

THE CHURCH IN NEW YORK CITY
CHILDREN'S MEETING LESSON (Pre-K & K)

Lesson #41

DATE:

SUBJECT: David Becomes King and Wants to Build God's House: A Man after God's Heart

SCRIPTURE: 2 Samuel, Chapters 5 - 7

AIM: To show the children that when we love God, we will want what pleases God.

MEMORY VERSE: 2 Samuel 7:22 "... Thou art great, O Lord God; for there is none like Thee, and there is no God beside Thee ..."

SONGS: 102, 148, 91, 8, and 144

Content:

Do you remember the story of David and Goliath? There was a boy named David. He was able to kill the giant Goliath because God was with him. As a boy, David loved and honored the Lord very much. Later God would choose David to be king over all of Israel.

At one time, a long, long time ago, Israel had no king. King Saul had died in a battle against the bad philistines. The leaders of Israel came together to talk. The people of Israel thought that David should be king over all of Israel. They came to David and said, "The Lord said to you, 'you shepherd My people Israel and you would be a ruler over Israel.'" At 30 years old, David was anointed (or made) king over Israel. He was king for 40 years.

David was a hero to the people of Israel. He had killed Goliath 15 years before and he had won many battles against God's enemies. Now their hero was to be their king.

The Bible says that David was a man after God's own heart. This means that he pleased God. Because David honored God, God honored David.

When David was crowned king over Israel there was great rejoicing or happiness in the land. Many people from all over the land came to see David become king. They had a great celebration that lasted three days. There was great joy in the land.

David was a good king because he loved God very much. David had a heart to please God. Not only had God made David king over all His people, God gave David a nice house made out of a special wood called cedar. God also blessed the nation and gave them rest from all their enemies. There were no more battles to fight. Even though David lived in a wonderful house, he realized that the ark of God (the place where God lived) was surrounded only by curtains.

David said to a man named Nathan that he wanted to build a house for God. Do you see how much David cared for God? He was not just happy living in a nice house but he wanted God to live in an even nicer one. David really wanted to please God.

David was really a man after God's own heart. God had not lived in a house since the Lord brought the children out of the land of Egypt. God had been moving around in a tent.

One night, God told Nathan that David should not build His house because he was chosen to fight the battles against God's enemies and be king over Israel. The Lord said that David's son would build His house. Even though David did not build God's house, the Lord told David that he did well that it was in his heart to build the house of the Lord. (I Kings 8:18)

We should all pray that the Lord Jesus would give us a heart just like King David's: a heart to please Him. It is just the same way with mommy and daddy. Because they love us, we want to please them by loving them and doing nice things for them. We want a heart to please God who loves us and does so much for us.