



ማኅደረ ስብሐት ልደታ ለማርያም
የኢትዮጵያ ኦርቶዶክስ ተዋሕዶ ቤተክርስቲያን

MAHDERE-SEBEHAT LEDETA LEMARIAM
ETHIOPIAN ORTHODOX
TEWAHEDO CHURCH



**Lessons are prepared by Ledeta LeMariam
Sunday School
Alexandria, Virginia**

In the name of the
Father, and the Son, and
the Holy Spirit, one God.
Amen.



Begin with the Lord's prayer

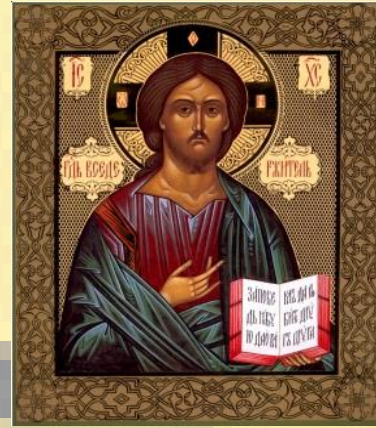
Our Lord and Savior, our King and God, we thank you for gathering us here to stand before you to call on your Holy Name.

Heavenly Father, teach us to trust You in everything we do.

Our God open our eyes, ears, hearts and minds that we may hear Your Word and transform (Change) our lives.

Bless all the children and keep them safe. Hear us when we humbly and thankfully pray to you.

Our Father, who art in heaven
Hallowed be thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done
On earth as it is in heaven
Give us this day our daily bread
And forgive us our trespasses
As we forgive those who trespass against us
And lead us not into temptation
But deliver us from the evil one
For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the
Glory. Forever, Amen.



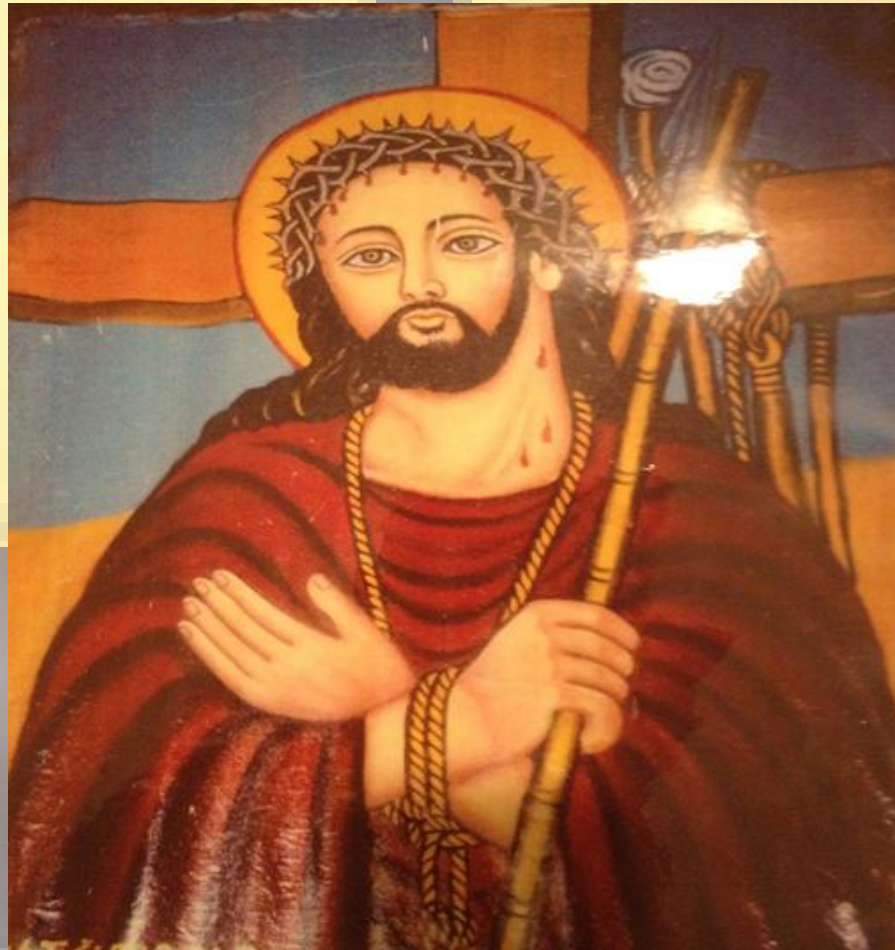
O our Lady, as St. Gabriel greeted you, “Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you.” True Virgin in conscience as well as body, blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb.

Holy Mary, the God-bearer, pray that your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, may forgive us our sins. Amen.



Say The Jesus Prayer 3 times

**Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,
have mercy on me, a sinner.**



Review

1. Who was Hannah's husband?

Elkanah.

2. Hannah asked God

a) to make her family rich.

b) to give her a baby.

3. Hannah promised God that if she had a son she would bring him to serve in God's house.

a) True.

b) False.

Review

6. Samuel's name means "God has heard."

- a) True.
- b) False.

7. Did Hannah keep her promise to God?

- a) Yes.
- b) No.

9. Who called out to Samuel in the night?

- a) Eli the priest.
- b) The Lord God.

10. So how many times did God call Samuel?

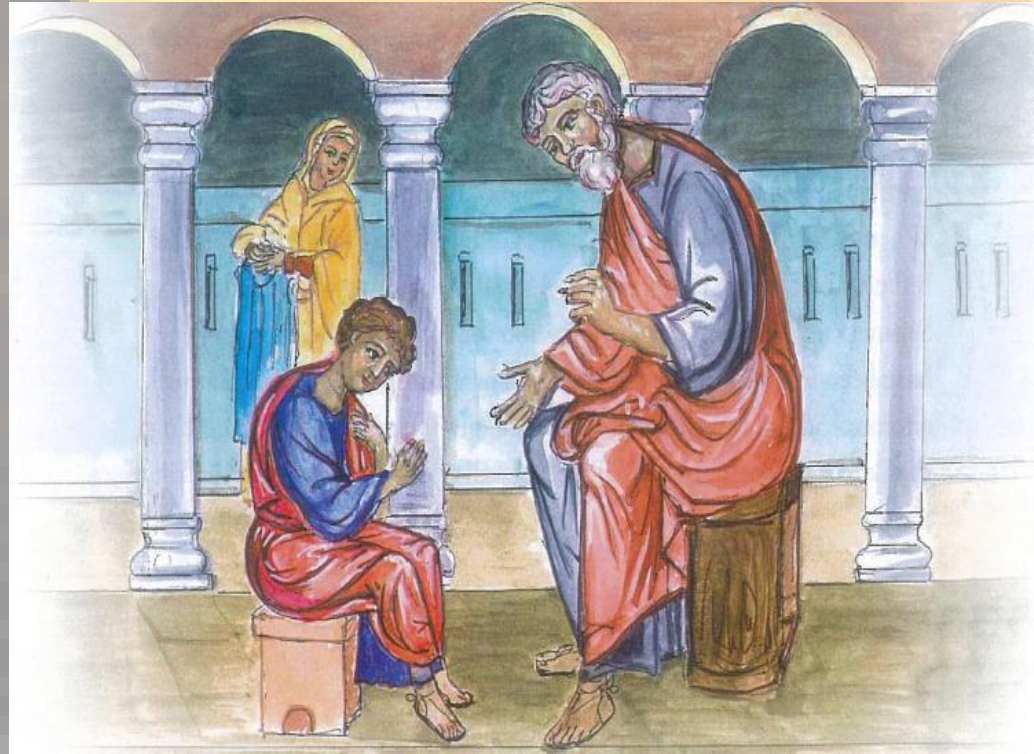
11. What did Eli tell Samuel to do?

MEMORY VERSE




**Can anyone tell me
last week's
memory verse???**

Recite Last week's memory verse

**“Speak Lord for your servant hears”
(1 Samuel 3: 9)**



Class Covenant

I will keep my  on my teacher,
my  in control,
my s on God's Word;
knowing God is my goal.

Saul becomes a king



September 22, 2013

Memorize today's Verse

**“Obey your leaders and submit to their authority”
(Hebrews 13:17)**

**Practice this verse
again during the
week.**



When Samuel was an old man, God's people said, "We want a king to rule over us." Samuel asked God for help.



God told Samuel to warn the people about all the trouble a king could bring. A king would make the young men join his army, and the people would have to give the best things they owned to support the king.



Samuel warned the people, but they still would not listen. Then God told Samuel to give them a king.



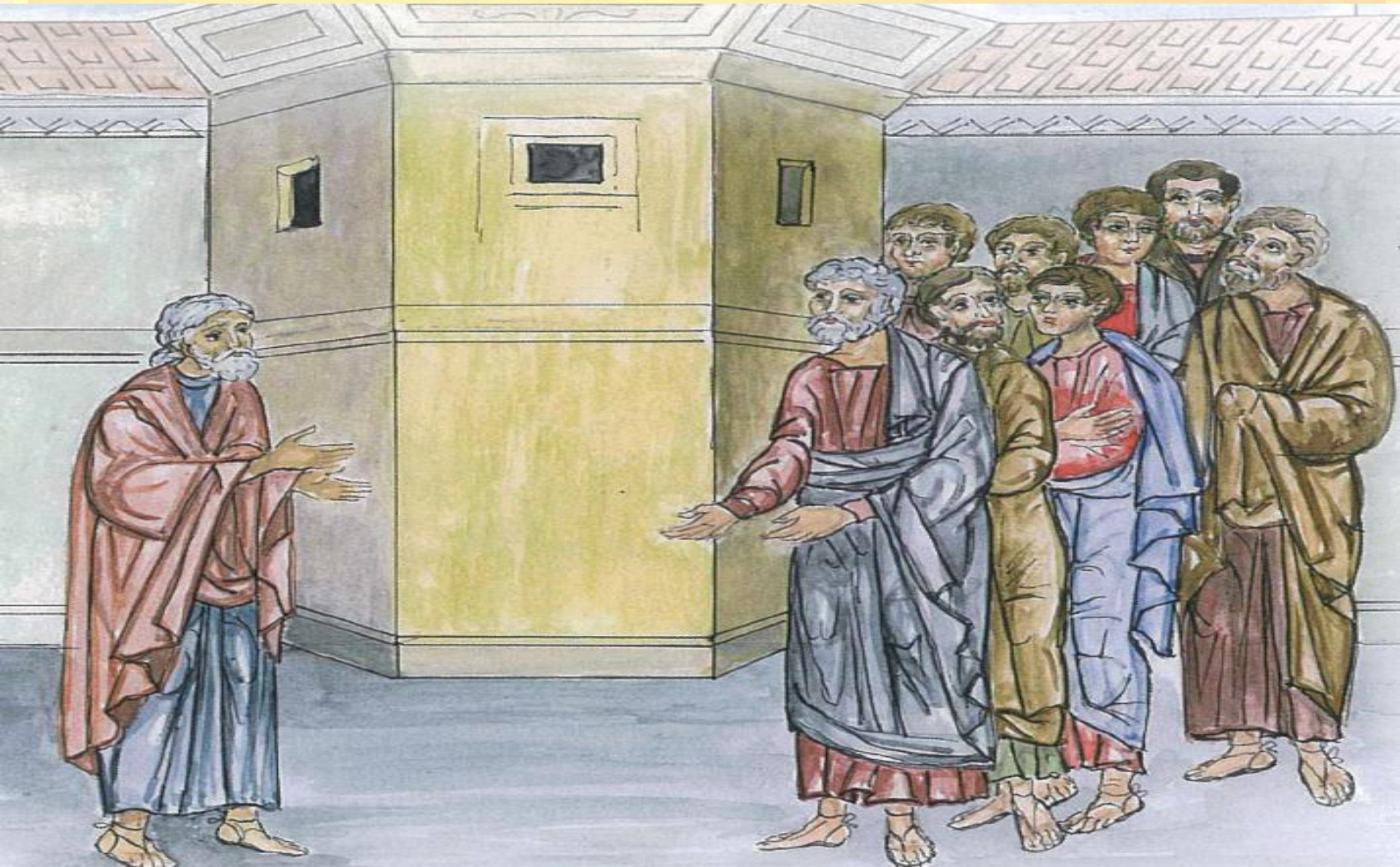
One day, a young man named Saul came to the town where Samuel lived. He was looking for some donkeys that his father had lost and could not find. So he thought, “The prophet might know where I can find them.”



When Samuel saw Saul approaching, God spoke to him and said, “Here is the man of whom I have spoken. He will be the king of My people. Samuel said to Saul, “Do not worry about the donkeys because they have been found. But listen to me: God has great plans for you!” Samuel anointed (poured oil on Saul’s head) Saul as the King of Israel. This was a sign that Saul was God’s choice for their new king. Saul hid because he as shy.



The people found him. Then Samuel said, "Here is your king." Everyone cheered and shouted, "Long live the King!"



Saul was a good king for about 20 years. Then he began to disobey God. God was sorry he made Saul the king.



Because of this, an evil spirit had come to dwell in the king. It tormented the king and made him very sad. He was tortured by his thoughts.



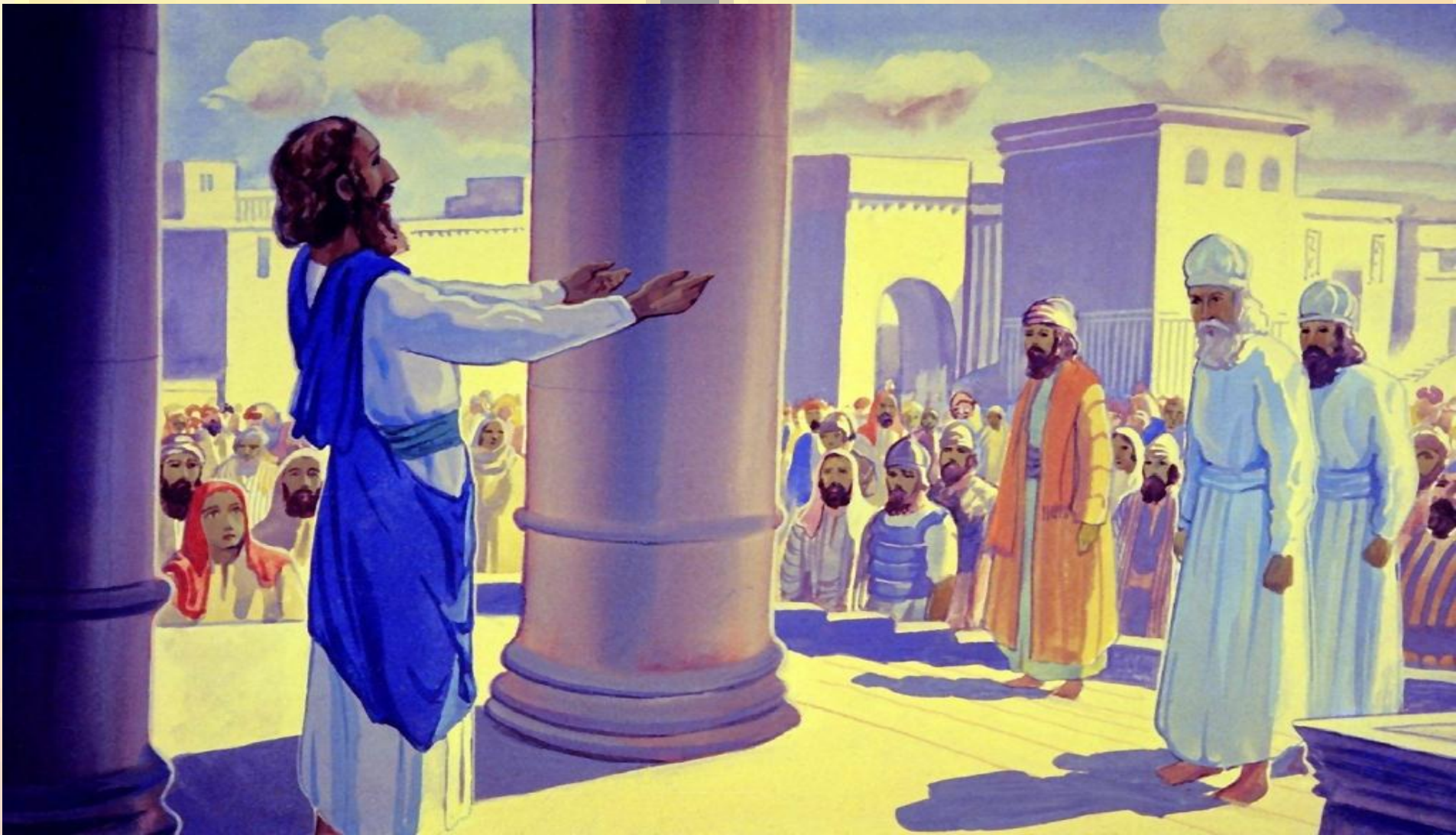
King Saul didn't want to eat, he didn't want to sleep. His servants failed to please him.



King Saul was a good example of how miserable a man can be when he chooses to leave God out of his life.



Meanwhile, God sent Samuel to a man named Jesse to find a new king. When Samuel met Jesse, he said, “I would like to meet your sons.”



When Samuel saw them, he thought, These are strong-looking men. God said, “I do not look at the outside of a person. I look at the inside of a person. I look at the heart.”



The prophet Samuel met all of David's brothers. He asked Jesse if he had any other sons and David was sent for. As soon as he saw David, the Lord said to Samuel, "This is the one, anoint him."



The people of Israel were quite concerned about their ruler, and some of them felt that music might make the king feel more like himself again.



Someone suggested David, the son of Jesse, who was known to make beautiful music on his harp. David was a shepherd boy, and much of his boyhood life was spent out in the fields, caring for his father's sheep.



David was brought before the king and sure enough, when David played on his harp, the evil spirit left King Saul and a feeling of peace came over him.



The Bible tells us that Saul was refreshed and was well again. David became a great favorite in the court of the king.



David was also pleasing in the sight of God because he trusted in God, and sincerely believed if God was with him no man could stand against him.



**Remember the story of David and Goliath...
...how the giant from the Philistine army
dared anyone from the land of Israel to
come out and fight with him?**



**And how David went out to meet that giant,
armed with only a slingshot and his faith in
God?**



The Bible tells us he took five smooth stones from a brook and put one of them in his sling.....and sent the stone whirling through the air.



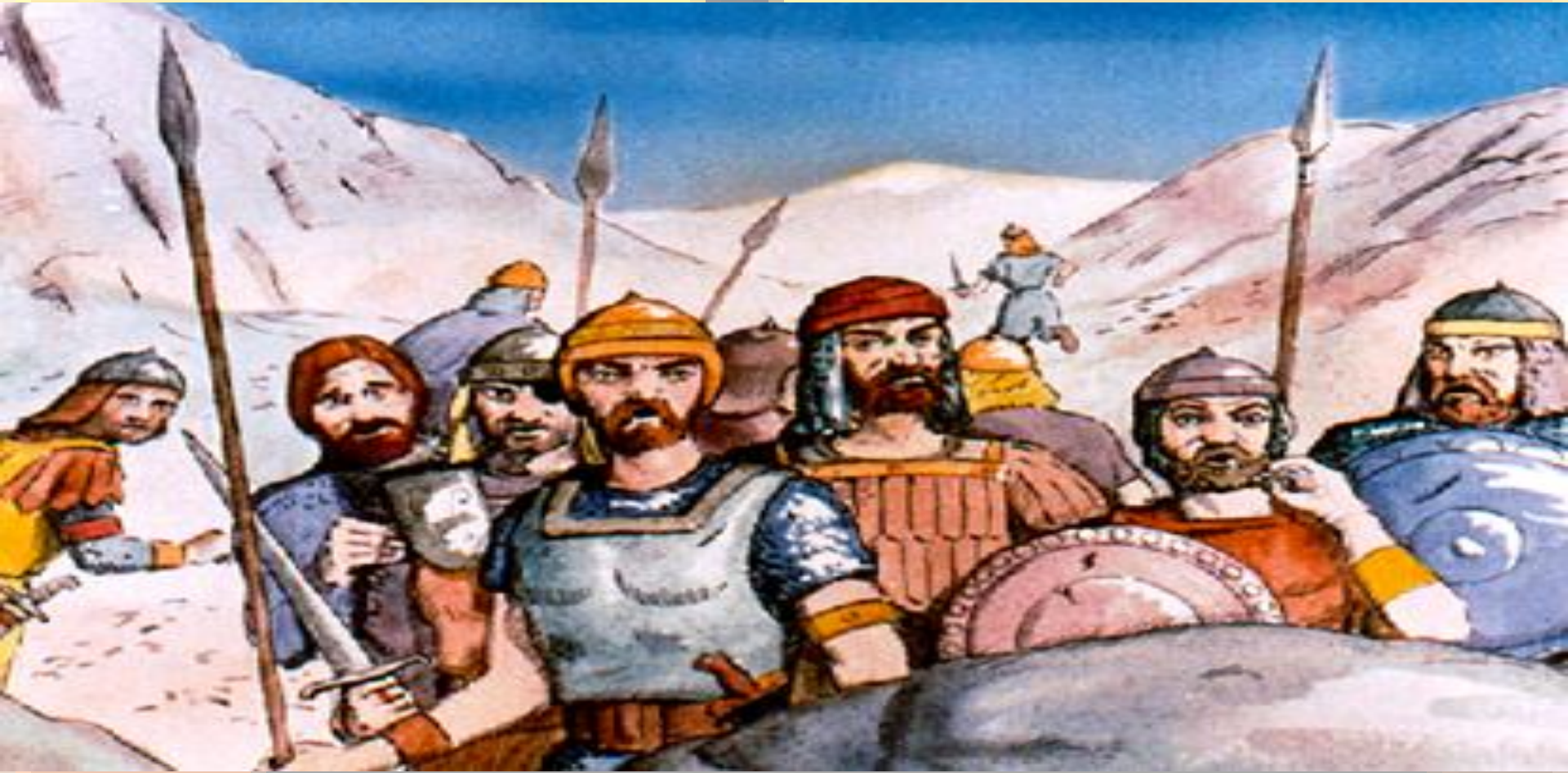
The stone hit the giant right in the middle of the forehead.



And the mighty Goliath, the pride of the Philistine army, fell to the earth and was slain.



The Philistines had been very confident of their victory over the Israelite nation, but now their champion was dead and they no longer wanted to fight.



Yes, David had won a great victory – not in his own strength, but in the strength of the Lord. And the people of Israel loved the shepherd boy for the service he had done to his country.



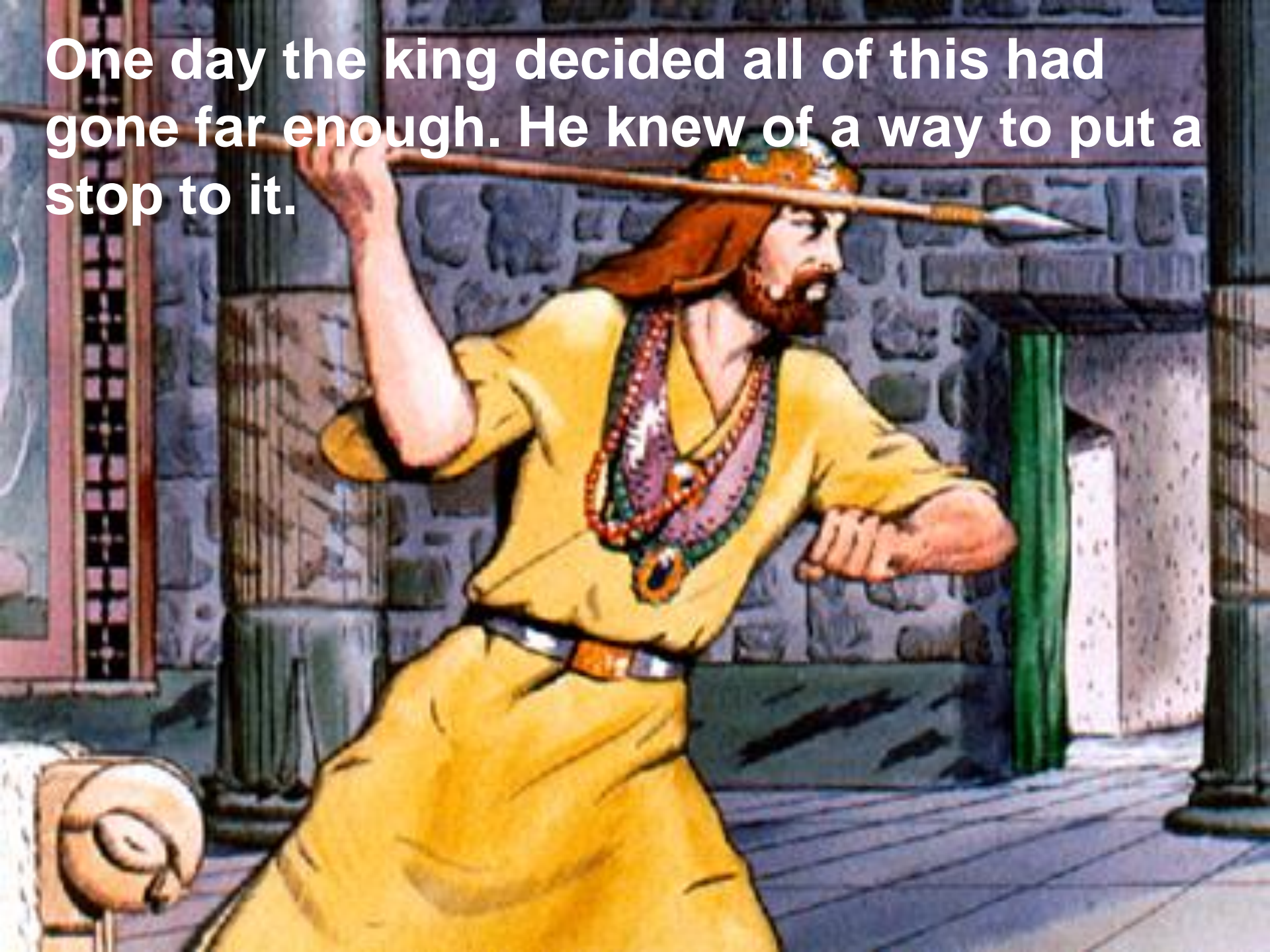
But King Saul was unhappy about David being so highly praised. He was jealous of such popularity, and the more the king thought about it, the more angry he became.



The beautiful music was no longer a source of comfort to the king. His heart was filled with hate.



One day the king decided all of this had gone far enough. He knew of a way to put a stop to it.



And David narrowly escaped death when Saul hurled his spear at him with all of his might. Realizing now that King Saul hated him enough to kill him, David knew he must run for his life.



**And he fled from the presence of the king
before the guards could be told to stop
him.**



But where? Where could David go to escape the ruler of the land?



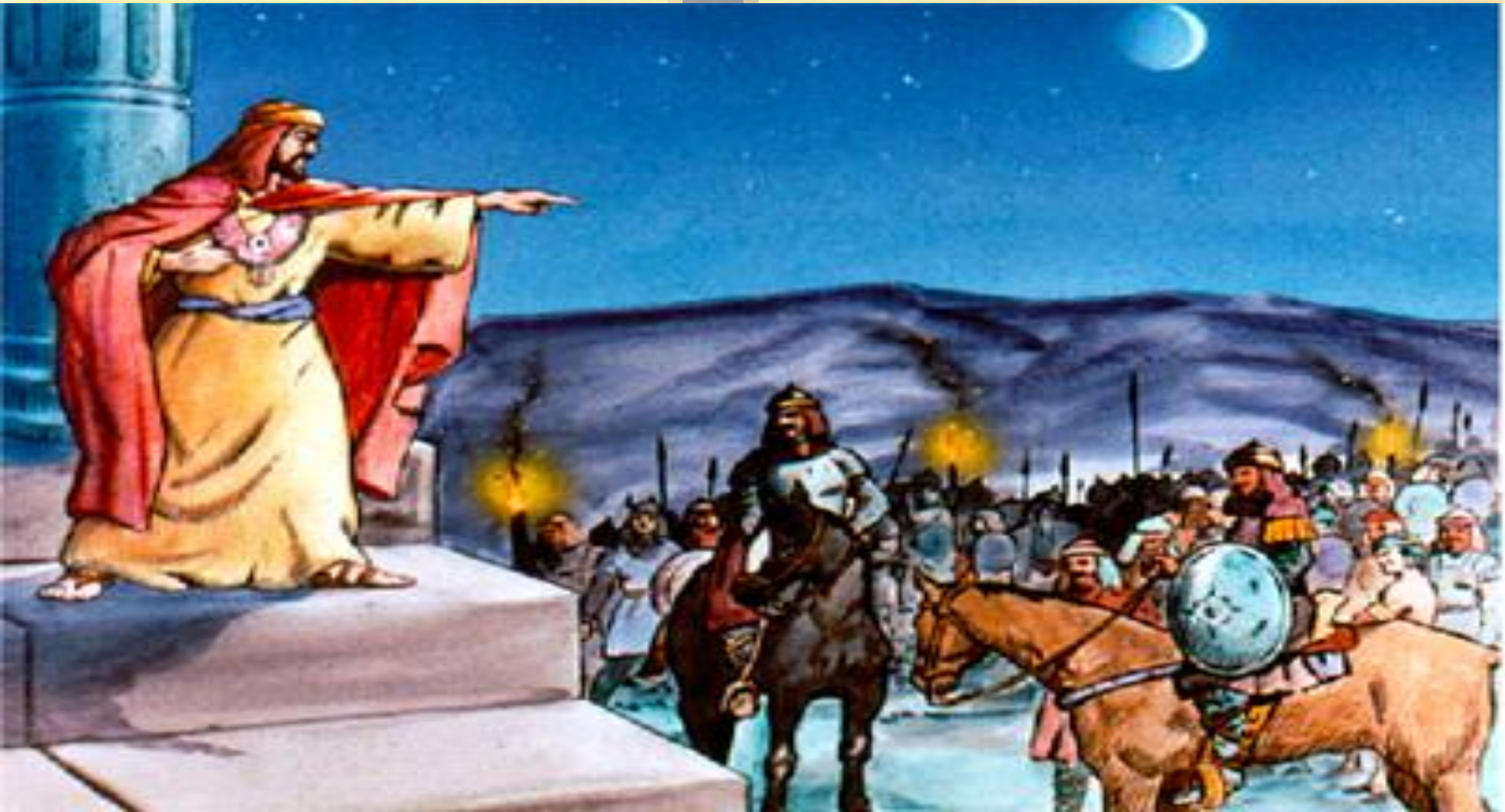
The wilderness (bushes) might not have appealed to some people, but to a shepherd boy that was the place to go.



**And together with a few of his loyal friends,
David hid from the king in a cave in a
hillside.**



But King Saul had made up his mind that David would have to be slain, and preparations were soon being made to track the shepherd boy down.



But finding David proved to be more than the king could do, and he returned to the palace empty handed.



When the danger of the moment was past, David fell on his knees to thank God for protecting him. And he asked his heavenly Father to guide and direct him in the days that were to follow.



God told David to make certain preparations to form a little army.



And David did as God had told him to do. He gathered together 600 men. The men were all sizes and shapes, and dressed in all kinds of armor.



No one would ever have guessed that these men could stand against the army of King Saul. Saul's army was well-armored and highly trained. And the king's army far outnumbered David's 600 men.



And Saul felt sure of victory as he viewed his troops. All the odds were in his favor. This time, David would not get away.



But in order to defeat an enemy, you must find him. And the king was having great difficulty doing that very thing.



After a while the king was tired, and he wanted to rest.



And he chose a cave to sleep in the very cave that David and his men were hiding in. Imagine such a thing! The king walked right into their hiding place! The king was very tired, and before long he was sound asleep.



Little did the ruler realize that David and his men were watching him. What an opportunity for them! Here was their enemy lying helpless at their feet.



David's men eagerly anticipated what was about to take place.



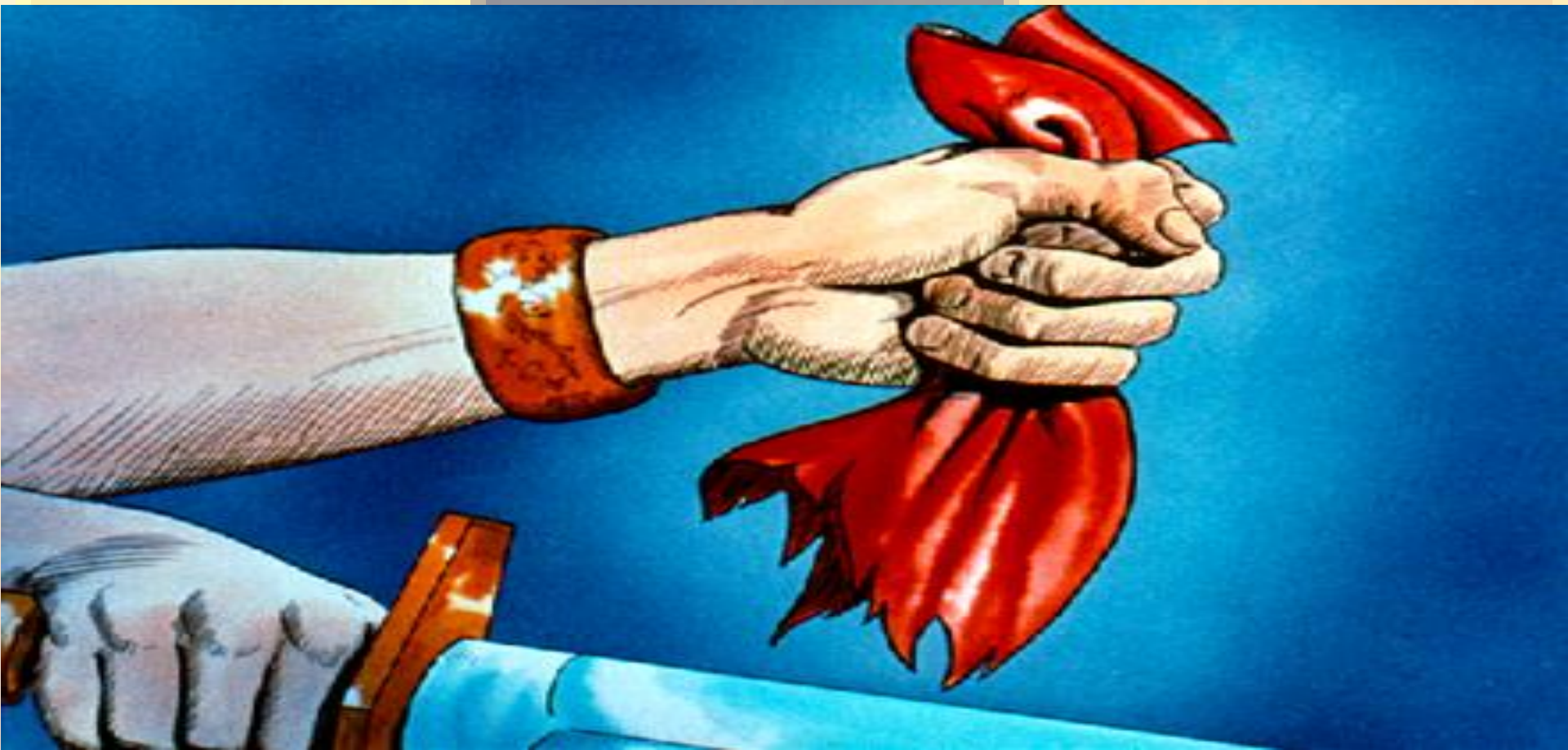
They looked to their leader, who was already drawing his sword.



It was only right that the honor of killing Saul would be his.



But to the amazement of his men, instead of killing Saul, David simply cut off a part of Saul's robe. David didn't want to kill Saul, but he did want the king to know that his life had been spared.



In 1 Samuel 24: 8 David said the following.

Then David went out of the cave and called out to Saul, “My lord the king!” When Saul looked behind him, David bowed down and prostrated himself with his face to the ground. He said to Saul, “Why do you listen when men say, ‘David is bent on harming you’? This day you have seen with your own eyes how the LORD delivered you into my hands in the cave. Some urged me to kill you, but I spared you; I said, ‘**I will not lay my hand on my lord, because he is the LORD’s anointed (Chosen).**’ See, my father, look at this piece of your robe in my hand! I cut off the corner of your robe but did not kill you. See that there is nothing in my hand to indicate that I am guilty of wrongdoing or rebellion. I have not wronged you, but you are hunting me down to take my life.

**“Against whom has the king of Israel come out?
Who are you pursuing?
A dead dog? A flea?
May the LORD be our judge and decide between
us.**

**David considered himself as a dead dog.
Do you know that a dog in Israel symbolizes the
lowest of the low? This is how humble our father
David was. He truly believed that all power
belongs only to God.**

**So never ever rely on ourselves. If God
gives us grace or power, we should never boast
about it but just say that it is God who made it
possible.**

This story teaches us that our leaders are chosen by God.

If the leaders turned out to be bad like King Saul in this case, our role as Christians is to pray for them so they can turn from their bad ways and leave the judgment only to GOD.

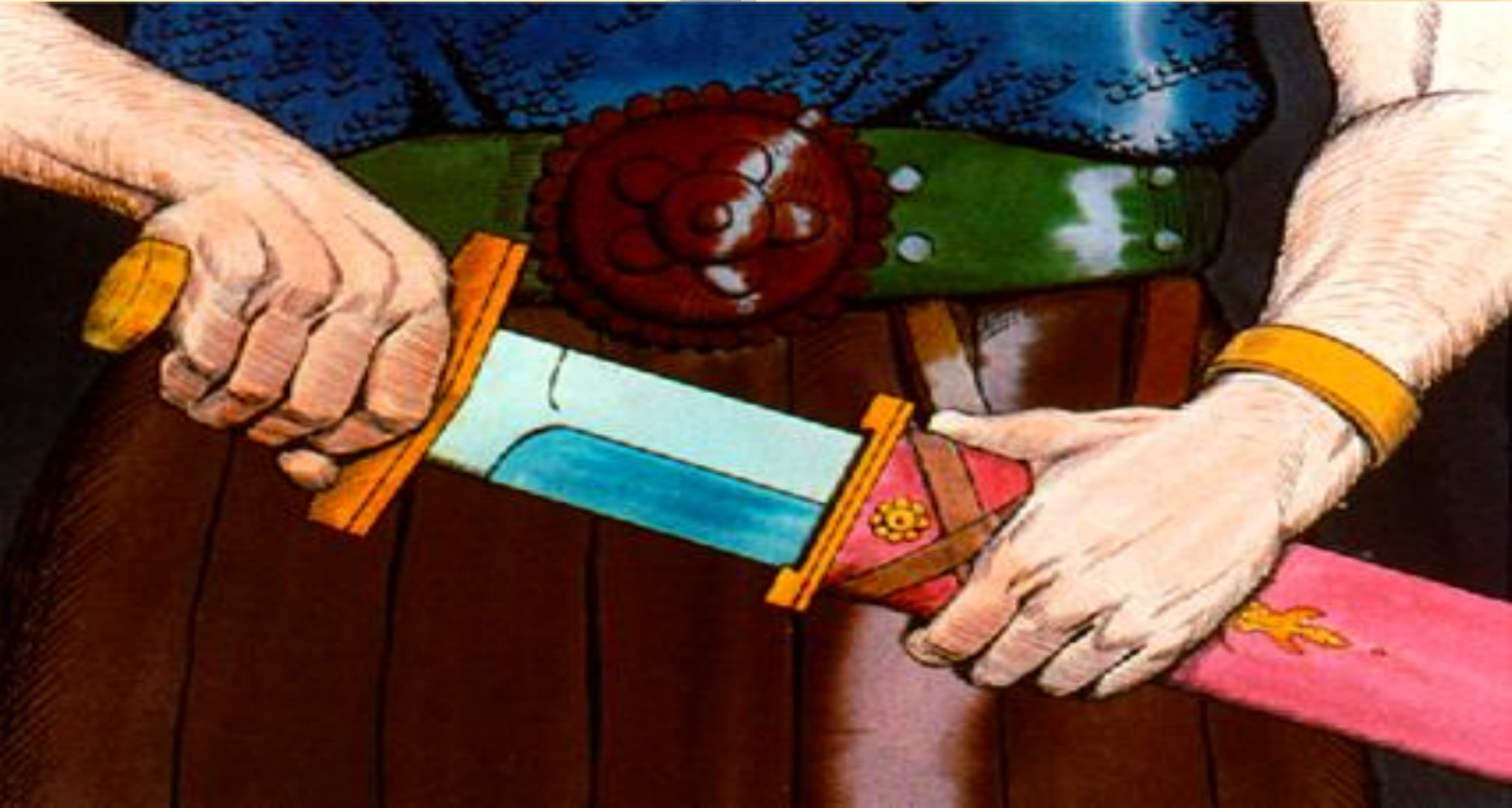
On another occasion, David's men informed him that Saul and his men were sleeping by an open campfire.



And this time, they begged their leader to kill the wicked king. David searched his heart to know what the Lord would have him do.



One of David's men started to handle the matter himself. He knew what to do, even if his leader didn't. But David stopped him, saying the king must not be slain.



Instead of killing the king, David wanted Saul to know that once again his life had been spared.



The king's own spear and his water jug were taken so the king would know someone had been there.





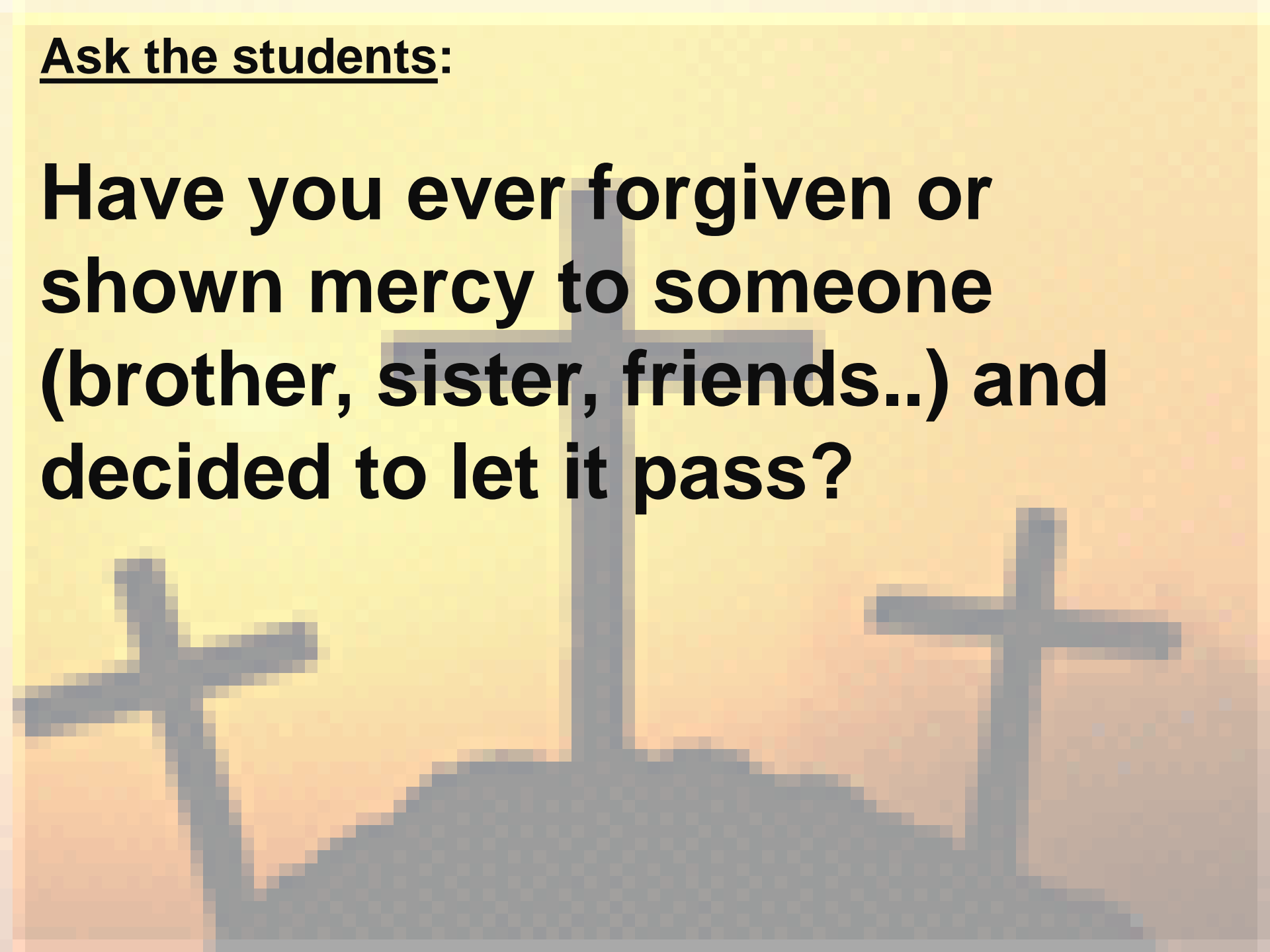
When King Saul and his men awakened from the deep sleep God had caused to fall upon them, they heard the shouts of David's men.

Across the way, they saw David and his men mocking the king with the king's own spear and his water jug.



Ask the students:

Have you ever forgiven or shown mercy to someone (brother, sister, friends..) and decided to let it pass?

The background of the slide features a soft, warm-toned sunset or sunrise sky in shades of orange and yellow. In the foreground, there are several large, dark grey crosses of varying heights and orientations, set against a blurred landscape that appears to be a field or a cemetery. The overall mood is contemplative and serene.

Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior died for us and took away our sins when we are the worst sinners and calls us to forgive others as He did.



Saul was humiliated. What a soldier he had turned out to be! Once again, David could have killed him.



But David had done what he felt the Lord would have him do.



And we read in the book of Psalms how David felt in his heart.

Psalm 121: 1-2

- 1 I will lift up my eyes to the hills—
From where comes my help?**
- 2 My help comes from the LORD,
Who made heaven and earth.**

In this song, David testify that our help comes from the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Conclusion



- God has plans for each us. That plan will only work for our good if we always have a relationship with God.
- When we leave God out of our lives and rely on ourselves, it will not be long before we start to have trouble like king Saul.
- On the other, we should always have God before our eyes like David and rely on Him and trust that He has our best interest in good and bad times.

Conclusion

- **David was merciful to Saul 2 times. We should also be merciful to our friends just as Jesus Christ forgave us our sins.**
- **We say Lord have mercy in the Kidasse (Divine Liturgy) many times. It would be meaningless to say it if we don't practice what we say with our brothers and sisters.**



Pop Quiz

1. What foolish thing did King Saul do?
 - a) He refused to fight the Philistines.
 - b) He turned his back on God.

2. What helped Saul whenever the evil spirit tormented him?
 - a) David playing beautiful music on his harp.
 - b) Taking medicine and lying down for a while.

3. David believed that if God was with him no man could stand against him.
 - a) True.
 - b) False.



Pop Quiz

4. David defeated the giant Goliath
 - a) with good armour and a sharp sword.
 - b) with a slingshot, a stone, and his faith in God.

5. King Saul became jealous of David because
 - a) David became very rich.
 - b) the people of Israel loved him and praised him.

6. On one occasion King Saul tried to kill David by throwing his spear at him.
 - a) True.
 - b) False.

? Pop Quiz

7. Where did David go to escape from King Saul?
 - a) The wilderness.
 - b) The city of Damascus.
8. David gathered an army of 3000 men to stand against the army of King Saul.
 - a) True.
 - b) False.
9. Instead of killing Saul when he came into their cave, David just cut off a part of Saul's robe.
 - a) True.
 - b) False.
10. Even though David had another chance to kill Saul he didn't do it because
 - a) Saul was too strong for him.
 - b) David only wanted to do what he felt the Lord would have him do.

Movie Clip

Show a short movie clip about the story, if available.



The End

Next Week
David the King.



3 things we all can do to strengthen our relationship with God

1. Read the Holy Bible daily preferably when we get up in the morning. 5 minutes to start.
2. Partake Holy Communion regularly.
3. Remember God throughout the day. We can repeat short prayer such as “Lord Jesus Christ have mercy on me.”

JESUS CHRIST

- “For there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved” (Acts 4:12)





*“And you shall know
the truth, and the
truth shall make you
free.” John 8:32*

Any question?

Close with prayer.

