

Upper Elementary

David Becomes King

Checklist

- paper cups
- small ball
- over-the-door basketball hoop or bin
- ruler
- masking tape
- cushion or pillow
- blindfold
- small pieces of paper

Topic:	David Becomes King
Intro:	<p>Set up the room with an over-the-door basketball hoop, or small bin. Place a small ball, a ruler, and several upside-down paper cups spread out on a table (or the floor). On the floor, make a mini hopscotch with masking tape.</p>
	<p>Assign a number to each child in class and write it down on a piece of paper, placing all the papers in a cup, (if there are children have 10 papers, numbered 1-10). Have children stand on one side of the room. As you call each number, the child must use the ruler to move the ball through the paper cups, toss it into the hoop or bin, and then do the hopscotch.</p>
	<p>The second time that you pull out a number, call the same exact number (regardless of what you pull out-act all surprised to have gotten the same number again, but insist the rules of the game must be followed no matter what). Do this again a third time. By this time, the other children will find it strange they have not been called. Stop the game and tell them you feel like there's a problem. Ask them what is wrong (the same children keep getting called). How did that make them feel? (left out, impatient, frustrated, etc.). How do you think David felt when he had to wait many years to be king? Sometimes it is not easy to wait for God's timing. It helps to know He always has our best in mind. That's what we will learn in our story today. Have the children line up and play again. This time call on the rest of the children.</p>

1 Samuel
23:14-18

David stayed in the wilderness in the strongholds, and remained in the hill country in the wilderness of Ziph. Saul sought him every day, but God didn't deliver him into his hand. David saw that Saul had come out to seek his life. David was in the wilderness of Ziph in the woods. Jonathan, Saul's son, arose and went to David into the woods, and strengthened his hand in God. He said to him, "Don't be afraid, for the hand of Saul my father won't find you; and you will be king over Israel, and I will be next to you; and Saul my father knows that also." They both made a covenant before Yahweh. Then David stayed in the woods and Jonathan went to his house.

Angry that David had been anointed as the next king, rather than his son Jonathan, and perhaps even afraid that David might try to kill him to take over his throne immediately, Saul began to chase David. David and the men who had sided with him were hiding near Ziph, a city in the hill country of southern Judah. The land between the city and the Dead Sea was mostly empty. It was filled with caves and had very few people around. It was a perfect place for hiding!



David Becomes King

P, A, T, I, E, N, C, E,



Patience (noun)

1. The quality of being patient
2. Dealing with problems without complaining
3. Being able to keep your temper
4. Not getting annoyed easily



1 Samuel 23:14-18

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Can you spot the cave in the side of this hill?

1 Samuel 24:1-7

When Saul had returned from following the Philistines, he was told, "Behold, David is in the wilderness of En Gedi." Then Saul took three thousand chosen men out of all Israel, and went to seek David and his men on the rocks of the wild goats. He came to the sheep pens by the way, where there was a cave; and Saul went in to relieve himself. Now David and his men were staying in the innermost parts of the cave. David's men said to him, "Behold, the day of which Yahweh said to you, 'Behold, I will deliver your enemy into your hand, and you shall do to him as it shall seem good to you.'" Then David arose and cut off the skirt of Saul's robe secretly. Afterward, David's heart struck him because he had cut off Saul's skirt. He said to his men, "Yahweh forbid that I should do this thing to my lord, Yahweh's anointed, to stretch out my hand against him, since he is Yahweh's anointed." So David checked his men with these words, and didn't allow them to rise against Saul. Saul rose up out of the cave, and went on his way.

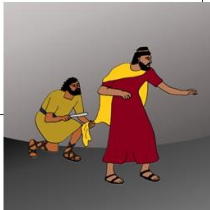
David's respect for God extended to Saul. David knew that as long as Saul was alive, he was God's anointed king. It was up to God to remove Saul from the throne of Israel. David would trust God to keep His promise and would not try to take the throne on his own.



1 Samuel 24:1-7

2

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1 Samuel 24:8-11

David also arose afterward, and went out of the cave and cried after Saul, saying, “My lord the king!” When Saul looked behind him, David bowed with his face to the earth, and showed respect. David said to Saul, “Why do you listen to men’s words, saying, ‘Behold, David seeks to harm you’? Behold, today your eyes have seen how Yahweh had delivered you today into my hand in the cave. Some urged me to kill you, but I spared you. I said, ‘I will not stretch out my hand against my lord, for he is Yahweh’s anointed.’ Moreover, my father, behold, yes, see the skirt of your robe in my hand; for in that I cut off the skirt of your robe and didn’t kill you, know and see that there is neither evil nor disobedience in my hand. I have not sinned against you, though you hunt for my life to take it.



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Has there ever been a time in your life when you had opportunity to get back at someone who was being mean to you? What did you do? The Bible tells us that revenge belongs to God (Romans 12:17-20). That means that God will take care of people who treat us badly. We should not get back at people who mistreat us. We need to pray for them and allow God to take care of them and us. We should wait on God—not take matters into our own hands.

Revenge belongs to _____.

1 Samuel
24:16-22

It came to pass, when David had finished speaking these words to Saul, that Saul said, "Is that your voice, my son David?" Saul lifted up his voice and wept. He said to David, "You are more righteous than I; for you have done good to me, whereas I have done evil to you. You have declared today how you have dealt well with me, because when Yahweh had delivered me up into your hand, you didn't kill me. For if a man finds his enemy, will he let him go away unharmed? Therefore, may Yahweh reward you good for that which you have done to me today. Now, behold, I know that you will surely be king, and that the kingdom of Israel will be established in your hand. Swear now therefore to me by Yahweh that you will not cut off my offspring after me, and that you will not destroy my name out of my father's house." David swore to Saul. Saul went home, but David and his men went up to the stronghold.

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After promising to leave him alone, Saul started chasing David again. And God gave David another opportunity to sneak into Saul's camp when Saul and his men went into a deep sleep. David proved to Saul again that he meant him no harm by taking something to prove he had been close enough to kill him in his sleep. Saul asked for forgiveness again, and that was the last time they saw each other before Saul died in battle.

Remember Isaac, Rebecca, Jacob and Esau? God had promised Rebecca that Jacob would rule over his older brother, Esau. Rebecca and Jacob tried to make this happen in their own timing, instead of waiting for God's timing. Abraham and Sarah had also had trouble waiting for God's timing to bring them the son that was promised. But David waited patiently, even when his life was in danger. He trusted that God would keep His promise when it was time. Joseph had also waited for God's promise to come true, even though it took 20 years. He did not try to make it happen in his timing.


	Waited for God's timing	Wanted God's promise in their timing
Rebecca and Jacob	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Abraham and Sarah	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Joseph	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
David	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2 Samuel 5:1-5

Then all the tribes of Israel came to David at Hebron and spoke, saying, "Behold, we are your bone and your flesh. In times past, when Saul was king over us, it was you who led Israel out and in. Yahweh said to you, 'You will be shepherd of my people Israel, and you will be prince over Israel.'" So all the elders of Israel came to the king to Hebron, and King David made a covenant with them in Hebron before Yahweh; and they anointed David king over Israel. David was thirty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned forty years. In Hebron he reigned over Judah seven years and six months, and in Jerusalem he reigned thirty-three years over all Israel and Judah.

David was a teenager when he was anointed by Samuel. But he didn't become king until he was 30. That's about double the length of his life when he was anointed. Have children each say their age and something they would like to do in the near future (visit a place, win a prize). Imagine if I told you that you would get to ____, but then it took ____ years, the same number of years as you've been alive to get to ____.

Closing: Place an item on the floor along with a cushion. A child should be blindfolded and lie on the cushion and pretend to be asleep like Saul. Choose one child to come and take the item away. The child who has picked up the item should lay it down in an agreed upon place and then join the rest of the group. When he or she says "mercy" the "sleeping" child removes their blindfold and guesses who took the item. Children can disguise their voices to make the game more difficult.



2 Samuel 5:1-5

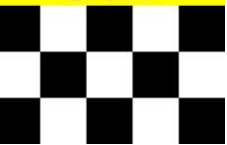
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I am _____ years old. If I had to wait the length of my life to reach my goal, I would be _____ when I

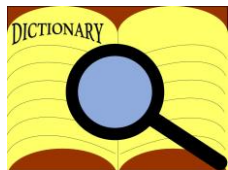
i King David is considered the most important king in Israel's history. Today, the symbol for Jewish people is called the Star of David, Jerusalem is called the City of David, and Bethlehem is called the town of David.



A Star of David necklace

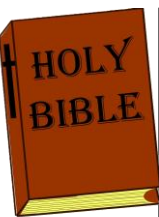


David Becomes King



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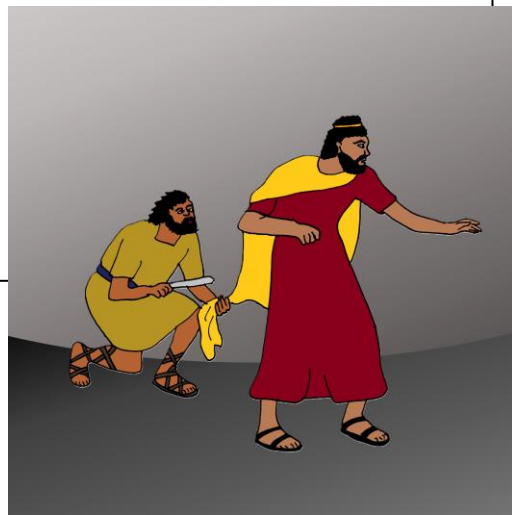
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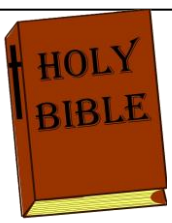


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I am _____ years old. If I had to wait the length of my life to _____, I would be _____ when I reach my goal.

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David Becomes King



Name: _____

Q	W	E	R	T	Y	U	I	H	O	P
D	J	E	R	U	S	A	L	E	M	L
F	E	G	H	O	J	B	K	B	H	K
C	A	V	E	V	B	N	L	R	G	J
D	L	U	A	S	C	E	M	O	J	H
S	O	O	N	B	X	R	N	N	O	I
A	U	M	Y	D	Z	A	B	G	N	A
Q	S	P	E	A	R	S	V	F	A	H
W	O	P	K	V	L	D	C	D	T	S
E	I	L	K	I	N	G	X	S	H	I
R	U	K	H	D	G	F	Z	A	A	B
T	Y	J	D	E	T	N	I	O	N	A

DAVID

ABNER

JONATHAN

SAUL

CAVE

ANOINTED

ROBE

KING

LOYAL

SPEAR

JEALOUS

JERUSALEM

HEBRON

ABISHAI