

THE KINGS

Date: 4.21.24 | Title: God's Covenant with David | Scripture: 2 Samuel 6-7 & 1 Chronicles 13:1-14, 15:25-16:3, 17:1-27

LEVELS OF BIBLICAL LEARNING

Middle School Students

The Bible is God's message about Himself and His salvation plan through Jesus. God deserves respect, obedience, and honor. God wants us to live for His glory. God sent Jesus to be the atonement for our sins.

High School Students

The Bible is God's message about Himself and His salvation plan through Jesus. God deserves respect, obedience, and honor. God wants us to live for His glory. God sent Jesus to be the atonement for our sins. Jesus gave his life for us on the cross and He is the only way for salvation.



MEMORY VERSE

"But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature because I have rejected him. For the Lord sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart." 1 Samuel 16:7

THE KINGS

BACKGROUND INFO FOR LEADERS

During Saul's reign as king, the Ark of the Covenant, God's presence on Earth, was neglected. David hears that the place where the Ark was being stored, was being blessed by God's presence, so he decides to bring the ark to Jerusalem. David and many priests and helpers go down to get the Ark. They make sacrifices along the way in devotion to God and in respect for this holy sign of His presence they are carrying. David is wearing an ephod, a priest's garment, and dances wildly in celebration. "And David and all the house of Israel were making merry before the Lord, with songs and lyres and harps and tambourines and castanets and cymbals." (2 Samuel 6:5). David and many Israelites joyfully bring the ark into Jerusalem "with rejoicing", (2 Samuel 6:12, 1 Chron. 15:25) "with shouting and with the sound of the horn" (2 Samuel 6:15). David shows his commitment to God and his faithful regard for Israel's religious foundation through his concern for the Ark. As we can see through his Psalms, David walks closely with God and understands what it means to enjoy the blessing of God's presence.

As the ark enters Jerusalem, David's wife, Michal (a daughter of Saul), watches it all from the window. She sees David leaping, "dancing and rejoicing" (1 Chron. 15:29) and despises him for it. David and his men bring the Ark to a special tent and make ceremonial sacrifices and offerings to bless the Ark and the people and to honor God. Everybody there gets a loaf of bread and cakes of dates and raisins. When David arrives home, Michal is angry. She rebukes him sarcastically for not wearing his royal robes as king, but David stresses that he was simply before the Lord. David reminds Michal that God has chosen him—in place of her father, Saul—to rule Israel. He insists that he will become even more undignified in his worship if needed.

As David establishes his seat of power in Jerusalem, he wants to replace the tent that has been used for worship since the days of the Exodus with a lasting temple to honor God and give the people a permanent place of worship. David tells Nathan the prophet that it does not seem right to live in a palace while the Ark of God is in a tent. He has the Ark of the Covenant, the very place where God has promised to meet with his people (Ex. 25:22) and is ready to bring it into a new temple. Nathan is sure such a desire must be the Lord's will and encourages David to move forward, saying "the Lord will be with you" (7:3). That night, God gives Nathan a different message for David: "Are you the one to build me a house?" God reminds Nathan that He has never lived in a house before; He has always moved from place to place with Israel, and He has never ordered otherwise. Instead of a temple, God has a much bigger promise for David than he could ever imagine!

2 Samuel 7:8-17 is often described as the "Davidic Covenant" and is a key passage in the history of salvation. Here, God tells Nathan to tell David that He will make his name great and give him rest from all his enemies. Instead of David erecting a home for the Lord, the Lord says He will make a secure place for Israel so that "they may dwell in their own place and be disturbed no more" (7:10). David will not build a house for God, in fact God "will make you (David) a house" (7:11). A dynasty will be established so that David's son, Solomon, will succeed him as king and his royal kingdom will last forever (7:12-13).

THE KINGS

BACKGROUND INFO FOR LEADERS

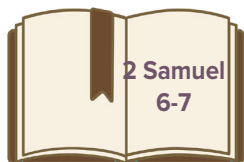
“And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever” (2 Sam. 7:16). Not only this, but Solomon will also fulfill David’s ambition by building a house for God. He will be the one who would bring the blessing of God’s presence to his people in a lasting way. Solomon will “sit on the throne of Israel” and build “the house for the name of the Lord” (1 Kings 8:20). The Messiah, Jesus, who will sit on the throne eternally, will come from David and continue the kingdom forever!

When Nathan goes to David and gives him this message, David goes into God’s presence and prays, “Who am I, O Sovereign Lord, and what is my family, that You have brought me this far?” David worships and gives thanks for God’s goodness to him—and for making His plans known. He praises God for making Israel a nation, for redeeming people to Himself, and for doing great and awesome works to deliver and establish His people. Then he asks God to keep His promise forever so that God’s name would be great forever. He knows God’s words are trustworthy and that God promises good things. He is zealous for God’s reputation to be established through his own life, his household, and his kingdom. In David’s prayer of gratitude in 2 Samuel 7:18-29 and 1 Chronicles 17:16-27, David uses the phrase “O Lord God” eight times, expressing his close intimacy with God. In spite of dramatic military success and the popular acclaim of the whole nation, David humbly considers himself unworthy of all the Lord’s blessings, attributing his success to the Lord. David is stunned and almost speechless because of the graciousness of the Lord (7:18, 20). David’s heart wells with praise, extolling the greatness of God and exclaiming, “There is none like you and there is no God besides you” (7:22). David closes by praying that the Lord will fulfill what He promised, that He will build a house for David, just as He said, so that Israel will be blessed forever (7:28-29).

David’s greatness is due to the Lord being with him “wherever he went” (7:9). David will not make the Lord’s name great by building a temple, but instead the Lord will make a “great name” for David (7:9). The promise of making his name great is the same promise that the Lord gave to Abraham in Genesis 12:2. The covenant promises with Abraham are becoming a reality through David. The Davidic covenant is an expansion of God’s covenant with Abraham. Yahweh will now bless the world through a king.

THE KINGS

LOCATE THE SCRIPTURE & TELL THE STORY



Tell the story: Use the Background Info for Leaders and the summary below to help teach these texts.

A few weeks ago, we learned how God chose a young shepherd named David to be the next king of Israel. David did not have an impressive appearance, but he had a heart that pleased the Lord. We then learned how God used David to conquer the giant Goliath and lead the Israelites to victory over their enemy. Today, we will continue to study David and learn how God sent the prophet Nathan to tell him about a covenant God was making with him. A covenant is a promise that will be kept whether or not the other side keeps their promise. When God makes a covenant, he will always do what he says, whether or not we do what we say.

**TELL
THE
STORY**



Read directly from Scripture, use the message, or the summary provided in the lesson

God had chosen David to be the next king of Israel. King Saul had died, and God gave His people a time of peace. David lived in a beautiful palace in the city of Jerusalem. David brought the ark of the Lord to Jerusalem and set it inside a tent he had pitched for it.

One day, David was talking with Nathan the prophet. David said, "I live in a palace of nice cedar wood, but the ark of God sits inside a tent!" It hardly seemed fair. "Shouldn't God have a nicer house than I do?" David wanted to build a temple for the ark of God.

Nathan said, "God is with you, Do what you want!" But God did not want David to do whatever he wanted. God wanted to David to do what God wanted. That night, God gave Nathan a message for David. This is what God told Nathan to say:

Put the events in order, draw a comic strip, build it with blocks or playdough, act it out, etc...

"David, are you going to build a house for me to live in? I brought My people out of Egypt. I gave them leaders to guide them. The entire time I have been with them, My house has been a tent. Did I ever ask anyone to build a temple for me?"

THE KINGS

BACKGROUND INFO FOR LEADERS

“You used to be a shepherd, David, but I made you a king. I helped you defeat your enemies, and My people now live peacefully in their own land. I promise you, David, that you and your descendants will be kings. When you die, one of your sons will be king. He will be a strong king, and no one will be able to take his kingdom away from him. He will build a house for ME. I will love him, and I will never leave him. When your son dies, his son will be king. Someone in your family will be king forever.

Nathan told David everything God said. David went into the tabernacle. He sat down and prayed: “God, I don’t deserve anything You have done for me, and You promise to do so much more! You are so great! There is no one like you! You chose the Israelites to be your own people. You rescued them from slavery in Egypt. God, please keep your promises. I know Your words are always true.

God promised David that future kings of Israel would come from David’s family, and David’s kingdom would last forever. God kept His promise by sending His Son, Jesus, as one of David’s descendants. Jesus is our King who will rule over God’s people forever.

Re-tell the Bible Story: put events in order, draw a comic strip, build it with blocks or playdough, act it out, etc.

Attributes of God: Use the attributes of God list and determine the characteristics of God that we see in today’s story. How can knowing these characteristics of God to be true, change the way we live in Christ?

Share the GOSPEL:

God promised David future kings of Israel would come from David’s family, and David’s kingdom would last forever. God kept His promise by sending His son, Jesus, as one of David’s descendants. Jesus is our King who will rule over God’s people forever!

THE KINGS

ATTRIBUTES OF GOD

ATTENTIVE - God hears and responds to the needs of his children.

COMPASSIONATE - God cares for his children and acts on their behalf.

CREATOR - God made everything. He is uncreated.

DELIVERER - God rescues and saves his children.

ETERNAL - God is not limited by time. He exists outside of time.

FAITHFUL - God always keeps his promises.

GENEROUS - God gives what is best and beyond what is deserved.

GLORIOUS - God displays His greatness and worth.

GOOD - God is what is best and gives what is best. He is incapable of doing harm.

HOLY - God is perfect, pure, and without sin.

IMMUTABLE/UNCHANGING - God never changes. He is the same yesterday, today, and tomorrow.

INCOMPREHENSIBLE - God is beyond our understanding. We can comprehend Him in part but not in whole.

INFINITE - God has not limits in His person or on His power.

JEALOUS - God will not share his glory with another. all glory rightfully belongs to him.

JUST - god is fair in all his actions and judgements. He cannot over-punish or under-punish.

LOVING - God feels and displays infinite, unconditional affection toward his children. His love for them does not depend on their worth, response, or merit.

MERCIFUL - God does not give his children the punishment they deserve.

OMNIPOTENT/ALMIGHTY - God holds all power. nothing is too hard for God. What He wills He can accomplish.

THE KINGS

ATTRIBUTES OF GOD

OMNIPRESENT - God is fully present everywhere.

OMNISCIENT - God knows everything, past, present, and future - all potential and real outcomes, all things micro and macro.

PATIENT/LONG-SUFFERING - God is untiring and bears with His children.

PROVIDER - God meets the needs of his children.

REFUGE - God is a place of safety and protection for his children.

RIGHTEOUS - God is always good and right.

SELF-EXISTENT - God depends on nothing and no one to give him life or existence.

SELF-SUFFICIENT - God is not vulnerable. He has no needs.

SOVEREIGN - God does everything according to His plan and pleasure.

TRANSCENDENT - God is not like humans. He is infinitely higher in being and action.

TRUTHFUL - Whatever God speaks or does is truth and reality.

WISE - God knows what is best and acts accordingly. He cannot choose wrongly.

WORTHY - God deserves all glory and honor and praise.

WRATHFUL - God hates all unrighteousness.

THE KINGS

QUESTIONS TO REBUILD THE STORY

“Storying” Questions: As you ask these questions, have your students support their answers by sharing evidence they took from Scripture.

- 1. What did the ark represent to David and to Israel? What was special about it? Why did David want it in Jerusalem?**
- 2. What attitude did David have when he brought the ark into Jerusalem? Why was there such a big celebration? What did David do to celebrate?**
- 3. What did David’s wife do to rebuke him? How did David respond to this? What happened to Michal after she criticized David’s worship?**
- 4. What did God think about David’s dancing? What kind of worship do you think he wants from us?**
- 5. What bothered David about living in a palace? Where was God’s ark during this time? Why did this seem like a problem?**
- 6. What did Nathan tell David to do? What message did God give Nathan to tell David?**
- 7. Did God ever instruct anyone to build a temple for him? Whose idea, was it? Why do you think David was so zealous about having a temple in Jerusalem? What would the temple represent?**
- 8. Did God grant David’s request? Who would build the temple? What did God promise to do for David’s house—his descendants and his throne?**
- 9. How did David respond to God’s words through Nathan? What did he thank God for? What did he praise God for doing? What did he ask God to do? Whose reputation was David concerned for?**
- 10. How certain was David that God’s words were trustworthy? What evidence of faith can you see in David’s prayer?**
- 11. David was called “a man after [God’s] own heart” earlier in 1 Samuel and also later in Acts. How does this story demonstrate David’s love for God? How well do you think David fulfilled the greatest commandment?**
- 12. What qualifies someone to be called a person after God’s own heart? In what ways can we seek his heart?**
- 13. Why do you think the commandment to love God with all our heart, soul, and strength is God’s highest priority for us? Do you think we can be fulfilled without doing this? Why or why not?**

THE KINGS

PRAYER PROMPTS

God, thank you for the confidence we have knowing that everything You say is true and that every promise you make, you will keep. Help us to honor you with our lives.

IF TIME ALLOWS:

Bible Skills Practice: Encourage your students to not only know the order of the books of the bible but also the different divisions they come in.

The Torah: Genesis - Deuteronomy | **History:** Joshua - Esther | **Poetry:** Job - Song of Solomon | **Major Prophets:** Isaiah - Daniel | **Minor Prophets:** Hosea - Malachi | **Gospels:** Matthew - John | **Acts** | **Paul's Letter:** Romans - Philemon | **General Letters:** Hebrews - Jude | **Revelation**

MISSIONS EMPHASIS:

For the month of March through Easter, our church will be collecting money for the Annie Armstrong Easter offering. This offering goes to fund missionaries in North America. Please encourage your group to collect change for the giving funnel in the lobby.

REVIEW UNIT VERSE:

Work on memorizing this week's verse with the students in your group. You can use the first letter of each word in the verse to help with this. For example, the unit verse would look like this:

BTLTSDNLOHAOOTHOSBIHRHFTLSNAMSMLOTOABTLLOTH - 1 Samuel 16:7

THE KINGS



Application Questions

LOOK UPWARD



- How does this story apply to your relationship with God?
- What does it teach you about Him- His will and His heart?
- What aspect of His character is He inviting you to experience and enjoy?
- How will you benefit by applying the truths of this story in your relationship with God?
- What practical steps can you take to live out these truths in your relationship with God?

LOOK INWARD



- How does this story apply to your heart and your own spiritual growth?
- What does it teach you about yourself, your needs, or your goals in life?
- In what aspects of your personal life is God inviting you to grow and mature?
- How will you benefit by applying the truths of this story inwardly?
- How will those around you benefit?
- What practical steps can you take to allow these truths to help you grow spiritually?

LOOK AROUND



- How does this story apply to your relationship with others?
- What does it teach you about how to see others and relate to them?
- What is god inviting you to do differently in your relationships?

THE KINGS



Application Questions

LOOK OUTWARD

- How does this story apply to your ministry and mission in life- to your role in God's kingdom, in society, and in the world?
- What does it teach you about God's purposes for the world?
- What part of His mission is He inviting you to participate in?
- How will you benefit by applying the truths of this story in your ministry?
- How will the world benefit?
- What practical steps can you take to live out these truths in the world?

LOOK FORWARD

- How does this story apply to your future, both in this age and in eternity?
- What does it teach you about God's plan for your life, now and forever?
- What aspects of eternity is God inviting you to participate in?
- How will you benefit in the future by applying these truths now?
- How will God's kingdom benefit?
- What practical steps can you take to impact eternity now with these truths?