

Lesson 3: King David: David Becomes King

Scripture References: II Samuel 1–2, Psalm 3

Today's Big Idea: God is with us in times of change.

Lesson Time:

Introduction: Have you ever experienced a change in your life that felt really big? Maybe it was when you went from preschool to elementary school, or a new brother or sister coming into your family, or maybe you moved into a new house. What was it like when you went through that change? Changes can be hard. We've all had a tough change in our lives over the last seven months. Can you think of what that change is? How has it impacted you? What has been hard about that change? Has there been anything good about the change?

Share: In our Bible story today, David is going to experience a big change in his life. In today's story David becomes the new King of Israel. The old king, King Saul has died, and now it is time for David to step into the role. What do you think it would have felt like to go through a change like that?

Read: II Samuel 1:1–4 David Hears of Saul's Death and II Samuel 1:17 David Laments for Saul and Jonathan.

Ask: While he was alive, Saul was frequently a threat to David. Jonathan, who was Saul's son, was David's best friend. Why do you think David was so saddened over both of their deaths?

Ask: What are some things that help you in times of change? Are there any ways that God can help us in times of change?

Share: David went through a lot of big changes in his life. Some of those changes were good, like when he became King. Some of the changes he went through were difficult. Some years later, David's son Absalom tries to overthrow his father and kill him. David has to flee into hiding for some time. Let's look at one of the Psalms David wrote during that period of his life. As we read this Psalm think about how it expresses the way that God helped David during a time of change.

Read: Psalm 3

Ask: What are some of the things that David expresses about God in this Psalm? Do you think that God wants to help us in some of the same ways He helped David?

Activity: Making Change

You will need: Some old dirty pennies, 4 Tbsp. of white vinegar and 1 tsp of salt gently mixed together in a clear glass, a piece of paper towel.

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Introduce: We're going to create a change. Look at these pennies. Do they look clean or dirty to you? What do you think they looked like when they were first made? What happened to them, what changed to make them the way they are right now? Let's see what happens when we place the pennies into the solution of vinegar and salt that we made earlier. *Let the pennies sit in the solution for at least one minute then remove and buff with the paper towel.* What happened to the pennies, did anything change?

Share: Changes can feel difficult. We might feel like a penny being dropped into a cup full of vinegar and salt. That doesn't sound pleasant, but the end result is good. Going through the change made the pennies look like new. The same can be true in our lives. Often the changes we go through can feel painful. David experienced painful changes too. But God was with David through the change. God can be with us too. If God is with us, we will come through the change and something new and better might be waiting for us on the other side.

Share: Before David became King, he went through the change of having to say goodbye to his best friend Jonathan. David also grieved the death of King Saul, even though Saul had treated David unfairly. God was with David through this change and now it was time for David to lead the people of God.

Read: II Samuel 2:1-7 David Anointed King of Judah.

Ask: What do you notice about David's words in verse seven? Does he seem confident or afraid? Do you think God made a good choice by selecting David to be King? What are some changes that you can see ahead in your life? How can you trust that God will be with you during those changes?

Close in Prayer