

Family Worship Guide – Week 14

READ

- 1 Samuel 16:1-13
- After Saul failed to serve the Lord faithfully as king of Israel, God sent the prophet Samuel to anoint a new king, David. The Lord often surprises us with those whom He chooses to use. Bethlehem was a rather unexpected location from which the future king would come. It was a small, rural town easily overlooked. In addition, David was the youngest of eight sons. Culturally, the youngest son received the least attention. As such, Jesse initially overlooked David. The combination of David's location and life-stage built a strong case against him being God's man. However, the Lord does not evaluate people according to earthly criteria; rather, He examines the heart. In David, He saw a man after His own heart (1 Samuel 13:14). Perhaps no other story in 1 Samuel displays what such a heart looks like as well as the story of David confronting Goliath.
- 1 Samuel 17:1-11; 26; 32-37; 41-50
- God's people found themselves in a dangerous situation. They exhibited faithlessness as fear before their enemies and dismay filled their lives. No one was willing to confront the intimidating warrior, Goliath, until David arrived. God used David's actions to demonstrate that He is greater than Goliath. The man after God's own heart fought for the hearts of God's people (v. 32). He was moved to action by a desire for all to know the Lord (v. 46). Being fueled by that which fuels the Lord, he was filled with confidence. By slaying Israel's enemy with a sling and a stone, young David surprised the people and secured their confidence in the Lord, transforming them from cowards to conquerors (vv. 52-53).
- Although we tend to read this story identifying with David, perhaps it is more appropriate for us to assume the posture of Israel. Like Israel, we exhibit faithlessness as fear, dismay and doubt of God's power and goodness fill our lives when circumstances become difficult. We can't overcome the intimidating onslaught of sin, Satan, and death. Thus, we need the Lord's anointed King to arrive and act on our behalf. That's exactly what we have in the Gospel. The surprising Son of David, Jesus Christ, defeats sin, Satan, and death through His life, death, and resurrection. King Jesus delivers us and secures our confidence in the Lord, replacing fear and dismay with faith and praise. For we are made more than conquerors through Him who loves us (Rom. 8:31-39).

The Bottom Line: The surprising Son of David delivers God's people from the dangerous enemies of sin, Satan, and death enabling us to live confident lives of faith and praise.

Questions:

How does reading this story from Israel's perspective rather than David's affect your faith?

In what ways is King Jesus a surprising deliverer?

In what ways has King Jesus captured your heart?

How does the Gospel enable you to live a confident life of faith and praise?

How does knowing that the "battle is the Lord's" (v. 47) encourage your effort to make disciples of all nations?

PRAY

- Read: *Window on the World*, pg. 40-41 Colombia
- Use Prayer Card

SING

- Use lyric sheet and mp3 download of "Jesus, We Need You"
- "Jesus We Need You" was written as a result of some 'spiritual strain' during the Radical Series in 2009. As our church continued to grow and be challenged by the Holy Spirit, the task of giving up everything we had to follow Christ became one that was overwhelming. It was during this journey that Steven wrote this song. As we continue to be challenged to give up more and more for the sake of Christ and for the sake of the nations, the only thing that we can do is submit to Christ and His power to do this in us. We need Him to do His work. We chose this song for this week as a response to the truth that God dwells within us. We need Him to work in our lives and we confess that we need more than just His gifts, but we need His presence.

MEMORIZE

- 1 Samuel 16:7 But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him. For the Lord sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart."

SUGGESTIONS

These suggestions were created by the age-group ministry leaders as a way to help parents better communicate the biblical truths discussed in the Family Worship Guide. These activities and questions can replace or serve as a supplement to the questions under the “Read” section on Page 1. Remember that these suggestions are intended to help parents facilitate God-centered discussions with their children. Parents should prayerfully use these suggestions, and any other means necessary, to help their children discover the truths of God’s word and worship Him together.

Preschool (Birth-Kindergarten)

- Before you begin, grab a spool of thread.
- Have your child stand up so you can wrap one strand of thread around their body. Have the child break the thread by holding out their arms. Now, do a few more strands of thread, explain how it becomes more difficult to break the thread if we have more strands around us.
- Explain to your child that the strands of thread represent the sin or bad choices we make in our lives. Have the children call out sins that they may struggle with (example: not obeying mommy or daddy, arguing with siblings, not sharing).
- We can’t overcome or break the sin. Only God can break sin. Remember what we talked about last week? God loves us so much that He sent his only son, Jesus, to save us and to rescue us from our sin and bad choices.

Children (Grades 1-5)

- Note: For this activity, you will need five sheets of paper and a coffee mug.
- Hand the five sheets of paper to your child(ren) and have them crumple each sheet of paper into a small ball. Explain to them that just as David defeated the giant Goliath by flinging a small stone at him, they will now have the chance to slay a giant by throwing their paper wads into a coffee mug. Stand roughly 10 feet away from your child(ren) and hold the coffee mug out with the open end facing them. Allow them to throw the wads until they are able to land one inside the cup; invite them to step closer to you, if needed.
- Explain to your children that although it is exciting to think of ourselves being used by God to do something as great and amazing as defeating a massive giant, we really have more in common with the children of Israel on the sidelines. The Israelites were terrified of Goliath, he was a horrible and towering giant, and he had spent nearly his entire life training to be a warrior. No one in Israel’s army was strong enough or brave enough to face him. Goliath mocked the God of Israel and no one was able to stop him. It was a truly sad day for God’s people.
- But God did not leave His people defeated! God sent His servant David to defeat the giant. God did through David what the Israelites could not do for themselves, and David’s victory counted for them. Even though they didn’t help in the fight in any way, they got to share in the victory. (v.52) In the same way, God sent His servant Jesus to win a battle that we were helpless to win ourselves. We were powerless to defeat the horrible giants of sin and death and separation from God. God used Jesus to defeat our enemy on the cross, and if we trust in Jesus, the victory that He won is applied to us. We can express our love and praise for God in a deeper way knowing what a great victory He has won on our behalf.

Students (Grades 6-12)

- Suggestion for a visual illustration: One of the key points we see this week is that David was a surprising choice for king. From outward appearances, he looked unfit to be a leader. To demonstrate how looks may be deceiving, bake a cake or cookies, substituting salt for the sugar or unsweetened chocolate for chocolate chips. There is no need to bake a large amount of this because your family obviously will not eat much of it! Be excited about how good this snack will be as you serve it. Once your family tastes the cookie and realizes that it is much different than they expected, begin your discussion using the following questions.
- When thinking about the characteristics of a new king, what do you think the people were looking for? What was it about David that made him an unlikely candidate to fill this position?
- In what ways was Jesus an unlikely savior?
- How does His sacrifice on our behalf change our lives?

Prayer

Week 14

Petition

Petition is praying for your own personal needs. While this is not the sole focus of our prayer lives, it is appropriate to pray for the needs and desires of your heart. We are to pray for our needs in times of sickness, sorrow, trial and joy, so that ultimately we learn to seek God's will in our lives. Through prayers of petition, we come to a deeper understanding of God's sovereignty over all things, whether they happen the way we would like or not. It is about submitting to His will and trusting that He will guard us in Christ Jesus. If you desire to read some passages from scripture about this, some are listed below.

Biblical Basis for Petition:

Philippians 4:6; James 5:13-16; 1 John 5:13-15

Take an opportunity for those gathered with you in worship to mention specific personal prayer needs they may have. Pray for each one of these requests specifically.

Nations: Columbia

- Pray for Christian government leaders to lead with grace and wisdom while honoring Christ.
- Pray for God to bring peace to those affected by violence that comes from the illegal drug trade.
- Many people are coming to faith in Christ. Ask God to strengthen them in His Word for the sake of His glory in Colombia and the world.
- Pray for the almost 620,000 people who live in unreached people groups that they would hear the gospel and trust in Christ.

Source: *Operation World* by Johnstone and Mandryk

Scripture Memory

Week 14

1 Samuel 16:7 But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him. For the Lord sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.

Jesus, We Need You

By Steven Sivley

INTRO

B E B E

VERSE 1

Show us how to live, and follow after Jesus
B E

Teach us to abide, trusting in Your Spirit
B E

All we want is You, all we need You give us
B E

Show us how to live, and follow after Jesus
B E

PRE-CHORUS

C#m

'Cause we know You are

E B

The Way, the Truth, and the Life

CHORUS

B

Take our lives, and our hearts, and make us holy

E

Take our days and our ways

G#m

And show us how to trust in You, Jesus

B

Take our sin, and our guilt, and remove it from us

E

Take our will and reveal Yourself unto us

G#m E

Jesus, we need You

BRIDGE

B

Father, we need Your love and mercy

E

Spirit, we need Your pow'r and presence

G#m F#

Jesus, we need Your life inside of us

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