

THE STORY

King Saul saw how the people loved David after he had killed the giant Goliath. He became jealous and angry. So David and his men hid in the wilderness. Saul and his army troops camped near where David was. David asked, "Who will go down into the camp with me to Saul?"

"I'll go with you," said Abishai.

So David and Abishai went into the camp by night, and there was Saul, lying asleep inside with his spear stuck in the ground near his head. The soldiers were lying around him.

Abishai said to David, "Today God has delivered Saul into your hands. Now let me kill him."

But David said to Abishai, "Don't destroy him! Who can lay a hand on the LORD's anointed and be guiltless? Now get the spear and water jug that are near his head, and let's go."

So David took the spear and water jug near Saul's head, and they left. No one woke up or saw or knew about it. They were all sleeping, because the LORD had put them into a deep sleep.

Then David crossed over to the other side and stood on the top of the hill some distance away. He called out to Saul's army, "Why didn't you guard your king? Where is the king's spear and the water jug that were near his head?" Saul recognised David's voice and said, "Is that you, David?"

David replied, "Yes it is, O king." And he added, "Why are you trying to kill me? What wrong have I done? The LORD delivered you into my hands today, but I would not lay a hand on the LORD's anointed."

Then Saul said, "I have sinned. Because you considered my life precious today, I will not try to harm you again.

"Here is the king's spear," David answered. "Let one of your men come over and get it. The LORD rewards everyone for their righteousness and faithfulness."

Then Saul said to David, "May you be blessed, David; you will do great things."

David went on his way, and Saul and his army returned home.

FAITH AND FAMILY TIME

- Talk about the story picture and the children's activities. Read more about David and Saul in 1 Samuel 16-31, or in a Bible story book.
- Talk about how to settle arguments that occur within your family. Because God forgives us, we can forgive instead of being angry or holding grudges.
- Consider whether your family has a quarrel with anyone and discuss showing forgiveness to them and asking forgiveness from them.
- Pray together for people who give any family members a hard time (at school, at work etc.). Ask God to help you forgive as He has forgiven you.
- Talk about people in our land and in your community to whom God has given authority and to whom you therefore owe respect (eg government, judges, police, teachers). Discuss the need to forgive people in authority when they fail us.

A FAMILY PRAYER

Father in heaven, You do not treat us as we deserve, but because You love us You forgive us all our sins against You. Help us to show that we are truly Your children by forgiving other people in the same way You forgive us. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.



DAVID SPARES SAUL'S LIFE 1 Samuel 26

David showed forgiveness to King Saul.

Draw King Saul sleeping while they take the spear and water jug.



God can help us show forgiveness, too.

Here are the king's
and



I could have killed you,
Saul, but I didn't.



Bible Verse
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Matthew 6:12

The cross of Jesus

Look at Jesus on the cross.

People were unkind to Jesus, yet He was always kind. Even when Jesus was hurting on the cross, He asked God to forgive the people who put Him there. Jesus is always kind to everyone.



Wherever we see the cross of Jesus, at home or in church, we know Jesus forgives us, too.

Write T for True and F for False.

- ___ The people loved David after he had killed the giant.
- ___ David became jealous and angry.
- ___ Abishai went down into the camp with David.
- ___ Saul was asleep with his soldiers around him.
- ___ Abishai killed the sentries watching the king.
- ___ They took the sword and the beer jug near Saul's head.
- ___ The soldiers were asleep because they were drunk.
- ___ Abishai shouted, "Why didn't you guard your king?"
- ___ Saul said that he had sinned.
- ___ Saul promised not to harm David.
- ___ Saul and his army fought David.

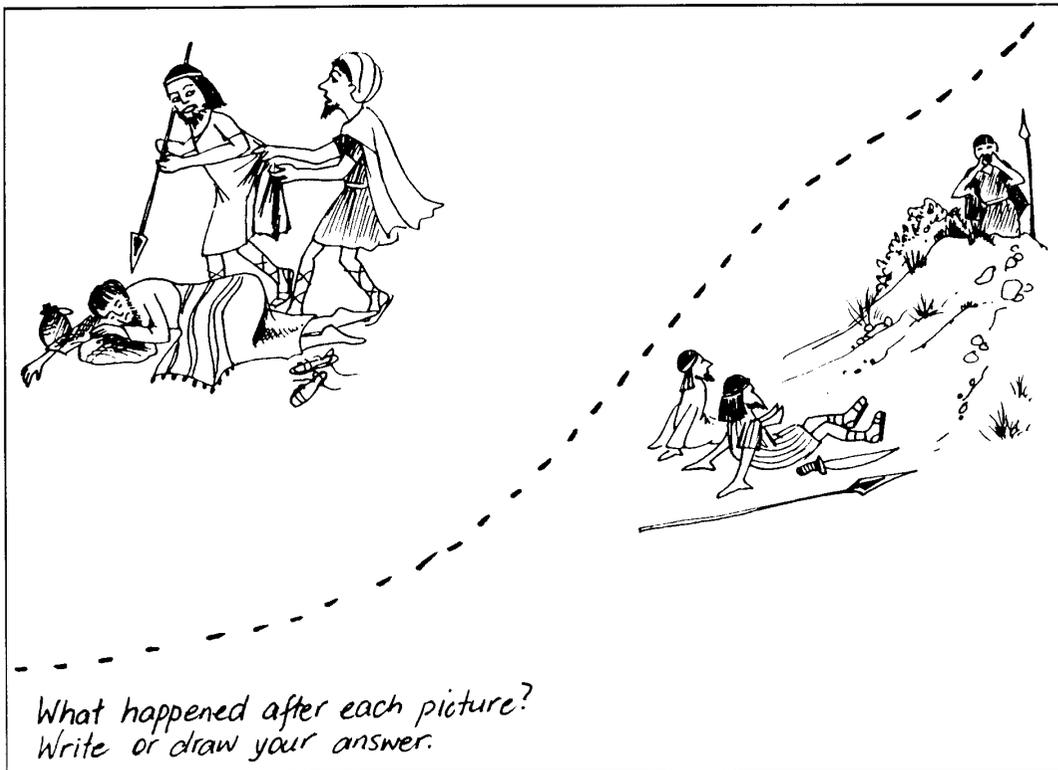


Bible Verse
Show respect to everyone...
fear God,
honour the king.
1 Peter 2:17

ABOUT THE BIBLE VERSE

Circle the middle line. This is the most important part of this verse. It is the reason for everything that we do.

Because Jesus is our Saviour, we come to God as our loving Father. We know He is God, He has all power, He knows what is best for us; so we show Him great respect, more than anyone else. We honour Him, more than anyone else. And because we fear God, more than anyone or anything else, we obey Him. *How does God want us to think about and treat other people?*



*What happened after each picture?
 Write or draw your answer.*

Honouring and respecting Authority
 David had a special reason for being kind to King Saul: David knew that God had made Saul the king. Even though Saul was not a good king, even though Saul was trying to hurt David, he was still the king God had chosen.
 God has put people in authority over us. *Who are these people?* Sometimes those in authority over us are unkind or unfair. *Does that mean that they are no longer in authority over us? Does that mean we should not obey them?*
 God wants us to honour and obey them because they are God's special servants. *Who helps us to do this? Why?*

Who said it?

Saul David Abishai people



_____ David is a greater soldier than Saul.

_____ I will kill David.

_____ Who will come to the king's camp with me?

_____ Now you can get even with Saul and kill him.

_____ No we must not kill Saul. God has made him king.

_____ Look Saul, here is your spear and water jug.

_____ Why are you trying to kill me?

_____ I am sorry. I won't try to hurt you again.



BIBLE VERSE
EVERYONE MUST
SUBMIT HIMSELF TO
THE GOVERNING
AUTHORITIES, FOR
THERE IS NO
AUTHORITY EXCEPT
THAT WHICH GOD
HAS ESTABLISHED.
ROMANS 13:1

Thinking about the story

In our story King Saul wanted to hurt and kill David.

How do you think this made David feel?

What are some ways that people can hurt you?

How does that make you feel?

How can you do good to these people when they hurt you?

It's hard to do good to people who hurt you.

How did Jesus do good to those people who hurt Him?

Why did Jesus do this?

How can you get help to do good to people who hurt you?



Find these words from the story in the wordsearch. The remaining letters make a word that God wants us to respect.

Honouring those in authority

God is in charge of all people and all things. But He puts some people in charge here on earth as His special servants or representatives, eg. parents, teachers, the government, police, pastors. These people should do their work conscientiously for God.

One way we can show our love and respect for God is by loving, respecting, serving and obeying the people he has placed in authority over us. This is what God wants us to do, as He says in the Commandment: **Honour your father and mother.**

We all sin against this commandment, but Jesus won forgiveness also for these sins.



Thinking about the Bible Verse



- What is authority?
- What does it mean to submit?
- What would the world be like if there was no authority?
- Why is it important for all people to respect the authorities God has placed over them?
- Read Acts 5:29. What is the only time we should disobey people in authority?

S	S	A	U	L	A	R	M	Y	R
K	O	A	U	M	G	H	S	W	E
I	T	L	R	H	O	I	L	A	S
N	O	A	D	C	D	E	T	P	
G	H	R	I	I	A	E	E	E	E
S	P	E	A	R	E	M	P	R	C
D	A	V	I	D	T	R	P	Y	T
E	N	E	M	Y	F	L	A	S	K

- ARMY
- CAMP
- DAVID
- ENEMY
- FLASK
- GOD
- HARM
- HIDE
- KING
- RESPECT
- SAUL
- SLEEP
- SOLDIER
- SPEAR
- WATER