

UNIT 11 | SESSION 3

DAVID BECAME KING

2 SAMUEL 5; 7



KEY PASSAGE: Jeremiah 10:6-7a

BIG PICTURE QUESTION: Is anything or anyone greater than God? No, God is greater than everything and everyone.

CHRIST CONNECTION: God promised to build a forever kingdom through David's family. This promise is fulfilled in Jesus, a descendant of David. Jesus is King over everything, and anyone who trusts in Him is welcomed into His forever kingdom.

STORY POINT: God promised to build a forever kingdom through David's family.



PRIOR TO TEACHING THE SESSION

LEADER Bible Study

God is always faithful to His word, and David became king over Israel just as God promised. During the initial reign of King David, he voiced his desire to build a house for God. And yet, David was not permitted to build a temporal house for God. Rather, God promised an everlasting covenant where He would establish His kingdom through David's descendant.

How would God establish this everlasting kingdom? What does it mean to be brought into God's family?

God promised He would raise up a descendant from David's family, and that He would establish his kingdom forever. While this promise had a near fulfillment in David's son, Solomon, it also had a distant and complete fulfillment in Jesus Christ. Solomon would build the temple, but Jesus would tabernacle on earth as God in flesh. Jesus would announce the kingdom of God had come and call people to repent. Jesus taught that to enter the kingdom of God we must be born again. Through David, God continued the promise He first made to Abraham: "I will make you extremely fruitful and will make nations and kings come from you" (Genesis 17:6).

Through His life, death, and resurrection, Christ made the way for people to be reunited with their Father in heaven. By placing faith in His Son for salvation, anyone who trusts in Jesus will find their place in God's family—a legacy that started with Abraham, continued through David, and ultimately came to pass through Jesus.

Lead boys and girls to see the wonder that we might be brought into God's family on no merit of our own, but because God loved us enough to send us His Son. Christ paid the debt we owed and welcomed us into His free gift of eternal life. Pray for kids to see the wonder of God's kingdom being extended to us as His children.



PREPARE

THE WEEK PRIOR

Prepare your heart to teach; plan the session



WELCOME

10–15 MINUTES

Greet kids and open the session



LEARN

25–30 MINUTES

Teach kids the story of the gospel



LOVE

15–20 MINUTES

Lead kids to love the God of the gospel



LIVE

15–20 MINUTES

Lead kids to live out the mission of the gospel



PREPARE

PRIOR TO TEACHING THE SESSION

GATHER Supplies

Keep a regular supply of the following items available at all times: Bibles, pens or pencils, markers, crayons, colored pencils, scissors, glue or tape, paper.



WELCOME

Activity Page

- ☐ “Build a House” activity page

Session Starter (Option 1)

- ☐ building materials such as blocks, cardboard tubes, play dough, dry spaghetti noodles, marshmallows, etc.; an assortment of items per group

Session Starter (Option 2)

- ☐ bowls, 1 per group
- ☐ cornstarch
- ☐ water
- ☐ spoons, 1 per group



LOVE

Review & Bible Skills

- ☐ Small Group Timeline and Map Set
- ☐ world map



LIVE

Activity Choice (Option 1)

- ☐ compact mirror
- ☐ flashlight
- ☐ stick figure silhouettes made from cardstock, 5

Journal and Prayer

- ☐ Journal Page
- ☐ “Covenant Promises” activity page



LEARN

Introduce the Session

- ☐ countdown video
- ☐ Story Point Poster

Big Picture Question

- ☐ Big Picture Question Poster

Review the Timeline

- ☐ Giant Timeline

Tell the Bible Story

- ☐ “David Became King” video
- ☐ Bible Story Picture Poster

Questions from Kids

- ☐ “Unit 11, Session 3” Questions from Kids video

Missions Moment

- ☐ “Atlanta Ministry Center” missions video

Key Passage Activity

- ☐ Key Passage Poster
- ☐ “You Are Great, You Are Great (Jeremiah 10:6-7a)” song
- ☐ worship song of your choice (optional)



WELCOME Kids

Greet each kid as he or she arrives. Use this time to collect the offering, fill out attendance sheets, build relationships, and help new kids connect to your group.

| **SAY** “Have you ever wanted to do something but were told ‘no’? How did that make you feel?”

1 ACTIVITY PAGE (5 minutes)

Invite kids to complete “Build a House” activity page.

| **SAY** “Today, we will see that David wanted to build a house for God, but God told David that instead of David building a house, God would build a house for him.”

2 SESSION STARTER (10 minutes)

☐ OPTION 1: BUILD IT

Form kids into groups of three or four, and distribute an assortment of items to each group such as blocks, cardboard tubes, play dough, dry spaghetti noodles, marshmallows, etc. Challenge groups to build a house out of the materials. Then invite groups to display their houses to everyone, describing their house’s design.

| **SAY** “Today, we will see that David finally became king over Israel. As king, David built a beautiful palace to live in. But then he wanted to build a house for God. Do you remember what structure the Israelites constructed to represent God’s presence among them? [Allow responses.] The tabernacle was a tent, and while it was made of beautiful fabrics and had gold objects, it was no palace. Today, we will learn that David wanted to build a temple for God. However, God told David that he would not build the temple. Instead, **GOD PROMISED TO BUILD A FOREVER KINGDOM THROUGH DAVID’S FAMILY.**”

☐ OPTION 2: FAITHFUL PROMISES

Form kids into groups of four, and distribute the following items: a bowl, 2 tablespoons of cornstarch, 1 tablespoon of water, a spoon. Direct kids to make oobleck by mixing the cornstarch with the water. Once mixed, invite kids to pick up the oobleck, directing them to clench it in their fists so that it hardens. Then lead them to unclench their fists so that the oobleck turns more liquid. Emphasize how the oobleck is constantly changing its shape and firmness. Allow kids to wash and dry their hands.

| **SAY** “Oobleck is a constantly changing substance. One minute it’s firm, and the next it’s not. Our world is full of things that change: ideas, weather, physical appearances, and so on. But God never changes. He is true to His Word and His character. Throughout the Bible, God made several covenants or promises with His people, and He never changed His mind or decided not to keep a promise. Today, we will learn about a promise God made to David and how that promise is also good news for us.”





INTRODUCE the Bible Story

1 INTRODUCE THE SESSION (3 minutes)

Show the countdown video as you transition to introduce the Bible story. Set it to end as the session begins.

SAY “Hi, kids! My name is [your name], and I’m glad you are here so we can study God’s Word together. If you have a Bible with you, will you take it out? [Distribute Bibles to kids who need one.] Today, we will be in the Old Testament book of 2 Samuel. [Invite kids to find 2 Samuel 5 in their Bibles.]

While Saul was still king, God said David would be the new king of Israel. After years of waiting to be king, today we will see that David finally became king. God always keeps His word. David was patient, trusting God would be faithful to His promise. As we hear our story, we will see how **GOD PROMISED TO BUILD A FOREVER KINGDOM THROUGH DAVID’S FAMILY**. [Display the Story Point Poster.] Let’s pray and ask God to prepare our hearts to hear from His Word: ‘Lord, thank You for keeping Your promises and for Your faithfulness. Help us trust You and wait for Your perfect timing. We praise You for always being trustworthy. Amen.’ ”

2 BIG PICTURE QUESTION (1 minute)

Display the Big Picture Question Poster.

SAY “Is anything or anyone greater than God? [Allow responses.] No, God is greater than everything and everyone. Let’s say the answer again: No, God is greater than everything and everyone.

One reason God is greater than anyone or everything is because God never changes. He is always faithful and true to His word. God’s promise to make David king over Israel came true. And even though David was a great king, God is still greater by far. God is so great that He made the way for sinners to be saved. God kept His promise to send a Savior into the world, and today, we will hear how God used David’s family to fulfill this promise. ”

3 REVIEW THE TIMELINE (1 minute)

Show the Giant Timeline. Point to individual Bible stories as you review.

SAY “God rejected Saul as king because of his disobedience. God sent Samuel to anoint David as the next king of His people. But David did not become king immediately. He had to wait more than 10 years until he finally took the throne. During those years of waiting, David was on the run from Saul. Saul’s jealousy led him to want to kill David. Eventually, Saul died while fighting the Philistines. Today, we will see that David became king and how he wanted to honor God. ”



LEARN the Bible Story

1 TELL THE BIBLE STORY: VIDEO OR STORYTELLER (10 minutes)

Open your Bible to 2 Samuel 5:1-4; 7. Use the Bible storytelling tips to help you tell the story, or show the Bible story video “David Became King.” Use the bold text to retell or review the story.

DAVID BECAME KING

“All the tribes of Israel came to David and said, “Even while Saul was king, you were our true leader in battle. **We know that the LORD said you would be king over Israel.**” So, they anointed David king over Israel.

When King David made himself at home in his palace and there were no more battles to fight, he said to the prophet Nathan, “Look, I am living in this amazing palace, while the ark of God sits inside a tent.” He wanted to build a permanent house or temple for God.

That night, the Lord said to Nathan, “Go to my servant David and say, ‘You want to build me a house? But from the time I rescued the Israelites from Egypt until now, I have been living with a tent as My dwelling. I have never once asked anyone to build Me a permanent house.

“So now tell David, ‘Instead of you building Me a house, I will build you a house. I will give My people a permanent place to live and will keep their enemies away from them. I will raise up a descendant from your family, and I will establish his kingdom. He will build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever.

When David heard these words, he went and sat in the Lord’s presence and said, “Who am I that You have brought me this far, God? You have done great things, but they are nothing compared to what You will do in the future.

“You are great, and there is no one like You. You rescued Israel to make a great name for Yourself and performed great and awesome acts to show Your power and love for Your people. May Your words to me come true, just as You have promised, so that Your name will be exalted forever.”

Christ Connection: God promised to build a forever kingdom through David’s family. This promise is fulfilled in Jesus, a descendant of David. Jesus is King over everything, and anyone who trusts in Him is welcomed into His forever kingdom.”

STORYTELLING TIPS

Active listening: Invite kids to hold up their hands over their head like a “tent” anytime they hear the word “house.”

Read it: Read Romans 1:1-3, and help kids understand that Jesus is the descendant of David who sits on the throne forever.



2 REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY

SAY “ After David became king, God continued to be with David and gave him rest from war. David built a palace to live in but realized the ark of God was in a tent called the tabernacle. What did David desire to do for God? [Allow responses.] David wanted to build a house for the Lord. But God had never requested that David build a house for Him. God reminded David how He had been with the Israelites, giving them a land to live in and protecting them from their enemies. God’s heart is always generous, desiring to give His people a permanent home with Him.

What did God promise David? Look at 2 Samuel 7:11-13. [Ask a volunteer to read aloud 2 Samuel 7:11-13.] **GOD PROMISED TO BUILD A FOREVER KINGDOM THROUGH DAVID’S FAMILY.** God’s promise was far greater than anything David could give to God. The promise or covenant God made with David would last forever. Unlike a house built by human hands, God’s kingdom would never end because it would be built by the One who never dies. Who was the descendant that would build a house for the name of God? [Allow responses.] Jesus came from the family of David, and He would build a forever kingdom. While Solomon, David’s son, would eventually build a temple, it would not last. Only the kingdom built by Jesus lasts forever.

How did David respond to God’s promise? Look at 2 Samuel 7:22. [Ask a volunteer to read aloud 2 Samuel 7:22.] David recognized that **God is greater than everything and everyone.** No one is as great as God, who saves His people and who promises eternal life with Him forever. ”

3 GOSPEL DISCUSSION

SAY “ **GOD PROMISED TO BUILD A FOREVER KINGDOM THROUGH DAVID’S FAMILY.** This promise is fulfilled in Jesus, a descendant of David. Jesus is King over everything, and anyone who trusts in Him is welcomed into His forever kingdom. Have you trusted in Jesus? ”

(Tip: Use Scripture and the Gospel Plan Poster to explain how to become a Christian. Create an environment where kids are welcome to ask questions about what it means to follow Jesus.)

4 QUESTIONS FROM KIDS (3 minutes)

Show the “Unit 11, Session 3” Questions from Kids video. Prompt kids to discuss:

1. What does the kingdom of God look like?
2. How can we live forever in God’s kingdom?

5 MISSIONS MOMENT (3 minutes)

Tell kids that God’s kingdom will be filled with people from every nation, tribe, and language who have trusted in Jesus as their Savior. Share how the Atlanta Ministry Center in Clarkston, Georgia, is inviting people to trust in Jesus and be welcomed into His kingdom forever. Discuss how the center focuses on helping refugees while also sharing the hope of the gospel. Play the missions video.

SAY “ Many refugees come from countries that do not allow religious freedom. Some of the



LEARN

THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

refugees living in Clarkston are from countries like Afghanistan where the government does not allow Christians to share the gospel or Christian worship in public. As these refugees come to America, they may be hearing about Jesus for the first time through the volunteers at the Atlanta Ministry Center. ”

Pray for the refugees who have come to America, asking God to meet their needs and for them to hear the gospel and believe in Jesus.

6 KEY PASSAGE ACTIVITY (5 minutes)

Show the Key Passage Poster. Lead kids in reading aloud Jeremiah 10:6-7a together.

SAY “ Today, we saw that David recognized that God is great and there is no one like Him. We can praise God for His greatness as well! ”

Form kids into pairs. Lead the pairs to stand back to back, count to three, and then turn and face each other while saying the key passage aloud. The kid who says the verse the fastest is the winner. Repeat, forming new partners after each round.

Lead kids to sing “You Are Great, You Are Great (Jeremiah 10:6-7a).” You may also choose to sing a worship song of your choice.

7 PRAY (2 minutes)

Invite kids to pray before transitioning to Love.

SAY “ Dear God, You are great, and You alone deserve all our praise. Thank You for loving us so much that You sent Jesus to die for our sin so that we could have eternal life in Your kingdom forever, if we believe in You and repent of our sins. Amen. ”

Transition from **LEARN** to **LOVE**





THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

LOVE God by Applying the Story

1 REVIEW & BIBLE SKILLS (5 minutes)

Distribute Bibles, and display the Old Testament Kingdoms Map. Guide kids to open their Bibles to 2 Samuel 7. Tell kids that 1 and 2 Samuel were originally one book. Share how these books focus mostly on the downfall of Saul's kingship and the start of David's kingship.

Consider comparing the Old Testament Kingdoms Map to a modern-day map to help kids understand where David was from. (Tip: Locate the areas in and around modern-day Jerusalem [H5]). Choose a volunteer to read aloud 2 Samuel 7:16, or ask the kids to follow along as you read the verse aloud.

SAY “ God promised David a kingdom that would never end and that someone from David’s family would always sit on the throne. Yet, David was just a man who only reigned for 40 years (2 Samuel 5:4). Even though other kings, like Solomon, came from David’s family, they died too. But Jesus is the eternal King, who has always been and will always be. He came from David’s family, lived a perfect life, died for our sin, and rose again. Anyone who trusts in Jesus is welcomed into His kingdom forever. One day, Jesus will fully establish His kingdom in the new heaven and earth. ”

2 GROUP DISCUSSION (10 minutes)

Ask the following questions. Lead the group to discuss.

SAY “ What does it look like to live for the kingdom of God? ”

Tell kids that we become part of God’s kingdom when we trust in Jesus. Discuss how the kingdom of God is growing in the world through believers, but it has not fully come. Tell kids that when we live like Jesus we are living for the kingdom of God. The kingdom of God is seen as God’s people who live under His rule. When our lives obey God’s words and follow Jesus’ commands, we are living for the kingdom of God.
(Option: Choose a volunteer to read Rom. 14:17.)

SAY “ Can God’s promises always be trusted? Why? ”

Remind kids that God is faithful and true. All of His promises can be trusted. Share that God’s promise to send a forever King, Jesus, came true hundreds of years after King David. Sometimes God’s promises may not happen right away, but we can always believe God’s words. He never changes and never lies. (Option: Choose a volunteer to read Heb. 10:23.)

SAY “ David praised God for His greatness and said no one is like Him. How have you experienced God’s greatness? ”

Answers will vary. God shows His greatness in many ways, such as how the creation He made declares His glory and how He cares for all our needs. Discuss how God is great because He alone can save us from sin. Share how no other earthly power is able to take away our sin and give us eternal life. (Option: Choose a volunteer to read Isa. 43:11-12.)

Transition from **LOVE** to **LIVE**





THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

LIVE the Mission

1 ACTIVITY CHOICE (10 minutes)

☐ OPTION 1: PROMISES PASSED

Before the session, create five silhouettes of stick figures. Tape the stick figures 3-feet apart on a wall. Dim the lights, and hold up a flashlight in one hand and a compact mirror in the other hand. Manipulate the reflection of the light from the mirror so that it touches the first stick figure. Discuss how God made a promise to Noah. Then move the reflection so it touches the second stick figure. Tell kids that God made a promise to Abraham. Continue moving the reflection, sharing how God made promises to Isaac, Jacob, and eventually King David. Discuss how God's promises were like light in the darkness, giving His people hope and reminding them of God's plan to bring the Savior into the world.

SAY “ God’s promises were passed from generation to generation. Jesus is the fulfillment of God’s promises. John 1:9,12 tells us that Jesus is the light who came into a dark world to bring those who believe in Him into God’s kingdom forever. ”

☐ OPTION 2: GOD IS G-R-E-A-T!



Form kids into five groups, and provide each group with paper and pens. Assign each group a letter from the word GREAT. Challenge groups to write down as many words about God as they can think of that start with their assigned letter. For example, for the letter G, kids could write gracious, generous, giving, good, glorious, gentle, glad, and grand. Then invite groups to share their words with everyone.

SAY “ God is greater than everything and everyone. Even His promises are greater because they never fail, and His promises are for our good. **GOD PROMISED TO BUILD A FOREVER KINGDOM THROUGH DAVID’S FAMILY.** This promise, and every promise of God, is fulfilled in Jesus. Like David, our response to God’s promises should be to praise Him for His greatness. Only a great God saves His people from their sins and promises them life with Him forever. ”

2 JOURNAL AND PRAYER (5 minutes)

Distribute journal pages and pencils. Guide kids to think about and answer the questions listed on the page. As kids journal, invite them to share their ideas.

- What does this story teach me about God or the gospel?
- What does the story teach me about myself?
- Are there any commands in this story to obey? How are they for God’s glory and my good?
- Are there promises in this story to remember? How do they help me trust and love God?
- How does this story help me to live on mission better?

Review the gospel, and encourage kids to speak with you or another teacher if they have questions. Then pray, praising God for His greatness and goodness. As time allows, lead kids to complete “Covenant Promises” on the activity page.