

GRADES  
K-6

# ISRAEL ASKS FOR A KING

Printable Lesson Kit



**M** **GHTY MESSAGES**

# THANK YOU

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# ISRAEL ASKS FOR A KING

## LESSON OVERVIEW

### ISRAEL ASKS FOR A KING

This Lesson on Israel rejecting God as their king is good for everyone. We can reject God over slight things such as a new friend or popularity or increasing our belongings. Then we suffer the natural consequences of our actions. Samuel's response is an accurate prediction of what comes of people who trust in things of the world rather than God.

#### How to Use the Lesson Kit:

This kit includes a variety of activities that you can select from to customize your perfect lesson. We suggest beginning with the Scripture Reading & Lesson followed by the Discussion Questions. From there, feel free to mix & match the activities to build your lesson plan based on the time you have allotted and the age level/interests of your kids.



#### WHAT'S INCLUDED:

- Scripture Reading & Lesson
- Discussion Questions
- Printable Craft
- Game
- Coloring Page
- Wordsearch
- Crossword Puzzle
- Learning Lookups Journaling
- Parent Handout
- Quiz
- Reference Sheet
- Certificate of Completion
- Answer Page



#### MATERIALS LIST:

- Crayons
- Bouncy ball (game)
- White Paper or Cardstock
- Pencils or pens
- Bibles (electronic or hardcopy)

# ISRAEL ASKS FOR A KING

## SCRIPTURE & LESSON

### PASSAGE (NIV): I SAMUEL 8:1-20

Read the following excerpts as shown (NIV translation), or read from your chosen Bible translation:



#### 1 Samuel 8:1-20

When Samuel grew old, he appointed his sons as Israel's leaders. <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 follow 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 follow 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 claim as his rights."

<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 claim as his rights: 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 male and female servants 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, but 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."

## Questions for Children

**1. Samuel was a great prophet. However, his sons were behaving badly. What did they do?** *Took bribes; took money from people for the wrong things. Did God anywhere imply that he blamed Samuel for his children's behavior? No. Yet in a story just a few chapters back, Samuel was raised by a priest named Eli, and God blamed Eli for Eli's two sons' misbehavior. Is it always the parents' fault when children go astray? No; we should all take responsibility for our own actions.*

**2. The people had God as their king up to this point, and he spoke to them through a series of judges. Now, they said they wanted a king "to be like all the other nations." Why was this wrong?** *Because God as king is better than people as king. God had set them apart to make them better, to have direct access to him through the judges. But the people were saying they didn't want that.*

**3. Have you ever felt like an outsider to a crowd of kids? Did you ever want something for the sole reason it would make you acceptable to them? Take answers. We all suffer loneliness at times. No one likes the feeling of being left out. How can we handle these times without "taking God off the throne in our lives and replacing him with something less?"** *First, TAKE YOUR EYES OFF THE THING that is putting you in a state of want. Focus on a different crowd that accepts what you have and believe. If you go through a period of loneliness, use it to get closer to God.*



## TEACHER'S MIGHTY MESSAGE

Have you ever been made fun of for your faith? It used to be that most people in our country were either Christian or Jewish. Jewish people almost never made fun of us. So, life was peaceful for us. These days, you can be in a class of 25 children, and every type of belief can show up there. Some believe in a different god. Some believe in no god.

It can make us feel left out. We can feel lonely, or even threatened. It gets tempting to say to God some of the things the people of Israel told Samuel to tell God. "We want what others have, so we can be more like them!"

Let's look at what God told Samuel to predict to the people about their wanting to be like everyone else.

First, he said a king would take children, as soon as they were grown, and make them work for him. They would lose their freedom.

Oftentimes, children who get in the wrong crowd suddenly feel pressured to think only of certain things, like certain people, and do bad things. The daily results of peer pressure can range from hurtful gossip to cheating or shoplifting. People may better accept or even admire you. But you've traded your freedom to be you!

God said a king would take things that belonged to them for himself. Kings grow selfish. Power corrupts.

If you align yourself with selfish people, they will end up taking from you. Not necessarily your toys or clothes, but your self-esteem and your ability to think for yourself.

The people of Israel didn't care—they wanted to be popular or "normal." The kings of Israel did exactly what God said they would. They took, they taxed, they encouraged some of the worst behavior in the history of the Jews. Half the nation dissolved into the world, never to be found again, and the other half ended up exiled to Babylon.

If they had kept God as king, they would have had prosperity, health, better influences, and peace.

Instead of looking at others with longing, look to what God has given you. In all your problems and challenges, you'll find it's still a lot better than having "kings" for friends.



# ISRAEL ASKS FOR A KING

## PRINTABLE CRAFT

### JUDGES TO KINGS AGAMOGRAPH



#### MATERIALS:

- Israel Asks for a King Printable File (one page)
- White Paper or Cardstock
- Coloring Utensils

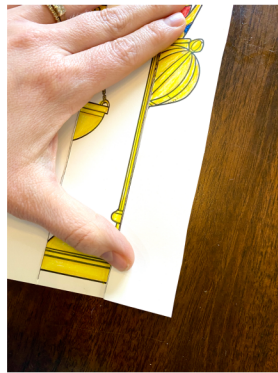
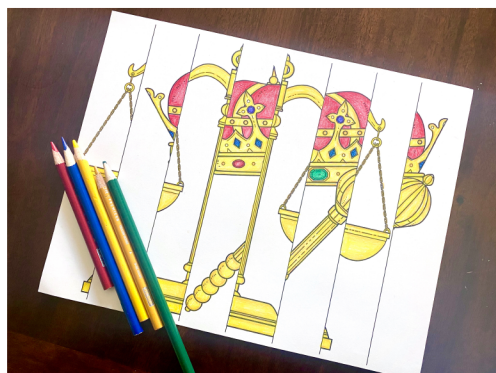


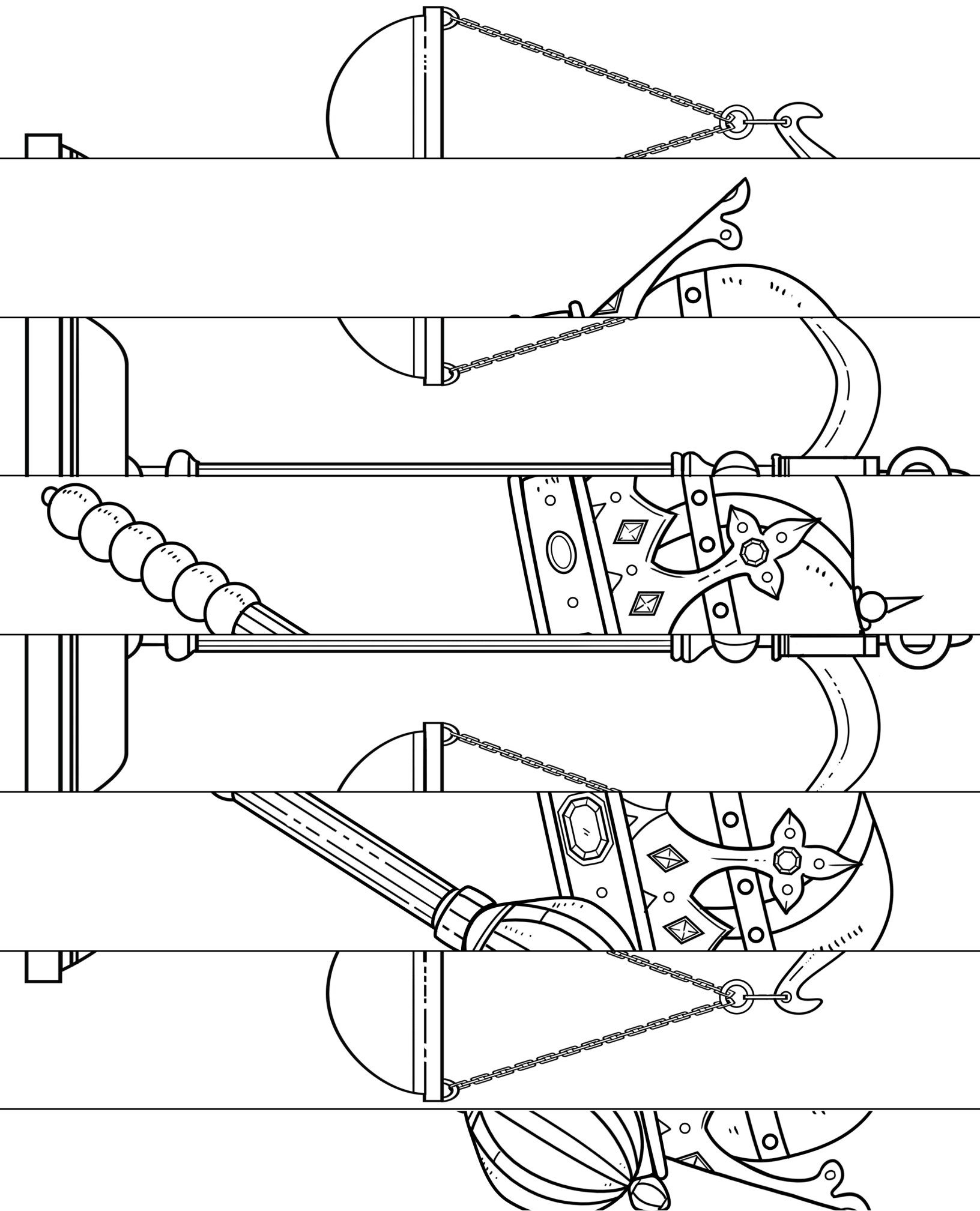
#### PREPARATION:

- Print one copy of Judges to Kings Agamograph Printable Craft for each student

#### INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Color images as desired
2. Flip paper over, images side down, and fold back on first line. Following line guides, fold accordion style, alternating each fold.
3. Step back and view craft from both sides to see both the Judge's scale to the King's crown and scepter.







### FINISH THE BIBLE VERSE BALL TOSS

This game involves some scripture verses your students can think of when they are tempted to want company or belongings that could become “king” in their lives. The game will help them remember, and they will have scriptures to help them resist the temptations.



#### MATERIALS:

- Bouncy ball

#### Introduction:

**“To resist peer pressure is a tall order. But doing so will save us from a lot of misery and heartache. Let’s look at some scripture verses we can use as shields when we feel tempted to make something in our hearts bigger than God’s love.”**



#### INSTRUCTIONS:

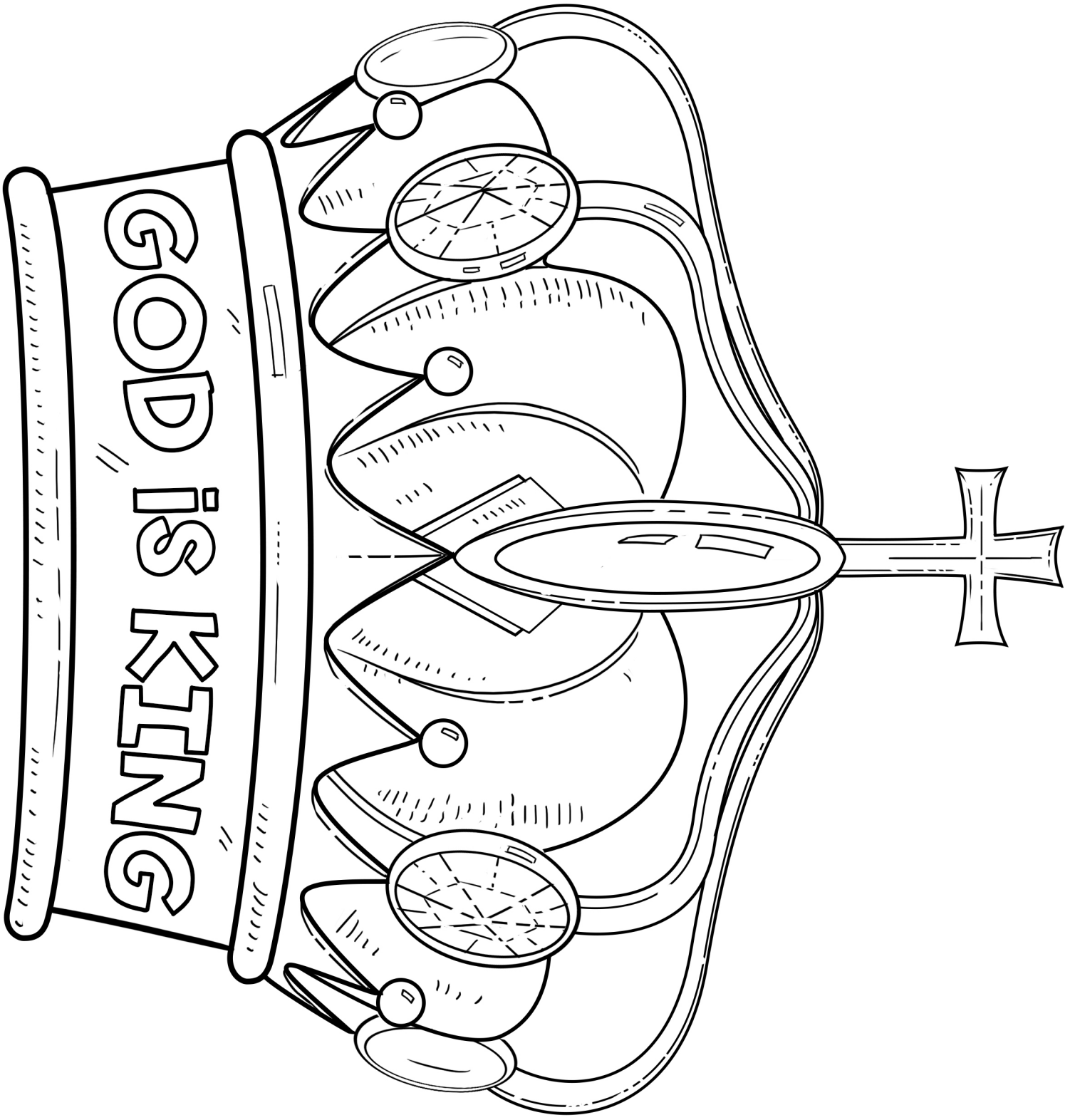
1. Read the scriptures below to your students once. Then, read them again but leave off the last word or two. (The verses of Psalm 118 will sound exactly alike. Just say them in order.)
2. Then put the ball into play with one player.
3. When you say a verse leaving off the last word or couple of words, the student with the ball will have to fill in. If the answer is incorrect, he keeps the ball and can’t pass it until he guesses the right word (help is allowed from others).
4. Once you say the answer was correct, he can bounce the ball to another player. Repeat until all students have had one turn.
5. Then, stop at a different word in the scripture. Have students fill in to the end.
6. Make the parts you say shorter and the parts they have to say longer.
7. See if you can reach a point where they can say the whole scripture passage after you say only the chapter and verse number.

#### Scriptures:

- **1 Corinthians 15:33**-Do not be misled: Bad company corrupts good character.
- **Psalm 118:8**-It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in humans.
- **Psalm 118:9**-It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in princes.
- **Ecclesiastes 7:5**-It is better to heed the rebuke of a wise person than to listen to the song of fools
- **Mark 8:36**-What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul?
- **Mark 8:35**-For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me and for the gospel will save it.

#### Conclusion:

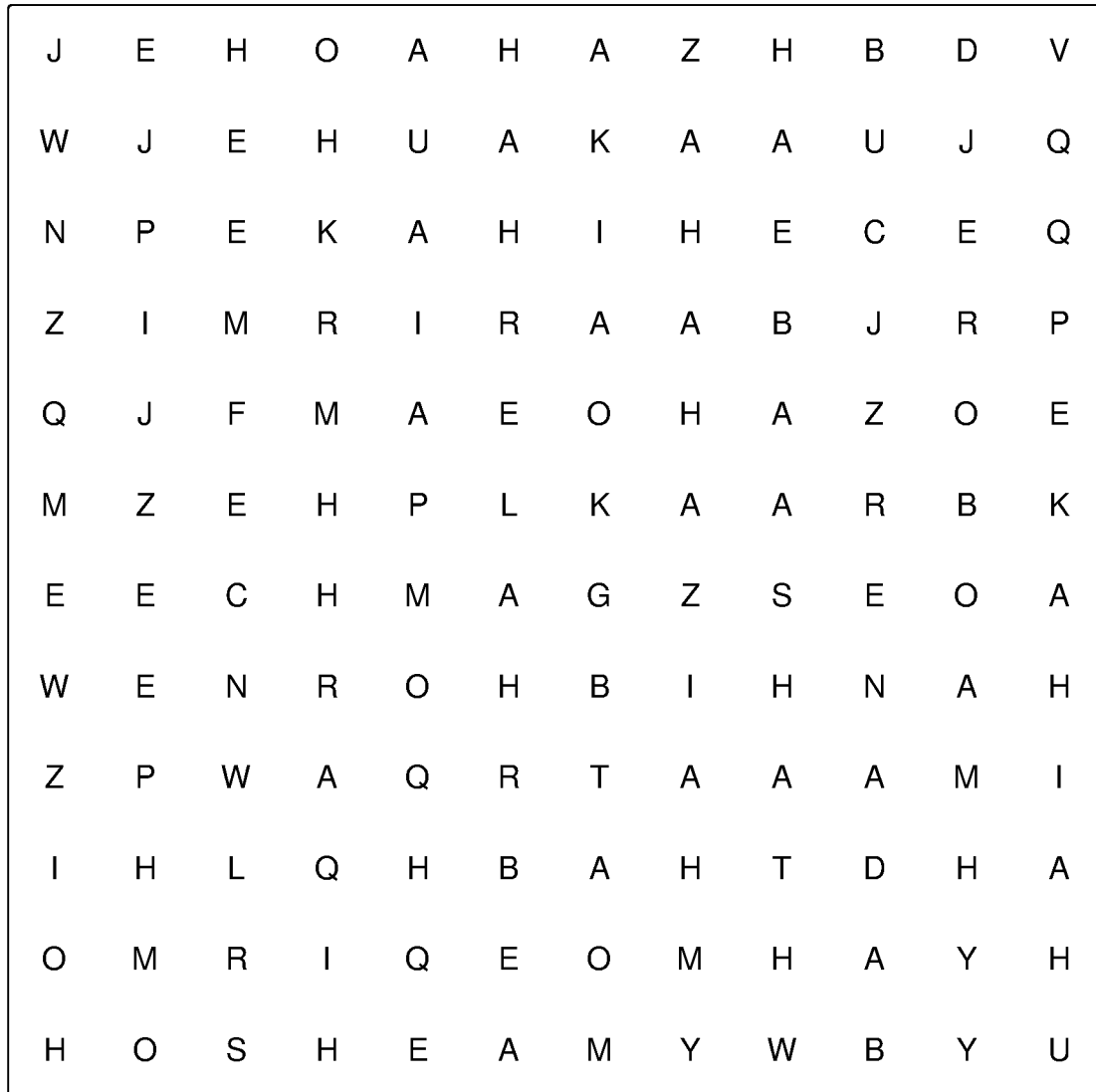
**Think of these verses whenever you feel like coveting somebody else’s power or popularity. Being acceptable to such people could end up leaving you their slave.**



# ISRAEL ASKS FOR A KING

## WORD SEARCH

**Instructions:** Except for a handful, ALL the kings of Israel turned out to be wicked. Below are some of their names. Pray not to become like them!



### Words to Find:

JEROBOAM  
NADAB  
BAASHA  
ELAH

ZIMRI  
OMRI  
AHAB  
AHAZIAH

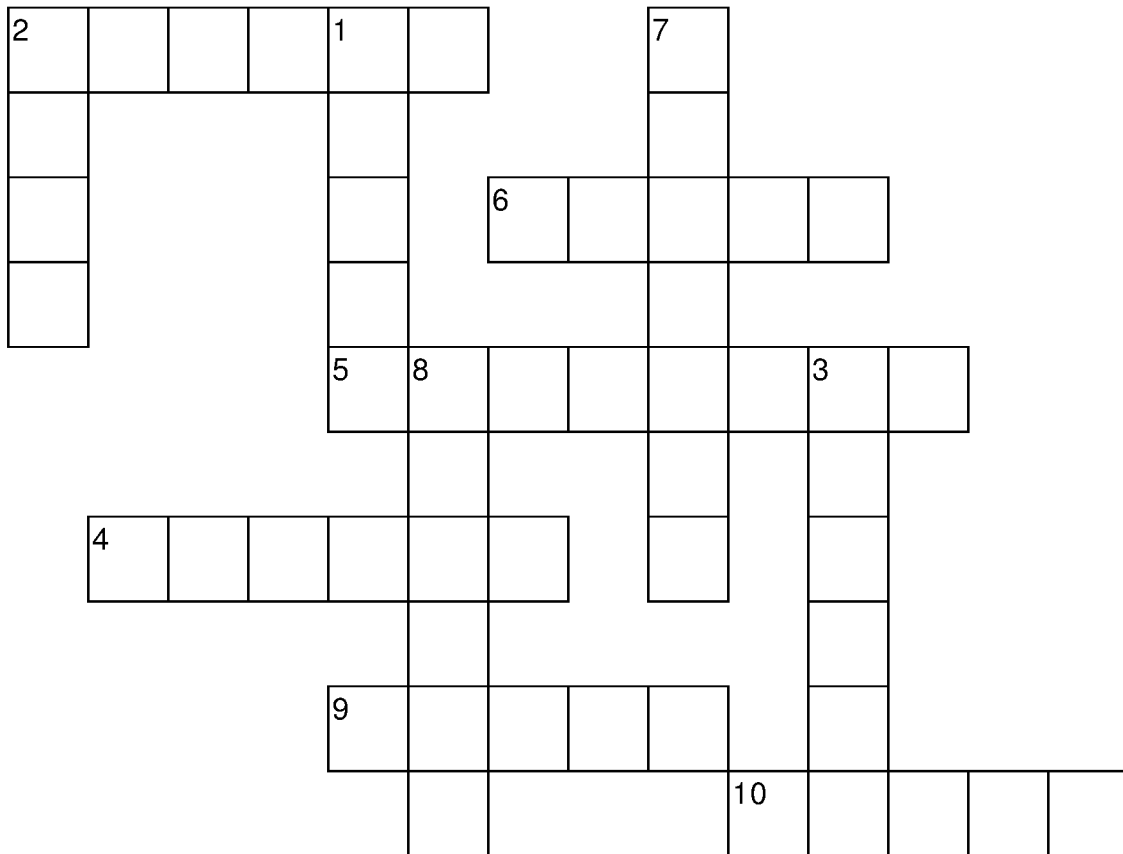
JEHORAM  
JEHU  
JEHOAHAZ  
ZECHARIAH

MENAHEM  
PEKAHIAH  
PEKAH  
HOSHEA

# ISRAEL ASKS FOR A KING

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE

**Instructions:** Use your At-A-Glance Sheet, The First Book of Samuel Fun Facts, to fill in the crossword below.



### Across

2. The most famous story in 1 Samuel does not mention this person
4. In this Book of Samuel in the Bible, Samuel was already dead
5. 1 Samuel ends around this many years BC
6. Samuel is the first recorded child to hear this belonging to the Lord
9. Samuel anointed this king of Israel 13 years before it came to pass
10. A witch from this place raised Samuel's spirit from the grave in an evil séance

### Down

1. Number of books in the Bible that come before Samuel
2. The first King of Israel, who turned evil
3. One of the probable authors of the Book of 1 Samuel
7. People who raised Samuel
8. Samuel's mother's name

# ISRAEL ASKS FOR A KING

## PARENT HANDOUT



Scriptures to Read: 1 Samuel 8:1-20



### This Week We Learned About ...

...how can reject God over slight things such as a new friend or popularity or increasing our belongings. Then we suffer the natural consequences of our actions. Samuel's response is an accurate prediction of what comes of people who trust in things of the world rather than God.



#### ✓ Questions for Kids:

1. God said that the Israelites had rejected him because they did not want him as their...

**A. King**

2. Who came to Samuel asking for a king?

**A. the Elders of the land.**

3. What did the Israelites want the King to do?

**A. Fight their battles for them**

#### ✓ Dinner Table Discussion:

Being close with God always brings us the best results in life. Talk about some things that can draw your attention away from God. How do you remind yourself to make being close with god your priority.

Have you ever felt God's presence at a time when you needed him? How did being close with god help you in that situation?

#### Scripture Notes (tuck in lunchboxes, tape to mirrors, etc.):



*For the Lord your god is he who goes with you to fight for you and against your enemies, to give you the victory.*

**Deuteronomy 20:4**



*Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust and will not be afraid: for the Lord God is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation.* **Isaiah 12:2**



*May the Lord give strength to his people! May the Lord bless his people with peace!*

**Psalms 29:11**

# ISRAEL ASKS FOR A KING

## AT A GLANCE: THE BOOK OF 1 SAMUEL FUN FACTS

The Book of 1 Samuel contains amazing stories about the life of Samuel and the early life of King David before he was king. Recognize some of the famous stories found in this book and other facts about it below.

### FUN FACT #1

**1 Samuel is the ninth Book of in the Bible**

### FUN FACT #2

**The most famous story in 1 Samuel does not mention Samuel! It is about David killing Goliath.**

### FUN FACT #3

**Samuel probably did not write 1 Samuel! His records contributed to it, and the writers also may have been men named Nathan, Gad, and an unknown scribe who served as compiler.**

### FUN FACT #4

**There are 1 Samuel and 2 Samuel in our Bible. Samuel could not have written 2 Samuel because he died before it took place! Nobody is certain of why both books were named after him.**

### FUN FACT #5

**1 Samuel covers the period from 1150 BC to 1000 BC.**

### FUN FACT #6

**Samuel was the first known child to hear the voice the Lord. It is a famous story in 1 Samuel 3.**

### FUN FACT #7

**Samuel was raised by priests! This is because his mother Hannah gave him to the Lord in overwhelming gratitude for his birth. That story is in 1 Samuel 1.**

### FUN FACT #8

**Samuel anointed David king of Israel—before David even turned 18 or killed Goliath! After 13 years it came true!**

### FUN FACT #9

**1 Samuel contains the only Bible story of a séance. The person brought to speak from the dead was Samuel! The story is called the Witch of Endor and is in 1 Samuel 28. Tell it on Halloween!**

### FUN FACT #10

**The Book of First Samuel is mostly about Samuel's life, King David's early life, and the reign of Israel's first king—King Saul. It ends after King Saul turns evil and dies.**



# LEARNING LOOKUPS

# ISRAEL ASKS FOR A KING

**Lookup:** Proverbs 1:10 and write it down.

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**Lookup:** Psalm 1:1-2 and write it down.

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**Question:** Both these verses say something about avoiding peer pressure, as the Hebrews failed to do. Apply them to your own life, saying how they fit with certain things you are going through.

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**Create a prayer below.** Speak to God and write it. Ask God to give you the strength to avoid peer pressure, using your own words and circumstances:

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# ISRAEL ASKS FOR A KING

## QUIZ



Below are some of the best verses to help overcome peer pressure and temptation to make idols king of your life. Use your NIV Bible to fill in the blanks:

### BIBLE VERSES ON RESISTING PEER PRESSURE

1. No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be \_\_\_\_\_ beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can \_\_\_\_\_ it.

**1 Corinthians 10:13**

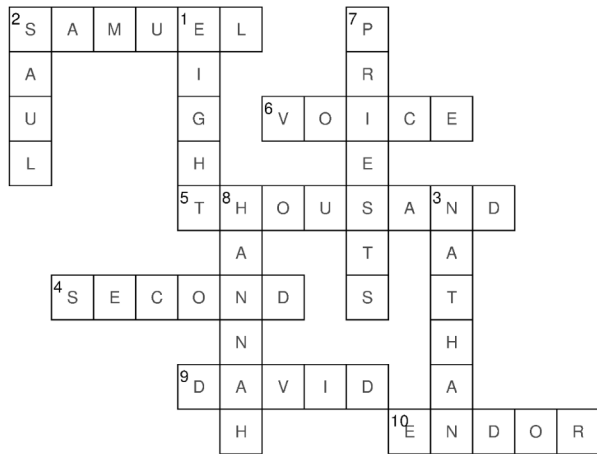
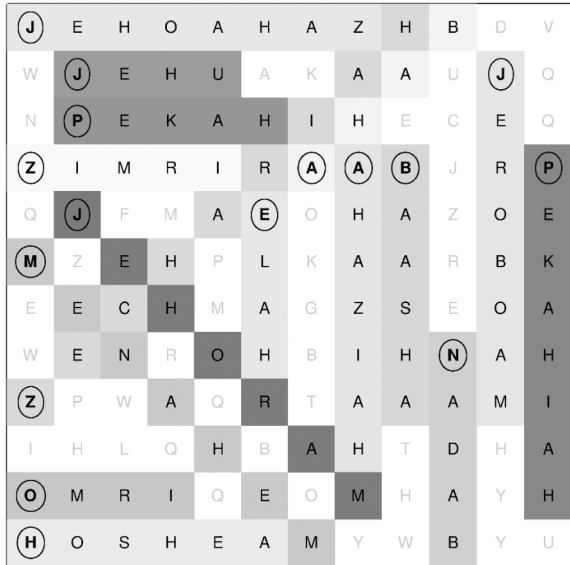
2. "Watch and pray so that you will not fall into \_\_\_\_\_. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is \_\_\_\_\_." **Matthew 26:41**

3. Blessed is the one who \_\_\_\_\_ under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the \_\_\_\_\_ of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him. **James 1:12**

4. \_\_\_\_\_ yourselves, then, to God. \_\_\_\_\_ the devil, and he will flee from you. **James 4:7**

5. You were \_\_\_\_\_ a good race. Who cut in on you to keep you from obeying the \_\_\_\_\_? **Galatians 5:7**



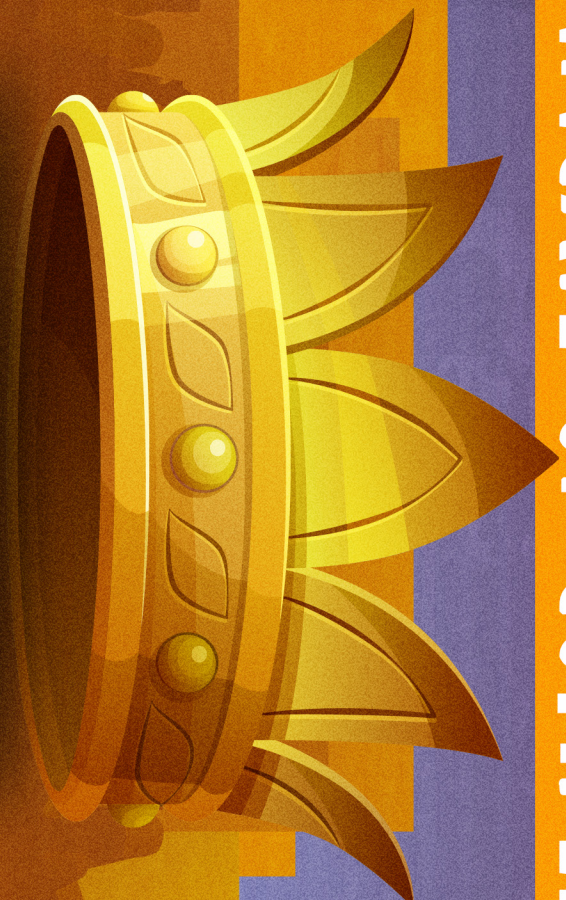


**Teacher's QUIZ ANSWERS in order:**

- 1) tempted/endure
- 2) temptation/weak
- 3) perseveres/crown
- 4) submit/resist
- 5) running/obeying

# ISRAEL ASKS FOR A KING

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION



NAME:

DATE: