

Sunday, July 17 Lesson Summary

1 & 2 Grades – First Service

Story/Scripture: God Chose David to Be King, 1 Samuel 16

Scripture Memory Verse for Summer Sundays:

1 Samuel 16:7b *“The LORD does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.”*

Christ Connection:

Samuel anointed David, setting him apart to be king. God’s choice for Israel’s king was surprising; David was the youngest in his family, but God saw David’s heart for the Lord. When Jesus came to earth, He seemed like a surprising choice for a king. Jesus is the perfect King who saves us from our sin and reigns forever.

Big Picture Question and Answer:

What is grace? Grace is when God gives us something good even when we do not deserve it.

Schedule for the Day:

Schedule for 1st and 2nd Grades - First Service:

8:55-9:05 Arrival/Welcome activities in respective separate rooms

9:10-9:30 Game Station [outside, weather permitting using door to outside space from large group 1 space]. Rain plan: inside large group 1 space.

9:35-9:55 Story Station [large group 2 room]

10:00-10:20 Project Station [back to respective separate rooms; provided materials for this time with the kids in your group]

10:20-10:45 Stay in classroom; snack and transition to second hour

Lesson Details

Arrival/Welcome Activities:

Supplies: Activity page, crayons, markers, colored pencils, pens/pencils

Summer Bucket List: Places I want to go

Every Sunday in July there will be a question for the kids to answer as they enter the classroom. These questions will generate discussion during your Project Station in the classroom.

- Place the pens/pencils, crayons, markers and/or colored pencils on the tables. Give each child an activity paper as they arrive: Places I want to go
- Ask the children to draw a picture or write some words to answer the question: What places do I want to go this summer? If any children have already been away this summer

and want to draw or write about that place, that is fine. The children will use this activity page during the Project Station from 10:00-10:20 in your classroom.

Project Station:

Supplies: Activity page from Arrival Activity, scripture memory verse poster, whiteboard, dry-erase marker, eraser, harp template per child, 3 strings per child (10 in long), masking tape (4 – one per table), stickers, crayons, markers

The Project Station is truly the time where you get to connect more personally with the children! Here are some ideas to use today for this time with the children in your group.

- Circle Time: Get to know the kids as you sit in a circle to discuss the question from the arrival activity. The children may reference their paper. If any kids arrived late and did not complete the activity page, they should engage in the conversation and give them a paper to take home with them. The question is: *What places do I want to go this summer?*
- Scripture Memory Verse: Reference the scripture memory verse poster and read it together with the children. Then take down the poster or reverse it so the kids cannot see it. Print the verse on the whiteboard with a dry-erase marker. Erase one word at a time, repeating the verse each time. By the time the entire verse is erased, many children will know it well. The kids will have the summer to memorize this verse so it will be engraved on their hearts and in their minds.
- Pray with the kids: *Thank you, Lord, for looking at our hearts, like you looked at David's heart. Thanks for giving the Israelites a better king when you chose David. We praise You, God, for giving us our perfect King-Your Son, Jesus. And thank you for the Geesey family and their willingness to serve you far from home. Be with them as they prepare to leave for Southeast Asia the end of July. Help them as they say good-bye to family and friends. Create a new home for the family and help them to make friends so they may tell others about You.*
- Give each child a cardstock harp and 3 strings. Place the masking tape, crayons, markers, and stickers on the tables. Ask one of the children to read the statement on the harp: *God's choice for Israel's king was surprising; David was the youngest in his family, but God saw David's heart for the Lord.* Direct the kids to decorate their harp with stickers, crayons, and markers. Then they should place the strings in the notches and tape them on the back of the harp.

Special Notes & Reminders:

We have been praying for the Geesey family for several months. Dan and Hannah and their three children, Micah (6), Adalyne (5), and Peter (3) are leaving for Southeast Asia the end of July. Pray for them as they leave for this new and exciting journey God has called them to. There is a prayer picture of the family.

There may be more activities in the lesson than you are able to complete during the Project Station. Do what you can and send any unused papers and crafts with the children for them to

complete at home if they are interested. Most importantly, have fun with the kids in your classroom.

IF you'd like MORE background info on this lesson!

At some point we have probably encountered the underdog rising to a position of prominence or victory. We see this in sports, in business, and in other situations. In a similar way, the Lord often uses unexpected people to display His glory. The Bible tells us that God chooses to use what is "weak in the world to shame the strong" (1 Cor. 1:27).

And Isaiah 55:9 says, "For as heaven is higher than earth, so my ways are higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts." While we may look at current circumstances or outward appearances to determine a particular outcome, God's ways are always better because only He holds all wisdom.

In 1 Samuel 16, we find an example of this. God chose to use David, a young shepherd with musical talent, to lead Israel.

David's outward appearance and young age may not have fit with the cultural standard of a king, but God saw David's heart. God's choice was not based on visible characteristics, but rather on the invisible character of the heart.

Like David, Jesus was not a King the people expected. Rather than come to earth in power, prestige, or prominence, Jesus came in humility. He did not have an impressive physical stature, yet His heart was fully set on obeying His Father and loving others through self-sacrifice.

Like David, God looks at our hearts and desires that we follow Him. Regardless of our physical stature, age, or occupation, God desires to use us for His glory. And He wants us to grow in Christlikeness so that our gifts can be used for His kingdom purposes.

Who would have thought that David's ability to play the lyre would get him into Saul's inner circle? God did. It was His plan all along. And it is His plan to use us in great ways too. God is faithful to use the gifts He's given us. May we have hearts that are willing to serve Him for His glory and our joy.

PEOPLE TO KNOW David: the first king to unite Israel and Judah and the first to receive the promise of a royal Messiah in his line. David was pictured as the ideal king of God's people. He ruled from about 1005 to 965 BC