

# Sunday School Family Sheet: The Good Neighbor

## Sunday, March 14, 2021

This sheet is for an adult member of the home to use as a guide for discussing the Sunday School Bible lesson with children.

**For this lesson:**

You will need either:

- 1) a Bible, or
- 2) 365 Bible Stories and Prayers

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*(Call the church office 9715-848-7286 for help getting one)*

1. **Read and Talk.** Read aloud 1 Samuel 8-10, 13-15 or pp. 112-117 in 365 Bible Stories and Prayers. Before reading aloud, share the following: “Israel for many years wanted a king. There was one problem: they already had one! God was their king! Yet God allows Israel to have a king: Saul. Saul started out okay but ended up becoming a not so good king. Saul stopped trusting in God and trusted more in himself. Because Saul stopped trusting in God he lost respect, both with the people of Israel and with God Himself.” Then ask the children to keep these questions in mind as you read. ***After reading, go over the answers and guide them towards the answers here:***
  - a. How did Saul meet Samuel, the prophet?  
*(He met him while looking for his father’s donkeys with another helper.)*
  - b. Samuel anointed Saul with oil and was declared a king. When Christians are anointed with oil, are we royalty too? *(We are anointed with oil after we are baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. This means we become God’s children, his princes or princess in the faith! Jesus is our King.)*
  - c. What did Jonathan do that made his father, Saul, angry? *(He ate food during a battle. He was very hungry as were all the warriors.)*
  - d. What happened to Saul? How was he a bad neighbor? *(Saul stopped caring about others because he stopped caring about God. Saul wanted more and more stuff. He wanted less and less of God.)*
2. **Teach.** After you’ve talked a bit, share these or similar thoughts: Even the best person can make terrible mistakes. We see this with Saul. He started out as a good king. However, the power and the money got to his head. Saul became all about Saul. He stopped being all about God. Because of this his people suffered. Thanks be to God, Jonathan was saved from Saul’s bad ways. Jonathan will later become very important to David, the next king. They would become best friends. In the end, Saul had no one because he was not kind and not a good neighbor, and certainly not a good king.
3. **Pray.** Have the children cross themselves and say, “In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” Also, lead them in this prayer: “Dear God, we thank you for people who lead our city, state, and country. Help them to believe in you and help us all to be good neighbors, whether we are kings or just ordinary people. You have baptized us and made us extraordinary in Jesus Christ, our true King. Amen.”