

Life of David

Lesson 2

Text

1 Samuel 2:12 - 1 Samuel 2:36

Background

In lesson 1, we learned about the faithfulness of Samuel's mother, Hannah. Even though Hannah's womb was closed and she was provoked by Elkanah's other wife, she remained faithful to the Lord and prayed earnestly for a son to be born. Out of her faithfulness came Samuel, whose name means "God listened."

Now that Samuel is born the focus of 1 Samuel turns to Eli and his despicable sons, Hophni and Phinehas. We meet Eli in chapter 1. He is the Levite priest that accuses Hannah of being drunk when she was praying to the Lord for a son. Unfortunately for Eli, his sons were corrupt and did not know the Lord. This would ultimately spell doom for the priesthood being handed down to Eli's sons. Being sovereign as He is, God would make other plans. How does Samuel fit into this? Read about this and more in our reading for this week.

Day 1 - Read and Listen

1. Read and/or listen to the passage twice. If possible, use different translations. I highly recommend having the passage read to you. Many apps, including the Blue Letter Bible, have a feature that will read the Bible to you. Meditate and pray on the passage.

Day 2 - Observing the Text

2. Who are the characters listed in the passage? As much as the passage tells you, write down any titles, traits, or additional information about each of the characters in the narrative.

3. Where does the narrative take place? List out any locations mentioned. To be more specific, study a map from the timeframe of 1 Samuel (approximately 1105

- 971 BC) and see if you can find the locations on a map. Write down any observations from this exercise.

4. Summarize the main plot points from the passage in the space below.

Day 3 - Understanding the Narrative

5. Name one or more of the conflicts from the passage and how they were resolved or left unresolved.

6. How does the narrative fit into what you already learned about 1 Samuel? Consider, if applicable, the following: How does the narrative tie to the larger picture of a coming royal priesthood? Do you see any foreshadowing of Jesus as King? (**Hint: Consider 1 Samuel 2:26**)

Day 4 - Additional Study

7. Take note of any repeated words, thoughts, or phrases in our passage this week. Write those down below.

8. Did any parts of the passage you read make you think about other stories in the Bible? This includes similar narratives, but could also include similarity in lessons being learned by different people at different times. We call these links “purposeful parallels.” If so, write those down below.

9. **Word Studies:** Use the “Blue Letter Bible” or your favorite word study method to look up any words of your choice in the passage. Be prepared to share your findings with your group. Remember, this is the Old Testament. You will be looking up Hebrew words.

Day 5 - Life Application

Reading the Bible should change you! The purpose of reading any passage or passages is to gain life changing applications you must consider for your own life.

10. **Application:** Consider Eli and his lack of putting a stop to the wicked and corrupt things his sons were doing. Are there opportunities for you being in a similar position as Eli to put a stop to wickedness and corruption around you? Are you fighting against it or just letting it happen?

11. **Optional:** Write down any additional life applications from your study time this week down below.

Day 6 - Closing Thoughts and Reflections

As you've had time to meditate on this week's passage, write down any closing thoughts and/or list ways this passage has challenged you. How are you going to take the application from Day 5 and make it a tangible application for you? What are some additional things that you'd like to share with your group? These are just a few ideas to jot down as you close out this week.

Notes from the Teaching

Teacher: _____ Date: _____
