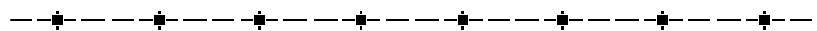


Old Testament

Mission Arlington • Mission Metroplex Curriculum • 2008

Families of the Old Testament



Created for use with young, unchurched learners
Adaptable for all ages including adults

Old Testament

The Son of a King

Jonathan

Last week we learned that Israel rejected God as their leader and asked for a king. Samuel told the people what a king would do. But the Israelites wanted to be like the other nations. They insisted on having a king. God gave them Saul, the son of Kish, from the tribe of Benjamin to be their king.

I Samuel 13-14

Read the Bible

READ: I Samuel 14:1-17 (Hold your Bible open throughout the story.)

The Son of a King
I Samuel 14:1-17

Memory Verse:

You don't ... know what will happen tomorrow..... you should say, "If it pleases the Lord, we will live and do this or that."

(James 4:14-15 NIV)

Begin With Prayer

This week we will learn about Saul's son, Jonathan. When Saul became king and began to lead the people to battle against the Philistines, Jonathan went, too. One day Jonathan asked the man who was carrying his armor to go with him to fight the Philistines. (I Samuel 14:1-6) Jonathan said, "Perhaps the Lord will help us. If he does, it won't matter how many or how few of us there are. That won't keep the Lord from saving us." (I Samuel 14:6 NIV) Jonathan believed that God would help them. He understood that the battle belonged to the Lord. Jonathan had faith that God would help them if they were supposed to fight. It didn't matter if there were only two of them fighting the enemy.

Lesson Goals:

1. Understand that Jonathan knew that the battle belonged to the Lord.
2. Understand that Jonathan believed God could help them.
3. Recognize that Jonathan understood that God was with him.
4. Learn that God delivered Israel.

The man agreed to go with Jonathan. Jonathan told the man that they would go across a pass. That meant the Philistines, the enemy, would see them. Jonathan said "if they ask us to wait until they come to us, we will stay where we are. But if they ask us to go up to where they are, then that means God has handed them over to us." (I Samuel 14:7-10) Jonathan knew that it was important to wait for God to tell them to go fight. He knew that it was not his strength or ability that would win them a victory, but that it was God who would give them a victory. God wants us to trust Him daily. The Bible says that when we make plans, "...you should say, 'If it pleases the Lord, we will live and do this or that.'" (James 4:15 NIV) James says that we don't know what will happen the next day. Our lives are short. We need to be aware that it is God who allows things to happen. (James 4:13-15) "So Jonathan and the young man let the soldiers in the Philistine camp see them. 'Look!' said the Philistines. 'Some of the Hebrews are crawling out of the holes they were hiding in.'" (I Samuel 14:11 NIV) The Philistines started yelling at Jonathan and the man. But Jonathan knew that

Jonathan — Bible Facts

1. Jonathan was the son of Saul.
2. Jonathan fought against the Philistines.
3. Jonathan believed God would let them know if they were to go to battle or not.
4. God let Jonathan know that he should go to battle.
5. God gave Israel victory over the Philistines.

God would help them win the fight. So he told the man to follow him. Jonathan climbed up on his hands and feet. Jonathan killed the Philistines. The young man with him killed the ones that were still alive. They killed 20 men in an area of about half an acre. (I Samuel 14:12-14)

The Philistines were afraid. The fear came on those who were in the field and those who were in the camp. The fear even hit those who had gone to attack Israel. "The ground shook. It was a panic that God had sent." (I Samuel 14:15 NIV) Have you ever been in an earthquake? When the ground beneath you shakes, it is not fun. It is a scary thing. The Bible says that God took care of Israel. Jonathan and the man who carried his armor were not afraid to go to battle alone, just the two of them. Jonathan knew God was on their side. God is on our side, too. He sent Jesus to help protect us from our enemies.

King Saul had men in Gibeah who were serving as lookouts. They saw that the Philistines were scared and running in all directions. Saul tried to find out who had left the camp. They discovered that Jonathan and the man who carried his armor were gone. (I Samuel 14:16-17) Saul asked for the priest to bring the ark of God. But while he was talking to the priest they heard the noise of Philistines, Saul gathered all his men and went to battle. Some Israelites who had hidden in the hill country of Ephraim joined them. God saved Israel from their enemies. (I Samuel 14:16-23)

1. **Who was Jonathan?** (Jonathan was the son of Saul.)
2. **What did Jonathan do?** (Jonathan fought against the Philistines.)
3. **What did Jonathan believe about God?** (Jonathan believed God would let them know if they were to go to battle or not.)
4. **What happened?** (God let Jonathan know that he should go to battle.)
5. **What did God do?** (God gave Israel victory over the Philistines.)

Do You Know Jesus?

Jonathan understood that God would be the one who would save them. God wants us to understand that Jesus is the only one who can save us from our sins. Jesus died on the cross and rose from the dead so that we can be free from sin. When we ask Him to forgive us, He does. When we invite Him to be a part of our lives, He comes. (I John 1:9)

Prayer Time

1. Take a moment to listen to God.
2. Thank God for sending Jesus to save us from sin.
3. Ask God to help you trust Him.
4. Pray for friends and family members who need to trust God.

Application

Jonathan and the man who carried his armor went to battle against the Philistines. Jonathan knew that the battle belonged to the Lord. He believed God could help them. Jonathan understood that God was with him. Jonathan's willingness to fight his enemy led the defeat of the enemy. Jonathan knew that it was God who had delivered Israel.

Planning for the next week:

David (A Young Son, An Unexpected Hero) — I Samuel 16-17

Preschool Lesson

Read the Bible

READ: I Samuel 9:1-17 (Hold your Bible open throughout the story.)

(Decorate your room with pictures of armor. Make armor for the children out of aluminum foil. Check the Internet for ideas.)

When Saul became king and began to lead the people to battle against the Philistines, Jonathan, his son, went, too. One day Jonathan asked the man who was carrying his armor to go with him to fight the Philistines. (I Samuel 14:1-5) Jonathan said, "Perhaps the Lord will help us. If He does, it won't matter how many or how few of us there are. That won't keep the Lord from saving us." (I Samuel 14:6 NIV) Jonathan believed that God would help them. He understood that the battle belonged to the Lord. Jonathan had faith that God would help them if they were supposed to fight. It didn't matter if there were only two of them fighting the enemy.

Jonathan knew that it was important to wait for God to tell them to go fight. He knew that it was not his strength or ability that would win them a victory, but that it was God who would give them a victory. (I Samuel 14:7-10)

God sent Jesus so that we can know Him. God wants us to trust Him daily. The Bible says that when we make plans, "... say, 'If it pleases the Lord, we will live and do this or that.'" (James 4:15 NIV)

Prayer Time

1. Take a moment to listen to God.
2. Thank God for sending Jesus.
3. Ask God to help you trust.
4. Pray for friends and family members who need to do trust God.

Did you know? Preschoolers can learn that God can be trusted .

Consider this: Enlist several adults or youth to help you. Bring strong bed sheets or blankets. Have the adults hold the blankets or sheets. Ask a child to fall into the sheet. This will be a difficult task. Then the child may crawl to the edge and have an adult carry them down. Talk about what it felt like. Some children may not want to participate. Talk about trust. Have some questions prepared.

You may also blindfold a child and lead them around. Talk about the experience.

Learning Activities

Memory verse activity — Find or create pictures of royal robes. Have the children color them. Write the memory verse on the picture. Practice the verse.

Test your memory — Cut out letters for the words “Jonathan was a prince.” As you tell the story use the letters. You may want to create a script. Example: Use the “J” to represent Jonathan. Use the “O” as you tell them Jonathan said, “Let’ go “Over” to the Philistine camp.” etc. You don’t have to use the letters in order. The kids can scramble and then unscramble the letter. Have the children retell the story.

Taste activity — Read I Samuel 14:24-45. Jonathan ate honey. Bring items made of honey or bring honey for refreshment time. Some children may be allergic to honey. Bring a different snack if that is the case.

Think about it — The Bible says that Jonathan was the son of the king. He was a prince in Israel. He could have chosen to stay home. But he chose to go to battle. Talk about the privileges Jonathan may have had as a prince.

Jonathan believed the battle belonged to God. He had faith that God would deliver Israel. Talk about faith and trusting God.

Touch activity — Make armor for the children out of aluminum foil. Check the Internet for ideas.

Run and play — Have the kids pretend they are climbing up a mountain. You may use stairs or you may create the hill using cement blocks (use carefully) or even have the children kneel and crawl over each other.

Listen — As they take time to listen to God, remind the children that God wants us to trust Him and have faith in Him.

Sing — Sing “Only Believe,” “The Lord’s Army,” or other songs based on Scripture.

Memory Verse

You don't ... know
what will happen
tomorrow.....

you should say,
"If it pleases
the Lord,

we will live
and do this or that."

James 4:14-15 NIV

Word Art

Trace the letters.

Jonathan

believed

God would

help them.

Word Puzzle

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

SAUL

SON

JONATHAN

ARMOR

PHILISTINE

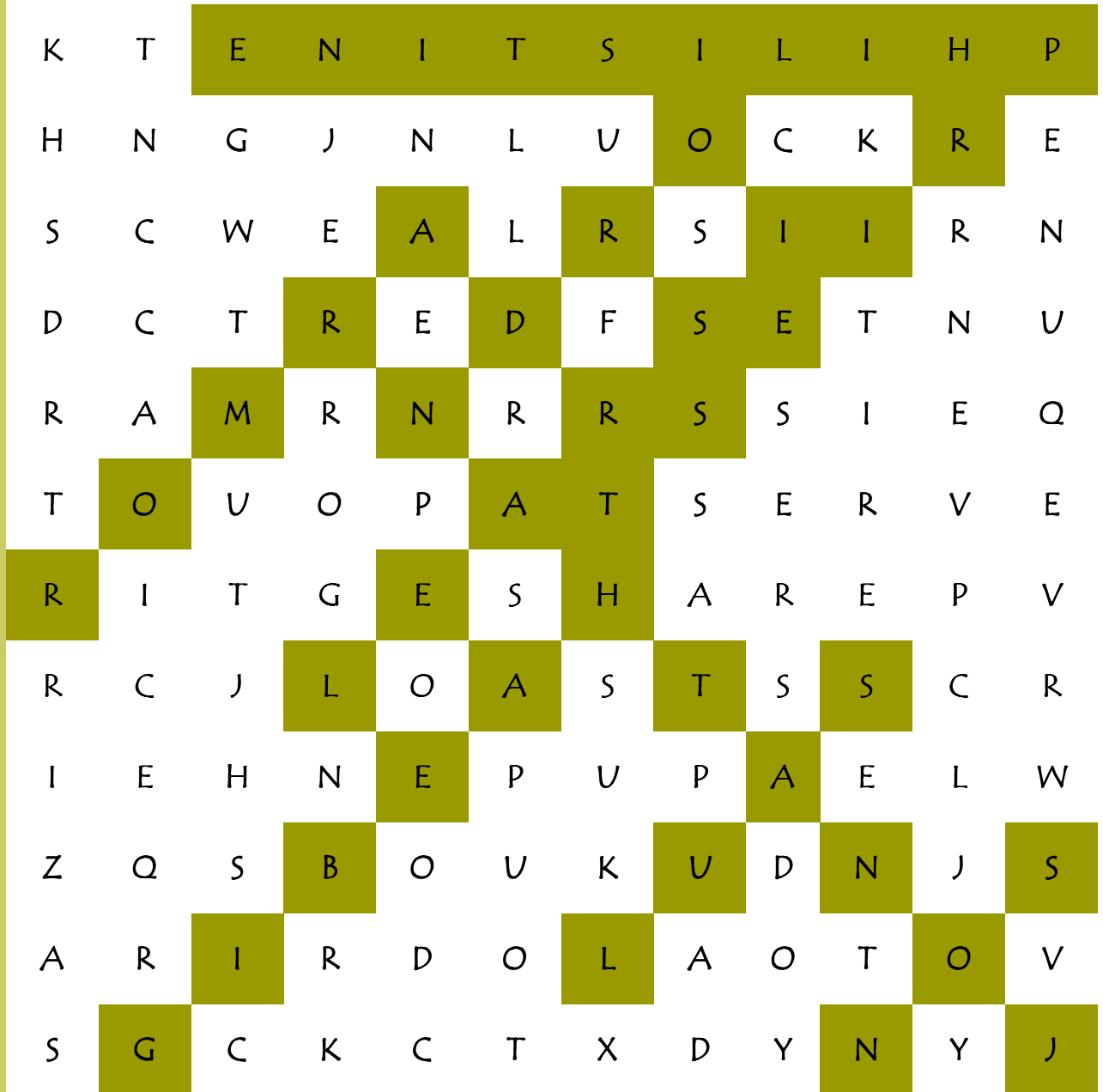
ISRAEL

LORD

PRIEST

GIBEAH

Word Puzzle



SAUL

SON

JONATHAN

ARMOR

PHILISTINE

ISRAEL

LORD

PRIEST

GIBEAH

Word Puzzle For Younger Children

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

SON

ISRAEL

ARMOR

LORD

PRIEST

GIBEAH

Word Puzzle For Younger Children

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

SON

ISRAEL

ARMOR

LORD

PRIEST

GIBEAH

Anagram

1. deevleib -

2. wtia -

3. twne -

4. ebtalt-

5. dkeill-

6. sokolotu -

7. efar -

8. hosok -

Anagram

1. deevleib - believed
2. wtia - wait
3. twne - went
4. ebtalt - battle
5. dkeill - killed
6. sokolotu - lookouts
7. efar - fear
8. hosok - shook