



GRADES
1-2

SUMMER SUNDAYS

July 13, 2025
1st Service

Saul Sinned and was Rejected

1 Samuel 13-15

God is:
Holy

Summer Sunday Verse:

The Lord does not look at the things
people look at. People look at the
outward appearance, but the Lord
looks at the heart.
-1 Samuel 16:7

SHEPHERD GUIDE

Take time to prepare your heart and mind by spending time in the Word reading 1 Samuel 13-15. Note your observations about God's character and how you see God working so you can share them with the kids.

God gave Saul victory over his enemies and helped him unify the people to protect themselves from the sin of the surrounding nations. Things were looking up for Saul, but then it all came crashing down.

In 1 Samuel, we see *the people's king did what he wanted*. God calls us to die to ourselves and serve others, the example we see so clearly in Jesus. We also see how *the people's king disobeyed*. God calls us to live in obedience to Him, and that obedience stems from our love for Him. We can be so thankful that Jesus is our true, perfect and better King!



When the children arrive, introduce yourself, ask them their name, welcome them to the class, and invite them to play with the other children. When most kids have arrived for first service, ask them to clean up the toys and find a seat at one of the tables to begin the class.



LESSON OVERVIEW

None

Ask the class: *When have you been given an instruction, but chose to ignore it? Or have you ever partly obeyed an instruction, but did not fully obey it?*

Today we are going to look at the book of 1 Samuel and how the Israelites were asking for a human king. They wanted to be like the other nations around them instead of trusting God as their King. The Israelites learned that God was holy and they needed to obey Him.

Discuss the following questions in table groups or together as a class:

Do you find it hard to obey all of the time? Why or why not? Remind kids that the Bible warns that we will be tempted to sin. Because of our human sinful nature, we want to do the opposite of what we should do. Encourage kids that God is full of grace and saved us from sin by sending Jesus to die on the cross and rise again.

Why is obedience so important to God? Discuss how sin separates us from God. Guide kids to consider that because God loves us, He does not want our relationship with Him to be broken by sin.

What are ways we can improve at obeying? Encourage kids to pray for God's help in obeying. Invite kids to consider if they would choose to obey more often if they stopped and thought before acting. Suggest that kids post reminders on their walls or mirrors of instructions they struggle to obey the most.



ACTIVITY:

Crown

Crown templates,
crayons,
colored pencils,
scotch tape,
cotton balls,
glue

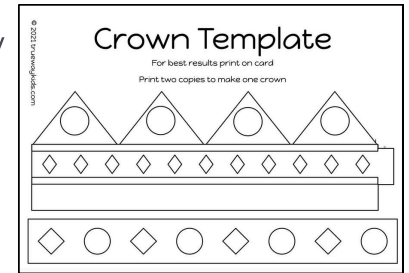
Pass out **two** crown templates to each child. Have them color their two crown pieces. (They will already be cut out for you.)

Help the kids put the crowns together by measuring around the child's head and tape together to form a crown.

Options!

- Add the two strips to the top to make a dome on the crown.
- Cover the bottom section with glue and stick on cotton balls.

Discuss how Saul was the first King of Israel. The Israelites wanted a king so they could be like the other nations around them instead of trusting in God's leadership. But, Saul disobeyed God. Remind the kids that God is the only one who is perfect and Holy. He is our only true King!



MEMORY VERSE GAME

Disappearing Verse

Key Passage Poster,
construction paper
ball

Practice 1 Samuel 16:7 together a few times.

Roll a piece of construction paper into a ball.

Write 1 Samuel 16:7 in big letters on the white board.

Choose one volunteer to stand 15 paces away from the white board. Lead him to throw the paper ball at the poster. Erase and draw a line to designate the blank word over whichever word(s) the ball touches or hits closest to.

Guide kids to say the key passage with the blanks. Continue until all the words of the verse are erased and kids are able to say the key passage from memory.