



LESSON 13: THE LEADERS OF ISRAEL

Objective (Learning Outcomes)

By the end of the lesson, students will be able to:

- Identify the three types of leaders God chose for Israel: Judges, Kings, and Priests.
- Explain the roles and responsibilities of each leader.
- Recognize how God guided His people through these leaders.
- Relate the leadership roles in the Old Testament to the leadership in the Church today.
- Commit to leading a responsible and faithful life in their own surroundings.

Starter

Activity-based Starter: “Who Leads Us?”

Begin by showing pictures or name tags (Principal, Class Teacher, Captain, Parents, Pope).

Ask:

“Who are these people?”

“What is their responsibility?”

“How do they guide or help us?”

Then say: “Just like we have leaders today, God gave leaders to the Israelites – judges, kings, and priests – to guide them.”

(This helps students connect familiar leadership roles to biblical ones.)

Presentation (15 minutes)

A. Judges – The Early Leaders

Explain that after the Israelites entered Canaan, they faced many enemies.

God chose Judges to lead and protect them – strong, wise, and faithful people like Deborah, Gideon, and Samson.

The Judges were not courtroom judges but leaders who fought for Israel and guided them spiritually.

B. Kings – The Rulers of Israel

The people wanted a king like other nations. God chose Saul as the first king.

When Saul disobeyed, God chose David, a man after His own heart.

David's bravery (story of Goliath) and humility are highlighted.

Solomon, David's son, was known for his wisdom and built the Temple of Jerusalem.

Emphasize that when kings obeyed God, Israel prospered; when they disobeyed, trouble followed.

C. Priests – The Spiritual Leaders

Priests offered sacrifices and taught God's laws.

They came from the tribe of Levi (Aaron and his sons were the first priests).

Their duty was to connect the people to God through worship and service.

D. Church Leadership Today

In our Church, Jesus continues His leadership through:

Pope (universal leader)

Bishops, Priests, and Deacons (spiritual guides)

Religious and Lay people who serve in various ministries.

Habit Formation

Encourage students to develop the habit of faithful service and obedience:

- I will respect my parents, teachers, and elders who guide me.
- I will take responsibility in small things — helping others, obeying rules, and working honestly.
- I will pray for my Church leaders and support them through good deeds.

(Write on the board: “I will lead a life pleasing to Jesus by doing my duties faithfully.”)

Activity (10–15 minutes)

Option A – Role Play:

Divide the class into 3 groups and let them act out short scenes:

1. Judge Deborah leading Israel.
2. David defeating Goliath.
3. Priests offering sacrifices.

After the enactments, discuss how each person served God through their role.

Option B – “Leadership Tree” Craft:

Give students a paper tree outline.

On each leaf, they write one good leadership quality (faith, courage, obedience, service).

Decorate and display as “Leaders who serve God.”

Bible Verse

📖 “Serve your Lord faithfully with all your heart.” — 1 Samuel 12:24