



# 3RD - 5TH



## CONNECT TIME

Greet kids by name and play table games as kids arrive. Be sure to welcome any new families. Ask kids:

**Who are some people you look up to? Why do you look up to them?**



## HULA RESCUE

**Start by 9:20/10:45**

If there are enough kids, split into two teams. If not, play as one group. Choose one child on each team to be the Rescuer and give them a hula hoop. The Rescuers stand at one end of the room, and their teammates line up at the other end. When the game starts, the Rescuer runs to the first person in line and places the hula hoop over them. That child becomes the new Rescuer and runs back to rescue the next person. Continue until everyone has been rescued and moved to the other side of the room. The first team to finish wins.

**Today, we will learn how the Israelites needed to be rescued from their enemies. We will see how God gave Saul a heart to lead Israel into battle. However, we will also learn that Saul was a great warrior but still chose to disobey God. Being strong or successful is not enough when someone does not obey God. All people need a perfect Savior to rescue them from sin. We will see how God sent His perfect Son, Jesus, to rescue anyone who trusts in Him.**

**START BY**  
**9:30/10:55**

REVIEW **3** BE, LISTEN, FOLLOW



**LARGE GROUP**

# SMALL GROUP



## BIBLE REVIEW

Have kids open their Bibles to 1 Samuel 12. **The book of 1 Samuel records the history of God's people in the land of Canaan. It helps us understand how Israel went from having judges as their leaders to having kings rule over them.**

- What do we learn about God from the way He helped Saul win battles?
- Why do you think it was hard for Saul to wait for Samuel and trust God's timing?
- What does Saul's choice to disobey God teach us about doing things our own way instead of God's way?
- What do people think makes a good leader? Does God look for the same things?

**Saul was able to win battles and lead Israel's army, but he was not able to obey God perfectly. His strength and success as a king were not enough. God showed that Israel needed more than a strong leader—they needed a king who would fully trust and obey Him. Saul's story helps us see the importance of trusting God's timing and obeying His commands, even when it is hard. When Saul chose to do things his own way, it showed that human leaders will always fall short. Only God is fully faithful and wise.**



## DISCUSSION

### **What does it mean that God will not abandon His people?**

This means God promises to always be with His people who trust Him. No matter what happens, those who belong to God can trust that He will be with them and care for them. (Option: Choose a volunteer to read Ps. 94:14.)

### **How did Saul's impatience lead to sin?**

Saul grew impatient because Samuel had not arrived and his troops were afraid. Saul's impatience led him to offer the burnt offering himself. Instead of waiting for God's word through Samuel, Saul chose to follow his own plan. Our plans are never better than God's plans. We should wait on the Lord and trust His timing. (Option: Choose a volunteer to read Isa. 55:8-9.)

### **Why did Saul's sin have consequences?**

All sin has consequences. Some consequences happen right away, and others may come later. The Bible teaches that sin leads to separation from God. But those who trust in Jesus are forgiven and receive eternal life with God. (Option: Choose a volunteer to read John 5:24.)



## FOLLOW GODS WORD

Split kids into two teams. Choose a book of the Bible and write blanks for the letters on a dry erase board. Draw a stick figure next to it (head, body, arms, legs, eyes, nose, ears, mouth, and hair). Teams take turns guessing one letter at a time. If the letter is in the book name, write it in the correct blank. If it is not, erase one part of the stick figure. Keep playing until the team guesses the book or the stick figure is fully erased. Repeat with a new book of the Bible as time allows.

**Samuel told the Israelites to follow God's commands and obey Him. The Bible is God's Word to us, and when we read it, God uses it to teach us, guide us, and help us become more like Jesus. We do not obey God to earn salvation or make Him love us more. We obey God because we already belong to Him and want to follow Him. Our obedience shows that we love God and trust His ways are best.**



Take prayer requests and allow kids to pray.



Match parent pick-up numbers, with child name tag numbers. Build relationships with parents, encourage them to take a picture of the parent recap page to go over on the ride home.