

Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> July

### Recall

1. How did Saul hear about Samuel, the man of God?  
Hint 1: He went searching for his father's asses. Hint 2: He went with his servant.
2. What did God tell Samuel about Saul?  
Hint 1: Samuel knew the day before that he would meet Saul. Hint 2: Saul would become far greater than he ever could have imagined.
3. What did Samuel do to make Saul or to anoint Saul as a prince of Israel?  
Hint 1: The servant went ahead, so that Saul was alone with Samuel. Hint 2: Something was poured on Saul's head.
4. Samuel told Saul that he would be shown some signs from God. What was he given from one of the three men he met?  
Hint 1: One man carried three kids. Hint 2: Another man carried a skin of wine.
5. What happened to Saul after he met the prophets and joined them in prophesying?  
Hint 1: This was the last of the signs that Saul would see. Hint 2: He would become a different man because something would enter into him.
6. When the people of Israel told Saul that they needed his help to defeat the Ammonites and their cruel threat, what did Saul do?  
Hint 1: 2 things were killed. Hint 2: they were sent around the land.

### Summary

Kish had a tall, handsome son named Saul. One day, the asses which belonged to Kish went missing and so Kish asked his son Saul to look for them with a servant. They searched in many lands when eventually Saul said they should return, else his father would think that they had gone missing. The servant however, spoke of a man of God who might be able to help them and who was nearby. As an offering, they decided to give this man of God a quarter of a silver shekel.

Samuel, the wise man was told by God that he would meet Saul and that he should anoint him to be a prince over the people of Israel. Saul met Samuel in the town and dined with him. When Samuel told Saul that all of Israel belonged to him, Saul found this difficult to believe as he came from a small and humble family.

After spending the night, the next morning, Samuel asked Saul to send his servant ahead of him so that he could pass on a message from God. Samuel took a flask of oil and poured it on Saul's head and kissed him and told him that God had anointed him as a prince of Israel. He told Saul that he would deliver the people of Israel from their enemies. Samuel then told him that he would meet two men at Rachel's tomb who would tell him about his father's lost asses and that they have been found. From there, he would come to the oak of Tabor where he would meet three men; one carrying three kids, one carrying three loaves of bread and the other carrying a skin of wine. Two loaves of bread would be given to him and then he would go to the city of Gibeah. There he would meet a band of prophets coming down from a high place with a lyre, tambourine, flute and harp before them while they made prophecies. The spirit of God would then enter him and he would make prophecies too and in that moment; Saul would become a different man. Samuel told Saul that when these signs came, he should do whatever he can, for God would be with him.

The Israelites were besieged by Nahash, the Ammonite and they pleaded to make terms and serve him. Nahash however was cruel and said that the only terms he would make would be to gouge out the right eye of all the Israelites and bring disgrace upon all of Israel. The Israelites asked for seven days to find someone who might save them and so they went to Saul. Upon hearing their troubles, the spirit of God filled Saul and

Saul killed two oxen and had them sent throughout all of Israel saying that whoever did not come out after Saul and Samuel would meet the same fate.

Saul sent a message that tomorrow, by the time the sun is hot, help shall be given. Early the next morning, Saul divided the people into three divisions to fight against the Ammonites. The Ammonites became so scattered that not two of them were left together. After this victory, Saul was made the ruler of Israel by the Israelites.

### **Drawing**

In your main lesson book (large blue or purple book), draw a picture from yesterday's story. I have drawn Saul being anointed by Samuel.



## Recap

Elkanah had two wives; Peninna and Hannah. Peninna had children, but Hannah had none. Whenever Elkanah offered a sacrifice to God, he gave many portions of the offering to his wife Peninna and to his sons and daughters, but only one portion to Hannah, since she had no children and even though he loved her. Every year this happened and every year Peninna mocked Hannah, until Hannah would cry and refuse to eat. Hannah cried and prayed to God and seeing her in this state, the priest Eli, who could not hear what she was praying about thought she was drunk and tried to chase her away. However, when he learned that she was grief stricken, he gave her his blessing.

That year, Hannah had a son, Samuel. She did not go to make the yearly sacrifice, for she said that she would wait until Samuel no longer needed her breast-milk. After this, she would give him to the temple, for she felt that he belonged to God. Samuel spent his days performing the duties of a priest and each year, his mother would bring him a new robe. For this offering, Hannah and Elkanah were blessed with 3 more sons and 2 daughters. The sons of Eli the priest were wicked, but Samuel earned the favour of both God and his father.

One day, God called upon Samuel, but as Samuel had never received a message before, he mistook God for Eli three times. Finally, he received God's message that he would punish Eli's family, for the sons had committed evil and were not stopped. Samuel was afraid to tell Eli, but when he finally did, Eli said, "It is God; let him do what seems good to him."

The Israelites were defeated in battle by the Philistines. They decided to bring the golden Ark of the Covenant so that God would make them victorious over their enemies. The Philistines were fearful when they heard that the God of the Israelites had come, still they faced them bravely and the Israelites were forced to retreat to their tents.

The sons of Eli died and the Ark of the Covenant was captured. When Eli learnt this, he fell and as he was old and heavy, he died. The Ark of the Covenant was taken by the Philistines to the temple of the god Dagon. The statue of the god Dagon, fell and broke before the ark and God punished the people with boils. Seeing this, the people wished to send the Ark of the Covenant away, fearing the punishment of God. Yet wherever it was sent, those people were also punished with boils. Eventually, priests advised that the Ark of the Covenant be returned to the people of Israel with offerings to appease the anger of God. The ark was sent with five golden mice and five golden images of the illness and the cart drawing the ark was carried by two cows whose calves were left behind at home. If the ark went to Bethshemesh, then the Philistines would know that all was the work of God and not an accident. The cows brought the ark to the field of Joshua in Bethshemesh and were sacrificed to God.

## Writing

God heard the sorrowful cries and prayers of Hannah and blessed her with a son, Samuel. Hannah sent Samuel to live in the temple when he came of age, for she believed that he belonged to God. Samuel became a messenger of God.

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