

4th-5th Grade Lesson Plan

Sunday, September 14

UNIT 9 | SESSION 4

FREEDOM FROM THE PHILISTINES

1 SAMUEL 7

MAIN POINT / CHRIST CONNECTION: Samuel called the people to turn away from false gods and to worship God, and God gave them victory over their enemies. God calls us to turn away from sin and to trust in Jesus who gives us victory over our enemies of sin and death.

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: Regardless of sin patterns and disobedience, God continued to see His people and hear their requests and desires. God's provision is seen through His gifts of a kinsman redeemer for Ruth's family, a son with a prophetic calling for Hannah, and freedom and protection for the Israelites from the Philistines. God's plan remained steadfast, despite humanity's brokenness.

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: *Have you ever ridden in the car with your parents or an adult and they made a wrong turn? What did they do? Why?*

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 the Israelites recognized that they had turned away from God. We'll see how Samuel encouraged them to turn back to God with all their hearts.*

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

TURN AROUND

Have children sit in a circle on the ground. Provide them with a **ball** (in Activity Box) and direct them to pass the ball around the circle. Tell the kids that when you shout, “Turn around!” they have to immediately switch and begin passing the ball in the other direction. Change it up by saying “turn around” more often to see how fast kiddos can switch directions back and forth.

SAY *Today, we will see how Samuel called Israel to turn away from worshiping the foreign gods of other nations. Samuel told the people to repent. We’ve already learned that repentance is turning away from sin and turning to Jesus. Let’s get ready to hear if the people repented and how God calls us to repentance as well.*

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!. Today, we are going to see how God’s people tried doing things their way and realized they missed God. They realized that following the ways of the nations only led to misery. Did you know the Bible helps us know how God wants us to live? God gave us His Word so we can follow His Son, Jesus, and find true joy and eternal life. If you have your Bible, please hold it up high. [Distribute Bibles to kids who need one.]*

In our story, we’ll see that Samuel cried out to the Lord to save the Israelites. God’s people needed to be rescued from their enemies, and Samuel led the Israelites to turn back to God. Let’s ask God to help us remember the importance of turning back to Him when we have sinned. Let’s pray.

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 new catechism question today:*

Q) What is righteousness?

A) It is God's goodness.

When we talk about being righteous, it means we are imitating God's character, which is perfectly good and right. In our story we will learn how God's people turned from sin and toward righteousness, towards obeying God's ways.

Q) What is righteousness?

A) It is God's goodness.

3. Using Bibles

SAY: *Today, we will be in the book of 1 SAMUEL. Is 1 SAMUEL in the New or Old Testament?*

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 7.*

4. Tell the Bible Story

Open your **Bible** to **1 SAMUEL 7** and ask children to turn in their Bibles.

FREEDOM FROM THE PHILISTINES

Twenty years after the ark was returned from the Philistines, the Israelites began to cry out for God.

Samuel told them, “If you are returning to worship the Lord, then you must stop worshiping the false gods from the nations around us. If you dedicate yourselves to worshiping only the Lord, then He will rescue you from the Philistines.”

The people obeyed and removed the statues and poles that were used to worship the false gods, and they only worshiped the Lord.

Then Samuel said, “Gather all the people, and I will pray to the Lord on your behalf.” They fasted that day and confessed their sins to God.

When the Philistines heard that all of Israel had gathered in one place, they decided to attack. The Israelites were afraid and said to Samuel, “Don’t stop crying out to the Lord our God for us. Ask him to save us from the Philistines!”

Samuel made a burnt offering to the Lord and cried out to Him, and the Lord answered him. As the Philistines approached to fight Israel, the Lord thundered loudly against them and made them confused. Israel defeated the Philistines, chasing them away as they retreated.

Samuel set up a large stone to remember what happened that day. He said, “The Lord has helped us to this point.”

Israel took back the land and cities that the Philistines had taken from them, and the Philistines did not invade Israel again. Samuel led the Israelites as their judge, and the Lord’s hand was against the Philistines all of Samuel’s life.

4. Christ Connection

SAY: *Samuel called the people to turn away from false gods and to worship God, and God gave them victory over their enemies. God calls us to turn away from sin and to trust in Jesus who gives us victory over our enemies of sin and death.*

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 7:3-12.**

SAY - Let's review a section of scripture from our Bible lesson today. Please turn to **1 SAMUEL 7:3-12. Have a volunteer read the passage.**

- 1. What do we learn about God in this passage?**
 - a. *God saves and delivers those who turn from and repent of sins. God answered the cry of his people and saved them from the Philistines. God is powerful over all enemies. God is a helper.*
- 2. What did the people do in this passage?**
 - a. *They turned from their sins and from idols.*
- 3. What did Samuel say when he set up the stone after God drove the Philistines away?**
 - a. *He said, "Until now the Lord has helped us." He saw that God was a helper to his people.*

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**

WORD SCRAMBLE

Divide the class into two teams. Have each child on the team draw a slip of paper with one of the words from the verse (**paper slips** in Activity Box). Explain that on your count of 3, the teams should place their words on the ground and put the verse in order as fast as they can. The team that puts the verse together the fastest wins. Challenge them to play again, pick up their words, and this time, time them on your phone to see how fast each team can put the verse in order.

SAY: *God supplied the Israelites with victory over the Philistines when they returned to worship Him. God gives us victory over our sin through faith in Jesus.*

Extra Time Activity

FLYING PRAYERS

Provide each kid with a piece of paper and a pen. Tell kids to write down a prayer request on the piece of paper. Let them know one other person in the room will see their prayer. After kids have written their prayers, direct them to fold their paper into a paper airplane. Then direct half of the kids to go to one side of the room, while the other half go to the opposite side of the room. Allow kids to toss their airplane to a kid opposite them. Challenge kids to pray for the person whose airplane they received, both now and throughout the week.

SAY *Samuel cried out to the Lord to save the Israelites. He prayed to God on behalf of the people. We can pray for others as well. God is delighted when our hearts are moved to pray for one another. God hears our prayers, and we can trust He will answer them in His timing and in ways that are best.*

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.