



Israel asks for a king



Bright
Sparks

I G N I T E

DNA

Introduction

- ▶ Some of these resources are adapted from the energize.net.uk website and are used with permission.
- ▶ In this session, we are going to be thinking about when Israel asks for a king.
- ▶ The session has a number of activities designed to be carried out together as a family and is suitable for all ages of children and young people.
- ▶ Any materials you need should be found in your house and should not require you to go anywhere.
- ▶ Enjoy, and God bless you as you use these resources at home.
- ▶ So let's begin as we always do....Hands up for news time!

NEWS TIME!



SHARE YOUR NEWS
OF THE WEEK



WHAT DO YOU WANT
TO THANK GOD FOR?



HOW HAS SOMEONE
HELPED YOU?

Game - King Bob says!

- ▶ Pick one person to be “King Bob” (spot the film reference) and play a version of “Simon says” but instead use “King Bob says...”
- ▶ Take turns being King Bob.
- ▶ As an alternative (and slightly harder version) King Bob could set challenges, such as “King Bob says you should balance on one leg and see who can last the longest” or “King Bob says you should attach as many clothes pegs to your ears as possible”.

Bible Story - Israel asks for a king

- ▶ Can you remember what the story was about last week?
- ▶ The story last week was about Samuel hearing God speak to him for the first time and how Samuel became a prophet.
- ▶ We join the story of Samuel again today when he is an old man. He has been a prophet and judge to the people for many years, but they decide they want something new. They want a king.
- ▶ The story is from 1 Samuel chapter 8 - why not have a go at finding it in a Bible?
- ▶ First you are going to read the story through together - either one person reads or take turns reading. The story is on the next page.
- ▶ Then you are going to create a freeze frame of some of the parts of the story. These can be found after the story.

Bible Story - Israel asks for a king

- ▶ When Samuel grew old, he made his sons judges in Israel. ² The older son was named Joel and the younger one Abijah; they were judges in Beersheba. ³ But they did not follow their father's example; they were interested only in making money, so they accepted bribes and did not decide cases honestly.
- ▶ ⁴ Then all the leaders of Israel met together, went to Samuel in Ramah, ⁵ and said to him, "Look, you are getting old and your sons don't follow your example. So then, appoint a king to rule over us, so that we will have a king, as other countries have."
- ▶ ⁶ Samuel was displeased with their request for a king; so he prayed to the LORD, ⁷ and the LORD said, "Listen to everything the people say to you. You are not the one they have rejected; I am the one they have rejected as their king. ⁸ Ever since I brought them out of Egypt, they have turned away from me and worshiped other gods; and now they are doing to you what they have always done to me. ⁹ So then, listen to them, but give them strict warnings and explain how their kings will treat them."

Bible Story - Israel asks for a king

- ▶ ¹⁰ Samuel told the people who were asking him for a king everything that the LORD had said to him. ¹¹ “This is how your king will treat you,” Samuel explained. “He will make soldiers of your sons; some of them will serve in his war chariots, others in his cavalry, and others will run before his chariots. ¹² He will make some of them officers in charge of a thousand men, and others in charge of fifty men. Your sons will have to plow his fields, harvest his crops, and make his weapons and the equipment for his chariots. ¹³ Your daughters will have to make perfumes for him and work as his cooks and his bakers.
- ▶ ¹⁴ He will take your best fields, vineyards, and olive groves, and give them to his officials. ¹⁵ He will take a tenth of your grain and of your grapes for his court officers and other officials. ¹⁶ He will take your servants and your best cattle and donkeys, and make them work for him. ¹⁷ He will take a tenth of your flocks. And you yourselves will become his slaves. ¹⁸ When that time comes, you will complain bitterly because of your king, whom you yourselves chose, but the LORD will not listen to your complaints.”
- ▶ ¹⁹ The people paid no attention to Samuel, but said, “No! We want a king, ²⁰ so that we will be like other nations, with our own king to rule us and to lead us out to war and to fight our battles.” ²¹ Samuel listened to everything they said and then went and told it to the LORD. ²² The LORD answered, “Do what they want and give them a king.” Then Samuel told all the men of Israel to go back home.

Bible Story - Israel asks for a king

- ▶ Create a freeze frame for the following scenes:
 - ▶ 8:1 “when Samuel was old he left his sons to be judges of Israel.”
 - ▶ 8:5 “the leader's said... “we want a King,”
 - ▶ 8:6 “Samuel was upset ... so he prayed,”
 - ▶ 8:11 “Your sons will join the army,”
 - ▶ 8:13 “your daughters will do the cooking,”
 - ▶ 8:14 “the King will take your things and give them to his officials,”
 - ▶ 8:18 “you will cry out to the Lord against the King you wanted,”
- ▶ Be as creative as you like with props and why not take photos of your freeze frames and send them in.



Discussion - We want a king!

Pick and choose any of the questions below you want to discuss in your family.

- ▶ Who was in today's story?
- ▶ What did the people ask Samuel for?
- ▶ What did Samuel do next and how did he feel?
- ▶ What did God tell Samuel?
- ▶ How did Samuel tell the people a king would treat them?
- ▶ Did the people still want a king? Why?
- ▶ Do you think having a king was a good idea?
- ▶ What kind of king would you like to have?
- ▶ The Israelites wanted to be like other nations - who do you want to be like? Why?
- ▶ Later in the Bible (NT) who is called a King?



Prayer - Leaders



- ▶ In the Bible it says *“I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people—for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness.” 1 Timothy 2:1-2*
- ▶ Make a list of all the leaders you can think of (kings/queens of countries, governments, headteachers, head of a hospital, etc.)
- ▶ Spend some time praying for the leaders you have thought of - maybe that they would have wisdom or make good decisions.
- ▶ You could write or draw a prayer - or just say it out loud or in your head.



Creative time

Have a go at one or more of the activities below:



- ▶ Write the word “KING” in bubble writing and colour it in.
- ▶ Write a diary entry for Samuel after today’s story.
- ▶ Make a crown out of paper/card and get as creative as you like with decorating it.
- ▶ Read in your Bible/Children’s Bible/Action Bible about Saul - the first king of Israel.





Memory Verse

- ▶ Today's memory verse is:

*For the LORD Most High is awesome,
the great King over all the earth.*

Psalm 47:2



- ▶ This verse is taken from Psalms, which is a book of poetry and songs in the Bible.
- ▶ Make a song for the memory verse, using some of the following ideas:
 - ▶ Sing a tune
 - ▶ Rap the words
 - ▶ Create an instrument - an ice cream tub drum or a shaker out of some rice in a bottle
 - ▶ Find some instrumental music online and say the words over the top of it.
 - ▶ Think up some actions or dance moves.



Reflection

- ▶ What did you learn about in the story today?
- ▶ What was your favourite part of today's session?
- ▶ God is the greatest leader we have - how can you obey Him this week?

- ▶ Prayer to end:

Thank you, God for our time together learning about when Israel asked for a king. Help us to do what you want us to do this week. Thank you for loving us and caring for us. AMEN!

Something extra:

- ▶ *Youth For Christ* have created some brilliant worksheets about “life in lockdown” and how we might be feeling and acting differently. There are four editions - kids, youth, families and grown-ups - and they can be found on the church website for you to download and print at home. A message from *Youth For Christ* is on the next page. Enjoy!

Youth For Christ Message

Lockdown, what a strange time... everything that we knew as normal has been completely turned on it's head, and we are left confined (mainly) to our homes and to exist solely with the people in our household. The only meaningful contact we have with those outside our house is via a screen, and routine is often non existent, even after a good number of weeks! We've created a few little PDFs of things that might help as we navigate through lockdown and begin to create what new normal looks like. Share them with anyone you think they could be helpful for and let us know how you get on with them!

Kids edition

Giving children responsibility in the home can be utterly transformative. This is a simple free printable PDF for 8-13's to help inspire them to make a positive difference in their home, and to look out for their grown-ups...

Youth edition

Giving young people responsibility in the home can be utterly transformative. This is a simple free printable PDF for 13+ to help inspire them to be a game changer in their home environment and look out for the rest of the people in their house...

Grown-Ups edition

There's a lot going on in our children's brains... how can we make sense of it? Can we help? We hope that this free printable PDF goes a little way to helping you help your children through lockdown.

Families edition

Being a family is all about working together, helping each other and doing our best for each other. This is not that easy when we're in lockdown, contained in one building together... these activities are designed to help us, together, to take some lessons from John's gospel and do our best at being family in lockdown.