



4th October 2020

God or Man? / 1 Samuel 9-10

Opening Prayer

Dear God, thank you for the Bible. Please help us to know you better as we read it. Amen.

Game: Man, Man, King!

Basically Duck, Duck, Goose but to fit in with today's theme.

Get the children sitting in a circle and choose one of them to be Samuel. Samuel goes around the circle tapping each child on the head and saying, "Man, man, man", at some point he taps a child and says, "King!" The child proclaimed king then jumps up and races Samuel around the circle back to the place they have left. Whichever of them gets back last is Samuel for the next round. You can briefly explain that Samuel was one of God's prophets (someone who could hear God speak easily and passed his messages onto others) and we see today that he told Saul that God had chosen him to be king over Israel.

Storytime

The story about Saul the first king of Israel is widely available on the internet(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QX9pWgYJpGk>) If you really can't get hold of it, you could use the story as told in 1 Samuel 9-10 in the Bible.

Follow in the footsteps of Jesus' followers as they travel on the road from Jerusalem to Emmaus and get talking to someone who gives them the biggest surprise of all!

Questions

- Ask the children who was the King of Israel before Saul. It was **God!** How did God feel when the people wanted a different king?
- What sort of qualities or characteristics should a king have? Do the children think that Saul was like this? Say that he probably was a good choice.
- What was funny about what happened when Saul was supposed to be being crowned King? He went and hid. Why did he hide?

Say that Saul was scared of being king but he didn't need to be because it was God who had asked him to be King so He would make sure Saul was ok. Say that Saul might have forgotten this and so was scared of the people and whether they would follow him and accept him as king. Say that this was a problem that Saul had later on in his kingship: worrying more about what people thought than what God thought.

Response

Use the song 'God is Watching' from the Great big God 4 album (Vineyard Kids).

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4R41TqCV6Fw>

The song has a great line that says, "**I say your way is the way**" and talks about not caring what anyone else says. This is really the key message from today's session so it would be good to send the children away with that ringing in their ears.