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"Let my TEACHING fall like RAIN...like SHOWERS on YOUNG PLANTS." (Deuteronomy 32:2)



Story: David Becomes King

Supplies Needed

You will need the following:

- 7 Sheets of Cardstock (8.5" x 11")
- 7 3 mil Laminating Film

Directions

- Print pages 2-15 two-sided on cardstock. Laminate the pages.
- Hold up the pictures while you read the story.

Illustrations courtesy of Free Bible Images
https://www.freebibleimages.org/


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Before holding up the picture:

What did you learn last quarter? *(Saul and David…answers will vary)*

Last quarter you finished 1st Samuel. What happened at the very end of that book? *(Saul and Jonathan died)* Yes, that was very sad. Quickly, let's review Saul's life:

Hold up picture:

1. The Israelites wanted a king like the other nations around them. Samuel warned the people that having a king was unwise, but God allowed Saul to be anointed as king.
2. Saul reigned 42 years. He and his son Jonathan won many battles together, but Saul also made some wrong choices. When God had commanded Saul to destroy all the Amalekites (even their animals), Saul disobeyed God. Samuel scolded Saul and told him that God would tear the kingdom away from Saul and his family.
3. Later David served in Saul's army and won many battles. Saul became extremely jealous of David and tried to kill David.
4. Although David had chances to kill Saul, he never believed it was right to kill God's anointed king of Israel.



Hold up picture:

1st Samuel ends with the death of Saul during the battle with the Philistines. Saul had been wounded and he was afraid the Philistines would find him before he died and torture him. He chose to fall on his own sword, and he died.

We learn in 2nd Samuel, that while Saul was fighting the Philistines, David was in Ziklag. An Amalekite man came to the camp of David, fell on the ground before him, and gave David news of the battle. When David heard that Saul and Jonathan were both dead, he asked the messenger how he knew this. The man told David that he had found Saul, wounded and leaning on his spear. He claimed that Saul asked him to kill him and so he did! (He probably thought David would reward him for killing King Saul.) The Amalekite man showed David Saul's crown and bracelet as proof.

Explain / Ask:

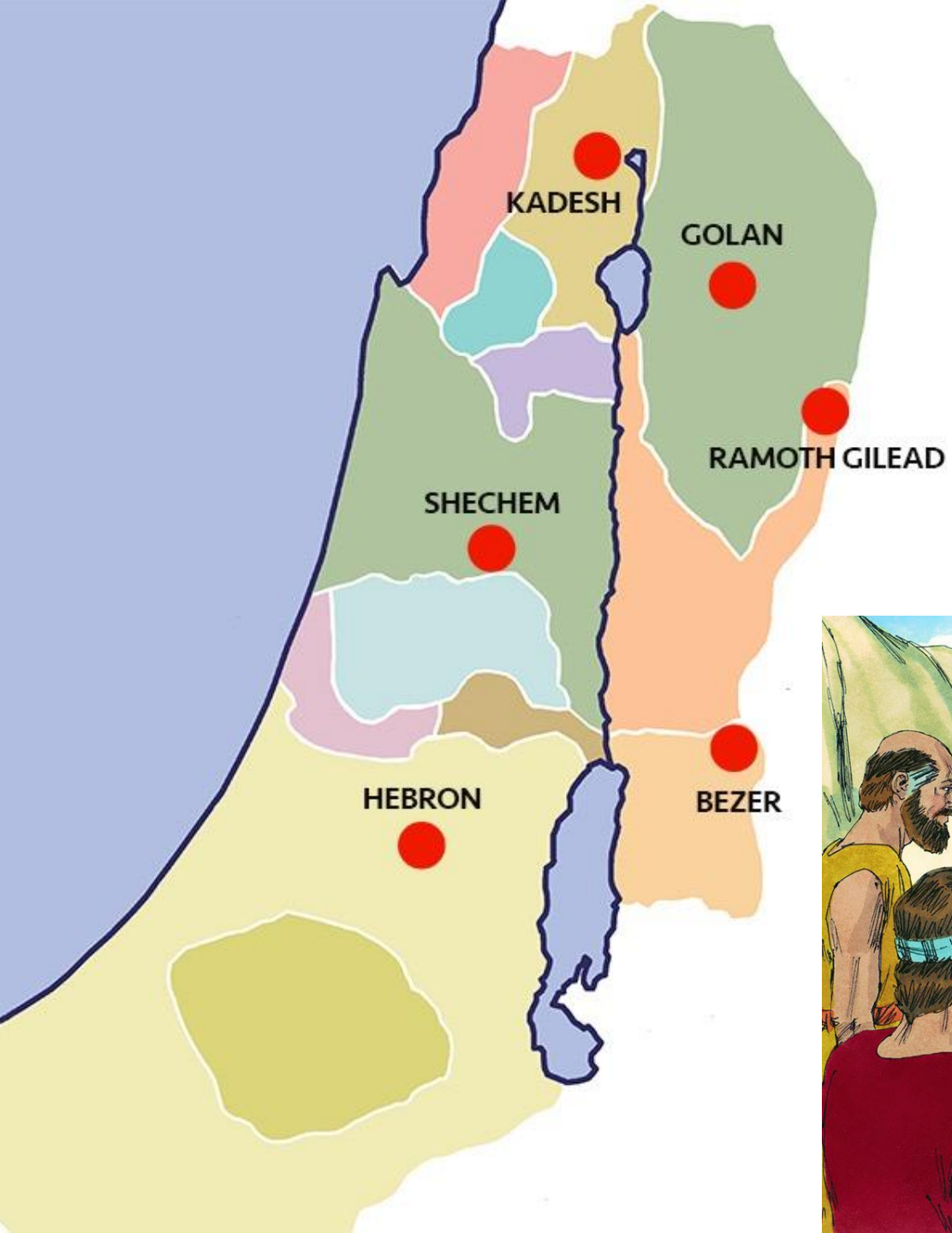


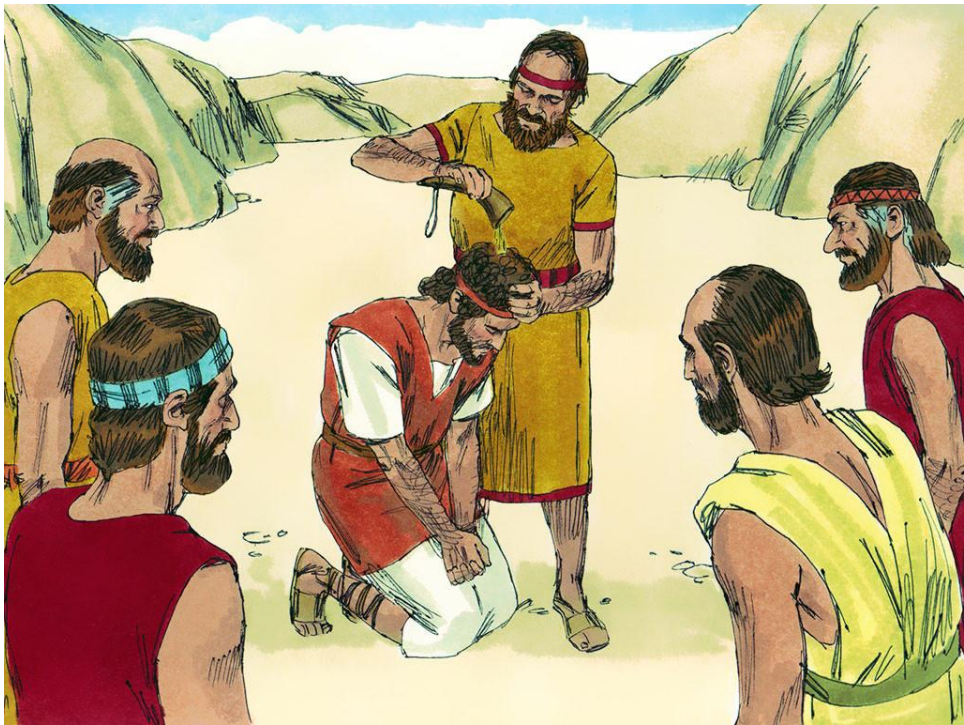
Hold up picture:

But David was not pleased. He tore his clothes, and all his men mourned, wept, and fasted with him until evening. Then David asked the messenger, “How was it that you were not afraid to put to death the Lord’s anointed?” Remember, even David wouldn’t harm Saul even though he had several opportunities to do so. So David commanded this Amalekite to be executed because he admitted with his own words that he had killed the Lord’s anointed king. David then wrote a mournful song about Saul (his father-in-law) and Jonathan (his friend).

Explain / Ask:

1st Samuel tells us that Saul fell on his own sword, so was this messenger lying? It might be that the Amalekite saw Saul die and thought David would be pleased with the news. Maybe he thought David would give him a reward for killing his enemy Saul. Either way, the price for his lie was his own life.


KADESH
GOLAN
RAMOTH GILEAD
SHECHEM
HEBRON
BEZER



Hold up picture:

After this, David asked God if he should go to any of the cities of Judah. God told him to go to the city of Hebron. Hebron was one of the 12 Cities of Refuge. The people of Judah came to him and anointed him as king over Judah.

But Abner, who had been Saul's commander, took Ishbosheth, Saul's only living son, and made him King. Instead of all of Israel following David, most were following Ishbosheth.

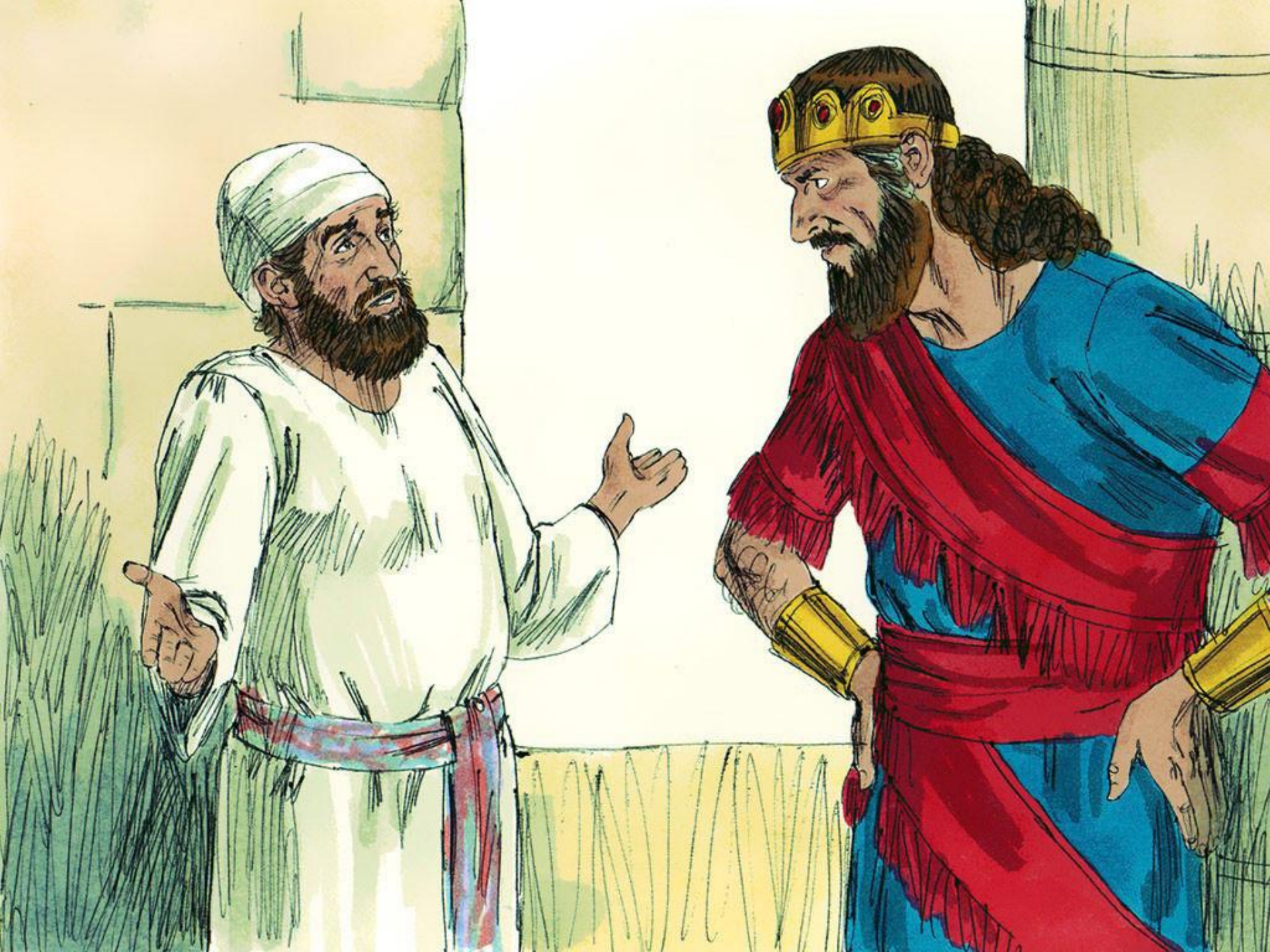
Explain:

Abner and Ishbosheth knew that the Lord wanted David to rule over the whole kingdom of Israel, but instead of obeying God, they decided to chose they're own king. Is it ever right to disobey God? *(No)*



Hold up picture:

It was a sad few years. There was a lot of fighting between Judah and Israel, and many people died. The brother of David's commander, Joab, was killed by Abner. But David's army grew stronger as Ishbosheth and Abner grew weaker. But eventually, Abner went to David to make peace. Abner even gathered all of Israel together to remind them that the Lord had promised David that he would be king and rescue the Israelites from all their enemies.



Hold up picture:

But again there is more killing. Joab, David's commander, knew that Abner had come in peace to David, but he didn't care. Joab followed Abner and killed him. Later Ishbosheth was also killed. Those who killed Ishbosheth thought David would be happy because they had killed David's enemy. But David was not pleased. He did not want Abner or Ishbosheth killed. With the death of Ishbosheth, all of the kingdom of Israel belonged to David. David was 30 years old when he became king. He was king over Judah for 7 years, and king over Israel and Judah for 33 years…that's a total of 40 years being king.



Hold up picture:

What can we learn from this lesson?

First, we can trust God and look to Him for guidance. We should not try to take matters into our own hands, like Abner. God had promised David that he would be king, but David was not willing to kill anyone to become king. David was patient and waited for God to fulfill His promise to bring the kingdom to him. David trusted God, and we can do the same.

Second, we should love our enemies. Even though Saul was an enemy of David's, David never sought to harm Saul, and David was truly sad when Saul died. Proverbs 24:17 says that we should not be happy when bad things happen to our enemies. Also, Matthew 5:44 tells us to love our enemies and to pray for those who hurt us.

These are both good lessons we have learned from today's story.