

Chapter 9

***The Kingdom***

I have chosen David my servant; with my holy oil I have anointed.

*Psalms 89:21*

**For the Parents:**

In chapter 9 your child learned to:

- Identify the role and mission of Israel's kings
- Explain how David responded to God as Israel's greatest king
- Decide on ways to live out their own vocations as God's people

The establishment of the monarchy is an important step in the Chosen People's understanding of themselves and their relationship with God. By asking for a king, the people both consolidated their political identity and placed the king in crucial relationship between themselves and God. No longer would God rule Israel directly through charismatic leaders, as he did in the period of the judges. Rather, the people's life under God would be shaped by the rule of hereditary monarchy from this time until the Exile.

David was the greatest king of Israel. Taken from the fields to care for Israel as its ruler, David first appeared in Scripture as a shepherd. He is renowned as a musician and writer of psalms. David's heartfelt repentance when convicted of sin marked him as a man of spiritual depth with a genuine love for God.

**With Your Child:**

1. In your family, you are all anointed by God through Baptism. Talk with your family about this, and identify ways you could care for one another more.
2. Read about Saint Teresa of Avila on the Review and Explore page.