

# 40. A King Is Chosen

## *The Word of the Lord: The Old Testament for Young Children*

### Notes for Parents & Teachers

#### 40. A King Is Chosen

- a. Tell them that Samuel had been a great prophet. But his sons were not good like he was, which was one reason they wanted a king—yet Samuel was not yet dead!
- b. Note that in choosing a king they were wanting to be like other people, instead of being the people who followed the Lord through their prophet.
- c. Saul had no idea he was going to be king—he was just looking for the family's donkeys and stopped to ask Samuel to help.
- d. How surprised he must have been to be anointed!
- e. He was shy and hid, but they found him. Note his size.



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## The Lord Lets the People Choose a King

Samuel was a prophet of the Lord for all his life. When Samuel was an old man, the leaders of Israel came to him and said, “Give us a king to rule over us like all the other nations.” Samuel was unhappy, and he prayed to the Lord. The Lord said to Samuel, “Listen to the people. They don’t want Me to be their king anymore. Give them what they want for they no longer follow Me.” And the Lord warned the people that a king would rule strictly over them.

Now there was a man named Saul who was one of the children of Israel. He was very fine to look at and he was taller than anyone else. One day some of the family’s donkeys went missing and Saul went to look for them. And he came to the city where Samuel was staying. Saul went to find Samuel to see if Samuel could help him. When Samuel saw Saul, the Lord told him that Saul was the one He had chosen to be the first king of the children of Israel.

So Samuel took a bottle of precious oil and poured it upon Saul’s head and kissed him and the Lord anointed Saul king.

Then Samuel called all the people together and said, “You have turned away from following the Lord as your King. Instead you have said, ‘Give us our own king to rule over us’, so the Lord has heard you. He has chosen a man to be king over you.”

But when the people looked for Saul they could not find him. When they found him, and when Saul stood up in the middle of the people, he was taller than all of the people from his shoulder upwards. And Samuel said to all the people, “See him whom the Lord God has chosen.” And all the people shouted and said, “May the king live!”

1 Samuel 8-10

