



DAVID WAS ANOINTED

1 SAMUEL 16-17

Instructions

The curriculum we use for elementary aged children goes through the Bible chronologically. Currently we are finishing up the book of Deuteronomy. So that your child can continue their journey through the Bible we will be putting together VERY basic Bible lessons for you to do at home. Below you will find a summary of this week's Bible passage. All you have to do is read it with your kids. Then you will see two different sets of discussion questions. One for older kids (3rd-4th grade range) and one for younger kids (Kinder-2nd grade range). Read the discussion questions with your kids. Remember, discussion is not one sided, it's different people talking together. Give your kids the opportunity to think and speak. I pray the Lord speaks to you and your family as you dive into His word together.

Tell the Bible Story

Saul was the king of Israel, but he disobeyed God. So God chose a new king for Israel, a better king. God sent Samuel to Bethlehem to visit a man named Jesse. One of Jesse's sons would be Israel's next king. Jesse had eight sons. Jesse's oldest son was tall and handsome. When Samuel saw him, he thought, This must be the one God chose to be king.

But God told Samuel, "He's not the one. Do not pay attention to what he looks like. You look at what you can see on the outside, but I see the heart."

One by one, Jesse's sons approached Samuel, but God had not chosen them either.

"Do you have any more sons?" Samuel asked. "Yes," Jesse said. "My youngest son, David, is in the field taking care of the sheep." Jesse sent for David. When David arrived, God told Samuel, "He's the one!"



Samuel anointed David; he poured oil on David's head to show God had chosen him to be the king. The Spirit of the Lord was with David, and Samuel went back home.

When the Philistines gathered an army to fight Israel, King Saul got his army ready too. The Philistines had a great warrior named Goliath. Goliath shouted at the Israelites, "Send me your best man, and we'll fight one-on-one." But none of the Israelites wanted to fight Goliath. They were afraid of him.

One day, Jesse told David to take food to the battlefield. David's brothers were in Israel's army. David saw Goliath and how the Israelites were so afraid. David turned to King Saul and said, "I'll fight him!" David had fought off lions and bears. He trusted God to keep him safe.

Saul offered his armor to David, but it was too heavy. Instead, David chose five smooth stones from a nearby stream and met Goliath armed only with the stones and a slingshot.

Goliath made fun of David because he was a young boy, but David said, "You come to fight with a spear and sword, but I come to fight in the name of God! God always wins His battles!"

David ran toward Goliath. He slung a rock and hit Goliath in the forehead. Goliath fell face-down, and David killed him. The Israelites won the battle, and the Philistines ran away.

CHRIST CONNECTION:

David did not look like a king or a mighty warrior, but God chose him to be king over Israel and gave him victory over Goliath. The Israelites were too weak and afraid to face Goliath; they needed David to fight on their behalf. In a similar way, though Jesus did not look like a warrior or king, we need Him to fight for us. Jesus gives us victory over sin and death.

Discussion & Bible Skills - Older

Guide your kids to open their Bibles to 1 Samuel 16. Ask them to identify which testament the Book of 1 Samuel is in. (Old Testament) Challenge them to name the books that come immediately before and after 1 Samuel. (Ruth; 2 Samuel) Remind your kids that in today's Bible story, God chose David to be king instead of Saul. Remind them that Saul went to Bethlehem to meet Jesse's sons. Choose a volunteer to read aloud 1 Samuel 16:7.



Ask the following questions and lead your kids to discuss:

1. Why was David willing to fight Goliath? Was he simply a confident kid?

Prompt your kids to discuss how David did not rely on his own strength—he was just a boy!—but relied on God and His strength. He knew God had kept him safe in the past, and he trusted God to protect him from Goliath too.

2. Who do you most relate to in the story—David or the fearful Israelites? Why?

Though kids may prefer to relate to brave David, suggest that we are most often like the Israelites who were unable to win a battle against a strong enemy. David reminds us of Jesus, who defeated sin and death and invites us to share in His victory.

3. How does Jesus' victory help us face other challenges in our lives?

Lead your kids to recognize that God gives us power over our greatest enemy—sin. God gives the Holy Spirit to those who trust in Jesus. By His power, we can resist temptation. God's Spirit does not cause us to fear; He makes us powerful, loving, and self-controlled.

SAY:

When Saul looked at Jesse's sons, he assumed one of the older, stronger brothers would be the king God chose. But that was not God's plan. David did not look like

Discussion & Bible Skills - Younger

Help your kids use the table of contents to find 1 Samuel 16–17. Remind them that our story comes from the Old Testament History division. Review other books in this division (Joshua–Esther), and discuss why we categorize the books of the Bible into divisions.

Ask the following questions. Lead the group to discuss:

1. Where did God send Samuel to find the next king of Israel?

To the town of Bethlehem to a man named Jesse, 1 Sam. 16:1

2. People see what is on the outside. What does God see?

The Lord sees the heart, 1 Sam. 16:7

3. When Goliath taunted David, how did David respond?

"I come against you in the name of the Lord," 1 Sam. 17:45

4. Why is it important that God sees our hearts?

Guide your kids to discuss the idea that we cannot hide our sin from God. No matter

how much we may try to be good, God knows that our hearts are dead in sin. God knows that we need Jesus to rescue us.

5. How was David similar to Jesus?

Guide your kids to discuss David's role as a warrior who fought on behalf of His people. The Israelites faced a powerful enemy, and David defeated that enemy for them. Jesus fought for us and brings us victory through His death and resurrection.

6. How are we like the Israelites?

Help your kids to see that the Israelites were cowering in fear. They were unwilling and unable to fight Goliath. When David defeated Goliath, the Israelites enjoyed the freedom and victory David won, even though they did not earn it. We benefit from Jesus' victory, even though we could not have earned it and do not deserve it.

SAY:

When God chose David to be king instead of Saul, His choice may have seemed odd to Samuel at first. Similarly, Jesus did not seem like a king when He died on the cross, but because He died and rose again, we can have victory over sin and death.