

Grades 1-3 Lesson Template

Where	Who and What	What you Need
Classroom	Teacher takes attendance Give students a sticker	Paper on table, check off who is here, put onto the clipboard
	Play pass the crown. See directions.	P. 7
	Challenge: Look up in scripture the names of the different people who Jesus appeared to	Bibles
Large Group	Large Group Time: Leader is Sophie. She will get you when ready	
Classroom:	Page 12: Review Bible Skills and Group Discussion Questions	Bible Ask Questions
	(gr. 1-2) King of Kings Worksheet Teacher reads out the verses and the kids do the matching (gr. 3) King of Kings Worksheet: Look up Bible verses to answer the bottom questions)	
	If need a game with more time, play old or new? See instructions page 13	P. 13
	Give out new memory verse card to those who don't have one (handed out last week)	Memory Verse cards Frames - if needed



WELCOME Kids

Greet each kid as he or she arrives. Use this time to collect the offering, fill out attendance sheets, build relationships, and help new kids connect to your group.

| **SAY** 🗨️ What is something you have begged for? Maybe a new toy or time with friends. 🗨️

1 ACTIVITY PAGE (5 minutes)

Invite kids to complete “Create a Crown” activity page.

| **SAY** 🗨️ Today, we will see how **ISRAEL REJECTED GOD AS KING AND CHOSE SAUL TO BE THEIR KING**. This means they didn’t want God to be their king, but instead wanted a human king. 🗨️

2 SESSION STARTER (10 minutes)

OPTION 1: PASS THE CROWN



Direct kids to sit down in a circle. Give one kid in the circle a paper crown. Challenge kids to pass the crown around the circle as soon as the music begins. When the music stops, the kid holding the crown should place it on his head, stand up, and give a direction to the other kids. For example, he may say, “hop on one foot.” Continue until all the kids have had at least one chance to wear the crown.

| **SAY** 🗨️ Kings have the authority to tell people what to do. Some kings may use their power for good, while others may use their power for bad. In our story, we’ll see that Israel wanted to have a king like other nations. **ISRAEL REJECTED GOD AS KING AND CHOSE SAUL TO BE THEIR KING**. When the people chose Saul to be king, we’ll learn how the prophet Samuel warned the people about all the power an earthly king can have. 🗨️

OPTION 2: I WANT!

On a dry erase board, write down a list of items kids may want. Examples include, video games, books, phone, clothes, shoes, candy, art crafts, sports equipment, bike, skateboard, etc. Read the list aloud, inviting kids to give a thumbs up if they would choose to have that item. Then challenge kids to make a choice of having only one item from the list. Discuss why they choose their specific items.

| **SAY** 🗨️ Was it hard to choose only one item? Today, we will learn how Israel wanted something the other nations around them had: a king. Israel had a choice to make. They could either choose an earthly king. Or they could choose to follow God as King. What do you think they chose to do? [Allow responses.] **ISRAEL REJECTED GOD AS KING AND CHOSE SAUL TO BE THEIR KING**. 🗨️

Transition from **WELCOME** to **LEARN**






THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

LOVE God by Applying the Story

1 REVIEW & BIBLE SKILLS (5 minutes)

Distribute Bibles, ~~and display the Old Testament Mediterranean Map.~~ Guide kids to open their Bibles to 1 Samuel 10. Explain that the book of 1 Samuel is in the Old Testament and tells us about the time when Israel stopped being led by judges and began being led by kings.

Consider pointing out the location of Israel (F10) on the Old Testament Mediterranean Map. Choose a volunteer to read aloud 1 Samuel 10:19 or ask the kids to follow along as you read the verse aloud.



SAY 🌟 God told the people that He is the One who has saved them from all their troubles and hardships. No earthly king rescued God's people from slavery in Egypt. No earthly king helped God's people when their enemies attacked them. God had always been in charge and was faithful to save His people. But God's people chose an earthly king over God. Even though Saul would be their king, God ruled over King Saul.

We all sin and choose to be our own rulers. But God sent Jesus, the King of kings, to die for our sin and rise again so we could be forgiven. King Jesus makes us right before God and helps us follow Him as our King. 🌟

2 GROUP DISCUSSION (10 minutes)

Ask the following questions. Lead the group to discuss.



SAY 🌟 How do we try to be rulers over our lives? Why is this dangerous? 🌟

Tell kids that when we choose to turn away from God and do what we think is best, we are acting like our own rulers. Any disobedience to God is sin, whether we don't listen to His command to obey our parents or we tell a lie. Following our own way is dangerous because it leads us away from God and toward eternal death.

SAY 🌟 Why is God the perfect King? 🌟

Remind kids that Samuel warned the Israelites about the ways a king could use his power for his own selfish reasons. Share how God is the perfect King because everything He does is for His glory and our good. Everything He does is right. God rules the world with love, justice, and mercy. He uses His power to save us from our sin and give us eternal life through faith in Jesus.

SAY 🌟 How can Jesus become our King? 🌟

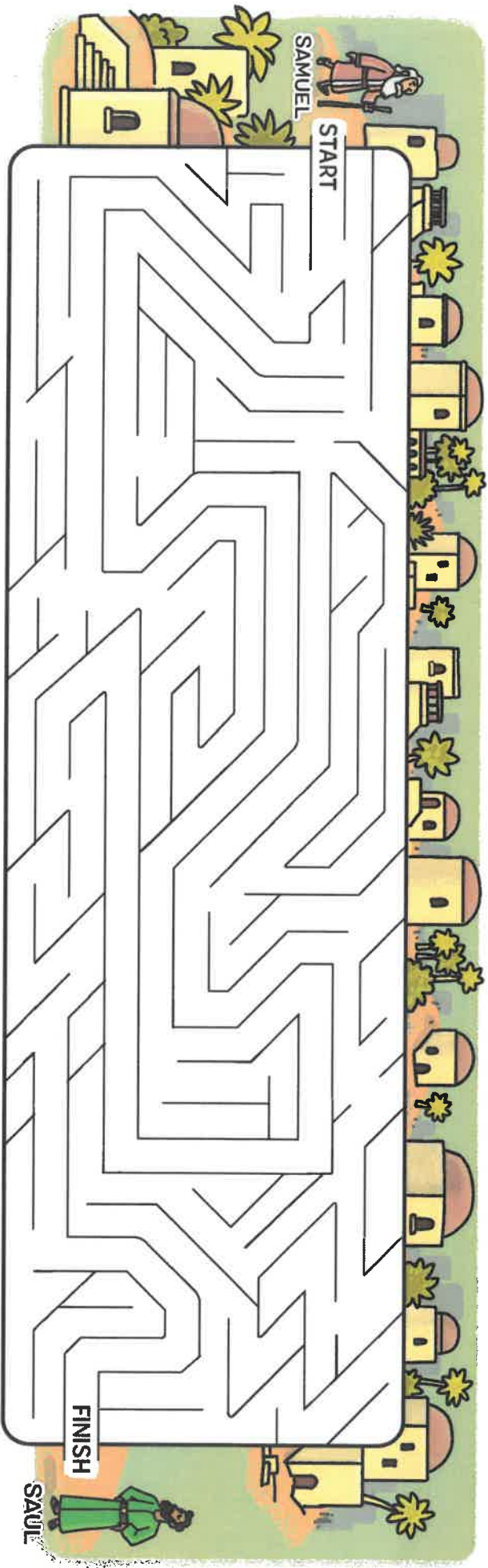
Discuss how Jesus can be King of our lives by trusting in Him as our Savior. The Bible tells us that everyone has sinned and needs to be saved from their sins. God sent His Son, Jesus, to die on the cross and rise again, taking the punishment our sin deserved. When we tell God that we have sinned and turn from that sin, God forgives us. Then God helps our hearts want to follow Jesus and obey Him.

Transition from **LOVE** to **LIVE**

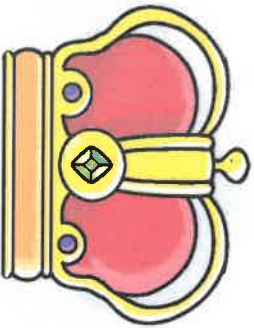


Find the King |

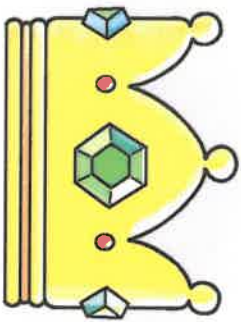
The Israelites rejected God as King and chose Saul to be their king. Help Samuel find his way to Saul.



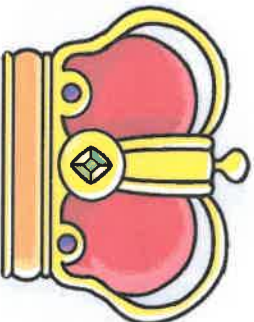
King of Kings | Match each Bible verse to what it says about King Jesus.



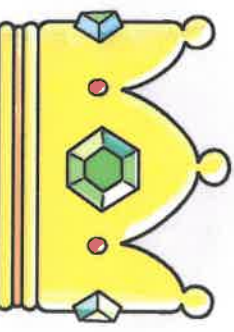
Revelation 1:5



Hebrews 1:8



Philippians 2:8



Philippians 2:10-11

Jesus is a humble King who died on a cross.

Every knee will bow, and every tongue will confess Jesus as Lord.

Jesus rules the kings of the earth.

Jesus rules on His throne forever.





JOURNAL PAGE

1. What does this story teach me about God or the gospel?

2. What does this story teach me about myself?

3. Are there any commands in this story to obey? How are they for God's glory and my good?

4. Are there any promises in this story to remember? How do they help me trust and love God?

5. How does this story help me to live on mission better?



THE ISRAELITES WANTED A KING

Unit 10 • Session 1
1 Samuel 8-10

WHO IS OUR KING? JESUS IS OUR KING FOREVER, AND HE RULES OVER THE WORLD.

When Samuel grew old, he made his sons judges over Israel. Samuel's sons were bad leaders of God's people. The elders of Israel went to Samuel and said, "You are old, and your sons do not walk in your ways. Give us a king to be our ruler, just as all the other nations have."

Samuel prayed to the Lord. God said, "They have not rejected you; they have rejected me as their king. Listen to them, but also warn them about the power a king has over the people. Samuel went to the people and said, "A king will take your sons to join his army, take your daughters to serve in his house, take your best fields, and take a tenth of your crops and your flocks."

The people refused to listen to Samuel. God told Samuel, "Listen to the people, and appoint a king for them."

Now, there was an impressive young man named Saul. One day, his father's donkeys wandered off, and Saul was sent to find them. Saul's servant recommended they ask Samuel for help. God told Samuel that He would send him a man to rule over His people. When Samuel saw Saul, the Lord said, "This is the man who will be king over my people Israel." Samuel took a flask of oil and anointed Saul as the future king.

Later, Samuel called all the people together. Saul was selected as king. When the people saw how tall and impressive Saul was, they shouted, "Long live the king!" Samuel appointed Saul as king.

Christ Connection: The Israelites rejected God as King and chose Saul to be their king. When we sin, we also reject God's rule in our lives as King. Jesus, the King of kings, died for our sin and rose again so we could be forgiven.

SCAN THE QR CODE FOR RESOURCES TO USE AT HOME!





THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

LIVE the Mission

1 ACTIVITY CHOICE (10 minutes)

OPTION 1: STORY POINT MEMORY

Print two copies of the Story Point Poster for each group of three or four kids. Cut each copy into 12 cards, one word per card. Lead groups to lay their cards, face down, in four rows of six. Kids will take turns turning over one card and then another to see if they get a match. If a match is found, the kid receives another turn. If not, the cards return to their place. Whoever has the most matches wins that round. Play several rounds as time allows. Then invite kids to volunteer to say the story point from memory.

SAY **ISRAEL REJECTED GOD AS KING AND CHOSE SAUL TO BE THEIR KING.** *When we sin, we also reject God's rule in our lives as King. Jesus, the King of kings, died for our sin and rose again so we could be forgiven. Jesus is our King forever, and He rules over the world.*

OPTION 2: OLD OR NEW?



Lead kids to line up in the center of the room. Explain that when you call out a book of the Bible, kids should determine if the book is in the Old Testament or the New Testament. If the book is in the Old Testament, kids will take a step to the left. If the book is in the New Testament, kids should take a step to the right. After each round, kids should line back up in the center. For an added challenge, consider calling out a name that is not a Bible book. If the name is not in the Bible, kids remain in place.



SAY Our story today was found in the book of 1 Samuel, which is in the Old Testament. The Bible is God's true Word and helps us know Him. As we study the Bible, we learn how He is Creator and King. Whether we are in the Old Testament or the New Testament, all of the Bible teaches us that God's plan as King was to save people from their sin. God sent Jesus to be our forever King who forgives our sin.

2 REFLECTION AND PRAYER (5 minutes)

Distribute a sheet of paper and pencil to each kid. Ask kids to write about or draw a picture to answer the following questions:

- What does this story teach me about God or the gospel?
- What does the story teach me about myself?
- Who can I tell about this story?

Be sure to send the sheets home with the kids along with the activity pages so parents can continue to discuss the Bible story with their kids. If time remains, take prayer requests or allow kids to complete the Bible story coloring page. Pray for your group.

