



eKids: At home with your family Sun 25th October

I Samuel 1-18 (Good News Translation)

David heard that the Philistines were attacking the town of Keilah and were stealing the newly harvested grain. ² So he asked the Lord, “Shall I go and attack the Philistines?”

“Yes,” the Lord answered. “Attack them and save Keilah.”

³ But David's men said to him, “We have enough to be afraid of here in Judah; it will be much worse if we go to Keilah and attack the Philistine forces!” ⁴ So David consulted the Lord again, and the Lord said to him, “Go and attack Keilah, because I will give you victory over the Philistines.” ⁵ So David and his men went to Keilah and attacked the Philistines; they killed many of them and took their livestock. And so it was that David saved the town.

⁶ When Abiathar son of Ahimelech escaped and joined David in Keilah, he took the ephod with him.

⁷ Saul was told that David had gone to Keilah, and he said, “God has put him in my power. David has trapped himself by going into a walled town with fortified gates.” ⁸ So Saul called his troops to war, to march against Keilah and besiege David and his men.

⁹ When David heard that Saul was planning to attack him, he said to the priest Abiathar, “Bring the ephod here.” ¹⁰ Then David said, “Lord, God of Israel, I have heard that Saul is planning to come to Keilah and destroy it on account of me, your servant. ¹¹ Will the citizens of Keilah hand me over to Saul? Will Saul really come, as I have heard? Lord, God of Israel, I beg you to answer me!”

The Lord answered, “Saul will come.”

¹² “And will the citizens of Keilah hand my men and me over to Saul?” David asked again.

“They will,” the Lord answered.

¹³ So David and his men—about six hundred in all—left Keilah at once and kept on the move. When Saul heard that David had escaped from Keilah, he gave up his plan.

David in the Hill Country

¹⁴ David stayed in hiding in the hill country, in the wilderness near Ziph. Saul was always trying to find him, but God did not turn David over to him. ¹⁵ David saw that Saul was out to kill him.

David was at Horesh, in the wilderness near Ziph. ¹⁶ Jonathan went to him there and encouraged him with assurances of God's protection, ¹⁷ saying to him, “Don't be afraid. My father Saul won't be able to harm you. He knows very well that you are the one who will be the king of Israel and that I will be next in rank to you.” ¹⁸ The two of them made a sacred promise of friendship to each other. David stayed at Horesh, and Jonathan went home.

Re-telling the story

Background: We know from what we've seen in the last few weeks that David is God's chosen King and from last week we know that Saul wants him dead! Jonathan, Saul's son loves David and has warned him of King Saul's plan.

This part of the story finds David going to the city of Keilah to save them from the Philistines. He is listening to and obeying the Lord.

Saul finds out that David is there and (wrongly) assumes that God has planned it so that he can go to Keilah and capture David.

David knows that Saul is planning to capture him so takes the problem to God. So, he leaves Keilah and escapes from Saul. Saul keeps seeking to kill David, but God keeps David safe.

Whilst David is on the run Jonathan goes to him. He tells him

“Don't be afraid. My father Saul won't be able to harm you. He knows very well that you are the one who will be the king of Israel...”

They make a special pact, a covenant together.

Pebbles & Rocks

David doesn't look very kingly here. He's on the run! BUT he IS still listening to God, and OBEYING God.

God WILL make him King and Jonathan knew it. Jonathan risked everything to show his trust in the true King, he LOVES the true King.

David often didn't look like a King, but he became King. He wasn't King forever though.

Jesus often didn't look like a King, but he was King. **He is STILL King and always will be!**

Praise God!!

Activity/Craft ideas:

- Find lots of things you like and fill the word JESUS with them OR put them around the word if they are big! Some idea could be toys (cars, building blocks...) food (biscuits, rice cakes), things from outside (leaves, sticks), family fingerprints (bit messy but painting fingers is fun!). Jesus is better than ALL these AND He is KING over them all.
- Use the wordsearch to find key words from the story (Rocks)
- Have a go at the Quiz (Rocks)
- Colour in one of the pictures to help remind you that Jesus IS King

Boulders

Even though David is NOT king, Jonathan knows that he will be and so he treats him like a King (We've seen that over the last few weeks), and LOVES him.

He promises to be beside David, even though Saul is his father, he acknowledges David as King – at great cost.

King David is a signpost to the greater King. King Jesus!!

Jesus often didn't look kingly did he?

What does it mean for US to acknowledge Jesus as King?

How should we treat Jesus as King?

Can we LOVE King Jesus? How?

Activity/Craft ideas:

- Use the wordsearch to find key words from the story
- Have a go at the Quiz (there's 2 similar ones to choose from – an easier one and one that's a *little* more tricky)
- Colour one of the bible verses to remind you that ALL people will bow to King Jesus!

RipRap

Jonathan says “yes” to King David and loves him even though it costs him – his throne, family, and influence.

To say “yes” to God's chosen King will come with a cost; so saying “Yes” to Jesus will be tough.

What sort of cost might you experience?

- Going against friends' opinions
- Standing out when you want to blend in
- Saying no to things that go against God's chosen King

How can you say yes to Jesus rather than no thank you?

- We can't do it on our own!
- God's spirit can and will help – ask God for his help
- Remind yourself that Jesus IS king – God promised Him and He IS reigning even though is *might feel* like he's not. So, look at how God's promises are ALWAYS fulfilled.
- Help one another. Church family and friends are a huge part of keeping going with Jesus. Reminding one another about what a great King we have in Jesus.

Prayer

Thank you, God, for promising a King who will reign forever.

Thank you for King Jesus who came and lived, not like a king but like a servant.

Thank you that he was willing to suffer and die for us.

Thank you that He reigns now and always.

Thank you that we WILL reign WITH him if we trust him and follow him.

Thank you for Jonathan's example of trusting in your chosen King, help us to put your chosen King above all other things.

We're sorry when we don't do this and love other things more. Help us, by your Spirit to grow in love for King Jesus who deserves our worship and praise.