

Lesson B2.2 - God Chooses Us



Teacher's Pages with Step-by-Step Lesson Plan

For Lower Elementary Students and Classes

Recommended for students in Preschool, Kindergarten, and Grades 1-2.

Quick Facts for the Teacher

Lesson Summary: 1 Samuel 16:1-13

► Bible Characters: Saul, Samuel, Jesse, David

While the people had demanded a king, Saul proved not to be a good one in the end. So God decided to choose someone to replace him. This time, God sent the prophet Samuel (who was now much older) to anoint a king of God's own choosing. That person was young David, a shepherd boy.

Brief Bible Background

- Today's Lesson is from the Old Testament
- Scripture Section: Monarchy

God's people settled in their own land and were united for the first time under the reign of three great kings, Saul, David, and Solomon. Rivalry and competition caused conflict among the royal families.

For More Information

The primary role of a Sunday School teacher for Preschool, Kindergarten (pre-readers), and Early Elementary (new readers) is to simply tell children the stories of Scripture and introduce them to the major characters of the Bible.

Teachers who want to know more about the lessons for their own familiarity with the story are encouraged to read the information in the SEED Upper Elementary and Youth Teacher's Pages.

a. Classroom Greeting

Teachers should arrive 10 to 15 minutes before class and greet students and parents by name. Write the day's Bible Message on the white board or poster board for all the kids to see. Have kids gather on a rug or in a dedicated meeting space. Encourage the children to learn each other's names.

b. Opening Prayer Song

This same opening song should be sung every week with young kids — remember, repetition is good. The words to this song are sung to the tune "A Sailor Went to Sea, Sea, Sea." Feel free to clap along!

**God welcomes you today, day, day
to listen, learn and play, play, play.**

**So hear me when I say, say, say
it's time to start! Let's pray, pray, pray:**

All lift hands and say: **Please bless us, Lord. Amen!**

c. Introduction to Today's Message

*Teacher's Script (student responses are in **bold**).*

Have you ever felt left out? We all do at times, and it's not fun. But God doesn't care who's the biggest, or fastest, or smartest. God just wants people to love and trust him. And no matter our age, **God chooses us!**

Tell about a time you were chosen to do something special. How did that feel? (*Call on volunteers.*)

How might God choose us? (*We become part of God's family through Baptism and hearing God's Word.*)

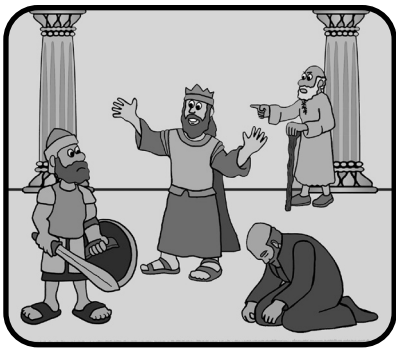
In today's story, the youngest brother in a big family got chosen to be the king of a nation. Who chose him for this job? God did! God looked at his heart. Big or small, old or young, **God chooses us** too!

d. SEED Bible Story Video

The teacher may introduce the lesson by playing the video clip from the SEED website. This may be displayed simply on a laptop computer or tablet. If the classroom is equipped with a computer video monitor or video projector, the video can be displayed in a larger size.

e. Read the Story with Poster Pictures

The Bible Story has been divided into four parts, each with an accompanying Poster Picture. The teacher should hold up or point to the relevant Poster Picture while reading the individual part of the story, asking questions while reading. Posters may be printed on letter-sized paper, or enlarged and printed on ledger-sized paper if a bigger printer is available. Poster pictures may also be opened as a PDF on a computer screen, scrolling through each of the four pages.

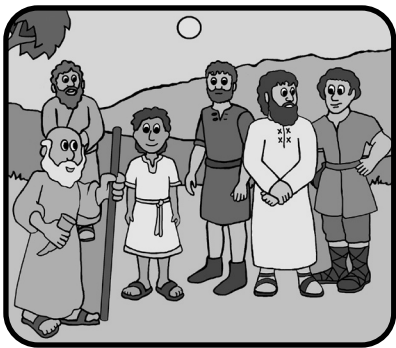


Picture 1

Tell the children: King Saul was the first king of Israel. But he wasn't a very good one. He thought he knew everything and he didn't listen to God.

Read the caption: God saw that Saul was a bad king. So God told the prophet Samuel to go Bethlehem. There, he would find a better king.

- *Point to the king in this picture. Which person do you think is the prophet Samuel? [He's the one in blue, looking upset and pointing at the king.]*
- *Look at the guard and kneeling man in this picture. Do they look happy? [No, they both look unhappy. They don't seem to like what the king is doing.]*

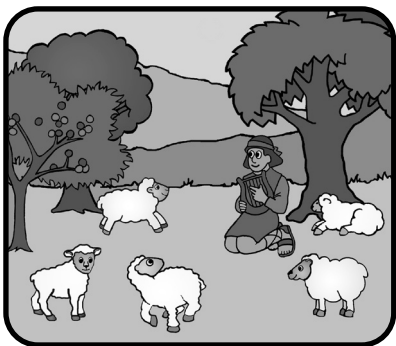


Picture 2

Tell the children: Samuel put some oil in a small horn. He planned to pour the oil on the new king's head to anoint him. Then, Samuel started his journey to Bethlehem, as God wanted him to do.

Read the caption: In Bethlehem, Samuel met a man named Jesse. Samuel thought Jesse's oldest son should be king. But God said, "No."

- *What is old Samuel holding in his hand? Why does he have that? [It's the horn filled with oil. He will use this oil to anoint the next king.]*
- *Which person is Jesse's oldest son? [Hard to tell. Jesse had many sons of all ages.]*



Picture 3

Tell the children: God said to Samuel, "Humans judge others by what they look like, but I judge people by what is in their hearts." One after another, Samuel met Jesse's other sons. But still, God said "No" to each of them.

Read the caption: Jesse said, "My youngest son is not here. He is tending sheep in the field." So they sent for the boy. His name was David.

- *What is David holding in his hand? What's he doing with it? [A little harp. David is playing music while he tends his sheep. He even wrote his own songs!]*
- *Does David look like a king? [No, he looks like a young, regular shepherd boy.]*



Picture 4

Tell the children: David may have been younger than the rest, but he was healthy and had a sparkle in his eyes. God knew he would make a good king.

Read the caption: God said to Samuel, "This is the one!" Samuel poured the oil on David's head. And the Spirit of the Lord was with him.

- *Why would Samuel use oil to make David the king? [Oil was used as a sign of God's blessing and promise to be with the person who is anointed king.]*
- *Have you ever seen a pastor use oil in church? [At baptism, the pastor uses oil to trace a cross on the person's head as a sign that the Holy Spirit is with them.]*

Remember today's message: **God chooses us!**

f. Bible Story Rhyme (optional)

The Bible Story Rhyme below is the same one found on the Upper Elementary Student sheet. The teacher can read the beginning of the line and see if the children can finish the last rhyming word of the phrase.

*God's people had a king named Saul,
who wasn't very good at all.
"A new king I will choose," God said,
sending Samuel on ahead.
Samuel came to Jesse's town
and gathered all his sons around.
"God will choose among your sons;
the Lord will show me who's the one."
God didn't pick the older sons.
They quickly called the youngest one.
God told Samuel: "Anoint this child.
David's who I have in mind."*

g. Young Children's Activity (optional)

Simple in-class crafts or activities may be completed by the children if there is time left at the end of class. (Note: For the youngest children, simply providing crayons and letting them complete the Coloring Page may serve as the "craft" for the day.)

Craft: Young David Half Portrait**Materials:**

- White paper
- Pencils, thin dark markers, crayons

Instructions:

In this "half portrait," kids will show how David's life changed after he was chosen to be king. Give each person a piece of white paper, a pencil, a dark marker, and crayons. Invite kids to hold the paper vertically (the long way) and fold it down the center. Open up the paper, and draw a large oval shape in the center. This is David's head. Have kids also draw a neck and shoulders, for a portrait picture. Draw all of David's features too.

Next, trace over the entire portrait in thin dark marker. Then, only on the right half of the picture, color in the portrait. The stark contrast between the black and white and colored side shows how big the change would have been for David before and after he was anointed king.

It's hard to imagine going from being a simple shepherd boy to a king. But when God chooses someone to do a special job, he blesses them and gives them everything they need for that next time of life!



h. Song (optional)

This children's song has motions that can be found online on YouTube, Vimeo, or other sites.

This Little Light of Mine

Verse 1: Hold pointer finger up like a candle

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.

(Repeat 3 times)

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!

Verse 2: "Blow" on candle on the word "blow"

Won't let Satan blow it out, I'm gonna let it shine.

(Repeat 3 times)

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!

Verse 3: Wave "candle" all around

Shine all over the world, I'm gonna let it shine.

(Repeat 3 times)

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine. (Repeat)

i. Story Review: Then What Happened?

Then What Happened is a learning game that helps kids retell the story and remember the flow of events. The teacher reads the starting sentence and then chooses a student to continue the story. There are two rules: each student may only add one sentence or say one new thing, and events in the story need to be in the right order.

- **Start: God saw that King Saul was not a good king. So he told Samuel to anoint someone else. Then what happened?**

If the younger kids have trouble, cut a Take-Home Page into four pieces (with no words) and let the kids put the illustrations in order while they tell the story.

j. Closing Prayer

Send the children home with the Take-Home Page, and tell them to ask their parents to read the story to them again (or, perhaps, they can read it to their parents).

End class with this closing prayer, repeated each week for memorization.

Dear God, we thank you for this day,

And as we go along our way,

We ask your blessing, and your care,

On friends and family everywhere.

Please bless our church, and teachers too,

And help us always follow you. Amen.