

SAMUEL RESIGNS AS JUDGE

1 Samuel 12:1-25

1 Samuel 12

¹Samuel said to all Israel, “I have listened to everything you said to me and have set a king over you. ²Now you have a king as your leader. As for me, I am old and gray, and my sons are here with you. I have been your leader from my youth until this day. ³Here I stand. Testify against me in the presence of the LORD and his anointed. Whose ox have I taken? Whose donkey have I taken? Whom have I cheated? Whom have I oppressed? From whose hand have I accepted a bribe to make me shut my eyes? If I have done any of these, I will make it right.”

⁴“You have not cheated or oppressed us,” they replied. “You have not taken anything from anyone’s hand.”

⁵Samuel said to them, “The LORD is witness against you, and also his anointed is witness this day, that you have not found anything in my hand.”

“He is witness,” they said.

⁶Then Samuel said to the people, “It is the LORD who appointed Moses and Aaron and brought your forefathers up out of Egypt. ⁷Now then, stand here, because I am going to confront you with evidence before the LORD as to all the righteous acts performed by the LORD for you and your fathers.

⁸“After Jacob entered Egypt, they cried to the LORD for help, and the LORD sent Moses and Aaron, who brought your forefathers out of Egypt and settled them in this place.

⁹“But they forgot the LORD their God; so he sold them into the hand of Sisera, the commander of the army of Hazor, and into the hands of the Philistines and the king of Moab, who fought against them. ¹⁰They cried out to the LORD and said, ‘We have sinned; we have forsaken the LORD and served the Baals and the Ashtoreths. But now deliver us from the hands of our enemies, and we will serve you.’ ¹¹Then the LORD sent Jerub-Baal, Barak, Jephthah and Samuel, and he delivered you from the hands of your enemies on every side, so that you lived securely.

¹²“But when you saw that Nahash king of the Ammonites was moving against you, you said to me, ‘No, we want a king to rule over us’—even though the LORD your God was your king. ¹³Now here is the king you have chosen, the one you asked for; see, the LORD has set a king over you. ¹⁴If you fear the LORD and serve and obey him and do not rebel against his commands, and if both you and the king who reigns over you follow the LORD your God—good! ¹⁵But if you do not obey the LORD, and if you rebel against his commands, his hand will be against you, as it was against your fathers.

¹⁶“Now then, stand still and see this great thing the LORD is about to do before your eyes! ¹⁷Is it not wheat harvest now? I will call upon the LORD to send thunder and rain. And you will realize what an evil thing you did in the eyes of the LORD when you asked for a king.”

¹⁸Then Samuel called upon the LORD, and that same day the LORD sent thunder and rain. So all the people stood in awe of the LORD and of Samuel.

¹⁹The people all said to Samuel, “Pray to the LORD your God for your servants so that we will not die, for we have added to all our other sins the evil of asking for a king.”

²⁰“Do not be afraid,” Samuel replied. “You have done all this evil; yet do not turn away from the LORD, but serve the LORD with all your heart. ²¹Do not turn away after useless idols. They can do you no good, nor can they rescue you, because they are useless. ²²For the sake of his great name the LORD will not reject his people, because the LORD was pleased to make you his own. ²³As for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the LORD by failing to pray for you. And I will teach you the way that is good and right. ²⁴But be sure to fear the LORD and serve him faithfully with all your heart; consider what great things he has done for you. ²⁵Yet if you persist in doing evil, both you and your king will be swept away.”

SAMUEL RESIGNS AS JUDGE

1 Samuel 12:1-25

| POSSIBLE POINTS | MY POINTS | QUESTIONS |
|-----------------|-----------|--|
| 5 | | 1.) Why did Samuel decide not to be the judge of Israel anymore? (Verse 2) |
| 5 | | 2.) What did Samuel warn the people about? (Verse 14-15) |
| 5 | | 3.) Why did Samuel ask God to make it thunder and rain? (Verse 18) |
| 5 | | 4.) Why do you think Samuel reminded the Israelites of their past? |

| POSSIBLE POINTS | MY POINTS | MEMORY VERSE |
|-----------------|-----------|--|
| 10 | | <p>“...do not turn away from the Lord, but serve the Lord with all your heart.”</p> <p style="text-align: right;">1 Samuel 12:20</p> |

| POSSIBLE POINTS | MY POINTS | HOME CONNECTION | PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE |
|-----------------|-----------|--|---------------------------|
| 5 | | <i>I have read, or been read, the passage of scripture for this week.</i> | |
| 5 | | <i>I have answered the questions aloud to an adult at home this week.</i> | |
| 10 | | <i>I have recited the memory verse out loud to an adult at home this week.</i> | |

| TOTAL POINTS | CLUB CONNECTION |
|--------------|---|
| | LEADER'S SIGNATURE _____ DATE ___/___/___ |

SAMUEL RESIGNS AS JUDGE

1 Samuel 12:1-25



Picture from *The Bible in Pictures for Little Eyes* by Kenneth N. Taylor. Moody Press: Copyright © 1956.

SAMUEL RESIGNS AS JUDGE

1 Samuel 12:1-25



Samuel tells the people that he will no longer be their judge

SAMUEL RESIGNS AS JUDGE

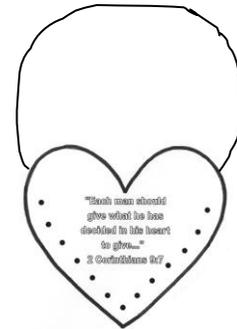
1 Samuel 12:1-25

CRAFT/ACTIVITY: HEART NECKLACES

Students will make heart necklaces to remind them that Samuel wanted the Israelites to serve the Lord with all their hearts.

MATERIALS

1. 67 Lb. White Cardstock
2. Heart Necklace Pattern
3. Scissors
4. Crayons, Markers, or Colored Pencils
5. Yarn (2 feet lengths)
6. Hole Punch



DIRECTIONS

1. Make copies of the “Heart Necklace Pattern” for each student onto 67 lb cardstock.
2. Have students color the hearts with crayons, markers, or colored pencils.
3. Instruct students to cut out the hearts and rectangles on the solid black lines.
4. Set the heart with the memory verse on top of the blank heart. Punch holes through the black dots (punching through both hearts at the same time). Help younger students by punching the holes for them.
5. Allow students to “sew” the two hearts together leaving extra yarn on either side to tie together to make the necklace.
6. On each of the rectangles, have students write one thing that they can do to serve God. (i.e. teaching others about God, giving the poor, helping others, etc.)
7. Place the four rectangles into the heart.

FOR DISCUSSION

As students are coloring and cutting out their hearts, remind them that Samuel warned the Israelites to continue to serve the Lord with all their hearts. He was worried that the people would not look to God to provide their needs. Instead, he thought they would look to their new king. His warning, as history later reveals, goes unheeded. Help students realize that God wants a personal relationship with each of them. He wants to be their “king”.

TIME NEEDED TO COMPLETE:

Approximately 20 minutes

MEMORY VERSE

“...do not turn away from the Lord, but serve the Lord with all your heart.” 1 Samuel 12:20

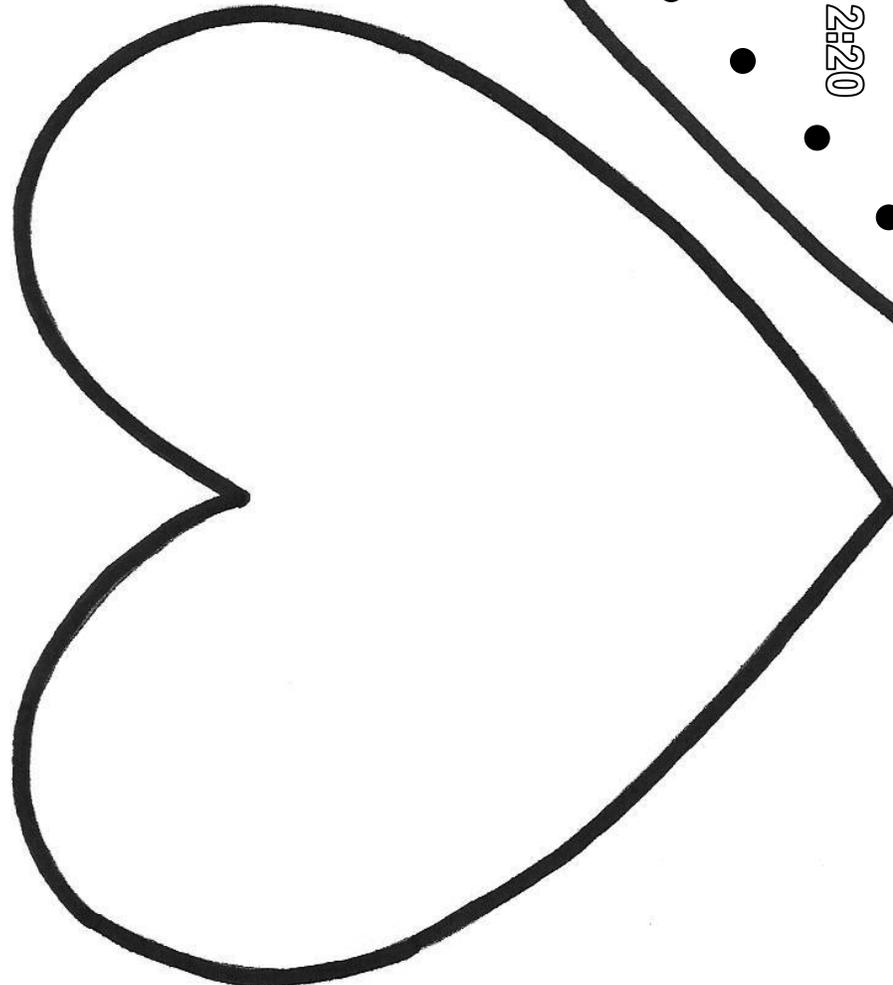
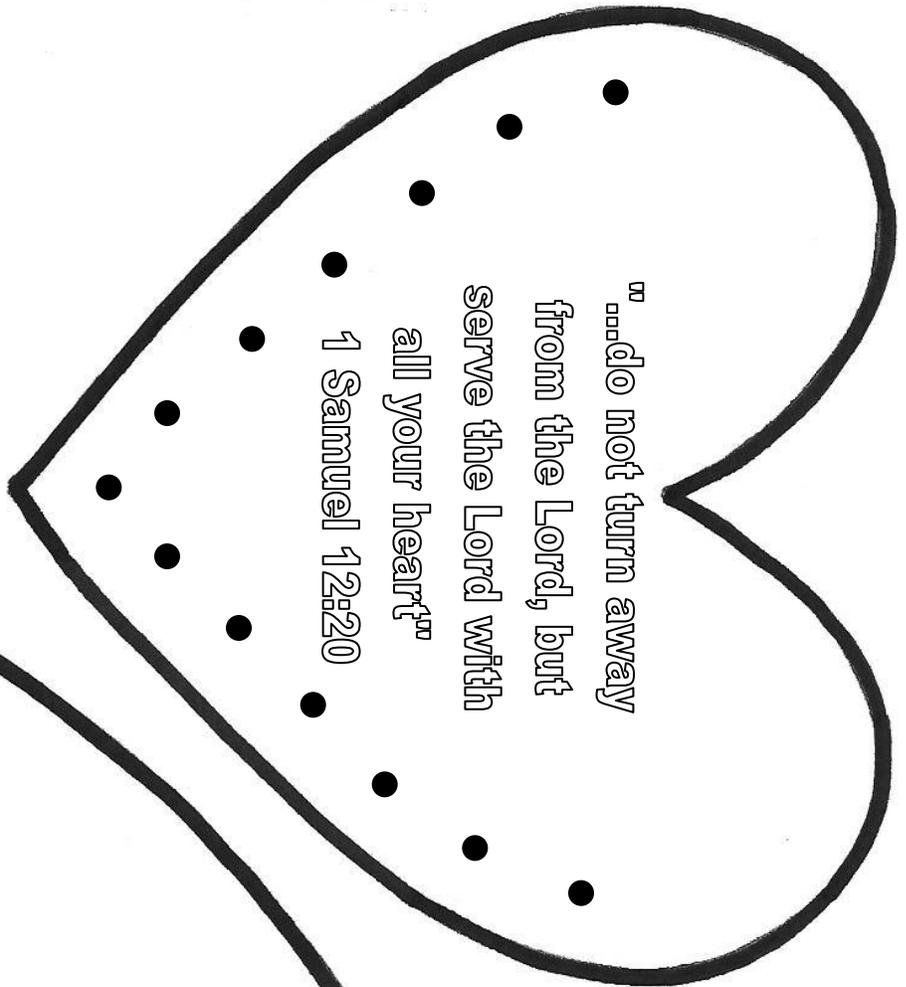
SAMUEL RESIGNS AS JUDGE

1 Samuel 12:1-25

HEART NECKLACE PATTERN

I will serve the Lord by

I will serve the Lord by



I will serve the Lord by

I will serve the Lord by

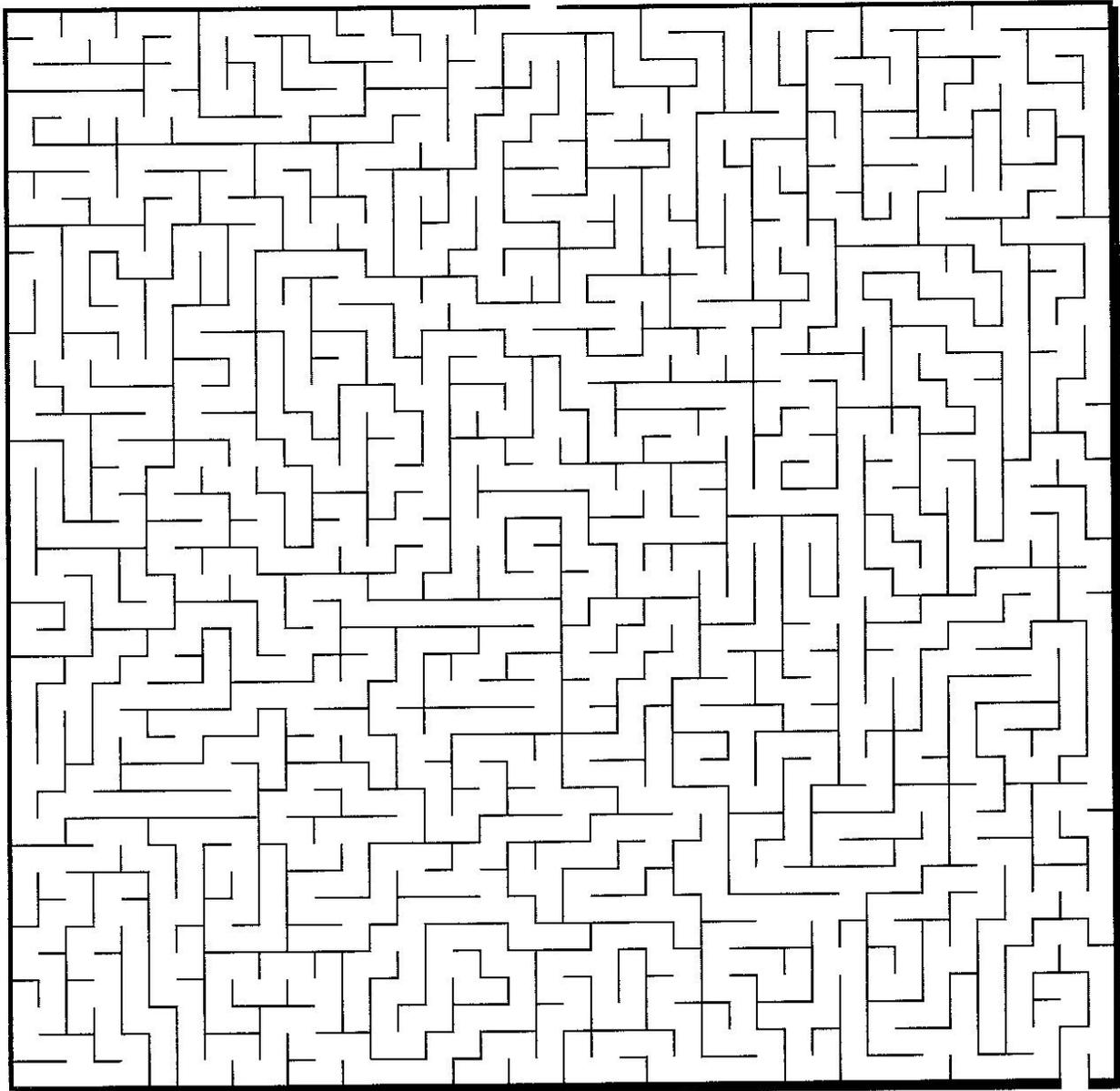
SAMUEL RESIGNS AS JUDGE

1 Samuel 12:1-25

Samuel the prophet wanted to guide the children of Israel to the Lord. Find the correct way through the maze to the Lord.

.....

Serve the Lord

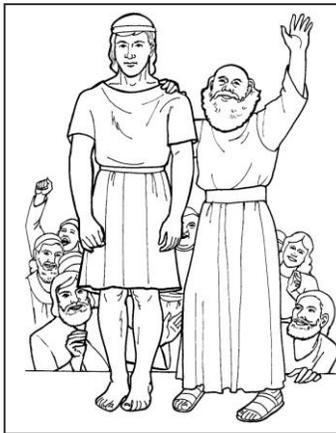


Children of Israel

THE BIBLE TIMES HERALD

A SPECIAL REPORT ON 1 SAMUEL 12:1-25

SAMUEL RESIGNS AS JUDGE



Sources tell us that Samuel called together the people of Israel. He wanted to tell them that he was no longer going to be their leader. Now they had a king named Saul to lead them.

Samuel reminded the people how God had helped them over the years. God sent Moses and Aaron to get their relatives out of Egypt when they were made slaves. But their relatives forgot about God. So God allowed the Philistines to rule over the Israelites.

When the Ammonites were moving in against God's people, they wanted a king to help them. They forgot that God was already their king.

Samuel told his people that God was not happy with them for wanting a king. Samuel said that they should follow after the Lord or bad things would happen to them.

Samuel knew that the people would not listen to him. Samuel said that he would pray for his people.

For more details, please read 1 Samuel 12:1-25 in your Bible.

QUESTIONS

1. Why was Samuel no longer the judge of God's people?
2. When did the Israelites want a king?
3. What did Samuel tell his people to do?
4. Why do you think Samuel reminded the people of things that happened in the past?

MEMORY VERSE

"...do not turn away from the Lord, but serve the Lord with all your heart."

1 Samuel 12:20

DRAW A PICTURE OF SAMUEL SAYING GOODBYE

