

1st-3rd Grade Lesson Plan

Sunday, September 21

UNIT 10 | SESSION 1

THE ISRAELITES WANTED A KING

1 SAMUEL 8-10

MAIN POINT / CHRIST CONNECTION: Jesus is the king we need. The Israelites rejected God as King and chose Saul to be their king. When we sin, we also reject God's rule in our lives as King. Jesus, the King of kings, died for our sin and rose again so we could be forgiven.

CATECHISM QUESTION : Q) What is righteousness? A) It is God's goodness. (*Exo 33:19; 34:6; Psa 33:5; Hos 3:5; Rom 11:22.*)

MEMORY VERSE of the Month: PHILIPPIANS 4:19 - "And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus" (ESV)

Preparation

Lesson Context

This Unit: In foolishness, God's people begged for a king like the nations around them. Though Israel rejected God as their king, God mercifully warned them and gave them the king they desired—King Saul. However, despite Saul's regal appearance, his foolish disobedience led to God's rejection of him as king. Instead, God replaced him with a man after His own heart to rule His people.

Volunteer Huddle | 8:45 a.m.

Meet in the Threes classroom (first floor) for prayer and important info for this Sunday.

Prep Room | 8:50 a.m.

- Put out activity pages (in Activity Box) and markers (in Teacher Box) on desks.

- If you'd like, put music on the Spotify app on the Roku TV.
- You can push tables back or to the sides to make space in the center or front of the room for activities.

Fellowship Time | 9:00 - 9:15 am

FELLOWSHIP TIME

Greet families at the door as they arrive. Allow children time to engage with one another and catch up. Use this time to get to know your students and hear about their week. What was a good part/hard part or “yay duck”/“yuck duck” of their week? If you'd like a prompting question for discussion, you can use the one below:

SAY: *Have you ever wanted something so much you could not stop thinking about it? Did you get it? If you did, how did it feel to finally have what you wanted?*

ACTIVITY PAGE

Lead children to choose a desk and give them **an Activity Page and markers** (in Activity Box). You can also give them blank paper to draw or some playdough (in Teacher Box) if you prefer.

SAY: *Today, we will learn that the Israelites wanted a king to rule over them like the nations around them.*

REVIEW CLASSROOM RULES

Post the **Rules Poster** (in Activity Box) somewhere in the room.

1. **Be kind and respectful:** to your friends and teachers. Raise your hand and wait to be called; speak kindly to one another; use words and actions that build up and do not tear down; etc.
2. **Have a heart of obedience:** Listen to your teachers' instructions and obey fully, quickly, and joyfully!
3. **Have self control:** Keep your hands, feet, and objects to yourself; keep all chair legs on the ground; no running or rough housing. Do not touch one another; let's not poke each other, hit, kick, etc.

Group Activity | 9:10/9:15 am

PASS THE CROWN

Direct kids to sit down in a circle. Give one kid in the circle **a paper crown** (in Activity Box). Challenge kids to pass the crown around the circle as soon as the music begins. When the music stops, the kid holding the crown should place it on his head, stand up, and give a direction to the other kids. For example, he may say, “hop on one foot.” Continue until all the kids have had at least one chance to wear the crown.

SAY *Kings have the authority to tell people what to do. Some kings may use their power for good, while others may use their power for bad. In our story, we'll see that Israel wanted to have a king like other nations. Israel rejected God as King and chose Saul to be their king. When the people chose Saul to be king, we'll learn how the prophet Samuel warned the people about all the power an earthly king can have.*

Lesson | 9:20 am

Ask students to return to their desks and pass out **Bibles** (in Teacher Box). Let them know of your expectations during the lesson: listening to the teacher, sitting quietly with hands and feet to themselves, etc.

1. Introduce the Lesson + Pray

SAY *Welcome, kids! I'm so glad you are here. Today, we will be hearing how the time of the judges was coming to an end. God's people began to desire a king like the nations around them. We'll learn that Israel rejected God as King and chose Saul to be their king.*

If you have a Bible with you, will you take it out? [Distribute Bibles to kids who need one.] Today, we'll be in the book of 1 Samuel. Let's pray and prepare our hearts to hear God's Word.

2. Catechism Question

Use the **Catechism Question** posters to review previous questions and learn the new one for this week (in Activity Box).

SAY: *Let's review our new catechism question today:*

Q) What is righteousness?

A) It is God's goodness.

In our story we hear that God's people wanted a king. They needed a king who modeled the righteousness of God. We will see whether or not Saul did this well.

Q) What is righteousness?

A) It is God's goodness.

3. Using Bibles

SAY: *Today, we will be in the book of 1 SAMUEL. Is 1 SAMUEL in the New or Old Testament?*

1. *Turn to the Table of Contents at the front of your Bibles and look under the Old Testament category to find the book of 1 SAMUEL. Turn to that page number.*
2. *Once you've found 1 SAMUEL, I would like you to find chapter 8.*

4. Tell the Bible Story

Open your **Bible** to **1 SAMUEL 8** and ask children to turn in their Bibles.

THE ISRAELITES WANTED A KING

When Samuel grew old, he made his sons judges over Israel. Sadly, Samuel's sons did not follow his example. They were bad leaders of God's people.

The elders of Israel went to Samuel and said, "You are old, and your sons do not walk in your ways. Give us a king to be our ruler, just as all the other nations have."

Samuel prayed to the Lord. God said, "They have not rejected you; they have rejected me as their king. Listen to them, but also warn them about the power a king has over the people he rules."

Samuel went to the people and said, "Here are the things a king will do. He will take your sons to join his army. He will take your daughters to serve in his house. He will take your best fields and give them to his servants. He will take a tenth of your crops and your flocks. You will cry out for help, but the Lord will not answer you."

The people refused to listen to Samuel. "No! We must have a king over us," they said. God told Samuel, "Listen to the people, and appoint a king for them."

Now, there was an impressive young man named Saul who was a head taller than everyone else in Israel. One day, his father's donkeys wandered off, and Saul was sent to find them. After looking for several days, Saul's servant recommended they ask Samuel for help.

Before Saul met Samuel, God told Samuel that He would send him a man to rule over His people. God said this man would save His people from the Philistines.

When Samuel saw Saul, the Lord said, "This is the man who will be king over my people Israel." Samuel took a flask of oil and anointed Saul as the future king. Saul then returned home and said nothing to his family about it.

Later, Samuel called all the people together. One by one, the tribes, clans, and families of Israel came before Samuel, and Saul was selected as king. They searched for him everywhere and could not find him. Then the Lord said, "There he is, hidden with the supplies."

When the people saw how tall and impressive Saul was, they shouted, "Long live the king!" Samuel appointed Saul as king, and then he sent all the people home.

4. Christ Connection

SAY: *Jesus is the king we need.* The Israelites rejected God as King and chose Saul to be their king. When we sin, we also reject God's rule in our lives as King. Jesus, the King of kings, died for our sin and rose again so we could be forgiven.

Review & Video | 9:30 am

Bible Story Video

If you'd like, watch the **Bible lesson video** on the YouTube app on the TV (*YouTube account should be Fellowship Kids* (switch accounts on the top of the left sidebar if not) > go to Library on the left side bar > Choose Playlists on the top > choose your classroom).

Review the Bible Story

Invite children to **open their Bibles to 1 SAMUEL 8:4-9.**

SAY - Let's review a section of scripture from our Bible lesson today. Please turn to **1 SAMUEL 8:4-9. Have a volunteer read the passage.**

- 1. What did the Israelites ask Samuel to give them?**
 - a. They wanted a king like all of the other nations.
- 2. Who did God say they had rejected in verse 7?**
 - a. The Israelites rejected God as their king. God was their righteous ruler, protector and provider but his people wanted a king like all of the other nations.
- 3. Do you think having a king was going to be good or bad for the people?**
- 4. Who would become the Israelites first king?**
 - a. Saul

Pray

Ask students if they have any **prayer requests**. Pray about what you learned in the lesson and for any requests.

Memory Verse | 9:35 am

Show the **memory verse poster** (in Activity Box). Open your Bible to **PHILIPPIANS 4:19** and lead the kids to read the verses together. You can also write the verse on the whiteboard so that children can see it more clearly.

“And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus”

- **PHILIPPIANS 4:19**

SAY THE VERSE IN A ROUND

Put the **slips of paper** with parts of the memory verse written on them into a cup (in Activity Box). Invite each child to select a slip. Lead kids to work together and line up in the correct order of the memory verse based on the words they have on their paper. Once completed, guide the kids to recite the verse aloud, each saying their portion of the verse. Add a challenge by timing the kids to see how fast they can say the verse in order.

SAY: *Our key passage reminds us that God is King over everything. We can trust Him and follow His good commands.*

Extra Time Activity

YES OR NO

Before this activity, divide the room in half by placing a strip of painter’s tape on the floor. Direct kids to line up on the tape. Call out a subject such as “chocolate ice cream” “loud music” or “skateboarding.” Invite kids to hop to the right of the line for “yes” or hop to the left of the line for “no,” depending on their preference about that subject. Repeat as time allows with different subjects like food preferences (pizza, hot dogs, broccoli) or activity preferences (fishing, dancing, bike riding).

SAY During this activity you said 'yes' to some things but 'no' to others. We call this a **preference**. A preference is when we like or want something over another choice. Today, we saw how the Israelites made a choice: they preferred a king like the other nations over having God as their King. We learned how Israel rejected God as King and chose Saul to be their king.

Dismissal | 9:50 am

As parents arrive,

- Match the 4 digit code on the parent's tag to the child's tag
- Check out the child on the tablet by clicking the check box to the left of their name on the roster.
- **Give feedback!** Tell parents how the student did that morning.

Clean Up

- Wipe down tables if any messes were made with activities. [Magic eraser sponges can erase markings on desks.]
- Put teacher and activity items back in the Activity Box or Teacher Box.
- Place the TV remote in the white holder on the dry erase board.
- Return the small Activity Box, class tablet, and your lanyards to the check-in desk.