

Story Time - Read the story to the children
Lesson 78: DAVID IS ANOINTED KING BY SAMUEL
1 SAMUEL 16:1-13

One day the LORD said, "Samuel, I've rejected Saul, and I refuse to let him be king any longer. Stop feeling sad about him. Put some olive oil in a small container and go visit a man named Jesse, who lives in Bethlehem. I've chosen one of his sons to be my king." Samuel answered, "If I do that, Saul will find out and he will have me killed." "Take a calf with you," the LORD replied. "Tell everyone that you've come to offer it as a sacrifice to me, then invite Jesse to the sacrifice. When I show you which one of his sons I have chosen, pour the olive oil on his head." Samuel did what the LORD told him and went to Bethlehem. The town leaders went to meet him, but they were terribly afraid and asked, "Is this a friendly visit?" "Yes, it is!" Samuel answered. "I've come to offer a sacrifice to the LORD. Get yourselves ready to take part in the sacrifice and come with me." Samuel also invited Jesse and his sons to come to the sacrifice, and he got them ready to take part in it. When Jesse and his sons arrived, Samuel noticed Jesse's oldest son, Eliab.

"He has to be the one the LORD has chosen," Samuel said to himself. But the LORD told him, "Samuel, don't think Eliab is the one just because he's tall and handsome. He isn't the one I've chosen. People judge others by what they look like on the outside, but I judge people by what is in their hearts."

Jesse told his son Abinadab to go over to Samuel, but Samuel said, "No, the LORD hasn't chosen him either." Next, Jesse sent his son Shammah to him, and Samuel said, "The LORD hasn't chosen him either." Jesse had all seven of his sons go over to Samuel. Finally, Samuel said, "Jesse, the LORD hasn't chosen any of these young men. Do you have any more sons?" "Yes," Jesse answered.

"My youngest son David is out taking care of the sheep."

"Send for him!" Samuel said. "We won't start the ceremony until he gets here." Jesse sent for David. He 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! Get up and pour the olive oil on his head." Samuel poured the oil on David's head while his brothers all watched. At that moment, the Spirit of the LORD took control of David and stayed with him from then on. Then Samuel returned home to Ramah.

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"Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in front of his brothers: and the Spirit of the LORD came upon David from that day forward. So Samuel rose up, and went to Ramah."

1 SAMUEL 16:13

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MEMORY VERSE:

"For the LORD does not see as man sees; for man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart." **1 SAMUEL 16:7**

TRUE OR FALSE

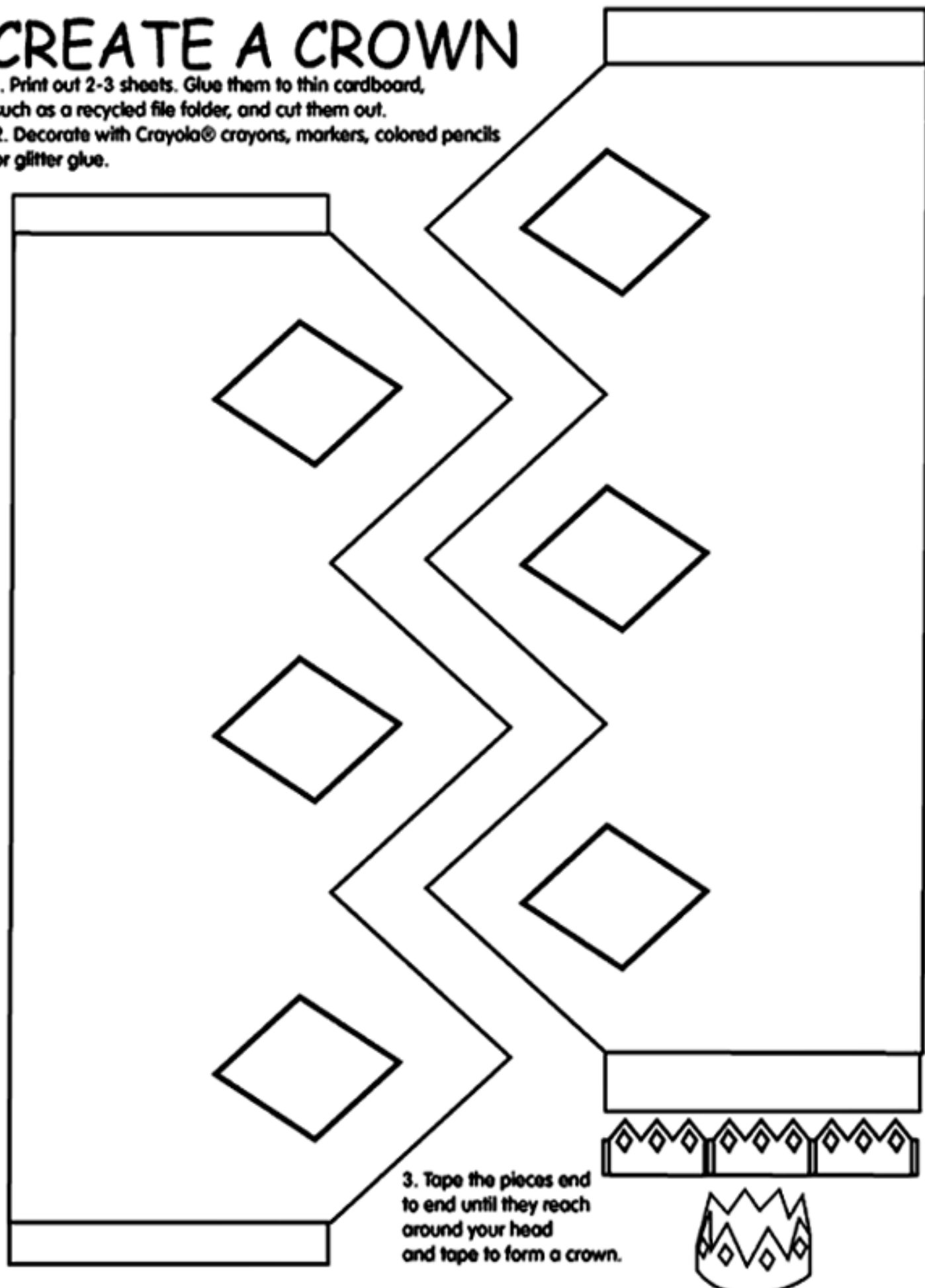
1. The LORD told Samuel to stop feeling sad about Saul. TRUE or FALSE
2. The LORD told Samuel to go to Bethlehem to see a man named Jacob because he wanted to anoint his brother as king. TRUE or FALSE
3. So Samuel did what the LORD said, and went to Bethlehem. TRUE or FALSE
4. Samuel invited Jesse and his sons to the sacrifice. TRUE or FALSE
5. The LORD told Samuel that he wanted a good looking man like Jesse's oldest son as king. TRUE or FALSE

ANSWER THE QUESTIONS

1. Did the LORD choose any of Jesse's first six sons? Who did He choose?
2. Where was David when Samuel was looking at Jesse's other sons? Was he watching after the flocks?
3. When Samuel saw David, what did the LORD tell him? Did He say "He's the one! Get up and pour oil on his head."?
4. Did Samuel anoint David by pouring oil on his head? Was the Spirit of the LORD with David from then on?

CREATE A CROWN

1. Print out 2-3 sheets. Glue them to thin cardboard, such as a recycled file folder, and cut them out.
2. Decorate with Crayola® crayons, markers, colored pencils or glitter glue.



Lesson 78 Activity

The Chance Game

People come up with many ways of choosing what or who is the best for something. But God does things very differently than we do. He goes beyond guessing and is personal in the lives of those He chooses to do great things for Him. In today's lesson we are going to learn that **God looks at our hearts, not our outward appearance.**

For this activity you will need yarn and a bag. Cut the yarn into several different sizes. Cut enough pieces so that there is one for each child. Make sure that there is only one of the longest pieces of yarn. Place all of the pieces into a bag and have each child pick one string. The one with the longest string wins. Give them a small prize (or piece of candy is probably better).

Explain to the children that this person was selected by "chance."

No one looked at whether he deserved to be the winner, it simply happened. God does not choose this way. He will always look at our hearts to determine if we are a person He can use. Next, pass out small prizes to the rest of the class for participating.

PRAYER

Lead the children in a prayer of commitment to search their own hearts to make sure that they are right before the Lord and to have eyes to see others as God does, looking at the heart and not at the outward appearance. If there are any children who have not yet responded to the Gospel, give them opportunity.