

2'S / 3'S

FUN + FRIENDS + FAITH



JULY 17

Second Service

LEADER Bible Study

One of God's good gifts to us is the way He uses the most unexpected people in the most unexpected ways. We've all probably seen this happen at times. A young man or woman that rises to prominence in his or her particular vocation, but no one saw it coming.

We see this in sports, in business, and other arenas. But in the kingdom of God, it's not something you might see occasionally; it's actually standard.

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."

God has been in the business of bringing about surprising stories of unsung heroes since the beginning of time. In 1 Samuel 16, we find one more example of this. God chose to use David, a young boy with a shepherd staff and some musical ability, to lead Israel in a time of desperation.

Do you ever find yourself trying to hone the skills God has used in others in hopes that He might use you too? Have you ever wished you were wired or gifted differently so you could do something specific for the Lord? Rest assured—God is not interested only in a specific set of gifts or a particular personality type. God desires to use you just the way He made you.

Find comfort in knowing that God didn't mess up when He made you. He won't waste a gift He has given you, and He wants you to grow in those ways so that at just the right time and in just the right way, your gifts can be used for His kingdom purposes.

Who would have thought 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 you in great ways too. He will not waste the gifts He's given you. Be open and willing to serve Him for His glory and your joy.

GOD CHOSE DAVID TO BE KING

1 SAMUEL 16

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.

CHRIST CONNECTION

People were surprised God chose David to be Israel's next king. 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

BIG PICTURE QUESTION

What is grace?

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

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE

1 Samuel 16:7b

"People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart."



Come & Play

LEARNING ACTIVITIES // 8 matching blocks from your classroom of various kinds (cardboard blocks, wood blocks etc.), 2 in wide strip per child made from large pieces of construction paper, stickers, crayons, 2 pictures of crowns, scissors, scotch tape, large cotton balls

Set up the 2 activities and introduce the children to the lesson through these activities. Encourage the kids to participate in both activities as they play together. Make sure that each child makes the crown to wear during the Bible story lesson. You may need to ask the kids to come to the different areas so all of them have the opportunity to participate.

BUILD A TOWER: Encourage the children to count out eight blocks. Invite them to build towers or other structures with only these eight blocks of the same type. Challenge the kids to see how many different types of structures they can build with only eight similar blocks. If you have different sizes of blocks, build one tower with eight small blocks and one tower with eight larger blocks. Set up the different blocks on different tables.

Say: **You built a tower with eight blocks. Jesse had eight sons. One of his sons would be the next king. Samuel met with all of the sons. David was the one God had chosen to be the next king. How do you think it would feel to be chosen from your family to be king?**

CROWN THE KING: Give each child a 2-inch wide construction paper strip. Provide stickers and crayons for toddlers to decorate their strips. As they work, display the 2 pictures of crowns. Explain that not all kings are alike, nor are their crowns. Size the construction paper crowns to fit each child's head. Tape in place. *Allow the children to wear their crowns as you tell the Bible story.* Say: **God told Samuel to choose a new king. God chose David to be king after Saul. Jesus is the perfect King. His choices are always right.**

FIND THE HIDDEN SHEEP: Direct the children to sit at the tables and close their eyes or place their heads on the table. Quickly hide the cotton balls in plain sight so the children can find them. When the children open their eyes they may each find one sheep (cotton ball). Tell the children the cotton balls represent sheep. As soon as they find one cotton ball they should say, "baaaa" then go to the rug, sit down and prepare for Bible story time.

Say: **David was a shepherd before he was the king. Shepherds had to protect their sheep and find them if they were missing. You found a missing sheep today, too, before you came to sit down for our story. David was taking care of his father's sheep when Samuel came looking for a king. People were surprised that God chose David to be Israel's next king. Would you be surprised to know that a king used to be a shepherd? What type of person do you think should be king? God said what a person looks like is not the most important thing about him. God sees what people *think and feel*.**



Show & Tell

LEARN THE BIBLE STORY

// 8 red cups (one with a small crown taped to the inside), Bible, The Beginner's Bible pg.168 (on the counter in your classroom), children's crowns from earlier activity, songs in the Gospel Project folder on the USB "Jesus Thanks You" and "You Are Great", Geesey Family Prayer Picture

LINE UP CUPS: Gather the eight disposable red cups. Set aside the cup with the crown. Invite children to help you line up the cups upside-down in a side-by-side line. Add the crown cup into the line. Move the cups around, challenging children to guess which cup the crown is under. Explain that Jesse had eight sons, but only David, the youngest son, was chosen to be king. Play the game several times.

Say: **Samuel thought God would choose Jesse's oldest and strongest son to be the next king after Saul, but God chose David. David was the youngest. God knew that David was the right choice.**

TELL THE BIBLE STORY: Invite the children to wear their crown. Open your Bible to 1 Samuel 16 to show where the story is found in the Bible.

Open The Beginner's Bible to page 168. Read the story to the kids. Show the pictures as you read.

To review the story, use the summarized points below. You may use the points to ask questions or have children fill in some blanks as you read the summary points.

GOD CHOSE DAVID TO BE KING

•God told Samuel to visit a man named Jesse who had eight sons. One of Jesse's sons would be the next king.

•Samuel went to meet with Jesse and his sons. Jesse's sons were strong-looking men. God said, "I do not look at the outside of a person. I look at the inside of a person. I look at his heart."

•Samuel met son after son. God had not chosen any of them. "Do you have another son?" Samuel asked. Jesse said, "Yes, my youngest son, David, is in the field taking care of the sheep."

•Jesse sent for David. When David arrived, God told Samuel, "He is the one!"

•Samuel poured oil on David's head to show that God had chosen David to be the next king. David was filled with God's power.

SING AND PRAY: Go to the Gospel Project folder and sing "Jesus Thank You" and "You Are Great." Feel free to sing other songs with the kids, as well. There are additional songs on the USB or sing some of your childhood favorites.



Color & Make

Sing to the tune of "Are You Sleeping (Brother John)?"

**"God forgives us, God forgives us, When we're wrong, when we're wrong.
God forgives wrong choices, God forgives wrong choices. God is good. God is good.**

Say: **God chose David to be king. God's choices are always good. People make choices too, but our choices are not always good. God forgives us for our wrong choices because of Jesus.**

Sing to the tune of "London Bridge Is Falling Down"

**"Jesus is the perfect King, Perfect King, perfect King.
Jesus is the perfect King. Thank you, Jesus."**

MISSIONS MOMENTS: The Geesey family from LEFC will be leaving in late July for Southeast Asia: Dan and Hannah, Micah (6), Adalyne (5), and Peter (3). Pray for them as they prepare for this new and exciting adventure that God has called them to. Add this prayer to the end of the story time prayer. Pray for the Geesey family as they say good-bye to family and friends and that the children would find good friends when they arrive at their new home. Show the picture of the family.

Pray: **Thank you, God, for choosing David to be king. Thank you for sending Jesus to be the King who loves us and cares for us. Care for the Geesey family as they leave to go away. Help Micah, Adalyne and Peter to find good friends at their new home.**

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE // *Play binoculars (1), one large red foam heart*

Say the verse to the children: **1 Samuel 16:7 "People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart."**

Look through the binoculars and mention how it helps us to see things. Say the first phrase of the verse: **People look at the outward appearance.** Then show the heart and say the second part of the verse: **but the Lord looks at the heart.** Repeat the verse several times while you hold up the binoculars and heart at the appropriate time.

SHEEP IN THE PASTURE // *Cardstock sheep, 2 clothespin per child, 4 small cotton balls per child, glue, 8 small paper plates*

Give each child a cardstock sheep and 4 cotton balls. Squirt a small amount of liquid glue onto small paper plates, perhaps 2 per table. Guide the kids to dip their cotton balls into the glue and place them on the sheep shape. There will be a sample but it is suggested 1 for the head and 3 for the body. Mention to keep the cotton balls away from the print. Option: place the glue directly on the sheep for the kids. Place the spring-type clothespins on the legs so sheep will stand. Once finished, allow the children to pretend their sheep are in a pasture. Say: **David was taking care of sheep when God chose him to be king. David made right and wrong choices as king. Jesus is the perfect king. His choices are always right.**