



From Shepherd to King

The Story — Lesson 11

Scripture: 1 Samuel 16—17

Key Verse: I am coming against you in the name of the Lord who rules over all. —1 Samuel 17:45, NIV

Bible Truth: Man looks at the outward appearance, but God looks at the heart.

Age 2—rising 2nd grade: Read *The Story for Little Ones*, Chapter 11: “David and the Giant”

Rising 3rd—6th grades: Read *The Story for Kids*, Chapter 11: “From Shepherd to King”

STEP 1: Come Together

Gather the family and tell them you’re going to spend a few minutes studying God’s word together. Pray and thank God for giving you time together and for calling us to himself.

Before you sit down, find a rock to show your younger children. Ask them to describe the rock. Is it large or small? Is it smooth or rough? Is there anything special about the rock? Say, “**Today’s Bible story is about a young boy with just a few rocks. God used him to do something amazing to help his people!**”

Ask your older children about a time when they’ve been afraid to do something. Have them tell you about why they were afraid, and whether that fear was good (keeping them safe) or not (irrational fear or worry). Say, **In today’s Bible story, we’ll hear about someone who faced a very big challenge, and had every reason to be afraid.**

STEP 2: Hear the Story

Read today’s story from your copy of *The Story*, or read 1 Samuel 16—17.

STEP 3: Explore More

Review these catechism questions and answers to follow up on today’s story. Read the questions and answers, then repeat each one, having your child repeat back the answer.

Question 16: Who were our first parents? (Adam and Eve.)

Question 17: How did God create man? (God created man male and female after his own image.)

Question 18: Of what were our first parents made? (God made Adam’s body out of the ground, and Eve’s body out of a rib from Adam.)

STEP 4: Dig Deeper

Read (or have your older children read) Isaiah 53:2 in your Bible. God did not choose David because of his outward appearance but because he had a heart for God. David was a handsome young boy but not tall in stature. Isaiah tells us of another king who “had no form or majesty that we should look at him, and no beauty that we should desire him” (Isaiah 53:2). God’s choice of David to replace Saul as king over Israel should make us think of another king, King Jesus. Jesus would have a perfect heart for God and die on the cross so that he could extend to us his righteousness. Through Christ, God takes our heart of stone and gives us a heart of flesh. Then God does something truly remarkable, he moves us to obey him by his Spirit (Ezekiel 36:27).

MONDAY

Read 1 Samuel 16:1

Ask Who would provide a king?

Read Romans 13:1

Pray and thank God that he is in control of those who lead us. Pray that he would give our leaders wisdom to govern us well.

TUESDAY

Read 1 Samuel 16:7

Ask What do people look at most? What does God look at?

Read Psalm 147:11

Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to help you love God with your whole heart, and to put your hope in his love.

WEDNESDAY

Read 1 Samuel 17:32-33

Ask Why was Saul concerned about David?

Read 1 Timothy 4:12

Pray and ask God to use you to tell others about his great love.

THURSDAY

Read 1 Samuel 17:46-47 (David speaking to the giant Goliath)

Ask Who did David say the battle belonged to?

Read Psalm 44:6-7

Pray and thank God that he fights for us, and that he conquered our greatest enemy, sin, when Jesus died on the cross.

FRIDAY

Read 1 Samuel 17:50

Ask Who won the battle?

Read Hebrews 11:32-34

Pray and ask God to grow your faith in him so that you might love and serve and honor him with your life!