

LITTLE VILLAGE

# PRESCHOOL CURRICULUM

OLD TESTAMENT

**Volume 2**

Ages 3-Kindergarten



These resources are created in collaboration with the individuals below and in light of our mission to **love God, love people, and make disciples of Jesus Christ** and our vision to generously resource people across the globe with the gifts that God has entrusted to us. To our many friends who have authored and edited this curriculum along the way, we say thank you for your faithfulness in making Christ known from here to the ends of the earth.

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Ages 3–Kindergarten

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## LITTLE VILLAGE PRESCHOOL CURRICULUM PHILOSOPHY

**T**he most joyful thing in all the world is knowing God; that's why our kids need to hear who God is and what He has done in the person and work of Jesus Christ.

In fact, God's big story (see the God's Big Story Timeline in the Appendix)—from creation to redemption to glory—displays Him as Hero. **The Bible is God's true Word. It is from God and about God.** Sadly, we sometimes miss that point and make everything about ourselves. Our kids need a different vantage point: God, in His wonder, shows us His love while we are yet still sinners.

### THE GOSPEL TRUTH

Even though our hearts are by nature opposed to God in every way, Jesus died on the cross for us so that our sick hearts (see Sick Heart/Healthy Heart visuals in the Appendix) could be made healthy, and now everyone who loves and trusts Jesus will get to live with God forever!

### A STRONG FOUNDATION

The lessons throughout this curriculum highlight one of these Six Foundational Truths: **God Made Everything, God Is in Charge of Everything, God Is Good, Jesus Came to Save Sinners, God Wants to Talk With Us,** and **The Church Is God's Family.**

This helps us keep the focus of every lesson on the main point of the story: God! And what do we do in response? Worship!

**Worship is how we show that God is most valuable. Only God deserves our worship. We use our voices, minds, and bodies to worship God.**

### OUR PRAYER

We pray that God would show the next generation the reason for the hope that we have. May we faithfully tell God's big story, laying kindling in the hearts of children that the Lord might ignite for the praise of His beautiful Name.



## HOW TO USE THIS CURRICULUM

Each year, we teach chronologically through the Bible, starting in June. The lessons from the Old Testament volume conclude just before the season of Advent. Reiterating the story of the Fall in “Advent Begins: God Promises a Savior” serves to prepare the way for the long-expected Messiah, kicking off the work of Christ in the New Testament volume. Please note that this book includes more lessons than there are weeks in the year. We’ve included all of our available lessons to allow for choice. You should plan out which lessons to teach before beginning the curriculum year.

Lessons can be taught in a large group setting, with kids later dispersing into

smaller classrooms or groups for review and activities such as crafts and coloring. While the review questions at the end of each lesson are meant for the smaller classroom setting, it may be helpful for you to view them as goals for comprehension during the large group teaching. For take-home papers, see the accompanying activity book, which includes family discussion guides and coloring sheets.

### LESSON KEY

This key will help you navigate the curriculum. Each lesson is tied to one of Six Foundational Truths. Supplies needed are located in the upper right corner of the lesson page. The ⇨ symbol indicates

where to begin teaching. *Blue italics* indicate actions to be performed during the teaching. The ✈ symbol represents “landing the plane.” This section will reiterate the foundational truth of the lesson and provide a link to the gospel. The Bible 📖 indicates when the key text from the Bible is supposed to be read aloud. Be sure to teach value and honor of the Word of God by reading from a physical copy of the Bible itself. The ✝ symbol shows you when to lead the kids in the Gospel Fingerplay rhyme in the Appendix. The **bold text** indicates key points and definitions that should be said word-for-word. For a complete list of terms and definitions, see the Glossary at the end of this book.



# God Rescues the Israelites at the Red Sea

EXODUS 14







## Exodus 14

# God Rescues the Israelites at the Red Sea

FOUNDATIONAL TRUTH GOD IS IN CHARGE OF EVERYTHING

**Supplies:** pictures of the Israelites walking through the Red Sea, photographs of clouds and fire

**KEY TEXT** Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the hand of the Egyptians. **Exodus 14:30a**

⇒ Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to show you and the children what is good and true about Jesus through this story from the Bible.

*(Show the Bible.)* **The Bible is God's true Word. The Bible is from God and about God.**

In the Bible, we have been learning that God is powerful and saved the Israelites from enslavement in Egypt. God showed Pharaoh that **God Is in Charge of Everything!**

Today, we are going to learn about how God brought the Israelites out of Egypt.

The Israelites did not have to be enslaved in Egypt anymore! **Everyone, cheer!** Moses led them out of Egypt and toward a land that God promised to them. God promised that He would lead them to live in a beautiful and wonderful land. This land would be their new home. God told the Israelites that this land would be full of good things. It was so special that they called this new home the Promised Land. **On the count of three, let's all say, "Promised**

### **Land!" 1—2—3! Promised Land!**

God was with the Israelites every day. Moses led the people by following God. God led them with a huge cloud in the sky during the day and with a column of fire in the sky at night *(show the photographs of clouds and fire).*

Back in Egypt *(point back)*, Pharaoh started to think that he made a mistake! Pharaoh liked that the Israelites did all the work and the Egyptians didn't have to. When the Israelites went away, there was no one to do the hard work! Pharaoh told his army to go *(point away)* and find the Israelites and bring them back to Egypt *(point back)* to enslave them again. The Egyptian army went out *(point away)* and started to look for the Israelites.

God told the Israelites to stop and camp by the Red Sea. **On the count of three, let's all say, "Red Sea!" 1—2—3! Red Sea!**

All of a sudden, they saw the Egyptian army coming for them. They were so scared! **Show me a scared face.**

Moses told the people not to be scared. He knew that **God Is in Charge of Everything.** God told Moses that He would fight for the

Israelites. Moses trusted God, so he knew God would take care of them! The Israelites needed to get across the Red Sea to get away from Pharaoh and his army. The Red Sea was a really big body of water *(stretch out your arms)*. They could not swim across it and they did not have a boat. Only God could help them get across the Red Sea!

God told Moses to stretch his hand out over the Red Sea. **Everyone, stretch out your hand in front of you.** God sent a big wind to make the waters separate on the left and the right. **Everyone push your hands to the left and the right.**

The waters separated, and the Israelites walked across the Red Sea on dry land. *(Show the picture of the Israelites walking through the Red Sea.)*

 *Read Exodus 14:30a from the Bible.*

**God Is in Charge of Everything!** The Egyptian army tried to follow the Israelites, but God made the water come back together, killing the Egyptian army. **Everyone, stretch your arms out and clap them together.** God protected the Israelites! **God Is in Charge of Everything!**

➔ God promised to be with the Israelites, and He was. God always keeps His promises! God promised that He would send a Savior to save sinners, and He did! God sent Jesus to save sinners.

**On the count of three, we are going to whisper, “God Is in Charge of Everything.” 1—2—3. God Is in Charge of Everything. On the count of three, we are going to say, “God Is in Charge of Everything,” with a deep voice. 1—2—3. God Is in Charge of Everything. Now, everyone, stand up! On the count of three, we are going to yell, “God Is in Charge of Everything!” If you don’t like loud noises, you can cover your ears. 1—2—3! God Is in Charge of Everything! Everyone, sit down!**

*Pray and thank God for being in charge of everything!*

## Review Questions

- This is where we are in God’s Big Story. *(Point to the “God’s people wait” clock.)*
- God sent Moses to save the Israelites. What were the Israelites doing in Egypt? *(They were enslaved people who worked for the Egyptians.)*
- What did God put in the sky to lead the Israelites? *(A cloud in the day and a fire at night)*
- While the Israelites were leaving, what was happening with Pharaoh back in Egypt? *(Pharaoh wanted the Israelites to come back and be enslaved in Egypt again.)*
- Let’s say our foundational truth together: *“God Is in Charge of Everything!”*



The Pillar and the Parting of the Red Sea



Miriam Dancing



God Is in Charge of Everything









# God Provides Manna

EXODUS 16







## Exodus 16

# God Provides Manna

FOUNDATIONAL TRUTH THE CHURCH IS GOD'S FAMILY

**Supplies:** coriander seeds,  
honey, photograph of quail

**KEY TEXT** When the people of Israel saw it, they said to one another, “What is it?” For they did not know what it was. And Moses said to them, “It is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat.” **Exodus 16:15**

- ⇒ Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to show you and the children what is good and true about Jesus through this story from the Bible.

**Show the Bible. The Bible is God’s true Word. The Bible is from God and about God.**

We have been learning about God’s special and chosen people, the Israelites, and how God saved them from being enslaved in Egypt! He sent the plagues to show Pharaoh that God is in charge, and then God separated the Red Sea so that the Israelites could walk across on dry land.

Today, we are going to learn about how God took care of the Israelites as they walked to the Promised Land. The Promised Land was a beautiful and wonderful land. God told the Israelites that this land would be full of good things and that it would be their new home. It was going to take a long time to get there

and was not going to be easy, but the Bible tells us that God was always with them.

**Have you ever traveled somewhere that has taken a long time? Have you been really tired? Have you started whining to your family?**

Well, the Israelites walked through a desert which is a really hot, dry place that has almost no food or water. They whined to Moses! *(Pretend to whine about having no food or water.)* The Israelites completely forgot what God had just rescued them from! They forgot that God always takes care of His people.

God heard their whining. God wanted the Israelites to remember they were part of His family and He would take care of them. God told Moses that He would send down bread from heaven, and for six days *(count to six)*, they were to go out and collect enough food for their family. This bread was called manna.

**On the count of three, say, “Manna!” 1—2—3! Manna!** The Bible tells us that manna was white and shaped like coriander seed *(show the coriander seed)*.

The Bible also says manna tasted like honey *(show the honey)*, which means it was sweet.

When God first sent manna to the Israelites, they did not know what it was. *(Look around with a confused expression.)*

- 📖 *Read Exodus 16:15 from the Bible.*

God also provided quail for them to eat *(show the photograph of quail)*. God provided the quail in the evening each day before bedtime and the manna each morning.

**God Is Good** and made sure the Israelites had the perfect amount of food *(give two thumbs-up)* so no one would be hungry.

God gave the Israelites rules. These rules were for the Israelites’ good because God knows what is best.

Some of God’s rules were to collect enough food for your family to eat that day and gather twice as much bread on the sixth day. God told His people what was best for them!

- ✈️ Even after God told the Israelites what was best, some of them still disobeyed Him! God is so patient and continued to provide for His people out of His own goodness. God continued to provide manna and take care of His people for 40 years! Today,

God takes care of the Church. The Church is all of the people who love and trust Jesus.

### **The Church Is God's Family!**

**On the count of three, we are going to whisper, "The Church Is God's Family." 1—2—3! The Church Is God's Family. On the count of three, we are going to say, "The Church Is God's Family" while flapping our arms like a bird. 1—2—3! The Church Is God's Family. Now, everyone, stand up! On the count of three, we are going to yell, "The Church Is God's Family!" If you don't like loud noises, you can cover your ears. 1—2—3! The Church Is God's Family! Everyone, sit down!**

*Pray and thank God for being good!*

### **Review Questions**

- This is where we are in God's Big Story. *(Point to the "God's people wait" clock.)*
- What did the Israelites walk through on their way to the Promised Land? *(The desert)*
- How were the Israelites acting as they were walking through the desert? *(They were whining.)*
- What were the two things God provided for the Israelites to eat? *(Manna and quail)*
- Why did God give the Israelites good rules for collecting the manna? *(God knows what is best.)*
- Did the Israelites follow all of God's good rules? *(No, they didn't.)*
- Why did God continue to provide for them? *(God takes care of His people!)*
- How long did God provide manna for the Israelites? *(40 years)*
- Let's say our foundational truth together: *"The Church Is God's Family!"*



God's People in the Wilderness



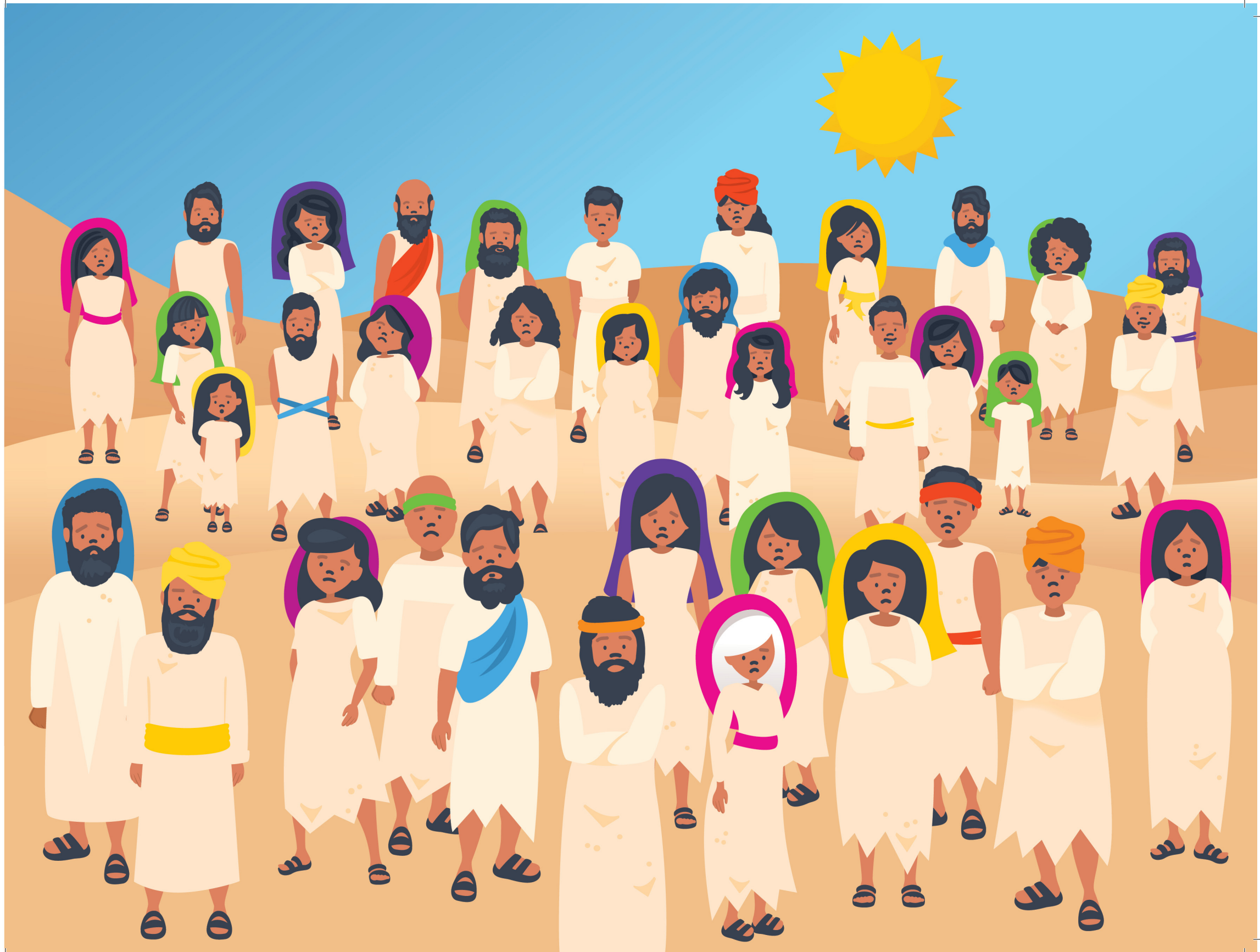
Collecting Manna



Collecting Quail



The Church Is God's Family















# God Gives the Ten Commandments

EXODUS 20, 24





Exodus 20, 24

## God Gives the Ten Commandments

FOUNDATIONAL TRUTH JESUS CAME TO SAVE SINNERS

**KEY TEXT** “All the words that the LORD has spoken we will do.” **Exodus 24:3b**

⇒ Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to show you and the children what is good and true about Jesus through this story from the Bible.

*(Show the Bible.)* **The Bible is God’s true Word. The Bible is from God and about God.**

In the Bible, we have been learning that **God Is Good** and He provides for the needs of His people. God is provider, and He cares for people because they are precious in His sight. God provided manna and quail for the Israelites to eat while they were walking through the desert. *(Show the pictures of manna and quail.)*

Today, we will learn from the Bible about what else God provided for His people as they continued to walk through the desert to the Promised Land.

The Israelites were walking through the hot, dry desert *(walk in place)* and needed to stop by a mountain to rest. Moses left them and climbed up onto the mountain to spend time with God. *(Show the photograph of Mt. Sinai.)*

God told Moses some very special rules called the Ten Commandments. **On the count of three, say, “Ten Commandments!” 1–2–3! Ten Commandments!**

The Ten Commandments were 10 rules that God gave for the Israelites to obey. These rules were for the Israelites’ good. They were rules that would teach the Israelites what was best and protect them.

God spoke with Moses and wrote the Ten Commandments on two stone tablets. *(Show the picture of the tablets.)* Let’s read a few of them to see what God said.


- 1.** You shall have no other gods before me.
- 2.** You shall not make for yourself a carved image... You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I am the Lord your God. Don’t make a statue of God or anything else—just worship Him!
- 3.** You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain. Don’t use God’s name to say anything God hasn’t said.
- 4.** Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord

**Supplies:** pictures of manna and quail, picture of two tablets with the Ten Commandments, Healthy Heart and Sick Heart posters, photograph of Mount Sinai

your God. On it you shall not do any work. Rest with God one day a week!

- 5.** Honor your father and mother.
- 6.** You shall not murder.
- 7.** You shall not commit adultery.
- 8.** You shall not steal.
- 9.** You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. Don’t lie.
- 10.** You shall not covet—or want—anything that is your neighbor’s. Be content with what you have.

After God gave the Israelites the Ten Commandments, He gave them hundreds of other laws too—laws about how to treat other people, laws about how to be close to Him even though they were sinners, laws about how to build a big tent called the tabernacle *(show the picture of the tabernacle)* so that He could live with them and be their God. God gave His people lots and lots of laws!

 After Moses told the Israelites what the Ten Commandments were, the people said—*(Read Exodus 24:3b from the Bible.)*

It was good that the Israelites wanted to obey God! **Do you think the Israelites obeyed every rule perfectly?** No! *(Shake your head.)* They were sinners. They loved and trusted God, but they still sinned. No matter what they tried to do, they would never be able to keep God's rules perfectly. God was not surprised by this! He knew that the rules would show them that they needed a Savior to save them from their sin.

Obeying God's rules cannot save us from our sin, and it is impossible to obey God's rules without God's help. Every day, we break God's rules because we have hearts that are sick with sin. *(Point to the Sick Heart poster.)* **Sin is anything we do or think that is different from what God wants.** All of us sin. Even after you have a new, healthy heart *(point to the Healthy Heart poster)* that loves and trusts Jesus, you will still sin. We will never be good enough, but that's why **Jesus Came to Save Sinners!**

➔ God knows what is best and told His people what was best. He knew His people would not keep His rules perfectly but sent a Savior who would! **Jesus Came to Save Sinners!**

**On the count of three, we are going to whisper, "Jesus Came to Save Sinners." 1—2—3. Jesus Came to Save Sinners. On the count of three, we are going to say, "Jesus Came to Save Sinners," in a tiny mouse voice. 1—2—3. Jesus Came to Save Sinners. Now, everyone, stand up! On the count of three, we are going to yell, "Jesus Came to Save Sinners!" If you don't like loud noises, you can cover your ears. 1—2—3! Jesus Came to Save Sinners! Everyone, sit down.**

✝ *Have the class say the Gospel Fingerplay.*

*Pray and thank God for sending Jesus to save sinners.*

## Review Questions

- This is where we are in God's Big Story. *(Point to the "God's people wait" clock.)*
- Why did Moses go up on the mountain? *(To spend time with God)*
- What did God give to Moses on the mountain? *(The Ten Commandments)*
- Why did God give the Ten Commandments? *(To teach what was best and show a need for the Savior)*
- Who did God send to save sinners? *(Jesus)*
- Can we obey God perfectly? *(No, only Jesus can.)*
- Let's say our foundational truth together: *"Jesus Came to Save Sinners!"*



God's People in the Wilderness



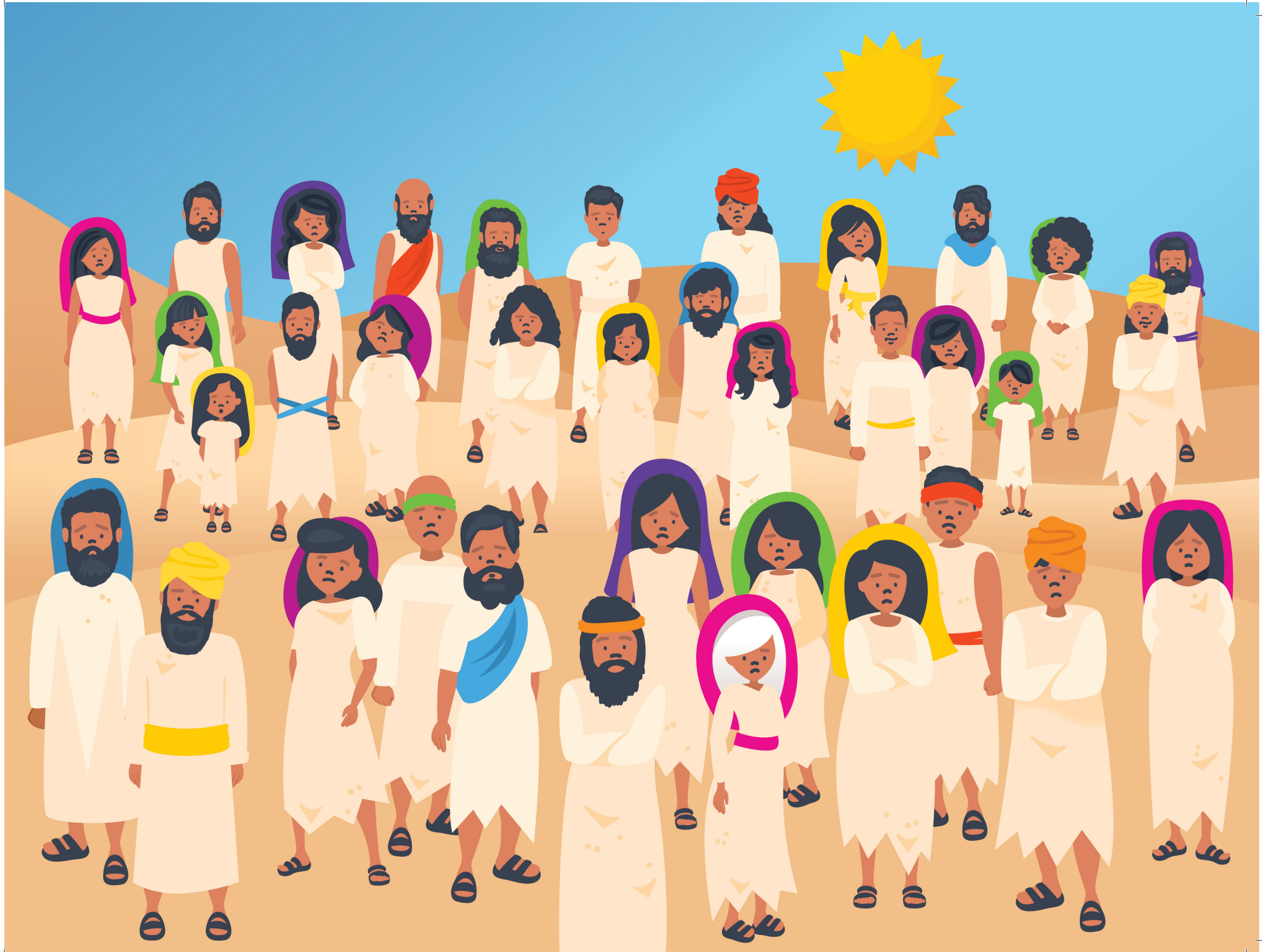
The Tabernacle



Stone Tablets by Mt. Sinai



Jesus Came to Save Sinners















# God Knocks Down the Wall

JOSHUA 6





## Joshua 6

# God Knocks Down the Wall

FOUNDATIONAL TRUTH GOD IS IN CHARGE OF EVERYTHING

**Supplies:** trumpet/stadium horn/  
noisemaker, cardboard boxes

**KEY TEXTS** And at the seventh time, when the priests had blown the trumpets, Joshua said to the people, “Shout, for the LORD has given you the city.” **Joshua 6:16**

So the people shouted, and the trumpets were blown. As soon as the people heard the sound of the trumpet, the people shouted a great shout, and the wall fell down flat, so that the people went up into the city, every man straight before him, and they captured the city. **Joshua 6:20**

⇒ Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to show you and the children what is good and true about Jesus through this story from the Bible.

*(Show the Bible.)* **The Bible is God’s true Word. The Bible is from God and about God.**

We have been learning about God’s special and chosen people, the Israelites. God took care of the Israelites over and over again. He saved them from enslavement in Egypt. He gave them food called manna to eat. He gave them rules to live by called the Ten Commandments.

God made a special promise to the Israelites.

He promised that He would lead them to live in a beautiful and wonderful land. This land would be their new home. God told the Israelites that this land would be full of good things. It was so special that they called this new home the Promised Land. **On the count of three, let’s all say, “Promised Land!” 1–2–3! Promised Land!**

Moses led the Israelites through the desert for 40 years, but Moses died before they got to the Promised Land. The Israelites needed a new leader. This new leader was named Joshua. **On the count of three, say, “Joshua!” 1–2–3! Joshua!** Joshua was going to lead the Israelites into the Promised Land.

God always keeps His promises! The Israelites were so excited to get to the Promised Land. They were so tired of walking in the desert for 40 years! They were so close, but there was one thing in their way—Jericho. **On the count of three, say, “Jericho!” 1–2–3! Jericho!**


Jericho was a big city. *(Spread your arms wide.)* A huge wall was built around the city to keep the people inside safe. *(Build a “wall” with the cardboard boxes.)* The wall was built all the way around Jericho, and it couldn’t be knocked down by the Israelites. The Israelites

could not enter the Promised Land until the city of Jericho was defeated. They needed God’s help. The Israelites knew that **God Is in Charge of Everything** and could knock the wall down. God gave Joshua a battle plan to defeat Jericho. But it was a very strange battle plan!

God told the Israelites to march around the city of Jericho once a day for six days. *(March around the box wall.)* While they marched, the Israelites were supposed to blow a trumpet. *(Continue marching while you blow the trumpet/stadium horn/noisemaker.)*

This battle plan sounded crazy to the Israelites! Big, giant walls don’t fall down just because you walk around them blowing horns. **Do you think I can make this wall of boxes fall down just by walking around it and blowing my trumpet/stadium horn/noisemaker?** No! That’s silly!

But God wanted the Israelites to know that God was in charge of the walls of Jericho and God was in charge of getting the Israelites to the Promised Land. All the Israelites had to do was trust and obey what God told them to do, and He would do the rest.

 On the seventh day, God told the Israelites to march around Jericho seven times (*count to seven*) while they blew trumpets. Then Joshua said—(*Read Joshua 6:16 and Joshua 6:20 from the Bible.*)

As the Israelites shouted, the huge walls of Jericho came crashing down to the ground! (*Knock down the box wall.*) God had destroyed the walls of Jericho, and the Israelites could now enter the Promised Land! **Everyone, cheer!**

➔ **God Is in Charge of Everything!** God was in charge of the Israelites. God was in charge of the walls of Jericho. The Israelites did not knock down the walls—God did! God did what He had promised He would do! God had brought the Israelites to the Promised Land. God always keeps His promises.

**On the count of three, we are going to whisper, “God Is in Charge of Everything.” 1—2—3. God Is in Charge of Everything.**

**On the count of three, we are going to say, “God Is in Charge of Everything,” with a deep voice. 1—2—3. God Is in Charge of Everything. Now, everyone, stand up! On the count of three, we are going to yell, “God Is in Charge of Everything!” If you don’t like loud noises, you can cover your ears. 1—2—3! God Is in Charge of Everything! Everyone, sit down!**

*Pray and thank God for being in charge of everything!*

### Review Questions

- This is where we are in God’s Big Story. (*Point to the “God’s people wait” clock.*)
- Who was the new leader God gave to the Israelites? (*Joshua*)
- God promised to lead His people into a very wonderful land, but there was a city in the way! What was the name of the city? (*Jericho*)
- What was around the city of Jericho? (*A giant wall*)
- Could the Israelites knock down the giant wall by themselves? (*No!*)
- How many days did the people march around the giant walls of the city? (*Seven*)
- On the seventh day, what did God tell the Israelites to do? (*March around the wall seven times, then make lots of noise with trumpets and yelling.*)
- What happened next? (*The wall fell down.*)
- Who was in charge of the wall falling down? (*God; God Is in Charge of Everything!*)
- Let’s say our foundational truth together: *“God Is in Charge of Everything!”*



Jericho  
Defeated  
by God



God Is in Charge  
of Everything







# God Cares for Naomi and Ruth

RUTH 1-4





## Ruth 1–4

# God Cares for Naomi and Ruth

FOUNDATIONAL TRUTH GOD IS GOOD

**KEY TEXT** “For where you go I will go, and where you lodge I will lodge. Your people shall be my people, and your God my God.” **Ruth 1:16b**

⇒ Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to show you and the children what is good and true about Jesus through this story from the Bible.

*(Show the Bible.)* **The Bible is God’s true Word. The Bible is from God and about God.**

In the Bible, we have been learning about God knocking down the wall of Jericho. God made a way for the Israelites to move into the Promised Land.

Today, we’re going to learn about a family who lived in the Promised Land.

This family moved away from the Promised Land to another place where the people did not love and trust God. The family had a really hard time in this new place. The dad and sons died, and the mom missed her home in the Promised Land.

Naomi, the mom, wanted to go back home to the Promised Land. And Ruth, one of her

daughters-in-law, wanted to go with her. **On the count of three, say, “Naomi and Ruth!” 1–2–3! Naomi and Ruth!**

📖 Ruth knew that it was good to go with Naomi. The Bible tells us what Ruth said to Naomi when they were getting ready to leave. *(Read Ruth 1:16b from the Bible.)* Ruth loved Naomi and trusted that **God Is Good!** *(Show the picture of Naomi and Ruth.)*

Naomi and Ruth went back home, but Naomi had a hard time believing that God was good and would take care of them. Naomi was sad because she missed her husband and sons. Ruth trusted that **God Is Good** and would take care of them. She went to work in a barley field to get food. *(Show the barley.)*

Ruth gathered leftover barley from the field and took it home to eat! God took care of Naomi and Ruth and helped them get enough food. The field where Ruth worked was owned by a man named Boaz. **On the count of three, say, “Boaz!” 1–2–3! Boaz! Boaz was a very important man.**

Boaz had heard how Ruth had come back to the Promised Land with Naomi. He told his workers to be kind to Ruth and let her take all

**Supplies:** barley prop, picture of Ruth and Naomi, picture of Ruth, Naomi, Boaz and baby

the barley she wanted! God used Boaz to take care of Naomi and Ruth because **God Is Good!**

Naomi knew who Boaz was and thought he might be able to help them more. Naomi sent Ruth to ask Boaz to help take care of her and Naomi. Boaz agreed to help them. He married Ruth, and they had a baby and started a new family! God took care of Naomi and Ruth and gave them a new family. *(Show the family picture.)*

Naomi thanked God for her family. She trusted that **God Is Good!**

➔ God takes care of His people because He is good! He gave Naomi and Ruth food, a home, and a new family all because He is good. He wants His people to trust that He is good even when things are hard or sad. Being with God is the best thing for us. **God Is Good!**

**On the count of three, we are going to whisper, “God Is Good.” 1–2–3! God Is Good. On the count of three, we are going to say, “God Is Good,” in a robot voice. 1–2–3! God Is Good. Now, everyone, stand up! On the count of three, we are going to yell, “God Is Good!” If you don’t like loud noises, you can cover your ears. 1–2–3!**

**God Is Good! Everyone, sit down!** *(Pray and thank God for being good.)*

### Review Questions

- This is where we are in God's Big Story. *(Point to the "God's people wait" clock.)*
- Who moved back home to the Promised Land? *(Naomi and Ruth)*
- What kind of food did Ruth gather in the field? *(Barley)*
- Who did God use to provide for Naomi and Ruth? *(Boaz)*
- What did Boaz do for Naomi and Ruth? *(Boaz made sure they had all the food they needed, and he married Ruth.)*
- What did God show Naomi and Ruth? *(God Is Good! He is what is best.)*
- Let's say our foundational truth together: *"God Is Good!"*



Naomi  
and Ruth



A New Family



God Is Good











# God Answers Hannah's Prayer

1 SAMUEL 1:1-2:11





1 Samuel 1:1–2:11

## God Answers Hannah's Prayer

FOUNDATIONAL TRUTH GOD WANTS TO TALK WITH US

**Supplies:** pictures of Hannah praying and walking Samuel to the temple, baby doll

**KEY TEXT** “I have been pouring out my soul before the LORD.” **1 Samuel 1:15b**

⇒ Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to show you and the children what is good and true about Jesus through this story from the Bible.

*(Show the Bible.)* **The Bible is God's true Word. The Bible is from God and about God.**

Last week, we learned that **God Is Good** and that He took care of Naomi and Ruth. God saw their need and provided for them.

Today, we're going to learn about a woman named Hannah. **On the count of three, say, “Hannah!” 1–2–3! Hannah!** Hannah was a married woman who didn't have children. She wanted children and was very sad that God had not given her a child.

**Can you show me a sad face?**

**Think about a time when you asked for something but didn't get it.** Maybe you asked your parents for a new toy or you prayed to God and asked for something. Did it feel easy when you didn't get the thing you asked for? Or did it feel hard and sad? Hannah was sad that she did not have a child.

Every year, her family would go to the temple. The temple was where all the people came together to worship God, kind of like we do in the church building. Hannah's family would go to the temple to tell and show God that they loved Him most!

Hannah knew that **God Wants to Talk With Us!** One year when her family went to the temple, Hannah went inside to talk to God. *(Show the picture of Hannah praying.)*

Hannah prayed and asked God to give her a son. She promised that the child would be a helper in the temple.

The priest in the temple, Eli, saw Hannah praying, but he did not understand that she was praying. Eli was going to get her in trouble!

📖 The Bible tells us what Hannah was doing—*(Read 1 Samuel 1:15b from the Bible.)* Hannah was praying and telling all of her hurt and sadness to God because she knew **God Wants to Talk With Us!** She was doing exactly what God wants His people to do!

Once the priest understood, he blessed Hannah and told her that God had heard her prayer. God always hears us when we pray.

God did hear Hannah's prayer for a son, and He said “Yes!” God gave Hannah the child she had prayed for! *(Hold the baby doll and have everyone celebrate!)* Hannah named her son Samuel. **On the count of three, say, “Samuel!” 1–2–3! Samuel!**

Hannah raised Samuel while he was very young, and then she took him to the temple to learn from the priest and to serve God. *(Show the picture of Hannah walking Samuel to the temple.)* Samuel grew up to be a priest and a prophet for Israel. **A prophet is a messenger of God, someone who speaks for God.**

➔ **God Wants to Talk With Us!** We can talk to Him through prayer, and God talks to us through the Bible and the Holy Spirit. When we pray, we can tell God how good He is, we can thank Him for the things and people we love, we can tell Him that our hearts are sick with sin, and we can ask for things just like Hannah did. **God Wants to Talk With Us!**

**On the count of three, we are going to whisper, “God Wants to Talk With Us.” 1–2–3. God Wants to Talk With Us. On the count of three, we are going to say, “God Wants to Talk With Us” with praying hands. 1–2–3. God Wants to Talk With Us.**

**Now, everyone, stand up! On the count of three, we are going to yell, “God Wants to Talk With Us!” If you don’t like loud noises, you can cover your ears. 1—2—3. God Wants to Talk With Us! Everyone, sit down!**

*Pray and thank God for wanting to talk with us!*

### Review Questions

- This is where we are in God’s Big Story. *(Point to the “God’s people wait” clock.)*
  - Why was Hannah sad? *(She wanted a child.)*
  - Where did her family go to worship God? *(The temple)*
  - Who saw Hannah praying? *(Eli, the priest)*
  - What was Hannah asking God to do? *(Give her a child)*
- Did God respond to Hannah’s prayer? *(Yes! God heard and responded to her prayer. He gave her a son.)*
  - What did Hannah name her son? *(Samuel)*
  - God Wants to Talk With Us!** He wants us to pray to Him and trust that He hears us, so let’s say our foundational truth together: *“God Wants to Talk With Us!”*



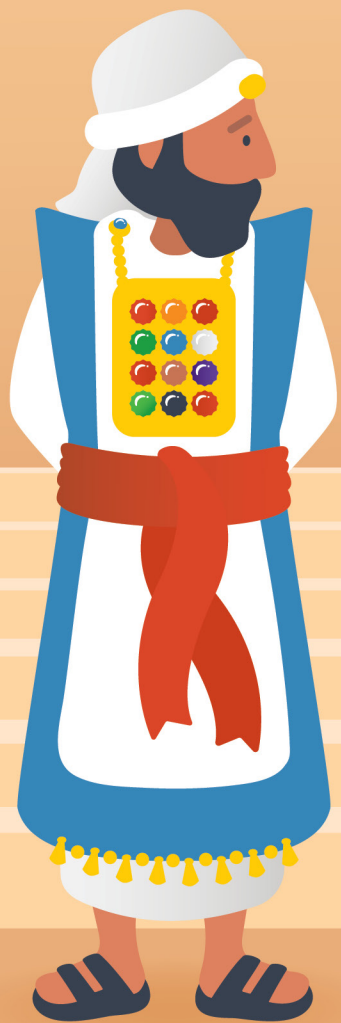
**Hannah Pours  
Out Her  
Heart to God**



**Samuel  
Brought to Eli**



**God Wants to  
Talk With Us**











# God Chooses David

1 SAMUEL 16:1-13





1 Samuel 16:1–13

## God Chooses David

FOUNDATIONAL TRUTH JESUS CAME TO SAVE SINNERS

**Supplies:** a horn, a crown, God's Big Story  
Timeline Circle: God Promises a Savior

**KEY TEXT** Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers. And the Spirit of the LORD rushed upon David from that day forward. **1 Samuel 16:13**

⇒ Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to show you and the children what is good and true about Jesus through this story from the Bible.

*(Show the Bible.)* **The Bible is God's true Word. The Bible is from God and about God.**

Last week, we learned about Hannah's prayer. Hannah talked to God and asked Him to give her a child, and He did! His name was Samuel. **On the count of three, say, "Samuel!" 1–2–3! Samuel!** Hannah sent Samuel to live with the priest and learn about God. God gave him a healthy heart that loved and trusted God, and Samuel became a prophet. **A prophet is a messenger of God, someone who speaks for God.**

Samuel led the Israelites, God's special and chosen people, and helped them follow God. The Israelites had a king. **Everyone, pretend to put a crown on your head.** But he was not a

good king. His heart was sick with sin. God told Samuel that there would be a new king, one who loved and trusted God.

God sent Samuel to the house of a man named Jesse and told him that one of Jesse's sons would be the next king! Jesse brought his sons out to meet Samuel, but each time one of his seven sons stood, God told Samuel that he wasn't the next king. *(Act out Samuel saying "no" to Jesse's oldest sons.)*

Samuel asked Jesse if these were all of his sons. Jesse said, "No, I have David, but he's just a small boy—he's watching the sheep." **On the count of three, say, "David!" 1–2–3! David!**

📖 Jesse brought David to Samuel. David was a young boy who didn't look like a king. But God told Samuel, "This is the one I have chosen." *(Read 1 Samuel 16:13 from the Bible.)*

*(Use the horn to pretend to pour oil.)* Samuel anointed David by pouring oil on David's head to show that he was the one God had chosen. David would be the next king! *(Put on the crown as you say this.)* God knew that David loved Him and wanted to obey Him.

The Bible calls David a man after God's own heart. God gave David a healthy heart, but David didn't always obey God. Remember all the way back to when we learned about Adam and Eve? They disobeyed God, and every person since has been born with a heart that is sick with sin, except one!

God promised Adam and Eve that a Savior would come. *(Hold up God's Big Story "Promise of a Savior" circle.)* This Savior, Jesus, is the only one born with a healthy heart because He is the Son of God. God promised that He would give all people who love and trust Jesus a healthy heart, too! **Jesus Came to Save Sinners!**

David wasn't a perfect man or a perfect king, but he believed God's promises. God loved David, too, and gave him a healthy heart that loved and wanted to obey God. God also blessed him in a special way. Jesus, the promised Savior, would be born from David's family!

➔ The Israelites needed a good king who would love and obey God. That was not their biggest need, though! The people of Israel and all of us need a Savior even more! **Jesus Came to Save Sinners!** Everyone who loves and trusts Jesus are given healthy hearts that can obey God.

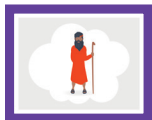
**On the count of three, we are going to whisper, “Jesus Came to Save Sinners.” 1—2—3. Jesus Came to Save Sinners. On the count of three, we are going to say, “Jesus Came to Save Sinners,” with a very slow voice. 1—2—3. Jesus Came to Save Sinners. Now, everyone, stand up! On the count of three, we are going to yell, “Jesus Came to Save Sinners!” If you don’t like loud noises, you can cover your ears. 1—2—3! Jesus Came to Save Sinners! Everyone, sit down.**

✝ *Have the class say the Gospel Fingerplay.*

*Pray and thank God that Jesus Came to Save Sinners.*

## Review Questions

- This is where we are in God’s Big Story. *(Point to the “God’s people wait” clock.)*
- Who did God send to find the next king? *(Samuel)*
- What was the name of the son who would be king? *(David)*
- Why did God choose David to be the next king? *(David loved God. He was a man after God’s own heart, and he believed in God’s promises.)*
- How did God bless David? *(Jesus, the Savior, was born into David’s family!)*
- What do people need more than a good king like David? *(Jesus)*
- Let’s say our foundational truth together: *“Jesus Came to Save Sinners!”*



God’s Prophet,  
Samuel



Samuel Meets  
Jesse’s Sons



David, the  
Shepherd



Samuel  
Anoints David



Jesus Came to  
Save Sinners



















# God Uses David

1 SAMUEL 17





## 1 Samuel 17

# God Uses David

FOUNDATIONAL TRUTH GOD IS IN CHARGE OF EVERYTHING

**KEY TEXT** “For the battle is the LORD’s, and he will give you into our hand.” **1 Samuel 17:47b**

⇒ Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to show you and the children what is good and true about Jesus through this story from the Bible.

*(Show the Bible.)* **The Bible is God’s true Word. The Bible is from God and about God.**

In the Bible, we have been learning about how God told Samuel that David was going to be the king. **On the count of three, say, “David!” 1—2—3! David!** We also learned that the Savior God had promised would be born from David’s family! David would be the king of Israel but he wasn’t the king yet.

Today, we are going to learn about how God used David to protect the Israelites, God’s special and chosen people.

David was still a boy when the Israelites were fighting with a big, strong enemy. **Strike a muscle pose.** Their enemy, the Philistines, did not love God. The Philistines had a great warrior on their side; his name was Goliath. **On the count of three, say, “Goliath!” 1—2—3! Goliath!**

Goliath was a very, very big man! *(Point to the Goliath felt on the wall and have a child stand next to it.)* He was huge! The Israelites were going to war with the Philistines and they were scared of this very big man named Goliath. The Israelites did not know who would fight against this huge and scary man. **Can you show me a scared face?**

Every day, Goliath would yell to the Israelites, “Send your best soldier to fight me, and if your soldier wins, we will be your slaves. But if I win, you will be our slaves.” **Being enslaved means that someone has to do all of the hard work but not make any money. Enslaved people are not in charge of their own lives and have to do whatever their enslaver tells them to do. Enslaved people are treated very, very badly, and their enslavers are mean to them. It is terrible to be enslaved. God never wants us to treat people the way enslaved people are treated.**

The Israelites were very scared. They needed someone to fight for them. God would use David.

David was a young boy and not old enough to fight with the other Israelites, so he stayed home while his older brothers went to fight. One day, David’s father asked him to take

**Supplies:** stones, slingshot, felt warrior, poms for each child


some food to his brothers and make sure that they were all okay. David went to where his brothers and the Israelites were fighting. When he got there, David saw Goliath and saw that all the people were afraid of him. **Show me a scared face.**

David knew that **God Is in Charge of Everything!** David said, “Don’t be afraid! I will fight Goliath.” David didn’t have a scared face. He had a brave face! **Show me a brave face.**

People were surprised that a boy would want to fight such a large, scary man. The king said, “You are only a shepherd boy, and Goliath is a great soldier! How will you fight him?” David said, “God will help me.”

David found five smooth stones. **Can you count with me? 1—2—3—4—5.** They might have looked something like these stones. *(Show the stones.)* David took the stones and his slingshot. *(Show the slingshot.)*

David walked toward Goliath. David knew that this was God’s battle, and God always wins His battles! Goliath was angry that a young boy was coming to fight him and made fun of David. David was not afraid because he knew that **God Is in Charge of Everything!**

 David told Goliath that he was going to win because the battle was God’s! *(Read 1 Samuel 17:47b from the Bible.)* David threw one of the stones at Goliath, and he won the battle! *(Have everyone throw their pom at the felt Goliath.)* Goliath died, and the Philistines were very afraid and ran away from the Israelites! The Israelites celebrated because God saved them! **Everyone, cheer!**

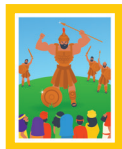
✈ **God Is in Charge of Everything!** God used a young boy with a stone and a slingshot to defeat a strong enemy. God did not need strong men to fight the battle. **God Is in Charge of Everything,** and we can trust that He is strong enough to help His people!

**On the count of three, we are going to whisper, “God Is in Charge of Everything.” 1–2–3. God Is in Charge of Everything. On the count of three, we are going to say, “God Is in Charge of Everything,” with a big, deep voice. 1–2–3. God Is in Charge of Everything. Now, everyone, stand up! On the count of three, we are going to yell, “God Is in Charge of Everything!” If you don’t like loud noises, you can cover your ears. 1–2–3! God Is in Charge of Everything! Everyone, sit down!**

*Pray and thank God for being in charge of everything.*

## Review Questions

- This is where we are in God’s Big Story. *(Point to the “God’s people wait” clock.)*
- Was David a grownup or a young boy? *(A young boy)*
- Was Goliath big or small? *(He was very, very big!)*
- Why were the Israelites so afraid of Goliath? *(He was a big man who was very scary and mean.)*
- Who did David say would help him win the fight? *(God!)*
- Was David able to take down Goliath? *(Yes!)*
- Who used David to save the Israelites? *(God did!)*
- Let’s say our foundational truth together: *“God Is in Charge of Everything!”*



**Goliath Provokes the Living God**



**David Collecting Stones**



**David Stands Up to Goliath**

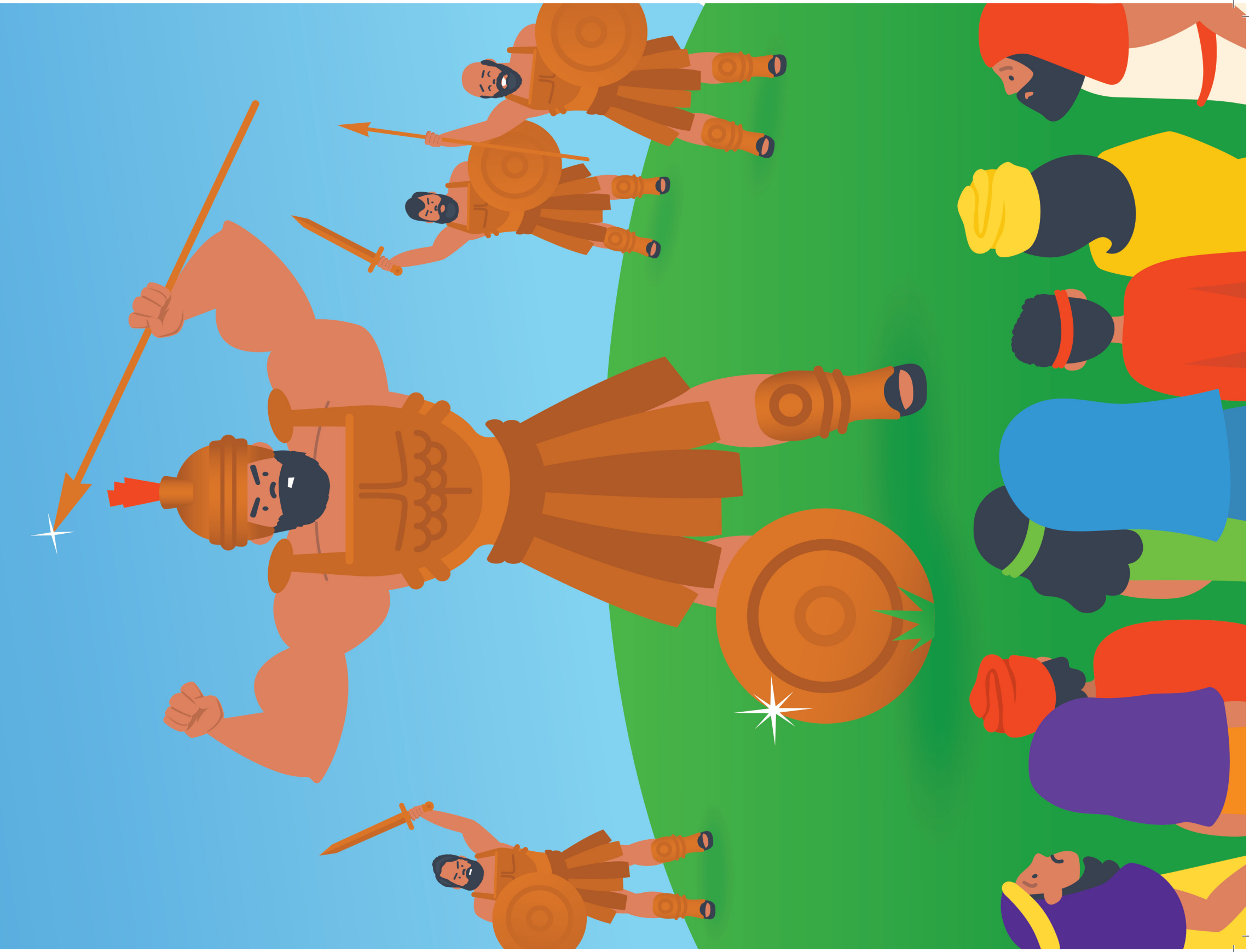


**God Gives Victory**



**God Is in Charge of Everything**





















# God Chooses and Uses David

1 SAMUEL 3-2 SAMUEL 7





## 1 Samuel 3–2 Samuel 7

# God Chooses and Uses David

FOUNDATIONAL TRUTH GOD IS IN CHARGE OF EVERYTHING

**Supplies:** a horn, stones, slingshot, a crown, God's Big Story "Promise of a Savior" circle

**KEY TEXT** Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers. And the Spirit of the Lord rushed upon David from that day forward. **1 Samuel 16:13**

⇒ Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to show you and the children what is good and true about Jesus through this story from the Bible.

*(Show the Bible.)* **The Bible is God's true Word. The Bible is from God and about God.**

In the Bible, we have been learning about an Israelite, one of God's special, chosen people, who lived a long time ago. Her name was Hannah. **On the count of three, say "Hannah!" 1–2–3! Hannah!** Hannah wanted a child so she prayed and prayed to God, and what happened? God gave her a child, a baby boy named Samuel. **On the count of three, say "Samuel!" 1–2–3! Samuel!**

Hannah loved Samuel, but Hannah loved God even more, so she kept her promise to God and gave her son, Samuel, back to God. She sent him to live with a man named Eli, a priest in God's temple. God gave Samuel a healthy heart that loved and trusted Him, and when

Samuel grew up, God made Samuel a prophet! **A prophet is someone who speaks for God and delivers God's messages.**

Samuel helped the Israelites love and follow God. He reminded them that **God Is in Charge of Everything**. He even gave them their first two kings. That's what we're going to talk about today!

The Israelites didn't want God to be the only one in charge of them. They wanted a king like all of the other nations around them, so God told Samuel to give them what they wanted. Samuel gave them a tall, handsome king named Saul. **Can you pretend to put a big, important crown on your head?** But Saul was not a very good king. Even though he was tall and handsome on the outside, on the inside Saul's heart was sick with sin. Saul disobeyed God and didn't listen to Samuel, so God told Samuel to go and find a new king, a good king who would love and trust God.

So God sent Samuel to a man named Jesse and told him that one of Jesse's sons would be the new king. Since Jesse thought God probably wanted someone tall and handsome like Saul, he brought seven of his oldest, tallest, strongest sons out to Samuel. But each

time one of them stood in front of Samuel, God said, "I have not chosen him." (*Act out Samuel saying "no" to all seven of Jesse's oldest sons.*) "Are these all the sons you have?" asked Samuel. "There's still my youngest son, David, but he's taking care of the sheep." "Tell him to come here," Samuel said. "We'll stand right here and wait," and they brought David to Samuel. **On the count of three, say "David!" 1–2–3! David!**

📖 David was Jesse's youngest son. He was a shepherd who took care of sheep. He didn't look like a king, but God told Samuel, "This is the one I have chosen." (*Read 1 Samuel 16:7 from the Bible.*)

Samuel anointed David (*use the horn to pour out some pretend oil*) by pouring oil on his head which was God's way of showing that He had chosen someone for a special job. God chose David to be the next king of Israel, though David would not be king for almost 20 years. That's a long time! Still, God gave David a new, healthy heart that loved and trusted Him, and God used David to do some pretty amazing things.

One time, God used David to defeat a HUGE warrior named Goliath and save God's people

from their enemies, the Philistines, who wanted their land. **Raise your hand if you have heard the story of David and Goliath before.** When King Saul and the rest of the Israelite army were too scared to fight the HUGE and scary Goliath, David said he would fight him. David remembered God's covenant with Abraham to give the Israelites that land, not the Philistines, and David trusted God. He knew it was God's battle and God always wins His battles. **God Is in Charge of Everything** and way bigger and stronger than any giant!

So David picked up his sling and threw a stone right at Goliath's giant head and hit him hard. The giant fell down dead in front of everyone, and the Israelites cheered, chasing away their enemies. God used David to save His people and remind them that **God Is in Charge of Everything!**

God was with David and helped him everywhere he went. This made King Saul mad. **Can you make a mad face?** Saul was jealous of David. He didn't want David to be

the next king so Saul tried to kill him! But **God Is in Charge of Everything**, not Saul, and God chose David to be the next king. God protected David from Saul until the day Saul died. Then the Israelites made David their new king, and King David helped the Israelites love and trust God all his days... Well, most days.

David wasn't a perfect king. He was still a sinner like you and me, but He loved and trusted God most and was so sorry when he sinned. David even wrote songs and poems about God for His people to sing so they could love and trust God more. We'll talk more about those next week.

God was so good to David, He even made a covenant with David. **A covenant is an unbreakable promise from God to His people.** God promised David that there would be a king in his family forever! **Do you think God kept that promise?** Yes! David's son was king, and his son was king, and his son was king, all the way down until the time Jesus was born. Wait a minute... **Is Jesus a king?** Yes!

Jesus is the Forever King from David's family. God kept His promise to David because Jesus will always be King! Jesus is God, and **God Is in Charge of Everything!**

- ✈ The Israelites wanted a king like all the other nations that would keep them safe and happy, but what they really needed was a king like David who would help them love and trust God. They loved something else more than they loved God, and we do, too.

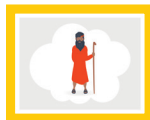
We all love other things more than we love God which is a sin. We all say, think, and do things that are different than what God wants, and that sin separates us from God forever. But the good news about Jesus is that He beat sin by living a perfect life. Then Jesus died on the cross to take the punishment for sin and came back to life so that everyone who loves and trusts Him can get a new, healthy heart and be with God forever! Jesus is the Forever King from David's family, and **God Is in Charge of Everything**, even our hearts.

On the count of three, we are going to whisper, “God Is in Charge of Everything.” 1—2—3. God Is in Charge of Everything. On the count of three, we are going to say, “God Is in Charge of Everything,” with a big, deep voice. 1—2—3. God Is in Charge of Everything. Now, everyone, stand up! On the count of three, we are going to yell, “God Is in Charge of Everything!” If you don’t like loud noises, you can cover your ears. 1—2—3! God Is in Charge of Everything! Everyone, sit down!

*Pray and thank God for being in charge of everything.*

## Review Questions

- This is where we are in God’s Big Story. *(Point to the “God’s people wait” clock.)*
- Which prophet did God use to anoint the Israelites’ first two kings? *(Samuel)*
- Did their first king, Saul, love and trust God? *(No, Saul disobeyed God.)*
- Who did God choose to be Israel’s next king? *(David, the son of Jesse, a shepherd boy)*
- Was David a good king? *(Yes! David loved and trusted God, but he wasn’t perfect.)*
- As a boy, what BIG thing did God use David to do? *(Defeat Goliath and save His people)*
- Saul was jealous and tried to kill David. Did God protect him and make him king? *(Yes!)*
- What covenant did God make to David? *(A king would be in his family forever)*
- Who is the Forever King and Savior that came from David’s family? *(Jesus!)*
- What covenant did God make to David? *(A king would be in his family forever)*



God’s Prophet,  
Samuel



Samuel meets  
Jesse’s Sons



David, the  
Shepherd



Samuel  
Anoints David



David Stands  
Up to Goliath



God Gives  
Victory



God Is in  
Charge of  
Everything































# God Gives His People Songs

PSALM 150





## Psalm 150

# God Gives His People Songs

FOUNDATIONAL TRUTH GOD WANTS TO TALK WITH US

**Supplies:** Harp, lyre, tambourine

**KEY TEXT** Praise the Lord! Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty heavens! Praise him for his mighty deeds; praise him according to his excellent greatness! Praise him with trumpet sound; praise him with lute and harp! Praise him with tambourine and dance; praise him with strings and pipe! Praise him with sounding cymbals; praise him with loud clashing cymbals! Let everything that has breath praise the Lord! Praise the Lord! **Psalm 150:1–6**

⇒ Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to show you and the children what is good and true about Jesus through this story from the Bible.

*(Show the Bible.)* **The Bible is God’s true Word. The Bible is from God and about God.**

In the Bible, we have been learning about David, who God chose to be king over His special, chosen people, the Israelites. God made a covenant with David. **A covenant is an unbreakable promise from God to His people.** God promised David that there would be a king in his family forever! We know God kept his promise because David’s son, Solomon was king, and his son was king, and his son

was king, all the way down until the time Jesus was born. Jesus is the Forever King from David’s family.

King David loved God more than anything or anyone. Because David loved God, he worshiped Him. What is worship? **Worship is telling and showing someone or something that they are most valuable. Only God deserves our worship. We can worship God by singing songs, praying, telling others about Him, and reading God’s Word. When we love and trust God, our hearts want to worship Him.**

King David worshiped God through writing and singing many different songs, prayers, and poems. **Have you ever sang a song to God before?** Yes! We can sing songs to God in our cars, bedrooms, backyards, and we almost always sing songs to God when we go to church! A song can be like a prayer that we sing—a way for us to talk with God and tell Him how much we love Him. We can use voices or instruments *(show the instruments)* to make music to God. God loves to hear his children sing and make music to Him. **God Wants to Talk With Us!** That’s why he gave us the Bible. Did you know there is a whole book of the Bible filled with songs? It’s true! God gave King David


and a few other people songs, prayers, and poems to write and sing called the Psalms. **On the count of three, let’s say “Psalms”. 1–2–3! Psalms.** The word “psalm” means song, so the book of Psalms is really just a big book of songs *(show the Bible opened to Psalms)*!

There are 150 chapters in Psalms, which is way more than any other book in the Bible. **Can you count to 150? Should we try it together?** No way! Counting to 150 would take a long time because 150 is a big, big number. Most of the psalms ask God to do something about the sin and sadness in the world or praise God for His goodness.

When we are sad, angry, or confused, we often lament. **Can you say “lament”?** Lament is a way to express our sadness, anger, or confusion. King David was often sad, angry, and confused because he knew that sin had broken God’s good creation. Even though David was the king and in charge of God’s people, he was not in charge of everything, and he could not fix what sin had broken. He wrote songs of lament to talk with God about his sadness and confusion and to ask for God’s help—and we can too.

When we are joyful or thankful, we offer praise. **Can you say “praise”?** Praise is a way to

express our joy and thankfulness. King David could praise God because he trusted God to keep His covenant promise to one day send a Savior from David's own family who would beat sin, make all things new, and be king forever.

 Let's read a psalm of praise from the Bible. Psalm 150, the last psalm, says this. *(Read Psalm 150 from the Bible.)*

King David worshiped God and talked to God in both lament and praise because David loved God. He wanted God's people to worship and talk to God too, so David put large choirs of people outside the temple to sing and play instruments as the people came to worship God. Singing to God helped the Israelites talk to God and reminded them that God always keeps His promises no matter how we feel—just like singing does today!

➔ **God Wants to Talk With Us** so He gave us songs, prayers, and poems that teach us how to talk with Him. God wants to hear our lament and praise. When we are sad because of sin or glad because God is good, **God Wants to Talk With Us!**



God Gives His People Songs



God Wants to Talk With Us

King David knew that he was a sinner whose heart was sick with sin, but he also knew that one day, God would send a Savior, King Jesus, to save sinners like him—and he was right! God sent Jesus to be born as a baby, live a perfect life, die on the cross for sins, and rise from the dead so that everyone who loves and trusts Him can have a new, healthy heart and be with God forever! One day, King Jesus will return and fix everything that has been broken by sin and be our king forever! Now that's something to sing about. **God Wants to Talk With Us** about Jesus!

**On the count of three, we are going to whisper, "God Wants to Talk With Us." 1—2—3. God Wants to Talk With Us. On the count of three, we are going to turn to the person next to you and say, "God Wants to Talk With Us." 1—2—3. God Wants to Talk With Us. Now, everyone, stand up! On the count of three, we are going to yell, "God Wants to Talk With Us!" If you don't like loud noises, you can cover your ears. 1—2—3! God Wants to Talk With Us! Everyone, sit down.**

*Pray and thank God for wanting to talk with us!*

## Review Questions

- What does the word "psalm" mean? *(Song)*
- How many Psalms are there? *(150)*
- We can express our sadness, anger, and confusion to God through what? *(Lament)*
- We can express our joy and thankfulness to God through what? *(Praise)*
- Which king of Israel wrote many of the Psalms? *(King David)*
- Did King David believe that God would keep His covenant promise to him? *(Yes!)*
- Who is the Savior and King from David's family who came to save sinners? *(Jesus!)*
- Does God want to hear the lament and praise of His people? *(Yes! God Wants to Talk With Us!)*



Praise the Lord!

Praise the Lord!

Praise the Lord!





# God Is Better Than Baal

1 KINGS 18:20-40





1 Kings 18:20–40

## God Is Better Than Baal

FOUNDATIONAL TRUTH GOD WANTS TO TALK WITH US

**Supplies:** pictures of altars and fire

**KEY TEXT** “Answer me, O LORD, answer me, that this people may know that you, O LORD, are God, and that you have turned their hearts back.” **1 Kings 18:37**

⇒ Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to show you and the children what is good and true about Jesus through this story from the Bible.

*(Show the Bible.)* **The Bible is God’s true Word. The Bible is from God and about God.**

In the Bible, we have been learning about David defeating Goliath with only one stone! David was brave because he trusted God. Many years after David was no longer king, the Israelites had a king who did not love and trust God. Today, we are going to learn about how God reminded the Israelites that He is the one, true God!

The king and a lot of the people had forgotten what they knew about God. They forgot that they should love and trust God most. They started worshiping a false idol called Baal. **An idol is anything we love and trust more than God.**

The king wanted to worship both Baal and God, and he got all of the prophets of Israel to worship Baal, too. **A prophet is a messenger of God, someone who speaks for God.** The prophets did not love and trust God most anymore.

But there was one prophet who still loved and trusted God most. His name was Elijah. **On the count of three, say, “Elijah!” 1–2–3! Elijah!** Elijah knew that only God should be loved and trusted, and he told the king and everyone else that they should stop trying to worship both God and Baal.

Elijah remembered the truth about God. God is strong and powerful and **God Wants to Talk With Us!** *(Strike muscle poses with the kids.)*

Back when Elijah was alive, people would make sacrifices to God. **A sacrifice is giving something special and valuable to God to show that He is better.** People would use stones and build a big altar and then put an animal on that altar and kill it. Elijah told the prophets of Baal to get a sacrifice ready and ask Baal to send down fire to see if he was a real god. *(Show the picture of the altars.)*

Elijah knew that Baal was NOT real! **Can a fake god hear people talking to him?** Can


he do anything? No way! *(Have the kids make a “no way!” motion with you.)* He knew that the prophets could talk to Baal all day long and ask him to send down fire, but nothing would happen! Baal couldn’t answer the prayers of the prophets because Baal was not real.

So the prophets asked Baal to send down fire over and over again. They danced, they jumped up and down, and they asked Baal to send fire down on the altar. **Do you think anything happened? No!**

Elijah knew that God was real! He knew that God could easily send fire down. He knew that **God Wants to Talk With Us!** God hears and responds to the prayers of His people.

Elijah had his own altar for a sacrifice to God, and he told people to dump lots and lots of water all over the altar. Elijah told them to pour water on the altar not just one time or two times but three times! **What happens to fire when you put water on it? The fire goes out!**

Elijah knew only God was strong enough to send fire down onto a soaking wet altar. That was not too hard for God! Elijah also knew that **God Wants to Talk With Us**, so Elijah prayed and asked God to send down a fire.

 *(Read 1 Kings 18:37 from the Bible.)* Elijah prayed and asked God to send down a fire because it would show that God is the one, true God. God alone should be loved and trusted most. God heard Elijah's prayer and He sent down a fire! *(Add the fire to the picture of Elijah's altar.)*

➔ **God Wants to Talk With Us!** Elijah knew that God should be loved and trusted most, and he knew that **God Wants to Talk With Us**. Elijah prayed and asked God to show all the people that He was more powerful than anyone or anything else. God heard Elijah's prayer and answered him.

**On the count of three, we are going to whisper, "God Wants to Talk With Us." 1—2—3. God Wants to Talk With Us. On the count of three, we are going to say, "God Wants to Talk With Us," with a squeaky mouse voice. 1—2—3. God Wants to Talk With Us. Now, everyone, stand up! On the count of three, we are going to yell, "God Wants to Talk With Us!" If you don't like loud noises, you can cover your ears. 1—2—3. God Wants to Talk With Us! Everyone, sit down!**

*Pray and thank God for wanting to talk with us!*

## Review Questions

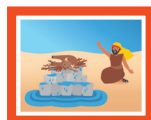
- This is where we are in God's Big Story. *(Point to the "God's people wait" clock.)*
- What is an idol? *(An idol is anything we love or trust more than God.)*
- Elijah told the people who loved and trusted Baal to ask Baal to do something. What did they ask Baal to do? *(They asked Baal to set the altar on fire.)*
- Did Baal answer the people? *(No!)*
- Why didn't Baal answer the people when they called to him? *(Baal wasn't real.)*
- What did Elijah do? *(Elijah talked to God and asked Him to send fire.)*
- Did God answer Elijah? *(Yes, the altar caught fire.)*
- Why did God answer Elijah? *(God Wants to Talk With Us, and He hears and responds to the prayers of His children.)*
- Let's say our foundational truth together: *"God Wants to Talk With Us!"*



Two Altars



Elijah Distressed in Prayer



Elijah's Altar



God Sent Fire



God Wants to Talk With Us



















# God Uses Esther

ESTHER 1-10





Esther 1–10

## God Uses Esther

FOUNDATIONAL TRUTH GOD IS IN CHARGE OF EVERYTHING

**Supplies:** picture of Esther

**KEY TEXT** "...let an order be written to revoke the letters devised by Haman ... which he wrote to destroy the Jews..." **Esther 8:5**

⇒ Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to show you and the children what is good and true about Jesus through this story from the Bible.

*(Show the Bible.)* **The Bible is God's true Word. The Bible is from God and about God.**

Last week, we learned that God heard and responded to Elijah's prayer and sent fire down to show the people that He is the one, true God. God alone should be loved and trusted most. **God Is in Charge of Everything!**

The Israelites were God's special and chosen people, but they disobeyed God over and over again. They loved and trusted idols instead of God. **An idol is anything we love and trust more than God.** God punished them for disobeying Him. They were no longer in the Promised Land. They were living in places with people who did not love God and who hated them. Today, we are going to learn what happened to the Israelites.

Haman was one of the people who hated the

Israelites, and he was a very powerful man. **On the count of three, say, "Haman!" 1–2–3! Haman!** Haman did not love God, and he was trying to find a way to kill the Israelites because he hated them! **It is sin when we hate people. God does not want us to hate anyone. Haman had a heart sick with sin.**

The king gave Haman permission to hurt the Israelites! The people in charge would not punish anyone who hurt the Israelites.

**How would you feel if you were the Israelites? Would you be scared? Would you feel all alone? Would you wonder if God had a plan to keep you safe?** The Israelites did feel scared. **Show me a scared face.**

But they did not need to worry because God had a plan! **God Is in Charge of Everything!** He is in charge of people who obey Him, and He is in charge of people who do not obey Him. He is in charge of all people, kings, and rules. **God Is in Charge of Everything!**

Esther, the queen, was an Israelite! *(Show the picture of Esther.)* **On the count of three, say, "Esther!" 1–2–3! Esther!** God had made Esther the queen so she would be able to help

the Israelites when Haman came up with his plan to hurt them.

Esther told the king that she and her people were in danger and that it was Haman who wanted to hurt them! The king punished Haman, and he had a new rule written that the Israelites could protect themselves against anyone who tried to hurt them!

📖 *(Read Esther 8:5 from the Bible.)* Esther and the Israelites were saved! **Everyone cheer!**

➔ **God Is in Charge of Everything!** Even when things seem scary, God's people can trust that He knows what's happening. He is good, and He takes care of His people. God sent Esther to save her people, and God sent Jesus to save His people from sin. **God Is in Charge of Everything!** God always has a plan to help His people.

**On the count of three, we are going to whisper, "God Is in Charge of Everything." 1–2–3. God Is in Charge of Everything. On the count of three, we are going to say, "God Is in Charge of Everything," with a big, deep voice. 1–2–3. God Is in Charge of Everything. Now, everyone, stand up! On the count of three, we are going to yell, "God Is in Charge of Everything!" If you don't like loud noises,**

**you can cover your ears. 1—2—3! God Is in Charge of Everything! Everyone, sit down!**

*Pray and thank God for being in charge of everything.*

## Review Questions

- This is where we are in God’s Big Story. *(Point to the “God’s people wait” clock.)*
- Who hated the Israelites and wanted to hurt them? *(Haman)*
- Who approved Haman’s law? *(The king)*
- Who had a plan to protect the Israelites? *(God! God Is in Charge of Everything!)*
- Who was Esther? *(An Israelite and the queen)*
- Did Haman’s plan to hurt the Israelites work? *(No! God protects His people!)*
- Let’s say our foundational truth together: *“God Is in Charge of Everything!”*



**God Makes  
Esther Queen**



**Esther  
Approaches  
the King**



**God Is in Charge  
of Everything**











# God Saves Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego

DANIEL 3





## Daniel 3

# God Saves Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego

FOUNDATIONAL TRUTH GOD IS GOOD

**Supplies:** noisemaker, pictures of the fiery furnace and four men in the furnace

**KEY TEXT** “Our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace... But if not, be it known to you, O king, that we will not serve your gods or worship the golden image that you have set up.” **Daniel 3:17–18**

⇒ Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to show you and the children what is good and true about Jesus through this story from the Bible.

*(Show the Bible.)* **The Bible is God’s true Word. The Bible is from God and about God.**

We have been learning about how God is the one, true God and that He should be loved and trusted most. We learned that God saved the Israelites, His special and chosen people. God used Esther to save the Israelites from Haman, a man who wanted to kill them. **God Is Good!**

Today, we’re going to learn a story from the Bible about three men who knew that **God Is Good**. They knew that God is what is best and that they could always trust Him.

There was a king named Nebuchadnezzar. **On the count of three, say, “Nebuchadnezzar!”**

**1–2–3! Nebuchadnezzar!** This king did not love God or believe that **God Is Good**. King Nebuchadnezzar made a huge, golden idol. **An idol is anything we love and trust more than God.** Nebuchadnezzar wanted all the people to love and trust this golden idol most.

Nebuchadnezzar told the people that every time instruments were played *(blow the noisemaker)*, the people were supposed to fall on their knees and worship the golden idol. So when people heard the instruments play *(blow noisemaker)*, they would get on their knees and worship the idol *(get down on knees and worship)*.


King Nebuchadnezzar made a rule that said if anyone does not bow down and worship his idol, then that person would be thrown into a furnace of fire. The furnace was like a big room with a really big, hot fire in it. Whoa! **Does being thrown in a furnace of fire sound like a good thing? No!**

There were three men who loved and worshiped God. These three men were named Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. **On the count of three, say, “Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego!” 1–2–3! Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego!**

These three men knew that God should be loved and trusted most. They knew that worshipping the idol that the king made would be a sin. Only God should be worshiped. When the instruments were played *(blow the horn)*, the three men would not bow down and worship the golden idol. *(Make a “no way!” motion.)*

Some men saw this and went to King Nebuchadnezzar and told him that these three men were not bowing down to the idol when the instruments were played. King Nebuchadnezzar was very angry, and he made Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego come to him right away.

The three men went to the king. He asked them why they would not bow down to the golden idol. The three men told the king that only God should be worshiped. **God Is Good.**

 They would not worship an idol even if it meant they would be thrown into the fiery furnace. *(Read Daniel 3:17–18 from the Bible.)* They trusted that **God Is Good**. He is what is best.

The king was very angry with Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego and had the furnace heated up hotter than it had ever been before. The king ordered the three men to be tied up

and thrown into the fire! *(Show the picture of the fiery furnace.)*

When the king looked into the furnace, he saw not three, but **FOUR** men! None of them were burning up, and they were walking around! *(Show the picture of the men in the furnace.)* God was with the men in the fire! The king called them out of the furnace. God saved them from the fire!

➔ **God Is Good!** God is better than anything and anyone! Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego had healthy hearts that loved God. They would not love and trust the idol even if that meant that they might die. They knew that **God Is Good!** He should have all of our love and all of our trust!

**On the count of three, we are going to whisper, “God Is Good.” 1–2–3. God Is Good. On the count of three, we are going to stand up and say, “God Is Good.” 1–2–3. God Is Good. On the count of three, we are going to yell, “God Is Good!” If you don’t like loud noises, you can cover your ears. 1–2–3. God Is Good! Everyone, sit down!**

*Pray and thank God for being good!*

## Review Questions

- This is where we are in God’s Big Story. *(Point to the “God’s people wait” clock.)*
- What do we call anything that we love or trust more than God? *(An idol)*
- What did King Nebuchadnezzar make for the people to worship? *(A golden idol)*
- Did Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego bow down and worship the idol? *(No!)*
- What happened to the three men because they would not bow down and worship the idol? *(They were thrown into the fiery furnace.)*
- Who was with the men when they were thrown in the fire? *(God; God Is Good!)*
- Let’s say our foundational truth together: *“God Is Good!”*



Shadrach,  
Meshach and  
Abednego  
Would Not Bow



Fiery Furnace



God Is Good











# God Saves Daniel

DANIEL 6





## Daniel 6

# God Saves Daniel

FOUNDATIONAL TRUTH GOD IS IN CHARGE OF EVERYTHING

**KEY TEXT** "...people are to tremble and fear before the God of Daniel, for he is the living God, enduring forever...He delivers and rescues..." **Daniel 6:26–27**

⇒ Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to show you and the children what is good and true about Jesus through this story from the Bible.

*(Show the Bible.)* **The Bible is God's true Word. The Bible is from God and about God.**

In the Bible, we have been learning about three men who would not worship anyone or anything but God. God saved these men from dying in a fiery furnace.

Today, we will learn about another man who loved and obeyed God.

Daniel knew that **God Is in Charge of Everything**. **On the count of three, say, "Daniel!" 1—2—3! Daniel!** Daniel prayed every single day because God wants to talk to His people, and Daniel wanted to show that he loved God. *(Show the picture of Daniel praying.)* Daniel knew that only God should be loved and trusted most, so he obeyed God.

Daniel worked for the king. The king liked Daniel very much. There were some other men Daniel worked with who did not like Daniel at all.

These men all came together and planned to trick the king into making a rule that would be very bad for Daniel. These men made a rule that said no one in all the land could pray to God for a whole month! If someone broke the rule, then they would be thrown into the lions' den. *(Show the picture of the king signing the rule.)*

The king thought the rule was a great idea, so Daniel had to make a choice. He could disobey God and not pray **OR** he could disobey the king and keep praying. **Do you think Daniel stopped praying? No!** Daniel knew that **God Is in Charge of Everything** and obeying God is what's best.

One day, the men who did not like Daniel found Daniel praying and talking with God. The men went to the king and told him what they had seen. The king did not want Daniel to get in trouble, but he knew that Daniel had to be punished because Daniel broke the rule.

The king was powerful, but he wasn't powerful enough to save Daniel. He was not in charge of

**Supplies:** pictures of Daniel praying and the king signing the law

everything, and he couldn't change the rule to save Daniel.

Soldiers came for Daniel and took him to the lions' den. The lions had great, big teeth and claws! **What sound does a lion make?** Daniel was thrown into the lions' den, and the doors were shut. Daniel spent the whole night with the lions!

Daniel knew **God Is in Charge of Everything!** The king wasn't strong enough to save Daniel, but God was!

The next morning, the king went to the lions' den to find out what happened to Daniel. He called into the lions' den and asked Daniel if he was safe. Daniel told the king that God had sent an angel to shut the mouths of the lions! God saved Daniel from the lions!

📖 The king brought Daniel out of the lions' den and praised God for saving Daniel. *(Read Daniel 6:26–27 from the Bible.)*

➔ Daniel knew that **God Is in Charge of Everything!** Obeying God is what's best. Daniel obeyed God because he loved God. We can trust that **God Is in Charge of Everything**, too! It is better to obey God and put our trust in

Him because **God Is in Charge of Everything!**

**On the count of three, we are going to whisper, “God Is in Charge of Everything.” 1—2—3. God Is in Charge of Everything. On the count of three, we are going to say, “God Is in Charge of Everything” with a roar. 1—2—3. God Is in Charge of Everything. On the count of three, we are going to yell, “God Is in Charge of Everything!” If you don’t like loud noises, you can cover your ears. 1—2—3. God Is in Charge of Everything! Everyone, sit down!**

*Pray and thank God for being in charge of everything.*

## Review Questions

- This is where we are in God’s Big Story. *(Point to the “God’s people wait” clock.)*
- What did Daniel do every day? *(He prayed and talked with God.)*
- There were some men who did not like Daniel and wanted to make him get in trouble. What did they trick the king into doing? *(They told the king he should make a rule that no one can pray to God.)*
- Did Daniel continue to pray to God? *(Yes!)*
- When the men and the king found out that Daniel was praying to God, where did they put him? *(In the lions’ den)*
- What did Daniel do while he was in the lions’ den? *(He talked with God all night.)*
- The next morning, who came to see if Daniel was okay? *(The king)*
- Was Daniel saved from the lions? *(Yes!)*
- Who saved Daniel from being eaten by the lions? *(God; God shut the lions’ mouths.)*
- Let’s say our foundational truth together: *“God Is in Charge of Everything!”*



Daniel Praying



Men See Daniel Praying



King Signs First Law



God Closes the Mouths of Lions



King Signs New Law



God Is in Charge of Everything























God delivers  
and rescues!

DANIEL 6:27



# God Uses Jonah

JONAH 1-4





## Jonah 1–4

# God Uses Jonah

FOUNDATIONAL TRUTH GOD IS GOOD

**KEY TEXT** “Let everyone turn from his evil way and from the violence that is in his hands.”  
**Jonah 3:8b**

⇒ Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to show you and the children what is good and true about Jesus through this story from the Bible.

*(Show the Bible.)* **The Bible is God’s true Word. The Bible is from God and about God.**

We have been learning about some pretty amazing things that God did in the Bible. God saved three men from the fiery furnace and He protected Daniel while he was in the lions’ den. **God Is Good, God Is in Charge of Everything,** and He showed us that through both of those stories.

Today, we’re going to learn a story from the Bible about God using a man named Jonah. **On the count of three, say, “Jonah!” 1–2–3! Jonah!** Jonah was a prophet of God. **A prophet is someone who speaks for God.**

God spoke to Jonah and told Jonah to go to a city far away called Nineveh. **On the count of three, say, “Nineveh!” 1–2–3! Nineveh!**

The people in Nineveh did not love or obey God. God told Jonah to tell the people in Nineveh that they were disobeying God. God was going to punish them for disobeying Him.

But there was a problem: Jonah did not want to go to Nineveh! He decided to run away instead of doing what God said. Jonah knew that **God Is Good** and that if the people of Nineveh loved and trusted God, then God would forgive them. Jonah didn’t want that! Jonah forgot that God made all people precious in His sight. He forgot God wants all people to love and trust Him.

Jonah got on a boat with some other men and started sailing to a city far, far away from where God was sending Jonah. Whoa! That is not good. Jonah disobeyed God.

Not long after they set sail, Jonah went down into the bottom of the ship and took a nap. **Everyone, take a two-second nap!** While Jonah was asleep, a HUGE storm came, and the boat started rocking back and forth on the waves. **Everyone, sway back and forth!**

The men on the boat were trying to keep the boat from sinking under the water! Jonah knew that the only way for the big storm to

**Supplies:** plush fish with Jonah or classroom fish toy with figurine


stop was for the men on the boat to throw Jonah off the boat and into the water.

So that’s what the men did! They threw Jonah off the boat, and Jonah went into the water with a big splash. The storm stopped right away, and the water was calm.

After Jonah was thrown into the water, a HUGE fish came and swallowed Jonah. *(Show the fish and figurine.)* Jonah went all the way into the belly of the great big fish. Jonah stayed in the belly of the great big fish for **1–2–3** whole days! **Everyone, count to three with your fingers.**

After **1–2–3** days in the belly of the great big fish, Jonah prayed *(make praying hands)* and asked God to save him. God heard Jonah’s prayers. After those **1–2–3** days in the belly of the big fish, God made the big fish spit Jonah out onto the dry land. Jonah was safe!

For the second time, God spoke to Jonah and told him to go to Nineveh and tell the people they were disobeying God. This time, Jonah obeyed God! Jonah went to Nineveh and told the people there about God.

 *(Read Jonah 3:8b from the Bible.)* The people of Nineveh were sorry they had disobeyed God.

They loved God and started obeying Him. They believed that **God Is Good**, and God forgave them!

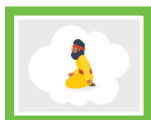
➔ **God Is Good!** He is what is best, and He sent Jonah to tell the people of Nineveh that only God should be worshiped. Jonah did not want to go because he did not want God to forgive them. But **God Is Good!** He used a big fish to get Jonah to Nineveh because He wanted the people to know that He is what is best. God wants all people to know that **God Is Good!**

**On the count of three, we are going to whisper, “God Is Good.” 1–2–3. God Is Good. On the count of three, we are going to say, “God Is Good,” with a fish face. 1–2–3. God Is Good. On the count of three, we are going to yell, “God Is Good!” If you don’t like loud noises, you can cover your ears. 1–2–3! God Is Good! Everyone, sit down!**

*Pray and thank God for being good!*

## Review Questions

- This is where we are in God’s Big Story. *(Point to the “God’s people wait” clock.)*
- Where did God tell Jonah to go? *(Nineveh)*
- What was Jonah supposed to do when he got to Nineveh? *(Tell the people there that they should love and obey God)*
- Did Jonah want to obey God and go to Nineveh? *(No, he disobeyed God.)*
- Did Jonah finally obey God and go to Nineveh? *(Yes, he went and told the people to obey God.)*
- Were the people of Nineveh sorry they disobeyed God? *(Yes. The people in Nineveh believed God Is Good!)*
- Let’s say our foundational truth together: *“God Is Good!”*



Jonah  
Receives Word  
from the Lord



Jonah Rebels  
and Goes  
to Tarshish



A Big Fish  
Swallows  
Jonah



Jonah Changes  
Course



Ninevites  
Repent



God Is Good









NOW BOARDING

Tarshish →









THIS WAY TO

← Nineveh









# God Sends the Prophets

EZEKIEL 36:26-27





Ezekiel 36:26–27

## God Sends the Prophets

FOUNDATIONAL TRUTH GOD WANTS TO TALK WITH US

**Supplies:** a rock in the shape of a heart

**KEY TEXT** “Answer me, O LORD, answer me, that this people may know that you, O LORD, are God, and that you have turned their hearts back.” **1 Kings 18:37**

⇒ Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to show you and the children what is good and true about Jesus through this story from the Bible.

*(Show the Bible.)* **The Bible is God’s true Word. The Bible is from God and about God.**

In the Bible, we have been learning how God saved a man named Daniel who worked for a king. Some people who worked with Daniel were so jealous of him that they tried to get him killed by tricking the king into making a law that would be very bad for Daniel. But God heard Daniel’s prayers and saved him from the men who were trying to hurt him and from a den of lions!

God didn’t just save Daniel though. God also made Daniel a prophet! What is a prophet? **A prophet is someone who speaks for God and delivers His messages.** Today, we’re going to talk about how God sent prophets, like Daniel, to speak to His people—and to us

today—because **God Wants to Talk With Us.**

God sent prophets to His special, chosen people, the Israelites, because God wanted to talk with them. Through the prophets, God warned the Israelites what would happen if they kept on sinning, but God also gave them hope by reminding them of His unbreakable promises.

**What is an unbreakable promise from God to His people called again? A covenant!** That’s right.

Let’s review the five covenants that God made with His people in the Old Testament of the Bible by counting to five. Ready? *(Use your fingers to count as you teach.)*

**1. God’s Covenant with Adam. Let’s say “Adam”! Adam!** God promised Adam and Eve that He would send them a Savior, a child who would be born after them who would save the world from sin.

**2. God’s Covenant with Noah. Let’s say “Noah”! Noah!** God promised Noah that He would never flood the whole earth with water ever again. He even stamped that promise with a rainbow.

**3. God’s Covenant to Abraham. Let’s say**

**“Abraham”! Abraham!** Even though Abraham and his wife, Sarah, were too old to be having babies, God promised to give Abraham a HUGE family that would be God’s special, chosen people. He promised to give them a beautiful land to be their new home and to make everything wrong in the world right again through their big family.

**4. God’s Covenant with Moses. Say “Moses”! Moses!** God gave Moses and the Israelites many different laws about how to love God most and love other people. If they obeyed these laws, God promised that they would be able to live with Him in their beautiful new land. But, if they did not obey, God said He would punish them by sending stronger, more powerful nations that did not love or trust God to take their land away and send them into exile. They would have to live far away from home and could not come back for a long time because sin separates us from God.

**5. God’s Covenant with David. Say “David”! David!** Because David had a heart that loved and trusted God, God promised David that there would be a king in his family forever.

Phew! Those are some BIG promises. Do you think God really kept all of His promises? Yes!

That's why, many years later, God sent His Son, Jesus! *(Use your fingers to count as you teach.)*


Jesus is the Promised Savior who came to save the world from sin *(hold up one finger)*, not to wash it away in a flood *(hold up two fingers)*. Jesus is the Israelite from Abraham's family *(hold up three fingers)* who is making God's family, the Church, very big and making everything wrong in the world right through them. Jesus obeyed God's laws *(hold up four fingers)* to love God and love other people perfectly AND Jesus is the king *(hold up five fingers)* from David's family who rules forever and ever as God. **God Is Good** so He always keeps His promises!

What about the Israelites? Do you think they kept their promise to God to love Him most and love other people? No. They worshiped other gods who weren't real and treated other people, even each other, very badly. Even still, God wanted to talk with them so God sent them a prophet to warn them what would happen if they kept on sinning. Do you think they obeyed then? No. So, God sent them another prophet. Do you think they obeyed then? No? Well, God

sent them another prophet. Do you think they obeyed then? No!

Why?! Why would the Israelites ignore the prophets and disobey God even though God had been so good to them? Because their hearts were sick with sin, just like ours, and they would not listen. So God sent other nations that were bigger and stronger than they were to take away their land, and God sent them into exile just like He said He would because sin separates us from God.

God knew that His people needed new hearts if they were ever going to love and trust Him. That's why God sent a prophet named Ezekiel. **On the count of three, let's say "Ezekiel!"** **1—2—3! Ezekiel!** Ezekiel told the Israelites about a sixth covenant *(show six fingers)*, a new covenant that was coming that would be better than the five that came before.

 Let's read what Ezekiel said about this new covenant from the Bible. *(Read Ezekiel 36:26–27 from the Bible.)*

God promised His people that one day, He would send the Holy Spirit, who is God, to live

inside them and be with them. God Himself would take away their sick, sinful hearts and give them new, healthy hearts that could finally love and trust Him. God would have to do something to save His people and, after 400 years of silence without any prophets, He did. Jesus finally came.

➔ God sent many different prophets to His people, the Israelites because God wanted to talk with them, and **God Wants to Talk With Us** too! That's what this Bible is. *(Show the Bible.)* The Bible is God's true Word to us, His message to us so we can know, love, trust, and obey Him because **God Wants to Talk With Us** even though we're sinners. That's why He sent Jesus!

Just like the Israelites, we are all born with hearts that are sick with sin, and sin separates us from God forever, BUT God sent His Son, Jesus, to live a perfect life, and Jesus never sinned. Jesus died on the cross to take the punishment for our sin and came back to life three days later so that everyone who loves and trusts Him can get a new, healthy heart and be with God forever! **God Wants to Talk with Us** about Jesus and save us from our sin!

**On the count of three, we are going to whisper, “God Wants to Talk With Us.” 1—2—3. God Wants to Talk With Us. On the count of three, we are going to say, “God Wants to Talk With Us,” with praying hands. 1—2—3. God Wants to Talk With Us. Now, everyone, stand up! On the count of three, we are going to yell, “God Wants to Talk With Us!” If you don’t like loud noises, you can cover your ears. 1—2—3! God Wants to Talk With Us! Everyone, sit down.**

*Pray and thank God for wanting to talk with us!*

## Review Questions

- What is someone who speaks for God and delivers His messages called? *(A prophet)*
- What’s an unbreakable promise from God to His people called? *(A covenant)*
- How many covenants did God make in the Old Testament of the Bible? *(Five)*
- Which five people were they given to? *(Adam, Noah, Abraham, Moses, and David)*
- Did God keep all of His promises to them? *(Yes! Jesus kept all of God’s promises.)*
- Did the Israelites listen to the prophets warnings and obey God’s laws? *(No)*
- Why not? *(Their hearts were sick with sin.)*
- What does God promise to give His people in the new covenant? *(The Holy Spirit to live inside them and new, healthy hearts that love and trust God)*
- How many years of silence were there without any prophets before Jesus came? *(400)*
- Why did God send the prophets to Israel? Why did God send His Son, Jesus, and give the Bible to us? *(God Wants to Talk With Us!)*



**Covenants of God**



**Message of Judgement**



**Message of Hope**



**God Wants to Talk With Us**



# Covenants of God

GIVEN TO...



**Adam**



**Noah**



**Abraham**



**Moses**



**David**



**The Prophets**





A MESSAGE OF

# Judgement





A MESSAGE OF  
**Hope**





**Appendix**



# Class Rules

**1**

**with our**



(mouth)

**We can talk after we...**



(raise our hands)

**2**

**with our**



(hands)

**We... ..during storytime.**



(clap-and-lap)

**3**

**with our**



(ears)

**We listen to our...**



(teachers and friends)

**4**

**with our**



(face)

**We... as we obey...**



(smile)



(our teachers)

**5**

**with our**



(feet)

**We... ..from place to place.**



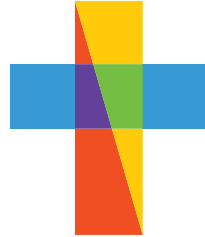
(walk)



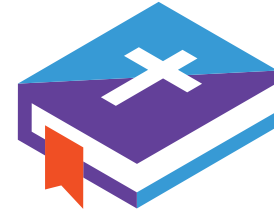




**GOD  
MADE  
EVERYTHING**



**JESUS  
CAME  
TO SAVE  
SINNERS**



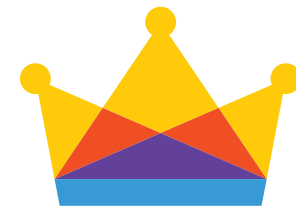
**GOD  
WANTS TO  
TALK  
WITH US**



**GOD IS  
GOOD**



**THE CHURCH  
IS GOD'S  
FAMILY**

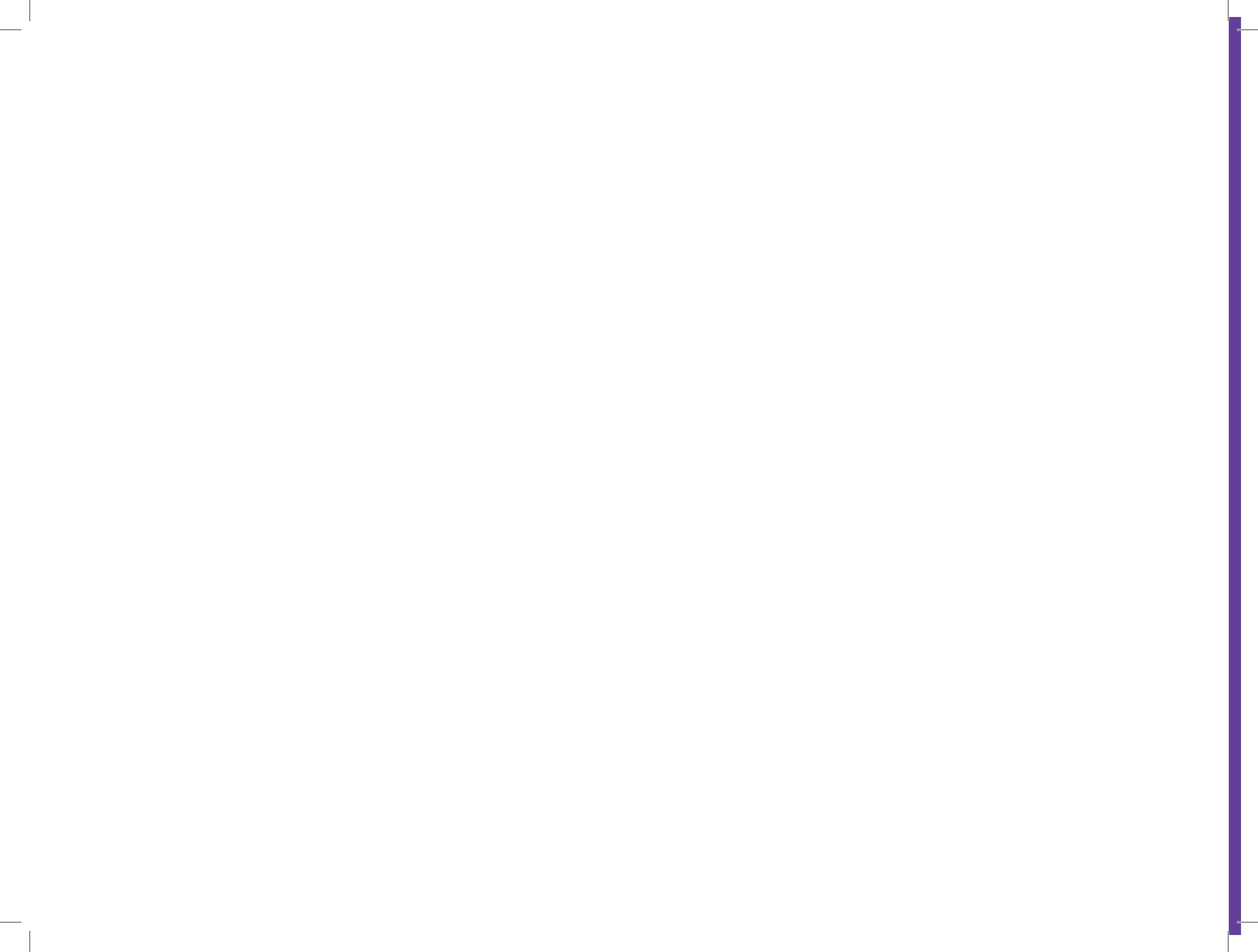


**GOD IS IN  
CHARGE OF  
EVERYTHING**





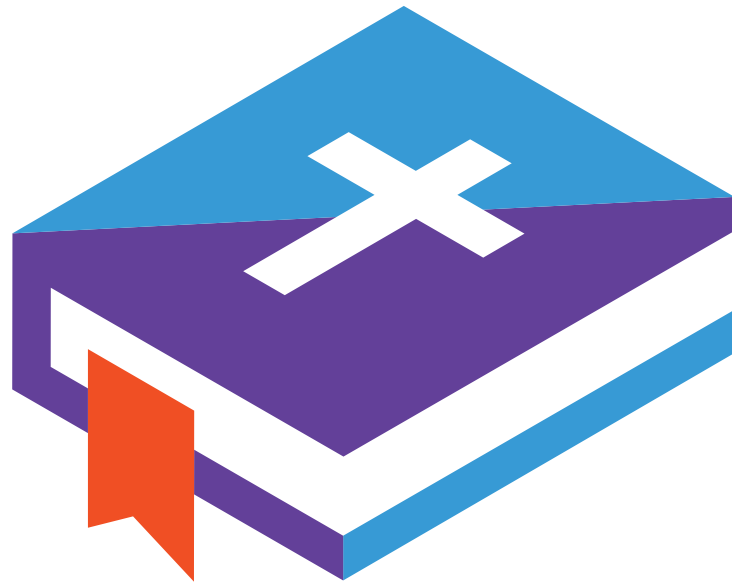
**GOD**  
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**WITH US**





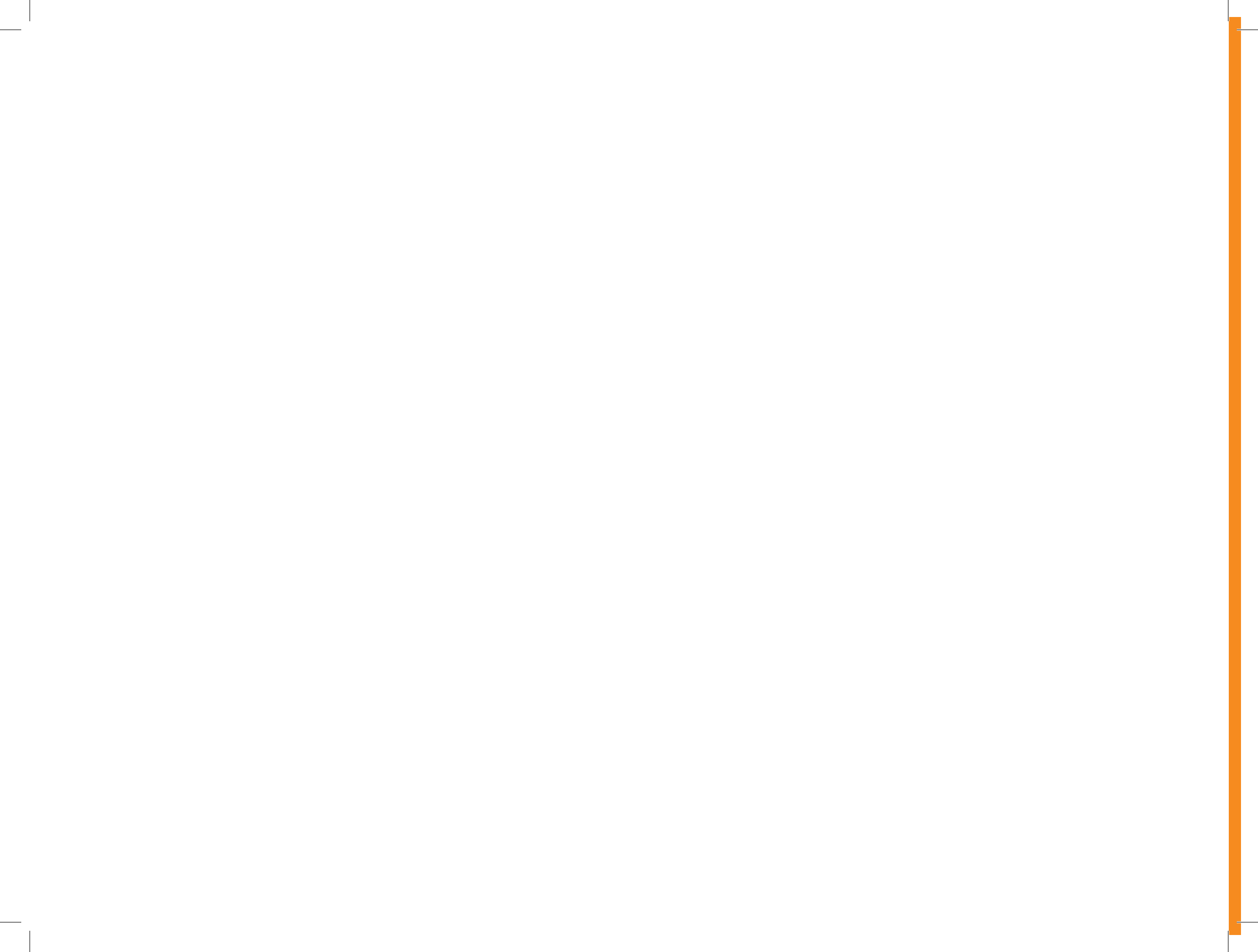


**GOD IS**  
**GOOD**





**GOD IS IN  
CHARGE OF  
EVERYTHING**





**THE CHURCH  
IS GOD'S  
FAMILY**



# Sick Heart







Healthy Heart





A Biblical Timeline

OLD TESTAMENT

# GOD'S BIG STORY

NEW TESTAMENT







# Gospel Fingerplay

**Jesus came down**

Hold both hands up high above your head.

Lower hands while wiggling fingers.

**to be born as a little baby.**

Hold arms like you are cradling a baby.

**He lived a perfect life.**

Give two thumbs-up.

**He died on the cross for our sins.**

Cross one arm over the other to make a cross.

**He was buried in a tomb.**

Put one hand on top of the other to make a tomb.

**On the third day,**

Hold up three fingers.

**He rose from the dead.**

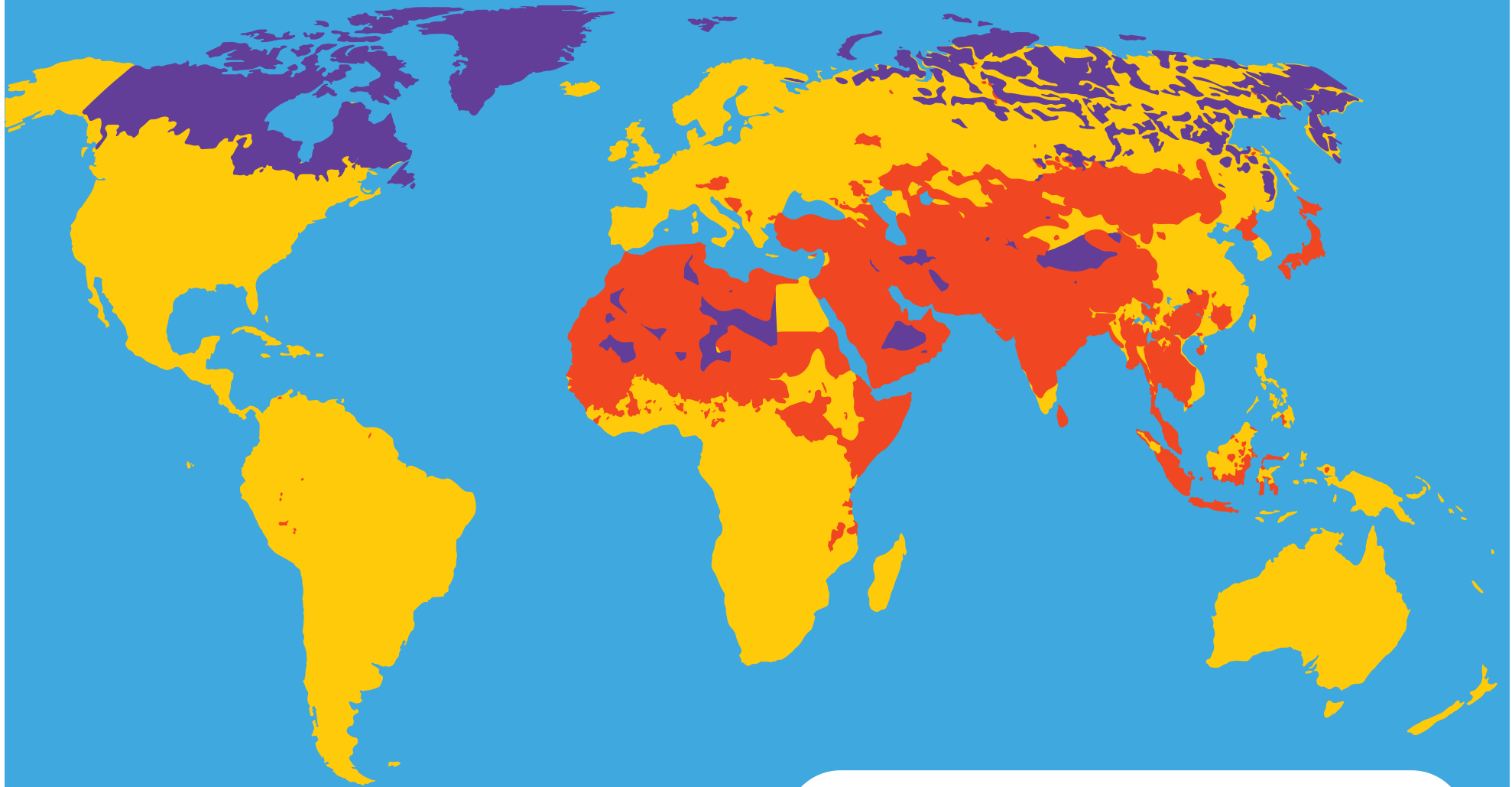
Make three fingers rise into the air.

**And that's the gospel truth!**

Pound fist on open hand as you say each word.



# Have you heard about Jesus?







## GLOSSARY

### TERMS FOR TEACHING

**ANGEL** – a mighty messenger and warrior from God

**BAPTISM** – to dip someone under some water and bring them back up—like Jesus died and was raised to back to life—to show everyone that God has given them a new, healthy heart like Jesus

**BIBLE** – God’s true Word. It is from God and about God.

**A CHURCH** – a group of people who love and trust Jesus

**THE CHURCH** – everyone who loves and trusts Jesus

**COMMUNION** – when people who love and trust Jesus eat and drink together to remember His death on the cross, how Jesus’ body was broken like bread and His blood was poured out like wine for sin

**CRUCIFY** – to die on a cross

**DESERT** – a really hot, dry place with almost no food or water

**DISCIPLE** – a friend and follower of Jesus

**GOD** – God the Father is God. Jesus, the Son, is God. The Holy Spirit is God. There is only one God who is three different persons. **God Made Everything. God Is in Charge of Everything. God Is Good!**

**GOSPEL** – the good news that **Jesus Came to Save Sinners** and the whole world from sin

**HEAVEN** – the place where God lives

**IDOL** – anything we love and trust more than God

**ISRAELITES** – God’s special, chosen people

**MIRACLE** – something amazing and special that shows God’s power

**PROMISED LAND** – the place God promised to give to the Israelites that was full of good things

**PROPHET** – someone who speaks for God

**SACRIFICE** – giving something special and valuable to God to show Him that He is better

**SAVES** – rescues

**SIN (SICK HEART)** – anything we do or think that is different from what God wants. Sin starts in our hearts and comes out in our actions. Everyone sins. Sin separates us from God, and we die.

**TAX COLLECTOR** – someone who collects money and gives it to the people in charge of a city as a job

**TEMPLE** – the place where God’s people worshiped God together a long time ago

**TEMPTATION** – when our hearts or other people tell us that sinning is better than obeying God

**WORSHIP** – how we show that God is most valuable. Only God deserves our worship. We use our voices, minds, and bodies to worship God.

## GLOSSARY

### DEFINITIONS FOR TEACHERS

#### THE BIBLE

The Bible is God's true Word. It is from God and about God. God the Holy Spirit helped many different men at many different times write all the different books of the Bible, but it's all one, true story about God. **God Wants to Talk With Us** through the Bible.

#### THE CHURCH

The Church is not a building. The Church is every person who loves and trusts Jesus. There are many people around the world that gather together in buildings to spend time learning about God, worshiping God, and remembering the good news that **Jesus Came to Save Sinners** together.

#### ENSLAVED PEOPLE

Enslaved people are not in charge of their own lives and have to do whatever their enslaver tells them to do. Most of the time, enslaved people are treated very, very badly, and their enslavers are mean to them. They do all the hard work but don't make any money. It is terrible to be enslaved. God never wants us to treat people the way those who are enslaved are treated.

#### FORGIVENESS

God does not give His children the punishment they deserve for sin. Jesus took the punishment for sin by dying on the cross. God forgives sinners because God is love. God loves His children! We can never be good enough to make God forgive us. We have to love and trust Jesus to be forgiven.

#### GOD'S BIG STORY TIMELINE

Throughout the Bible, we see an overarching timeline of God's work, sometimes referred to as the metanarrative. Over the course of this curriculum, you can refer back to this timeline to help children gain an understanding of how each narrative fits into God's Big Story. It is our hope that they grow in their understanding of not only when things happened, but also how we are still waiting with hope for the promise of Christ's return to come true.

#### HATE

It is sin to hate people. God does not want us to sin or hate anyone, even if they aren't easy to love.

#### LAWS

God's laws and rules are always good. Obeying them is always good for us! We can never obey God's laws perfectly. We all need a Savior to save us from our sin. Laws given to us by God are always good because **God Is Good**, but laws given to us by people are not always good because we are all sinners. We should never obey laws given to us by people more than laws given to us by God.

#### PRAYER

We can talk to God through prayer anywhere, anytime, about anything. When we pray, we can tell God how great He is or thank God for everything He does and gives. We can ask God to do something or give something, and we can tell God the truth about our sin. God already knows everything about us, but **God Wants to Talk With Us** because He loves us and wants us to love Him!

#### SALVATION (HEALTHY HEART)

God rescues and saves people from their sin. Sin separates us from God and we die, but God takes our sick, sinful hearts and gives us a new, healthy

heart when we love and trust Jesus. Jesus lived a perfect life. He never sinned. Jesus died on the cross to take the punishment for our sins, but Jesus didn't stay dead. Jesus came back to life three days later so that everyone who loves and trust Him can have a healthy heart and live with God forever.

**Jesus Came to Save Sinners!**

**SICK HEART/HEALTHY HEART**

Because Adam and Eve sinned and disobeyed God, everyone who is born

after them (that's us!) is born with a heart that is sick with sin. Our hearts are sick because they love other things more than they love God, but Jesus was born with a perfectly healthy heart that loves God because Jesus is God's Son, not Adam's. Jesus lived a perfect life. He never sinned. Jesus died on the cross to take the punishment for sins. Then, He came back to life three days later so that everyone who loves and trusts Jesus can have a new, healthy heart like His that loves God most! **Jesus Came to Save Sinners.**

**WORSHIP**

Worship is telling and showing someone or something that they are most valuable. Only God deserves our worship. We can worship God by singing songs, praying, telling others about Him and reading God's Word. When we love and trust God, our hearts want to worship Him.

## A Biblical Timeline

OLD TESTAMENT

# GOD'S BIG STORY

NEW TESTAMENT

