



# RLA Kids Weekly Devotional Guide

June 16, 2019

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## What We're Learning This Week

### **"ISRAEL'S FIRST KING" 1 SAMUEL 8-15**

God intended for a heavenly king to rule over Israel, but the Israelites did not trust God's plan and wanted a king like the nations around them. God gave them a king, but Saul did not obey God. God had a plan to send His Son, Jesus. King Jesus trusted and obeyed God perfectly and died so sinners could be forgiven and accepted.

## Questions to Ask, Conversation Starters, and Helping to Apply The Truths to Our Kids' Lives

*Remember: this guide is meant to help facilitate conversations and engagement with Jesus throughout the week, so don't feel like you need to do this all in one day!*

### **BEFORE WE MEET TOGETHER ON SUNDAY**

- Continue conversations as a family regarding the lesson from last Sunday, where we learned that the ark of God reminded the Israelites that God was with them. Years later, God gave His people something greater than a sign that He was with them; God gave them His Son, Jesus—God in the flesh. One of Jesus's names is Immanuel, which means "God with us." The guide from last week can be found [here](#).
- Read through the book of 1 Samuel 8-15, pray and ask God to reveal himself to you and for wisdom in how to best shepherd and disciple your kids through this Scripture in the next week.

### **AFTER WE MEET TOGETHER ON SUNDAY**

#### **Discipleship Through Scripture and Conversation**

- Talk to your kids about the Bible story that they learned at church. Ask them to explain what they learned/what stuck out to them in the story, and expand upon the truths of the Bible that they are bringing up.
- Continue the conversation with your kids on Sunday and throughout the week. Some helpful conversations this week could be:
  1. Read 1 Sam. 15:22. In the previous verses, Saul attempts to justify that what he did was good, even though it was not obeying God completely.

- How do you justify your sin or actions? How do you become convicted of your sin?
  - What does it look like for you to “offer sacrifices” (i.e. going through the motions) versus obeying and loving the LORD?
  - Was it fair for Saul to be punished for doing what he thought was right?
2. God tells Samuel “It is not you they have rejected, but they have rejected me as their king.” (1 Sam. 8:7).
    - In what ways do you reject God? Is it through idols? Sinning? Ignoring him?
    - Read 1 Sam. 12:22-24. How does this give you hope when you sin against God?
  3. God gave the Israelites what they wanted, a king. However, he was a fallen king.
    - Who is our perfect king?
    - What are some attributes of Jesus that make him kingly compared to the Israelites’ kings?

### **Discipleship through prayer**

- Take time to pray together as a family.
  - Pray to God for him to be the king of your heart. Ask Jesus to show you how to lovingly obey his word and to be filled with a desire to follow him.
- Ask each member of your family – adults included – to share one thing they would like prayer over. Have someone to pray for that person’s request. Encourage your family to pray for that person for the entire week.
- Take time to pray independently for your children, for God to do his mighty work in their hearts through the power of the Holy Spirit.

### **Discipleship through modeling/action**

- Follow up throughout the week about the things you discussed
  - Guide your children through an exercise of confession. Provide an example of a sin that you committed, ask for forgiveness, and then praise God. Have your children share one of their sins and ask for forgiveness. Let them know that God continues to love them and that they will have to continue to work on overcoming that sin. And then remind them that because our Savior, Jesus, already overcame death, that we do not need to fear sin and death.
- Pursue discipleship in your own life. Read Scripture, pray fervently, invest into community, and more. Model the ways of Christ as an example to your kids.

## Our Memory Verse for This Unit

### **OUR MEMORY VERSE FOR THIS UNIT (ENTITLED “SAMUEL AND KING SAUL”) IS JEREMIAH 10:6**

- *For our older kids we are doing the full verse:*
  - “There is none like you, O Lord; you are great, and your name is great in might.”
- For our younger kids we are doing an abbreviated version of the verse:
  - “ There is none like you, O Lord; you are great, and your name is great in might.”

While we are helping the kids engage with this Scripture on Sundays through fun activities and time together, we really encourage you to take time to continue to engage with the memorization of this Scripture at home. As always, the hope is not to have our kids simply know a lot of Scripture, but to engage in God’s Word and allow Him to use it to transform the hearts of our kids!

## What’s Coming Up?

- Stay connected by joining the [RLA Kids page on RLA Connect](#)
- Want weekly updates and occasional texts about special announcements? Text the word “Kids” to 323.859.1122. It really helps in preparing for Sunday and the rest of the week!

## We Want to Know and Serve You Better!

We love hearing from you! You can email [kids@realityla.com](mailto:kids@realityla.com) at any time with any thoughts, questions, or concerns. We also love to be praying with and alongside you, so please send those over as well.