

Lesson 2: Election

Today's Bible Story

The first king of Israel, King Saul, was not a very good leader. He refused to listen to God and kept doing things his own way.

So God went to the prophet Samuel and said, "Forget about Saul; I have chosen a new king. Put some oil in a small horn and go visit a man named Jesse, who lives in Bethlehem. I will show you which of his sons I have chosen; you will pour oil on his head to make him king."

Samuel did what the Lord told him and went to Bethlehem. "I've come to offer a sacrifice to the Lord," he told them, inviting Jesse and his sons to join him.

When Jesse and his sons arrived, Samuel noticed Jesse's oldest son, and assumed he was the one. But the Lord told him, "Samuel, don't think he is the one just because he's tall and handsome. He isn't the one I've chosen. Humans judge others by what they look like, but I judge people by what is in their hearts."

Jesse told his second son to go over to Samuel, but Samuel said, "No, the Lord hasn't chosen him."

Jesse had all seven of his sons go over to Samuel. Samuel was perplexed, "The Lord hasn't chosen any of these men. Jesse, do you have any more sons?"

"Yes," Jesse answered. "My youngest son David is out taking care of the sheep." So they quickly sent for him to come. David was a healthy, good-looking boy with a sparkle in his eyes.

As soon as David came, the Lord told Samuel, "He's the one I have chosen! Get up and pour the olive oil on his head." Samuel did so, and the Spirit of the Lord came to rest on David from that day on.



From 1 Samuel 16:1-13

Bible Rhyme

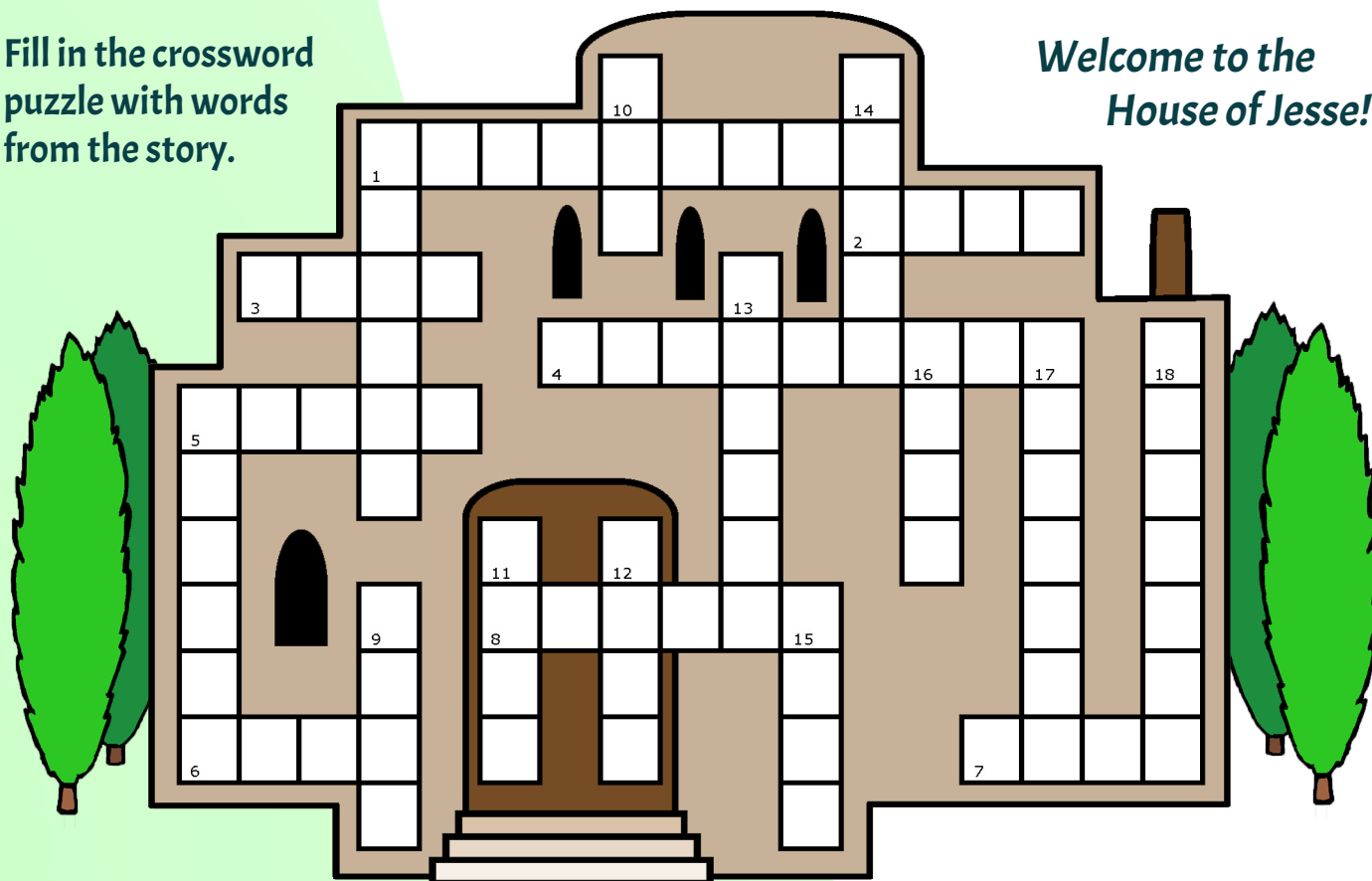
God's people had a king named Saul,
who wasn't very good at all.
"A new king I will choose," God said,
sending Samuel on ahead.

Samuel came to Jesse's town
and gathered all his sons around.
"God will choose among your sons;
the Lord will show me who's the one."

God didn't pick the older sons.
They quickly called the youngest one.
God told Samuel: "Anoint this child.
David's who I have in mind."

Fill in the crossword puzzle with words from the story.

Welcome to the House of Jesse!



Crossword Puzzle

Across

- 1) Samuel invited Jesse's family to join in a _____ to the Lord.
- 2) Jesse had eight _____.
- 3) Jesse's _____ was in Bethlehem.
- 4) The name of the town was _____.
- 5) _____ older sons were passed by.
- 6) The people of the _____ were nervous to see the prophet Samuel coming.
- 7) Samuel poured the oil on David's _____.
- 8) To _____ means to "pour oil on."

Down

- 1) The prophet's name was _____.
- 5) God's _____ came upon David that day.
- 9) God wanted to choose a new _____.
- 10) God's king was anointed with _____.
- 11) God had rejected _____ as king.
- 12) God told Samuel to _____ oil on David.
- 13) God had _____ David as the one.
- 14) David's father's name was _____.
- 15) God said he would _____ Samuel his choice.
- 16) Samuel kept his oil in a small _____.
- 17) God spoke a _____ to Samuel.
- 18) Everyone in town was _____ to the sacrifice.

1) Who did Samuel think God would pick to be king? Why?

2) Read what God said to the prophet in 1 Samuel 16:7. What does this mean?