

God's Gracious Promise to David

2 Samuel 7



Students will rejoice in and trust God's gracious promises.



LESSON OBJECTIVES

Students will be able to

- Tell what David planned to do for God.
- Explain God's promise for David and his family.
- Analyze how Jesus Christ fulfills the Davidic Covenant.
- Describe David's prayer in response to God's promise.

KEY VERSE

"And your house and your kingdom shall be established forever before you. Your throne shall be established forever" (2 Samuel 7:16).

APPLICATION

- Thank God for His grace toward unworthy sinners.
- Trust that God keeps His promises.
- Pray that God keeps His promises for His glory.
- Look forward to Christ's reigning on the Davidic throne.

NEXT WEEK

God Forgives David Read 2 Samuel 11–12.



Work Sheet

_o Grade Level

Teacher Planning Sheet

PREPARE

	ectives/Truths to cover this week
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Dore	sonal Application
	result of my study in this passage, God wants me to
Thre	ee ways students need to apply this passage are
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Cho	ose from various ideas to point students to the coming Bible lesson.
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PR	OCLAIM
	ose from various ideas to proclaim the Bible lesson. sentation Ideas
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DD	ACTICE
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	pose ideas to help review and apply today's lesson
	ose ideas to help review and apply today's lesson.

Materials

Needed

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

One of the most important passages in the Bible is God's covenant with David in 2 Samuel 7. Here, God graciously made promises to David concerning both his life and the life of his descendants. God's promise to David that his descendants would reign over Israel forever becomes a major thread that runs throughout redemptive history. First and 2 Kings and 1 and 2 Chronicles record how David's descendants reigned over Israel until the time of the Exile. The psalms and prophetic books repeatedly tell of the work and reign of the coming descendant of David, the Messiah. The New Testament begins with the announcement that Jesus, the Son of David, will reign over Israel forever (Luke 1:31–33). Acts records the preaching of the resurrection and coming return of Jesus Christ. Revelation 20 foretells Christ's rule upon the earth, in fulfillment of God's covenant with David. God's promise to David in 2 Samuel 7 has effected everything that has happened and will happen in human history. David's humility and faithful response to God's promise can be a model for believers as they look forward to God's fulfilling His covenant with David for the praise of His glory.

David's Plan (2 Sam. 7:1-3)

After years of waiting, running, and fighting, David finally had become the king of Israel. God's goodness toward David did not stop with his being made king. The Lord gave David victory over Jerusalem, which was under Jebusite control (2 Sam. 5:6–8). David established the city as his capital, developed the city, and built for himself a palace of cedar (5:9–11). The Lord directed David into battle against the Philistines and gave Israel victory against her enemies (5:17–25). David defeated not only the Philistines but also the surrounding nations (2 Sam. 8). With great joy, David brought the ark of the covenant into Jerusalem, where he had set up a tabernacle for it (2 Sam. 6). (The tabernacle God had designed had been destroyed in 1 Samuel 4.) God had poured out His grace on Israel and King David. "David knew that the LORD had established him as king over Israel, and that He had exalted His kingdom for the sake of His people Israel" (2 Sam. 5:12).

When David reflected on all the Lord had done for him, from the palace in which he dwelt to his rest from his enemies, David desired to build a permanent temple for the Lord (2 Sam. 7:1–2). It didn't seem fitting to David that he should live in a "house of cedar" while the "ark of God dwells inside tent curtains" (7:2). David asked the Lord's prophet Nathan (mentioned here for the first time) for permission, and Nathan quickly affirmed that David should proceed with his plan (7:3).

God's Plan (2 Sam. 7:4–17)

God's Word came to His prophet Nathan that night. The Lord's plan for David was much different and much greater than David could have imagined. First, God revealed that his plan was not for David to build a temple (2 Sam. 7:4–7). The Lord

had made no such request of David. Through Nathan, the Lord rhetorically asked, "Would you build a house for Me to dwell in?" (7:5). The Lord reminded David that He had never dwelt in a "house" since Israel left Egypt. He had been content for His presence to reside in a tent (7:6). Neither had He asked any leader of Israel, "Why have you not built Me a house of cedar?" (7:7). God emphasized that He alone would choose who would build His temple and when it would be built. The decision and initiative did not belong to David.

Next, the Lord revealed His plan for David's lifetime (2 Sam. 7:8–11). David could trust in the Lord's ability to accomplish His plan because of how faithful the Lord had already been. The Lord reminded David of how He had taken him from shepherding sheep to shepherding all Israel (7:8). He had been with David wherever he had gone and had given him victory over all his enemies (7:9). The Lord's past goodness to David would be the assurance that He would accomplish His plan for David. God's plan for David was that He would make him "a great name, like the name of the great men who are on the earth" (7:9). This is the first promise that someone would have a great name since God promised Abraham a great name in Genesis 12:2. God also promised David that Israel would dwell in safety in their own land (7:10). The final aspect of God's plan for David's lifetime was rest from all his enemies (7:11).

As great as God's plan for David was, His plan for David's descendants was even greater (2 Sam. 7:11b-16). God promised David that he would have a dynasty ("house"; 7:11b). Verses 12-14 explain God's plan for the Davidic dynasty. After David died, God would establish the kingdom of one of David's descendants. God promised that this descendant would build a temple ("house") for Him and that the dynasty of this descendant would be unending ("I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever"; 7:13). David's descendant would have a special relationship with God, like a son to a father (7:14). This special relationship included both discipline ("If he commits iniquity, I will chasten him with the rod of men and with the blows of the sons of men"; 7:14) and steadfast love ("My mercy shall not depart from him, as I took it from Saul"; 7:15). God would not forsake David's descendant as he had Saul; the rule of Israel would rest forever with David's descendants. The eternal nature of God's promise to David cannot be missed: "And your house and your kingdom shall be established forever before you. Your throne shall be established forever" (7:16). God had an eternal plan for David's descendants.

Solomon was the initial fulfillment of God's plan for David's descendants. Solomon, "the seed" from David, was established by God as David's heir. God revealed to David that Solomon would build His temple and that He and Solomon would have a father-son relationship (1 Chron. 22:10). God established the "throne of [Solomon's] kingdom over Israel forever" (1 Chron. 22:10), meaning that Solomon's descendants would be kings over Israel. Even though Solomon was idolatrous and disobedient, God did not remove the Davidic dynasty from Solomon (2 Chron. 13:4–5). God continued to act as a father to the Davidic kings, many of whom suffered God's punishment for their wickedness. Eventually, God temporarily removed David's descendants from the throne of Israel by sending Israel into exile. But, no matter how wicked the kings became, God did not end the Davidic line (2 Chron. 21:7).

The ultimate fulfillment of God's promise to David is Jesus. Jesus' genealogy in Matthew 1:1–16 reveals God's faithfulness in keeping His promise to David. God had preserved the dynasty of David through Solomon, even though the Davidic kings had ceased reigning over Israel. Through his legal father, Joseph, Jesus had the right to the Davidic throne. The angel Gabriel announced to Mary that Jesus "will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will

give Him the throne of His father David. And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end" (Luke 1:32–33). Jesus is greater than any of David's descendants. He truly is the Son of God, and His throne will be established forever. Jesus already has been exalted to the right hand of the Father and is waiting until His enemies will be brought under His control on earth.

David's Prayer (2 Sam. 7:18-29)

When Nathan told the Lord's plan and promise to David, David went into the tent with the ark of the covenant and sat before the Lord (2 Sam. 7:17–18). His prayer expressed an appropriate awe at God's announcement. He first addressed the Lord concerning the promise he had just heard (7:18–21). David knew that there was nothing in himself or his house that deserved God's promise (7:18), yet God had revealed His plan for David's "house for a great while to come" (7:19). David understood that he was nothing but the Lord's servant (7:20). The Lord's motive for promising these great things was God's "word's sake" and God's heart (7:21). The Lord had chosen David not because of who he was but because of what God Himself had decided.

David's wonder at God's choosing his family led him to reflect on God's uniqueness (2 Sam. 7:22–24). God alone is great (7:22); there is no god like Him and none besides Him (7:22). God demonstrated that greatness and uniqueness in redeeming Israel. David had a right understanding that God does all He does "for Himself...to make for Himself a name—and to do for Yourself great and awesome deeds for Your land" (7:23). Just as God had glorified Himself in adopting and redeeming Israel, He would glorify Himself in keeping His promises to David.

After David reflected on God's faithfulness to Israel, he prayed that God would keep His word concerning his house (2 Sam. 7:25–29). David's motivation was that God's "name be magnified forever" (7:26). He prayed for God to build his house only because God had promised, "I will build your house" (7:27). David wanted God to glorify Himself. God's true words motivated David to ask God to keep His promise (7:28–29).

Conclusion

David's prayer to God rightly focuses the believer's attention on the awesomeness of God's grace and not on David. David was completely unworthy, yet God poured out His grace on him. God promised David blessings both during and after his life. God kept the promises to David's descendants through Solomon, through the Davidic kings, and ultimately through Christ. Although David did not know how God would keep His promises, he could pray with confidence that God would keep His word for the glory of His name. Saints who have seen God's faithfulness to David as it has developed throughout the Old and New Testaments can rejoice that God graciously gives and keeps His promises. They can also pray that God will keep His word and exalt his Son Jesus on the throne of David.

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.

What happened to David after he and his men rescued their wives from the Amalekites?

While David waited to hear how Israel did in battle, an Amalekite messenger from Saul's camp came with some bad news.

What was the bad news that the Amalekite brought to David? He told David a story about how Saul and his son Jonathan had died. David asked if he were sure it was Saul and Jonathan who had died. The man answered that he had killed Saul himself after Saul asked him to do so.

What did David do when he heard the bad news?

David tore his clothes, mourned, wept, and fasted. He was very sad that both his good friend Jonathan and Saul, who was trying to kill him, had died.

Why did David mourn for Saul's death?

David was sad that the king whom God had chosen had died. He was also sad that the Philistines were rejoicing because of the fallen king.

What did David do after he had finished mourning?

He asked the Amalekite where he was from and whether he had been afraid to kill the Lord's anointed. He then had the Amalekite killed for killing Saul.

How did David lament the death of Saul and Jonathan?

He wrote a song called "The Bow," which he taught to the children of Israel. The lament spoke of Israel's beauty and the mighty men who had fallen. He sang of Saul and Jonathan's strength and speed in battle, giving honor to their success. David specifically spoke of his close friendship with Jonathan.

What happened to David after Saul died? David became king of Israel, as God had promised.



Class Covenant

Prepare the students for learning about the Davidic Covenant by explaining to them that a covenant can have both unconditional and conditional promises. To help explain the nature of covenants, tell the students that today you are going to make a covenant with the class. Include a few examples of both unconditional and conditional promises. Some examples of unconditional promises include: "I will teach you God's Word"; "I will discipline you when you break the rules;" and "I will give you a snack at break." Some examples of conditional promises include:

"If I have to tell no one to be quiet in class today, I will send home a piece of candy with each student" or "If half the class learns their Bible verse next week, I will have a special surprise for the whole class." After writing unconditional and conditional promises appropriate for your class, read the promises from a printed document and sign the covenant. Make sure to review the promises listed in the covenant at the end of class. The covenant you design can be a great way to review the unconditional and conditional aspects of the Davidic Covenant.



Skit: I Want to Buy You a Mansion!

Materials: pictures of large houses from a real-estate guide

Directions: Ask a student to act out this skit with you. Instruct the student to approach you with a real-estate guide and show you pictures of large houses he would like to purchase for you since you are his teacher. Use the skit to interest the students in the beginning of the lesson, when David desires to build God a temple to dwell in (2 Sam. 7:1–3).



God's Unbreakable Promise

Materials: thread, yarn, rope

Directions: Bring in a number of materials, such as thread, yarn, and rope. Select a few students to play tug-of-war and try to break each material. Some will break and some will not. Ask the students if they ever have broken a promise or had someone break a promise to them. A promise is only as strong as the person who makes it. That's why God's promises can never be broken. In today's lesson, we will learn about the special promise God made with King David. This promise would last for years and years.



Covenant

Although the concept of a covenant has appeared a number of times in previous lessons, some students may not be familiar with the term. Review God's covenant with creation after the flood (Gen. 8:21–22), the Abrahamic Covenant (Gen. 12:1–3), and the Mosaic Covenant (Exod. 19:3–9). A covenant is a very special promise from God. Hold up a stick and a stand. The stick represents a covenant, and the stand represents God. First, hold the stick and explain that some covenants require people to keep them standing. For example, the Mosaic covenant required obedience. Place the stick in the stand and explain that some covenants are held up by God alone (the Abrahamic and Davidic, for instance). In today's lesson we will learn about a covenant God promised to keep no matter what.



Generation

To help younger students understand the concept of a generation, ask a few of them to give the names of their grandparents and parents. Draw a family chart on the board, and explain how God had promised David that even his children's children's children would rule over Israel.



Dynasty

Materials: red and blue pieces of yarn

Directions: A dynasty is a house, family line, or reign over a kingdom. This concept can be illustrated by giving each student either a red or blue piece of yarn. Choose one student to be the leader for each color. Each student must then, in turn, join his yarn to the line of the appropriate color. Use this to explain to the student that a dynasty is a line of descendants. The more people, the longer the line gets. God



promised David that he would be the first in a long line of kings who would come from His descendants. Ultimately, even Jesus would come through David's line.

Flip-Flop Blessing

Have you ever wanted to give someone a gift because of how much you loved them? Has that person unexpectedly given you something in return? When this happens, it is hard to know what to do. Instead of blessing someone, you were blessed! In today's lesson, David wants to give a blessing to God. He wants to give God honor by building a temple for Him. But instead, David is blessed by God.

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 Text

Read 2 Samuel 7:1-17. (Optional: Read 1 Chronicles 17:1-15, which provides a similar account.)

Introduction

To men living day to day on earth, it may not appear that there is any great plan behind what happens in the world. But for God, and for those who understand what He has told us in the Bible, there is a wonderful and great plan at work, and God is making sure that everything He has planned will happen exactly the way He wants. Jesus Christ is a part of God the Father's plan. In this lesson, we will see that as far back as David, God's plan was at work, and it hasn't failed yet, nor will it ever fail.



Leadoff Questions (LOQs)

LOQ: What kind of house did David live in? **Answer:** David lived in a house of cedar.

LOQ: What kind of house was the ark of the Lord in? **Answer:** The ark of the Lord was in a tent (with curtains).

LOQ: What did king David tell Nathan the prophet he wanted to do? Why? Answer: David told Nathan that he wanted to build a house for the ark of God. When David looked at the nice house he lived in, he thought that the ark of God should be in a nice house, too, not just a tent.

LOQ: What did the Lord tell Nathan about David's idea to build a house for the ark of God?

Answer: The Lord told Nathan to tell David that he was not to build a house for the ark of God.

LOQ: What was the reason David was not to build a house for the ark of God? **Answer:** God had not asked David or anyone else to build a house for the ark. Whether the ark of God was in a tent or in a house of cedar, the Lord did not mind. When the time came for a special place to be built for the ark of God, the Lord would determine who would build it and when.

LOQ: After God told David that he wasn't to build a house for Him, what else did He say to David?

Answer: God told David that he would make a "house" for him. Sometimes words have more than one meaning. For example, "fan" can mean a person who is crazy about sports, or it can be the thing that blows cool air onto you. When David said he wanted to build God a house for the ark, he meant that he wanted to make a building. But when God said He would make David a house, He meant that He would make David's family a dynasty. That means that David would always have descendants who would be kings, and the name of David would be great, well-known to everybody.

LOQ: What are the three things the Lord promised David in verse 16? **Answer:** The Lord promised David a house, a kingdom, and a throne.

LOQ: How long would David's house, kingdom, and throne last? **Answer:** Verse 16 says that they would last forever.

LOQ: Whose descendant is verse 12 talking about?

Answer: Verse 12 is talking about David's descendant: "When your days are fulfilled and you rest with your fathers, I will set up your seed after you, who will come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom."

LOQ: Who built a house for God?

Answer: David's son, Solomon, built a house for God. It was called the temple.

LOQ: If we look at Luke 1:30–33, whom does it say would receive "the throne of His father David"?

Answer: Jesus would receive the throne of His father David. Even though Jesus wasn't yet born to Mary, the angel Gabriel told her what God had planned for the future.

LOQ: In Luke 1:33, how long does it say that Jesus would reign, and how long would His kingdom last?

Answer: Luke 1:33 says that Jesus will reign forever, and His kingdom will last forever. Did you know that in 2 Samuel 7:12–16, God is speaking about two people: Solomon and Jesus Christ. Solomon would build the temple, but would not rule forever since he would die. Jesus Christ, who is God, will one day rule over Israel and the whole earth. He will never die, but will be king forever.

Summary

When David wanted to build a house for God, God told him not to. Then God told David what He would do for him. God would build a "house" (family) for David. God promised David that he would have a house, a kingdom, and a throne. And these three would last forever. And in the book of Luke in the New Testament, when the angel Gabriel told Mary about Jesus, who would be born to her, he told her that Jesus would receive the throne of his father David and reign forever.

Application

Many people make promises. For example, a child might say, "If you lend me your toy, I will give it back." An adult may say to the bank, "If you give me a loan to help me buy a house, I will pay you back with interest." Some people are honest and do what they promise; others never keep their promises. A long time ago, God made a promise to David, and He kept His promise by sending Jesus Christ, His Son. God has made many other promises, too. One of the differences between people and God is that God always keeps His promise, but sometimes people don't. So if God could keep His promise to David after hundreds of years, can't He keep all His other promises? You can trust God with anything, even with your life!

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's Gift to Us

The lesson teaches not only about David's desire to build a house for God and God's promise to David, but also about how that gift to David was also a gift to us. Discuss the ramifications of David's family being blessed with the coming of Christ and how Christ's work and reign is a gift to each of us. To illustrate this point, bring in a wrapped gift. The gift can contain various visuals aids to help illustrate the following gifts: David's gift to God, God's gift to David, God's gift to David's family, and God's gift to us.



Tabernacle versus Temple Continued

As you teach, use the tabernacle and temple from the opening activity to illustrate the difference between the two. David loved God and wanted to build a beautiful building for God. What might that building have looked like? What was God's response to David's desire? What did God do in return for David?

Praise and Worship

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing
Give Thanks
God Is So Good
Grace Greater than Our Sin
In My Life, Lord, Be Glorified
King of Kings
Praise Him, All Ye Little Children
Standing on the Promises

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 Promises to David

Materials: copies of "The Davidic Covenant" craft pages, scissors, crayons, glue Directions: Have the students cut out and color each of the symbols of God's promises to David. Have them glue the symbols into the correct circle, indicating whether the promise is for David's life or fulfilled in his descendants.



Covenant Review

To review various aspects of the Davidic Covenant, make a blank chart with two headings: Unconditional and Conditional. Have the students read through the text and list in the appropriate column the unconditional and conditional aspects of God's covenant with David. Make sure to list the references with each part of God's promise. This can be done either in small groups or as a class.

To review David's prayer, make a similar blank chart with two headings: Praise and Request. Have the students follow the steps above. Make sure to highlight how much of David's prayer was praise. Also make special note of how many of David's requests already had been promised by God.



Prayer

Today's lesson contains an excellent example of God-honoring prayer. David's first response after hearing about God's promises was to go into the tent containing the ark of the covenant in order to pray to God. Explain to the students what prayer is: talking to God. Highlight the positive aspects of David's prayer: praise, thanksgiving, desiring God's will to be done, and asking that God be glorified, trusting God to fulfill His promises. Give the students an opportunity to practice praying to God as you guide them in what to pray for.

Building a Temple for God

Materials: craft sticks, glue, markers, glitter, various craft supplies

Directions: Explain to the students what type of building David had in mind for God. Explain the majesty and décor that David desired for God's house. Give the students various supplies to create a temple for God. They can build either a two-dimensional temple or, if time and resources allow, a three-dimensional one.



"God's Promise to David"

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: "Praying from the Heart"

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 copies of the coloring sheets at the back of the lesson. Students can color the pages in class or at home.



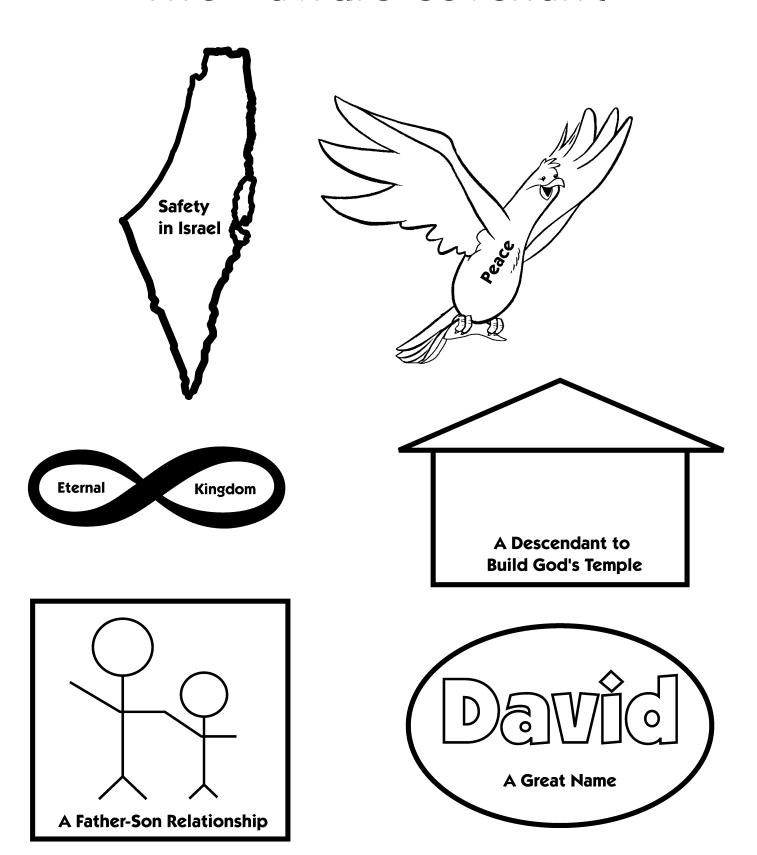
MEMORY VERSE

"He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the LORD God will give Him the throne of His father David" (Luke 1:32).

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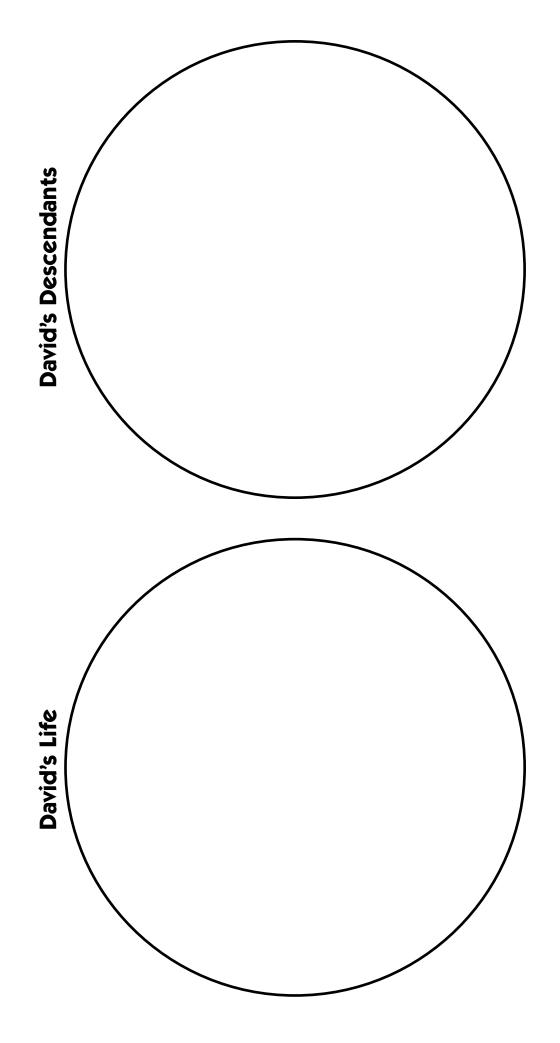
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The Davidic Covenant



The Davidic Covenant

In 2 Samuel 7:4–17, God made promises to David for his life and his descendants. Glue the symbol for each promise into the correct circle, indicating whether the promise is for David's life or fulfilled in his descendants.



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God makes a promise to David



2 Samuel 7

	Name
1.	What did David want to build for the Lord?
2.	Did God want David to build Him a temple?
<i>3</i> .	In 2 Samuel 7:9, God reminds David that He had made David a great
4.	Who did God say would build His temple?
<i>5</i> .	God told David He would establish his kingdom for 100 years for 1,000 years forever
6.	Fill in the blanks from 2 Samuel 7:22.
	"Therefore You are, O LORD God. For there is
	like You, nor is there any God besides You, according to all we have heard
	with our"
<i>7</i> .	Luke 1:31–33 says would take the throne of David and rule forever.

Praying from the Heart

"And your house and your kingdom shall be established forever before you. Your throne shall be established forever." -2 Samuel 7:16

requests on the wall next to his bed, and at night when it was time to say his prayers, instead of talking to God he just point-Did you hear about the little boy who taped his list of prayer ed to the list? Do you think his way of praying pleases God? No; the little boy is not sincere or praying with all his heart, is he?

the things God had promised him. He prayed to God from his We are told in the book of Jeremiah to seek God with all our heart. That is, don't be halfhearted. David was not halfhearted when he prayed. He said it was in his heart to pray to God for heart, according to God's will, and for God's glory. This is how God wants us to pray. See if you can unscramble the names of others, from previous lessons, who prayed as David did

EMOS	VAHNAH	UELSM

In the space below write about their prayers and how they prayed from the heart for God's glory:

Praying from the Heart

"And your house and your kingdom shall be established forever before you. Your throne shall be established forever.'

-2 Samuel 7:16

Did you hear about the little boy who taped his list of prayer requests on the wall next to his bed, and at night when it was time to say his prayers, instead of talking to God he just pointed to the list? Do you think his way of praying pleases God? No; the little boy is not sincere or praying with all his heart, is he?

the things God had promised him. He prayed to God from his heart, according to God's will, and for God's glory. This is how We are told in the book of Jeremiah to seek God with all our heart. That is, don't be halfhearted. David was not halfhearted when he prayed. He said it was in his heart to pray to God for God wants us to pray. See if you can unscramble the names of others, from previous lessons, who prayed as David did

seMOS	TAHNAH HANHAN	AUELSM	

In the space below write about their prayers and how they prayed from the heart for God's glory:

When you pray wholehearted for the things that God has promised, you are praying according to God's will and for His glory. This is the prayer that pleases God.	Just as David prayed for what God has promised him, you can pray for what God has promised you. For example, He has promised the return of Christ, forgiveness, and eternal life. What else can you pray for that God has promised?	What is a true heart?	God wants you to pray from your heart, too. Hebrews 10:22 tells you to draw near to God with a true heart. How can you draw near to God?
When you pray wholehearted for the things that God has promised, you are praying according to God's will and for His glory. This is the prayer that pleases God.	Just as David prayed for what God has promised him, you can pray for what God has promised you. For example, He has promised the return of Christ, forgiveness, and eternal life. What else can you pray for that God has promised?	What is a true heart?	God wants you to pray from your heart, too. Hebrews 10:22 tells you to draw near to God with a true heart. How can you draw near to God?



"Thus says the LORD: 'Would you build a house for Me to dwell in?...The LORD tells you that He will make you a house'" (2 Sam. 7:6, 11b).



"Then King David went in and sat before the LORD; and he said...'For Your word's sake, and according to Your own heart, You have done all these great things'" (2 Samuel 7:18, 21).