



K-1st Lesson

Review

Refer to the Exodus to Malachi Timeline. Let's review where we are in our timeline. Samuel was God's prophet, a priest, and a judge. But the Israelites didn't want to be ruled by judges or by God anymore. They wanted a human king.

- ? What was the name of the first king God chose? *Saul.*

Refer to Lesson 75 Flip Chart. Yes, God chose Saul to be Israel's first king. But Saul's heart was not right, and he disobeyed God. He offered a sacrifice that only Samuel was supposed to do. Then when God said to completely destroy their enemies, the Amalekites, Saul kept the king and the best animals alive.

Saul made some bad choices and disobeyed God. Now there would be consequences for his sin. Saul lost the kingdom and his friendship with Samuel. Then the Spirit of the Lord left Saul, and a harmful spirit was sent to trouble him.

God told Saul that his kingdom would be taken away. But who would take Saul's place as king? Today, we'll find out who God chose to be the next king of Israel. Before we do that, I need a volunteer to help me. *Choose a volunteer.*

Bake and frost two heart-shaped cookies before class. Add extra salt to the frosting on one cookie (either mixed into frosting or sprinkled on top) and decorate it to look nicer than the other cookie. Make the other cookie with the unsalted frosting look messy with no decorations.

I have two cookies here for you to sample. *Show class the two cookies.*

- ? Which cookie looks yummier? *The nicely decorated cookie.*

Take a bite of this cookie. *Have volunteer take a bite of nicely decorated (but salty!) cookie.*

- ? How did it taste? *Allow volunteer to describe the taste.*

Now, take a bite of this cookie. *Have volunteer sample the poorly decorated (but tasty!) cookie.*

- ? How did this one taste? Better than the other one? *Allow answer.*

Refer to the cookies. One cookie looked really nice on the outside; its frosting and decorations were perfect. But it didn't taste good! It was too salty. But the other cookie that didn't look as good tasted better! *Have volunteer return to his seat.*

- ? What do you think I wanted you to learn from the two cookies? How do we usually decide whether something is good or bad? What do we look at? *Allow discussion. How it looks on the outside.*

We look at the outward appearance. We look at food, toys, books, and other things and decide if they are yummy or gross, good or bad, pretty or ugly, exciting or boring. Sometimes we are right, but many times, what we think about something just by looking at it is wrong.

You know, we also do this with people. We may not want to be near a person who looks poor or dirty, but we might try to be near people who seem really smart or dress in fancy clothes.

In our lesson today, we'll see that God's prophet, Samuel, did the same thing! He looked at the outward appearance of a man and thought he would be a good king because he looked good on the outside. But God had to remind Samuel that he looks at what a person is like on the inside—the heart.

Samuel Chooses Eliab

Samuel was sad that King Saul was not following and trusting God anymore. But the Lord told Samuel to quit feeling sorry about Saul and go see a man named Jesse who lived in Bethlehem. Jesse had eight sons, and God had chosen one of them to be the next king.

Refer to Lesson 73 Flip Chart. Remember Ruth from a few lessons ago? She left her country and

family to go to Bethlehem with her mother-in-law, Naomi.

- ? Who did Ruth end up marrying? *Boaz.*

Right! Ruth and Boaz had a son named Obed, and Obed's son was Jesse. So, Jesse was Ruth and Boaz's grandson! And that's who Samuel was going to see.

When Samuel arrived in Bethlehem, he invited Jesse and his sons to join him for a sacrifice. When Jesse and his sons got there, Samuel wondered which one of these fine-looking young men would be the next king.

- ? Refer to the Lesson Flip Chart. Eliab was the oldest son. How many of you think Eliab would be the king? *Show of hands.*

1 Samuel 16:7

- ? Refer to the Books of the Bible Poster. Let's find out if you're right. Who has the Bible? We'll read from 1 Samuel again today. *Have the student bring up the Bible and open it to the sticky note. Read the verse.*

Samuel saw right away that Eliab was tall and strong. "This must be the one!" Samuel thought.

- ? But was Eliab the one God had chosen to be king? What did God mean when he said, "I have rejected him"? *God did not choose Eliab.*
- ? The Lord explained to Samuel that he did not see people the same way a man would. What did God say man looks at? *Outward appearance.*
- ? That's right! Samuel could only see what Eliab looked like on the outside. But what does the Lord look at? *The heart.*

God looked deeper than the outward appearance of Eliab. He didn't care about what Eliab looked like on the outside. He looked into Eliab's heart to see if he loved the Lord and wanted to obey him. But God said Eliab would not be the next king.

God Chooses David

One by one, Jesse's sons walked by Samuel. "Oh, maybe it's this one," Samuel thought as each son passed before him. But God said, "No" to all seven of them! Hmm. Samuel knew he was in the right place, but so far, God had not told him to anoint any of these men as the new king.

1 Samuel 16:11-12

So now what? Let's keep reading and find out who God chose! *Read 1 Samuel 16:11-12.*

- ? What did Samuel ask Jesse? *Are all your sons here?*
- ? Which of Jesse's sons had not come? *The youngest son.*
- ? What was the youngest son doing? *Keeping the sheep.*
- ? What did Samuel tell Jesse to do? *Send someone to get him.*
- ? What did this son look like? *Ruddy, beautiful eyes, and handsome.*

Ruddy means healthy-looking, kind of like when your cheeks are rosy after you've been outside on a chilly day.

- ? Was this son the one God chose to be the next king? *Yes!*

This young man's name was David. He was the youngest of Jesse's sons—probably only about 15 years old. He was the one God had chosen to be the next king.

Refer to the Flip Chart. Samuel poured oil on David's head to anoint him as the next king of Israel.

- ? Do you think David's family was surprised? *Yes.*

His family probably was surprised that God chose David. Usually the oldest son was chosen to lead back then, but here God chose the youngest son to lead the whole nation of Israel as their king!

- ? Did God choose David because he was ruddy and handsome on the outside? *No!*

No, it didn't matter what David looked like on the outside. The Bible tells us that God wanted a king who was a man after God's own heart. The word "heart" here means the part of a person deep down inside that controls how he feels, what he thinks, what he wants, and the choices he makes. The man God chose as the next king would want the same things that God does. He had a heart that would try to do whatever God wanted. And God knew that man was David.

Samuel anointed **DAVID**, a man after God's own heart.

