



At-A-Glance: Ages 8-9
Kings & Kingdoms Part 2: Judges - Esther
Unit 8, Lesson 41

David's Heart: David Spares Saul

Lesson Aim: To trust God for justice over our enemies.

THE WELCOME

MEET & GREET: Who is someone you trust?

GAME: Trust Me

THE WORSHIP THE KING WHO KNOWS OUR HEARTS

Read Worship Scripture: Psalm 28:7

Sing songs and worship God. Bless and collect the offering.

Perform King City Chronicles script or read storybook.

THE WORD DAVID SPARED SAUL'S LIFE

Children sign note cards; place in Golden Bowl. Classroom Covenant.

Review: David and Jonathan were true friends.

Today, we will hear about David and his mighty men in the En-Gedi wilderness where they hid from King Saul. King Saul wanted to hurt David because he was jealous that the people liked David more than him. Point out Jerusalem and the En-Gedi wilderness. **The En-Gedi wilderness provided good hiding places for David and his mighty men.** Reveal Bible Story Scripture Reference: 1 Samuel 24:2-13. Find It First. Highlight Key Verse: 1 Samuel 24:12. Pray. Read.

THE WAY TRUSTING GOD AS JUDGE

How many men did King Saul choose to hunt for David? (3,000.) **Who was hiding in the cave when King Saul came in?** (David and his men.) **David could have killed King Saul. What did he do instead?** (Cut a piece from King Saul's robe.) **Why do you think David felt bad?** (David knew he had been disrespectful to the king God had chosen.)

In the cave, what did the mighty men think David should do to King Saul? (Take revenge by killing Saul.) **Why did David say he would never kill him?** (Because Saul had been anointed by God as king of Israel.) **David loved and respected God too much to harm his choice for king.**

An enemy is anyone who tries to hurt you on purpose. David's men wanted him to take revenge on King Saul. Revenge means harming someone to pay them back for doing harm. Have you or your friends ever wanted to take revenge on someone who has hurt you?

Taking revenge is a wrong choice. Because David was a man after God's own heart, he was always focused on what God would want, not what he wanted. Who did David trust to be the judge over himself and Saul? (God.) When you take revenge, you are taking God's job as judge. Why would God as "the King who knows our hearts" be a better judge than you? (He knows the true reasons why we did wrong. He knows if we are truly sorry. He knows if we will truly repent.)

David trusted God as his shepherd to keep him safe. He trusted God as his judge to deal justly with his enemies. You can trust God, too. Let's say our Bible Memory Verse. Think about how you can trust God as your shepherd, too. Say Bible Memory Verse together: Psalm 23.

CHRIST CONNECTION:

Over one thousand years later, the Bible tells us why David was right to trust the Lord as judge over his enemies. Let's see what the Bible says. Reveal Romans 12:19. Read. Find It First. Highlight. Read.

David may have wanted to take revenge on King Saul, but he trusted that God had a plan for his enemies. One day, Jesus will come back to judge everyone for their actions. That is when He will make everything fair and perfect.

THE GOLDEN BOWL: Pray for individuals. Pray the Lord's Prayer.

FINAL FIVE MINUTES:

- **TREASURE TREAT:** "Trust in God" mosaic
- **DAILY WAY CHALLENGE**
- **OFFERING OF ART:** David cutting off a piece of King Saul's robe
- **PRAYER REQUESTS**
- **BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SONG**

GOT TIME?

SNACK: Trust Towers

GAMES: Thumbs Up!, Robe of Trust

CRAFT: Swords of Trust

DISCUSSION: Respect Leaders

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES: Shepherd Psalm Shuffle, Psalm 23 Balloon Toss, Discussion: Psalm 23

BIBLE TIMELINE REVIEW