

# God Judges between David and Saul

1 Samuel 24



LESSON GOAL

Students will understand that God's Word is the standard of right and wrong.

# LESSON OBJECTIVES

The student will be able to

- Explain why David did not kill Saul.
- Analyze why Saul admitted that David was more righteous than himself.
- Contrast Saul and David's attitude toward God's Word.

# **KEY VERSE**

"Look, this day your eyes have seen that the LORD delivered you today into my hand in the cave, and someone urged me to kill you. But my eye spared you, and I said, 'I will not stretch out my hand against the LORD's anointed'" (1 Samuel 24:10).

# APPLICATION

- Submit to God's Word as the authority of right and wrong.
- Understand that an opportunity does not equate to God's permission.
- Be diligent to be blameless before the Lord, the Judge.

# NEXT WEEK

God Makes David King Read 2 Samuel 1:1–2:4a.

Symbol KeyImage: Symbol KeyImage:

o Grade Level

# **Teacher Planning Sheet**

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	PREPARE						
	Objectives/Truths to cover this week						
	Personal Application						
	As a result of my study in this passage, God wants me to						
	•						
	•						
	Three ways students need to apply this passage are						
	•						
	•						
	POINT						
Materials	Choose from various ideas to point students to the coming Bible lesson.						
Needed							
	- 0						
	PROCLAIM						
	Choose from various ideas to proclaim the Bible lesson.						
	Presentation Ideas						
	– Praise/Music Ideas						
	-   º						
	- Choose ideas to help review and apply today's lesson.						

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# PREPARE WITH THE TRUTH

"Therefore you shall lay up these words of mine in your heart and in your soul.... You shall teach them to your children" (Deuteronomy 11:18–19).

Please take time to prepare your mind and heart to accurately handle the truths of God's Word (2 Tim. 2:15). Read through the Bible background and study the truths contained in this lesson. Crucial background information is included here to aid you in understanding the Scripture.

# **Bible Background**

### David on the Run: Overview of 1 Samuel 21-23

Even before Saul's hatred for David was revealed to Jonathan, David already had been forced to flee and hide from Saul. Jonathan's report of his father's fury and attempt to kill his own son left David no choice but to permanently leave Saul's presence. David had become a "wanted man." In an attempt to protect himself from Saul, David fled west into Philistine-controlled territory (1 Sam. 21:10–15) and then east into Moab (22:3–4). During this time, 400 (and later 600) Israelites gathered around David's leadership (22:1–2; 23:13). While Saul was busy killing the Lord's priests for helping David (21:1–9; 22:6–20), David was listening to the Lord's commands and rescued the Israelite city of Keilah from the Philistines (23:1–13).

Saul was devoted to the destruction of David. He tried to trap David in Keilah, but God warned David that the city would turn him over to Saul (1 Sam. 23:1–13). David fled to the wilderness area directly west of the Dead Sea, where "Saul sought him every day, but God did not deliver him into his hand" (23:14). While Saul was hunting David, Jonathan and David met again and confirmed their covenant. Jonathan encouraged David that both he and his father knew that David would become king (23:16–18). David had several narrow escapes from Saul until Saul was called away to rescue Israel from Philistine invaders (23:19–29). David took the opportunity to flee to En Gedi, an oasis on the western shore of the Dead Sea. The area was surrounded by caves, which were good places for David and his men to hide.

# David's Opportunity to Kill Saul (1 Sam. 24:1-7)

As soon as Saul was finished with the Philistines, he returned to his pursuit of David (1 Sam. 24:1). When he heard that David was at En Gedi, he took 3,000 men to find him (24:2). Saul's obsession with killing David revealed his heart. He never submitted to God's authority. When there had been opportunity for his kingdom to continue, Saul flippantly disregarded God's commands (13:13). But now that God had given his kingdom to a neighbor (15:28), Saul passionately sought to preserve his reign. Like a man grasping after wind, Saul futilely tried to supersede God's plan. God was sovereign over both Saul's anointing as king and his rejection. God was even sovereign over Saul's most mundane human activity—going to the bathroom! No doubt when Saul entered a sheepfold and wandered past the entrance to a cave in the back to find a safe, quiet place to relieve himself (24:3), he had no idea that his steps were being directed by God.

David and his men, who were hiding in the back of that same cave, must have been equally surprised at God's sovereign plan! Alone and vulnerable, the hunter had become the prey. Believing that the situation had been promised by the Lord in a previous prophecy, David's men challenged David to seize the opportunity (1 Sam. 24:4). Instead of taking Saul's life, David snuck to Saul's side and cut off the corner of his robe. To the fugitive army, David was not doing enough to combat Saul (24:7). However, David believed he already had done wrong: "David's heart troubled him because he had cut Saul's robe" (24:5). David had done more than destroy property. By cutting off a corner of his robe, David was challenging Saul's authority. Like taking someone's crown or toppling one's throne, David's action demonstrated Saul's incompetence to rule.

David regretted cutting Saul's robe and did not do anything more severe because he knew that Saul was the Lord's anointed (24:6). The Lord had put Saul into authority. To assault Saul's leadership was to assault the Lord's leadership. David even referred to Saul as his master. Even though David knew God's will was that he would become king, he was not willing to accomplish the Lord's plan through his own disobedience. The Lord's will was more important to David than his own exaltation. While his men saw this as a golden opportunity to take Saul's life, David trusted the Lord's ability to accomplish His own will. David did not allow his men to take action, and Saul left the cave without knowing the danger he had been in.

# David's Evidence for His Innocence (1 Sam. 24:8-11)

Before Saul had gone very far, David stopped him and pleaded his innocence before him. In order to get Saul's attention and show his loyalty to the Lord's anointed, David called out, "My lord the king!" (1 Sam. 24:8). When Saul looked around, he saw David bowing before him. David tried to convince Saul that his evaluation of him as a usurper was wrong (24:9). Even when God had brought Saul to such a vulnerable place, and even when David's men had urged him to kill Saul, David was not willing to harm the Lord's anointed (24:10). David used the corner of Saul's robe as evidence of how close he had been to Saul. How easy it would have been to kill him! But David could not. He said, "There is neither evil nor rebellion in my hand, and I have not sinned against you" (24:11). David's desire to please the Lord directed his actions.

# David's Confidence in the Lord's Judgment (1 Sam. 24:12-15)

If David was innocent as he proclaimed, then Saul was wrongly using his power to hunt the innocent. David briefly accused Saul of wrongdoing: "Yet you hunt my life to take it" (1 Sam. 24:11). But instead of lingering on Saul's wickedness, David switched his focus to the Lord. The Lord would judge between Saul and David. David would not allow himself to take the Lord's right to avenge (24:12). Because his actions were innocent, David could boldly say, "Wickedness proceeds from the wicked" (24:13). While David's heart was right, Saul's wicked pursuit of David proceeded from his wicked heart. David asked why the powerful king of Israel would waste his time (and commit the wickedness) of pursuing a "dead dog," a "flea" (24:14). David was a committed and lowly subject, not a threat. Once again, David announced that he was trusting in the Lord to judge between them (24:15). Because he was living according to God's Law, David had confidence that God would take his side and deliver him. Unlike Saul, David was not willing to usurp God's role.

# David's Innocence Admitted by Saul (1 Sam. 24:16-22)

After affirming that it actually was David who was speaking to him, "Saul lifted up his voice and wept" (1 Sam. 24:16). David's righteousness in permitting Saul to live shocked him. The whole event confronted Saul with the fact that David was different from him. David rewarded evil with good, while Saul rewarded good

with evil (24:17). Any normal man would have killed his enemy in such a situation (24:19); Saul knew what he would have done. But David was different from other men. David would not view God's sovereignly directed opportunity as justification for wickedness (24:18). Even Saul, while hating the fact that David would replace him as king, knew that the Lord would reward David. Saul admitted that David would become king and that the kingdom would be established in his hand (24:20).

Probably not knowing that David had already covenanted with Jonathan, Saul asked David to swear not to kill his descendants or destroy Saul's family name (1 Sam. 24:21). David promised what Saul requested. Although Saul relented of his pursuit of David, David knew Saul too well to think that Saul's weeping was repentance (24:22). Before long, Saul was once again hunting David.

# Conclusion

First Samuel 24 exemplifies the difference between Saul and David. Saul had been rejected by God because he ignored the Lord's commands (1 Sam. 15:23). His submission to God's will was always partial. Saul would offer a sacrifice to God but not offer it as God commanded (1 Sam. 13). He would destroy the Amalekites but not completely destroy them (1 Sam. 15). Because Saul did not fear the Lord, he felt justified in fashioning his own form of obedience. Such obedience is really rebellion.

Although he was a sinner, David was not like Saul. David did not sinfully presume that God's promise of his future kingship would make killing Saul acceptable. He did not justify killing Saul even when the Lord directed Saul into such a compromising situation. He did not buckle under pressure from his men, who were urging him to kill Saul. He did not succumb to the hardships of doing things the Lord's way, which included hiding out in caves and being pursued by a deranged and demon-oppressed father-in-law who had given David's wife to another man (1 Sam. 25:44). He did not think of the ease, the rest, the success, the wealth, or the power which would be his when he became king. He did not even justify sin by saying that God would be glorified. David feared God. To David, being pleasing to the Lord was worth more than any supposed rewards from killing Saul. David was a man after God's own heart. He was committed to doing the Lord's work in the Lord's way.

# POINT TO THE TRUTH

"Give ear, O my people, to my law; incline your ears to the words of my mouth" (Psalm 78:1).

This section includes questions to review last week's lesson and ideas to prepare students for this week's lesson. Choose from the following ideas to point to the truths of this lesson.



# **Review Questions**

Use these questions to review and reinforce key truths.

Why did David go to see Jonathan when he left Ramah? David asked Jonathan why Saul was angry with him. David wanted to know what sin he had committed against Saul and make it clear that he did not want to kill Saul.

### God Judges between David and Saul

What was Jonathan's response? Jonathan did not believe David when he said that Saul wanted to kill him.

What test did David want Jonathan to give Saul? David wanted Jonathan to tell Saul that he was celebrating with his family. If Saul became angry, then it meant that he wanted to kill David, otherwise, it meant that he did not want to kill David.

What promise did Jonathan and David make? Jonathan promised David that he would tell him what happened in case David had to flee to safety.

What were the results of the test? (Did Saul love or hate David?) When Jonathan explained to Saul that he had allowed David to go celebrate with his family, Saul became very angry. It was then clear to both David and Jonathan that King Saul wanted to kill David.

How did Jonathan and David respond when they knew that they would no longer be able to be together? Both David and Jonathan wept. They were very sad.

# Tie Thief!

Materials: used, inexpensive tie; scissors

Directions: Instruct an adult classroom assistant to sneak up while you are giving announcements to the class, cut off the bottom part of your tie, and sneak away unnoticed. You should pretend not to notice.

# An Opportunity to Sin

In this week's lesson, David has the perfect opportunity to kill King Saul, who is himself seeking to kill David. David does not take the opportunity because he does not want to sin. This is a very difficult choice to make and yet a very wise one. Give the students an instruction to sit still and not to talk, and then leave the room for a short while. The students will no doubt have found it very difficult to obey your instructions. Explain to them that David faced an even harder test but chose to be obedient and so showed himself to be a righteous king who would love and obey God.



# Capture the Robe

In today's lesson, David manages to cut off a piece of Saul's robe without him even knowing it. Blindfold one of the students and attach a piece of ribbon to his back. Select another student to attempt to remove or cut the ribbon without being caught. The blindfolded student must shout out, "Gotcha!" when he thinks or feels the ribbon is being removed.



# Making Right Choices

Before the lesson begins, tell a story about an imaginary child. Develop an ageappropriate scenario where the student has the opportunity to do something he knows he should not do. Stop the story before telling whether the child will sin. After the lesson about David sparing Saul's life, conclude your story about the imaginary child. Use the scenario to help the students apply the lesson. God Judges between David and Saul

### God Makes the Decisions

Is God in charge when leaders do bad things? Even though Saul was not a good king and had a very rebellious heart at times, God still was in control. God is the one who raises up leaders and brings them down. When times are hard, we can trust that God is working out His good plan (Rom. 8:28). Ask the students how they can know that God is in control. Steer them to the fact that the Bible says God is in control. Tell them that today they will see how David recognized that God put Saul on the throne. David refused to kill Saul and thereby take matters into his own hands. God promised David that he would be king, and God kept His promise.

# **PROCLAIM** THE TRUTH

"Telling to the generation to come the praises of the LORD, and His strength and His wonderful works that He has done" (Psalm 78:4).

This section includes the Bible lesson, lesson questions, and praise and worship ideas. Song suggestions are included that you can use to proclaim your worship to God. Use the lesson questions to check the students' understanding. This section also includes various presentation ideas to use during the teaching time. Read the Bible passage several times before you read these pages. All teaching should be done directly from the Bible.

# **Bible Lesson**

### **Reading of the Text**

Read 1 Samuel 24.

### Introduction

At the time this story takes place, Saul is pursuing David in order to kill him. In a fit of anger, Saul has tried to kill his son Jonathan because he allowed David to leave the king's house (1 Sam. 20:30–34). Saul has killed many of God's priests because he believed them to be helping David (1 Sam. 22:16–19). It seems that Saul will stop at nothing in his quest to kill David. And David, all the while, is fleeing from Saul, looking to the Lord for help and guidance.

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# Leadoff Questions (LOQs)

**LOQ:** What did David's men say to him when Saul went into the cave they were hiding in?

**Answer:** When David's men saw that Saul was coming into the cave by himself, without any protection, they told David to kill Saul because the Lord had given him into his hand.

LOQ: What did David's men mean by what they said?

**Answer:** David's men believed that God had provided the perfect opportunity for David to kill Saul.

**LOQ:** Some people believe in luck. Was it because of luck that Saul went into the cave where David was hiding?

Answer: No! We know that there is no such thing as luck. God is in control of

everything. He made sure that David would be in that particular cave and that Saul would go into that cave, too. Sometimes God allows things to happen in order to test us to see what we will do, whether we will choose to do what is right or what is wrong.

**LOQ:** Did David listen to his men and kill Saul? If not, what did he do? **Answer:** No. David did not listen to his men. He did not kill Saul, but he did cut off a piece of Saul's robe. Then Saul left the cave without even knowing that David was in the cave or what he had done.

**LOQ:** If David could have killed Saul and perhaps become king right away, why didn't he?

**Answer:** There are at least three reasons:

- 1. David wanted to do what was right before God. If he had killed Saul, he knew that God would not have been pleased with him.
- 2. David feared God. He was not going to kill the one whom God had anointed because that would have been rebellion.
- 3. Saul was the king over all Israel, including David. David was supposed to serve the king, even though the king wanted to kill him.

**LOQ:** If God allowed David and Saul to be in the same cave so that it would have been easy for David to kill him, didn't God want David to kill Saul? Hadn't God told David that he would be king?

**Answer:** Sometimes things appear to be good and from God but aren't. This was a test for David. He wanted to be obedient to God and do what was right more than he wanted to be king. It is true that God had told David that he would be king, but that didn't mean that David was supposed to kill Saul.

LOQ: How do we know that David trusted God?

**Answer:** We know that David trusted God because he did not kill Saul when he had the opportunity. David trusted in God to protect him against Saul, and he trusted that God would make him king in the future, just as God had promised. In verse 12, David said that he wanted "the LORD to judge" between him and Saul, and to "avenge" him. David knew that God was a good judge and trusted in Him to make the best decisions and know who was innocent and who was guilty. In verse 15, David again wanted God to "be judge." He believed that God would deliver him because he had done what was right to King Saul.

**LOQ:** Whom did Saul say was righteous and whom did he say was wicked? **Answer:** Saul said that he, himself, was wicked and that David was righteous. Since David could have killed Saul, but didn't, David had done what was right. Saul was wicked because he was chasing after David to kill him when he should not have been.

**LOQ:** Whom did Saul say would be king in the future? **Answer:** Saul said that he was now sure that David would become the king in the future.

**LOQ:** Where did King Saul go after he and David made their covenant? **Answer:** King Saul and his men went home. They no longer pursued David.

### God Judges between David and Saul

**LOQ:** Where did David and his men go after he and Saul made their covenant? **Answer:** David and his men did not go home; instead, they went to the stronghold.

**LOQ:** Since David and Saul made a covenant, and Saul said he wouldn't kill David, why didn't David go home?

**Answer:** Saul had promised not to kill David once before, but later had changed his mind and begun chasing David again in order to kill him. If Saul changed his mind again, David would be safer in the stronghold, far away from Saul. This allowed David some time to wait and see whether Saul would keep his promise.

### Summary

David had a difficult decision to make. Should he kill Saul, who was trying to kill him, in order to save himself and then become king of Israel, or should he let Saul go? David decided not to kill or even hurt Saul because he feared God and trusted in Him. God would protect him and one day make him king, just as He had promised. But David did cut off a piece of Saul's robe. Later, David felt bad about what he had done to Saul and came out of the cave and spoke to him. David told Saul that he would never kill him because Saul was God's anointed king of Israel. When Saul heard David, he admitted that he had done wickedly and that David had done what was right. Saul also told David that he would one day become the king of Israel. Afterward, Saul went home, but David went to the stronghold because he feared that Saul would break his promise again.

# Application

Didn't it seem perfect that Saul was right where David was so that David could kill him and become king? David knew, though, that he had to be obedient to God, and killing Saul wouldn't have been right. For God's plan to succeed (in this case, for David to become king of Israel), God didn't need David to be disobedient. Instead, God needed David to trust Him. If God promises something, He can do it without our help, especially when our help would be sinful. Doing what God wants must be done the way God wants it to be done. We need to trust God, be patient, and always be obedient. We should never do things our own way. We should always do things God's way.

# **Presentation Ideas**



# A Beka Book Flash-A-Cards

Use appropriate A Beka Book Flash-A-Cards with the lesson.



# **Betty Lukens Flannelgraph**

Use appropriate flannelgraph pieces with the lesson.



# God Is My Judge

Materials: balance (borrow one from a science classroom at school or make one out of milk cartons and string); six weights (blocks, small cans, etc.); paper crown, index card, tape

Directions: Before class, set up the balance in the front of the classroom, equally balanced with three weights on each side. Label one pan "David" and the other pan "Saul." Write 1 Samuel 24:12—"Let the Lord judge between you and me"—on an index card, and tape it to the top of the balance. During class, explain that in this passage David is willing for God to be the judge between Saul and

himself, and that you will be using this balance during the lesson to show whom God is going to exalt as king of Israel. As the lesson begins, point to one weight on Saul's pan. Explain that during 1 Samuel 21-23, Saul has been chasing David all over the wilderness, trying to kill him. Read 1 Samuel 24:1–2, and then point to the second weight and review how Saul hired 3,000 of the most skilled soldiers to find and kill David. Read 1 Samuel 24:17, and then point to the third weight and emphasize that Saul rewarded David's good deeds with evil. As you teach through 1 Samuel 24:3-7, pick up the first block on David's pan and move it to Saul's pan. Remind the students that David had the opportunity to kill Saul, yet he didn't because he respected him as "the Lord's anointed." Pick up the second block from David's side and place it on top of the blocks on Saul's side while explaining that cutting a piece of Saul's robe troubled David's heart. At this point, the balance should be weighted down on Saul's side, and rising higher on David's side. Continue teaching from 1 Samuel 24:8–19. While instructing the students on 1 Samuel 24:20–22, pick up the third block on David's side and move it to Saul's pan. Emphasize that after Saul had tried to kill David multiple times, David was still willing to make an oath to preserve Saul's family and family name. At the end of the lesson, David's pan has risen high above Saul's. Take the paper crown and place it on David's pan while telling the students it is clear whom God has chosen to be the next king of Israel, and remind them that God is a just judge!

# Saul Chases David

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Materials: cardstock poster board, David and Saul standalones from Lesson 5 printed on cardstock, paper clips, strong magnet, markers, map of Israel

Directions: Create a large-scale map of Israel on the cardstock poster board, labeling key locations where Saul chased David, such as the Philistine Territory, Moab (on the east), Keilah, and the caves of En Gedi (on the west). Color and cut out the Saul and David standalones, and create a triangle stand on back of David and Saul to allow them to stand. Place a paperclip on the bottom of each figure. As you teach through the lesson, point out the significant locations on the map. Demonstrate the movement of Saul and David by moving the magnet underneath the poster board. The attraction of the paper clip with the magnet will move the figures around the map.

# **Praise and Worship**

I Have Decided to Follow Jesus Living for Jesus Oh, Be Careful The B-I-B-L-E Trust and Obey Thy Word

# **PRACTICE** THE TRUTH

"That they may set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep His commandments" (Psalm 78:7).

Choose ideas from this section to review and apply the truths of the Bible lesson.



# God's Word Rules

After the lesson, play a game with the class. Prepare easy questions that give the choice between right and wrong. Each one should be matched with a specific command from God's Word. The focus should be on applying Scripture to situations students will face. For example, ask the students whether they should hurt someone who hurts them. After they answer, talk about Matthew 5:44, which says that we should love our enemies. Make the game competitive by allowing each student who answers correctly to move forward on a game board, earn points for his team, etc.



# The Hearts of David and Saul

Materials: green hearts, red hearts, copies of the "Contrasting the Hearts of David and Saul" craft page

Directions: Give each student a red heart and a green heart. Have the students fold the two hearts in half and paste the two folded sides together to create a flip page. Glue the heart to the center of the craft page. The pictures of Saul and David can then be placed on the appropriate side. Ask students the following questions: "Which kind of heart do we want to have? If we want to have a heart like David's, how do we behave, think, and speak?" As a class, have students brainstorm characteristics of a heart like David and a heart like Saul. Review with the students how Saul's heart was full of jealousy, anger, hatred, and greed. This was contrasted with the heart of David (a man after God's own heart), who, while imperfect, was developing much patience, humility, wisdom, submissiveness, and trust in God. Encourage the students to take this craft home as a reminder to trust God this week. Explain that He is in charge of every challenge in our lives. If we trust Him, we can choose to have these character qualities and a heart like King David's.



# "God Judges between David and Saul"

Use this work sheet to reinforce the key truths of today's lesson. The work sheet is located at the back of the lesson.



# Journal Page: "Choosing God's Way"

Give each student a copy of the journal page at the back of this lesson. The students can complete the page individually, in small groups, or at home.

# **Coloring Sheets**

Give each student the coloring sheets from the back of the lesson. Students can color the pages in class or at home.

# **MEMORY VERSE**

"Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths" (Proverbs 3:5–6).

id and Saul	Characteristics of Saul's Heart		
the Hearts of David and Saul		Glue heart here.	Things I Want to Work on this Week
Contrasting the	Characteristics of David's Heart		

Samuel EL 7.15

# Contrasting the Hearts of David and Sau









































1 Samuel 24

	Name							
1.	When Saul went into the cave, who was also in there?							
2.	• What did David's men want him to do to Saul?							
3.	What did David do to Saul?							
4.	David would not kill Saul because he was the Lord's (1 Sam. 24:10).							
5.	Fill in the blanks from 1 Samuel 24:12.							
	"Let the between you and me, and let							
	the LORD me on you. But my shall not be							
	against you."							
6.	True or False: Saul rewarded David's evil with good, and David rewarded Saul's good with evil							
7.	Will the Lord reward each person for what he has done?							

Choosing God's Way	delivered you "Look, this day your eyes have seen that the LORD delivered you   delivered you "Look, this day your eyes have seen that the LORD delivered you   me to kill you. But my eye spared you, and I said, 'I will not stretch out my hand   n out my hand againstthe LORD's anointed'" (1 Samuel 24:10).	Ce that seemedHave your friends ever encouraged you to make a choice that seemedGod's Word? In killed Saul, heHave your friends ever encouraged you to disobey God's Word? In to be God's will but actually required you to disobey God's Word? In today's Bible lesson, David was given that choice. If he killed Saul, he would be king. God had promised David the kingdom. "God has urged him. But uch the Lord's anointed (the king). He knew how to make a right choice because he knew God's Word.	will help you According to God's Word, which of the things below will help you make the right choices? Circle your answers.	's Word Read and memorize God's Word	e of my friends Choose to get even Listen to the wrong advice of my friends	Do what I want to do Pray for God's guidance	unswers? Write Can you find a Bible verse to support each of your answers? Write eturn this page to your Sunday school teacher next week.	d memorizing As you have learned in Sunday school, reading and memorizing anelp you make God's Word, obeying your parents, and praying can help you make right choices. In His Word, God encourages you to choose His way over your own way or your friends' ways. Unscramble the words below to see some results of choosing God's way.
Choosing God's Way	"Look, this day your eyes have seen that the LORD delivered you today into my hand in the cave, and someone urged me to kill you. But my eye spared you, and I said, 'I will not stretch out my hand againstthe LORD's anointed'" (1 Samuel 24:10).	Have your friends ever encouraged you to make a choice that seemed to be God's will but actually required you to disobey God's Word? In today's Bible lesson, David was given that choice. If he killed Saul, he would be king. God had promised David the kingdom. "God has delivered your enemy into your hand," David's men urged him. But David knew from God's Word that he was not to touch the Lord's anointed (the king). He knew how to make a right choice because he knew God's Word.	According to God's Word, which of the things below will help you make the right choices? Circle your answers.	Read and memorize God's Word	Listen to the wrong advice of my	Pray for God's guidance	Can you find a Bible verse to support each of your answers? Write the verse references next to the circled answers, and return this page to your Sunday school teacher next week.	As you have learned in Sunday school, reading and memorizing God's Word, obeying your parents, and praying can help you make right choices. In His Word, God encourages you to choose His way over your own way or your friends' ways. Unscramble the words below to see some results of choosing God's way.
sing	eyes l the c u, and ointeo	ence avid into kne kne	orc i≳ C				ver xt tea	ir oʻoʻr

Samuel EL 7.19

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<b>PRAYER</b> Thank the Lord for His Holy Word and His good way that leads you into life, peace, and joy. Ask Him to forgive you for the times you went your own way. Also ask Him to help you make the right choices. He is loving and good and always willing to help you. Praise His name; He cares for you.	When you chose your way over God's way, is not just a mistake; it is sin. When you sinned by choosing your own way, did you ask God to forgive you?	The Lord wanted me to choose His way, which is to	I made a choice that was not according to God's Word when I chose my way to	I remembered that God's Word says, and I chose to instead of	God's Word helped me make the right choice when I had this choice to make:	God tells you in 2 Tim. 3:16, "All Scripture is inspired of God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work." How has your training in righteousness from God's Word helped you make the right choices?
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Samuel EL 7.20



