

FAMILY CONNECTION

Use these discussion starters to help foster a spiritual conversation with your family.

SUMMER 2024

Unit 1, Session 4

CONNECTION POINT:

God's promise to set apart His people was based upon obedience.

THE BIBLE MEETS

LIFE: Every aspect of our lives comes with rules: procedures at work, zoning regulations tied to our homes, traffic laws, rules for baseball, and on and on. People may grumble about some of these rules, but they still obey because they have to. However, when it comes to one's relationship with God, too many people view His commands as either outdated or only suggestions. It is in our obedience to Him, though, that we experience life to the fullest.

LIVE IT OUT: Your student has been encouraged to take practical steps to take his or her faith and Live It Out.

PRESCHOOL

Scripture: 1 Samuel 13:1-14

Live It Out: Out: Print *OBEY* on paper. Read and explain what the word. Say that Saul did not obey God. Let your child trace around each letter or scribble or draw in the empty space.

Saul was king of Israel for many years. As king, Saul led the army. Saul took his soldiers to fight the Philistines. The Philistines had more soldiers, more chariots, and more horses. The Israelites were afraid, and some of them hid in caves, in holes, and among the rocks.

King Saul was not sure what to do. He wanted to make an offering to ask God for help, but only Samuel was allowed to make an offering to God. Saul waited seven days for Samuel, but Samuel did not come. Saul chose not to obey God and made the offering himself.

Samuel came. "Saul, what have you done?" Samuel asked.

"You were not here. I asked God for help to fight the Philistines," Saul said.

"You have not obeyed God by making the offering yourself. You won't be king for very long," Samuel said. "God will find someone else to be king, someone who obeys Him."

KIDS

Scripture: 1 Samuel 13:1-15; 14:47-15:35

Live It Out: Learning about consequences helps kids know that God holds people responsible for their choices. God's forgives sins, but people must live with the consequences of that sin.

Saul attacked the enemies of Israel. The enemies fought back. The Israelites were in trouble. They needed God's help. Samuel was coming to offer sacrifices and to pray for the people. Only Samuel could offer the sacrifices for the people.

Saul waited for Samuel. When Samuel didn't come, Saul offered the sacrifices.

Samuel arrived and asked, "What have you done?" Saul tried to explain. Samuel told Saul that he had acted foolishly and would no longer be king.

Saul continued fighting against the enemies of Israel. He again disobeyed God when he did not destroy everything of the Amalekites. Samuel told Saul that God was taking away the kingship from him because he did not respect God's word.

God was already preparing a new king. Samuel never saw Saul again.

STUDENTS

Scripture: Exodus 19:1-8

- Why is God's greatest blessing to us a relationship with Him?
- Why did God call Israel to live in ways that were different from other nations?
- What is the connection between faith and obedience?

Live It Out: In Exodus, God set His people free and gave them the law. He first chose Israel, then He established standards and expected obedience. Today, we aren't saved by works, and we never earn God's forgiveness. Instead, God chooses us, and then He expects us to live in ways that reflect our now being part of His family. The ways we live are incredibly important.

Remember, we are called to live holy, set apart lives. We do this by loving Jesus above all else and living in obedience to His commands. When we live this way, others will see Jesus in and through us. Challenge your family this week to memorize John 14:15. Write it on a note card and place it where everyone will see. Practice together throughout the week until everyone has memorized the verse.