



Samuel and Saul

Lesson Aim: To know God will help us.

THE WORSHIP

Who God Is: The King Who Knows Our Hearts

THE WORD

Bible Story: 1 Samuel 10:1, 6-8, 20-24

What He Has Done: God chose Saul to be king.

THE WAY

"Trust in God." John 14:1

| Unit 8: The King Who Knows Our Hearts | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|--|----------------------------------|
| | Bible Story | What He Has Done | Lesson Aim |
| 38 | Samuel and Saul, 1 Samuel 10:1, 6-8, 20-24 | God chose Saul to be king. | To know God will help us. |
| 39 | David and Goliath, 1 Samuel 17:4-9, 32-45, 47-50 | God helped David defeat the giant. | To know we can trust God. |
| 40 | David and Jonathan, 1 Samuel 18:1-4; 20:17, 42 | God gave David and Jonathan each other as friends. | To know God sends us friends. |
| 41 | David's Heart: David Praises God, 2 Samuel 6:5, 12-15 | God saw David praise Him. | To know we can praise the Lord. |
| 42 | David and Mephibosheth, 2 Samuel 9:1-11 | God helped David include Mephibosheth. | To know God wants us to be kind. |

TEACHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT

This week, read Psalm 139. Please join us in praying, "Thank You, Lord, for loving us. Fill us with Your Spirit and change our hearts so we may teach and lead Your children in building Your kingdom. Amen."

TEACHER'S TIP

God helps us do big things. Believing God will help us do big things requires trust in Him. Young children get their ideas about God from those in authority around them. If they believe they can trust you, they are more likely to believe what you teach. Being consistent and providing a safe and pleasant environment will help them develop this trust.



THE WORSHIP THE WORD & THE WAY

| Segment | Minutes | Activity | Supplies |
|-------------|----------|---|--|
| THE WELCOME | Up to 15 | Welcome | Treasure chest, stamp or sticker of a crown |
| | | Coloring Center: Samuel and Saul | Coloring pages of Samuel anointing Saul, crayons or markers, lotion, cotton swab |
| | | Play-Dough Center: He Knows Our Hearts | Play-dough, cookie cutters, play-dough tools |
| | | Block Center: God Will Help Us | Blocks or other toys the children can play with together. |
| | | Game Center: Follow the Leader | Praise music |
| | Up to 5 | Prepare for Worship | None |
| THE WORSHIP | Up to 20 | Worship Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs available at ResourceWell.org. Additional Song Suggestions: "Jesus Loves Me" "Only a Boy Named David" | Praise music, optional: musical instruments Unit 8 Bible Memory Verse Song: "Do Not Let Your Hearts Be Troubled" Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions: "Do You Love Me?" "Guide Me" "I Can Do Everything" "Let Everything That Has Breath" "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God" "Sing Praises" "We Love" |
| | | Offering | Baskets |
| | | Worship Illustration | <i>The Adventures of Delbert and Lello</i> puppet script or storybook: Kings & Kingdoms Unit 8, Lesson 38 |
| THE WORD | Up to 10 | Watch the Word: 1 Samuel 10:1, 6-8, 20-24 | Teacher's Bible with bookmark at 1 Samuel 10:22 Visual: Picture of the Bible story, item you can hide behind (towel, sheet, book, etc.) |
| THE WAY | Up to 25 | Craft: Saul's Hiding Place | White and light brown sturdy paper, glue or glue sticks, tape, crayons or markers |
| | | Game: Long Live the King | Crown (plastic or cut from cardboard), towel or sheet |
| | | Game: "God Will Help You" Charades | None |
| | | Snack: The King's Cookies | Frosted cookies or iced animal crackers |
| | Final 5 | Final Five | Ponder, Pray & Play for 2-3's: Unit 8, Lesson 38 |
| GOT TIME? | Up to 10 | Say & Do: 1 Samuel 10:1, 6-8, 20-24 | None |
| | Up to 10 | Game: "Trust in God!" Cheer | None |
| | Up to 10 | Game: Trust Bubbles | Bubbles, bubble wand, Unit 8 Bible Memory Verse Song "Do Not Let Your Hearts Be Troubled" |
| | Up to 10 | Story Time | Any story about God helping someone with a difficult task |

RESOURCES: Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



The King who knows our hearts

THE WELCOME

WELCOME

Welcome each child as they arrive. **Hello _____. I'm glad you are here! Come open the Treasure Chest to find today's treasure.** Child unlocks the Treasure Chest to receive a stamp or sticker of a crown. **Let this stamp (or sticker) of a crown help you remember God will help you, just like God helped King Saul!**

Teacher's Note: These activity centers are designed to reinforce the lesson through hands-on learning experiences either individually or in small groups with the guidance of the teacher. Choose the Bible Activity Centers that best suit the children in your class. Set up the activity centers around the room before children arrive. Allow children to move freely among them.

COLORING CENTER: SAMUEL AND SAUL

SUPPLIES

Coloring pages of Samuel anointing Saul, crayons, lotion, cotton swab

DO

Children color their picture and add a drop of lotion to the oil Samuel is using to anoint Saul.

TALK ABOUT

In our picture today, a man named Saul is being anointed with oil by a man named Samuel. The oil told everyone Saul was chosen by God to be king. Place a drop of lotion on a cotton swab. Allow the children to use it to put lotion on the oil Samuel is using.

PLAY-DOUGH CENTER: HE KNOWS OUR HEARTS

SUPPLIES

Play-dough, cookie cutters, play-dough tools

DO

Children play with the play-dough while talking about the King who knows our hearts. Encourage children to make hearts with the play-dough.

TALK ABOUT

Today, we remember God as the King who knows our hearts. God always knows what you are feeling because He made you and He made your heart. How are you feeling today? (Children respond.) Children may not know what they are feeling. You can ask questions such as, Are you happy? Are you sad? What makes you happy? What makes you sad?

We can trust God to help us no matter how we are feeling. How do you think God can help you when you are sad? Or afraid? Our Bible Memory Verse says, "Trust in God." Next time you are sad or afraid, do you think you can remember to trust in God? (Children respond.) **Let's say our Bible Memory Verse together: "Trust in God."**

THE WELCOME *continued...*

BLOCK CENTER: GOD WILL HELP US

SUPPLIES

Blocks or other toys the children can play with together

DO

Encourage children to help each other.

TALK ABOUT

Encourage the children to help each other. Point out when you see children being good helpers.

You are all being very good helpers. It's nice when we have friends to help us. Who helps you when you have to do something that is really hard? (Children respond.) Can we ask God when we need help? (Yes!) Yes, we can always ask God for help. He knows when we are worried, or afraid, or sad and He can help us do anything!

GAME CENTER: FOLLOW THE LEADER

SUPPLIES

Praise music

DO

Play "Follow the Leader."

TALK ABOUT

God called Saul to lead His people but he didn't do it by himself; God was with him. Let's play "Follow the Leader." I will be the leader and you follow. When you hear the music, I want you to dance. When the music stops, stand still like a statue. Play praise music. Encourage the children to dance when the music is on. Stop the music. Remind the children (if necessary) to stand still like a statue. Repeat several times.

PREPARE FOR WORSHIP

It's time for Praise Time. Let's sing a "Clean Up Song" as we put things away. Praise children as they help clean.

**Clean up! Clean up! Everybody, everywhere!
Clean up! Clean up! Everybody do your share!**

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SIGN LANGUAGE

(For visual demonstrations, see www.signingsavvy.com)

| | |
|------------------|--|
| "Trust | Touch pointer finger of one hand to forehead. Move hands together and squeeze them closed in front of you. |
| in | Hold one hand in front of you, thumb almost touching the fingers. Slide the other hand inside. |
| God." | The open right hand, with fingers together and palm facing left, moves upward and then down the center of the face with fingers facing up. |
| John 14:1 | Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible. |

Adding sign language or motions to the Bible Memory Verse helps children recall what they are learning.



The King who knows our hearts

THE WORSHIP

Supplies: Praise music, optional: musical instruments

Teacher Tip: To help children identify time set aside for worship, designate a special corner or area for singing, collecting offering, and watching the worship illustration. Play "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God" as children move to that designated area.

Before we sing our praises, let's praise God with our words through prayer. Have children bow their heads and close their eyes. **Dear God, we praise You for knowing us and loving us. May we always praise You with our hearts and with our voices. Amen.**



You can trust God will help you do the special things He has chosen you to do. With God, you can do anything! Sing: "I Can Do Everything."

Let's show God how much our hearts love Him by giving our offering to help build His kingdom. Sing: "Do You Love Me?" while collecting the offering.



Today, we will hear how God helped Saul when Samuel told him that God had chosen him to be king. Do you think Delbert and Lello know the story about Samuel and Saul? Let's call them both to come out for a visit. Perform *The Adventures of Delbert and Lello* puppet script or read storybook: Kings & Kingdoms Unit 8, Lesson 38.



We have a new Bible Memory Verse today. Let's say the verse together. Repeat the verse with the children. **Now let's try it with the motions. The first time you watch me do it and then you can do it with me.** Practice a few times together. Be sure to praise the children for doing a good job.

| | |
|------------------|--|
| "Trust | Touch pointer finger of one hand to forehead. Move hands together and squeeze them closed in front of you. |
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| God." | The open right hand, with fingers together and palm facing left, moves upward and then down the center of the face with fingers facing up. |
| John 14:1 | Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible. |



God helped Saul when Saul needed help and He will help you, too. Sing: "Do Not Let Your Hearts Be Troubled."



God helps Saul

THE WORD

Supplies: Teacher's Bible with bookmark at 1 Samuel 10:22, picture of the Bible story, item you can hide behind (towel, sheet, book, etc.)

Before we begin our Bible Time, let's say our Classroom Promise with the motions.

| | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| With my eyes on my teacher; | Point to eyes. |
| My mouth quiet as can be, | Place index finger over mouth as quiet sign. |
| I will listen to hear, | Cup hand around ear. |
| How God loves you and me. | Hug self, point to others, and then self. |

Let's reach deep in our pockets and pull out our listening ears. Reach in your pocket and cup your hands behind your ears as if listening.

I love to play "Hide and Go Seek." Do you like to play? (Children respond.) **I'm going to hide. Let's see if you can find me.** Hide behind the towel, book, or other item you brought. **Can you see me? I bet you can't find me.** Allow the children to "find" you and remove the item you were hiding behind. **It wasn't very hard to find me, was it? Next time, I will have to find a better hiding place.**

Today, we will hear about a man named Saul who hid because he was afraid. Do we ever need to be afraid? (Children respond.) **No, we don't need to be afraid because we know God will always help us. Let's listen to our story.** Handle the Bible as a special treasure, leaving it open to 1 Samuel 10:22.



WATCH THE WORD: 1 SAMUEL 10:1, 6-8, 20-24

Read the story below or retell the passage in your own words. To illustrate the story, show a picture of the Bible story from a children's Bible, the coloring page, or other source.

- **God told Samuel, "My people want a king;**
- **I will choose tall Saul.**
- **My Spirit will come and change his heart,**
- **And he will lead them all!"**

- **Samuel told Saul, "You will be our king."**
- **But Saul wanted to hide.**
- **"God will help you," Samuel said.**
- **"He's with you all the time."**

- **Samuel called to God's people,**
- **"Come and meet your king."**
- **They found Saul hiding by the supplies.**
- **They cheered, "Long lives the king!"**

Why was Saul hiding? (He was afraid he wouldn't be a good king.) **Who promised to help Saul?** (God.) **Who promises to help us?** (God!)



God will help you

THE WAY

Teacher Tip: Craft and games can be presented at the same time in different areas or one at a time depending on class size and teaching style.

CRAFT: SAUL'S HIDING PLACE

Purpose: To remind the children of the story of Samuel and Saul.

Supplies: White and light brown sturdy paper, glue or glue sticks, tape, crayons or markers

Prepare: From white sturdy paper, print and cut out a 9-inch tall Saul. From light brown sturdy paper, cut out the shape of two 7-inch x 8-inch bags of grain. Cut one bag of grain down the middle vertically. On the other bag of grain, print: **God will help you.**

Optional: Cut the bags of grain from fabric such as burlap.

Directions:

1. Color Saul.
2. Fold Saul in half at the waist.
3. Tape the two pieces of the cut bag of grain to the edges of the other bag of grain so they open like two doors.
4. Open the doors of the bag of grain.
5. Glue the back of the bottom half of Saul inside the doors.

Craft Discussion:

- **God chose Saul for a special job. What did God choose Saul to do?** (Be the king.)
- **Saul was worried he would not be a good king.**
- **He was very tall, but he still wanted to hide. Where did Saul hide?** (By the supplies or baggage.) **Make Saul hide in your bag of supplies!** Show children how to fold Saul down and close the doors to the bag of grain.
- **Who promised to help Saul be king?** (God.) **God helped Saul.**
- **Help Saul pop out of the bag!** Open the doors and unfold Saul so he is standing.
- **God helps you, too. He is always with you.**

THE WAY *continued...*

GAME: LONG LIVE THE KING

Purpose: Children will pretend to be Saul.

Supplies: Crown (plastic or cut from cardboard), towel or sheet

God chose Saul to be king. At first, Saul hid. Let's take turns pretending to hide like Saul.

Directions:

1. Drape a towel or sheet over a chair for a hiding place.
2. Choose one child to be Saul.
3. **Saul, God chose you to be the king.**
4. Children cover their eyes. Help Saul hide behind the chair.
5. **Do you see Saul, the one God chose?**
6. Children open their eyes and look around the room for Saul.
7. Gently lead Saul out of the hiding place.
8. Children say, **"Long live the king!"**
9. Play until each child has a turn as Saul.

GAME: "GOD WILL HELP YOU" CHARADES

Purpose: Children think about ways God will help them.

Supplies: None

God helped Saul be king. God will help you, too. Let's pretend to do some of the things God will help you do. I will do it first and then you do what I do.

Directions:

1. Children stand in a circle.
2. Teacher acts out each of the activities below.
3. See if the children can guess what you are doing. If they can't guess, tell them what you are doing.
4. Have the children act it out with you.
5. After each activity, have the children say with you, **"God will help me activity."**
 - a. Ride a bike.
 - b. Tie your shoes.
 - c. Swim.
 - d. Jump rope.
 - e. Read a book.
 - f. Tell time.
 - g. Meet a new friend.
 - h. Make the bed.
 - i. Pick up your toys.
 - j. Play basketball or other sport.
6. If you have time, see what other activities the children would like to act out.

THE WAY *continued...*

SNACK: THE KING'S COOKIES

Purpose: Children eat special cookies as a reminder that Saul was a king.

Snack Suggestion: Frosted cookies or iced animal crackers

Today, we have special frosted (or iced) cookies to help us celebrate the special day when Saul was crowned king.

Directions:

1. Serve snack and drink.
2. **Let's sing the "Blessing Song."** Sing to the tune of "Frere Jacques" or other familiar tune.
God our Father, God our Father. Once again, once again.
Thank You for our blessings. Thank You for our blessings. Amen. Amen.
3. Lead discussion below while children enjoy their snack.
 - **Saul did not think he would be a good king but God helped Saul.**
 - **What can you think of that is hard to do?** After each child's response, lead the children in saying, **"God will help you."**



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

FINAL FIVE MINUTES

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

Gather children in a circle sitting or standing and practice the words and motions.

| | |
|------------------|--|
| "Trust | Touch pointer finger of one hand to forehead. Move hands together and squeeze them closed in front of you. |
| in | Hold one hand in front of you, thumb almost touching the fingers. Slide the other hand inside. |
| God." | The open right hand, with fingers together and palm facing left, moves upward and then down the center of the face with fingers facing up. |
| John 14:1 | Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible. |

PRAY

Let's pray together. Say a closing prayer with the children.

PLAY

Allow children to play with selected toys or centers or choose a book to read to them.

DISMISSAL

Have children take home their coloring page, craft, and a copy of the Ponder, Pray & Play for 2-3's.



If time remains, choose from the connected activities below.

GOT TIME?

SAY & DO: 1 SAMUEL 10:1, 6-8, 20-24

Purpose: This pantomime version of the Bible story helps children remember the story details.

Supplies: None

Directions: With each phrase, the teacher says the phrase and acts it out with hand motions; then repeats the same phrase and motions with the children.

- **God told Samuel, "My people want a king;** (Put hands on head, as a crown.)
- **I will choose tall Saul.** (Point to self.)
- **My Spirit will come and change his heart,** (Put hand on heart.)
- **And he will lead them all!"** (March in place.)

- **Samuel told Saul, "You will be our king."** (Put hands on head, as a crown.)
- **But Saul wanted to hide.** (Cover eyes, as if hiding.)
- **"God will help you," Samuel said.** (Stretch your hands in front of your body.)
- **"He's with you all the time."** (Point to heaven.)

- **Samuel called to God's people,** (Cup hands around mouth, as if shouting.)
- **"Come and meet your king."** (Put hands on head, as a crown.)
- **They found Saul hiding in the supplies.** (Cover eyes, as if hiding.)
- **They cheered, "Long lives the king!"** (Raise fist to cheer.)



BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES

"Trust in God." John 14:1

GAME: "TRUST IN GOD" CHEER

Purpose: Children memorize and review the Unit 8 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: None

Our Bible Memory Verse says to trust in God. We know He will do what is best for us. Let's tell each other our Bible Memory Verse!

Directions:

1. Divide children into two groups. Have the groups sit or stand facing each other.
2. The first group whispers **"Trust"** and the second group whispers **"in God."**
3. Repeat step 2 three more times, getting louder each time.
4. Play again. This time the first group whispers **"Trust"** and the second group whispers **"in God."**

GOT TIME? *continued...*

GAME: TRUST BUBBLES

Purpose: Children memorize and review the Unit 8 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: Bubbles, bubble wand, Unit 8 Bible Memory Verse Song "Do Not Let Your Hearts Be Troubled"

God is the King who knows our hearts. He always knows what you are feeling because He made you and He made your heart. Our Bible Memory Verse Song tells us God will help you when your heart is troubled or worried. Let's listen as we blow some bubbles.

Directions:

1. Play the Unit 8 Bible Memory Verse Song "Do Not Let Your Hearts Be Troubled."
2. Blow bubbles while the children chase and pop them.
3. Play as long as you like or for as long as children are interested.



STORY TIME

Gather the children and read a favorite story. This can be a Bible Story, a chapter from *The Adventures of Delbert & Lello*, or a story about God helping someone with a difficult task.

PONDER, PRAY & PLAY

Unit 8, Lesson 38: Samuel and Saul

PONDER! God chose Samuel to be king (1 Samuel 10:1, 6-8, 20-24). Why did Saul hide? Who did Samuel say would help Saul be king? God will help you, too.

PRAY! Pray this prayer each day this week: "Lord, thank You for choosing me. Help me do things that are hard for me to do. Amen."

PLAY! What is something that is hard for you to do that makes you want to hide like Saul did? Pray with your family and ask God to help you, then have a family member or a friend help you with that task.

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

| | |
|------------------|--|
| "Trust | Touch pointer finger of one hand to forehead. Move hands together and squeeze them closed in front of you. |
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| John 14:1 | Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible. |