

TEACHER
RESOURCE

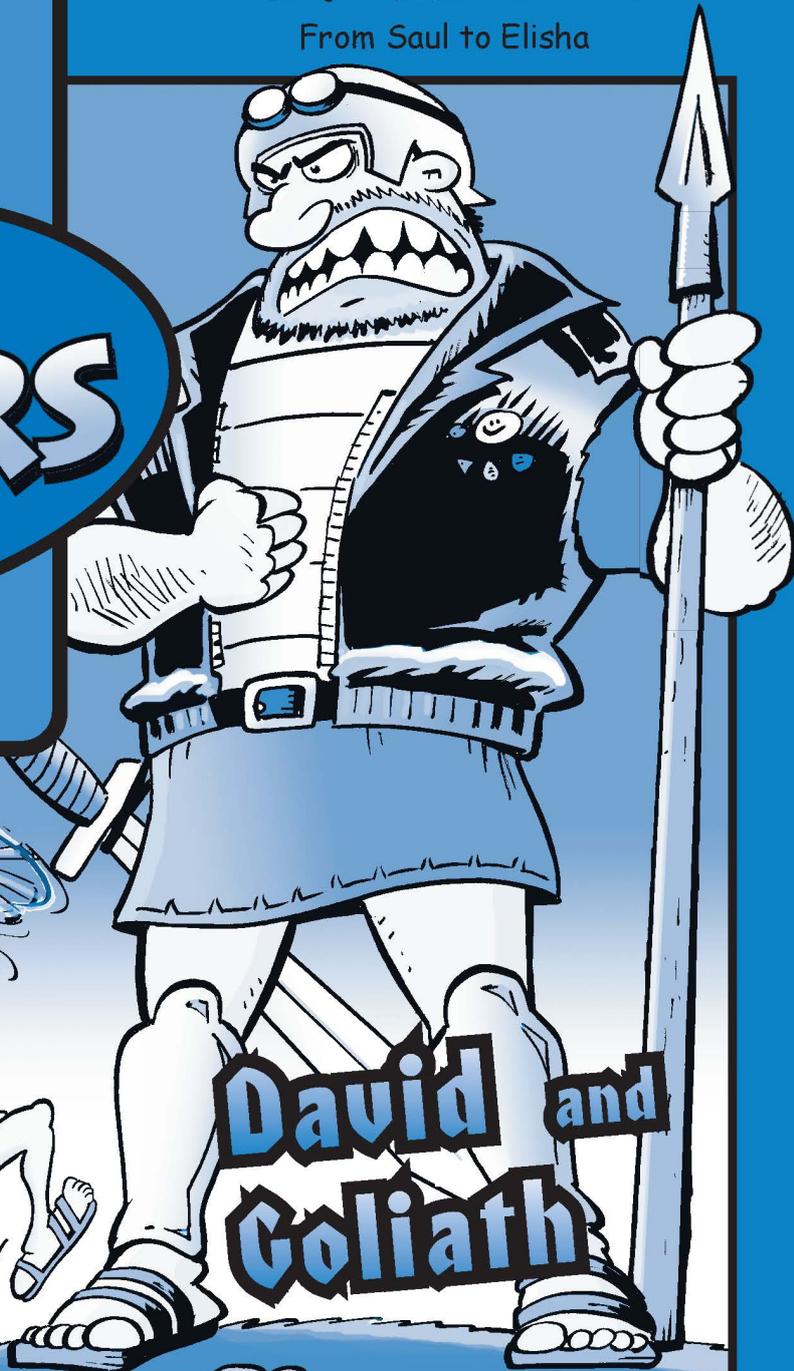
UNIT 4

From Saul to Elisha

LEVEL TWO

SON SEEKERS

AGES 7-10



David and
Goliath



ELIJAH MAKES A
HOUSE CALL



Name:

The Prophets of Baal
meet their match

Teacher Resource

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Teaching Sonseekers ...

Dear Teacher

Teaching young people about God's Word is a great honour and privilege. We note God chose Abraham, a man of faith because he "would teach his children and his household after him, to know the Way of The Lord" (Gen 18:19)

One who undertakes such a task will understand they have accepted a responsibility to become a witness of God's great love and faithfulness. As an example of Christian faith and integrity they have a wonderful opportunity to share their love for God's Word. The tremendous blessing for those who commit themselves to this task is that the Holy Spirit will strengthen and equip you to shine as a light to your class.

Recent trends away from Sunday School structures towards child minding activities have, we believe, been unfortunate as they fail to recognise the impact and effect the message of God's love through Christ has on young people.

Children are the Church's future. As such they are precious and well worth any investment in quality resources and dedicated teachers.

The 'Sonseekers' curriculum offers children Sunday School material that gives them a sound background in Biblical events, people and places. Secondly it offers a pastoral approach for the children to know God is able to help them and change their lives.

Structurally, any program will operate effectively if those teaching are faithful, zealous and committed to a team approach that might include:

- regular prayer and discussion in relation to curriculum issues, student needs and upcoming events and presentations;
- organisation and management of resources;
- training and development needs of teaching staff.

Teaching Sunday School is a rich and rewarding task. May God bless and guide you as you serve in this way.

Yours in Christ

The Sonseekers Team

A teacher's guide to using the Sonseekers materials . . .

Timeline

4000BC	Creation Adam and Eve The Fall
2500BC	Noah The Flood Tower of Babel
2000BC	Abraham
1900BC	Isaac
1800BC	Esau and Jacob
1750BC	Joseph
1360BC	Moses
1280BC	Exodus from Egypt and Journeys Joshua
1240BC	Entry into and Conquest of Land
1220BC	Judges
1100BC	Gideon
1070BC	Samson
1063BC	Samuel
1020BC	Saul as King
980BC	David as King
940BC	Solomon as King
900BC	Kingdom Divided
839BC	Elijah Emerges; Mt Carmel Jehoshaphat
814BC	Elisha's Ministry
749BC	Jonah
662BC	Hezekiah; Isaiah
576BC	Josiah
540BC	Daniel taken to Babylon
527BC	Exile into Babylon
457BC	Restoration from Babylon
4BC	Birth of Jesus
26AD	Baptism of Jesus Call of Disciples
28AD	Feeding of 5000 Parables
29AD	Miracles; Transfiguration
30AD	Raising of Lazarus Parables Palm Sunday Jesus' Crucifixion and Resurrection Day of Pentecost Peter's Ministry
33AD	Conversion of Paul
45AD	Paul's Missionary Journeys
60AD	Paul as Prisoner to Rome

What are the Sonseekers materials?

The Sonseekers Sunday School materials are a four year course of 128 Bible lessons. The lessons are written with the twin aims of teaching the students an accurate chronology of Biblical events and also drawing from each lesson pastoral points relevant to the age and stage of each child. They are written at four levels to cover from Prep to Year 6 age groups. The 128 lessons are organised into 8 units, each of sixteen lessons. The table below indicates the suitable age group for each level:

Sonseekers Level	Student Age	School Level
Level One	5 - 6	Prep, Year 1
Level Two	7 - 10	Year 2, Year 3, Year 4
Level Three	11 - 12+	Year 5, Year 6

The Sonseekers materials comprise two related elements:

- **Teacher Resource** – including lesson plans & activity masters which can be photocopied;
- **Student Handbooks** – including homework activities.

There is also a Bible timeline showing chronology of major events, with the dates of the current unit's lessons highlighted, included in each Teacher Resource.

What's in my Sonseekers Level Two Teacher Resource?

Each Level Two Teacher Resource contains sixteen lesson plans for the relevant age of your students. Each lesson plan comprises:

- the key thought or focus for the lesson;
- a suggested way to introduce the lesson;
- a summary of the relevant bible story;
- a memory verse for the lesson, together with a suggested way of teaching that verse;
- an activity which can be used in the lesson;
- a number of extra ideas involving fun, practical activities.

Note: The photocopy masters for each activity are included with the lessons in this Teacher Resource book.

.../cont'd

... teacher's guide ...

How do I best use my Teacher Resource?

The art of serving as an effective Sunday School teacher is linked to the degree of diligence in preparing for each lesson. The Sonseekers materials are only designed to assist the teacher in this process. They do not take away from the teacher his or her responsibility to prayerfully consider the needs of the children in the class and to seek God's revelation and wisdom in presenting each Bible lesson. The following suggestions are then made with regard to using this resource.

Prior to the lesson

- ◆ Prayerfully read the Bible passage for the lesson. The reference is provided in the header on the first page of the lesson plan. All Scripture references are taken from the New King James Version (1983 edition).
- ◆ Read through the lesson plan and decide which activities will be most appropriate for the students in your class. Generally, aim for a variety of activities over a unit.
- ◆ Think about how you will combine the various elements of your lesson. Refer to the suggested teaching approach for ideas if necessary. Link the activity to the story so that the significance of the activity is clear to the students.
- ◆ Prepare all activities thoroughly prior to the lesson. Rehearse any planned activity at home to make sure:
 - that you know how to do it yourself;
 - that you have all the relevant materials in the quantities you will need;
 - that you know the length of time that the children will need for the activity.

During the lesson

- ◆ Review the memory verse from the previous lesson with the children. Also check on the completion of the homework activity page.
- ◆ Revise the previous lesson before going on to a new story. You may like to use the timeline to help you do this.

Saul chosen

I Samuel 9:1 - 10:16

Storyline

After enjoying peace for many years, the Israelites became restless and demanded a king so they would be like the other nations. God directed Samuel to choose Saul, a tall, handsome young man. He and his servant were out looking for his father's donkeys and they came upon the city where Samuel lived. God had already spoken to Samuel indicating Saul's arrival, to whom he prophesied the whereabouts of the missing donkeys and declared him to be the chosen king. Saul felt very insignificant but Samuel anointed him with oil. Later on, God's Spirit came upon Saul and changed his heart and he prophesied, surprising those who heard him.

Suggested Teaching Approach

Read 1 Samuel 8 for background to the story. Discuss with the children some demands and what they might lead to: eg. eating many lollies (rotten teeth); not wanting to go to school (don't learn important skills for life). Our demands, if given in to, can have poor consequences for our life. God knows what is best for us and so do our parents.

Theme One

"Chosen of God"

God allowed the donkeys belonging to Saul's father to be lost. God then prepared Samuel, the prophet, to expect Saul to come to him to enquire about the donkeys, and then to anoint Saul as king. Every day, God allows things to happen to His children, to bring about His purposes for their lives. When Saul visited Samuel, he did not have the slightest idea that God had chosen him to be king of Israel. Did you know that God chose you and me even before we knew Him?

Key Thought

God knew us and chose us long before we ever came to know Him or chose to follow Him.

Aim

For the children to realise that God chose them in Christ before He created the world.

Memory Verse

"He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world."
(Ephesians 1:4).

Theme Two

"With God, nothing happens by chance"

The furthestmost thought from Saul's mind as he set out to retrieve the donkeys was that he would return, anointed by God as king over Israel. God so ordered Saul's circumstances that what appeared to be a chance meeting with Samuel was exactly what God had planned. Having committed our way to the Lord, we must be prepared for life-changing circumstances to occur – not by chance, but in God's will.

Key Thought

When we commit our will to the will of God for our lives, He will direct our paths.

Aim

For the children to understand that God has a perfect plan for each of us and we can live our lives in the faith that He will lead and guide us in this plan.

Memory Verse

"A man's heart plans his way, but the Lord directs his steps."
(Proverbs 16:9).

Activity A – Match the Words to the Square

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Pens.
- Bibles.

Steps

- Count the squares to tell the number of letters for that word.
- Match the words to the square.

Count the squares to find out how many letters that word has, then find the correct word and write it in.

Activity B – Find the Words

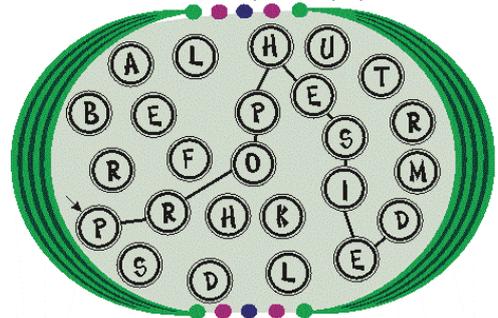
Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Pens/pencils.
- Bibles.

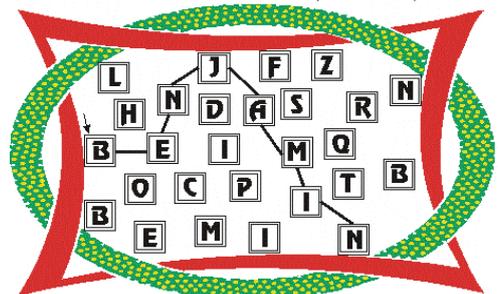
Steps

- The children look up the Scriptures to find the word they are after, then they find that word amongst the connecting letters of each puzzle.

Starting at the "P" find connecting letters to make the word that describes what Saul did that surprised the people. (1 Samuel 10:11)



Now, starting at the "B" find connecting letters to tell you which tribe of Israel Saul came from. (1 Samuel 9:21)



Saul chosen

Activity A – Match the Words to the Square

Count the squares to find out how many letters that word has, then find the correct word and write it in.

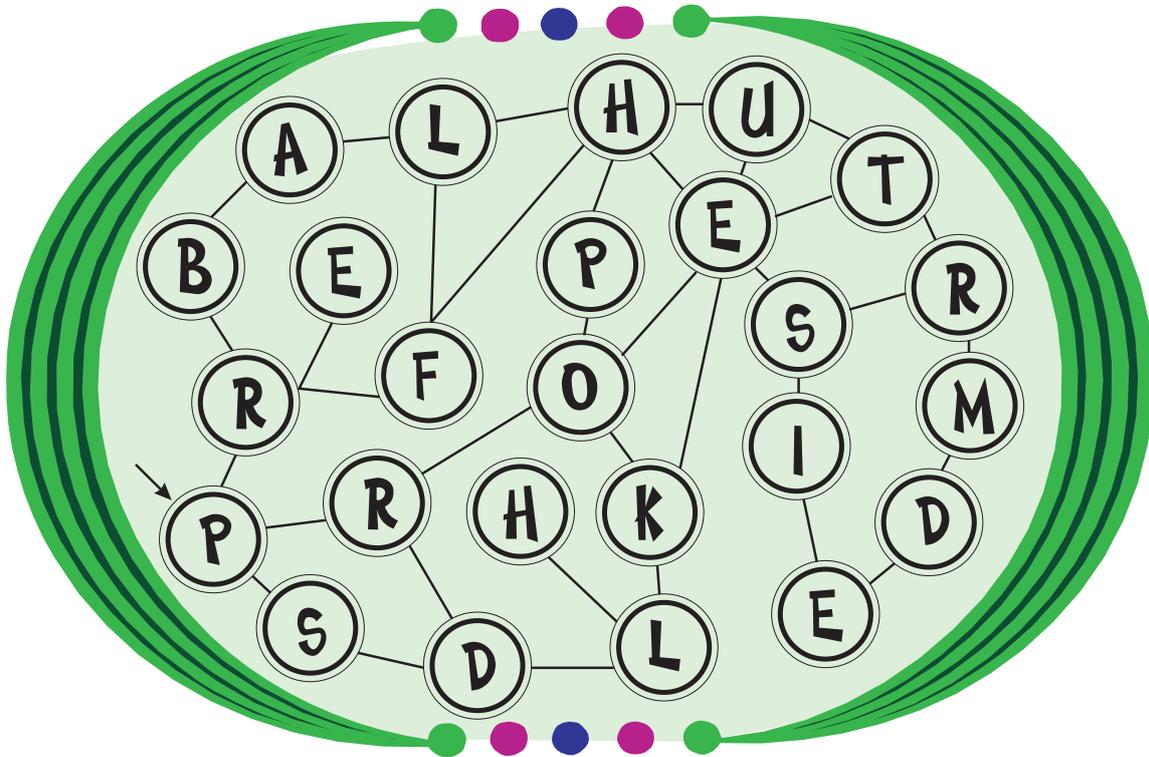
**ISRAEL
DELIVERER
PROPHECY
SERVANT
DONKEYS
ANOINT
KING
SAMUEL
CHOSEN
SAUL
HEART
SPIRIT**

The crossword puzzle grid consists of several interconnected squares. The words listed on the left are: ISRAEL (4 letters), DELIVERER (9 letters), PROPHECY (8 letters), SERVANT (7 letters), DONKEYS (7 letters), ANOINT (6 letters), KING (4 letters), SAMUEL (6 letters), CHOSEN (6 letters), SAUL (4 letters), HEART (5 letters), and SPIRIT (6 letters). The grid includes horizontal and vertical words of varying lengths, some of which overlap.

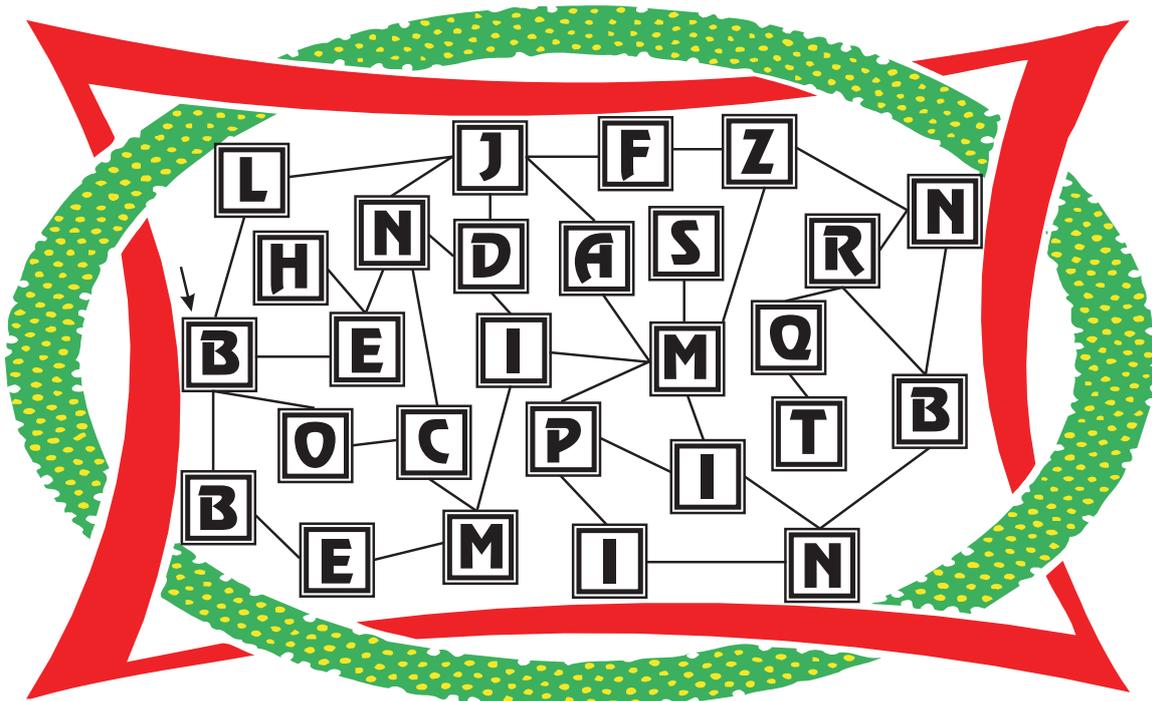
Saul chosen

Activity B – Find the Words

Starting at the “P” find connecting letters to make the word that describes what Saul did that surprised the people. (1 Samuel 10:11)



Now, starting at the “B” find connecting letters to tell you which tribe of Israel Saul came from. (1 Samuel 9:21)



Saul and the Amalekites

I Samuel 15

Storyline

God directed Saul to completely destroy the Amalekite nation and their livestock. Saul didn't completely obey God because he spared King Agag and the best of the animals. When Samuel spoke to Saul about this he suggested that the people were to blame as they wanted to make sacrifices, but God rebuked Saul and rejected him because he did not fully obey His commandments. After delivering God's message to Saul, Samuel turned to leave and Saul caught hold of his robe and it tore. Samuel then prophesied that the kingdom would be torn from him that day and honour would be given to another. King Agag was then brought before Samuel who killed him.

Suggested Teaching Approach

Play the simple game Simon Says to reinforce the accuracy needed to be the winner. The player has to do exactly what the caller says to continue playing. Then discuss the area of obedience and whether it's important to do everything required!

Discuss around the area of lying and telling the truth. Everyone will know someone who was guilty and tried to pass the buck! Consider the effects on the people around them and how they might feel.

Theme One

“Obey the Lord”

The Amalekites had attacked the Israelites when they came out of Egypt. God told Samuel to tell Saul to destroy the Amalekites completely, including their oxen, sheep, camels and donkeys. Saul and the people kept the best of the sheep and oxen, rather than doing as they were told. Sometimes when we have been given instructions to do something we can be tempted to think that we do not need to do exactly what we were told. It may seem like a good idea at the time, but God sees disobedience as a terrible sin.

Key Thought

The thing that God required from Saul and requires, above all else, from us, is obedience. Nothing is a substitute for obedience.

Aim

To help the children realise that God requires total obedience above all else.

Memory Verse

“We ought to obey God rather than men.” (Acts 5:29).

Theme Two

“Fear God, not man”

Having received the word of the Lord to utterly destroy the Amalekites, Saul instead was swayed by the popular opinion of the people. What they said probably made a lot of sense, but it was not what the Lord had said. Saul's continued kingship depended on his obedience to the word of the Lord, not his popularity with the people. It is very easy for us to be influenced by what our friends or others think about us. It is much more important to be popular with God than to be popular with men.

Key Thought

When we know what the Lord is saying to us, let us not be persuaded otherwise by our well-meaning friends.

Aim

For the children to understand that God's word is not to be taken lightly or to be interpreted according to the wisdom of men.

Memory Verse

“Fear God and keep His commandments.” (Ecclesiastes 12:13).

Activity A – Recipe for Pikelets and Discussion on Obedience

Materials

- 2 lots of Pikelet ingredients: 1 cup of SR flour, 1 egg, 1 pinch salt, 2 tsps sugar, ½ cup milk, 2 tsp melted butter.
- Electric frypan, 2 mixing bowls, 1 small heat proof bowl, wooden spoons, measuring cups, egg lift.
- Extra plain flour and salt.

Steps

- Make the pikelet recipe in one bowl, following the instructions below and sharing the tasks among the class. Emphasise the importance of exact measurements, and following the recipe carefully.
- Make another mixture in the second bowl but do not follow the recipe. Extra salt or plain flour rather than SR flour could be used. (It is ideal if this mixture tastes dreadful, although it should look similar to the good mixture to best illustrate Theme 1.)
- Cook the pikelets, first mixture 1, then mixture 2. Warn the class not to touch the hot pan.
- Taste the different mixtures.

To Make the Pikelets

- Combine dry ingredients with sugar, egg and milk. Melt butter in the heat proof bowl in the frypan. Add to mixture. Beat until smooth and thoroughly mixed. Grease and heat frypan. Place tablespoons of mixture onto the pan. Cook until bubbly and then turn to brown other side until cooked.

Discussion

- Was it important to do what the recipe said?
- If the recipe was changed by just 1 ingredient, would it matter?
- Which of God's instructions did Saul ignore? Why? What happened because of this?
- What things do we have to be obedient in? To whom?
- When might we do only part of what we are instructed? What might be the result?

Activity B – Hidden Words

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Pens/pencils.

Steps

- The children try and find the 'key' words hidden amongst the sentences and write the words on the lines provided.

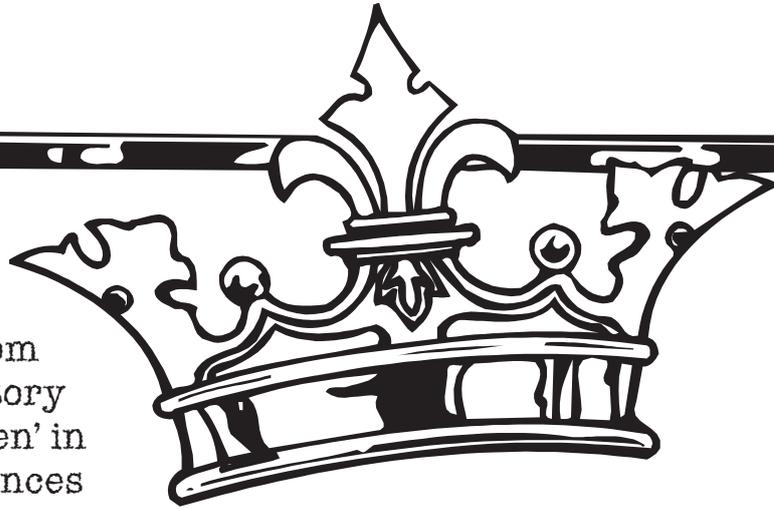
The key words from today's story are 'hidden' in the sentences below - one to each sentence. The letters of the key words are still in the right order, but are used to form other words (eg. 'word' could become - 'The soldier received new orders'). See if you can find the key words listed below.

AGAG, GOD, ROBE, KILL, AMALEKITE, TORN, OBEY, SAUL

1. Peg godd socks together. _____
2. E sau loved his food. _____
3. Don't forget your bag again. _____
4. Do not go beyond the fence. _____
5. Is sacrifice or obedience best? _____
6. A male kite is an aggressive hunting bird _____
7. The architect who designed the palace made it ornate and grand. _____
8. See the doctor if you are sick, ill or break your arm. _____

Saul and the Amalekites

Activity B – Hidden Words

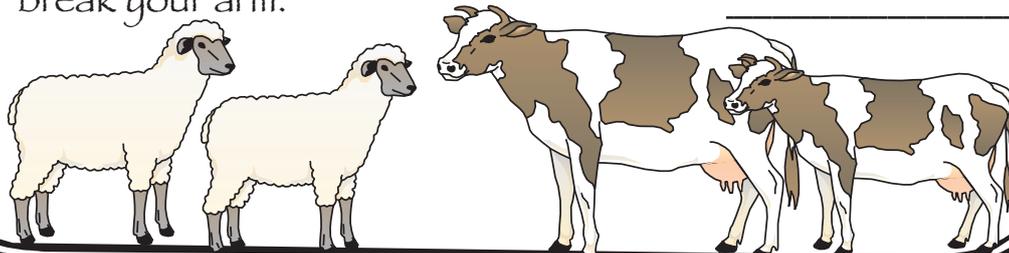


The key words from today's story are 'hidden' in the sentences

below - one to each sentence. The letters of the key words are still in the right order, but are used to form other words (eg. 'word' could become - 'The soldier received new orders'). See if you can find the key words listed below.

 **AGAG, GOD, ROBE, KILL,** 
AMALEKITE, TORN, OBEY, SAUL

1. Peg odd socks together. _____
2. Esau loved his food. _____
3. Don't forget your bag again. _____
4. Do not go beyond the fence. _____
5. Is sacrifice or obedience best? _____
6. A male kite is an aggressive hunting bird _____
7. The architect who designed the palace made it ornate and grand. _____
8. See the doctor if you are sick, ill or break your arm. _____



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David chosen

I Samuel 16

Storyline

God told Samuel to stop mourning for Saul, and to go to Jesse of Bethlehem and anoint one of his sons as king. Samuel did what the Lord said, and met with Jesse. Samuel looked at each of Jesse's sons. Samuel looked at Eliab, Jesse's firstborn, and said, "Surely this is the Lord's anointed." But the Lord said, "Do not look at his appearance or at the height of his stature, because I have refused him. For the Lord does not see as man sees; for man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart." God showed Samuel it was David, the youngest son, whom He had chosen. When David was brought before Samuel, God said, "Arise, anoint him; for this is the one!" Then Samuel anointed David with oil, in the midst of his brothers, and the Spirit of the Lord came upon David. The Spirit of the Lord departed from Saul and a distressing spirit from the Lord troubled him. So his servant sent for David to play the harp and calm Saul, and he would be refreshed. David became Saul's armour bearer.

Suggested Teaching Approach

- Look at the two men (Activity B) and discuss the external resemblances – can you tell how these men are different? No.
- Explain Theme 1.
- Talk about things in our heart – love, hate, care, disgust, jealousy, understanding etc.
- For a moment, children can look into their own hearts.
- Teacher or child could pray about the desire for the Lord to take over our hearts.
- Complete the Activity B.

Another introduction could involve teacher making up two boxes – one looking beautiful, the other battered and old. The great looking box could contain a rotten piece of food and the old box, chocolate bars. Talk about how deceptive the outside can be, how valuable something can be even though it does not look it on the outside.

Theme One

“God looks at the heart”

When Samuel saw David's fine looking older brothers he thought one of them must surely be the one God had chosen. God showed Samuel it wasn't the physical appearance that He was concerned about, but the heart of man. God was concerned about the state of the heart of the man who would become the king of Israel. God is not really concerned as to what we look like on the outside. He is concerned about our state of heart.

Key Thought

People often judge others by their outward appearance. God looks not on our outward appearance, but at our heart.

Aim

For children to be challenged to search their own hearts, and, to desire the fruit of the Spirit in their lives rather than just physical attributes and talents.

Memory Verse

“He knows the secrets of the heart.” (Psalm 44:21).

Theme Two

“Faithfully serving God”

David was anointed king but was not to become king for many years. However, God acted in his life to prepare him to fulfil his call, by arranging for him to minister to King Saul in the royal court. David's willingness to play before Saul showed a willingness to obey what the Lord wanted to do in his life. We too, are being prepared for royal service as we give ourselves willingly to live in the body of Christ.

Key Thought

God wants us to be involved in His service. He prepares us and trains us so that we can fulfil His purpose.

Aim

To help the children see the day by day events of their lives as the training ground which prepares them for their place in Christ.

Memory Verse

“If anyone serves Me, him My Father will honour.” (John 12:26).

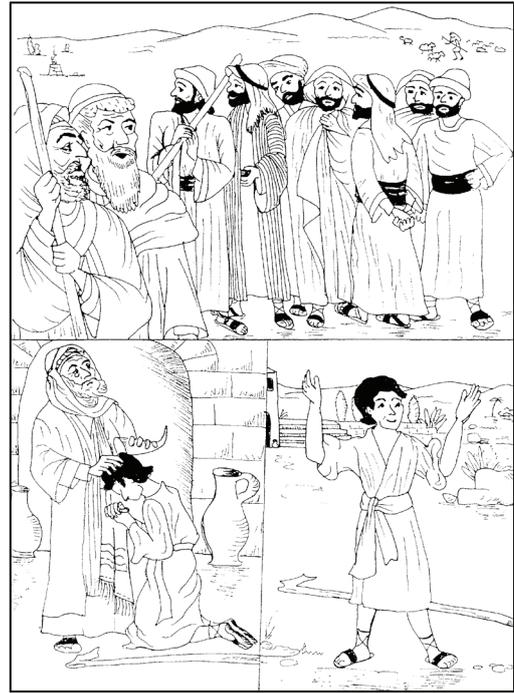
Activity A – Colour and Collage

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Colouring pencils.
- 2 pipe cleaners per child.
- Clear cellophane.
- Scissors.
- Tape.

Steps

- The children colour the picture.
- Join the pipe cleaners by twisting approximately 2 cm of each together. Bend them into a dome shape.
- Cut pieces of cellophane approx. 15 cm x 12 cm and cover the dome folding and taping around the pipe cleaner.
- The finished dome can now be placed over “David” and taped into position.
- This dome will represent the Spirit of the Lord that came upon David and stayed with him from that day forward.



Activity B – The Heart of David

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Bibles.
- Pens/colouring pencils.
- Scissors/stapler.

Steps

- Cut out the hearts at the bottom of the page.
- The children colour the stony heart brown/grey and the other heart red.
- Place the rocky heart picture side down on the sinful person and staple on the side closest to the side of the page.
- Do similarly with the flesh heart on the righteous person.
- Read the Bible verses in the small hearts.
- Decide whether the verse is about a righteous or a sinful heart.
- Draw a line to join the hearts to the big heart they belong to.
- Some of the words in the verses belong in the big hearts. Find them by the letter they start with in the big heart and write them in.
- Colour in your people.

What is working in these hearts?

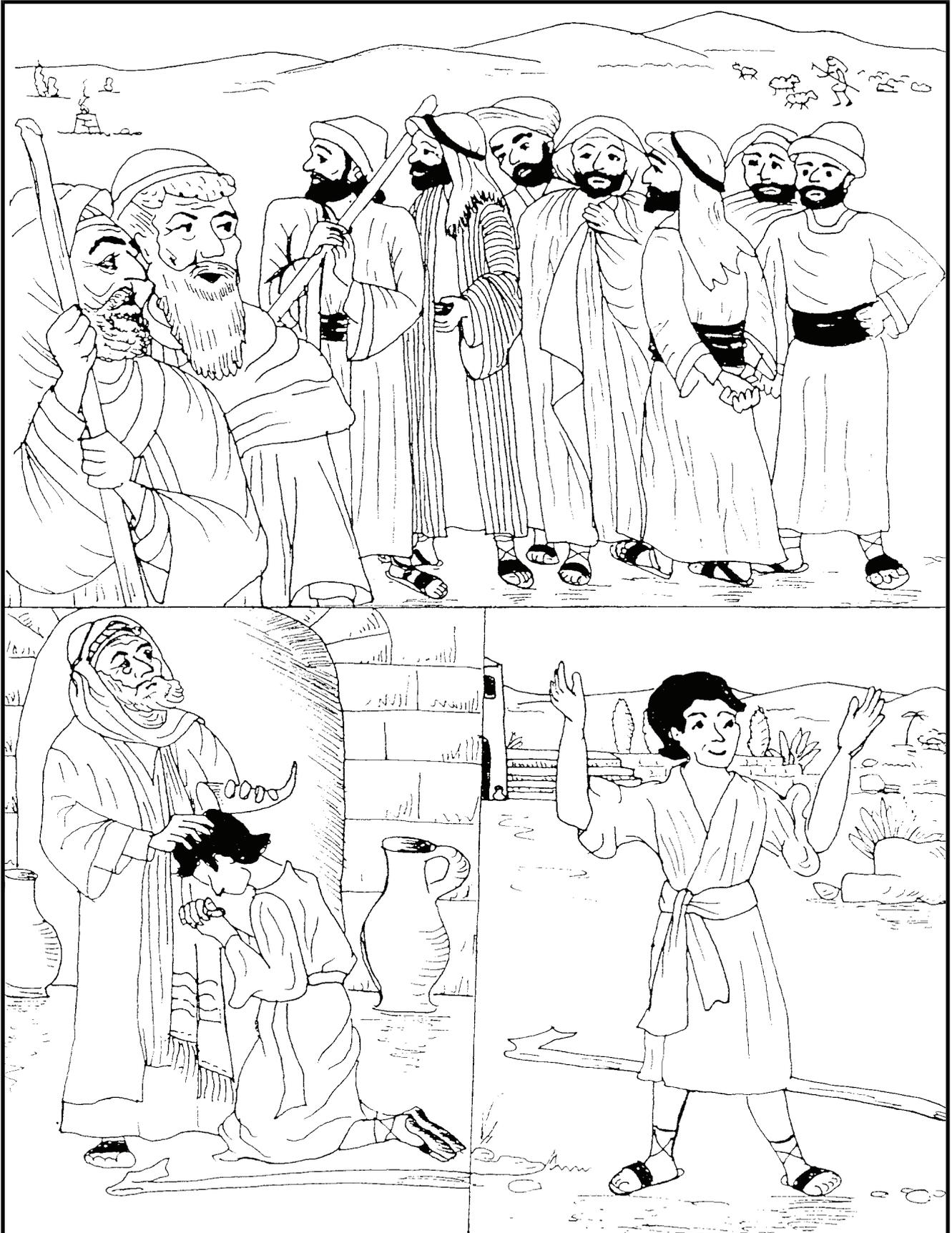
Sinful		Righteous

Answer

- Passions of Sins, Unbelieving, Cowardly, Death, Liars, Righteousness, Holiness, Kindness, Peace, Love.

David chosen

Activity A – Colour and Collage

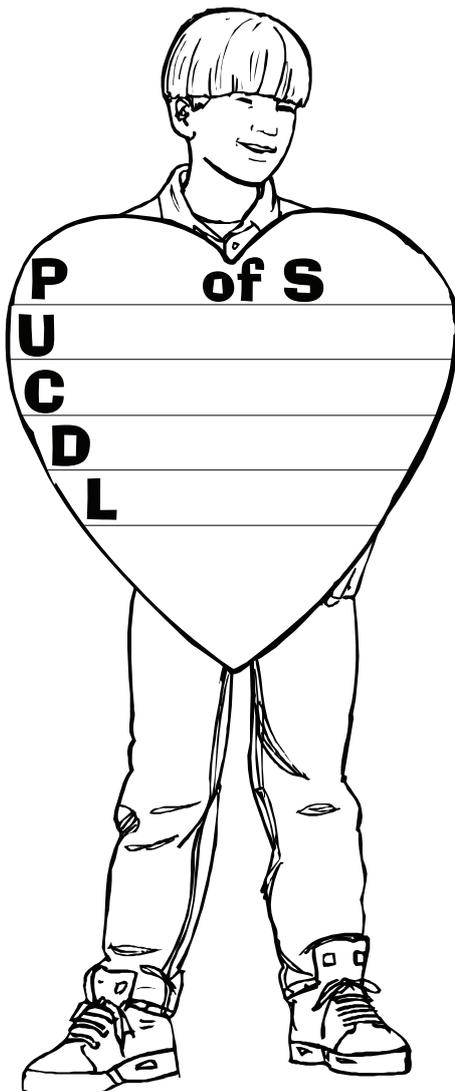


David chosen

Activity B – The Heart of David

What is working in these hearts?

Sinful



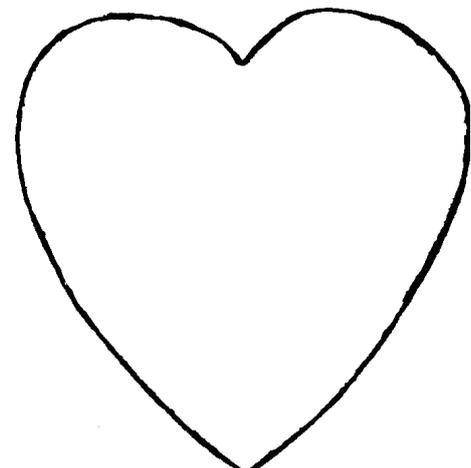
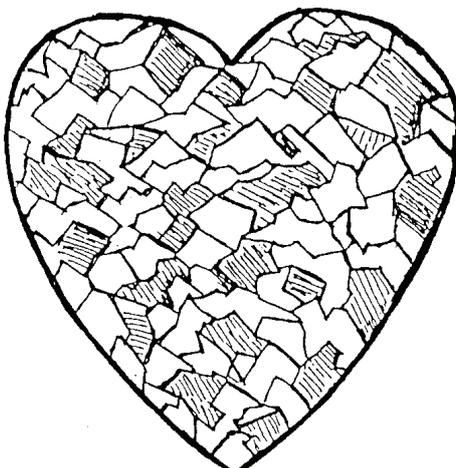
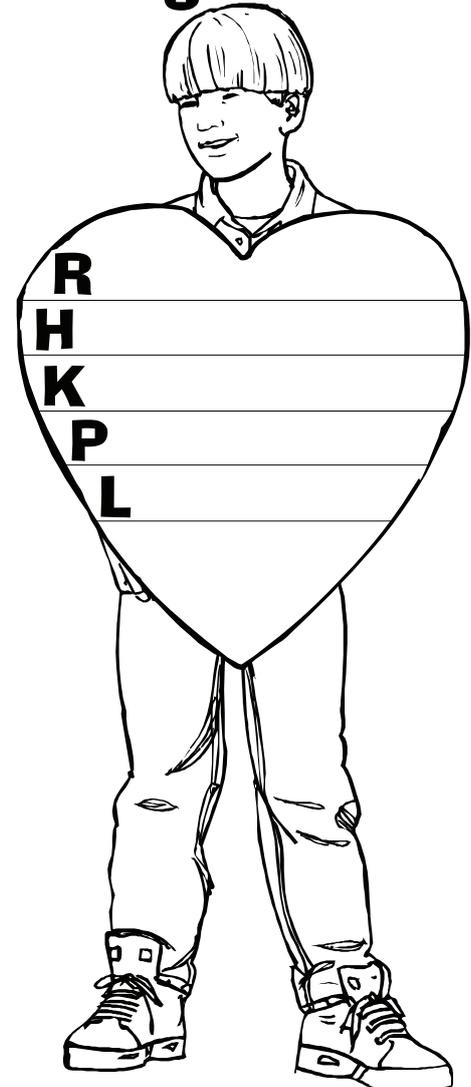
Hebrews
12:11,14

Galatians
5:22

Romans
7:5

Revelation
21:8

Righteous



David and Goliath

I Samuel 17

Storyline

The Philistines and Israelites were encamped each side of a valley, ready to do battle. Every day the Philistine giant, Goliath, challenged the Israelites to send a man to fight him, but no one would. David's father, Jesse, sent him to the battlefield to deliver grain and bread to David's three older brothers who were members of Saul's army. David, in obedience to his father, left tending his sheep and went to the battle field. When David heard that no one would fight Goliath, he offered to. David believed the Lord would deliver him from Goliath. He went to meet Goliath with only five stones and a sling and a strong confidence in God. This made Goliath laugh with disdain. David killed Goliath, and the Philistine army fled.

Suggested Teaching Approach

David had right relationships with his father, with his brothers, and King Saul. He did not go to the battlefield with fear in his heart, but in obedience and with faith in God. David believed God would deliver Goliath into his hands.

The teacher should find lots of books showing pictures of all sorts of armour.

Talk about how and why it was used, particularly in the Old Testament.

Tell the story of the battle between David and Goliath – the world's power versus God's power.

Compare the armour of Ephesians 6:14 17 with Goliath's armour (David versus Goliath).

- Who was the better protected?
- Who seemed to be the most sensible?
- Why did David win?

Do Activity A – dressing soldier – talk about it as you go – how does a shield of faith 'work'?

Theme One

"Trust in the Lord"

David was not afraid to stand up for God. He knew he did not have to face the giant in his own strength, but trust in God to give him the victory. He just had to stand up and go in God's name. He used a sling and stones, but he did not trust in these. He told the giant, "The Lord does not save with sword and spear; for the battle is the Lord's, and He will give you into our hands." It is the same for us today. There are things today that oppose God. We have to stand up when these things come against us, knowing that God will give us the victory.

Key Thought

David loved God and had learnt to trust Him. He knew that God who gave him victory over the lion and the bear would give him victory over Goliath. We, too, can trust God to give us the victory over sin and all that is against God.

Aim

To show the children how God enabled David to gain the victory over the giant, and have them understand that He will enable them too to get the victory.

Memory Verse

"In God I have put my trust." (Psalm 56:4).

Theme Two

"God is our protector"

Although David was young and appeared to be ill-equipped to face Goliath, his trust was in the Lord his God. There is no need for us to fear the enemy. Just as David was able to defeat Goliath, we too, can be victorious over the giants in our lives. Just as David did not rely on the set of natural armour available to him, we must resist the temptation to fight from our own strength. We must learn how to put on the whole armour of God.

Key Thought

We, like David, have a need to look to the Lord to protect us in our everyday life. God has provided us with armour and weapons. As we keep close to Him, He will give us the victory.

Aim

For the children to understand that the Lord protects His own. Our daily preparation is found in the armour which God provides.

Memory Verse

"Let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light." (Romans 13:12).

Activity A – Cut-out of a Soldier of the Lord

Materials

- 1 of the soldier Activity Sheets per child mounted or photocopied onto cardboard.
- 1 of the armour Activity Sheets per child.
- Colouring pencils.
- Scissors.

Steps

- Cut the soldier out.
- Cut one small slit in his right hand to weave the sword through.
- Cut two slits in the shield on the lines marked.
- Cut around the left hand so it can be woven in and out of the shield cuts.
- Cut out roughly each item of clothing.
- Colour each item of clothing.
- Cut carefully along the outside line of each piece – being careful not to cut the tabs off.
- Dress the soldier, folding the tabs behind.



Activity B – Scripture Search

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Pens/pencils.
- Bibles.
- Scissors.
- Glue.

Steps

- Choose beforehand, whether you want the children to write the answers or cut and paste them in place, and prepare accordingly.
- Help the children look up the Scriptures to find the words that are missing from each verse.

LOOK UP THE VERSES IN YOUR BIBLE AND WRITE IN THE MISSING WORD, OR CUT OUT THE CORRECT WORD ON THE BOTTOM OF THE PAGE AND GLUE IT IN THE RIGHT PLACE.

HUMILITY

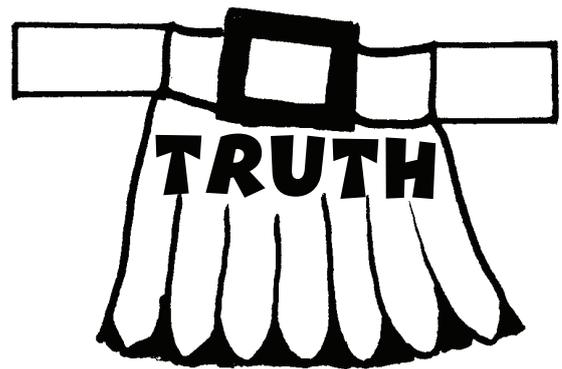
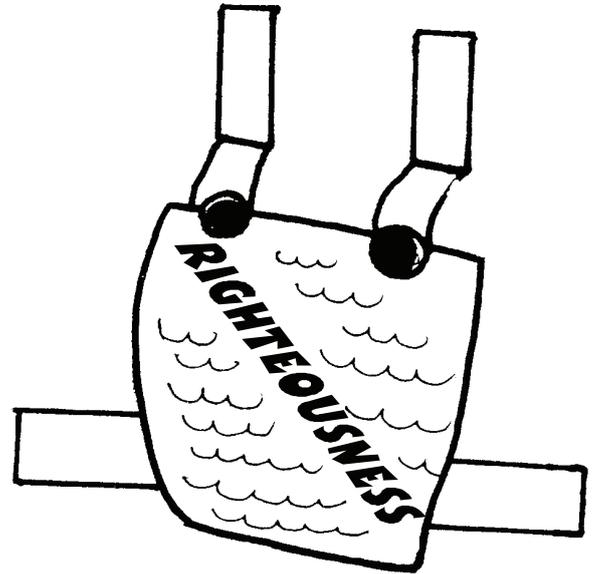
- Job 22:29 "Then He will _____ save the humble person."
- Psalms 9:12 "He does not _____ forget the cry of the humble."
- Matthew 18:4 "Therefore whoever _____ humbles himself as this little child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven."
- James 4:6 "God resists the proud, but gives _____ grace to the humble."
- Luke 18:14 "And he who humbles himself will be _____ exalted."
- Micah 6:8 "What does the Lord require of you but ... to walk humbly with your _____ God _____?"

WORD LIST

humbles exalted save
forget God grace

David and Goliath

Activity A – Cut-out of a Soldier of the Lord



David and Goliath

Activity A – Cut-out of a Soldier of the Lord



David and Goliath

Activity B – Scripture Search

LOOK UP THE VERSES IN YOUR BIBLE AND WRITE IN THE MISSING WORD, OR CUT OUT THE CORRECT WORD ON THE BOTTOM OF THE PAGE AND GLUE IT IN THE RIGHT PLACE.

HUMILITY

- Job 22:29 "Then He will _____
the humble person."
- Psalms 9:12 "He does not _____
the cry of the humble."
- Matthew 18:4 "Therefore whoever _____
himself as this little child is the
greatest in the kingdom of heaven."
- James 4:6 "God resists the proud, but gives
_____ to the humble."
- Luke 18:14 "And he who humbles himself will be
_____."
- Micah 6:8 "What does the Lord require of you
but ... to walk humbly with your
_____?"

WORD LIST

humbles	exalted	save
forget	God	grace

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David and Jonathan

I Samuel 19 - 20

Storyline

Saul constantly tried to destroy David. Saul's son, Jonathan, was David's friend. He looked out for David and interceded on David's behalf to his father. This worked until Saul became jealous again and tried to kill David. David escaped with the help of his wife, Michal, who was Saul's daughter. Saul pursued David and he escaped again. David was expected to attend a feast where Saul would be present. David and Jonathan developed a plan to determine the king's mood toward David. Jonathan went to the feast and was nearly killed by his father because he was David's friend. Jonathan left the palace and warned David of Saul's intentions. They wept together and re-affirmed the oath they had previously made with one another before parting.

Suggested Teaching Approach

1. Read Matthew 5:38-48. Discuss. The children may have examples for their own lives to share. Make bookmarks. The children sit in a circle with a bookmark and all pass the one they made to the person on their left as a gift for them (tell them this before starting the activity) or all can be placed in a box for a 'lucky dip.'
2. What would you do for a friend? Play with them/have them over to your home/help them with homework/be kind to them if others are being mean. Tell the story of David and Jonathan. What did they do for each other because they were friends? Who else was prepared to die? Were we His friends? Were we good? Why did He die? Either activity can follow this lesson.

Theme One

"Love in action"

David's heart attitude towards Saul in the midst of his difficulties shows us how to love our enemies. David could have run away or rallied forces against Saul to obtain what God had promised to him. Rather, his desire was to restore relationship with Saul if at all possible. Later on, David spared Saul's life twice. All the days of his life, David held no grudge against Saul. There may be people who hate us or despise us. As Christians, we must not hate them, rather we must love them, pray for them, and show kindness towards them.

Key Thought

In spite of Saul's persecution, David continued to show respect towards him. Jesus loved His enemies. This is our example of how to respond to those who are against us.

Aim

To show the children that, like David, they can seek God's strength to continually do good even to those who do evil to them.

Memory Verse

"Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you." (Luke 6:27).

Theme Two

"Suffering as a Christian"

Both David and Jonathan were treated unfairly by King Saul. However neither of them were vengeful but instead showed instances of forgiveness and wisdom. At times Christians may be treated unfairly by others. God knows about these times and is concerned with our reactions. He may be using them to test our faith and to produce Godly character in us. In these times look to God for wisdom.

Key Thought

Sometimes we go through difficult times. People may be unfair towards us. God allows these things to happen for His good purposes.

Aim

To help the children to stand in faith in times of unjust treatment and look to the Lord for wisdom, consolation and forgiveness.

Memory Verse

"If anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed." (1 Peter 4:16).

Activity A – Coded Message

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Pens/pencils.
- Bibles.

Steps

- The children use the code to decipher the message.

Jonathan arranged to shoot some arrows as a code to help David know what Saul was thinking about him. Try to break this coded message.

THE CIRCLE CODE

○	◐	◑	◒	◓	◔	◕	◖	◗	◘	◙	◚	◛
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
◑	◒	◓	◔	◕	◖	◗	◘	◙	◚	◛	◜	◝
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z

THE LORD BE WITH
YOU AS HE HAS BEEN
WITH MY FATHER

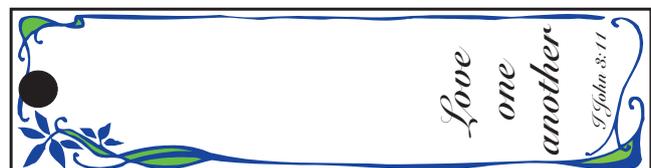
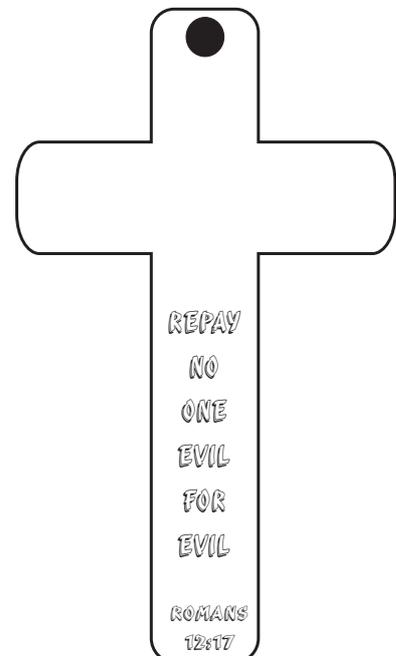
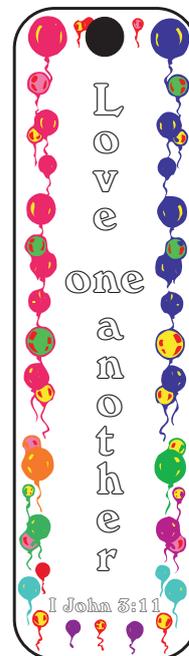
Activity B - Bookmark

Materials

- Activity Sheets photocopied or mounted onto cardboard so there is enough for one bookmark per child.
- Scissors.
- Little pictures cut out from magazines, stickers, or dried flowers for decorating the bookmark.
- Cord or wool for the tassel, puncher or skewer for the hole on top.

Steps

- The children choose one of the shapes for their bookmark.
- Decorate and colour after cutting it out.
- Make a hole at the top.
- Thread some thick cord or wool through the hole, and make a tassel.



David and Jonathan

Activity A – Coded Message

Jonathan arranged to shoot some arrows as a code to help David know what Saul was thinking about him. Try to break this coded message.

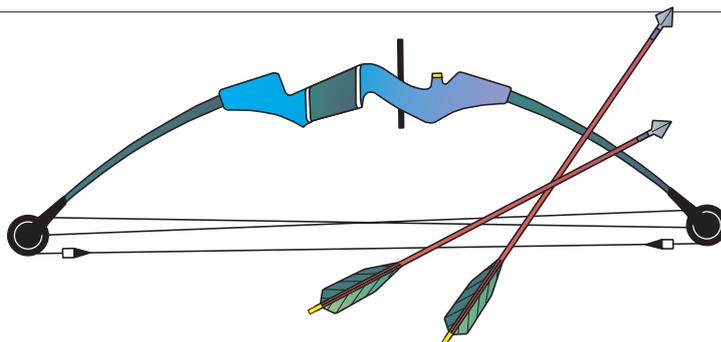
THE CIRCLE CODE

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N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z



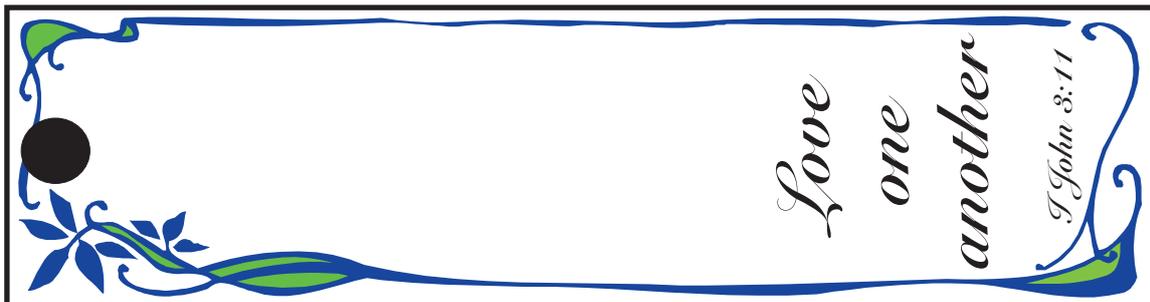
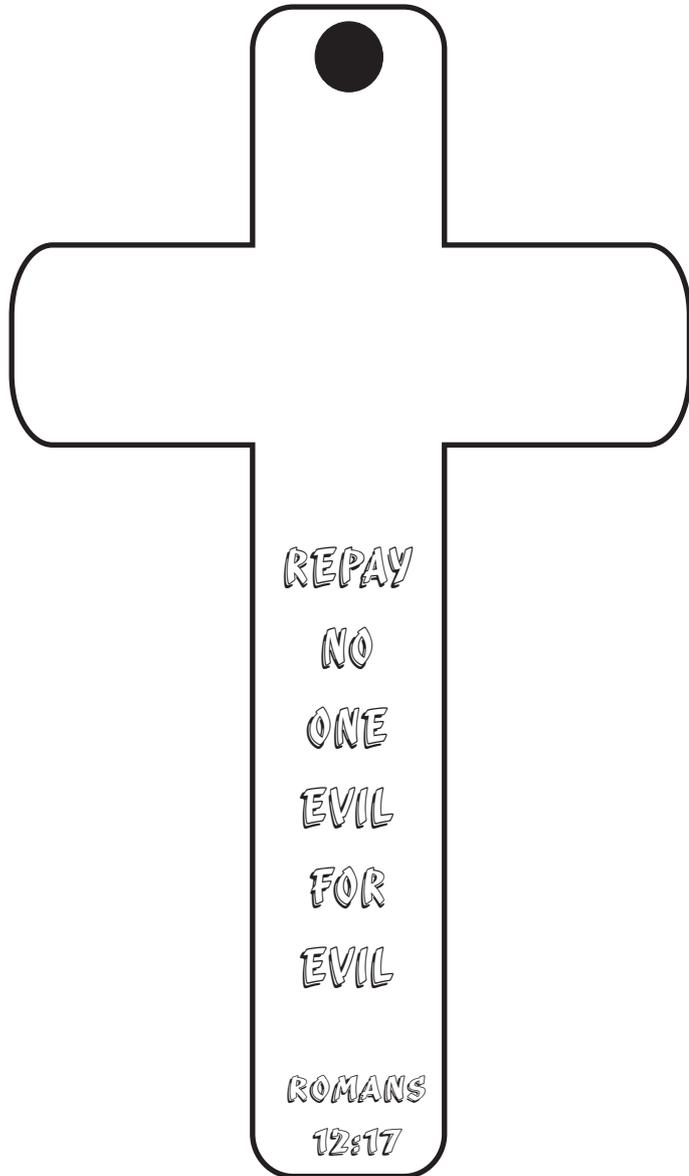
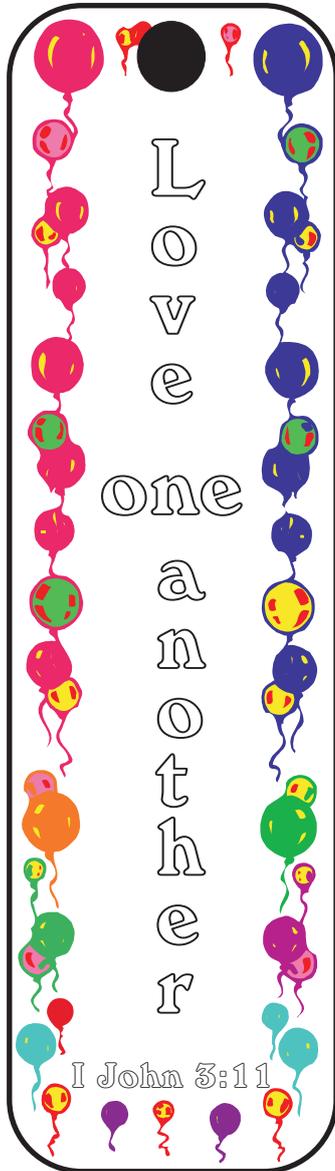






David and Jonathan

Activity B - Bookmark



David and Saul

I Samuel 21 - 24

Storyline

After David escaped Saul he was helped by the priest Ahimelech. A cave became his home and many men joined him. When Saul heard of Ahimelech's help to David he destroyed the priests and the whole city. David and his men moved from place to place in the wilderness evading Saul. One day Saul unknowingly went into the cave where David and his men were hiding. David could have killed Saul but instead cut off a corner of his robe. Saul didn't know this had happened until after he left the cave and David called out to him and showed him. Saul realised David's goodness and they asked that when David became king he would not destroy Saul's family.

Suggested Teaching Approach

Play hide and seek - was it easy to stay hidden? The Lord helped David stay hidden.

Present the story and discuss:

- What is respect?
- Who should we respect? Parents/teachers/leaders/elders/ neighbours/friends/enemies.
- Is this respectful? (Teacher can pose some situations-answering back mother/pulling faces behind teachers back/showing contempt for someone else's beliefs.)
- Why might David have felt what he'd done to Saul in Activity B was disrespectful, even though Saul was trying hard to be David's enemy?

Do Activity B.

Theme One

"God is our guide"

We have to learn what is good for us to do, and what is not good for us to do. David trusted God to guide him in these matters. Even though he was given the chance and his friends thought it was a good idea, David knew that to kill Saul, would not be a good thing for him to do. He trusted God to guide him and was saved from making a terrible mistake. Our parents are responsible to teach us what is good and not good for us to do. If we choose to listen to them and obey them, God can also guide us and keep us from making terrible mistakes.

Key Thought

David trusted God to guide him in what he did. We, too, need to trust God and He will guide us.

Aim

To help the children understand that as they trust and obey their parents, God is able to guide them.

Memory Verse

"The Lord will guide you continually." (Isaiah 58:11).

Theme Two

"A man after God's own heart"

David would have had no trouble finding followers or friends who would have willingly killed Saul and made David their king, as David had already been anointed king over Israel. David had patience to wait for God's time for him to become king. But the Bible says David was a man after God's own heart. He knew and trusted God and saw things God's way. Instead of seeing Saul as an enemy, he saw Saul as God's anointed and treated him with respect. The Holy Spirit can build in us a heart like God's heart and enable us to see things differently – as God sees them.

Key Thought

God is looking for people whose hearts are like God's heart and who see things as God sees them.

Aim

For the children to understand that the Holy Spirit fills us to form in us a new heart like God's heart.

Memory Verse

"Keep your heart with all diligence." (Proverbs 4:23).

David and Saul

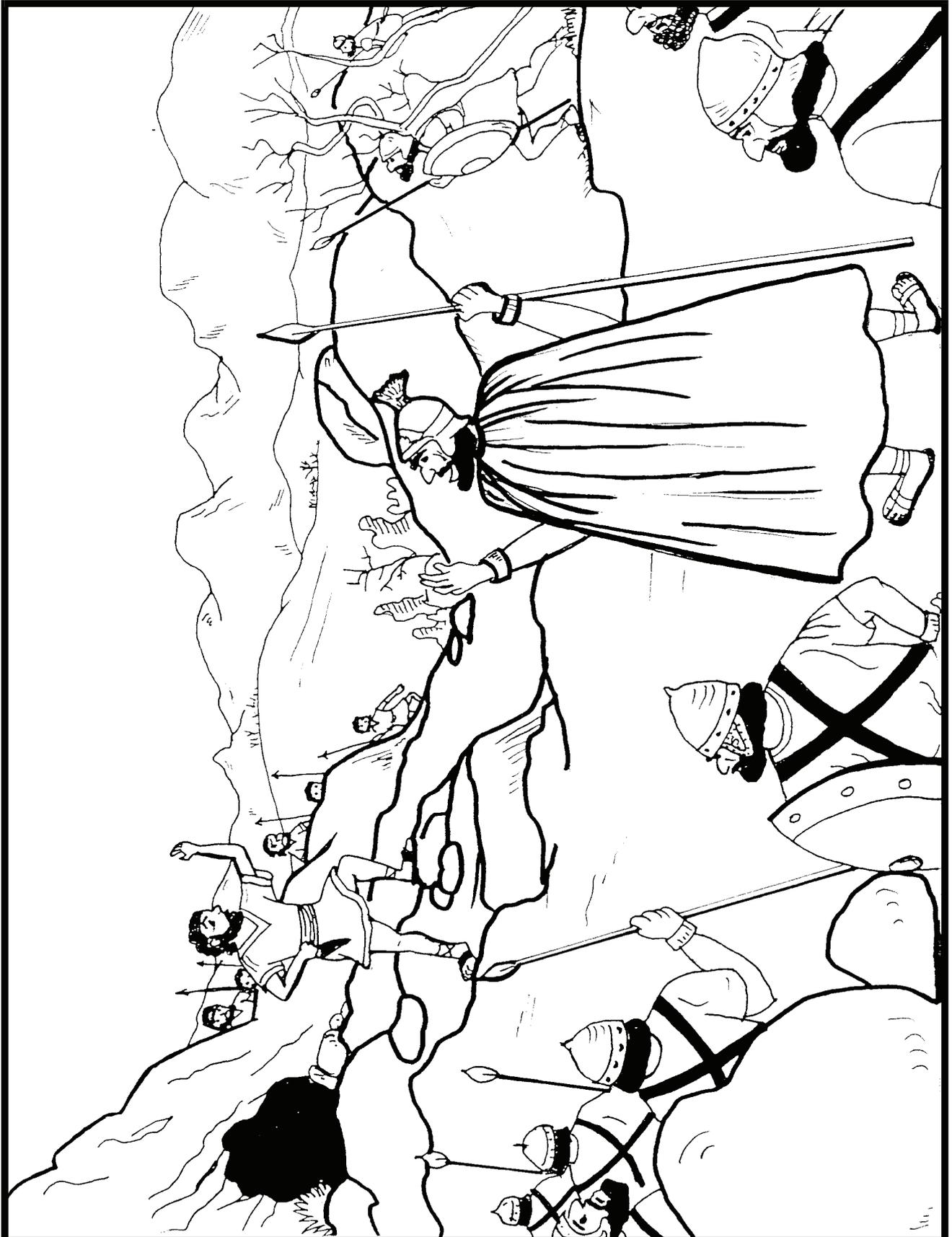
Activity A - Puzzle

Starting at the arrow and working clockwise, write down every second letter to find the mystery verse. You will need to go around twice, and you must count the full-stop as a letter.



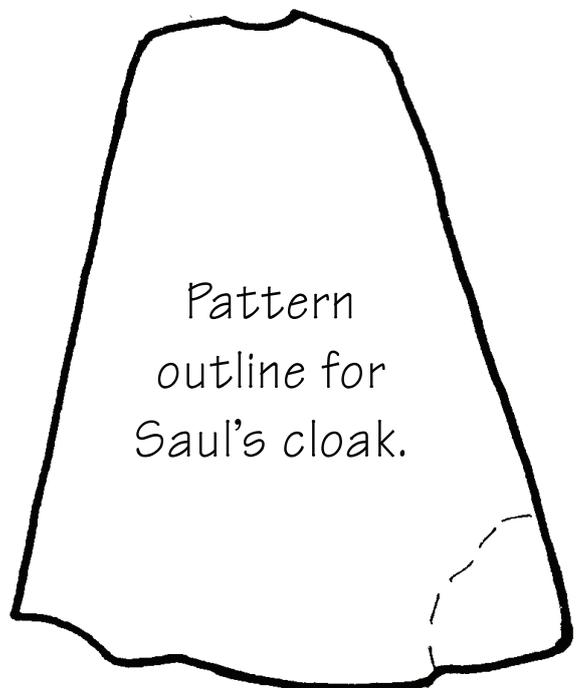
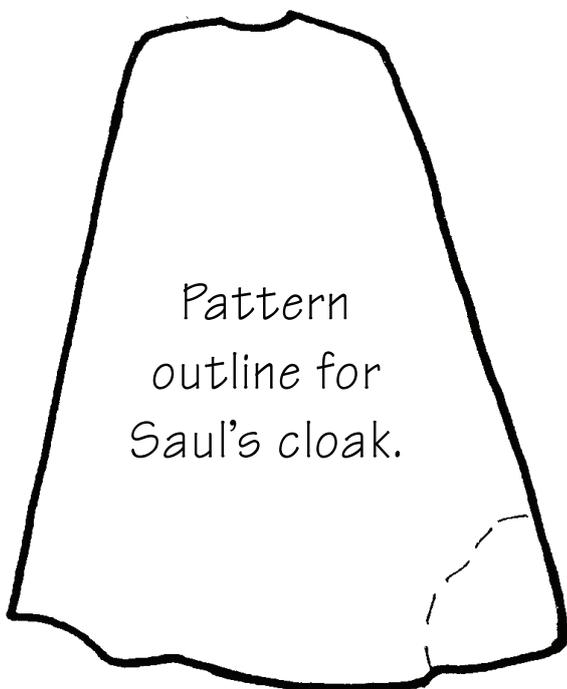
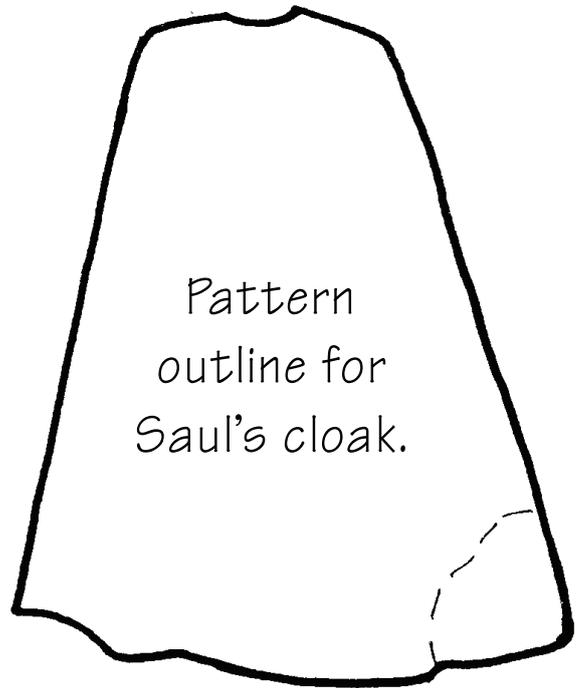
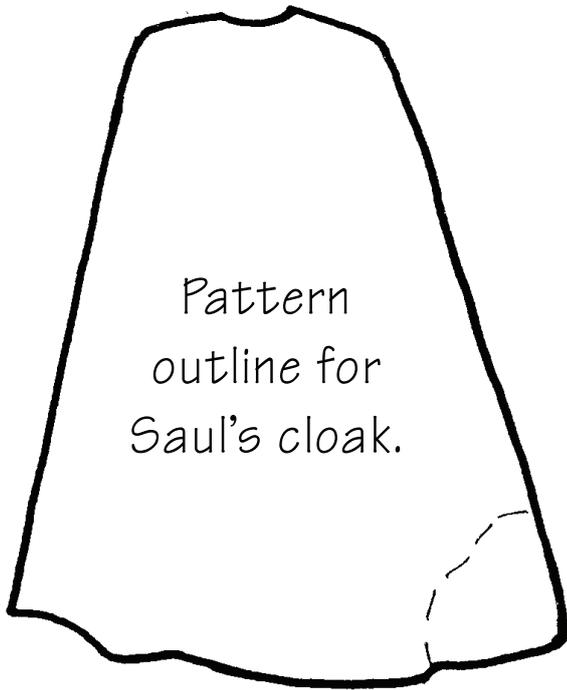
David and Saul

Activity B – Saul's Cloak



David and Saul

Activity B – Saul's Cloak



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David crowned

II Samuel 5:1-12

Storyline

David became king of Judah after the death of Saul. He was then 30 years of age. For seven and a half years, the other tribes were ruled by Ishbosheth, a son of Saul. Now he overcame the enemy and took the stronghold of Zion and called it the city of David. David was great because God was with him. God established David's kingdom and exalted His own kingdom for the sake of His people Israel.

Suggested Teaching Approach

Read the Scripture passage thoroughly at home, and familiarise yourself well with the story, particularly the sequence of events. Have a map drawn on a large piece of cardboard, showing the area in which these events took place – see map in Activity B attached.

Briefly relate the story to the class and then use a short drama, with the children re-enacting the significant events of the story. Suggestions for drama as per Activity A sheet attached.

Theme One

“Trusting in God”

When it seemed impossible to capture Jerusalem, David trusted God to show him the way. David remained humble before the Lord, knowing that it was He who had established him as king over Israel. The Lord honoured David's faithfulness and David found favour with God and man. If we remain humble before the Lord and place our trust in Him, He will always remain faithful to us and lead us in His pathway.

Key Thought

If we are humble before the Lord and obedient to His word, God will lead us in the right path and we will find favour with God and man.

Aim

To lead the children to an understanding of what it means to allow God full control of our lives.

Memory Verse

“Commit your way to the Lord, trust also in Him.” (Psalm 37:5).

Theme Two

“Seeking God's direction”

If we don't communicate with God, then how can we hear His voice? Therefore, there has to be time set aside for us to pray and have a quiet time with the Lord to really hear His voice for our lives. We need to be careful not to run to and fro, thinking of ourselves and allowing our school work, homework and fun times to demand all our time. Our first priority should be to seek the Lord early in prayer and Bible reading, committing our ways to Him so He can direct our path. David was a fine example to us as he regularly prayed and had a close relationship with the Lord.

Key Thought

Even though David had been given all authority as king, he still had to seek God's voice for direction.

Aim

To teach the children to pray for direction and have faith that all things are in God's control.

Memory Verse

“But as for me, I would seek God.” (Job 5:8).

Activity A - Drama

Materials

- 5 sheets of cardboard (crown, map, sign, and trumpets).
- Foil paper.
- Bright coloured material for robe and black material for armbands.
- Streamers etc.
- Rolled up newspaper (not too thick).

Steps

- Teacher, emphasise that God was with David because of his trust in God. God established David's kingdom.

Act 1 – At Hebron - Re-enact the crowning of David

- Prepare a cardboard crown covered with foil.
- Find some bright materials for robes.
- Players: King David; crowning party; musicians; crowd to clap and shout.

Act 2 – At Jerusalem - Mocking of David's army

- Prepare two groups: 1. King David's army, and 2. The blind and lame defenders of the Jebusite fortress.
- As David's army approach they are scorned by the blind and lame who line the fortress battlements.

Act 3 – At Jerusalem - Defeat of the Jebusites

- David selects a small band of mighty men who climb the water shaft and allow David's men access to the fortress. In the battle that follows (using thin rolls of newspaper) the Jebusites are soundly defeated.

Act 4 – At Jerusalem - Proclamation of The City of David

- David enters the city with a triumphal parade, singer, musicians, all singing and dancing and being very happy. A sign is prepared that declares it to be "the city of David."

Act 5 – At Jerusalem - Building David's house

- Workers arrive from Hiram and begin to build a house for David.

Activity B – Map and Shield

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Pens/pencils.
- Colouring pencils/felt pens.

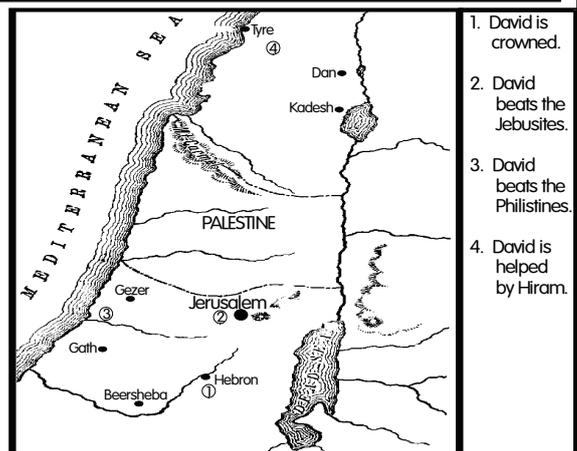
Steps

At Home

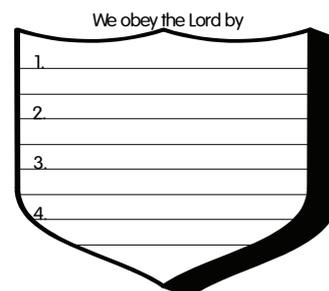
- Enlarge the map on the activity sheet and mount it on cardboard. Draw arrows in different colours to show areas of David's battles (as numbered).

In Class

- The children draw arrows on their Activity Sheets as per the cardboard map the teacher has prepared.
- Moving on to the shield, the idea is for the children to understand the comparison between David's obedience to God, and their own obedience. Ask the children to write on the shield the areas in their own lives that God is calling them to be obedient in, eg. praying, towards parents and authorities, etc.

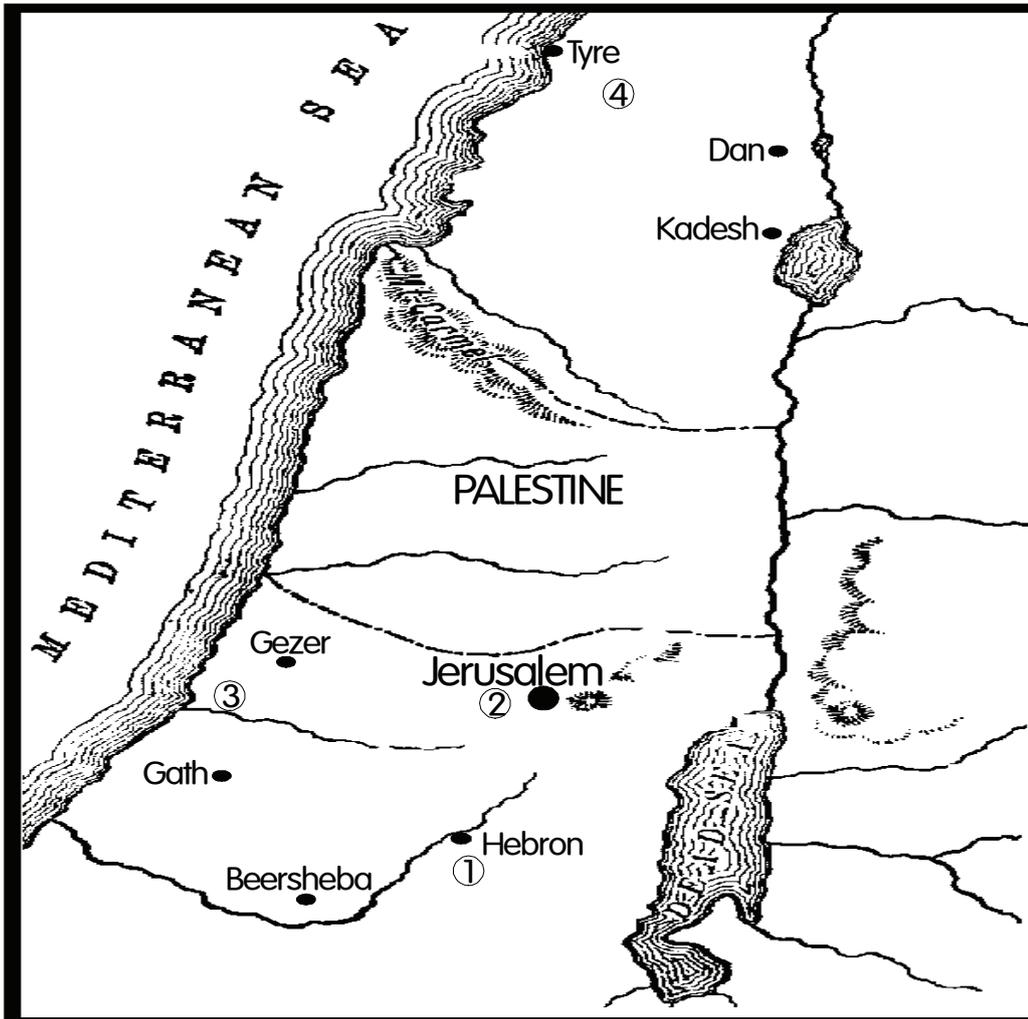


1. David is crowned.
2. David beats the Jebusites.
3. David beats the Philistines.
4. David is helped by Hiram.



David crowned

Activity B – Map and Shield



1. David is crowned.
2. David beats the Jebusites.
3. David beats the Philistines.
4. David is helped by Hiram.

We obey the Lord by



1.

2.

3.

4.



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David and the ark

I Chronicles 13,
15 & 16

Storyline

The ark had been away from the tabernacle of the Lord for about 50 years. David and the people of Israel wanted to bring the ark to Jerusalem. Only the sanctified Levites were allowed to carry the ark and no one was allowed to touch it. They carried the ark on a new cart driven by Uzza and Ahio who were not sanctified. Uzza took hold of the ark to steady it when the oxen stumbled and this cost him his life. David was angry and then afraid of the Lord and left the ark with Obed-Edom for three months. After this time the Levites were assembled, then sanctified and carried the ark themselves. David brought the ark to Jerusalem according to God's order. David had prepared a special tent in which to place the ark. David sang and danced with great joy and thanks to God. Michal, David's wife, despised him for it and was punished. From that time on, the priests ministered daily before the ark to worship God.

Suggested Teaching Approach

Discuss the concept of sanctification in terms the children can understand.

Relate the absence of sanctification to Uzza's death. In this situation disobedience is the issue, not unholiness. Put simply, no one was allowed to touch the ark.

Theme One

"Walk in God's ways"

David and his people thought that putting the ark on a cart with wheels, was a good idea, but God's way was for the Levites to carry it. How many of us set out to do something without first asking God, or seeing if it is the way God would have us do it? Do we follow the things our parents have taught us, as God has shown them? Or do we do things the way we think is best?

Key Thought

Whenever we do anything for God, we should make it our practice to discover how God wants us to do it.

Aim

For the children to know that awful things can happen if we do God's things our way, instead of His way.

Memory Verse

"Show me Your ways, O Lord; teach me Your paths." (Psalm 25:4).

Theme Two

"Give thanks to God"

David very much wanted the ark to be in Jerusalem, so that He could commune with God. He built a special tent for the ark. It gave David great joy when the ark eventually arrived. David danced with joy expressing what was in his heart, and was thankful when the ark came to Jerusalem. God wants us to be happy and enjoy each day. As we are thankful for what God has made and what He has done for us, it brings joy to our hearts.

Key Thought

If we really know God and appreciate what He has done, we shall be full of joy.

Aim

To show the children that real joy doesn't come from material things but from a relationship with God.

Memory Verse

"Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good!" (Psalm 107:1).

Activity A – Dance and Praise

Materials

- Taped music and tape recorder.

Steps

- Children stand in a straight line, side by side, hands on each other's shoulders. Moving left first – step left, together, left, kick right foot. Moving right - step right, together, right, kick left foot. Continue both ways.
- Join hands to form a circle. Moving clockwise – step right foot behind, step left, right foot in front, step. Continue action clockwise, then reverse anti-clockwise direction crossing left foot behind, step right, left foot in front, step. Continue movement.
- Variations: clapping. Praise: waving arms.

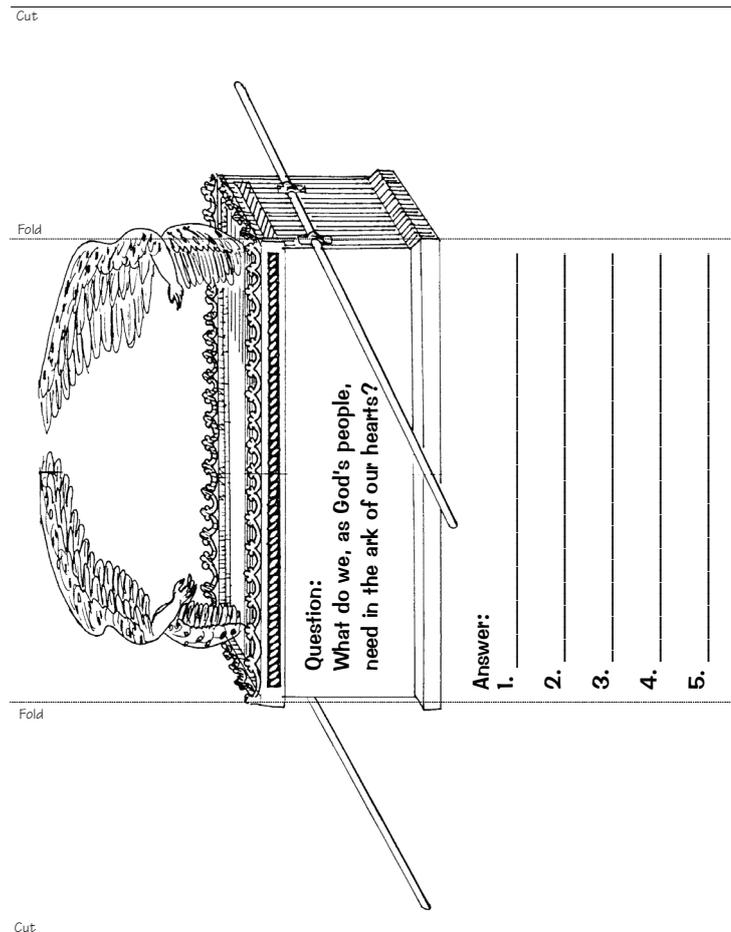
Activity B – Ark and Heart

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child, photocopied or mounted on cardboard.
- Crayons/felt pens.
- Glitter.

Steps

- Fold along the dotted lines so the sides fold in over the ark.
- Draw a half heart on each outside flap to make a complete heart when the card is closed. You now have a heart on the outside of the card and the ark on the inside.
- Write “ark” on one side of the heart and “heart” on the other side.
- Answer the question eg. joy, peace, thankfulness, etc.
- Colour the heart or paint with glue and sprinkle with glitter.

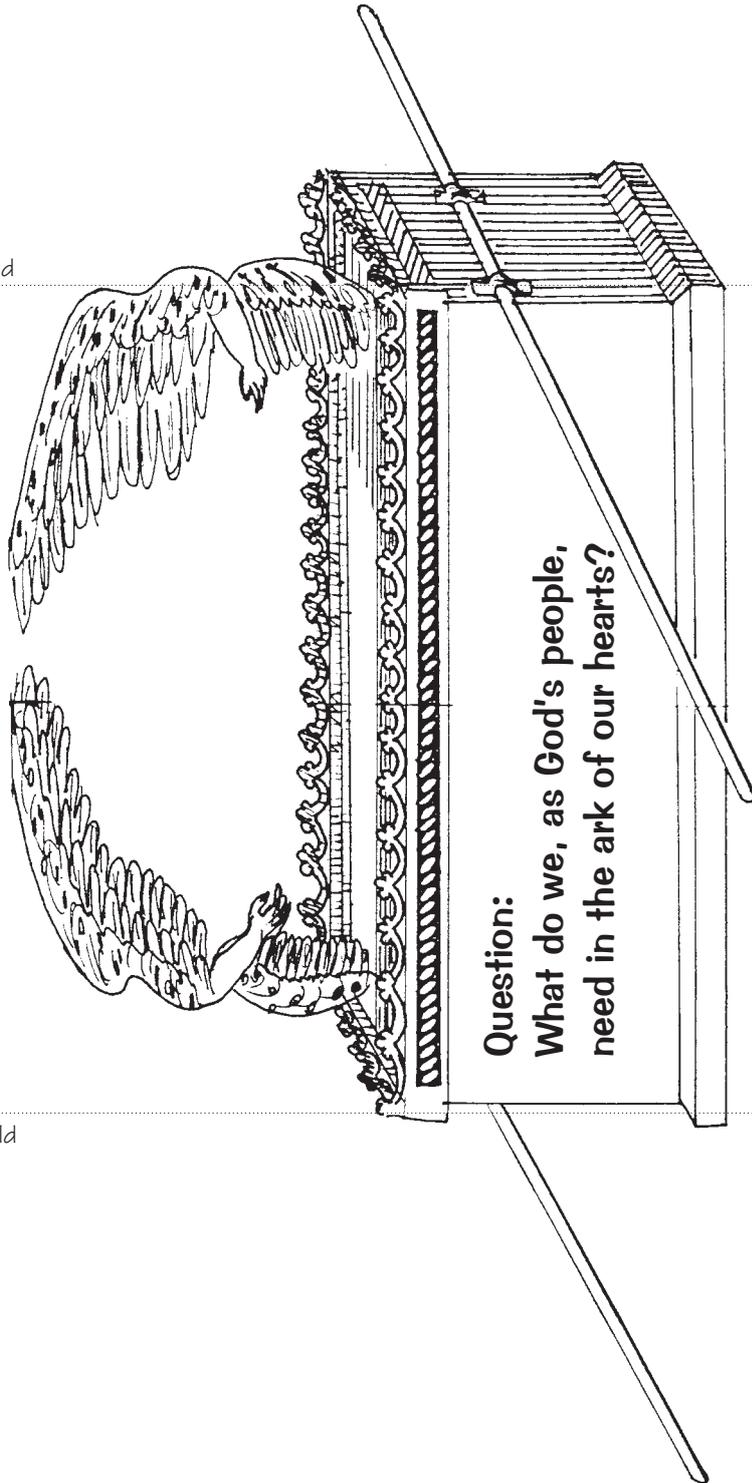


David and the ark

Activity B – Ark and Heart

Cut

Fold



Fold

Answer:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Cut

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Absalom

II Samuel 13 - 18

Storyline

Absalom, one of David's sons, hated his half-brother Amnon (who had misbehaved with Absalom's sister, Tamar) and instigated his death. Consequently, Absalom had to flee the kingdom. David's heart grieved for his son Absalom. Knowing this, Joab schemed to make David bring Absalom back. After two years, Absalom returned to his house in Jerusalem but did not see his father for another two years. David pardoned Absalom yet Absalom set about to entice the children of Israel with his desire to judge them fairly and found favour in their eyes. He established himself and tried to take over the kingdom. David gathered faithful men around him and fled from Jerusalem. David's servant, Hushai, was sent into Absalom's camp as a spy. Ahithophel had given Absalom advice to attack the king but Hushai advised Absalom against it and sent a message to David to flee. In the ensuing battle Absalom was caught in a tree by his hair. Joab killed him with three arrows. Even after Absalom's plotting to overthrow him, David still grieved for him.

Suggested Teaching Approach

Show the children that although David was a good king, he had sinned very seriously. When his children misbehaved in similar ways to himself, he failed to discipline them or deal with the matters. Had he dealt properly with Amnon's sin and Absalom's murder of Amnon, he would not have left the door open for Absalom's rebellion. Show the children that one sin leads to another. Let the children suggest examples of this, eg they do something mother said they were not to do and then they have to lie to cover up their sin.

Theme One

"Being who God made you to be"

Absalom wanted to be king, and found a way to achieve this, but this was not what God had chosen for him. This was evil in God's eyes and God brought disaster on him. We must learn to be happy with the person whom God has made us to be and where He has placed us in our family. This will please God and He will be our helper and not our enemy.

Key Thought

If you choose an evil way, as Absalom did, God will oppose you. Because He loves you, He gives you every chance to come back to Him.

Aim

To have the children understand that they can expect God to help them to be the persons He wants them to be. If they want to be something different, God will oppose them.

Memory Verse

"Before you were born I sanctified you." (Jeremiah 1:5).

Theme Two

"Forgiveness"

David loved Absalom despite his sin and eventually he was able to forgive him fully. Even though Absalom tried to turn the children of Israel against David, David still loved him even unto his death. We also have to love and forgive those who do wrong against us otherwise we allow ourselves to be bitter against them. This can happen with our parents, brothers and sisters or friends.

Key Thought

Even when friends or relatives are against us, we need to show an expression of love and forgiveness.

Aim

Encourage the children to forgive those who do wrong to them and to love the way that God loves.

Memory Verse

"Even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do." (Colossians 3:13).

Activity A – Find the Words

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Pens/pencils.
- Bibles.

Steps

- The children find the words in the word search square, then complete the sentences.

FIND THE HIDDEN WORDS IN THE GRAPH, USING THE WORDS IN THE LIST BELOW. ALSO FIND THE MISSING WORDS IN THE SENTENCES BELOW, FROM THE UNDERLINED WORDS IN THE SAME LIST.

R	S	A	P	C	N	O	J	F	E	J	I	H	A	I
V	B	Q	D	R	E	B	E	L	L	I	O	U	S	D
T	U	P	W	X	M	L	R	K	H	T	G	S	B	C
W	F	A	I	T	H	F	U	L	Y	R	Z	H	J	K
A	T	R	S	N	L	I	S	R	A	E	L	A	E	O
Z	D	D	M	Y	H	A	I	R	E	O	I	P	F	
U	V	O	O	S	W	E	L	R	R	Q	V	G	J	Z
B	C	N	M	D	X	J	E	F	O	G	E	H	M	A
L	A	B	S	A	L	O	M	W	W	I	F	L	A	E
O	M	N	K	V	Q	A	R	S	S	P	Y	B	S	E
U	N	M	P	I	T	B	O	W	W	C	X	F	S	E
S	O	N	V	D	E	A	T	H	A	L	F	D	A	G
Q	N	X	N	O	V	P	U	L	M	J	K	I	G	H
W	R	Y	S	T	H	R	E	E	T	H	A	T	E	D

Hushai advised Absalom against attacking David, and sent a message to David to flee Absalom. David's son, hated his half brother Amnon, and instigated his death . Joab killed Absalom with three arrows.

Jerusalem	arrows	<u> three </u>	love	Hushai
Israel	<u> Joab </u>	spy	faithful	<u> death </u>
<u> flee </u>	<u> David </u>	<u> hated </u>	<u> half </u>	<u> Absalom </u>
hair	Amnon	rebellious	pardon	son
	bow	tree	wisdom	<u> message </u>

Activity B – Picture Puzzle

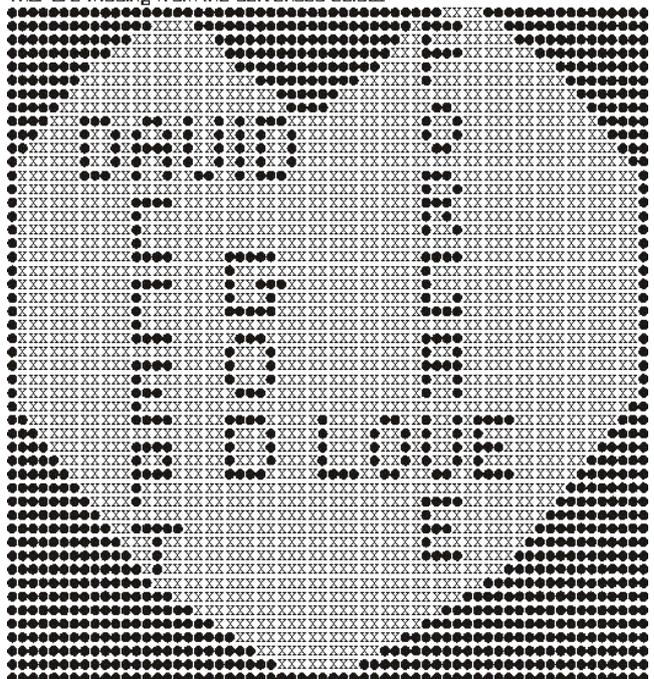
Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Black biros or felt pens.

Steps

- Children colour in all the O's in the picture, then from the words in the heart, fill in the gaps in the sentences at the bottom of the page.

Our computer has had a tantrum and would not finish our picture for us. See if you can fill in all the dots in the heart black to discover the words that are missing from the sentences below.



David chose to accept Absalom, and in his heart he forgave him. We should love one another in our HEART the same way David loved Absalom, and God loves us.

Absalom

Activity A – Find the Words

FIND THE HIDDEN WORDS IN THE GRAPH, USING THE WORDS IN THE LIST BELOW. ALSO FIND THE MISSING WORDS IN THE SENTENCES BELOW, FROM THE UNDERLINED WORDS IN THE SAME LIST.

R	S	A	P	C	N	O	J	F	E	J	I	H	A	I
V	B	Q	D	R	E	B	E	L	L	I	O	U	S	D
T	U	P	W	X	M	L	R	K	H	T	G	S	B	C
W	F	A	I	T	H	F	U	L	Y	R	Z	H	J	K
A	T	R	S	N	L	I	S	R	A	E	L	A	E	O
Z	D	D	D	M	Y	H	A	I	R	E	O	I	P	F
U	V	O	O	S	W	E	L	R	R	Q	V	G	H	Z
B	C	N	M	D	X	J	E	F	O	G	E	H	M	A
L	A	B	S	A	L	O	M	W	W	I	F	L	E	E
O	M	N	K	V	Q	A	R	S	S	P	Y	B	S	V
U	N	M	P	I	T	B	O	W	W	C	X	F	S	E
S	O	N	V	D	E	A	T	H	A	L	F	D	A	G
Q	N	X	N	O	V	P	U	L	M	J	K	I	G	H
W	R	Y	S	T	H	R	E	E	T	H	A	T	E	D

_____ advised Absalom against attacking _____, and sent a _____ to David to _____.

David's son, _____ his _____ brother Amnon, and instigated his _____.

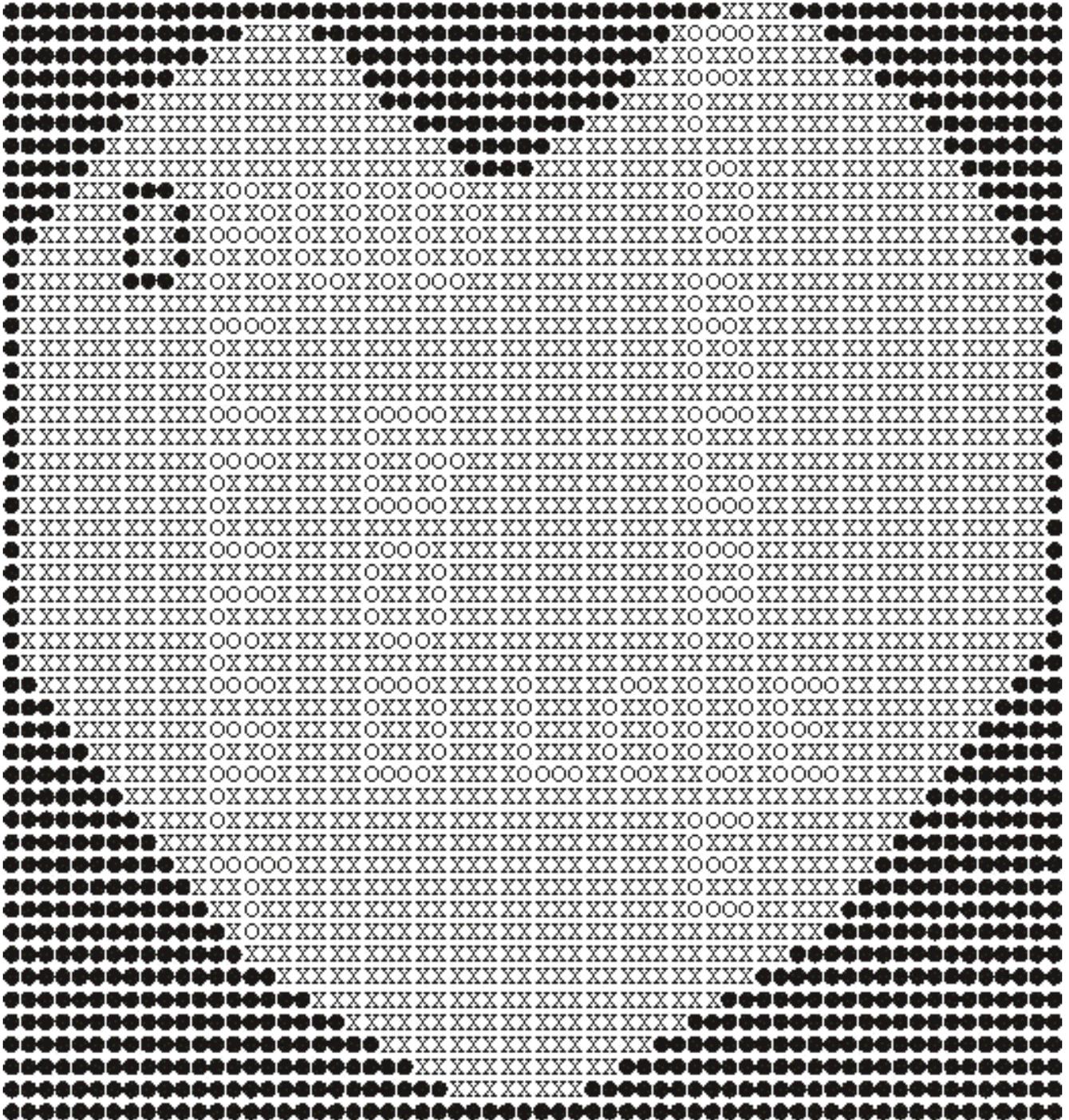
_____ killed Absalom with _____ arrows.

Jerusalem	arrows	<u>three</u>	love	<u>Hushai</u>
Israel	<u>Joab</u>	spy	faithful	<u>death</u>
<u>flee</u>	<u>David</u>	<u>hated</u>	<u>half</u>	<u>Absalom</u>
hair	Amnon	rebellious	pardon	son
	bow	tree	wisdom	<u>message</u>

Absalom

Activity B – Picture Puzzle

Our computer has had a tantrum and would not finish our picture for us. See if you can fill in all the dots in the heart black to discover the words that are missing from the sentences below.



_____ chose to _____ Absalom, and in his heart
he _____ him. We should _____ one another in our
HEART the same way David loved Absalom, and _____ loves us.

Solomon becomes king

I Kings 3 & 4

Storyline

After David's death, his son, Solomon, was established as king over all of Israel. Because of Solomon's great desire to lead and care for God's people, God also imparted great wisdom, honour and wealth to him, providing he continued to serve the Lord. The people were amazed at Solomon's wisdom in deciding which of the two women was the true mother of a baby boy. King Solomon ordered that the living baby be cut in half and given to each. One woman agreed while the true mother cried out to spare his life. Justice had been proven! His kingdom was well organised and there was peace during his reign of 40 years.

Suggested Teaching Approach

Discuss some current issues – either global or personal and then look at the situations from God's perspective!

Look more at Solomon's life and how God imparted wisdom like no other human being had ever experienced, eg he had great insight into botany. This information formed the basis for much learning and understanding to this day.

Theme One

“Seek God's wisdom”

Not all difficulties are easy to solve but as they are committed to the Lord, He brings the answer in His own time and way. Solomon had sought the Lord for a discerning heart and was able to reveal the truth in the example of the two women with the baby. We must not depend on our own wisdom or on the wisdom of this world's great people. Like Solomon, we need to ask God for a wise heart.

Key Thought

The need to look to God for every situation and understand we are truly dependent upon His wisdom.

Aim

To encourage the children to ask God for wisdom in every situation they face.

Memory Verse

“If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God.” (James 1:5).

Theme Two

“Serve God and His people”

Of all that Solomon could have asked God for, he chose to ask for that which would benefit God's people most. The result was great blessing, both for Solomon personally and for the Lord's people. Similarly, as we choose to make the service of the Lord and His people the top priority of our lives, we experience rich blessing from the Lord, and become ourselves a blessing to others.

Key Thought

The Lord wants us to make serving Him and His people, the goal of our lives.

Aim

For the children to be encouraged as they think of their futures, to focus their life's direction on serving the Lord and His people.

Memory Verse

“Serve the Lord with gladness.” (Psalm 100:2).

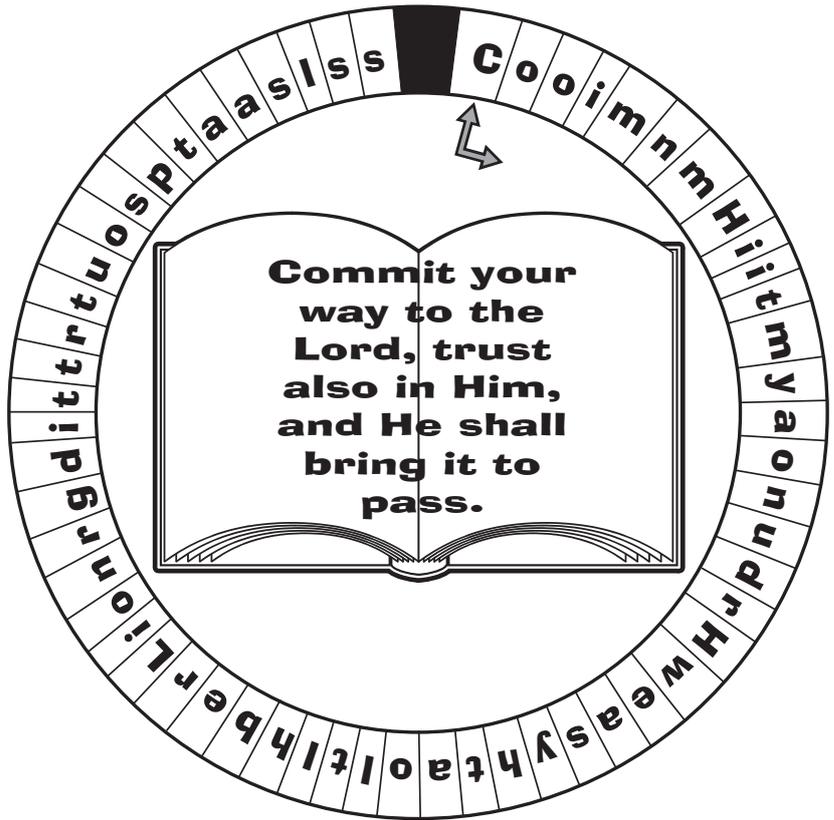
Activity A – Coded Circle

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Pens/pencils.

Steps

- Starting at the letter 'C' and going around the circle twice, the children write every 2nd letter in the spaces provided in the centre of the circle to discover the verse.



Activity B – Jumbled Words

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Pens/pencils.

Steps

- The children unjumble the words from the top squares and write them in the corresponding places in the bottom squares.

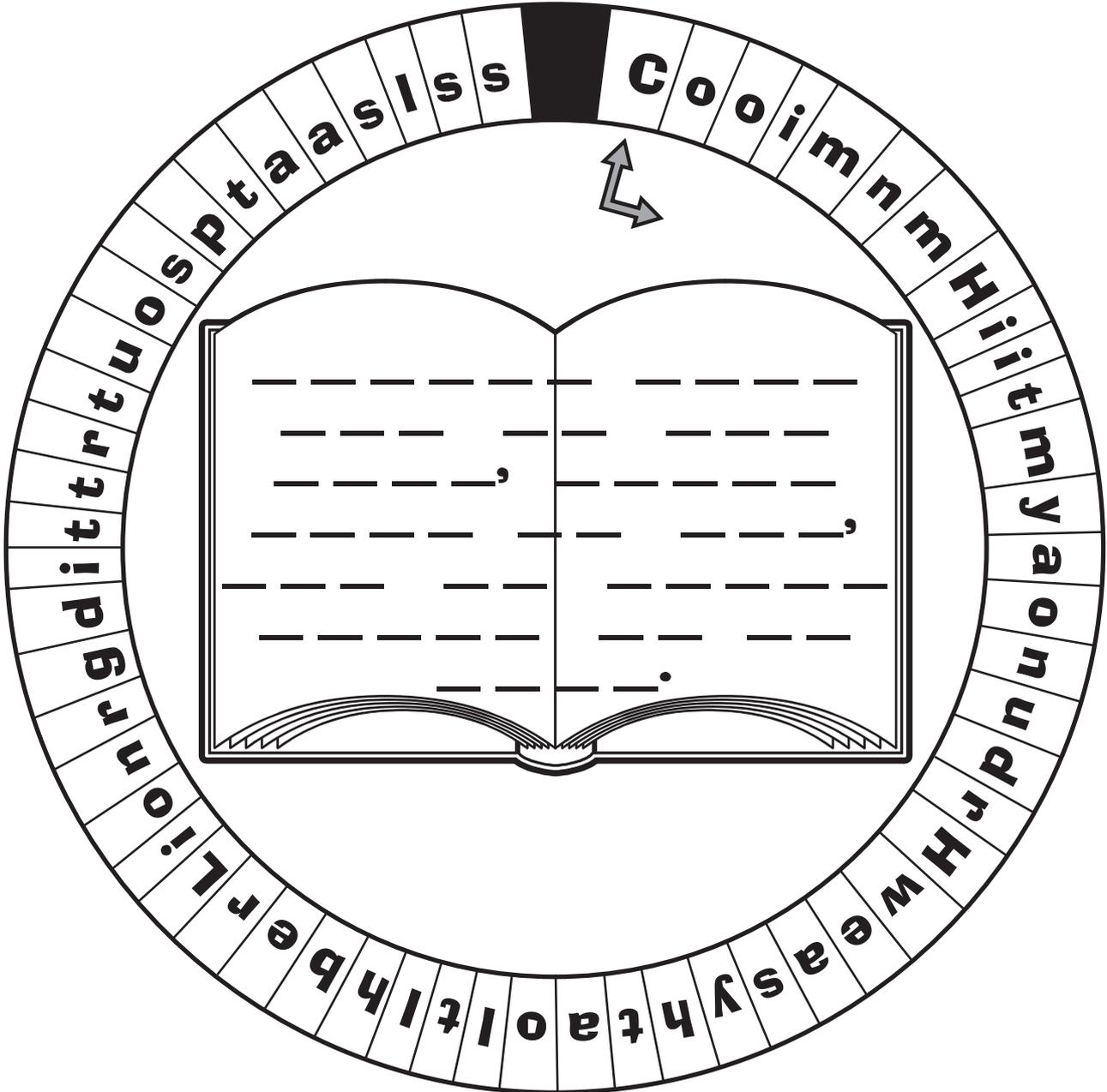
T	U	B		K	E	S	E		I	R	F	T	S		H	E	T
D	M	O	N	I	G	K		F	O		D	G	O		D	A	N
S	I	H		I	R	H	T	G	O	U	E	N	E	S	S		S
N	A	D		L	A	L		H	T	S	E	E					
H	T	I	G	N	S		H	A	S	L	L				E	B	
D	A	D	E	D		O	T		Y	O	O						

*Jesus has a special message for us.
 To find out what it is, unjumble each
 group of letters from the squares above
 and write the correct word in the
 corresponding squares below.*

B	U	T		S	E	E	K		F	I	R	S	T		T	H	E
K	I	N	G	D	O	M		O	F		G	O	D		A	N	D
H	I	S		R	I	G	H	T	E	O	U	S	N	E	S	S	
A	N	D		A	L	L		T	H	E	S	E					
T	H	I	N	G	S		S	H	A	L	L				B	E	
A	D	D	E	D		T	O		Y	O	O						

Solomon becomes king

Activity A – Coded Circle



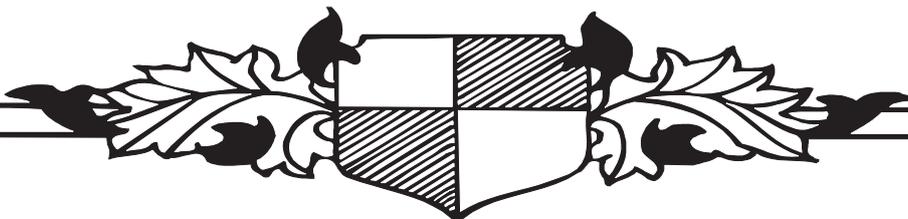
Skip every other letter in two trips around the circle. Print the letters on the blanks inside the circle.

Solomon becomes king

Activity B – Jumbled Words

T	U	B		K	E	S	E		I	R	F	T	S		H	E	T
D	M	O	N	I	G	K		F	O		D	G	O		D	A	N
S	I	H		I	R	H	T	G	O	U	E	N	E	S	S	S	
N	A	D		L	A	L		H	T	S	E						
H	T	I	G	N	S		H	A	S	L	L		E	B			
D	A	D	E	D		O	T		Y	U	O						

Jesus has a special message for us.
 To find out what it is, unjumble each
 group of letters from the squares above
 and write the correct word in the
 corresponding squares below.



Solomon's temple

I Kings 5 & 6

Storyline

Solomon found great favour with surrounding nations and was given endless supply of timber and precious items to be able to build a temple for the Lord. In the fourth year of his reign, Solomon began building God's temple. He organised the materials of the finest timber and stone. All the materials were prepared away from the building site. No hammer or axe was used at the site of the temple. The Lord promised that if they walked in His ways that He would dwell with them. If they turned from the way of the Lord, He would not dwell in the house and it would be only a building. Solomon overlaid the whole house, carvings and cherubim with gold. The total structure took seven and a half years to build.

Suggested Teaching Approach

Discuss with the children how a house is built with the noise of power saws and hammering. Then show how God is building His house. His house is not a house made of bricks and timber, like ours. His house is made up of people who love and trust Him. He does not use iron tools, but His word. Show that, in the same way Solomon built the temple without the sound of tools, so God is building His temple, His church quietly.

Theme One

"You are the temple of God"

When we think of Solomon's workmen quarrying the stones, shaping them, and fitting them together, we have a picture of how God is building His temple, His church. He calls His people living stones. This world is like a huge quarry. He takes a stone here and a stone there from the quarry. Then He uses circumstances and His discipline to shape them the way He wants them to be. He fits them together to become His temple.

Key Thought

Although we are each individuals, God is preparing us to fit together with all those who love and trust Him, so that together we can be one temple for Him.

Aim

To encourage the children to understand that when they give their life to the Lord that they are giving Him the right to start to prepare them to take their place in the church, God's temple.

Memory Verse

"For you are the temple of the living God." (2 Corinthians 6:16).

Theme Two

"God dwells in His temple"

Solomon had built the temple according to the plans God had given to him. It was a magnificent and beautiful structure. When it was complete, the glory of the Lord filled the temple. But God warned Solomon that if the people did not walk in His ways, He would forsake the temple. Both Isaiah and Stephen tell us that God does not dwell in temples made with hands. But God does dwell in His temple, the church and He dwells in those who belong to Him.

Key Thought

God indwells His people individually. He also lives in His people as His temple, His house.

Aim

To teach the children that if we love the Lord and obey Him, He promises to dwell in us.

Memory Verse

"You also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit." (Ephesians 2:22).

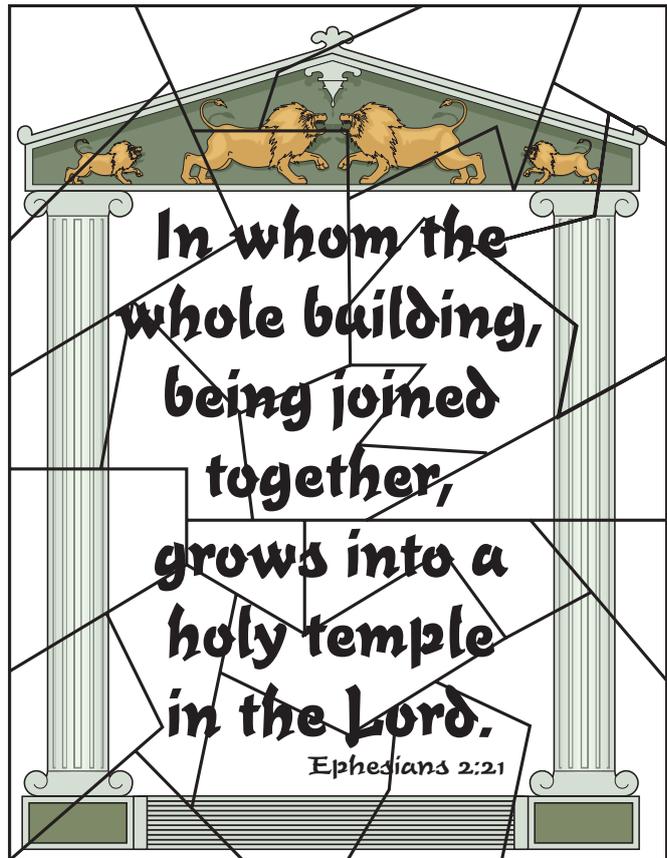
Activity A – Jig Saw Puzzle

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- 1 A4 size sheet of cardboard per child.
- Scissors.
- Glue.

Steps

- The children cut out the jig saw and assemble and glue the pieces in the right order onto the cardboard.



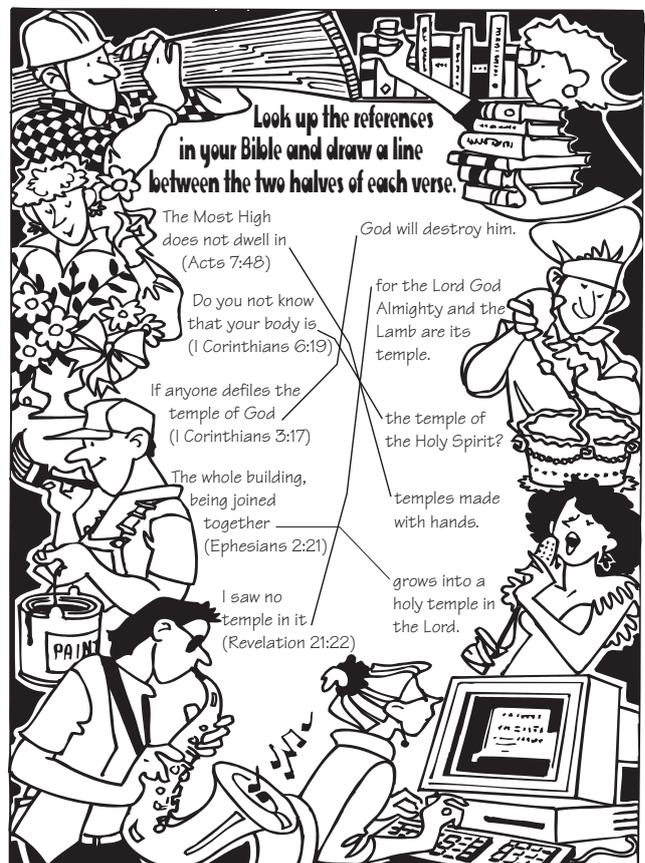
Activity B – Match the Words

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Bible.
- Pens/pencils.

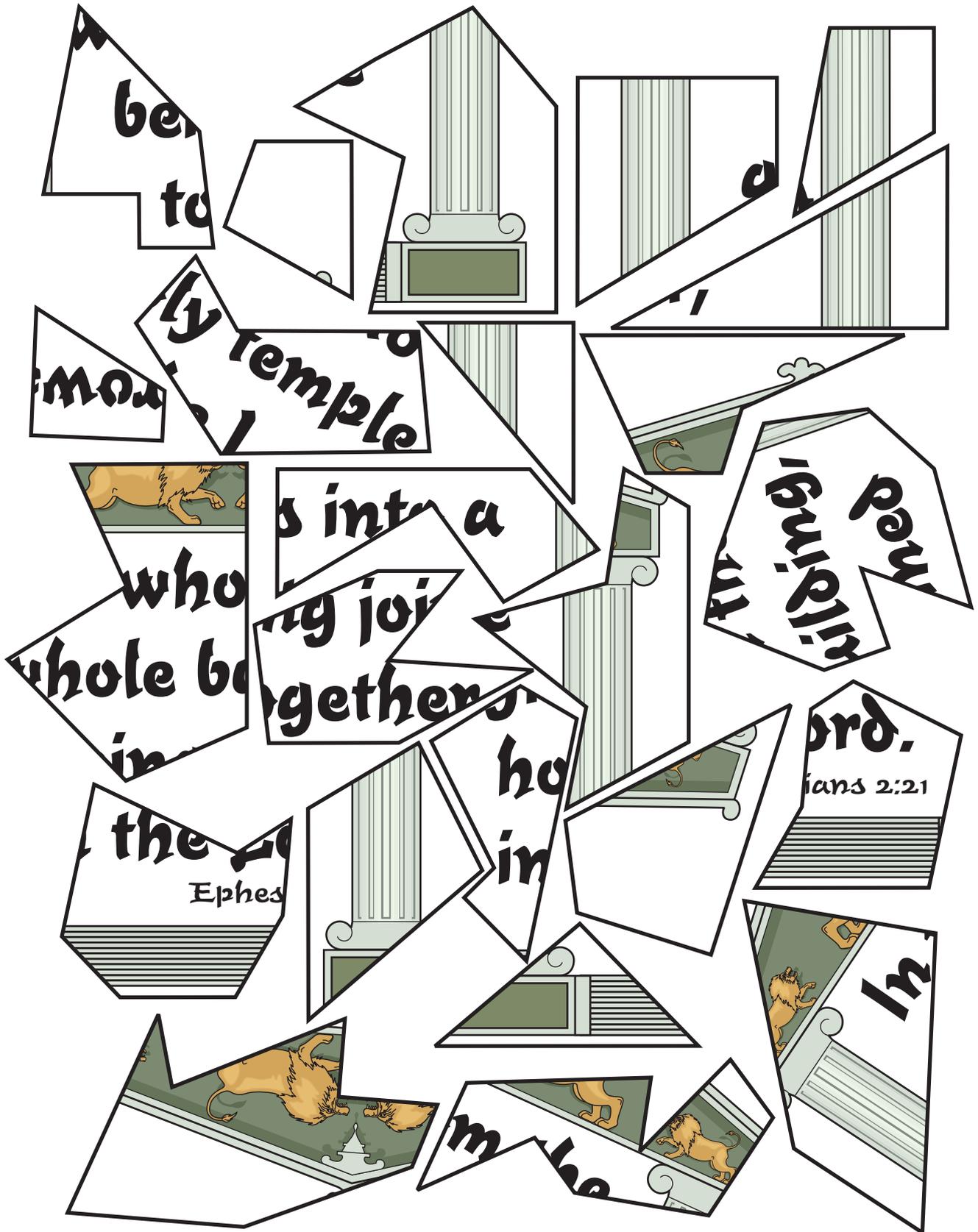
Steps

- The children look up the Bible references and draw a line between the appropriate two halves of each verse.



Solomon's temple

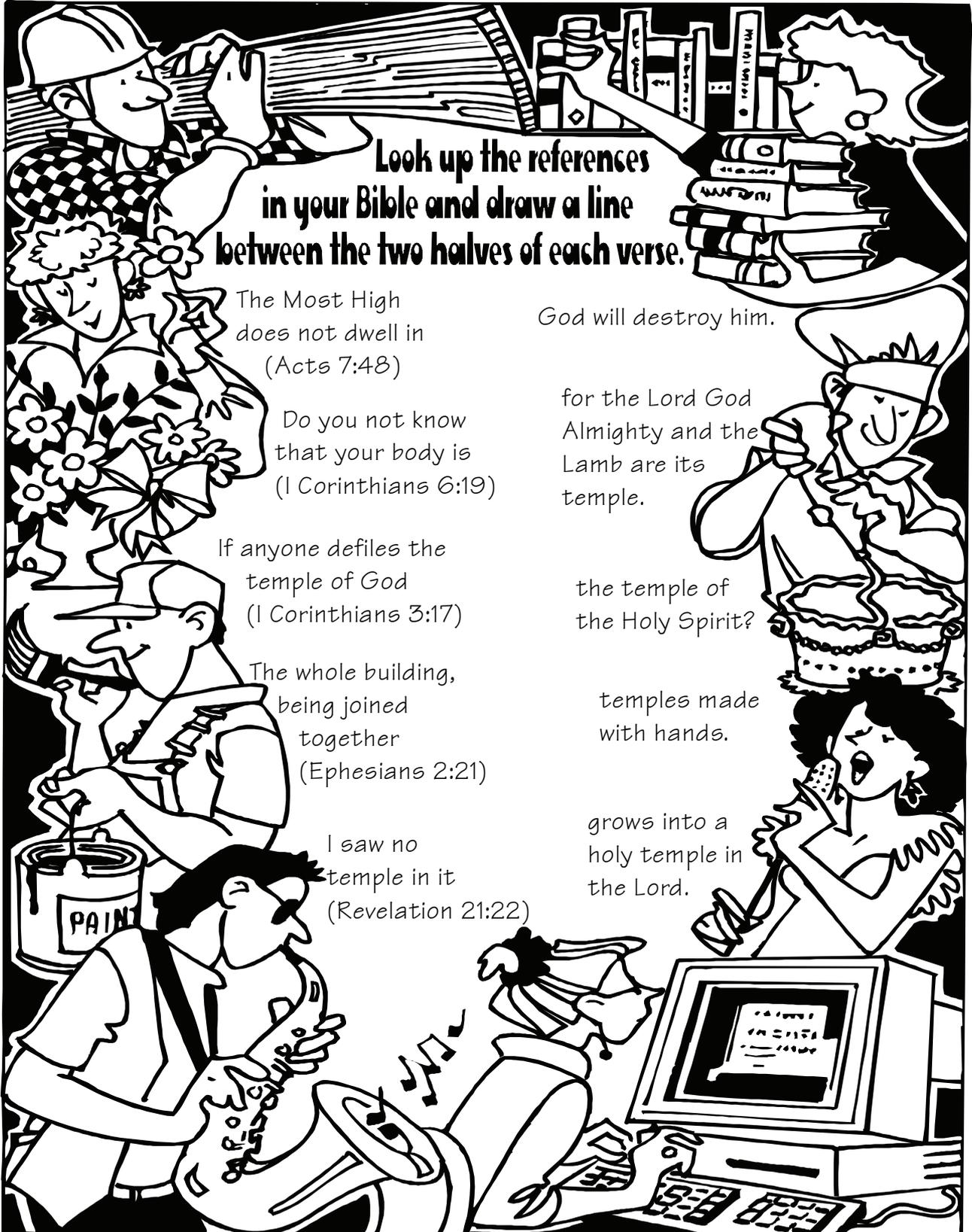
Activity A – Jig Saw Puzzle



Solomon's temple

Activity B – Match the Words

THE TEMPLE OF GOD



**Look up the references
in your Bible and draw a line
between the two halves of each verse.**

The Most High
does not dwell in
(Acts 7:48)

Do you not know
that your body is
(1 Corinthians 6:19)

If anyone defiles the
temple of God
(1 Corinthians 3:17)

The whole building,
being joined
together
(Ephesians 2:21)

I saw no
temple in it
(Revelation 21:22)

God will destroy him.

for the Lord God
Almighty and the
Lamb are its
temple.

the temple of
the Holy Spirit?

temples made
with hands.

grows into a
holy temple in
the Lord.

Israel divided, Rehoboam and Jeroboam

I Kings 12 - 14

Storyline

After ruling Israel for 40 years, King Solomon died. His son, Rehoboam, became king. Rehoboam cared little for God's people and chose to abuse his authority, so most of Israel rejected him and he ended up with only the tribe of Judah and Benjamin. Jeroboam became king of Israel, the other ten tribes. Jeroboam was afraid the people would go to the temple to worship and return to Rehoboam, so he erected idols in Dan, in the north, and Bethel, in the south. One day, a prophet from Judah warned Jeroboam, who was offering incense, of God's judgment. Jeroboam stretched out his hand and said, 'Arrest him!' His hand withered and the altar was split apart. When the prophet prayed, the king's hand was healed. The king invited the prophet to his house for refreshments, but he refused because God had told him not to eat or drink in that place. An old prophet invited the prophet to his house, saying God had told him to do this. The old prophet was lying and when the prophet left the house, he was killed by a lion. When Jeroboam's son became ill, he sought advice of God's prophet, but all he received was judgement and the death of his son. Jeroboam ruled over Israel for 22 years, then he died. Rehoboam, like Jeroboam, set up idols and provoked God against him. Egypt invaded and took all the treasures of the Lord and of the king's house and the gold shields which Solomon had made. Rehoboam and Jeroboam were at war all of their days. Rehoboam reigned 17 years. He, too, died in unrighteousness.

Suggested Teaching Approach

Generally go through all the details of chapters 12, 13, and 14. Go back to chapter 13 and tell the story using Activity B, having the characters move about the sand tray as the story proceeds. Using Theme 2, try to emphasise to the children the need to develop a close relationship with the Lord, and know His will and His voice.

Theme One

"Obedience"

The Lord will not accept or bless alternative courses of action that we offer as substitutes for obedience to His will. King Jeroboam (of the northern kingdom) did not obey the Lord, but set up his own system of worship. The southern kingdom also turned away from the Lord. People of both kingdoms were eventually taken into captivity. Some later returned to the land, but the kingdom was not restored. We must not presume on the mercy of the Lord, but remain obedient.

Key Thought

God requires simple obedience from us. This obedience leads to eternal life, but disobedience eventually leads to separation from God.

Aim

To help the children realise that God requires a heart set on obedience to His will, and not on alternatives which we consider more suitable.

Memory Verse

"Obey My voice, and I will be your God." (Jeremiah 7:23).

Theme Two

"Knowing the voice of the Lord"

The prophet, the man of God, heard from God and obeyed God. He took an unpopular message to Jeroboam. When God's judgment fell on Jeroboam, he prayed to God for the king's healing. He refused the king's invitation to return home for refreshments, because God had told him not to go. Yet, when the old prophet invited him home, he listened to him and disobeyed God. We must always make sure we are hearing from God and are not deceived by what other Christians may say.

Key Thought

It is important to know the voice of the Lord so we won't be led astray.

Aim

For the children to be training themselves to hear the Lord's voice through their relationship in the body and their family.

Memory Verse

"My sheep hear My voice, and I know them." (John 10:27).

Activity A – Bible Search

Materials

- 1 of each Activity Sheet per child.
- Bibles.
- Pens/pencils.
- Scissors/glue.

Steps

- The children cut out the map of Israel along the dotted lines, and glue each half to the appropriate section on the first Activity Sheet.
- They can then answer the questions on the side of the Activity Sheet.
- There is a symbol beside each of the first three questions, which they can re-draw onto the map at the place that relates to the question.

Kingdom of Israel

Kingdom of Judah

Look up your Bibles to find the answers to these questions:

1. Where did Jeroboam build his house? (1 Kings 12:25) **SHECHEM**
2. Where did Jeroboam set up the golden calves? (1 Kings 12:29) **BETHEL AND DAN**
3. What city did Rehoboam reign from for 17 years? (1 Kings 14:21) **JERUSALEM**

Draw the symbols from the questions in the right place on the map.

The words below are back to front, start at the end of the word and your answers will show the reasons Israel divided into two kingdoms.

SSENLUFNIS
SINFULNESS

SSENLUFHTAFNU
UNFAITHFULNESS

ESNEIBEROBID
DISOBEDIENCE

Activity B – Colour-In or Sand Tray

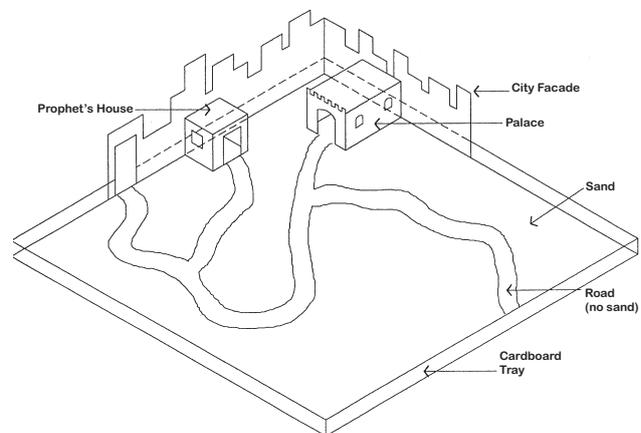
Note

- The Activity Sheet provided can be used solely as a colour-in, or to make up as a sand tray scene for the prophet and man of God (Ch 13) using the characters on the sheet as cut-out characters to move about the sand tray.
- The houses and palace can be small boxes with doorways cut, or use the facade from the colour-in sheet and back it with card.
- The city in the background can be constructed to look like the colour-in, using box cardboard and stapled onto the rim of the sand tray.
- The sand tray can be used as a teaching aid by using paper clips and a magnet and moving the characters to tell the story, or just as a colour-in and construction activity.

Materials

If just colouring in:

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Colouring pencils/crayons.
- If making a sand tray scene:
- 1 Activity Sheet per child (for the children to make their own set at home).
- 1 cardboard grocery box about 18” square in the base (box needs to have double layer construction).
- Large paper clips, sand in a shaker.
- Glue, scissors.
- Thick felt pen (for drawing in roads).
- Medium strength magnet.
- Colouring pencils/crayons.



Steps

- Cut the base from the grocery box, leaving about 5 cm sides all round.
- Use the rest of the box as backing for the city shape, prophet's house, palace, donkeys, lion, king, prophet and man of God.
- Set up the base as per the diagram.
- Put glue on all the areas spare and sprinkle on sand – empty off excess (no sand on roads).
- Use paper clips to mobilise the characters. Bend the centre part of a paper clip upwards, and push it into the base of each character, so forming a small stand to allow them to stand upright. Use the magnet underneath the box to move each character.

Israel divided, Rehoboam and Jeroboam

Activity A – Bible Search – Sheet 1

Kingdom of Israel

Look up your Bibles to find the answers to these questions:

1. Where did Jeroboam build his house?
(1 Kings 12:25)



2. Where did Jeroboam set up the golden calves?
(1 Kings 12:29)



3. What city did Rehoboam reign from for 17 years?
(1 Kings 14:21)



Kingdom of Judah

Draw the symbols from the questions in the right place on the map.

The words below are back to front, start at the end of the word and your answers will show the reasons Israel divided into two kingdoms.

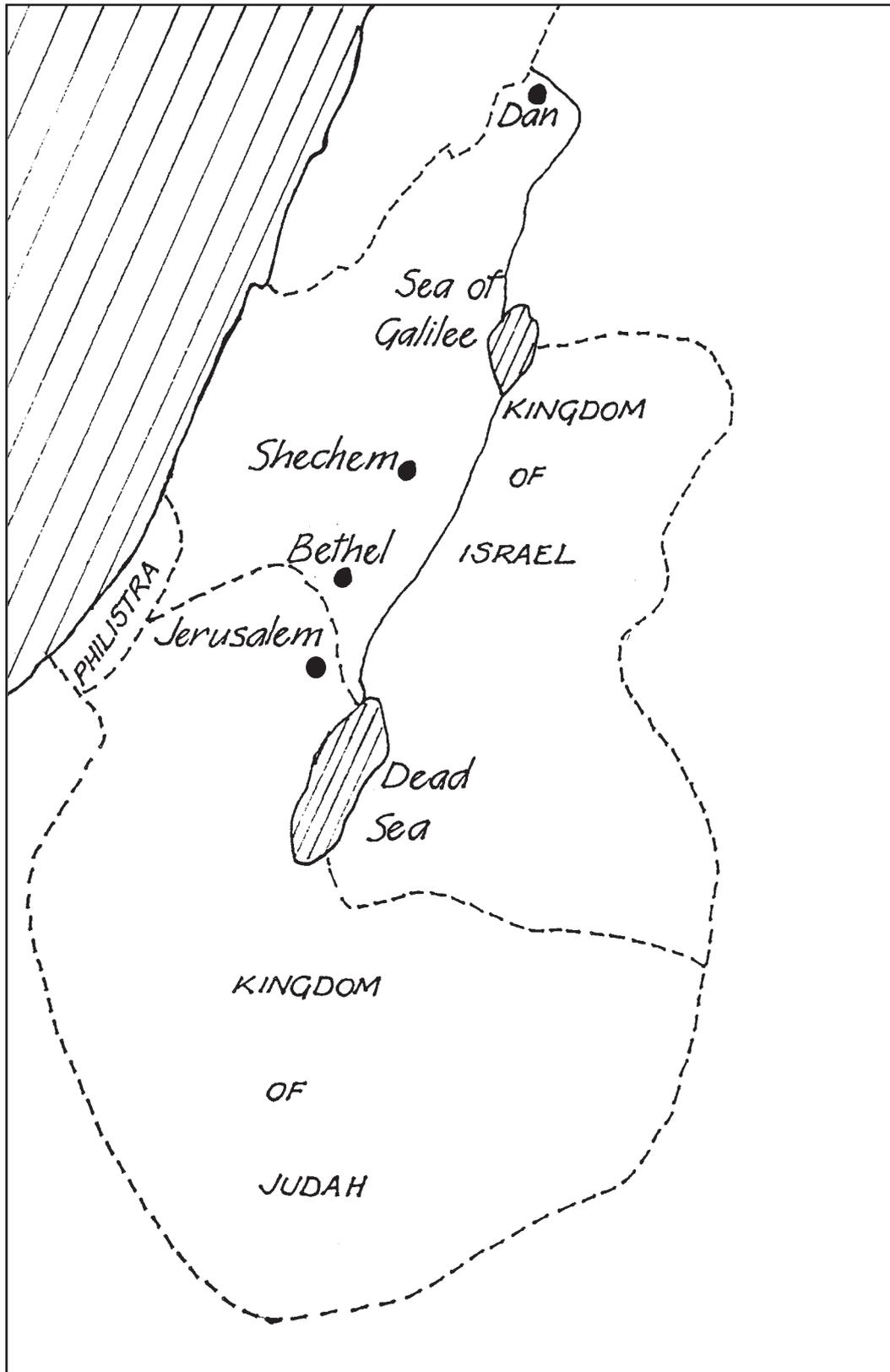
SSENLUFNIS

SSENLUFHTIAFNU

ECNEIBEBOSID

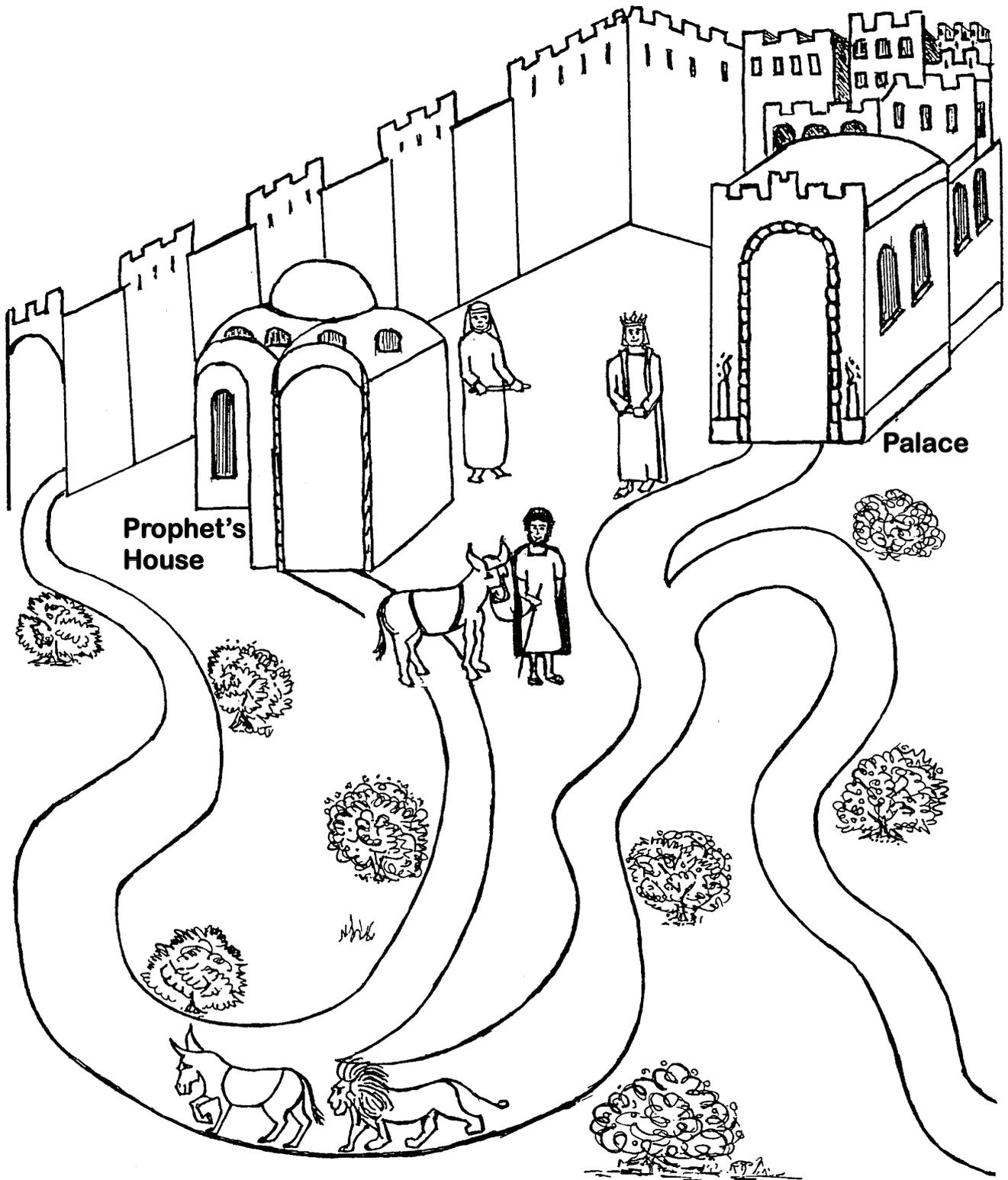
Israel divided, Rehoboam and Jeroboam

Activity A – Bible Search – Sheet 2



Israel divided, Rehoboam and Jeroboam

Activity B – Colour-In or Sand Tray



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Elijah and the widow

I Kings 17

Storyline

As judgement against King Ahab, God had stopped the rain for three years. Although this also threatened Elijah's life, he trusted in God. God sent him to the Brook Cherith which provided his water, and ravens brought him bread and meat both morning and evening. When the brook dried up, God directed him again, to a widow with a son and practically no food - just a little oil and a little flour. However, God then provided for all three, for as the widow obeyed God's word, the oil and the flour did not cease during the drought. The widow's son became sick, until he had no breath in him. The widow feared it was God's judgement upon her at the hand of Elijah, but Elijah took the boy up to his room and prayed to the Lord, and the Lord revived the boy's life. When the widow received her son back, she truly believed Elijah was a man of God.

Suggested Teaching Approach

1. Having done an overview of chapter 17, go back to Elijah and the Brook Cherith – expand the story particularly highlighting Theme 1.
2. Children can then each make the origami raven (Activity A).
3. The teacher can provide chunks of bread for the ravens to carry.

Theme One

“God will provide”

God provided for Elijah by sending the ravens and later through the widow. He raised the widow's son to life. He is still working in amazing ways today. If God calls on us to do something special for Him and we do not have what is needed to do this, He will use others to provide those things, so that we can do His will.

Key Thought

Whatever our situation, God wants us to do His will. As we do it, He will help and provide for us.

Aim

To help the children to be confident in knowing that God will give them everything they need in order to obey Him.

Memory Verse

“Trust in the Lord, and do good.” (Psalm 37:3).

Theme Two

“Willing to give”

We do not have to be important and we do not have to have lots of money and possessions. All God requires of us is that we be prepared to give from what we have. The widow was not rich and she was not important with lots of possessions and lots of food. All she had was some flour and oil. She was willing to give all she had so God blessed her and provided for her.

Key Thought

Sometimes God asks us to give to others, more than we can really afford, which involves our trusting Him to provide for our own needs.

Aim

To teach the children that God loves a cheerful giver.

Memory Verse

“Let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity.” (2 Corinthians 9:7).

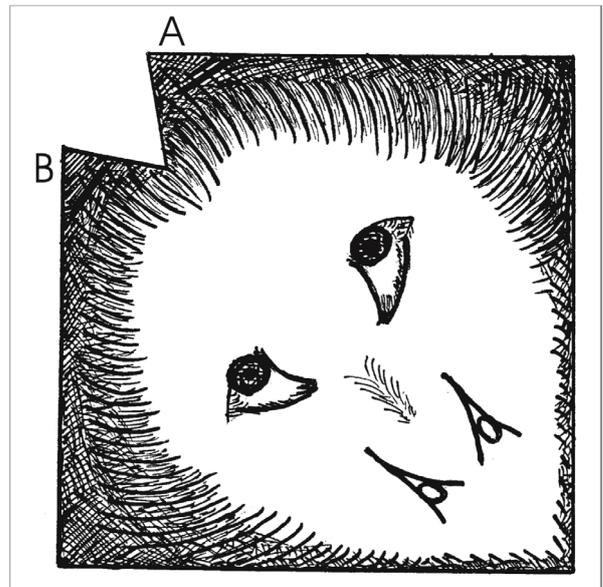
Activity A - Raven

Materials

- 1 'raven head' from the Activity Sheet per child.
- 1 piece of square paper (210 x 210 mm) per child.
- Scissors.
- Glue.
- Sticky tape.
- Stapler and staples.

Steps

- Fold paper in half diagonally, top left corner to bottom right corner. Unfold. Repeat, folding bottom right corner to top left corner. Unfold. With paper flat, fold all corners in to the centre point.
- Now turn the smaller square over, and once again fold all corners into the centre point.
- Crease the square yet again, by folding it in halves (side to side, not corner to corner), first one way, then the other.
- On the side where there are four squares, (as opposed to four triangles), slide fingers under the single folds and push all four corners up towards each other, achieving a three dimensional result. You will notice now, by using your thumb and three fingers you can open this shape, up and down and side to side. Using a small piece of sticky tape, tape the two top sections together, then tape the two bottom sections together, so that it will only open up and down, as a beak does.
- Round the corner of the bottom section, by cutting off the corners.
- Cut out the 'raven head' and stick it to the flat surface of the top section.
- Pull 'A' and 'B' together and staple, to produce a rounded finish to the raven's head.



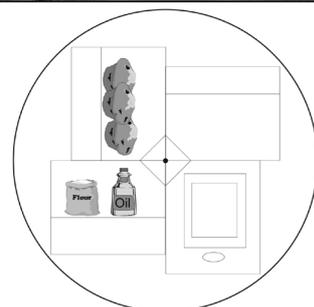
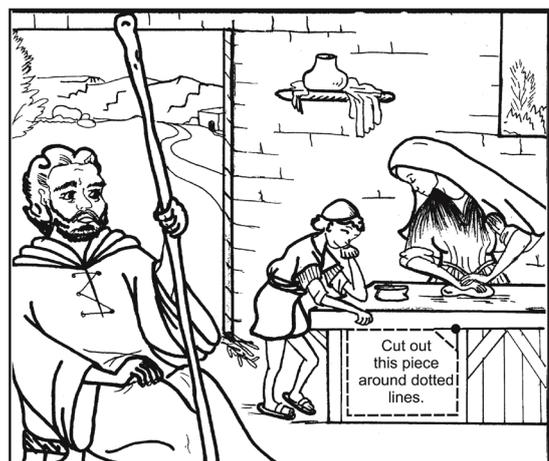
Activity B – Scene with Revolving Wheel

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child, photocopied or mounted on cardboard.
- Scissors.
- Colouring pencils.
- 1 split pin per child.
- A skewer.

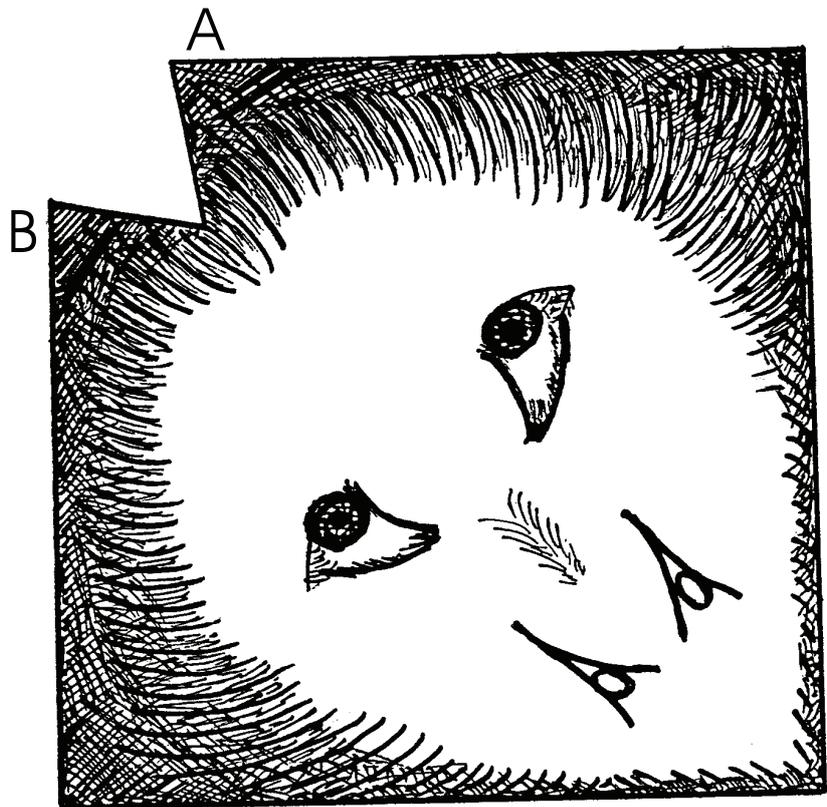
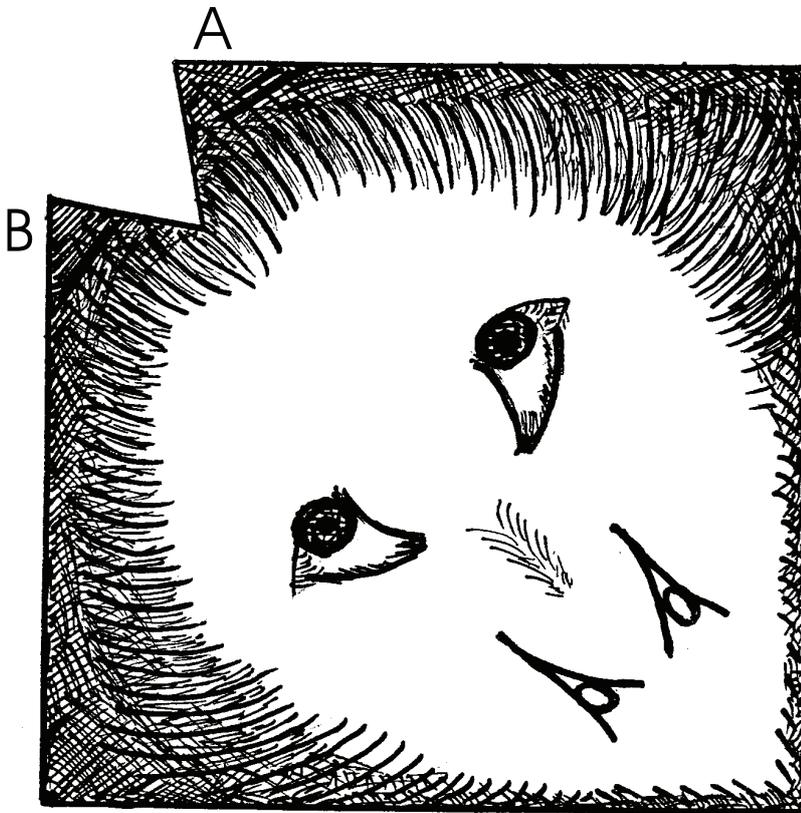
Steps

- Colour the scene and the four pictures on the wheel.
- Cut out the main scene, the wheel, and the panel from the work table.
- Make a hole with a skewer through the black circle near the cut out section of the work table, and in the centre of the wheel.
- Push the split pin through the hole in the picture, then through the hole in the centre of the wheel. Open the split pin at the back.
- The wheel now revolves behind the picture, showing the four parts of the lesson.



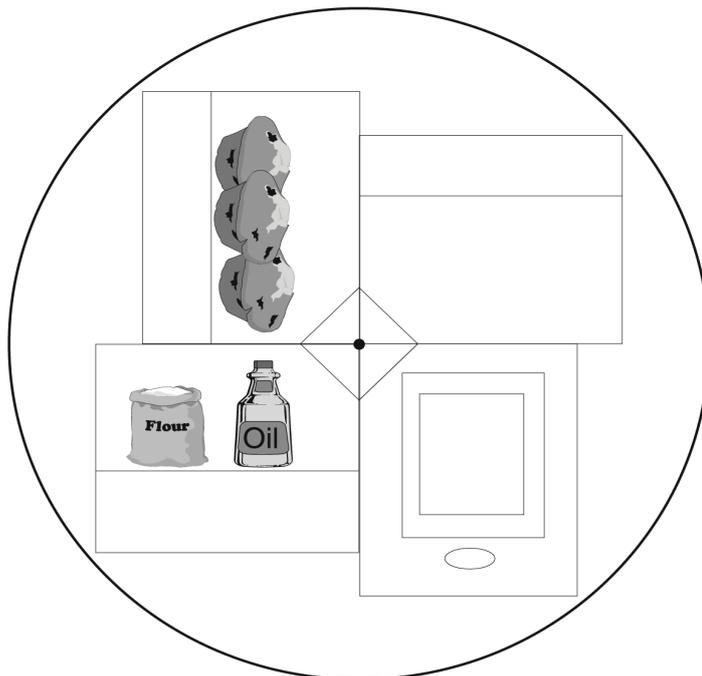
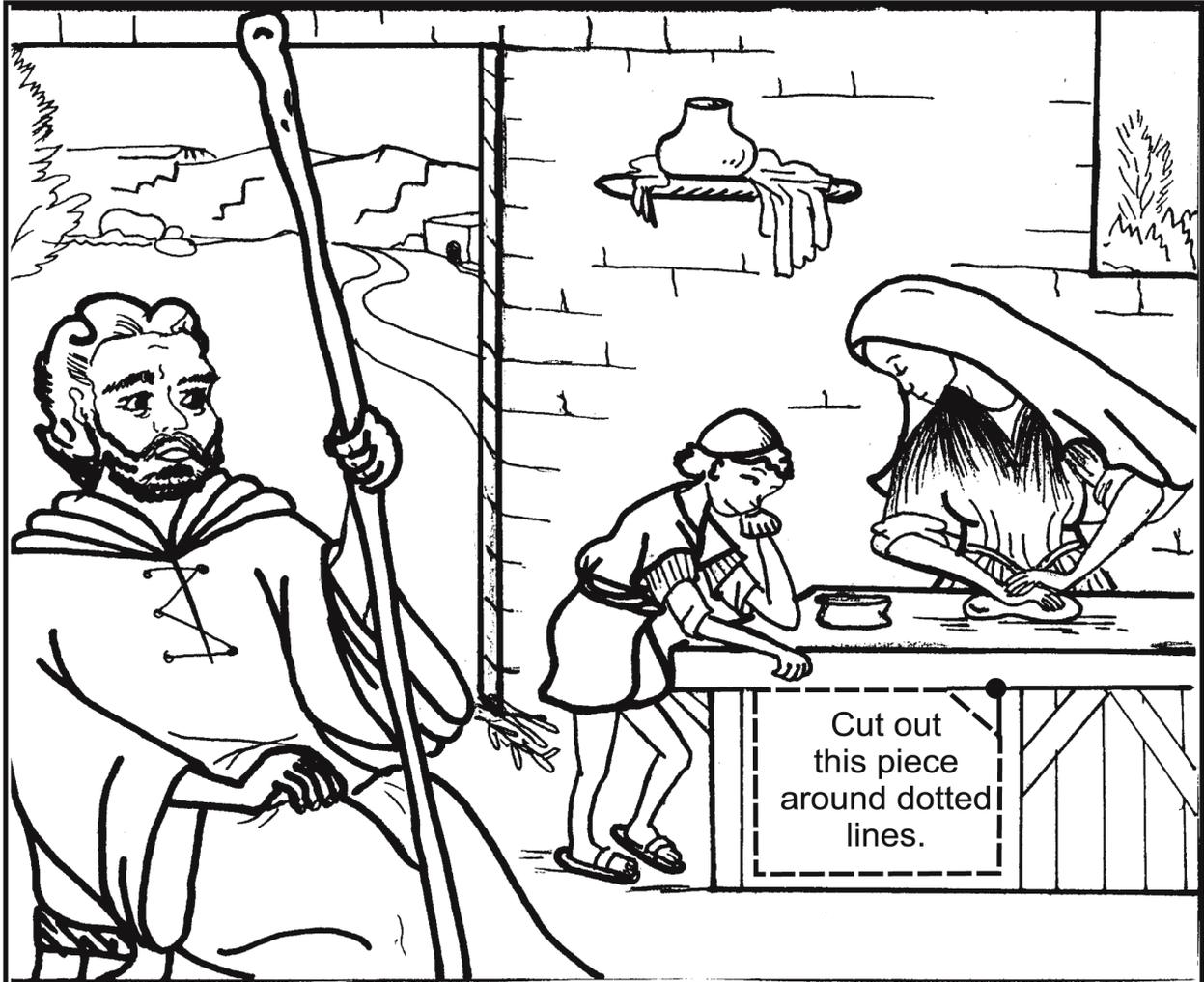
Elijah and the widow

Activity A - Raven



Elijah and the widow

Activity B – Scene with Revolving Wheel



Elijah on Mount Carmel

I Kings 18

Storyline

After three years of drought and famine, Elijah was sent by the Lord to King Ahab. Elijah challenged King Ahab to organise a contest between Elijah as the Lord's prophet, and the four hundred and fifty prophets of the false god, Baal, on Mount Carmel. The king agreed. The prophets of Baal killed the bull sacrifice and called on Baal to send fire to prove he was god. From morning to evening they called and cut themselves while Elijah mocked them, but nothing happened. Yet, at the time of the evening sacrifice, Elijah rebuilt the altar with twelve stones, (representing the twelve tribes of Israel), instructed that water be poured over the slain bull, the altar and the trench, and prayed to the Lord. The Lord's fire descended and burnt up the offering, the wood and the stones, and licked up the water, proving the Lord was God. Later, rain came and Elijah ran before Ahab's chariot in the Spirit of the Lord.

Suggested Teaching Approach

Show a picture of a desert and explain that this is what Samaria would have been like after three years without rain. Rain softens the ground for plants and food to grow, just as the Lord can soften our hearts by His Spirit. Explain how hard the people's hearts had become because of their idolatry and the idolatry of their king and queen. Then tell the story of what the Lord did through Elijah to turn the people back to Him on Mount Carmel.

Theme One

"Trust in the Lord"

Obadiah greatly feared the Lord. He showed this by hiding 100 prophets in caves and feeding them. But when Elijah told him to tell the king he was there, Obadiah was afraid the Spirit of the Lord would take Elijah away and then the king would kill Obadiah. Because Obadiah was scared of Ahab, he found it hard to do what Elijah asked him to do, but he did it anyway. God often gives what seem to us to be hard or scary things to do, but if we continue to trust and obey Him, we find that He works things out wonderfully.

Key Thought

It is easy to be happy with the way we have trusted God in the past, but it is not enough to have trusted just once. Over and over in our lives we have to trust God to see His miracles.

Aim

For the children to understand that trusting God is something that they must keep on doing, more and more, for the rest of their lives.

Memory Verse

"He is a shield to all who trust in Him." (Psalm 18:30).

Theme Two

"The one true God"

God punished the idolatry of King Ahab and the people with drought and famine. God then proved His power by burning up Elijah's sacrifice in the contest with the false prophets of Baal. Although we cannot see God, He wants us to know that He is more real than anything or anybody else. He wants us to see His mighty power at work in our lives.

Key Thought

The Lord wants us to know Him as a very real Person. He wants us to know His power to overcome all that is against Him.

Aim

For the children to realise that idols in our hearts are unreal and that only God is real and He is powerful.

Memory Verse

"But the Lord is the true God; He is the living God." (Jeremiah 10:10).

Activity A – Living Stones

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet.
- Twelve stones.
- Adhesive labels.
- Felt pens.
- Red cellophane.
- Slips of paper.

Steps

At Home

- Cut out the verses on the Activity Sheet.

In Class

- Distribute the stones among the children.
- Distribute the 12 slips of paper among the children.
- The children look up the verses to find the names of the tribe's of Israel.
 - Numbers 10:14 to find Judah
 - Numbers 10:15 to find Issachar
 - Numbers 10:16 to find Zebulun
 - Numbers 10:18 to find Reuben
 - Numbers 10:19 to find Simeon
 - Numbers 10:20 to find Gad
 - Numbers 10:22 to find Ephraim
 - Numbers 10:23 to find Manasseh
 - Numbers 10:24 to find Benjamin
 - Numbers 10:25 to find Dan
 - Numbers 10:26 to find Asher
 - Numbers 10:27 to find Naphtali
- Have the children write their tribe's name on the adhesive label and paste it onto the stone.
- Have a ceremony, in which each child in turn places their stone on a pile for an altar saying, "come near to me in the name of the Lord ... Judah" and name their tribe.
- Cover the pile with red cellophane to represent the fire of God.
- Re-arrange the stones to form a cross to show now we come through His cross.

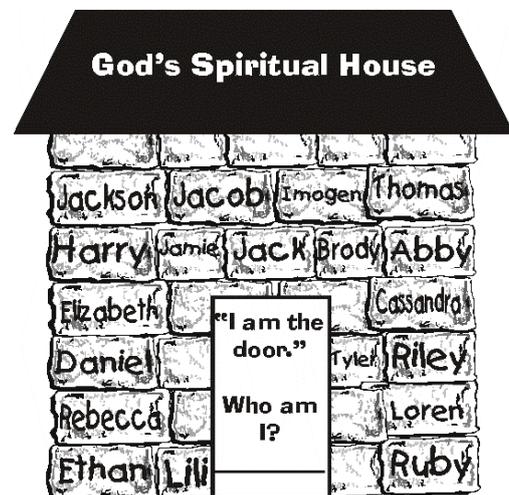
Activity B – God's Spiritual House

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Coloured markers.

Steps

- Children are to write the names of themselves and others from the church and class on the stones.



Elijah on Mount Carmel

Activity A – Living Stones

Numbers 10:14

Numbers 10:15

Numbers 10:16

Numbers 10:18

Numbers 10:19

Numbers 10:20

Numbers 10:22

Numbers 10:23

Nuüüüüü

Numbers 10:25

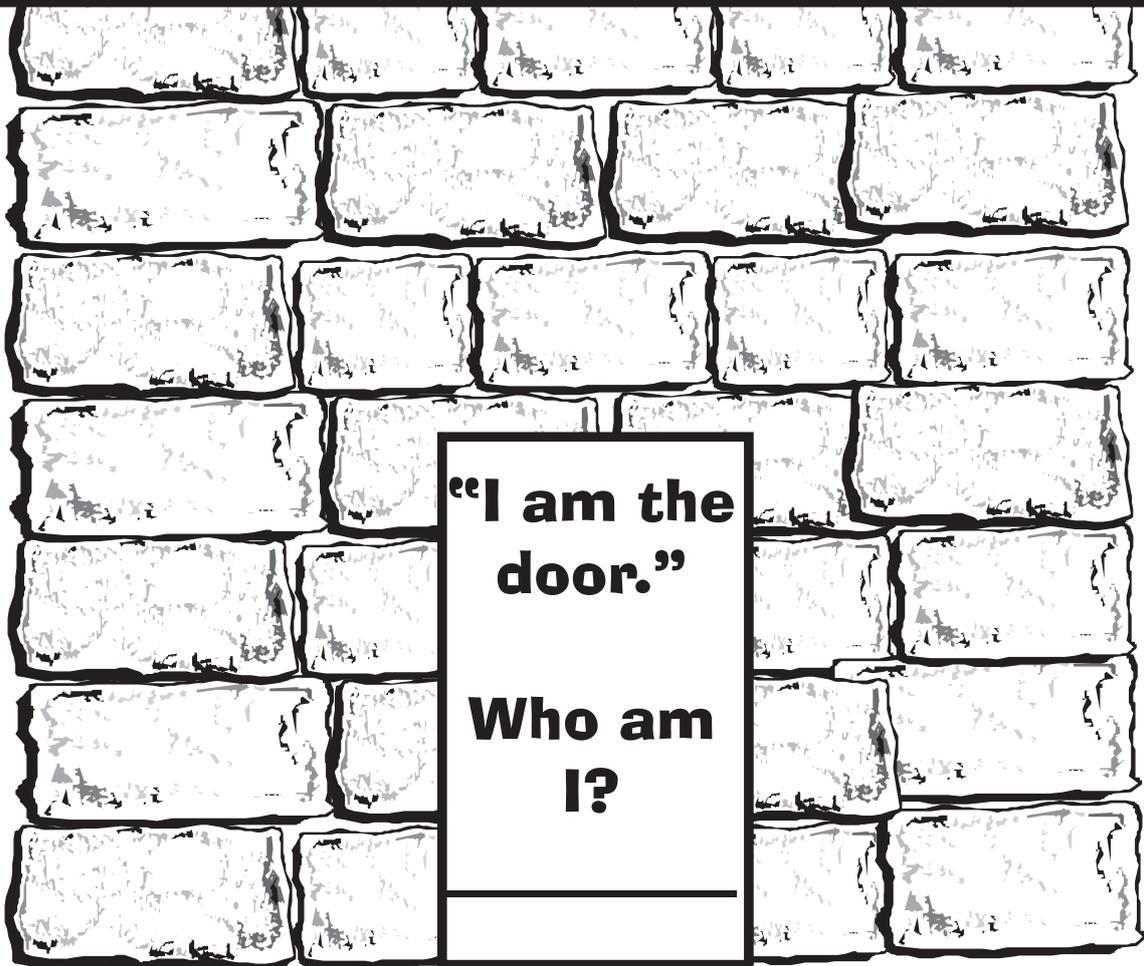
Numbers 10:26

Numbers 10:27

Elijah on Mount Carmel

Activity B – God’s Spiritual House

God’s Spiritual House



Good King Jehoshaphat

II Chronicles 18 - 20

Storyline

King Jehoshaphat, king of Judah, was one of the good and righteous kings of God's people. He removed idols from Judah and set his heart to seek God. He set up judges who were to judge according to God's will; he had Levites and priests to make judgments for the Lord and for controversies. Jehoshaphat set Judah in order to serve the Lord. Some of the nations that the Hebrews were not allowed to destroy when they moved into the Promised Land, now came together to battle against Judah. King Jehoshaphat and all the people assembled before the Lord and asked for the Lord's help. Through a prophet, the Lord told Judah that He would fight the enemy, that they should not be dismayed but watch the salvation of God. Jehoshaphat sent out singers before the army to sing the Lord's praises. When they approached the battlefield, all they found were the dead bodies of the enemy everywhere. Judah then spent three days gathering spoils and then assembled together praising the Lord, and returned to Jerusalem playing on their instruments.

Suggested Teaching Approach

Look at 2 Chronicles 19 and 20 and the miracle of the battle, emphasising Jehoshaphat's waiting on God's guidance.

Activity A colouring and folding will follow – having the children retell the story using the sections of the colour-in.

Theme One

“God is able to deliver His people”

Jehoshaphat trusted God to save him in the midst of a battle. Later he and all of Judah prayed and fasted for they feared a great multitude coming against them. We need to heed the example of Jehoshaphat as he first trusted and believed in God's power to save him, then prayed for deliverance. Most importantly, we must obey any directions God gives as He answers prayer. If we only trust in our own strength, we will miss the wonder of seeing God's power at work for deliverance and salvation.

Key Thought

God is able to deliver His people in all circumstances. If we cannot trust Him for this, then we do not know our God well.

Aim

For the children to consider the power God has to deliver those who trust and obey Him.

Memory Verse

“The Lord will deliver me from every evil work.” (2 Timothy 4:18).

Theme Two

“Seek the Lord”

Jehoshaphat lived his life faithful to the God he knew and loved. Though he sometimes found himself in dangerous situations, God heard his cries for help and answered his prayers. Jehoshaphat knew deliverance in those situations, and he and the army of Judah were also rewarded with great spoil as they were faithful to God. Have we known God's reward as we have been faithful to Him and His direction?

Key Thought

Those faithful to God and His ways, shall be rewarded. Though material rewards may be included, the greatest reward is the salvation of our souls and the joy of knowing Him.

Aim

or the children to be encouraged in their faith, to know God as a loving and rewarding Father.

Memory Verse

“He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.” (Hebrews 11:6).

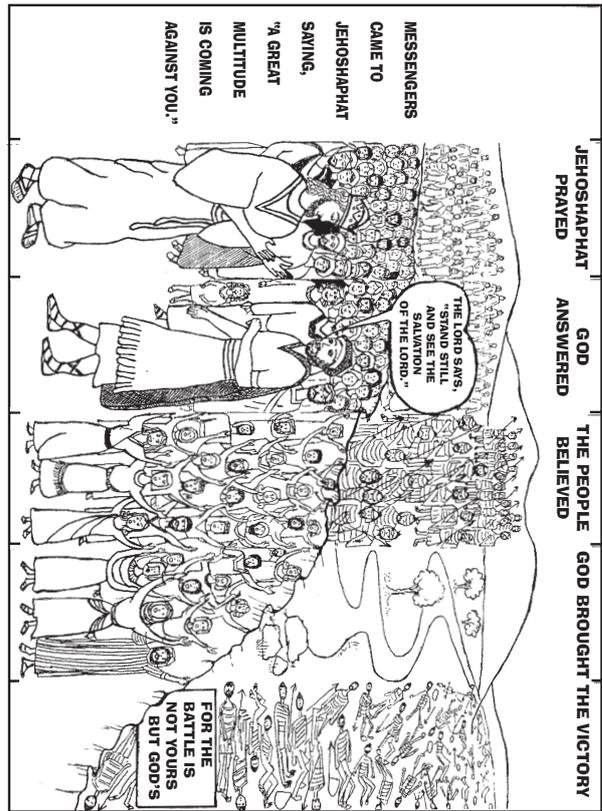
Activity A - Battle of Jehoshaphat Book

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Colouring pencils (not felt pens).
- Scissors.

Steps

- Cut the border off the page.
- Fold the page five times right to left concertina style, using the marks at the top and bottom of the page as a guide for the folds. This should leave you with a blank strip of paper on the front and back.
- On the front blank strip, the children could write "The Battle of Jehoshaphat" II Chronicles 20:1 30, and decorate it as a cover.
- As you open each fold, a page is revealed, telling the story.
- The children could colour the pages of their books.



Activity B - Picture Puzzle

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Pens/pencils.

Steps

- The children write the first letter of each object in the corresponding numbered boxes.

Write down the first letter of each object in the numbered boxes to find out how Jehoshaphat won the battle.

8	3	6	10	1	3
P	R	A	Y	E	R

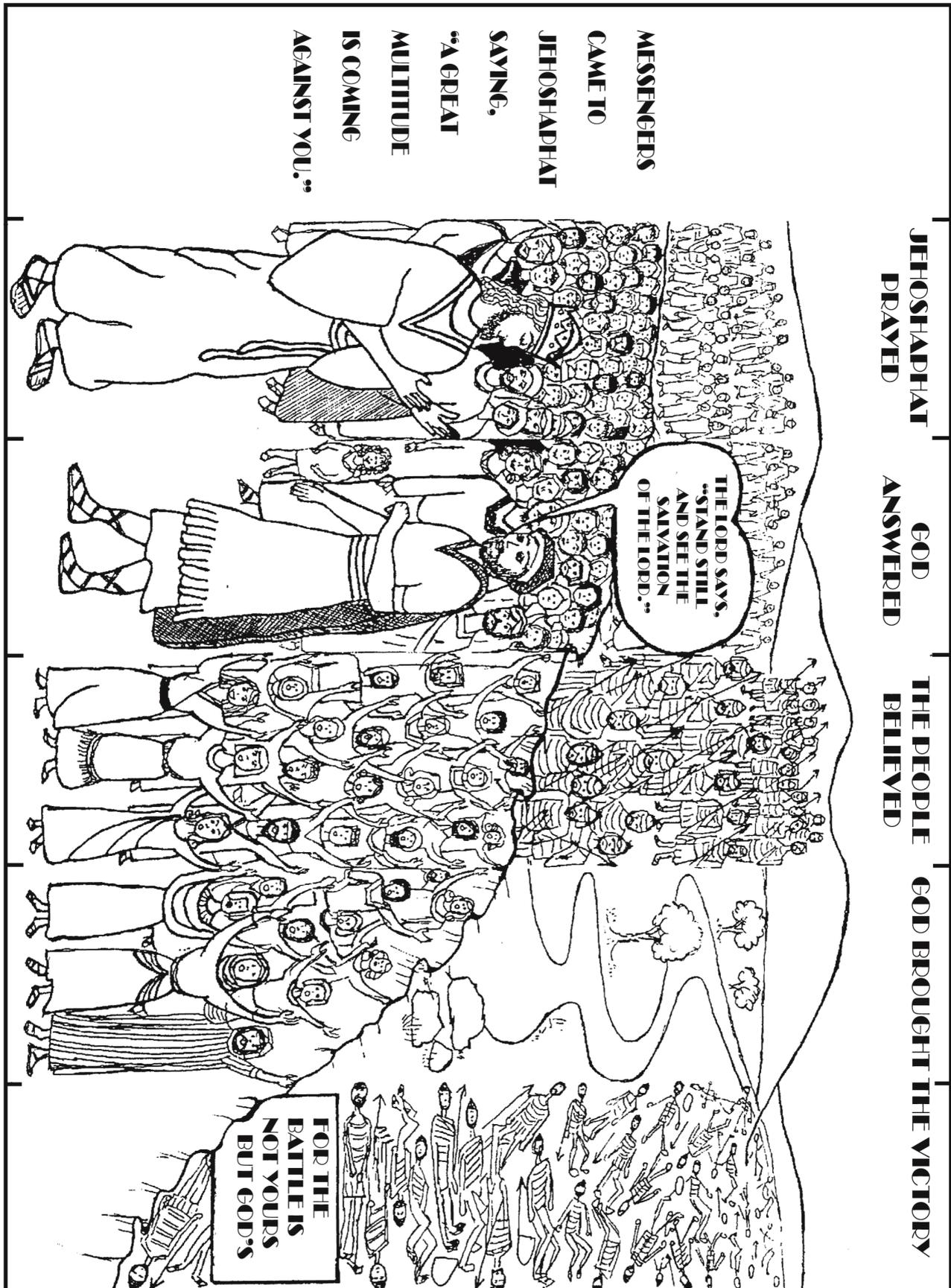
2	1	9	5	1	4	5	11	14	14	7	12
B	E	L	I	E	V	I	N	G	G	O	D

7	2	1	12	5	1	11	16	1
O	B	E	D	I	E	N	C	E

8	3	6	5	13	1	15	7	3	13	17	5	8	
P	R	A	I	S	E	&	W	O	R	S	H	I	P

Good King Jehoshaphat

Activity A – Battle of Jehoshaphat Book



**JEHOSHAPHAT
PRAYED**

**GOD
ANSWERED**

**THE PEOPLE
BELIEVED**

GOD BROUGHT THE VICTORY

MESSENGERS

CAME TO

JEHOSHAPHAT

SAYING,

"A GREAT

MULTITUDE

IS COMING

AGAINST YOU."

**THE LORD SAYS,
"STAND STILL
AND SEE THE
SAVATION
OF THE LORD."**

**FOR THE
BATTLE IS
NOT YOURS
BUT GOD'S**

Good King Jehoshaphat

Activity B – Picture Puzzle

Write down the first letter of each object in the numbered boxes to find out how Jehoshaphat won the battle.

8 3 6 10 1 3

--	--	--	--	--	--

2 1 9 5 1 4 5 11 14

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

14 7 12

--	--	--

7 2 1 12 5 1 11 16 1

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

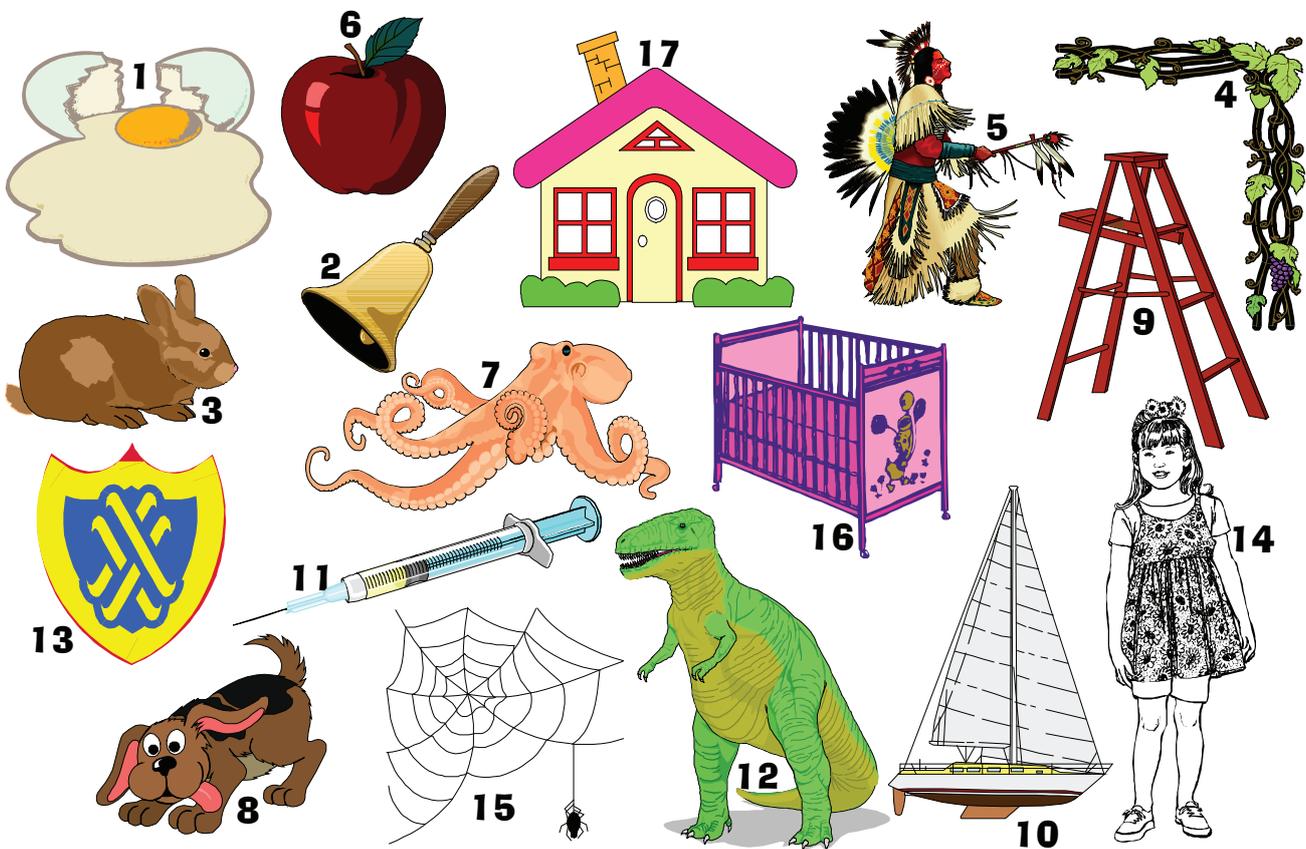
8 3 6 5 13 1

--	--	--	--	--	--

&

15 7 3 13 17 5 8

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--



Elisha and the double portion

II Kings 2

Storyline

About the time God was to take Elijah to heaven, Elijah told Elisha that God wanted him (Elijah) to go to Bethel and that Elisha should not go, but Elisha said that while Elijah lived he would not leave him. On arrival there, the prophet's sons told Elisha that God would take Elijah that day. Elisha already knew this and told them to keep quiet. Elijah and Elisha then went to Jericho where exactly the same thing happened. God told Elijah to go to the Jordan and, as before, Elisha went with him. At the river, Elijah took off his mantle and struck the water with it. The water divided and the two men crossed the river on dry ground. Elijah then asked Elisha if he could do anything for him before God took him away. Elisha asked for a double portion of his spirit. Elijah said he had asked for a very hard thing but, nevertheless, he would receive it if he saw Elijah at the time when he was taken to heaven. As they talked, suddenly a chariot of fire appeared which separated them, and Elijah went into heaven by a whirlwind. As Elisha was returning the men of Jericho told him their water was bad and nothing would grow. Elisha cast salt in the water and it was healed. As he was going to Bethel, some youths mocked him. Elisha cursed them in the name of the Lord, and two bears came out of the wood and mauled forty-two of them.

Suggested Teaching Approach

Theme 1 – Tell the story, making sure that the children know who Elijah and Elisha are. If possible show the children pictures of them. Discuss the major points, ie. what faithfulness means; how God wants to bless us, but also wants to teach us to be faithful; when we prove that we are faithful how God can trust us with more.

Theme 2 – Discuss with the children whether their parents always give them what they ask. Do they know better than we do what is good for us? Do they sometimes refuse to give us something we want? If we ask for a slice of bread, do they give us a stone? If we ask for fish, do they give us a snake?

Theme One

“Be faithful to God”

Although Elijah asked Elisha not to go with him, Elisha insisted and went with him, saying that he would never leave Elijah as long as he lived. Because of his faithfulness, he was there when Elijah was taken up to heaven and this allowed him to receive the double portion blessing. You don't have to be an adult to be faithful to the Lord. You can show faithfulness by being diligent in prayer, obeying your parents which God has called you to do, and living a Christian lifestyle at school and in the neighbourhood.

Key Thought

God rewards faithfulness in His people. He gives His best gifts to His most faithful servants.

Aim

To show the children that to receive God's very best blessings you must show Him you are faithful by always serving Him with all of your heart.

Memory Verse

“A faithful man will abound with blessings.” (Proverbs 28:20).

Theme Two

“Ask, and you shall receive”

Even though the thing Elisha asked for was hard to give, God allowed him to receive it because it was a good gift, with which Elisha could help people and not for selfish reasons. Every good and perfect gift comes from God. The Lord said that even earthly fathers give good things to their children. How much more will our heavenly Father give good gifts to those who ask Him?

Key Thought

Because God only wants to give us good things, when we ask for the right thing, according to His will, we always receive.

Aim

To show the children that if they ask God for things which help others, or which they can share and not just things for themselves, they will receive what they asked for.

Memory Verse

“If we ask anything according to His will, He hears us.” (1 John 5:14).

Activity A - Choose the Right Word

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Pens/pencils.

Steps

- The children read the story and cross out the incorrect words.

Read the story below, and cross out the wrong words.



Activity B - Collage

Materials

- 1 piece of A4 size light blue cardboard per child.
- Pieces of paper, material, cellophane in the colours of fire, eg yellow, orange, red, gold. Pre-cut some in the shape of wheels.
- Small pictures of things like wheels, horses, wagons, flame, a man to lay on the chariot.
- Craft glue.
- Scissors.

Steps

- Using the picture provided, (or a Bible Picture Book) ask the children what they thought about Elijah being taken up to heaven in this way.
- Give each child a piece of cardboard and ask them to make a collage picture of Elijah's fiery chariot and horses.



Elisha and the double portion

Activity A – Choose the Right Word

Read the story below, and cross out the wrong words.

The men of Jericho told Elisha that the water in the town was good/bad and that the ground was barren/fruitful. Elisha said to them, "Bring me a new bowl and put salt/sugar in it." So they brought it to him. Then Elisha went to the source of the water where he cast the salt in. He told the land/water that God cleaned/boiled it and it was instantly cleaned. The

water has remained that way ever since/for 100 years. Elisha left Jericho and went to Bethel. As he was going up the road/river some girls/youths came out of the city and mocked him. Elisha was so happy/upset that he cursed them in the name of the Lord. Two female bears/lions came out of the bush and attacked/chased the youths.



Elisha and the double portion

Activity B - Collage



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SON SEEKERS

Well Done!



for completing
SonSeekers Unit 4
From Saul to Elisha



SON SEEKERS

Well Done!



for completing
SonSeekers Unit 4
From Saul to Elisha



Sonseekers Curriculum

Unit One

1. Creation 1
2. Creation 2
3. Adam and Eve
4. The fall
5. Cain and Abel
6. Noah builds an ark
7. The flood, Noah and his sons
8. The tower of Babel
9. Abram called, Abram and Lot
10. The covenant with Abraham
11. Ishmael and Isaac
12. Sodom and Gomorrah
13. The sacrifice of Isaac
14. Rebekah, Isaac's bride
15. Jacob and Esau
16. Jacob's ladder, Leah and Rachel

Unit Five

65. The widow's oil, a boy raised
66. Naaman
67. Famine in Samaria
68. Jonah
69. The captivity of Israel (the northern kingdom)
70. Hezekiah and Sennacherib
71. Isaiah
72. Josiah
73. Jeremiah
74. The captivity of Judah (the southern kingdom)
75. Daniel interprets the king's dream
76. The fiery furnace
77. The writing on the wall
78. Daniel in the lions' den
79. Esther
80. Restoration

Unit Two

17. Jacob becomes Israel
18. Joseph, the favourite son
19. Joseph goes to Egypt
20. Joseph interprets the dreams
21. Joseph's brothers
22. Israel in Egypt
23. Israelite slaves, Moses born
24. Moses flees and returns to Egypt
25. "Let My people go"
26. The first passover, Israel delivered
27. Crossing the Red Sea
28. Manna, water from the rock
29. Sinai and the ten commandments
30. Moses and the tabernacle
31. The golden calf
32. Twelve spies, 40 years of wandering

Unit Six

81. Zacharias, Elizabeth, Mary and John
82. The birth of Jesus
83. Jesus in the temple
84. John the Baptist
85. Jesus baptised and tempted
86. The call of the disciples
87. Water turned to wine
88. The temple cleansed, Nicodemus
89. The woman at the well
90. Healing of the paralysed man
91. The house built on the rock
92. Jesus stills the storm
93. The feeding of the 5000
94. The centurion's servant
95. Forgiveness in Simon's house
96. The sower and the seed

Unit Three

33. Aaron's rod
34. Moses hits the rock
35. The bronze serpent
36. Balaam and his donkey
37. Joshua and Rahab
38. Crossing the Jordan, Jericho
39. The sin of Achan
40. The sun stands still
41. Gideon's fleece
42. Gideon and his army
43. Samson
44. Samson and Delilah
45. Ruth, Naomi and Boaz
46. Hannah
47. Samuel hears God speak
48. Eli, Hophni and Phinehas

Unit Seven

97. Jairus' daughter, a woman touches Jesus
98. Jesus walks on the water
99. Miracles of healing
100. The transfiguration
101. A boy is healed
102. The unmerciful servant
103. A man born blind
104. The good Samaritan
105. Prayer
106. The raising of Lazarus
107. The lost sheep, coin and son
108. Attitudes of a servant
109. The marriage of the king's son
110. The ten lepers
111. The ten virgins
112. The talents

Unit Four

49. Saul chosen
50. Saul and the Amalekites
51. David chosen
52. David and Goliath
53. David and Jonathan
54. David and Saul
55. David crowned
56. David and the ark
57. Absalom
58. Solomon becomes king
59. Solomon's temple
60. Israel divided, Rehoboam and Jeroboam
61. Elijah and the widow
62. Elijah on Mount Carmel
63. Good King Jehoshaphat
64. Elisha and the double portion

Unit Eight

113. Palm Sunday
114. The last supper and Gethsemane
115. The crucifixion
116. The resurrection
117. Peter restored
118. The risen Christ and His ascension
119. The day of Pentecost
120. Peter and John
121. Peter and the Gentiles
122. Stephen
123. Philip
124. Paul's conversion
125. Paul's first missionary journey
126. Paul's second and third missionary journeys
127. Paul's capture and imprisonment
128. Paul's final journey

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