

Lesson Title: Rejected and Anointed

[Step into Scripture - Q2 Slide Deck for Week 3](#)

Summary

This week's reading highlights the leadership transition from Samuel to Saul and the rise of David. We saw how Israel, faced with corrupt leadership in Samuel's sons, wrongly demanded a king like the surrounding nations. Though Saul began humbly and was anointed by God, his fear of people, partial obedience, and desire for public approval led to his downfall. God desires obedience, not just religious displays. We also saw how David, overlooked by man but chosen by God, was anointed as king. His story foreshadows Jesus—the true King from Bethlehem, filled with the Spirit, rejected by many, and completely aligned with the heart of God.

Discussion Questions

1. Israel's Demand for a King (1 Samuel 8:4–8)

- Why was Israel's request for a king considered a rejection of God?
- Have you ever found yourself asking God for something 'just like everyone else'? What happened?
- How can we discern if our desires are driven by faith or fear?

2. Saul's Rise and Fall (1 Samuel 10, 13, 15)

- How did Saul's fear of people lead to his disobedience?
- Read 1 Samuel 15:22–23. What does this teach us about partial obedience and spiritual arrogance?
- Why is it easier to offer sacrifice than to submit in obedience?

3. Jesus vs. Saul: Who Do We Follow?

- In what ways do you relate to Saul's desire to please people and preserve appearances?
- How can we grow in becoming more like Jesus—humble, obedient, and Spirit-led?

4. God's Chosen King (1 Samuel 16)

- What stood out to you about God's selection of David? (1 Sam. 16:7)
- How does this challenge how we view others—or ourselves?
- David was rejected by man but chosen by God. How does this encourage you in your own walk?

Group Prayer

- Pray for hearts that seek to obey rather than impress.
- Pray against the fear of man that leads to compromise.
- Thank God for Jesus, the true King who leads us with humility, sacrifice, and grace.
- Invite the Holy Spirit to make you more like Christ—a leader after God's own heart.