



October 2, 2016

Dear Teacher,

This week David is crowned king of Israel just as God promised! We see a king who loves the Lord and does what is right, and this foreshadows to a greater King that is to come. David is described as a man after God's own heart, but we will soon discover David is not without his faults. This is why it is important to stress October's memory verse from Psalm 51:1, "God, be merciful to me because you are loving. Because you are always ready to be merciful, wipe out all my wrongs." Thanks be to God for the forgiveness and grace given to us through Christ's life, death and resurrection.

We encourage all classrooms to engage with the story from the options provided in class. Teachers, tell the story using any of the provided helps (Vos, Jesus Story Book Bible, Gospel Story Book Bible or printed Handout). If you would like, read the selected Scripture passages aloud in class, discuss or explain what the passages mean, and use the questions below to help guide the discussion. Also, use time in class to teach the Scripture Memory and the Catechism Questions.

Morning Overview

Lesson: *Kings*: David Becomes King

Lesson Objective: To communicate to children that God always keeps His promises despite circumstances and even our inability to trust Him. God wants us to trust Him and obey His commands.

Scripture: 2 Samuel 2, 5-9 (selected portions)

Story: Vos Children's Bible, chapter 72 (Pages 152-155); The Beginner's Bible, Pages 192-195; Jesus StoryBook Bible, Pages 130-135; The Gospel Story Bible, Pages 116-119.

Teaching Points:

- God's promises do not change despite circumstances, people and even our inability to believe them. God keeps his promises even when we do not trust Him or follow His commands.
- God was with His people, the Israelites, and He never left them.
- God's people wanted a king, so God gave His people what they wanted: King Saul.
- King Saul did not follow the Lord's command, so God chose another man to be king: David.
- King Saul died in battle, and David becomes king of Israel just like God promised.
- King David loved God and trusted God. King David wanted to build a house for people to worship God in.
- King David kept his promise to always care for Jonathan's family. King David cared for Mephibosheth.

9:30am Sunday Schedule

For the Sunday Schedule, please see "Sunday Schedule for Preschool" found in Handbook on the teacher's table.

Cherub Church

- Kindergarten/5's – 9:35-10:00 (Classroom's: 162, 163, 121, 123, 124)
- 3's/4's – 10:05-10:30 (Classroom's: 166, 165, 164)

Craft: David's Crown

Supplies: Paper plate, stickers, crayons/markers

Instructions: Decorate paper plate with stickers, crayons, and markers. Points of crown should pop up when children place it on their heads.



Snack

11am Sunday Schedule

Craft: David's Throne

Supplies: Cardstock throne scene, colored blocks, glue, crayons/markers

Instructions: Color throne scene, glue colored blocks to throne seat.



Story: *Kings:* David Becomes King

1. **PRAY** for your time and any requests the children may have.
2. **ASK** the Transition Question: Boys and girls, today we will learn about King David. That's right David becomes king! But before we hear about our story, can you all tell me how kings (and queens) are supposed to act? (Answers vary; have children try to remember as they hear the story of David). Let's find out a little more about how David acted as king...
3. **TELL** the Story. Use the Vos Children's Bible, the Jesus StoryBook Bible, the Beginner's Bible, or the story below to aid in telling the story.
4. **REVIEW** the questions to help children understand the story.

Questions for Review

Scripture Memory (Psalm 51:1)

Catechism Questions (1-11)

Sing Songs (optional)

Free Play

Questions for Review

Questions for Younger Children:

- Who did the Israelites always fight in battle?
- What did David want to do for God?
- What was wrong with Mephibosheth?
- Who was the king who was kind to Mephibosheth?

Questions for Older Children:

- Why was Mephibosheth lame?
- Why did David show kindness to him?
- What did David do for Mephibosheth?
- How does David remind us of the Lord in this story?

Scripture Memory for October:

"God, be merciful to me because you are loving. Because you are always ready to be merciful, wipe out all my wrongs."
Psalm 51:1

Catechism Questions:

- Question 1 – Who made you? *God*
- Question 2 – What else did God make? *God made all things.*
- Question 3 – Why did God make you and all things? *For his own glory.*
- Question 4 – How can you glorify God? *By loving him and doing what he commands.*
- Question 5 – Why are you to glorify God? *Because he made me and takes care of me.*
- Question 6 – Is there more than one true God? *No. There is only one true God.*
- Question 7 – In how many persons does this One God exist? *In three persons.*
- Question 8 – Who are they? *Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.*
- Question 9 – What is God? *God is a Spirit and does not have a body like men.*
- Question 10 – Where is God? *God is everywhere.*
- Question 11 - Can you see God? *No; I cannot see God, but He can always see me.*

Story

Review

Boys and girls, last week we learned that King Saul was very angry with David and jealous of him too. David had to run away and hide from King Saul. But David had help from his best friend and King Saul's son, Jonathan. Today we learn of a very special moment for David and how he eventually becomes king.

The End of King Saul

King Saul was still king of Israel and he was still angry with David. He had tried to find David to hurt him, but Saul couldn't find David. David was living in the city of Gath, which was the royal city of the Philistines. The Philistines were preparing for a big invasion into the land of the Israelites. This was not new; the Israelites and Philistines fought battle after battle. As the Philistines were preparing to leave, David and his 400 men approached the commanders of the Philistine army. David and his men wanted to help the Philistines fight King Saul, but the Philistine commanders did not want David to help them. David and his 400 men stayed behind.

As the Philistines invaded the land of Israel, they met the army of Israel on a mountain called Gilboa (**pronunciation:** Gill-boa). The Philistines fought and won a very hard victory. Jonathan, David's best friend and King Saul's son, died in the battle fighting against the Philistines. When King Saul saw his army losing, he fled the battle. The Philistines ran after King Saul. King Saul was afraid of the Philistines capturing him because King Saul thought if he were captured the Philistines would hurt him. But before the Philistines captured King Saul, he passed away from a battlefield injury. The Philistines soon found the bodies of Jonathan and King Saul and word spread throughout the land that King Saul and Jonathan had died. A messenger was sent to find David. The messenger eventually found David. David asked, "Where do you come from?" "I have escaped from the battlefield in Israel," the messenger replied. David wanted to know what happened, and the messenger described what happened, "The Philistines have won a great victory, and many Israelites have been killed. Saul and his son Jonathan are also dead." When David and his soldiers heard this, they all tore their clothes because they were sad.

David Becomes King

Now that Saul and his sons were dead, the children of Israel were without a king. David knew that he was to rule after Saul's death because Samuel had anointed him. David prayed to the Lord asking where he should go to be

proclaimed king. God told him to go to Hebron. The death of Saul did not make the Israelites sad for long. The Israelites knew that David would be their king, and they loved him. Many, many, many soldiers came to Hebron (**pronunciation:** he-bron) to crown their new king. There were nearly three hundred thousand soldiers who had come to show their loyalty to David.

Now it was time for David to be anointed as Israel's second king. There was great joy and happiness in the kingdom as David became king. The Israelites enjoyed peace and prosperity during David's reign. After a time David decided to move his royal palace from Hebron to Jerusalem. David built a beautiful palace and many beautiful houses; Jerusalem became a wonderful city.

David was a good, wise and brave king, but most important, David loved the Lord. The Bible says that David was a man after God's own heart. That means that David wanted to do what God commanded him to do. David was God's servant and God used him to do mighty acts on behalf of his chosen people, the Israelites. King David honored God and loved him very much.

A House For God

One day David had a thought. He wanted to build a beautiful temple for God to be worshipped in. The temple would be covered with gold and beautifully decorated. The prophet Nathan was pleased with David's plan. That night God spoke to Nathan and gave him a message for David. Nathan delivered to David God's words, "Since the day that I brought the children of Israel out of Egypt, I have never commanded that a house be built for Me to live in. I took you, David, from being just a shepherd boy and made you king over My people Israel. I have been with you wherever you went. And after you pass away, your children will reign after you in a kingdom that will never end. And your son, whom I will set upon your throne, he will build a house for Me." David felt very thankful and unworthy when he heard God's promise that his children should be kings over Israel forever. He gave up his plan of building a temple, but he made everything ready for his son to build it.

David Remembers His Promise

One day David, perhaps as he sat in his house, started to think. He started to think about King Saul. Maybe he remembered the time he had to hide in a cave so King Saul couldn't find him. Then David thought about his dear friend Jonathan. And then David remembered the covenant, the promise, he had made to Jonathan. The promise that he would show kindness to Jonathan's children, even after Jonathan and King Saul had died. King David asked his servants, "Is there still anyone who is left in Saul's family, that I may show him kindness for Jonathan's sake?" There was a servant by the name of Ziba (**pronunciation:** zibb-ba) who had worked for King Saul.

So David's servants brought Ziba to David. David asked, "Are you Ziba?" "Yes," Ziba said, "I'm here to serve you." Then King David asked Ziba if he knew whether any of Saul's grandchildren were still alive so that he might show them the kindness of God. Ziba remembered, "Yes, there is still one son of Jonathan. But he is lame in his feet." Being lame means you can't walk. King David asked Ziba, "Where is he?" And Ziba told the king who immediately sent his servants to find the lame son of Jonathan. Mephibosheth (**pronunciation:** Me-fib-bo-she-eth) was his name. Mephibosheth never really knew his father Jonathan or his grandfather Saul. They had both died when he was very young.

The Meeting

And lame he was! The Bible says that when Mephibosheth was 5 years old he had a tragic fall. Young Mephibosheth may have broken his feet, but in those days there were no hospitals and no doctors. So Mephibosheth couldn't get the help we would get if we broke our feet. Mephibosheth did not have a doctor or hospital to help him, but he was alive. So poor Mephibosheth went through life with feet that just didn't work right!

When Mephibosheth heard that King David wanted to see him, I bet he was really afraid. Mephibosheth didn't know King David. Mephibosheth didn't know the promise David had made to his father Jonathan. Mephibosheth didn't

know that David was a man after God's own heart. And so the Bible says when Mephibosheth came before David he fell on his face right on the floor. David said his name, "Mephibosheth?" He answered David, "Here is your servant!" And then the king said such wonderful words, "Do not fear, for I will surely show you kindness for Jonathan, your father's sake." Kindness! That wasn't what Mephibosheth thought he would hear.

The King went on to say, "I will give back to you all the land that your grandfather King Saul owned. And not only that Mephibosheth, but you shall come to my house, the house of the king, and eat bread at my table every day." David was inviting poor, lame Mephibosheth to have dinner with him every day! I bet Mephibosheth could hardly believe his ears when the king said that. Mephibosheth said to King David, "Who is your servant, that you should be so kind?" Mephibosheth did not feel that he was worthy to be treated so well by Israel's great king. Right away David called to Ziba, the servant who had found Mephibosheth, "I have given to Mephibosheth all that belonged to Saul and to his family. I want you and your sons and your servants to work the land for him. Bring in the harvest so that Mephibosheth will have lots of food to eat." Ziba told the king that he would do everything that he had been commanded to do. And then King David said again, "As for Mephibosheth – he shall eat at my table like one of my sons." And the Bible says, "Mephibosheth stayed in Jerusalem near the king for he ate at the king's table all the time. And he was lame in both his feet." David had made a promise to Jonathan and to God and he had kept it.