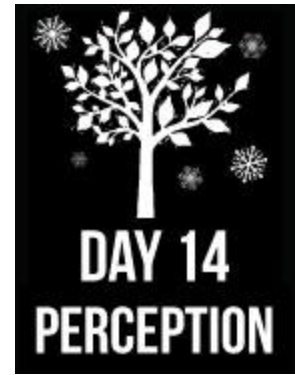


Jesse Tree

KIDS' DAILY DEVOTIONAL



WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THIS POINT IN GOD'S STORY?

We've talked about LOTS of Bible stories that showed God promising to send Jesus. And, we've seen how God worked through all of them to make His plan happen. Today, we're continuing to talk about God's people, the descendants of Abraham. In the Old Testament, they were called Israelites.

We've talked about how the Israelites made it to the land that God promised them. A land called Canaan. We've talked about how God promised to be with them until the land was all theirs. And He was. But, after they lived in the land a while, they really wanted a king! All the people living around them had kings, and they really wanted a king, too! They went to Samuel, the prophet of God, and demanded that he give them a king!

God told Samuel to do as the people asked. So Samuel found them a king. The first king of the Israelites was a man named Saul. But after he was made king, Saul disobeyed God.

BIBLE READING

Samuel tells Saul he won't be king for very long: 1 Samuel 13:14

God sent Samuel to a man named Jesse. Jesse had 7 sons. One by one, Jesse brought them to see Samuel: 1 Samuel 16:6-13.

WHAT DO THOSE VERSES TELL US ABOUT GOD?

God didn't pick David because he was the oldest, or the tallest, or the most handsome. God picked him because He could see his heart! He knew that David loved God and would follow him.

We can't see into people's hearts the way that God can. But, we can try to be MORE like Him, by not thinking we know all about somebody just because we see their outsides. The way people look or dress or walk or talk isn't what is most important to God. He cares about what is going on in their hearts and in their heads. We should care about that more than their outside, too!

PRAYER

Dear God, I'm so glad that you are able to see what is in all of our hearts. Thank you for caring more about that than what I look like. Help me to get to know what other people are like on the inside, not just on the outside. In Jesus' name, amen.

