

Beautiful
BIBLE TREASURES
For Children

Lesson 47

Level A—Little Bible Treasures:

King Saul

Level B—Children's Bible Treasures:

King Saul

Level C—Story Time with Jesus:

King Saul

Level D—What Does it Actually Say?:

King Saul

Level E—Bible Bits: Runners/

Topic Treasures—Good or Evil

King Saul

Saul was the first king, for the people of Israel! He was a tall and strong man. At first he wasn't proud, so God chose him to be the new king.

Samuel talked with Saul and told him what God said would happen as he walked back home. Then those things happened just like Samuel said.

Saul met some people who gave him bread, and also prophets with instruments. When Saul met them, amazingly he prophesied along with them. He was surprised!

God's Spirit had changed him—inside his heart and mind.

When everyone gathered together to see who their king would be, Saul was shy at first, but then he was brave and stood up for everyone to see him.

They all shouted, "God save the king!"



King Saul

The prophet Samuel talked with Saul, after he had poured oil on his head to show that he was to be the king of the land of Israel. The Lord told Samuel just what was going to happen next on Saul's journey back home to his father.

Each of the events happened, just as Samuel said they would! Saul was amazed. It was a sign to him that God was leading him to do that new and special job.

On his way home Saul met a group of prophets who were making music and were prophesying. The Lord's Spirit was on Saul and he began to prophesy as well. People who knew him from before were surprised!

Saul was like a new man, with new thoughts and feelings and reactions. God had changed his heart and given him the ability to do the job of being the future king.

Prophet Samuel called all the people together to let them know who was to be their king.



People from all the tribes of Israel were there. This was a very important event for them.

First, God let them know what tribe the king would come from, and then He revealed what family the king was to be from. And last of all God showed who from that family was to be the king.

It was clear to all, after finding out step-by-step who God wanted it to be, that Saul was the one that God had chosen to be the king.

Saul was feeling nervous and shy about being a king when he saw all those people together, so he hid. But God told Samuel where Saul was—he was hiding by all the stuff that was in a pile.

When Saul stood up he was a very tall man and everyone shouted, "God save the King!"

Activity

*Learn names of titles of modern day rulers, heads of state, and people of government, and what they do.

King Saul



When you have a new big job that you are about to do, that God is calling you to do, it helps to have something that confirms to you that it's God's will for you to do it.

If you know it's going to be a tough job and it will require effort and perseverance to stick to it and complete it, sometimes a special sign from God can be a great encouragement.

After Samuel had spent that time with Saul explaining things to him and after he'd anointed Saul with special oil, demonstrating that he would receive God's help for the job, Samuel then told Saul what was going to happen next.

God told Samuel some specific details of people Saul would encounter on his trip back home—what they would say, and what Saul was to do. Samuel said to Saul that when he saw each of these things happening, just like God showed him they would, that this was to be a sign to Saul that he was to be the new king.

Samuel said that Saul would meet three men, each bringing something—goats, bread and wine. The men would offer Saul and his servant two loaves of bread that they were to accept.

Samuel said that Saul would also encounter a team of prophets with four different types of musical instruments—a psaltery, a tabret, a pipe, and a harp, and Saul would receive a prophecy then too, when he met them.

Samuel also said that they would meet some people who would explain to them that the donkeys had been found and that Saul's father was indeed missing his son and would be very happy to have him return.

After Saul listened to all these things that Samuel prophesied would happen on their journey home, he said goodbye to Samuel. As Saul turned to walk down the path, God changed him on the inside! God's Spirit was on Saul and the Bible says that God gave him another heart—a heart and spirit filled with new feelings, new ideas, and new strength!

As Saul and his servant walked on, one-by-one each thing that Samuel said would happen, did happen! It was a clear sign to Saul that God was the one who was calling him to be the king.

When they met up with the prophets who were making music with the very types of instruments that Samuel told them they would have, Saul then felt the power of God on him, and he began to prophesy too!

It was the first time that had ever happened to him. People, who knew him from before, saw and heard him prophesying, and were very surprised. "Is he one of the prophets?" they were saying.

Just because you have "always done things a certain way" or have "never done that before" or you think you aren't talented or skilled in a certain thing, doesn't mean you will always be that way!



God can change anyone anytime and help them be whatever is needed to match the job they need to do—if it's His will. This was a situation where that happened.

To be the king required a much larger boost of power from Heaven than it took for Saul to just care for animals and do the work on the land. He needed new wisdom and inspiration and help. He would have to lead the people in wise ways and make good decisions that would affect the whole country.

When someone is just living and working with their family, the things they do will affect them and their family. But when someone is looked up to and depended on to lead many others it's a very big job and responsibility that affects many people.

God was still the one in charge, and if the king or ruler remembered that, and never made decisions without talking with God about it and making sure to say and do whatever God knew was best, then things would go well. But if not, then things would get difficult.

God, Samuel and Saul were the only ones that knew about Saul being chosen to be the king at that time. No one else knew then, and it wasn't just announced either. It was to be told to everyone at a special time and in a special way.

When the time came, Samuel called everyone together and said God would give them a king. First, God showed them that the king would be from the tribe of Benjamin. Next, that it was from the family that Kish, Saul's father, was from. Then God showed them all that it was Saul, Kish's son, who was to be the king.

When it was announced that Saul was to be the one, he was nowhere to be seen! People were looking around for him and didn't know where he was. Samuel prayed and God said that Saul was hiding by the stuff.

Sure enough, there he was. When Saul stood up and everyone got to see who their new king was, they saw that he was very tall. He was taller than everyone else; head-and-shoulders above everybody.

"God save the king!" the people shouted.

A team of men were glad he was their king and when everyone else went home, the team of men travelled home with Saul to help him.

Some people that normally chose to not follow God's ways grumbled and weren't too sure about Saul being the ruler. It seemed there really wasn't any way to please the type of people who only wanted to do the wrong things and kept choosing to go in the opposite direction that God was leading in.

At first they wanted things to be different and not have a prophet and judge showing them God's ways, and to have a king instead. Then when they got the king, who was God's choice at that time and was someone who wanted to follow in God's ways when he started out, those grumblers didn't like that either.

When people are set on doing things their own ungodly ways, no matter what you do to try to help them and to please them, you'll never make them really happy. They will never be content until they put their will on God's side.

Until then, things will just get worse and be very difficult for them. God's ways will always seem contrary to what the troublemakers want, because they are choosing to walk the wrong way. Things just won't seem right enough to them—until they choose to do what is truly right and learn to believe and trust in God.

But no matter what any of them felt at that time, Saul was their new king. And later on when they saw some of his good choices and the ways he was helping the country, they learned to accept him as the king.



Let's Talk About It

* Have you ever felt shy about doing a certain job or performance even though others thought you would be the best one to do it—but you weren't so sure of it yourself?

*Do you think it's easier to be a leader or a follower? (The leader needs to direct and tell people what to do or how to do it, but also gets more blame for the mistakes, and has to hear others complaining about the way they lead or what they choose to do. A follower needs to listen well to instructions and follow through on them, working hard to humbly do what others tell them to do.) We each, actually can be both leaders and followers, in different situations. We all need to listen to the Lord and follow His instructions, as well as follow the good advice of others or those in charge of an event or team. And we each can be good leaders by taking the initiative to do something good, without waiting to be told to do it, and we can suggest and inspire others to help out, too.

Activity

* Act out being some people in different professions or jobs, who might feel a bit shy at times knowing that everyone is watching them and depending on them to do a good job for the benefit of many people.

King Saul



Connect and Communicate

*Go around the circle taking turns saying, "I don't need to worry about ____" (filling in what they want to say) and the person beside them finishes off the sentence. Perhaps saying, "Because Jesus said He'd never leave us." Or whatever relates best to what was stated. Then that person starts the next one, "I don't need to worry ____", and on around it goes until all have had a chance to give their worries and burdens to Jesus, and get the faith-building thoughts that others say.

Study Fun

Highlight: The places where it says, "The Spirit of the Lord" or "The Spirit of God".

Copy: Verse 6 out on to paper, and put the name of someone you know or someone in the world that you want to pray for, for this to happen to, that would enable them to bring about good change around them. You can even put your name there, if you wish!

Count: How many times the passage talks about prophecy and prophesying, or the Lord speaking.

1 Samuel

10:2 When thou art departed from me today, then thou shalt find two men by Rachel's sepulchre in the border of Benjamin at Zelzah; and they will say unto thee, The asses which thou wentest to seek are found: and, lo, thy father hath left the care of the asses, and sorroweth for you, saying, What shall I do for my son?

10:3 Then shalt thou go on forward from thence, and thou shalt come to the plain of Tabor, and there shall meet thee three men going up to God to Bethel, one carrying three kids, and another carrying three loaves of bread, and another carrying a bottle of wine:

10:4 And they will salute thee, and give thee two loaves of bread; which thou shalt receive of their hands.

10:5 After that thou shalt come to the hill of God, where is the garrison of the Philistines: and it shall come to pass, when thou art come thither to the city, that thou shalt meet a company of prophets coming down from the high place with a psaltery, and a tabret, and a pipe, and a harp, before them; and they shall prophesy:

10:6 And the Spirit of the Lord will come upon thee, and thou shalt prophesy with them, and shalt be turned into another man.

10:7 And let it be, when these signs are come unto thee, that thou do as occasion serve thee; for God is with thee.

10:8 And thou shalt go down before me to Gilgal; and, behold, I will come down unto thee, to offer burnt offerings, and to sacrifice sacrifices of peace offerings: seven days shalt thou tarry, till I come to thee, and shew thee what thou shalt do.

10:9 And it was so, that when he had turned his back to go from Samuel, God gave him another heart: and all those signs came to pass that day.



10:10 And when they came thither to the hill, behold, a company of prophets met him; and the Spirit of God came upon him, and he prophesied among them.

10:11 And it came to pass, when all that knew him beforetime saw that, behold, he prophesied among the prophets, then the people said one to another, What is this that is come unto the son of Kish? Is Saul also among the prophets?

10:12 And one of the same place answered and said, But who is their father? Therefore it became a proverb, Is Saul also among the prophets?

10:13 And when he had made an end of prophesying, he came to the high place.

10:14 And Saul's uncle said unto him and to his servant, Whither went ye? And he said, To seek the asses: and when we saw that they were no where, we came to Samuel.

10:15 And Saul's uncle said, Tell me, I pray thee, what Samuel said unto you.

10:16 And Saul said unto his uncle, He told us plainly that the asses were found. But of the matter of the kingdom, whereof Samuel spake, he told him not.

10:17 And Samuel called the people together unto the Lord to Mizpeh;

10:18 And said unto the children of Israel, Thus saith the Lord God of Israel, I brought up Israel out of Egypt, and delivered you out of the hand of the Egyptians, and out of the hand of all kingdoms, and of them that oppressed you:

10:19 And ye have this day rejected your God, who himself saved you out of all your adversities and your tribulations; and ye have said unto him, Nay, but set a king over us. Now therefore present yourselves before the Lord by your tribes, and by your thousands.



10:20 And when Samuel had caused all the tribes of Israel to come near, the tribe of Benjamin was taken.

10:21 When he had caused the tribe of Benjamin to come near by their families, the family of Matri was taken, and Saul the son of Kish was taken: and when they sought him, he could not be found.

10:22 Therefore they enquired of the Lord further, if the man should yet come thither. And the Lord answered, Behold he hath hid himself among the stuff.

10:23 And they ran and fetched him thence: and when he stood among the people, he was higher than any of the people from his shoulders and upward.

10:24 And Samuel said to all the people, See ye him whom the Lord hath chosen, that there is none like him among all the people? And all the people shouted, and said, God save the king.

10:25 Then Samuel told the people the manner of the kingdom, and wrote it in a book, and laid it up before the Lord. And Samuel sent all the people away, every man to his house.

10:26 And Saul also went home to Gibeah; and there went with him a band of men, whose hearts God had touched.

10:27 But the children of Belial said, How shall this man save us? And they despised him, and brought no presents. But he held his peace.



Activity

*Write the names of certain world leaders onto pieces of paper and tape one on to each person. Play hide and seek, where one person hides at a time. When they are found, then a prayer is said for the leader or ruler whose name is taped on to the shirt of the one that was hiding.

Fountain of Faith

Psalms 31:7

I will be glad and rejoice in thy mercy: for thou hast considered my trouble; thou hast known my soul in adversities.

Psalms 31:24

Be of good courage, and he shall strengthen your heart, all ye that hope in the Lord.



Runners

Praise

Psalms 26:7 That I may publish with the voice of thanksgiving, and tell of all thy wondrous works.

*One person says the name of one of the books of the Bible, and others list out loud a story or two that they remember that that book talks about—stories that tell of the “wondrous works” of the Lord. (For example: Luke—the angel appears to Mary, and Jesus is born. Genesis—God creates the world.)

Activity

* Guess who these first five Bible passages are talking about, and retell the story or setting that it is taken from.

Genesis 18:2,3 And he lift up his eyes and looked, and, lo, three men stood by him: and when he saw them, he ran to meet them from the tent door, and bowed himself toward the ground, and said, My Lord, if now I have found favour in thy sight, pass not away, I pray thee, from thy servant.

1 Samuel 3:5 And he ran unto Eli, and said, Here am I; for thou calledst me. And he said, I called not; lie down again. And he went and lay down.

1 Kings 18:44 And it came to pass at the seventh time, that he said, Behold, there ariseth a little cloud out of the sea, like a man's hand. And he said, Go up, say unto Ahab, Prepare thy chariot, and get thee down that the rain stop thee not.

1 Kings 18:45,46 And it came to pass in the mean while, that the heaven was black with clouds and wind, and there was a great rain. And Ahab rode, and went to Jezreel. And the hand of the Lord was on Elijah; and he girded up his loins, and ran before Ahab to the entrance of Jezreel.

John 20:4 So they ran both together: and the other disciple did outrun Peter, and came first to the sepulchre.

Habakkuk 2:2 And the Lord answered me, and said, Write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it.

Hebrews 12:1,2 Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us. Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.



Topic Treasures

—Good or Evil

Study Fun

Highlight: All the words or phrases that talk of good or Godly, such as: righteousness, light, good, blessing, etc.

Copy: The words and phrases to make a list of the instructions or actions to be taken to choose the good and right; or for the verses that say how the wrong choice was made, write on the list what should have been done.

Draw a line through, or draw an X beside: The words or phrases that tell of the wrong actions or choice not to be taken.

Matthew 7:13 Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat.

2 Corinthians 11:3 But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.

Romans 1:21, 28 Because that, when they knew God, they glorified Him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened.

Matthew 12:34b,35 For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh. A good man out of the good treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things: and an evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things.

Isaiah 66:4 I also will choose their delusions, and will bring their fears upon them; because when I called, none did answer; when I spake, they did not hear: but they did evil before Mine eyes, and chose that in which I delighted not.

Deuteronomy 30:19 I call Heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live.

Psalms 66:18 If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me.

Genesis 6:5,6 And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. And it repented the Lord that He had made man on the earth, and it grieved Him at His heart.

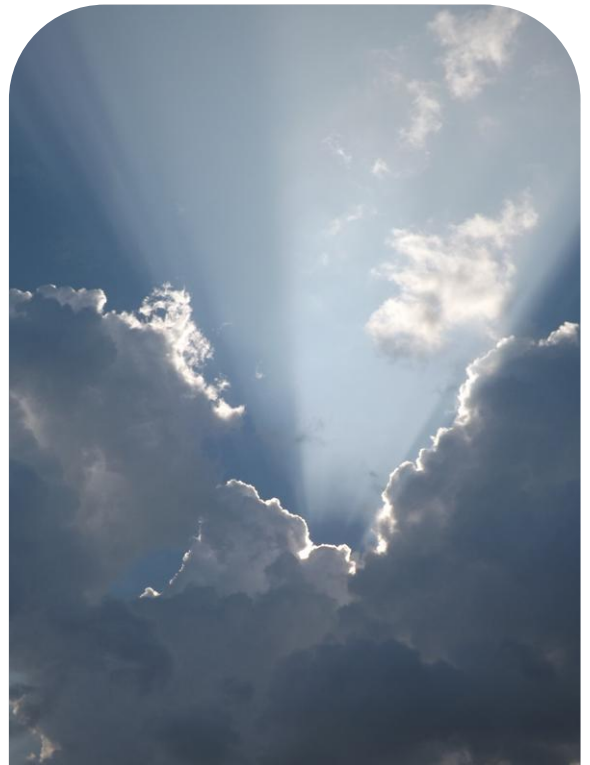
Proverbs 4:23 Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.

2 Corinthians 10:5 Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ.

Ephesians 4:27 Neither give place to the Devil.

2 Corinthians 6:14,17,18 Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? And what communion hath light with darkness? Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, and will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be My sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.

Psalms 97:10a Ye that love the Lord, hate evil.





Daily Diary

*Read Proverbs 4:23 again, and list what things you want to do to “keep your heart with diligence” knowing that what you allow into your heart and mind and thoughts will affect your life. Your mind and heart are like your soul’s garden. What “weeds” will you give no place to, and what seeds do you want to nurture in your thoughts and feelings?