Aim: What ideas about government are represented in Classical Republicanism?

- Early Roman government: Monarchy
- Patricians: Wealthiest families
- <u>Plebeians</u>: small farmers and city workers



## Brutus and His Sons

• **Tarquinius**: king of Rome (535 BCE – 509 BCE)

• <u>Fasces</u>: Symbol of the Roman king and his power. A bundle of rods tied with an axe in the center



## Brutus and His Sons

- What does the story of Brutus and His Sons tell us about the Romans?
- What qualities did they admire in political leaders?

- <u>Civic Virtue</u>: a person who sets aside personal interests to promote the common good (little concern with protecting the common good)
- Which is more important? The individual or society?
- Is civic virtue possible in our society?
- Moral Education: citizens must be taught civic virtue from childhood
- What is the purpose of education?
- Can you teach morality?

## Classical Republicanism

- Small Uniform Communities
- Would only work in small homogeneous communities
- Differences would divide people into interests groups rather than work for the common good
- Is this true?
- Twelve Tables (450 B.C.E.): codified laws
- \*Codification: arranging and writing down

 Adam Smith: Individuality is necessary to promote the common good. (take care of yourself & you support society)