

Life of David

Lesson 3

Text

1 Samuel 3:1-21

Background

In lesson 2 we studied and learned about Eli and his despicable sons. We learned that they did not know the Lord even though they came from the house of Aaron. Even worse was the fact that Eli didn't do much to restrain or correct his sons from the sin mentioned in 2:17, which reads, "the sin of the young men was very great before the LORD." This is truly a warning to all parents to actively correct and discipline our children.

The result? Verse 27 tells us a man of God visits Eli and informs him of the end of his sons, that they will both die on the same day, and that God will raise up a faithful priest in their place. Enter Samuel. Samuel is not a Levite, but he is the faithful priest that God will raise up to replace the corrupt Levite line. Read on in chapter 3 about Samuel, the prophecy to Eli, and more and we continue our study of this wonderful book.

Day 1 - Read and Listen

1. Read and/or listen to the passage twice. If possible, use different translations. I highly recommend having the passage read to you. Many apps, including the Blue Letter Bible, have a feature that will read the Bible to you. Meditate and pray on the passage.

Day 2 - Observing the Text

2. Who are the characters listed in the passage? As much as the passage tells you, write down any titles, traits, or additional information about each of the characters in the narrative.

3. Where does the narrative take place? List out any locations mentioned. To be more specific, study a map from the timeframe of 1 Samuel (approximately 1105

- 971 BC) and see if you can find the locations on a map. Write down any observations from this exercise.

4. Summarize the main plot points from the passage in the space below.

Day 3 - Understanding the Narrative

5. Name one or more of the conflicts from the passage and how they were resolved or left unresolved.

6. How does the narrative fit into what you already learned about 1 Samuel? Consider, if applicable, the following: How does the narrative tie to the larger picture of a coming royal priesthood? Do you see any foreshadowing of Jesus as King?

Day 4 - Additional Study

7. Take note of any repeated words, thoughts, or phrases in our passage this week. Write those down below.

8. Did any parts of the passage you read make you think about other stories in the Bible? This includes similar narratives, but could also include similarity in lessons being learned by different people at different times. We call these links “purposeful parallels.” If so, write those down below.

9. **Word Studies:** Use the “Blue Letter Bible” or your favorite word study method to look up any words of your choice in the passage. Be prepared to share your findings with your group. Remember, this is the Old Testament. You will be looking up Hebrew words.

Day 5 - Life Application

Reading the Bible should change you! The purpose of reading any passage or passages is to gain life changing applications you must consider for your own life.

10. **Application:** 1 Samuel 3:1 says, “**And the word of the LORD was rare in those days; there was no widespread revelation.**” This phrase hearkens back to the end of Judges which states, “**In those days there was no king in Israel; everyone did what was right in his own eyes.**” Thinking about your own walk with the Lord, is the word of the Lord rare? Are you doing what is right in your own eyes? If so, what steps can you take to realign with God’s purpose for your life? If not, how can you prevent yourself from regressing to that place of no revelation and disobedience?

11. **Optional:** Write down any additional life applications from your study time this week down below.

Day 6 - Closing Thoughts and Reflections

As you've had time to meditate on this week's passage, write down any closing thoughts and/or list ways this passage has challenged you. How are you going to take the application from Day 5 and make it a tangible application for you? What are some additional things that you'd like to share with your group? These are just a few ideas to jot down as you close out this week.

Notes from the Teaching

Teacher: _____ **Date:** _____
