



## Ruth and Naomi

In the city of Bethlehem there was a famine. A man named Elimelech took his wife, Naomi, and his two sons, Mahlon and Chilion, to another land named Moab to find food to eat. After a little bit of time went by, Elimelech died. His sons married women named Orpah and Ruth. They all lived together for ten years. Then, Mahlon and Chilion died too, leaving Naomi, Ruth, and Orpah alone.

Naomi heard that back in Bethlehem there was food again! She decided she would return home. She told Orpah and Ruth to return to their homes as well. They cried, hugged and said, “We want to stay with you!” Naomi explained she could not provide what they needed. Orpah cried again and sadly she went home. But Ruth told Naomi, “Please don’t make me leave you! Where you go, I will go. Where you live, I will live. Your people will be my people, and your God will be my God. Where you die, I will die.”

Naomi saw that Ruth was serious and would not let her return to Bethlehem alone. After they arrived back in Bethlehem, Naomi saw her old friends. She told them her new name was Mara. Mara means bitter—she was sad her husband and sons had died. Ruth went to look for work in the fields so she could provide food for her and Naomi. Even though Naomi and Ruth were sad, they knew God was watching over them!

And Ruth said, Intreat me not to leave thee,  
or to return from following after thee: for  
whither thou goest, I will go; and where thou  
lodgest, I will lodge: thy people shall be my  
people, and thy God my God. Ruth 1:16

*The Beautiful Way* can be downloaded at [sundayschoolliterature.com](http://sundayschoolliterature.com) and  
[churchofgodeveninglight.com/beautiful-way](http://churchofgodeveninglight.com/beautiful-way).

Volume 69, Quarter 2, Week 1. Editor: Lindsey Gellenbeck

## A Wedding

“Violet, hold still!” Kathryn instructs.

“This will be the first wedding I’ve ever watched!” Violet exclaims earnestly. “I’m so excited, and my feet keep hopping even when I tell them ‘stop!’”

Kathryn covers her grin with the hairbrush and says gently, “Just a few more moments, Vi. Tell your feet to stand quietly so they can listen to me tell you about the day your father and I wed.”

Jack walks past the bathroom. “Love, love, love,” he says in a sing-song voice, kissing the air in an exaggerated fashion.

“Jack, you’re just as excited for this wedding as I,” Violet sniffs in feigned annoyance. “I heard you asking Father about it yesterday.” Jack turns the color of a ripe tomato and quickly makes an exit.

After what seems to Violet an entirely too long wait, she and her family head to the wedding. They witness the beautiful, tender covenant between Miss Charlotte and Alex Hayes. Violet’s eyes are wide and sparkling, drinking in this new experience.

Home again, Violet plops onto the couch and sighs dreamily. “Mother, what text did our pastor read? I want to hear it again.”

Jack looks interested and sits beside his sister, but not after giving her a hard glare. She grins, knowing he wants to hear the text as much as she.

Kathryn pulls out the Bible. “The text is from Ruth. Ruth left all she knew to move with her mother-in-law to a new land. There are many forms of love, but all love involves sacrifice.”

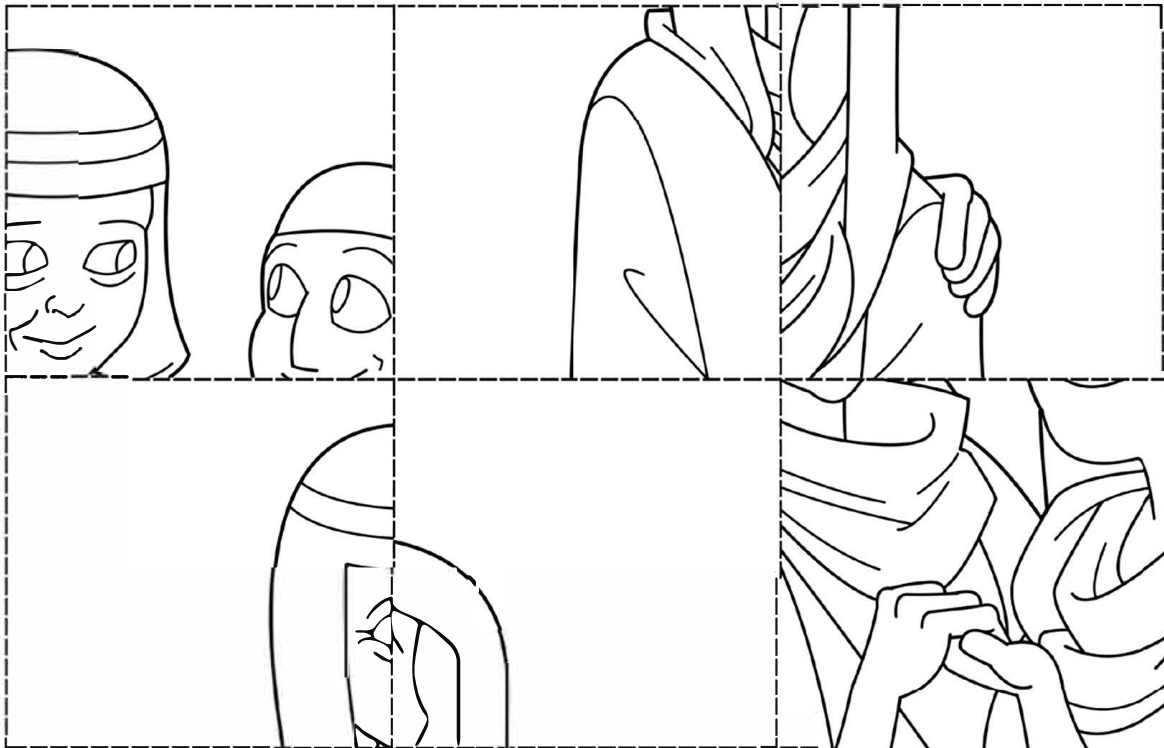
As she reads, Violet listens in rapt attention and Jack secretly wonders what girl he will marry one day.

The ancient words fill the room: “For whither thou goest, I will go; and where thou lodgest, I will lodge: thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God.”

Karissa Carver

# Cut-Paste-Color!

Cut along the dotted lines & arrange in order below.



Ruth stays with Naomi.

**Ruth 1**





## Ruth and Boaz

Ruth and Naomi were in Bethlehem without husbands to provide for them. Naomi was too old to work, but Ruth offered to work in fields to find food. It was the time of year for the farmers to harvest their crops. The Israelites followed God's law that said when farmers reap their harvest, they are required to leave the food that falls on the ground. This is the food Ruth gathered. It was hard work!

She worked in a field belonging to Boaz. Boaz was a relative of Naomi's late husband. He heard Ruth had promised never to leave Naomi and now worked very hard to provide food for her. Boaz complimented Ruth and told her to work in his fields until all the food was harvested. Because it was hot, hard work, he also told her she could drink water his servants had pulled out of the well. He even told his servants to purposefully leave food for her! She was very excited when she went home that evening and showed Naomi all the food she had reaped that day!

After the work of gathering food was over, Naomi thought Ruth and Boaz should get married. Boaz agreed and asked the right people for permission. They said yes, too! Later, Ruth and Boaz had a son named Obed. This made Naomi very happy because God had remembered her again! Do you know who Obed's grandson was? Israel's greatest king—King David.

A full reward be given thee of the Lord  
God of Israel, under whose wings thou  
art come to trust. Ruth 2:12

*The Beautiful Way* can be downloaded at [sundayschoolliterature.com](http://sundayschoolliterature.com) and [churchofgodeveninglight.com/beautiful-way](http://churchofgodeveninglight.com/beautiful-way).

Volume 69, Quarter 2, Week 2. Editor: Lindsey Gellenbeck.  
Illustrators: Sister Emily Doolittle and Sister Rosie Gellenbeck.  
Illustrative Editor: Sister Patrice Doolittle.

## Marriage

"Mother, why won't Miss Charlotte be at church tomorrow?" Violet asks as she and Jack set the table.

"Miss Charlotte and her husband, Alex, are vacationing," Kathryn says.

"Why are they taking a vacation right after their wedding?" Jack asks.

"Married people take a vacation after their wedding. The husband and wife relax after all the activity of planning a wedding. They get to be away from everybody else and enjoy each other's company." Kathryn explains.

"What happens when they come home?" Jack asks. The door opens and Anderson walks in. He hears the conversation, grins and says, "Real life happens when they get home."

Anderson and Kathryn smile at each other over their children's heads. The family sits down at the table, Anderson prays over the food, and the family enjoys their simple lunch of bread, cheese and lentil soup.

"Father, what do you mean about real life?" Violet asks between generous mouthfuls of bread.

"Well, marriage is God-ordained. It's special to share life with another person. However, marriage is more than the pretty wedding you all enjoyed last week. Marriage means making a promise to be kind, loving, and patient with your spouse. It means working hard together. You need to learn how to say "I'm sorry" if you want a strong marriage. It means listening and not assuming you have all the answers."

The children think about their father's words. Anderson chuckles and adds, "Jack, you might want to learn how to pick up your dirty socks before you get married. Violet, you'll want to be able to clean your room."

The family laughs and finishes their meal. Before Jack heads outside to work in the garden, he runs into his room to pick up his socks. He sees Violet hurriedly hanging up her clothes.

Karissa Carver

# STICK PUPPETS !

**Supplies:** Crayons/markers/colored pencils, scissors, glue, popsicle sticks

**Directions:** Color and cut out each of the characters from today's story: Ruth, Naomi, and Boaz. Then paste them to popsicle sticks to finish each puppet !



Orpah



Naomi



Boaz



Ruth





## What's My Gift?

Jack and Violet race around the barn, Jack in the lead and Violet desperately trying to gain ground. Their cheeks flush a rosy red from exertion and the cool spring air.

Jack completes the agreed-upon five laps. "It's not fair!" Violet wails. She puffs around the corner and doggedly completes her fifth lap. "Aw, Sis," Jack grins as he rumples her hair. "I'm older and bigger. What do you expect?"

"But I want to win at something!" Violet wails again. "You pull branches faster than I, you can ride Arthur better than I, and you can whittle; and all I can do is nick my finger when I try!"

"Most people can't even ride a cow, Violet." Jack laughs as he pats the side of their docile young bull, Arthur.

"How come I'm not good at anything?" Violet huffs as they enter the kitchen.

Kathryn raises an eyebrow. "Violet, the Lord gives each person gifts. God gives different gifts to people. Just because you don't have the same gifts as Jack doesn't mean you aren't good at anything."

"But what do I have," Violet cries.

Kathryn laughs gently. "Oh, Violet. You have many gifts. You have a big, kind heart. You see the good in people, and you have quite the green thumb in the garden. You have a special touch with the animals. Have you ever noticed how they never seem afraid around you?"

Violet flushes, this time in pleasure. "I didn't think about those things," she exclaims. "I was just thinking about all the things Jack does that I can't."

Kathryn kisses the top of her daughter's head. "Let the Lord know how grateful you are for the gifts He has given you before you go to sleep tonight.

Karissa Carver

There was a man named Elkanah married to two women: Peninnah and Hannah. Peninnah had children, but Hannah did not. Every year they would travel to a city named Shiloh to sacrifice and worship God in the temple. Elkanah would give Peninnah and her children the required sacrifices. They would make fun of Hannah for not having children. She cried and cried--so much that she did not eat any food.

Hannah went into the temple of the Lord and prayed with everything inside her. She was still crying when she made a promise to God. She promised that if God would bless her with a child, she would give him back to the Lord to serve in the temple. Guess what? God honored her sacrifice and blessed her with a son, Samuel!

When he was old enough, Hannah kept her promise and took him back to the temple. Samuel was to serve God in the temple the rest of his life. In Samuel 2, Hannah prayed one of the most beautiful prayers in the Bible. She might have been sad to leave Samuel at the temple, but she still praised and worshipped God with all her heart!

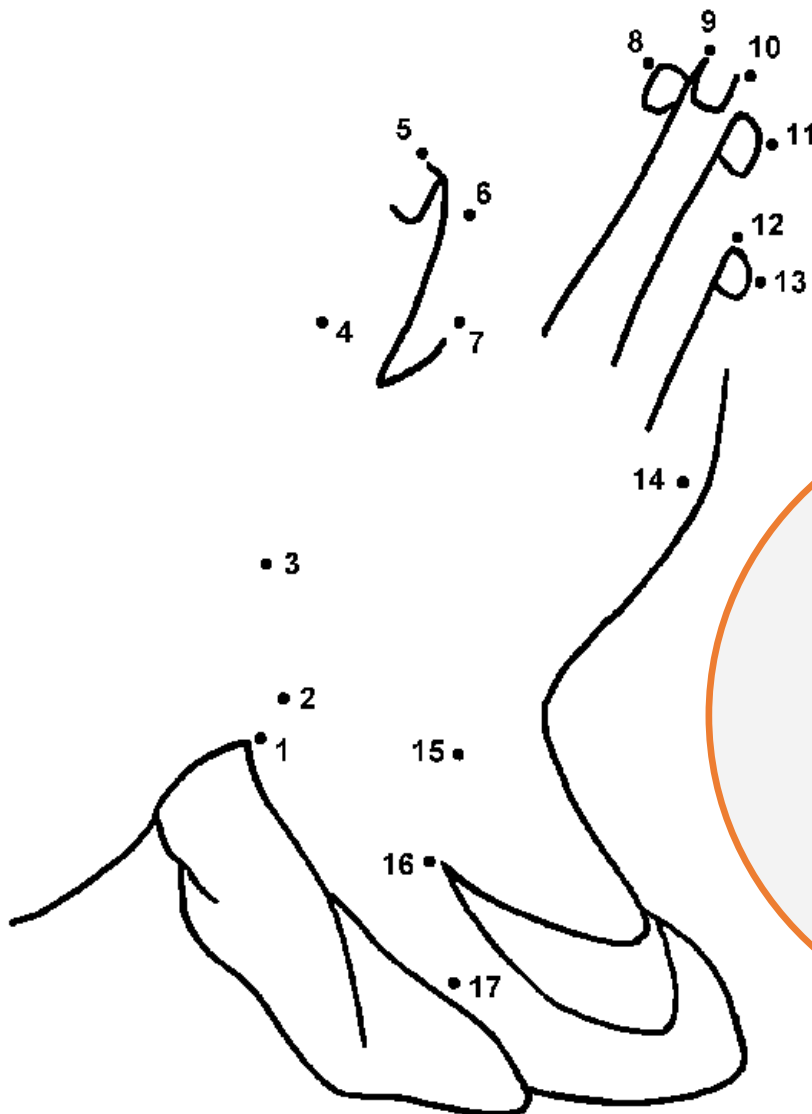
God was so happy with Hannah, He gave her three more sons and two daughters. We can learn from Hannah. When we desire a good thing from God, we can pray earnestly before Him and He hears us. Then it is our job to praise Him!

In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you. | Thessalonians 5:18

# PRAYER AND THANKSGIVING CHAIN

**Supplies:** Colored construction paper, glue/stapler, pens/markers

**Directions:** Have each child write down three to five specific things they are praying for (health of someone they love, a missionary, to make a friend at school, etc.) on a strip of construction paper. Cut a second strip for each prayer they write down. Glue or staple the chain together, alternating between the prayer chain and the blank chain. Instruct the children to take the chain home and write their thanksgiving on the blank chain when God answers their prayers !



**Connect the dots  
and then color  
the folded  
hands !**



## Samuel as a Child

Samuel grew up in the temple under the instruction of Eli, the old priest. Every year, Samuel's mother, Hannah, came and brought him a new coat at the temple. Samuel learned about God and the law, and ministered (or worked) in the temple faithfully. One night, when Samuel was still a young boy, he was just drifting off to sleep when he heard a voice calling his name! He jumped out of bed and ran into Eli's room. "You called me? Here I am!" Samuel said to the priest. Eli answered, "I did not call you. Go lie down." Samuel obeyed, but soon heard the same voice calling him. Again, Eli said, "I didn't call you." Samuel lay back down, but heard the voice a third time!

This time, Eli knew what was going on. He instructed Samuel, "Go lie down, but if the voice calls you again, answer and say, 'Speak, Lord. Your servant is listening.'" Eli was right. It was the Lord calling Samuel.

From a very young age, Samuel heard the voice of God and he always faithfully obeyed. He continued to work in the temple and carry out his duties, but he listened every day to the voice of God. The Lord told Samuel many things as he grew older.

Don't let the devil trick you into thinking you are too young to hear the voice of God! God has important things to tell you if you can be still and quiet enough to hear Him.

Remember now thy Creator in the days  
of thy youth. Ecclesiastes 12:1a

## Jack Listens to God

Jack feels the new coins jingle in his pocket. He whistles a merry tune, dreaming of everything he might do with his one dollar and twenty-five cents.

"Maybe I'll buy all the candy I can," he thinks first. "No, that won't do. The candy will be gone fast because it will taste so good that I'll eat it right up. Then I won't have candy nor money."

Then a thought springs into his mind. "I know!" he exclaims out loud. "I'll ask Dad if I can open up a savings account at the bank. I'll start saving now for a house of my own when I grow up."

Jack climbs up the steps of the general store and sits down on the wood porch to wait for Anderson. Then, he sees Mr. Neil Atwell.

Jack's dad, Anderson, took Mr. Neil under his wing last winter, and he often brings Neil to the farm to help with work, and so the homeless man can have a hot supper.

Jack waves at Neil, and Neil's face lights up. He walks over to Jack and sits down beside him.

"How are ya, Jack? How's the rest of the family?"

"He's hungry," a still, small voice says to Jack somewhere in Jack's head.

Jack hesitates, feeling his new coins and thinking of the house he'd like to buy one day. He knows that voice now, though. He knows God is talking to his heart.

"My family and I are well. Mr. Neil, I'd like you to have these coins so you can get dinner at the cafe tonight," Jack says as he solemnly digs out his coins and holds them out to the man.

Neil's eyes soften with surprise and unshed tears. "Thank you, Jack," he says quietly. "God bless you."

Karissa Carver

*The Beautiful Way* can be downloaded at [sundayschoolliterature.com](http://sundayschoolliterature.com) and [churchofgodeveninglight.com/beautiful-way](http://churchofgodeveninglight.com/beautiful-way).

Volume 69, Quarter 2, Week 4. Editor: Lindsey Gellenbeck.  
Illustrators: Sister Emily Doolittle and Sister Rosie Gellenbeck.  
Illustrative Editor: Sister Patrice Doolittle.

# GOD CALLS SAMUEL

**Supplies:** Colored construction paper, glue, pens/markers, scissors

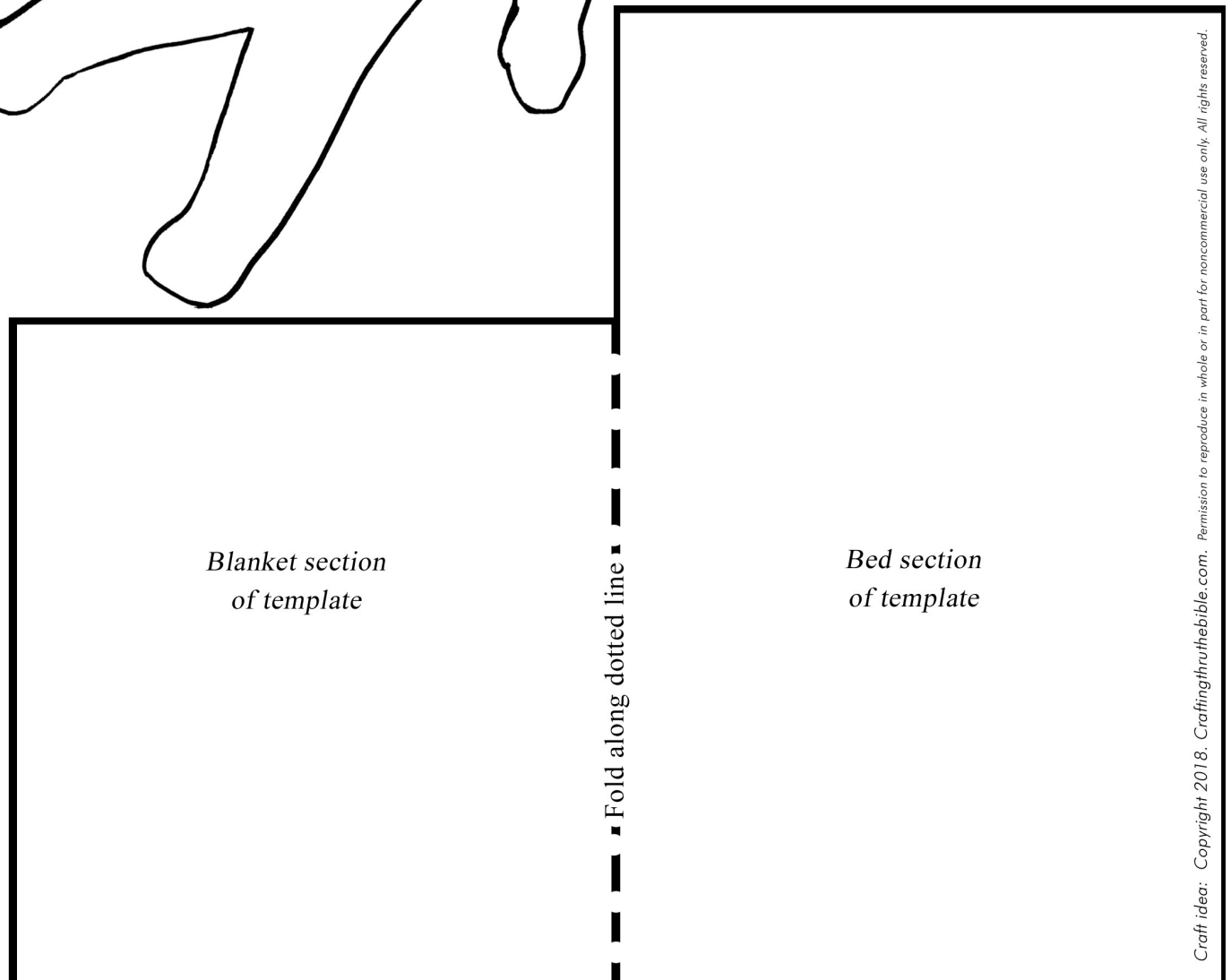
**Directions:** Cut out the bed/blanket template and trace it onto colored construction paper.

(Optional: Glue white construction paper rectangle as a pillow and colored scraps to the blanket.)

Color Samuel and his coat (or use the coat template to cut another

out of construction paper.)

Glue Samuel's coat to his body and tuck him into bed !







Primary Sunday School

March 5, 2019

V69, Q2, W5

## Samuel the Prophet

Samuel grew from a young boy who served God in the temple into an old man who was faithful to God. He was one of the last judges of Israel! Remember, judges ruled the Israelites before they ever had a king. Samuel's sons were also judges, but they did not act in a way that made God happy. Samuel's heart was always sad for his unrighteous sons.

During Samuel's life, not everyone had a Bible to read. God's word was not there for everyone, so the people relied on the judges and prophets to know what God wanted. Samuel was faithful to tell the Israelites what God was saying to them. The Bible says that none of his words fell to the ground. What do you think that means? It means that Samuel did not speak words that were meaningless or cruel. He always spoke the truth with love. It is important for us to be the same way. God does not want us saying things that are mean to our classmates, brothers and sisters, or parents. He wants our words to be true and gentle.

Samuel spoke to the people of Israel and reminded them that he had never led them away from God. The children of Israel trusted him to lead them where God wanted them to go. Because he had been a faithful servant of God from the time he was young, the people believed every word he said. Samuel was the last godly judge in Israel.

And Samuel grew, and the LORD was with him, and did let none of his words fall to the ground. | Samuel 3:19

## Self-Expression

"I hate broken fence posts," Jack mutters as he kicks the offending post. Jack thought his Saturday would be filled with tracking fascinating woodland creatures. Not working.

Anderson ignores his son's complaining for about an hour, but presently says, "You're saying the word 'hate' quite a bit, aren't you. Do you really hate the fence posts?"

Jack looks up, surprised and not quite sure how to respond. "Well, yes, I hate them because they are broken and I don't want to fix them."

"Do you think that you are upset because you're not getting your way, not because they are broken?" Anderson asks gently.

Jack kicks at the post, shrugging and nodding at the same time.

"Son, hate is a strong word. Hate causes men to do bad things. The Lord does not want His children to hate. I know you need to express a big-feeling emotion, but think of another word besides 'hate.' Words are powerful. They affect you and others. I'm getting upset myself just listening to you say you hate the fence posts.

Let us come up with words to express how you are feeling, and then let us say something positive about mending these posts."

Anderson and Jack spend the next few minutes discussing words like "frustrated," "sad," and "disappointed."

Then, Anderson leads Jack in saying positive words about the mending. "Our livestock will stay safe in a strong fence. We are being responsible instead of lazy. Two workers are better than one."

Jack adds, "I get to spend time with my dad." Anderson wraps his big arm around Jack's shoulders and pulls him close for a hug.

"Now, Jack, let's get these fences done. I believe we will have time for a little exploring this evening. Would you like that?"

Jack beams and picks up his shovel.

Karissa Carver

*The Beautiful Way* can be downloaded at [sundayschoolliterature.com](http://sundayschoolliterature.com) and [churchofgodeveninglight.com/beautiful-way](http://churchofgodeveninglight.com/beautiful-way).

Volume 69, Quarter 2, Week 5. Editor: Lindsey Gellenbeck

# DON'T LET YOUR WORDS FALL !

**Supplies:** Glue/stapler, crayons, scissors, popsicle sticks, balloons, sharpie

**Directions:** Have each child color and cut the illustration below. Then paste it into the center of a paper plate. Glue or staple the paper plate onto a popsicle stick. Blow one balloon up for each child, and assist them in writing key phrases such as "don't lie," "speak kindly," "be gentle," etc. on their balloons with a sharpie.

**Balloon Games !:** Use the paper plate as a paddle and tap the balloon into the air. Have each child count as they "keep their words from falling to the ground." (Depending on space, taking turns might work best !)

(Optional: Reward every child that reaches 10 with a piece of candy.)



# The Beautiful Way



Primary Sunday School

May 12, 2019

V69, Q2, W6

## The Ark is Captured !

The Philistines shouted in triumph as they won the battle over the Israelites. The Israelites were so unhappy they had lost, they forgot that God was the one who was supposed to make their battle plans. They decided all on their own that for the next battle they would bring the Ark of the Covenant, the place where God dwelt, with them to their battle camp. Surely, with the ark close by, they could not lose!

The Philistines were very afraid of the Israelites, but at the next battle, the Israelites lost! Many of their men were killed in battle and the Philistines captured the ark and took it back to one of their cities. When Eli, the priest who had raised Samuel in the temple, heard that the ark was gone, he died of a broken heart. How sad Israel was that day, for they had not respected God's holy sanctuary.

God had a plan, though! The Philistines had placed the ark in the temple of their false god, Dagon. They went home that night and returned the next morning to find the statue of Dagon face down in front of the ark! God was proving to the Philistines that He was stronger than their false gods. The Philistines became even more afraid of the God of Israel and passed the ark around to different cities. Each place it went, men died of terrible sickness.

Finally, they decided it would be better to send the ark back to Israel. They hitched up two young cows to a new wagon, loaded the ark onto it, and sent it down the road to Israel.

For he must reign, till he hath put all  
enemies under his feet.  
I Corinthians 15:25

## Respect the Sanctuary

Jack and Violet file into church behind their parents. The service begins, and they enjoy singing the church songs in a cappella with the congregation.

Anderson happily thumps his hands, in time with the rhythm, on the songbook. Alex Aldana taps his new cowboy boot heels, and Violet grins in delight at the wonderful sound and experience of heartfelt praise.

All of a sudden, a loud rustling sound fills the sanctuary. For all to hear, without even trying to be quiet, a girl whines, "Mama, I don't have enough crayons for my coloring book!"

Violet and Jack look at each other and snicker. Kathryn gives them a warning look. They know better than to make a scene at church.

The girl rustles and sighs the entire service. After the final prayer, she hops up on her bench and starts running back and forth, hollering loudly for another young girl to play tag.

On the way home, Jack asks his parents why the girl, who is old enough to know better, acted like that in church.

"Well, son," Anderson says slowly, "it's her parents' fault, not her own. They have not taught her to respect the Lord or the sanctuary. What a poor reflection on their parenting."

"Children, do you know why we do not allow you to make such noise during the church service?" Kathryn asks.

"Well, church is a special time for us to think about God," Jack replies.

"That's right," Kathryn says. "We ask God to visit us in church and for His spirit to bless each service. We must treat His presence with respect and honor. That doesn't mean that we can't make noise in praise to Him. He wants our praise. But if our noise is not honoring Him, we must not make it in church."

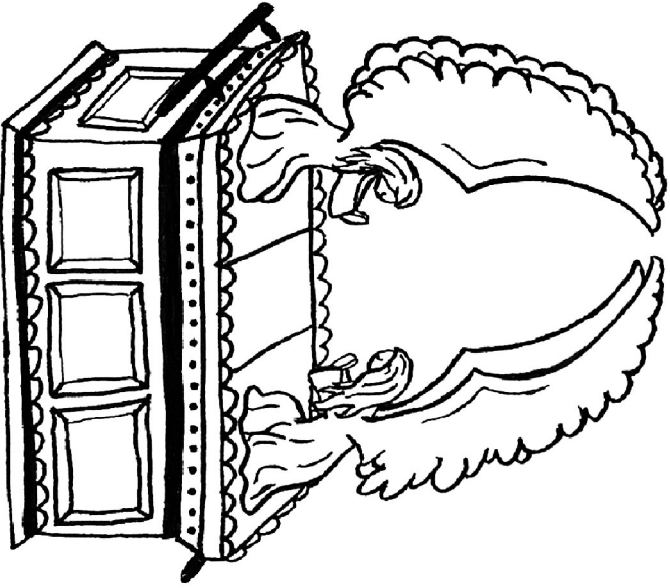
Karissa Carver

*The Beautiful Way* can be downloaded at [sundayschoolliterature.com](http://sundayschoolliterature.com) and [churchofgodeveninglight.com/beautiful-way](http://churchofgodeveninglight.com/beautiful-way).

Volume 69, Quarter 2, Week 6. Editor: Lindsey Gellenbeck.

Illustrators: Sister Emily Doolittle and Sister Rosie Gellenbeck.

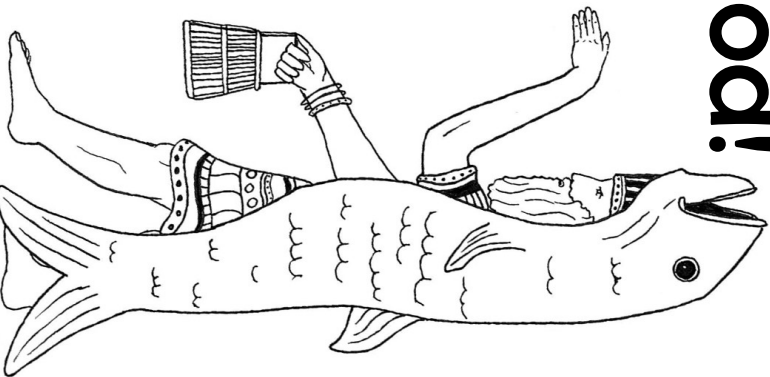
Illustrative Editor: Sister Patrice Doolittle.



# Dagon Falls Before God!

DAGON WAS  
FALLEN UPON  
HIS FACE TO  
THE EARTH  
BEFORE THE  
ARK OF THE  
LORD.

1 Samuel 5:3



**DAGON  
FALLS  
BEFORE  
GOD**



**Supplies:**

**Scissors**

**crayons/colored pencils/  
markers**

**Directions:**

**Color the Ark of the  
Covenant, Dagon, and  
the verse on the tri-fold.**

**Cut out the entire  
rectangle and fold along  
the dotted lines. When  
you close the tri-fold,  
Dagon will be on his face  
before God !**





## Israel Demands a King

Samuel was the judge over Israel until he was an old man. His sons were judges after him but did not obey God. Soon, the people said to Samuel, "Give us a king so we can be like other nations." God wanted the Israelites to depend on Him, not a king. (Remember, ever since Joshua led the Children of Israel into the Canaan land many years ago, they had been ruled by judges. God made it that way so the people wouldn't think one man was more important than Himself.) Samuel warned the people. He said, "A king will take your money and use your land to plant his own food. He will take your daughters and sons and use them for servants and soldiers." No one listened! When God saw that the people still wanted a king, He told Samuel to give them what they wanted.

There was a very well behaved and tall man from the tribe of Benjamin named Saul. The Bible says he stood taller than everyone around him! He was humble and obeyed God. Samuel went to Saul and poured oil over his head. This was a sign that Saul was chosen by God to be the king. Samuel told Saul, "The Spirit of the Lord will give you a new heart if you obey Him."

When Samuel gathered the people together to introduce Saul as their new king, they yelled with excited voices, "God save the king!"

Then Samuel took a vial of oil and poured it on [Saul's] head, and kissed him. | Samuel 10:1

## God's Will

"We plan to be there, Lord willing. Yes, see you then!" Kathryn smiles as she ends the phone call.

"See who?" Violet, curious, asks her mother.

"That was Mrs. Aldana. They want us to come over this evening for dinner and games," Kathryn tells her family.

"Why did you say Lord willing?" Jack wonders aloud. "What does that mean? I've heard you say it too, Dad."

Anderson and Kathryn see a teaching opportunity with their children. "Jack, bring me my Bible and we will read a story," Anderson says.

Anderson turns the Bible to the story of the Israelites demanding a king, even though it was against the Lord's will. He allowed them a king, but trouble followed that decision.

Then, Anderson tells his children about James 4:13-15. "Basically, the verses teach us to say 'if the Lord will' when we say we are going to go somewhere or do something. The Lord wants us to remember that we don't know the future, and that our life is in His hands."

"The Israelites did things their way instead of asking the Lord to show them His will. We say 'Lord willing' because it's a reminder that we want to put the Lord first in every decision we make. Also, we are reminded that our life belongs to God, that we are the created and He is the Creator."

"I think I get it now," Jack says. "Do I have to say it every time I say I plan to do something?"

Kathryn smiles at her son. "The Lord doesn't want you saying it just because you think you have to. But it's a respectful way to include Him out loud. If it comes to your mind, you can say 'Lord willing.' It isn't just for grown-ups!"

Karissa Carver



Saul was anointed by Samuel and became the first king of the Hebrews.



King Saul had a son named Jonathan and he was a part of his father's army.

The Israelite army was afraid! Their enemies, the Philistines, wanted to fight them, but they had no weapons. Their leader, King Saul, had taken shelter away from the battle lines because he did not know what to do. All but 600 of the Israelite soldiers ran away because they were scared.

Jonathan, however, was not afraid. He believed that God could give him and his servant the strength they needed to fight. He told his servant, "Come, and we will go to battle with the Philistines." He did not tell his father that he was going, but snuck away to fight.

God did give Jonathan and his servant strength! Together, the two men killed many of the Philistines. Suddenly, their enemies were filled with terror! How were these Israelite men so strong?! And then, God sent a strong earthquake. In the midst of the battle, the Philistines panicked and began killing each other.

Saul, back at his hiding spot, heard what was happening. He made his soldiers promise not to eat or drink all day, and then took them into battle too. Jonathan did not know what his father commanded and ate some honey when he became hungry. Even though they had defeated the Philistines, Saul was angry at Jonathan and wanted to kill him. His soldiers said, "You cannot kill the man who was brave and won this battle!"

God used Jonathan's bravery to defeat their enemies!

**In God have I put my trust: I will not be afraid. Psalm 56:11**

## Brave Jack

Jack runs outside to play in the big, grassy field behind the sanctuary.

As he stands with a group of boys his age, the boys start talking about Alex. Alex Aldana is a few years younger than Jack and his friends. The Aldana family moved from a big city, and the boys still tease Alex for his shiny shoes and proper speech.

"Alex thinks he's better than the lot of us," one of the boys sneers. "Just look at his nice clothes and combed-back hair."

A few of the boys in the group are friends with Alex. They shift uncomfortably and there's an awkward silence. For some reason, Jack feels afraid to speak up and stand up for Alex until one of the boys picks up a rock and throws it at Alex. Thankfully, he misses.

"Hey!" Jack shouts angrily. "Just because Alex is different from you boys doesn't make any of you more or less than each other. What a ridiculous reason to not be friends with someone. You just wish you could have some nice shoes like that, too!"

The boys redden, but Jack is too upset to notice. He walks off to find his parents and a hot plate of food.

"Jack, is something troubling you?" Kathryn asks as the family drives home.

Jack tells what happened. Anderson squeezes his son's shoulder, as they are sitting side by side in Anderson's old truck.

"You felt peer pressure to stay quiet, but you were brave to speak up."

"What's peer pressure?" Violet asks.

"It's when you want to go along with everyone else because you're afraid they may laugh at you or not be your friend for standing up for right," Kathryn says.

"Brave boys and girls do not allow others to get away with being mean," Anderson adds. "Being kind does not mean being weak."

Karissa Carver

*The Beautiful Way* can be downloaded at [sundayschoolliterature.com](http://sundayschoolliterature.com) and [churchofgodeveninglight.com/beautiful-way](http://churchofgodeveninglight.com/beautiful-way).

**Volume 69, Quarter 2, Week 8. Editor: Lindsey Gellenbeck.**

**Illustrators: Sister Emily Doolittle and Sister Rosie Gellenbeck.**

**Illustrative Editor: Sister Patrice Doolittle.**

# BE OF GOOD COURAGE !

**Supplies:** Crayons/colored pencils/  
markers, scissors, popsicle sticks,  
liquid or hot glue, cardstock



## **Directions:**

**Color and cut the shield.** If you want the shield itself to be stronger, use it as a template, cut a matching piece of cardstock, and glue it to the back.

**Cut a strip of cardstock and glue it to the back of the shield to serve as the handle.**





## King Saul Disobeys God

Many years before King Saul was alive and the children of Israel were wandering in the desert, the Amalekites attacked them from behind and killed the old people, young children, and sick people. God did not forget what the Amalekites had done to His people.

Now, Saul was the king and Samuel instructed him to go to war and completely destroy the Amalekites. There was not to be one person or animal left when the battle was over. Saul was becoming proud, however, and thought he knew better than God's chosen prophet, Samuel.

The army went to war, but Saul allowed the best animals and even the king of the Amalekites to live. Then, he destroyed all the rest, just like Samuel had said. (Did he completely obey Samuel? No!)

When Samuel visited Saul after the battle, he heard the sheep. He said, "Why do I hear sheep?" Saul knew he was caught, but blamed it on the soldiers. He said they wanted to make sacrifices to God. Saul had not obeyed God's directions completely, and because of it, God rejected him as the king. Samuel told him, "A new man who is better than you will become the new king."

Even though Saul had started out as a good young man, being the king had made him proud. He thought he was smarter than everyone around him, and even thought he could go against what God told him to do. God was sad, but punished King Saul for his sins.

*The Beautiful Way* can be downloaded at [sundayschoolliterature.com](http://sundayschoolliterature.com) and [churchofgodeveninglight.com/beautiful-way](http://churchofgodeveninglight.com/beautiful-way).  
Volume 69, Quarter 2, Week 9. Editor: Lindsey Gellenbeck.

## Missing Cookies

Violet runs to the kitchen counter to snatch a warm chocolate chip cookie, but Kathryn quickly says, "No, Violet. I'm giving them to Mr. Neil this evening. I'll make a batch for us tomorrow."

"Why does Mr. Neil need all of the cookies?" she wonders to herself. "That's too many cookies for one person."

The phone rings, and Violet's mother leaves the room.

"Take a few cookies now," a bad little voice says in Violet's mind.

"That is disobedient to your mother," another voice says.

The cookies are heaped on a plate, and the bad little voice says, "Your mom will never know."

She snatches two warm cookies and runs into the bathroom. Violet stuffs them in her mouth and gobbles them down. Then, she walks back into the kitchen. She sits in her chair, trying to look innocent, as her mother also re-enters the kitchen.

Kathryn glances at her daughter, but doesn't say anything. Violet can't make the bad feeling go away, but the little voice says, "No need to feel guilty. Your mom didn't notice."

After a long silence, Kathryn tells Violet to go in the bathroom and wipe her lips. Violet does, and gasps in horror when she looks in the mirror. Chocolate is smeared on one side of her lips and a few crumbs cling to her dress.

Violet feels guilt and sorrow all at the same time.

"Violet," Kathryn says sadly. "That was very naughty. Since you decided you could disobey me, you will also decide the consequences for your actions. Go to your room and pray to Jesus. Ask his forgiveness, and then ask him to help you decide on your consequence. Come back to me and we will go forward. Sin is not worth it, sweetie. It always finds you out."

Karissa Carver

And Samuel said to Saul,... Jehovah has rejected you from being king over Israel.  
I Samuel 15:26





## David is Anointed

King Saul had chosen to disobey God and go his own way. This made Samuel's heart sad, but God told him to take his oil and visit a man named Jesse in Bethlehem. One of Jesse's sons was to be the new king.

Samuel went to Jesse's house. He had many sons, and they were all very handsome. When Samuel saw the oldest son, he thought, "Surely, this is the man God has chosen to be king! He is handsome and strong." God spoke to Samuel and said, "You are looking at the outside, but I am looking at the heart. This is not the new king." After he had met all of Jesse's sons, Samuel asked, "Are these all of your sons?"

Jesse had one more son who was watching the sheep. He called his youngest boy in to meet Samuel. God spoke to the prophet and said, "This is the man who will be king. Arise and anoint him." His name was David and he was also a handsome young man. Samuel poured the oil over David's head. The Lord was with David from that day forward.

Back at the palace, King Saul was troubled by an evil spirit. He wanted a man to play the harp, and his servants called for David. David was a skilled musician as well as a shepherd. Saul immediately loved David, and whenever the evil spirit came and troubled Saul, David's songs about God's love and mercy soothed the king.

Remember, like God told Samuel, it is more important to look at someone's heart than judge him by his looks.

## God's Child

Anderson turns down a strange road. Jack and Violet look up in surprise.

"Aren't we going to church, Dad?" Jack asks.

Anderson pulls up to a makeshift shack. He lightly presses his horn, and the children watch in fascination as a man climbs out of the scrap wood and tarp shack.

"It's Mr. Neil!" Jack cries out in surprise.

Anderson leans out the window and says, "Hop in the back, Neil. I'm afraid we are packed in here like sardines!"

"You children be very kind to Neil today," Kathryn says quietly. "Your father's friendship to Mr. Neil has convinced him to visit our church."

Neil walks in the sanctuary beside Anderson. His hair is greasy and his breath sour. His clothes are wrinkled. His eyes are as soft as a child's, and they fill with tears as he listens to the songs and the message.

Thankfully, some families say hello to Neil after the service. Others give him long glances and wrinkle their nose before walking away.

Anderson drops Neil back off at his shack, and Kathryn hands him a sandwich lunch.

As the Mackey family drive home, Anderson tells his children the story of the Pharisee and the publican.

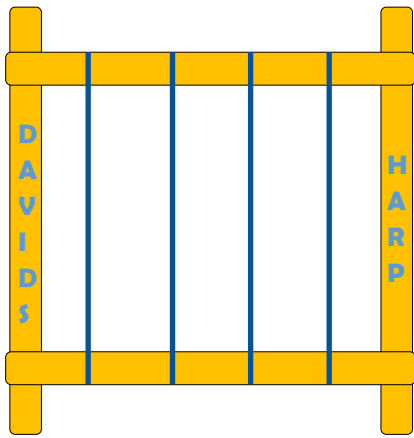
"Once, two men came to church. The Pharisee looked like a good religious man. The publican was a cheat and a sinner. The Pharisee was so proud, that he prayed loudly and said he was thankful he wasn't like the sinful publican. The publican knew he was a sinner, and cried out to God for forgiveness.

Do you think God cared about the Pharisee's nice clothes and religion? No. God does not look on the outside of people, but on the inside. Neil may smell and not look as nice as everyone else, but he is God's child. God loves Neil."

Karissa Carver

Man looketh on the outward  
appearance, but the Lord looketh on the  
heart. I Samuel 16:7b





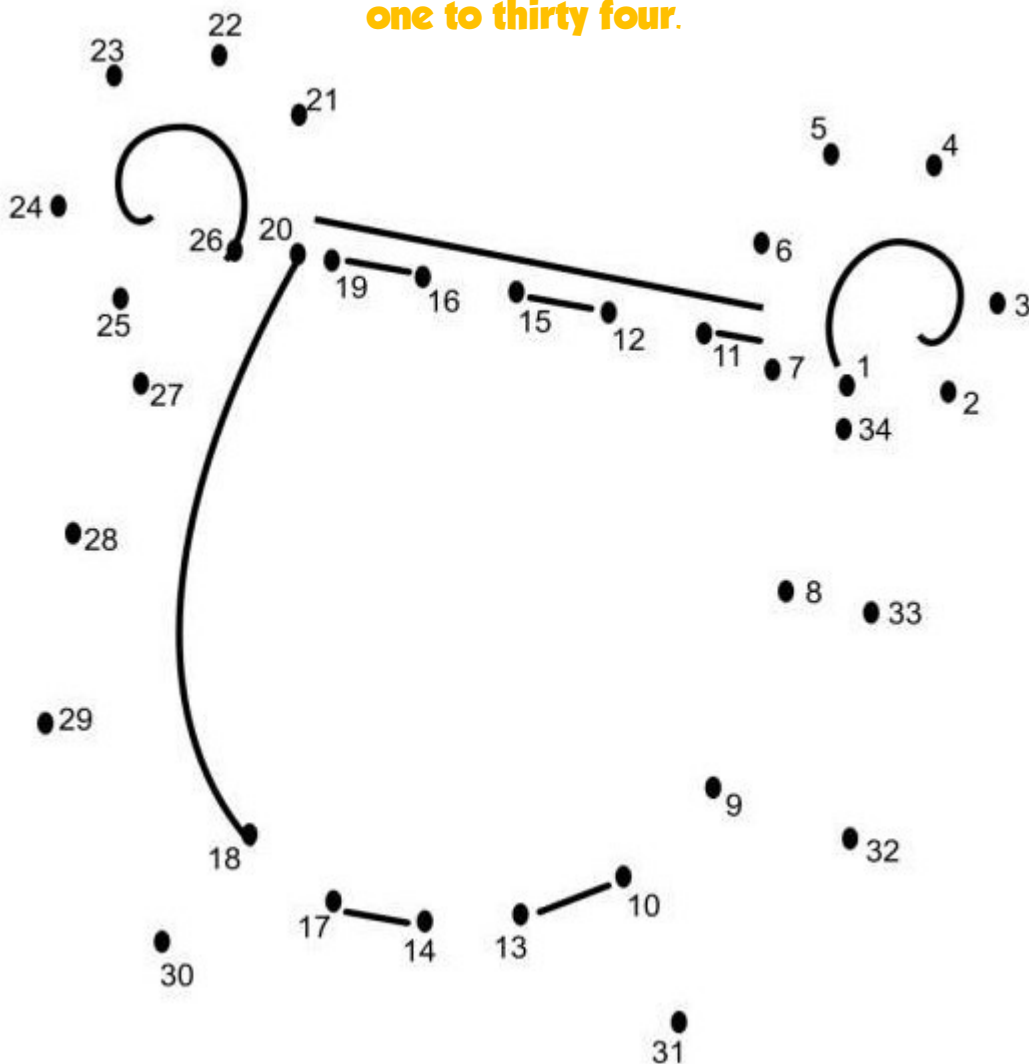
# DAVID'S HARP !

**Supplies:** Popsicle sticks, rubber bands, pipe cleaners, or string; paint or markers; hot glue gun

**Directions:** Paint or color four popsicle sticks. Hot glue them together in the shape the illustration shows. If using rubber bands, wrap four around the middle of the harp to create strings. If using pipe cleaners or string, use hot glue to attach them in the same place. Write the words "David's Harp" or today's memory verse on the sides of the harp.

## DOT-TO-DOT

Trace the outline of the picture below, following the dots from one to thirty four.







## David Kills Goliath

King Saul and the Israelites went to war with a people called the Philistines. The Philistines had a champion named Goliath. He was over nine feet tall and wore heavy and thick armor! Goliath would call to the Israelites asking them, “Why don’t you send someone to fight me? If he kills me, the Philistines will be your servants. But if I kill him, the Israelites will be our servants.” For forty days, Goliath challenged the Israelites. All of the brave men—even King Saul—were afraid and hid.

Meanwhile, a man named Jesse sent his youngest son, David, to the battle to bring food and check on his brothers. When David heard Goliath, he told King Saul he would fight. He said, “God has helped me kill a lion and a bear! He will help me kill this giant making fun of God’s people!” King Saul tried to give David his armor, but David hadn’t used armor before and didn’t want it.

Instead, he went to the river and picked five smooth stones. When Goliath saw David, he made fun of him for being young. But David told him, “I am coming against you in the name of the Lord!” When David threw his stone at Goliath, it hit Goliath in the forehead and he fell. When the Philistines saw Goliath was dead, they ran away. Israel won the battle because David had faith and was willing to step out to fight, even when it seemed impossible.

## Field Day

Jack bolts upright in bed. He hops out, quickly changing into school clothes and hurrying into the kitchen for breakfast.

“Have fun!” Anderson and Kathryn call after him as he races away to meet the school bus--Violet several paces behind.

Jack is excited for his first field day. It’s also the last day of school. Hooray!

Soon, the school assembles outside. Field day activities include tug-of-war, a water balloon toss, a balloon pop relay, a sack race, and many more. The day will end with a foot race.

Jack participates in each activity. He has great fun. Violet also enjoys the activities, and spends the day laughing merrily with her friends as they splash each other with water balloons and race with gunny sacks around their legs.

Finally, students and teachers gather around the expansive field to watch the runners line up for the foot race. Jack stretches his legs and makes sure his shoelaces are tight.

The principal blows a whistle and shouts, “Go!”

The runners are off. Arms pump, legs pump, grass and dirt fly, and the look of sheer determination etches the face of each boy and girl.

Jack quickly shoots toward the front of the pack, until he and a boy he barely knows are neck and neck. The other boy is a head taller, and he’s used to winning the race every year.

Jack gets a final burst of speed and finally edges past him right before the finish line. Teachers and students cheer. Jack is about to pump his fist in the air in triumph. Then, he remembers his mom telling him that God gives every gift. He waves and grins, instead.

“Thank you, God, for giving me fast legs. I sure like to run,” he says in his head.

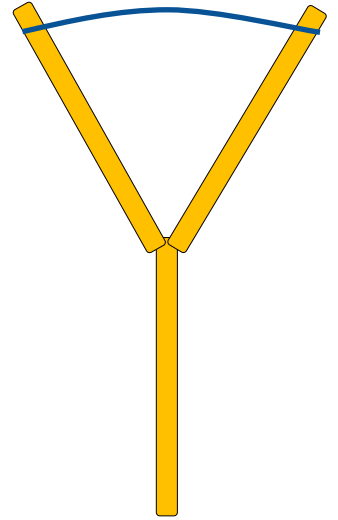
Karissa Carver

And all this assembly shall know that the  
LORD saveth not with sword and spear:  
for the battle is the LORD’S, and he will  
give you into our hands. I Samuel 17:47

# DAVID'S SLING !

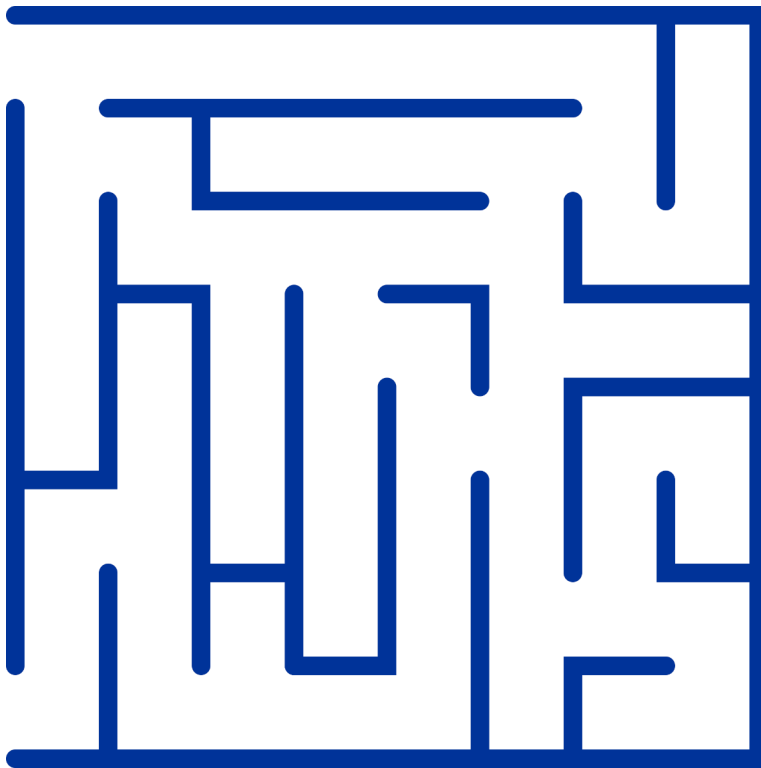
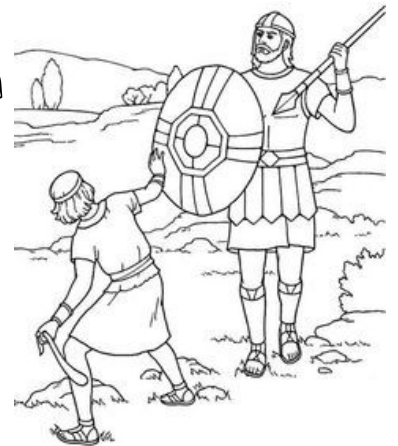
**Supplies:** Popsicle sticks, pipe cleaners, hot glue or liquid glue, pom poms, scissors, construction paper or cardstock, crayons/markers/colored pencils

**Directions:** Color the box below and cut it out. Paste it to the top of your cardstock. Wrap the ends of a pipe cleaner around the ends of two popsicle sticks. Glue them to the cardstock in the shape of a "Y," using a third popsicle stick to create the "handle" portion of the sling. Glue five pom poms to the cardstock to represent David's five smooth stones.



## FOR THE BATTLE IS THE LORDS

I SAMUEL 17: 47



**DON'T GET  
LOST !**

**Starting at the  
bottom of the  
maze, help  
David's stones  
find Goliath's  
forehead !**



## David and Jonathan

After killing Goliath, King Saul asked David to live in the palace. It was there David met Jonathan, Saul's son. They became good friends, such good friends, the Bible says Jonathan and David were like brothers. They loved each other a lot! They made a covenant to always be friends, no matter what happened to them. Jonathan gave David his robe, his sword and his bow as a sign of their friendship.

King Saul continued to use David in battle. God showed David what to do and how to act. The people of Israel began to notice David was a good soldier and a good man. After one of the battles, they danced in the streets and yelled their approval for David. This made King Saul upset and jealous. He did not like the people thinking David was better than he was.

Soon, King Saul tried to kill David. David became so afraid for his life, he ran from the palace. He and Jonathan were still good friends. Jonathan tried to ask his dad how he felt about David. King Saul was so upset, he threw a spear at this own son. Jonathan knew David was still in danger.

Jonathan decided to help his best friend escape from his dad's wrath. When David and Jonathan said goodbye, they were sad and cried. They promised each other their families would always get along and not fight. They remained friends and kept their promise, even in very hard times.

## Emma and Violet

Violet and Emma chatter happily as they rearrange the books for their teacher, Miss Jane. Miss Jane assigns every student a weekly responsibility, and pairs two students together for the work. Sometimes she purposefully pairs friends, and other times she tells the class she purposefully pairs two students who she thinks should get to know each other a little better. This week, Violet and Emma are paired up and they couldn't be happier. Work feels more like play! The rest of the class work noisily on an arts and crafts project. Emma stops laughing and says seriously, "Violet, I have a secret I want to tell you. But you can not tell anyone else, ok?" Violet nods solemnly. Emma looks around, and then whispers, "Maude came up to me yesterday at recess while you were in the bathroom. She told me she wanted to be my best friend instead of you. I asked her why we all couldn't be friends, but she wouldn't answer. Then she said she really liked my pink bicycle and that good friends give each other nice gifts. I think she wants my bike." Emma and Violet look at each other, puzzled. "I told her you would always be my best friend," Emma quickly adds.

The next day, Violet overhears Maude talking to her friend Alice. "I just need a pink bicycle to be happy. If I can make Emma upset at Violet, maybe she will be my friend instead. And then maybe she will give me her bike!"

Violet hurried to find Emma and tells her the news. "So don't let anything come between us!" Violet says. "Let us promise that we will always be loyal to each other and that we will not let anyone come between our friendship."

Karissa Carver

Then Jonathan and David made a covenant, because he loved him as his own soul. | Samuel 18:3







## Saul Pursues David

King Saul was still trying to kill David. David ran away and asked help of a priest named Ahimelech. Ahimelech gave David bread and Goliath's old sword.

David ran to another place called Gath, but the men of Gath recognized David. He was afraid they would give him to Saul. He pretended to be crazy, and they let him go. David ran again.

King Saul was unhappy. He heard how Ahimelech helped David and commanded Ahimelech and his family be killed.

Then David and his men went to fight the Philistines in a town called Keilah. Even though David saved them, God told David the people would still give him to Saul. He had to run again.

King Saul finally caught up with David on a mountain. David was hiding in a cave when King Saul came inside to take a nap. Some men tried to convince David to kill Saul, but David knew it was wrong. Instead, he cut off a piece of Saul's clothes.

After Saul left the cave, David showed him the piece of clothing. He bowed before the king and told Saul he didn't kill him when he could have. King Saul cried and knew he was wrong. He promised David he would not kill him or his family.

How many times did David have to run? God still protected David. When David could have done wrong, he had integrity. We should be like David and do what is right, no matter how scary it is!

*The Beautiful Way* can be downloaded at [sundayschoolliterature.com](http://sundayschoolliterature.com) and [churchofgodeveninglight.com/beautiful-way](http://churchofgodeveninglight.com/beautiful-way).

Volume 69, Quarter 2, Week 13. Editor: Lindsey Gellenbeck.  
Illustrators: Sister Emily Doolittle and Sister Rosie Gellenbeck.  
Illustrative Editor: Sister Patrice Doolittle.

## Jack Makes a Friend

Scott is in a bad mood when he arrives at school. At recess, he saunters up to a group of boys and roughly pushes the closest one. It's Jack.

"Come on, Jack," he taunts. "We've got time before a teacher finds us. Show me what you got."

Instead of feeling upset at Scott, Jack feels sorry for him. He knows Scott doesn't have any friends. He also knows Scott's dad isn't nice to him at home. Maybe Scott is sad inside and wishes someone cared about him.

"Let's get away from all these boys," Jack says. "Let's walk toward that tree and talk man to man on our way."

Scott looks surprised, but not upset. The boys walk away from the group. Jack prays for Jesus to help him know what to do.

"We don't have to fight, Scott," Jack finally says. "We could just walk around the track together if you like." Jack holds his breath and prays that Scott will agree.

Scott kicks a rock and says, "Yeah, that's fine." He tried to hide a small smile. Jack sees, but pretends to not notice.

"I've never had someone ask to walk with just me before," Scott says after a minute of silence.

Jack doesn't say anything, but kicks the rock a little farther down the track.

"I wasn't really upset at you: I was upset before I ever left for school," Scott says sadly.

"I know. Would you like to come to my house one day? We have animals and a barn and woods."

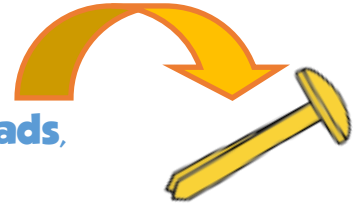
Scott looks at Jack, his eyes shining in excitement. "Yeah!" he shouts. Embarrassed, he looks away from Jack, not sure how to handle this new friendship. Jack says a silent "thank you" to Jesus for helping him do right.

Karissa Carver

But I say unto you which hear, love your enemies, do good to them which hate you, bless them that curse you, and pray for them which despitefully use you. Luke 6:27

# DAVID RUNS !

**Supplies:** Crayons/colored pencils/markers, scissors, brads, cardstock



**Directions:** Color the spinner and cut it out. Using the spinner as a template, trace and cut another circle from cardstock.

Poke a brad through the center of the spinner and the cardstock circle, securing them together. Turn the spinner to watch Saul chase David !

