

DAVID – Lesson #2

SAUL'S DISOBEDIENCE

- SCRIPTURE:** 1 Samuel 11 – 15
- MEMORY VERSE:** 1 Corinthians 15:3,4 “...Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the scriptures.”
- VISUALS:** Flashcards: 2-1 – 2-6
- MAIN TRUTH:** God wants you to obey Him in all things.
- BASIC OUTLINE:**
- I. INTRODUCTION
 - A. BEGINNING STATEMENTS
 - B. TRANSITION
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I. INTRODUCTION

A. BEGINNING STATEMENTS

I have a hard question for you. Do you always obey the people who are responsible for you? When your mom, grandpa, or teacher tells you to do something, do you do it? Do you have a heart that wants to obey God?

B. TRANSITION

In our true lesson from the Bible today, we will learn about a very important man. Did he have a heart that was willing to obey God? Listen and find out.

II. PROGRESSION OF EVENTS

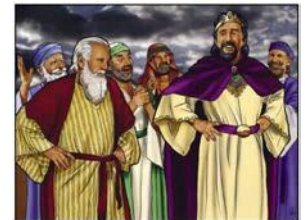
The people of Israel demanded that God give them a king. God chose Saul. But not everyone was sure that Saul would make a good king. So, Saul went back to his home.

Then the bad news came. A message arrived from the people of Jabesh saying that their enemies, the Ammonites, were about to force them to become their slaves. Saul was bringing his animals home from the fields the night when he heard the news. He was angry that the Ammonites would do this, so Saul called all the men of Israel together in one army to fight the Ammonites and to rescue the people from the leader of Jabesh. That is what they did. With Saul leading them, the Israelite soldiers killed many Ammonite soldiers and chased the others away.

FLASHCARD 2-1

The people gathered together after the battle, perhaps to celebrate the victory.

“The Lord has saved Israel,” Saul said.



Then God’s prophet, Samuel, called the people together to crown Saul as king once again. But this time, everyone was convinced that he really was the one God had chosen.

IH In pairs, have children pretend to place a crown on their neighbor’s head. Switch roles and let the other child place the crown.

To be chosen by God is very special!

O That reminds me of Someone else who is more special than any other person. His name is Jesus (Saviour). He is God’s only perfect Son who came to be our Saviour. And more than that, Jesus is special because He never thought, said, or did anything wrong! He never sinned. Jesus is the only Person who has never sinned.

Saul was also special because he was chosen by God to be the king of Israel at that time.

Saul would never be a farmer again. From now on, Saul would live and act like the king of Israel, and everyone would obey him. The Bible tells us that Saul and all the men of Israel rejoiced that day.

Then Samuel spoke, “Many times, God has rescued you from your enemies and made you able to live in peace and safety. But when your enemies were coming against you again, you said, ‘A king should rule over us,’ even though God was your king. Now here is the king you have wanted and chosen. God has given him to you.”

Then Samuel said that even though it was the time of harvest, which in that land was a time when it never rained, God would send thunder and rain to prove to them that they had done a sinful thing by asking God for a king.

So Samuel called to God, and immediately God sent a thunderstorm.

The people were afraid. “Pray for us, Samuel, so we don’t die!” They said, “We have added to all our other sins this sin of asking for a king.” They knew that God was serious about sin when the rains came.

S, PAU God *is* still serious about sin today. He knows that sin brings great trouble in our lives and does not honor (glory) God. Because of sin we are separated from God now and will be forever when our life here on earth is over. The Bible says, ***“For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.”*** All people have sinned; that means me, and it means you. (Ex. *Maybe you lied to your mom about taking the dog for a walk like she asked you to.*) You and I have thought, said, and done things that are wrong and that does not bring glory to God or please Him. All of us deserve to be punished because of our sin. Sin is always very serious to God.

The Israelite people knew that God was serious about sin, and they were afraid of what God’s punishment would be for their sin. But Samuel said, “Don’t be afraid; the Lord will not turn His back on His people. As for me, I will certainly never sin against the Lord by stopping my prayers for you. But if you still do wickedly, you and your king will be punished.”

As time went by, Saul worked hard to gather and organize an army that could protect Israel from all its enemies. He put his son Jonathan in charge of part of this army. One day, Jonathan attacked a group of Philistine soldiers.

The Philistines were one of Israel’s biggest and most powerful enemies, and they were not very happy that Jonathan had dared to fight them. They began to gather together a huge army to attack Israel. They had 30,000 two-wheeled fast chariots pulled by horses for their soldiers to ride in. The Israelites hardly had any weapons!

One by one, the Israelite soldiers began to slip away from Saul’s army. They hid in caves, behind rocks and in thick woods. Saul was worried when he saw they were leaving him.

Samuel had promised Saul that in seven days, he would come to Saul’s army to offer a sacrifice to God.

IH Ask, “How many days was Saul to wait for Samuel?”

In those days, God's people would sacrifice by killing an animal. The blood of the animal would cover their sins, but it could never take away sin. They were waiting for the day when God would send Jesus, His perfect Sacrifice, whose blood could forgive all sins forever.

P, E

Rom. 5:8

Jesus was that perfect Sacrifice. Jesus let men who hated Him nail Him onto a cross made out of wood. He gave His precious blood and died on that cross. He did this to take the punishment for all the wrong things that you and I have done. The Bible says, ***“But God commendeth (showed) His love toward us in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.”*** Jesus did that when He gave His blood for you and me. After Jesus died, He was buried, but three days later, He arose and He came back to life again. He's alive today! Jesus is the perfect Sacrifice for our sin, and it is His blood that cleanses us from sin forever.

The Israelite people were waiting for the day when God would send His perfect Sacrifice. Until then, they had to sacrifice an animal for their sin.

It was Samuel's responsibility to make this special sacrifice for them. Then Saul could begin the battle. But more and more of Saul's soldiers were leaving every day and Samuel still had not come to offer the sacrifice.

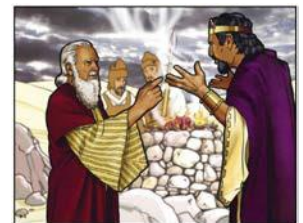
“Bring me the animals for the sacrifice,” Saul said. Instead of waiting for Samuel, he offered the sacrifices himself. This was a big problem. God's rule was that only the people from a certain family could offer sacrifices to Him. Saul was not from that family. He was not the right person to do what he did.

Just as Saul was finishing the sacrifice, Samuel arrived. Saul quickly dropped what he was doing and hurried over to welcome him.

FLASHCARD 2-2

“What have you done?” Samuel asked, probably looking at Saul's sacrifice.

“Well, I saw that the people were leaving me, and you didn't come when you said you were going to. The Philistines were gathering a huge army,” Saul answered, “and I thought, ‘the Philistines will attack me before you come so I had to sacrifice to God.’ I *had* to step in and offer the sacrifice.”



Samuel must have shaken his head. “You have acted foolishly. You have not kept the law that God has given you. God was going to set up you and your sons as kings after you, and your family would have been kings of Israel forever. But now, your kingdom will not continue. God has looked for a man with a heart like His, and He will command this man to be king over His people because you have not obeyed what God told you to do.” Then Samuel turned around and walked away.

Samuel said this to Saul because he was not willing to obey God.

MT



If you have believed on Jesus as your Saviour, God wants you to obey Him in all things. God is in charge, and He tells us what He wants us to do in His Word, the Bible. The girls in this picture were playing games on their tablets, but their mother called them to help wash the dishes. They quickly obeyed because they knew that God wants them to obey their parents. You and I need to be willing to obey God and do what the Bible tells us.

Saul was not willing to obey God.

Saul did fight the Philistine army. Jonathan, Saul's son, trusted God and bravely began the battle on his own, killing 20 enemy soldiers with just one person to help him. When the rest of Saul's army saw what Jonathan had done, they followed him and the Philistines were defeated.

Saul and Jonathan fought many more battles together. Everywhere the enemies were, Saul fought them and defeated them.

Then one day, Samuel told Saul that God had a special job for him to do. "Go and attack the Amalekites and completely destroy everything that they have. Do not let any of them live or any of their animals stay alive."

IH

Ask the children, "How much were the Israelites to destroy?"

Why would God tell Saul to do this? The Amalekites were sinful people who had done terrible things against God's people many years before. God had promised them then that they would be punished for their sin. Now it was time.

FLASHCARD 2-3

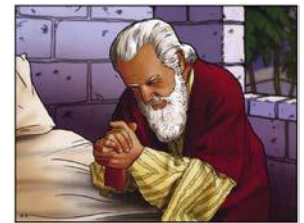
So Saul set out to do what God told him to do. He gathered his army, traveled to the city of the Amalekites, fought against them and won.



But something was not right. Saul and his army captured Agag, the king of the Amalekites, but they did not kill him. They destroyed *most* of the animals, but they kept the best sheep and oxen alive.

FLASHCARD 2-4

God saw what had happened. He said to Samuel, "It makes me sorry that I have made Saul king. He has turned back from following Me and hasn't done what I told him to do."



Samuel was very sad to hear God say this. The Bible tells us that Samuel prayed and cried to God all night long about Saul. I'm sure he loved Saul and had hoped that Saul would be a good king.

G

I hope you know some people who love you. But no matter what, you can always know that God loves you. He loves you more than any other person ever could.

Samuel must have loved and cared about Saul.

Early the next morning, Samuel went to find Saul.

Samuel found that Saul had built a monument, (statue) (1 Samuel 15:12), to himself in honor of his victory over the Amalekites. Seeing that monument made Samuel very sad, because it showed him the pride in Saul's heart.

When Saul saw him, he called out, "May you be blessed by the Lord! I have done what God sent me to do."

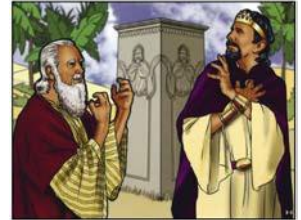
Then Samuel asked, “What does this mean, this noise of sheep in my ears and sounds of oxen which I hear?” asked Samuel.

IH Have children make the sounds of sheep and oxen.

Saul answered, “The people let the best of the sheep and oxen live so we could sacrifice them to the Lord your God, but we have destroyed everything else.”

FLASHCARD 2-5

Samuel said, “When you did not think you were important, didn’t God anoint you king of Israel? And the Lord sent you on a mission, and said, ‘Go and completely destroy your enemies, the Amalekites.’ Why then did you not obey the voice of the Lord, but you did evil in God’s sight by keeping some alive?”



“But I have obeyed the voice of the Lord!” Saul argued, “I have captured King Agag and completely destroyed the Amalekites. It was the people who took the animals that should have been killed, but they kept them to sacrifice to God.”

“Does the Lord have as much joy in sacrifices as He does in people who obey Him? To obey what God says is better than sacrifice and to listen to God is better than giving animals to Him. Rebelling against God is as bad as witchcraft, and being stubborn is as bad as worshiping other gods.”

“Because you have rejected the word of the Lord, He has also rejected you from being king.”

Saul had ignored what God had told him to do.

MT, PAS

God wants you to obey Him in all things.



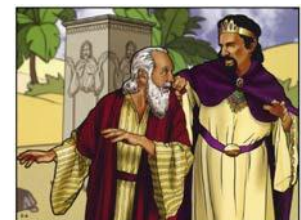
When you have believed on Jesus as your personal Saviour, God wants you to obey Him in all things. The Bible says in **Deut. 13:4**, “*Ye shall walk after the LORD your God . . . and obey His voice...*” (Ex. Maybe your dad or *whoever* is in charge of you you a job to do and you’re supposed to have it done before he comes back. Obeying God in all things means you do the job even if your dad isn’t there to make you do it.) You should obey God in all things.

Saul realized he wasn’t going to be able to get away with his sin.

“I have sinned,” he said. “I did not obey God’s law because I was afraid of the people and obeyed their voice instead. Please pardon my sin and come back with me to worship the Lord.”

FLASHCARD 2-6

“I will not go back with you,” Samuel said. He turned to walk away, but Saul reached out and grabbed his coat, trying to keep him from leaving. The coat tore in Saul’s hand.



Samuel must have looked at Saul with great sadness in his eyes. “God has torn the kingdom of Israel from you today and has given it to someone near you who is better than you are.”

“I have sinned!” Saul said, “But please honor me in front of the important people who are here and come back with me to worship God.”

Samuel turned and followed Saul back to the camp. After Saul had worshiped God, Samuel went one way to his home, and Saul went another way to his home.

III. CLIMAX

Although the people thought he was obeying God by worshipping Him, Saul’s heart was not right with God. He was not willing to obey God.

IV. CONCLUSION

A. CLOSING STATEMENTS

Because God was not going to be with Saul any longer, Samuel never came to see Saul again. But Samuel prayed and cried for Saul and he was sorry for him. God was sad too. He was sorry that He had made Saul the king of Israel.

B. BRIDGE

All this sadness came because Saul didn’t obey God. When you and I disobey we too will have sadness in our lives.

C. CHALLENGE

MT, PAS

Remember, if you have believed on Jesus as your Saviour, God wants you to obey Him in all things. Remember the verse in the Bible says in **Deut. 13:4**, **“Ye shall walk after the LORD your God . . . and obey His voice...”** So when your dad or person in charge gives you a job to do before they come home, you should obey God in all things by doing exactly what they have asked you to do, not just part of it. Obeying God in all things brings you happiness; disobeying Him in anything brings you sadness and trouble. Will you ask God to help you remember what happened to Saul and to help you not to be like him? I hope you will. *(Allow time for them to pray quietly.)*



D. INVITATION

L John 1:12

But if you have never believed in Jesus and received Him as your personal Saviour, The Bible says, **“But as many as receive Him (Jesus), to them He gave power to become the sons (child) of God, even to them that believe on His name.** (John 1:12) This verse means that when you know you have sinned, done wrong things and that you deserve to be punished for your sin. Do you know that you have sinned? Do you believe that Jesus died on the cross to take the punishment for your sin? Jesus came alive again to be your Saviour. Are you ready to receive Him as your Saviour and become a child of God? Let’s bow our heads and close our eyes. If you are ready for Jesus to be your personal Saviour, would you show me by looking up at me right now? Thank you. You may all open your eyes and look up. *(Tell them when to come and where to go for counseling.)* (Teacher close in prayer.)