

SAUL IS REJECTED/DAVID ANOINTED

Scripture:

I Samuel 9:15-21, 10:9-11, 13:13-14, 15:1-28, 16:1-13, Psalm 23

Materials Needed:

Pictures
Sample resume
Review questions
Colored circles

Memory Verse: I Samuel 16:7 *But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The Lord does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart."*

Objectives: As a result of this lesson, I want my students

To Know: that although Saul was not a great man, God chose and empowered him to deliver Israel from the Philistines and lead them in obedience to His ways.

But when Saul followed the people rather than God's ways, God chose and empowered David, a man after His own heart, who would do the job.

To Realize: God does not choose and empower one for His work based on what appears to others to be the right qualifications and success, but on whether they love Him and will obey His ways.

To Respond: by not making their choices trying to win the approval of people but by cultivating a heart for God and obedience to His ways.

Setting Up the Story—

How many of you know what a resume is? (have student explain if they know) If a person wants a job, they write down the reason they are the best person for the job. They list their schools where they have studied, and any work they've done that gives them experience doing a job.

Show a sample resume.

I want you to imagine that instead of being elected, someone was going to apply for the job of president. What sort of things should they have on their resume to show they were the best for the job?

Imagine that someone wanted to apply for the job of being king! What would that resume look like? What would they say that would make the people want to hire him?

What if they had a resume that sounded something like this, "I'm not that great. I come from a really small family and a really small town. I found my father's donkeys one time. I have no experience fighting or leading an army. I've never been to war. No one in my family has ever been in a kingly family. I'm not very

great.” Would that sound like a strange resume? That’s about how the resume of the first king of Israel sounded!

Telling the Story—

Scripture:

I Sam. 9:15-21

I. God Chooses Saul

A. “The Least”

1. Smallest tribe
2. Smallest family
3. Tall and handsome

I Sam. 10:6, 9-11

B. Empowered by God’s Spirit

1. Spirit comes on him
2. Changes him to another man
3. Gives him first victory

Scripture:

I Sam. 13:13-14

II. Saul Follows the People

A. Offers Sacrifice as people are scattering

I Sam. 15:1-28

B. Doesn’t Completely Destroy the Amalekites

4. Big army
5. Mostly destroyed Amalekites
6. Makes monument
7. People spare sheep for sacrifice

C. Samuel Gives God’s Rebuke

Scripture:

I Sam. 16:1-13

III. God Chooses David

As you tell the story—

Storytell and write words on the board.

Well, Saul wasn’t putting his resume in front of a person to hire him. His resume was in front of God! God knew all these things about him. So why do you think he was the one God wanted to pick for the job of being king? (He wanted someone who wouldn’t be proud and would rely on His Spirit and power for the job of leading His people in the right way.)

Read 10:6

Read 10:9-11

Read 13:13-14

Why is Saul doing something that is absolutely against what God wanted? THE PEOPLE are scattering.

Read I Sam. 15:12

Who did Saul make a monument to? God? Himself?! How is this different from what was on his resume? (humble beginnings vs. proud accomplishments)

Why did Saul not completely obey God? THE PEOPLE wanted to sacrifice the best sheep to God.

Wait a minute! Had the people chosen Saul? Had they looked at his resume and said, “Yep! He’s the man for us!”? Who had seen Saul’s resume and still chosen him? GOD. Had Saul given God the things he was looking for in a king?

Read I Sam. 15:10

So God began looking for another

- A. "The Least"
 - 1. small town
 - 2. youngest
- B. Empowered by God's Spirit
- C. David Has Heart for God
 - 8. "Hidden" in fields
 - 9. Sees God as his Shepherd
 - 10. Sings to God about Him

man...with another resume. And what do you think is going to be on this man's resume? (Read from list about a king that students made at beginning of class.) Then read "I'm not that great. I come from a really small family in a really small town." Does this sound familiar?! Why is God looking for this? Because more than anything, He wanted someone who wouldn't be proud and would rely on His Spirit and power for the job of leading His people in the right way.

Concluding the story:

(Read I Samuel 13:13, 14 again.) If God were to read the resumes of the students in this room, there is only one thing he would look for. What is it? "Will this person love me and obey my ways?" It doesn't matter what else is on your resume as far as God is concerned. If THAT one thing is on your resume, He will use you. If you were to write your resume today, could you honestly write that you love God and have chosen to obey Him? If you haven't, would you chose to write that in your heart right now?

Let's pray.

Boardwork

Saul

---least

---anointed

---empowered

- 1. Deliver Israel from Philistines
- 2. Lead people in obedience to God's ways

David

---least

---anointed

---empowered

- 1. to deliver Israel from Philistines
- 2. to lead people in obedience to God's ways

SAUL IS REJECTED/DAVID ANOINTED HELPS FOR THE TEACHER

Personal Application Questions:

1. What things about yourself do you consider to be your natural strengths?
2. When do you find yourself feeling most unqualified for a task?
3. How much is the desire to please people a part of the decisions you make?
4. How much does the desire to love and please God a part of the decisions you make?

Application Questions to think through for your Students:

1. How can being a people pleaser work against your students when it comes to their walk with God?
2. What "image" is important for your students to maintain?
3. How important is it, from your students' viewpoint, to have a heart for God regardless of how they appear to others?

Memory Verse:

1 Samuel 16:7 *But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The Lord does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart."*

Write here which game you will use to teach this verse and any supplies you might need:

Post-Lesson Activity:

Write approximately 8-9 review questions from today's lesson.

Make identical-sized circles out of colored paper and fancy wrapping paper. On the back assign random point values. Ex: a plain circle might be worth 250 points. A fancy design might be worth 50 points. A different fancy design might be worth 300.

Place all the circles, point values down on the table or tape them to the board.

As the students answer questions correctly, let them pick a circle. They will soon realize that you can't tell from the outward appearance how 'valuable' the circle is! At the end of the game, tally up the score of points.

Homework Ideas:

Have your students choose to write a resume for a particular job: teacher, mechanic, doctor, lawyer, pilot, etc. When they bring them back, discuss that although the skills needed for each job might be different, the one qualification that God is looking for in each of His children no matter what profession, is a heart that loves and obeys Him!