



International Bible Study Commentary

Verse-by-Verse Bible Lessons Thru the Bible

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International Bible Lessons

Teaching English as a Foreign Language

Teacher Page: David Becomes King over Israel

2 Samuel 5:1-12 (English Standard Version)

Before You Teach

A Note to the Teacher: This lesson is a flexible resource bank and contains more material than you will need for one class. Before teaching, choose and mark the activities and questions that best fit your students' English level, interests, and available time. You are not expected to use everything.

Suggested 60-Minute Selection: Choose 2 warm-up questions, 4-6 vocabulary words, 4 comprehension questions, 2 discussion or speaking questions, and 1 writing activity. The writing activity may also be assigned as homework.

Purpose and Scripture Materials

Purpose: Teach English as a Foreign Language using 2 Samuel 5:1-12 in the English Standard Version as the reading text.

New to TEFL? We recommend certification training through The TEFL Academy, which will teach you how to use and write TEFL lessons such as this Teacher-Led English Lesson.

Recommended Level: A2-B1 | Lesson Length: 30-45 minutes

Pronunciation Practice: The student can read along with the Scripture audio to practice English pronunciation with the teacher's help. The teacher may pause the audio after each verse or sentence so the student can repeat difficult words and phrases.

Lesson Resources

Scripture Text: 2 Samuel 5:1-12 ESV

Scripture Audio: 2 Samuel 5:1-12 ESV

The student may read along with the audio while the teacher pauses for pronunciation practice.

1) Lesson Overview

Theme: Israel recognized David as king, and he made a covenant before the LORD. David took Zion and grew stronger because the LORD was with him. He knew that God had established and exalted his kingdom for the sake of Israel.

English Skills: Reading, listening, vocabulary building, pronunciation, sequencing events, describing leadership, explaining purpose, discussion, speaking practice, and writing.

Outcome: The student can describe how David became king over Israel, identify the help he received, and explain why God exalted his kingdom.

Teacher Tip

Help students read, write, listen to, and speak English while they study the ESV Scripture text. Encourage complete sentences, ask gentle follow-up questions, and give students time to think. Adjust the activities to fit the students' ages, number, English proficiency, and available class time.

Teacher Awareness

This passage includes battle and harsh language concerning blind and lame people in verses 6-8. Explain the words in their immediate conflict setting; do not present them as permission to demean people with disabilities. Use respectful language and age-appropriate detail. Focus on David's leadership and God's purpose for His people.

2) Suggested Lesson Flow

1. Begin with two warm-up questions.
2. Assign each student one or more verses to study and read aloud.
3. Ask what the assigned verses say and mean.
4. Put the principal events in chronological order.
5. Play the Scripture audio while students read along.
6. Review vocabulary and practice difficult pronunciation.
7. Use selected comprehension, discussion, and speaking questions.
8. Finish with one writing activity and the final question.

3) Warm-Up Questions

Choose 2. Mark the questions you plan to use.

- ☐ What qualities should a good leader have?
- ☐ How can a leader care for people like a shepherd cares for sheep?
- ☐ Why are promises and agreements important?
- ☐ How can success help a person serve others?

4) Vocabulary

Choose 4-6. Mark the words and prompts you plan to use.

Word/Phrase	Meaning	Teacher Prompt
shepherd	A person who cares for sheep; here, a leader who cares for people.	Whom would David shepherd?
covenant	A solemn agreement or promise.	With whom did David make a covenant?
anointed	Applied oil as a sign of appointment.	Whom did the elders anoint as king?
reign	Rule as a king or queen.	How old was David when he began to reign?
stronghold	A strongly defended place.	What stronghold did David take?
water shaft	A passage connected with a water supply.	What route did David mention for the attack?
carpenters	Workers who build things from wood.	Who sent carpenters to David?
established	Set firmly in a position or made secure.	Who established David as king?

5) Bible Text Comprehension

Choose 4. Mark the questions you plan to use.

- ☐ Where did the tribes of Israel come to meet David?
- ☐ What did the people remember about David's earlier leadership?
- ☐ What did David make with the elders before the LORD?
- ☐ How old was David when he began to reign, and how long did he reign?
- ☐ What stronghold did David take?
- ☐ What did David call the city where he lived?
- ☐ Who sent messengers, cedar trees, carpenters, and masons to David?
- ☐ Why did David become greater and greater?
- ☐ For whose sake had the LORD exalted David's kingdom?
- ☐ Who did David know had established him as king?

6) Scripture Discussion

Choose a total of 2 from Scripture Discussion and/or Speaking Practice. Mark the questions you plan to use.

- ☐ What does the image of a shepherd teach about leadership?
- ☐ Why is David's covenant before the LORD important?
- ☐ How does verse 10 explain David's growing strength?
- ☐ What does Hiram's help show about cooperation between rulers?
- ☐ How did David recognize God's work in his success?
- ☐ Why is the phrase "for the sake of his people Israel" important?

Language Coaching Tip

If a student gives a short answer, invite a fuller response: 'Can you tell me more?' 'Why do you think that?' 'What happened next?' or 'Can you say that in a complete sentence?' Correct gently and model the sentence when needed.

7) Speaking Practice

Choose a total of 2 from Speaking Practice and/or Scripture Discussion. Mark the activities you plan to use.

- ☐ Retell 2 Samuel 5:1-12 in your own words.
- ☐ Describe David's responsibilities as a leader in three sentences.
- ☐ Explain how David's kingdom was established for the sake of Israel.
- ☐ Describe the help Hiram sent to David.
- ☐ Put these events in order: tribes meet David, covenant made, David anointed, Zion taken, house built.
- ☐ Speak for 30-60 seconds: How can a leader use success to help others?

8) Writing Task

Choose 1. Mark the writing activity you plan to use in class or assign as homework.

- ☐ Option A: Summarize 2 Samuel 5:1-12 in 6-8 sentences.
- ☐ Option B: Write a paragraph explaining why God exalted David's kingdom for the sake of His people.
- ☐ Option C: Write the main events in chronological order.
- ☐ Option D: Write five sentences using these words: shepherd, covenant, reign, stronghold, and established.

9) Wrap-Up

Wrap-Up

The tribes of Israel recognized David as their leader. David made a covenant with the elders before the LORD, and they anointed him king. He took Zion and called it the city of David. The LORD was with him, and Hiram sent workers and materials to build him a house. David knew God had established his kingdom for the sake of Israel.

Remember

"God gives leaders responsibility to care for His people, not merely to advance themselves."

Final Question

How can a leader use authority and success for the good of the people?