



GOD'S KING

Please note that this teaching text has not been proofed.

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NOTE TO THE TEACHER

Display each illustration where indicated in text, laying volume aside when the story line continues beyond the picture.

Lesson #1

DAVID BECOMES KING OVER ISRAEL

NOTE TO THE TEACHER

Beginning with Abraham (Genesis 12) until Samuel's time, God was King of the Israelites. Then the Israelites wanted to be like the nations around them. They begged for an earthly king (1 Samuel 8). So God gave them what they wanted. He chose Saul as their king. If Saul had obeyed God, he would have had a wonderful reign. Instead, he willfully disobeyed. And God rejected him (1 Samuel 15:23-29).

In place of Saul, God chose David (1 Samuel 13:14). However, for many years Saul continued to rule over Israel.

David fought and won many battles for Saul. Then King Saul became jealous of David and tried to murder him. For years David spent his time running away from Saul. On two occasions David could have killed Saul. But David refused to touch the Lord's anointed king (1 Samuel 24 and 26). He waited for God to dethrone Saul and give it to him (David).

OBSERVE: These lessons should be taught following those in Volume 21. By using both volumes, the history of Israel and the life of David can be understood.

Scripture to be studied: 2 Samuel 1-9

The aim of the lesson: To show that God is on His throne in Heaven controlling everything.

What your students should know: That God sets up the kings and rulers of the earth (see Daniel 4:25b).

What your students should feel: Awe that God who has all power, cares about the details of our lives.

What your students should do: Allow God to lead them in their decisions and plans.

Lesson outline (for the teacher's and students' notebooks):

1. David's respect for Saul and love for Jonathan (2 Samuel 1).
2. Jerusalem becomes the capital of Israel (2 Samuel 5).
3. God's promise (covenant) (2 Samuel 7).
4. The King's compassion (2 Samuel 9).

The verses to be memorized:

Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths. (Proverbs 3:5-6)

THE LESSON

Have you ever had to wait long for a promised gift? (Let students share such experiences.) Did you think you would never receive the present? Did you decide the one who made the promise had forgotten?

1. DAVID'S RESPECT FOR SAUL AND LOVE FOR JONATHAN

2 Samuel 1

God told David he would be the next king of Israel. What was David doing when Samuel went to anoint him as king? (*Tending sheep*, 1 Samuel 16:11.) Who was king at that time? (*Saul*.) Why was God looking for a new king? (1 Samuel 13:14; 15:26.) (*Teacher:* Briefly review incidents which caused God to reject King Saul. 1 Samuel 13 and 15.)

Saul was jealous of David and hated him. For years he tried to kill David. Saul knew that one day David would replace him as king.

Many people loved David. So many joined him that he had his own army. Often David and his men had to hide from King Saul. Sometimes they hid in caves. At other times they fled to Philistia. The Philistines were their neighbors—and their enemies.

David waited and waited to become king. But he never lost faith in God. He believed God would do what He had promised. Even when David had opportunities to slay Saul, he refused to touch him (1 Samuel 24:4-6; 26:8-10). David waited for God to give him the throne.

Waiting is hard. We like to know what is going to happen. We want it to happen quickly. God tells us He is "performing what He has planned for us" (Job 23:14). He works everything together for good. But He is not in a hurry.