

## ONE CONVERSATION

***Parents:** Sometimes it's not what you ask for, but the motive behind why you ask for it! That was Israel's problem. They wanted to be like everyone else around them (v. 5). This meant crowning a king to rule over Israel. God was not displeased with their request for a king. He had planned to appoint a king for them (Deut. 17:14-20), but their motive was less honorable. In asking for a king like the nations, Israel was expressing doubt as to whether God would really provide for and protect them. The problem was not their desire for a king, but their misplaced trust. The king of Israel was never meant to replace God, but rather to represent and reflect God.*

*Ask your student to share with you one personal goal they have set for themselves at school or in an extracurricular activity (sports, music, etc.). Ask, "Why did you set that particular goal for yourself? What is motivating you as you seek to reach that goal?" Talk about the importance of considering our motives. Without the right motives, we will never reach our personal goals or worse, we will reach them but for the wrong reasons. The Israelites goal was fine, they wanted to appoint a king. Their motive was not, they did not want God to reign over them—they wanted to be like the pagan nations around them. Challenge your student to make sure their personal goals are motivated by a desire to honor and glorify God.*

## CENTRAL TRUTH

*We must submit to God—He is the rightful King over all things.*

## PERSONAL CHALLENGE

- › **Dwell:** Why do we so often want to be in control and call the shots in life? God is the rightful King over our lives and His character demands our full allegiance. God often works through our sinful desires and requests to bring about His purposes. This reality should cause us to check our motives and our tendency to look to things other than God for comfort and security. Trusting God can be difficult, but He is faithful and worthy of our obedience and commitment.
- › **Memorize:** 1 Samuel 6:20
- › **Pray:** Ask God to reveal any impure motives in your heart. Confess those things to Him and ask for forgiveness for allowing those things to call the shots in your life. Praise Him for being the true and ultimate King who laid down His life for you and rose from the dead. Ask Him to give you strength to trust Him and walk in obedience to Him in your daily life.