

Everyday FAITH Family Page

Old Testament 3

Law/Gospel

I do not always believe God's promises; instead, I grumble and am afraid. **God, who always keeps His promises, kept His promise to send His Son to save me from my sin through His sacrifice on the cross.**

Bible Words

Not one word of all the good promises that the LORD had made . . . had failed; all came to pass. Joshua 21:45

The Big Picture

Why were the Israelites in Egypt?

- Joseph's brothers sold him into slavery in Egypt as a teen.
- God was with Joseph and gave him the ability to interpret dreams, including Pharaoh's dream that foretold seven good years of crops followed by seven bad years of famine.
- When Joseph was 30, Pharaoh put him in charge of efforts to survive the famine.
- Two years into the famine, Joseph's father, Israel (Jacob), and his whole family moved to Egypt to live on land Pharaoh gave them.
- A later Pharaoh who did not know Joseph enslaved the Israelites.
- More than 400 years after entering Egypt, the Israelites were brought out by God in the exodus.

The Twelve Spies in Canaan

Numbers 13–14

After God delivered the Israelites from slavery in Egypt, He led them to the border of the Promised Land of Canaan.

A little over a year later, the Israelites prepared to enter the promised Land and drive out its current inhabitants. God promised victory, but the people wanted to know what to expect. With God's permission, Moses sent twelve spies to check out the crops, people, cities, and fortifications.

The spies returned with a mixed report. The land was beautiful, but its people were large, strong, and fierce. Many lived in walled cities. Ten spies said there was no way to take the land. Two spies, Caleb and Joshua, urged the people to trust the Lord and go forward.

Sadly, the people listened to the fearful spies. This rebellion kindled God's anger, and He said everyone age 20 and older would die in the desert except Joshua and Caleb, who would lead the younger generation into the land. This kept Israel in the wilderness for forty years.

Through these Israelites, God saved us from our dreaded enemies of sin, death, and the devil. Mary, an Israelite, birthed the Lord's own Son and our Savior. At God's command, she named Him Jesus because "He will save His people from their sins" (Matthew 1:21). *Jesus* and *Joshua* are the same name in Hebrew, *Jeshua*, which means "to rescue, save, or deliver."

Who were the Canaanites?

Canaanites descended from Canaan, son of Ham and grandson of Noah. They fished, hunted, farmed, built ships, and produced a written language. Sadly, they also worshiped many false gods, called *Baals*.

Other groups in the land included descendants of Anak, a race of giants whose appearance frightened the Israelites. Goliath, the Philistine giant that David defeated, descended from Anak (1 Samuel 17:4, 23).

Prayer

Lord Jesus, thank You for dying on the cross and rising from the dead to save us from sin, death, and the devil. Amen.

cph.org/SundaySchool

Permission to copy for the Old Testament 3 quarter. Scripture: ESV®.
Copyright © 2016 Concordia Publishing House.





Everyday FAITH Family Page

Old Testament 3

Law/Gospel

Complaining and unrepentant, I wander in a desert of sin, determined to go my own way—a way that leads to death.

In Baptism, Christ lifts me from the grave, joins me to His own Baptism and Body, the Church, and leads me to my heavenly home.

Bible Words

Great and amazing are Your deeds, O Lord.
Revelation 15:3

Fun Facts

In Hebrew, *Jesus* and *Joshua* are the same name, *Jeshua*. It means “to rescue, to save, to deliver.”

Just Joking

When was the Jordan River angry?
When someone crossed it.

Entering the Promised Land

Joshua 3:1–5:12

The Israelites wandered the desert for forty years while waiting to receive the land God promised their fathers. The younger generation barely remembered escaping from Egypt. They only knew the harsh life of the desert, where they experienced God’s presence and care for them.

The new generation of Israelites camped beside the Jordan River, waiting for God to lead them across. When He did, God repeated the miracle of the Red Sea crossing their parents had experienced leaving Egypt. When the priests stepped into the flood-stage Jordan River, God piled up the water about twenty miles north. Israel crossed on dry land.

At Joshua’s command, they made rock memorials in the river and on land to remember and teach their children about this amazing day.

After this, Joshua commanded circumcision of all the males of Israel. Circumcision marked God’s chosen people as His own. Today, God marks us as His own with the cross of Christ in Baptism. We are Christ’s Church. We live in the desert of sin and death on earth, waiting to cross to the promised land of heaven following our leader, Jesus.

A New Passover

The people celebrated Passover for the first time in forty years after they entered the Promised Land. God established this meal when He rescued Israel from Egypt to help them recall the miracles of the escape.

At the first Passover, people ate the lamb sacrificed so its blood could be painted on the doorposts. With this God-given sign, the angel of death passed over their houses and spared the lives of the household’s firstborns.

The sacrificed lamb reminds us of Jesus, “the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world” (John 1:29). This Lamb of God died on the cross during a Passover feast to pay for our sins and deliver us from death. He gives eternal life to everyone who believes in Him as the Savior.

Prayer

Jesus, restore to us the joy of our salvation in you. Amen.



Everyday FAITH Family Page

Old Testament 3

Law/Gospel

Prideful, I trust in walls of self-made security, but my works and my accomplishments are weak and crumble around me. **God delivers me from the ruin of my sin and provides me a mighty fortress in Christ.**

Bible Words

The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer.
2 Samuel 22:2

Fun Facts

Jericho's fall occurred in the Late Bronze Age (1550–1200 BC). Archaeologists locate the city at a spot called Tell es-Sultan, a mound about a mile northwest of modern Jericho.

Although scientific analysis varies, one excavated layer shows evidence matching the Bible's description of Jericho's destruction: collapsed mud bricks at an outer base of stone; massive destruction by fire; and jars of charred grain in fire-destroyed buildings. These show evidence of a recent harvest, a short siege, broken walls, and a consuming fire.

Just Joking

Which Bible person had no earthly parents (besides Adam and Eve)?

Joshua, son of Nun

The Fall of Jericho

Joshua 6

Directed by God's chosen leader Joshua, the Israelites crossed the Jordan River and prepared to defeat the ungodly, idolatrous people. High-walled Jericho, close to the Jordan River, was the first challenge.

Military leaders used two ways to conquer a walled city: (1) lay siege and slowly starve the people out, or (2) find a way in and ambush them.

Jericho residents trusted their infamous strong walls. They did not fear the Israelites, even though they heard about their miraculous crossing of the flooded Jordan River. They scoffed when Joshua, the ark of the covenant, seven priests blowing rams' horn trumpets, and the men of war marched around the city once a day for six days.

Continuing to follow God's command, the Israelites rose early on the seventh day and marched around the city seven times. Then the priests blew the trumpets, the people shouted, and God knocked down the walls.

God's message was clear: follow His Word and victory was sure, regardless of the enemy's advantages. Ignore His Word and experience defeat, regardless of the situation.

Only Rahab and her family survived from Jericho. Allied with the Israelites, she became a great-great-grandmother to King David and an ancestor of Jesus (Matthew 1:5).

Knocking Down Our Walls

What walls do we construct out of personal pride or a search for protection? Do we trust in our successes, spiritual heritage, or good deeds? Do we hide behind our secret sins, pride, and self-sufficiencies? God takes down each wall for our own good to show us that He is all we need.

Christ is our mighty fortress, our defense, and our shield. He is our hiding place. We find peace in Him. Those who believe in Jesus receive the benefits of His death on the cross and resurrection from the dead: forgiveness of sins, eternal life, and the riches of His grace.

Prayer

Lord Jesus, knock down the barriers that keep us from Your grace.

In Your name we pray. Amen.

cph.org/SundaySchool

Permission to copy for the Old Testament 3 quarter. Scripture: ESV®.
Copyright © 2016 Concordia Publishing House.





Everyday FAITH Family Page

Old Testament 3

Law/Gospel

Sin always leads to slavery, and ultimately death, trapping me under its control. **Christ rescues me from the oppression of sin so that in Him I might have ultimate freedom and eternal life.**

Bible Words

Call upon Me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you.
Psalm 50:15

The Big Picture

The song of Deborah and Barak in Judges 5 thanks the Lord for victory He gave. Here are some of the lyrics:

“Hear, O kings; give ear, O princes; to the LORD I will sing; I will make melody to the LORD, the God of Israel” (v. 3).

Deborah

Judges 4–5

Before Israel had kings, God led His people through judges who solved community problems and frequently served as military advisers, leaders, or even warriors. People did not elect judges. God equipped them to serve regionally by common consent and respect for their godly wisdom.

Deborah, a judge and prophetess, sat under a palm tree in the hill country of the tribe of Ephraim to adjudicate disputes. Deborah also fulfilled her vocation by advising military leader Barak about the Lord’s plans to defeat the Canaanites. She told Barak to gather ten thousand soldiers at Mount Tabor. There, the Lord led the Israelites to defeat the Canaanites and their nine hundred chariots.

Deborah accompanied Barak onto the battlefield, and Jael, another woman, killed opposing general Sisera, testifying to God’s willingness to use both men and women as His servants to accomplish His will.

The judges foreshadowed Jesus, God’s Son, the promised deliverer who redeemed all who believe in Him from sin, death, and the devil.

A Family Became a Nation

Before Israel became a nation, it was a family. Abraham’s grandson Jacob (Israel) moved seventy family members to Egypt to live with Joseph (Genesis 46:27). Jacob, as father, managed household affairs.

In the wilderness, God forged Israel into a nation He ruled through Moses. Struggling to lead the estimated one million people who left Egyptian slavery, Moses appointed chiefs of small units of people.

Six hundred thousand fighting men (age 20 or older) and their families entered the Promised Land about 1406 BC. The people settled in designated tribal areas, led by the heads of their respective clans and households. They formed alliances to battle their enemies.

Prayer

*Lord Jesus, deliver us from our enemies and give us Your peace.
In Your name we pray. Amen.*

cph.org/SundaySchool

Permission to copy for the Old Testament 3 quarter. Scripture: ESV®.
Copyright © 2016 Concordia Publishing House.



Everyday FAITH Family Page

Old Testament 3

Law/Gospel

Because of sin, I love the works of darkness, and I think darkness can hide my sin. **Christ, the light of the world, exposes and overcomes sin and grants me life and salvation through the cross.**

Bible Words

The Lord is my helper;
I will not fear.
Hebrews 13:6

The Big Picture

The Book of Judges reveals a cycle that the Israelites repeated many times: (1) Israel sinned; (2) Israel faced oppression; (3) Israel returned to God in repentance; (4) God sent a judge to deliver His people; and (5) Israel experienced peace or rest from conflict.

Though Israel unfaithfully worshiped and trusted false idols, God was always faithful to the covenant He made with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

Gideon

Judges 6:11–7:25

Israel experienced forty years of peace after God gave Deborah and Barak victory over the Canaanites. Then the people fell away again. Amalekites and Midianites pillaged their crops for seven years.

God called Gideon, the youngest son of the smallest clan of Manasseh to serve as a judge. Lacking confidence, Gideon asked for and received three signs that the Lord commissioned him to free the Israelites.

Gideon summoned an army of 32,000 men, but the Lord reduced it to 300. The Lord said to equip these few with clay jars, lamps, and trumpets. Attacking at night, they broke the jars, shone the lights, and blasted the trumpets. Confused, their enemies turned against one another.

The prophet Isaiah compared this “day of Midian” to the Messiah’s arrival (Isaiah 9:1–7). Sinners who walk in darkness see the great light shining from Christ. When His body was broken on the cross and resurrected three days later, Christ destroyed the enemies of sin, death, and the devil. In the light of His salvation, we rejoice. Isaiah calls the Christ our Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace. Jesus the Christ is our new and better Gideon sent by the Father to redeem us.

Tearing Down an Altar

Before the battle, the Lord asked Gideon to tear down his father’s altar to Baal and the Asherah pole beside it. Baal and Asherah were male and female Canaanite idols, respectively. Gideon worked at night because he feared the reaction of his family and townspeople.

The Lord also told Gideon to build an altar to Him on the city wall and sacrifice a bull there. Gideon did all these things.

In the morning, the men of the town discovered Gideon’s work and asked his father to let them kill him. Surprisingly, Gideon’s dad stood up for him and said they should let Baal fight for himself if he felt angry about the altar. False gods take no vengeance, and Gideon lived on.

Prayer

O God of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Gideon, empower us to trust You in all things. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

cph.org/SundaySchool

Permission to copy for the Old Testament 3 quarter. Scripture: ESV®.
Copyright © 2016 Concordia Publishing House.





Everyday FAITH Family Page

Old Testament 3

Law/Gospel

Sin weakens me, making me a target for the devil's temptations, bringing me guilt and destruction. **God loves me, in spite of my sin and weakness, and puts on me Christ's strength and victory over sin, death, and the devil.**

Bible Words

The LORD is my strength and my shield; in Him my heart trusts, and I am helped.
Psalm 28:7

Just Joking

Who was the best entertainer in the Bible?

Samson, because he brought the house down.

Dig Deeper

Curious about Samson? Read his birth-to-death account in **Judges 13–16**.

Samson

Judges 16

Scripture shows God's judge Samson with all his warts. Easily angered, occasionally disrespectful, and often impetuous, Samson the womanizer seems ill-fitted to lead God's people. But God specializes in accomplishing His work through sinners, and Samson qualified. (So do we.) The Spirit of the Lord was with Samson; he trusted the Lord.

God blessed Samson with physical strength and fearlessness. He defeated many enemies and killed an attacking lion with his own hands. He pulled up a city gate by its posts and carried it to the top of a hill. Samson's enemies could not bind or defeat him until they enticed his girlfriend Delilah to betray him for the equivalent of fifteen years of income.

Four times, Samson lied to Delilah about the source of his strength, including the last time when he said it resulted from his uncut hair. Three times, Delilah did the very thing Samson said would weaken him. Knowing this, Samson had to expect she would cut his hair.

Samson's strength came from the Lord. But by cutting his hair, Samson broke the last part of his Nazirite vow to God. With this action, the Lord left Samson. The Philistines easily captured and imprisoned him.

Brought to the temple of the idol Dagon later to entertain, Samson prayed and asked God to return his strength. Grasping the middle pillars, he pulled down the temple roof and died with his enemies.

By giving up his own life to kill the dreaded foe, Samson points to Christ, who redeemed His people by giving up His own life to free us from our enemies of sin, death, and the devil.

The Nazirite Vow

In a voluntary three-part Nazirite vow, men or women publicly devoted themselves entirely to God and His work for a specific time period. They (1) abstained from grape and alcohol products; (2) did not cut their hair; and (3) avoided contact with dead bodies.

Some people, like Samson, were Nazirites from birth (Judges 16:17).

Everyday FAITH Family Page

Old Testament 3

Law/Gospel

My sins, the sins of others, and the fallen creation cause me to lose hope; I come to think that even God is against me.

Though I feel overwhelmed, God causes all things to work together for good for the sake of His Son, Jesus, who has already borne my greatest burden, sin, on the cross, forgiving me and enabling me to see His steadfast love.

Bible Words

The Holy One of Israel is your Redeemer, the God of the whole earth He is called. Isaiah 54:5

Fun Facts

Naomi's son Chilion married a Moabitess named Orpah. At Naomi's urging, Orpah returned to her family instead of traveling to Bethlehem.

The mother of an influential media mogul attempted to name her daughter "Orpah," but inadvertently inverted the second and third letters.

Just Joking

What kind of man was Boaz before he married Ruth?

Ruthless

Ruth

Book of Ruth

Famine chased Naomi, her husband, Elimelech, and sons Mahlon and Chilion from Bethlehem to Moab, a nearby nation. There, Mahlon married Ruth. After all the men died, Naomi and Ruth went to Bethlehem.

As poor widows, the Law gave the women the right to glean in the fields after harvest, picking up leftover food. Ruth gleaned in the fields of Boaz, a relative of Ruth's deceased husband.

The Law provided Levirate marriage to care for widows without children. This Law required the nearest male relative (kinsman) to marry a childless widow, even if he already had a wife, and provide for her as part of his family. In this way, the relative became the woman's redeemer.

Mahlon inherited family land in Bethlehem, but since death prevented him from possessing it, his closest male relative could redeem it. In Ruth's case, the wife and property were a package deal. If someone redeemed the land, he also took responsibility for Ruth.

Ruth asked Boaz to become her kinsman-redeemer and he obliged, but only after making sure a closer relative chose not to act. Their marriage resulted in a son named Obed, who became the grandfather of King David and ancestor of Jesus.

Christ, our kinsman, redeemed us from sin and death with His own blood. By His resurrection, Jesus gathers believers into His family and promises a new life and a forever home in heaven.

Sing

The hymn "For All the Faithful Women" (LSB 855) includes a stanza thanking God for Ruth:

For Ruth, who left her homeland / And ventured forth in faith,
Who pledged to serve and worship / Naomi's God till death,
We praise You, God of Israel, / And pray for hearts set free
To bind ourselves to others / In love and loyalty.

Pray

Lord Jesus, thank You for redeeming us and making us part of Your family. Draw us closer to You. In Your name we pray. Amen.

cph.org/SundaySchool

Permission to copy for the Old Testament 3 quarter. Scripture: ESV®.
Copyright © 2016 Concordia Publishing House.





Old Testament 3

Everyday FAITH Family Page

Law/Gospel

My sin is great, and I am not holy as God demands. **Christ became unholy with my sin that I might become holy in His righteousness.**

Bible Words

Serve the LORD with gladness!
Psalm 100:2

Sing

As Samuel spoke, so we sing,
“Speak, O Lord, your servant listens, Let Your Word to me come near” (LSB 589:1).

Fun Fact

The name *Samuel* sounds like the Hebrew phrase “heard of God.”

God’s Servant Samuel

1 Samuel 1–3

The three-hundred-year period of the judges closed as God raised Samuel as a judge, priest, and prophet. His mother, Hannah, dedicated Samuel to serve the Lord to fulfill her vow to God. He lived at the tabernacle with Eli, the high priest, from the time he was a small child.

Surprisingly, the Lord spoke directly to the child Samuel and gave him a message for Eli. Three times, a voice called Samuel’s name; and three times, he went to Eli to see what he needed. Finally, Eli realized the voice was the Lord. He told Samuel to reply, “Speak, LORD, for your servant hears” (1 Samuel 3:9).

The Lord told Samuel He would soon punish Eli and his household. Eli’s sons disrespected their work as priests, the people’s sacrifices, the people, and the Lord Himself. They refused Eli’s discipline. Their sin was “very great in the sight of the LORD” (2:17). Not long after, Eli and his sons all died on the same day.

God was with Samuel as he grew and “let none of his words fall to the ground” (3:19). Everything he said was fulfilled, and the people recognized him as God’s prophet. He spoke for God, preached His Word, and pointed to the coming Savior. He anointed Israel’s first two kings, Saul and David.

Hannah’s Song

In a song, Hannah, Samuel’s mother confessed that God’s ways are not our ways. He is the Lord of reversals, who “makes poor and makes rich; He brings low and He exalts” (2:7). Jesus, our Savior, demonstrated this great reversal. He became unholy with our sin so that we might become holy in His righteousness. He became poor to make us rich. He was killed to make us alive. He soaks up our sins and floods us with His grace.

Prayer

Gracious Lord, open our ears so we can hear Your Word. Open our hearts so we can serve You with gladness. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

Everyday FAITH Family Page

Old Testament 3

Law/Gospel

I desire all the wrong things, I crave that which will ultimately kill me, and I suffer the consequences of sin. **God the Father forgives my faults and sustains my hopes, for in Christ, I am His child, beloved beyond words.**

Bible Words

You did not choose Me,
but I chose you.
John 15:16

The Big Picture

- Once again, God chose the least likely person to work through: Saul, son of Kish. Saul himself said he was from the least of the tribes (Benjamin) and the most humble clan in it (1 Samuel 9:21).
- Saul stood a head taller than other men (1 Samuel 10:23).
- The Bible calls Saul more handsome than any other Israelite (1 Samuel 9:2).
- The prophet Samuel said Saul considered himself "litttle in [his] own eyes" even though he was king of Israel (1 Samuel 15:17).

Saul Becomes King

1 Samuel 8–10; 11:12–15

God ruled Israel directly for hundreds of years. He dwelt among the people in the ark of the covenant and in the tabernacle. He was their King, and they were His people.

When judge and prophet Samuel grew older, the Israelites decided they wanted a human king like all of the other nations. They wanted a warrior to lead them in battle and defeat their enemies.

Through Samuel, the Lord warned about the demands and goals of a king. A king would use power for himself, not for them. He would take Israelite sons to fight in his armies and daughters to work for him. He would take one-tenth of their food and wine and the very best of their flocks and fields for himself and his cronies. He would enslave them.

Despite these warnings, Israel persisted. God gave them what they asked for by anointing and proclaiming Saul, son of Kish, from the tribe of Benjamin as their king. But when Saul's name was chosen at the assembly, he was nowhere to be found. Fearful or reluctant, he was hiding among the baggage.

Because we are sinful people, God, in love and mercy, gives us laws, governments, and leaders.

We are part of two kingdoms, one spiritual and one earthly.

Through Baptism, we are part of God's spiritual kingdom and Jesus is our King. We are also citizens of earth, called by God to respect our earthly authorities and follow our elected leaders.

Sing a Prayer

Learn and sing this prayer, "Children of the King," with your family.

Tune: "Kookaburra"

1. Children of the King, Jesus set us free!
Children of the King, that's you and me!
Praise, hallelujah! Praise, hallelujah! Children of the King!
2. Children of the King on the cross He saved us!
Children of the King! He forgives and loves us!
Praise, hallelujah! Praise, hallelujah! Children of the King!

cph.org/SundaySchool

Permission to copy for the Old Testament 3 quarter. Scripture: ESV®.
Song by Kim Bejot, © 2001 CPH. Copyright © 2016 Concordia
Publishing House.





Everyday FAITH Family Page

Old Testament 3

Law/Gospel

Left to fight sin, death, and the devil myself, I would perish.

Jesus fights triumphantly for me against my adversaries of sin, death, and the devil because they are too great for me. His victory is my victory.

Bible Words

Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Corinthians 15:57

Quotable

David said, "The LORD who delivered me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine" (1 Samuel 17:37).

Just Joking

Who was the Bible's best babysitter?

David, because he rocked Goliath to sleep

David and Goliath

1 Samuel 17

David lived about a thousand years before his descendant Jesus. Born in Bethlehem, this youngest son of Jesse cared for his father's sheep while his brothers joined Saul's army to fight the Philistines. Not yet twenty years old, David could not serve in the army.

David discovered a fearful Israelite army when his father, Jesse, sent him to take food to his soldier brothers. Ancient armies sometimes decided battles by fighting opposing champions, and that was the case that day. Goliath, the Philistine champion, challenged Israel every morning and evening for forty days, but no one would fight the nine-foot-tall giant.

David couldn't believe it when he heard Goliath's insulting challenge. He asked, "Who is this heathen who defies the armies of the living God?" David tried to encourage the soldiers, but finally volunteered himself. Refusing Saul's heavy armor, but trusting in the Lord, David picked up five smooth stones. Taking his sling, he approached Goliath.

Goliath cursed and asked David, "Am I a dog, that you come to me with sticks?" David replied, "You come to me with a sword and with a spear and with a javelin, but I come to you in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. This day the LORD will deliver you into my hand" (1 Samuel 17:43, 45).

David's first stone struck the Philistine in the forehead, and he fell on his face, dead. The Philistines ran and the Israelites pursued them.

Once again our all-powerful God worked through an underdog. God works in hidden ways. Only those who see Him through His Word can see His work. Was David brave? Of course! Even more, David had the Spirit of the Lord and he could not lose (1 Samuel 16:13)

Prayer

Jesus, give us faith and courage as we face the giants who perplex and torment us. Empower us to serve You. In Your name we pray. Amen.

Everyday FAITH Family Page

Old Testament 3

Law/Gospel

Hatred and envy shatter relationships among friends and in families. **Because God first loved me and gave me His Son, I am able to love and care for others, especially my friends and family.**

Bible Words

A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity. Proverbs 17:17

The Big Picture

King Saul promised to give these rewards to the man who killed Goliath:

- wealth
- family exemption from taxes
- his oldest daughter, Merab, as a wife

But when the time came for Merab to marry David, Saul wed her to another. Saul eventually let his daughter Michal marry David, but then he despaired when she loved her husband. Later, Michal helped David escape one of Saul's murderous plots.

David and Jonathan

1 Samuel 18:1–5; 20

Saul's son Jonathan and David became friends right after David killed Goliath. Jonathan had served successfully for many years as a soldier and was probably at least ten years older than David.

Jonathan initiated a covenant of friendship with David. They promised to care for and protect each other and their families. As a sign of their covenant, Jonathan gave David his armor, robe, belt, bow, and sword, actions that renounced his right to the throne. Even though Jonathan, as oldest son, could succeed his father as king, he honored God's choice of David, who did not take the throne until many years later.

Saul felt jealous of David's military success and popularity, and often he tried to kill him. Jonathan advocated for David, but Saul's venom seldom waned. Jonathan even risked his own life to protect David from his father's murderous attempts, and he helped David escape.

After Jonathan's death in battle, David kept his promise and cared for Mephibosheth, Jonathan's crippled son, in his household.

This friendship, bound by loyalty and love, foreshadows the friendship of Jesus, who said, "Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends" (John 15:13). In His death and resurrection, Jesus makes us members of His household, co-heirs and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the Gospel (Ephesians 3:6).

David's Songs

David the musician wrote many songs of prayer and praise to the Lord. These psalms express many emotions, including joy, thankfulness, sorrow for sin, despair, and anger. Notes at the beginning of many Psalms record David's authorship and pertinent life situations. Look to the Psalms to pray, praise God, and receive encouragement from God's Word.

As an example, Psalm 34 says: "The LORD is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit. Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the LORD delivers him out of them all. . . . The LORD redeems the life of His servants; none of those who take refuge in Him will be condemned (vv. 18–19, 22)

cph.org/SundaySchool

Permission to copy for the Old Testament 3 quarter. Scripture: ESV®.
Copyright © 2016 Concordia Publishing House.





Everyday FAITH Family Page

Old Testament 3

Law/Gospel

My sinful foolishness blinds me to the wise ways of my heavenly Father. **God truly sees and knows what I need; He does what is good, right, and salutary for me through His Son.**

Bible Words

Man looks on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart.
1 Samuel 16:7

The Big Picture

The Lord promised David, "I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build a house for My name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. I will be to him a father, and he shall be to Me a son" (2 Samuel 7:12–14). This singular offspring of David was the promised Messiah. David's son Solomon built a temple where God dwelt, foreshadowing the temple God built in His eternal Son, Jesus Christ, who was born from David's lineage. St. Paul calls bodies of Christians the temples of the Holy Spirit, a gift from God (1 Corinthians 3:16; 6:19).

David Becomes King

1 Samuel 16:1–13; 2 Samuel 5:1–10

King Saul repeatedly disobeyed God. When he rejected the Word of God, God rejected him as king. Samuel grieved for Saul, but the Lord told him to anoint one of the sons of Jesse in Bethlehem as the new king. Starting with the oldest, the Lord rejected seven sons. When asked if he had any other sons, Jesse said his youngest was in the field, keeping the sheep. Samuel insisted that Jesse send for this young man.

The Lord told Samuel to anoint this son, David, as king. Samuel did so, but David did not take the throne until many years later.

After David killed the giant Goliath, Saul took David into his home. Saul loved David, who often played the lyre to soothe him and served as his armor-bearer before becoming a soldier. But Saul grew jealous of David's military successes and suspicious of his friendships with Saul's children. Fearing a coup, Saul tried to kill David many times, but David was content to wait for God's timing.

David finally fled with a small army and tried to stay out of Saul's way. After Saul died, David became king of the one tribe of Judah during a seven-and-a-half-year political unrest. Once the unrest was resolved, all the tribes of Israel came to David and made a covenant with him before the Lord. He reigned for thirty-three more years.

Though a sinner, David trusted the Lord. Psalms he wrote testify to his faith and love of the Lord. Through David, God led His people and gave them victory over their enemies.

A thousand years later, David's descendant Jesus served God's people. He loved, healed, and taught them before dying to pay for the sins of the world, crucified on the cross. Jesus rose three days later, victorious over our enemies of sin, death, and the devil. He is our true and eternal King.

Prayer

Jesus, Son of David and Son of God, draw us near to You through Your Word and Sacraments. Fill us with faith and hope. Amen.

cph.org/SundaySchool

Permission to copy for the Old Testament 3 quarter. Scripture: ESV®.
Copyright © 2016 Concordia Publishing House.



Everyday FAITH Family Page

Old Testament 3

Law/Gospel

Weighed down by my sins, I make excuses and put the blame on God and others. **God is faithful and just to forgive my sins because Jesus, God's Son, has taken the blame for me, heaping upon Himself the sins of the world.**

Bible Words

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

1 John 1:8-9

Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.

Colossians 3:12-13

Quotable

"A Christian will find it cheaper to pardon than to resent. Forgiveness saves the expense of anger, the cost of hatred, the waste of spirits."

Hannah More, 1745-1833

God Forgives David

2 Samuel 12:1-23

God's prophet Nathan had a unique relationship with David. Although subject to David, he had special access to the king as a prophet who spoke God's Word to him in many situations.

Their most famous encounter happened when Nathan rebuked the king for adultery with Bathsheba and the murder of her husband, Uriah.

To do this, Nathan told David a parable about a poor man who had one beloved ewe lamb. The lamb was like a daughter to him. When a traveler visited a rich man, he did not want to take one of his own flock to feed him, so he took the poor man's lamb and ate it. Incensed, David told Nathan the man deserved to die.

Nathan replied, "You are the man!" Convicted, David repented and received God's forgiveness. This account shows us the role of confession at work in the life of a Christian.

Born in sin, we cannot keep ourselves from sinning. In fact, we often do the very thing we do not want to do! Because we cannot fix ourselves, God the Father sent His Son, Jesus, to die on the cross to pay for our sin and set us free. The Holy Spirit works to show us our sin, prompt sorrow and repentance, and give us forgiveness of sin through Christ. In this way, God restores us and our relationship with Him.

From the Catechism

What is confession?

Confession has two parts. First, that we confess our sins, and second, that we receive absolution, that is, forgiveness, from the pastor as from God Himself, not doubting, but firmly believing that by it our sins are forgiven before God in heaven.

What sins should we confess?

Before God we should plead guilty of all sins, even those we are not aware of, as we do in the Lord's Prayer; but before the pastor we should confess only those sins which we know and feel in our hearts.

Prayer

Lord God, forgive us our sins and lead us in the paths of righteousness. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

cph.org/SundaySchool

Permission to copy for the Old Testament 3 quarter. Scripture: ESV®.
Catechism quote: ©1986 CPH. Copyright © 2016 Concordia Publishing House.

