

## **House of David**

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## **House of David**

The story of David is one that is infamous and a legendary part of the Old Testament. Stories of his life are taught to kids in Sunday school like the battle of David versus Goliath. The conquer of the giant by the little guy is a metaphor that is used by all, including non-Christians. It is a story even those who are not believers know about. David was considered a great warrior, king and called a Man after God's heart. He was a gifted musician, a poet and wrote many of the 150 Psalms. He is in the line of Judah and was a descendant of Jesus Christ. David was an amazing leader and king, but also a flawed individual who God was able to use. He made mistakes like committing adultery with Bathsheba, plotting the death of Uriah and acting in selfish ways. This gives us hope that as we are flawed, sinful humans, God can also use us to do wonderful things.

The story of David is found in the books of 1 & 2 Samuel. David also wrote many of the Psalms. We will be in these books as we dive into each of the episodes of The House of David show. The show starts each episode with a disclaimer that the story is based on the bible, but the writers did take some liberties in the characters and story line for entertainment purposes. That is why it is so important to compare the show to the bible, so you know what is biblical and what was an exaggeration or assumed based on the limited information the bible gives on some characters or events.

This study is designed to take you through each episode. We will dive into the scripture that was used to create the episode and reflect on the text and show. We will find what parts of the show are based on the bible, where the writers may have exaggerated some facts and what was made up for entertainment purposes. The best format to complete this study is to watch the episode and then complete the scripture readings and corresponding questions.

Before we get into the episodes, let's cover the background of some of the main characters so you can get up to speed on the time period and what is happening at the beginning of the show. We will specifically cover the following scripture in this season of House of David:

- 1 Samuel 8 – Israel demands a king
- 1 Samuel 9 – Saul chosen to be king
- 1 Samuel 10 – Saul anointed king
- 1 Samuel 14 – Saul's life
- 1 Samuel 15 – Saul's battles
- 1 Samuel 16 – David's anointing
- 1 Samuel 17 – David and Goliath

**Background on time period:** The book of Samuel is happening at a time that Israel shifts from being led by judges to a monarchy with the first king, King Saul. This book is set in ancient Israel, during a time when Israel was facing threats from the Philistines and Ammonites. The events in 1 Samuel take place over a period of about 110 years and covers the period roughly from 1100 BC to 1011BC.

The Philistine people are historical opponents of the Israelites. The Philistines are mentioned in Exodus 13:17 as being Israel's enemies at the time of Moses. Samson's wife Delilah was also a Philistine. As we see in 1 Samuel, there is animosity between the Israelites and Philistines.

## Main characters:



**Saul** – Saul was anointed as the first king by God through Samuel. He was from the tribe of Benjamin, tall in stature and handsome (1 Samuel 9:1-2). He was also a good warrior and originally loved by his people. He had a son named Jonathan who was a warrior with him. He has 3 sons and 2 daughters.



**David** – David was a shepherd boy from the line of Judah. His father is Jesse and he had 7 older brothers. He was a musician and poet. He became a great warrior and eventually king after Saul. He is famously known for defeating a giant, Goliath and committing adultery with Bathsheba. He loved God with all his heart. Also, one of his son's, Solomon, became king after he died.



**Jonathan** – Jonathan is a son of Saul. He was a great warrior who won many battles and also the best friend of David. In a typical royalty situation, Jonathan would have become king after Saul's death. Jonathan warns David of Saul's attempt to kill him and loves his friend dearly.



**Michal** – Michal is a princess as she is Saul's youngest daughter. She has three brothers and one older sister. She falls in love with David and Saul gives Michal to David in marriage.



**Samuel** – Samuel is a prophet who was born of Hannah. Hannah was barren for many years and prayed for a son. She dedicated Samuel to the Lord when he was born. Samuel studied under Eli. He heard from God and anointed both Saul as the first king and David as king.



**Goliath** – Goliath of Gath is a giant who fought against Israel. He is described as wearing a bronze helmet on his head and armed with a coat of mail. He had armor on his legs and a javelin of bronze slung between his shoulders. (1 Samuel 17:4-6) He fought against David; however, David wins against the giant with only a couple of rocks and a sling.



**Abner** – Abner is the commander of Saul's army.

The show revolves around a couple of families and it might be good to know them as you watch the show. It can be difficult to keep some people straight so hopefully these family trees help you to know who is related to whom. See the family trees below:

#### **House of Saul (1 Samuel 14:49-50)**

Saul & Ahinoam (wife)

Jonathan (son)

Ishvi (son)

Malchi-shua (son)

Merab (daughter)

Michal (daughter)

#### **House of Jesse (1 Samuel 16:6-12)**

Jesse

#1 Eliab

#2 Abinadab

#3 Shammah

#4 Unnamed Son

#5 Unnamed Son

#6 Unnamed Son

#7 Unnamed Son

#8 David

#### **House of Samuel (1 Samuel 8:2)**

Samuel

Joel (son)

Abijah (son)

## Episode 1: A Shepherd and King



### READ 1 SAMUEL 9 & 10 & 15

Read 1 Samuel 9 & 10 to learn more about Saul and 1 Samuel 15 as background to this episode.

In this episode, we get to meet all of the characters of the show. Saul enters the scene and we learn a bit more about his character. What did you learn about Saul in this episode?

We then meet David we see him with his sheep and a lion that is trying to kill the sheep. In the following scripture it is noted that David had to fight off lions and bears. 1 Samuel 17:34-35 (ESV) <sup>34</sup> But David said to Saul, “Your servant used to keep sheep for his father. And when there came a lion, or a bear, and took a lamb from the flock, <sup>35</sup> I went after him and struck him and delivered it out of his mouth. And if he arose against me I caught him by his beard and struck him and killed him.

- Why do you think this is included in scripture? What does it tell you about David?

We also meet Jonathan and his sister, Michal. It was quick, but there is also mention that Samuel did not have obedient sons. 1 Samuel 8:2-3 (ESV) <sup>2</sup> The name of his firstborn son was Joel, and the name of his second, Abijah; they were judges in Beersheba. <sup>3</sup> Yet his sons did not walk in his ways but turned aside after gain. They took bribes and perverted justice.

- What can you tell about Jonathan vs Samuel’s sons?

*This episode and chapter of scripture is about Saul’s disobedience. Keep the theme of obedience and disobedience in your mind as you complete the following exercises and questions.*

In this episode we see Samuel confronting Saul at the feast. Let’s dive into scripture to find out why Samuel and God were so mad at Saul.

- What did the Lord tell Saul to do as it relates to the Amalek? (See 1 Samuel 15:2-3.)

- What did Saul actually do? (See 1 Samuel 15:8-9)
- He also made a monument to himself. (See 1 Samuel 15:12.) Why do you think God was mad?

Read 1 Samuel 15:17-21. Why does Saul say he didn't kill all of the Amalekites? What was Saul's intentions with the goods he did not destroy?

Have you ever had good intentions, but it didn't work out as you planned? Would it have been better if you obeyed in the first place?

Toward the end of the episode, we see Samuel rebuke Saul for his wrongdoings and disobedience of the Lord.

1 Samuel 15:22 says (NLT) But Samuel replied, "What is more pleasing to the Lord; your burnt offering and sacrifices or your obedience to his voice? Listen! Obedience is better than sacrifice, and submission is better than offering the fat of rams."

- Are there any places in your life that God is calling you to obedience? Where might obedience be better for you than forgiveness later?

Samuel tells Saul in 1 Samuel 15:28-29 (ESV) <sup>28</sup> And Samuel said to him, "The Lord has torn the kingdom of Israel from you this day and has given it to a neighbor of yours, who is better than you. <sup>29</sup> And also the Glory of Israel will not lie or have regret, for he is not a man, that he should have regret."

- Who do you think this verse is talking about?

Samuel kills Agag the king of the Amalekites. 1 Samuel 15:33 (ESV) And Samuel said, “As your sword has made women childless, so shall your mother be childless among women.” And Samuel hacked Agag to pieces before the Lord in Gilgal.

- Sometimes when we are disobedient someone needs to help us clean up the mess. Samuel did this for Saul, and called out where he was being prideful and greedy. Do you have someone in your life that can help call out your disobedience? Who can help you be accountable to God’s obedience and spiritual growth?
- If you have someone who can help hold you accountable, talk to them and ask them to be that person for you. Being intentional in your spiritual growth and obedient to the Lord is important and not easy, having someone to help you is so important.

1 Samuel 16:14 (ESV) Now the spirit of the Lord departed from Saul, and a harmful spirit from the Lord tormented him.

- We will see more about this harmful spirit and Saul’s torment in the following episodes.

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*It is written in 1 Samuel 15:34-35 (ESV) <sup>34</sup> Then Samuel went to Ramah, and Saul went up to his house in Gibeah of Saul. <sup>35</sup> And Samuel did not see Saul again until the day of his death, but Samuel grieved over Saul. And the Lord regretted that he had made Saul king over Israel.*

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## Episode 2: Deep Calls to Deep

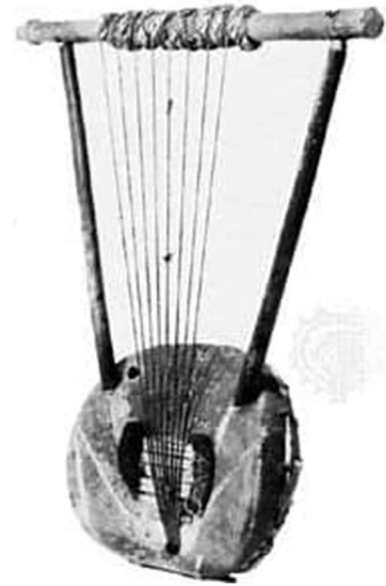
We learn a bit more about David in this episode. For example, that he has fought lions, won and that he plays the lyre.

As you can see in the show, the lyre is a type of harp. A lyre is a stringed musical instrument. It is characterized by a U-shaped frame with two arms and a crossbar. The strings of a lyre are plucked to play the instrument. The lyre's structure allows for a range of musical expressions, making it a significant instrument in the history of music.

Scripture describes David as a skilled lyre musician. 1 Samuel 16:17-18 (ESV) <sup>17</sup> So Saul said to his servants, "Provide for me a man who can play well and bring him to me." <sup>18</sup> One of the young men answered, "Behold, I have seen a son of Jesse the Bethlehemite, who is skillful in playing, a man of valor, a man of war, prudent in speech, and a man of good presence, and the Lord is with him."

He continues to have this feud with the lion which portrays David as someone who has the strength, skill and courage to take on a lion and win.

We see David take on these different roles which don't seem significant all at once, but are preparing him for being a good warrior, king, psalmist. Can you reflect on your life and see where God has put you in a position to learn and gain a skill which has helped you later in life?



Are you in a spot right now where you feel like you are waiting or in a role that isn't for your calling? Do you think that God could be using this experience in some way for the future?

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*Saul talks to his daughter and she brings up Moses and the people praising the snake on the pole. See Numbers 21:5-9 for more information.*

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There are some facts about David's mom that are introduced in the show, but are not backed by scripture. It could be assumed that these things are true of his mom and life, but it is not explicitly stated in scripture.

- His mom is portrayed as only being David's mother and not the mother of the other brothers.
- She was not in a good relationship with Jesse. It seems that the show is alluding to his mom being part of an affair or a non-Jew.
- She was killed by a lion and Jesse blames David for her death
- She plays the harp and sings

Later in the episode we see David and his brother Eliab going to a city that is deserted. David and his brother are attacked and Eliab gets severely hurt. David carries him home in hopes of saving his life. Here we see that David is in fact strong and has a heart to help the ones he loves. This is not recorded in scripture, but gives us an idea of David's love and faithfulness.

- We can see God's love and faithfulness through David and other bible stories. How have you seen God's love and faithfulness in your life recently?

By the end of the episode we see Saul really struggling. He is starting to have nightmares and is sleepwalking/ sleep fighting like a crazy person.

- At this point we know God is no longer with Saul and he is really struggling. Can you remember a time in your life, before you accepted Jesus that you struggled? What has changed in your life now that you do have Jesus?

WE ARE ALSO INTRODUCED IN THIS EPISODE TO THE IDEA OF GIANTS FIGHTING AND KILLING PEOPLE IN VILLAGES. THERE IS TALK OF THE NEPHILIM GIANTS AND IT WAS SAID THAT GIANTS HAD DESTROYED THE VILLAGE DAVID VISITED. WE WILL HEAR MORE ABOUT GIANTS IN EPISODE 6.

### Episode 3: The Anointing



#### READ 1 SAMUEL 16

To be able to compare and contrast the show's depiction of David's anointing and the bible, read 1 Samuel 16.

The episode starts with Saul having nightmares. One of his nightmares is that Jonathan is killed in battle. In his sleepwalking he kills a servant boy which then requires the family to cover up his death.

We then get to know Abner, who is the commander of Saul's army. See 1 Samuel 14:50. Lord Abner asks someone to watch / follow Samuel as Saul, his wife and family are mad that Samuel took away the spirit and think that he cursed Saul. The person who was following Samuel finds Samuel's assistant and tortures him to tell him where Samuel is. This is not in scripture.

Abner and Saul's wife go to a priestess/ witch/ sorcerer to help heal Saul and make him not crazy any longer. This differs from scripture. In scripture this does not happen until later after Samuel is dead and Saul consults a medium of En-dor. See 1 Samuel 28:7-10.

- In times of desperation we can do things we wouldn't normally do. When you feel desperate, what do you do? What do you think you should do and what can you change so that you do that instead?

Next, in the show we see God talk to Samuel and tell him to anoint a new king. Read 1 Samuel 16 to better understand the story of David's anointing.

How did Samuel disguise his motive for meeting with Jesse? This is what God told him to do.

The Lord told Samuel, in 1 Samuel 16:7, (ESV) But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him. For the Lord sees not as a man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart."

- What clues does this give you about David?

Below is each of Jesse's sons who is named, indicate what the Lord said about each of them? Refer to 1 Samuel 16:6-10.

- Eliab
- Abinadab
- Shammah
- The rest are not named, but how many did Jesse have pass by Samuel? (1 Samuel 16:9)

Samuel asks if there is another son. Jesse has to get David out of the fields as he is watching the sheep. Read 1 Samuel 16:11-12 (ESV) <sup>11</sup> Then Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but behold, he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and get him, for we will not sit down till he comes here." <sup>12</sup> And he sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy and had beautiful eyes and was handsome. And the Lord said, "Arise, anoint him, for this is he."

Samuel expected to see a great warrior, but God sees the heart.

- If Samuel would have anointed a king based off of appearance, it wouldn't have been David that was anointed. Have you ever misjudged someone only to realize you judged off of appearance and not their heart?

Samuel anoints David as king 1 Samuel 16:13 (ESV) Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers. And the Spirit of the Lord rushed upon David from that day forward. And Samuel rose up and went to Ramah.

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*Difference – In the show only 5 brothers are shown in the scene. David had 7 brothers as noted in scripture, 1 Samuel 16:9*

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Later in the episode, the Philistine king goes to a house and talks to the "mother of giants" and meets Goliath. There is more to come later with Goliath and the king of the Philistines.

## Episode 4: The Song of Moses

The last episode ended with David's anointing and this one picks up at the end of the anointing. David receives the spirit like Abraham and his other ancestors. Refer back to 1 Samuel 16:13 where it says that "the Spirit of the Lord rushed upon David from that day forward."

- We have the holy spirit with us, but only some believers, like David, had the spirit back then. David received the spirit of the Lord and I imagine he was different after this. Can you remember what you were like before you were saved and received the holy spirit?
- What were you like after you were saved and received the holy spirit?

In this episode, David's brothers are still thinking about the anointing that Samuel did to David. His family wants him to stay in the fields as they are concerned for their family because Saul is still king. They are surprised when David is summoned by King Saul and are not sure why.

Read 1 Samuel 16:19-23 and describe why David was summoned by Saul.

We don't know much about Jonathan's other brothers. The writers of the show made up the story about Ishvi sleeping with a woman who was the daughter of the king of the tribe of Dan. This is not found in scripture. This action invoked the Moses law where both the girl and boy are stoned if the boy does not marry the girl.

## Samson & Delilah

David and his brother talk about Samson and Delilah in one of the scenes of this episode.

Samson was a judge who was considered the strongest man that ever lived. The secret to his strength was that he never cut his hair. His wife, Delilah wanted to know the secret of his strength and set him up multiple times to be captured and each time he lied and didn't tell her the true reason of his strength.

Eventually, he did tell her, and she had him captured and imprisoned. Years later he was in a Philistine temple and God gave him strength and he took down the pillar that was holding up the temple and killed everyone in it, including himself.

This story is found in **Judges 13-16**.

### DID YOU KNOW??

Delilah was a Philistine woman. There has been a history of issues with Philistines and the Israel people.

This law is found in Exodus 22:16 (ESV) If a man seduces a virgin who is not betrothed and lies with her, he shall give the bride-price for her and make her his wife.

Ishvi then gets banished to a criminal city because he refuses to marry the girl and does not want to be stoned. His mother comes up with this punishment and sends him off.

A few other things happen in this episode that help to build up the storyline for future episodes:

- Abner thinks someone from the tribe of Judah is going to take the throne from Saul
- Samuel feared Saul would come after him.
- Ishvi was stopped and freed on the way to being banished.

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*David talks about loving words and being a poet.  
He is the writer of many of the 150 Psalms.*

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## Episode 5: The Wolf and the Lion

In this episode we see the love story start between Michal and David. They are spending time together and getting to know one another. Later in scripture we find out they are in love and tell Saul. 1 Samuel 18:20 (ESV) Now Saul's daughter Michal loved David. And they told Saul, and the thing pleased him.

To help distract the people from talking about Saul and his craziness, they decide to arrange a marriage between the tribe of Judah and the tribe of Benjamin (Saul's house). At first it appears that Saul will have his younger daughter, Michal married. Instead, he announces that Merab will be married to Jordan from the tribe of Judah. There is nothing in scripture about this event or arrangement.

Throughout this episode we see that when David plays for Saul he calms down and the tormenting stops. This is written in scripture in 1 Samuel 16:23 (ESV) And whenever the harmful spirit from God was upon Saul, David took the lyre and played it with his hand. So Saul was refreshed and was well, and the harmful spirit departed from him.

- What calms you down when you are not feeling like yourself? Have you considered turning to God during these times, possibly through worship music, prayer, scripture reading/ memorization? What holds you back from doing this?

People are starting to notice that David is spending time with Michal and they are having feelings for one another. Michal's mother tells her to stay away from David. One of the guards of Saul (David's cousin) threatens his life and holds him over a cliff. He wants David to stay away from Michal and threatens to throw him over the cliff. David's response is that he has a purpose and a destiny and trusts in God. Note this is not in scripture.

- David has so much faith in God. He knows God has anointed him as king and trusts in the Lord. Do you fully trust in the Lord? Is there anything that you need to hand over to him so you can put your full trust in God?

Towards the end of the episode, Saul gives a speech about uniting his daughter Merab with Jordan from Judah. He decides to give Jordan's father an ancient scroll which was Jacob's blessing. We find out that it leads to another crazy outburst from Saul and the children do not get married.

Jacob's blessing is found in the book of Genesis and Jacob gave the blessing of his 12 children before he died. He goes through each son who would be the leader of each of the tribes of Israel. Some of the sons receive nothing and others receive greatness. Read Genesis 49 and note the following:

- What does Jacob say about the tribe of Judah (Genesis 49:8-12)?
- What do you know will come of the tribe of Judah?
- What animal is referenced when Jacob talks about Judah?
- What does Jacob say about the tribe of Benjamin (Genesis 49:27)? What animal is referenced?

The name of this episode makes more sense after reading this passage and seeing the outburst of Saul toward the end of the episode. We see the blessing of Jacob played out in Saul as he is from the tribe of Benjamin. The type of man Saul is seems to follow the description of a wolf. Genesis 49:27 (NLT) Benjamin is a ravenous wolf, devouring his enemies in the morning and dividing his plunder in the evening. From what you have seen of Saul thus far, how does this accurately describe him?

- Devouring his enemies –
- Dividing his plunder –

The end of the episode has David talking to Saul and then when Saul leaves the room, David sits on the throne. To me this feels like foreshadowing what is to come once Saul is off the throne.

## Episode 6: Giants Awakened

The episode opens up talking about angels and giants. This is one interpretation of how giants were put on the earth. Scripture references the Nephilim in the following verses:

- Genesis 6:2-4 (ESV) <sup>2</sup> The sons of God saw that the daughters of man were attractive. And they took as their wives any they chose. <sup>3</sup> Then the Lord said, "My spirit shall not abide in man forever, for he is flesh: his days shall be 120 years." <sup>4</sup> The Nephilim were on the earth in those days, and also afterward, when the sons of God came into the daughters of man and they bore children to them. These were the mighty men who were of old, the men of renown.
- Who were the sons of God?
- Who were the daughters of man?
- The children of the Nephilim are thought to be giants.

In this episode we see that Saul is spending more and more time with David. Saul appears to really enjoy David. In scripture it is written 1 Samuel 16:21 (ESV) And David came to Saul and entered his service. And Saul loved him greatly, and he became his armor-bearer.

We see the Philistine king trying to get the giants to fight with him against Israel. The mother of the giants rejects the King of Philistine's offer. A Philistine man approaches the mother of the giants when she was alone at night. He kills her and says he was doing this in the name of the House of Saul. She then tells the giants who decide to join the Philistines to get revenge on Saul. This is not in scripture, but we do see that Goliath of Gath fights for the Philistines. 1 Samuel 17:4 (ESV) And there came out from the camp of the Philistines a champion named Goliath of Gath, whose height was six cubits and a span.

- A lot of times we can feel inadequate and think we need someone bigger, stronger, smarter, prettier than we are. It seems like this is what the Philistine king felt in trying to get Goliath to fight with him. What can you do when you feel inadequate?
- Do you believe God will help fill in your weaknesses? Do you need to trust him more in any areas of your life?



The Philistine's are preparing for war against Israel and everyone is uneasy in the house of Saul. The episode ends with the house of Saul preparing for battle as they learn there are many Philistines gathering and ready for war.

- We have never prepared for war, but we have had to prepare for some scary or difficult situations in our lives. When you are preparing for something that is going to be hard, what do you do? What should you do?

David leaves Saul's house and goes back to his home and Jesse. This agrees with scripture as it is written 1 Samuel 17:14-15 (ESV) <sup>14</sup> David was the youngest. The three eldest followed Saul, <sup>15</sup> but David went back and forth from Saul to feed his father's sheep at Bethlehem.

Jonathan goes up to find Samuel and sees a vision of his death and Saul's death. He then is attacked by Samuel and once Samuel realizes it is Jonathan he stops. Samuel tells Jonathan that he did anoint someone else to be king. This is not in scripture. It is possible the vision that Jonathan sees is a premonition of their death to come. 1 Samuel 31:6 (ESV) Thus Saul died, and his three sons, and his armor-bearer, and all his men, on the same day together.

## Episode 7: David and Goliath – Part 1

At this point in the show, everyone is starting to prepare for battle. We see Jesse send his sons to war, except for David.

- 1 Samuel 17:13-15 (ESV) <sup>13</sup> The three oldest sons of Jesse had followed Saul to the battle. And the names of his three sons who went to the battle were Eliab the firstborn, and next to him Abinadab, and the third Shammah. <sup>14</sup> David was the youngest. The three eldest followed Saul, <sup>15</sup> but David went back and forth from Saul to feed his father's sheep at Bethlehem.

David wants to go to war too!

Samuel meets with David and Jesse to make a sacrifice. Note, this is not in scripture. He does however talk about his mother and how she gave him to the priests at 2 years old.

The picture of the battle zone is created in this episode when we see the armies on two sides and the valley between them. This is noted in scripture; 1 Samuel 17:3 (ESV) And the Philistines stood on the mountain on the one side, and Israel stood on the mountain on the other side, with a valley between them.

The Philistine army has over 200,000 men and giants. Goliath challenges Israel and asks for the king/ champion to come battle him. Read 1 Samuel 17:4-7 and describe below the appearance and armor that Goliath is wearing.

After Goliath speaks to the armies, Saul feels unwell and goes crazy again. This is not explicitly stated in scripture, but it does get you thinking why didn't Saul or Jonathan go out and challenge the giant? Something had to have been going on.

## HANNAH

Hannah is Samuel's mother. After not being able to have children, Hannah promised her son to the Lord and she bore Samuel. She dedicated him to the Lord. Read 1 Samuel 1:1-28

1 Samuel 1:11 (ESV) And she vowed a vow and said, "O Lord of hosts, if you will indeed look on the affliction of your servant and remember me and not forget your servant, but will give to your servant a son, then I will give him to the Lord all the days of his life, and no razor shall touch his head.

\*This might be why Samuel has such long hair/beard in the show!

Hannah's Prayer is also beautiful, see 1 Samuel 2:1-11

Hannah eventually had 3 more sons and 2 daughters, see 1 Samuel 2:21

DID YOU NOTICE THE BIBLICAL INACCURACY THAT THE SHOW SLIPPED IN THERE? SAMUEL SAYS TO DAVID – "TO EVERYTHING THERE IS A SEASON, AND TIME FOR EVERY PURPOSE UNDER HEAVEN." THIS VERSE IS FROM ECCLESIASTES 3:1. DO YOU KNOW WHO WROTE ECCLESIASTES? WHY WOULD THIS NOT HAVE HAPPENED FOR SAMUEL TO QUOTE HIM?

David starts to see a warrior in his dreams and tells Samuel. This is not in scripture. Samuel tells him about Joshua and what happened before the battle of Jericho. This is found in Joshua 5:13-15

- Joshua 5:13-15 (ESV) <sup>13</sup> When Joshua was by Jericho, he lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, a man was standing before him with his drawn sword in his hand. And Joshua went to him and said to him, “Are you for us, or our adversaries?” <sup>14</sup> And he said, “No, but I am the commander of the army of the Lord. Now I have come.” And Joshua fell on his face to the earth and worshipped and said to him, “What does my lord say to his servant?” <sup>15</sup> And the commander of the Lord’s army said to Joshua, “Take off your sandals from your feet, for the place where you are standing is holy.” And Joshua did so.
- Then David sees a bloody stone in his hand and the warrior in his dream.

We keep seeing days pass and no one will challenge Goliath. The Israel people are getting worried and their spirits are broken as no one will challenge Goliath. Jonathan starts to contemplate battling Goliath himself.

- 1 Samuel 17:16 (ESV) For forty days the Philistine came forward and took his stand, morning and evening.
- Can you imagine being mocked by this giant twice a day, every day for 40 days?

Jesse finally sends David to the battlefield to bring food and supplies to his brothers. 1 Samuel 17:17 (ESV) And Jesse said to David, his son, “Take for your brother and ephah of this parched grain, and these ten loaves, and carry them quickly to the camp to your brothers.”

- Here is David doing again another task that doesn’t seem important. His brothers are out fighting for Israel and he is delivering food. But then when he gets there something happens which we will see in the next episode. Have you ever started out doing something and then pivot completely based on what God had in store for you?

## Ruth & Obed

Samuel talks to Jesse about David’s mother. The show alludes to David’s mother being a non-Jew, but this is not stated in scripture.

The story of Ruth and Obed can be found in the book of **Ruth 1-4**.

Ruth finds herself to be a widow as her husband, Naomi’s son, died. Ruth follows Naomi to her homeland, even though she is not Jewish. She decides to believe in Naomi’s God. Ruth gleanes in Obed’s fields. He eventually falls in love with Ruth and takes her as his wife. They get married and have Jesse as a son.

There are other non-Jewish women in David’s family line.

- Tamar
- Rahab (Jesse’s grandma)
- Ruth (Jesse’s mother)

The show may have decided that David’s mother was not Jewish because Jesse’s mother and grandmother were not Jewish. They also allude to David being out in the fields because they are ashamed of him/ his mother. Maybe he was just a young boy who was a shepherd. The show also makes it seem like David’s mother is not the mother of his brothers, there is nothing in scripture to point to this either.

It seems as if the bible discloses when someone is a non-Jew like Tamar and Ruth so that leads me to believe David’s mother was Jewish.

## Episode 8: David and Goliath – Part 2



### READ 1 SAMUEL 17

Before you watch the episode and go into the questions, read 1 Samuel 17 so you can spot the differences in the show and the bible.

The episode starts out with an assassination attempt to kill Goliath at night while he is sleeping. Jonathan goes with assassins to kill Goliath, but the assassins are killed and Jonathan is captured. The king then let's Jonathan go. This is not in scripture.

It is also not in scripture that the Israel tribes that left Saul's army got attacked by the Philistines.

We finally get back to David who has just arrived at the battlefield. Once he gets there, he finds his brothers, but also he hears Goliath. 1 Samuel 17:23 (ESV) As he talked with them, behold, the champion, the Philistine of Gath, Goliath by name, came up out of the ranks of the Philistines and spoke the same words as before. And David heard him.

David questions who Goliath thinks he is. 1 Samuel 17:26 (ESV) And David said to the men who stood by him, "What shall be done for the man who kills this Philistine and takes away the reproach from Israel? For who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should defy the armies of the living God?"

David says to the soldiers "Have you forgotten the greatness of God?"

- How many times do we go about our day, ignore his beauty around us and forget the greatness of our God? What can you do today to remember the greatness of God?

David is called to play the lyre for Saul and goes in and talks to Saul. In scripture David is not summoned to play the lyre, but by Saul himself. David tells Saul that he will fight the giant. Read 1 Samuel 17:32-37.

- How does David justify that he should indeed battle the giant?

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*Merab encourages David by quoting Joshua 1:9  
"Be strong and courageous, do not be afraid for  
the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."*

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Saul gives David his armor to wear, but he takes it off. 1 Samuel 17:38-39 (ESV) <sup>38</sup> Then Saul clothed David with his armor. He put a helmet of bronze on his head and clothed him with a coat of mail, <sup>39</sup> and David strapped his sword over his armor. And he tried in vain to go, for he had not tested them. Then David said to Saul, "I cannot go with these, for I have not tested them." So David took them off.

- David removed the armor because it wasn't him. He knew if he wore that armor he would be posing as something that he is not. How many times do we try to be something we are not? Is there anything that you need to remove or take off because it is causing you to be something you are not?
- I also wonder if God had David take off that armor to prove David didn't need it because he had God on his side. All David needed was his belief in God and his stones and sling. You don't need anything to prove yourself. When you have God on your side, he will do the work for you, you just have to believe in him and follow the holy spirit's promptings.

Once David took off the armor he went down to the brook to find stones for his sling. 1 Samuel 17:40 (ESV) Then he took his staff in his hand and chose five smooth stones from the brook and put them in his shepherd's pouch. His sling was in his hand and he approached the Philistine.

It is not in scripture, but Jonathan approaches David as he is gathering stones at the brook for his sling. Jonathan questions if Samuel visited him and David confirms it. So, Jonathan knows David was anointed by Samuel to be king.

David is ready for battle, but his brothers still try to talk him out of going. This happens a little different in scripture, but taken what it says in 1 Samuel 17:28, it is probably accurate to think that his brothers would not have believed in him nor wanted him to fight Goliath.

- 1 Samuel 17:28 (NIV) When Eliab, David's oldest brother, heard him speaking with the men, he burned with anger at him and asked, "Why have you come down here? And with whom did you leave those few sheep in the wilderness? I know how conceited you are and how wicked your heart is, you came down only to watch the battle."
- There are things that discourage us from following God's will. What deterrents are you listening to? What is standing in your way of doing what God wants with you to do with your life?

David approaches Goliath for battle. Goliath is insulted that David is challenging him.

- 1 Samuel 17:43 (ESV) And the Philistine said to David, "Am I dog, that you come to me with sticks?" And the Philistine cursed David by his gods.

David replies to Goliath 1 Samuel 17:45-47 (ESV) <sup>45</sup> Then David said to the Philistine, “You come to me with a sword and with a spear and with a javelin, but I come to you in the name of the Lord of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. <sup>46</sup> This day the Lord will deliver you and into my hand, and I will strike you down and cut off your head. And I will give the dead bodies of the host of the Philistines this day to the birds of the air and to the wild beasts of the earth, that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel. <sup>47</sup> And that all this assembly may know that the Lord saves not with sword and spear. For the battle is the Lord’s, and he will give you into our hand.”

- What a response to a scary situation! Have you ever been in a situation in which you were absolutely terrified? What did you do to overcome the situation? What can you do next time to get over your fear?
  
- What can you do to live boldly for Christ like David?

Before David gets into battle with Goliath, we see Samuel on the hill overlooking David and he talks about David having the courage of Moses and strength of Samson. This is not in scripture.

As that battle starts, there is another detail that is not in scripture which was added to the show. Goliath throws spears at David, he dodges one, but one of them hit David. This detail is not in scripture. David then throws his rock with his sling and it hits Goliath in the middle of the head and knocks him down. David then takes Goliath’s sword and cuts off his head.

Let’s visit scripture to see the details of the battle. 1 Samuel 17:49-51 (ESV) <sup>49</sup> And David put his hand in this bag and took out a stone and slung it and struck the Philistine on his forehead. The stone sank into his forehead, and he fell on his face on the ground. <sup>50....51</sup> Then David ran and stood over the Philistine and took his sword and drew it out of its sheath and killed him and cut off his head with it. When the Philistines saw that their champion was dead, they fled.

They then battle the Philistines and the season ends.

- 1 Samuel 17:52 (ESV) And the men of Israel and Judah rose with a shout and pursued the Philistines as far as Gath and the gates of Ekron, so that the wounded Philistines fell on the way from Shaaraim as far as Gath and Ekron.

David’s actions make me think of the Katy Nichole song “My God Can”. It is the girl version of David’s story of relying on God and not ourselves. See the lyrics below and feel free to download the song and worship in thankfulness to God that even when we can’t, our God can!

## **My God Can**

*Katy Nichole & Naomi Raine*

I know someone who knows what I'm up against  
I know someone who's here in the midst of it  
Fighting for me in battle I could never win  
All on my own

### *Chorus*

I might not be able to part the waters  
Might not be able to calm the storms  
Might not be able to make my giants fall  
But good thing I'm not alone  
'Cause there is a power that is greater  
So I'm not afraid of what's ahead  
I'm standing in the confidence that even thought I can't  
My God can

He'll heal those who hurt and comfort every broken heart  
Restore the homes of families who've been torn apart  
Tell chains to break and do what seems impossible  
Like only He can

### *Chorus*

I can do all things, all things  
Through Christ who gives me strength  
I can do all things, all things  
'Cause his spirit lives in me  
I can do all things, all things  
Through Christ who gives me strength  
I can do all things, (all things) all things (all things)  
'Cause his spirit lives in me.

### *Chorus*

My God can, oh-oooh  
My God can  
I know He can