



SEPTEMBER 28, 2025

THE REIGN OF AHAB

1 KINGS 20-22; 2 KINGS 1

CHRIST CONNECTION

Ahab was a disobedient, greedy, and stubborn king who refused to lead Israel in the ways of the Lord. Jesus, the Good Shepherd, always obeyed God and laid down His life for us. Anyone who follows Him will dwell with God forever.

BIG PICTURE QUESTION

How many gods are there? There is one true God who alone deserves worship.

MEMORY VERSE

1 Kings 8:60

PREPARE



Take time to reflect
on today's lesson.

LEADER BIBLE STUDY

Have you ever heard the expression “you reap what you sow”? Perhaps you feel the burn of those words as you think of times you made a hasty decision or took matters into your own hands, only to later watch things fall apart. In today's text, Ahab made a series of poor choices which ultimately led to his demise.

First, the Lord gave King Ahab victory over the Arameans—not once, but twice—to remind Ahab that He is the Lord. When Israel won the second battle, they captured Ben-hadad, but Ahab disobeyed God and agreed to a treaty, releasing Ben-hadad.

Second, a man named Naboth owned a vineyard that caught Ahab's interest. In his greed, Ahab and his wife Jezebel developed a wicked scheme to take Naboth's vineyard. Their deception turned murderous when hired men lied about Naboth, saying he had cursed God and the king. Naboth was falsely convicted and sentenced to death.

A few years later, Ahab wanted to go to war against the Arameans once again. Ahab's false prophets supported his decision, but Micaiah, a prophet of the true God, advised against it, since going to war against Aram would fail. Once again, Ahab acted stubbornly and went to war anyway. During the battle, he was struck by an arrow and died.

While God showed Ahab patience and gave him many warnings, Ahab ultimately refused to repent. Like Ahab, we can be greedy and stubborn. In our sin, we rebel against God and act according to our flesh. The Bible tells us that the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus (Romans 6:23). Jesus lived a perfect life and died in the place of sinners so that we might be forgiven and be made right with God.

Encourage boys and girls to see that because Christ laid down His life for us, we can escape the punishment we deserve because of our sin. Teach kids that when we believe in Jesus and repent of sin, Christ removes our unrighteousness and changes our hearts so that we desire to follow God and His ways.

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

...that all the peoples of the earth may know that the Lord is God; there is no other.

1 Kings 8:60, 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!

Note: Our next Bible Bucks Day will be on October 26!



LARGE GROUP LESSON



Review what we're learning in Large Group.

THE REIGN OF AHAB

King Ahab was at war with King Ben-hadad of Aram, a nation to the northeast of Israel. A prophet of the Lord came to Ahab and said, "This is what the Lord says, 'Do you see Ben-hadad's huge army? Watch this: I am handing it over to you today so that you may know I am the Lord.'" Ahab led the men to battle. Israel won, but Ben-hadad escaped.

Ben-hadad's servants told him that Israel had only won because they had fought in the hills. They believed that if they went to war with Israel in the plains, that they would be able to defeat them. The prophet of God came to Ahab again and said, "Because the Arameans have said that the Lord can't win unless the battle is in the mountains, I will hand their huge army over to you. You will win, and you will know that I am the Lord." The Israelites camped in front of them like two little flocks of goats, while the Arameans filled the landscape. Israel won the battle, and they captured Ben-hadad.

Ben-hadad offered to make a deal in exchange for his life. Ahab knew he was supposed to defeat the Arameans, but he disobeyed. He agreed to receive the land the Arameans took from Israel in exchange for Ben-hadad's release.

Sometime later, Ahab decided he wanted a vineyard that belonged to a man named Naboth. Naboth refused to sell this land, and Ahab was mad, because he was greedy and wanted that land. Ahab's wife, Jezebel, said to him, "Now, exercise your royal power over Israel. For I will give you the vineyard of Naboth." Then Jezebel hired men to lie about Naboth. They said that Naboth had cursed God and the king, a crime punishable by death. Naboth was killed, and Ahab took his vineyard.

A few years later, Ahab wanted to go to war against the Arameans again because they still had some of Israel's land. He asked his false prophets, and they all agreed it was a good idea. But the prophet of the true God, Micaiah, told Ahab the truth. Going to war against Aram would fail, and the king would die. Micaiah said, "I saw all of Israel alone scattered on the hills like sheep without a shepherd. And the Lord said, 'They have no one to lead them.'" King Ahab was stubborn and decided to go to war anyway. He was struck by an arrow during the battle, and he died, just as the prophet of the Lord said.

CHRIST CONNECTION

Ahab was a disobedient, greedy, and stubborn king who refused to lead Israel in the ways of the Lord. **Jesus, the Good Shepherd, always obeyed God and laid down His life for us. Anyone who follows Him will dwell with God forever.**

ACTIVITIES



Do crafts and games with kids after Large Group.

MAIN ACTIVITY

Have your group stand in a circle and pass around the provided vacuum-sealed jar. Invite the kids to try to open the jar.

Then, pass around the knotted rope and invite kids to try to untie it.

Finally, pass around two magnets and challenge kids to get the repelling sides to join together.

CONNECT THE DOTS



No matter how hard we tried, we couldn't get these items to do what we wanted them to do. Using only our strength or bare hands, the jar wouldn't open, the knot wouldn't untie, and the magnets couldn't be joined together. This reminds me of what it means to be a stubborn person. A stubborn person does what he or she wants even when someone tries to give good advice. King Ahab was stubborn and set in his evil ways. He refused to listen to God and turn away from his sin.

BIBLE SKILLS ACTIVITY

On the TV in your room, open the file labeled "Old or New Testament?".

You can either divide kids into two teams or have them all work together as one big team. On each slide, there will be a book of the Bible. As a team, kids will decide whether the book is in the Old Testament or the New Testament. Encourage them to try without using a Bible for help!

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. Why should we obey God and His Word?
2. Have you ever acted stubborn or greedy? When?
3. Ahab faced God's judgment because of his sin. How can we be saved from God's judgment for our sin?
4. How can God bring judgment on people?
5. How is Jesus the perfect King?

HAVE EXTRA TIME?

If you have extra time or your group needs to get out some energy, play one of the games/activities in your extra time bin in the cabinet or the "extra time" folder on the TV.

If there's a new game or activity you want to have available for your group in the future, let Taylor know!

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!