

The Thread

Discovering The Thread of the Gospel Through The Big-Picture Story of the Bible

Dear Parents,

Hello again! We've just finished the 16th lesson in "Thread," our year-long look at the big-picture story of the Bible, and how we see the Gospel interwoven along the way. This week's lesson was a time of learning how Israel traded God for an earthly king.

This week, the lesson was entitled "Saul and the Need for A King," and it focused on helping students see the picture of how Israel asked for a king. This is a perfect example in our own lives of how we can look to the world instead of allowing the Lord to change our thoughts. In Romans we are commanded to be different, and not allow the world to be our primary focus. Still we see that God knows we need His help. If we turn to Him, He will transform our thoughts. This is how we can know how to best follow Him. Our God isn't a King that merely wants to dictate His rule; He longs for us to be in a deep relationship with Him.

We looked at the following Scripture passages:

- 1 Samuel 8:1-9, 1 Samuel 10:17-24
- Romans 12:1-2

You'll enjoy reading these powerful passages that show us the power of God as our King.

Next Steps . . .

During the week set aside a few moments to discuss these questions with your teenager:

- What did you think of the fact that Israel traded God as King for Saul as king?
- Why do you think God "gave in" and let the people have what they wanted, even though it wasn't what He wanted?
- I sometimes can struggle with wanting to do what the world wants. (Tell your child some ways it can be hard for you too.) This is how I turn myself over to the Lord. (Tell of some ways you let God have control.) Would you want to share some ways you struggle too? What do you think we could do to hold each other accountable?

Thank you for all you do. If you have any questions about anything, please don't hesitate to call me.