

## 5th Grade (Kita Hey) Bible Curriculum

### Overview

In Grade 5 students are exploring *Parashat Hashavuah* every Sunday morning, together with students from grades 4 – 7, at the sanctuary. The students learned selection from the book of Judges in Grade 4, and in Grade 5 they continue with selections from Samuel and Kings. Basic truths about human nature and power struggle are depicted in these bible stories. The main characters are the Kings Shaul, David and Salomon and the prophet Samuel. The struggles of our ancestors exemplify a basic truth about human nature. The bible is telling the life of kings with all their humanity, challenges, fears, successes and failures.

**Notes to Parents:** This curriculum contains the knowledge, skills and attitude Jewish students are expected to learn. It provides the learning objectives that students are expected to meet; the units and lessons that teachers teach; the books, materials, technology and readings used in a course; and the assessments methods used to evaluate student learning.

Some units have a large amount of material that on a given year may be modified in consideration of the Jewish calendar, lost school days due to weather (snow days), and give greater flexibility to the teacher to accommodate students' pre-existing level of knowledge and skills.

**Textbooks:** A Child's Introduction to the Early Prophets (Newman)  
JPS Tanach  
Humash Etz Hayim  
Mahzor Lev Shalem  
Story of Hannah and birth of Samuel, p. 108-110  
Book of Ruth, ch. 4 v. 13-22  
Books from the school Library  
Web source: My Jewish Learning  
YouTube movies

### Goals and Objectives

- To chronicle the life of Kings and Prophets
- To demonstrate the relationship between biblical heroes and God
- To teach us about the evolving relationship between King Saul and David
- To understand the truth of the prophets, by seeing that the bible does not gloss over the failings and human weaknesses of biblical heroes

### Tools

### Contents

Unit 1: Finding God's Way, 13 sessions, 30 minutes.....3

Unit 2: Finding a King, 13 sessions, 30 minutes.....

When appropriate, show a connection between the biblical heroes of the early prophets' period and the Jewish Holidays

Month	Holiday	Biblical Connections
Tishrei	Rosh Hashanah	Yearning for a son Sara and Hannah are barren
Kislev	Hanukah	Heroism Saul's wars with the philistines David and Goliath
Adar	Purim	Tribal links Tribe of Benjamin: Saul and Mordechai Tribe of Amalek: Agag and Hamman
Nisan	Pesah	Leadership Moses and David
Iyar	Shavuot	Ruth The grandmother of King David

### Unit 1: Finding God's Way, 13 sessions, 30 minutes

Textbook Early Prophets: p. 69 – 93

#### Goals and Objectives

- Students will explore the life of Samuel, Saul, Jonathan, David
- Students will learn about the birth of Samuel and his dedication to service
- Students will be impressed with the young Saul and disappointed with the older Saul
- Students will discover that the Philistines were the enemies of Israel

#### Key Words & Key Concepts

- The Birth of Samuel
- Infertility (Sarah and Hannah)
- Giving up a son (Avraham and Hannah)

- Samuel, the Last of the Judges
- A King is Chosen
- Living in Fear
- Jonathan and the Philistines
- The King is Troubled

#### Key Terms

- Samuel
- Hannah
- Saul
- Jonathan
- David
- Canaan
- Mishkan (tabernacle)
- Priest
- Levite
- Tithe
- Ark
- Prophet, prophecy
- Philistines
- Tribe of Benjamin
- God's will

#### Special Activities

- Reading from the Mahzor, Rosh Hshannah Haftarah Samuel 1:1 (p 108)
- Comparing the barren mothers, Sarah and Hannah
- Comparing tithe to taxes
- Compare monarchy with democracy
- Act as you imagine Shaul, who was just told that he won't be a king much longer
- Writing a script

#### Assessments

- Questions & Answers
- Acting out part of the story of a biblical hero to which the students developed a special relationship and identification.

## Unit 2: Finding a King, 13 sessions, 30 minutes

### Textbooks

Early Prophets pages 94 – 127

Etz Hayim

Book of Ruth ch. 4 v. 13-22

### Goals and Objectives

- Students will discover that Saul suffered from a mental illness
- Students will discuss the life of King David
- Students will learn the conflict between Israelites and the philistines
- Students will identify a connection with today's conflict between Israel and Palestinians
- Nathan the Prophet speaks truth to power

### Key Words & Key Concepts

- David and Goliath
- David Must Die
- David and Jonathan: great friendship
- The Outcast
- The King is spared
- Saul's Last Battle
- David and Bathsheba
- Nathan
- A House to Honor God

### Key Terms

- David
- Jesse
- Goliath
- Philistines
- Saul
- Jonathan
- Friendship, loyalty
- Courage
- Bathsheba
- Nabal
- Abigail
- Nathan
- Temple

### Special Activities

- Writing a script

- Finding web pictures of ancient war instruments, swords, bows and arrows
- Hold a court case where David is accused of killing Nabal; group A is the defense and group B is the prosecutors.
- Hold a court case against David after the death of Uria, husband of Bathsheba, defense against the prosecution.
- Reading the end of the book of Ruth tracing the genealogy of King David (Ruth, ch. 4 v. 13-22)
- Reading the Haftarah of students' B-Mitzvah from the book of Samuel or Kings
- Teacher and students will select one or two of Haftarot in Humash **Etz Hayim** that coincide with specific students' B-Mitzvah. Students will read the source text in Samuel or Kings.

#### Haftarot from Samuel

Zachor Samuel 1:16  
Mahar Hodesh: Samuel 1:2  
Shemini Samuel 2:6  
Korah Samuel 1:11  
Rosh Hashanah Samuel 1:1

#### Haftarot from Kings

- Hayey Sara Kings 1:1  
Teruma Kings 1:5  
Vayakhel Kings 1:7  
Tazria Kings 2:4
- Sukkot day 2: Kings 1:8
  - Hanukah Kings 1:7
  - Shekalim King 2:11

#### Assessments

- Questions & Answers
- Acting out part of the story to which the students developed a special relationship and identified with the unique biblical heroes
- The court cases against David will be used to assess that students understood the facts of the case, both from a prosecutor and from a defense points of view.

**Change Control**

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