

# D6 EveryDay™ Parent Page

Date | **October 17, 2021** Family Theme | **Consequences of Disobedience** Study Text | **1 Samuel 13:1-23**

**Objective:** Children understand obedience is always the best choice and commit to obey the Lord in every area of life, no matter the circumstances.

**How This Lesson Fits in the Story of the Bible:** This lesson is set around 1030 BC during Saul's reign as king of Israel. Saul's disobedience resulted in God giving the kingdom to another man (David) to lead His people.

**Bible Basics:** Memorize 1 John 1:9 this week and work with family members to do so as well.

## Read the Word: 1 Samuel 13:1-23

## Disciple Your Kids

Talk with your children and grandchildren about why obeying God is always best for us. Encourage them to obey what God says this week.



### **Key Truth: Both Obedience and Disobedience Result in Consequences (1 Samuel 13:1-7, 13-14)**

Philistines occupied much of the land. After Jonathan attacked a Philistine outpost, the Philistines mustered a large force to punish Israel. Seeing the large enemy deployment, many of Saul's soldiers drifted away. They sought protection in caves and even on the other side of the Jordan River. They were trembling with fear. Saul acted unwisely, breaking a command of the Lord, and God rejected Saul (verses 13-14). He would not become the head of a long royal line. In fact, God had already chosen a replacement to lead the people. Israel's choices, and Saul's, were like stones thrown into a calm pond. Ripples of results radiated across history. Both obedience and disobedience produce consequences far beyond the moment in which our choices are made.



### **Key Truth: Our Decisions Should Be Driven by God's Word, Not by Our Circumstances (1 Samuel 13:8-12)**

Samuel had indicated to Saul that he would join him in a week to offer sacrifices to God, to ask for God's favor in their struggle against the Philistines. During the wait, Saul grew impatient. On the seventh day he could wait no longer and ordered the material for sacrifice. As the ceremony drew to a close, Samuel arrived. He demanded an explanation from Saul, who gave excuses for taking things into his own hands. Saul's hasty decision made the difference between God's protection and His rejection. Impatience was not Saul's only problem. He was of weak faith, thinking disaster was certain. He forgot God's deliverance of Israel multiple times in the past. He focused entirely on the danger he perceived. He fell into fear, instead of fighting in faith.



### **Key Truth: Bad Decisions Lead to Difficult Circumstances (1 Samuel 13:15-23)**

Saul and Jonathan combined their forces in Gibeah, where Samuel had gone, while the Philistines were at Michmash. The Philistines had enough troops to cut off any expeditions by the Israelites, no matter which direction they went. The Philistines' occupation of the terrain put Israel at a disadvantage, even if both parties had been equally armed, which they were not. Israel had no iron weapons to counter those of the Philistines. They had some iron farm implements, but not weapons. The technology gap was so great that the Israelites lacked even the resources to sharpen their own tools. They had to pay high prices to the Philistines even for that. So as the time for battle approached, only the king and his son had actual weapons with them.

## Discussion Starters

Use one or more of the following questions as discussion starters with your kids this week.

- Why is it important for children to obey their parents?
- Why is it important for people in general to obey those in authority over them?
- Why is it important for believers to obey God?
- How might disobedience have a ripple effect in our lives? What are some examples?
- How might obedience have a ripple effect in our lives? What are some examples?
- In general, what does obedience to God lead to in our lives?
- In what area do you need to take steps this week to obey God? What, specifically, do you need to do?
- **For Elementary:** What is one thing you learned from King Saul's disobedience?
- **For Elementary:** Why is it important for believers to obey God?

## Everyday Extras

Roleplay some scenarios about what happens when children disobey. You can adjust these to the ages of your children, but set up some circumstances and follow the consequences of not making the right choices. You could make the stories quite extreme, determining worst case scenarios as a succession of bad choices adds up. Remind your children that disobeying God always has consequences, even if we don't see them immediately. Sin separates us from God and always displeases Him; that is a severe consequence all on its own!

Play a game of Simon Says with your children to show them how we need to be careful to obey. The consequence of their "disobedience" is that they are out and don't get to play anymore.

## Preschool Highlights for &

Today your child learned the Philistines wanted to fight God's people, the Israelites. The Philistines had a strong, nine-foot-tall, champion fighter named Goliath. King Saul and the Israelites were afraid of Goliath. They needed to be brave and trust God. Being brave is doing something even when you're afraid. **God Helps Me Be Brave.**