In the Beginning...Jesus

Lesson 24
God Appoints Judges and Gives Israel a King

Themes:

- After God had given Israel the Promised Land, Israel turned to idolatry.
- God punished the people of Israel for their disobedience.
- God is merciful—He appointed judges to deliver His people.
- Israel rejected God's rule and desired a king.

Scripture:

Portions of Judges and 1 Samuel

Memory Verse:

John 1:5 (and review verses 1-4)

Today's Clue:

No new clue, but here is a riddle for next week:
Look high. Look low. Look underneath. Look in between, something special and often seen.

Home and Heart:

Have your child tell you about the illustration of the marshmallows and the garlic. [Cloves of garlic were stored in a container of marshmallows.] Did having a few little garlic cloves in the container make a difference in the taste and smell of the marshmallows? Why? What did this illustration have to do with today's story? How did the other nations become a "snare and a trap" to Israel? Read Judges 2:11-15. How can this illustration teach us something about the life of a Christian today? Read and discuss the following passages: Romans 12:2; Philippians 2:14-15; Titus 2:11-12; 1 Peter 2:9-10; 1 John 2:15-16.

Sometimes when we are having troubles, we believe there should be a quick solution to our problems. What did the Israelites think would solve their problems? What did they ask for? Read 1 Samuel 8:4-18. Fill in the chart labeled HUMAN KINGS and GOD on the backside of this page by doing the following: After reading the warning from Samuel in verses 11-17, help your child to think of words and phrases that describe the type of kings the other nations had (e.g., take things from you, make you work hard for him, etc.). Is this what God is like? What words or phrases describe the kind of King that God is to His people (e.g., good, faithful, merciful, provides them with food, fights for them, saves them, etc.)? Which one would you want to rule over you? What did Israel choose? Read verse 19. Are you ever like Israel? Are there times you reject God as King? How is this shown in your life? How do you show whether or not you treasure God as your King? Read and discuss Psalm 47 and Philippians 2:10-11.

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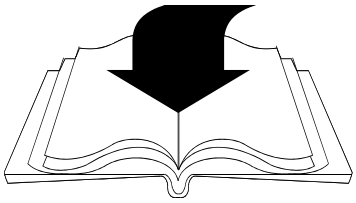

1 SAMUEL

In the book of 1 Samuel, we learn about how the Israelites demanded a king so they could be like all the nations. Read about the events that led up to this in 1 Samuel 1-6. (Try reading one chapter a day.) Then complete the sentences below by filling in the missing words.

1. _____ was Samuel's mother.

2. When Samuel was young he was brought to live with _____ the priest.

3. Hophni and Phinehas were evil. God promised that both would _____ on the same day.

4. When the Israelites went to battle against the _____, they were defeated and the _____ was captured. When Eli heard the news, he fell off his _____ and died.

5. The ark was set along side _____, an idol. On the second morning after the ark was placed next to the idol, the idol's _____ and _____ had been broken off.

6. God afflicted the Philistines with _____ because they had captured the ark.

GOD	HUMAN KINGS

Read the instructions from the "Home and Heart" section on the front of this sheet.