



David

A man after God's own heart



Mission Arlington / Mission Metroplex Summer Curriculum

Religious Organization · Mission · Social Services

Let my words and my thoughts be pleasing to You, Lord,
because You are my Mighty Rock and my Protector.
Psalm 19:14

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Introduction to heart look

In this age of social media that we live in, our relationships can become distorted . . . including our relationship with God. That is why this summer we parody a well known social media site to get to the heart of the matter.

When we make time to connect with others, are we also connecting with God? As we seek to be surrounded by a multitude of friends, do we remember that in God we have a friend who sticks closer than a brother? Maybe we have even become very accustomed to wearing a mask as we relate to others, not realizing that God sees the condition of our heart. Join us on a journey to the depths of your own heart as we seek to be pleasing to God with our words and our thoughts.

David Keeps His Promise

1 Samuel 31:1-2 Samuel 9-13

Memory verse: "Trust in the LORD with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek His will in all you do, and He will show you which path to take." (Proverbs 3:5-6 NLT)



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Lesson 5 - Review

Do you remember what we talked about last week? What was David doing? (Running, and hiding, from King Saul.) Do you remember that David had the opportunity to kill King Saul and "buy" his own freedom? What did David decide to do? (He chose not to kill King Saul, God's anointed.) Was David's heart set on revenge? (No.) Why not? (He had a heart like God's. What was important to God was important to David.)



Lesson 6

Do you remember what David said about King Saul when he was in the middle of the Israelite camp and had the second opportunity to kill him? He told the man that was with him, “Don’t kill Saul! No one can harm the LORD’s appointed king and still be innocent! As surely as the LORD lives, the LORD himself will punish Saul. Maybe Saul will die naturally, or maybe he will go into battle and be killed. But may the LORD keep me from harming His appointed king! (1 Samuel 26:9-11 NCV) David trusted God for the timing of becoming king. David knew that God knows best.

The day came when the Philistines came against the army of Israel again. And as they had done before Goliath, the army of Israel ran away from the Philistine army. The Philistine army didn’t let them go so easily. “The Philistines fought hard against Saul and his sons” and all of them died the very same day. (1 Samuel 31:2 NCV)

You might think that David rejoiced when he found out Saul was finally dead. Surely it meant David could take the throne, but “David tore his clothes to show his sorrow, and . . . cried and fasted until evening. . . for Saul and his son Jonathan and for all the people of the LORD and for all the Israelites who had died in the battle.” (2 Samuel 1:11 NCV) And then “David sang a funeral song about Saul and his son Jonathan.” (2 Samuel 1:17-27 NCV)

Sometime after Saul and Johnathan’s deaths, David prayed, “God is it time to go back to the cities of Judah?” When God said yes, David asked for specifics, “Where should I go?” God directed David to the city of Hebron. David and all the men and their families who had been with him made Hebron their home. David was appointed king by the men of Judah.

After David became king he wondered if there was anyone left in Saul’s family. Many times a new king would ask this question because he wanted to get rid of any possible competition for the throne. That’s not what David wanted to do, though. David asked, “Is anyone still left in Saul’s family? I want to show kindness to that person for Jonathan’s sake!” (2 Sam-

uel 9:1 NCV) You see, after all these years of running for his life, David remembered the promise he had made to Jonathan when Jonathan helped him escape from King Saul. David had promised that he would always show kindness to Jonathan and his family. So when David found out that a son of Jonathan’s was still living he wanted to know where he lived so that he could bring him. Jonathan’s son was named Mephibosheth and he was crippled in both feet.

When Mephibosheth came before David he bowed facedown on the floor and vowed to be King David’s servant. King David was so excited to see him that he shouted, “Mephibosheth!” You see, David had something other than the role of a servant in mind for Mephibosheth! “David said to him, ‘Don’t be afraid. I will be kind to you for your father Jonathan’s sake. I will give you back all the land of your grandfather Saul, and you will always eat at my table.’” (2 Samuel 9:7 NCV) King David even provided for Saul’s servant Ziba and his family to farm the land and harvest the crops for Mephibosheth. So from that day on, Mephibosheth lived in Jerusalem and always ate at the king’s table.



Memory Verse Activities:

“Trust in the LORD with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek His will in all you do, and He will show you which path to take.” (Proverbs 3:5-6 NLT)

- ® Write each word of the memory verses on a heart. Make a path from the entrance of your Bible Study area to another room or area. Encourage your students to memorize the verses.
- ® Sing the memory verses.



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Games and Activities:

- ® Make crowns! Talk about David finally becoming king.
- ® Re-enact the story.
- ® Eat snack all together around a table or on a blanket. Talk about King David inviting Mephibosheth to his table.
- ® Run relays! Then run the same relay . . . bandaged! (Lightly wrap students' feet with gauze or toilet paper.)



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Songs:

- ® "Trust His Heart" by Babbie Mason
- ® "Trust and Obey"
- ® "I Will"
- ® "Trust the Lord" (from Proverbs 3:5-6)



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Food for Thought:

- ® **Review:** What does it mean to "have a heart like God's"? "Seems to me, it means that you are a person whose life is in harmony with the Lord. What is important to Him is important to you." (Charles Swindoll, *David* p. 6) How do you see this at work in David's decisions?
- ® Review the memory verses (Proverbs 3:5-6) and discuss the following. "David remembered when Samuel anointed him and whispered, 'You will be the next king.' He remembered that from many years earlier when he was only a teenager, so he asked, 'Lord, shall I go up to one of the cities?' He really wanted to know, 'Is it time now, Lord?' He didn't rush to the throne and take charge. He waited patiently on God for further instruction. And God revealed His plan to him." (Charles Swindoll, *David* p. 132)
- ® What worst enemy and best friend can you begin treating the way David treats Saul and Jonathan? (Serendipity Bible for Personal and Small Group Study, Zondervan Publishing House, 2 Samuel 1)
- ® In what ways are you like Mephibosheth as you "stand" before God's throne? As you break bread at the Lord's table? As you are an heir to your heavenly Father's spiritual kingdom? When have you shown or received God's kindness as a "friend of a friend," as epitomized in this story? To whom can you be that kind of friend this week? (Serendipity Bible for Personal and Small Group Study, Zondervan Publishing House, 2 Samuel 9)
- ® Read through and discuss Psalms 93 and 95, written by David during this time of his life.