

Large Group

The Israelites Wanted a King

Bible Passage | 1 Samuel 8-10

Memory Verse | Psalm 103:19

Story Point | Israel rejected God as King and chose Saul to be their king.



Countdown Video (3 mins)

Memory Verse Song (4 mins)

Worship Leader connects the lesson to the memory verse, leads the memory verse song with hand motions, and closes in prayer.

Welcome (1 mins)

Large Group Leader tell kids what to expect to happen (1 minute)

- watch the lesson video
- retell the story.
- read the story from scripture

Watch the Lesson Video (4 mins)

Retell the Story (11 mins)

Lead the kids in a fun retelling of the story

Here are some resources to help you formulate this time.

Review what we learned:

God helped Israel take over the land of Canaan, but some of the surrounding nations were still left in the land. As Israel lived in Canaan, they began to worship the false gods of these nations. As a consequence to their sin, God allowed the nations to rule over His people. When the people cried out to God, He sent judges to rescue them.

Let's review our timeline by remembering some of the judges God sent to rescue His people. [Point to the stories of The First Judges, Deborah Led Israel, Gideon Led Israel, and Samson and the Philistines.] Eventually, the Israelites decided they wanted a king to rule over them, just as the other nations had. Today, we'll see how **Israel rejected God as King and chose Saul to be their king.**

Today's Lesson

Samuel was a prophet of the Lord who spoke to the people on behalf of God and who also spoke to God on behalf of the people. What did the people of Israel tell Samuel they wanted? [Allow responses.] The people of Israel wanted a king like the other nations. But the kings of other nations were not good and loving like God. The earthly kings used their power however they wanted. God is a kind King who uses His power for our good.

Who did the people reject as their King? [Allow responses.] God told Samuel that the people rejected Him as their King. God warned the people of some of the things that can happen with having a human king, but the people did not listen. God told Samuel to listen to Israel and appoint a king over them. Even though the people chose an earthly king, God was still in charge. He is the King of everything, and He was faithful to be with His people.

Who did the people choose as their King? [Allow responses.] **Israel rejected God as King and chose Saul to be their king.** The people were impressed by Saul and how tall he was. He looked like a king. But Saul would never be a perfect king like God. The people sinned when they rejected God. 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. **Jesus is our King forever, and He rules over the world.**

Gospel Discussion | The Bible tells us that we have all sinned, but God sent His Son, Jesus, to be our Savior. When we accept Jesus as Savior, we turn from sin and trust Him as the King of our lives. I'd love to share more about how you can trust in Jesus.

Read from the Bible (4 mins)

1 Samuel 8:1-7, 9-10, 19-22; 9:3, 5-8, 10, 15-19; 10:1, 17-24

Remind Kids of Four Questions (1 min)

- What did you like about today's story?
- What did you find confusing?
- What did you learn about people?
- What did you learn about God?

Worship Song (4 mins)

Worship Leader briefly introduces self, welcomes kids, leads 1st worship song, and prays for the time.