

watermark

kids
kit

ELEMENTARY DISCUSSION GUIDE

CHARACTER TRAIT: DISCERNMENT

DEFINITION:

Seeking God's direction before acting

MEMORY VERSE:

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek His will in all you do, and He will show you which path to take." PROVERBS 3:5-6 NLT

FINISH LINE:

Seek God's direction and He will guide you

READ: 1 SAMUEL 16:1-13

WHAT DOES IT SAY? (OBSERVATION)

1. What did God tell Samuel to do? *(He told Samuel to stop being sad about Saul and go to Bethlehem to anoint one of Jesse's sons as the next king.)*
2. How did Samuel respond? Why? *(He was worried. If King Saul found out what Samuel was doing, he could have him killed.)*
3. What direction did God give Samuel? *(He told Samuel to say he was offering a sacrifice and invite Jesse and his sons.)*
4. What did Samuel think about Jesse's oldest son? *(He thought he looked like a good choice for king.)* Was he looking at the same things as God? *(Nope)*
5. How does God look at people differently than we do? *(God cares more about our character, who we are on the inside that affects our actions.)*

WHAT DOES IT MEAN? (INTERPRETATION)

1. How did Samuel seek God's direction before acting? *(He asked God what to do.)*
2. How was God's path different than what most people would have chosen? *(Others would have chosen a king based on what he looked like on the outside. God wanted David, the youngest, brother. God guided Samuel to choose David because He knew David's heart and that he would be the best king.)*
3. What do you know about David? What kind of king did he turn out to be? *(He was the most famous king Israel ever had. He wrote many of the psalms. He made some big mistakes but always asked for forgiveness. He was known as a man after God's own heart.)*

WHY DOES IT MATTER? (APPLICATION)

1. Do you like to think your way will always be right? Is it? Talk about a time when you thought your way was best BUT things did not turn out like you thought they would.
2. When are you more likely to trust your own plan: in the really big decisions OR in the little choices you make every day? Why?
3. When does God want you to use discernment? *(God wants to be a part of ALL your decisions!)*