

God Chose David to be King

1 Samuel 16

God is:
Kind

Summer Sunday Verse:

The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.
-1 Samuel 16:7

SHEPHERD GUIDE

Take time to prepare your heart and mind by spending time in the Word reading 1 Samuel 16. Note your observations about God's character and how you see God working so you can share them with the kids.

David became king after King Saul. The people of Israel demanded a king, so the Lord gave them King Saul. Saul sinned against the Lord and was rejected. Now, we will see how God appointed Samuel to anoint David as the next king.

In our passage today, we see that *David was chosen by God*. God saw that David was a man who loved the Lord. We also learn that *David was anointed by Samuel*. God told Samuel to anoint David as a way of setting him apart to be the next king. Additionally, we see that *David served the king*. Though David knew that he would take the throne someday, he humbly served Saul.



When the children arrive, introduce yourself, ask them their name, welcome them to the class, and invite them to play with the other children. When most kids have arrived for first service, ask them to clean up the toys and find a seat at one of the tables to begin the class.



LESSON OVERVIEW

None

Ask the class: *Imagine you are in charge of choosing the next leader of your country. What would be important to you? Would you want him or her to look or act a certain way?*

Today, we will learn what God saw as important when He chose the future king of Israel.

Summarize 1 Samuel 16 and then discuss the following questions in table groups or together as a class:

Why does God often choose to use unexpected, unqualified, or ordinary people? Point out that God displays His power when He works through ordinary people. God does not look at how talented, qualified, or attractive a person is, He looks at that person's character. When God uses ordinary people, we can clearly see that it is God alone at work in their lives equipping them to do extraordinary things.

What does it mean that God sees every person's heart? Remind kids that God values what is inside a person more than his or her outward appearance. God is all-knowing and knows the intentions, thoughts, and motives behind every person's actions.

If your heart is not where it should be, what can you do? Discuss how the Bible tells us that we are all sinners and that our hearts, by nature, are wicked. This is why we need the perfect King, Jesus, who came to save us from the sin and provide us with new life in Him. Encourage kids to accept God's free gift of salvation. God wants to give us new life in Him.



ACTIVITY: Crown Him

craft paper
(on wall),
crowns on
yellow paper,
markers,
gems,
scissors,
tape

Before the session, write the name Jesus in big block letters on colored craft paper. Tape the paper to a wall in the classroom. (This will be done for you!)

Then provide each kid with a crown on yellow paper, markers, and scissors. Lead kids to write a word or two on their crown about Jesus.

For example kids may write, powerful, kind, loving, forgiving, Creator, died for sins, performed miracles, etc.

Then have the kids decorate their crowns with markers and/or gems. Then they can cut out their crowns and tape their crowns to the craft paper.

Read Revelation 1:5-6 and discuss how Jesus is ruler over all. Remind kids that Jesus is better than King David because He never sinned and always had a heart that loved God and obeyed Him.

SAY: Jesus is worthy of all our worship because He is the King of kings. Jesus loves us and came to earth to set us free from our sins. He invites us to be a part of His kingdom and live with Him forever. Jesus is our King forever, and He rules over the world.



BIBLE TRAINING 101

Books of the Bible

Reference sheet,
“Gotta Know the
Books” song on TV,
5 sheets with
corresponding
book cut-outs

Pass out the Books of the Bible New Testament reference sheet to each child.

Review the different sections on the bookcase.

Introduce the New Testament books with this song
“Gotta Know the Books” (<https://youtu.be/v3aRB1xMs5g>.)

*Note - It starts with the Old Testament, which they learned last week, but will move on to the New Testament.

Divide the class into table groups and have each group work on one of the following sections - putting the book cut-outs on the bookcase in the correct order. (without looking at the reference sheet!)

- Gospels
- Church History
- Letters of Paul
- General Letters
- Prophecy

Have them check their work with the reference sheet. If time, switch the sheets with another table and have them put a different section in order.

Talk about how all these books are God’s written Word - they are true and trustworthy. We need both the Old Testament and the New Testament together to see the full picture of God’s big story. God promised to send a Deliverer all the way back in Genesis, and here in the New Testament we see the fulfillment of God’s promise with the birth, death and resurrection of Jesus.

