

Lesson 1

Cross

Formed

Kids

Who is Israel's king? Yahweh is the true king of Israel.

Read aloud: Psalm 24

Recommended Illustration

Show kids two water bottles. Fill one with rubbing alcohol and the other with water.

note

****PLEASE TAKE PRECAUTIONS NOT TO ALLOW ANYONE TO ACCIDENTALLY INGEST THE ALCOHOL. I RECOMMEND CLEARLY MARKING THE BOTTLES DURING THE ILLUSTRATION AND TO BE SAFE DISCARDING BOTH AFTERWARDS.****

As you show the kids both water bottles ask them to describe what they see. Once they've described them, let them in on your little secret. Both of these bottles of water look good, refreshing, nurturing. Nonetheless, only one of them truly is any of those things. The other would make us awfully sick at best.

After using this illustration, transition to the description of Saul as a king who would look good on a war horse.

Helpful Insights

In Deuteronomy, Israel receives a prescient warning: A king may seem nice, but you will find out otherwise. As Israel's true king, Yahweh is jealous, both for Israel's affection and their wellbeing. A human king held potential to undermine both. The people would find themselves pining after this human king who looks good on a war horse. They would further find

themselves oppressed by this same king.

The Point

For Israel, both their loyalty to Yahweh and their welfare as a people depend on their living contentedly under the reign of God. Yahweh alone is the savior, deliverer, and king of Israel. Though God has a human king in his heart all along, he warns Israel about the grave consequences that come from pining after a human leader.

