

# A Reluctant King

**1 Samuel 9:1-10:27**

**Big Idea** : Samuel anointed Saul as God's chosen king of Israel, but Saul was reluctant and not everyone accepted him.

**Aim** : To teach that the right response to God's word is to listen and obey, trusting that God will supply all we need.



# Review

- Who did the Israelites want to be like? [The nations around them (8:5, 20)]
- In what way? [Having a human king (8:5, 19-20)]
- Why was this a bad idea? [It was a rejection of God as king (8:7)]



# Job swap

- In today's true story from the Bible someone was chosen to be king, but he didn't seem very happy about this.





Reel









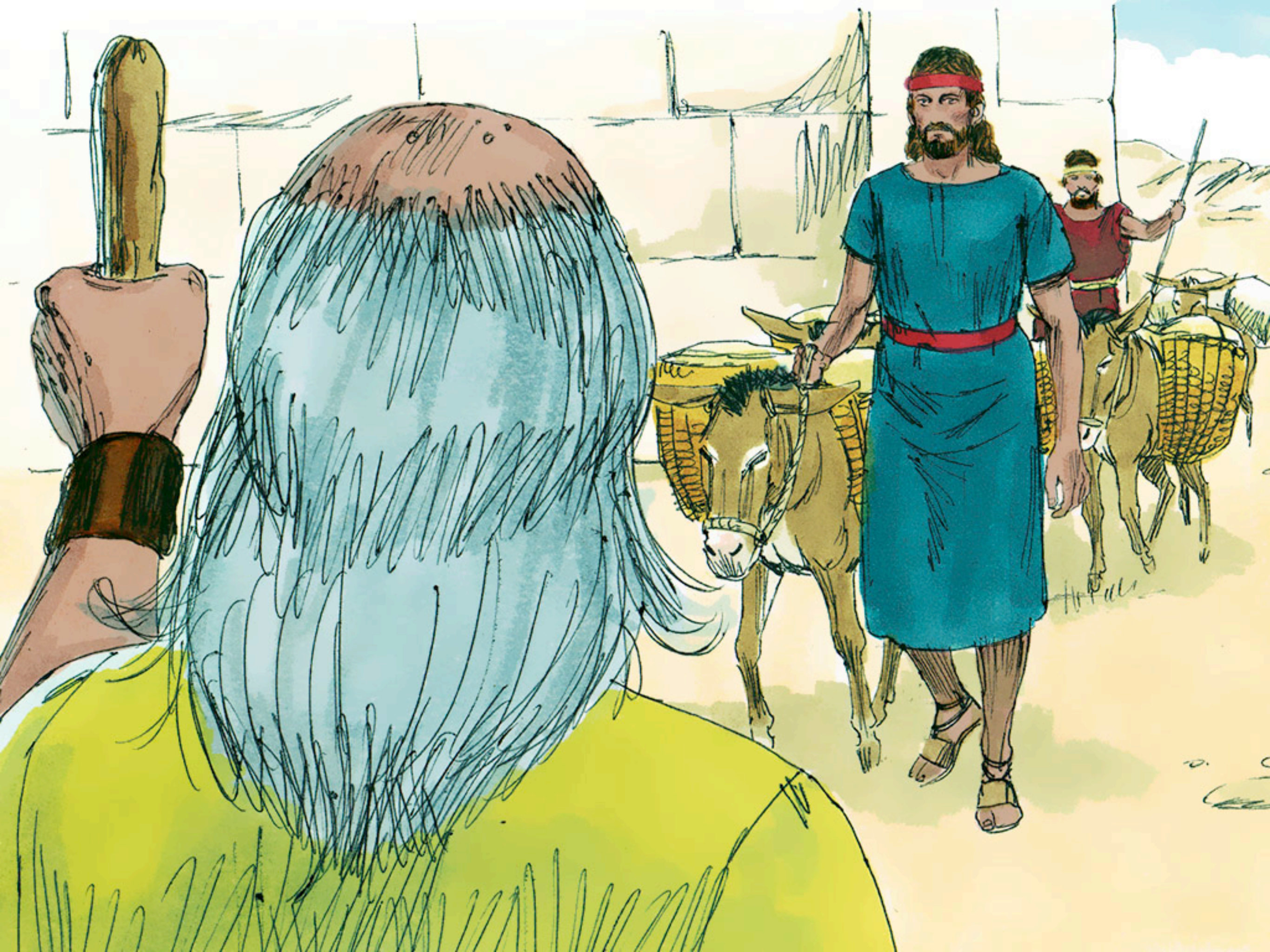








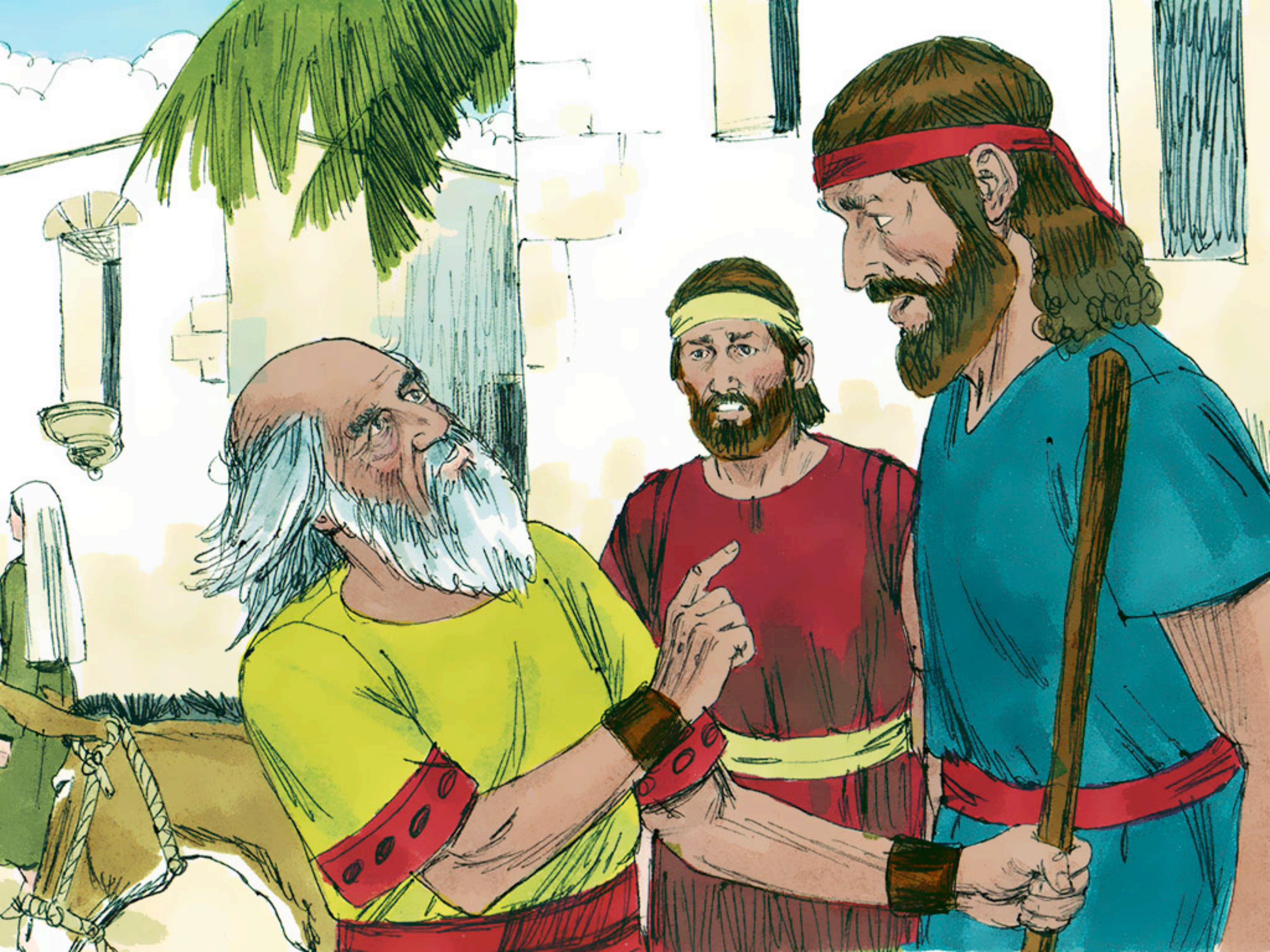




















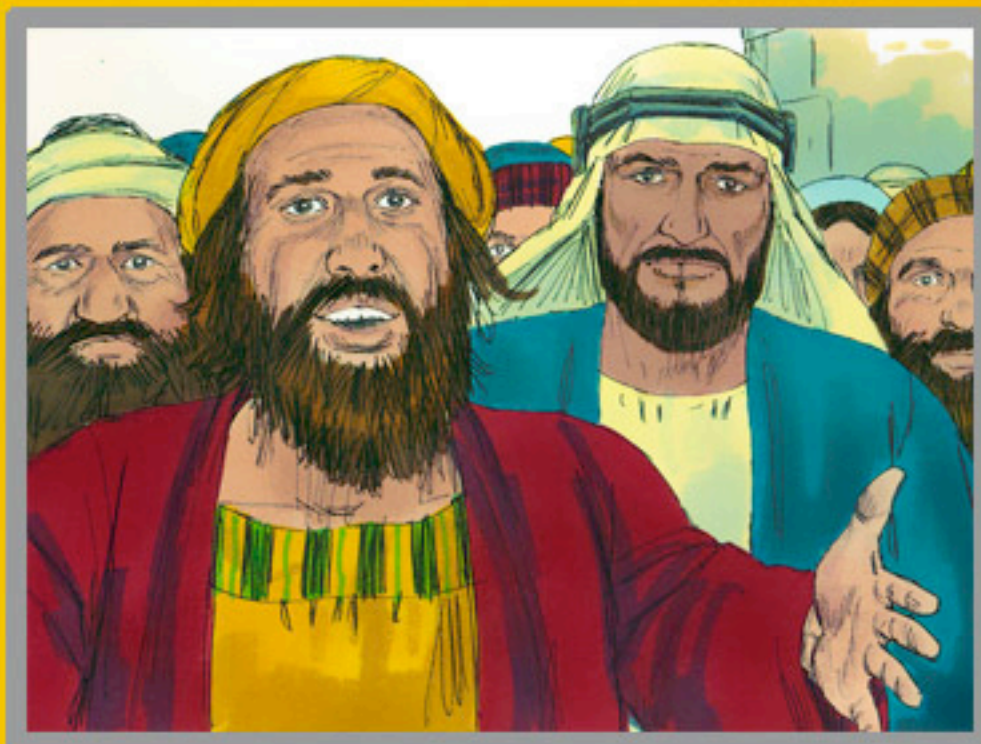
Saul

Tabor ●

Gilgal ●

Gibeah ●

Zelzah ●



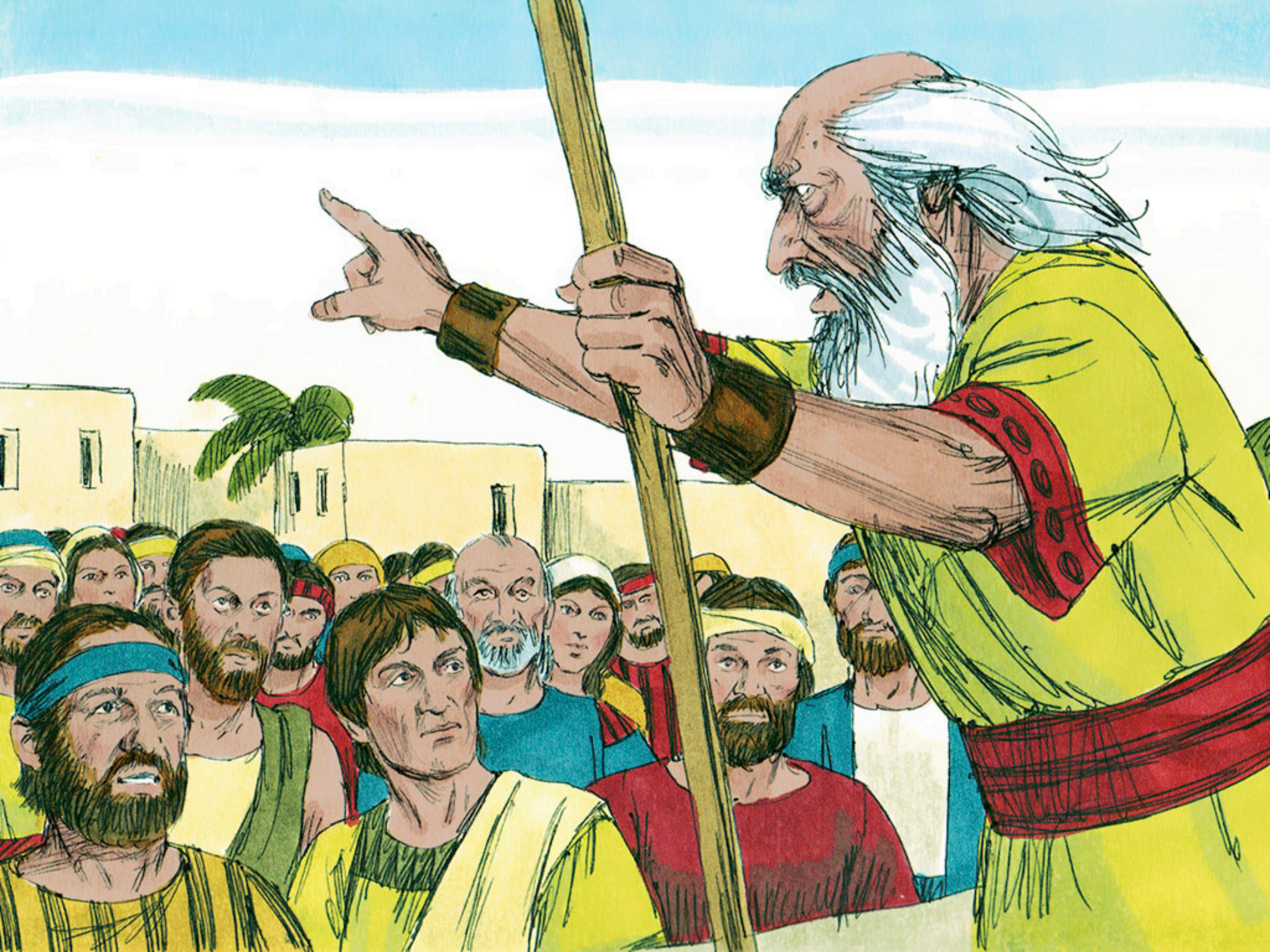
Prophets

Dead  
Sea















There was a man from the tribe of Benjamin called Kish who had a son called Saul. Saul was a handsome young man who was a head taller than everyone else. Kish had lost his donkeys and asked Saul to take a servant and search the hill country to find them.



Saul and his servant searched for the missing donkeys but could not find them. Saul wanted to return home but his servant suggested, 'There is a highly respected man of God in this town. Perhaps he will tell us what way to take.'



As they went up to the town they met Samuel. He was on his way to the High Place where he worshipped God.





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- 10 The day before, God had told Samuel, 'About this time tomorrow I will send you a man from the land of Benjamin. Anoint him ruler over my people Israel. He will deliver them from the Philistines.'



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- 11 Saul asked Samuel, 'Can you tell me where the prophet's house is?' 'I am the prophet,' Samuel replied. Come with me to the High Place then eat with me and return home tomorrow. As for the lost donkeys, they have been found. The nation is turning to you and your family line. 'But I am from the smallest tribe and my clan is not important,' Saul protested.





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Samuel invited Saul and 30 guests to a meal and later talked with him on the roof of his house.



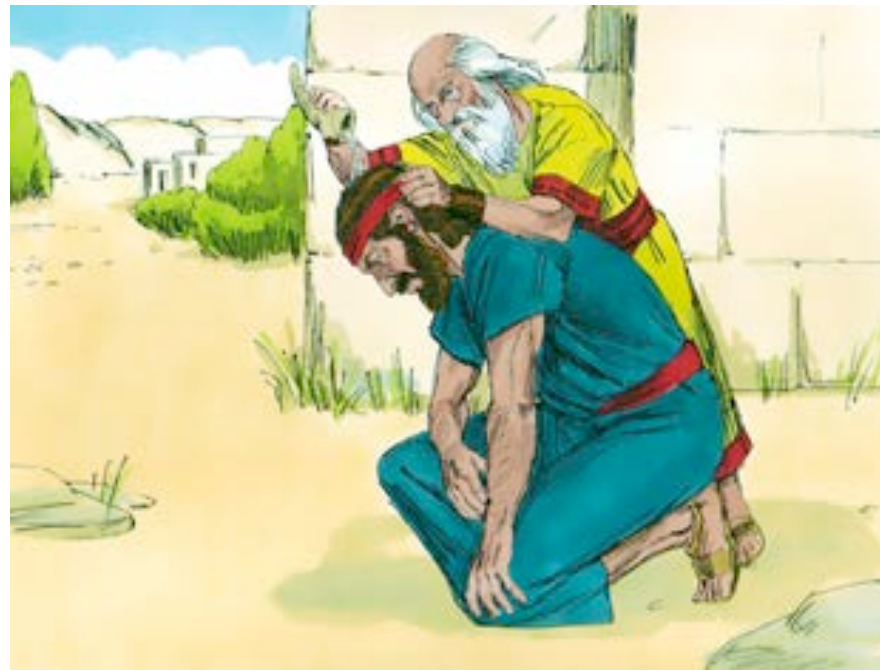
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The next morning, as Saul and his servant set off, Samuel asked the servant to go on ahead as he had a message from God to give Saul.





When they were alone, Samuel took a flask of olive oil and poured it on Saul's head. 'Has not the Lord chosen you to be a ruler over His land?' Samuel asked. He then told Saul of three things that would happen to him.



At the Oak tree of Tabor he would meet three men on their way to Bethel who would give him two loaves of bread. At Gibeah he would meet a group of prophets worshipping God. The Spirit of the Lord would come on Saul with power and he would prophesy with them. At Zelzah he would be told by a man that his father's donkeys had been found.





These things all happened as Samuel said. When he arrived at Gibeah, a procession of prophets met him. The Spirit of God came powerfully upon him, and he joined in their prophesying. 'What is this that has happened to the son of Kish?' people asked, 'Is Saul now a prophet?'



Samuel called the people of Israel together. By drawing lots, the tribe of Benjamin was selected, then the clan of Saul then Saul himself. But he was nowhere to be found. They asked the Lord where he was and the Lord revealed that Saul was hiding among the supplies.





They ran and brought him out. He stood a head taller than everyone else. Samuel announced, 'Do you see the man the Lord has chosen? There is no-one else like him.' Then the people shouted, 'Long live the king!'

Samuel explained the rights and duties of kingship to everyone and wrote them down on a scroll. The people then went home but not everyone was pleased. Some muttered, 'How can this man help us?' They despised Saul and would not bring him gifts.





# *Did you know?*

<https://youtu.be/9TfkZz4Tj14>



# Activity

- Choose one child to be Saul and ask them to hide while the other children close their eyes and count to ten.
- Ask the other children to find Saul and bring him to you. When they do so, place a crown on his head and say, "Do you see the man the Lord has chosen?"
- Encourage the children to respond with, "Long live the king!" then point to one child as you say, "But some scoundrels said" and get them to say, "How can this man save us?"
- Repeat this a number of times, choosing a different child to be Saul each time and pointing to a different child to be the scoundrel.





# Watch

<https://youtu.be/gF6nvxG-v9o>





# Sing

[https://youtu.be/7gl\\_5jLTfUE](https://youtu.be/7gl_5jLTfUE)

<https://youtu.be/W2xc-w8Zcbo>



# Memory verse

**LEARN THE ACTIONS**

<https://youtu.be/UqVYdA5mvTY>





# Apply

<https://youtu.be/tlL5WvD7wFo>



# Quiz

**Who did Saul meet on his journey? 9:14**

**What had God told this man to do? 9:15-17**

**Why didn't Saul think he could be king? 9:21**

**How did God equip Saul to be king? 10:7, 9-10**

**How did Saul try to avoid becoming king? 10:20-24**

**Who had decided that Saul would be king?**

**Who was Saul disobeying?**

**Why didn't Saul want to be king? Who was he trusting in?**

**Who should he have trusted to help him?**

**How does God help Christians to live for him?**

**How can we find out about the way God wants us to live?**

**When do you find it hard to trust God and obey his word?**



# Pray

Dear Lord Jesus

Please will you help us to making reading our bibles daily a priority.

As we read Your Word throughout the week, will you help us to live in obedience to it. When we find it hard to obey your Word please help us to remember that if you have called us to behave in a certain way you will help us to be obedient. We know that we so often don't do what Your Word tells us to do and for this we are sorry. Please help us to daily repent of the thoughts, words and deeds that we do that don't please you.

Thank you that you love and care for us so deeply - please help us to live for you...Amen