



TEACHER NOTES FOR CHAPTER 5 THE KINGS & PROPHETS OF ISRAEL

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THEME	KING DAVID: IT'S ALL ABOUT THE HEART
HOMEWORK BIBLE READING	1 SAMUEL 20, 2 SAMUEL 7 & 11
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OVERVIEW

The content of this chapter overlaps with the reign of Saul as David's early years are lived out under Saul's leadership, not to mention how he enters Saul's service and spends time fleeing from him when Saul wants to kill him.

For the sake of keeping it clear for the students, the two character's lives are separated in chapters however inevitable overlap occurs. The chapter begins with the anointing of David while Saul is still king. This is done before Samuel dies. As you continue to highlight what a close reading of the text will reveal to students this is a great chance to contrast David's introduction with Saul's. Particularly as Samuel himself is taught by God that what is on the outside is not important. Saul looked great but he was a dud. David is the youngest son of his father, Jesse, however he is a man after God's heart.

From a human perspective it would seem impossible that David could become King while Saul is reigning yet the narrator shows us through a series of events how God is able to work in history to bring about his purposes. Something that later in this period will become extraordinarily evident.

So David is brought into Saul's house to play the harp for him and enters his service. The anointed king serving the formerly anointed king now rejected. Then through the David and Goliath incident, David steps up and seizes the opportunity that had been Saul's for some 40 days prior to his arrival on the scene. The reader should not miss that David is dressed by Saul in his own battle gear - the true king is now ready to lead the nation. At the end of the account when Goliath is dead and decapitated, the people praise David over Saul. What seemed impossible is possible because the God of Israel is moving in history and in the hearts and minds of his people to bring the rightful king to the throne.

Finally, of all the other things that this chapter focuses on, the event of supreme importance is the Davidic covenant. Whatever you decided to skip in this chapter this is a defining moment in the Bible's story and

in David's reign. Students need to see that at a time when they could have been doubting how long this all would last, God points David's, Israel's and our eyes forward with his promise that David would always have a king to reign over the house of Israel. Later in this course we will return to this promise as we look down the barrel of the Bible's storyline to the one that it is all heading toward.

OUR TIPS

The narrative of David is so powerful and engaging that we want to let the students sink their teeth into it. We need to show the students that despite David being a man after God's own heart he did some cracker things that would cause most ministers to be summarily dismissed. He was a failed father who horrifically dealt with the rape of his daughter and was an adulterer and murderer as well. As you unpack this with the students point them to his Psalm of repentance (51) and talk through what it means for fallen and broken people to be in a relationship with God. David reaped the consequences of his actions but he continued to enjoy an incredible relationship with his maker. It would be good to highlight David's repentance against the failure of Saul to do this.

This is a great opportunity to break the perception that God only calls those who are perfect and have it all together. There is nothing in the Bible that should lead us to think that.

YOUR TIPS

We would love to hear what you have learnt after teaching this chapter. If you have tips that you are happy for us to freely share with other teachers using this course please let us know by emailing them through to us at admin@biblicalturningpoints.com.au.

COMMON QUESTIONS STUDENTS ASK

- Why did David chop off Goliath's head?
- Why did God not reject David considering what he did with Bathsheba?

We would love to hear what questions students are asking in response to the content of this chapter. Please let us know at admin@biblicalturningpoints.com.au.

RESOURCES TO HELP YOU TEACH THIS CHAPTER

- Kings and Prophets Visual aid

If you know of any websites or resources that would assist teachers with bringing this chapter to life please let us know at admin@biblicalturningpoints.com.au.

ANSWERS FOR CHAPTER 5

Answers have been provided for questions where we believe clarification may be needed or where an activity requires the teacher to have the correct answer before the students commence the activity.

If you have any questions about an activity not written up in the following notes, please contact us at admin@biblicalturningpoints.com.au.

CHAPTER 5

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p. 74 Activity

The anointing of King David – 1 Samuel 16

As the sons of Jesse parade before Samuel, what does God tell Samuel that he is looking for?

Do not consider appearance or height – the Lord looks at the heart.
Go to Jesse of Bethlehem. I have chosen one of his sons to be king.

Why is Samuel so quick to think that Eliab is the son of Jesse that God is after?

He is tall and handsome, possibly like Saul.

p. 76-77 Activity

David and Goliath – 1 Samuel 17

What situation had arisen for Israel? (1 Samuel 17:30)

Philistines and Israelites were facing off against each other on opposite hills.

How exactly is Goliath described in 1 Samuel 17?

- A champion
- Nine feet tall
- Wearing bronze armour

What challenge does Goliath issue to Saul's army?

Choose a man to fight me. If he kills me, we will be your servants. If I kill him, you will be our servants.

What is David most upset by when he arrives and hears Goliath calling out to the Israelites?

The Israelites are running scared from a giant, but David sees a man defying God and wants to see him stopped.

Think about the way David's father and Eliab treat him. What is their view on David's potential contribution to the situation?

They think David has nothing to contribute. David is small, young, inexperienced, and only there to watch.

Compare David's response to the situation with that of Saul's. How are they different?

Saul wants to protect David with armour and almost expects him to fail. David trusts God and the skills and tools God has given him.

p. 79 Activity	David's rise in the eyes of the people and his place in Israel.
1 Samuel 18:1	David and Jonathan became close friends
1 Samuel 18:2	Saul kept David with him
1 Samuel 18:3	Jonathan made a covenant with David
1 Samuel 18:5	Saul gave David a high rank in the army because David was so successful
1 Samuel 18:6-8	The people celebrated David's victories, making Saul jealous
1 Samuel 18:13-16	Saul sent David away to lead men, but he continued to be successful and Israel loved him. Saul feared him.

p. 82 Activity **David's influence and leadership**
Look up 1 Samuel 22:1-2. Who were David's followers?
400 men who were in distress, debt or discontented.

David's influence and care

2 Samuel 23:8-39	David's mighty men were dedicated to him and to God.
1 Chronicles 11:10-25	
2 Samuel 10:4-5	David showed compassion to the men who were half shaved and protected them from ridicule.
1 Samuel 30:22-24	David recognised the work of the support forces and treated them equally.
2 Samuel 23:15-17	David loved God and his soldiers, so he would not drink water that represented the lives of his soldiers, but poured it out as an offering to God.

p. 83 Activity **David refuses to kill Saul. Read 1 Samuel 24 and 26**
Why did David spare Saul's life when he had the opportunity to take it?
David respected the position Saul held as God's anointed king.

What does this tell us about David's faith?

David knew he would one day be king and he was happy to wait for God's timing.

After Saul's death, people were a little too eager to deliver the news to David. What is David's attitude to the young man who claimed to have killed King Saul? (2 Samuel 1:14-15)

The young man had sinned and committed a crime by killing God's anointed king.

Read 2 Samuel 1:17-27. What does David's lament for Saul and Jonathan tell you about him?

David was able to focus on the good.

p. 85 Activity Promise and fulfilment

<p>God's Promises to David P130</p>	<p>When is this promise to David fulfilled? (include Bible references)</p>
<p>When David dies, God will raise up his offspring to succeed David as king. God will establish his kingdom.</p>	<p>Solomon, the son of David, takes the throne after David's death. 1 Kings 1:28f.</p>
<p>It will be David's offspring who will build the Temple.</p>	<p>Solomon built the temple. 1 Kings 5</p>
<p>God will establish the kingdom of David's offspring forever.</p>	<p>David and Solomon's line continues through the period of Kings all the way to Jesus. Matthew 1:6f.</p>
<p>God will be the father of this offspring of David. God will discipline him when he does wrong but will never take his love away, like he did from Saul.</p>	<p>Solomon rebelled against God by encouraging idolatry in Israel at the end of his life. God disciplined him but did not remove him from the throne. 1 Kings 11:9-25</p>
<p>The house and kingdom of David will endure forever before God. David's throne will be established forever.</p>	<p>The Old Testament prophets spoke about a future Davidic King who the Bible later reveals to be Jesus Christ. Isaiah 9:6-7 & Luke 1:32-33.</p>

p. 88 Activity

David and Bathsheba – Read 2 Samuel 11

How does David try to cover up the pregnancy?

David tried twice to get Uriah to go home (and sleep with his wife) but he doesn't.

How does the writer contrast David's character with Uriah's?

Uriah showed loyalty by not going home.
David sinned deliberately, then deceived people.

p. 91 Activity

Amnon and Tamar – Read 2 Samuel 13

What do you think David should have done when he learnt what Amnon had done to Tamar?

David should have punished Amnon as soon as he learnt of the sin.