

ENRICHMENT LESSON 9

THE STORY OF KING DAVID

LESSON NOTES

FOCUS: DAVID, THE IMPERFECT BUT BELOVED AND REPENTANT KING (1 SAMUEL 16-31, 2 SAMUEL, 1 KINGS 1-2)

- **SACRED STORY**
- **ENRICHMENT PRESENTATION**

THE MATERIAL

- **LOCATION: OLD TESTAMENT SACRED STORY SHELVES, BOTTOM SHELF, UNDER BOTH "RUTH" AND "SAMUEL"**
- **PIECES: CLEAR BOTTLE OF OIL, HARP, BASKET (CONTAINING 5 SMOOTH STONES, SLING SHOT AND SHEPHERDS STAFF), 2 PEOPLE OF GOD, CROWN, ARK OF THE COVENANT, PARABLE BOX (CONTAINING 3" X 3" GREEN UNDERLAY, TWO TAN FELT HOUSES, ONE SMALLER THAN THE OTHER, AND 5 SMALL SHEEP), IMAGE OF JERUSALEM**
- **CONTROL**
- **UNDERLAY: PURPLE FELT STRIP, 42" X 11"**

BACKGROUND

David brings the tent of God into Jerusalem and sets up the possibility of a house for God. David was anointed king by Samuel when he was just a boy, but he would not become the king until King Saul was killed. As a boy he was known for his music and his courage, and later he became a great soldier in Saul's army. As king he continued to fight important battles and made some great mistakes, but was repentant. He established the kingdom of Israel that lasted for 400 years and made the city of Jerusalem another city of David, like Bethlehem.

NOTES ON THE MATERIAL

David's story sits in a deep wooden or wicker tray (12" x 8" x 3"). The story icon (5" x 2.5") is "a crown." It can be attached to the end or the side of the tray depending on the size of the shelves, the classroom or other considerations. The underlay is a strip of purple felt, 42" x 11". Each object in the story is approximately the same size (no more than 4" high and 4" wide). The story calls for the following ob-

jects: a clear bottle of oil, a basket (containing five smooth stones, a sling shot and a shepherd's staff), two People of God, a crown (just like the one used in "The Story of Samuel," p. 74), the Ark of the Covenant, a small gold box similar to the other parable boxes (containing 3" x 3" green underlay, two tan felt houses, one smaller than the other and five small sheep), and an image of Jerusalem.

A control for the lesson is folded and placed in the tray for the children to use to check their work. The sequence of the story is important because when you change the sequence, you change the story.

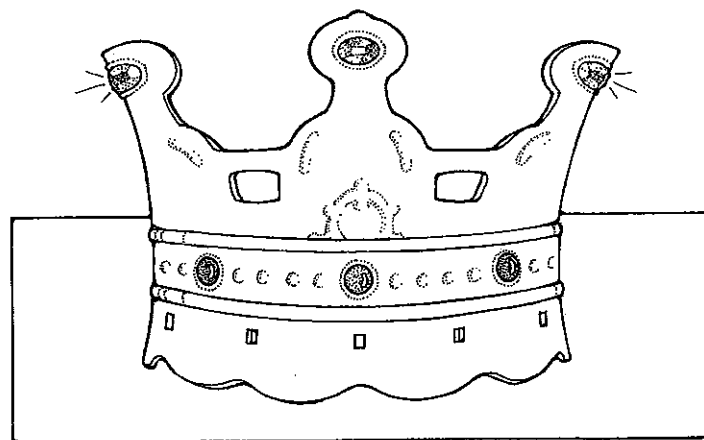
SPECIAL NOTES

The core stories about the People of God are placed on the top of the sacred story shelves. The enrichment stories about the key people in the core stories are placed on the lower shelves of the sacred story section in the room, under the core stories they enrich and extend (see diagram below).

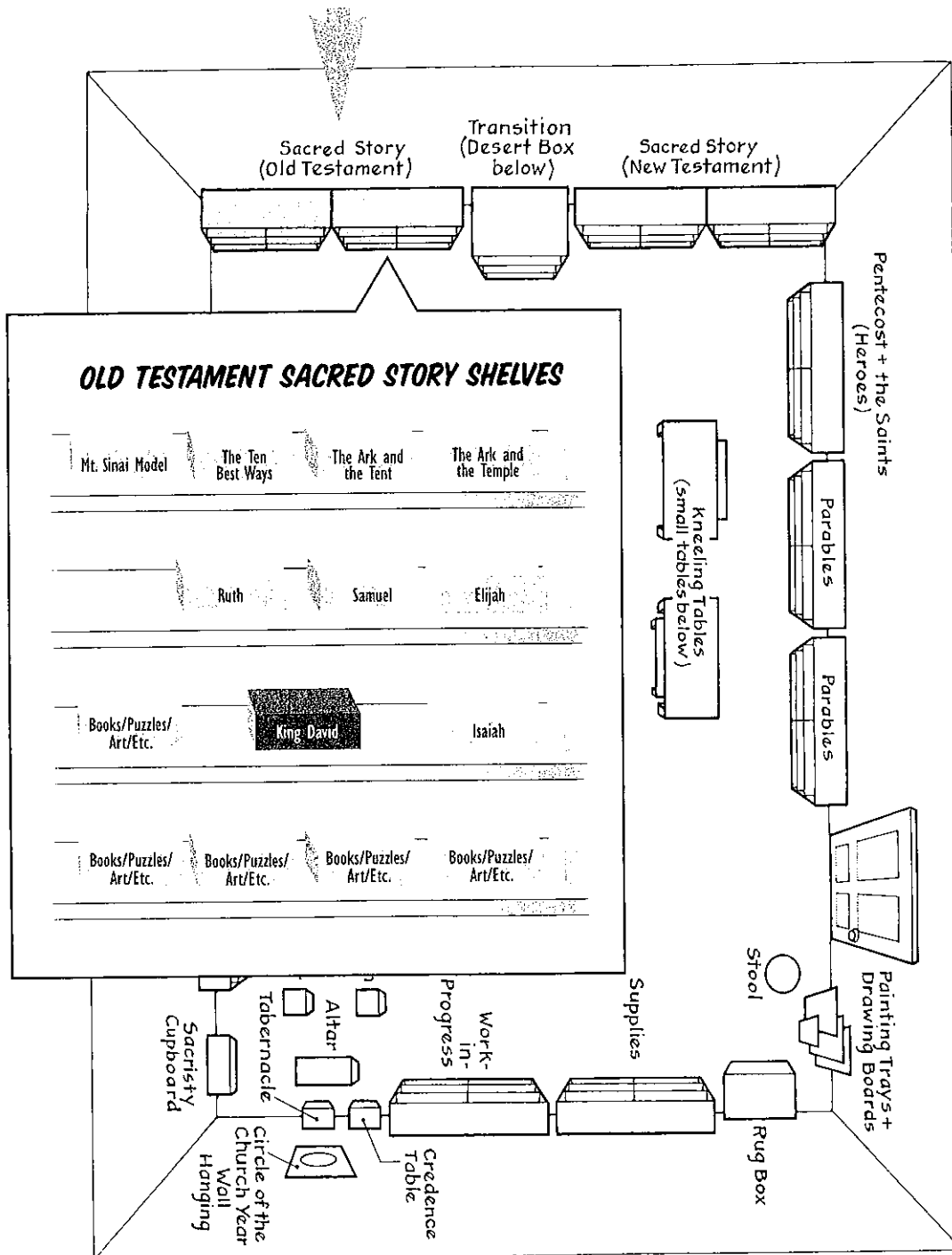
When you introduce the stories in this volume, take care to set them in the larger context of the sacred story of which they are a part. You can accomplish this by:

- presenting the top shelf story the week before and then following up with this,
- presenting the top shelf story briefly on the same day you present this, or
- standing by the shelf and reminding the children of the top shelf story before bringing this one to the circle.

As you tell the story of David's life place objects on the underlay to remind you of each important event. Unroll the underlay slowly, just enough for each object, as if you are unrolling a life. At the end of the wondering, show the children the control card and then carefully place each object back in the tray saying something about each event like, "Here is the crown they put on David's head after King Saul died," and so forth. Lastly, model how to roll the underlay back up and place it in the tray.



STORY ICON FOR THE STORY OF KING DAVID



WHERE TO FIND MATERIALS (TEACHING OBJECTS)

MOVEMENTS

Move with deliberation to the shelf where the material waits.

Pick up the tray containing the material and return to the circle.

As you return to your place in the circle you may need to say:

Take the underlay out of the tray and unroll it just enough so that the first object will fit, from right to left (story-teller's perspective).

*Place **Object #1** (container of oil) on the underlay.*

Pick up the container of oil and pretend to pour some out onto your hand to anoint David.

*Place **Object #2** (harp) on the underlay.*

***Object #3:** Take the stones, sling shot and shepherd's staff out of the small basket as each is mentioned in the story and place them on the underlay.*

WORDS

Watch. Watch where I go.

Everyone needs to be ready.

In the city of Bethlehem where Ruth had lived, Jesse made his home. Jesse was the grandson of Ruth, and he had many sons. One day Samuel came to Bethlehem in search of a new king. Samuel came to the house of Jesse because God told him that the King would be there. Jesse brought six of his sons to Samuel, but the new king was not among them. Samuel asked, "Are there any more sons?" Jesse said, "Yes, there is David, the youngest, who is keeping the sheep." When Samuel saw him he knew at once that David was the king he was looking for.

He took his horn full of oil like the oil in this container and poured it over David's head to make him the new king.

This was very confusing, because there was already a king in the land, King Saul. But Saul had changed. An evil spirit tormented him. Still, David would not begin to rule until Saul died.

Saul's sickness became worse. Someone suggested he needed music to feel better. So David the shepherd boy was brought to play the harp and sing songs to soothe the king.

Some of David's songs can be found in the book of the Psalms.

While David was still a young boy, there was a great war in the land. The Philistines wanted the land for themselves. The army of the People of God and the army of the Philistines were lined up ready to fight.

MOVEMENTS

Place **Object #4** (two People of God) on the underlay.

Place **Object #5** (crown) on the underlay as you mention the crown.

WORDS

A very tall man, like a giant, came out to challenge Saul's army. His name was Goliath. No one wanted to fight him. When David heard the challenge, he went forward to fight Goliath. They tried to put the armor of the king on him, but it was too heavy. David cast it aside, and went against Goliath with five smooth stones, his slingshot and his shepherd's staff. He had killed bears and lions to defend the sheep, why couldn't he kill Goliath to defend the people? And he did.

The people never forgot David's bravery, and when he grew up he became a soldier in the army of the king.

King Saul had many sons. One of them was named Jonathan. David and Jonathan became close friends. Jonathan always stood up for David and tried to protect him from harm even from his father the king. The king was very jealous of David. David was a great soldier and over time he grew more popular than the king himself. This made the king so angry that he wanted to kill David. Jonathan spoke to his father about David and told him that David was a good man, but Saul would not listen. Jonathan knew that the only way for David to be safe would be for him to run away and hide from King Saul. This meant that the two good friends had to say goodbye.

King Saul and his sons led their army against the Philistines once more, but this time he and his sons were killed.

David was moving through the land with his army, and a young man came to him with the news that King Saul and his sons were dead. When David heard the news he was very sad. David never forgot his good friend Jonathan, and later when he was king he brought Jonathan's own son to live with him, to eat at his table, and gave him the land that had belonged to King Saul.

It was time for David to be king. The young man brought to David the king's crown. All the tribes of Israel came to Hebron and made him king saying, "You shall be shepherd over the people." At the time he was thirty years old and he would be king for forty more years.

MOVEMENTS

Place **Object #6** (*Ark of the Covenant*) on the underlay.

Object #7: *Open the parable box and spread out the underlay.*

Place two houses—the large one for the rich man and the small one for the poor man—on the underlay. Put four of the sheep in front of the rich man's house.

Put one sheep in front of the poor man's house.

WORDS

One of the first things David did was to go to the City of Jerusalem and take it from the Jebusite people. So now there was a city of David in Bethlehem, and a second one in Jerusalem

Then David remembered that the ark had been lost to the Philistines. He led his army against the Philistines and defeated them. They went to get the ark and brought it into Jerusalem. The king danced in front of the ark as it was carried to its place in the tent like it had been in the desert.

David wanted to build a house for God, a more beautiful place for the ark. But God said, "No." David was king of war. His son Solomon would build the temple.

In the spring of the year, the time when kings go forth to war, David sent his army away, but he remained in Jerusalem. One afternoon he saw Bathsheba, the beautiful wife of Uriah the Hittite. He wanted her for himself, and so he sent Uriah the Hittite into battle where he was killed. Then King David married Bathsheba.

One day the Lord sent Nathan the prophet to David. Nathan told King David a parable...

"A rich man and a poor man lived in the same town. The rich man had many sheep.

"The poor man had only one little lamb that he raised as a pet in his house. He even let it eat from his plate and drink from his cup. It slept on his lap. The lamb was like one of his own children.

"One day someone came to visit the rich man. The rich man didn't want to kill any of his own sheep to serve to the visitor, so he took the poor man's lamb and served it instead."

MOVEMENTS

Take away the sheep from in front of the poor man's house and hide it in your hand.

WORDS

David was furious at the rich man in the story. "As the Lord lives, the man who did this deserves to die! He must pay for the lamb four times over because he did this thing and has no pity."

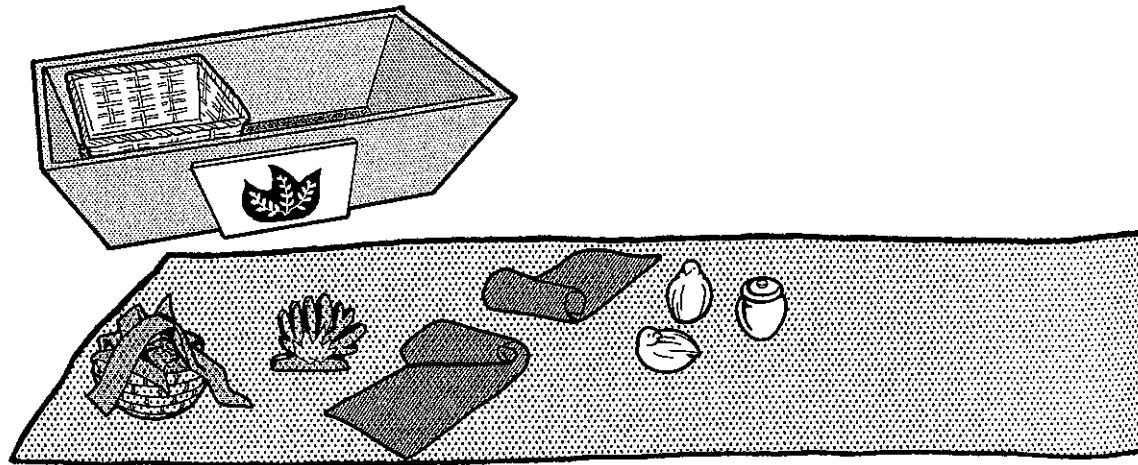
Then Nathan said to David, "*You* are that rich man! God has given you everything and yet you took Uriah's wife for yourself."

David was filled with sorrow. He wondered if he would die, like King Saul. David did not die, but the first son he had with Bathsheba did die. David and Bathsheba were both filled with sorrow, but the next child they had lived. They named him Solomon. He would become the next king and would build a house for God.

King David was not a perfect king...he made many mistakes. But he understood that...and asked God to forgive him. And God did.

*Place **Object #8** (image of Jerusalem) on the underlay.*

When David was old and full of years, he died and was buried in Jerusalem. His son Solomon continued to rule over his kingdom and built the temple.



FINAL LAYOUT OF THE STORY OF DAVID (STORYTELLER'S PERSPECTIVE)

MOVEMENTS

Sit for a moment and look at the lesson from beginning to end to let the story rest. Then begin the wondering.

After the wondering is over, show the children the control card for them to use to check their own telling of the story. Then put the story away carefully. Pick up each object in reverse order and remind the children what the object is, saying for example, "Here is the parable that Nathan the prophet told King David." After all of the objects are back in the tray, carefully model how to roll the underlay back up and place it in the tray as well. Return the lesson to its place on the shelf. Then return to your spot in the circle and dismiss the children one by one to their work.

WORDS

I wonder what part of this story you liked the best?

I wonder what part was the most important?

I wonder what part was about you, or what part you were in?

I wonder if we could leave any of the story out and still have all the story that we need?

