



Protector – Lesson I

2s and 3s

Memory Verse: 2 Samuel 22:2 “The Lord is my protector; He is my strong fortress.” (GNT)

Key Point: God is always with us!

Bible Verse: 1 Samuel 16

SCHEDULE:

Center Time

around 10 minutes

Help the individuals transition by actively engaging them from the beginning. Try setting up centers to color, play with blocks and Play-Doh, or do puzzles.

Memory Verse

Use the Memory Verse page and images to go over the memory verse by placing them in the correct order on the board (personal or pocket chart).

Coloring Sheet

Big Group Time

Lesson

- Read through the lesson below. For a shortened version, just read the bolded words.
- Within the lesson, there are numbers that correspond to the story point pictures. For example, (1) corresponds to the first story point and picture, and so on.
- Allow individuals to place pictures in sequential order on the table, floor, or in a pocket chart if available.
- Key Point

- Use the review questions to check for understanding.

Repeat Key Point & Memory Verse

Use the activities below for repetition of the story points, key points, and memory verse.

- Act out the Story.
- Bean Bag Toss: restate part of the story, memory verse, or key point when tossing.

Activity

Five Finger Gospel (optional)

LESSON:

Today, **our Bible lesson comes from 1 Samuel 16** (1). Saul was the king of Israel. He had started out as a fine king, but then he began to disobey the Lord. Saul began to follow his own desires, rather than the Lord's. **God rejected Saul as King** (2).

Then the Lord tells Samuel to go find the new king (3). He tells Samuel that **he is going to choose a new king from one of Jesse's sons** (4) in Bethlehem.

At first, **Samuel is afraid** to go and do what the Lord asked because he is worried **King Saul will find out** (5) he is choosing a new king. Samuel knows this will make Saul very angry. The Lord has a plan to keep Samuel safe. The Lord tells him, “Tell Jesse and his sons you are there to offer a sacrifice to the Lord and invite them to go with you. Then I will show you what to do.”

So Samuel obeys the Lord, knowing God will protect him, and he goes to find Jesse and his

sons in Bethlehem. **Jesse has seven of his sons walk in front of Samuel** (6), but **none of them is the one God has chosen** (7). So Samuel asks Jesse, “Are these the only sons you have? Jesse answers, “No. My youngest son is taking care of the sheep.”

When Samuel asks, **Jesse sends for his youngest son, David** (8), and Jesse has him brought in from taking care of the sheep. When David comes in, the Lord speaks to Samuel and tells him, “Get up and anoint him. He is the one.” God chooses David because he loves God with all his heart. **Samuel anoints David** (9) by pouring oil on his head. Anointing him in front of his brothers. David will one day become the new king! From that day on, the Spirit of the Lord is with David. That means that God gives David the power to do God’s work.

Key Point: God is always with us!

Review Questions

1. **Why did God want to choose another king besides Saul?** (Because Saul was disobeying God and pleasing himself first.)
2. **Samuel was afraid to go choose the new king because he didn’t want to make Saul mad. What did God do?** (He gave him a safe plan and protected him.)
3. **Did God tell Samuel to pick the best looking son and only look at the outside appearance?** (No! God told Samuel that God looks at the heart and not what is on the outside.)
4. **Where was the son that Samuel wanted to see after seeing all the rest of Jesse’s sons?** (He was caring for the sheep.)
5. **Who would one day be the new king?** (David.)
6. **What does it mean that the Spirit of the Lord was on David?** (God gave David the power to do his work.)

ACTIVITIES:

Pick a Leader

Supplies

Set of 15 straws or coffee stirrers cut into different sizes in a paper sandwich bag (one per bin)

Ask the kids who they would pick for a king if they were to choose. Would they select a big, strong, muscle man or a small boy who cared for sheep? Pull out the brown bag with straws and have each child pick a straw from the bag and hold on to it. When every child has a straw, ask them to hold them up and find who has the biggest one. This is the one that is the greatest. Now ask them who has the smallest one. This is the one that is the least. (With the younger children, have them lay the straws out onto the floor or table so they can see everyone’s straw and decide the smallest and greatest.) When God picked the new king, he did not look at the size of the person but at the heart. He saw a small boy who took care of sheep and picked him over all of his big, strong brothers because he saw that David was a man after God’s heart. God knew that David loved him and would obey him.

Inside the Heart

Supplies

- Heart with verse on red cardstock (one per child)
- Heart with no verse on red paper (one per child)
- Brad (one per child)
- Heart stickers (three per child – if available)
- Hole punch
- Crayons

Have the kids stand in a line shoulder to shoulder. The leader should stand facing the children. Tell the kids to pretend that you are a mirror. When they see you move, they should move their body the same way. Lift your arms

above your head. Children should move the same way. Try lifting one leg; bending down; touching your nose, ears, and eyes; jumping and hopping in place; etc.

END-OF-CLASS ACTIVITY IDEAS

If you have time remaining at the end of class, consider doing one of the following activities with the children until the parents arrive (or make up your own!). Keep your class' size and dynamics in mind when choosing.

- March around the room, reciting the memory verse. You can choose a different leader or have the children do different things (hop on one leg, skip, take turns reciting the verse, whisper, etc) for each lap around the room.
- Have children color quietly at the table. You can give them specific direction for their art, such as “draw a picture of something you learned in the lesson today” or “draw a picture of someone you will pray for this week.”
- Play a game of Memory Verse Telephone. Have children sit in a circle (or around the table). Tell the children that you will whisper a message to the person on your left and that person will whisper the same thing to the person on his/her left. Go around the entire circle that way. Have the last person say what he/she heard out loud. You may need to split the verse into 3-4 word phrases to make it easier to remember. Go over the full verse a few times at the end of a round.
- Pray! Ask the children for prayer requests and spend time praying for each one and their families. Let children pray out loud if they would like.