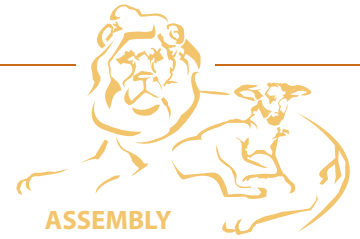


GOD REJECTED SAUL BECAUSE OF SAUL'S DISOBEDIENCE

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: I SAMUEL 13:5-14



The following are some ideas for creative ways that you can present this material.

LESSON IDEAS

THE PHILISTINES ARE UPON US!

This is a great story to act out. Have some of the children pretend to be the Philistine attackers and have others be the terrified Israelites. Have the Israelites stand their ground but in the end scatter out of fear. Have one child play Saul waiting for Samuel to offer a sacrifice. Since this is a complicated part, explain to the class that you are going to be Saul's conscience and another teacher is going to be Saul's temptations. As you speak out the things God would have him remember, the other teacher is tempting him with fearful thoughts.

Talk about the drama afterwards and ask the children what they think they would have done. Then connect it to a real life situation. For example, ask if they would obey Mom when she says, "Don't eat a cookie before dinner but wait until after dinner." What if she isn't there and the cookies have just been baked and smell so good?

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PATIENCE, PATIENCE

Supplies:

- Hershey's Kisses™
- napkins

Have all the children sit down in a line. Give them each a Hershey's Kiss™ chocolate on a napkin.

Tell them that this game will help them understand what King Saul must have felt waiting for Samuel.

Start on one end of the line. Give the first person in line a few seconds to unwrap their Hershey's Kiss™ with only one hand. After about 10 seconds, have them place it back on the napkin and go to the second person. The goal of this exercise is to make a long process until they can eat the chocolate. After the last person gets a chance to try and open their chocolate, go back to the first person again. Tell them they are not allowed to even touch their chocolate when it is not their turn. It may take three turns for some to open their candy with one hand. After their candy is open, make them wait one turn to eat it. Then ask the children on how hard it is to have patience and wait for something for a long time.

Connect the exercise to Saul's wait for Samuel. Help the children understand how hard it must have been for Saul to wait.

Where Is Jesus?

Please use the following comments connecting today's lesson to the Gospel to help inform your understanding and serve you by aiding your preparation for class. Remember, we want to do more than present disconnected Bible stories and lessons to our young children. We want them to understand how each story in the Bible plays a part in God's greater plan of redemption.

As a king, Saul failed. One day God would anoint another man to be king who would not fail. Even when it was difficult, Jesus (the greatest king) obeyed God. The difficult task in front of Jesus was to die on the cross, see Acts 13:22-23.

When faced with the cross, Jesus prayed to His father in heaven saying, "not my will, but yours be done." (Luke 22:42) Saul placed his own will above God's, Jesus did not. As a result of Jesus' obedience, we have salvation through His sacrificial death.