

Socratic Seminar: Israel's Demand for a King

The seminar is an in-class debate. To participate, you will prepare notes during the assigned class time using helpful handouts from previous units as well as *The Catholic Youth Bible*® to support your position.

Circle the position to which you have been assigned here:

Pro-monarchy

Anti-monarchy

Your notes will support your participation on the day of the seminar as well as allow you to participate. Your notes should include at least ten solid points that support the position to which you were assigned. Answer questions like these:

- Why should Israel have (or not have) a king?
- What are the pros (or cons) of a king in ancient Israel?
- How would a king benefit (or hurt) the people of Israel and their relationship with God?
- What qualities should a king have to successfully lead the people of Israel in their covenant commitment (pro-monarchy)?
- What qualities might a king have that might lead Israel away from their covenant commitment (anti-monarchy)?

Your ideas should include support from the handouts and the Scriptures that illustrate how your position is valid. List one Scripture passage for support or an example from a handout previously reviewed in class, per idea. For example, a pro-monarchy position could point to David's example of excellence in leadership and covenant commitment as supported by 2 Samuel, chapter 16. An anti-monarchy position could point to Samuel's warning to Israel in 1 Samuel 8:11–18.

During the debate, your participation will be evaluated on your attitude, respectful participation, and accuracy of the presentation of material. Review the handouts "The Socratic Seminar" (Document #: TX001926; see Appendix) and "Rubric for an Oral Presentation" (Document #: TX001929; see Appendix) to identify the goals of the seminar for successful preparation and participation.

