

>>> COMMUNITY KIDS <<<

ISRAEL DEMANDED A KING

1 SAMUEL 8-10



FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS:

- **Mornings:** Ask God to help your family trust in His goodness and His plans—even when unexpected things happen. How does our faith grow in difficult situations? How does remembering God's faithfulness help you face the unexpected?
- **Evenings:** Praise God for His faithfulness to you today. Thank Him for being there for you all day—no matter what happened. Where did you see God's goodness in your day? How does celebrating His goodness today help us prepare for tomorrow?

>>> MAIN IDEAS:

CHRIST CONNECTION

THIS IS THE BIG IDEA OF HOW THIS WEEK'S BIBLE STORY POINTS TO JESUS:

GOD INTENDED FOR A HEAVENLY KING TO RULE OVER ISRAEL, BUT THE ISRAELITES DID NOT TRUST GOD'S PLAN. THEY WANTED A KING LIKE THE NATIONS AROUND THEM. GOD HAD A BETTER PLAN: TO EVENTUALLY SEND HIS SON, JESUS, TO BE THE PERFECT KING FOREVER.

BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

Why does sin separate us from God?

Because God is holy, sin has broken our relationship with God.

▶▶▶ CONTINUE THE STORY AT HOME

1 SAMUEL 8-10

Dear Families,

Have you ever visited a frozen yogurt shop that allows you to choose your own toppings? They have hundreds of choices: crumbled cookies, gummy worms, fruit, sprinkles, and even candy that you can pour over to make your sweet treat even sweeter! It's very tempting to want all the toppings, but that would only lead to a stomachache and lots of regret!

The people of Israel did not like the judges God had put in charge of leading them. When they saw how other nations around them had kings, the Israelites wanted a king of their own! Samuel warned the people that they would regret asking for a king, but the Israelites didn't care. So, God gave the people what they wanted—a king named Saul.

The Israelites chose their own way and rejected God's way. **Sin is choosing anything that goes against God and His commands. We've all sinned because we thought our way would be better than God's way.** But God is so great that He had an even better plan to save us! God sent Jesus to be the perfect King. Jesus trusted God's plan and gave His life to save all who believe in Him!

God intended for a heavenly king to rule over Israel, but the Israelites did not trust God's plan. They wanted a king like the nations around them. God had a better plan: to eventually send His Son, Jesus, to be the perfect King forever.

Pray: *God, help us to trust in You and Your plans for us. When we want to choose our own way, give us the strength to follow You. And when we sin by choosing our way instead of Yours, remind us of the forgiveness that is found in Jesus!*

FAMILY ACTIVITIES ◀◀

For Fun: Play "king for a day" throughout the week, allowing each family member to have a turn making decisions like what game the family will play, what movie the family will watch, or what dessert the family will eat. Discuss how earthly kings do what they want, but Jesus, our heavenly King, rules over all and always does what God the Father wants.

To Serve: Take time to pray for the elected officials who serve your family. Write a letter letting them know your family has prayed for them and for the job God has given them to do.



UNIT MEMORY VERSE:

Then I said: Woe is me for I am ruined because I am a man of unclean lips and live among a people of unclean lips, and because my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of Armies.

-Isaiah 6:5