

Major Event: SETTLEMENT

Lesson 7: Saul

Scriptures: I Samuel 8, 9, 10

Central Text: I Samuel 8:6-9

6 But the thing was displeasing in the sight of Samuel when they said, "Give us a king to judge us." And Samuel prayed to the LORD. 7 The LORD said to Samuel, "Listen to the voice of the people in regard to all that they say to you, for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected Me from being king over them. 8 Like all the deeds which they have done since the day that I brought them up from Egypt even to this day-in that they have forsaken Me and served other gods-so they are doing to you also. 9 Now then, listen to their voice; however, you shall solemnly warn them and tell them of the procedure of the king who will reign over them.

Suggested Subjects for Teacher to Cover:

- Samuel made mistakes with his family when he was old (1 Sam. 8:1-5). Desiring to solve all their problems, the Israelites wanted a King to rule over them, even though that was not what God wanted for His people.
- God reminded Samuel that the people had not only rejected Samuel, but they had also rejected HIM. Note - It is foolish to leave God out.
- The people were warned of the cost of having a king, but still they demanded that they have one like all the other nations. Note - Sometimes we are so sure we know what is best, but only God really knows what is for our good.
- Saul was selected as the best choice because he was taller than the others and handsome. However, even at the time of his selection, Saul demonstrated that he was not the best choice because his servant was better prepared to meet the prophet Samuel than he was.
- Saul was hiding when the time came to be presented to the nation as their chosen king. His behavior was perhaps an early indication of a problem that would develop. As 1 Sam. 10:26, 27 shows, both God and the Devil took notice of Saul's behavior;
- Even though Saul was not in God's eternally righteous plan he was still used by God through his grace.
- Saul, the people's best choice for king, was not going to be good enough when the time came to face a great enemy; his troubles were going to be bigger than he was. He was not God's choice.

Suggested Attributes for Teacher to Cover:

1. Of God: Righteousness, Holiness, Grace, Faithfulness
2. Of Man: Dependence on God, Lack of Faithfulness, Pride

Suggested Reading for Parents and Child at Home: Psalms 118:8, Deuteronomy 30:15-20, Deuteronomy 32

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