



God Hears Us – King Saul

1 Samuel 10-13

God Statement: God is Our Leader

KEY VERSE: “Be strong and brave...I am the Lord your God. I will be with you everywhere you go..”
(Joshua 1:9, NIRV)

CHECK-IN

Classroom Teacher

(until 15 minutes after the start of each service)

As kids check-in, please have them wash their hands or use hand sanitizer before entering your classroom. Then they can participate in the various activities and games in your classroom. 10 minutes after the start of your service time, ask the kids to clean up their activities and toys so you can begin the Explore Activity at 15 minutes after the start of service.

EXPLORE ACTIVITY

Classroom Teacher

(15 minutes)

The Explore Activity is a chance to get the kids thinking about the upcoming Bible story for the day. Encourage your kids to engage with the activity as they prepare for the lesson.

DISCUSS: God is Our Leader

In today’s lesson, we are going to learn about how God is our Leader.

SAY:

Sometimes, we get our minds set on doing something, even if those around us, like our parents or teachers, tell us that it’s not the best idea. Maybe we just ate a bunch of sweets and candy, but we really want to go jump on the trampoline and our parent says

we should wait a little. Instead of listening and waiting, we do it anyways, even though the outcome isn't very good.

Just like we sometimes choose to ignore direction and guidance, there were some people in the Bible who also struggled to listen. They really wanted a king to rule over them. Even though God had told them otherwise, they didn't want to listen. So, God heard the people's demands and gave them what they wanted, even if the outcome wasn't great. God is our leader and always knows what's best for us, but He also hears and listens to all we say and ask. We may not always know all the answers, or have all of the pieces figured out, but God has a plan! Let's do a

PLAY:

To get the kids thinking about the lesson, they can do this activity!

Puzzle Race

Supplies: cardstock puzzles (2-3)

Say: *Today we are going to learn about two very important people! Samuel and Saul. Let's play a puzzle game before we dive into our story! Let's see if you can tell me who you think is on our puzzle.*

Directions: Have children get into teams of 3,4, etc. Give each team a puzzle. When you say go, have children race to put the picture together! See if they can tell you who is in the story puzzle. What do they see?

LARGE GROUP

(25 minutes)

Each week, Large Group will consist of an introduction, worship, the Bible lesson, worship response, and the blessing.

BIBLE CHALLENGE

Host

Use this time to get kids engaged in large group and introduce/review the current Bible Challenge.

Books of the Bible Song

Our current Bible Challenge is for kids to memorize the Books of the Old Testament right now. Use the song provided in the PowerPoint to help the kids practice the song each week. Encourage kids to take a "Bible Challenge" card home to remind them to practice at home as well!

As kids begin to learn the song, invite kids up to come show what they know during Large Group.

******After Bible Challenge, transition the power point to the “Worship” slide. Invite the worship leader up to lead the group in worship.******

WORSHIP & CHLOE’S RULES

Worship Leader & Host

WORSHIP

While the video is playing the opening worship songs, encourage the kids to sing and dance along. Don’t forget to set the example by participating alongside them!

Feel free to modify your worship time for what works best for your age group. You can find different ways to encourage the kids to participate by giving them instruments or showing them simple hand motions. You can also limit how many songs you choose to play, if it seems like the kids are not able to stay focused the entire time.

CHLOE’S RULES

Once everyone has found their seat, play Chloe’s Rules in the PowerPoint provided. If needed, reinforce the rules after the video plays.

****** After Worship & Chloe’s Rules, transition the PowerPoint to the Mail Time & Wardrobe of Wonder slides.******

MAIL TIME & WARDROBE OF WONDER

Host

MAIL TIME!

Find the Mail Time envelope in your curriculum supplies.

Pick one child to hide the envelope and another child to find it. Give the first child about 30 seconds to hide the envelope while the other child closes his/her eyes. After the envelope is hidden, the second child can search for the envelope while the class says “hot” or “cold” to give them clues if they’re getting closer or further away.

Have the two kids stand in front of the class and hold the verse page (inside the envelope) so everyone can see it.

Use the Key Verse Motions Video on Plex (or sent in weekly email) to learn the motions prior to Large Group.

**“Be strong and brave...I am the Lord your God. I will be with you everywhere you go...”
(Joshua 1:9, NIRV)**

WARDROBE OF WONDER

The Wardrobe of Wonder is an opportunity to get the younger kids engaged in the lesson by playing a guessing game to determine what the “What’s It” is inside the wardrobe each week.

Choose one child to “spy” on the What’s It by peeking inside the wardrobe. Remind the other children to look away and to not peek. Have the peeker whisper the identity of the What’s It in the host’s ear to ensure he/she saw it correctly.

What’s It: Ears

Now, invite the class to raise their hand and guess the identity of the What’s It by asking yes-or-no questions about it. Allow the child who peeked to help answer the questions. Once the children have guessed correctly, retrieve the What’s It from the wardrobe and allow the class to look at it/pass it around. Thank the volunteer and allow them to sit back down.

ASK:

Does anyone remember what we found in the wardrobe last week? A big mouth! Well, this week’s What’s It is kind of silly like that one. Look, it’s a giant ear! What do we use our ears for? To listen, that’s right. I wonder why we would have this ear in here today. Maybe it’s because we’re going to learn about how God always hears us. I think we’re going to find out more soon. Do you know what time it is? It’s time for us to dive into God’s Word together!

**** After the Mail Time & Wardrobe of Wonder, Younger Kids classes transition to the Bible Story video where the kids will hear about the lesson for the day. ****

BIBLE STORY

Lesson Video

Remind the group before starting the video to follow the expectations for Large Group.

THIS WEEK’S LESSON: God Hears Us – King Saul

Encourage kids to listen and engage with the lesson as they watch the teaching video.

**** After the video finishes, turn on soft worship music (with or without lyrics) to transition into Worship Response. This should be background music to help set the tone for a quiet reflection time with God. ****

WORSHIP RESPONSE

Host

Worship Response is an opportunity for the kids to apply what they just learned and to respond to what God is doing in their life. *Have the kids sit in a place where they can be still and reflect independently.* Then read through the Worship Response prompts below as you lead the kids through the time.

Supplies: stacks of 10 cups

God had a plan for the people of Israel. He was their leader. He has a plan for you! He is your leader. His plans are for good and not for evil, for a hope and a future.

Do you think God's plans for King Saul were good? ***Give kids a minute to think about this question and respond.***

God's plans are good, but I don't think Saul went along with all of God's plans. He became selfish and proud and wanted to do things his way.

God has plans for our good. What are some of the things God wants us to do? ***Let kids answer.***

Let's look in the Bible. Listen to these verses with your eyes closed and tell me something God wants us to do. ***Read a few of these verses and have kids respond after each verse.***

- Matthew 22:37-39 - God tells us to love Him and love each other.
- Ephesians 4:3 - He wants us to be kind.
- Psalm 100:4 - He wants us to be thankful.
- Micah 6:8 - He wants us to do the right thing, love mercy and to walk humbly with Him.

If kids are still engaged at this point, continue with this activity element by splitting everyone into small groups. If you feel that the kids are not engaged enough at this point, wrap up the worship response time in prayer.

We're going to divide up into small groups of 2-4 people. Work together to build a tower as tall as possible. Take a minute to plan your project. Work together. Try to use all the materials. You'll have 10 minutes so take your time. ***Have leaders take a stack of cups and get kids into groups to lead this activity.***

If you have time, let the kids describe their towers.

Remember, God is your leader. He has plans for you. Plans for good!

Close the time in prayer.

******After Worship Response, transition the power point to the Compassion & Offering slides.******

COMPASSION & OFFERING

Host

Before closing large group, take a moment to highlight and discuss each campus' Compassion sponsor child. Explain a little about the Compassion child's life and the impact their offering has for this child (info should be provided on cards in classroom).

Then remind kids that if anyone brought offering, now is the time to come forward to donate.

Ask a child to come up and pray for the offering and their Compassion child.

******After Compassion & Offering, transition the power point to the “Announcement” slide. The host will discuss any current announcements.******

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Host

Take this opportunity to cover any announcements for the kids, such as upcoming events or reminders, like bringing food donations for Feeding Families. Use the slides provided in the Power Point to display important announcements.

******After Announcements, transition the power point to the “Blessing” slide. The host will lead the class in receiving the blessing for the day.******

BLESSING

Host

Read the verse and blessing over the kids before closing Large Group. Encourage the kids to stand and open their hands to receive the blessing as a truth that they can take with them this week and hide in their hearts.

May you always remember that God is your leader. He has great plans for you and He loves you!

SMALL GROUP

Classroom Teachers

(10 minutes)

The Small Group discussion is a chance for the kids to discuss what they’ve just learned and to challenge them to think deeper.

Younger Kids:

This time is optional for younger kids, depending on if you feel like the kids are still listening and participating well.

1. **Briefly retell the Bible story (1 Samuel: 10-13).**
2. **Who did Samuel anoint as king? (Saul).**
3. **What do you think anoint means? (to pour oil onto).**

4. **Even though Saul was the new King, is there someone the Israelites needed to listen to more than Saul?** (Yes, God).
5. **Who is the true king of our lives?** (God).
6. **When Saul became King, did he follow what God had asked him to do?** (No. He attacked the Philistines).
7. **Sometimes we have to follow people who are in charge in our lives too. Who are some people you have to listen to?**
8. **Sometimes when we disobey or don't follow the rules, we lose fun things or things we have been given. Saul was told that he would be king and then he chose to follow his own wants instead of following what God wanted. Have you ever lost something because you made a poor choice or didn't follow the rules?**

Close small group in prayer.

RESPOND ACTIVITY

Classroom Teacher
(10 minutes)

DISCUSS:

If you have extra time at the end of your lesson and small group time, the kids can participate in this activity.

MAKE – Samuel Anoints Saul Coloring Page

Supplies: 1 coloring page per child, crayons/markers

Directions: Pass out coloring page and crayons, etc. for kids to color. This can also be sent home if there is not enough time in class to complete.

Say: It's such a wonderful reminder knowing God promises to hear us when we talk to Him. When we pray, God hears our prayers. Sometimes when we ask God for things, His answer is no, and that's ok! Sometimes, His answer is YES! God loves when we talk with Him. You can tell him about your day, pray for other people, ask Him to help you through something. He is always there and He always hears us. Let's do a coloring page to remind us of the story we learned about today!

CHECK-OUT

Classroom Teacher
(end of service)

As parents arrive for check-out, the kids can continue participating in the Respond Activities or the classroom games and toys.

Samuel Followed God Jigsaw Puzzle

Cut the puzzle apart on the red lines, mix the pieces up, and put the picture back together.



