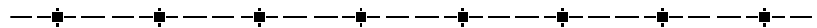


# Old Testament

Mission Arlington • Mission Metroplex Curriculum • 2008

# Families of the Old Testament



Created for use with young, unchurched learners  
Adaptable for all ages including adults

# Old Testament

**A King is Chosen  
to Lead God's Children**

**Saul**

**I Samuel 8-10**

**A King is Chosen  
to Lead God's Children  
I Samuel 9:1-17**

**Memory Verse:**

God gave them judges until the time of Samuel the prophet. Then the people asked for a king, and he gave them Saul son of Kish, of the tribe of Benjamin, who ruled forty years. (Acts 13:21 NIV)

**Lesson Goals:**

1. Understand that Israel asked for a king.
2. Understand that Israel rejected God as their leader.
3. Recognize that Samuel anointed Saul.
4. Learn that God chose Saul.

Last week we learned about Eli the priest. Eli's sons disrespected God. Eli talked to his sons about their sin but did not stop them. God told Samuel that He would punish Eli and his sons.

**Read the Bible**

**READ: I Samuel 9:1-17 (Hold your Bible open throughout the story.)**

**Begin With Prayer**

When Eli died, Samuel judged Israel. (I Samuel 7:15) When Samuel became old, Israel came together to ask Samuel to appoint a king for them. They wanted to be like the other nations. Samuel was very unhappy with the request. But he prayed to the Lord. God told him to tell the people of Israel what would happen once a king was appointed.

The Bible says that God gave Israel, "judges until the time of Samuel the prophet. Then the people asked for a king, and he gave them Saul son of Kish, of the tribe of Benjamin, who ruled forty years." (Acts 13:21)

Samuel told Israel that a king would take their sons and daughters to serve him. Samuel told them that a king would take a portion of their crops and their chariots. But Israel insisted that they wanted a king so that they could be like other nations. They wanted a king who would lead them in battles. So God told Samuel to give Israel a king. (I Samuel 8:1-21)

God told Samuel to anoint Saul to be king (I Samuel 9:17). Saul was the son of Kish. He belonged to the tribe of Benjamin. Saul was taller than any of the men of Israel. He was also handsome. (I Samuel 9:1-3)

To anoint Saul as king, Samuel used a bottle of olive oil. Samuel poured the oil on Saul's head. (I Samuel 10:1)

Samuel told Saul that when he left, Saul would see some men who would let him know that his father's donkeys had been found. But Saul's father was worried about him. Samuel told Saul to keep going until he got to a large tree at Tabor. He told Saul that three men would greet him. They would offer him two loaves of bread. Samuel instructed Saul to accept the gift. (I Samuel 10:1-4)

Samuel told Saul to go to Gibeah next. He told Saul that some Philistine soldiers would be there. Samuel told Saul that there would also be prophets there and he would prophesy along with them. (I Samuel 10:5-6) Samuel said, "The Spirit of the Lord will come on you with power. Then you will prophesy along with them. You will become a different person." (I Samuel 10:6 NIV)

Samuel also told Saul that God was with him. He instructed Saul to go to Gilgal and wait for him for seven days. Samuel would offer burnt offerings and friendship offerings there. After that Samuel would give Saul further instructions. (I Samuel 10:8)

### Saul – Bible Facts

1. Saul was from the tribe of Benjamin.
2. Samuel anointed Saul.
3. Saul was handsome and taller than the men of Israel.
4. Saul prophesied with the prophets of God.
5. God changed Saul's heart.

The Bible says that when Saul left Samuel, "God changed Saul's heart." (I Samuel 10:9) God wants to change our hearts, too. He sent Jesus to die on the cross and rise from the dead so that if we ask Him, we can have a new heart.

Saul met up with the prophets in Gibeah and prophesied with them just as Samuel had said he would. Then Saul went to the high place in Gibeah to worship. (I Samuel 10:10)

Saul's uncle spoke to him and told him that his father was worried about him. Saul told his uncle that he had been looking for his father's donkeys. He told him that he could not find them so he went to Samuel. But Saul did not tell his uncle that Samuel told him that he would be king. (I Samuel 10:14-16)

Samuel asked the people of Israel to gather at Mizpah to meet the Lord. When they came together, Samuel asked the people to come forward by tribes. When Saul stood up, he was a head taller than any of the men. (I Samuel 10:17-23)

"Samuel spoke to all of the people. He said, 'Look at the man the Lord has chosen! There isn't anyone like him among all of the people.'" The people of Israel were excited about their new king. They shouted, "May the king live a long time!" (I Samuel 10:24)

God sent Jesus to be our leader and our king. Jesus died on the cross and rose from the dead so that we could have a way to live with Him in heaven forever.

Samuel told the people about what their ruler would do. He wrote it down on a scroll. Then Samuel placed the scroll before the Lord in the holy tent. Then Samuel sent the people home. (I Samuel 10:25)

1. **Who was Saul?** (Saul was from the tribe of Benjamin.)
2. **What did Samuel do?** (Samuel anointed Saul.)
3. **What did Saul look like?** (Saul was handsome and was a head taller than the men of Israel.)
4. **What did Saul do?** (Saul prophesied with the prophets of God.)
5. **What did God do?** (God changed Saul's heart.)

#### Do You Know Jesus?

Saul was doing what his father asked him to do when he met Samuel. Samuel anointed him king of Israel. Jesus came in obedience to His Father. He died on the cross for our sins. If we ask Him to forgive us, He will. If we invited Him into our hearts, He will be our King forever. (I John 1:9)

#### Prayer Time

1. Take a moment to listen to God.
2. Thank God for sending Jesus to be our King forever.
3. Ask God to help you obey.
4. Pray for friends and family members who need to do God's will.

#### Application

Israel asked for a king. In doing so, Israel rejected God as their leader. They wanted to be like the other nations. Samuel anointed Saul. The Bible says that God, "gave them Saul son of Kish, of the tribe of Benjamin, who ruled forty years. (Acts 13:21 NIV) We should not want to be like others. We should want to be like Christ. When we ask God to help know what He wants from us, He will tell us. (James 1:5)

#### Planning for the next week:

**Jonathan (The Son of a King) — I Samuel 13-14**

# Preschool Lesson

## Read the Bible

**READ: I Samuel 9:1-17 (Hold your Bible open throughout the story.)**

(Decorate your room with donkeys and hearts. Make donkeys out of construction paper or paper bags. Make crowns out of construction paper.)

When Samuel became old, Israel came together to ask Samuel to appoint a king for them. They wanted to be like the other nations. Samuel was very unhappy. The people no longer wanted God to be their leader. They wanted to be like everyone else.

Samuel prayed to the Lord. God told him to tell the people of Israel what would happen once a king was appointed. (I Samuel 8:1-21)

There was a young man named Saul who had been looking for his father's lost donkeys. (I Samuel 10:1-4) Saul was the son of Kish. He belonged to the tribe of Benjamin. Saul was taller than any of the men of Israel. He was also handsome. (I Samuel 9:1-3) God told Samuel to anoint Saul to be king (I Samuel 9:17). To anoint Saul as king, Samuel used a bottle of olive oil. Samuel poured the oil on Saul's head. (I Samuel 10:1)

God sent Jesus so that we can know Him. Jesus obeyed his Father's will. Jesus will be the king of all who believe in Him.

### Prayer Time

1. Take a moment to listen to God.
2. Thank God for sending Jesus to be our King forever.
3. Ask God to help you obey.
4. Pray for friends and family members who need to do God's will.

**Did you know?** Preschoolers can learn that God may call them to do something special. Consider this: Ask the children what they want to be when they grow up. Create a poster using cardstock that says, "I Will Be A .... For Jesus" and fill in the poster for each child. On the back side write, "Do It For Jesus." Tell them that whatever they become, they can do it for Jesus.

## Learning Activities

**Memory verse activity** — Make donkeys out of paper bags. Check the Internet for ideas. Write the Bible verse on the bags. Practice the verse. Remind the children that Saul was doing what his father told him to do when he met Samuel.

**Test your memory** — If possible bring robes that a kings could wear and a crown. Bring other clothes that could be used as costumes for the Bible characters (Saul, Samuel, Saul's uncle, Saul's brothers, etc.) Be creative and let the children play the roles of the characters. Let the children retell the story.

**Taste activity** — Bring fruits and nuts in a decorative bowl for a snack. Tell the children the kings ate the best of everything. If possible sit on pillows on the floor. Have some of the children pretend to be the king and servants.

**Think about it** — The Bible says that God changed Saul's heart. Talk about what that means.

Saul did not tell his uncle all that Samuel had told him. Talk about what Saul must have felt when he learned that he would be Israel's first king.

Israel rejected God when they asked for a king. They wanted to be like the other nations. Talk about the reason we should not try to be like someone else.

**Touch activity** — Make crowns with construction paper. Use glitter or spray paint.

Saul went to look for his father's donkeys when he met Samuel. Make donkeys out of paper bags.

Samuel anointed Saul. Brings pictures of that scene. If possible replay that scene using confetti or pieces of construction paper or cut small circles with a hole puncher.

**Run and play** — If you have enough children divide them into twelve groups. Have one group represent the tribe of Benjamin. Select someone from the tribe of Benjamin to be Saul. Play Simon says and let the person representing Saul lead first.

**Listen** — As they take time to listen to God, remind the children that God wants to change our hearts.

**Sing** — Sing "Change My Heart Oh God," or other songs based on Scripture.

## Memory Verse

God gave them judges  
until the time  
of Samuel the prophet.

Then the people  
asked for a king,  
and he gave them  
Saul son of Kish,  
of the tribe  
of Benjamin,  
who ruled forty years.

Acts 13:-21 NIRV

## Word Art

Trace the letters.

Saul

was

anointed

king.

# Word Puzzle

K T E R M T X R T J S W  
H N G J N L U B C K A E  
S C W E S L L S I M R N  
D C T A E N F N P T N U  
R A R R N R G N S I E Q  
T E U O P O T S E R V E  
W I T G L S I A R E P V  
R C J H O L S N S K C R  
I E H N G P U P T E L W  
Z Q S M O U K W D E J H  
A R N R D O A A O T D V  
S E C K C T X D Y W Y R

KING

ANOINTED

SONS

DAUGHTERS

CROPS

SERVE

RULER

SCROLL

TENT



# Word Puzzle

K	T	E	R	M	T	X	R	T	J	S	W
H	N	G	J	N	L	U	B	C	K	A	E
S	C	W	E	S	L	L	S	I	M	R	N
D	C	T	A	E	N	F	N	P	T	N	U
R	A	R	R	N	R	G	N	S	I	E	Q
T	E	U	O	P	O	T	S	E	R	V	E
W	I	T	G	L	S	I	A	R	E	P	V
R	C	J	H	O	L	S	N	S	K	C	R
I	E	H	N	G	P	U	P	T	E	L	W
Z	Q	S	M	O	U	K	W	D	E	J	H
A	R	N	R	D	O	A	A	O	T	D	V
S	E	C	K	C	T	X	D	Y	W	Y	R

KING

ANOINTED

SONS

DAUGHTERS

CROPS

SERVE

RULER

SCROLL

TENT

## Word Puzzle For Younger Children

C I F K I N G P M V W L  
P D B M A V J B K X Q L  
W C X S O N S Z P J B T  
C V P R N E M I E S C H  
M N J R U L E R P G K B  
B R P A G F B J Y U K L  
S K V T E N T R B E C J  
R F G K A N O I N T E D

KING

SONS

RULER

SCROLL

TENT

ANOINTED

# Word Puzzle For Younger Children

C I F **K I N G** P M V W L  
P D B M A V J B K X Q L  
W C X **S O N S** Z P J B T  
C V P R N E M I E S C H  
M N J **R U L E R** P G K B  
B R P A G F B J Y U K L  
S K V **T E N T** R B E C J  
R F G K **A N O I N T E D**

KING

SONS

RULER

SCROLL

TENT

ANOINTED

## Anagram

1. gkni -

2. gdjue -

3. lseaum -

4. sptreohp -

5. yppeohrs -

6. ulas -

7. nnbmjeai -

8. sikh -

## Anagram

1. gkni — king
2. gdjue — judge
3. lseaum — Samuel
4. sptreohp — prophets -
5. -yppeohrs — prophesy
6. ulas — Saul
7. nnbmjeai — Benjamin
8. sikh — Kish