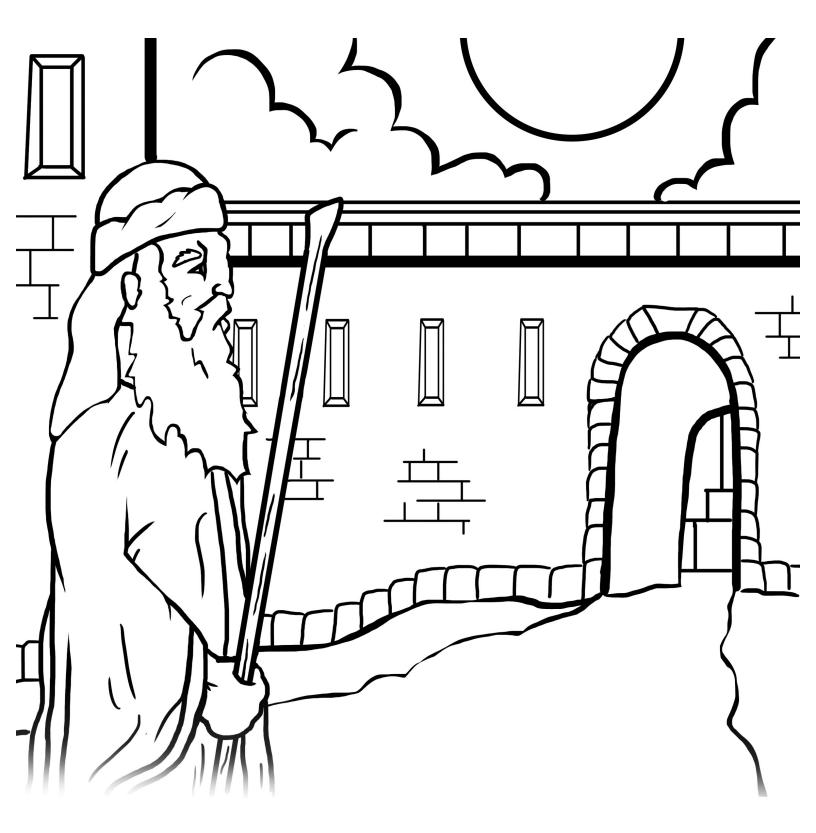




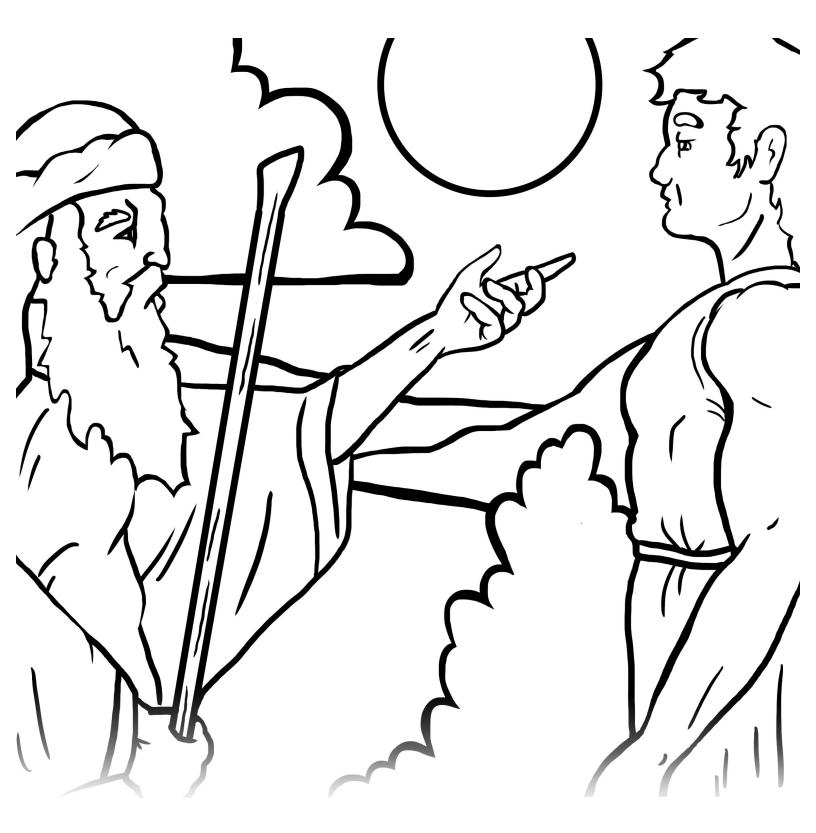
There was once a man named Saul who was King of Israel. He had promised to obey God in everything, but he broke that promise.



So, God told the prophet Samuel to go to Bethlehem to find a new king.



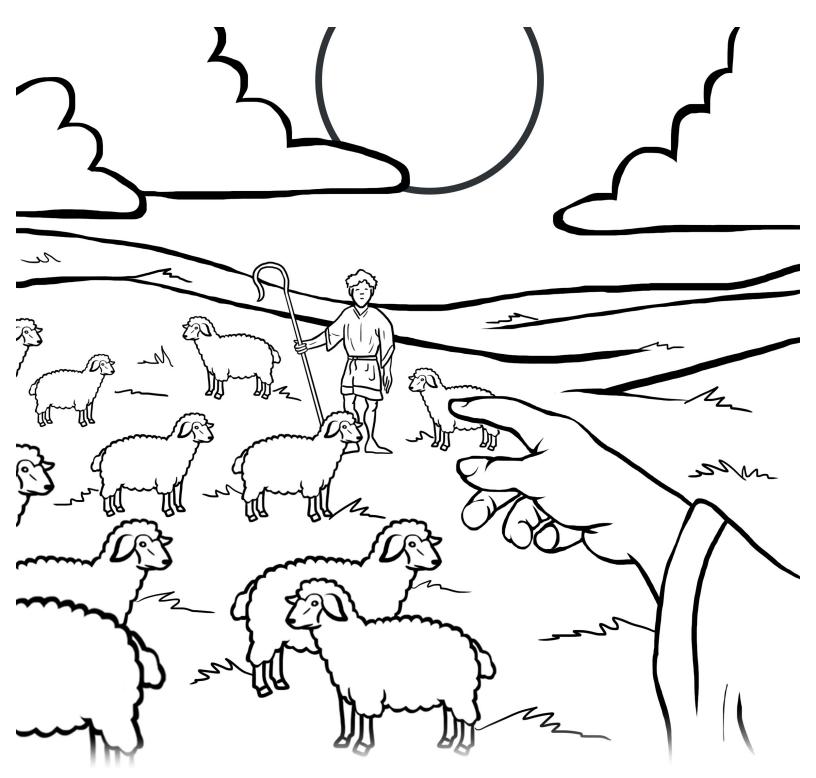
Samuel began at the house of Jesse. Jesse had eight sons, but only seven of them were home.



But Samuel wasn't concerned about that, because he thought that Jesse's first son, Eliab, must be the one God wanted to be king. He was so tall and strong!



Instead, God told Samuel not to focus on what Jesse's sons looked like. "Men judge people based on what they look like," God said, "but I know what's in their heart."



Samuel met each of Jesse's seven sons. But though they were all good men, none of them seemed quite right for the job of king. "Where's your eighth son?" Samuel finally asked. When Jesse told Samuel he was out watching the sheep, Samuel asked Jesse to send for him.



When Jesse's eighth son came in, Samuel got a clear message from God: This son, David, was the new king. David may have been young, but God knew he had a pure and brave heart. Samuel anointed David as king, and told him he would soon be called to the palace.



David did go to the king's palace when he was called, and because he always trusted and obeyed God, he became the best king Israel had ever known. Do you think you can love and honor God the way David did? No matter how big or little you are, and no matter what challenges you face?

To read this story in
the Bible, go to chapter
sixteen in the book of
First Samuel. You can
read on from there to
find out more about
David, too.

