

הַלֹּד הַיְיָ הַיְיָ DAVID SAVES KEILAH



LEADERSHIP LESSONS

The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.
1 Samuel 16:7

LESSON 5



FOUNDATION
FOR INTELLIGENT
MEDIA & DESIGN



LEADER PREPARATION

Dear Small Group Leader:

The world is always looking for leaders. Voluntary or involuntary. Even from a young age we choose to follow others who have something about them that's attractive to us. Maybe a certain quality or trait that we look up to. Or a following or a persona that's appealing. We have captains on our sport teams, class presidents, group project leaders, leaders at church, and leaders in our friend groups, etc. Leadership can have a lot of faces. You have leaders who are the cheerleaders out front. They are full of enthusiasm and inspire others by their energy and often their words. You also may have a quiet leader who leads by graciously serving. Oftentimes these leaders are overlooked or not thought of when you think of a "leader." However, they lead by example. In our culture today it is ever so important to discern quality leaders in our life, and define how we can be good leaders ourselves. The world of social media, celebrities, or reality TV certainly hasn't made it easy to give us good examples of Godly leadership and as a result we value things and follow a different standard that's far from the leadership qualities that God expects from us. Not only do we need to choose Godly leaders, we need to become Godly leaders ourselves. And yes, everyone has the ability to be a leader. For some it may feel more natural. But being a good leader is not about looks, status, and ability. It's an imposing term and it's more than just leading a group of people. Leadership is about having the right character and making a positive difference in the life of others. It's all about service to God and service to other people.

David was one of those leaders in the Bible that we need to learn from. He was humble, God fearing, and God honoring in all he did. He wasn't perfect by any means, but God chose David to do great things because of his trust and his obedience to God. In this lesson we will look at David's leadership qualities and learn how we can apply them to make a difference in the world around us.

Scripture References

- 1 Samuel 22:1-5; 20-23 NIV
- 1 Samuel 23: 1-18 NIV

Lesson Objectives

1. Students will learn how to become Godly leaders.
2. Students will learn to detect and value Godly leadership qualities.



Main Point

God wants to use us to make a difference in the lives of others.

Requirements

- Bible
- PC or Laptop with Anointed DSK
- Handout

[Download DSK](#)



Opening Prayer

Start the lesson in prayer with the group.

Discussion

Say: All of us follow someone. Even when you don't think about it, there are people in our lives that we look up to who have an influence on us. There's something about them that we are drawn to. Same goes the other way, there are people in your life who you have the opportunity to impact. What we're talking about today is leadership.

Question 1: What do you think makes a good leader?

Say: Being a leader doesn't mean you have to have many people who follow you. Being a leader means you are willing to serve God and the people around you. The Bible is full of characters who show us how to become Godly leaders ourselves. Today we'll look into the life of David and learn what made him appealing for other people to follow.

Ask: Consider the following questions while they play the game.

Question 1: What are some abilities or qualities that you think leaders should have?

Question 2: Think about leaders in your life. What makes them good leaders? How do they lead you?

Question 3: Why do you think God used David to be a leader to his people?



Activity

- Play through David saves Keilah.
- Complete and take notes on chapter objectives:
 - Dialogue
 - Quiz
 - Prayer Beacon
 - Vases

Let's Play DSK



Game Discussion

Question 1: As you were thinking about the questions before playing the game, what stood out to you?

Question 2: What made David a good leader?

Say: God wants to use us, his people to accomplish his will here on earth. He is constantly searching for followers who are available, looking to be lead by God and ready to lead others. Leadership isn't just for the popular, or the well spoken, it's a skill that can be learned by everyone. All of you are leaders. All of you have opportunities to impact other people around you and make a positive difference in their lives. Looking at this part of the story of David, we will see which leadership qualities stand out. What makes him a man after God's own heart.

Say: As we read scripture together, write down some of David's leadership characteristics that stand out to you.

Scripture Context

David's popularity grew after killing Goliath and the King, Saul, was compelled to place David at the head of his army. Saul saw David as a threat and became very jealous. Saul showed selfishness and started to act like a mad man; killing innocent people and turning on those that were close to him. "Saul was afraid of David, because the Lord was with David but had departed Saul." 1 Samuel 18:12 (NIV) **Scripture Vase**

David became hunted and Saul's hatred for David placed his friends and family in danger. But David continued following God and his trust in God was contagious. As you'll see David was confident in God's provision and this made other people want to follow him.



Read Scripture

1 SAMUEL 22:1-5

1 David left Gath and escaped to the cave of Adullam. When his brothers and his father's household heard about it, they went down to him there. 2 All those who were in distress or in debt or discontented gathered around him, and he became their commander. About four hundred men were with him. **Scripture Vase** 3 From there David went to Mizpah in Moab and said to the king of Moab, "Would you let my father and mother come and stay with you until I learn what God will do for me?" 4 So he left them with the king of Moab, and they stayed with him as long as David was in the stronghold. 5 But the prophet Gad said to David, "Do not stay in the stronghold. Go into the land of Judah." So David left and went to the forest of Hereth.

1 SAMUEL 22:20-23

20 But one son of Ahimelek son of Ahitub, named Abiathar, escaped and fled to join David. 21 He told David that Saul had killed the priests of the Lord. 22 Then David said to Abiathar, "That day, when Doeg the Edomite was there, I knew he would be sure to tell Saul. I am responsible for the death of your whole family. 23 Stay with me; don't be afraid. The man who wants to kill you is trying to kill me too. You will be safe with me." **Dialogue/Cutscene**

1 SAMUEL 23:1-18

David Saves Keilah

23 When David was told, "Look, the Philistines are fighting against Keilah and are looting the threshing floors," 2 he inquired of the Lord, saying, "Shall I go and attack these Philistines?"
Game Intro

The Lord answered him, "Go, attack the Philistines and save Keilah." **Game Intro**

3 But David's men said to him, "Here in Judah we are afraid. How much more, then, if we go to Keilah against the Philistine forces!" **Basar Dialogue**

4 Once again David inquired of the Lord, and the Lord answered him, "Go down to Keilah, for I am going to give the Philistines into your hand." **Prayer Beacon** 5 So David and his men went to Keilah, fought the Philistines and carried off their livestock. He inflicted heavy losses on the Philistines and saved the people of Keilah. **Game Play** 6 (Now Abiathar son of Ahimelek had brought the ephod down with him when he fled to David at Keilah.) **Dialogue, Cutscene**

6 (Now Abiathar son of Ahimelek had brought the ephod down with him when he fled to David at Keilah.) **Dialogue, Cutscene**



Saul Pursues David

7 Saul was told that David had gone to Keilah, and he said, "God has delivered him into my hands, for David has imprisoned himself by entering a town with gates and bars." 8 And Saul called up all his forces for battle, to go down to Keilah to besiege David and his men.

Dialogue Cutscene

9 When David learned that Saul was plotting against him, he said to Abiathar the priest, "Bring the ephod." 10 David said, "Lord, God of Israel, your servant has heard definitely that Saul plans to come to Keilah and destroy the town on account of me. Will the citizens of Keilah surrender me to him? 11 Will Saul come down, as your servant has heard? Lord, God of Israel, tell your servant. "And the Lord said, "He will." 12 Again David asked, "Will the citizens of Keilah surrender me and my men to Saul?" And the Lord said, "They will."

13 So David and his men, about six hundred in number, left Keilah and kept moving from place to place. When Saul was told that David had escaped from Keilah, he did not go there.

14 David stayed in the wilderness strongholds and in the hills of the Desert of Ziph. Day after day Saul searched for him, but God did not give David into his hands. 15 While David was at Horesh in the Desert of Ziph, he learned that Saul had come out to take his life. 16 And Saul's son Jonathan went to David at Horesh and helped him find strength in God. 17 "Don't be afraid," he said. "My father Saul will not lay a hand on you. You will be king over Israel, and I will be second to you. Even my father Saul knows this." 18 The two of them made a covenant before the Lord. Then Jonathan went home, but David remained at Horesh.

Closing/Cutscene



Scripture Discussion

Question 1: Why do you think people wanted to follow David?

Question 2: What leadership qualities stood out to you in these verses?

Say: David is not tempted to follow popular opinion nor does he change his beliefs because of others. Without fear, he leads and follows his heart. These exceptional leadership qualities result in victories and more and more followers... "All those who were in distress or in debt or discontented gathered around him and he became their leader. About four hundred men were with him." 1 Samuel 22:2 (NIV) Let's point out some of his characteristics that we can learn from.

Godly Leaders Are Obedient

David went through seasons of victory and others like this one that were dark and discouraging. At no time David had the full picture, other than a few glimpses along the way. His life had to be a walk of faith, trusting God each step of the way. Especially as he hid in the cave of Adullam, on the run from Saul, he needed to trust that God would provide. (1 Samuel 22:1-2) Ultimately he kept asking God for direction and he obeyed every step of the way. He wasn't worried about what other people thought and stayed obedient to God.

Godly Leaders Serve Others

Leadership is about serving other people no matter how you feel or the situation you find yourself in. Good leaders always look out for the well-being of others. While David was on the run, he was instructed to save the inhabitants of Keilah from the Philistines. The same people who would later betray him out of fear from King Saul. Protecting the citizens should have been a job that King Saul was normally responsible for, but his rage for David clouded his royal duties. In the already difficult time, David was willing to lay down his life for his fellow Israelites. (1 Samuel 23:4-5)

Godly Leaders Are Humble

David's style of leadership was characterized by humility. His track record speaks for himself. He defeated a giant, was victorious against multiple armies, but he always acknowledged that his strength and ability didn't come from himself, but from God. David also wasn't afraid to ask God for help. No matter the circumstances, he was looking to God in prayer to show him the way. It takes a humble leader to look to God first rather than trying to figure it all out on your own. (1 Samuel 23:2)



Godly Leaders Are Encouragers

How did David encourage others? To be able to encourage others, one must have courage themselves first. Things weren't going well for David. People around him were afraid. He was on the run and hiding. David didn't find courage in his own abilities. He found courage in God. There were times where he was distressed, where he was afraid. He felt weakened by the pressures of his enemy, yet God always strengthened him and gave him the confidence to carry out his will. With the courage David gained from God, he was able to turn around and help others in need. He spoke life into tough circumstances and he encouraged those who needed it the most. (1 Samuel 22:23)

Godly Leaders Are Patient.

God raises up leaders progressively over time. Gradually increasing their influence. He makes the person along the way building character and perseverance. In the life of David it took many years for God's will to pass. But David proved to be faithful with the little things and was entrusted with more and more. Good leaders don't give in to their emotions but they are patient and depend on God for direction. (1 Samuel 22:3)

Say: In moments of darkness God proved to be faithful. David continued to follow God and was entrusted with influence and leadership over a group of ordinary people. Not all of them were soldiers by any means, but David became their commander and led them to do great things.

Question: What are some of those qualities that you personally need to work on?

Reflect: Give students time to reflect and respond on their own. Talk about any questions they may have and feel free to share relatable stories that reflect the lesson.

Closing Prayer

End this together by setting the example for prayer and praying over your students.

IMD Interactive
Church Resources:

