

God's
people ask
him for a
king
1 Samuel 8

Name: _____



Read 1 Samuel 8

When Samuel grew old, he appointed his sons as Israel's leaders. ²The name of his firstborn was Joel and the name of his second was Abijah, and they served at Beersheba. ³But his sons did not follow his ways. They turned aside after dishonest gain and accepted bribes and perverted justice. ⁴So all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah. ⁵They said to him, "You are old, and your sons do not follow your ways; now appoint a king to lead us, such as all the other nations have." ⁶But when they said, "Give us a king to lead us," this displeased Samuel; so he prayed to the LORD. ⁷And the LORD told him: "Listen to all that the people are saying to you; it is not you they have rejected, but they have rejected me as their king. ⁸As they have done from the day I brought them up out of Egypt until this day, forsaking me and serving other gods, so they are doing to you. ⁹Now listen to them; but warn them solemnly and let them know what the king who will reign over them will claim as his rights." ¹⁰Samuel told all the words of the LORD to the people who were asking him for a king. ¹¹He said, "This is what the king who will reign over you will claim as his rights: He will take your sons and make them serve with his chariots and horses, and they will run in front of his chariots. ¹²Some he will assign to be commanders of thousands and commanders of fifties, and others to plow his ground and reap his harvest, and still others to make weapons of war and equipment for his chariots. ¹³He will take your daughters to be perfumers and cooks and bakers. ¹⁴He will take the best of your fields and vineyards and olive groves and give them to his attendants. ¹⁵He will take a tenth of your grain and of your vintage and give it to his officials and attendants. ¹⁶Your male and female servants and the best of your cattle and donkeys he will take for his own use. ¹⁷He will take a tenth of your flocks, and you yourselves will become his slaves. ¹⁸When that day comes, you will cry out for relief from the king you have chosen, but the LORD will not answer you in that day." ¹⁹But the people refused to listen to Samuel. "No!" they said. "We want a king over us. ²⁰Then we will be like all the other nations, with a king to lead us and to go out before us and fight our battles." ²¹When Samuel heard all that the people said, he repeated it before the LORD. ²²The LORD answered, "Listen to them and give them a king." Then Samuel said to the Israelites, "Everyone go back to your own town."

Can you **highlight** anything from the passage that stands out to you?

Can you underline parts that you have questions about? (Maybe you can ask your questions to your Mum, Dad or Carer after church has finished)

Israel wanted a king to feel safe and secure.
What things make you feel safe and secure?

These are good things. But God is better! He has given us the best security in king Jesus.

Why does Israel want a king?

Match the verse with the picture and reason on the right

1 Samuel 8:3,5

Because the Israelites Were Attacked by the Ammonites



1 Samuel 8:5, 20

The Evil Lives of Samuel's Sons



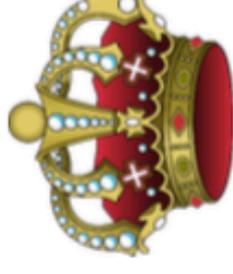
1 Samuel 8:20

Desire for an always-ready leader for Israel's Battles



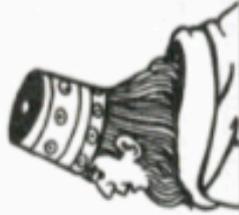
1 Samuel 12:12

The Desire to Be Like Other Nations



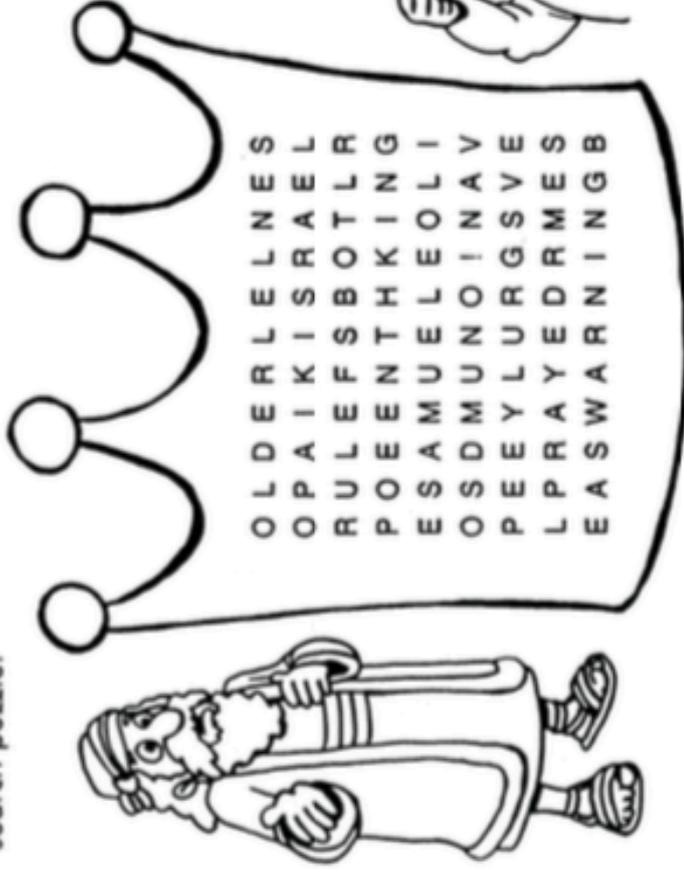
What Did the People of Israel Want?

Cross out all the letters that appear 4 times to find the answer.



B	T	O	C	B	H	A
Z	J	D	L	J		Z
V	E	B	M		A	P
L	D	K	I	N		G
O	C	F	P	T	D	H
E	J	I	R	M	B	Z
M	C	O	M	L	W	J
D	P	L	N	P	Z	C

As you read the story, try to find all the words in bold type in the word search puzzle.



O L D E R L E L N E S
 O P A I K I S R A T L R
 R U L E N T H K I N G
 E S A M U E L O L I
 O S D M U N O I N A V E
 P E E Y L U R G S V E S
 L P R A Y E R N I N G B
 E A S W A R N I N G B

The **older leaders of Israel** came to Samuel and said, "Give us a **king** to rule over us like all the other nations."

Samuel **prayed** to the Lord and the Lord told Samuel, "Listen to whatever the **people** say to you. But give them a **warning**. Tell them what the king who rules over them will do."

Samuel warned the people, but they would not **listen**. They said, "**No!** We want a king to **rule** over us. Then we will be like all the other **nations**." Then the **Lord** said, "Give them a king."

Create Your Own

Cut-out CROWN 1. Color and Decorate your crown. 2. Cut out the crown and bands. 3. Attach the headbands to the crown. 4. Attach the bands together at the back, and wear it!

