

17.02 David Anointed King (1 Samuel 16:1–13; Psalm 8)

✓ “*Check*” it out; opinion, inference, supposed conversation, or fact one can verify follows
[. . .] indicates a remark to the teacher that should not be read aloud. It also indicates answers to questions.

Visuals and Tools:

- Pictures and other visuals found at the end of this lesson. Please give credit to the sources of pictures.
- Check “Activities” and “Handwork” found below for additional materials.

Bible Time Tips and Terms to Teach: Vocabulary words are enlarged for flashcards at the end of this lesson. Print, cut out, and glue to card stock, or just print on colorful cardstock.

- *to anoint*: to pour oil on the head of a person God has chosen to be king
- *heifer*: a female cow less than a year old
- *to sanctify*: to wash garments and then go with a priest and assist him in a sacrifice

Scripture: (ESV)

1 Samuel 16:1 The Lord said to Samuel, “How long will you grieve over Saul, since I have rejected him from being king over Israel? Fill your horn with oil, and go. I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.” 2 And Samuel said, “How can I go? If Saul hears it, he will kill me.” And the Lord said, “Take a heifer with you and say, ‘I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.’ 3 And invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do. And you shall anoint for me him whom I declare to you.” 4 Samuel did what the Lord commanded and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling and said, “Do you come peaceably?” 5 And he said, “Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord. Consecrate yourselves, and come with me to the sacrifice.” And he consecrated Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

6 When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, “Surely the Lord’s anointed is before him.” 7 But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him. For the Lord sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.” 8 Then Jesse called Abinadab and made him pass before Samuel. And he said, “Neither has the Lord chosen this one.” 9 Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, “Neither has the Lord chosen this one.” 10 And Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel. And Samuel said to Jesse, “The Lord has not chosen these.” 11 Then Samuel said to Jesse, “Are all your sons here?” And he said, “There remains yet the youngest, but behold, he is keeping the sheep.” And Samuel said to Jesse, “Send and get him, for we will not sit down till he comes here.” 12 And he sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy and had beautiful eyes and was handsome. And the Lord said, “Arise, anoint him, for this is he.” 13 Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers. And the Spirit of the Lord rushed upon David from that day forward. And Samuel rose up and went to Ramah.

Psalm 8:1 O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens. 2 Out of the mouth of babies and infants, you have established strength because of your foes, to still the enemy and the avenger.

3 When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, 4 what is man that you are mindful of him, and the son of man that you care for him? 5 Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honor. 6 You have given him dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under his feet, 7 all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field, 8 the birds of the heavens, and the fish of the sea, whatever passes along the paths of the seas.

9 O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Introduction/Review:

Saul had rejected God, and God had rejected Saul. Samuel was at home in Ramah, ✓training younger men to become prophets, but grieving all the while ✓because Saul was such a disappointing king.

Story:

Samuel's summons

One day the Lord spoke to Samuel: “How long do you intend to mourn for Saul, since I have rejected him from reigning over Israel? Now get your ram’s horn, fill it with oil, and go to a man named Jesse in Bethlehem, for I have chosen a new king among his sons.”

Samuel asked, “How can I go? If Saul hears about this, he will kill me!”

The Lord answered, “Take a heifer (a female cow less than a year old) and say, ‘I am here in Bethlehem to sacrifice unto the Lord.’ Call Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what to do. You will anoint the one I name to you.”

Bethlehem's fear

Samuel obeyed God, left his hometown of Ramah [locate all places mentioned], and went about twelve miles to Bethlehem. When he approached the city, the elders were frightened. “Are you coming peaceably?” they asked ✓nervously.

Why were they frightened? Perhaps they thought Samuel, old and ✓seldom traveling, was there to scold or denounce them for some wrongdoing. If he was coming to be protected from Saul, they would really be in trouble, for Samuel’s presence in Bethlehem might bring Saul’s wrath and vengeance upon the Bethlehemites (Gill at [1 Samuel 16:4 - Meaning and Commentary on Bible Verse \(biblestudytools.com\)](#)).

Samuel answered, “I’m coming peaceably to sacrifice. Get yourselves sanctified (prepared; washed) and come with me to the sacrifice.” Samuel explicitly called Jesse and his sons to the sacrifice. Then the sons of Jesse began passing by Samuel, one at a time.

Jesse's non-anointed sons

Samuel looked at Eliab (Elihu), Jesse’s firstborn son, and said, “Certainly this is the Lord’s anointed.”

But the Lord said to Samuel, “Look not on his face or on how tall he is, for I have refused him. The Lord doesn’t see as people see; for people look on the outside appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.”

Jesse made Abinadab, his second-born son, pass before Samuel, but the Lord again indicated to Samuel, “Neither has the Lord chosen this one.”

Then Jesse made his third-born son, Shammah (Shimea), to pass before Samuel, but again God said, “I haven’t chosen him.”

Three more sons—Nethanel, Raddai, and Ozem (1 Chronicles 2:13–15)—passed by Samuel, and not one of them was chosen by God. That was all the sons in Jesse’s house,¹ and perhaps Samuel was confused: there were no more young men to be seen! ([1 Samuel 16:10 - Meaning and Commentary on Bible Verse \(biblestudytools.com\)](#)). So Samuel asked Jesse, “Are these all your sons?”

“No,” answered Jesse. “There’s one more, the youngest, and he tends the sheep.”

Samuel ordered, “Send for him, for we won’t sit down until he arrives.”

David's anointing

Jesse sent a messenger to bring David in from the fields. When he arrived, ✓he might have been a bit breathless with hurry. The Bible tells us his face was a healthy pink color (ruddy), ✓perhaps from coming in from outdoors or from the sunshine. He was totally handsome, ✓being about twenty years old (John Gill at [1](#)

[Samuel 16:11 - Meaning and Commentary on Bible Verse \(biblestudytools.com\)](http://biblestudytools.com).

The Lord told Samuel, “Get up and anoint him; this is the one.”

Samuel took his horn of oil and anointed David right there in front of his brothers.² The Spirit of the Lord came upon David from that day on.

¹Jesse had “eight sons in all with David, (1 Samuel 17:12) but [one] we nowhere read of; perhaps he died quickly after [or before] this, was an obscure person, and of no fame and note, or might be by another woman” (John Gill at [1 Samuel 16:10 - Meaning and Commentary on Bible Verse \(biblestudytools.com\)](http://biblestudytools.com)).

²John Gill thinks David’s being anointed in the presence of his brothers “is not consistent with the secrecy with which Samuel was directed to manage this affair, and . . . to keep it from the knowledge of Saul; and with Eliab's treatment of David afterwards . . . (1 Samuel 17:28).” Therefore, Gill states, “[David] was selected out of them, and separated from them, and privately anointed by Samuel; . . . [Samuel] ‘anointed him *from* [emphasis added] the midst of his brethren” ([1 Samuel 16:13 - Meaning and Commentary on Bible Verse \(biblestudytools.com\)](http://biblestudytools.com)). On the other hand, dozens of translations disagree with this interpretation. In fact, only one, Jubilee Bible 2000, among many listed at [1 Samuel 16:13 - Bible Gateway](http://biblestudytools.com) translates the verse as Gill would see it.

Lessons from this lesson:

- We see Jesus:

John Gill states that in the “pleasant countenance, delightful to behold” of David and in the “majesty in his face . . . he was a type of Christ” ([1 Samuel 16:12 - Meaning and Commentary on Bible Verse \(biblestudytools.com\)](http://biblestudytools.com)). Hebrews 1:3 supports this idea: “[Jesus] is the radiance of the glory of God.”

- We must be careful not to judge others by outward appearance.

Activities:

- Play dough: ram’s horn
- Snack: Apples or another fruit that can be cut into serving pieces. Before serving, describe the beauty of the fruit and say, “The outside of this fruit looks very nice, but the real beauty, the yummy part, is inside.” (Idea from [Lesson: It’s What’s on the Inside that Counts \(1 Samuel 16:7\) | Ministry-To-Children](http://biblestudytools.com).)
- Discuss how David might have felt upon being anointed to be king of Israel. [Surprised? Overjoyed? Incredulous? *etc.*] Psalm 8 shows his attitude before God. [Humble, unworthy, chosen without merit.]
- Discuss how David’s brothers might have felt upon watching David’s being anointed king. (Jealous? Resentful? Proud of their brother? Surprised?) Eliab’s attitude will show up in another lesson.
- Play the game “Beautiful on the Inside” found about one-third page down at [Lesson: It’s What’s on the Inside that Counts \(1 Samuel 16:7\) | Ministry-To-Children](http://biblestudytools.com).
- Review questions: (Game: With a little vegetable or olive oil, “anoint” the hand of a child who answers a question correctly. Explain that anointing oil was applied to the head, but we will not be doing that. Have paper towels available for clean up.)
 1. Fill in the blanks. God asked Samuel, “How long will you grieve over _____, since I have rejected him from being _____ over Israel?” [Saul; king.]
 2. To what town was Samuel to go? [Bethlehem.]
 3. What is the name of the man who would have a son whom Samuel would anoint king? [Jesse.]

4. So that Saul would not suspect Samuel's intention to anoint a new king, what was Samuel to do in Bethlehem? [Offer a sacrifice.]
5. How did the men of Bethlehem react when Samuel showed up? [They were frightened.]
6. Fill in the blanks. God said to Samuel, "The Lord sees not as man sees: man looks on the _____, but the Lord looks on the _____." [Outward appearance; heart.]
7. Trick question: Which of the first six sons in Jesse's house did Samuel anoint. [None of them.]
8. Who did Samuel anoint to be the next king over Israel? [David.]
9. Describe David. [He was ruddy and handsome.]

Memory Verse[s]: (KJV)

- Psalm 23:1 The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. 2 He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. 3 He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. 4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. 5 Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. 6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

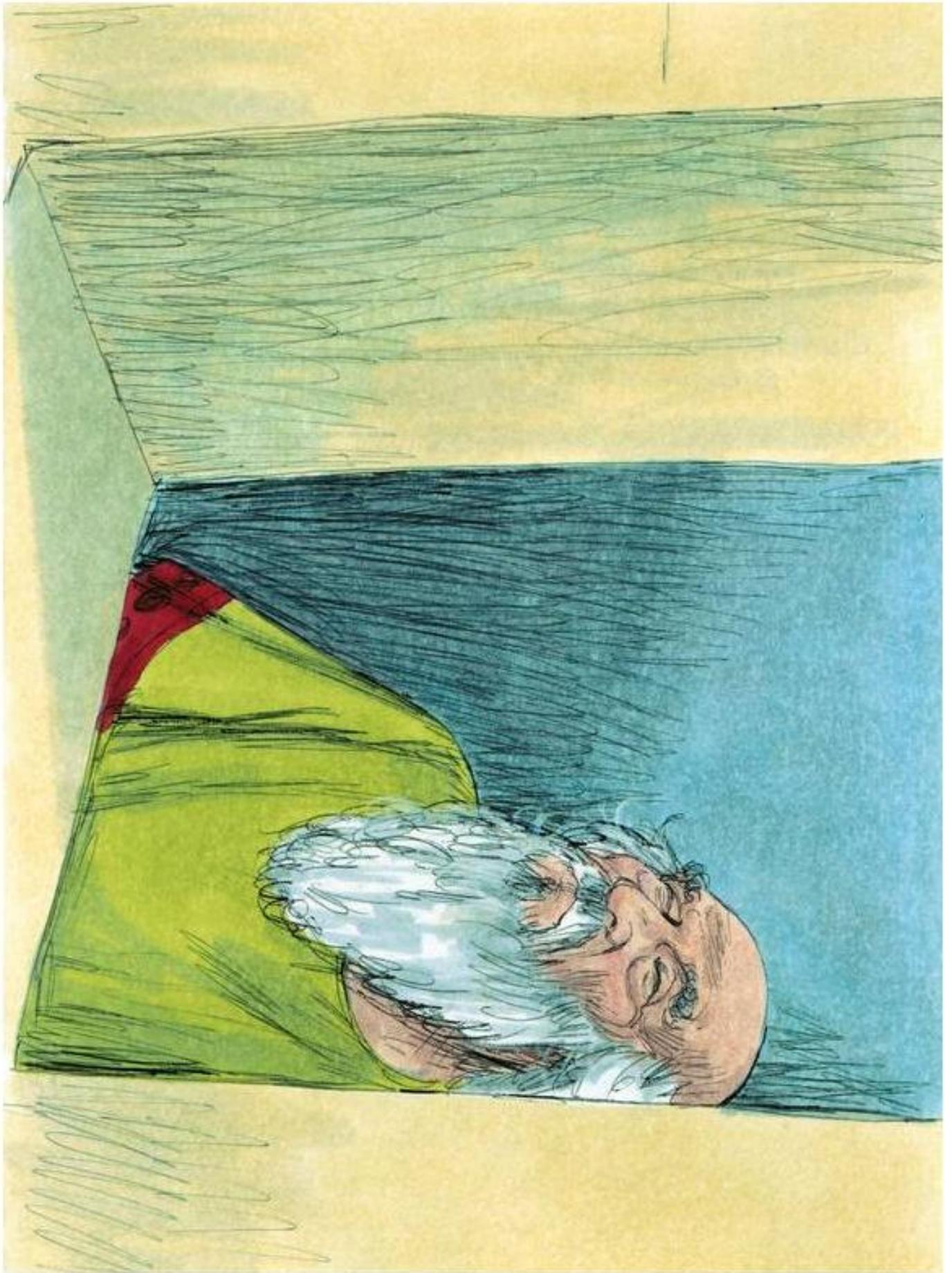
Handwork:

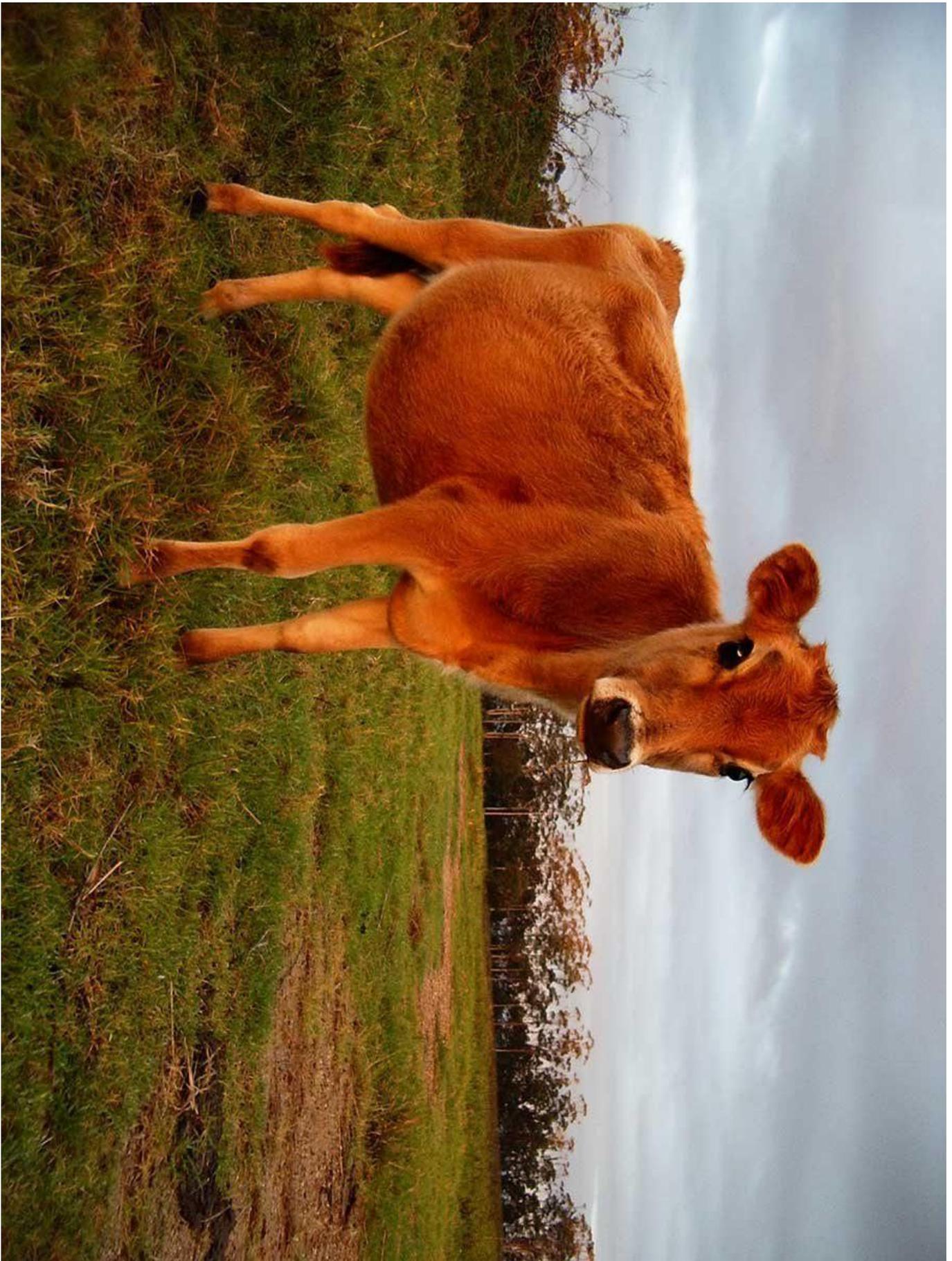
- Make a "God Is My King" crown. Instructions, template, and even a video are available at [Kids Paper Crown - Printable Craft Template & Video \(Download PDF\) \(ministry-to-children.com\)](http://www.ministry-to-children.com/Kids-Paper-Crown-Printable-Craft-Template-Video-Download-PDF).

to anoint

heifer

to sanctify





[Red-Heifer.jpg \(1200×900\) \(timesofisrael.com\)](#)

Saul, Samuel and David

(1 Samuel 15-16)

● Gilgal

● Ramah

(Samuel's
hometown)

● Gibeah

(Saul's
hometown)

● Jerusalem

(Jebusites)

● Bethlehem

(David's
hometown)





