

DAVID BECOMES KING

2 Samuel 1-5

Lesson Memory Verse: John 1:12 "But as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His name."

Lesson Aim: The Lord has a plan for us. He wants us to become His children and then to grow strong.

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

KEY (for Attention): It was a hot summer day and a storm was near. Two friends, Tom and Joe, were playing outside of Tom's house. They were hot and decided to go swimming in the lake just a little way down the road. As all good children do, Tom ran into the house to ask permission of his father to go swimming. Tom's father looked outside and saw that a storm was near and told them that it was too dangerous to go swimming at that time. Tom didn't really understand, but he greatly respected his father and obeyed. He went out and told Joe that they couldn't go swimming. A few minutes later a terrible storm hit. There was lightning and thunder and rain, and the wind knocked over some of the trees. Then Tom and Joe knew for certain that Tom's father was right. It would have been a terrible mistake to have gone swimming at that time. They could have been killed. God may say "no" to some of our plans, too, just like Tom's father said "no" to Tom and Joe. We may not understand why we can't do certain things when we become Christians, but God knows that they will hurt us. We will learn that when God says "no" to us, it is the best for us. It is always best for His children to obey Him. He has the best plan for us. The first part of His plan for you is to become one of His children. Our memory verse tells us that God's plan for us is to become His child. Let's see what it says.

HE (for Authority): The Lord's plan for us begins when we believe and receive Jesus Christ as our Savior. (Read John 1:12) From this verse we learn: (1) that we have the power (the right) to be a child of God; (2) that we have this power (this right) by receiving Jesus into our life (see Rev 3:20).

Anyone who has received Jesus as their Savior is a child of God. Anyone that has not received Jesus as their Savior is a child of Satan. This sounds awful, but that is what the Bible says (Jn 8:42-45; 1 Jn 3:10-15). God wants you to become His child. If you are already one of His children, He wants you to follow His plan in the Bible so you can grow strong as a Christian. **Words to Explain:**

"Receive": accept or invite

"Power": the right

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.

In today's story we want to tell you how David became the king of Israel. It was the Lord who planned for David to be a king. He doesn't have that plan for most people, but He does have a plan for each person. To be a good king David had to become one of God's children by trusting in Him to save him from his sins. Do you remember any time when David showed that he had already put his trust in the Lord? One time was when he fought against Goliath, that awful giant. The Lord really helped David that day, didn't He? In today's story David was much older, but he still trusted and obeyed the Lord and followed His plans. We do not know when David first trusted the Lord, but we know that he did, because he kept on trusting Him through his whole life. (The following outline used in this lesson is given to help the teacher remember the main points of the lesson. You need not teach this outline to the children. Simply tell the story to them and make applications to their lives as you tell the story.)

I. Report of the Amalekite (1)

An Amalekite brought Saul's crown and bracelet to David after he had killed Saul on the battlefield. This was against the Lord's plan. The Amalekite should have tried to help Saul to live, but instead he killed him. He thought Saul would die on the battlefield from a wound he had received from the Philistines, so he thought it was all right to kill Saul. David knew the Amalekite had sinned against God because he had taken the life of God's anointed king. The penalty was death. Therefore, David followed the Lord's plan and put the Amalekite to death for killing King Saul.

WE: We must be careful to follow the Lord's plan as it is given in the Bible. If we do what we think is best, like the Amalekite, we will find out it is against the Lord's plan. There is a penalty for going against the Lord's plans and sometimes it is a very serious penalty. The worst mistake we could make is to try to get to Heaven by simply trying to be good. We can never be good enough to get to Heaven. We must trust

Jesus to save us because Jesus said that He alone can get us to Heaven (Jn 14:6). If we try some other way, we will not be following the Lord's plan for getting into Heaven and we will never get there. We must know the Lord's plan and follow it exactly.

II. Readiness of David (2)

David wanted to know if it was the Lord's plan to become king of Israel at that time. So he asked the Lord about it. The Lord said it was the right time to be the king of Judah. He was told to go to Hebron to be made the king of Judah. However, it was not the right time to be the King of Israel. He would have to wait 7½ years for that to happen.

WE: We may not like to wait for the Lord's time to give us what He has promised, but we will have trouble, if we do not wait. The Lord knows the right time and it is best for us if we wait for it. Some people get into trouble because they do not ask the Lord for His plan to be given to them; they go ahead with their own plan. Others ask the Lord for His plan, but if they do not like it, so they do what they want to do. Have you ever asked the Lord what He wants you to do? I hope that you have, but if not, start asking Him what His plan is for your life. And then I hope that you will do what He wants you to do with your life.

The Lord had to teach David how to win battles over Saul's people that did not want him as their king. These battles would prepare him to lead the whole nation of Israel. He had to learn to be patient and trust the Lord for the right time to be king over all Israel. David obeyed the Lord and waited for the right time.

WE: We need to be patient like David and wait for the Lord's time to work out His plan. If we run ahead of the Lord's plan for our lives, we will be running alone without the Lord.

III. Results of Obedience (3)

David became more powerful as he kept on obeying the Lord, but Saul's people became weaker and weaker. It took 7 ½ years for God's plan to be completely worked out before David could become the king over all Israel. David waited patiently and it worked well for him...

WE: We do not like to wait for Christmas and the presents we will receive. We do not like to wait to go on a trip to someone's house or wait to take a vacation trip to some exciting place. But it teaches us not to be selfish and want our way to be done. It also teaches us not to give up. If we keep waiting for the Lord to keep His promises, we will be happy that we did. He will never forget those who wait for Him.

IV. Rise of David (4-5)

When the king of Saul's people was killed by his own servants, it was against the Lord's plan. These servants came to David to tell him that they had murdered the king, and now that he was dead, he could become king over all of Israel. These servants thought that David would reward them for killing Israel's king, but David knew that they had done wrong. They had gone against the Lord's plan. So David put these wicked servants to death just as he had done to the Amalekite many years before when he had killed Saul.

WE: We should never expect to be rewarded for doing wrong. That is totally against the Lord's plan for our lives.

When Saul's people saw how David kept the Lord's plan and did not force himself to be their king, they willingly made him their king (5:3). It took a long time for David to become king, but when he followed the Lord's plan, he became the greatest king that Israel ever had.

WE: We will find that it is best to wait for the Lord to work out His plan instead of going ahead with our plan. If we follow the Lord's plan, we will never be sorry that we did.

BE (for Action): If you want to be like David and follow the Lord's plan for your life, you must do it by trusting Jesus Christ. Who can tell me a story where David trusted the Lord? (Fighting Goliath) You need to trust the Lord, too, first by receiving Jesus as your Savior to be a child of God. If you need to become a child of God, I can show you what you must do after class. If you are already a child of God, you need to read the Bible and pray so you can grow strong. You will find the Lord's plan for your life by listening carefully as we study the Bible in these classes and by prayer. Let us ask God to help us follow His plan.