

1st-3rd Grade Lesson Plan

Sunday, September 28

UNIT 10 | SESSION 2

SAUL RESCUED ISRAEL

1 SAMUEL 11-13

MAIN POINT / CHRIST CONNECTION: God desires obedience. Saul defeated enemy armies for Israel but failed to obey God. Jesus defeated our greatest enemies—sin and death—and always obeyed God. All who trust in Jesus will be saved and receive changed hearts that desire to obey God.

CATECHISM QUESTION : Q) What is righteousness? A) It is God's goodness. (*Exo 33:19; 34:6; Psa 33:5; Hos 3:5; Rom 11:22.*)

MEMORY VERSE of the Month: PHILIPPIANS 4:19 - "And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus" (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: *Who are some people you look up to? Why do you look up to them?*

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 see how the Israelites looked up to Saul and were happy he was their king. However, we'll also learn that Saul was not a perfect king, and he disobeyed God.*

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 INSTRUCTIONS

Provide kids with paper and markers. Tell kids that you will direct them to draw four things in order. Explain that they must listen carefully because you will only repeat the list of four things twice. Direct kids to draw a fish, a tree, a smiley face, and a triangle. Allow kids time to draw. Then invite kids to share their drawings, seeing who could follow the directions.

SAY *Was it hard to remember the order and what you were supposed to draw? Following directions can be challenging. In fact, no one perfectly follows God's commands. We all sin. Today, we will learn how Saul was a great warrior but chose to disobey God. He didn't follow God's directions for making a burnt offering.*

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 *Welcome, kids! My name is [your name], and I'm excited to share our Bible story with you today. Last week, we learned how the Israelites rejected God and chose Saul to be their king. Today, we will see how Saul began to lead God's people. We'll learn how Saul was a great warrior but chose to disobey God.*

If you have a Bible with you, will you take it out? [Distribute Bibles to kids who need one.] Let's ask God to give our hearts and minds understanding as we hear His Word.

2. Catechism Question

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

SAY: *Let's review our catechism question:*

Q) What is righteousness?

A) It is God's goodness.

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.

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 12.*

4. Tell the Bible Story

Open your **Bible** to **1 SAMUEL 11** and ask children to turn in their Bibles.

SAUL RESCUED ISRAEL



Israel had enemies from other nations. One of their enemies was the Ammonites. Nahash was a leader of the Ammonite army. He and his soldiers surrounded a town in Israel named Jabesh-gilead. Nahash threatened to hurt the people of Jabesh-gilead if they did not surrender to him.

The elders of Jabesh-gilead sent messengers throughout Israel to ask for help to defend their city.

When Saul heard the people needed help, the Spirit of God came powerfully on him, and Saul was angry. He gathered a large army and came and defeated Nahash and all his soldiers. All the people were glad Saul was king!

Then Samuel gave a final speech to all of Israel. He said, “Here is the king you have chosen. If you fear the Lord, worship and obey Him, and don’t rebel against His commandments, then both you and your king will follow the Lord. However, if you disobey the Lord, His hand will be against you just as it was against your ancestors. Worship the Lord with all your heart, and do not turn away from Him. He will not abandon His people.”

Then the Philistines gathered to fight against Israel, so Saul summoned all his troops to join him at Gilgal. He waited seven days for the scheduled time that Samuel had set, but Samuel had not arrived.

Saul’s troops began to leave him because they were afraid. So Saul said, “Bring me the burnt offering and the fellowship offerings.” Then he offered the burnt offering.

As soon as Saul finished making the burnt offering, Samuel arrived and said, “What have you done?”

Saul answered, “When I saw that the troops were leaving and you had not come at the scheduled time, I forced myself to make the burnt offering.”

Samuel said, “You have been foolish. You have not kept the command the Lord gave you. Your family would have reigned over Israel forever, but now God has found another leader, a man after his own heart. He will rule over the people because you have not done what the Lord commanded.” Then Samuel left him.

4. Christ Connection

SAY: God desires obedience. *Saul defeated enemy armies for Israel but failed to obey God. Jesus defeated our greatest enemies—sin and death—and always obeyed God. All who trust in Jesus will be saved and receive changed hearts that desire to obey God.*

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 12:20-25.**

SAY - Let's review a section of scripture from our Bible lesson today. Please turn to **1 SAMUEL 12:20-25. Have a volunteer read the passage.**

- 1. What did Samuel tell the people to do?**
 - a. He told them to not turn aside from following God for empty things but to serve the Lord with all their heart
- 2. Who does this passage tell us about God?**
 - a. God will never forsake his people; He made the Israelites his people; He has done great things for his people; but He will sweep the people away if they do wickedly
- 3. What did Samuel say he would do for the people in verse 23?**
 - a. He said he would not stop praying for the people and he would instruct them in the good and right way to go.
- 4. Verse 24 says to “fear the Lord and serve him faithfully with your whole heart.” How do you think you can do that in your own life?**

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 **PHILIPPIANS 4:19** 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.

“And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus”

- **PHILIPPIANS 4:19**

SAY EVERY OTHER WORD

Divide the room between girls and boys or equally in half. Have the girls and boys or each side read the verse aloud together, alternating every other word, so girls/first side says the first word, boys/second side says the second word, girls/first side the third, etc.

SAY: *God rescued his people through Saul but Saul ultimately disobeyed. The king we truly need—who never disobeyed—is Jesus, and God has given him to us as our savior.*

Extra Time Activity

HULA RESCUE

Form kids into two teams, and designate one kid from each team as the Rescuer. Provide each Rescuer with a **hula hoop** (in Activity Box). Direct the Rescuers to stand at one end of the room while their teammates line up at the other end of the room. The Rescuers will run to their teammates and “rescue” the first kid in line by placing the hula hoop over them. Then they will walk back to the other side. The kid who was rescued becomes the Rescuer and will rescue the next kid. Play continues until all kids have been rescued and brought to the other side of the room. The first team to rescue all the kids on their team wins.

SAY *Today, we'll learn how the Israelites needed to be rescued from their enemies. We'll see how God gave Saul a heart to rescue the Israelites. However, we'll also learn that Saul was a great warrior but chose to disobey God. Being a great warrior doesn't matter much when someone doesn't obey God. All people need a perfect Savior to rescue them from sin. Let's learn how God provided His perfect Son, Jesus, to rescue anyone who trusts in Him.*

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.