

LESSON PLAN

SAMUEL ANOINTS DAVID

I Samuel 16

Lesson Memory Verse: Psalm 34:18 – “**The lord is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart: and saves such as are of a contrite spirit.**” (Portion printed in bold is for Grades 1 & 2.)

Lesson Aim: The Lord chooses humble people to serve Him, so we need to keep humble before Him.

Lesson Plan: Use the KEY – HE – SEE – WE – BE plan (explained in the Introductory Notes.)

KEY: (for Attention): How can you tell if a person is proud? (He brags; he talks a lot about himself and what he has done; he thinks he is really important; he looks down on others by laughing at them or being mean to them.) Pride is sin. Can you think of any reason why pride is sinful? (It goes against the Lord's command to love others. We cannot love others, if we are proud.)

The Lord hates pride. Pride makes us say foolish things. There is a fable about a woodpecker that shows how foolish we can be when we are proud. The woodpecker in this story was busy pecking away at a dead tree when suddenly a bolt of lightning hit the tree and split it wide open. The woodpecker was blown off the tree by the lightning, but was left unharmed. Looking back at the remains of the tree, he proudly cried to all the other birds and animals, “Look at what I did!” What a foolish bird! The bird took credit for what the lightning did. This is what a proud person says. He takes credit for doing something that God does. No good thing is done without God's power. If God takes His hand off of us, we are helpless. We need to give credit to God for the power to do anything.

HE (for Authority): Our memory verse tells us the Lord is close to people who are humble and He helps them. We know from other verses the Lord is far from the proud (Ps. 138:6) and will not help them (James 4:6). Explanation of difficult words in our memory verse:

“Nigh” – to be close to someone

“Broken heart” – a person that is very sorry for any sin he has done

“Saves” – to protect and help someone

“Contrite spirit” – a person is humble

SEE (for Apperception) and WE (for Application): PLEASE do not read these comments until you have read the Scriptures for this lesson. First let the Holy Spirit teach you directly from His Word. (See the Introductory Notes for help on how to prepare a lesson.) In this lesson we will learn that the Lord does not have to look at our face to know us. He does not have to look at our treatment of others or at what we can do to know what kind of person we are. He can look down into our hearts and know all about us. This is why He knew that David was the right person for Samuel to anoint as king. (The following outline is given to help the teacher remember the main parts of the lesson. Teach the lesson as a story.)

I. The Mission (16:1-5)

God told Samuel to go and anoint another person to take Saul's place as the next king of Israel. God did not say who it was that He had chosen, but He told Samuel where he lived and who his father was. Even though it was dangerous business for Samuel to anoint another king when Saul was still alive, Samuel went to Bethlehem and found Jesse as he was told to do.

WE: We must obey God's command, even though it is dangerous and may cause us to be put to death. A humble person does everything that God says.

II. The Mistake (16:6-10)

When Samuel saw Jesse's oldest son, he was sure he was the one that God had chosen to be the next king, but God told Samuel not to look on his outward appearance, that is, on his height, his good looks, his bright eyes, etc. He told Samuel that He was looking at his heart and what He saw was not the best, so He refused him. Seven of Jesse's sons were made to pass in front of Samuel, but God told Samuel to reject each one. When God looks at hearts, He does not find many people that can do His job as He wants it to be done.

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WE: We should ask ourselves, “Can I do the Lord’s work in the way that He wants it done?” We must remember that He is looking at our hearts. Is your heart right with God? Are they humble? The Lord uses humble people, but He rejects proud people.

III. The Man (16:11-13)

After all seven of Jesse’s sons had been rejected by the Lord, Samuel asked Jesse if he had shown him all of his children. Jesse admitted that the youngest one was out taking care of the sheep. Jesse was told to get him right away. When the youngest son arrived, God told Samuel that he was the right one to anoint. So Samuel took his oil and anointed David to be the next king and then God gave him a special anointing of the Spirit of God. This anointing by the Spirit was necessary to make David a wise king over Israel (16:13).

WE: We want to be chosen by God. Even if we are hidden from men, God knows where we are and He will choose us and use us, if we have a humble heart. So we must strive to keep our hearts humble before God.

IV. The Misery (16:14-15)

When the Spirit of God left Saul, an evil spirit came and troubled him. It made Saul very miserable.

WE: We also will be miserable, if we do not keep our hearts right with God. Be humble and God will bless us; be proud and He will trouble us.

V. The Musician (16:16-23)

The only help for Saul’s kind of trouble was music – good music, not worldly music. So Saul’s servants searched for the right man to provide good music for Saul. The Lord led Saul’s servants to David and he was chosen to produce soothing music for King Saul. They did not realize that they had chosen the future king of Israel to help King Saul. The Lord used this position in the King’s house to prepare David to be the next king. The Lord knew how to prepare David to do His work. The Lord did all this for David, because David loved Him.

WE: We should love the Lord like David did. When we love the Lord all things work out for our good (Rom. 8:28). The Lord knows all about you and will put you in the best place to prepare you for serving Him later in your life.

BE (for Action): How does a person act when he is proud? (He is selfish, hates and is mean to others.) How does a person act when he is humble? (He shares what he has with others, loves people and is kind to them.) I am sure that you want to be a humble person. If you love the Lord, He will help you to be a humble person.

If you want to be a humble person that God can use, I want you to bow your heads now and tell God that you want Him to help you to be a humble person. After class, ask them to write these two words on the back of their handwork or in their Bibles: HUMBLE YOURSELF. The Lord will not make you humble; that is your responsibility. We must humble ourselves – I Peter 5:6.)