

# Adventure Number 39

## 1 Samuel 13 and 15

**Story Line: The Israelites asked for a king and God gave them Saul.**



### 1) Study the Lesson (before class)

- God did not want Israel to be like the other nations. But Israel wanted to be like the other nations and have a king as their leader. Up to this point, Israel was a theocracy, a government under the leadership of God. When Israel needed a military leader, God would raise up a military leader like Gideon or Othniel.
- Previous rebellions that we have studied: the golden calf rebellion, the rebellion at Kadesh Barnea, and the rebellion that caused the poisonous snakes. Israel's desire to have a king over them was also a rebellion against God.
- God told Samuel, the last judge, to anoint Saul as the nation's first king. A private ceremony was held first and then a public coronation followed.
- Saul relied on the Lord at first. But, soon afterwards, he violated the sanctity of the priesthood (1 Samuel 13:9-13). Samuel rebuked Saul for this. Instead of repentance, Saul's rebellion was followed by more rebellion. He refused to remove all Amalekites as the Lord directed. After this, God determined that Saul would no longer be fit to lead Israel. Saul became a troubled man. Although Saul would continue to rule over Israel, David would be the next king of Israel.
- At first, Saul was known for his courage and generosity. He was also tall and handsome. Later, he became impulsive, jealous, and rebellious toward the desires of the Lord.
- God was looking for someone who would lead Israel with a right heart attitude toward Yahweh. For much of his reign, Saul did not have this but merely wanted to be respected by the people of Israel.

### Teacher Helps

The teacher's guide is divided into five key segments. Each part of the teaching process is important and all five should be followed for effective teaching. Chronological Bible teaching is a great way to evangelize and disciple children. As children come to know the stories of the Bible, they will understand the God of the Bible and how to respond to Him by faith.

Each of the five steps to teaching these lessons is a vital part of the lesson. Preparation before the lesson is extremely important and takes place in the days leading up to class. Then when class time starts, introduce the lesson with ideas or methods that will encourage students to become involved in the learning process. Teaching the story will take on several forms: through telling, through singing, through Scripture memory, and through activity. Be sure to review the lesson as well as previous lessons. Last, and probably most important, give your class something to apply or live out as a result of the lesson.



## 2) Begin the Lesson

There are eight basic concepts that are emphasized throughout all of the Bible. We have studied these truths in previous lessons. Ask the children if they can name them and tell a little bit about each one. They are:

1. God. In the beginning, there was a very powerful God. (Lesson 1: The Eternal God; Lesson 27: The Exodus)
2. Man. God created many things. He created man and woman to be His special friends. (Lessons 3: Creation of the Universe; 4: Creation of People; Lesson 24: Moses Leads His People)
3. Sin. Man and woman disobeyed God. They did not do what He told them to do. (Lesson 7: Beginning of Human Sin; Lesson 33: Unbelief at Kadesh)
4. Death. God punished man and woman for their disobedience. Death, in the Bible, refers to separation. (Lesson 8: The Origin of Death; Lesson 16: The Tower of Babel)
5. Christ. God sent His one and only Son, His unique Son, who lived a perfect life. (Lesson 9: Promise of a Victor Over Satan)
6. Cross. Jesus died on the cross for the sins of the world. (Lesson 11: Provision of Coverings; Lesson 32: The Day of Atonement)
7. Faith. If anyone places their faith in Christ, God welcomes them. (Lesson 13: Cain and Abel; Lesson 34: The Bronze Serpent)
8. Life. God gives eternal life to those who put their faith in Him. (Lesson 5: Life in Paradise; Lesson 38: Bright Lights in an Era of Darkness)

### Teacher Helps

#### Review Activity: Eight Basic Gospel Truths - One Complete Story

The teacher should emphasize these eight gospel concepts throughout Scripture. They are foundational to telling children the one story of redemption found in the Bible. We will emphasize these eight truths regularly.

Ask the children if they can think of how these eight gospel principles are emphasized in the first 38 lessons that we have studied.



## 3) Teach the Lesson

Some people look at other people and think that it must be nice to be them. They have all the good things. Israel looked at the other nations around them who had kings. Israel decided they wanted to be like the other nations and not have God as their king. What are some ways that you understand why Israel would feel this way?



## Tell the Story

The people of Israel had a tendency to look at the other nations around them. They adopted their ways, they married their women, and they liked their politics. God wanted Israel to be a distinct nation that worshipped Him but they regularly chose to be more like the nations around them than the God who delivered them.

Such was the case of wanting a leader. Most of the other countries around them had a king. So, naturally, Israel saw that and thought that would be good for them. Even though they had a great national leader in Samuel and even though God was really their king, they wanted a human to be their king, like the other nations.

This grieved God and it also grieved Samuel. When God discussed this matter with Samuel, He told Samuel that they were rejecting Him. Samuel was to establish a kingship and God chose Saul to be the first king of Israel.

At first, Saul got off to a good start. He was tall, handsome, humble, and he feared God. But, soon after that, he became impulsive and tried to take the place of the priest even though he was not a priest. Samuel rebuked Saul for this but it didn't seem to change anything Saul did. He certainly did not have a change of heart. Later, Saul and his troops were supposed to eliminate the Amalekites, who had disturbed Israel for 300 years but Saul did not completely obey. It was at this point that God determined that Saul did not have what it took to be a king of this great country. His kingship would not be passed on to his family. Instead, a young boy named David would be the next king.

It took some time for David to become king. Saul ruled Israel for 40 years. For much of that time, he was a bitter man who never really repented of anything he did wrong by disobeying God. He tried to have the next king, David, killed on at least two occasions.

Saul's life ended sadly on a battlefield with his three sons. It was an embarrassing battle loss to the Philistines. Eventually, David became the king of Israel. He had a heart for God and even though David made mistakes, he repented of his sin, something that Saul never did. When God wants someone to lead His people, He wants that person to have a humble and repentant heart.

### Teacher Helps

#### **Tell the Story** **Activity: Provides Line** **and Discipline Line**

- Put several pieces of string across the floor where you are teaching. Make the string look like lines on a soccer field or a football field.
- At the one end, have the "Provides Line" and on the other have "Discipline Line."
- Ask children about their view of God. Is He more of a Judge (discipline) or more a Provider? Or, is He somewhere in between?
- Have the children locate themselves somewhere on the field and be prepared to answer why they are standing there.
- Now, tell the story.



## Memory Verse

1 Samuel 16:7 (ESV) - For the Lord sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.”



## Praise and Worship

Praise and Worship styles vary greatly around the world. It is the intent of this curriculum that praise and worship songs be selected that best fit the content of this lesson. Recommendations for praise and worship are given and this music can generally be located at [www.itunes.com](http://www.itunes.com). However, the teacher can feel free to select a similar praise and worship song.

“Salvation Belongs to Our God” by Eric Quiram is recommended for this lesson.



## Bible Activity

Let’s pick a great team! Bring pictures to class of 10 different sports figures that your children would be familiar with. Tell them: Let’s pretend that these famous people came to your school to play a game of \_\_\_\_\_. Choose a game your students might play at school, such as soccer, or kick ball. If you were the captain of your team, who would you pick first? Let a few students answer, and ask them why they would choose the ones they name. For example, they might say that their player was the best runner, or the best goalie, or most skillful at scoring. Then ask: **“If God was picking a team of people to do a special job for Him, how would He decide who to pick? Would He look for the biggest, fastest, or best-looking people? No, God does not care what a person looks like on the outside, or even how talented they might be. He cares about a person’s heart, and how they love and obey Him. He is also very interested in the willingness of a person to repent when they have done something wrong. When God chose David as the next king of Israel, no one else thought he was a good choice.”**

“He’s just a shepherd boy!” is what David’s own father said. But God saw past the outside and knew that David had a heart that was strong and true. Let’s take a few minutes to look at our own hearts and see if we are the kind of people that God would choose.

## Teacher Helps

### Memory Verse Activity: Scripture Log

Make a page for children to take home with labels down the left column: Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday.

Across the top, put practice times and review times.

Children should work on this memory verse each day and mark on their log when they practiced this verse and when they review this verse. Bring this log to class with you next week.

This type of activity will encourage Scripture memory and obedience throughout the week, not just as part of the lesson.



## 4) Review the Lesson

The teacher should divide the class up into two teams.

- One team could be the “red” team and receive red cards or pieces of paper. The other team could be the “yellow” team and receive yellow cards or pieces of paper.
- Each team has the responsibility of writing out 3 to 5 questions that they want the other team to answer.
- Each question has to pertain to the lesson today.
- After questions are written out, the other team has five to seven minutes to answer the questions. The “yellow” team will answer the questions from the “red” team and the “red” team will answer questions from the “yellow” team.



## 5) Apply the Lesson

King Saul had early successes but later he failed to obey God. When he failed to obey God, God rejected him as a king of Israel.

What are ways that you used to obey God but now you are not obeying God? List only one or two and make it an effort of prayer and devotion to obey God in these areas.

**Story Line: The Israelites asked for a king and God gave them Saul.**

### Teacher Helps

#### Review Activity: Two Team Review

After an appropriate time, the teacher will gather up the cards or pieces of paper and reward points to the best questions and best answers from each team.

It is highly advisable to have 2 adult teachers in every classroom for kids. If there are 2 adults, then one adult should be the leader of each team.



# Adventure Number 40

## 2 Samuel 7:1-16

**Story Line: God chose David to be a king.  
God will one day send a Man to be King  
forever.**



### 1) Study the Lesson (before class)

- David returned to Jerusalem and enjoyed a time of peace. He had fought many wars. During that time of peace, he thought it would be a good idea for the Lord to have a more permanent place to be worshipped. The portable tent was no longer suitable.
- This is the first time that the prophet Nathan appears on the scene. David learned from Nathan that his intentions of building a place of worship for God were premature.
- Since the Israelites left Egypt, the Lord had made His residence in a portable tent and there was no need to change that.
- However, David learned that he would not build a house for God but that God would build a “house” for him. It would originate with David and it would never end.
- The kingdom and its throne would be a place over which the Son of David would rule forever.
- David was aware that a Messiah would follow after him who would one day be an Eternal King.
- As for a literal temple of worship, David would not be allowed to build it. However, his son, Solomon, would build it.
- David’s response to God is one of praise as he describes the incomparable majesty of God.
- He also describes himself as a servant, a term which he uses ten times in verses 19-29.

### Teacher Helps

The teacher’s guide is divided into five key segments. Each part of the teaching process is important and all five should be followed for effective teaching. Chronological Bible teaching is a great way to evangelize and disciple children. As children come to know the stories of the Bible, they will understand the God of the Bible and how to respond to Him by faith.

Each of the five steps to teaching these lessons is a vital part of the lesson. Preparation before the lesson is extremely important and takes place in the days leading up to class. Then when class time starts, introduce the lesson with ideas or methods that will encourage students to become involved in the learning process. Teaching the story will take on several forms: through telling, through singing, through Scripture memory, and through activity. Be sure to review the lesson as well as previous lessons. Last, and probably most important, give your class something to apply or live out as a result of the lesson.



## 2) Begin the Lesson

### Adventure Number 37

1. When Israel failed to be loyal to God, what did God do?
2. Read Judges 2:1-23.
3. God always punishes disobedience.
4. Pray to be faithful to God and confess all sin to Him.

### Adventure Number 38

1. Who were two shining heroes during the time of the judges?
2. Read 1 Samuel 3 and Ruth 1.
3. Ruth and Samuel.
4. Pray that we would shine for Jesus in a wicked world.

### Adventure Number 39

1. Saul got off to a good start as king. What went wrong?
2. Read 1 Samuel 13 and 15.
3. Saul did not have a heart to obey God.
4. Pray that God would give us a heart that is loyal and obedient to Him.



## 3) Teach the Lesson

There are lots of people who think they are nobody, they have nothing, and they are not able to do anything. They have limited abilities, limited resources, and they don't know anybody important.

Such is the case of our hero for this lesson. He was the youngest son of a relatively obscure family. Do you see any hope for yourself from this?

### Teacher Helps

#### **Begin the Lesson Activity: Ask, Read, Talk, Pray**

A good review strategy from 3 previous lessons will focus on four main elements.

- 1) Ask a question.
- 2) Read the Bible.
- 3) Talk about it.
- 4) Pray to God.



## Tell the Story

David rose to prominence in Israel as a teenager. When the entire army of Israel was afraid of Goliath, the giant, David knew that he could defeat Goliath because of his previous experiences as a shepherd. He had killed lions and bears. With God's help, he could also kill the giant. David not only rose to prominence among the people of Israel, He was chosen by God to lead the nation. That was much more important to David. In a private ceremony, Samuel anointed David with oil, preparing him to be the next king of Israel. However, David spent many years avoiding the wrath of Saul. David had at least two different opportunities to put Saul to death and he refused to do it because he did not want to kill the Lord's anointed king.

After Saul and his three sons died on the battlefield, eventually David became the king of Judah and then later over all of Israel. After the tribes of Israel anointed David as their king, David went to Jerusalem and defeated the Jebusites. Later, this city would be called the city of David. It was the most important city to David. It was so important that he wanted to have the Ark of God brought to Jerusalem. So, David made arrangements to have the Ark brought from the house of Obed-Edom to Jerusalem. When the ark arrived, there was great rejoicing!

Sometime after the ark arrived, David felt like it wasn't right for the Ark to dwell in a tent while he lived in a king's house. He decided to build a house for God that would be awesome. But David's friend, Nathan, told him that God wanted someone else to build the house, not David. That someone else would be his son, Solomon. So, David made all the preparations for the temple so that Solomon would have everything he needed to build the house.

But, God was interested in building a different kind of house. David and later Solomon wanted to build a physical house for the Ark. God wanted to build a dynasty or a legacy of people who followed Him and obeyed Him. God was more interested in David's family being loyal to God than to have a nice and fancy house for the Ark. God was looking for men and women who followed David's example and had a heart for Him.

When God made this covenant with David, it related back to his promise to Abraham. About 1000 years earlier, God had promised to Abraham a land, many descendants, and a blessing to all people. Now, the land and offspring promises were fulfilled through David. Once again, God honored His promise.

### Teacher Helps

#### **Tell the Story** **Activity: 40 Chapters of** **the Life of David**

- Forty chapters in the Bible are devoted to the life of David.
- As children listen to the teacher tell the story, have them write down or tell you about significant events in the life of David. Some will be in this lesson, some may not be in this lesson.
- Discuss with your class the significant events of David's life. What made him a man of God? How did God raise up a nobody to be king?





## Memory Verse

2 Samuel 7:16 (ESV) - And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever.



## Praise and Worship

Praise and Worship styles vary greatly around the world. It is the intent of this curriculum that praise and worship songs be selected that best fit the content of this lesson. Recommendations for praise and worship are given and this music can generally be located at [www.itunes.com](http://www.itunes.com). However, the teacher can feel free to select a similar praise and worship song.

“Salvation Belongs to Our God” by Eric Quiram is recommended for this lesson.



## Bible Activity

Make harps like David played made from cardboard, adding string or yarn, and pretend to strum them as you sing “Sing of the King”.

“Sing of the King” is a festive song that begins with the Israelites singing in response to Samuel’s first announcement of a king, moves through the monarchy, then turns mournful as they await God’s promise of a forever king from David’s line, but finally ends exultant in the realization that Jesus is that promised king.

### Teacher Helps

#### Memory Verse Activity: Hop It

In large letters, write phrases of the verse on sheets of paper. On the floor, tape the papers in a mixed up fashion, but close enough for succeeding words to be reached in a step. Children should step on one word at a time in the proper order to quote the verse. Let each child have a turn of hopping on the verse.



## 4) Review the Lesson

Agree/Disagree Statements (If you disagree, why do you disagree?)

1. David knew he could kill Goliath because he killed other giants before. (Disagree. He killed a lion and a bear.)
2. Moses privately commissioned David as the next king of Israel. (Disagree. Samuel commissioned David.)
3. The city of Jerusalem is sometimes called the city of David. (Agree.)
4. Nathan told David that Absalom should build the temple for God. (Disagree. Nathan told David that Solomon should build it.)
5. God's promises to Abraham were partially fulfilled through David. (Agree.)



## 5) Apply the Lesson

King David had a heart to obey God and serve God. He made some mistakes but for most of his life, he chose to love and honor God.

Who is one person that you know who reminds you of this?

How would you tell another person that they could be like this?

**Story Line: God chose David to be a king.  
God will one day send a Man to be King  
forever.**

### Teacher Helps

#### Review

#### Activity: Agree and Disagree Statements

Kids will have fun disagreeing or agreeing with these statements. You may want to make up some statements of your own for them to agree or disagree with.

#### Apply the Lesson Activity: See It, Do It, Tell It

Kids will learn more about the kind of heart that David had if they tell others who has a heart like David and how they can be like this.

# Adventure Number 41

## Psalm 2 and 22

**Story Line: David wrote of a future leader  
Who would rule the earth.**



### 1) Study the Lesson (before class)

- The concept of a future Satan conqueror was not new. Adam and Eve learned of this future ruler thousands of years before David.
- The promise of God to Abraham was that all nations would be blessed through his descendants. Later, we learn that *“the scepter would not depart from Judah”* (Genesis 49:10). That is, a ruler would come from the descendants of Judah.
- Before and during his reign over Israel, David wrote many psalms which have been used for worship throughout the centuries by God’s people. Over 70 psalms are attributed to David.
- At least two of those psalms talk about the Lord’s covenant that would come with suffering.
- Psalms that describe Yahweh’s deliverance for David from his enemies are not surprising. Psalms that talk about what Yahweh did for David are not surprising. A new fact comes from David in these psalms that a future descendant of his would be afflicted and need Yahweh’s help.
- Psalms are considered Messianic because they speak of Christ’s life, death, resurrection, and future reign. Psalm 2 describes the rebellion of the nations and the coming of Jesus Christ to establish His eternal reign. Psalm 2 is referred to quite often in the New Testament (Acts 4 and 13, Hebrews 1, and Revelation 2, 12, and 19).
- The details of Psalm 22 describe an execution, not an illness. No known event would fit this description in the life of David. Rather, this Psalm depicts the death of one of David’s future descendants, Jesus Christ.

### Teacher Helps

The teacher’s guide is divided into five key segments. Each part of the teaching process is important and all five should be followed for effective teaching. Chronological Bible teaching is a great way to evangelize and disciple children. As children come to know the stories of the Bible, they will understand the God of the Bible and how to respond to Him by faith.

Each of the five steps to teaching these lessons is a vital part of the lesson. Preparation before the lesson is extremely important and takes place in the days leading up to class. Then when class time starts, introduce the lesson with ideas or methods that will encourage students to become involved in the learning process. Teaching the story will take on several forms: through telling, through singing, through Scripture memory, and through activity. Be sure to review the lesson as well as previous lessons. Last, and probably most important, give your class something to apply or live out as a result of the lesson.



## 2) Begin the Lesson

Let's review the time periods that we have studied over the last couple of months.

- In order, what are these time periods? (Beginnings of the World, Beginnings of a Nation, Possessing the Land, and United Kingdom)
- Who are some of the people that we met in each time period?
  - 1) Beginnings of the World: Adam and Eve, Lucifer, Cain, Noah and pagan worshippers
  - 2) Beginnings of a Nation: Abraham, Sarah, Isaac, Rebekah, Jacob, Joseph, Moses and Pharaoh
  - 3) Possessing the Land: Joshua, Gideon, and Samuel
  - 4) United Kingdom: Saul and David
- What are some of the main themes from each of these time periods?
  - 1) Beginnings of the World: God is powerful. People are to be His special friends. Sin entered the world. God punished sin. God punished sin.
  - 2) Beginnings of a Nation: God made special promises. God delivered His people from slavery.
  - 3) Possessing the Land: God fulfilled His promise to enter the land. God punished sin.
  - 4) United Kingdom: God gave special rulers for His people.

### Teacher Helps

#### Begin the Lesson Activity: Ball Toss

Gather your class of children in a circle with a small ball. Have children take turns rolling the ball gently to each other. When a child catches the ball, have each child answer one part of the question. At this point, do not correct children if they give a wrong answer. Let each child roll the ball to another person in the class for the next question.



## 3) Teach the Lesson

David was a warrior, a leader, a king, and a song writer. He was enabled by God to do all of these. God gave David special abilities to do special tasks.

When you think of the life of David, what are some of the special abilities and special tasks involving him?



## Tell the Story

### Teacher Helps

The harp was always a special musical instrument for David. As a young boy, he learned to play the harp. His brothers were warriors and soldiers who went to war to defend Israel. But, David played the harp and watched sheep. Doesn't seem very important, does it? Shepherds were not considered to be leaders. It was just a common job for a common person. Playing the harp was nice but had no real value. At least, that is what everyone thought when David was young.

As David grew up, the men around King Saul wanted David to play his harp for the king. Now, maybe David's musical abilities would really be used by God. David's music really encouraged King Saul and brought him out of bad moods. Probably, David began to see that God was going to use his musical skills. You could say that God anointed David with a special ability to do this special job. It was not the last time that we would see David anointed by God to do a special job with a special ability.

Before David became king, he started writing music for worship. We call them psalms. After he became king, he wrote even more psalms. As far as we know, David wrote over 70 psalms. Some of them praised God for Who He is. Some of the psalms lamented the failure of Israel to please God. Some of David's psalms told of his sin and God's forgiveness. David wrote about many things. His love for God was expressed through the Psalms.

One of the topics that he wrote about in the psalms was a coming leader. It was maybe surprising to the people of Israel that this future leader would suffer but that is what several of David's psalms revealed. These psalms are called messianic psalms because they talk about the coming Messiah's life, death, resurrection, and future reign. They are prophecies about the Messiah. The people of Israel expected a ruling Messiah. They did not expect a suffering Messiah. Two hundred years later, Isaiah also wrote about a suffering Messiah.

The messianic psalms are important because they reveal God's one big story. That story revolves around the person of the Messiah. The Messiah, as He was known as in the Old Testament, would come and suffer. New Testament writers referred back to these psalms regularly. The Messiah would come from the family of Judah. The Messiah would be someone who suffers. The Messiah would enable believers to rule the world. This worship music that David wrote about the Messiah lets us know that there is a future Leader who will reign over all the earth.

#### Tell the Story Activity: Favorite Psalms

- Over 70 Psalms are attributed to David. Other than Psalm 23, can you name any of David's psalms?
- Have children talk about their favorite verse in the Psalms and why it is their favorite.





## Memory Verse

Psalms 22:1 (ESV) - My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?



## Praise and Worship

Praise and Worship styles vary greatly around the world. It is the intent of this curriculum that praise and worship songs be selected that best fit the content of this lesson. Recommendations for praise and worship are given and this music can generally be located at [www.itunes.com](http://www.itunes.com). However, the teacher can feel free to select a similar praise and worship song.

“Salvation Belongs to Our God” by Eric Quiram is recommended for this lesson.



## Bible Activity

Choose one of David’s Psalms, and help your children come up with a tune for the words. Psalm 23 would be a good choice. Read the Psalm together, and play around with tunes that could be used. Idea: Use a familiar folk tune that your class would know. As you look through the book of Psalms in preparation for this activity, you will realize that many songs have already been written that take some or all their words from the book of Psalms. Make a note of the ones you already know a tune for, and point these out during this time. Have a tune in mind to get the creative juices flowing with your class, and be encouraging of any efforts they give. It can be intimidating to try this at first, but lots of fun once you get started!

### Teacher Helps

#### Memory Verse Activity: Around the Class

Have the children sit in a circle while music is playing. Pass around a phrase of the memory verse. When the music stops, whoever is holding the phrase of the memory verse should try to quote the verse. Do this until all phrases are memorized. Then, do the same thing for the whole memory verse.



## 4) Review the Lesson

Volunteers from the class should list on a board or big piece of paper that everyone can see, the 5 Most Important Things To Know from this lesson.

For instance:

1. David wrote over 70 Psalms.
2. Some psalms predicted a suffering Messiah.
3. The New Testament refers to these messianic psalms.
4. Jesus quoted from the Old Testament when He died on the cross.
5. David was anointed. God gave him special abilities to do a special job.



## 5) Apply the Lesson

God anointed King David with the special abilities to do a special job that God gave him to do.

What are some special jobs that God may have for you to do? How has God prepared you to do these jobs?

**Story Line: David wrote of a future leader  
Who would rule the earth.**

### Teacher Helps

#### Review Activity: 5 Scribes

Have five different volunteers come to the front of the class to write one of the five most important things to know from this lesson. Ask the class why these are important.

# Adventure Number 42

## 1 Kings 6

**Story Line: Solomon built the temple for the Lord.**



### 1) Study the Lesson (before class)

- Solomon was the third king of Israel and was the wisest man who ever lived. Though he had asked the Lord for wisdom, he had begun a practice that would make his rule over Israel ineffective. He began to marry foreign wives, hundreds of them. In doing so, Solomon went against his father's last words to him. These wives would turn his heart away from the Lord his God.
- Not very much is recorded about the last ten years of Solomon's reign. He did not repent of sin until the very end. His personal life had compromised his public life.
- Like his father, Solomon was a great author and wrote about 3000 proverbs found in the book of Proverbs. He wrote over 1000 songs. He also wrote Song of Solomon at the beginning of his reign and Ecclesiastes at the end of his reign.
- Solomon's greatest accomplishment was his building of the temple for the Lord. He began construction of the temple in his fourth year of ruling over Israel. It took 7 and a half years to build this marvelous structure.
- Like King Saul, Solomon's commitment to the Lord began to change as he supported the worship of false gods.
- God promised to establish the throne of David forever through Solomon if Solomon would remain faithful to the Lord. However, Solomon's turning away from the Lord caused the Lord to not give complete safety and protection to the nation. God honored His promise but Solomon did not remain faithful.

### Teacher Helps

The teacher's guide is divided into five key segments. Each part of the teaching process is important and all five should be followed for effective teaching. Chronological Bible teaching is a great way to evangelize and disciple children. As children come to know the stories of the Bible, they will understand the God of the Bible and how to respond to Him by faith.

Each of the five steps to teaching these lessons is a vital part of the lesson. Preparation before the lesson is extremely important and takes place in the days leading up to class. Then when class time starts, introduce the lesson with ideas or methods that will encourage students to become involved in the learning process. Teaching the story will take on several forms: through telling, through singing, through Scripture memory, and through activity. Be sure to review the lesson as well as previous lessons. Last, and probably most important, give your class something to apply or live out as a result of the lesson.



## 2) Begin the Lesson

Tell your class that you are learning the one story of the Bible. While there are many stories in the Bible, they are linked to one major theme or story in the Bible. It is a story of hope. So, to help your class know that story and be able to put all the lessons together, we are going to review the lessons from the past. Ask, **“What are the main events that we have studied in the Bible?”**

- God always existed and He is very powerful.
- God created the earth and everything in it.
- God created people to be His special friends.
- Lucifer, or Satan, deceived Adam and Eve. They sinned by disobeying God.
- God sent a worldwide flood that killed everybody on the earth. God spared Noah and his family because Noah was a righteous man.
- God made special promises to Abraham.
- Abraham offered a ram on Mount Moriah instead of his son, Isaac.
- Jacob wrestled with the angel of God and got a new name, Israel.
- Through special plagues and deliverance, God led the Israelites out of Egypt.
- God established a moral code called the Ten Commandments that the Israelites were to obey.
- With God’s help, Israel entered the Promised Land.
- God chose David to be king. He will one day send someone to be King forever.



## 3) Teach the Lesson

Think of your own “Wish List.” If you could have anything that you wanted, what would you put on this “Wish List.”

Now, if you were going to ask God for something, would you name anything on this “Wish List” or something else? If something else, what would you ask God for?

### Teacher Helps

#### Begin the Lesson Activity: The Main Events

Review is a significant part of learning. Twelve events are listed here. Write each event on a slip of paper or poster board and have children put them in chronological order. Let them work together in small teams 2 or 3. Time how long it takes each team to put these events in the right order. Winner gets a prize.



## Tell the Story

It was a title no other human being would ever have: Wisest Man in the Whole Earth. It was a position no one else would ever have: Son of the Greatest King. It was a job no one else could do: build the temple for the Lord. What a great beginning and what incredible resources! Solomon truly had the makings of being a great king. On top of that, God let him ask for anything and he made an extremely good choice when he chose wisdom as the gift he wanted from God. Solomon: a wise king with great parents and prepared to do a great job. Exciting times lay ahead for Solomon and for the nation of Israel.

Solomon began building the Lord's temple four years after he became king. It was a magnificent structure that took over seven years to build. Exact specifications were given by God. The highest quality of materials was used. When the temple was completed, Solomon had a bronze platform built in the middle of the outer court where he prayed and dedicated the new temple to Yahweh. Solomon knew that a man-made building, no matter how beautiful, could not contain the God of the universe. Solomon had built the temple that his father, David, wanted to build. And now, almost twelve years into his kingship, it was completed.

Maybe that is where things started to go wrong for Solomon. He began making foreign treaties and political alliances that were not pleasing to Yahweh. He married a lot of women who were not Yahweh worshippers. In fact, these foreign women even turned his heart away from God. These foreign women worshipped pagan gods, not Yahweh. But, that did not seem to matter to Solomon.

Solomon had written thousands of proverbs and a thousand songs that proclaimed Yahweh as the only true God. He had written a book about love in marriage. But, all of that was gone at the end of his life and his heart did not remain loyal all of his life, like his father's heart did. Yes, David had a loyal heart to God nearly all of his life. But, Solomon grew very weak in his commitment to Yahweh at the end of his life.

In fact, at the end of his life, he even wrote a book about how meaningless life was. His heart had grown cold. He did not love Yahweh any more. Such exciting times at the beginning of his reign as king and such misery at the end. The love of God for Solomon remained steadfast but the love of Solomon for God did not remain steadfast.

### Teacher Helps

#### **Tell the Story Activity: Good Start and Poor Finish**

Ask children to think of other Bible people who started well and finished poorly. Some suggestions might include:

- Cain
- Lot
- Satan
- Israelites in the wilderness

Why did these and Solomon not love God all their life?





## Memory Verse

2 Chronicles 7:14 (ESV) - If my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.



## Praise and Worship

Praise and Worship styles vary greatly around the world. It is the intent of this curriculum that praise and worship songs be selected that best fit the content of this lesson. Recommendations for praise and worship are given and this music can generally be located at [www.itunes.com](http://www.itunes.com). However, the teacher can feel free to select a similar praise and worship song.

“Salvation Belongs to Our God” by Eric Quiram is recommended for this lesson.



## Bible Activity

“Building up or tearing down?” Ask your children this question: “What is easier, to build something, or to tear something down?” (Tearing down) Why is this true? (You have to have skill to build, and a plan, and patience to do it just right.) Why is it so easy to tear down? (You don’t have to be careful, or skilled, or patient! Just brute force is all it takes.)

If possible, bring in some blocks or material that could represent the building of the Temple. Let the kids build a structure as you read parts of I Kings 6, describing the Temple Solomon built. You might bring brightly colored fabric, a necklace to represent the gold chains in v. 21, spices to represent the incense, etc. Once you have completed the building, have someone read Proverbs 4:23 - “Guard your heart above all else, for it determines the course of your life.”

This was the big mistake Solomon made, he didn’t guard his heart, and as a result, he ended up on the wrong path, a path that led him away from God, and destroyed the nation of Israel. Do you think Solomon might have made better choices if he had read this verse? Guess what? Solomon WROTE that verse!! Yes! It’s true. You see, just knowing the right thing isn’t enough. We must OBEY the God of the Bible. Boys and girls, let’s make a commitment right now to be obedient to God ALL of our lives! It begins by guarding your heart, one day at a time.

## Teacher Helps

### Bible Memory Activity: Relay Race

Form two teams. Put the memory verse in large letters about ten yards away from the teams. Have children run to the memory verse and read the next word of the verse out loud so that everyone can hear. When each child has read his one word, go back to the class, touch the next person in line, and repeat the process until all words of the verse have been read.

Repeat this until everyone has memorized the verse.



## 4) Review the Lesson

Divide the class into two teams. Give the teams one minute to write down as many statements as they can about the life of Solomon. Here are a few ideas:

- Solomon wrote 3000 proverbs.
- Solomon wrote over 1000 praise songs.
- Solomon married many foreign women who turned his heart away from God.
- Solomon began building the temple in his fourth year as king.
- It took Solomon seven and a half years to build the temple.



## 5) Apply the Lesson

Have each child draw two pictures.

- Picture number 1: Draw one way you would like to be like Solomon.
- Picture number 2: Draw one picture which shows how you would like to not be like Solomon.

Pick one of these pictures and work hard this week on doing the right thing.

**Story Line: Solomon built the temple for the Lord.**

### Teacher Helps

#### Review the Lesson Activity: One Minute List

The teacher should give two teams one minute each to list as many facts as they can about the lesson.

After the one minute has passed, compare lists and see who has more facts. Be sure that children remember that you are looking for facts.