

David Becomes King

Overview

Materials You'll Need

- no extra materials are needed for this lesson



Scriptures

1 Sam 31; 2 Sam 2:1-7, 11; 5:1-12; Ps 18:48-50; 65:9-13

Bible Truth Objective(s)

God has His plans for each of us

Behavioral Objective(s)

For the children to acknowledge that God has a plan for each of them; to identify the attitudes they need to have while waiting for God's plan to materialize

Memory Verse

"Because He is your Lord, worship Him."
(Ps 45:11)



Bible Knowledge

David

David was the youngest son of Jesse, from the tribe of Judah, and he was the great-grandson of Ruth and Boaz. David was brought up to be a shepherd. As a shepherd, he learned courage, which was later to be evidenced in battle (1 Sam 17:34-35). He also learned tenderness and care for his flock, which he often referred to in many of his psalms.

David first entered Saul's court as a harp player. He came to soothe Saul when he was tormented by an evil spirit. Saul grew to love David and even made him armorbearer for the king (1 Sam 16:21-22). Later on, David defeated Goliath and was given a military commission. After a mighty victory over the Philistines, David won the hearts of the people (1 Sam 18). This event caused Saul to become jealous of David, and he sought many opportunities to kill David. Despite Saul's hatred for him, David spared Saul on numerous occasions. He said that he could not "stretch out [his] hand

against the Lord's anointed" (1 Sam 26:11).

David was actually anointed three times. When Saul was rejected as the king of Israel, God sent Samuel to anoint David. After the death of Saul, God directed David to Hebron where he was crowned king by the people of Judah (2 Sam 2). He reigned there as king for over seven years (2 Sam 5:5). Later, at his third anointing, the northern tribes also hailed him as king, uniting all Israel under him.

After being crowned king of Israel, David's first move was to conquer Jerusalem (2 Sam 5:6-12). An earlier name of Jerusalem was Salem. It was then known for its righteous king Melchizedek (Gen 14:18-20). This city was strategically located in the hill country near the border of Judah and Benjamin, thus creating a natural fortress. Even the Jebusites, the inhabitants of the land, boasted that the city would be impenetrable because of the steep cliffs that surrounded it (2 Sam 5:6).



Understanding Your Students

We know very well that God has His wonderful plans for each of us. We know that He knows what is best for us. Yet, even for grown-ups, it is sometimes hard for us to really live out this truth. Therefore, it is even harder for kindergartners to grasp how great God's plan is. We can, however, help them break things down into smaller, tangible forms.

For example, at this age, children see most of what they do as just fun or a part of their day. There isn't necessarily a purpose or reason for why they are doing

what they are doing. We can point out that they go to school so that they can learn. Then when they grow up, they can use what they have learned to help God and His work. If they are learning to play the piano, they can also be encouraged to play hymns for God in the future. Even when they are just playing, they are still learning important skills such as sharing, listening, and helping. These are all characteristics God wants to see in all of His believers. We can help the students see that all the things they are doing are a part of God's plans. Bit by bit, the children can see how God is a part of their every day lives.



Vocabulary

Patient

to wait for something without complaining

Honor

obeying or listening to what someone says

Jealous

when someone feels jealous, he feels upset and a bit angry inside because he wants something that another person has



Before You Teach

When David finally became king over all Israel, he had been anointed three times. The first time was when God asked Samuel to find a person to replace Saul, who had been rejected by the Lord. The second time was after the death of Saul, and he was made king over Judah. This was only after much persecution by King Saul. The third time was when he was declared king over Israel by the northern tribes. This did not happen until after he had ruled Judah for over seven years.

If we look at how David became king, it was certainly a long process. It had been many years from the time he was anointed by Samuel to when he really became the official king of Israel. The crown was not handed over to David outright just because he was chosen by God. This journey to the kingship was a lesson in patience and endurance, probably the exact traits God wanted David to develop in order to become a good leader for the people.

We know very well that God has His plans for us.

But most of us lack the patience to wait for those plans to manifest themselves. We always want to see immediate results. When we pray, we want feedback to our prayer requests right away. We want to know God's will as soon as possible so that we may act on it. But God does not rush into anything. He understands all too well our human weaknesses. He knows that when we make rash decisions, we will probably regret them. Plus, if we are making decisions hastily, we probably did not take time out to ask God for His guidance.

Proverbs 16:9 says, "A man's heart plans his way, but the Lord directs his steps." This verse reminds us that although we have the freedom to do our own planning, in the end, we cannot accomplish anything without God. He is the one who ultimately shows us where to go and directs our path. Though many of us travel along different routes, or take turns we did not need to take, we will still get to where God wants us to be. God's will is always done. And if we are patient and in tune with His plans, He will make straight our paths.



Bible Story

David Waits for God's Timing

In our last lesson, we learned that David and Jonathan were best friends. Do you remember who Jonathan was? He was King Saul's son. David became friends with him because David would go to King Saul sometimes and play the harp for him. He played music to help King Saul feel better whenever an evil spirit came upon him. King Saul had this evil spirit because he did not obey God. God picked someone else to be king. Do you remember who that person was? It was David. And even though David was already anointed by Samuel (review the meaning of anointed), he did not become the king right away. God had His plans. David knew that he had to wait for God's timing. He honored God by waiting patiently to become the king. Do you know what the word honor means? It means obeying and listening to what someone says. And David was very good at doing that. He did not whine to God every day, saying, "Why haven't you made me king yet? Why not? Why not? You said you would." No, instead David knew that God would keep His promise, so he trusted and honored God by waiting patiently. Actually, many things happened to David before he became the king. Today, we are going to talk about some of those things.

David Waits by Honoring God

While David was waiting to become king, many exciting things happened to him. What do you think was the most exciting thing that happened to him? (Take various responses.) Yes, he fought the giant Goliath.

When Goliath wanted to fight against God's people, everyone in Israel was too scared because Goliath was big and mean. Whenever the soldiers looked at Goliath, their knees shook, and they wanted to run away. But Goliath kept saying, "Give me someone to fight with! If I win, the people of Israel will become our servants. If I lose, we will become your servants."

No one was brave enough to fight Goliath. No one was willing to honor God by standing up for Him. No one, that is, until David came. He said, "I will fight

Goliath in the name of God!" And God helped David beat Goliath with just a sling and a stone. So David did not just sit around and wait for God to make him the king. He was doing what God needed him to do.

David Waits by Helping Others

While David was waiting for God to make him the king, he helped people too. For example, David played the harp for King Saul whenever King Saul felt bad or troubled because of the evil spirit. David had learned to be a good harp player when he was a shepherd. He used what he had learned to help someone else feel better. That is a good way to wait for God.

But it wasn't just David who helped others. David got help from Jonathan, his best friend. Remember when Saul became jealous of David because the people thought that David was a brave and good soldier? He was so angry that he wanted to kill David. Jonathan warned David and told him to run away. Then, he talked to his father and told him not to kill David. At first Saul agreed not to hurt David, and David was able to go back to the king's palace like he used to.

David Waits by Obeying God

But later, King Saul became angry and jealous at David again. He broke his promise to Jonathan and tried to kill David. David had to run away from Saul many times. But God helped David get away from Saul every time. One time, when Saul was chasing after David, they met in a cave. Some of the people who followed David to help him told him to kill Saul in the cave. Then David could become the next king. But David did not do that. He knew he could not kill Saul just so he could become the king. That was not God's plan. So he did not touch Saul. He just kept on hiding and running away from him. He obeyed and honored God by not hurting Saul.

Many years had passed, and David was growing older. He spent a lot of time running away from King Saul. And even though he still wasn't king, he never stopped praying to God; he never stopped honoring God. David knew that God would make all His good plans come true when the time was right.

David Becomes King

David had to wait a long time to be king, but God kept His promise. One day, King Saul and Jonathan fought a battle with enemy soldiers. During the battle, a terrible thing happened. Both Saul and Jonathan died. David felt very sad when he heard the news. Jonathan was his best friend. And even though Saul had tried to kill David many times, David did not hate him. Saul was still the king God had once chosen.

After the people heard that King Saul had died, they said, "Let's make David our new king!" Was this the right time now? David had waited a long time, but he wanted to be sure this was what God wanted. Since David wanted to do God's will, he prayed and asked God, "Where shall I go?"

God answered, "Go to a town called Hebron."

So David went to Hebron, and there he became king over Judah. This was a small part of Israel. Later on, David would become king over an even greater part of the land, and he was the king of Israel for a very long time. Throughout those years, David kept praying to God and honoring

Him. And God helped David be a great king.

We Should Wait for God's Plans

David had to wait a long time to become the king. Many things happened to him along the way. But the most important thing was that he never whined or asked God when he was supposed to be the king. He waited patiently for God's time and did things according to His will while he waited.

God also has His plans for each of us. Sometimes, like David, we don't know when they will happen. For example, it is hard for us to know what we will be when we grow up. But God knows what is best for us. He already has His plans but we need to be patient and trust God. He will allow things to happen at the right time. And while we are waiting, we can do our best at everything else. For example, we can study hard at school. It is a way to honor God while we wait for His plans. We can listen to our parents too. It is another way to honor God while we are waiting. Let us pray that we can wait patiently for God's plans and do His will, as David did.



Check For Understanding

1. **God did many wonderful things for David. Can you name some of those things?**
(Chose him to be king, helped him kill Goliath, gave him Jonathan as a friend, kept him safe from King Saul, made him king, helped him to be a good king.)
2. **Why did Saul want to kill David?** (He was jealous of David and did not want him to become king.)
3. **Why didn't David kill Saul in the cave when he had the chance to?** (David wanted to honor God and Saul, the king God had anointed in the first place.)
4. **What happened to Saul and Jonathan during a battle?** (They were both killed.)

5. **After Saul died, the people wanted David to become king. But David wanted to make sure it was God's will. What did he do to be sure?** (He prayed to God. God told him to go to a place called Hebron where he was crowned king of Judah.)
6. **David honored God and obeyed His plan, even though it took a long time. What does it mean for us to honor God?** (It means that we need to obey the rules, be kind, share, and help. When we do these things, we are honoring God.)
7. **Do you know the plans God has for you? Sometimes it is hard to know what they are since you are so young but you can learn from David and be patient. While you are waiting, what can you do?** (Study hard at school, obey parents, pray to God, etc.)



Life Application Story

Waiting For the Game

Mrs. Lewis knocked on Tommy's door.

"Tommy, it's time to get up," she said.

She didn't hear an answer, so she opened the door. Tommy was still tucked under the covers.

"You're going to be late for school," Mrs. Lewis said as she gently nudged Tommy. Tommy groaned and stuffed a pillow over his head.

"I don't want to go to school," Tommy said. "It's no fun. For three days, the teacher said we're going to play a game. But every day, we only color little square pieces of paper and make clay statues. That's boring."

"Tommy, every part of your school day has something for you to learn. If your teacher needs to make square pieces of paper, there must be a reason. You just need to be patient. Besides, didn't you say you liked your teacher, Mrs. Lerner?"

Tommy paused to think. "Yes, I think she is the best teacher. I just wish we could play that game she is talking about."

"Tommy, you need to trust her to keep her word," Mrs. Lewis said. "Maybe you will play the game today. If not, go to your teacher and very nicely ask, 'Mrs. Lerner, you said we were going to play a game, and I've been looking forward to it for three days. Can you tell us when we're going to play it?' If you say that, I think Mrs. Lerner will let you know what she has planned. Believe me, going to school will be much better than staying at home and complaining."

"Okay, Mom," Tommy replied.

When Tommy arrived at school, he saw that markers were laid out again. He groaned. More coloring. Class hadn't begun yet, so Tommy went up to Mrs. Lerner's desk and asked her very politely when the class was going to be playing the game. Before she could answer, a boy named Bobby suddenly shouted out, "Yeah! I want to play a game! I'm so bored. I hate coloring those pieces of paper!"

Mrs. Lerner's eyes quickly looked towards Bobby.

"Bobby, please come here and listen to what I'm going to say to Tommy."

Bobby got up and went over to Mrs. Lerner's desk.

"Tommy, I know that some students have been impatient to start the game, but I want to thank you for asking in such a polite way. Because you asked so nicely, I'm going to let you in on a secret: we've been building the game pieces for the past three days, and today we're going to put everything together. We'll just need to do a little more coloring and gluing this morning, but by the afternoon, we'll be having lots of fun together! So do you think you can work hard for one more morning? I promise you, it'll be worth it!"

Tommy breathed a sigh of relief.

"Yes, Mrs. Lerner, I think I can do that. Thank you for telling me."

"Now Bobby," Mrs. Lerner continued. "I will let you in on the secret too so that you can see what happens when you ask nicely. I don't answer rude complaints, but I do answer polite questions. Now are you going to remember this for next time?"

"Yes, Mrs. Lerner," Bobby said softly with his eyes to the ground.

"Good, let's get started with the day then."

That afternoon when Mrs. Lewis came to pick up Tommy, Tommy hopped into the car excitedly.

"Mom, Mom!" he shouted.

"Tommy, what is it?" Mrs. Lewis said, as she drove away from the school.

"That game was so much fun. It was the best game in the world!" Tommy gushed.

Tommy told his mom what had happened that day, and he realized that the game was definitely worth the wait, and that asking politely instead of whining was the right thing to do. As Tommy was finishing his story, Mrs. Lewis pulled into their driveway.

"Well, Tommy, it seems you learned a lot today. You learned that it is okay to wait for some things. Sometimes, that is God's plan. He wants us to learn to wait and be patient while we are waiting."

"Yes, and I didn't whine to my teacher. I tried to wait for the game to start," said Tommy as he walked into the house.

"Yes, she thought that you were very polite and patient. After she told you the plan, she asked if you could wait for one more morning, and you

said 'yes.'"

"Mom, I am glad I listened to you this morning," Tommy said.

"I am proud of you, and so is God. It is not always easy to wait for things. God is happy that you were able to be so patient," Mrs. Lewis said as she took out lemonade from the fridge.

"I think I waited so much that I'm ready for a snack!" Tommy said as he went to get his cup.



Activity 1

David Does Many Things

Look at the pictures. Write down what David did while he was waiting to be king.

1. David looked after the _____. (sheep)
2. David was _____ (anointed) by Samuel.
3. David killed _____. (Goliath)
4. David played the _____ (harp) for King Saul.



Activity 2

How Do We Wait?

Look at the pictures. How should the children wait in each situation? Discuss the attitude (e.g. no whining and complaining) and words they may say to show they are waiting nicely.

1. We are waiting in line to go on a ride.
2. I am waiting to open my present.
3. I am waiting for a friend to come over.
4. I am waiting for my turn on the computer.



Activity 3

God Made Me Special

God knew that He wanted David to be a king, even when David was just a young boy. God sent Samuel to tell David about those plans. God has made special plans for each of us too, even though we may not know what they are right now. Just like David, we need to trust and wait for God's plans to hap-

Questions to Think About

1. **What was Tommy tired of waiting for?** (He was tired of waiting for the game to begin.)
2. **What do you have a hard time waiting for?** (Allow students to answer.)
3. **How does God want us to act while we are waiting?** (Allow students to answer. God wants us to wait patiently; He doesn't want us to whine and complain.)
4. **What can we do while we are waiting?** (Allow students to answer.)

pen. While we are waiting, let's sing a song to praise and thank God for loving us so much.

(Sung to the tune of "You Are My Sunshine")

God made me special, God made me special.

And we will all join hands and pray.

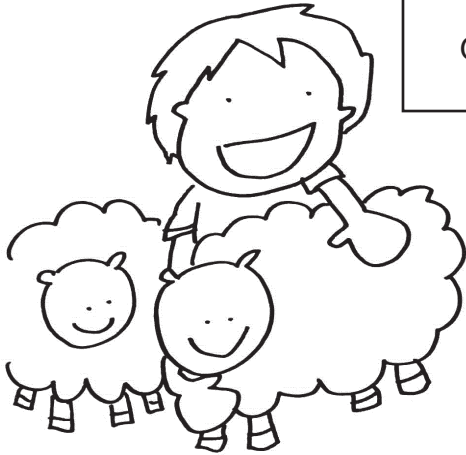
**We will say, "Thank you," and count our blessings,
Because God has made you and me.**

Activity 7:1

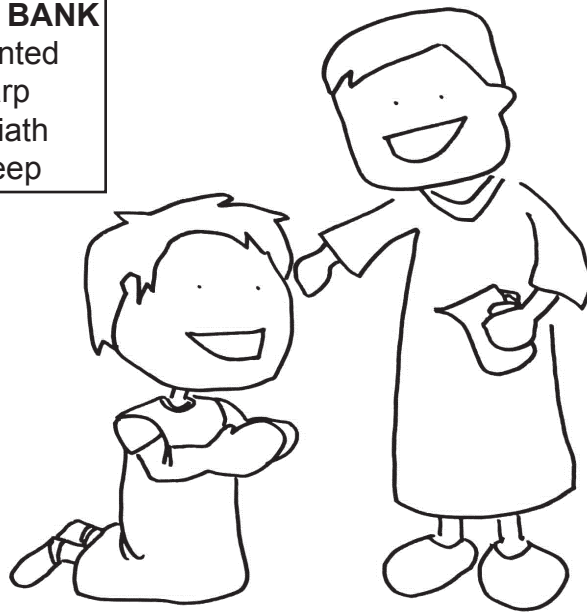
David Does Many Things

Look at the pictures. Write down what David did while he was waiting to be king.

WORD BANK
anointed
harp
Goliath
sheep



1. David looked after the _____.



2. David was _____
by Samuel.



3. David killed _____.

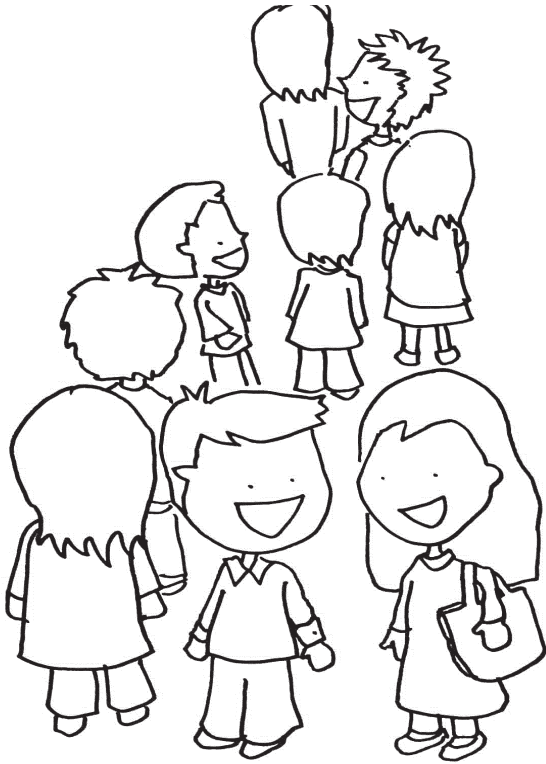


4. David played the _____
for King Saul.

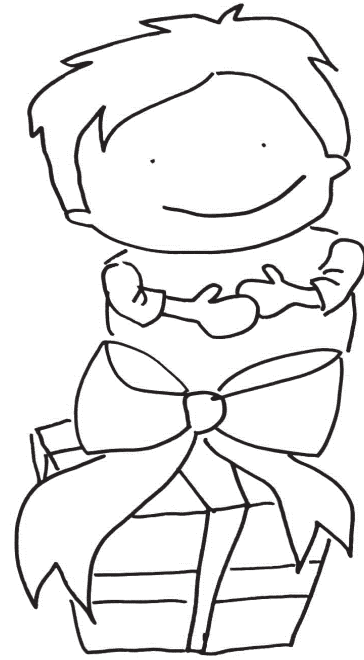
Activity 7:2

How Do We Wait?

Look at the pictures. How should the children wait in each situation?



1. We are waiting in line to go on a ride.



2. I am waiting to open my present.



3. I am waiting for a friend to come over.



4. I am waiting for my turn on the computer.