

A Better King

Use this guide as a tool to help you prepare to experience spiritual transformation in a practical way. It is a flexible guide that will help you discover, own, and apply the truths of God's Word.

Message Summary

The New Day Church family is reading through the bible chronologically in 2017. Each week we hear a sermon based on the material we have already read for the week. We are learning that the story of Redemption is on full display from Genesis to Revelation. Both Old and New Testaments are one unified story that speaks of the beauty of God and the Redemption He has provided for us.

Judges ends with the need for a king. No leader like Moses or Joshua had been raised up. The people were like sheep without a shepherd. They wondered in darkness in need of mercy because of their sin and hope of someone to lead them into righteousness. As 1 Samuel opens we see a glimmer of hope once again. Will God's people follow the prophet named Samuel? Not long into the book we discover that Israel cries out for a king. But not the kind of king even Samuel expects. They want a king like all the other nations. So God gave them Saul.

Saul had promise. He looked to be a man who would serve Israel well. However, Saul quickly turned away from God and was rejected by God. What would Israel do? God used Samuel to identify a better king, one that would replace Saul and shepherd God's people as God had intended. But he wasn't the kind of king that people would expect. He was a young boy who, like Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and especially Moses, was minding his own business and watching over his sheep. David, the youngest son of Jesse, would be the better king appointed by God.

First Samuel 17 is probably the favorite bible story of every little boy. It's the story of David, the shepherd boy soon-to-be king, who slays the giant Goliath, the savage enemy of the king. While many have utilized this story to encourage believers to "slay the giants" in their lives, that's not what this story is about. This is a story about God's battle. It's a story about a shepherd boy who trusted in the God who delivers from "the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear." It's a story about faith. It's a story about the battle that belongs to the Lord.

Ultimately, this story points us to an even better King. His name is Jesus; the Good Shepherd. David, the shepherd king who slayed the giant by crushing and cutting off his head while the scared king Saul and the army of Israel cowered in the corner. In the same way, Jesus, the Good Shepherd, slayed the giant named Satan and crushed and cut off his head while we cowered in the corner looking for someone to save us from the bondage of sin and death. Jesus is the better King!

As you prepare to meet with your Missional Community this week, think about how Jesus has prevailed over sin, death and the grave. He has won the victory on our behalf. Do you trust Him not only for the eternal victory but for the victory over sin in the normal stuff of life? Do you trust Him to lead you into every situation? Do you see Him as Lord over your life? Do you follow Him as King of your life? As you prepare to meet with your group this week, think on these questions and examine the questions on the next page. And remember, Jesus is the Better King!

Message Outline

4 Characters:

1. Goliath – the savage enemy of the king.
2. Saul – the scared king.
3. David – the shepherd king.
He trusted in the...
 - Name of the Lord.
 - Power of the Lord.
 - Salvation of the Lord.
4. Jesus – the Savior King.
 - He came in the Name of the Lord.
 - He crushed the giant – Satan.
 - He conquered sin & death.

Therefore, let's...

1. Praise Him for the Victory.
2. Trust Him when we face the Enemy.
3. Follow Him into Eternity.

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Group Discussion

Use the following questions to help make application of God’s Word to your Head (What God wants me to know), to your Heart (What God wants me to desire/value), and to your Hands (What God wants me to do).

In regard to 1 Samuel 17:1-54:

1. What does this passage teach about God? (God’s Identity; Theology)
2. What does this passage teach about what God has done? (God’s Action; Christology)
3. What does this passage teach about man/me? (Old & New Creation Identity; Ecclesiology)
4. What does this passage teach about what I should do? (Reveals what I really believe about Questions 1-3; Missional Ecclesiology)
5. What does this passage teach about how I do it uniquely in my context? (personal action steps of obedience)

Weekly Prayer Focus

• Church:

- Pray as we seek to identify additional elders to lead us into the future.
- Pray about going on a global mission trip this year.
- Pray as we seek to raise up additional leaders who will multiply our Missional Communities.
- Pray for our worship space.
- Pray for our finances.
- _____
- _____

• Local:

- Pray that all who have believed the Gospel will obey Jesus in believer’s baptism.
- Pray for new relationships that will lead to Gospel conversations.
- Pray for the Missional Communities to impact their communities with the Gospel.
- Pray that God would burden us with the lostness in our cities, neighborhoods, and at work.
- Pray that God will identify 5 people you can begin to invest in and engage with the Gospel.
- _____
- _____
- _____

• Global:

- Pray that God would give you a heart for the nations.
- Pray for new workers on the mission field.
- Pray for the team working in SEA, the new believers, for those who have heard the Gospel, and the church planting movement among the unreached.
- Pray for Good Shepherd Ministries and Bill & Sandy Younger.
- Pray for Servants Hearts Ministries and Bob & Georgette Kornegay.
- Pray for Pastor Abraham and his church in Guatemala.
- Pray for the work of Paul & Sarah Young and Dakota Baptist Church in North Dakota.
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