



# OLD TESTAMENT: GOD CHOOSES DAVID

lesson 25

## BIG IDEA

Saul sins and the Lord tells him there will be a new king who will take his place. God uses Samuel to identify a young shepherd boy named David. In spite of his appearance and youth, David is anointed as the future king.

## MEMORY VERSE

Psalm 8 and/or I Samuel 16:7

## KEY VERSES

I Samuel 16

### • PREPARATION & MATERIALS •

## BIBLE SKIT

- Cast: TL wearing baseball cap. Bear wearing bear ears.
- *Experience Mission* will provide a baseball cap and bear ears.

## GAME - SHEEP HERDING

- 12 (or more) white balloons blown up.
- Rulers, one per team
- Rope or chalk for making start and ending lines.

## WORKSHEETS

- Photocopies of Coloring Sheet (1 per child)

## CRAFT - WOOLLY SHEEP

- Cardboard, one 2 x 4 inch piece per child (may be pre cut for a quicker craft)
- Clothes pins, two per child
- Brown, tan, cream or white, fluffy yarn, the fluffier and fuzzier, the better. One skein should be enough for 3 children, depending on the type of yarn.
- Brown felt, 1 x 1 inch piece per child.
- Markers



## Psalm 8

Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!



(extend hands to sides)

You have set your glory in the heavens.



(extend hands high)

Through the praise of children and infants you have



("stop" hand)

established a stronghold against your enemies,

To silence the foe and the avenger.



(index finger over lips)

(wiggle fingers both hands)

When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers,



The moon and the stars which you have set in place,



(point to moon and stars)

What is mankind that you are mindful of them,



(shrug shoulders)

Human beings that you care for them?

You have made them a little lower than the angels



(flat hand at waist)

And crowned them with glory and honor.



(make crown with hands)

You have made them rulers over the works of your

hands;



(open hands)

You put everything under their feet:



(stomp feet)

All flocks and herds, and the animals of the wild,



(hands like claws)

The birds in the sky, and the fish in the sea, all that swim

the paths of the seas.



(hands together wiggle like fish)

Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!



(arms up as if cheering)



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## BIBLE OBJECT LESSON

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### CAST

TL wearing baseball cap  
Bear wearing bear ears

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### THE SKIT

- Bear (Enter stage making trumpet noises to announce “King Bear”) Do-do-do! Do-do-do! Make way for King Bear. Make way! Do-do-do! (Walk across the stage a few times in this manner.)
- TL (Enter and watch the procession)
- Bear (To TL ) Greetings, my loyal subject.
- TL (Bowing) Your royal highness.
- Bear Rise loyal subject. Did you bring a gift?
- TL Your royal highness, I was not made aware of your coming today, I am afraid I have nothing to offer. I am a man of humble means. (Bow again)
- Bear Rise loyal subject. I will overlook this serious offence this once, for I am a benevolent king. Have you anything else to offer?
- TL Sir, I have only the knowledge of ancient stories. (Bow again)
- Bear Hmmmm. I have been known to enjoy a story. Rise loyal subject and tell me a story. And make it a good one!
- TL Yes your royal highness. Shall I begin now?
- Bear (Blow trumpet) Do-do-do! Let the story begin!
- TL Your royal highness, long ago during bible times, there was a group of people that God loved very much. They were known by many titles such as the Hebrews, the Israelites or God’s Chosen people. He gave them a special land and spoke to them through special prophets and judges. These people were discontent and wanted a king to rule over them, so God permitted them to have a king and he chose a man named Saul. Saul was tall and handsome. At first he was fearful of his new role and acted like a coward, but after a few years he gained confidence.
- Bear (With a royal nod) Yes, I recall hearing about this man, Saul. It is good that you tell King Bear a royal story. Proceed.
- TL Thank you your royalness. The Israelites had problems with the Philistines who lived nearby. They hoped that their new king would rescue them from this enemy, but the Philistines just grew stronger and stronger. One day, Saul’s son Jonathan, who was a very brave man, had a battle against some of the Philistines and he won. News of this fight caused the Philistines to gather a large army of chariots and horsemen. King Saul realized he had to raise his army as well, so he blew a trumpet and gathered the Israelites for war.



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Bear (blow trumpet) Do-do-do! Prepare for war! Do-do-do!

TL Now there was also a wise prophet of the Lord named Samuel.

Bear Yes, I recall this man Samuel, wise indeed.

TL Samuel warned Saul not to march but to wait until Samuel arrived and could offer a sacrifice and call to the Lord. Samuel was late in arriving for the sacrifice, and Saul grew impatient. His men were afraid and began to scatter. So King Saul took matters into his own hands and offered a sacrifice himself. He was not a priest though, so he was being disobedient to the special rules the Lord had given the Israelites. While the offering was still burning on the altar, Samuel arrived. "What have you done?!" he asked.

Saul began to make excuses, "My army was scattering and I thought the enemy might attack. Anyway, you weren't here so I had to offer the sacrifice myself."

"You have done wrong," said Samuel. "You have not kept God's commands. If you had obeyed and trusted the Lord, he would have kept you safe. But now God will find some other man who will do his will – a man after his own heart – and God will someday take the kingdom from you and give it to him."

Bear (Angry) What! This is the ancient story you have for me? A story about a disobedient king. You will pay for this. Off with his head!

TL Your royal highness, if you would allow me to continue the story, you will find that it has a happy ending.

Bear (Clear throat) Ahem. Yes, well, perhaps I was a bit hasty. Proceed.

TL Saul continued to rule the Israelites as king for many more years, but he also continued to make poor decisions, some that were completely disobedient to the Lord. Once he forbid his army to eat anything until they had won a battle. His son Jonathan hadn't heard the command and ate some honey. Saul was going to kill his own son for eating, but luckily the Israelites stepped in and rescued Jonathan. Another time the Lord led Saul to battle the Amalekites and completely destroy them. So Saul battled the Amalekites and won. He took their city but did not utterly destroy everything as the Lord had commanded. Instead he kept their sheep and oxen for himself as well as many prisoners.

After this the Lord came to Samuel saying, "It would have been better never to have made Saul king, he does not obey my commands." Saul blamed the Israelites for the disobedience, but Samuel wouldn't listen and walked away. Saul grabbed the edge of Samuel's robe and tore it. Samuel said, "God has torn the kingdom away from you, and he will give it to a man that is better than you are. God is not like a man, saying one thing and doing another. What God has said shall surely come to pass." Samuel never saw Saul again, but his heart was sad and he wept for Saul.

Several years later the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not weep and mourn any longer over Saul. I have refused him as king. Fill a horn with oil and go to Bethlehem. Find a man named Jesse, I have chosen one of his sons to be the next king.

Samuel was afraid because Saul was still king. "Who can I go? If Saul hears of this, he will kill me."

God said, "Take a young cow with you and tell the people you have come to make an offering to the Lord. Call Jesse and his sons to the sacrifice. Then I will tell you what to do and who to anoint." So Samuel



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## BIBLE OBJECT LESSON

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followed the Lords leading and brought Jesse's sons to a sacrifice. Each of the sons took a turn passing before Samuel, but each time the Lord did not choose them. God said, "Do not consider how handsome or tall he is. I have not chosen him. I do not look at the things people look at. Man looks at how someone appears on the outside. But I look at what is in the heart."

Finally, after Jesse's seven sons had passed Samuel asked, "Are these the only sons you have?"

"No," Jesse answered, "My youngest son is taking care of the sheep."

Samuel said, "Send for him. We won't sit down to eat until he arrives." So Jesse called his son in.

The Lord said to Samuel, "Get up and anoint him. He is the one." Samuel got the horn that was filled with olive oil. He anointed David in front of his brothers. From that day on, the powerful Spirit of the Lord was with David and no longer with Saul.

Bear What an unlikely king. Imagine that. A young shepherd boy chosen by God to be the next king. What a twist. How did King Saul take the news? I certainly would be displeased if a little bear cub took my place as king.

TL For a while Saul was not aware that David was chosen and they had a good relationship. Eventually, that changed as Saul became jealous and angry...but that's a story for another day.

Bear Thank you, my loyal subject, for this story. I just depart now and travel to the far ends of my kingdom.

TL (With a bow) Your royal highness. It has been a pleasure.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Why did Saul make an offering to the Lord himself?
- Why was it wrong?
- Was Saul's command for his army to not eat until they conquered their enemies a good command?
- Was Jonathan sinning by eating honey?
- God said he would choose a king after his own heart. What does that mean?
- God said he does not look on the outside of a person, but at their heart. What does that mean?
- How can you look at the heart of a person?
- How does God look at your heart?



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CRAFTS

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• CRAFT •

**OBJECTIVE: WOOLLY SHEEP**

Kids will make fuzzy, woolly sheep.

**MATERIALS PROVIDED BY EM**

- Scissors, staplers, hole punches

**MATERIALS BROUGHT BY TEAM**

- Cardboard, one 2 x 4 inch piece per child (may be pre cut for a quicker craft)
- Clothes pins, two per child
- Brown, tan, cream or white, fluffy yarn, the fluffier and fuzzier, the better. One skein should be enough for 3 children, depending on the type of yarn.
- Brown felt, 1 x 1 inch piece per child.
- Markers

**DIRECTIONS**

Cut the cardboard into a kidney bean shape, this will be the body of the sheep.

Attach two clothes pins to the long side of the cardboard, these are the sheep's legs (glue in place for a sturdier sheep).

Wrap fuzzy yarn around the cardboard leaving one narrow end of the cardboard bare, for the head. Wrap plenty of yarn so that the springs of the clothes pins are covered and the sheep is nice and fat. Tuck the end of the yard in and glue securely.

Cut little ears and a tail from the felt and glue onto the sheep.

Draw eyes and a smile on the face.

Optional: Color head and legs black with markers.

**EXAMPLE**





# OLD TESTAMENT: GOD CHOOSES DAVID

GAME

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## • GAME •

### OBJECTIVE: SHEEP HERDING

A relay game in which the kids try to herd their balloon sheep quickly without popping it.

### MATERIALS BROUGHT BY TEAM

- 12 (or more) white balloons blown up.
- Rulers, one per team
- Rope or chalk for making start and ending

### INSTRUCTIONS

- Divide the group into even teams (2-4 teams depending on the size of your group)
- Teams line up. The first person has the balloon “sheep” and a ruler “staff”.
- When the game begins, the person with the sheep and staff needs to get to the ending line and back again by pushing or bumping the balloon with the ruler.
- The first player hands the balloon and ruler off to the second player and the game continues.
- The first team to have each member complete the circuit wins.



