



Seek first the kingdom of God. Matt. 6:33

Bible Study:



Saul was selected by God to lead. But being a good leader means FOLLOWING God's lead. For a while, Saul did, and God fought Saul's battles for him. But after a while, he stopped doing things God's way. And God no longer protected him in battle. We are just like Saul. We may WANT to follow God's ways, but our hearts will lead us astray unless we seek the true King, Jesus.

The gospel in the story:



Saul is losing the kingdom, and will be replaced by David as king. Scripture is clear that Saul lost the kingdom because of his disobedience. However, it is not the case that David earned the right to be king by his own righteousness. In fact, just last lesson, we got a glimpse at David's weak and sinful heart when he planned to wipe out an entire household over a squabble about money. The simple fact is that God showed grace to David in protecting him and installing him as king. This is good news for everyone, because we all have sin in our hearts that prevents us from being righteous in God's eyes. But He is a God of grace, willing to provide atonement for sin through **His** righteousness in Jesus.

Application

Head:

Q: Who is Saul? A: King of Israel
Q: Why is Saul afraid? A: Because the Philistines have amassed their army and is preparing to attack.
Q: What does Saul do when God won't answer his prayers?
A: Turns to a sorceress
Q: What news does Saul receive? A: That the Philistines will win the battle and that Saul will be killed.

Heart : Memory verse

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Hands: How does this affect the way I live my life?

Saul's life and death is a display of what it looks like if we take matters into our own hands. That is why Jesus said that anyone who wants to save their own life will lose it. Our only hope is to seek God's Kingdom, through our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Home: How does this affect my household?

Saul's household fell apart because of sin and his lack of leadership. Jesus is the Good Leader, and calls His followers to bear one another's burdens to help each other grow in the knowledge and grace of Jesus.

Heaven: How does this help us share our faith?

When we trust in Jesus, and seek His Kingdom first, Jesus gives us a faith and Love that we can share with our neighbors and friends. It is what a lost and hurting world is looking for.