

# KING DAVID PROSPERING

2 Samuel 1 - 8

## STRUCTURE

**Key-person:** David

**Key-locations:** Hebron and Jerusalem

### Key-repetitions:

- David anointed king: of Judah (2 Sam 2:4); of all of Israel (2 Sam 5:1-3).
- Triumphs in David's life: he captured Jerusalem (2 Sam 5:7); he became more powerful (2 Sam 5:10); he reigned over Israel, doing what was just and right (2 Sam 8:15).
- David worshiped the Lord: he brought the Ark of the Lord to Jerusalem (2 Sam 6:12-19); he wanted to build a temple for the Lord (2 Sam 7:1-2); David prayed to the Lord (2 Sam 7:18-29).
- God's actions on David's behalf: the Lord had promised David that he would shepherd his people Israel (2 Sam 5:2); the Lord was with David and made him more and more powerful (2 Sam 5:10); the Lord gave David peace (2 Sam 7:1); the Lord gave Prophet Nathan a revelation of how he would bless David (2 Sam 7:1-17); the Lord gave David victory wherever he went (2 Sam 8:14).

### Key-attitudes:

- Conflict: war with enemies.
- Positive attitude about David.
- David's joy when he brought the Ark of the Lord to Jerusalem.
- David's desire to build a temple for the Lord.
- David's gratefulness to the Lord.

### Initial-situation:

Saul was the first king of Israel. On two occasions, Saul disobeyed the Lord. Since Saul rejected the Lord's command, the Lord rejected Saul as king. The Lord sent Samuel to anoint David as king.

Saul became jealous of David and tried to kill him. David lived as a fugitive in wilderness hideouts with Saul pursuing him.

The Philistines made war on Israel and archers wounded Saul. Saul took his own sword and fell on it. Saul died because he disobeyed the Lord.

### Initial-problem:

A young man announces to David that the army of Israel was defeated in battle and that King Saul and his son Jonathan were dead.

### Final-situation:

David reigned over all Israel, doing what was just and right for all his people.

## BIBLE STORY

Three days after King Saul's death, a young man arrived in David's camp and announced that the army of Israel was defeated and that King Saul and his son Jonathan were dead. David composed a funeral song mourning Saul and Jonathan (2 Sam 1:1-27).

David, with his two wives, moved to Hebron. The men of the tribe of Judah came to Hebron and anointed David king over the tribe of Judah (2 Sam 2:1-4). Seven years later, all the tribes of Israel came to Hebron and anointed David king over all the twelve tribes of Israel. David was thirty years old when he became king over Judah in Hebron. He was thirty-seven years old when he became king over all twelve tribes of Israel and Judah (2 Sam 5:1-5).

David captured Jerusalem and he took up residence in the fortress. David became more and more powerful, because the Lord God Almighty was with him (2 Sam 5:6-10).

The king of Tyre sent messengers to David. Tyre's king sent cedar logs, carpenters and stonemasons, and they built a palace for David. David knew that the Lord established him king over Israel and made his kingdom prominent for the sake of the Lord's people Israel (2 Sam 5:11-12).

A multitude went with David to bring the Ark of God to Jerusalem. David danced before the Lord with all his might. They set the Ark of the Lord inside a tent (2 Sam 6:1-19).

King David settled in his palace. The Lord gave David peace from his enemies. David told Prophet Nathan, "I'm living in a palace of cedar, while the Ark of God remains in a tent."

Nathan replied to David, "Do what you have in mind. The Lord is with you."

That night the Lord told Nathan, "Tell my servant David, 'The Lord says, You aren't the person to build a house for me to live in. I haven't dwelt in a house from the day I brought the Israelites up out of Egypt till now. I've moved from place to place with a tent as my dwelling. I never commanded one of Israel's rulers to build me a house of cedar.'

"The Lord Almighty says to David, 'I took you from tagging along after sheep to being a ruler over my people Israel. I've been with you and I've mowed your enemies down before you. Now I'll make you as famous as any of the great men on the earth. I'll provide a place for my people Israel. Wicked people won't oppress them anymore. I'll give you rest from your enemies. I, the Lord, will establish a dynasty for you. When you die, your child will succeed you and I'll establish his kingdom. He'll build a house to honor me. I'll make his kingdom strong forever. I'll be his father, and he'll be my son. Your family and your kingdom will endure forever before me. Your throne will be established forever.'"

Nathan reported to David all the words of this entire revelation (2 Sam 7:1-17).

King David went into the tent and prayed to the Lord, "How great you are, O Sovereign Lord! There is no God but you. And no one is like your people Israel; a nation unique on earth! You performed wonders by driving out nations and their gods from before

your people. You freed your people from slavery in Egypt. You established your people Israel as your very own forever. And you, O Lord, became their God.

"O Sovereign Lord, you are God! Your words are true. You promised these good things to me, your servant. Now, I ask you to bless my family, that it may continue forever before you. With your blessing the family of your servant will be blessed forever" (2 Sam 7:18-29).

The Lord gave David victory wherever he went into battle. David reigned over all Israel, doing what was just and right for all his people (2 Sam 8:1-15).

### GENERIC DIALOGUE QUESTIONS

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| 1. What catches your attention in the story?                  | 5. How did the characters face their problems?                                       |
| 2. Is there anything in the story that is hard to understand? | 6. How have you faced similar problems?  |
| 3. Who are the main characters in the story?                  | 7. Is there someone in the story who is similar to you or who is different from you? |
| 4. What problems did the characters face?                     | 8. What does the story tell about God?   |

### SPECIFIC DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How did David become king of all of Israel?
2. What were some of God's actions on David's behalf?
3. What are some of God's actions on our behalf?
4. What promises did God make to David?
5. What triumphs did David experience?
6. How did David express his worship of God?
7. What were some of the positive things that David did?
8. What promises has God made to us today?

### LIFE-LESSONS

1. **A person may be chosen by God for a specific responsibility and still must wait for God's timing to assume the responsibility.** David was a boy when he was anointed king (1 Sam 16:13); however, for many years David was either a servant of King Saul or he was fleeing from Saul. He only became king after Saul's death. David was thirty years old when he became king of Judah (2 Sam 2:4). Seven and a half years later he became king over all of Israel (2 Sam 5:3-5).
2. **Sometimes when a person desires to do something for God, the Lord says, "No."** God did not allow David to build a house for him (2 Sam 7:5).
3. **Jesus Christ is the descendant of David who will reign forever.** God promised that a descendant of David would reign forever (2 Sam 7:11-13; 16). This was a prophecy about Jesus, who is the King of Kings. This was the first of the prophecies

that the Messiah would be a descendant of David (Ps 132:11; Is 9:7; 11:1; Jer 23:5; Eze 37:24-25). Acts 2:30 applied 2 Samuel 7:11-13 to Christ.

4. **God pours out his favor on his servants because of who God is, and not because of a person's merit.** God informed David that his son, who would follow him as king, would build the temple, and that David's descendants would be kings (2 Sam 7:5-16). David responded in prayer that the Lord had done this, not because of who David was, but because of who God was (2 Sam 7:20-22).
5. **A person can trust God to do what he promised.** David knew God would do what he said he would do in the revelation given to Nathan (2 Sam 7:25). The one who promised is faithful (Heb 10:23).

### LEARNING ACTIVITIES

#### Chant:

Words in **bold and underlined** are stressed. Stress words by stretching them out instead of increasing volume.

<b>All</b>	
"Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful" (Hebrews 10:23 NIV).	
<b>Group 1</b>	<b>Group 2</b>
Let us <b><u>hold</u></b> unswervingly	We must hold <b><u>tightly</u></b>
To the <b><u>hope</u></b> we profess	To the hope we <b><u>claim</u></b> is ours
For <b><u>he</u></b> who promised is <b><u>faithful</u></b>	We can <b><u>trust</u></b> the one who promised
<b>All</b>	
"Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful" (Hebrews 10:23 NIV).	