

COVENANT

AN INVITATION TO A RICHER
RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

Sunday School | Winter 2025-2026

LESSON 01 - DAVID AND GOLIATH

DECEMBER 07, 2025

1 Samuel 16–17

FOCUS VERSES

1 Samuel 16:1, 13

¹And the Lord said unto Samuel, How long wilt thou mourn for Saul, seeing I have rejected him from reigning over Israel? fill thine horn with oil, and go, I will send thee to Jesse the Beth-lehemite: for I have provided me a king among his sons.

.....

¹³Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the midst of his brethren: and the Spirit of the Lord came upon David from that day forward. So Samuel rose up, and went to Ramah.

TRUTH ABOUT COVENANT

Jesus is the Son of David, fulfilling the covenantal promises spoken to David.

MY RESPONSE TO COVENANT

I am who God says I am.

COVENANT CONTEXT

At the end of last quarter, we saw how King Saul's pride and rebellion eventually cost him the throne. As we continue through the Historical Books of the Bible, we discover God was already establishing His new covenant with David. God kept His promise that David would always have a descendant on the throne through the man Christ Jesus, who was heralded in the New Testament as the son of David.

I. GOD'S NEW PLAN OF REDEMPTION

DISCUSS: *Why is it difficult for us to understand God sees the past, present, and future at the same time?*

- A. Samuel's Trip to Jesse's House
- B. Overlooked - **DISCUSS:** What must it have felt like to be overlooked when Samuel came? What must it have felt like to be anointed king anyway?
- C. I will keep my heart humble so God can call me to great things for His glory.

II. DAVID DEFEATED GOLIATH

- A. David's Anointing
- B. David's Run to the Battlefield

C. I will trust God to walk with me as I face my enemies.

How can we choose faith over fear and trust God to defeat our “Goliaths”?

III. JESUS IS THE SON OF DAVID

A. God’s Covenant with David

DISCUSS: *Recall a time when you thought God had not kept His promise. How did He show you His faithfulness?*

B. The Son of David

C. As Jesus calls and empowers me, I will declare His new covenant.

What will you do today to tell others about the Son of David, Jesus Christ, who still rules and reigns in the hearts of His people?

LESSON 02 - KING DAVID

DECEMBER 14, 2025

LESSON TEXT

I Samuel 19–II Samuel 2; I Chronicles 10–11:3

FOCUS VERSES

1 Samuel 24:4–6

4And the men of David said unto him, Behold the day of which the LORD said unto thee, Behold, I will deliver thine enemy into thine hand, that thou mayest do to him as it shall seem good unto thee. Then David arose, and cut off the skirt of Saul's robe privily.

5And it came to pass afterward, that David's heart smote him, because he had cut off Saul's skirt.

6And he said unto his men, The LORD forbid that I should do this thing unto my master, the LORD's anointed, to stretch forth mine hand against him, seeing he is the anointed of the LORD.

TRUTH ABOUT COVENANT

God always keeps covenant, although He fulfills it in His time.

MY RESPONSE TO COVENANT - I will be faithful as I wait for Jesus to fulfill his promises.

COVENANT CONTEXT

David was the rightful heir to Saul as king of Israel, but he did not reign right away. Nearly fifteen years passed between the time David was anointed and the time he was crowned. During the waiting, God was carrying out His plan for David's life and preparing him for the throne. Today we can encourage students that God's covenant promises have no expiration date.

TEACHING OUTLINE

I. SAUL'S JEALOUSY INTENSIFIED

A. David's Wait for the Throne

DISCUSS: *Why is it so hard to wait on God's timing sometimes? How can we better learn to wait?*

B. Saul's Attempts to Kill David

DISCUSS: *What do you think God was working in David during his long wait? What is God working in you while you wait on His timing?*

C. I will trust God while I wait on His timing.

II. DAVID SPARED SAUL'S LIFE

A. David on the Run

If you have ever tried to force God's timing, how did it turn out?

B. David's Mercy Toward Saul

C. I will be cautious when becoming critical of spiritual leadership.

How can we follow God-ordained spiritual leadership and remember every leader is also human?

III. DAVID WAITED FOR GOD'S TIMING

A. Saul's Death in Battle

B. David's Tearful Response

C. God will do what He says in His perfect timing.

What are you still waiting for God to bring to pass?

Why is it so hard to wait on God's timing sometimes? How can we better learn to wait?

What do you think God was working in David during his long wait? What is God working in you while you wait on His timing?

If you have ever tried to force God's timing, how did it turn out?

How can we follow God-ordained spiritual leadership and remember every leader is also human?

What are you still waiting for God to bring to pass?

LESSON 03 - SOLOMAN'S WISDOM

DECEMBER 21, 2025

LESSON TEXT

1 Kings 3:11;
2 Chronicles 1:9

FOCUS VERSES

1 Kings 3:11-12

¹¹And God said unto him, Because thou hast asked this thing, and hast not asked for thyself long life; neither hast asked riches for thyself, nor hast asked the life of thine enemies; but hast asked for thyself understanding to discern judgment;

¹²Behold, I have done according to thy words: lo, I have given thee a wise and an understanding heart; so that there was none like thee before thee, neither after thee shall any arise like unto thee.

TRUTH ABOUT COVENANT - GOD BLESSED SOLOMON AS LONG AS HE LIVED IN COVENANT WITH GOD.

MY RESPONSE TO COVENANT - As I pray for wisdom, I will seek God's covenant in every area of my life.

I. SOLOMON PRAYED FOR WISDOM

A. Solomon's Prayer

When you feel unequal to a task, what do you do?

B. God's Answer

C. If we trust God and seek His wisdom, He will bless us.

How important is your prayer time to you? When do you have it?

II. SOLOMON BUILT THE TEMPLE

How do you reach out for others' help and not feel threatened by their strengths?

A. Israel in the Promised Land

B. The Dedication of the Temple

C. I will pray to continually live in covenant with God.

III. SOLOMON STRAYED FROM COVENANT

A. Solomon's Disregard

Are you surprised by Solomon's sharp decline spiritually? How do we avoid the same trap?

B. God's Covenant with Jeroboam

C. Wisdom alone is not enough; I must have a heart that continually seeks after God.

When you feel unequal to a task, what do you do?

LESSON 04 – THE KINGDOM DIVIDED

DECEMBER 28, 2025

LESSON TEXT

I Kings 11–25; II Chronicles 10–36

FOCUS VERSES

Ezekiel 37:15–17

¹⁵The word of the LORD came again unto me, saying,

¹⁶Moreover, thou son of man, take thee one stick, and write upon it, For Judah, and for the children of Israel his companions: then take another stick, and write upon it, For Joseph, the stick of Ephraim, and for all the house of Israel his companions:

¹⁷And join them one to another into one stick; and they shall become one in thine hand.

TRUTH ABOUT COVENANT - EVEN THOUGH ISRAEL DIVIDED, GOD DID NOT GIVE UP ON THEM.

MY RESPONSE TO COVENANT - I will serve God with singleness of heart.

I. THE TWO SOUTHERN TRIBES OF JUDAH

- A. King Rehoboam
- B. Rehoboam's Reign
- B. God kept His covenant to David, although not as God intended.

Whom do you ask for advice? Are they helping you grow closer to God or further from Him?

II. THE TEN NORTHERN TRIBES OF ISRAEL

- A. King Jeroboam
- B. Jeroboam's High Places

Although the golden calves were intended for Israel to worship the Lord, why did God have a problem with them?

- C. God's Mercy
- D. I will rely on God's mercy to reveal to me the error of my ways.

What might be a “golden calf” in your life that you need to repent of? Are you willing to repent and give it to God?

III. THE FALL OF BOTH NATIONS

A. The Fall of Israel

B. The Fall of Judah

How can we better learn from others' mistakes so we don't have to make them?

C. God's Covenant to the Whole World

D. I will trust God to use even my failures for His glory.

What division do you need to mend with God or others? How can you do so?

LESSON 05 – THE PROPHET
JANUARY 04, 2026

LESSON TEXT

Jonah 1–4

FOCUS VERSE

Jonah 4:11

And should not I spare Nineveh, that great city, wherein are more than sixscore thousand persons that cannot discern between their right hand and their left hand; and also much cattle?

TRUTH ABOUT COVENANT - GOD WILL HAVE MERCY ON WHOM HE WILL HAVE MERCY.

MY RESPONSE TO COVENANT - I will rejoice when God is merciful to others and to me.

I. JONAH THE PROPHET?

- A. Jonah Prophesied Revival
- B. Jonah's Reluctant Prophecy
- C. I will overcome reluctance through obedience to God.

Why are we sometimes reluctant concerning an assignment God gives us?

II. JONAH THE REPENTANT PROPHET?

- A. Repentance or Remorse?
- B. Nineveh's Short-Lived Repentance
- C. I will turn to God with true repentance when I am disobedient.

How do you keep from feeling disqualified from God using you?

III. JONAH THE REJECTING PROPHET

- A. Jonah Rejected God's Mercy

What steps could you take to help you grant mercy to someone who has wronged you?

- B. Jonah Rejected God's Calling

DISCUSS: *What mission does God have for you to carry out? If you're not already obeying, what will you do today to obey?*

- C. I will live out my mission to share covenant with all who need mercy.

What actionable steps can you take to live out your mission of sharing God's mercy?

LESSON 06 – THE PROPHET ELIJAH

JANUARY 11, 2026

LESSON TEXT

1 Kings 18:19–24, 36–40

FOCUS VERSE

1 Kings 18:21

And Elijah came unto all the people, and said, How long halt ye between two opinions? if the LORD be God, follow him: but if Baal, then follow him. And the people answered him not a word.

TRUTH ABOUT COVENANT - GOD GIFTS US WITH PEOPLE TO CALL US BACK TO COVENANT.

TRUTH ABOUT COVENANT - I WILL HONOR GOD AS I HONOR THE PEOPLE HE PLACES IN MY LIFE.

COVENANT CONTEXT

During the dark days of the Divided Kingdom, the prophet Elijah lived as a Jehovah worshiper, even when the numbers seemed overwhelmingly stacked against him. His faithfulness to covenant often put him at odds with Israel's wicked kings but also inspired the Gospel writers to compare John the Baptist to him. This portion of covenant history shows that God was and is always calling us back to Him.

I. THE REIGN OF AHAB

A. An Era of False Worship

What does success look like to you? How can you ensure you are worshiping Jesus and pursuing Him?

B. An Era of False Prophecy

DISCUSS: *What sort of false spiritual speak are people believing today? Why do so many find these ideas attractive and convincing?*

C. I will inwardly resist the spirit of worldly compromise.

II. THE RISE OF ELIJAH

A. Elijah Stopped the Rain

B. Elijah Called Down Fire and Brought Rain

C. I will let my life display the power of God.

What do you think it would take to see a national revival in our world today like Elijah saw?

III. THE SPIRIT OF ELIJAH

- A. John the Baptist Confronted False Religion

DISCUSS: *What makes it so hard to lovingly tell someone a hard truth? How do we correctly speak the truth in love?*

- B. Jesus Confronted False Religion in His Day

- C. I will outwardly stand for truth in the face of compromise.

Why is it important for us to have spiritual leaders who, like Elijah, are not afraid to challenge and confront us with our shortcomings?

LESSON 07 – THE PROPHET EZEKIEL

JANUARY 18. 2026

LESSON TEXT

Ezekiel 36–37

FOCUS VERSES

Ezekiel 36:26–27

26 A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh.

27 And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them.

TRUTH ABOUT COVENANT - GOD IS FAITHFUL TO RESTORE HARDENED HEARTS.

MY RESPONCE TO COVENANT - *I will yield to God's Spirit in order to remain sensitive to Him.*

COVENANT CONTEXT

As we begin a study of Ezekiel, we move into the section of the Old Testament (Major and Minor Prophets) that records how God spoke to Israel to call them back to covenant. After being exiled to Babylon, Ezekiel prophesied to the Jews of their need to repent and renew their covenant with God. Although they were hundreds of miles away from their land and the Temple, God made a covenantal promise through Ezekiel that He would pour out His Spirit and everyone — not just those in Judea — would have access to His glory.

I. A PEOPLE IN EXILE

A. God Judged Wayward Judah

DISCUSS: *What are some of the drawbacks to our ability to travel to so many places so easily? How does that contribute to people's sense of "lostness" in our world?*

B. The Exiles' Hardened Hearts

C. I will take responsibility to obey God's commands.

Why do we find it easier to blame others than to take responsibility for our own actions?

II. A PROPHET IN EXILE

A. God's Glory

Where is the most unlikely place you have experienced the glory of God? What did that teach you about God's sovereignty?

- B. The People's Defilement
- C. I will live my life in a way that brings honor to God's name.

What can we do this week to glorify and honor God among our world?

III.A PEOPLE RESTORED

- A. The Promise of a New Heart
- B. Restored Only by the Power of the Spirit

Since the outpouring of God's Spirit at Pentecost, individual believers have become the temple where God's presence resides. What are the greatest benefits of God's presence in your life?

- C. I will yield to God's Spirit in order to remain sensitive to Him.

LESSON 08 – DANIEL AND HIS FRIENDS

JANUARY 25, 2026

LESSON TEXT

Daniel 1; 3; 6

FOCUS VERSE

Daniel 1:8

But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's meat, nor with the wine which he drank: therefore he requested of the prince of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself.

TRUTH ABOUT COVENANT - GOD WILL STAND WITH US AS WE STAND FOR HIM.

MY RESPONSE TO COVENANT - I will endeavor to live in covenant in community with my fellow believers.

COVENANT CONTEXT

While in Babylon, four of the young Hebrew exiles were tested to see if they would remain true to their covenant with God. Daniel and his three friends stood up for their faith and God stood with them. Through His faithfulness and power, God showed His people and the rest of the world that He alone is God.

I. FOUR FRIENDS IN BABYLON

A. The Pressures of Palace Life

If you were Daniel or one of his friends, what would you be thinking if your captors were asking you to live as they did?

B. The Friends' Decision to Resist the King's Meat

C. My decisions will be guided by God's purpose in my life.

II. THREE FRIENDS STOOD TOGETHER

A. The Pressure Increased

How do you think the three Hebrews' earlier decision around the king's meat influenced their decision to bow or be burned alive?

B. Their Resolve Increased

What does "but if not" mean to you? How do you reconcile living for God and worshiping Him even if He does not answer your prayers the way you expect?

C. I will bow in worship to God alone.

III.DANIEL STOOD ALONE

A. Daniel Did Not Escape the Pressure

How do you think Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah's experience refusing to bow impacted Daniel's decision to pray in the face of a death sentence?

B. Daniel Followed His Friends' Example

C. I will endeavor to live in covenant in community with fellow believers.

How can we foster closer community within our church and in the surrounding area we minister to?

LESSON 09 – MORDECAI AND ESTHER

FEBRUARY 01, 2026

LESSON TEXT

Esther 4:5–16

FOCUS VERSE

Esther 4:14

For if thou altogether holdest thy peace at this time, then shall there enlargement and deliverance arise to the Jews from another place; but thou and thy father's house shall be destroyed: and who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?

TRUTH ABOUT COVENANT - GOD IS PRESENT EVEN WHEN HE SEEMS ABSENT OR SILENT.

MY RESPONSE TO COVENANT - I will partner with God in faith to do what He calls me to do.

COVENANT CONTEXT

After the Medes and Persians conquered the Babylonians, a contingent of Hebrews remained in Persia. Among them was Mordecai and his young cousin, Hadassah. Again, God protected the Jews, even in a foreign land, and showed Himself faithful to His covenant people.

I. MORDECAI'S CHOICE TO REMAIN FAITHFUL

What are some ways parents can raise their children to honor their heritage, their faith, and their God?

- A. Mordecai Refused to Bow to Haman
- B. Haman's Threat
- C. No matter societal pressure, I will remain true to my covenant identity.

Have you ever felt pressure to compromise your identity as a covenant child of God? Explain.

II. ESTHER'S CHOICE TO GET INVOLVED

- A. Mordecai's Challenge

When was a time you recognized God had placed you in a particular situation for a specific purpose?

- B. Esther's Courage
- C. I will not stand by while those I love are destroyed by the power of sin.

III. LOOKING BACK ON THE STORY

A. The “Absent” God?

Share an instance when you looked back after a trial ended and saw how God’s hand had been at work in that difficult situation.

B. God’s Providential Plan

C. I will trust God is working even when I cannot see or hear Him.

How do you know God is working, especially when you do not see or hear Him?

LESSON 10 – JOHN THE BAPTIST

FEBRUARY 08, 2026

LESSON TEXT - MATTHEW 3:1–12

FOCUS VERSES

Malachi 4:5–6

5Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD:

6And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse.

.....

Matthew 3:8

Bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance.

TRUTH ABOUT COVENANT - GOD SENT JOHN TO CALL PEOPLE TO REPENT IN PREPARATION FOR THE MESSIAH.

MY RESPONSE TO COVENANT - I WILL PREPARE MY HEART THROUGH REPENTANCE.

COVENANT CONTEXT

As the Old Testament closed, the New Testament opened with a feeling of anticipation. Breaking four hundred years of silence from God, John the Baptist announced the kingdom of heaven was at hand and called for repentance. His role was to point to the Messiah who was about to extend a New Covenant to take away the sin of the world.

I. MALACHI'S FINAL WARNING

A. The Day of the Lord and the Coming of “Elijah”

How does God's final warning and call to repentance paint our view of Him?

B. The Long Silence

C. In difficult trials, I will remain faithful to what I believe about God and His purpose.

How do Paul's words in Romans 8:28 equip us to remain faithful in times of difficulty?

II. JOHN'S ARRIVAL

A. The Spirit of Elijah on John to Announce the Kingdom's Arrival

B. John's Message

C. I will prepare my heart through repentance and follow Jesus.

What does repentance look like for someone first coming to God?

III.JOHN'S DEPARTURE

- A. Jesus' Increase, John's Decrease

What makes John's humility so impressive? In what ways is this type of humility difficult?

- B. Jesus Declared John to Be the Greatest Prophet
- C. Following John's example, I will live my life to point to Jesus.

How can we make our lives about pointing to Jesus: where we decrease so Jesus Christ may increase?

LESSON 11 – THE INCARNATION

FEBRUARY 15, 2026

LESSON TEXT

Luke 2:25–38

FOCUS VERSE

Luke 1:35

And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.

TRUTH ABOUT COVENANT - THROUGH THE INCARNATION, GOD CAME TO BE IN COVENANT WITH US.

MY RESPONSE TO COVENANT - I will make my commitment to King Jesus the core of my identity.

COVENANT CONTEXT

Four thousand years of prophecies and practices have pointed to this moment: the Incarnation. God had come in human flesh. The coming of the Messiah was a common theme throughout the Old Testament and was fulfilled in Jesus' birth. His coming ushered in a New Covenant with God through the gospel, available to all humanity.

I. JESUS' BIRTH

- A. Jesus Born in Bethlehem as the Son of David

What do the circumstances of Christ's birth tell us about Him? As King, why would He come in such a way?

- B. Angels Declared Messiah Is Here

What do we learn about God when we see He chose to make His birth announcement to shepherds in a field?

- C. Like the shepherds, I will seek the Messiah.

Why do you think the angels' announcement warranted such a quick response?

II. JESUS' DEDICATION

- A. Faithful Observance of the Law and Formal Bestowal of a Name
- B. Simeon and Anna
- C. I will prayerfully await God's fulfillment of His promises.

Why is patience so important as it relates to God's promises?

III.MESSIAH HAS COME

A. The Glory of Israel and the Light of the Gentiles

B. The Redeemer and King

If you were Mary, how would you have responded to Simeon's announcement?

C. I will make my commitment to King Jesus the core of my identity.

LESSON 12 – JESUS IN THE WILDERNESS

FEBRUARY 22, 2026

LESSON TEXT

Luke 4; 7:18–23

FOCUS VERSES

Luke 4:17–19

¹⁷And there was delivered unto him the book of the prophet Esaias. And when he had opened the book, he found the place where it was written,

¹⁸The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised,

¹⁹To preach the acceptable year of the Lord.

TRUTH ABOUT COVENANT - JESUS IS THE FULFILLMENT OF THE COVENANT.

MY RESPONSE TO COVENANT - I will do my part to see the covenant fulfilled in my sphere of influence.

COVENANT CONTEXT

Now that God had come in flesh, Jesus faced every temptation we would face to show us it is possible to win against the devil and against our own human nature. Yet, people in His hometown did not believe He was who He said He was, so they rejected Him. Jesus set up His ministry outside of Nazareth, where He worked miracles signaling His rightful claim as the Savior.

I. JESUS IN THE WILDERNESS

- A. Jesus Overcame Every Temptation We Face
- B. Jesus Showed It Is Possible to Win in the Wilderness

How does Jesus' victory in the wilderness give you personal confidence to win your battles against temptation?

- C. Through God's grace, I will win in the wilderness.

II. JESUS IN THE SYNAGOGUE

- A. Jesus Claimed Isaiah 61 for Himself
- B. Jesus Was Glorified in Galilee, but Not in Nazareth

How can we be sure we don't presume to know all about Jesus and lose out on what He wants to do as the sovereign God of creation?

- C. I will believe Jesus is sovereign and can do whatever He pleases.

III. JOHN IN PRISON

- A. John Was in Prison for Telling the Truth
- B. John Questioned Jesus' Messianic Identity
- C. Jesus' Response Proved His Messianic Identity

What does Jesus' method of answering John tell us about how the Lord viewed His own ministry?

- D. I will do my part to see the covenant fulfilled in my sphere of influence.

What are some specific ways we can bring God's covenant promises to those in our sphere of influence?

LESSON 13 – JESUS’ SERMON ON THE MOUNT

MARCH 01, 2026

LESSON TEXT

Matthew 5:1–12

FOCUS VERSES

Matthew 5:6; 6:33

“Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.

.....

³³But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

TRUTH ABOUT COVENANT - JESUS REDEFINED COVENANT AS A LAW OF LOVE.

MY RESPONSE TO COVENANT - I will continue to cultivate a passion for Jesus and His righteousness.

COVENANT CONTEXT

In a similar manner as Moses, Jesus climbed a mountain and shared God’s covenant with His people. Much of His Sermon on the Mount centered around living in the kingdom of God, which pointed out our internal motives direct our external actions. At the end of His life, Jesus specifically pointed to the gospel as the new covenant He was offering humanity.

I. JESUS’ POPULARITY

- A. Jesus’ Growing Popularity
- B. Jesus’ Foundational Teaching

What is your favorite part of the Sermon on the Mount? What about the most challenging part?

- C. I will recognize the words of Jesus as God’s Word.

II. JESUS’ TEACHING

- A. Jesus’ Countercultural Teaching

How does a focus on the heart make “law keeping” more difficult yet more rewarding?

- B. Jesus’ Marvelous Teaching
- C. I will ask God to increase my desire for His righteousness.

How does Jesus’ desire for righteousness affect our view of what is truly important in following Jesus?

III. LOOKING TOWARD THE SPIRIT

- A. Jesus Pointed Forward to His New Covenant
- B. Walking in the Spirit

In what ways can we cultivate a stronger connection to God's Spirit daily?

- C. I will actively walk in the Spirit to live as Jesus taught.

How does Scripture specifically help us “walk in the Spirit”?