

This resource is designed to allow your family to have time in God's Word **BEFORE** your children attend church. Because God's plan is for **parents to be the primary spiritual nurturers** of their children's faith, **we want YOU to be the one to introduce** this part of The Big God Story to them.

For additional support in spiritual parenting and to learn more about creating transforming environments in your home, be sure to pick up **HomeFront: A Spiritual Parenting Resource** from your church or download at HomeFrontMag.com. You can also access the HomeFront app for your iPhone, iPad, or Android device.



4.4

God Is Our Shepherd and King

Part of The Big God Story
2 Samuel 5; Psalm 23
David Crowned King

JUST FOR FUN

Before dinner, have your children go into various areas of your home. Call them to the table by their full names. Once seated, talk about a shepherd's job. He knows each of his sheep by name and cares for them by keeping them safe from harm. Tell them you're going to read a part of The Big God Story where God chose a shepherd to be king. After reading **2 Samuel 5:1-5**, ask why they think a shepherd would make a good king. Then share that God is the King of all kings—greater than any other king. Explain that God is also our Shepherd and He knows each of us by name.

Did You Know?

- Israel's lack of unity grieved God. The tribes couldn't agree, and there were separate kings ruling over them. God had a plan to bring His chosen people back together. He chose David, a shepherd king, who would rule Israel following God's command.
- "And the LORD said to you, 'You will shepherd my people Israel, and you will become their ruler' (2 Samuel 5:2b). The word "shepherd" used here is the Hebrew word *ra'ah*, which means "to tend or feed a flock." Through David's guidance, Israel's focus was pointed toward God once more.
- Scripture refers to God as the King of Kings, the ultimate King, ruling over all people—both the common and the kingly.

Remember Verse

Be strong and courageous.
Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged; for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.
Joshua 1:9

Children this age tend to talk a lot and ask many questions. This is their curiosity at work as they try to learn and make sense of the world around them. As much as possible, take the time to engage your child in conversation and answer her questions as you can. This helps your child feel more connected and greatly enhances her understanding and self-confidence.

Teachable Moments

After reading **2 Samuel 5:1-5**, discuss the following together:

- Why did God choose David to be king?
- Who is our Shepherd and King?
- How does God care for you as your Shepherd?

Blessing

For more information about blessing your child, see the Blessing section in **HomeFront: A Spiritual Parenting Resource**.

A blessing to pray over your child:

(Child's name), the Lord is your Shepherd. May you follow Him always.
The Lord is your King. May you praise His holy name.