

# Lesson 3

Cross

Formed

Kids

How did Israel come to have a human king?  
Continued disobedience under the judges  
showed that Israel needed a human king.

*Read aloud: 1 Samuel 8:1-9*

## **Recommended Illustration**

Parents, ask kids to share a time when they did not like the consequence they received from you.

If they're old enough for the complexity of the question, follow up by asking whether they can think of a time they knew they should receive a consequence even though they didn't like it.

Ask them to explain how something can be good even though we do not like it. Ask whether something can be good even though our parents do not enjoy it.

Just like the author of Hebrews writes, "no discipline seems pleasant at the time." And yet, because of our love for our kids, we may often need to offer them just that. Firm and loving discipline. Transition to the lesson with this point about discipline and help kids see how a King was exactly what Israel needed.

## Helpful Insights

Israel found themselves in an unfortunate position. They had lots of problems and arguments. Internally, bullies were taking over, and externally nations surrounding them were making things difficult and even instigating wars from time to time. Their true king was Yahweh, and they needed to have enough faith to trust Him and respect both his authority and that which he placed over them in the judges who ruled when they were a young nation.

Unfortunately, Israel was a nation made of humans, and all humans are born of Adam. That means like all humans, Israel preferred do their own will rather than obey God completely. Because of their stubborn disobedience, in order to keep the peace, and in order to help the nation become what God called them to be, God gave Israel a human king to lead them, protect them, and fight for them.

## The Point

Though God's gift of a human King is shown to have been grace in the end, it was also judgment for the people of Israel, whose disobedience meant they had rejected God himself as king.

