Session 06 | **KEY TEXT**: 1 Samuel 8:1-9; 1 Samuel 10:17-24

REJECTING THE TRUE KING

CENTRAL TRUTH

Even though a king felt like the best plan to the Israelites, no earthly king could ever give the peace and security that God could provide. As we will learn in this week's teaching, **true security is found in submitting to God's lordship.**

KEY QUESTION

→ **What does Samuel's response to the request for a king reveal about his heart?**

Samuel felt that the rejection of the people was toward him personally; we tend to do the same. We can imagine Samuel bearing the weight for his own faults as well as the acts of his sons. But that wasn't the case for Samuel (and it isn't the same for us): when people choose against godly authority, they are ultimately rejecting God. When we feel rejected by our friends or family for our faith, we must consider that their ultimate rejection is not toward us but toward God's leadership and instruction.

KEEP IN MIND

- Israel's desire for a king revealed their rejection of the Lord—the one true King. Share with students about a time you rejected the Lord through your actions, and what this experience taught you. Highlight how the Lord's grace met you and that God's grace is available to them as well.
- In this week's passage, we see that Samuel was a good leader who had a close relationship with the Lord. Students may feel disappointed that they haven't heard from the Lord audibly. However, encourage them with the fact we can hear from God through reading His Word. Through Scripture, God continues to speak to His people.

APPLICATION

- **If you had to summarize the main problem with the request of the Israelite elders, how would you describe it?**

THE WIN

FOR THE STUDENT: The world may encourage us to find safety and security through other means. But true security is found in the Lord alone.

FOR THE LEADER: Remind students that God is the true King whom we can trust. Though we may be tempted to live however we'd like, the Lord and His ways are better.

7 ARROWS

- What does this passage say?
- What does this passage tell us about God?
- What did this passage mean to its original audience?
- How does this passage change the way I relate to people?
- What does this passage tell us about the human heart?
- How does this passage prompt me to pray?
- What does this passage demand of me?