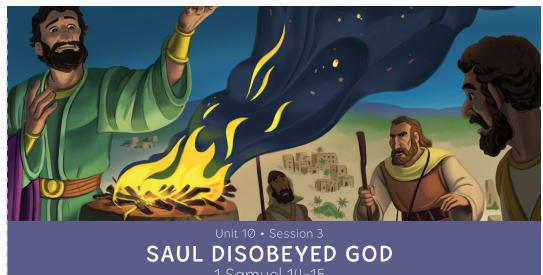


1. What does this story teach me about God or the gospel? 2. What does this story teach me about myself? 3. Are there any commands in this story to obey? How are they for God's glory and my good? 4. Are there any promises in this story to remember? How do they help me trust and love God? 5. How does this story help me to live on mission better?



1 Samuel 14-15

## WHO IS OUR KING? JESUS IS OUR KING FOREVER, AND HE RULES OVER THE WORLD.

Saul and his son, Jonathan, led the Israelite troops to fight God's enemies—the Philistines. 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." 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. Saul wanted to punish Jonathan. But the rest of the Israelite army defended Jonathan so that Saul did not harm him.

Later. Samuel shared the words of the Lord with Saul. God said. "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. The Lord said to Samuel, "I regret that I made Saul king because he did not obey my instructions."

Samuel went to confront Saul. Saul said. "I have done what God asked!" Samuel replied, "Why then do I hear the sounds of sheep, goats, and cattle?" "Stop!", exclaimed Samuel. "So why didn't you obey the LORD?"

"But I did obey the LORD!", Saul answered. "The troops took the animals to sacrifice to the LORD."

Samuel replied, "To obey is better than sacrifice. Because you have rejected the word of the LORD, He has rejected you as king."

Christ Connection: 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.

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