

Lesson 13

1 Samuel 16–2 Samuel 12

The following assignments include various learning activities, such as questions, lists, essays, charts, comparisons, contrasts, and surveys. To receive credit for this lesson, you must complete the number of assignments indicated below and submit them to your institute instructor or administrator. You may submit your work either electronically or on paper, handwritten or typed.

Each lesson should take approximately 60–90 minutes to complete, the same amount of time you would typically spend in a weekly institute class. Since reading the scripture block listed in the lesson heading is expected of all institute students prior to class, the estimated time for each assignment does not include the time you need to spend reading the scripture block.

Complete assignments 1, 5, and any one of the other assignments:

1. 1 Samuel 16–17. “David and Goliath”

- a. Read 1 Samuel 16–17, the institute student manual introduction to 1 Samuel 16–31 (p. 277), the student manual commentary for 1 Samuel 17:4–11, “How Big Was Goliath and How Heavy Was His Armor?” (p. 278), and the commentary for 1 Samuel 17:20–51, “I Come to Thee in the Name of the Lord of Hosts” (pp. 278–79). Then answer the following questions in writing:
 - What does 1 Samuel 16:7 teach us about the standard the Lord uses to judge a person’s character and His counsel that we should do the same?
 - How large was Goliath? Describe his armor. What was David’s motivation to face the giant?
 - What events from David’s youth gave him the courage to accept Goliath’s challenge and the ability to defeat him?
- b. Read the student manual commentary “What Must We Do to Conquer Our Own Goliaths?” (p. 284) and the commentary “Armed with Faith in God, Our Cause Cannot Be Hindered” (p. 284). Then make a list of five ideas or quotations from 1 Samuel 17 that would help you in overcoming challenges in your own life.

2. 1 Samuel 18–26. David, Jonathan, Saul

- a. Skim through 1 Samuel 18–26. Make a chart with three columns and label them David, Jonathan, and Saul. List in each column the character traits you find for each man.
- b. Using 1 Samuel 18–26 as well as the Bible Dictionary entries for “Jonathan” (p. 716) and “Saul” (p. 769), complete the following assignments in writing:
 - Use specific verses from these chapters to write one or two paragraphs describing the relationship between David and Jonathan. Why do you think there was such a powerful friendship between David and Jonathan?
 - Compare Saul’s treatment of David in 1 Samuel 18:10–11 (note JST of verse 10); 19:9–12; 24:1–2 with David’s treatment of Saul in 1 Samuel 24; 26. Read the student manual commentary for 1 Samuel 24:10, “I Will Not Put Forth Mine Hand against . . . the Lord’s Anointed” (p. 281) and the commentary for 1 Samuel 26 (p. 282). What does David’s statement in 1 Samuel 26:23 tell us about his actions? Write a paragraph explaining who the Lord’s anointed are today. Then explain how you could apply David’s example toward the Lord’s anointed in both word and deed.

3. 1 Samuel 27–31. The Philistines Defeated Israel

Read the chapter summaries for 1 Samuel 27–31. Write a short history of Israel during the last years of Saul’s reign as king.

4. 2 Samuel 1–10. David Anointed King

- a. Search 2 Samuel 1–10 and make a list of King David’s accomplishments.
- b. Read 1 Chronicles 22:7–8 and the student manual commentary for 2 Samuel 7:1–17, “Why Was David Not Allowed to Build the Temple?” (pp. 289–90). Write your explanation of why the Lord did not want David to build a temple.

- c. Read 2 Samuel 7:12–17 and write one or two sentences describing how you would feel if you were in a situation similar to David's. Write one or two sentences describing how 2 Samuel 7:16 is a Messianic prophecy. Then read 2 Samuel 7:18–29 and summarize David's response to the Lord's message to him.

5. 2 Samuel 11–12. "Thou Art the Man"

- a. Read 2 Samuel 11 and the student manual Points to Ponder section (pp. 291–92). Then fill out the following chart:

Decisions That Changed David's Life		
Verses	What David Did	What David Should Have Done
1		
2		
3		
4		
6–8, 14–17		
26–27		

- b. Read 2 Samuel 12:1–4 and explain in writing Nathan's parable as it applied to David. Tell what each specific part of the parable represents.
- c. Study 2 Samuel 12:9–15; Acts 2:29; Doctrine and Covenants 132:39 and the chapter summaries for 2 Samuel 13; 15; Psalm 16. From these references, make a list of the consequences for David's evil acts.
- d. Sometime after his discussion with Nathan, David wrote Psalm 51. Read Psalm 51 and list the appropriate desires of a repentant person (see Alma 34:32–34).