

King David | Lesson Plan

How did King David overcome the many challenges he faced as an underdog to achieve great success and victory?

Students will also understand how David became King of Israel and what he achieved during his reign. Students will understand the value of hard work and patience in overcoming challenges.

Learning Objectives:

- Identify the challenges David faced as an underdog throughout his lifetime.
- Explain how David was chosen to become king.
- Analyze how King David trusted in God to help him overcome inferiority to achieve great success and victory.
- Identify the achievements of King David's reign as king.
- Evaluate King David's character and the qualities that helped him overcome challenges.

Key Vocabulary:

- **Underdog:** An expression for someone or something that is expected to lose in a competition or struggle because they have no advantages and might seem weaker or less likely to win.
- **Prophet:** A person who tells others about messages or teachings from God. They often share these messages to help guide people and encourage them to live better lives.
- **Lyre:** A stringed, musical instrument that looks like a small harp. It was used by people in ancient times to make music.
- **Temple:** A special building or a sacred place where people worship, pray, or practice their religion.

Educational Standards: CCRA.L.1, CCRA.L.2, CCRA.L.4, CCRA.W.2, CCRA.W.4, CCRA.R.7, CCRA.SL.1, CCRA.SL.2, CCRA.SL.4

Academic Subject Areas: Biography, Bible, Character Development

What You'll Need

- Video: *King David: The Underdog King of Israel* (Watch [Here](#))
- Worksheet: *King David: The Underdog King of Israel* (Click [Here](#))

Lesson Plan (45 minutes)

Warm-Up: (15 minutes)

1. Initiate a class discussion on the meaning of the word "underdog" and how it is used as an expression.
2. Encourage students to think of famous underdog stories in which an individual overcame disadvantages or weaknesses to achieve something great. Prompt students



- to consider how these individuals overcame being an underdog and what qualities or skills were necessary. Invite students to share examples aloud and brainstorm together.
3. Ask students why they think King David is considered an underdog. Invite students to share what they know about King David and his story.
 4. Display a copy of the “King David Worksheet” and pass out individual worksheets to students.
 5. Instruct students to complete the Warm-Up Activity. Students will write the meaning of “underdog” in their own words, a personal or popular example of being an underdog, and a prediction of why they think King David is considered an underdog.
 6. Read over the rest of the worksheet as a class so students know what to listen for during the video.
 7. Set the stage for the upcoming video by highlighting the theme of hard work and patience while overcoming challenges. Encourage students to look for ways throughout the video that King David trusted in God, worked hard, and remained patient to overcome challenges and fulfill God’s plan for him to achieve great things.

Watch and Complete: (20 minutes)

1. Watch the video.
2. Assist students with completing the worksheet alongside the video, encouraging note-taking and active listening.
3. Pause throughout the video to allow students to answer questions, especially short answer responses. If necessary, model short answer responses by restating the question and writing a complete sentence.

Wrap-Up: (10-15 minutes)

1. Allow students 10 minutes to complete the worksheet independently.
2. Ask students to read aloud their responses to the Making Connections section, reflecting on what they have learned from King David’s story and how they can persevere despite being at an obvious disadvantage.
3. Conclude with open-ended prompts on the importance of hard work and patience while overcoming challenges:
 - What lessons can we learn from David's journey from shepherd to king that can help us when we feel like underdogs in our own lives?
 - In what ways did David’s trust in God influence his ability to overcome the challenges he faced? How can we apply this in our lives?
 - What qualities did King David exhibit that are most important for overcoming obstacles? Why?
 - How do you think King David’s story would be different if he hadn’t shown patience and hard work throughout his life? How does this influence your perspective on facing challenges?
4. Encourage students to strive to be like King David when faced with challenges that seem impossible to overcome.
5. The worksheet can be collected and used as a formative assessment.

Don’t have time for the full lesson? Quick Activity (15-20 minutes)

Distribute the worksheet and allow students to complete it while they follow along with the video.