

Worship Illustration: Script King City Chronicles Kings & Kingdoms Part 2: Judges through Esther Unit 8, Lesson 38

Samuel and Saul

1 Samuel 9:15-16; 10:1, 6-7, 9, 20-24

Running time: Approximately 6 minutes

Setting: The set for Units 7-10 is designed to look like the outside of the King City Herald, a large newspaper building circa 1940's. A door leads to the office. A phone booth provides the place for the superheroes' quick costume changes. The center panel can be removed to reveal the superheroes "Secret Lab," filled with screens and gadgets (similar to Batman's Bat Cave), where the heroes watch over the city. There is a useable fire escape with a door and a ladder down to ground level. There is a ramp on stage right. For added interest, build windows, entrances, and levels where the characters and puppets can pop up unexpectedly.

<u>Characters</u>: Scoop Gibson is a street-wise, savvy reporter who hides his secret identity as superhero "Scripture Guy." Kasey Carter is a young, college-educated reporter (can be male or female) whose secret identity is superhero "Kingdom Crusader."

Plot: Scripture Guy teaches Kingdom Crusader about how God sent Samuel to call Saul to become the first King of Israel. We learn that God knows our heart and He chooses us to do his good work.

Costumes: Superhero costumes (capes, face masks, body suit, tights, etc.), "SG" emblem on Scripture Guy costume, "KC" emblem on Kingdom Crusader costume.

Props: Newspaper, Bible

Sound effects (SFX):

- 1. Intro/Outro music suggestion: Heroic music
- 2. Newspaper box: "Good News" or other triumphant song clip. Music plays when box is opened to reveal the Bible.
- 3. Ominous music theme
- 4. Song: "Wind Beneath My Wings"

Visual effects (VFX):

- 1. Video Intro featuring superheroes is available at ResourceWell.org
- 2. Fallback slide reads "King City Chronicles"
- 3. A newspaper box holds the Bible. When opened, light shines out and music plays.
- 4. Scripture slide: "The Spirit of the LORD will come upon you in power, and you will prophesy with them; and you will be changed into a different person.

 Once these signs are fulfilled, do whatever your hands find to do, for God is with you." 1 Samuel 10:6, 7
- 5. Spotlight with disco ball

Adaptations:

- 1. Sound Effects: instead of using recorded effects, have children make the sounds
- 2. Voiceovers: may be spoken off stage
- 3. This illustration is also available in storybook form at ResourceWell.org

King City Chronicles Unit 8, Lesson 38 Samuel and Saul 1 Samuel 9:15-16; 10:1, 6-7, 9, 20-24

<u>Voiceover</u> (VFX: short video intro)

Dateline: King City, a city devoted to the glory of God. But in her dark underbelly, there are villains gathering...evil men who seek to steal God's glory! Will King City find her hero? Can she be saved and restored to her former glory? For the answer to these questions and more, tune in every week to the King City Chronicles!

Kingdom Crusader (at secret lab)

Hey, Scripture Guy, listen to this article! "The Redeem Team rescued an unlikely victim yesterday. A certain villain, by the name of "The Philistine," cried out for help. Scripture Guy and Kingdom Crusader answered the call, bandaged his wounds, prayed for him, and dropped him off at the prison hospital. It takes a special kind of Superhero to reach out and love your enemy." Wow, that Scoop Gibson is some writer!

Scripture Guy (on fire escape) **He is pretty incredible!**

Kingdom Crusader

I'll say. Thanks to the King City Herald, the whole city loves us.

Scripture Guy (climbs down)

What can I say? God has chosen us to do His good works.

Kingdom Crusader

Do you think the Philistine has learned his lesson?

Scripture Guy

It's hard to say, Crusader. Only God can know a man's heart! That's how it was with King Saul.

Kingdom Crusader

I think I've heard of King Saul.

Scripture Guy

He was the first king that God gave to the Israelites! I'll show you in the Good News, right now. (opens box, <u>SFX</u>: "Good News," <u>VFX</u>: beam of light shines from the box.) The prophet Samuel was getting old and could not be judge over Israel much longer. The people begged Samuel for a king to rule over them.

Kingdom Crusader

But I thought God had given them judges.

Scripture Guy

He did, but they wanted a king so they could be like all of the other countries!

Kingdom Crusader

But, they weren't like the other countries. They had God as their King.

Scripture Guy

If only they could have seen it that way. Samuel tried to warn them, but God knew their hearts, so He told Samuel to give them a king. God sent him to look for Saul.

Kingdom Crusader

Where was Saul?

Scripture Guy

He was out looking for donkeys.

Kingdom Crusader

What? That's kind of a strange thing for the future king to be doing.

Scripture Guy

Well Crusader, the more you read the Good News the more you'll find that our God works in mysterious ways. Saul's dad had lost some donkeys...

Kingdom Crusader

And he sent Saul to look for them?

Scripture Guy

Exactly, Saul searched high and low through several towns and did not find a single donkey. But he did find Samuel.

Kingdom Crusader

How did that happen?

Scripture Guy

When they came to a town called Ramah, his dad's servant told Saul about a man of God who might be able to tell them the way to go.

Kingdom Crusader

Was that Samuel?

Scripture Guy

It was. But what Saul didn't know was God had already told Samuel He was going to send him a leader from the tribe of Benjamin.

Kingdom Crusader

That must be Saul! Did they find each other?

Scripture Guy

Yes, and when they met, Samuel took a flask of oil and poured it on Saul's head...

Kingdom Crusader

That's a strange way to meet and greet! What did he do that for?

Scripture Guy

He was obeying God by anointing Saul with oil. It was a sign that showed that God had chosen Saul for special job.

Kingdom Crusader

I'll say it was special—the first king of Israel! That's a big job!

Scripture Guy (SFX: Scripture slide)

It was. The good news was that Saul didn't have to do it with his own power. God had a plan in place. Listen to what Samuel told Saul. (reads) The Spirit of the LORD will come upon you in power, and you will prophesy with them; and you will be changed into a different person. Once these signs are fulfilled, do whatever your hand finds to do, for God is with you. 1 Samuel 10:6-7

Kingdom Crusader

Wow, did King Saul prophesy?

Scripture Guy

He did.

Kingdom Crusader

And was he changed?

Scripture Guy

He was.

Kingdom Crusader

Wow. After all that, Saul must have been so excited to be chosen as king!

Scripture Guy

Actually, he ran away and hid.

Kingdom Crusader

What? Why would Saul hide?

Scripture Guy

You know, I don't know. The Bible doesn't say, but I guess he might have been afraid of the job.

Kingdom Crusader

Did they ever find him?

Scripture Guy

They did. God told them that Saul was hiding behind the baggage. The people brought him out and shouted, "Long live the king!"

Kingdom Crusader

Wow, I bet they were glad God chose a leader for them!

Scripture Guy

They were. And I'm glad that He's chosen you.

Kingdom Crusader

Me? Oh no, not me! I'm no leader.

Scripture Guy

Read the papers. You're a hero. You led King City to safety.

Kingdom Crusader

That's only because I was working with you. I'm just a guy/gal who wants to help but you...you... (he sings, <u>SFX</u>: "Wind Beneath My Wings," <u>VFX</u>: spotlight with disco ball) "Did you ever know that you're my hero? You're everything I could hope to be. I can fly higher than an eagle. You are the wind beneath my wings!"

Scripture Guy

Kingdom Crusader, you are part of the Redeem Team. God knows your heart and He has chosen *you* to do His good works.

Kingdom Crusader

But I'm not ready to do God's work!

Scripture Guy

That's what Saul thought. But just like Saul, God has chosen you. You may not think you're ready, but God thinks you are.

Kingdom Crusader

But...but...but...

Scripture Guy

No buts. God makes perfect choices, so if God believes you're ready, then I believe in you. Well Crusader, it's your turn to watch over the city. Call me if there's an emergency. (exits up fire escape)

Kingdom Crusader

Okay...thanks. Wow, I can understand why King Saul was nervous. When God chooses you, you want to serve Him with all your heart. I just wish I believed in me as much as God does. I'm going to pray that He prepares my heart and helps me to give everything to honor my King! (exits through access tunnel)

(SFX: "Heroic music," VFX: fall back slide)