

HomeWord
For Parents

Today's lesson occurred two years after Saul became king. Israel was afraid of the Philistines who seemed about to attack (1 Samuel 13). Saul was in Gilgal and the people with him were trembling with fear (1 Samuel 13:6–7). Saul felt the need to ask a blessing from God through a burnt offering to request God's protection. However, Samuel, the Lord's priest and prophet, was the only one who could make sacrifices to the Lord. Samuel had told Saul to wait for him (1 Samuel 13:8), but Samuel had not arrived yet. Impatiently, Saul made the sacrifice despite God's commands and Samuel's instructions. Saul disobeyed and failed to trust the Lord God who had made him king.

Saul continued to disobey God! And as we move to 1 Samuel 15, we see Saul again making his own rules, this time in a battle against the Amalekites.

God had clearly commanded Saul to destroy all of that tribe, including women, children, and livestock (1 Samuel 15:3). But Saul considered his own wisdom over God's wisdom, and he kept the king and the best of the livestock alive, presumably for the purpose of making sacrifices to God (1 Samuel 15:15).

God punished Saul's disobedience, rejecting him as king over Israel and eventually taking his kingdom from him. He no longer had the wise counsel of Samuel, the prophet; moreover, the Spirit of the Lord left Saul, allowing him to be troubled by a distressing spirit. We know that God still demands obedience from His people. Jesus made this clear in John 14:15, "If you love Me, keep My commandments." We are called to obedience to our God.

Go to the Online Resource Page for more information.

OutWord For Family Discussion

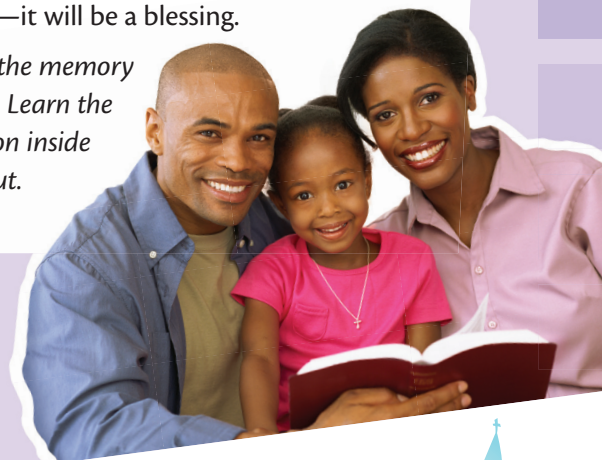
Suppose you are talking to your friends, and they say they don't understand why God is so strict. After all, don't we obey Him most of the time? Don't we do pretty much of what He asks us? We really aren't that bad! **What would you say?**

I guess we don't look that bad compared to some people. But we can't compare ourselves with other people. We are ALL sinners. The Bible makes that clear. And God hates sin—ALL sin. God is perfect, holy, just, and good—He gives us everything; He created us! He wants us to obey His commands. In fact, the Bible says if we love Him, we WILL obey His commands. But we can't keep all His commands perfectly. That's why He sent Jesus. Jesus lived a perfect life—without any sin—and took the punishment of sinners on Himself so that whoever would believe in Him would have eternal life! That's God's mercy. That's God's love.

inWord
For Family Study

"... Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God. (Matthew 4:4). The Word of God is necessary to feed the hearts and minds of your children for all eternity. Memorize God's Word as a family—it will be a blessing.

Begin with the memory verse in the Learn the Word section inside this handout.



God Rejects Saul as King

 **Key Theme**

- God wants us to obey Him.

 **Key Passages**

- 1 Samuel 13:5–6, 13:13
- John 14:15



What You HEARD in the Word

- King Saul disobeyed God, but God wants us to obey Him.

Ask your child these questions from today's lesson.

- 1 Who were the people that attacked Israel?
- 2 Who was Saul supposed to wait for?
- 3 God wants us to _____ Him.



1) The Philistines. 2) Samuel. 3) Obey.

Read the Word with Mom & Dad

- Monday** (1 Samuel 13:8)
How long did Samuel command Saul to wait?
- Tuesday** (1 Samuel 13:11-12)
What was Saul's excuse for not waiting for Samuel?
- Wednesday** (1 Samuel 13:13)
What did Samuel say to Saul?
- Thursday** (1 Samuel 13:14)
What was Saul's punishment for his disobedience?
- Friday** (John 14:15)
What will we do if we truly love the Lord Jesus?
- Saturday** (1 Samuel 16:7b)
Can you recite this verse to your family without looking in the Bible?
Can your family recite it together?

Learn the Word!

"For the Lord seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart."

1 Samuel 16:7b

God Wants Us to Obey

Color the picture below. Saul did not obey God. God wants us to obey Him.



We Gather All Around

- (To the tune of "The Farmer in the Dell" with hand motions)
- We gather all around. *(The farmer in the dell,)*
Walk in circle, holding hands.
 - To hear God's holy Word. *(The farmer in the dell,)*
Stand still, hold hands like open book.
 - We pray and thank him every day. *(Hi-ho, the derry-o!)*
Bow head, fold hands.
 - We praise and love our God. *(The farmer in the dell.)*
Stretch both arms up in praise, then cross arms over heart.

- God is with us there. *(The farmer in the dell,)*
Point away.
- God is with us here. *(The farmer in the dell,)*
Point to self.
- God is with us everywhere. *(Hi-ho, the derry-o!)*
Stretch both arms up, then outward.
- We praise and love our God. *(The farmer in the dell.)*
Stretch both arms up in praise, then cross arms over heart.

LIVE the Word

with Johnny and His Dad

SNEAK PEEK
God said He would find another king. Who could it be? Find out next week!