                      b. tent                      c. mountain

### For the More Advanced:

Read verses 19-23 and answer the following questions.

1. Who came to Saul and told him where David was hiding?
2. Why did Saul tell these people that they would be blessed?
3. What had Saul been told about David?
4. What were the Ziphites to go and do before they returned to Saul?

### Memory Work:

**1 Samuel 26:23a**

*"The LORD will repay each man for his righteousness and his faithfulness"*

## David Spares Saul's Life

### 1 Samuel 24

In our last lesson, Saul let David go and went to fight the Philistines. After he finished pursuing the Philistines, he returned home. When he got there, Saul was told that David was hiding in the wilderness of Engedi. This time Saul took 3,000 men and went to look for David.

While Saul and his men were travelling to find David, he went by a large cave. Saul went into the cave by himself. David and his men were hiding in that cave, but Saul did not know they were there. Even though Saul did not see David and his men, they saw him.

David could have killed Saul, but he didn't. David would not let his men hurt Saul either. David just quietly cut off the edge of Saul's robe to show that he could have killed Saul if he had wanted to. Later, David was even sorry that he did that. David felt bad about doing anything to God's appointed king.

Saul picked up his robe and left the cave. He still didn't know David was there. When Saul was far enough away, David called to Saul. David told him that he could have killed him if he had wanted, but he did not hurt him because he was the Lord's anointed king. (Remember Samuel had poured oil on Saul's head to anoint him king.) David did not want to do anything against God or God's people.

When Saul realized that it was David, he called back to David and wept. He knew that David was a good man and he knew David would be the next king. Saul asked David to be kind to Saul's family when he became the next king. David promised that he would be kind to them. Then Saul went home, but David remained there.

#### Notes for Parents:

- Even though David was being pursued by Saul and Saul considered David his enemy, David did not consider Saul his enemy. David respected the king for his position and for his calling by God. He did not want to do anything against God or His people.
- Even if Saul had been David's enemy, David shows us the way we should treat people who are against us. We should not return evil for evil. When David returned good for evil it restored the relationship between Saul and David.
- This lesson also shows us how we should respect government. Even if we don't agree with what they are doing, we should do our part to be obedient — as long as they do not cause us to violate God's laws.

### Getting the Main Points:

Look in the cave for the correct answers. Draw a line from each question to its answer.

- |   |          |
|---|----------|
| 1. Saul took _____ men to find David.         | Robe     |
| 2. David was hiding in a _____.               | Family   |
| 3. _____ came in.                             | King     |
| 4. David cut off the edge of his _____.       | Cave     |
| 5. David said Saul was the Lord's _____.      | Saul     |
| 6. Saul said David would be the next _____.   | Anointed |
| 7. David promised to be kind to Saul's _____. | 3000     |

### For the More Advanced:

Read verses 4-7 and answer the following questions.

1. Who had given Saul into David's hand?
2. What bothered David later?
3. Why didn't David think he should stretch out his hand against Saul?
4. What didn't David allow his men to do?

### Memory Work:

**1 Samuel 26:23a**

*"The LORD will repay each man for his righteousness and his faithfulness"*

## Samuel Dies / Story of Abigail

### 1 Samuel 25

It had been a long, long time since Hannah prayed to God for a little boy. That little boy, Samuel, had grown up serving God. He had used his whole life doing the work that God wanted him to do. He died an old man. God's people were sad. They came together to bury Samuel. When we are sad, it helps to be with other people.

In our lesson today we also learn of a foolish man whose name was Nabal. He was rich, and he was evil. His wife's name was Abigail. She was beautiful and smart. David and his army had been protecting Nabal's shepherds from their enemies. One day David sent some young men to Nabal to ask him for food. Nabal would not share, even though he had plenty of food. He even acted like he did not know David.

David got angry and he brought most of his army and came to destroy Nabal and all his people. Before David got there, Abigail found out that her husband had refused to give the food to David. She brought food to David herself and asked for mercy. Because of her, David decided not to come and destroy Nabal and all of his people. She was able to keep David from hurting anyone.

When Abigail told Nabal what she had done, he became sick. After ten days, he died. This was God's punishment for Nabal. When David found out that Nabal was dead, he praised God for taking away his reproach and keeping him from harming the family of Nabal. Then he sent men to ask Abigail to become his wife. She said yes and they were married.

#### Notes for Parents:

- The death of one of God's children is both a happy and sad event. Your child may be faced one day with the death of a grandparent or someone special. Talking a little about Samuel's death now may help them to understand the death of a loved one later. Emphasize that while the people were sad that Samuel died, Samuel was happy because he had obeyed God while he was on earth.
- When someone does something bad to us, we don't "pay them back". God did not let David pay Nabal back. God sent Abigail to stop David, and God took care of punishing Nabal.
- We should be willing to share like Abigail. We are not to be selfish like Nabal.
- If we see someone doing something against God or His people, we should do what we can to help. We may save a lot of people a lot of problems, just like Abigail saved her people a lot of punishment.

**Getting the Main Points:**

Draw a happy face if the sentence is true and a sad face if false.

- \_\_\_\_ 1. Samuel used his life to serve God.
- \_\_\_\_ 2. Samuel died as a young man.
- \_\_\_\_ 3. David and his men helped keep Nabal's shepherds safe.
- \_\_\_\_ 4. When David asked Nabal for food, he would not give him any.
- \_\_\_\_ 5. David got angry and went to punish Nabal.
- \_\_\_\_ 6. Abigail brought food to David and saved her people.
- \_\_\_\_ 7. David left without hurting Nabal.

**For the More Advanced:**

Read verses 14-17 and answer the following questions.

- 1. Who told Abigail about how Nabal had scorned David's men?
- 2. Were they missing anything as long as David's men were there?
- 3. What were David's men like both by day and by night?
- 4. Why did the servant say that no one could speak to Nabal?

**Memory Work:**

**1 Samuel 26:23a**

*"The LORD will repay each man for his righteousness and his faithfulness"*



## David Spares Saul Again

1 Samuel 26-27

Saul came looking for David again. He and his people stopped to make camp for the night. When it was time to go to bed, Saul slept in the middle with the people in a circle around him. Saul had his spear and a jug of water near his head when he went to sleep.

David knew that Saul and his people were camped close by. At night, he took a man named Abishai with him and went to Saul's camp. The people around him were sound asleep because God caused a deep sleep to come over the camp.

As they quietly approached the area of the camp where Saul was sleeping, Abishai told David that he wanted to kill Saul. David said, "*No, Saul is the Lord's anointed.*" Since God had made Saul the king, David would not hurt him or allow anyone else to hurt him. David told Abishai that God would take care of Saul when the time was right. David told Abishai to take the spear and the jug of water and then they left.

When he got far enough away, David called back to Saul's camp. David told Saul that his people had not done a very good job of protecting the king - which was their main job. When David showed that he had Saul's spear and jug of water, Saul knew that David could have killed him, but he did not. Saul knew that David was a good man because he did not kill him. Saul said, "*I have sinned.*" Then David gave Saul's spear back. David and Saul both left and returned to their own places.

David decided to go and live with the Philistines. Saul went home and when he heard that David was with the Philistines, he stopped looking for David.

### Notes for Parents:

- David did not try to change God's plans or to help Him by killing Saul. David knew that he would become king when God felt it was time. David must have had a lot of patience and faith to wait so long.
- Even though David was being pursued by Saul and Saul considered David his enemy, David did not consider Saul his enemy. David respected the king for his position and for his calling by God. He did not want to do anything against God or His people.
- Even if Saul had been David's enemy, David shows us the way we should treat people who are against us. We should not return evil for evil. When David returned good for evil it restored the relationship between Saul and David.
- This lesson also shows us how we should respect government. Even if we don't agree with what they are doing, we should do our part to be obedient - as long as they do not cause us to violate God's laws.

### Getting the Main Points:

Draw a line from each phrase to the name of the person it describes.

**S  
A  
U  
L**

1. Slept with a spear and a jug of water at his head.
2. Would not kill the Lord's anointed.
3. Said, "I have sinned."
4. Took a spear and then gave it back.
5. Went to live with the Philistines.

**D  
A  
V  
I  
D**

### For the More Advanced:

Read Chapter 26 verses 22-25 and answer the following questions.

1. How did David return the spear of the king back to the king?
2. What will the Lord repay each man for?
3. What did David refuse to do to the Lord's anointed?
4. What did David value highly in his sight?

### Memory Work:

## 2 Samuel 7:28

*"Now, O Lord God, You are God, and Your words are truth,  
and You have promised this good thing to Your servant."*

## **Saul and Medium / David Mistrusted**

### **1 Samuel 28-29**

The Philistines had gathered their armies together to fight against Israel. There were many, many Philistines and King Saul was very afraid. He wanted to know if he should go to battle with the Philistines. Saul used to ask Samuel to go to God for him, but Samuel had died earlier. God would not talk to Saul anymore because he had disobeyed Him. Remember also that Saul had killed many of the priests when he got mad at them for helping David. Saul had no way to find out anything from God.

So, Saul decided to go see a medium. A medium is someone who says that they can talk to dead people. A medium cannot really do that, only God has that power. Saul had chased all mediums out of the land years earlier because the Law of Moses said it was a sin to talk to mediums. After Saul had finally found a medium, he asked her to bring Samuel back from the dead. This one time God let her bring Samuel back. She was very surprised to see Samuel. She knew she did not have the power by herself to really bring someone back.

God let Samuel come back from the dead to tell Saul what was about to happen. Samuel told Saul that Saul would be punished for disobeying God and would no longer be the king. Samuel then told Saul that the Philistines would win the battle the next day and Saul and his sons would die in battle. Saul was very afraid and very weak. The medium felt sorry for him so she gave him food to eat. Saul ate and left.

Remember that David had been living with the Philistines. David and his men started out to go with them to war against Israel. David was afraid that the Philistines would find out that he was still on Israel's side and they would kill him. As they neared the battlefield, some of the Philistines did not want David to go with them to fight God's people. They were afraid David would fight on the side of God's people instead of on their side. The Philistines sent David back to the city of Ziklag, before they went up to Jezreel to fight against Israel. God had saved David from Saul, Israel, and from the Philistines.

#### **Notes for Parents:**

- Mediums (witches) do not really have special powers. This woman was shocked when she actually saw Samuel. If this had been a normal occurrence, she would not have cried out. Children need to learn at a young age that there are no real witches with special powers.
- We need to be kind to people when they need help. The medium at Endor should not be set up as a role model. However, she did do a kind deed in feeding Saul in his time of despair.
- Even though we don't always see the way out of problems, God always knows the way. He helped David in his difficult times.

**Getting the Main Points:**

Write YES or NO in the blank in front of each question.

- \_\_\_\_ Did Saul talk to God and did God answer him?
- \_\_\_\_ Did God tell Saul he should fight the Philistines?
- \_\_\_\_ Did Saul go to Ramah to see Samuel?
- \_\_\_\_ Did Saul ask a medium to help him talk to Samuel?
- \_\_\_\_ Did Samuel tell Saul that he and his sons would die in battle?
- \_\_\_\_ Did the medium give Saul food to eat before he left?
- \_\_\_\_ Did David fight against his brothers, the Israelites?

**For the More Advanced:**

Read Chapter 28 verses 14-18 and answer the following questions.

1. Who was the old man who was wrapped in a robe?
2. Why did Saul call on Samuel?
3. The Lord had become Saul's \_\_\_\_\_. Explain.
4. What had the Lord torn out of Saul's hand and given to David?

**Memory Work:****2 Samuel 7:28**

*"Now, O Lord God, You are God, and Your words are truth,  
and You have promised this good thing to Your servant."*

## Saul and Sons Die in Battle

### 1 Samuel 30-31

David started out with the Philistines when they went to fight God's people. The Philistines were afraid that David would fight with God's people against them, so they sent him home.

While David was gone, Amalekites had come and burned the city of Ziklag, where David had been living. They took what belonged to David and his men. They even took their families. David and his men wept very loudly because of everything they had lost. Some of the men were mad at David, but David did not let it bother him. He went to God and asked Him what he should do.

God told him to go after the Amalekites and bring back everything they had taken. David did what God said and went after the Amalekites. After they had gone some distance, some of the men were so tired they could go no further. David told them to remain behind and he and the rest would go and get the things that had been taken. The rest went and found the Amalekites and fought against them.

God helped David bring back all the women, children, and things that the Amalekites had taken. Nothing that they had was lost - except the things burned in the city. In addition, they took everything from the Amalekites and shared it as the spoils of war. When they returned to the men who were too tired to go any further, they shared everything with them.

While this was happening, the Philistines were fighting God's people. They killed Jonathan and his two brothers. Saul was hit by an arrow. He did not want people to say that the Philistines killed him, so he killed himself. Just like Samuel had said, Saul and his three sons died on one day.

The Philistines took the bodies of Saul and his sons, and they put the weapons of Saul in the temple of Ashtaroth. When men of Jabesh-gilead heard about this, they walked all night and took the bodies of Saul and his sons from the Philistines. They buried their bones under the tamarisk tree at Jabesh and fasted seven days. What an awful day in the nation of Israel and it was all due to the sin of Saul.

#### Notes for Parents:

- Always go over the story with your child as he/she is completing the picture. If the story is too long, shorten it in your own words.
- When we have an important decision to make, we should ask God what he wants us to do, as David did. God will not speak an answer in our ears, but he tells us what we need to know in the Bible. We can pray for him to help us understand what he is telling us to do in the Bible.
- When we know what God wants us to do, we should do it right away, as David did.
- (Older children) God punishes those who disobey him. Today God does not punish people while they are alive like he did in the days of Saul. Those who disobey will be punished after they die.

### Getting the Main Points:

Fill in the circle in front of the best answer.

1. What did the Amalekites do to the city where David had been living?  
O burned it                      O bombed it                      O moved into it
2. Whom did David ask about what he should do?  
O Jonathan                      O Saul                      O God
3. What was David able to get back from the Amalekites?  
O some of what they had taken  
O all of what they had taken  
O none of what they had taken
4. Whom were Saul and his 3 sons fighting?  
O Amalekites                      O Philistines                      O David
5. Who died during one day of fighting?  
O David                      O Michal                      O Saul and his 3 sons

### For the More Advanced:

Read Chapter 30 verses 21-24 and answer the following questions.

1. What did David do as he approached the 200 people that remained?
2. Who did not want to give the 200 men that stayed any of the spoil?
3. Did David think the 200 men that stayed should get any of the spoil?
4. Did they finally share the spoils or did they keep them?

### Memory Work:

## 2 Samuel 7:28

*"Now, O Lord God, You are God, and Your words are truth,  
and You have promised this good thing to Your servant."*

## David Learns of Saul's Death

### 2 Samuel 1

After the death of Saul and his three sons, a man from Saul's camp came to David with his clothes torn and dust on his head. This was the way people showed grief (sadness) back in those days. This man was not an Israelite, but was an Amalekite. The man told David that many of the Israelites had died in the battle with the Philistines and that King Saul and his son Jonathan also had died.

When David asked the man how he knew Saul and Jonathan had died, the man told David a lie. He said that he had been on the battlefield and Saul had been wounded but had not died yet, so Saul asked him to take his life so he wouldn't have to keep suffering. The man told David that he killed Saul and took his crown and bracelet and brought them to David.

The man probably thought David would be very happy to hear about Saul's death and to have his crown and bracelet, but David wasn't. Remember what good friends David and Jonathan had been and how David never wanted to hurt Saul because he was the Lord's anointed. He was very sad to hear about the death of Saul and Jonathan. Not only did David tear his clothes and mourn, but all the men with David did the same. They were sad about their people, the nation of Israel.

Since the man said that he had killed Saul, David had him put to death for killing the Lord's anointed one. David then sang a song about Saul and Jonathan and told the people to teach their children this song. The song spoke of the love David had for Jonathan. He said, *"I am distressed for you, my brother Jonathan; you have been very pleasant to me. Your love to me was more wonderful than the love of women."* David's best friend in this world was gone and so was his king. We will see what David does in our next lesson.

#### Notes for Parents:

- The consequences of lying are bad. The man thought he was doing something that was going to please David, but he ended up being put to death for his lie.
- We should never be happy over the misfortunes or suffering of those we do not like.
- Even though David had been a man of war and had seen many die, he was still very respectful of life. He was very touched by the death of his best friend Jonathan and was very saddened.
- David saw the death of Saul as the death of his king and of God's anointed, not as the death of his enemy. He is comforted that Saul and his son were never separated, even in death.

### Getting the Main Points:

Circle the correct answer.

1. The torn clothes and dust on the head was to show \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. happiness                      b. sadness                      c. madness
2. The man lied and said that he had \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. killed Saul                      b. buried Saul                      c. left Saul to die
3. David was \_\_\_\_\_ to hear of Saul's death.  
a. happy                      b. sad                      c. relieved
4. Jonathan was David's \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. best friend                      b. worst enemy                      c. oldest brother
5. David sang a song to honor \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. Saul & Jonathan                      b. himself                      c. his enemy

### For the More Advanced:

Read verses 24-27 and answer the following questions.

1. Who were the daughters of Israel to weep over?
2. Who had fallen in the midst of the battle?
3. Who was slain on the high places?
4. Who was David distressed for?

### Memory Work:

## 2 Samuel 7:28

*"Now, O Lord God, You are God, and Your words are truth,  
and You have promised this good thing to Your servant."*



## David King Over Judah

### 2 Samuel 2-3

God had chosen David to be the next king a long time before Saul died. Remember how Samuel had anointed him as king years earlier? The people, however, thought of Saul as their king until he died. After his death, God told David and his men to go live in Hebron. There the men of Judah came and anointed David as their king.

The commander of King Saul's army was named Abner. As David was being made king over the tribe of Judah, Abner made Ish-bosheth, one of Saul's sons, king over the rest of Israel. Now Ish-bosheth was king over Israel, and David was king over Judah. This would be very bad for the nation of Israel.

One day Abner and the servants of Ish-bosheth met Joab and the servants of David. Joab was the leader of David's men and Abner was the leader of Ish-bosheth's men. They had a battle between them, and David's servants won that battle. One of Joab's brothers was killed by Abner. This made Joab very angry.

There was a long war between the house of Saul and the house of David. David kept growing stronger because the Lord was with him. The house of Saul grew weaker. Even though the house of Saul grew weaker, Abner grew stronger.

One day Abner decided that he wanted to be on David's side instead of Saul's side. Joab made a covenant with David that he would help make David king over all Israel instead of just king of Judah. David accepted Abner and Abner began to help David become king over the whole nation. David sent Abner away in peace as a friend.

When Joab returned from a battle, he was told how David had accepted Abner and sent him away in peace. Joab thought Abner was trying to trick David so Joab secretly sent for Abner. When Abner arrived, Joab and his brother killed him because Abner had killed their brother. David was very sad when he heard what Joab had done. David did not want Joab to kill Abner. David was so sad over this that he didn't eat that day until the sun went down. The nation of Israel was happy to see that David did not want Abner killed. David said that Joab should be cursed for what he had done.

#### Notes for Parents:

- Discuss how David and his house grew stronger because the Lord was with him. Make the application that the Lord is always with us when we obey him.
- Discuss how we should try to know all the facts about a situation before acting against someone.
- David shows us how to truly forgive someone. Abner was the servant of Saul and was his enemy during the time Ish-bosheth was the king. We see how David was able to make friends with Abner and trust him.

### Getting the Main Points:

Circle the correct answer.

1. At first David was made king over \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. Judah                      b. Israel                      c. both
2. Ish-bosheth was King Saul's \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. father                      b. son                      c. friend
3. \_\_\_\_\_ was the commander of Saul's army.  
a. Jonathan                      b. Joab                      c. Abner
4. \_\_\_\_\_ was the commander of David's army.  
a. Jonathan                      b. Joab                      c. Abner
5. Joab killed \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. Ish-bosheth                      b. Abner                      c. Saul
6. David was so sad that he \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. could not sing  
b. did not eat until the sun went down  
c. did not eat for a week

### For the More Advanced:

Read Chapter 3 verses 30-36 and answer the following questions.

1. Why did Joab and Abishai kill Abner?
2. What did everyone do at the grave of Abner?
3. What did the people try to persuade David to do?
4. Everything the king did \_\_\_\_\_ all the people.

### Memory Work:

## 2 Samuel 7:28

*"Now, O Lord God, You are God, and Your words are truth,  
and You have promised this good thing to Your servant."*

## **Ish-bosheth Murdered**

### **2 Samuel 4**

Ish-bosheth, Saul's son, heard that Abner had died and he was very upset. Abner was the commander of Ish-bosheth's armies and he protected Ish-bosheth the king. Ish-bosheth lost all of his courage without Abner. All of Israel was troubled about the death of Abner.

One day two of Saul's men did a terrible thing. They went to Ish-bosheth's house and found him asleep. They went into the house and acted as if they were getting wheat. When they found Ish-bosheth, they killed him and ran. They then went and told David what they had done, thinking it would make David happy to get rid of another enemy. Do you think it made David happy? No.

Remember how sad and upset David was with the man who said he had killed Saul? Well, David was again very upset and sad with these two men who had killed Ish-bosheth. He told the two men they were wicked for doing this and David had them put to death. David was truly a good man who loved God and a man who kept his promises. Remember how David had promised Saul that he would not harm his household after he became king? Not only did he not harm them, but he did not anyone else harming them either.

Remember what special friends David and Jonathan were to each other? Jonathan had a son who was crippled in his feet and he couldn't walk. His name was Mephibosheth. He had a nurse who was in a hurry to go somewhere and he fell and that is how he became crippled. We will learn more about Mephibosheth in a later lesson.

#### **Notes for Parents:**

- Emphasize again how we should never wish bad things to happen to those who do bad things to us. We should be like David was toward the house of Saul.
- We should be thankful for our health and ability to walk, etc. We should always be kind to children and people who are crippled and never make fun of them.
- David was trying to keep his promise to be good and kind to the household of Saul after he became king. Unfortunately there were those who thought they could make David happy by harming Saul's sons. David was not happy with any of them and made them pay with their lives.

### Getting the Main Points:

Draw a line to the correct answer

- |                                       |                     |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Abner was                          | killed Ish-bosheth  |
| 2. Was sad about death of Ish-bosheth | Saul's son          |
| 3. Two men from Saul's army           | killed by Joab      |
| 4. Mephibosheth was                   | David               |
| 5. Ish-bosheth was                    | Courage             |
| 6. David's men killed                 | Jonathan's son      |
| 7. Ish-bosheth lost all his           | the 2 men from Saul |

### For the More Advanced:

Read verses 10-12 and answer the following questions.

1. Was it good news to David when he heard that Saul was dead?
2. What was the reward for the man who brought this "good" news?
3. What kind of men were they who killed Ish-bosheth?
4. What was the reward for killing a righteous man in his own house?

### Memory Work:

## 2 Samuel 7:28

*"Now, O Lord God, You are God, and Your words are truth,  
and You have promised this good thing to Your servant."*

## David King Over All Israel

### 2 Samuel 5

Remember how David was made king over Judah, and Ish-bosheth was king over the rest of Israel? In our last lesson we learned that Ish-bosheth died, which meant there was no longer a king over the rest of Israel. The elders of the land name David as king over all Israel and Judah. He reigned as king for 40 years and was a very strong king.

David decided to take over the city of Jerusalem. The people who were living in Jerusalem laughed at David because they thought the city could not be taken. The city had walls and was very easy to defend. They forgot that God was with David. David took over the city and made it his city — "the city of David." Some people from Tyre then came and build David a house for David in the city of Jerusalem.

The bible tells us that David became "*greater and greater, for the Lord God of hosts was with him.*"

When the Philistines heard that David was king over Israel, they went to look for him. David asked the Lord if he should go and fight the Philistines and if God would deliver them into his hand. God told David to go and fight the Philistines and He would deliver them. So David did as the Lord said and defeated the Philistines.

The Philistines once again came out to fight against Israel. David, like before, asked God if he should go up and fight them this time. God told David not to go directly to them this time, but told him to go circle around behind them and come to them in front of the balsam trees. When they heard the sound of marching in the tops of the balsam trees, then they could go take over the Philistines. David obeyed the Lord and the Philistines were again defeated.

#### Notes for Parents:

- Discuss how David always prayed to God and asked Him what do. Apply this to our prayers of supplication (seeking after the specific favor of God on behalf of another or oneself).
- God doesn't always say 'yes' to our prayers. Sometimes the answer may be 'no' or 'not right now' or 'do it another way.' Compare this to how parents answer their children's requests. God has our best interests in mind and will answer our prayers accordingly. David accepted His answers and so conducted his life.
- It says that David grew greater and greater because God was on his side. It is the same for us today if we will keep God on our side and live the way He tells us to. God knows what is best for us.

**Getting the Main Points:**

Write a T for true or an F for false.

- \_\_\_\_ 1. David is now made king over all of Israel.
- \_\_\_\_ 2. David took over the city of Jerusalem.
- \_\_\_\_ 3. David asked Joab if they could fight against the Philistines.
- \_\_\_\_ 4. God always let David do whatever he wanted to do.
- \_\_\_\_ 5. David usually forgot to ask God for help.
- \_\_\_\_ 6. David attacked the Philistines the same way both times.
- \_\_\_\_ 7. David grew greater and greater because of God.

**For the More Advanced:**

Read verses 19-21 and answer the following questions.

- 1. What answer did God give to David about fighting the Philistines?
- 2. David said that the Lord had done what to his enemies?
- 3. What did the people abandon there?

**Memory Work:****2 Samuel 7:28**

*"Now, O Lord God, You are God, and Your words are truth,  
and You have promised this good thing to Your servant."*

## **Uzzah / Ark Brought to Israel**

### **2 Samuel 6**

Remember when we studied about the tabernacle and the things in it? Remember that one of the things in the tabernacle was the ark of the covenant. This was a box containing 3 items: (1) the 10 commandments (2) Aaron's rod (3) manna (bread from God). The ark of the covenant was to be carried from place to place as they traveled to the promised land. God had commanded the priests of the family of Kohath to carry it a certain way. Poles were put through rings on the sides of the ark so it could be carried by them. No one was allowed to touch the ark.

Today's lesson is about how some people decided to carry the ark differently from how God said and what happened when they did.

David and his men went to get the ark of the covenant so they could bring it to Jerusalem. They set the ark on a new cart which the oxen pulled. Remember that the ark was supposed to be carried on poles by the priests of the sons of Kohath. As they were traveling, the oxen stumbled and the ark started to fall off of the cart. A man named Uzzah reached up to keep the ark from falling, and when he touched it, God struck him dead.

David became angry at this and then he became afraid of the Lord. He was afraid to move the ark any further so he left the ark at Obed-edom's house and did not bring it to Jerusalem. Three months later David was told how God had blessed Obed-edom, so David went and brought the ark to Jerusalem. He put the ark in the tabernacle that he had built for it. This time they carried the ark in the way God had said and everything went well. David was very happy to have the ark in Jerusalem and the people were very happy also.

#### **Notes for Parents:**

- Sometimes children and adults have a difficult time understanding the severity of God's action against Uzzah. It is crucial to understand that the people were disobeying God in the way they transported the ark. It was to be carried by poles, not pulled on a cart by oxen. There is a very valuable lesson to teach from this account and that is the importance of doing things God's way, not another way which seems better or easier to us. The end does not justify the means. This is a side of God that the denominational world usually ignores. God wants us to obey Him and do things just like He commanded. When we do this, He will bless us abundantly.
- The ark represented having God in their presence — even though God didn't need the ark to be in their presence. Having the ark in Jerusalem made the Israelites feel like they were close to God and He was close to them. We can feel this way by drawing close to His word and staying far from Satan.

### Getting the Main Points:

1. Circle 3 things that were inside the ark of the covenant:  
a. manna                      b. nothing              c. juice              d. Aaron's rod  
e. 10 commandments      f. books
2. How did God want the ark carried? \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. on a camel  
b. by poles on the sides of the ark  
c. by oxen pulling a cart
3. The city David wanted to bring the ark to was \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. Jerusalem              b. Philistia              c. Galilee

True or False (write a + for true and a - for false)

- \_\_\_\_ 4. Uzzah thought he was right in steadying the ark
- \_\_\_\_ 5. God didn't care if men touched the ark.
- \_\_\_\_ 6. God blessed the ones that had the ark.
- \_\_\_\_ 7. David was happy when he brought the ark to Jerusalem.

### For the More Advanced:

Read verses 20-23 and answer the following questions.

1. Who came out to meet David when he returned to his household?
2. Did Michal think David had acted as a foolish person that day?
3. David said that he would \_\_\_\_\_ before the Lord.
4. What was Michal's punishment for not treating David with respect?

### Memory Work:

## 2 Samuel 8:15

*"So David reigned over all Israel; and David administered justice and righteousness for all his people."*



## God's Covenant With David

### 2 Samuel 7

One day David was sitting in his nice house and told Nathan the prophet there was something he wanted to do. David wanted to build a house (or temple) for the Lord so the ark of the covenant would have a place to rest. This would be the place where people would come to worship God. The ark of the covenant had always been placed in a tent (or tabernacle) where the people had worshipped and they carried this tabernacle wherever they went.

David thought it would be nice to build a nicer place for the ark, but God had a different idea. God spoke to Nathan and told him to tell David that God didn't want David to build such a house for Him, instead God would build a house for David. God said that Solomon, David's son, would build His house.

God was talking about a different kind of house than David was. God promised that He would bless and establish David's throne forever. This didn't mean that David would be king and sit on his throne on earth forever, because David would die later. But God was talking about a "spiritual house" and a "spiritual throne." God promised that through David's relatives (seed or descendants) would come someone very special. Who was the most special baby ever born? Yes, Jesus Christ who is a descendant of David. And Jesus is our spiritual king today. God promises that everyone who will obey Jesus will be blessed by Him.

David was not unhappy that he could not build the temple for God, but instead he praised God for blessing him so much. He realized that he was nothing compared to God and he praised God for being so great. David truly was a man after God's own heart. A man so great as David was able to recognize that he was only a man and God is the ruler of everything.

#### Notes for Parents:

- The concepts in this lesson are pretty deep for young minds. Try to explain "descendants", "seed", "spiritual versus physical" (as far as the difference between the physical house that David wanted to build for God and what God promised to do for David).
- David praised God and was not disappointed because God's plans were not the same as David's plans. We should praise God for how He blesses us. We have many blessings such as health, shelter, and clothing. Even more important, we have the blessings and promises of eternal well-being and life.
- David was very special to God because David devoted his life to doing God's will. We are also very special to God, especially as we obey His commands.
- Jesus is our spiritual king (Acts 2:22-36).

### Getting the Main Points:

Circle the correct answer.

1. What did David want to do for the Lord?  
a. build a temple    b. conquer the world    c. write a song
2. God told David to build the temple.  
a. True    b. False
3. Whom did God say would build the temple?  
a. David    b. Solomon    c. Nathan
4. God promised David his seed would be \_\_\_\_\_ forever.  
a. cursed    b. forgotten    c. blessed
5. What very special person came through the seed of David?  
a. Jesus    b. John the Baptist    c. Peter
6. When Nathan told David what the Lord said, David \_\_\_\_  
a. prayed to God and praised Him  
b. was upset he couldn't build the temple

### For the More Advanced:

Read verses 12-16 and answer the following questions.

1. When would God raise up David's descendant after him?
2. What would David's descendant do for God's name?
3. What would God do if David's descendant commits iniquity?
4. How long would the throne of David be established?

### Memory Work:

## 2 Samuel 8:15

*"So David reigned over all Israel; and David administered justice and righteousness for all his people."*

## David's Triumphs

### 2 Samuel 8

In our last lesson God had promised to bless David and his house forever. God was with David as he fought battles and allowed David and his men to win these battles. In 2 Samuel 8:6, it says "... *the Lord preserved (protected/kept safe) David wherever he went.*" David knew that God was with him.

Many articles of bronze, gold and silver were collected as a result of these battles. When these valuable pieces of gold, silver and bronze were given to David, he dedicated them to the Lord God. He knew that God was with them and this was the reason that they won the battles. God had also greatly blessed them. So, he wanted to give these things from the battles they had won to God to show God his love for protecting and blessing them.

So, David was king over all Israel and was a good king to the people. David went out and fought against the enemies of Israel and defeated them. He would then put armies among these people so they would not fight against or cause trouble for Israel. This allowed Israel to enjoy peace in the days to come. David always asked God in prayer to help him make decisions in his life and always gave God praise.

#### Notes for Parents:

- Discuss how the Lord is with us wherever we go as long as we obey Him. There isn't anything we can't handle with God's help. And no temptation is too great to bear with His help. God loved David and God showed how much He loves us by having Jesus die for us.
- Show that we can cast our cares and anxieties on Jesus because He cares for us (1 Peter 5:7).
- The "profit" David received from articles of gold, silver and bronze from the battles was dedicated to the Lord. Discuss things we should give to the Lord (ourselves, time and money). David could have kept all these things for his own selfish gain, but instead "gave credit where credit was due." We are to have the same attitude with our possessions and time.
- Many of these spoils may have been used to build the temple later on. God has plans that we don't always understand or appreciate.
- Reemphasize the importance of prayer in our lives.

### Getting the Main Points:

Cross out the wrong answers.

1. God had promised to \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. bless David's house
  - b. make David the richest man on earth
  - c. let David build the temple
2. David and his men won many battles because \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. God was on their side
  - b. they were the best soldiers
  - c. they were bigger than any other army
3. What did David get as a result of these battles?
  - a. money
  - b. articles of bronze, silver and gold
  - c. weapons
4. David dedicated these riches to the Lord because \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. he didn't know what else to do with them.
  - b. he thought God would get mad if he didn't.
  - c. he wanted to show God that he loved Him.
5. David was a good king that ruled just over Judah at this time.
  - a. True
  - b. False

### For the More Advanced:

Read verses 1-6 and answer the following questions.

1. Whose chief city did David take control of?
2. Who became servants to David and brought him tribute?
3. How many horsemen did David capture? \_\_\_\_\_
4. What did David put among the Arameans of Damascus?

### Memory Work:

## 2 Samuel 8:15

*"So David reigned over all Israel; and David administered justice and righteousness for all his people."*

## **Ammon and Syria Defeated**

### **2 Samuel 9-10**

Do you remember the covenant (promise) that David made to Jonathan and Saul? David promised Jonathan he would show kindness to his house forever. David was a man who kept his promises.

David wanted to show kindness to someone in the house of Saul. Remember, Jonathan was Saul's son. David asked his servants to find out if there was any of Saul's household still alive. One of David's servants told him Jonathan's son, Mephibosheth, was still living. He told David that Mephibosheth was crippled in both feet. King David sent for Mephibosheth so he could show kindness to him. David commanded that Mephibosheth be given all the land of Saul. He also said he wanted Mephibosheth to eat at his table like one of his own sons. This was an honor to be able to eat at the king's table.

David loved Mephibosheth and he took good care of him and thus he kept the promise he had made to Jonathan and Saul. David even had servants take care of the land for Mephibosheth, since he was crippled. Mephibosheth lived in Jerusalem and ate at David's table.

Also in today's lesson, we learn that Nahash, the king of Ammon died. Hanun, the king's son, was very sad about this and so was David. David sent some of his servants to comfort Hanun.

Some Ammonites told Hanun that David was really just trying to spy out the land so he could take their land. But David really did want to comfort Hanun. Hanun decided to show David that he could not send spies into his land. Hanun shaved off the beards of the comforters and he cut off part of their clothes and sent them home.

David was very unhappy about this and went to war with the Ammonites. The Ammonites got some other people to help them fight against David's army. David's army was well known for being strong and for always winning. Joab, the leader of David's army, knew God was interested only in what was best for them. His men won each of the battles because God was on their side.

### **Notes for Parents:**

- Discuss the importance of keeping promises like David did. Jesus teaches us to keep our promises to the Lord (Matthew 5:33).
- God always keeps His promises to us (Lamentations 3:22-23).
- David loved Mephibosheth because of his love for Jonathan. We should love others and care for them because of our love for God.
- David showed kindness to those in need. He tried to comfort Hanun over the loss of his father). We are to do the same.
- Discuss the dangers of misreading people's motives. Hanun misunderstood that David truly wanted to comfort him and his family.
- Impress the confidence we should have in God that He will see that things work out for the best to those who love Him (Romans 8:28).

### Getting the Main Points:

Draw a line to match correct answer:

- |                                       |                           |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| a. Mephibosheth                       | Promise                   |
| b. David kept his promises to         | where David lived         |
| c. Jerusalem                          | Jonathan's crippled son   |
| d. Covenant                           | eat at his table          |
| e. David wanted Mephibosheth to       | Jonathan                  |
| f. Joab                               | son of the king of Ammon  |
| g. Hanun                              | commander of David's army |
| h. What Hanun did to David's servants | God was on their side     |
| i. Why Joab won the battles           | shaved their beards       |

### For the More Advanced:

Read Chapter 9 verses 6-9 and answer the following questions.

1. What did Mephibosheth do when he came to David?
2. David told Mephibosheth, "Do not \_\_\_\_\_. " Why?
3. For whose sake would David show kindness to Mephibosheth?
4. What did David say would be given to Mephibosheth?

### Memory Work:

## 2 Samuel 8:15

*"So David reigned over all Israel; and David administered justice and righteousness for all his people."*

## David and Bathsheba's Sin

### 2 Samuel 11

King David had seen a beautiful woman and sent his servants to find out who she was. "*She is Bathsheba, the wife of Uriah the Hittite*" he was told. David invited her to the palace and he fell in love with her. There was a problem, however, because Bathsheba was married to Uriah the Hittite.

Uriah was a soldier in Joab's army and he was out fighting against the enemy. David wanted to cover up his relationship with Bathsheba, so he sent for Uriah and said he should come home from the battle. David hoped that Uriah and Bathsheba would fall in love and then nobody would know about David's sin.

Uriah came home just as David had ordered. What David did not count on was that Uriah was a very good soldier. He felt like he should be out with the rest of the soldiers fighting against the enemy. He would not go home to spend time with his wife because he felt like that wouldn't be fair to the rest of the soldiers. David's plan was not working. David would have to come up with another plan.

David decided to send Uriah back to the battle. When he went back, David sent a letter to Joab, the commander of his army. He asked that Uriah be put in the front lines of battle where it was very dangerous. Joab did what David said and put Uriah in the front lines of a battle near the city wall. Uriah was among the hundreds of Israelites killed in battle on that day. David had covered up his sin before the people, but he was responsible for Uriah's death. Do you think David covered up his sin from God? No, because God knows everything.

God was very unhappy with David for what he had done. David and Bathsheba were married after the period of mourning for Uriah. In time they had a son. We will see in our next lesson how God deals with David.

#### Notes for Parents:

- David showed selfishness in wanting Bathsheba. We are to show consideration for the best interests and welfare of others (Philippians 2:3-4).
- Once we do something wrong, unless we make it right, it can lead to doing other things that are wrong to cover up. For example, see David's murder of Uriah. It is important to make things right with God. Sin will almost always lead to more sin if we don't make it right before God.
- God is displeased when we sin.
- We may think we can cover up our sins from each other, but we can never cover our sins before God. We only make it worse when we try to cover them up. We need to repent of sin, instead of cover it up. Uriah was not the only one killed in the battle. Others also died so David could cover up his sin with Bathsheba.

### Getting the Main Points:

True or False

1. \_\_\_\_ David wanted to know who the beautiful woman was.
2. \_\_\_\_ David was told she was Abigail.
3. \_\_\_\_ David had Uriah come home from the battle.
4. \_\_\_\_ Uriah was happy to be home.
5. \_\_\_\_ David wanted Uriah to be put in the front lines of battle.
6. \_\_\_\_ Uriah was not killed because he was a good soldier.
7. \_\_\_\_ David and Bathsheba were married and had a son.

### For the More Advanced:

Read verses 14-17 and answer the following questions.

1. Who took the letter from David to Joab?
2. Which battle did David want Uriah to be placed in?
3. What was David hoping would happen to Uriah?
4. Was Uriah the only one who died in the battle?

### Memory Work:

## 2 Samuel 8:15

*"So David reigned over all Israel; and David administered justice and righteousness for all his people."*



## Nathan Rebukes David

### 2 Samuel 12

Remember in our last lesson how David fell in love with Bathsheba and sinned. Remember how he also had her husband killed in the battle. After Uriah died, David took Bathsheba for his wife and later they had a son.

God was very unhappy with David for doing this. God sent the prophet Nathan to David to show David that he had done something very bad. Nathan told David a story:

There were two men living in the same city. One was poor and the other was very rich. The rich man had many, many flocks of animals. The poor man had only one lamb. He fed it and protected it and cared for it. That lamb was so precious to him that it was like a member of the family. The poor man loved his one and only lamb.

A stranger came to the rich man and he was hungry. The rich man should have prepared one of his many animals for the stranger. Instead he took the poor man's only lamb away and prepared it for the stranger.

When David heard this story, he became very angry. He said, "*The man who would do such a thing should be punished. He should repay the poor man four times as much as he took.*" Then Nathan said, "You are the man."

David understood and he was very sorry. He said, "*Truly I have sinned against the Lord.*" David knew it was wrong to have Uriah killed and to have taken Bathsheba for his own wife. Nathan told him that he would not die, but that the son that he and Bathsheba had just had would die.

At that time, David's son became sick. David prayed and prayed for his son. He would not eat and he was very upset. The people feared for David's health. Finally, his son died just as Nathan had said. David got up, cleaned up, and went and worshipped God.

Later in time, David and Bathsheba had another son. His name was Solomon. He would be a great man and a man who loved God. God loved Solomon and had great plans for him.

#### Notes for Parents:

- When we do something wrong, we should have the same penitent attitude as David. Emphasize how even though others may never know when we do bad things, God always sees and knows.
- God answered David's prayer "No" regarding his son. Sometimes He answers our prayers "No" too. God's answers are always for our best.
- Even though God was very unhappy with David for what he had done, God still loved David. God had enough mercy not to kill David, but the son that was born from the sin did not live. The consequences of sin are many times worse than the guilt of sin.

### Getting the Main Points:

Put an "X" in the right circle.

1. David had Uriah \_\_\_\_\_ and married Bathsheba.  
O killed                      O saved                      O liked
2. God was very \_\_\_\_\_ with David for doing this.  
O happy                      O unhappy                      O pleased
3. Nathan told David a \_\_\_\_\_ of a rich man and a poor man.  
O poem                      O song                      O story
4. David was very \_\_\_\_\_ he had sinned.  
O sorry                      O happy                      O uncaring
5. When David learned of his son's sickness he \_\_\_\_\_.  
O prayed                      O did nothing                      O went without food
6. David and Bathsheba had another son named \_\_\_\_\_.  
O Joab                      O Solomon                      O Jonathan

### For the More Advanced:

Read verses 18-20 and answer the following questions.

1. How many days passed before the child died?
2. Why were the servants afraid to tell David that the child was dead?
3. What did David do after he had changed his clothes?
4. After David returned home from worshipping, what did he do?

### Memory Work:

## 2 Samuel 8:15

*"So David reigned over all Israel; and David administered justice and righteousness for all his people."*