



JUNE 22, 2025

SAMUEL ANOINTED DAVID

1 SAMUEL 16

CHRIST CONNECTION

David did not look like a king on the outside, but God saw his heart and chose him to be the next ruler. Jesus looked like an ordinary man to the people around Him, but He is God's Son and the Savior of the world.

BIG PICTURE QUESTION

Who is our King? Jesus is our King.

MEMORY VERSE

Psalms 103:19

PREPARE



Take time to reflect
on today's lesson.

LEADER BIBLE STUDY

In 1 Samuel 16, we come to a turning point in the storyline of God's leadership over His people. What began with Samuel mourning for Saul's rejection as king soon becomes a celebration of God's faithfulness in fulfilling His word in 1 Samuel 13:14: "The LORD has found a man after his own heart, and the LORD has appointed him as ruler over his people."

While the young David did not have the same impressive appearance as Saul, he had something greater: a heart that honored the Lord.

What was God trying to teach Samuel and His people by selecting David as the next ruler over Israel? How does this story lead us to consider the state of our own hearts?

Samuel had a front-row seat to God's rejection of the impressive King Saul. Yet, as Samuel looked upon the older, stronger sons of Jesse, he didn't seem to truly grasp what God was doing. By mere outward appearance, one might assume one of David's older brothers to be next in line for the throne. It would be David, however—the youngest son of Jesse—whom God would select as the next king of Israel. David was chosen, not because of his strength or stature, but because God saw his heart. As Psalm 147:11 reminds us, "The LORD values those who fear him, those who put their hope in his faithful love."

Prepare to teach boys and girls what it means to be someone after God's own heart. Though David would not be a flawless leader, he would be faithful to trust in God, repent of his sin, and delight in God's words. Yet, one greater than David would come. Jesus Christ, the sinless King, lived, died, and rose again to make righteous all who trust in Him for salvation.

Consider the state of your own heart—which only God can see. Thank God for the miraculous work of salvation He has done in your own life, as well as His desire to save the boys and girls who will hear this story. Pray for the Lord to open kids' eyes to what He can do with ordinary people who believe in Him by faith.

WELCOME



Connect with kids as they arrive.

OPENING ACTIVITIES

Greet each kid as they arrive. Use this time to build relationships and help new kids connect to your group. Before heading to Large Group, you can play a game, chat with kids, or do the Memory Verse Activity below as a group!

MEMORY VERSE

The LORD has established his throne in the heavens, and his kingdom rules over all.

Psalms 103:19, ESV

MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY

It's Bible Bucks Day! 🎉

After Large Group, our Bible Bucks Leaders will pull kids from the activity to give them the opportunity to recite any memorized Bible verse to earn Bible Bucks.

Remind kids that we memorize God's Word so that we can have His words with us at all times. The more we read God's Word and spend time with Him, the more we learn about Him!



LARGE GROUP LESSON



Review what we're learning in Large Group.

SAMUEL ANOINTED DAVID

The Lord said to Samuel, “How long are you going to be sad that I have rejected Saul as king of My people? Go to Jesse of Bethlehem, because I have selected a king from one of his sons. Bring your oil to anoint him.”

Samuel was afraid that Saul would hear about the anointing and kill him! The Lord said, “Take a young cow with you and say, ‘I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.’ Then invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and you will anoint for me the one I show you.”

Samuel did as the Lord said. When Jesse and his sons arrived, Samuel saw the oldest—Eliab—and said, “Certainly this is the king the Lord has selected for himself.”

But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not look at his appearance or his height, because I have rejected him. Humans do not see what the Lord sees, for humans see what is visible, but the Lord sees the heart.”

Next, Jesse called his son Abinadab and presented him to Samuel. Samuel said, “The Lord hasn’t chosen this one either. Next, Jesse presented his third son, Shammah, but Samuel again said that the Lord did not choose this son.

Jesse presented seven sons to Samuel. Samuel said, “The Lord hasn’t chosen any of these. Do you have any other sons?”

“Yes, my youngest son, but he’s out tending the sheep,” Jesse said.

Samuel replied, “Send for him. We won’t sit down to eat until he gets here.” Jesse sent for David.

When Samuel saw David, the Lord said, “Anoint him, for he is the one.” Samuel took the oil and anointed David in the presence of his brothers. The Spirit of the Lord came powerfully on David from that day forward.

CHRIST CONNECTION

David did not look like a king on the outside, but God saw his heart and chose him to be the next ruler. Jesus looked like an ordinary man to the people around Him, but He is God’s Son and the Savior of the world.

K12 ACTIVITIES



Do crafts and games with younger kids after Large Group.

MAIN ACTIVITY

Tape the eight figures of David and his brothers to the board. Pass out the plastic, paper, tape, and red & green pens/markers.

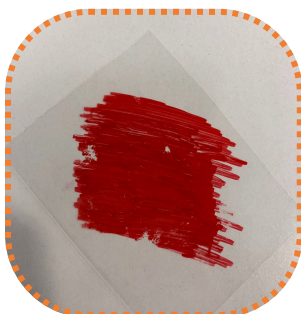
Have kids color their piece of plastic red using the red marker. Then, have them use the plastic as a “decoder” to see the message in the heart of each of the figures. Invite kids to hold their decoders up against each figure’s heart to find the man after God’s own heart.

Optional: After the activity, invite kids to create their own secret message using the instruction sheet provided.

CONNECT THE DOTS



1 Samuel 16:7 tells us that “the Lord sees not as man sees: a man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.” We all have sin in our hearts. Jesus is the only King who has a perfect and pure heart, and because of that we can be saved from our sin through the Gospel.



CONNECT THE DOTS



The Bible is so important because it’s the Word of God! It’s also a big book that’s hard to understand sometimes, which is why we want to grow in our Bible skills! By growing in these skills, we can better understand God’s Word and learn where to turn to find the truth of who God is and how much He loves us.

BIBLE SKILLS ACTIVITY

Split kids into two teams. Open the folder on the TV in your room labeled “True or False?”.

Follow the instructions provided and have the teams compete to decide whether what is on the screen is true or false. Every correct answer earns one point, and the team with the most points at the end of the game (or available time) wins!

345 ACTIVITIES



Do crafts and games
with older kids after
Large Group.

MAIN ACTIVITY

Scatter 100 or more cotton balls around the room. Explain that the cotton balls represent “sheep.” Split kids into pairs and give a cup to each pair. Tell kids they will be “shepherds” who need to collect sheep. Have each pair collect a certain number of sheep (e.g., 10, 20, 16, etc.). Play several rounds as time allows.

After the last round, have kids open their Bibles and read *Psalms 78:70-72* and *John 10:11-15*. Discuss how David was a shepherd boy who tended the sheep of his father’s pasture. When God chose David to be king, he became a shepherd over God’s people. Jesus is an even greater king because He is the Son of God who laid His life down for His people!

CONNECT THE DOTS



God chose David to be king of Israel, but King Jesus rules forever. Jesus is the better Shepherd who leads those who trust in Him to eternal life. King David was a good king, but he could never bring salvation. Only Jesus can forgive our sin.

CONNECT THE DOTS



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BIBLE SKILLS ACTIVITY

Using the Bible book poster on the wall, explain to kids how the books of the Bible are written in different genres—or types—of books.

Give a brief overview of the genres using the provided handout. Then, have the kids split into 3-4 teams and give each team a baggie with the pieces. Hide or cover the Bible books poster and then challenge the kids to arrange the pieces into the correct genres.

The first team to correctly arrange all the pieces wins! (*If kids are struggling with this, allow them to look at the poster for hints.*)

CLOSING ACTIVITIES



Continue to engage kids before parent pick-up.

BIBLE STORY REVIEW

Ask the following questions and lead your small group to discuss.

1. What did Samuel do to David after God chose him to be king?
2. Look at 1 Samuel 16:13. What happened after David was anointed with the oil?
3. Do we sometimes only look at the outward appearance of others? Why?
4. How can we have a heart that pleases God?
5. How does the Holy Spirit help us live for God?

HAVE EXTRA TIME?

Go to the Leader Folder on one of the TVs in your room. (*Hit the back button until you see it.*) There, you'll find games and activities to do with your group!



BEFORE YOU GO...

Second service leaders, please clean up by doing the following:

1. Put all extra supplies and binders back in the curriculum bins.
2. Clean all trash off the tables.
3. Put all crayons, markers, etc. back in the appropriate containers and cubbies.
4. Erase the whiteboards and put markers/erasers back in the holder.
5. Turn off the TVs as you leave.

THANK YOU FOR SERVING WITH US!