

Bible Stories for Adults

David Becomes King

1 Samuel 28 - 2 Samuel 7

Opening

Gathering: Share a time when you showed God's love to an "enemy".

Today's Focus: David did not celebrate the demise of his enemies, but looked for God's plan and followed it.

Key Verses: *He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David, and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever; His kingdom will never end.* Luke 1:32-33

Who am I, O Sovereign Lord, that You have brought me this far? 2 Samuel 7:18

Opening Prayer

Lesson

The Witch of Endor (1 Samuel 28)

What did Saul do when the Philistines assembled at Shunem?

1 Samuel 28:4-6 = Gathered Israelite troops & inquired of the Lord

Why didn't God answer Saul's inquiry? = Saul disobeyed and didn't destroy Amalekites

1 Samuel 15:10-11, 26-29 = God rejected Saul since Saul rejected God, ephod with David

Since God didn't reply to Saul, how did Saul try to force an answer?

1 Samuel 28:7-8, 11 = He consulted a medium to bring up Samuel

Why was the witch afraid of granting Saul's request?

1 Samuel 28:3, 9-10, 12 = Saul banished mediums, she could be punished with death

What did Saul learn from Samuel?

1 Samuel 28:15-19 (13-19) = Israel would lose; Saul & sons would be killed

Did Saul believe what he had heard?

1 Samuel 28:20 = He knew Samuel spoke truth, he fell on ground in fear

How well did Saul follow through with a fast to the Lord?

1 Samuel 28:23-25 = Like always, Saul was swayed by others

David the Philistine? (1 Samuel 29)

Where was David at this time?

1 Samuel 27:1, 6-7 = Living in Ziklag, a town in the land of the Philistines outside Gath

What did David and his men do when the Philistines went to fight the Israelites?

1 Samuel 28:1; 29:2 = They marched out with the Philistine army

Did David and his men fight against the Israelites?

1 Samuel 29:9-10 (3-11) = No, Philistine commanders were afraid that they would turn in battle

David's Amalekite Trouble (1 Samuel 30)

What did David and his men find when they returned home to Ziklag?

1 Samuel 30:1-2 = It had been destroyed by the Amalekites, Everything & everyone taken

How did they respond to this disaster? = Men blamed David and wanted to stone him

1 Samuel 30:4, 6-8 (3-8) = Mourned deeply, then David inquired of the Lord – didn't just go

Were they able to recover their families and belongings?

1 Samuel 30:17-19 (9-31) = Yes, they recovered everything and killed all but 400 Amalekites

Bible Stories for Adults

David Becomes King

Page 2

Saul Dies (1 Samuel 31)

What happened in battle on Mount Gilboa the day after Saul visited the medium?

1 Samuel 31:1-3 = Israel defeated, Saul's sons killed, Saul wounded

What did Saul do to make sure a Philistine wouldn't kill him?

1 Samuel 31:4-6 = Asked armor-bearer to kill him, then tried suicide

Why did Saul die like this?

1 Chronicles 10:13-14 = He was an unfaithful king - God gave the kingdom over to David

What was the outcome of the battle for Israel?

1 Samuel 31:7 = Israelites in area fled, Philistines took towns

How did the Philistines respond to the news that Saul was dead?

1 Samuel 31:8-10 = Thrilled, cut off Saul's head, hung body on wall of Beth Shan

What did the men of Jabesh Gilead do out of respect for Saul? = Burned bodies to prevent abuse

1 Samuel 31:11-13 = Snuck into Beth Shan, removed bodies, burned & buried them

Why did the men of Jabesh Gilead have such strong concern for Saul?

1 Samuel 11:1a, 6, 8, 11, 15 = Saul had saved JG from Ammonites, was accepted as king

David's Response to Saul's Death (2 Samuel 1) = Originally, 1 & 2 Samuel were one book

How did David learn of Saul's death? = Said he killed Saul - likely to win David's favor

2 Samuel 1:1-10 = Amalekite brought word, crown & arm band

How did David respond to the news that the man who was trying to kill him was dead?

2 Samuel 1:11-12 = Deeply saddened, mourned, wept & fasted

How else did David respond?

2 Samuel 1:17-19 (17-27) = Wrote a song of lament

How did David reward the man who killed Saul?

2 Samuel 1:13-16 = Had him killed

Why did David respond that way? = Saul was the Lord's anointed (chosen by God)

1 Samuel 24:5-6 = David was conscience-stricken for cutting Saul's robe

1 Samuel 26:9-11 = No one can lay a hand on the Lord's anointed - God is in control of destiny

1 Samuel 26:16 = David rebuked Abner for not guarding the Lord's anointed (took spear & jug)

How did David respond to the men of Jabesh Gilead?

2 Samuel 2:4b-6 (4b-7) = He praised them for burying Saul's body

David, King Over Judah (2 Samuel 2)

What did David do before moving from Philistia to Judah?

2 Samuel 2:1 (1-2) = He inquired of the Lord if & where he should move

What happened when David and his men settled in Hebron?

2 Samuel 2:3-4a = He was anointed king over Judah (southern tribe)

Why wasn't David made king over all of Israel? = Philistines captured much of northern Israel

2 Samuel 2:8-9 (8-11) = Abner (Saul's army commander) made Ish-Bosheth (Saul's son) king

Note: Ner was Saul's uncle, Abner was Saul's cousin (1 Samuel 14:50)

What happened when the armies of Israel and Judah met at Gibeon?

2 Samuel 2:12-13, 17, 30-31 (12-32) = God gave Judah victory over Israel

Was this the only battle between the houses of Saul and David?

2 Samuel 3:1 (1-5) = War lasted a long time, David grew stronger, Saul's house grew weaker

Bible Stories for Adults

David Becomes King

Page 3

Abner Brings Israel to David (2 Samuel 3)

What happened that turned Abner's support away from Ish-Bosheth? = a sign of claim to the throne

2 Samuel 3:6-8 = Ish-Bosheth accused Abner of taking Saul's concubine

What did Abner decide to do in response?

2 Samuel 3:9-11 = Transfer Israel to David as God had promised

Did Abner follow through with his intentions?

2 Samuel 3:17-19 = He spoke with Israel's elders & went to tell David

What did David want before he would meet with Abner? = Saul had given her to Paltiel when David fled

2 Samuel 3:13, 15-16 (12-17) = His wife Michal, daughter of Saul

How did David respond to the visit from the commander of Israel's army?

2 Samuel 3:20-21 = He gave a feast and let Abner go in peace

How did Joab, David's army commander, respond to David's handling of Abner?

2 Samuel 3:24-25 (22-25) = He was upset that Abner had come to spy

David's Response to Abner's Death (2 Samuel 3)

How did Joab handle the threat he felt from Abner?

2 Samuel 3:26-27 = Killed him in revenge for brother's death, not to protect David

How did David respond to Abner's death?

2 Samuel 3:28-32, 35 = Claimed innocence, cursed Joab, mourned & had people mourn, fasted

Did the people believe David was innocent or just acting?

2 Samuel 3:36-37 = They knew David was innocent, people were pleased

Why didn't David have Joab punished?

2 Samuel 3:38-39 = Joab is too strong for me, but not for the Lord

David's Response to Ish-Bosheth's Death (2 Samuel 4, 9)

What happened to Ish-Bosheth after Abner died? = R&B were leaders of Ish-Bosheth's raiding bands (v2)

2 Samuel 4:5-8 (1-8) = Recab & Baanah killed him in bed, took head to David

How did David respond to Ish-Bosheth's death?

2 Samuel 4:9-12 = Had them killed & put their bodies on display, buried Ish-Bosheth

How did David treat the last member of Saul's family? = Gave Saul's property to Mephibosheth

2 Samuel 9:3, 6-7 (1-13) = He took Mephibosheth into his home to show kindness

Why was Mephibosheth crippled?

2 Samuel 4:4 = His nurse dropped him when she fled after Saul & Jonathan died

Jerusalem, David's Political Capital (2 Samuel 5)

Where did Israel turn after their king was killed?

2 Samuel 5:1-3 (1-5) = Elders came to David at Hebron & anointed him king over Israel

Where did David find a neutral place to rule (rather than Hebron in Judah)?

2 Samuel 5:6-7 (6-8) = Jerusalem, on the Judah/Benjamin border - conquered Jebusites there

How did David establish the political capital in Jerusalem? = Kingship acknowledged by king of Tyre

2 Samuel 5:9-12 (9-16) = He built his palace in Jerusalem

Was David safe in the fortress of Jerusalem?

2 Samuel 5:17 = No, he fled to his stronghold when the Philistines came after him

What happened?

2 Samuel 5:19 (18-25) = He inquired of the Lord and God gave him victory - twice

Bible Stories for Adults

David Becomes King

Page 4

Jerusalem, David's Religious Capital (2 Samuel 6)

What did David want to do to establish the religious capital in Jerusalem?

1 Chronicles 13:3, 5, 7-8 (2 Samuel 6:1-5) = Bring the ark to Jerusalem

What happened in route? = Uzzah was a son of Abinadab – whose home had housed the ark for years

2 Samuel 6:6-7 = Uzzah touched the ark to keep it from falling, God killed him for irreverence

How did David respond to this incident?

2 Samuel 6:9-11 (8-11) = He feared God and the ark - left the ark with Obed-Edom for 3 months

How was he more careful when he went back for the ark? = v13 – Inquired of God for proper procedures

1 Chronicles 15:1-2, 13-16 = Pitched a tent for it, assigned Levites to carry the ark, others to sing

How did this procession go? = Sacrifices after 6 steps showed that God blessed this move

2 Samuel 6:13-15 = Everyone, including David, danced and celebrated

How did David's wife Michal, Saul's daughter, feel about David *dancing before the Lord with all his might*?

2 Samuel 6:16, 20-23 = She despised him for acting undignified - not the way for a king to act

What did David do once the ark arrived in Jerusalem? = Wrote a psalm (1 Chronicles 16)

2 Samuel 6:17-19 = He put it in a tent of tabernacle, offered sacrifices, gave gifts to the people

Just a Tent for God? (2 Samuel 7)

Why didn't David build a temple instead of just a tent?

2 Samuel 7:1-3 = David asked the same, first asked for permission through Nathan the prophet

If Nathan said it was okay, then why didn't David ever build a temple? = Nathan wrong answering himself

2 Samuel 7:4-7 = Nathan may have said okay, but God hadn't

Why was David prevented from building a temple for God? = *Solomon* is derived from *peace* (shalom)

1 Chronicles 22:7-10 = Because he had shed blood and Israel was not at peace

How did God respond to David's request with a blessing?

2 Samuel 7:11b-16 (8-16) = Promised eternal dynasty, promised the Messiah

How did David respond to God's rejection?

2 Samuel 7:18-22 (17-29) = He praised and thanked God for His promises and many blessings

How was God's promise to David fulfilled?

Luke 1:31-33 = Jesus would be given throne of His father David forever

Closing Prayer

Response - Consider and meditate on one each day this week

1. Have I tried to force an answer out of God when He didn't seem to answer the way I wanted?
(1 Samuel 28:1-20; Jeremiah 29:11-13; John 15:16; James 4:3; 2 Peter 3:9)
2. How have I felt when others who opposed me met hardship and trouble?
(2 Samuel 1; 4; Matthew 5:43-47; Romans 12:14-21)
3. Do I look to the Lord for guidance even when the path seems obvious?
(2 Samuel 2:1; Proverbs 16:20, 25; Matthew 7:13-14; Romans 8:1-14)
4. When have I shown grace and kindness to others?
(2 Samuel 9; Matthew 25:31-46; Luke 6:27-36; Galatians 5:22)
5. Do I show reverence for God?
(2 Samuel 6; Deuteronomy 14:22-23; Jeremiah 44:9-10; Hebrews 12:28)