ב"ה

הִנֵּה הָאִישׁ

Shmuel Aleph Chapter 9 • Story, fill-ins, and games

Name: _____Class: _____

1. Shaul and the Lost Donkeys

There was a man from Binyamin named Kish, a mighty man of strength. He had a son named Shaul, chosen and good. No one in Bnei Yisrael was better than he, and from his shoulders and up he was taller than all the people. The _____ of Kish, Shaul's father, were lost. Kish said to Shaul his son: Take one of the young men with you, and go and look for the donkeys. They passed through Har Ephraim and many other lands, but they did not find them.

Metzudas David: "Chosen and good" means chosen in his deeds and good-looking.

2. "Let's Ask the Man of God"

When they came to the land of Tzuf, Shaul said to his servant: Come, let us go back, or my father will stop thinking about the donkeys and worry about us. The servant said: There is a man of God in this city, and he is honoured; everything he says comes true. Let us go there; maybe he will tell us about the way we went. Shaul said: But what will we bring the man? The bread is gone, and we have no gift. The servant answered: Look, I have a quarter _____ of silver. I will give it to the man of God, and he will tell us our way. (In the old days in Israel, a person going to ask of Hashem would say: Come, let us go to the ro'eh, the seer. Someone who today is called a navi used to be called a ro'eh.) Shaul said: Good, let's go.

Rashi: "In the old days in Israel" — the writer of the sefer wrote this. These are not the words of Shaul's servant.

3. The Girls Going to Draw Water

As they were going up the hill to the city, they met girls going out to draw _____. They asked them: Is the ro'eh here? The girls answered: Yes, he is right ahead of you. Hurry now, because today he came to the city, for there is a korban for the people today at the bamah. You will find him before he goes up to the bamah to eat, because the people will not eat until he comes and blesses the korban. So they went up to the city, and there was Shmuel coming out toward them, to go up to the bamah.

Metzudas David: "He blesses the korban" — he says the bracha, "Who made us holy with His mitzvos and commanded us to eat the korban."

4. "Here Is the Man!"

One day before Shaul came, Hashem had told Shmuel: At this time tomorrow I will send you a man from the land of Binyamin. Anoint him to be nagid, a leader, over My people Israel, and he will save My people from the Pelishtim, because I have seen My people, and their cry has come to Me. When Shmuel saw Shaul, Hashem told him: Here is the _____ I told you about! He will rule over My people.

Rashi: "He will rule" — a ruler holds the people together in war, so they will not scatter, and he holds back each person from doing wrong.

5. "I Am the Ro'eh"

Shaul came up to Shmuel in the gate and said: Please tell me, where is the house of the ro'eh? Shmuel answered Shaul: I am the ro'eh. Go up before me to the bamah, and you will eat with me today. In the morning I will send you off, and I will tell you everything that is in your heart. As for the donkeys that were lost three days ago, do not worry about them, because they have been found. And for whom is all that is precious in Israel? Is it not for you and for all your father's house? Shaul answered: Am I not from Binyamin, the _____ of the tribes of Israel? And my family is the youngest of all the families of the tribe of Binyamin. Why do you speak to me like this?

Rashi: "For whom is all that is precious in Israel" — here Shmuel hinted to Shaul about the kingship.

Metzudas David: Shaul meant: I am not fit to be king.

6. A Special Portion

Shmuel brought Shaul and his servant into the hall and seated them at the head of the guests, about thirty men. Shmuel said to the cook: Bring the portion I gave you, which I told you to keep with you. The cook set the leg and what was on it before Shaul. Shmuel said: Here is what was kept; eat, for it was saved for you. So Shaul ate with Shmuel that day. They came down from the bamah to the city, and Shmuel spoke with Shaul on the _____. At dawn Shmuel called to Shaul: Get up, and I will send you on your way. The two of them went outside. At the edge of the city, Shmuel said: Tell the servant to go on ahead of us. But you stand here now, and I will let you hear the word of God.

Rashi: On the roof, Shmuel taught Shaul and guided him to fear Hashem.

7. Word Match

Draw a line.

הַטַּבָּח	a. the donkeys
הָאָתוֹנוֹת	b. the seer (the old name for a navi)
נְעָרוֹת	c. shekel (a coin)
הָרֹאֶה	d. the bamah, where korbanos were brought
הַבָּמָה	e. the cook
שֶׁקֶל	f. girls

8. Prefix and Suffix Challenge

Circle or write the prefix and suffix.

לְנָגִיד (to be nagid, a leader) — prefix: _____

לְנַעֲרוֹ (to his servant) — suffix: _____

מֵאֶרֶץ (from the land) — prefix: _____

אֲבִיךָ (your father) — suffix: _____

9. Sequencing

Number in order:

_____ Hashem tells Shmuel: Here is the man I told you about!

_____ Kish's donkeys are lost, and Shaul goes to look for them.

_____ The cook puts the special portion before Shaul.

_____ Girls going out to draw water tell them where the ro'eh is.

_____ At dawn, Shmuel walks Shaul to the edge of the city.

_____ The servant says he has a quarter shekel of silver for the man of God.

10. Short Reflection

Shaul said: "I am from the smallest tribe, and my family is the youngest. Why do you speak to me like this?" Shaul was humble. Why is it good to be humble?

_____

_____

11. Optional Extra — Draw the Search for the Donkeys

Draw Shaul and his servant searching for the lost donkeys. Remember: Shaul was taller than everyone!

Rashi: Shaul was afraid that his father would worry about them so much that he would forget about the donkeys.

12. Optional Extra — Character Cards

Cut out the cards. Write one word that describes each card.

שָׁאוּל	שְׁמוּאֵל	הַנַּעַר
Shaul	**Shmuel**	**The servant**
• The son of Kish, from Binyamin. • Taller than all the people, from his shoulders and up. • Said he was from the smallest tribe. One word: _____	• Hashem told him a day early that Shaul would come. • Told Shaul the donkeys were found. • Spoke with Shaul on the roof. One word: _____	• Went with Shaul to look for the donkeys. • Said: Let us go to the man of God. • Had a quarter shekel of silver. One word: _____

Answer Key

Fill-ins: donkeys; shekel; water; man; smallest; roof.

Word match: the cook-e, the donkeys-a, girls-f, the seer-b, the bamah-d, shekel-c.

Prefixes/suffixes: 1. לְ 2. וְ 3. מִ 4. הַ.

Sequence: 4, 1, 5, 3, 6, 2.