

# THE ISRAELITES WANT A KING

## *1 Samuel 8:1-22*

### **1 Samuel 8**

<sup>1</sup>When Samuel grew old, he appointed his sons as judges for Israel. <sup>2</sup>The name of his firstborn was Joel and the name of his second was Abijah, and they served at Beersheba. <sup>3</sup>But his sons did not walk in his ways. They turned aside after dishonest gain and accepted bribes and perverted justice.

<sup>4</sup>So all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah. <sup>5</sup>They said to him, “You are old, and your sons do not walk in your ways; now appoint a king to lead us, such as all the other nations have.”

<sup>6</sup>But when they said, “Give us a king to lead us,” this displeased Samuel; so he prayed to the LORD. <sup>7</sup>And 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. <sup>8</sup>As 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. <sup>9</sup>Now listen to them; but warn them solemnly and let them know what the king who will reign over them will do.”

<sup>10</sup>Samuel told all the words of the LORD to the people who were asking him for a king. <sup>11</sup>He said, “This is what the king who will reign over you will do: He will take your sons and make them serve with his chariots and horses, and they will run in front of his chariots.

<sup>12</sup>Some 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. <sup>13</sup>He will take your daughters to be perfumers and cooks and bakers. <sup>14</sup>He will take the best of your fields and vineyards and olive groves and give them to his attendants. <sup>15</sup>He will take a tenth of your grain and of your vintage and give it to his officials and attendants. <sup>16</sup>Your menservants and maidservants and the best of your cattle and donkeys he will take for his own use. <sup>17</sup>He will take a tenth of your flocks, and you yourselves will become his slaves. <sup>18</sup>When that day comes, you will cry out for relief from the king you have chosen, and the LORD will not answer you in that day.”

<sup>19</sup>But the people refused to listen to Samuel. “No!” they said. “We want a king over us. <sup>20</sup>Then we will be like all the other nations, with a king to lead us and to go out before us and fight our battles.”

<sup>21</sup>When Samuel heard all that the people said, he repeated it before the LORD. <sup>22</sup>The LORD answered, “Listen to them and give them a king.”

Then Samuel said to the men of Israel, “Everyone go back to his town.”

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## *1 Samuel 8:1-22*

POSSIBLE POINTS	MY POINTS	QUESTIONS
5		1.) Why did the Israelites want a king? (Verse 5)
5		2.) What did the Lord tell Samuel to tell the people? (Verse 9)
5		3.) What are some things Samuel said would happen if the Israelites got a king?
5		4.) Why do you think God told Samuel to give the Israelites a king?

POSSIBLE POINTS	MY POINTS	MEMORY VERSE
10		"The Lord answered, 'Listen to them and give them a king.'"  1 Samuel 8:22

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 ___/___/___

# THE ISRAELITES WANT A KING

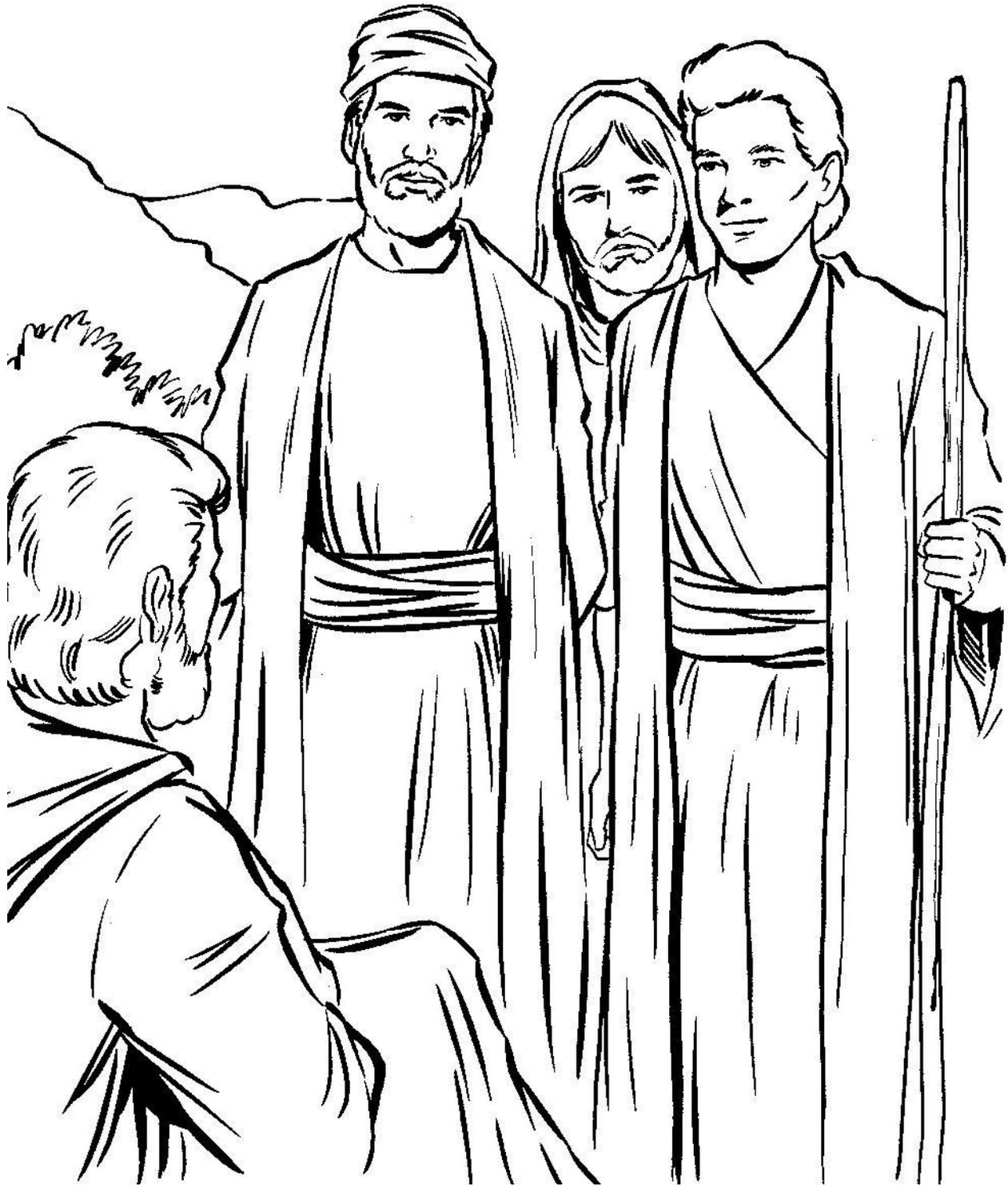
*1 Samuel 8:1-22*



Picture from *The Children's Bible*. Golden Press: Copyright © 1965.

# THE ISRAELITES WANT A KING

*1 Samuel 8:1-22*



*The Israelites ask Samuel for a king to rule over them*

# THE ISRAELITES WANT A KING

*1 Samuel 8:1-22*

## CRAFT/ACTIVITY: NECKLACES

Students will make necklaces to remind them that the Lord instructed Samuel to give the Israelites a king even though a king would oppress them.

### MATERIALS

1. 67 lb. White Cardstock
2. Necklace Pattern
3. Crayons, Markers, or Colored Pencils
4. Scissors
5. Yarn
6. Hole Punch
7. Fruit Ring Cereal
8. Tape



### DIRECTIONS

1. Make a copy of the necklace pattern for each student onto 67 lb. white cardstock.
2. Have students color the pieces of the necklace pattern.
3. Instruct students to cut out the necklace pieces.
4. Help them punch holes in each piece.
5. Cut pieces of yarn into 24 inch pieces.
6. Wrap a small piece of tape around one end of the yarn to make it stiff. This will help students when they string the pieces of the necklace onto the yarn.
7. Let students string the pieces of the necklaces (the words to the memory verse) onto the yarn with two pieces of the fruit ring cereal in between each piece.
8. Help students tie the ends together.

### FOR DISCUSSION

While the students are making their necklaces, remind them that the Israelites, earlier in their history were ruled by kings (Pharaohs) in Egypt. God used Moses to lead the Israelites out of Egypt and toward the Promised Land. The Israelites still weren't happy. Though God continued to provide for them, they complained every step of the way. More recently, the Israelites were ruled by judges, like Samuel (the fifteenth and final judge of the Israelites). Israel was in for numerous kings to follow; some good and most of them bad. Help students realize that the Lord allowed the Israelites to make their own choices much like he allows us to today. The Lord is not always pleased with the choices his children make, but he still loves them.

**TIME NEEDED TO COMPLETE:** Approximately 20 minutes

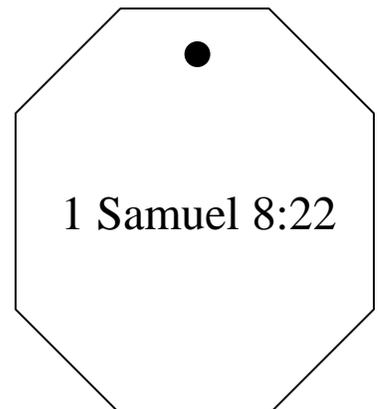
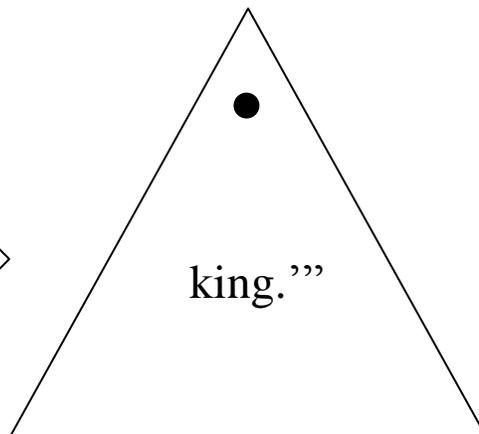
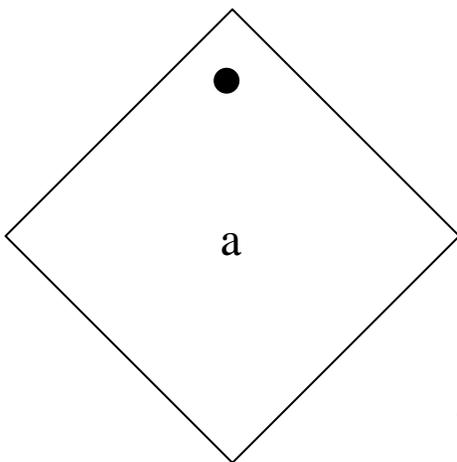
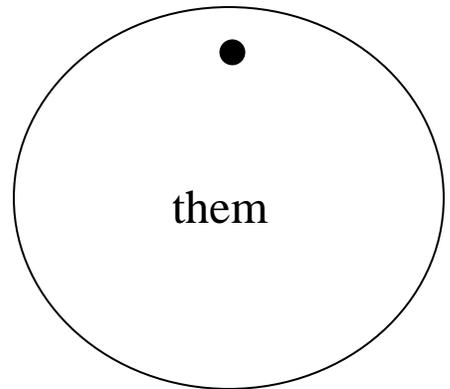
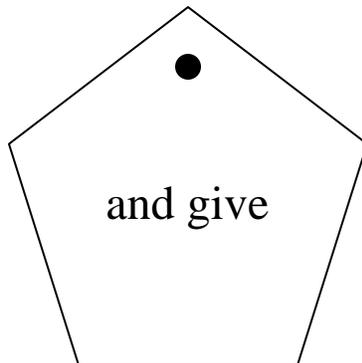
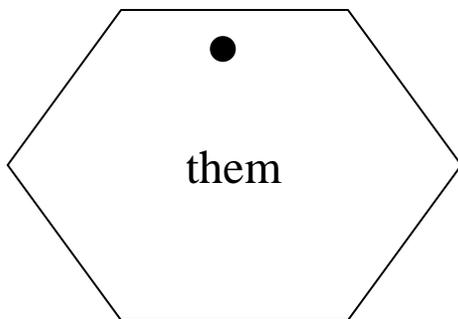
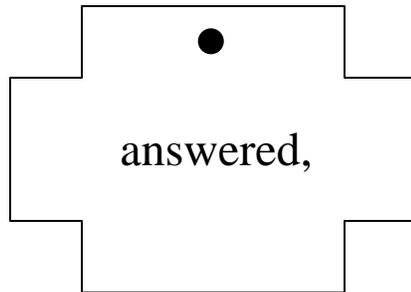
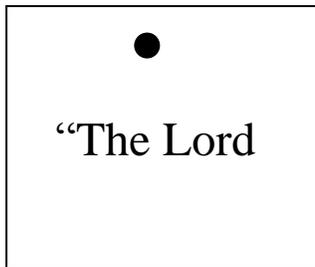
### MEMORY VERSE

*“The Lord answered, ‘Listen to them and give them a king.’” 1 Samuel 8:22*

# THE ISRAELITES WANT A KING

*1 Samuel 8:1-22*

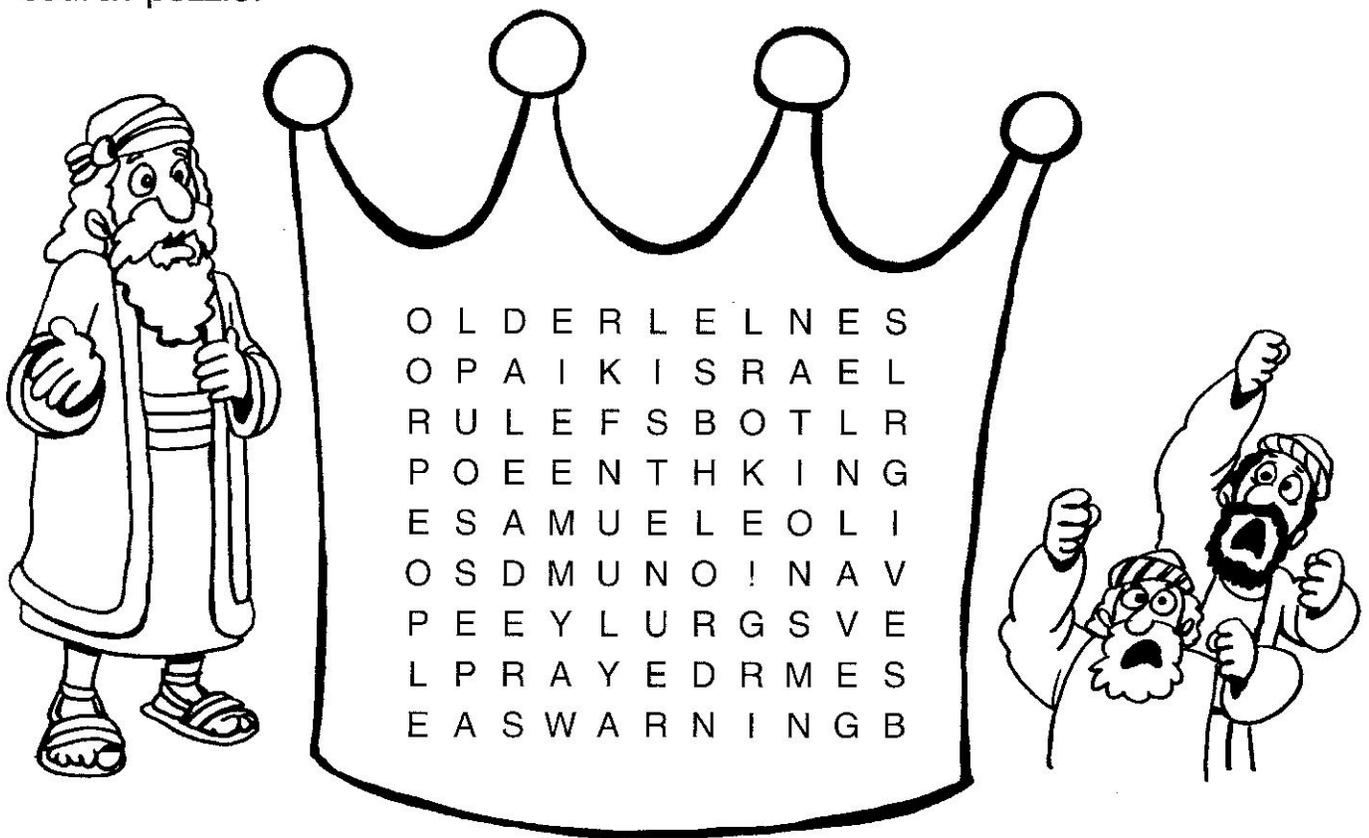
## NECKLACE PATTERN



# THE ISRAELITES WANT A KING

*1 Samuel 8:1-22*

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



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."

# THE BIBLE TIMES HERALD

A SPECIAL REPORT ON 1 SAMUEL 8:1-22

## THE ISRAELITES WANT A KING



When Samuel grew old, he appointed his sons as judges of Israel. His sons, however, were not honest men.

So all of the elders of Israel came to Samuel. They said they wanted a king.

This made Samuel sad. Samuel thought that the people did not like him.

The Lord told Samuel to give the Israelites a king and warn the people about what a king would do.

Samuel told the Israelites that a king would make the men serve with his chariots and horses. Some men would become commanders. Some men would have to plow the ground. Some would have to make weapons of war and equipment for chariots. The women would have to make perfume and food. The king would take their land and a part of their crops. He would use their animals. He would make some of the people slaves.

The people refused to listen to Samuel. “We want a king like the other nations have,” they said.

So Samuel told the Lord that the Israelites would not listen to him.

The Lord said, “Listen to them and give them a king.”

For additional details about this story, please read 1 Samuel 8:1-22 in your Bible.

## QUESTIONS

1. Why did the Israelites want a king?
2. What are some things that Samuel said a king would do?
3. Did the people still want a king?
4. Why do you think the Lord told Samuel to give the Israelites a king?

## MEMORY VERSE

“The Lord answered, ‘Listen to them and give them a king.’”

1 Samuel 8:22

## FINISH THE PICTURE

