

Adventures with GOD!

ISRAEL ASKS FOR A HUMAN KING (C.1.Fall.2)

Biblical Reference	1 Samuel 8:1-10:27
Key Verse	Proverbs 3:5-7
Key Concept	God wants to guide me, but sometimes I make incorrect choices because I lack faith in God and his ways.
Educational Objectives	At the end of the class today, the children will be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Explain how to make good decisions 2. Make a list and talk about good and bad decisions and the consequences 3. Share why Israel made bad decisions and what were the consequences of these decisions

LIFE APPLICATION

Sometimes it's very difficult for people to put their faith completely in God. Because of a lack of faith, sometimes people think that going their own way is better than following God's. So, they make decisions according to what they think is best, forgetting about God. Christians sometimes do the same thing, even when we've given our lives to Jesus it's difficult to let him take control of our lives. So, many times we make incorrect decisions that have consequences. God sees with clarity every situation in our lives and the children need to understand that there is wisdom in following in God's way and trusting completely in God.

Possible Activities and Class Plan

Activity	Materials	Time
Opening Prayer	Candle	1 minute
Bible Reading	Bible	5 minutes
Activity	Materials for the Channel 7, books	10 minutes
Investigation	Bible, illustrations	15 minutes
Bible Story	Paper and pencils	25 minutes
Closing Prayer	Candle	1 minute

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INSTRUCTIONS

Opening Prayer: Gather children around a candle. Light the candle and explain that we are entering into a special time with God. Encourage the children to hold their hands out in front of them palms up as a sign they are ready to receive what God has for them today.

Prayer Example: Lord God, thank you for making us, for loving us, for forgiving us, and guiding us. We know you are here with us right now. As we enter into your word, the Bible, help us draw close to you, to understand and to listen to what you have to say to us. Amen

(For safety sake, you may wish to extinguish the candle after the prayer)

Bible Reading: Explain that as we read the Bible we do that first to spend time with God. Children can remain with hands out stretched palms up to receive the word as it's being read. Alternatively they can be invited to draw what they hear. Read the Bible passage for the day two times and ask children to respond.

Question examples: What did you notice in this story? How does it make you feel? Was there anything you would ask God about that you didn't understand or was confusing? Is God saying anything to you though the story?

Activity: If it's necessary the children can keep working on the accessories and props for their television newscast. They can also investigate three things that they will be presenting later. Divide the group into 3 investigative groups.

Group 1: The reasons and the rejection (for example, kids who are 9 years old)

Group 2: The results and the answer (for example, kids who are 10 years old)

Group 3: The petition (for example, kids who are 11 years old)

They will decide how to present the information that they have learned about these areas. It can be in the form of news, interviews, live, etc. Also choose someone who will be the announcer for the program. Other things that they could investigate are: weather (what were the seasons like), health (what particular health issues did the people have), etc. The children should choose among themselves the videographer, the director and the other participants.

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Investigation: In the following pages you will find some worksheets that each group can work on, according to the theme they've been given to present. The results of these worksheets will help them understand better the reality of the people of Israel and why they made the decisions they did.

Bible Story: Based on the investigation they did into the Bible story for today they will present the story in form of a newscast. As each group presents, the others should be paying attention. Remind them as they plan to be creative. After each group has presented have a round table discussion where you are the facilitator. Dialogue about making bad vs. good decisions. They should answer the question, "Why was it a bad decision to elect a king?" Then talk about experiences they've had with making decisions. Share the 5 ingredients to making a good decision: 1. Read the Bible, 2. Pray, 3. Ask advice of wise adults, 4. Confirmations (the opportunities and possibilities), 5. Act with wisdom and in peace.

Closing Prayer: Gather children around the candle again. As you light the candle explain that the flame is something that is present in the light and the darkness. In the same way, it reminds us that God is always with us. Is there anything anyone wishes to say to God? After children have responded, close the prayer time.

Prayer Example: Lord God, we thank you that you are always with us, and always love us. It's good to be with you. Thank you for what we have learned today. Thank you for being with us and for teaching us through the Bible. Help us to remember what you have taught us today and to live it out when we leave. Amen

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WORKSHEET #1

The Reasons – Why did the people of God ask for a king? (1 Samuel 8:1-5)

1. The children of Samuel were called _____ (8:2).
2. Instead of following in Samuel's ways, what did his sons do? (8:3)
3. What was the advise the elders of Israel gave? (8:4-5)

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WORKSHEET #2

Rejection – Who were they rejecting? (1 Samuel 8:6-9)

1. What was Samuel's reaction when they asked for a king (8:6)
2. Who does the Lord say that the people are rejecting (8:7-8)
3. What is Samuel to tell the people? (8:9)

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WORKSHEET #3

The results (1 Samuel 8:10-18)

1. What did Samuel say would happen to people's sons if they were to have a human king? (8:11-12)
2. What would happen to their daughters, to the fields and vineyards? (8:13-15)
3. What would happen to their servants and their flocks? (8:15-17)
4. What will be the end result of having a human king? (8:18)

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WORKSHEET #4

The Answer – How did the people of God respond? (1 Samuel 8:19-21)

1. Did the people listen to Samuel? What was their response? (8:19)
2. What reason do they give for wanting a king? ((8:20)
3. After he heard this, what did Samuel do? (8:21)

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WORKSHEET #5

The Petition (1 Samuel 9:2, 15-16, 10:1, 6-9, 25-27)

1. What was the name of the son of Kish? (9:2)
2. What had God revealed to Samuel about Saul? (9:15-16)
3. What did Samuel anoint Saul with? (10:1)
4. What does Samuel tell Saul will happen to him? (10:6-9) After he is installed as king what happens? (10:25-27)