

2 Samuel

LEADERS LESSON OVERVIEW—Lesson 1



FOR THE LEADER

In this lesson, we will learn that praising God for His blessings should be our first response when something good happens.

KEY POINT

We should be thankful to God for His blessings in our life.

KEY VERSE

“How great you are, Sovereign LORD! There is no one like you, and there is no God but you, as we have heard with our own ears.”
2 Samuel 7:22

Note: Boys are not required to memorize the

Key Point or Key Verse to receive completion credit for this lesson.

For information on how to use Bible merits in a Royal Rangers meeting, refer to the TRaCclub Support section or the *Royal Rangers Leader Manual*.

REFLECT ANSWERS

These answers match the questions in the Reflect section of the boys' sheet.

- God had promised that one of David's descendants would rule Israel forever.
- Answers will vary.
- Answers will vary.



MATERIALS & PREP

Prepare a copy of the Student Handout for each boy.

- Several “thank you” cards for each boy
- Pens or pencils, one per boy

Read the lesson in advance, taking note of the main points. Be prepared to present the lesson to your group, but avoid reading it word for word. Include discussion with the group to make it more enjoyable for everyone.

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2 Samuel

STUDENT HANDOUT—Lesson 1



KEY THOUGHTS

KEY POINT

We should be thankful to God for His blessings in our life.

KEY VERSE

“How great you are, Sovereign LORD! There is no one like you, and there is no God but you, as we have heard with our own ears.”

2 Samuel 7:22



READ

Then King David went in and sat before the LORD, and he said:

“Who am I, Sovereign LORD, and what is my family, that you have brought me this far? And as if this were not enough in your sight, Sovereign LORD, you have also spoken about the future of the house of your servant—and this decree, Sovereign LORD, is for a mere human!

“What more can David say to you? For you know your servant, Sovereign LORD. For the sake of your word and according to your will, you have done this great thing and made it known to your servant.

“How great you are, Sovereign LORD! There is no one like you, and there is no God but you, as we have heard with our own ears. And who is like your people Israel—the one nation on earth that God went out to redeem as a people for himself, and to make a name for himself, and to perform great and

awesome wonders by driving out nations and their gods from before your people, whom you redeemed from Egypt? You have established your people Israel as your very own forever, and you, LORD, have become their God.

“And now, LORD God, keep forever the promise you have made concerning your servant and his house. Do as you promised, so that your name will be great forever. Then people will say, ‘The LORD Almighty is God over Israel!’ And the house of your servant David will be established in your sight.

“LORD Almighty, God of Israel, you have revealed this to your servant, saying, ‘I will build a house for you.’ So your servant has found courage to pray this prayer to you. Sovereign LORD, you are God! Your covenant is trustworthy, and you have promised these good things to your servant. Now be pleased to bless the house of your servant, that it may continue forever in your sight; for

2 SAMUEL—Lesson 1

you, Sovereign LORD, have spoken, and with your blessing the house of your servant will be blessed forever.” 2 Samuel 7:18–29

What’s the best thing that has ever happened to you? Why was it good? What did you do as soon as it happened?

In 2 Samuel 7, God makes a great promise to David. God promised that one of David’s descendants would rule Israel forever. David’s first response to this news was to thank God.

When good things happen to you, what’s the first thing you do? God wants our first response to be thankfulness to Him. All good things come from God (James 1:17). When something good happens, it’s right for us to thank God.

When something good happens we get excited. And, sometimes, we forget to be grateful. Other times, we focus on the things we don’t have. When we do that we may fail to be thankful for the things we do have. To learn an attitude of gratefulness we must be aware of the good things in our life. We must also learn to be happy with what we receive.

When anyone—whether it is God or another person—does something good for us, our first response ought to always be to say, “Thank you!” When your mom cooks dinner for you, do you thank her? When your dad helps you with a project, do you thank him? When your friend lets you borrow something, do you say thank you?

God wants us to be quick to say thanks to everyone who does something for us. When we say thank you, it encourages other people to be polite, too. Our attitude of thankfulness can actually make other people more thankful!



REFLECT

As a group, discuss the following questions.

- Why was David thankful to God?
- What are some of the ways that God has blessed you?
- Who are some people in your life that you are thankful for? Why?

Review the Key Point and the Key Verse.

PRAYER: Dear God, thank You for all the great ways that You bless me and all the kind things You have done for me. I’m very grateful for how You take care of me and show Your love to me. Amen.



RESPOND

Write notes of thanks on the cards to several people who have done good things for you. Write a thank you card to God for His blessings.

Remember to read your Bible this week using the Bible reading plan of your choice. A recommended plan can be found in the Bible Reading merit or online at royalrangers.com. Review this lesson with a friend or parent as a way to help you remember it.

CATEGORY

Sexuality / Integrity

TITLE

Keeping Your Word

REFERENCE

2 Samuel 9:1–8, 13

• orange merit •

2 Samuel

LEADERS LESSON OVERVIEW—Lesson 2



FOR THE LEADER

In this lesson, we will learn about how David kept his word.

KEY POINT

Christians should keep their word.

KEY VERSE

The LORD detests lying lips, but he delights in people who are trustworthy. **Proverbs 12:22**

Note: Boys are not required to memorize the Key Point or Key Verse to receive completion credit for this lesson.

For information on how to use Bible merits in a Royal Rangers meeting, refer to the TRaCclub

Support section or the *Royal Rangers Leader Manual*.

REFLECT ANSWERS

These answers match the questions in the Reflect section of the boys' sheet.

- God keeps His Word. He expects His people to do the same. It reflects badly on God when His people don't keep their promises.
- David wanted to keep his promises to Mephibosheth's father, Jonathan.
- Answers will vary.



MATERIALS & PREP

Prepare a copy of the Student Handout for each boy.

Read the lesson in advance, taking note of the main points. Be prepared to present the lesson to your group, but avoid reading it word for word. Include discussion with the group to make it more enjoyable for everyone.

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2 Samuel

STUDENT HANDOUT—Lesson 2



KEY THOUGHTS

KEY POINT

Christians should keep their word.

KEY VERSE

The LORD detests lying lips, but he delights in people who are trustworthy. **Proverbs 12:22**



READ

David asked, “Is there anyone still left of the house of Saul to whom I can show kindness for Jonathan’s sake?”

Now there was a servant of Saul’s household named Ziba. They summoned him to appear before David, and the king said to him, “Are you Ziba?”

“At your service,” he replied.

The king asked, “Is there no one still alive from the house of Saul to whom I can show God’s kindness?”

Ziba answered the king, “There is still a son of Jonathan; he is lame in both feet.”

“Where is he?” the king asked.

Ziba answered, “He is at the house of Makir son of Ammiel in Lo Debar.”

So King David had him brought from Lo

Debar, from the house of Makir son of Ammiel.

When Mephibosheth son of Jonathan, the son of Saul, came to David, he bowed down to pay him honor.

David said, “Mephibosheth!”

“At your service,” he replied.

“Don’t be afraid,” David said to him, “for I will surely show you kindness for the sake of your father Jonathan. I will restore to you all the land that belonged to your grandfather Saul, and you will always eat at my table.”

Mephibosheth bowed down and said, “What is your servant, that you should notice a dead dog like me?”

And Mephibosheth lived in Jerusalem, because he always ate at the king’s table; he was lame in both feet (2 Samuel 9:1–8,13).

2 SAMUEL—Lesson 2

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to be the son or grandson of a king?

It might not be as great as you think it would be.

Mephibosheth was the son of Jonathan. Jonathan was the son of King Saul. That means Mephibosheth was King Saul's grandson.

His father and grandfather both died fighting the Philistines. Israelites loyal to Mephibosheth's family made his uncle Ish-Bosheth king.

But God had decreed David would be king. And many people followed him. There was civil war between those loyal to David and those still loyal to Mephibosheth's family. Evil men murdered Ish-Bosheth.

Then, the evil men went to David. Maybe they wanted a reward. But David was not pleased. He had the murders executed.

With Ish-Bosheth dead, the war ended. All the Israelites agreed to make David king.

In those days, it was common for a new king to kill anyone who might pose a threat to his rule. Some kings even killed their own siblings. Those related to the former king were seen as especially dangerous and they were usually killed.

As a grandson of King Saul, Mephibosheth could have been seen as someone to be eliminated. But David's relationship with Jonathan made David see Mephibosheth as someone to help.

Jonathan had known David was supposed to be the king after Saul. Jonathan had helped David escape when Saul planned to kill him. David and Jonathan promised to always be friends. David also promised that as king he would be kind to Jonathan's family.

Jonathan was dead. No one had the power to make David keep his promise. It may be that no one else even knew about the promise. But David was a good man. Despite the years that had passed, he remembered his promise. And he chose to honor his friend and keep his word.

So David began looking for survivors from Saul's family. That is how David found out Jonathan had a son who was alive.

When David found out about Jonathan's son, David had Mephibosheth brought to him. Mephibosheth probably didn't know about the promises Jonathan and David had made to each other. He probably expected to die.

Instead of death, Mephibosheth received great blessings. David gave him the property Saul had owned. And David promised to provide Mephibosheth's food by giving him a permanent place at the king's table. This was a great honor.

David's treatment of Mephibosheth showed great integrity. A person with integrity is honest and fair. Honest people keep their promises. And that's what David did.

God wants us to be like David. When we make promises, God wants us to keep them. This is true even if keeping the promise won't benefit us. It is true even if no one will know whether we kept our promise or not.

God always knows what we say, what we do, and why we make the choices we make. If we intend to please Him, we must keep our promises.



REFLECT

As a group, discuss the following questions.

- Why is it important to God that Christians keep their promises?
- Why was David kind to Mephibosheth?
- What can you do to help you keep your promises?

Review the Key Point and the Key Verse.

PRAYER: Dear God, thank You that You keep Your Word. Please help me to keep my word. Amen.



RESPOND

Discuss as a group times when people find it difficult or impossible to keep their promises. Have the boys discuss strategies for avoiding those situations and for handling them when they are unavoidable.

Remember to read your Bible this week using the Bible reading plan of your choice. A recommended plan can be found in the Bible Reading merit or online at RoyalRangers.com. Review this lesson with a friend or parent as a way to help you remember it.

CATEGORY

Christlike Manhood

TITLE

Kindness to the Less Fortunate

REFERENCE

2 Samuel 9:1–13

• orange merit •

2 Samuel

LEADERS LESSON OVERVIEW—Lesson 3



FOR THE LEADER

In this lesson, we will discover that God wants us to be alert for people we can be kind to.

KEY POINT

We should show kindness to those who are in need.

KEY VERSE

“Don’t be afraid,” David said to him, “for I will surely show you kindness for the sake of your father Jonathan. I will restore to you all the land that belonged to your grandfather Saul, and you will always eat at my table.” **2 Samuel 9:7**

Note: Boys are not required to memorize the Key Point or Key Verse to receive completion

credit for this lesson.

For information on how to use Bible merits in a Royal Rangers meeting, refer to the TRaCclub Support section or the *Royal Rangers Leader Manual*.

REFLECT ANSWERS

These answers match the questions in the Reflect section of the boys’ sheet.

- Because Mephibosheth was Jonathan’s son and David wanted to be kind to one of Saul’s surviving relatives.
- Answers will vary.
- Answers will vary.



MATERIALS & PREP

Prepare a copy of the Student Handout for each boy.

- Place in your area that shows kindness to less fortunate people

Read the lesson in advance, taking note of the main points. Be prepared to present the lesson to your group, but avoid reading it word for word. Include discussion with the group to make it more enjoyable for everyone.

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CATEGORY

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Kindness to the Less Fortunate

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2 Samuel 9:1–13

• orange merit •

2 Samuel

STUDENT HANDOUT—Lesson 3



KEY THOUGHTS

KEY POINT

We should show kindness to those who are in need.

KEY VERSE

“Don’t be afraid,” David said to him, “for I will surely show you kindness for the sake of your father Jonathan. I will restore to you all the land that belonged to your grandfather Saul, and you will always eat at my table.” **2 Samuel 9:7**



READ

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Ziba answered the king, “There is still a son of Jonathan; he is lame in both feet.”

“Where is he?” the king asked.

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Debar, from the house of Makir son of Ammiel.

When Mephibosheth son of Jonathan, the son of Saul, came to David, he bowed down to pay him honor.

David said, “Mephibosheth!”

“At your service,” he replied.

“Don’t be afraid,” David said to him, “for I will surely show you kindness for the sake of your father Jonathan. I will restore to you all the land that belonged to your grandfather Saul, and you will always eat at my table.”

Mephibosheth bowed down and said, “What is your servant, that you should notice a dead dog like me?”

Then the king summoned Ziba, Saul’s steward, and said to him, “I have given your master’s grandson everything that

2 SAMUEL—Lesson 3

belonged to Saul and his family. You and your sons and your servants are to farm the land for him and bring in the crops, so that your master's grandson may be provided for. And Mephibosheth, grandson of your master, will always eat at my table." (Now Ziba had fifteen sons and twenty servants.)

Then Ziba said to the king, "Your servant will do whatever my lord the king commands his servant to do." So Mephibosheth ate at David's table like one of the king's sons.

Mephibosheth had a young son named Mika, and all the members of Ziba's household were servants of Mephibosheth. And Mephibosheth lived in Jerusalem, because he always ate at the king's table; he was lame in both feet (2 Samuel 9:1–13).

King David wanted to show God's kindness to the house of Saul. Saul had been a wicked king, and he had treated David badly. However, Saul's son Jonathan had been David's best friend. After Saul died, David became king. David knew that God is good and kind. David wanted to show the goodness of God to whoever was still alive in Saul's family.

Mephibosheth, the son of Jonathan and grandson of Saul, was still alive. However, Mephibosheth was lame in both feet. In ancient Israel, lame people couldn't hold jobs. They depended on the kindness of others. Most of them begged in the street.

It wasn't normal for a king to notice a lame man from a disgraced family. But, David didn't just notice Mephibosheth's situation. He changed it.

First, the David gave Mephibosheth the land that had belonged to King Saul. This was a generous gift. The land had become David's when David became king. Even more, David let

Mephibosheth live in the king's house and eat at the king's table.

David said he did this to "show God's kindness." God's kindness to people is lavish. God is concerned about everyone. But He takes special notice of those who are looked down on and are less fortunate.

Jesus helped people who were poor. He also helped people who were outcasts, and people who were desperate. God wants us to follow the examples of David and Jesus. God wants us to be kind to the hurting, the needy, and the ignored.

When we find people like that and do good things for them, we are acting like David. And we are putting God's kindness on display.



REFLECT

As a group, discuss the following questions.

- Why did David show kindness to Mephibosheth?
- What are some ways that God has shown kindness to you?
- Who are some people that are less fortunate in our society that might need kindness shown to them?

Review the Key Point and the Key Verse.

PRAYER: Dear God, thank You that You are a loving and kind God to me. Please help me show Your kindness to everyone I meet. Amen.

2 SAMUEL—Lesson 3



RESPOND

As a group, tour a place in your area that shows kindness to less fortunate individuals. This may be a food pantry, a homeless shelter, or a free medical clinic. Find out what your group can do to help the people there.

Remember to read your Bible this week using the Bible reading plan of your choice. A recommended plan can be found in the Bible Reading merit or online at royalrangers.com. Review this lesson with a friend or parent as a way to help you remember it.

CATEGORY
Biblical Worldview

TITLE
Anointing

REFERENCE
2 Samuel 5:1–5

• orange merit •

2 Samuel

LEADERS LESSON OVERVIEW—Lesson 4



FOR THE LEADER

In this lesson, we will learn that leaders are anointed by God.

KEY POINT

God anoints leaders for us to follow.

KEY VERSE

When all the elders of Israel had come to King David at Hebron, the king made a covenant with them at Hebron before the LORD, and they anointed David king over Israel. **2 Samuel 5:3**

Note: Boys are not required to memorize the Key Point or Key Verse to receive completion credit for this lesson.

For information on how to use Bible merits in a Royal Rangers meeting, refer to the TRaCclub Support section or the *Royal Rangers Leader Manual*.

REFLECT ANSWERS

These answers match the questions in the Reflect section of the boys' sheet.

- They affirmed God's choice of David as king. This ended a civil war between David and Saul's surviving relatives.
- Answers will vary.
- God has put us under their leadership for a reason.



MATERIALS & PREP

Prepare a copy of the Student Handout for each boy.

- Paper
- Pen or pencil for each boy

Read the lesson in advance, taking note of the main points. Be prepared to present the lesson to your group, but avoid reading it word for word. Include discussion with the group to make it more enjoyable for everyone.

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CATEGORY
Biblical Worldview

TITLE
Anointing

REFERENCE
2 Samuel 5:1–5

• orange merit •

2 Samuel

STUDENT HANDOUT—Lesson 4



KEY THOUGHTS

KEY POINT

God anoints leaders for us to follow.

KEY VERSE

When all the elders of Israel had come to King David at Hebron, the king made a covenant with them at Hebron before the LORD, and they anointed David king over Israel. **2 Samuel 5:3**



READ

All the tribes of Israel came to David at Hebron and said, “We are your own flesh and blood. In the past, while Saul was king over us, you were the one who led Israel on their military campaigns. And the Lord said to you, ‘You will shepherd my people Israel, and you will become their ruler.’”

When all the elders of Israel had come to King David at Hebron, the king made a covenant with them at Hebron before the LORD, and they anointed David king over Israel.

David was thirty years old when he became king, and he reigned forty years. In Hebron he reigned over Judah seven years and six months, and in Jerusalem he reigned over all Israel and Judah thirty-three years. (2 Samuel 5:1–5)

David was a young man when Samuel anointed him king. Only a few people got to be there.

Years later, all Israel gathered to name David king.

The Bible is clear that God picks leaders. God had picked David to lead Israel many years before. It took time for David to get the position. It also took time for those around David to see how God blessed him and used him.

When God anoints leaders, it is for His purposes. We may not like the leaders God places in our life. God picked Saul to be king, but Saul became wicked. However, David still respected Saul. David did not use Saul’s sinful behavior as an excuse to hurt or mistreat him. Leaders should be followed and respected because they were put in their positions by God. We don’t have to know why God chose them. David honored God by showing honor to Saul, even when Saul didn’t deserve it. God wants us to honor the leaders He has placed over us.

Many young men feel God has picked them for

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leadership. God called David to leadership at a young age, and God can call people your age too. Often, there is a waiting period, though. God uses this time to teach people things they need to know to be good leaders.

If you feel God has picked you for leadership or ministry, take time to learn the lessons God wants you to know. Follow the leaders that God has set over you and learn from them. When the time is right, God will put you in the place He is preparing you for.



REFLECT

As a group, discuss the following questions.

- Why was it important that all the people came together to anoint David as king?
- What do you think David had learned that allowed him to be a good king?
- Why is it important to follow leaders that God has placed in our life?

Review the Key Point and the Key Verse.

PRAYER: Dear God, thank You that You put leaders in authority over me. Help me to respect them and follow them. Please make me into the man of God and leader that You have called me to be. Amen.



RESPOND

Identify the leaders in your life—at home, at school, at church, and in the government. Take a few moments to pray for every leader on the list.

Remember to read your Bible this week using the Bible reading plan of your choice. A recommended plan can be found in the Bible Reading merit or online at royalrangers.com. Review this lesson with a friend or parent as a way to help you remember it.

CATEGORY
Cultural Issue

TITLE
Mourning

REFERENCE
2 Samuel 1:1–17

• orange merit •

2 Samuel

LEADERS LESSON OVERVIEW—Lesson 5



FOR THE LEADER

In this lesson, we will learn why people mourn when someone dies.

KEY POINT

Mourning is an normal response when someone dies.

KEY VERSE

They mourned and wept and fasted till evening for Saul and his son Jonathan, and for the army of the LORD and for the nation of Israel, because they had fallen by the sword.
2 Samuel 1:12

Note: Boys are not required to memorize the Key Point or Key Verse to receive completion credit for this lesson.

For information on how to use Bible merits in a Royal Rangers meeting, refer to the TRaCclub Support section or the *Royal Rangers Leader Manual*.

REFLECT ANSWERS

These answers match the questions in the Reflect section of the boys' sheet.

- David recognized that Saul was a human being created in God's image; he cared for Saul.
- Because God loves people; because we love the person; answers will vary
- Because God does not like it when people suffer and we should be like Him



MATERIALS & PREP

Prepare a copy of the Student Handout for each boy.

- Sympathy cards
- Pens or pencils

Read the lesson in advance, taking note of the main points. Be prepared to present the lesson to your group, but avoid reading it word for word. Include discussion with the group to make it more enjoyable for everyone.

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2 Samuel

STUDENT HANDOUT—Lesson 5



KEY THOUGHTS

KEY POINT

Mourning is a normal response when someone dies.

KEY VERSE

They mourned and wept and fasted till evening for Saul and his son Jonathan, and for the army of the LORD and for the nation of Israel, because they had fallen by the sword.

2 Samuel 1:12



READ

After the death of Saul, David returned from striking down the Amalekites and stayed in Ziklag two days. On the third day a man arrived from Saul's camp with his clothes torn and dust on his head. When he came to David, he fell to the ground to pay him honor. "Where have you come from?" David asked him.

He answered, "I have escaped from the Israelite camp."

"What happened?" David asked. "Tell me."

"The men fled from the battle," he replied. "Many of them fell and died. And Saul and his son Jonathan are dead."

Then David said to the young man who brought him the report, "How do you know that Saul and his son Jonathan are dead?" "I happened to be on Mount Gilboa," the young man said, "and there was Saul, leaning on his spear, with the chariots and their drivers in

hot pursuit. When he turned around and saw me, he called out to me, and I said, 'What can I do?'

"He asked me, 'Who are you?'

"'An Amalekite,' I answered.

"Then he said to me, 'Stand here by me and kill me! I'm in the throes of death, but I'm still alive.'

"So I stood beside him and killed him, because I knew that after he had fallen he could not survive. And I took the crown that was on his head and the band on his arm and have brought them here to my lord."

Then David and all the men with him took hold of their clothes and tore them. They mourned and wept and fasted till evening for Saul and his son Jonathan, and for the army of the LORD and for the nation of Israel, because they had fallen by the sword.

2 SAMUEL—Lesson 5

David said to the young man who brought him the report, “Where are you from?”

“I am the son of a foreigner, an Amalekite,” he answered.

David asked him, “Why weren’t you afraid to lift your hand to destroy the LORD’s anointed?”

Then David called one of his men and said, “Go, strike him down!” So he struck him down, and he died. For David had said to him, “Your blood be on your own head. Your own mouth testified against you when you said, ‘I killed the LORD’s anointed.’”

David took up this lament concerning Saul and his son Jonathan. 2 Samuel 1:1–17

King Saul was dead. For years, Saul had chased David and his men, trying to kill them and forcing them into hiding. Saul had turned away from God and had led the entire nation down a wrong path. Saul was David’s enemy.

So when Saul died, David should have been happy, right? With Saul gone, David could be made king of Israel. Now David no longer had to be afraid for his life. He could come out of hiding.

David didn’t rejoice about Saul’s death. He recognized that Saul was a human being created in God’s image. David knew that Saul had been chosen by God to lead. David also knew Saul had made wrong choices along the way. David was sad.

When someone dies—whether they are our friend or our enemy—the correct response is to be sad. It is a human response. David mourned for Saul because Saul was a man that God loved.

We should never rejoice at the misfortune of our

enemies. When bad things happen to others, we should respond with sadness. God never rejoices when people suffer, and we should be like Him in that way.



REFLECT

As a group, discuss the following questions.

- Why did David mourn when Saul died?
- Why is mourning a normal response when someone dies?
- Why should we be sad when bad things happen, even to bad people?

Review the Key Point and the Key Verse.

PRAYER: Dear God, thank You that You never rejoice when bad things happen to people. Help me to always be kind to everyone, even those who treat me badly. Amen.



RESPOND

If there is someone who has died recently in your church or community, write a sympathy card to the family and take time to pray for them as a group.

Remember to read your Bible this week using the Bible reading plan of your choice. A recommended plan can be found in the Bible Reading merit or online at royalrangers.com. Review this lesson with a friend or parent as a way to help you remember it.