

Lower Elementary

David Becomes King

Checklist

- various devices used to tell time
(metronome, egg timer, watch, wall clock, etc.)
 - 2 matching bouncy balls
 - 2 matching crayons
 - 2 matching coloring pages
- (Or any three items that have a match)

Introduction:

Show children the devices used to tell time. Talk about how each works.

What are some things you would like to do, but haven't done yet?

Where are some places you would like to go, but haven't gone yet?

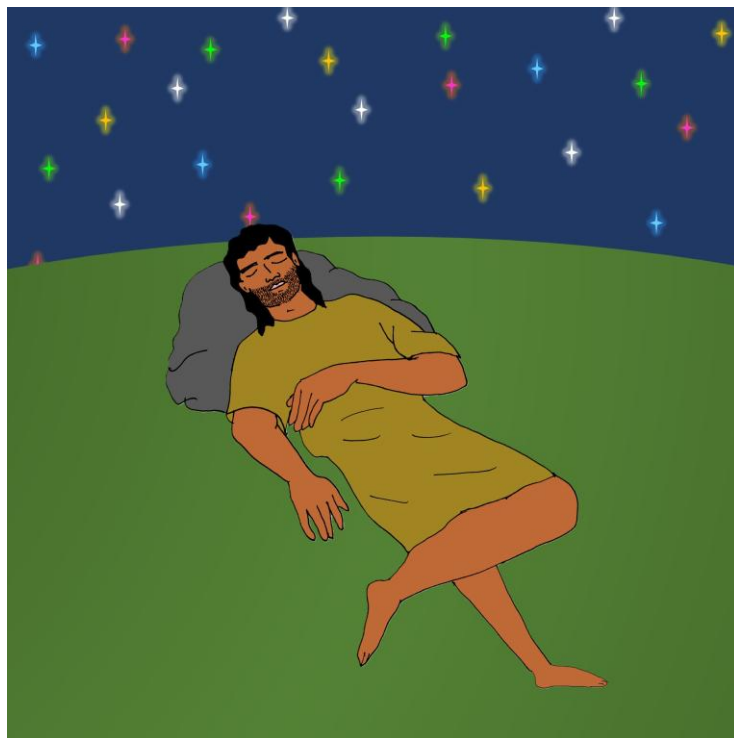
What are some things you really would like to have, but don't have yet? Is it hard to wait on things you want?

What are some reasons for having to wait? (not old enough yet, don't have the money yet, don't even have the ability yet, just haven't had the opportunity yet)

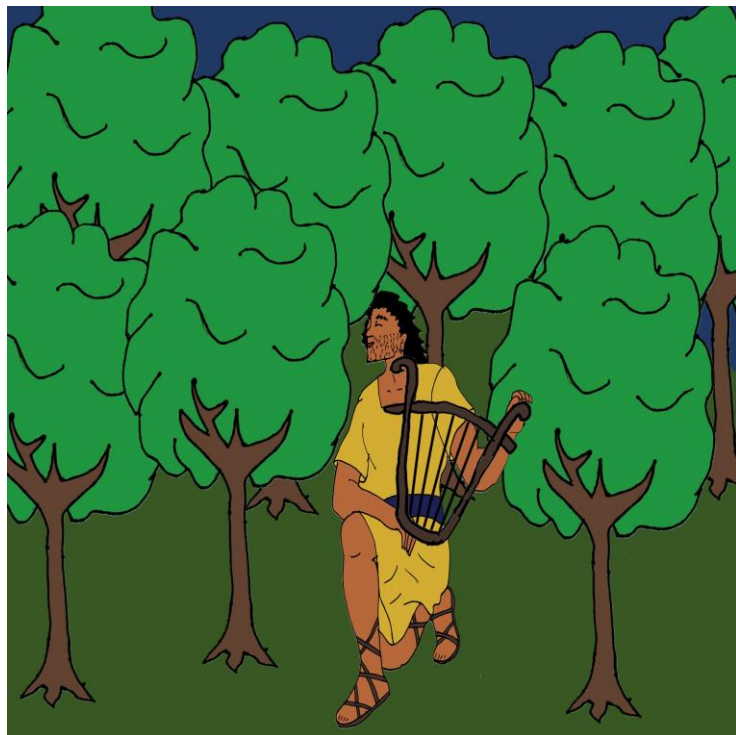
After David left Saul's palace, Saul was angry.

He decided to chase David, even though he had done nothing wrong.

David was now an outlaw. He found himself traveling from place to place, knowing that Saul wanted to get him, even though he had done nothing wrong. Many people in Israel realized that David would become the next king. He had been anointed by Samuel, and Jonathan, the heir to the throne, had given David his royal robe as a sign that even he accepted him as his next ruler. But Saul could not accept God's will. He was determined to choose the next king himself, and still believed David would try to take the throne from him before his time was up.



David's life was now more similar to how he had spent much of his childhood as a shepherd: alone in the mountains, without a soft bed or house to live in, but closer to God as he relied daily on Him for protection. He wrote many songs to God at this time, pouring out his heart to the Lord.



One day, while chasing David, Saul went into a cave to go to the bathroom. Little did he know that David and many men who had decided to follow him, were already in the back of that cave.

“Look!” one of the men whispered to David. “It’s Saul! What are the chances he would come into this cave? It must be God delivering him up to you. You can attack him now while he is unprotected.” But David did not want to attack Saul. Instead, he silently snuck up behind him and cut off a piece of his robe.

But David felt guilty for even this. “How can you suggest that I attack Saul?” David asked his followers. “Even if he is out to get me, I will do what is right. Saul is still my king.”



After Saul left the cave, David waited a few minutes for there to be some distance. Then, he walked out of the cave and shouted after him, “Your Majesty!”

Saul turned around, confused to hear a voice coming from the cave where he thought he had been alone. And there was David, bowing in respect for his king and holding a piece of his robe.

“Why are you so convinced I’m trying to take over your job?” David cried out, with pain in his voice. “Even when you’re chasing me, I’m still loyal to you. Look at this piece of your robe! I got close enough to attack you, but I didn’t.”



Saul began to cry as he realized that he had been mistrusting his son-in-law for no reason.

“David, my son—is that you?”

Saul asked through his tears.

“Oh, David! You are a much better person than I am. I have been so cruel to you, but you treat me with kindness. God has given you this chance to prove your loyalty. You could have captured me, but you chose not to. God has clearly chosen you to be the next king.”



Saul went home, but David knew he could not trust Saul yet. Samuel the prophet died, and now there was no one Saul felt he had to answer to. Once again, Saul grew jealous and chased after David.

David and one of his soldiers, Abishai, snuck into Saul's camp while everyone was asleep.

"Now is your chance!" Abishai said.

But David refused. "I will be king when Saul dies naturally or from his enemies in battle," he insisted. "I will not go against God's plan."

So, David took Saul's spear and water jar, then they crossed the valley and climbed a hill.



From the hill, David shouted out to Saul's bodyguard, Abner.

"Why didn't you do your job, Abner?" David yelled. "Look how close I got to the king!"

Saul recognized David's voice.

"Is that you, my son?"

"Yes! Why do you continue to chase me? I have committed no crime."

Again, Saul promised to leave David in peace. But Saul

continued to disobey God.

While trying to protect Israel

from the Philistines, Saul and

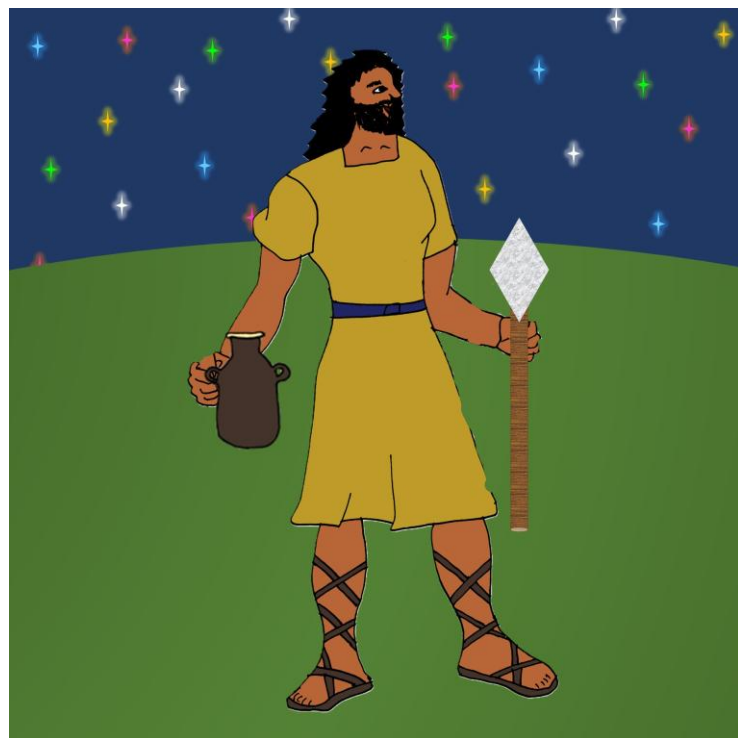
his sons died.

David cried for Saul, his king

and father-in-law. He cried for

Jonathan, his best friend and

brother-in-law.



Then the leaders of Israel met David at Hebron.

“You have always served Israel,” they told him. “You helped protect us from the Philistines when Saul was king. God has promised us that you will rule over Israel and take care of us like a loving shepherd.”

David and the leaders came to an agreement, and they poured olive oil on his head to show that he was the new king. He was thirty years old, and ruled Israel for forty years, first in Hebron, and then in Jerusalem. David would become Israel’s most famous and loved king, and he had God’s blessing because he waited for God’s timing, rather than trying to become king when it felt convenient for him.



Closing Discussion:

Saul was chasing David even though he didn't do anything wrong.

Why did Saul dislike David? (he was jealous)

When David felt upset about how Saul was treating him, Who did he turn to? (God) What is one of the things David did to worship God?

(sang songs to Him)

When Saul went into a cave to look for David, David cut off a piece of his robe to show Saul he could have caught him, but didn't. What would you have done?

Samuel said Saul could no longer be king because he had disobeyed God in the way he ruled. When you disobey a teacher or parent and get caught, should you apologize, or get angry?

God has plans for everything, but sometimes we still have to wait for God's timing. God will always give us what we need, when we need it.

Craft:

David and Saul outside a paper plate cave

Closing Activity:

Hand one child a ball, another a crayon and another a coloring page (or any three objects you have matches for). Offer to trade matching ball with the first child, a matching crayon with the second and a matching coloring page with the third. Were those fair trades? (yes) If someone hits you, would it be a fair trade to hit them back? (yes)

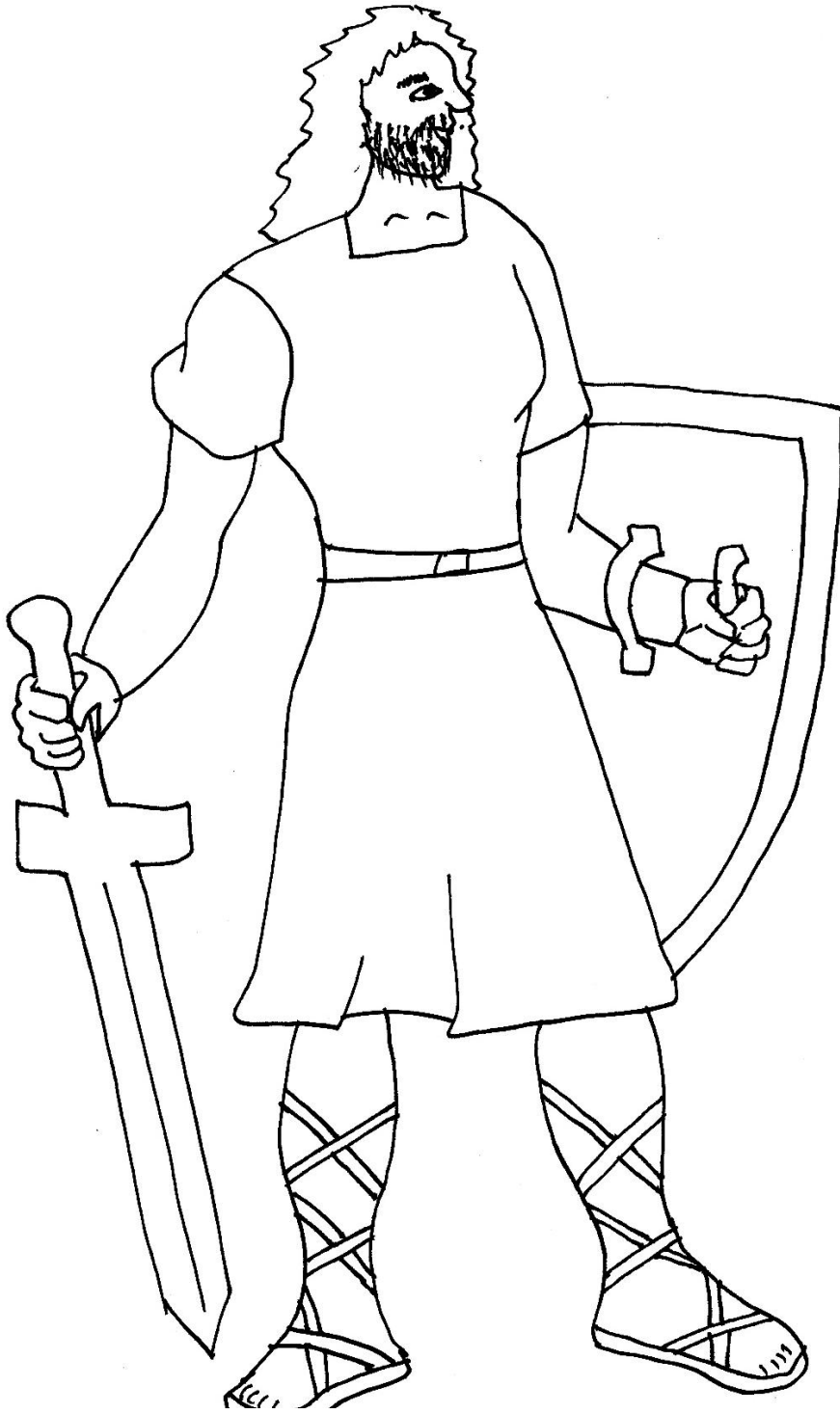
Does that mean you should do it? (no) God doesn't always want you to do what is fair. He also wants you to show mercy. Mercy means when others deserve something bad, you give them something good in trade for it. Have the first child stick their tongue out at the second child, and the second child give them the crayon in exchange. Have the third child crumple their page and throw it at the first child, and the first child give them the ball in exchange.

David Becomes King



Teach Grow Sow

Name: _____



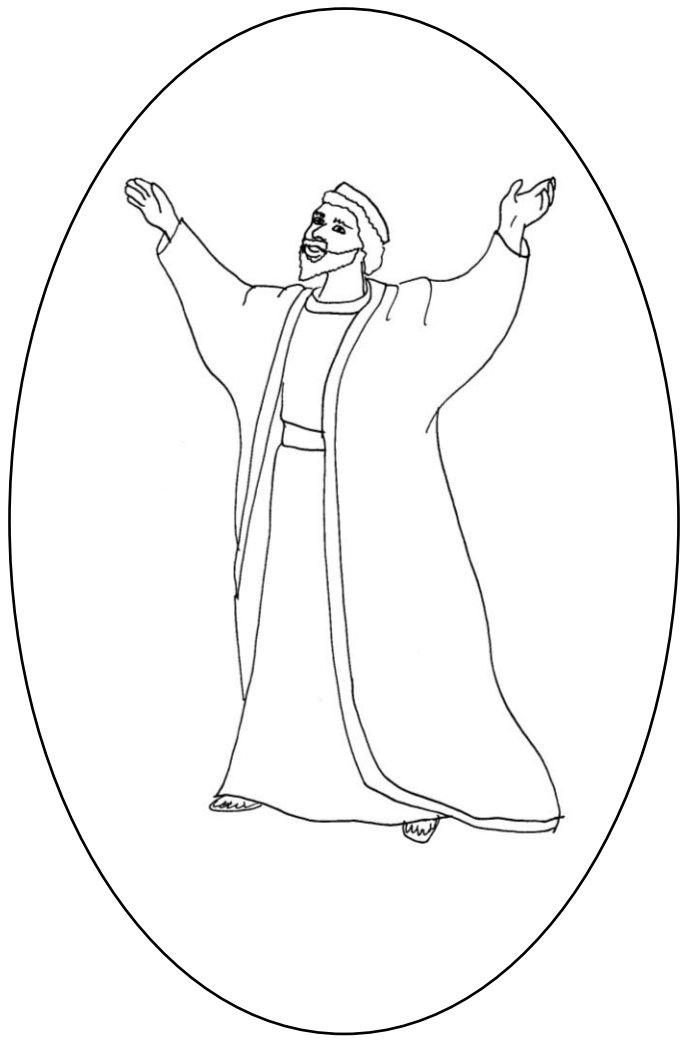
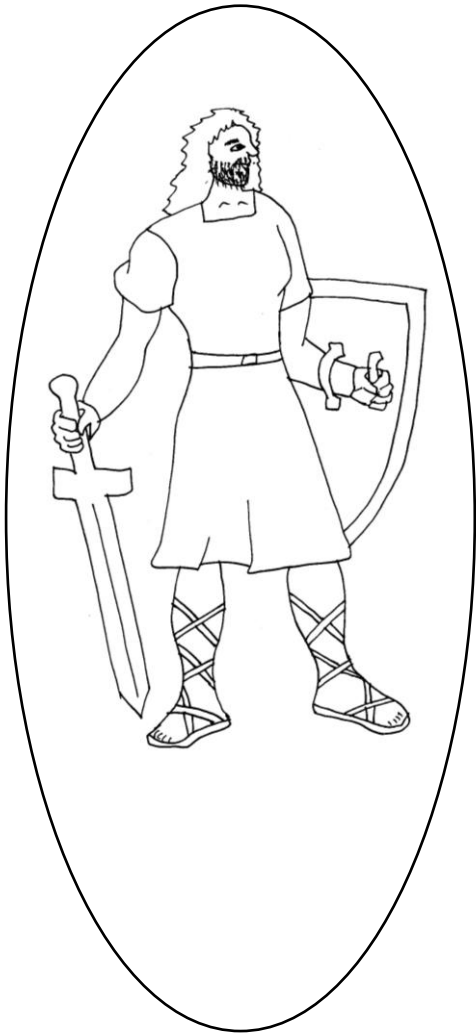
Dear friends, don't try to get even.

~ Romans 12:19

Materials: paper plates, small paper bowls

- ❖ Teacher cuts bowls in half.
- ❖ Children color and cut out Saul and David.
- ❖ Children color bowl and plate brown.
- ❖ Children glue half bowl onto plate.
- ❖ Children glue verse, Saul and David to plate.





Dear friends, don't try to get even.

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