

1st-3rd Grade Lesson Plan

Sunday, October 5

UNIT 10 | SESSION 3

SAUL DISOBEYED GOD

1 SAMUEL 14-15

MAIN POINT / CHRIST CONNECTION: King Jesus obeyed perfectly. Saul disobeyed God's commands and was rejected as king. We all disobey God's commands when we sin. Only Jesus perfectly obeyed God at all times. When we believe in Jesus, we are made right with God and accepted by Him.

CATECHISM QUESTION : Q) Did our Lord Jesus Christ ever sin? A) No. He was holy, blameless, and undefiled. (*Hb 7:26; Lk 23:47; 1-Ib 4:15; 1 Pet 2:22; 1 Jn 3:5*)

MEMORY VERSE of the Month: PSALM 103:19 - "The LORD has established his throne in the heavens, and his kingdom rules over all." (ESV)

Preparation

Lesson Context

This Unit: In foolishness, God's people begged for a king like the nations around them. Though Israel rejected God as their king, God mercifully warned them and gave them the king they desired—King Saul. However, despite Saul's regal appearance, his foolish disobedience led to God's rejection of him as king. Instead, God replaced him with a man after His own heart to rule His people.

Volunteer Huddle | 8:45 a.m.

Meet in the Threes classroom (first floor) for prayer and important info for this Sunday.

Prep Room | 8:50 a.m.

- Put out activity pages (in Activity Box) and markers (in Teacher Box) on desks.

- If you'd like, put music on the Spotify app on the Roku TV.
- You can push tables back or to the sides to make space in the center or front of the room for activities.

Fellowship Time | 9:00 - 9:15 am

FELLOWSHIP TIME

Greet families at the door as they arrive. Allow children time to engage with one another and catch up. Use this time to get to know your students and hear about their week. What was a good part/hard part or “yay duck”/“yuck duck” of their week? If you'd like a prompting question for discussion, you can use the one below:

SAY: *can you name some rules in sports or other games that would cause you to be disqualified if you broke them? Why is it important to have rules in sports and games?*

ACTIVITY PAGE

Lead children to choose a desk and give them **an Activity Page and markers** (in Activity Box). You can also give them blank paper to draw or some playdough (in Teacher Box) if you prefer.

SAY: *Today, we will learn how Saul once again disobeyed God and why God desires obedience.*

REVIEW CLASSROOM RULES

Post the **Rules Poster** (in Activity Box) somewhere in the room.

1. **Be kind and respectful:** to your friends and teachers. Raise your hand and wait to be called; speak kindly to one another; use words and actions that build up and do not tear down; etc.
2. **Have a heart of obedience:** Listen to your teachers' instructions and obey fully, quickly, and joyfully!
3. **Have self control:** Keep your hands, feet, and objects to yourself; keep all chair legs on the ground; no running or rough housing. Do not touch one another; let's not poke each other, hit, kick, etc.

Group Activity | 9:10/9:15 am

FOLLOW ME

Distribute a **paper plate** to each kid (in Activity Box). Challenge kids to follow the motions you perform while keeping the plate on their heads. Begin with a slow, easy movement, such as moving arms up and down, then progressively make it more challenging. Kids must keep the plate on their heads while following the leader. If a kid's plate falls off her head, she is out for the rest of the round. Also, if a kid fails to follow the leader's movements, he is also out for the rest of the round. Invite kids to be leaders for different rounds. Play as time allows.

SAY *What was the consequence if your plate fell or if you performed the wrong motion? [Allow responses.] You were out of the game for that round. In the Bible, we see how God gave commands to people. God always has a good reason for telling us to do something. Everything He does is good and right. When we disobey His commands, we sin. Sin has consequences. Today, we will learn that God rejected Saul as king because he disobeyed God's commands.*

Lesson | 9:20 am

Ask students to return to their desks and pass out **Bibles** (in Teacher Box). Let them know of your expectations during the lesson: listening to the teacher, sitting quietly with hands and feet to themselves, etc.

1. Introduce the Lesson + Pray

SAY *Hi, kids! I'm so glad to see you. For the past couple of weeks, we have learned about a man named Saul who became Israel's first king. Saul had victories in battle during his time as king, but he was also disobedient to God. Today, we'll learn how God rejected Saul as king because he disobeyed God's commands.*

If you have a Bible with you, will you take it out? [Distribute Bibles to kids who need one.] Let's pray and ask God to prepare our hearts to hear from Him.

2. Catechism Question

Use the **Catechism Question** posters to review previous questions and learn the new one for this week (in Activity Box).

SAY: *Today we will learn a new catechism question for the month:*

Q) Did our Lord Jesus Christ ever sin?

A) No. He was holy, blameless, and undefiled.

We've been talking about what sin and righteousness is. Jesus was fully human but he never once sinned; he was perfectly righteous. The kings of Israel, like Saul, sinned, but Jesus is our true king who is without sin!

Let's also remember our previous catechism question:

Q) What is sin?

A) Sin is going our own way instead of God's way. .

Q) What is righteousness?

A) It is God's goodness.

Q) Did our Lord Jesus Christ ever sin?

A) No. He was holy, blameless, and undefiled.

3. Using Bibles

SAY: *Today, we will be in the book of 1 SAMUEL.*

1. *Turn to the Table of Contents at the front of your Bibles and look under the Old Testament category to find the book of 1 SAMUEL. Turn to that page number.*
2. *Once you've found 1 SAMUEL, I would like you to find chapter 15.*

4. Tell the Bible Story

Open your **Bible** to **1 SAMUEL 14** and ask children to turn in their Bibles.

SAUL DISOBEYED GOD



Saul and his son, Jonathan, led the Israelite troops to fight God's enemies—the Philistines. Earlier in the day, Jonathan and his servant won a great battle, and the Philistine army was scared.

Saul was eager to attack while they were scared. Saul made his troops promise not to eat any food until the battle was over. Saul said, "The man who eats food before I punish my enemies is cursed." So, none of the troops ate any food.

Saul's son Jonathan saw some honey on the ground. He had not heard the instructions from his father Saul, so he ate some of the honey. When Saul learned what he had done, he wanted to punish Jonathan. But the rest of the Israelite army defended Jonathan so that Saul did not harm him. Then Saul stopped chasing after the Philistines, and the Philistines went back to their land.

Later, Samuel came and shared the words of the Lord with Saul. God said, "I remember what the Amalekites did to Israel many years ago. Now attack the Amalekites and completely destroy them. Do not leave any of their animals alive."

Saul and his army attacked the Amalekites. They captured King Agag, and they kept the best of the sheep, cattle, and other animals alive. They were not willing to destroy them; they only destroyed the worthless or unwanted things.

The Lord said to Samuel, "I regret that I made Saul king because he did not obey My instructions." Samuel was angry.

Early in the morning, Samuel went to confront Saul. When Saul saw Samuel coming, he said, "May the Lord bless you! I have done what God asked!"

Samuel replied, "Why then do I hear the sounds of sheep, goats, and cattle?"

Saul said, "The troops brought those animals from the Amalekites. We plan to sacrifice them to the Lord."

"Stop!", exclaimed Samuel. "Last night, the Lord told me that he called you, an unimportant young man, to become the leader of all Israel. Then he sent you on a mission and told you to completely destroy the Amalekites. So why didn't you obey the Lord?"

"But I did obey the Lord!", Saul answered. "I went on the mission and defeated the Amalekites. The troops took the animals to sacrifice to the Lord."

Samuel replied, “Does the Lord take more pleasure in sacrifices of animals or in obedience? To obey is better than sacrifice. Because you have rejected the word of the Lord, He has rejected you as king.”

4. Christ Connection

SAY: King Jesus obeyed perfectly. *Saul disobeyed God's commands and was rejected as king. We all disobey God's commands when we sin. Only Jesus perfectly obeyed God at all times. When we believe in Jesus, we are made right with God and accepted by Him.*

Review & Video | 9:30 am

Bible Story Video

If you'd like, watch the **Bible lesson video** on the YouTube app on the TV (*YouTube account should be Fellowship Kids* (switch accounts on the top of the left sidebar if not) > go to Library on the left side bar > Choose Playlists on the top > choose your classroom).

Review the Bible Story

Invite children to **open their Bibles to 1 SAMUEL 15:12-22.**

SAY - Let's review a section of scripture from our Bible lesson today. Please turn to **1 SAMUEL 15:12-22. Have a volunteer read the passage.**

- 1. What did Saul set up in verse 12? What did Saul say he had done in verse 13?**
 - a. Saul set up a monument to himself. He told Samuel that he had performed God's command.
- 2. Did Saul fully obey God's command?**
 - a. No, God told him to completely destroy every Amalekite, including the animals. But Saul did not kill the Amalekite king and he had kept the best animals alive.
- 3. What did Samuel say is better than sacrifice in verse 22?**
 - a. He said obedience was better than sacrifice. God desires his people to obey Him completely.
- 4. None of us will be able to fully obey God. There are consequences for sin. Who was the one person able to perfectly obey God? Who took on our consequence for sin?**

a. *Jesus! Jesus perfectly obeyed God and never once sinned. He was the perfect sacrifice and took our consequence for sin by dying our death on the cross.*

Pray

Ask students if they have any **prayer requests**. Pray about what you learned in the lesson and for any requests.

Memory Verse | 9:35 am

Show the **memory verse poster** (in Activity Box). Open your Bible to **PSALM 103:19** and lead the kids to read the verses together. You can also write the verse on the whiteboard so that children can see it more clearly.

“The LORD has established his throne in the heavens, and his kingdom rules over all.”

- **PSALM 103:19**

MEMORY VERSE SCRAMBLE

Write the memory verse on the whiteboard. When you get to keywords, scramble the letters. Invite the class to guess the scrambled words to reveal the full verse.

SAY: *God rules over everything. He is a good King who wants us to live with Him forever. Only trusting in King Jesus can save us from sin.*

Extra Time Activity

BOW TO THE KING

Choose one child to be the king or the queen. Have them sit on a chair (the throne) at the front of the room. All other children should space themselves around the room facing the throne. When the king or queen

stands all children must bow down on the ground, when the king or queen sits the children should stand up.

Add a challenge: The last child to get into position is out of the round and must wait until next round to play again. The king and Queen may also try to fool the other players by pretending to stand or sit. Any child who performs the wrong action is also out of the game. The last remaining child becomes the king or queen for the next round.

SAY *Today we talked about King Saul again. The people were to follow the king just like you all had to watch and follow the king/queen in the game, so God wanted King Saul to obey and act righteously. However, in our story today, we saw that instead of leading the people in obedience, King Saul followed the people and disobeyed God.*

Dismissal | 9:50 am

As parents arrive,

- Match the 4 digit code on the parent's tag to the child's tag
- Check out the child on the tablet by clicking the check box to the left of their name on the roster.
- **Give feedback!** Tell parents how the student did that morning.

Clean Up

- Wipe down tables if any messes were made with activities. [Magic eraser sponges can erase markings on desks.]
- Put teacher and activity items back in the Activity Box or Teacher Box.
- Place the TV remote in the white holder on the dry erase board.
- Return the small Activity Box, class tablet, and your lanyards to the check-in desk.