

1 SAMUEL 5-10

WEEK IN REVIEW + FAMILY GUIDE

WEEK IN REVIEW

We see from the beginning of the Bible that God desires to tabernacle, or **dwelt** with His people. To dwell means to live with. The Lord instructed his people to build something called a **tabernacle**, which was a tent where His presence lived. Inside the tabernacle, there was something called the **Ark of the Covenant**, which included a copy of 10 Commandments, Aaron's staff, and manna which is bread. This ark played an important role in the Israelites conquering the Promised Land and settling in the land. In 1 Samuel 4, the Israelites were battling the **Philistines**, who were a group of people considered their enemies. The Philistines captured the Ark of the Covenant, which was a bad move. They took the Ark of the Covenant and brought it to their temple to add it to all of the false gods they served. God sent plagues as an act of judgement against them, and they returned the Ark to the Israelites.

The Israelites say to the prophet Samuel, "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" (1 Samuel 8:5). The Lord says to Samuel, "Listen to the people and everything they say to you. They have not rejected you; they have rejected me as their king" (1 Samuel 8:7). They refused to listen to Samuel, and demanded a king. It was not the people's request, but their heart behind their request that was sinful. They want to be just like the other nations and we're looking for solutions to their problems other than God. This is called **idolatry**, which mean to worship anything other than God as though it was God. They were to be a distinct holy nation and royal priesthood, so that these foreigners would come to know and worship the one true God. But they chose to be just like everyone else!

The Lord allows Samuel to give the people over to their desires and allows him to appoint a man named Saul as Israel's first king. The Bible tells us that Saul was strong, tall, good-looking, but ultimately did not fear the Lord. Saul has deep character flaws that eventually lead to his downfall. We will see the quick decline of Saul and the rise of David throughout the next chapters in 1 Samuel.

FAMILY GUIDE

BIG IDEA:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Israel asks for a king neglecting to follow the one true King which is God
KEY STORIES:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Philistines and the Ark Israel Demanding a King Saul Anointed as King
KEY VERSES:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Samuel 5:1-2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> "After the Philistines had captured the ark of God, they took it from Ebenezer to Ashdod. Then they carried the ark into Dagon's temple and set it beside Dagon." 1 Samuel 8:5 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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." 1 Samuel 9:2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> "Kish had a son named Saul, as handsome a young man as could be found anywhere in Israel, and he was a head taller than anyone else."
WORDS TO KNOW:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dwell <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To live with Ark of the Covenant <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inside the tabernacle included a copy of 10 Commandments, Aaron's staff, and manna Philistines <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A group of people considered Israel's enemies Idolatry <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To worship anything other than God as though it were God

Reflection Questions

1.	What was the Ark of the Covenant?
2.	What did the Philistines do to the Ark of the Covenant? What happened when they did this?
3.	What did the Israelites ask Samuel for? What was their motive behind this request?
4.	Who was Israel's first king?