



STANDARD

5

My Bible Lessons

Sunday School Text Book



Published by
**SHARON FELLOWSHIP
SUNDAY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEXT BOOK

Standard 5

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SHARON FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

SHARON, THIRUVALLA-689101, KERALA, INDIA

PREFACE

The Sunday school has played a major role in the growth of the church. A majority of the believers had found Jesus as their savior during their Sunday school days. Apart from that, the Sunday school has been the foundation for Bible study in the lives of most of the men and women who have been mightily used by God's hands for his kingdom's glory from time to time. It is also worth telling that the Sunday school has been the starting point for many church ministries.

It is a great pleasure for me in seeing the steady growth and active functioning of the Sunday school in the Sharon Fellowship Church (SFC). This wonderful ministry of bringing children's to Christ is worth of all our appreciation. It is a truth that the Sunday school can breed mighty warriors for the kingdom of God.

Even my pleasure abounds to see the revisions taking place in the textual contents of the Sunday school books with regard to the present educational trends and standards. As a part of the efforts in this regard the class 5 book has been revised. I heartily congratulate all who have strived in this endeavor. It is my sincere hope and prayer that this book may be a blessing for all the children's.

Thiruvalla
10-11-2016

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(General President)

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SHARON, THIRUVALLA-689101, KERALA, INDIA

FELICITATION

The Sunday school plays a pivotal role in building up a generation for Christ. Children who have received the Sunday school teaching stand apart and above all other children in all aspects of social, mental and spiritual aspects. These children grow steadfastly in their spiritual life endowed with heavenly blessings.

The Sunday school has brought forth a generation thirsty for Christ, as this is what the nation needs. Thus, this ministry should be given prime importance by the churches. Many renowned workers of Christ found Jesus through the Sunday school. I pray that our children might be used by God for his kingdom.

The Sunday school books have been revised to imbibe the changing trends and standards of the education scenario of these present times. I applaud the Sunday school Association for this good work. I pray for the success of this endeavor and hope that it will be a blessing for the children's of the church.

Manakala
10-11-2016

Dr. T. G. Koshy
(Senior General Minister)



SHARON FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

SHARON, THIRUVALLA-689101, KERALA, INDIA

FOREWORD

Sunday school has always been a very integral and inseparable part of the church. Every church to some extent owes its growth and stability to the spiritual state of its youth and children. If the children and youngsters are strongly built up in the word of God, they can be the greatest wealth of the church.

The Sharon Fellowship Church has given utmost importance to Sunday school from the beginning. In the year 1998, we were able to provide a systemized syllabus for the classes 1 to 10 by the grace of the Almighty. Soon after these were also the books for classes 11 and 12 been published.

The published 12 books contained a detailed study of the Bible and also some other relevant topics from church history and missionaries. The purpose of this compilation is to equip the children's who has studied all the 12 books with as much knowledge as a bible college student.

Keeping in view to the changing trends and educational standards the previous class 5 book has now been revised by the grace of God. I sincerely applaud everyone who has worked for this and sincerely pray that it may benefit every Sunday school children's.

Aluva
10-11-2016

Dr. T.P. Abraham
(Acting President)

STATEMENT

The Sunday school has always been active from the starting of the Sharon Fellowship church. In order to facilitate the study of the word of God for children's, books were first published by Sharon Bible College, Thiruvalla and Mannakala Faith Theological Seminary. But later on these books were not available. It was at this juncture in the year 1998 that our present acting President Dr. T. P. Abraham took the initiative of printing apt Sunday school books for classes 1 to 10.

After the creation of the Sharon Sunday school Association in 1998, the books for 11, 12 and Nursery were printed and published. These books were relevant for imparting Christian values and Biblical knowledge to its readers.

We are in the age of technological advancement and it was essential to impart the word of God in an easy and understandable manner. It was for this reason that the previous books were revised according to the recommendations of the 2013 Committee. The revised versions of class 1 and class 2 were printed in 2013 and 2014 respectively. By the grace of the Almighty God this year also we are presenting English Edition of class 5 book to the church.

This book was prepared by **Pastor Titus Johnson**. The Association expresses its heartfelt gratitude in this regard. English translation of this book done by **Sisters Feba Ajith, Nijy Anna Chacko, Nissy Jyothish, Jensu Jesso**. We extend our hearty thanks to the precious work behind it timely and we also thank for **Sharon Fellowship Church Dubai** who financially support the printing of this text book.

The Sunday school needs everybody's prayers to carry on this responsibility of nurturing up a generation zealous in our Lord & Savior Jesus. Let us work together for this. I convey my sincere regards to all.

On behalf of the Sharon Fellowship Sunday School Association

Thiruvalla
10-11-2016

Br. T. Thankachan (Gen. Secretary)
Pr. Jacob George (Curriculum Coordinator)

INTRODUCTION

Sunday school is doing the great ministry of relating children with Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore there is no wrong in saying that today's Sunday school is tomorrow's church. From this it is clear that the future of church is depending upon Sunday school. It is from this perspective that every church should see Sunday school and encourage its activities.

Sunday School Teaching is neither a trivial task nor simple mission. Rather it is very important like any other service of the Church. It is a mission that God entrusted upon us by considering us as Faithful. Therefore teaching ministry of Sunday school should be done with enough prayer and prayer

Sunday school studies may enable our children to receive Jesus Christ as their personal saviour. It may also help them to grow in Christ and also to become the witnesses of Gospel where ever they are. This new curriculum of Sunday school is helpful to attain the above mentioned aims. Teachers should study it well and teach students with this aim.

Sharon Sunday School Association decided to revise the old curriculum by including the contemporary elements to get a quality Christian education for our children. As a part of it, this text book of 5th class is reaching in your hands. I pray that its learner may be blessed by this text book

Pastor Abraham Mannamaruthy

Thiruvalla
10-11-2016

Director, Sharon Fellowship
Sunday School Association.

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1

SAUL BECAME THE KING

Reference: 1 Samuel 9,10 Chapters

Aim: To understand the God's plan in choosing people for the blessings of the church and the prosperity of the country.

Introduction: the word "elect" is a familiar word which means to select people to lead a group of people. In our country leaders are elected by the people and it

is called as democracy. But in ancient Israel, the country was ruled by the Kings. God chose people and they were anointed by the prophets, took their responsibilities as Kings.

Detailed lesson: let us learn about how God chosen the first King for His people, Israel and his rein in the Kingdom.

Family background of Saul

There were 12 tribes of Israel, this stems from the 12 sons of Jacob. Benjamin was the youngest son of Jacob. The tribe of Benjamin was the smallest tribe. There was a man named Kish from the tribe of Benjamin. Kish was a very rich person. Kish had a son named Saul. Saul was a handsome young man. There wasn't anyone like him among the people of Israel. He was a head taller than any of them. After Samuel, by God's command, had secretly anointed Saul as king, it was now his duty to recognize the man whom God had chosen publicly. Samuel then called



the people to Mizpah and instructed the tribes to choose a king by lot. This was done by calling all of the tribes forward, one by one, and using the process of elimination until the tribe of Benjamin was chosen. From the tribe of Benjamin the clan of Matri was chosen. Finally, Kish's son, Saul was the choice.

Saul's characteristics

1. He completely obeyed God, the prophet and his Father
2. He submitted himself to the mighty hands of God

Application: this story help us to know when we obey God wholeheartedly, God will reveal His plan for us. It may be through the Servants of God. God chose the smallest tribe of Benjamin, the same way God will uplift the humble.

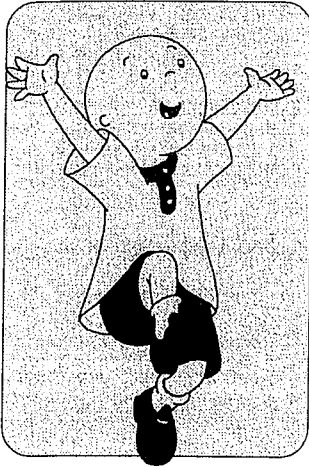
Historical background of Israel

Israel was a different nation from all other nations. The omniscient and omnipotent Lord was its king and ruler. God chose the Israelites to be His own special people. God gave His laws and decrees to Israel only (Ps. 147:19-20). But the Israelites failed to cherish their special status. They rejected God as their king and wanted to establish their own king like the other nations. Before the Kingmanship, Israelites were led by Judges. The last Judge of the Israel was Samuel and he was a prophet too. Although God warned Israel of the many problems associated with having a king, the Israelites insisted on being ruled by a human king.

Anointing Saul as King

In the tribe of Benjamin was a mighty man of power named Kish; he had a son named Saul. One day, Saul's father asked him and a servant to find his lost donkeys. They went everywhere but could not find them. Then, Saul's servant said, "In the city there is a man of God. So, let's go there and he can show us where we should go." As they went up to the city, Samuel was walking out towards them. When Samuel saw Saul, the Lord said, "There is the man of whom I spoke to you. This one shall reign My people." Therefore, Samuel and Saul met and Samuel told him that his donkeys had been found. After that, Samuel invited Saul to stay with him for two days and Saul at with him that day. The next morning, Samuel knew that the time was right to anoint Samuel. He took a flask of oil, poured it on his head, kissed him, and said, "Is it not because the Lord has anointed you commander over His inheritance?"

Samuel then called the people together at Mizpah and anointed Saul as King publicly.

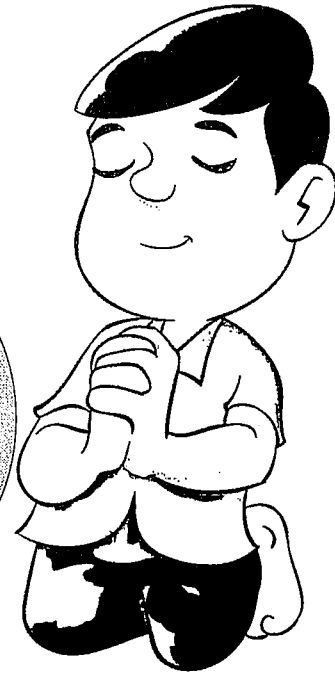


MY DECISION

I will be obedient and humble
in the days of my life

MY PRAYER

Father, help me to be an
obedient child. Help me and my
friends to lean on you in every
decision. Amen



MEMORY VERSE

1 Peter 5:6

Therefore humble yourselves
under the mighty hand of God, that
He may exalt you in due time

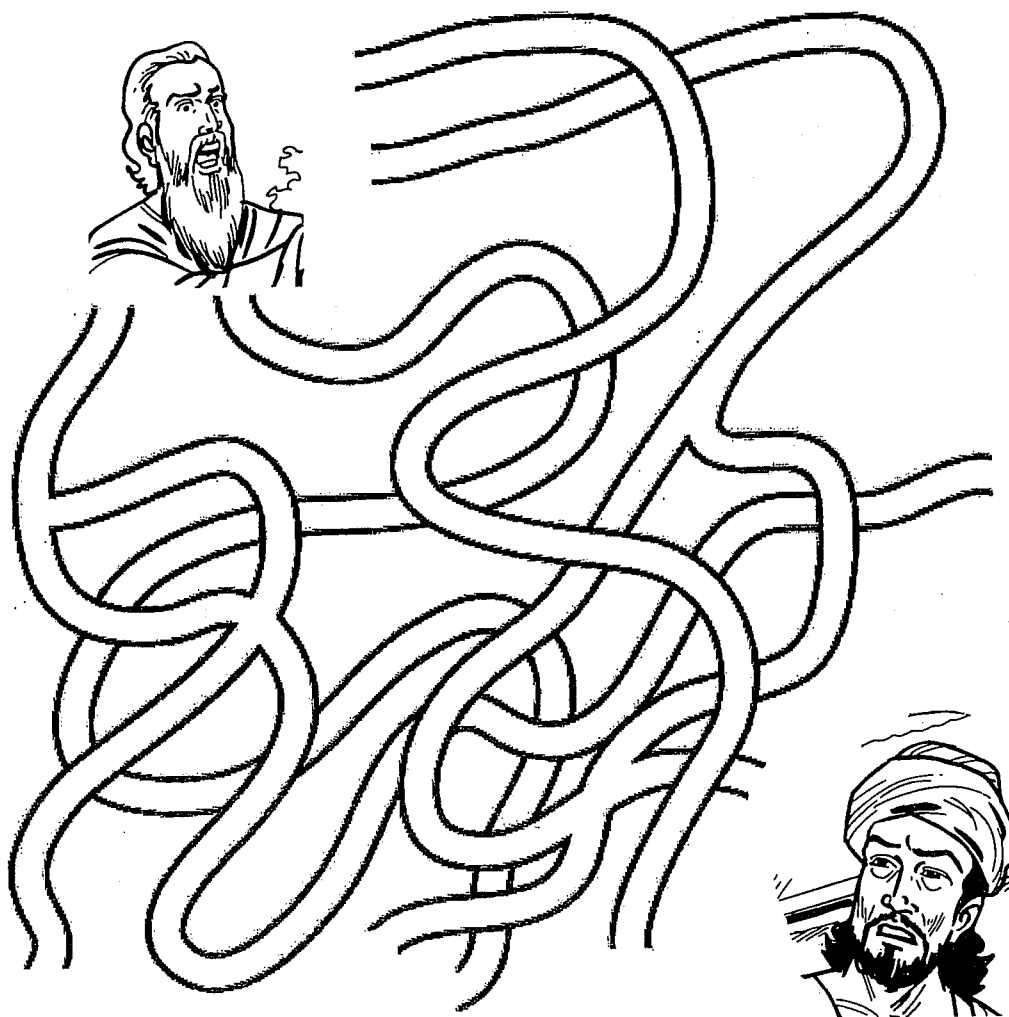
Questions

1. How different tribes of Israel did formed?
2. Name Saul's father?
3. Why Saul did become the King of Israel?
4. Why did Saul and his servant travelled?
5. Explain the anointing of Saul by Samuel?

Put tick mark ☒ for the right and wrong sign ☒ for wrong options

- ☐ Kish was a descendant of the tribe Judah
- ☐ Saul was a head taller than any of them.
- ☐ Samuel was the last Judge of the Israel
- ☐ Samuel said to Saul "Is it not because the Lord has anointed you commander over His inheritance?"

Lead Saul to Samuel



2

DISOBEDIENCE OF SAUL

Reference: 1 Samuel 15

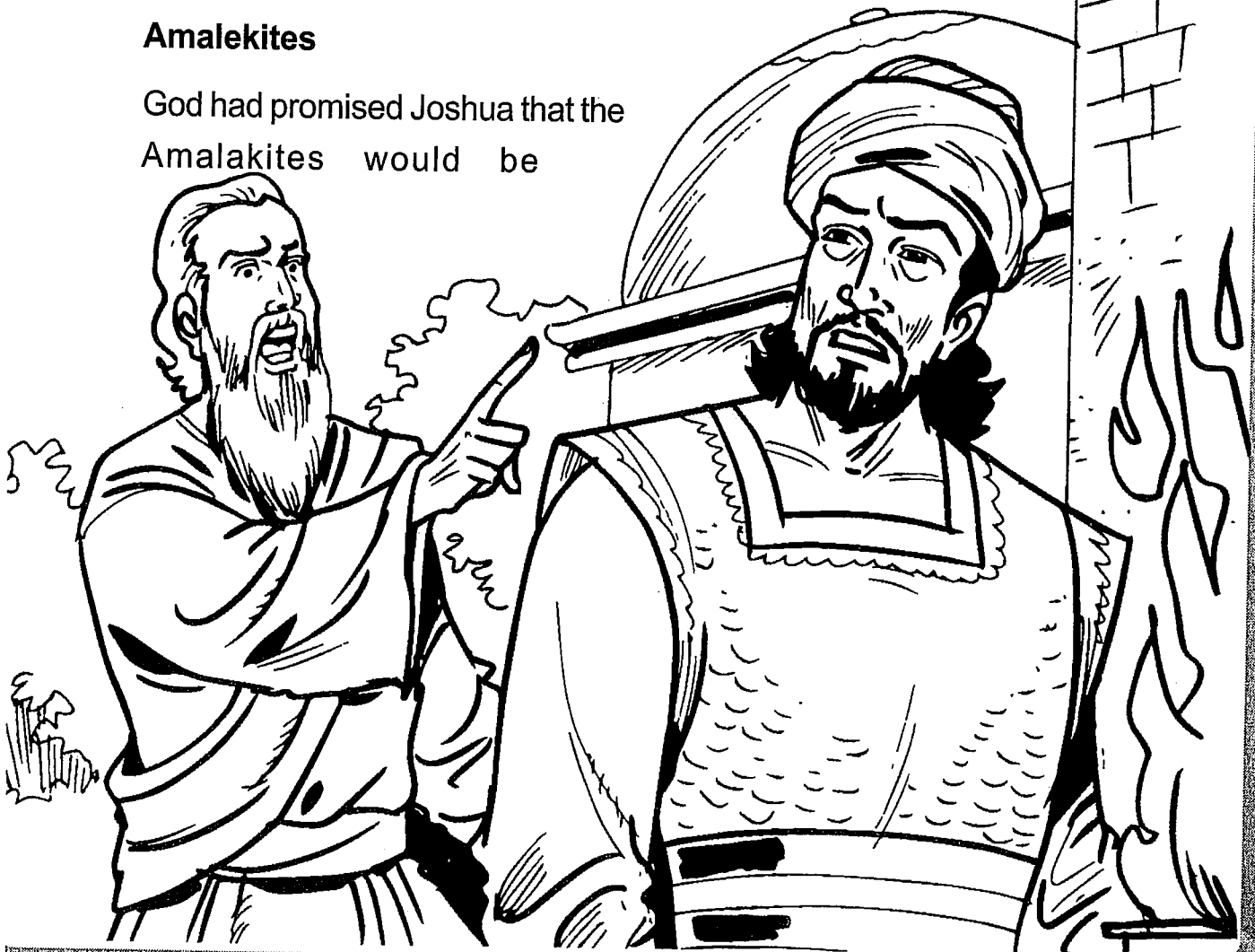
Aim: to learn disobedience is the utmost sin against God

Introduction: You may heard a lot about obedience. You learned about Adam and Eve's disobedience in previous classes. The beginning of sin in the Bible starts from disobedience (Romans 5:19).

Detailed lesson: Have you ever disobeyed your parents? Did they punish you? Did you ever repeat the same mistakes? Parents want to guide us in right way. This lesson deals about the disobedience of King Saul. God rejected Saul as king and anointed another who would love and honor God and take care of God's people. God loves people who loves His laws.

Amalekites

God had promised Joshua that the Amalakites would be



destroyed because of their evil ways. The Amalakites had defied God by attacking the Israelites and refusing to allow them to cross their land when they came out of Egypt. God decided to punish them (1 Samuel 15:2). God chose Saul to destroy the Amalekites (1 Samuel 15:18).

Saul war/ fight against Amalekites

God sent Saul and his army against them. Samuel gave Saul definite and clear orders from God not to take captives and to destroy everything. But Saul flat out disobeyed God. He not only took the king captive, but he kept everything of value. He also erected a monument to himself. Rather than giving the honor and glory to God, Saul set himself up as a great king, a hero who had won the battle by conquering the enemy.

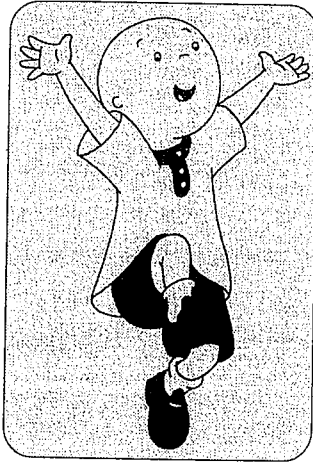
Disobedience of Saul

God told Saul to utterly destroy all that Amalekites have, and do not spare them. But Saul spared all that was good, and were unwilling to utterly destroy them. When Samuel reached Saul, Saul greeted him but lied about what he had done. Saul even said that he had "obeyed the command" of the Lord. Saul refused to repent and accept the responsibility for his sin. He tried to rationalize and excuse himself. Samuel replied by asking about the sounds of the sheep and cattle that Saul had kept for himself in direct disobedience of God's command. When Saul realized that Samuel knew, he tried to blame the soldiers for his sins and then claimed the reason they kept only a few of the sheep and cattle was to sacrifice them to God, which was not true. Sometimes we like to try to make excuses for our sin and disobedience. Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. (Ephesians 5:6, NKJV)

God's response to Saul

God was grieved that He selected Saul as king because Saul had refused to obey and follow Him. "God said to Samuel, 'I am sorry that I made Saul king; he has turned away from me and disobeyed my commands.' Samuel went to tell King Saul. "Samuel said to King Saul, 'Because you didn't do what God said, he has rejected you as king.' God lovingly chose Saul as a king but rejected him in His wrath. Obedience is better than sacrifice. King Saul end was very pathetic. (Refer 1 Samuel 31)

Application: one of the major act that hurts God is disobedience. But through Jesus we can ask for forgiveness of our sin, God hates rationalization of our sin.

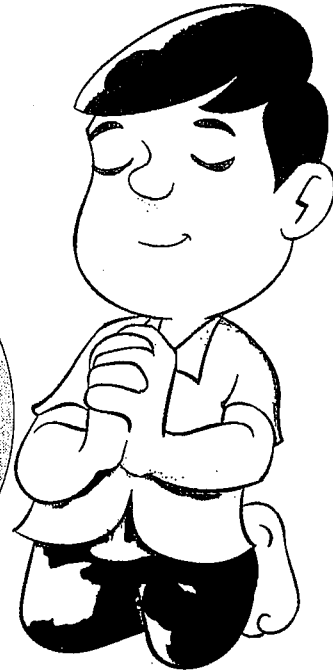


MY DECISION

My spirituality will never be a hindrance for obedience.

MY PRAYER

Father, help me to obey your commandments wholeheartedly. Let human desires will not be a hindrance for my spiritual life. Amen.



MEMORY VERSE

Proverbs 28:13

He who covers his sins will not prosper, but whoever confesses and forsakes them will have mercy.

Questions

1. Who are Amalekites?
2. What was Saul's disobedience?
3. What was Saul's punishment for disobedience?



Fill in the blanks

1. The beginning of sin is
2. Those who attacks Israel is
3. The place lying in the East of Misraim is
4. The King of Amalokians is
5. Anger of God is coming upon
6. I feel sorry for reigning as King.

Read 31st chapter of 1 Samuel and write not less than a paragraph about the death of King Saul and read it in the next class.

3

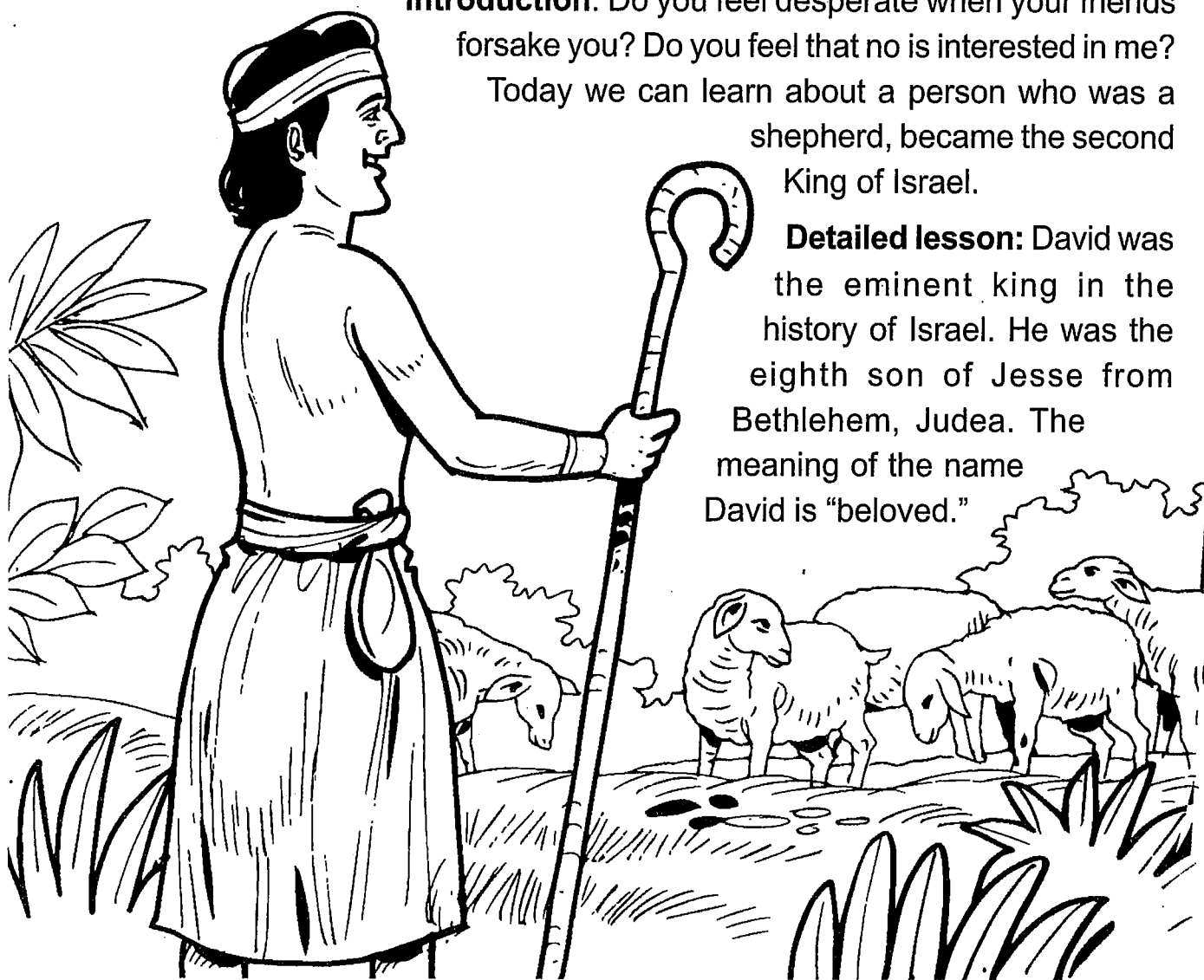
SHEPHERD BECAME THE KING

Reference: 1 Samuel 16

Aim: To understand that God keeps His promises and He uplift His people before their enemies. David probably was speaking from personal experience when he said, "When my father and my mother forsake me, then the Lord will take care of me" (Ps. 27:10). Yet the one whom others saw as a person of last resort, God considered a person of first choice. Even though David's father deemed him worthy only of leading sheep, God saw him as the future leader of Israel. How the world sees us is of little importance; of utmost importance is how God sees us.

Introduction: Do you feel desperate when your friends forsake you? Do you feel that no is interested in me? Today we can learn about a person who was a shepherd, became the second King of Israel.

Detailed lesson: David was the eminent king in the history of Israel. He was the eighth son of Jesse from Bethlehem, Judea. The meaning of the name David is "beloved."



Childhood days of David

David was a glowing with bright eyes and good looking young man among the sons of Jesse. His brothers Eliab, Abinadab, Shammah were army officials in King Saul's army. Jesse had 8 sons, David was the youngest. He was a shepherd, keeping his Father's sheeps at the wilderness of Judea. He was very faithful in his duties. He was skillful in playing harp, a mighty man of valor, a man of war, prudent in speech, and a handsome person. (1 Samuel 16:18)

David as a shepherd boy

Jesse had a lot of sheep and David was the incharge of keeping those sheep. He was responsible in tending the sheep. Once a lion and a bear attacked the flock to snatch a little lamb, young David attacked those animals. Pulling the lamb away, he grabbed the snarling beast by its beard and killed it. David knew God had helped him. When we are faithful in or deeds god will strengthen us to face all difficulties.

Samuel in Jesse's house

Samuel mourned for King Saul because Saul had sinned. Saul was no longer the humble man that hid behind the baggage rather than stand before a crowd. God removed Saul from his Kingship. God told Samuel to go to Bethlehem and anoint one of the sons of Jesse to be the next king. God advised Samuel to take a sacrifice to offer while he was in Bethlehem, and that would be the obvious reason for his journey.

When Samuel arrived in Bethlehem, the town elders met him in fear. Perhaps they were afraid that someone in their town had been accused of wrongdoing. But Samuel assured them that he had come in peace to offer a sacrifice to God. Then he invited these men to "consecrate" or "sanctify" themselves and come to the sacrifice, especially Jesse and his sons. To sanctify themselves probably meant to stop work, wash their clothes, and take a bath in preparation for time of worship. God will bless us when we respect Godly man.

Anointing of King David

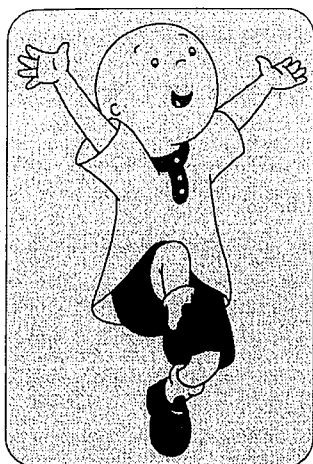
Samuel looked at Eliab (David's older brother) and said to himself, "Surely this must be the Lord's anointed one." But God gave definite criteria for selecting the King. They are

- ◆ Do not look at his appearance or at his physical stature
- ◆ Do not see as man sees
- ◆ Lord looks at the heart

After Eliab was rejected, Jesse called each of his sons to pass before Samuel and each time one passed by Samuel said, "neither has the Lord chosen this

one." Jesse had seven of his sons pass before Samuel but none of them was the one that God had chosen. Then Samuel asked Jesse "Are these all of your sons?" Jesse answered Samuel by telling him that there still remained his youngest son who was out keeping his sheep. Samuel asked Jesse to send for him and he even said, "We will not sit down until he comes."

Application: We can learn two practical things from this lesson. Man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart. He often chooses the weak and the outcast to do amazing things for Him.

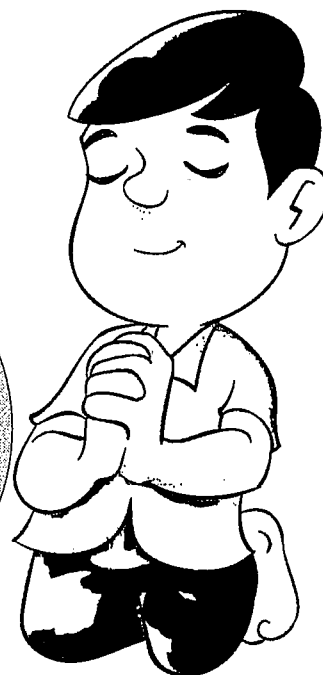


MY DECISION

I will faithful in all my responsibilities/
endeavours.

MY PRAYER

Dear God when everyone
forsakes us, help us to know
your will. Amen!



MEMORY VERSE

1 Corinthians 1:27

But God has chosen the foolish
things of the world to put to
shame the wise, and God has
chosen the weak things of the
world to put to shame the things
which are mighty.

Questions

1. Meaning of the name David?
2. Whose army's members were David's elder brother?
3. Where did David tended his sheep?
4. Where did Jesse lived?
5. Describe the anointing of David?



Crossword

Down

1. David's job?
2. Name the animal which was killed by David?

Right

3. Name the eldest brother of David?
4. Name David's father?

					1				
				3					2
4									

Write any six qualities of David

1. Valor
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

4

DAVID AND GOLIATH

Reference: 1 Samuel 16: 14-23;
Chapter 17

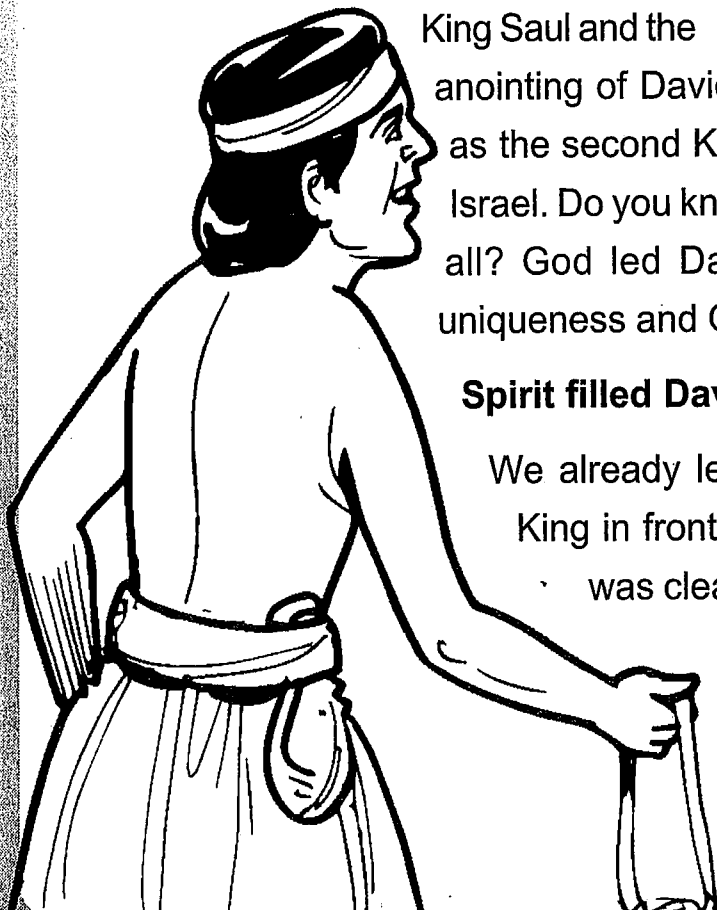
Aim: The children will state that God protected David and will identify one problem God can help them overcome.

Introduction: War cause fear in us. We fear mighty people and the cruel animals. But by God's grace we can overcome all evils and difficulties.

Detailed Lesson: We learned about the fall of King Saul and the anointing of David as the second King of Israel. Do you know how this election was made known to all? God led David in mysterious ways to reveal his uniqueness and God's power.

Spirit filled David

We already learned about the anointing of David as King in front of his brothers. The power of anointing was clearly evident in David. When Spirit of Lord came upon David, the Spirit of Lord departed from Saul. A distressing spirit came from the Lord troubled him. When we disobey God, the evil spirit begins to rule us. When Saul rejected God's



truth and rebelled against Him he forfeited His power and peace in his life.

One of Saul's servants recommends Jesse's son David to come play his harp to help Saul feel better. David came from Bethlehem and served King Saul. Whenever an evil spirit came upon Saul, David played his harp and he would feel better and David became the member of the Royal palace.

Philistines and Israel

The Philistines gathered their enemies together to battle against Israel. They were gathered at Sochoh, which belongs to Judah Saul and men of Israel gathered together and encamped in the valley of Elah. The Philistines stood on a mountain on one side, and Israel stood on the other side, with a valley between them.

Goliath, the champion

This time Philistines army was led by a giant of a man from Gath called Goliath. Almost ten feet tall, Goliath was covered with heavy metal armor from his helmet to the greaves on his legs. He carried a great spear in his hand and a man went before him with a huge shield. The very sight of Goliath struck fear in the hearts of Israel's soldiers. Every morning and every evening for forty days, he roared across the valley, "Why have you not come out to line up for battle?" Choose a man for yourselves. If he is able to fight with me and kill me, then we will be your servants. But if I kill him, then you shall be our servants."

David in battlefield

Meanwhile back in Bethlehem, David was at home taking care of his father's sheep. David's three oldest brothers were in Saul's army facing the Philistines. Jesse wanted David to take some food to his brothers. Early in the morning David left his father's sheep with a shepherd and took food to his brothers. David arrived at the military camp and as he was talking with his brothers he heard a loud voice shouting from the Philistine camp. When Goliath started shouting the Israelite men all ran from him in great fear. While the Israelite army is fearful of Goliath, David is shocked at what he sees and hears. What had the Lord's people to fear from a heathen soldier? "Who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should defy the armies of the living God?" he wanted to know. David's older brother burns with anger when he hears David talking with the soldiers about Goliath. He accuses him of having a conceited, wicked heart that only came to watch the battle. Meantime King Saul heard about David and his concerns.

David defeats Goliath

David told Saul he would take on the giant himself, he was not afraid! Saul refused, however. Goliath was too big and strong a man for a boy like David. But David kept urging with the king, telling him how he had killed both lion and bear when he kept the sheep. "The Lord, who delivered me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear, he will deliver me from the hand of the Philistine," David declared.

Finally Saul agreed to let David fight Goliath and put his own helmet and armor on the boy. But Saul's armor was so heavy David couldn't walk. So he took his staff and sling instead, stooping by a brook to put five smooth stones in his bag.

When Goliath saw David coming, he cursed him and vowed to feed him to the birds and wild animals. "Am I a dog that you come at me with sticks?" he yelled. David shouted back, "You come to me with a sword, with a spear, and with a javelin. But I come to you in the name of the Lord of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel! This day the Lord will deliver you into my hand. That all the earth may know there is a God in Israel!"

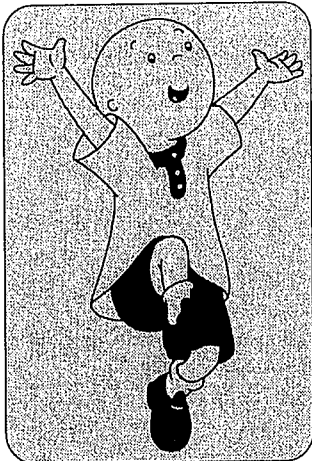
Running to meet the giant, David took a stone from his bag and slung it with deadly aim. To the crowd's great surprise, the stone caught Goliath on the forehead and fell on his face to the earth!

So with just one stone David killed the mighty Goliath of Gath. Taking the giant's own sword, he cut off his head for all to see. And when the Philistines saw their champion was dead, they all began to run for their lives.

David, Goliath and Us

The greatest enemy of a Christian is Satan. He takes form in many ways, and is everywhere in the world today- we cannot let him lead us to commit sins. Goliath stands for Satan. When Satan accuses falsely at God's chosen people we would stand firm like David did. Jesus Christ conquered the enemy and also set an example before us. God wants us to fight the good fight and he will enable us to stand firm in the Lord.

Application: Christians should know that we are in the midst of a great spiritual war. The weapon for fight is the Prayer and God's word is our sword. In Ephesians chapter 6 verses 10 onwards we can see the weapons for the battle. We can use all those whenever is in need.

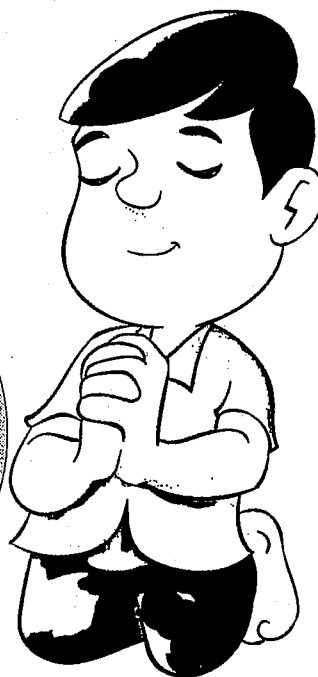


MY DECISION

When Satan tempts me, I will not be afraid and I will abide under God's mighty Hands.

MY PRAYER

Heavenly Father, Help me to withstand all adversities and troubles caused by the great enemy Satan. Amen!



MEMORY VERSE

Ephesians 6:10

Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.

Questions

1. Where did Israelites and Philistines encamp for the battle?
2. What did Goliath said to challenge the Israelites?
3. Why David did come to the battlefield?
4. Why did David killed Goliath?
5. Who is the enemy of the New Testament Christians?

Put the numbers (1,2,3...) according to incidents happened



1. David plays the harp ☐
2. Goliath challenges ☐
3. Samuel anoints David ☐
4. Saul possessed with evil spirit ☐
5. David became the member of the Royal palace ☐
6. David reaches the battlefield ☐
7. David kills the Goliath ☐

Write all the armors from Ephesians 6:10

1.

4.

2.

5.

3.

6.

5

DAVID AND JONATHAN

Reference: 1 Samuel 18:1-4, 19:1-7, 20:1-42, 23: 15-18

Aim: to understand the true love will overcome all adversities. True love is the foundation of Christian life.

Introduction: You may have lot of friends. Some may be your intimate friends to whom you share your secrets. The love in the world will follow you to the grave. Let us find out the love which will be there beyond the grave.

Detailed lesson: David became famous in the kingdom of Israel after he killed Goliath and he became more close to the Saul's royal family. King Saul had a son named Jonathan. Jonathan became good friends with David.



David in Saul's Palace

After David killed Goliath, Saul basically adopted David into his family. Jonathan loved David and considered him as a brother and they became good friends. David would play harp for King Saul. King Saul placed David in leadership positions, especially over the men of war.

David's and Jonathan- the intimate friends

As soon as he had finished

speaking to Saul, the soul of Jonathan was knit to the soul of David, and Jonathan loved him as his own soul.² And Saul took him that day and would not let him return to his father's house.

Jonathan and David – their covenant

Jonathan made a covenant with David, because he loved him as his own soul. And Jonathan stripped himself of the robe that was on him and gave it to David, and his armor, and even his sword and his bow and his belt. And David went out and was successful wherever Saul sent him, so that Saul set him over the men of war. And this was good in the sight of all the people and also in the sight of Saul's servants. That made Saul very angry. It really upset him. King Saul told his followers to kill David. But Jonathan made all these matters to David.

Unconditional love

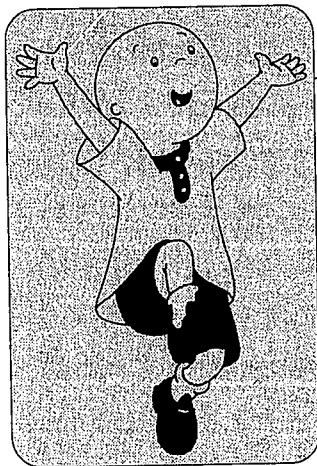
One day David fled to Rama where Samuel lived. He escaped from the hands of King Saul. After that David met Jonathan and shared his burdens to Jonathan. One day, David came to Jonathan and asked why King Saul was trying to kill him. Jonathan knew that Saul was jealous of David but he never thought that he would try to kill him. He tried to assure David that Saul would never kill him. He told him that he would know if Saul had ordered men to find him and kill him. David told Jonathan that he knew of Saul's evil schemes. Jonathan could not understand why Saul would do this. David knew a way to see for sure if King Saul meant good or harm to him. He told Jonathan that the king had invited him to a banquet at the palace. He told Jonathan that if he did not show up for the banquet and the king became very angry, and then he surely wanted David killed. Jonathan worked out a way to tell David how his father reacted to the news. He would shoot arrows into the field where David was hiding. If things were unsafe, he would give a secret password sign. They also told each other that they would always take care of each other's families. Sure enough, that night at the banquet, King Saul asked about David. Jonathan told him that he was not coming. He went to Bethlehem to his house. King Saul was furious! Saul yelled at Jonathan and told him that as long as David was alive, he would never become king. Then Saul ordered that David be captured and killed. Jonathan asked why David must be killed. At that, Saul grabbed a spear and threw it at his son, Jonathan. It missed Jonathan. With that, he knew that Saul would try to kill David. Jonathan and David were best friends. When we saw his father's anger, he was so upset that he did not eat for the whole day.

The next morning, Jonathan went to the field where David was hiding. As he was shooting arrows, he said the password that told David that he was in danger of being killed. After his servant left, David came out of hiding. Jonathan ran to him

and hugged him. They both cried together because they knew that they would never see each other again. Jonathan told David to go in peace. He made a promise that they would be friends forever and he would always take care of his family just as David promised he would take care of Jonathan's family. Jonathan and David are good examples of how friends treat each other. They should love each other and care about their needs. They should encourage them and help them in tough times. It's a good example to us of how friends should be. Jonathan could have been upset that David would be king instead of him. After all, he was the next in line. However, God had anointed David to be king and Jonathan knew that he must follow God. Jonathan loved David and was happy for him to be the next king. Friends are happy when others succeed. They are not jealous or envious. They care and love at all times.

Jesus wants to be our Best Friend too. He loves us so much that he died for us on the cross. You see, because we have done wrong, we must take the consequence of our wrongs. Jesus loved us so much that He took our punishment for us when He died on the cross. He did it for us!

Application: Jesus said, "Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends." When we love others without seeking anything from them, others can see Jesus through us.

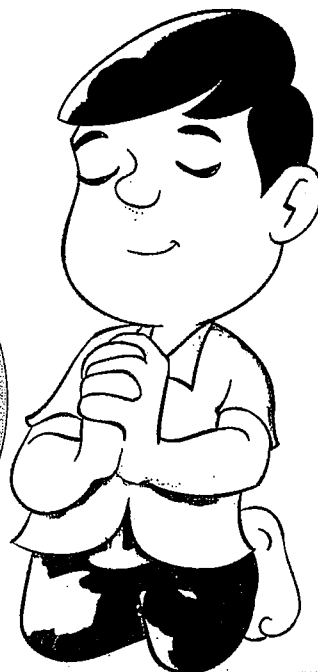


MY DECISION

I will help my friends without seeking any help from them. I'll be a help in trouble for them.

MY PRAYER

Lord, You loved us by giving you very own love to save us. Help me to lend a helping hand to others. Amen!



MEMORY VERSE

John 15:13

Greater love has no one than this,
than to lay down one's life
for his friends.

Questions

1. Why Saul did make David as head over the men of wars?
2. Why Jonathan did love David as his very own soul?
3. Why did Saul want to kill David?
4. Native place of David?
5. What is the resemblance of Jonathan's love towards David?

Match the following

- | | | |
|-----------------------|---|----------|
| 1. Bethlehem | - | Harp |
| 2. Rama | - | Jonathan |
| 3. Prince | - | David |
| 4. Distressing spirit | - | Samuel |



Write the qualities of your intimate friend

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

6

GOD DELIVERS FROM ENEMY

Reference: 1 Samuel 18:10 - 29; chapter 22

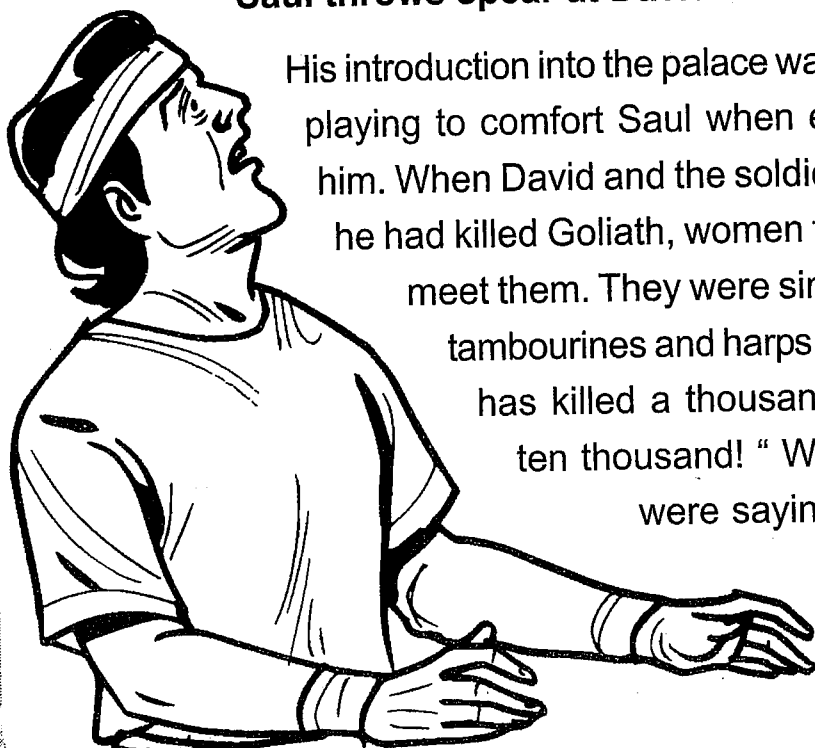
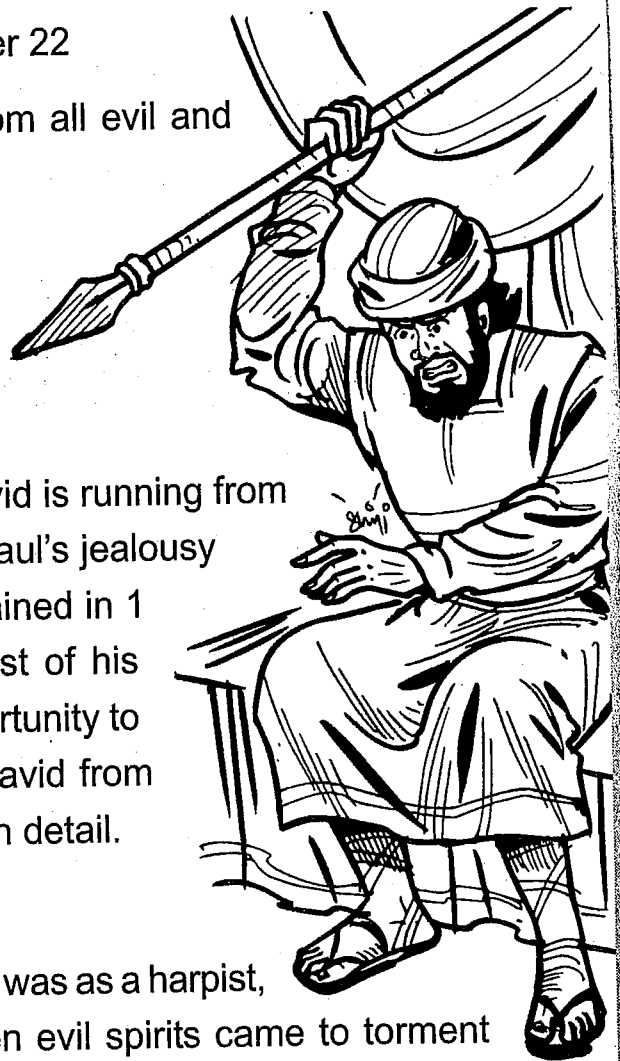
Aim: God delivers the anointed one from all evil and help him to face all challenges in his life.

Introduction: In the time Saul, the Kingdoms fight each other to take revenge. God never allows us to take revenge on our enemies.

Detailed lesson: In today's lesson, David is running from the wrath of King Saul. So fierce was Saul's jealousy that he had tried to kill David. It is explained in 1 Samuel chapters 18 to 30. In the midst of his difficult situation, David will find an opportunity to get back at Saul. But God protected David from all these adversaries. Let us learn this in detail.

Saul throws spear at David

His introduction into the palace was as a harpist, playing to comfort Saul when evil spirits came to torment him. When David and the soldiers were returning home after he had killed Goliath, women from every town in Israel came to meet them. They were singing and dancing to the music of tambourines and harps. They celebrated and sang: "Saul has killed a thousand enemies, but David has killed ten thousand!" When Saul heard what the people were saying, he was upset and became so angry that he said to himself, "They say that I have killed only a thousand enemies, but David



has killed ten thousand. What more can they do for David besides making him king?"

The next day the Lord let an evil spirit take control of Saul, and he began acting like a crazy person. As usual, David had come to play the harp for Saul. However, this time Saul had a spear in his hand and thought, "I'll nail him to the wall!" He threw it at David twice. David dodged and got away both times. David could get away because the Lord was protecting him.

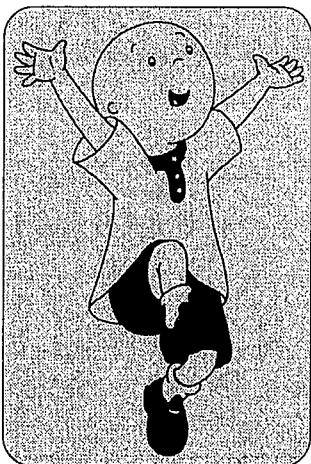
Saul's other plans

One day Saul had an evil plan. He said to David, "You may have my older daughter Merab in marriage; you only have to serve me bravely and fight the battles of the Lord." Saul thought to himself, "I won't kill David myself. I'll let the Philistines do that!" Saul didn't want to kill David himself but came up with a plan so that it would look like the enemies had killed David. But in response, David said to Saul, "I am nobody. How could I marry the daughter of the king?" So Saul gave his daughter Merab in marriage to someone else. Now Saul's other daughter Michal was in love with David. When Saul found out about it, he was happy. He thought, "I will let her marry him, and he will be distracted and will not be able to concentrate on fighting the Philistines." So Saul said to David, "Now you have a second chance to marry one of my daughters." Then Saul ordered his servants, "Speak to David alone and say, 'Look, the king is very happy with you, and his servants all like you. Everything is working out for you, so just marry his daughter.'" Saul's servants told David what Saul said. But David answered them, "Do you think becoming the king's son-in-law is no big deal? I'm only a poor man and little known." Saul tried many ways to end David's life. But God delivered him from all. Saul was David's enemy all his life. (1 Samuel 18:29)

David takes refuge in God

Saul continued to kill David, but David fully depended upon the Lord who protects him from all evil. David got many opportunities to kill Saul, but he feared the Lord. David shared his worries with Samuel. He comforted David and reminded him of God's faithfulness (1 Samuel 19:18). Later he pours out his heart to Jonathan. Jonathan comforted him by sharing courageous words. Later he shared his worries to Ahimelech, the priest (1 Samuel 20:1-9). In all these, David trusted the Lord.

Application: Satan plots many weapons upon the anointed people of God, but God delivers them from all. In this lesson, we can see David's trust upon the Lord.

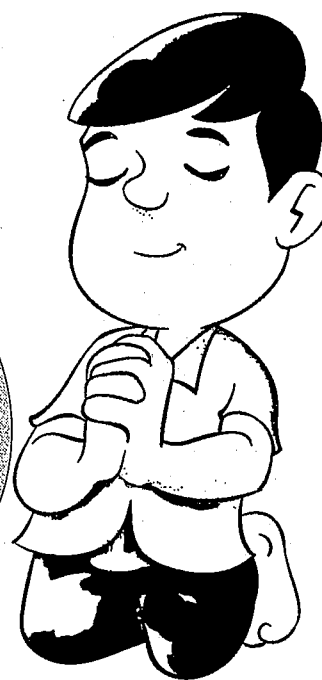


MY DECISION

I will lean onto God in all difficult times.

MY PRAYER

Our loving Father, help me to abide in you in my good and bad times. Amen!



MEMORY VERSE

Psalms 3:3

But You, O Lord, are a shield for me, my glory and the one who lifts up my head.

Questions

1. What David did when Saul possessed with evil spirit?
2. Name the two daughters of Saul?
3. What David did when Saul tried to kill him?
4. Name the priest who killed by Saul?



Write the plans which made by Saul to kill David?

1.

.....

2.

.....

3.

.....

4.

.....

Fill the alternate letters to complete the answer

1. Saul's daughter
(Mdiscbhwaol)

2. David's friend
(Jpoenfagtbhoaun)

3. God's priest
(Aghsijmneslwerck)

4. David shared his worries with
(Stavmbuweml)

5. David's instrument
(Hdafrbp)

KIND HEARTED DAVID

Reference: 1 Samuel 24,26 Chapters

Aim: God helps us when we do not respond to the people who offended us and to trust God completely.

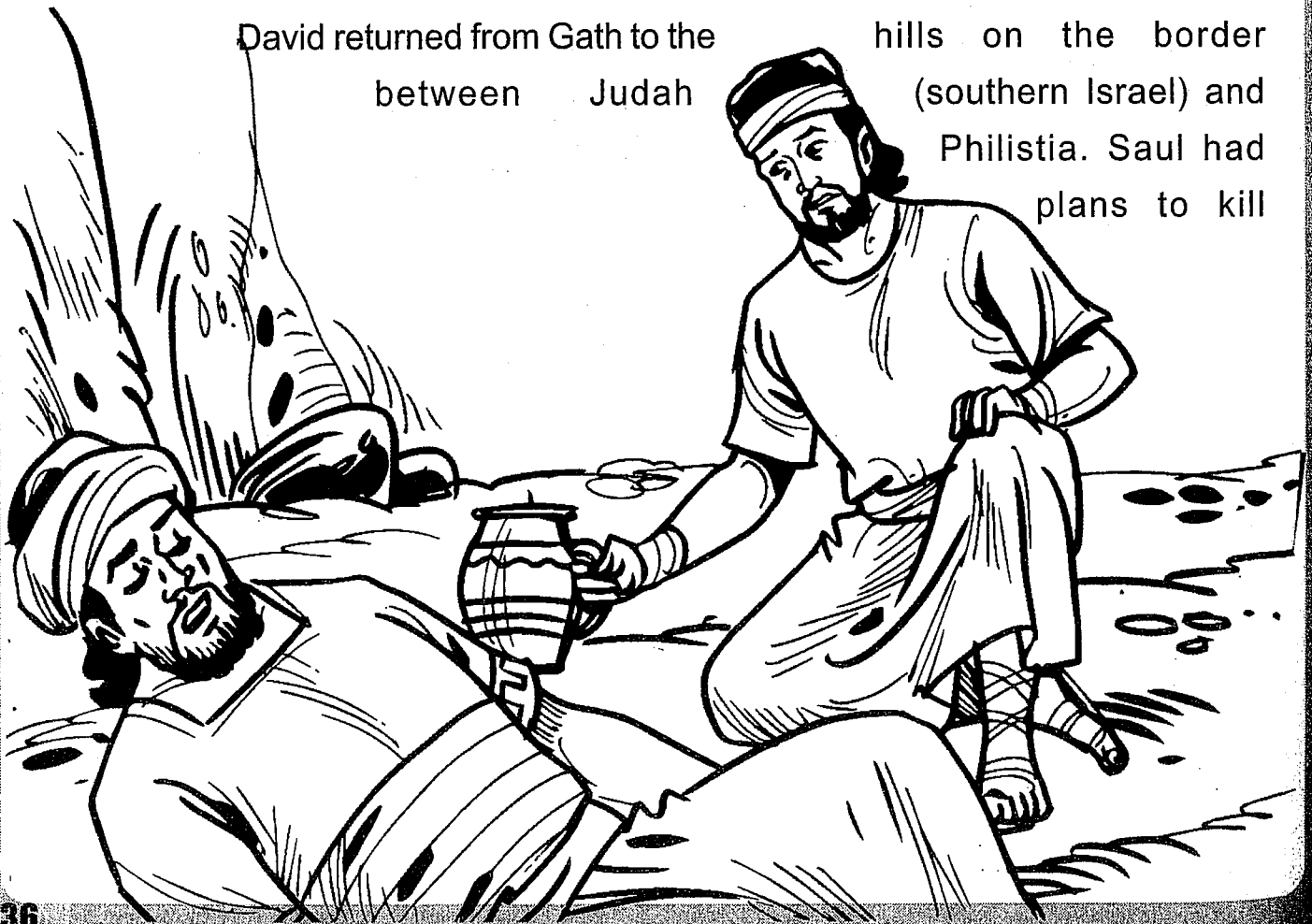
Introduction: Today's News paper reveals about the fight against each Nations and the ways they plot to take revenge on each other. Let us examine about our own reactions toward people who offended us.

Detailed lesson: We learned God's faithfulness in delivering David from all Saul's plans. David never showed any hatred towards Saul.

David in Adullam Cave

David returned from Ahimelech, priest from Nob to King Achish of Gath.

David returned from Gath to the hills on the border between Judah (southern Israel) and Philistia. Saul had plans to kill



him; David needed to find a place where he could live safely. David chose a place in the region of the ancient town called Adullam. It seems that during this period in David's life, he prayed much. He felt like a prisoner, but he put his trust completely in God. However, David did not remain alone there. Because of Saul's anger against David, David's brothers were in danger too. They escaped to Adullam and they lived with David. So did many men who had various troubles in Israel. They included men from Israel's army, who had known David as one of the army commanders. These men were brave soldiers. When we help others in their danger, they may return their help in our time of trouble and God also become our helper. David went to Mispah in Moab. God gave definite directions through Gad, the prophet. So he went to Judea, his native place.

David at En- Gedi Cave

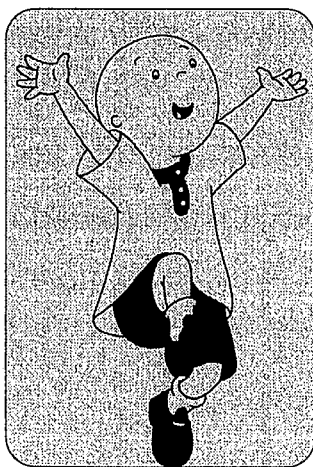
After Saul returned from pursuing the Philistines, he was told, "David is in the Desert of En Gedi." So Saul took three thousand chosen men from all Israel and set out to look for David and his men near the Craggs of the Wild Goats. He came to the sheep pens along the way; a cave was there, and Saul went in to relieve himself. David and his men were far back in the cave. The men said, "This is the day the LORD spoke of when he said to you, 'I will give your enemy into your hands for you to deal with as you wish.'" Then David crept up unnoticed and cut off a corner of Saul's robe. Afterward, David was conscience stricken for having cut off a corner of his robe. He said to his men, "The LORD forbid that I should do such a thing to my master, the LORD'S anointed, or lift my hand against him; for he is the anointed of the LORD." With these words David rebuked his men and did not allow them to attack Saul. And Saul left the cave and went his way. Then David went out of the cave and called out to Saul, "My lord the king!" When Saul looked behind him, David bowed down and prostrated himself with his face to the ground. David explained that he is not in revenge with Saul and he showed the piece of his robe. When David finished saying, Saul wept of his bad deeds. Then Saul returned home, but David and his men went up to the stronghold. By this time Samuel died.

In Ziph, desert/ wilderness

Then the inhabitants of Ziph (called Ziphites) began to cause trouble for him again.

These men went to Saul, and they reminded him about his anger towards David. They told him where David was now living. They urged Saul to come and to kill David. Saul's usual army had 3000 men. These men were the skilled soldiers who were constantly fighting on Saul's behalf. David needed to persuade Saul not to attack him or his men. So, David went, with two men whom he trusted, to Saul's camp. David went by night; Saul was asleep, and 3000 soldiers were camping round him, to protect him. David took two men with him, Abishai was a relative of David. Abishai's mother was Zeruiah, who was David's sister. Abishai's brother was Joab, who became the leader of David's whole army. Abishai wanted to kill Saul, but David stopped him. David simply wanted to take two objects as evidence that they had been in Saul's tent. Later, David would use those objects to prove to Saul that he remained loyal to him. On the next morning, David calls out Abner, important official in Saul's government and told him his failure in guarding the King. Saul then repented about his actions. They went back to their routines.

Application: David never tried to kill King Saul. Because he Feared the Lord and leaned on Him for His guidance.

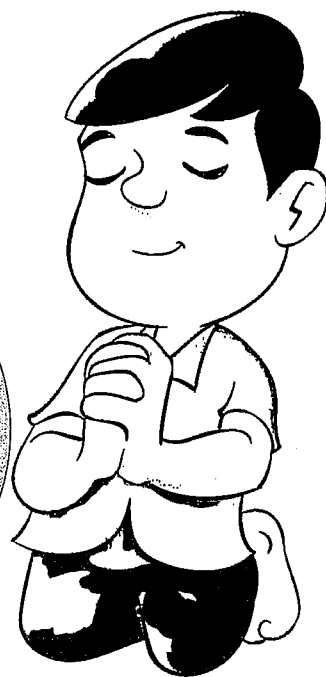


MY DECISION

I will not take revenge on my enemies. I will work for their good.

MY PRAYER

Dear Lord, help me to love others and to show your character through us. Amen!



MEMORY VERSE

1 Peter 3:9

Not returning evil for evil or
reviling for reviling, but on the
contrary blessing, knowing that
you were called to this, that you
may inherit a blessing.

Questions

1. Write the peculiarities of the people in Adullam Cave with David?
2. How many did accompany Saul to En-Gedi?
3. How many deserts /wilderness mentioned in this story?
4. What did the reward David received from the Lord?

Match the following

Ahimelech	-	Gath
Achish	-	Army official
Moab	-	Nod
Ziph	-	Mispah
Abner	-	Desert



The benefits of helping others

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

DAVID ESCAPES

Reference: 1 Samuel 21: 10-15

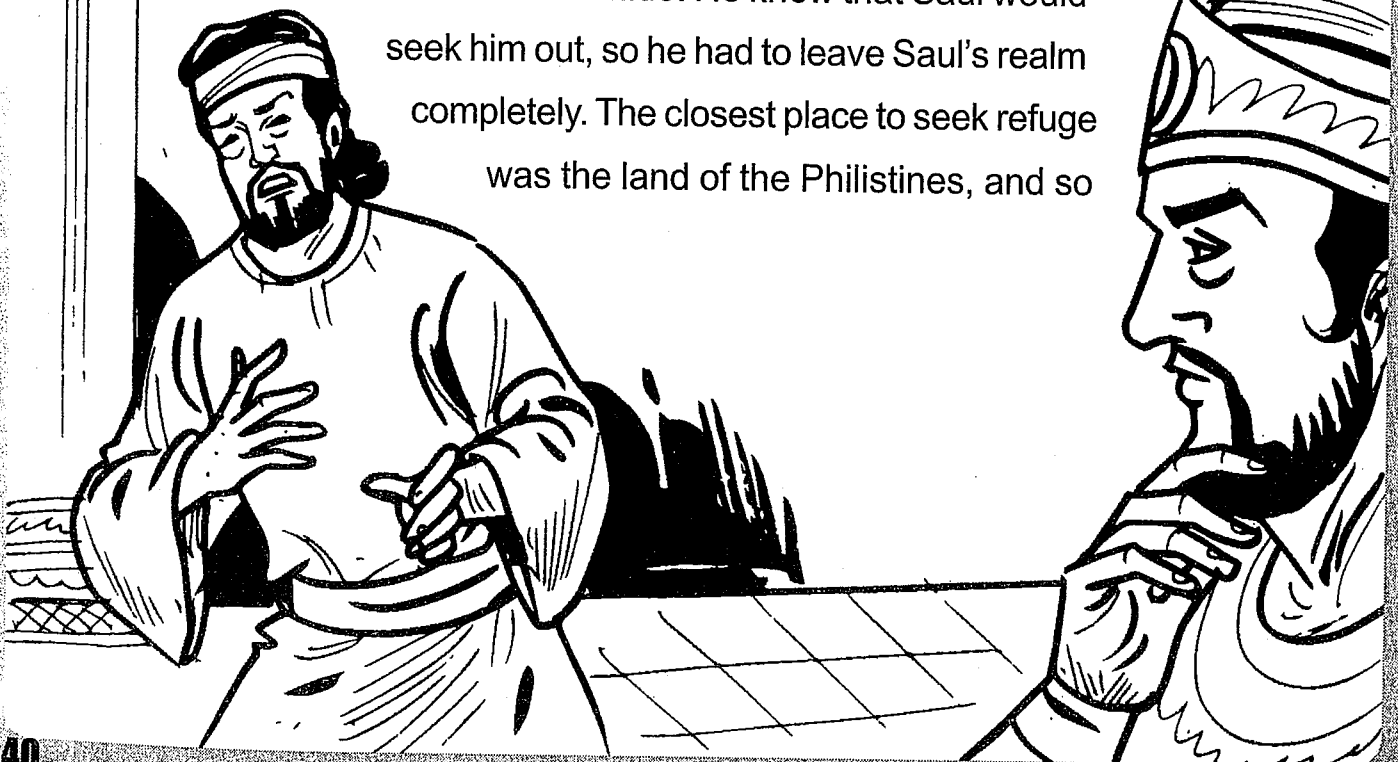
Aim: God will open ways for his people who trust in Him.

Introduction: God helped David in all his adversities. Today's lesson helps us to understand God's faithfulness to David.

Detailed lesson: The story of David killed Goliath made a life changing history in David's life. Later in his life, he led to Philistia

David in Achish's Palace

One indication of just how powerful King Saul was is that when David fled, there was no place in Israel where he could hide. He knew that Saul would seek him out, so he had to leave Saul's realm completely. The closest place to seek refuge was the land of the Philistines, and so



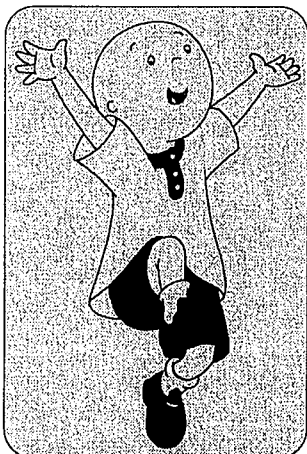
David sought protection from Achish the king of Gath. It must have been embarrassing years later that David, the Lord's Anointed, went to one of the Philistine kings in an attempt to escape the wrath of Saul. What is more remarkable is that he went to the king of Gath carrying the sword of Goliath of Gath. Then David got up and ran that day from Saul. He went to Achish king of Gath. The servants of Achish said to him, "Is this not David the king of the land? Did they not sing to each other about him as they danced, saying, 'Saul has killed his thousands, and David his ten thousands'?" David took these words to heart, and was very much afraid of Achish king of Gath.

David Escapes

God anointed David to become the king of Israel. No one can take that place. When we take steps without seeking God's will, how can we escape from it? Like Abraham travelled to Egypt instead of Canan, Elijah ran to the wilderness of Ber Sheba. David ran to Gath, in fear of king Saul.

So David changed the way he acted in front of the Philistians. He pretended to be crazy while he was with them. He made marks on the doors of the gate. He let his spit run down into the hair of his face. Then Achish said to his servants, "See, you see the man is crazy. Why have you brought him to me? Do I need any crazy men, that you bring this one to act crazy in front of me? Will this one come into my house?" David fled from there and wrote the psalms 34. But many times David visited Achish for refuge. (1 Samuel 27:12, 28:12, 29:1-11)

Application: We should abide in God faithfully; God will protect us from all adversities. He will open new ways before us.

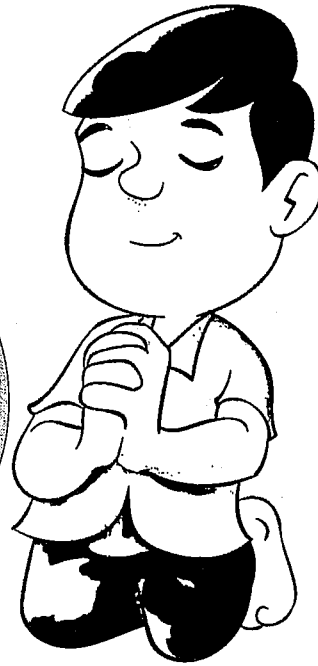


MY DECISION

I will not walk in ways that is not pleasing to God.

MY PRAYER

Dear Lord, Guide me in your ways; so that I may walk with you. Amen!



MEMORY VERSE

Proverbs 3:5

Trust in the Lord with all your heart; and lean not on your own understanding.

Questions

1. Who did realized David in Achish's palace?
2. Where Elijah did ran to?
3. How did David escape from Achish?
4. What is the remedy to repent when we astray from God?



Mark as True ☒ or false ☒

1. Achish was Philistine King ☐
2. David killed thousands ☐
3. Goliath is asking is there less mad people here for me ☐
4. After escaping from Achish David wrote Psalms 34 ☐
5. Abraham went to Egypt instead of Canan ☐

Write five points about having life from Psalms 34:12-14

1.
2.
3.
4.
5.

9

DAVID AND SHIMEI

Reference: 2 Samuel 16:5-14

Aim: People may talk bad about us. We should know how to respond to those people.

Introduction: people may talk bad about us, things which may not know. David's life is a good example which helps us to know how to respond in criticism.

Detailed Lesson: When David becomes the King, his enemies grew in number. David's son Absalom rebelled against him. Another enemy was Shimei who cursed David.

Absalom's tricks

David's son, Absalom, had rebelled against him and had gathered an army to fight against David's forces in an attempt to overthrow David and to take the throne of Israel. Absalom wanted to unseat David and went to war against



his father to do so. Beside his son's rebellion, David's friend of lifetime, and faithful counsellor, Ahithophel forsook him. Ahithophel joined forces with Absalom. Rather than fight against them, David left the palace, his beloved city- Jerusalem, his people and fled. David never sought to retaliate (2 Samuel 15:31)

Shimei curses

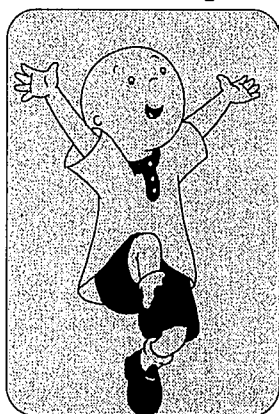
As King David approached Bahurim, a man from the same clan as Saul's family came out from there. His name was Shimei son of Gera, and he cursed as he came out. He pelted David and all the king's officials with stones, though all the troops and the special guard were on David's right and left. As he cursed, Shimei said, "Get out, get out, you murderer, you scoundrel! The LORD has repaid you for all the blood you shed in the household of Saul, in whose place you have reigned. The LORD has given the kingdom into the hands of your son Absalom. You have come to ruin because you are a murderer!"

Then Abishai son of Zeruiah said to the king, "Why should this dead dog curse my lord the king? Let me go over and cut off his head." But the king said, "What does this have to do with you, you sons of Zeruiah? If he is cursing because the LORD said to him, 'Curse David,' who can ask, 'Why do you do this?'"

David's forgiving heart

David then said to Abishai and all his officials, "My son, my own flesh and blood, is trying to kill me. How much more, then, this Benjamite! Leave him alone; let him curse, for the LORD has told him to. It may be that the LORD will look upon my misery and restore to me his covenant blessing instead of his curse today." So David and his men continued along the road while Shimei was going along the hillside opposite him, cursing as he went and throwing stones at him and showering him with dirt. David accepted the truth that God would give him good for evil. David did not seek revenge. He overcame evil with good.

Application: People may mock us. We can respond like David did. The same way Jesus did forgive those who crucified him.

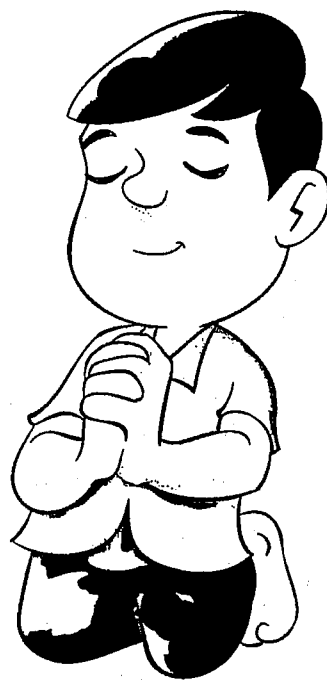


MY DECISION

I will abide and pray to God when others mock me.

MY PRAYER

Dear Jesus, help me to forgive
others like you did on the cross.
Amen!



MEMORY VERSE

Matthew 5:11

"Blessed are you when they revile
and persecute you, and say all
kinds of evil against you
falsely for My sake."

Questions

1. Name David's son?
2. Shimei belonged to whose clan?
3. What did David's response to Abishai on regard of Shimei?
4. What would be our response when others curse us?



Write the correct answers to the following answers

Abshalom

Bahurim

Shimei

Gera

Abishai

A

B

S

G

AB

☐

1. He rebelled against David

☐

2. David reached this place

☐

3. Shimei's father

☐

4. Zeruiah's son

☐

5. He called David "murderer"

☐

6. David called him as Benjamite

Write the reason behind the hatred in your mind towards another person. Let us take a decision to forgive.

1.

2.

3.

4.

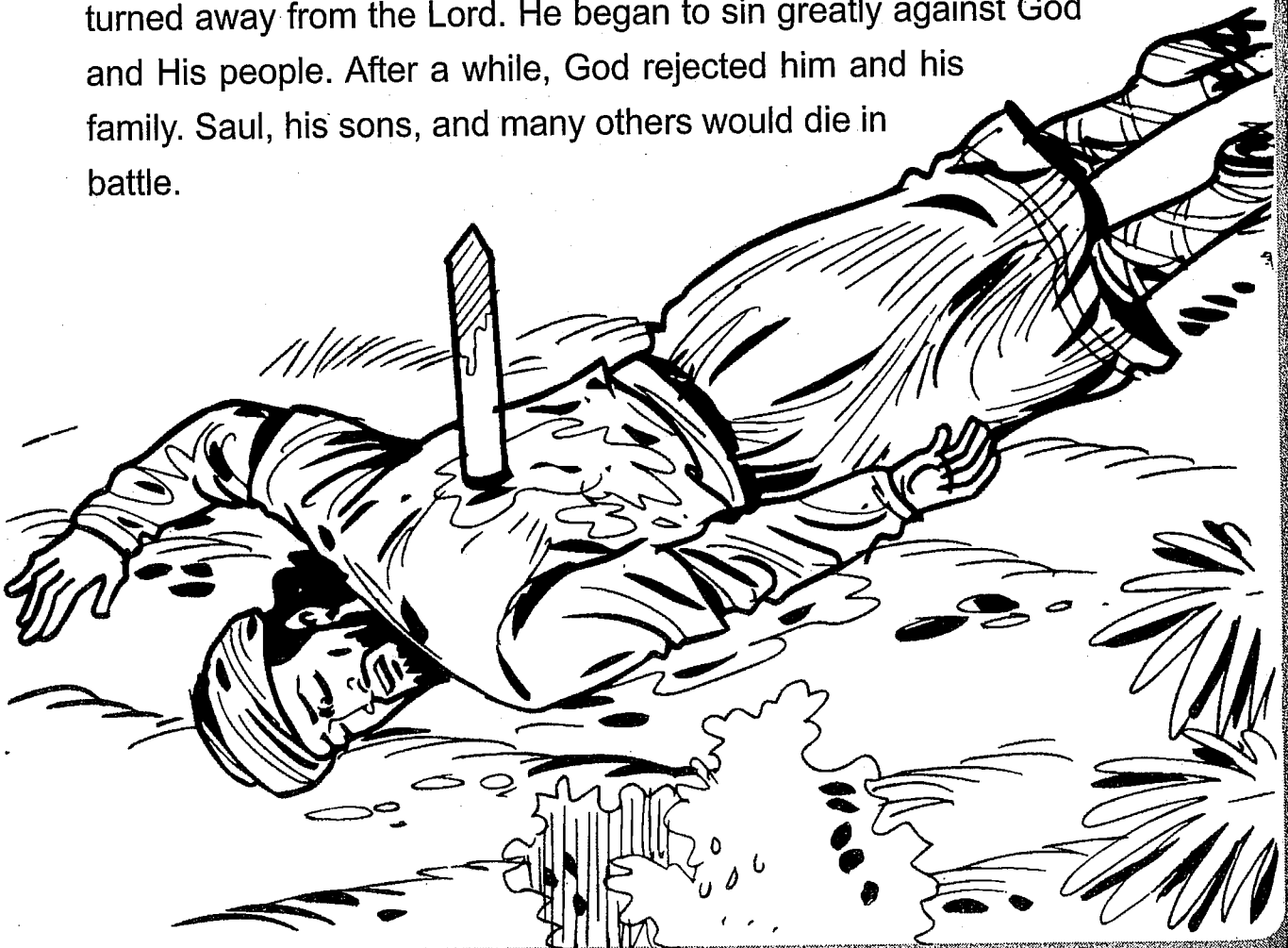
SAUL'S DEATH

Reference: 1 Samuel 31, 1 Chronicles 10

Aim: Disobedience to God brings destruction in our life. To understand if we don't remove the things which God asks us to remove that will become a snare.

Introduction: There are lots of Laws and rules in our society. There are moral and social laws to maintain peace in the society. The same way God had spiritual laws, if we violate them we will have to face the consequences.

Detailed lesson: We have been studying Saul, the first king of Israel. He started off pretty well in his reign and service to the Lord. He desired to do what was right and God's blessing was upon him; but, in time, his heart turned away from the Lord. He began to sin greatly against God and His people. After a while, God rejected him and his family. Saul, his sons, and many others would die in battle.



Saul's Death

Then the Philistines followed hard after Saul and his sons. And the Philistines killed Jonathan, Abinadab, and Malchishua, Saul's sons. The battle became fierce against Saul. The archers shot him, and he was severely wounded by the archers. Then Saul said to his armorbearer, "Draw your sword, and thrust me through with it, lest these uncircumcised men come and thrust me through and abuse me." But his armorbearer would not, for he was greatly afraid. Therefore Saul took a sword and fell on it. And when his armorbearer saw that Saul was dead, he also fell on his sword, and died with him. So Saul, his three sons, his armorbearer, and all his men died together that same day.

So it happened the next day, when the Philistines came to strip the slain, that they found Saul and his three sons fallen on Mount Gilboa. And they cut off his head and stripped off his armor, and sent word throughout the land of the Philistines, to proclaim it in the temple of their idols and among the people. Then they put his armor in the temple of the Ashtoreths, and they fastened his body to the wall of Beth Shan.

Reason for failure

In 1 Chronicles 10:13-14, it's clearly written about the failures of King Saul. They are

. For his trespass which he committed against the Lord.

In that time, sacrifices were offered by the Priest. But one day Saul offered the sacrifice the Lord, when Samuel was late for it.

.. He did not keep the word of the Lord.

He did not kill the Amalekites, whom Lord asked to demolish from the land.

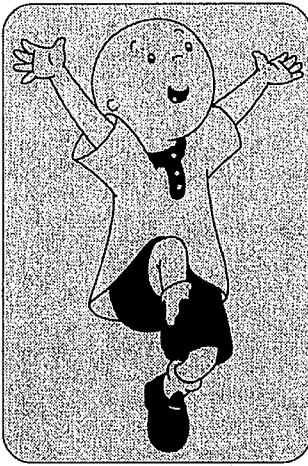
.. He asked counsel of a second medium.

After the death of Samuel, he went to false prophets for asking Lord's guidance.

.. He did not wait for the Lord.

He did not repent on his failures. Instead he made excuses for his failures.

Application: We should have a mind set to repent on our failures. We should strive to keep the commandments of the Lord.

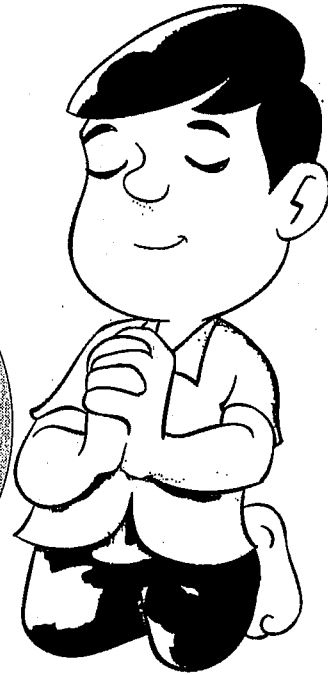


MY DECISION

I will try to have constant relationship with the Holy Spirit.

MY PRAYER

Heavenly Father, help me to complete the work you have started in me, the same way you did with your Begotten Son.
Amen!



MEMORY VERSE

Psalms 128:1

Blessed is every one who fears the Lord, Who walks in His ways.

Questions

1. Write the names of David's 3 children?
2. Where did Saul's and his sons' bones were buried?
3. Write about Saul's death?
4. What were the reasons for Saul's failure?



Fill in the blanks

1. Saul never tried to defeat Amalekites and.....
2. Saul asked to..... to pierce him with spear
3. Saul died in.....
4., people of Gilead buried Saul's and his sons' bodies were buried
5. removed Saul's weapons and kept in their temple

Strike out every alternative letters to find today's message

Balgedsfsreydt ies edvgeyrjy oknye wphao fqevasrns tjhre Lkourjd,
Wfhho wraslqkms ign Hrigs weakyjs.

(Blessed is every one who fears the Lord, Who walks in His ways)

11

DAVID AND AMALEKITES

Reference: 1 Samuel 30

Aim: Problems can come to even those who really trust in the Lord. To realise that when they call upon the Lord He imparts courage in them and reveal the solutions for their problems.

Introduction: While facing one problem, if another one comes forth then to overcome these troubles God's grace is more essential than man's abilities.

Detailed lesson: David, who ran away fearing saul, went and lived in the land of Philistine for sometime. At that time he became friends with Achish, the king of Philistine. David went and raided the Geshurites, the Girzites and the Amalekites. From ancient time these people had lived in the land extending to Shur and Egypt. He took the sheep and cattle, donkeys and camels and cloths to Achish and made him happy. But this increased the enmity of the Amalekites and they waited for an opportunity to take revenge against David.

David against Israel- Along with Achish

Achish had great trust in David and decided to take him along to fight against Israel. The enmity between David and Saul helped in this. Samuel's death happened during this time. We also find Saul approaching fortune teller during this time. The Philistines gathered together against Israel at Aphek. David and his men marched at the rear with Achish. But here was a turning point.

Philistine Commanders Against David

The Philistine commanders asked Achish why these Hebrews are coming with us. Achish tried to protect David and keep him with them. Although Achish liked David's blameless life style, sincerity and the way he led a war, he was compelled by the commanders to sent David back to Ziklag. This

was because they thought that even though David may stand with them in the war against Israel, later he might change his mind and betray them. So David and his people reached Ziklag, the place where they lived, on the third day. Philistines went to fight against Israel.

Amalekites In Ziklag

When David and his men returned to Ziklag the scene there was really heart-breaking. The Amalekites, who were waiting for an opportunity to take revenge against David, attacked Ziklag and burnt it down. They captured not only David's family and children but also the wives and children of all the men who accompanied him. The broken hearted people thought of stoning David. But David found strength in his Lord the God.

David Seeking God's Counsel

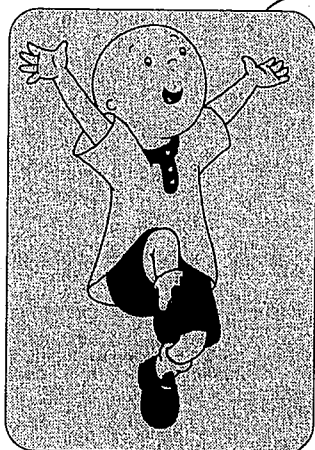
David immediately asked Abiathar, the priest for God's counsel. He enquired God's will in pursuing the Amalekites. Those who have strong faith in God even in the midst of great troubles will receive his counsel. God replied that David will pursue them and restore everything.

David Marching Forth According to God's Word

David pursued the Amalakites with six hundred people. The strongest four hundred among them crossed the Besor Ravine. They found an Egyptian in the field. He had no food and water for three days. They gave him food and water and made him string. They understood that he was the servant of an Amalekite. Through him they got clear evidence of the people who attacked Ziklag. This incident proves that when we move forward according to God's counsel He guides us with special provisions. With the help of this Egyptian David pursued the Amalekites, fought them from dusk until the evening of the next day and recovered everything that they had taken. When they returned they reached the two hundred people who were not able to accompany them. Among the four hundred people who went after the Amalekites along with David, some became angry towards those who didn't come with them. They refused to share with them the plunder that they recovered. But David told them that they were protected by God and it was He who recovered everything for them. So they had nothing to boast of. David's insight that our human deeds are all fulfilled by God, is great. Not only that, David also said that the share of the man who stayed with the supplies is to be the same as that of him who went down to the battle. All shall share alike. This is an example

for David's broadmindedness. From that day onwards it became a statute and ordinance for Israel.

Application: Firstly, this lesson gives us the moral that we should never have ungodly friendships. If we go against God's will it will result in great loss and mental distress. Secondly, when we regret in such problems, and ask for God's counsel, He will provide solutions. The third practical lesson is about sharing. Sharing every blessings that we receive is the practical way of Christian Fellowship. This is a way of giving thanks to Lord for His help and support.

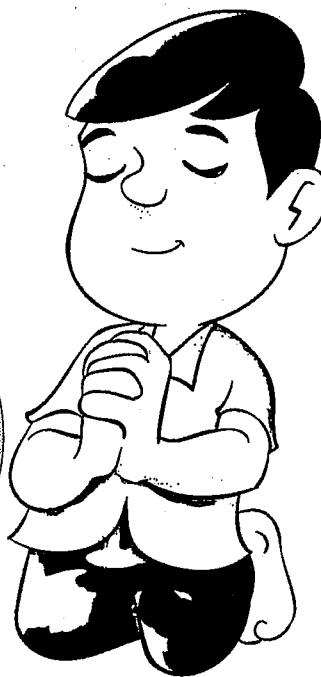


MY DECISION

Let any difficulties come in my life, I will ask God's counsel and go forward.

MY PRAYER

Almighty Lord, teach me to thankyou for your help and support and to share my blessings! Amen!



MEMORY VERSE

Pslams 57:2

I cry out to God most High, to God who fulfills his purpose for me.

Questions

1. What is the reason for Achish's favour towards David?
2. What all things did Amalekites do when they reached Ziklag?
3. To which priest did David ask for counsel?
4. Write down the practical things that we get from the lesson?

Calculate the number and fill in the blanks



1. With how many people did David pursue the Amalekites _____ ($10 \times 9 + 510$)
2. Those who crossed the Besor Ravine were _____ ($5 \times 10 + 350$)
3. The Egyptian didn't get food or water for _____ days ($1 + 2 \times 1$)
4. David returned after success in the war from _____ number of people. ($10 \times 10 + 200 - 100$)

Read 1 Samuel 30 and answer the following

1. On which day David came back to Ziklag?
2. The name of David's Israelite wife was
3. The name of priest Abiadhah's father is
4. David gave the Egyptian cake.
5. The Egyptian was whose servant?

Lesson 12

DAVID THE KING

Reference: 2 Samuel 2:1-4; 5:1-6

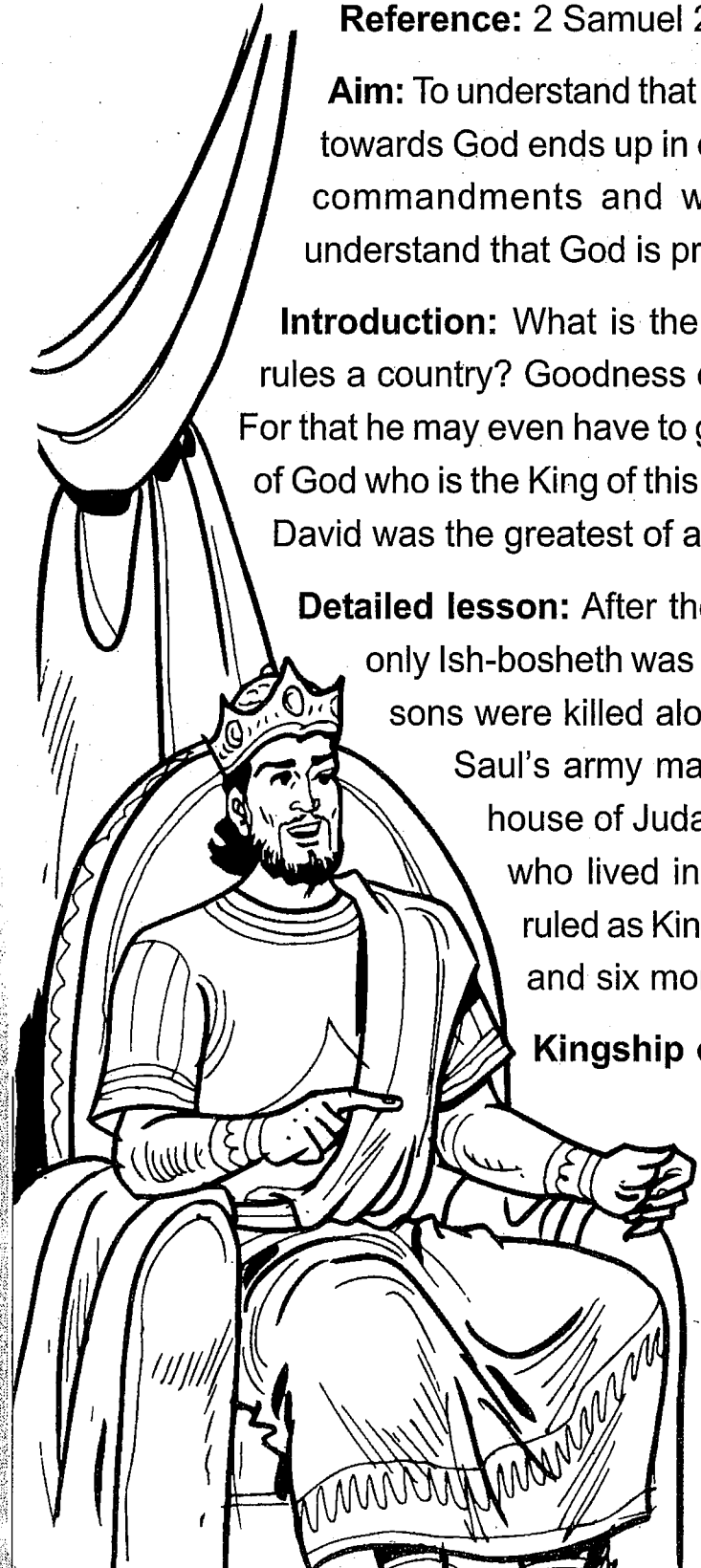
Aim: To understand that the life of those who show disobedience towards God ends up in disaster and those who obey the Lord's commandments and walk in his way will be blessed. To understand that God is preparing us to reign with him in heaven.

Introduction: What is the first and foremost aim of a King who rules a country? Goodness of his people and safety of his country. For that he may even have to give up his life. Then, we are the people of God who is the King of this whole world. So let us fully trust in Him. David was the greatest of all Israel Kings.

Detailed lesson: After the death of King Saul, among his sons only Ish-bosheth was alive. We have learned that all his other sons were killed along with him. Abner, the commander of Saul's army made Ish-bosheth King of Israel. But the house of Judah was against it. They anointed David, who lived in Hebron, as the King of Judah. David ruled as King for the house of Judah for seven years and six months.

Kingship of Ish-bosheth

Ish-bosheth, the only son of Saul left alive, became the King of Israel with the help of Abner, Saul's army commander. He ruled with Mahanaim as the centre of his rule. He ruled as King for two years. But the house of Judah stayed close to David. Later, at Gibeon David's men fought with Ish-bosheth's army. Abner and Israel were



defeated. War continued for a long period of time between the house of Saul and the house of David; David became stronger and stronger while the house of Saul became weaker and weaker. Later, Joab and Abishai together killed Abner, the army commander of Ish-bosheth. They took revenge for the murder of their brother Asahel. Hearing the news of Abner's death, Ish-bosheth lost courage. After that Recab and Banah, two leaders of Ish-bosheth's army killed him through deception (2 Samuel 4:1-8). Thus, the kingship and rule of Saul's family came to an end.

David becomes king to whole Israel

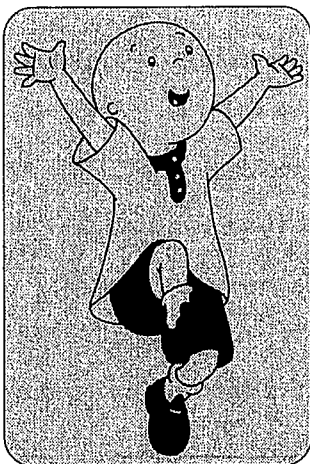
After the death of Ish-bosheth all the Israel tribes came to David in Hebron. They reminded David of God's oracle that he will shepherd His people and become their ruler. David made a compact with them. They anointed David as the King of Israel. When David began his reign he was thirty years old. As we have seen in the beginning, he reigned over the house of Judah for seven years and six months. After that he reigned for all the Israel tribes for thirty three years. Thus David was king of both Judah and Israel for forty years.

The City of Zion

David realised that Jerusalem was the most suitable place to reign over the whole of Israel. But a group of people called Jebusites lived there. They fought against David. But David captured the fortress of Zion. He lived in the fortress. From then on it came to be known as David's city. He built up the area from Millo, around and inwards.

Before taking any decision David asked the counsel of God. Not only that, his heart was steady and stable in God. Therefore, God gave David greater promises and blessings. God promised David that his kingdom shall endure forever and his throne shall be established forever (2 Samuel 7:11,12). God also promised through different prophets that Messiah, the Redeemer of God's people will come from David's tribe. Hearing all these promises David submitted himself before God. In 2 Samuel chapter seven, verses 18 to 29 we see his thanks giving prayer. This is a model prayer that we can imitate.

Application: God is powerful enough to fulfill his promises overcoming the difficulties and negative surroundings. The Lord who converted David from shepherd to king has great selections regarding us also. David's life teaches us a great lesson. When God's anointed ones may they reach any great position-remain humble and faithful, God's blessings will extend to their offsprings.

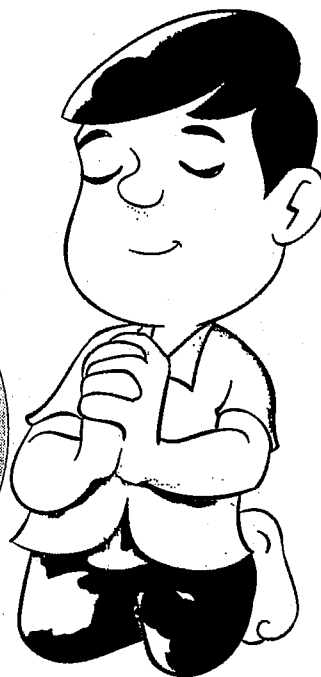


MY DECISION

I will always be faithful to my Lord and my society.

MY PRAYER

Righteous Lord, help me to wait humbly for your time when you will anoint me and impart your blessings upon me. Amen.



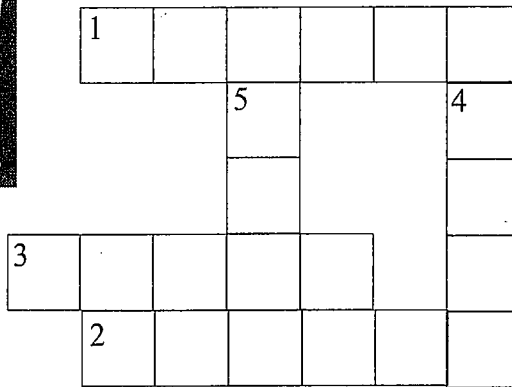
MEMORY VERSE

1 Peter 2:9

But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

Questions

1. How did David become King of the whole Israel?
2. Who lived in the city of Zion?
3. What all blessings did David receive because of his heart being concentrated in God?



Crossword

Right

1. The place where David's men and Ish-bosheth's men fought?
2. The place where David lived?
3. A person who killed Ish-bosheth?

Down

4. David's city?
5. One person among the two who killed Abner?

Read 2 Samuel 5:1-5 and Answer the following

1. Who was the person who came to David?

.....

2. At which place did David make a compact before God?

.....

3. David was how many years old when he started his reign?

.....

4. How many years did David reign as King?

.....

5. How many years did David reign for Judah alone?

.....

13

DAVID COUNTS THE PEOPLE

Reference: 2 Samuel chapter 24

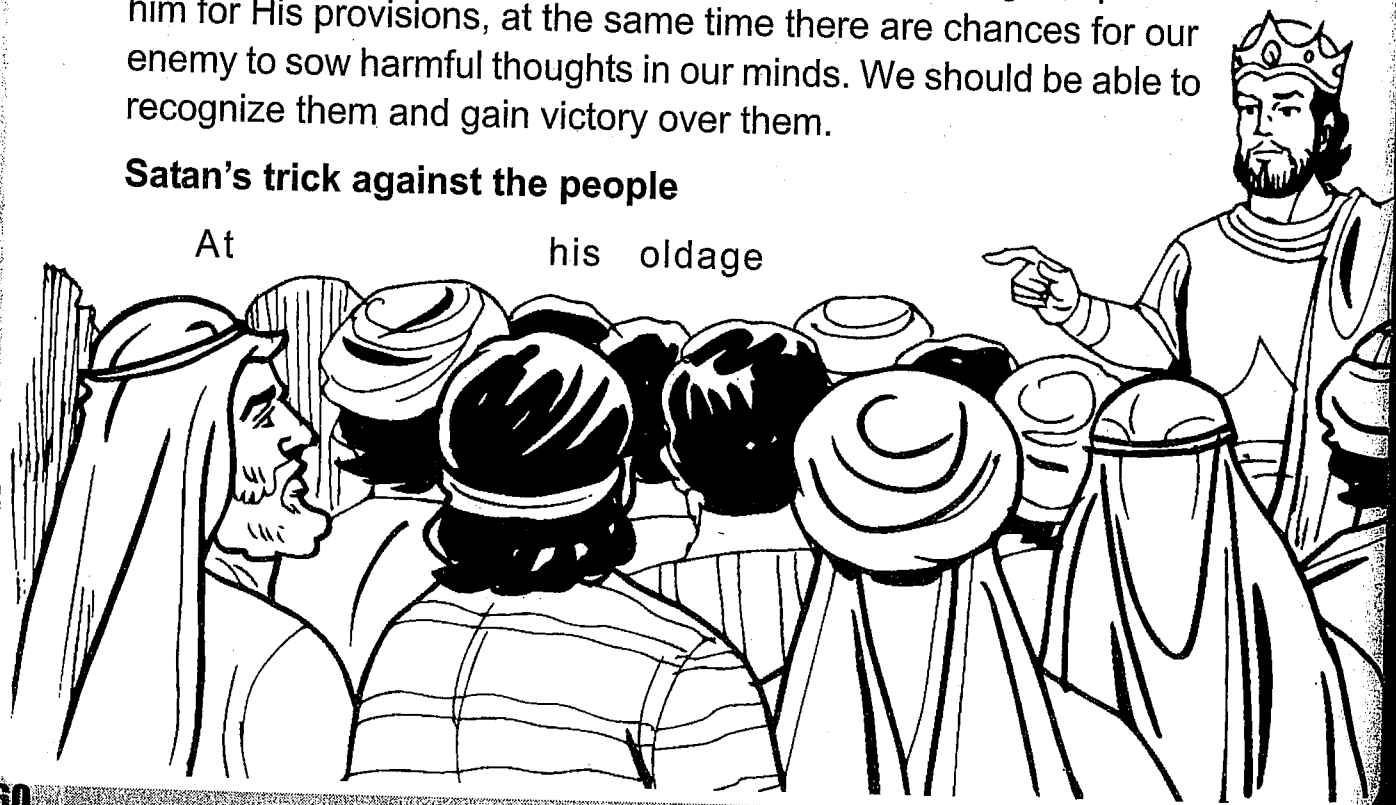
Aim: everything that comes into your mind may not be God's will. Therefore children should understand that before doing anything receive an assurance from God.

Introduction: What all things go through our thoughts each day? Doesn't we love to play with our friends, to watch television and to enjoy ourselves? All these are good. But we have to know God's will in when to do things. Otherwise it would be harmful for not only us but others also.

Detailed lesson: David used to sing songs and worship the Lord as a matter of thanksgiving for saving him from all his enemies and making his kingdom firm by removing Saul. One such song is found in 2 Samuel 22. Not only that, during his end days David praises God remembering God's justice towards him and the fulfillment of his promises (2 Samuel 23:1-7). In the midst of this, Satan stood up against Israel and brought into David's mind the thought of counting the people of Israel (1 Chronicles 21:1). But David didn't realise that it was a Satanic thought. When we live for God and sing and praise him for His provisions, at the same time there are chances for our enemy to sow harmful thoughts in our minds. We should be able to recognize them and gain victory over them.

Satan's trick against the people

At his oldage



David was a man of great experiences. He was clever enough to foresee things and to rule his country in the best way. But in the midst of this Satan forced David to count the people of Israel and Judah. He couldn't recognize that this was Satan's plan. His commander Joab tried to recede him from this intention. But David didn't agree. He strictly ordered Joab and his men to travel to the Israel tribes from Dan to Beersheba and enroll the number of people. They obeyed the royal order, travelled through all the cities and returned to the king in Jerusalem after nine months and twenty days. Joab counted the people and gave the report to the king. In Israel there were eight lakhs and in Judah five lakhs able bodied men who could handle a sword. In this way David's enrolment of the people finished.

God's wrath and God's message

As king David submitted to Satan's counsel and counted the people God's wrath blazed. The next morning God sent prophet Gad to David. Three different types of punishment was put before David. David was asked to select one from them.

1. Three years of famine in the land.
2. Three months of fleeing from his enemies while they pursue him.
3. Three days of plague in the land.

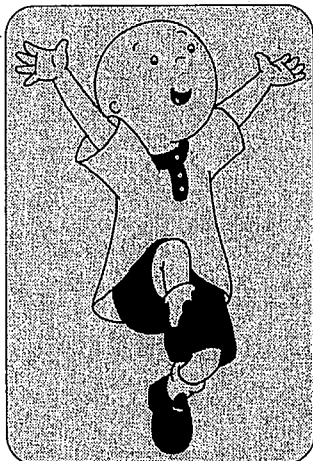
As all the three would bring great destruction David found it very difficult to select one from the three options. Maybe thinking that it will end in three days, he chose the third one. Thus God sent a plague from Dan to Beersheba just as He had said. Among the people David counted, seventy thousand died. When the angel who was afflicting the people stretched out his hand to destroy Jerusalem God asked him to stop and withdraw his hand. Thus He stopped the plague.

David's Repentance and Sacrifice

David got afraid seeing the angel standing at the threshing floor of Araunah the Jebusite (Ardon is another name (1 Chronicles 2:18)). David who was filled with regret said to the Lord. "I am the one who has sinned and done wrong. What have these sheep done? Let your hand fall upon me and my family." God sent prophet Gad with the reply. God said to David "Go up and build an altar to Lord on the threshing floor of Araunah." Seeing the King, Araunah bowed down before him with his face to the ground. David told him the intention of his arrival. He said that he would give the floor to the king for free. David replied "I insist on paying you for it. I will not sacrifice for my Lord without cost." David's mentality here to offer to the Lord by paying cost is good to imitate. New testament teaches us that God loves those who give their time, money, health or circumstances cheerfully for him (2 Corinthians 9:7). So David bought the threshing floor and the oxen and paid fifty shekels of silver to Araunah. He built an altar for God and sacrificed burnt offerings and fellowship offerings. Then the Lord heard the prayer of the land and the plague on Israel stopped. God saves those who realise their wrong

deeds and turn to him, to please him and pray to him.

Application: As David fell in the counsel of Satan, the land was punished by God. But when he realised his mistake and regretted, obeyed what God suggested as solution, God stopped the punishment. We should be aware that there is punishment for every mistake. But as we confess our sins God forgives us through Jesus Christ. We should always be very careful in not committing ourselves to Satan's counsels.

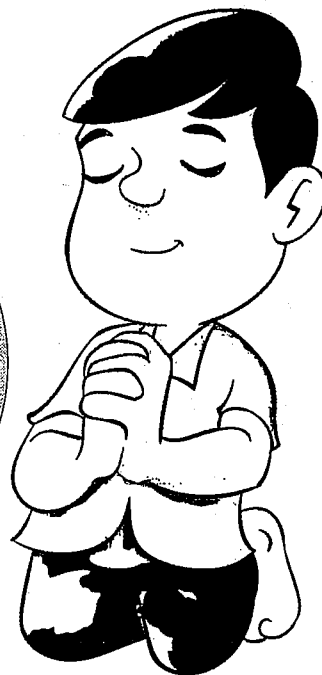


MY DECISION

In my Christian life, I will realise the messages that Satan brings, neglect them and live forth.

MY PRAYER

O Lord! my leader, help me to fulfill only your counsels and lead my life forward. Help my family and friends also for the same!
Amen!



MEMORY VERSE

2 Corinthians 11:3.

But I am afraid that just as Eve was deceived by the Serpent's cunning, your minds may somehow be led astray from your sincere and pure devotion to Christ.

Questions

1. Who invited David to count the people?
2. It took how many days to count the people?
3. How many fighting men were there in Judah?
4. Which prophet did God sent to David?



Calculate and give the answer.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z

1. How many years would there be famine, according to God
_____ (C+D)
2. According to God, how many months would the enemies pursue David?
_____ (A+B)
3. For how many shekels did David buy Araunah's threshing floor?
_____ (E+T+Y)
4. How many days there was plague in the land?
_____ (Z-W)
5. How many lakhs of fighting men were there in Israel?
_____ (C+D+A)

Write down David's prayer of repentance?

14

DAVID'S LAST DAYS

Reference: 1 Kings 2:1-11

Aim: To realise that the life of those people who live humbly obeying the word of God, will be full of happiness and God will provide a peaceful end for them.

Introduction: When we hear of death, sadness and fear come into our mind. It is a word that we don't like. But each person born to this world has to expect it. If we live with God in this world, then we can continue our life in heaven. May our aim be to live a faithful and God fearing life and get a good end.

Detailed lesson: We have learned the history of David who began his life as a shepherd and became the king of Israel. We have understood that David had to face lots of problems in his lifetime. As he gave priority to God's will in life, God exalted his whole life. At the end David arranged certain things for the glory of God and as a model for the next generation. After that he attained a good death. Let us learn about the things that David arranged.



David's wish to build God's temple

After David became the King of Israel, God suppressed all the enemies around him and gave him rest, he lived in a palace of cedar. He said sadly to prophet Nathan, "Here I am living in a palace of cedar, while ark of God remains in a tent." These were words that expressed David's love towards God and God's temple. Hearing this God gave words of blessing to David. "I will raise up your offspring to succeed you, and he will build a house for my name" promised the Lord (2 Samuel 7:1-13). David kept these words in heart and towards the end of his life did suitable arrangements for its execution. God can bless us also. The truth that we have to work and yearn for God and his temple is thought provoking.

As his death time was near King David called together all the chief leaders of his country to Jerusalem. Along with them he included his son Solomon also. Before them he remembered all the ways God has lead him till then. He told them about the promise that God gave him forty years back that his son Solomon will build a temple for God. He told Solomon to know well his father's God and serve him whole-heartedly.

Directions for Temple Construction

David was not just desiring to build a temple; he gave a model for that to Solomon. David had a clear picture of the different parts of God's temple, the order of its services and priests as well as the articles needed for the service, in his mind. Not only this, David transferred to his son Solomon, all the necessary gold, silver and other items for the construction.

David's Final Advices to Solomon

1. Serve the Lord of your father whole heartedly.
2. God has selected you to build Him the temple as a sanctuary.
3. Be strong and courageous and build the temple.
4. Do not be afraid or discouraged.
5. The Lord God, my God is with you.
6. God will not fail you or forsake you until all the work for the service of the temple is finished.
7. Every willing man skilled in any craft will obey your every command.

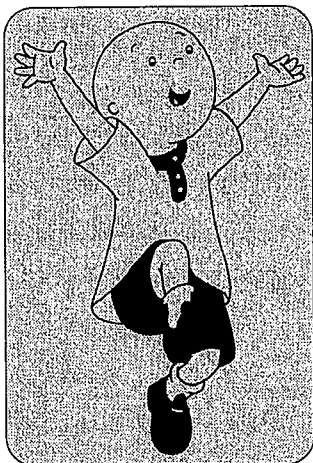
These are certain very essential things that we have to remember while living for God. The Lord's hand was with Solomon as long as he cared about all these advices.

David's Death

David was a righteous king. He fulfilled many things according to God's counsel.

God found David as a man of His own heart (Acts 13:22). We also see that David served God's purpose in his own generation and died; He was buried with his fathers and his body decayed (Acts 13:36). He conveyed to his son the things that he couldn't complete and had a peaceful death. He died at a good old age, having enjoyed long life, wealth and honour (1 Chronicles 29:28).

Application: In all generations, God is searching for people who desire to live a life concentrated in Him. If our life is filled with enthusiasm, the God can fulfill many things through us. David's life reminds us that there is nothing more honourable in this world than living our life by realizing the will of God,

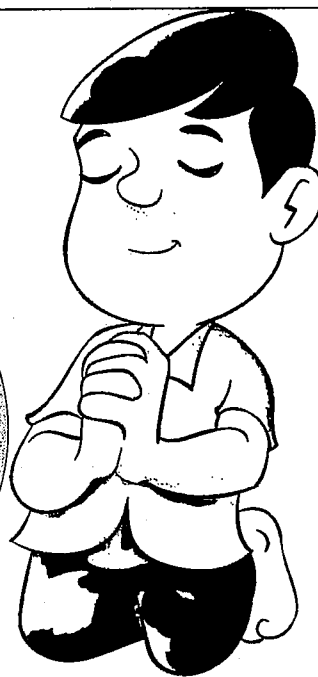


MY DECISION

I will always live in my generation for fulfilling the will of God.

MY PRAYER

Oh Lord, the king of the whole world, help me to live as a person who brings happiness to your heart! Amen!



MEMORY VERSE

Psalms 48:14

For this God is our God forever
and ever; He will be our guide
even to the end.

Questions

1. What directions did David give Solomon regarding the temple construction?
2. What were the final advices that David gave Solomon?
3. Write about David's end?

Find out the answers for the questions below from the column and mark it.

I	a	e	h	b	i	m	b	d	c	h
p	s	h	g	d	w	f	m	x	C	D
a	x	s	N	a	t	h	a	n	v	d
n	j	o	c	s	a	w	m	q	t	u
j	k	s	S	o	l	o	m	o	n	c
D	a	v	i	d	r	d	e	d	g	k



1. To which prophet did David speak of the temple construction?
2. Name of David's son?
3. Who served God's purpose in his own generation?

Read 1 Kings 2:1-11 and fill in the blanks

1. Zeruah's son
2. Jether's son
3. David told Solomon to show kindness to the
4. is the Benjamite from Bahurim.
5. Who said, "I am about to go the way of all the earth."

15

KING SOLOMON WHO GAINED BLESSINGS

Reference: 1 kings 3:4-15; 2 Chronicles 1:7-17.

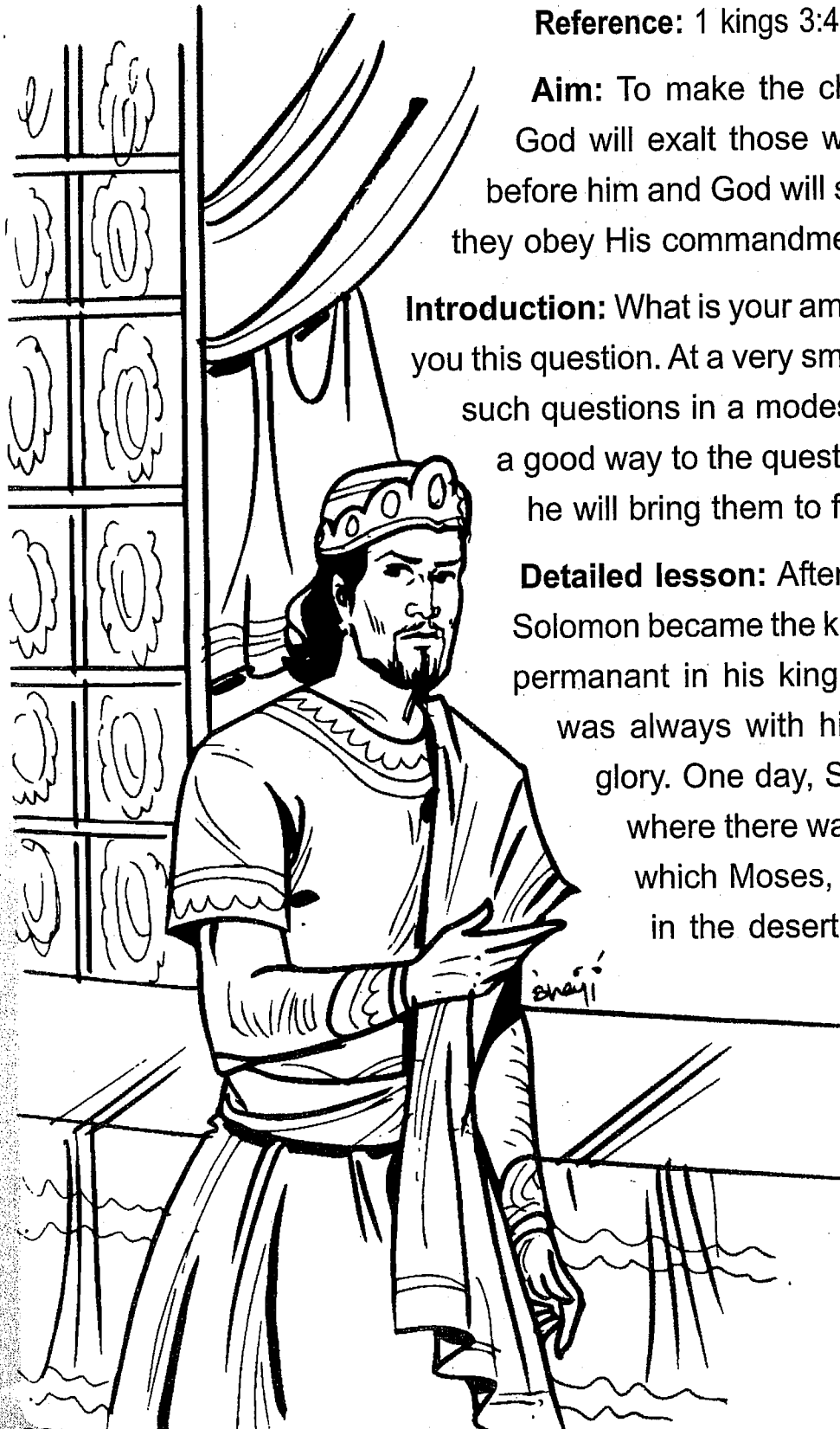
Aim: To make the children understand that God will exalt those who humble themselves before him and God will support them as long as they obey His commandments.

Introduction: What is your ambition? Many has asked you this question. At a very small age you may reply to such questions in a modest way. If we respond in a good way to the questions that God asks then he will bring them to fulfillment.

Detailed lesson: After David's death, his son Solomon became the king of Israel. He became permanent in his kingship. His Lord the God was always with him and gave him great glory. One day, Solomon went to Gibeon where there was God's Tent of meeting which Moses, God's servant made in the desert. There, he went to the

bronze altar in the tent and offered thousand burnt offerings. He prayed to God. What happened later is our lesson portion today.

Solomon has a Dream



God had a special consideration for Solomon as he decided to seek the Lord after becoming King. At night in Gibeon, God appeared to him in a dream. If we also truly seek God, He will appear before us. "What should I do for you? Ask for whatever you want." God said to Solomon. This was how Solomon replied: He remembered God's grace upon his father David. He thankfully said that it was God who anointed him king of Israel after his father. He also humbled himself before God by saying that he was only a child and did not know how to carry out his duties. After this Solomon requested an entirely different thing from God. "Lord, I am here among the people you have chosen, a great people, too numerous to count or number. So give me a discerning heart to govern your people and to distinguish between right and wrong." This was the gift Solomon asked God. The Lord was pleased with this prayer and gave the following reply.

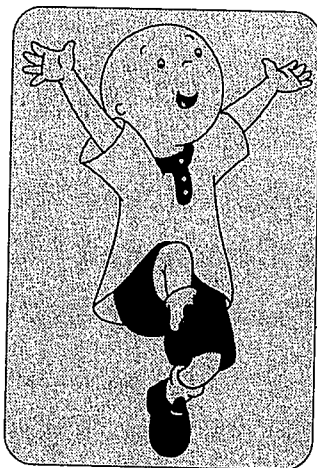
"Since you have asked for this and not for long life or wealth for yourself, nor have asked for the death of your enemies but for discernment in administering justice, I will do what you have asked." We must know what more gifts Solomon received. He was provided a wise and discerning heart.

Other Blessings Also

God gave some more gifts other than what Solomon asked for. God said that there will never have been anyone like Solomon, nor will there ever be God gave him what he had not asked for – wealth and honour. God proclaimed that there would be no kings equal to him in his lifetime. God also promised him a long life if he walked in the Lord's ways and obeyed his statutes and commands as his father David did.

Application: Paul has written that the Lord is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine (Ephesians 3:20). At the same time God looks into what we ask and desire. He estimates our desires. If the inspiration behind our request is the fulfillment of the responsibilities given by God, and honouring the name of God then the Lord will bless us abundantly.

The responsibility now entrusted in you is to study. Learn your lessons from school and along with that learn your Sunday School Lessons and always give priority to the Kingdom of God. Never forget that God consigns only the faithful people with further responsibilities.

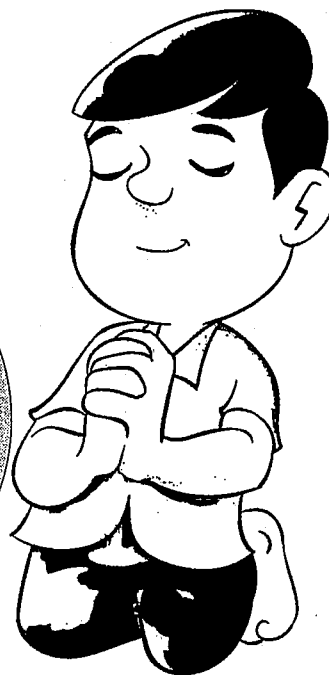


MY DECISION

In my life, I will always give priority to God and Godly things.

MY PRAYER

Omniscient God, in this sinful lifetime of mine give me your grace to distinguish between right and wrong, and live as a good member of God's Kingdom. Amen.



MEMORY VERSE

Mathew 6:33

Seek first his kingdom and righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

Questions

1. Where did Solomon offer the burnt offerings?
2. What does Solomon ask from God?
3. How many burnt offerings did Solomon offer?
4. What was the answer that God gave for Solomon's need?

Read 1 Kings 3:4-15 and write down the six blessings that Solomon received.



1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

What is your ambition?

Write it in the column below. Also write why you have chosen it as your ambition and four things you think of doing, to achieve it.

--

FIRST TEMPLE FOR GOD

Reference : 1 kings 5,6,7,8 chapters

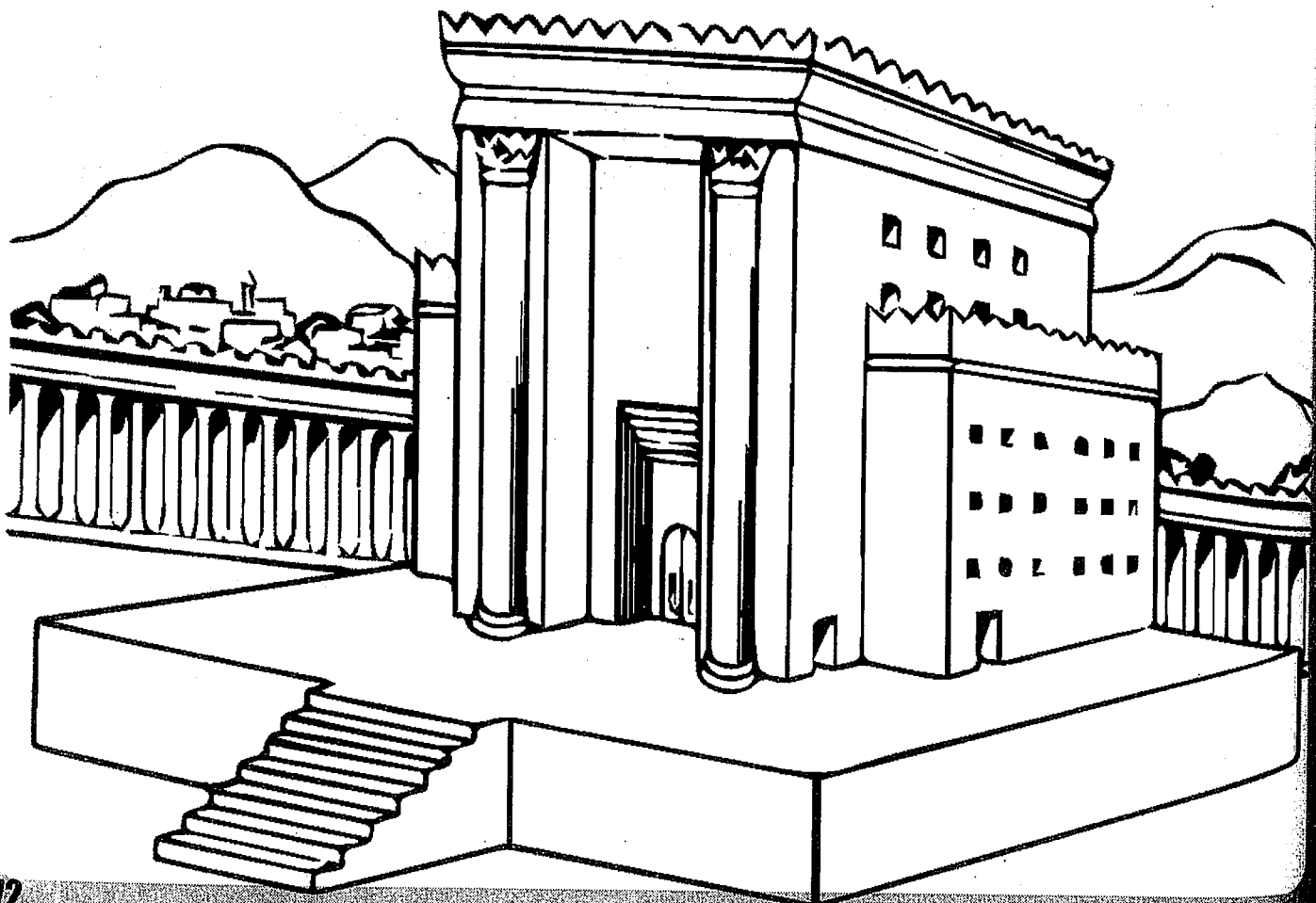
Aim : To understand how God loves to dwell among his people.

Introduction: Why do you go to church? What is the purpose of attending church worship? Is it because of your parents insistence? Do we really experience the presence of God there? In the old testament times God dwelled among his people in the Tabernacle and the Holy Temple. We go to experience the fellowship of God along with his children.

Detailed lesson

We have studied how King David had a desire to build a temple for God. But God told David that it would be his son Solomon who would make the temple when he becomes King. So David arranged for all the materials that was required to build the temple so that Solomon could start the work without delay.

David's greatest desire was to build a temple for God. This showed how



much he lived Him. Even at his death bed he called up Solomon to give him all things that he had arranged for the construction of the Temple. Would you like to see how Solomon accomplished this task?

The work of the temple of Jerusalem

Solomon started to build the temple in the 480 th year after the children of Israel were come out of Egypt and in the fourth year of his reign. It was built at Jerusalem on Mount Moriah (2 Chr. 3:1). This was the place where Davud built an altar to save himself from the wrath of God for having numbered the people. Moreover, even Abraham went to this place to sacrifice Isaac (Gen. 22:1,2). During Solomon's reign, Lebanon was a place of husg and strong trees. The king of that place was Hiram who had been a good friend of David. When Solomon became King , Hiram had sent messengers to convey his greeting and later on he made a peace treaty with Solomon. Solomon had bought from him all the cedar and fig trees needed for building the temple. In return Solomon gave Hiram 20 thousand measures of wheat and 20 measure of pure oil. Solomon commanded the workers to bring great and costly stones and hewed stones to lay the foundation of the Temple. The dimensions of the Templa was 90ft. long, 30 ft. wide and 45 ft. in height. It took almost seven years to complete the work of the Temple.

The glory of God filled the temple

After the Temple was ready King Solomon brought all the instruments which his father David had made at its place. He brought the ark of the covenant of the Lord out of the city of Zion. According to the Jewish customs the Levites carried the Ark and placed it in the oracle of the house, into the most Holy place under the wings of the cherubims. It contained the ten commandments written on stone tablets. Accordingly the priests were sanctified. 120 priests stood on the east end of the altar sounding their trumpets. Asaph , Heman and Jeduthun along with other Levites lifted up their voice with the trumpets and cymbals and instruments of music and praised the Lord. They sang 'For the Lord is good , for his mercy endureth forever' together. Then the house was filled with a cloud. The priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud for the glory of the Lord had filled the house of God. King Solomon stood before the altar and said the prayer of dedication. After this fire came down from heaven and consumed the burnt offering and the sacrifices on the altar. For seven days they kept the feast of the Lord. On the eighth day they observed a solemn assembly. After this the people went away glad and merry in heart for the goodness that the Lord had shown.

The children of Israel had reached their promised land Canaan. After Moses, Joshua till the time of Samuel many judges were there to guide the people. During all those times the ark of the covenant was in the Tabernacle. In the time of Saul no one even bothered about the ark of the covenant. When David became King he desired to build a temple for the ark of the covenant but God stopped him. During the reign of Solomon God enabled him to make a temple. Thus, for the first time a temple for God was made on earth.

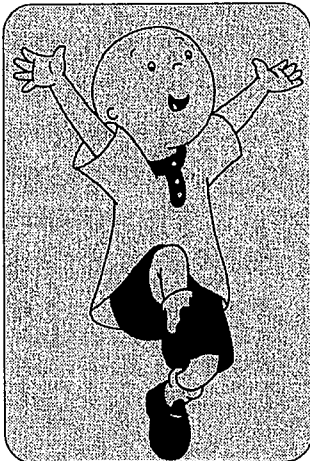
We are the temple of God

From the times of Adam and Eve, God has always desired to dwell with man.

But sin destroyed this beautiful fellowship. Then the tabernacle and the temple were made to mend this fellowship. During the times of Jesus the temple at Jerusalem was the one that Herod had made. But in the times of the apostles after the anointing of the Holy Spirit we ourselves are the temple of God (1Cor. 3:16). Therefore we should live a holy and blameless life so that the Holy spirit would reside in us.

Application

If we want that the Holy Spirit would abide in us our body, mind and soul should be holy. We should never displease God by our thoughts and deeds. Being his temple we should live a life worthy of his calling.

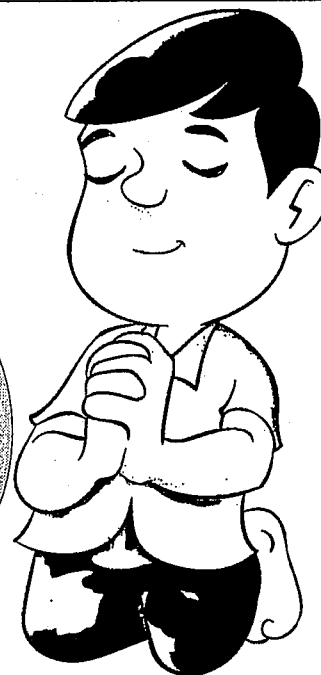


MY DECISION

I will refrain from having any thoughts or speaking words that go against the word of God.

MY PRAYER

Heavenly Father, make me a temple where your Spirit resides always. Amen



MEMORY VERSE

1 Cor. 3: 17

If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are.

Questions

1. What were the dimensions of the temple built by Solomon?
2. From where did Solomon bring the ark of the covenant into the temple of God?
3. How did the glory of the Lord fill the temple?
4. Who had built the temple that existed at the time of Jesus?

Give five reasons for your going to Church for worship.

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.



Fill in the correct answers from above

☐ L

Lebanon

☐ H

Hiram

☐ C

Cedar

☐ S

Solomon

☐ A

Asaph

☐ M

Samuel

1. ☐

A place full of strong and huge trees.

2. ☐

He built the temple of God.

3. ☐

A friend of David.

4. ☐

Trees used in building the temple.

5. ☐

One of the judges.

6. ☐

A Levite musician.

17

SOLOMON'S WISDOM

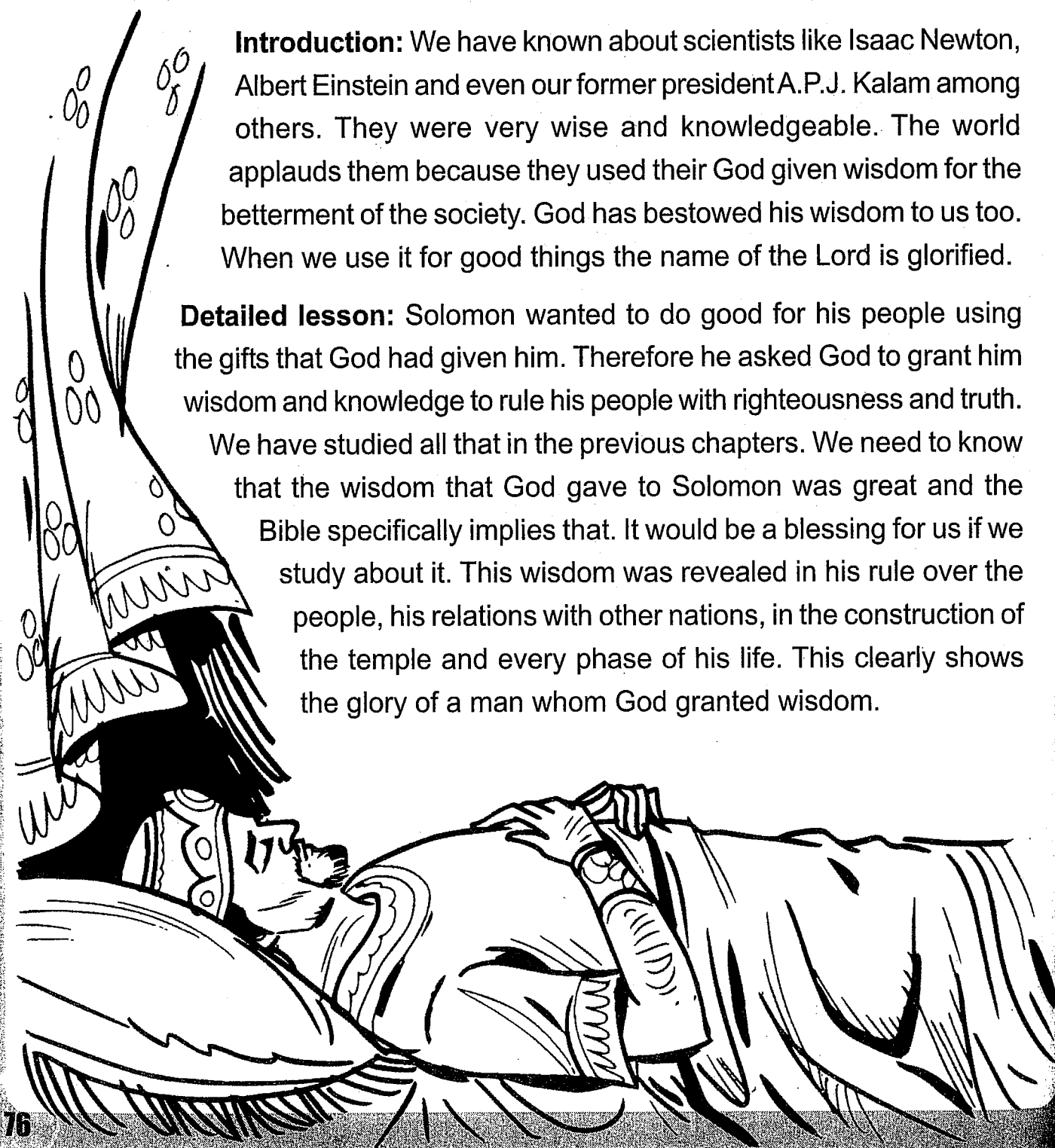
Reference: 1 Kings 3: 12,16 – 28 ; 4: 29-34 ; 10: 1-6

Aim : To make the students understand that the Almighty God endows his obedient children with his wisdom and knowledge.

Introduction: We have known about scientists like Isaac Newton, Albert Einstein and even our former president A.P.J. Kalam among others. They were very wise and knowledgeable. The world applauds them because they used their God given wisdom for the betterment of the society. God has bestowed his wisdom to us too. When we use it for good things the name of the Lord is glorified.

Detailed lesson: Solomon wanted to do good for his people using the gifts that God had given him. Therefore he asked God to grant him wisdom and knowledge to rule his people with righteousness and truth.

We have studied all that in the previous chapters. We need to know that the wisdom that God gave to Solomon was great and the Bible specifically implies that. It would be a blessing for us if we study about it. This wisdom was revealed in his rule over the people, his relations with other nations, in the construction of the temple and every phase of his life. This clearly shows the glory of a man whom God granted wisdom.



The special attributes of the wisdom of Solomon

- . Solomon's wisdom excelled the wisdom of all the children of the east country (1 Kings 4:30).
- . He had more wisdom than the Egyptian scribes, teachers and wizards.
- . Ethan, the Ezrahite, Heman, Chalcol and Darda, the sons of Mahol were wise men but Solomon was wiser than them and so his fame spread in all the nations round about.
- . God blessed Solomon saying, "lo, I have given thee a wise and an understanding heart; so that there was none like thee before thee, neither after thee shall any arise like unto thee"(1Kings 3:12).
- . Solomon spoke 3000 proverbs.
- . He wrote 1005 songs.
- . He had knowledge about trees, plants, beasts, fowl, creeping things and fishes.
- . Many people from other nations just came to hear the wisdom of Solomon (1 Kings 4: 34).
- . Solomon had knowledge about all the things of the earth which is reflected in the book of Ecclesiastes.
- 0. The hanging gardens of Lebanon were made by Solomon which clearly exhibits the great wisdom and knowledge he had.

Solomon's wise judgement

Once two women came to Solomon with a dispute. One of them said, "O, my Lord, I and this woman dwell in one house; and I was delivered of a child with her in the house. And it came to pass the third day after I was delivered, that this woman was delivered also; and we were together, there was no stranger with us in the house, save we two in the house. And this woman's child died in the night; because she overlaid it. And she arose at midnight, and took my son from beside me, while thine handmaid slept, and laid it in her bosom and laid her dead child in my bosom. But when I had considered it in the morning, it was not my son, which I did bear". Then the other woman said, "Nay, but the living is my son, and the dead is thy son". Thus they both argued before Solomon. It was difficult to find out who was telling the truth. Then Solomon gave orders to bring a sword. He said, "Divide the living child in two, and give half to the one and half to the other". Then

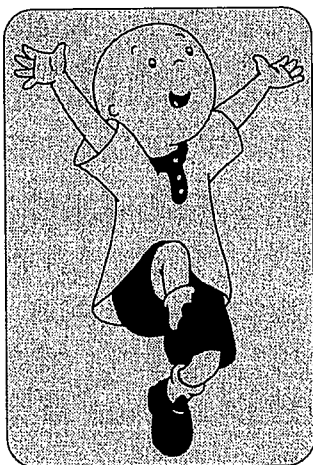
the real mother spoke, "O, my Lord, give her the living child, and in no wise slay it". But the other woman said, "let it be neither mine nor thine, but divide it". Thus Solomon found out the real mother by his wisdom.

Queen of Sheba visits Solomon

The queen of Sheba had heard a lot about the wisdom of Solomon so she came to find out the truth. She came to test his knowledge and wisdom. She came to Jerusalem with a great company of servants and camels laden with goods. She saw his house, his servants, his courtiers, his way of living and she was amazed. When she saw his ascent by which he went up into the house of the Lord she was speechless. She gifted Solomon gold, precious stones and spices. Solomon answered all her questions that she asked to test his wisdom. Thus, Solomon had great wisdom than any other person in the world.

Application

In the book of James it is written that if we lack wisdom we should pray to God. As long as Solomon obeyed God his knowledge and wisdom increased. If we too obey God and live a holy life He would bestow his wisdom on us.

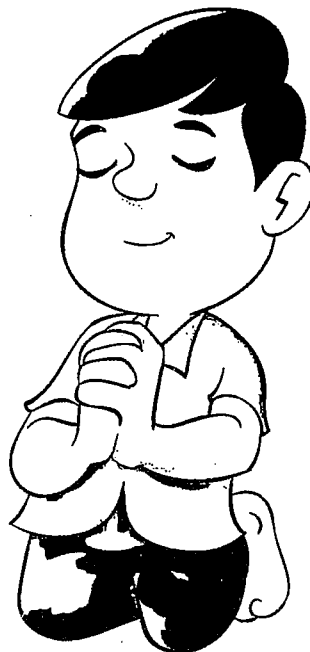


MY DECISION

I will live a godly life trusting God and he would make me wise. I will meditate on his word and fulfill every responsibility that comes my way by the grace of God.

MY PRAYER

Heavenly Father, thou art the giver of all wisdom and knowledge. Hearken my plea and grant me wisdom so that I may glorify thy name by my life. Amen



MEMORY VERSE

Psalms 111: 11

The fear of the Lord is the
beginning of wisdom: a good
understanding have all they that
do his commandments : his praise
endureth forever.

Questions

1. Name the sons of Mahol?
2. What were the special attributes of the wisdom of Solomon?
3. Give an instance that shows his wise judgement?
4. Sheba was queen of which country?

Write the names of five scientists and their contributions

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.



Write down five attributes of Solomon' wisdom in the blank spaces.

1. He spoke proverbs.
2. He wrote songs.
3. Solomon built in Lebanon.
4. This book mentions the events that happen in the world
5. Solomon was wiser than....., the Ezrahite.

18

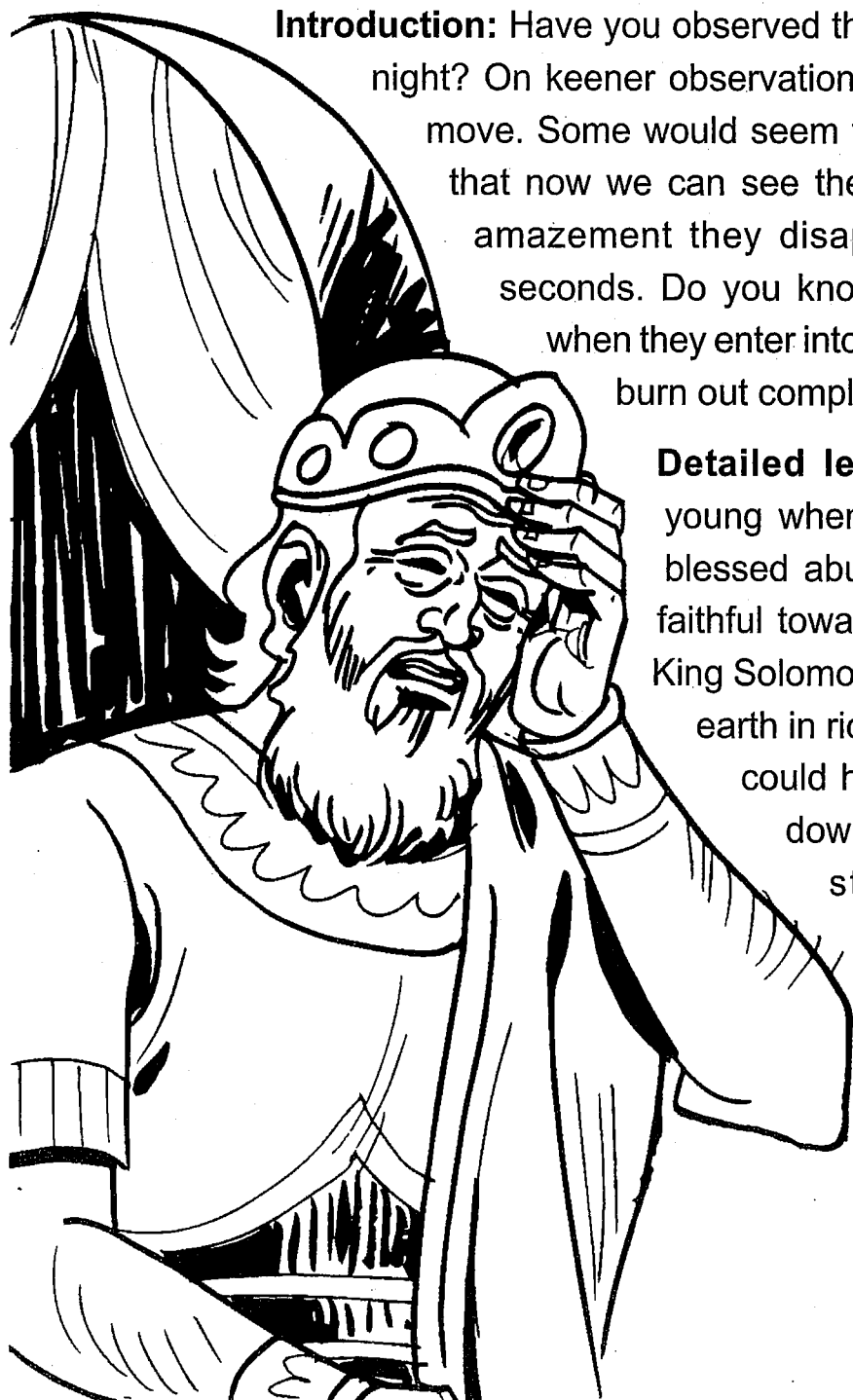
THE DOWNFALL OF SOLOMON

Reference: 1 Kings 11: 1-40

Aim : To learn that in life not only a good beginning matters but a good end also.

Introduction: Have you observed the stars on a clear cloudless night? On keener observation some stars would seem to move. Some would seem to come down and we think that now we can see them more clearly. But to our amazement they disappear from the sky within seconds. Do you know the reason? Its because when they enter into the earth's atmosphere they burn out completely.

Detailed lesson: Solomon was very young when he became King. He was blessed abundantly as long as he was faithful towards God. It is written, " And King Solomon passed all the Kings of the earth in riches and wisdom". Yet, what could have been the reason of his downfall? As those disappearing stars Solomon also disappeared from the presence of God. Let us look into the reason behind his backsliding. He could not continue in the love and devotion that he had for God in the beginning. Many things of the world diverted his heart from the presence



of God like amassing more wealth and fulfilling other earthly lusts.

Reasons for Solomon's downfall

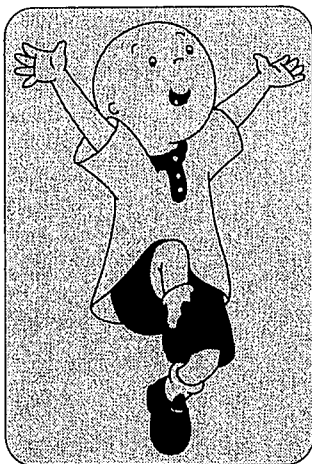
1. His heart was not perfect with the Lord his God, as was the heart of David his father (1Kings 11:4)
2. He disobeyed God by marrying women of those nations with whom God had forbidden to have any relations as they worshipped idols.
3. His wives turned away his heart after other gods.
4. His mind was diverted towards amassing more wealth for his kingdom (1 Kings 10: 14-29).
5. Although he had built a great temple for God but later on he built altars for all other gods his wives worshipped (1 Kings 11: 5-8).
6. He did not do that which the Lord had commanded (1 Kings 11: 6).
7. His heart was turned from the Lord and he did that which was evil in the sight of the Lord (1 Kings 11:11).

God's wrath on Solomon

The Lord was angry with Solomon because his heart was turned from the Lord God of Israel, who had appeared to him twice and had forbidden him from serving idols. God told him that he would take the kingdom away from him and give to one of his servants. He said that he would give only one tribe to Solomon's son for David's sake and for Jerusalem's sake. As long as Solomon obeyed God he had a peaceful life and was respected by all. When his heart went after other gods he was in conflict till his last breath. His servants too rebelled against him. One of his servants Jeroboam became King over ten tribes of Israel. Solomon's son was king over only two tribes. Solomon's wisdom could not save his destiny after he had forsaken the way of the Lord. His book Ecclesiastes tells of his fallen state as his heart was not turned to God. It reminds us of the folly of lusting after earthly desires instead of loving and obeying God. As he grew old he drew away from God and in the concluding part of this book he tells us to cling to the Lord indirectly telling that we should try not to be like him in his old age.

Application

We should always strive to achieve a better end than our beginning. We should stand on the word of God no matter what price we need to pay for it. Solomon's disobedience brought God's wrath on his life, his family and even on his kingdom. Let us learn a good lesson from this.

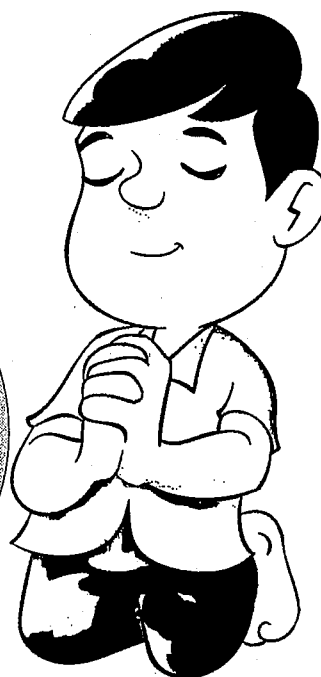


MY DECISION

I will not disobey God to fulfill my earthly desires and wishes. I will not do anything that displeases him.

MY PRAYER

Heavenly Father, you have promised us your presence at all times. May I never leave the comfort of your loving presence. Amen



MEMORY VERSE

Heb. 13:7

Remember them which have rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God; whose faith follow, considering the end of their conversation.

Questions

1. Why was God angry with Solomon?
2. Who became the first king over ten tribes?
3. How does the book of Ecclesiastes conclude?
4. Give any five reasons for the downfall of Solomon.



Read the reference and answer in brief

1. The goddess of the Zidonians
2. Solomon's Edomite adversary
3. Abomination of Moab
4. Jeroboam's mother
5. The Shilonite prophet

Match the following

Ammonites	-	Rezan
Eliadah	-	Ephrathite
Jeroboam	-	Millo
Shishak	-	Molech
Solomon	-	Egypt

19

SOLOMON'S SON REHOBAM

Reference: 1 Kings 12-14 chapters

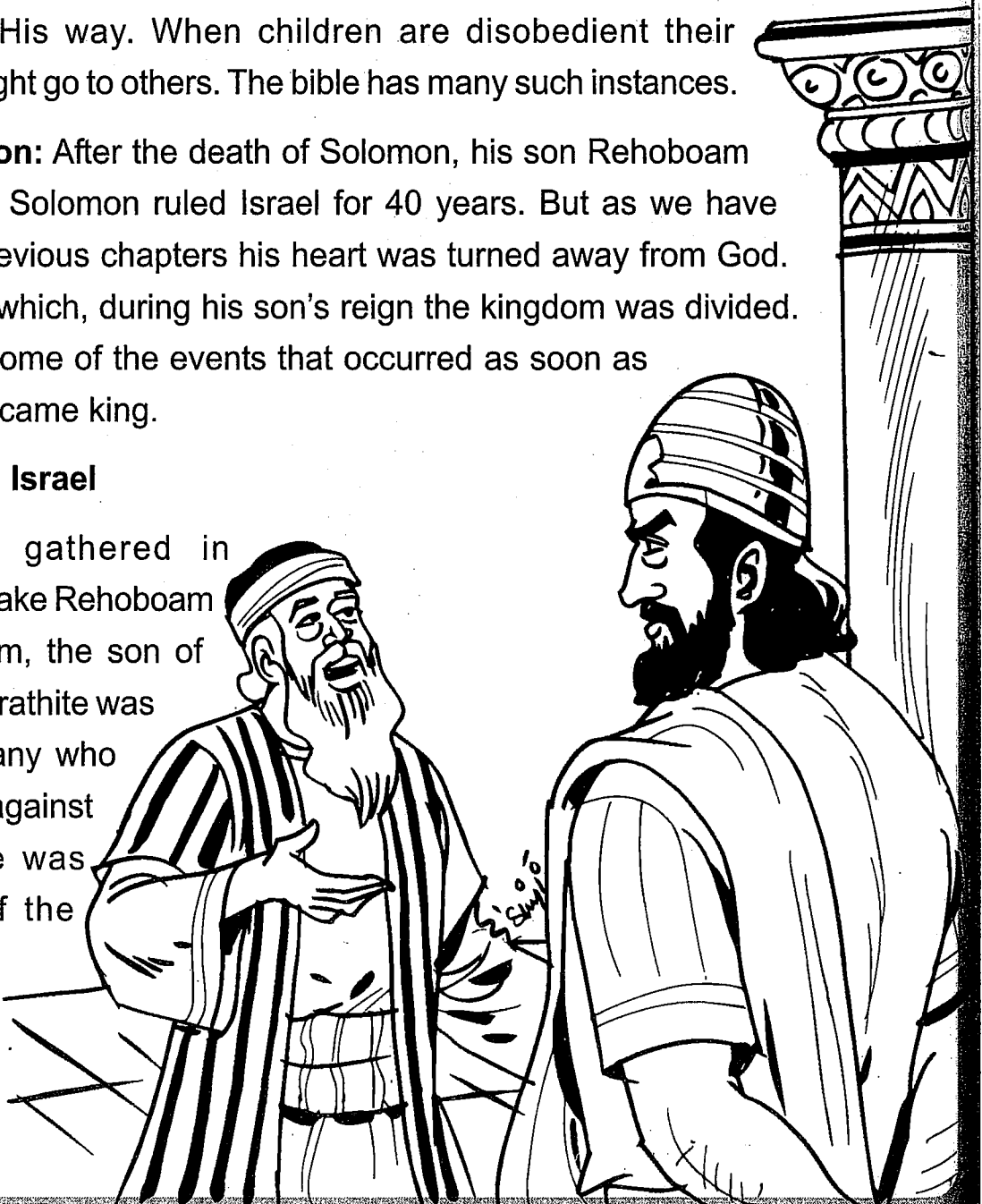
Aim : To learn how God blesses all those who obey and trust his word and forsakes those who disobey Him.

Introduction: Children tend to inherit the fathers's portion. But if the children are wayward they will not get their inheritance. God blesses those who walk in His way. When children are disobedient their inheritance might go to others. The bible has many such instances.

Detailed lesson: After the death of Solomon, his son Rehoboam became King. Solomon ruled Israel for 40 years. But as we have seen in the previous chapters his heart was turned away from God. As a result of which, during his son's reign the kingdom was divided. Let us study some of the events that occurred as soon as Rehoboam became king.

Rehoboam in Israel

All Israel gathered in Shechem to make Rehoboam king. Jeroboam, the son of Nebat, an Ephrathite was one of the many who had rebelled against Solomon. He was the leader of the congregation of Israel. He said to Rehoboam, "thy father made



our yoke grievous, now therefore make thou the grievous service of thy father, and his heavy yoke which he put on us lighter, and we will serve thee". Rehoboam told the people to come after three days for getting the answer.

Rehoboam forsakes the counsel of the old men

After the people had left, Rehoboam consulted with the old men who were with his father. He asked them as to what he should answer the people. They said to him, "if thou wilt be a servant unto this people this day, and wilt serve them and answer them, and speak good words to them, then they will be thy servants for ever". After this he consulted with the young men who had grown up with him. They gave him the advice that he should not lessen the yoke but make it more heavier. Rehoboam forsook the counsel of the old men and did what his friends told him. He couldn't foresee the terrible consequences of such a step. On the third day when the people came to talk with him he refused to lessen their burden and in his pride sent them away rudely.

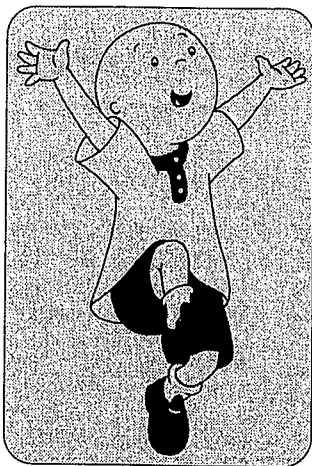
The people felt dejected and refused to accept his authority as king. All this was according to what God had told the prophet.

The sin of Rehoboam and Judah

After the disdainful behavior of Rehoboam, the people made Jeroboam their king. Only the tribe of Judah was under the rule of Rehoboam. Later on the tribe of Benjamin too joined Judah. Thus, Israel which was one nation during the times of Saul, David and Solomon became divided into two nations at Rehoboam's time. Judah and Benjamin were together called Judah and the rest of the ten tribes were called Israel. Rehoboam ruled in Judah for 17 years. The people had left the way of the Lord and walked after their own desires. The people were worshipping strange gods on high places and under green trees. They did everything that displeased God. The people of Judah followed the pagan traditions of the gentiles. During these times, Shishak, king of Egypt attacked Israel and took away the treasures from the house of God and from the King's house. Although Rehoboam was king he did not obey God and had a perilous end.

Application

This lesson shows that if the father has left the way of the Lord the children will also follow suit. As God blesses us with everything we should not forget his commandments. This lesson also shows the consequences of pride and arrogance.

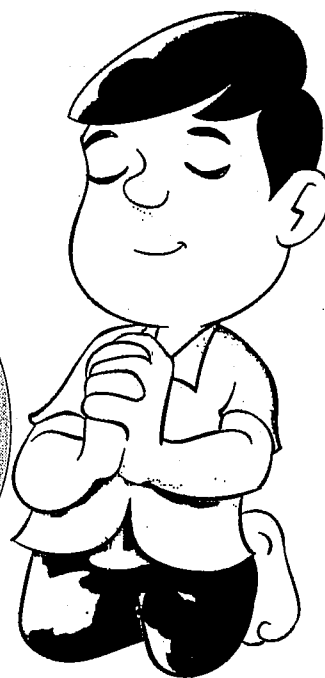


MY DECISION

I will always speak politely and soberly with others.

MY PRAYER

Heavenly Father, help me to live a life filled with your love and grace. May I always show respect to my elders. Amen.



MEMORY VERSE

Phil. 4:5

Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand.

Questions

1. For how many years did Rehoboam rule in Judah?
2. What advice did the old men give to Rehoboam?
3. Whose advice did Rehoboam follow?
4. Name the servant who had rebelled against Solomon?



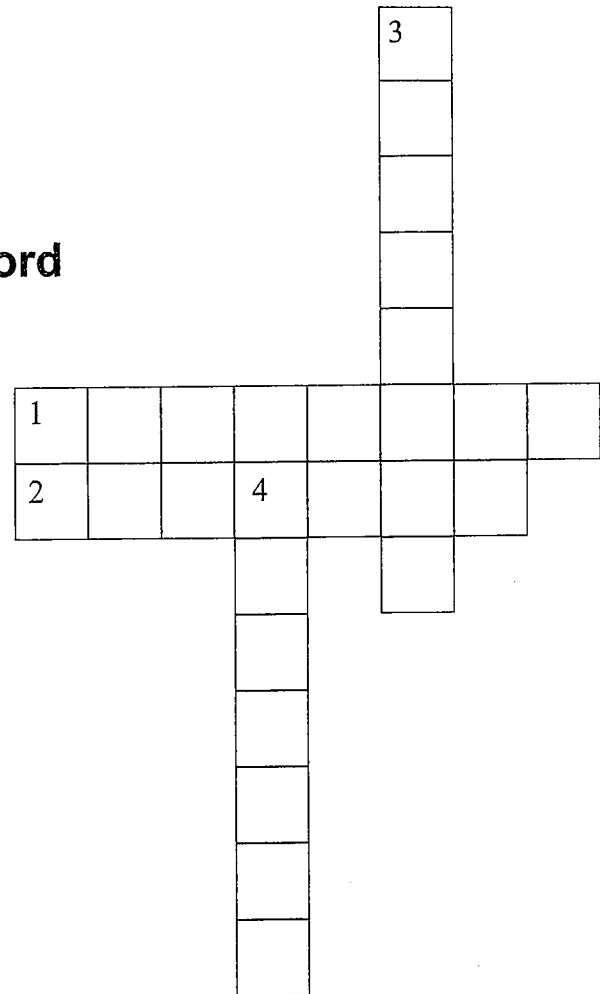
Crossword

Right

1. Solomon's son
2. King of Egypt

Down

3. Son of Nebat
4. Place where all the Israelites gathered



Write to whom we should be obedient

1. Parents

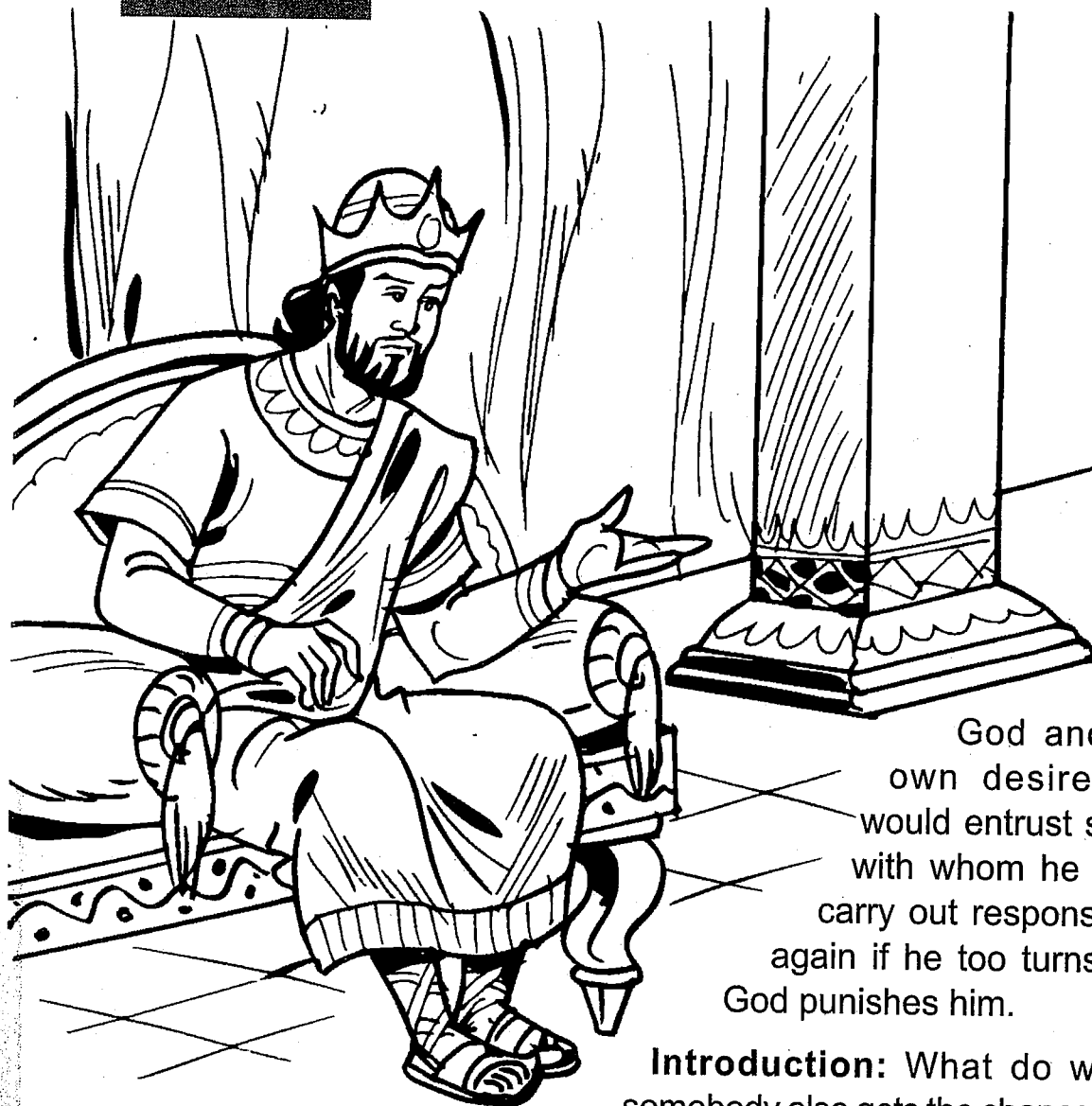
2.

3.

4.

5.

JEROBOAM, THE KING



Reference:

1 Kings 11:
26-40; 12:
25-33; 13: 1-
10 ; 14: 1-20

Aim : When a child of God departs from the word of

God and follows his own desires then God would entrust someone else with whom he is pleased to carry out responsibilities. Then again if he too turns disobedient, God punishes him.

Introduction: What do we feel when somebody else gets the chance or opportunity that belonged to us? Do you feel jealous or envious with them? Have you ever thought about the reason it happened? Our lack of diligence and faith may have been the reason God chose someone else. In this lesson we are going to see a person who got such an opportunity.

Detailed lesson: Solomon had left the way of God and so God said that he would tear away the kingdom from his son's hand. Thereafter God stirred up many adversaries against Solomon who rebelled against him. Jeroboam was one such rebel. He was the son of the Ephrathite, Nebat of Zereda. His mother was Zeruah, a widow. Jeroboam was a mighty man of valour. When Solomon saw that he was a young and industrious man he made him incharge over the house of Joseph.

Solomon's hatred for Jeroboam

One day Jeroboam was going from Jerusalem, he met the prophet Ahijah, the Shilonite. When they were alone in the field, the prophet took his new garment and tore it into twelve pieces. He gave ten pieces of the cloth to Jeroboam saying, "that like this God will rend the Kingdom out of the hand of Solomon, and will give ten tribes to you. He also said that this would happen during the reign of Rehoboam. Solomon was furious when he came to know about this and sought to kill Jeroboam. Jeroboam fled to Egypt and remained there until the death of Solomon.

Jeroboam made King

We have read in the previous chapter about how the people of Israel hated and rejected Rehoboam as their king when he refused to ease their heavy burdens. Then they called up Jeroboam who had returned from Egypt. They made him king over the ten tribes of Israel. When Rehoboam got to know this he gathered warriors from the house of Judah and Benjamin to fight against the remaining Israelites. But the word of God came to Shemaiah saying that they should not fight with their brethren but return back to their land. Then Jeroboam built Shechem in Mount Ephraim and dwelled there and ruled over Israel.

Jeroboam's sin

After becoming King, Jeroboam started fearing something that made him disobey God. God had chosen him, an ordinary man to be king over Israel. He always had a fear that the kingdom might return back to the house of David. Until now the whole of Israel worshipped at Jerusalem only. But after the division of Israel Jerusalem was part of Rehoboam's kingdom and Jeroboam feared that when the people would go for worship their heart will turn back to the King of Judah. So he installed two calves of gold, one in Bethel and other in Dan. Thus Jeroboam led the people to sin against God by worshipping idols.

Another sin of Jeroboam was burning incense before the idols. When a man of God rebuked him he sought to lay his hands on the prophet. God's wrath came upon Jeroboam.

Jeroboam's punishment and his death

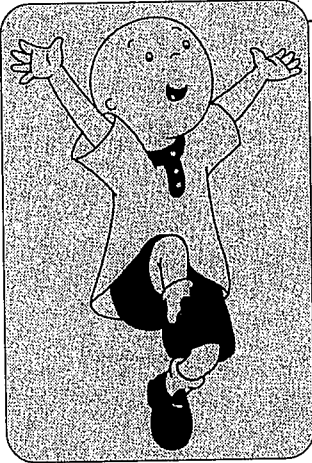
The hand of Jeroboam got shriveled when he tried to lay hold on the prophet. On realizing his wrong he requested the prophet to pray for his healing. When the man of God prayed he got healed. Afterwards Jeroboam returned back to his sinful life. He assigned priests at Bethel to worship the calves he had made. All this caused the people to do more evil things and provoke the anger of the Lord.

During this time Jeroboam's son Abijah became sick. He told his wife to disguise herself and go to meet the prophet Ahijah, in Shiloh to know the counsel of God regarding his son's illness. The prophet Ahijah could not see due to old age. But God foretold Ahijah about Jeroboam's wife coming to meet him. When she met Ahijah he told about the judgement that was going to fall on her family because of their sins. God had said that he would cut off all male child from Jeroboam's

family. When she returned back the moment she came to the threshold of the door her son died. Jeroboam ruled for 22 years and then died.

Application

We can see the fulfillment of the word of God in our lives only when we walk according to God's commandments and live a holy and blameless life. In this lesson we see how pride and disobedience brought a curse on Jeroboam's family. We should never forget that we never deserved God's love and blessings and it is his grace that we are saved.

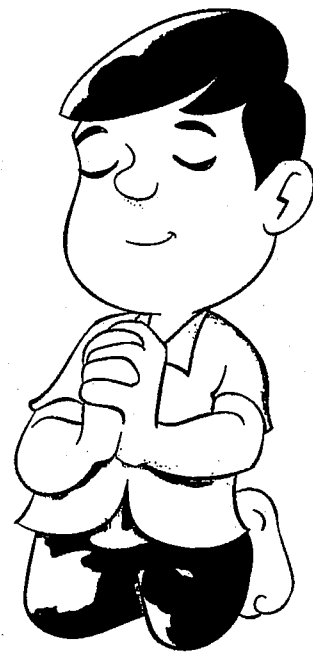


MY DECISION

I will be always grateful for the blessings that God has showered on me and I will stand for his word always.

MY PRAYER

Lord, Jesus may I be a faithful steward regarding all things that you have entrusted to me. Help me Lord to bring glory to your name. Amen



MEMORY VERSE

Jeremiah 17:7

Blessed is the man that trusteth in the Lord, and whose hope the Lord is.

Questions

1. Which prophet had foretold about Jeroboam becoming king?
2. From what place did Jeroboam reign over Israel?
3. What happened to Jeroboam's hand when he tried to lay hold of the prophet?
4. Write about the character traits of Jeroboam?

Find the answer to the questions in the grid below.

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



1. Where is Shechem located?
2. The place where Jeroboam installed calves?
3. Son of Jeroboam?
4. For how many years did Jeroboam rule?

All Blessings we got are the gift of God.

Write the five blessings you got?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

21

HEZEKIAH

Reference: 2 kings 18-20 chapters

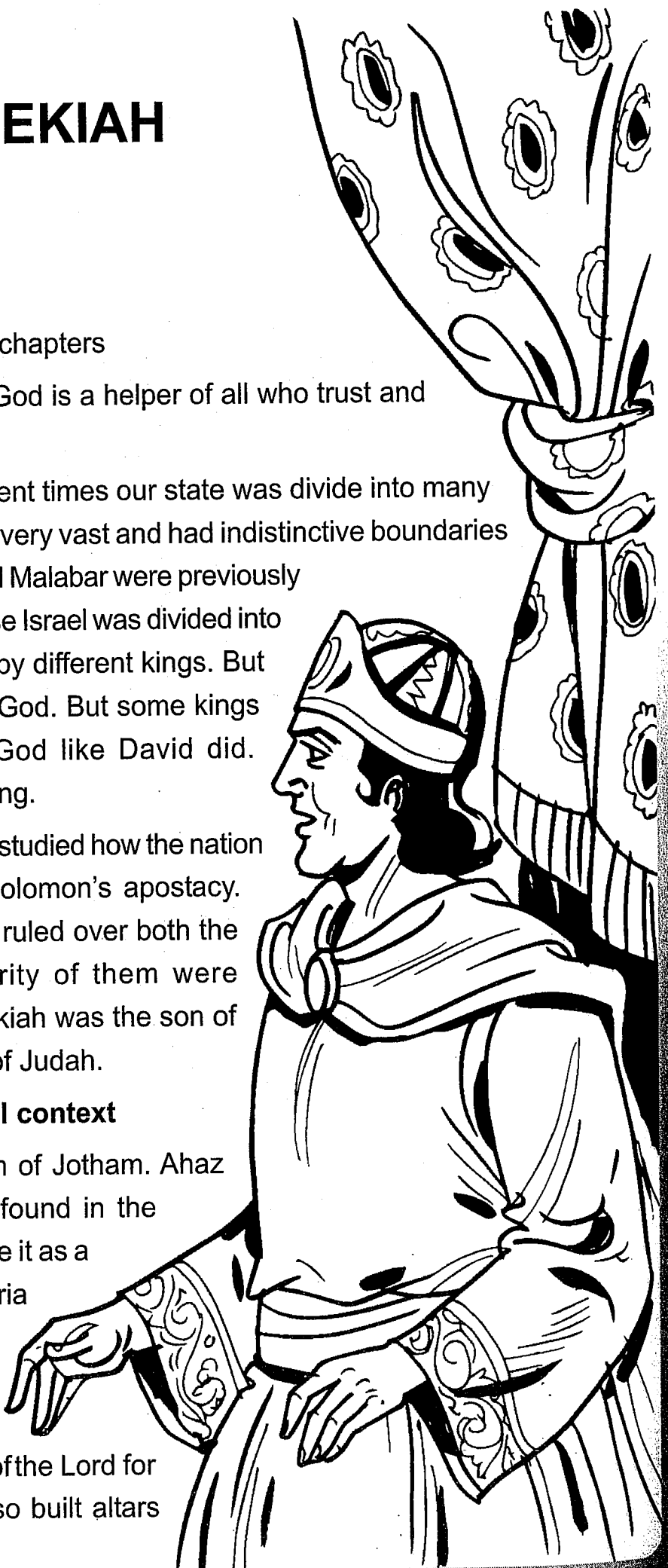
Aim : To understand that God is a helper of all who trust and obey him always.

Introduction: In ancient times our state was divide into many provinces. These were not very vast and had indistinctive boundaries like Travancore, Cochin and Malabar were previously separate provinces. Likewise Israel was divided into kingdoms that were ruled by different kings. But all the kings did not obey God. But some kings did walk in the way of God like David did. Hezekiah was one such king.

Detailed lesson: We have studied how the nation got divided because of Solomon's apostacy. After him almost 40 kings ruled over both the kingdoms but the majority of them were disobedient to God. Hezekiah was the son of Ahaz, the thirteenth king of Judah.

Biography and historical context

King Ahaz was the son of Jotham. Ahaz took the silver and gold found in the house of the Lord and gave it as a present to the king of Assyria to please him. He did not realize that he was doing a wrong thing by using the things of the house of the Lord for such a purpose. Ahaz also built altars



for other gods. He also offered profane and unholy sacrifices which provoked the anger of the Lord. Whatever we offer to the Lord should be holy and acceptable in His sight.

There is a very important thing that we need to know. Although Hezekiah was the son of Ahaz who did evil in God's sight; still he was obedient to God. Hezekiah grew up in the obedience and knowledge of God. After the death of Ahaz, Hezekiah became king at the age of 25 years. He reigned for 29 years in Jerusalem.

Spiritual revival in Judah

It is written about Hezekiah in the word of God, "He trusted in the Lord God of Israel; so that after him was none like him among all the kings of Judah, nor any that were before him" (2 Kings 18: 5). He followed the example of David in following God with his whole heart. We get inspired to do good when we see the exemplary life of the great men and women of God. In the first year of his reign, he opened the doors of the house of the Lord and repaired them. He gathered together the priests and Levites to minister in the house of God. He said to them that the wrath of God was upon Judah and Jerusalem because of their disobedience". He said to them, "sanctify now yourselves and sanctify the house of the Lord God of your fathers, and carry forth the filthiness out of the holy place".

There is a very important thing that Hezekiah did. During the times of Moses, when the people were murmuring against God, He sent fiery serpents among them and many died by their bite. The people cried out to God for forgiveness. Then God said to Moses, "Make thee a fiery serpent, and set it upon a pole and it shall come to pass, that everyone that is bitten, when he looketh upon it, shall live" (Num. 21:8). Until the time of Hezekiah, the children of Israel worshipped that brass serpent, calling it Nehushtan. Hezekiah broke it into pieces as he knew it was a form of idol worship. God doesn't desire ritualistic worship. He seeks those who worship him in Spirit and truth (John 4:24). Hezekiah also removed the high places and broke the images of other gods.

Hezekiah's trust in God

As we have seen that after becoming king he reformed all things according to the word of God. He sought God first. Don't you want to know about the good that came out of all this? When enemies came to overpower his kingdom God helped Hezekiah to defeat them. The King of Assyria had carried away Israel and their king as captives because they had forsaken the Lord God. But what did King

Hezekiah do then? He too was afraid of them at first but then he went to the house of God and prayed earnestly. He rent his clothes, covered himself with sackcloth and went before the Lord with fasting and prayer. He called up Isaiah to hear the Lord's counsel. God told them that he would send a blast upon the enemy, a rumour which will make them retreat. Again the King of Assyria threatened Hezekiah. He went again to the temple and started praying. God answered his prayers. That night the angel of the Lord killed one lakh eightyfive thousand Assyrian soldiers. The king had to retreat the next morning and on reaching his place King Sennacherib was killed by his own sons. God rescued Hezekiah and his people from the hands of the enemy because Hezekiah trusted in the strength of the Lord and not on his own army. We should put our trust on the Almighty in times of trouble and helplessness.

Hezekiah's life extended

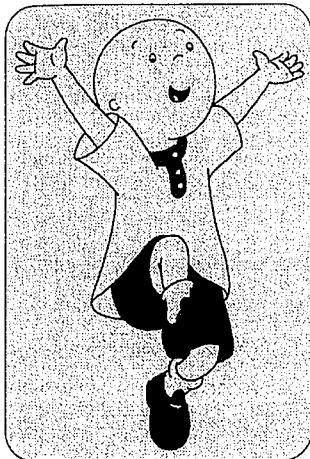
After sometime Hezekiah got afflicted with a fatal illness. He was on his deathbed. God sent a message through Isaiah saying, "Set thine house in order, for thou shalt die and not live". After Isaiah had left, Hezekiah turned his face to the wall and prayed to God saying, "I beseech thee, O Lord, remember now how I have walked before thee in truth and with a perfect heart and have done that which is good in thy sight". Soon Isaiah got the word of the Lord for Hezekiah. Isaiah returned back to the palace to tell Hezekiah about the message. The message from God was this

1. I have heard your prayer, I have seen your tears.
2. I will heal thee.
3. On the third day thou shall go into the house of the Lord.
4. I will add unto thy years fifteen years.
5. I will deliver thee and this city out of the hand of the king of Assyria.
6. I will defend this city for mine own sake and for my servant David's sake

After this Hezekiah followed Isaiah's instructions and laid a lump of figs on the boils. He was completely healed of his sickness.

Application

Even though the parents disobeyed God, if the children are obedient God would certainly hear their prayers and help them. God has supreme right over our lives. If our hearts are true towards him he blesses us abundantly. In times of helplessness he would send his angels to help us.

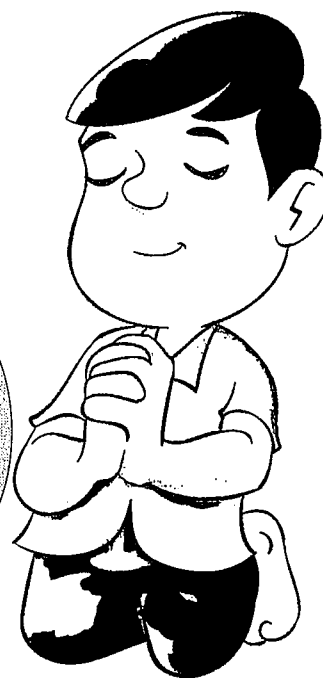


MY DECISION

I will never leave the way of God no matter what the circumstances be. I would stand for the ordinances of God at all times.

MY PRAYER

My lord and king, teach me to rely on you alone. May I be able to attain your blessings in my life.
Amen.



MEMORY VERSE

Psalms. 20: 7

Some trust in chariots, and some in horses; but we will remember the name of the Lord our God.

Questions

1. Another Name of Hezekiah?
2. At what age did Hezekiah become king?
3. What did Hezekiah do at first when he became king?
4. How many soldiers of Assyria did the angel of God smite one night?
5. What was God's reply to Hezekiah's prayer?

Search the bible and write the names of any 7 kings that ruled over Judah



1. _____ 5. _____

2. _____ 6. _____

3. _____ 7. _____

4. _____

Mark as True ☒ or False ☒

1. Ahaz was the son of Jotham.

2. Hezekiah was the 10th king of Judah.

3. Hezekiah ruled for 29 years in Jerusalem.

4. The brass serpent that Moses made was called as Nehushtan.

5. To heal Hezekiah they applied grape leaves on his body.

☐☐☐☐☐

22

JEHOSHAPHAT

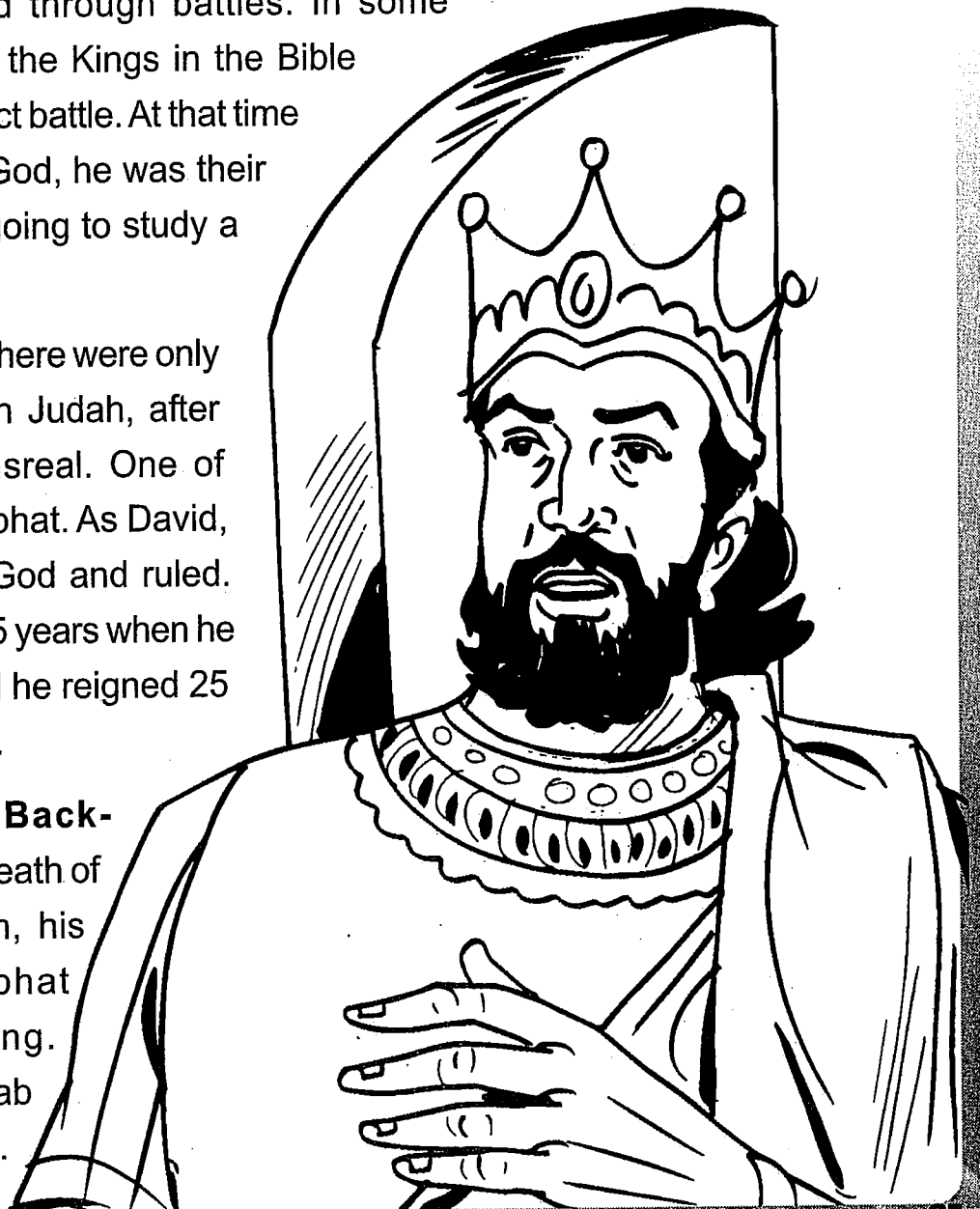
Reference: 1 Kings 22:1-50; 2 Kings 3:1-27; 2 Chronicles 17-21:1

Aim: To understand, even if we have authority sometimes we will be helpless. In such situations, if we trust in God he will be our deliverer.

Introduction: We are afraid of hearing the word, war. In schools, we are taught regarding the harms that are caused due to the World War I and II and still many are suffering due to that. But in olden days the kingdom of a King was achieved through battles. In some situations, some of the Kings in the Bible were weak to conduct battle. At that time when they trusted God, he was their help. Now we are going to study a story like that.

Detailed Lesson: There were only some good kings in Judah, after the separation of Isreal. One of them was Jehoshaphat. As David, he also trusted in God and ruled. Jehoshaphat was 35 years when he began to reign. And he reigned 25 years in Jerusalem.

History and Background: After the death of Asa King of Judah, his son Jehoshaphat became the king. During that time Ahab was king of Israel. His father, Asa



walked in the path of God, Jehoshaphat also walked in all the ways of his father. But Jehoshaphat made peace with Ahab the King of Israel who doesn't walk in the paths of God and it was not right in the sight of the Lord. We are also not supposed to make relationship with someone who doesn't walk in the ways of God. The friendship of Ahab and Jehoshaphat lead to a battle which was not according to God's will. It lead Jehoshaphat into troubles and Ahab into death.

Spiritual Reformation of Jehoshaphat

From the beginning of his reign itself Jehoshaphat seeked God. As he trusted in God rather than trusting in god of Baal, so God was with him. God made his kingdom firm. His heart strengthened in the ways of the Lord. He took away the altars and idols of the strange gods from Judah. Also in the third year of his reign he opted teachers to teach in the cities of Judah. They had the book of the laws of the Lord with them, and went throughout all the cities of Judah and taught the people (2 Chronicles 17:7-9).

Jehoshaphat dwelt at Jerusalem, and he went out among the people from Beersheba to mount Ephraim, and brought them back to God. Along with that he set judges in each cities. And said to the judges, get aware that they are doing all these for God not for man. Also he commanded them to do everything in the fear of God. He reminded them that for God there is no iniquity, nor respect of persons, nor taking of gifts. Moreover Jehoshaphat set of the Levites and of the priests, and of the chief of fathers of Israel to lead people in the laws of the Lord. When God set us for some responsibilities, we should find out someone else to do things along with us rather than doing everything by our own, this will help us to get things done in easy ways. Jehoshaphat's way of reign is an example for this.

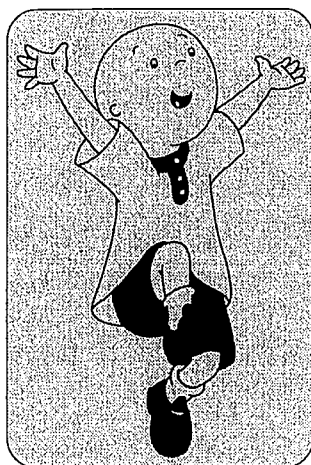
Jehoshaphat's prayer and its answer

After this, the Moabites and Ammonites with some of the Meunites come against Jehoshaphat to battle. By knowing that a great multitude is coming against Jehoshaphat, he feared and trusted in God. And he proclaimed a fast throughout all Judah. And Judah gathered themselves together to ask help of the Lord. Jehoshaphat stood in the congregation of Judah and Jerusalem and prayed. "For we have no might against this great company that comes against us, neither know we what to do, but our eyes are upon thee." And all Judah stood before the Lord, with their little ones. From this we can understand that we children also want to pray together with parents, then God will do miracles.

When Jehoshaphat finished his prayer, the Spirit of the Lord came upon Jahaziel a Levite of the sons of Asaph. And he prophesied that "For the battle is not yours, but God's... You shall not need to fight in this battle. "After hearing what God has told Jehoshaphat and all people fell before the Lord and worshipped him. The Levites, the Kohathites, the Korhites stood up to praise the Lord. Next morning they went forth for the battle. Jehoshaphat appointed singers unto the Lord and that should praise the beauty of Holiness as they went out before the army and to say, praise the Lord for his mercy endures forever. As they began to sing and praise, the Lord set ambushes against the enemies and they were defeated. Everyone destroyed each other. And God delivered Judah from them. Jehoshaphat and all Judah proclaimed fast and they prayed and praised God, and God fought for them.

Application

If we understand our weakness and we pray and fast and praise God, God will send his army to fight for us and will defeat our enemies. If we ask God's will in all our matters God will guide us.

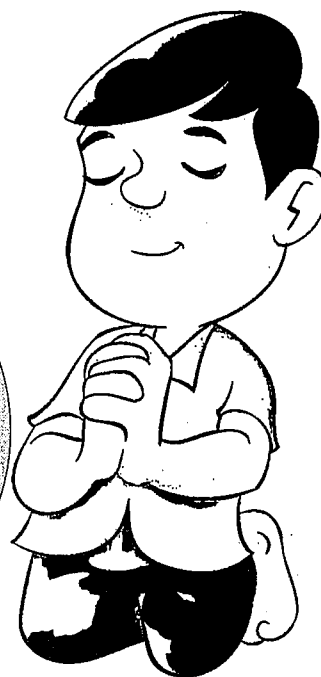


MY DECISION

I will ask for God's help in all decisions that I would get strength to face that in my life.

MY PRAYER

Almighty God! give me the grace to overcome my weakness through your power. Amen!



MEMORY VERSE

Psalms 33:18

Behold, the eye of the Lord is
upon them that fear him, upon
them that hope in his mercy

Questions

1. Who was the King of Judah after the death of Asa?
2. On whom, the spirit of God came after Jehoshaphat's prayer?
3. How many years Jehoshaphat ruled Judah at Jerusalem?
4. What did Jahaziel prophesied?

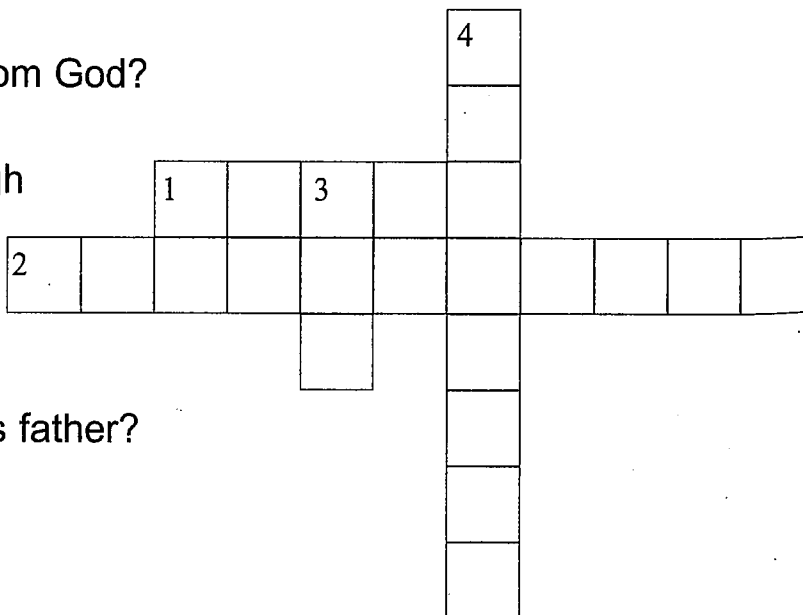
Crossword

Right

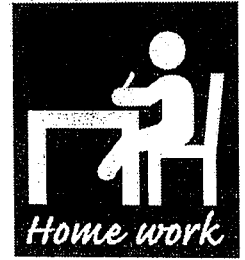
1. The King who astray from God?
2. Who lead Judah through spiritual reformation?

Down

3. Name of Jehoshaphat's father?
4. A Prophet?



Write down any five points of Jehoshaphat's spiritual reformation?



1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

23

ZEDEKIAH

Reference: 2 Kings 24:18-25:7, 2 Chronicles 36:11-21

Aim: To understand, that God will not be responsible for the consequences we face if we walk apart from the path of God.

Introduction: If we do something wrong parents will scold us. why? Not to repeat the same again. If we didn't get any other chance to regret? Isn't it too sad? Some keep on doing wrong. Sometimes they regret about that and wants to come back. But by the time they have lost their chances to come back. Now we are going to learn a history like this.

Detailed Lesson: 20 Kings reigned in Judah. In that, Zedekiah was the 20th King. Unfortunately, Zedekiah wanted to take over the kingship of Judah, when it was about to be attacked. We are going to learn about him and what all things happened to Judah during his reign.

History and background

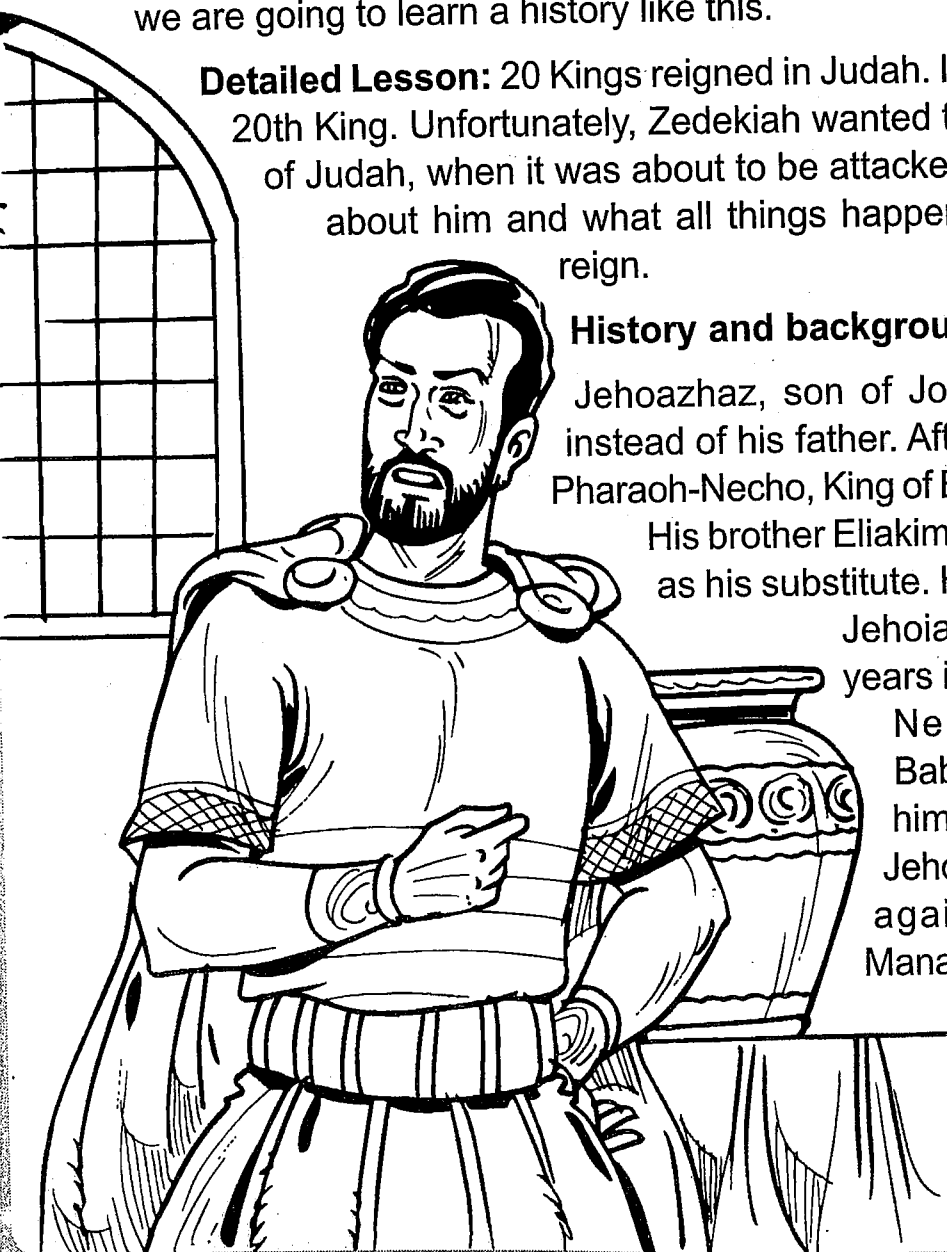
Jehoazhaz, son of Josiah reigned Jerusalem instead of his father. After 3 months of his reign, Pharaoh-Necho, King of Egypt took him as captive.

His brother Eliakim was made to be the King as his substitute. His name was turned into

Jehoiakim. He reigned eleven years in Jerusalem, in this days

Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came up and carried him to Babylon. After 3 years Jehoiakim turned and rebelled against king of Babylon.

Manasseh son of Hezekiah, did many wrong things, as a result of that God send army of Babylon, along with army of Moab, Ammon and Syria



against Judah, Jehoiakim did evil in the sight of the Lord. After his death, his son Jehoiachin became the King, but after three months the King of Babylon besieged the city. Nebuchadnazzar, carried out all the family members of Jehoiachin along with all the princes, all might men of valour, all craftsman and smiths. Only the poorest people of the land were left.

Zedekiah-The King

For the people left of the land, the King of Babylon made Mattaniah, Jehoiachim father's brother as King and changed his name to Zedekiah. From the period of Zedekiah it came to an end for the kingdom of Judah. Zedekiah was twenty one years old when he began to reign and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem. And it came to pass in the ninth year of his reign, Nebuchadnezzar King of Babylon came, he and all his host besieged the city. The eleventh year of his reign the famine prevailed in the city and there was no bread for the people of the land. As the chaldees, men of Nebuchadnezzar had surrounded the city wall, Zedekiah and his men tried to escape by breaking up the city wall. But the army of Nebuchadnezzar pursued after and overtook them.

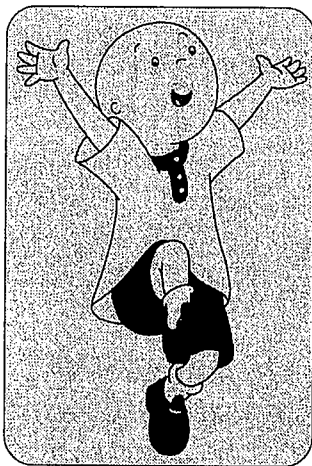
Evil In the Sight of the Lord

Why these kind of things happened in the period of Zedekiah? He did evil in the sight of the Lord. He didn't humbled himself before Jeremiah the prophet speaking from the mouth of the Lord. He rebelled against the King Nebuchadnezzar whom made him the King. He hardened his heart and he didn't turned back to the God of Israel. Even the priests and people did evil. They made the temple of God unholy. They rejected and insulted the messengers of God and prophets. The God's wrath came upon them and brought Nebuchadnezzar against them.

Nebuchadnezzar's attack and fall of Judah

Nebuchadnezzar besieged Jerusalem for three years. And he attacked Zedekiah who was not willing to submit himself. As we learned earlier, the chaldees pursued and overtook Zedekiah and his men who tried to escape. They killed sons of Zedekiah before his eyes. Then they put out his eyes, bound him with bronze shackles and took him to Babylon. Nebuchadnezzar Commander of the imperial guard, an official of the King of Babylon, came to Jerusalem. He set fire to young people in the temple of the Lord. He took away all the instruments, treasury of the temple and the riches of the King to Babylon. He set fire to the royal place and all houses of Jerusalem, every important building too. He destroyed the wall of Jerusalem. Nebuchadnezzar took all who were healthy and those who took protection from the King. Thus the history of Judah ended with destruction. They suffered the consequences for forgetting God and his laws.

Application: God will be a protector to those who love and obey his commandments. But if we go astray from God's path the consequences will be severe.

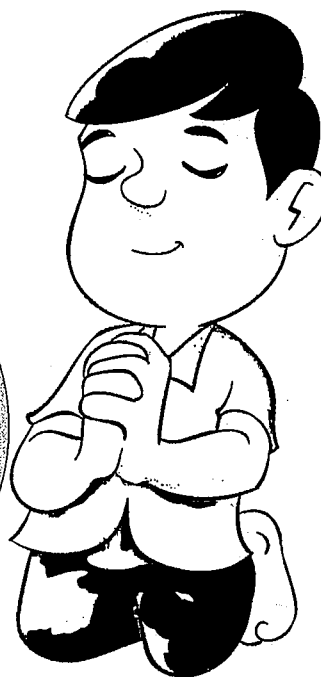


MY DECISION

My will is to walk in the path of God always.

MY PRAYER

Oh Lord my God, give me the blessing for those who love thy name and obey your commands. Amen.



MEMORY VERSE

Psalms 128:1

Blessed is everyone that feareth the Lord; that walketh in his ways.

Questions

1. Who was the 20th King of Judah?
2. How many years did Nebuchadnezzar besiege Jerusalem?
3. Who pursued and overtook Zedekiah and his men?
4. What is the other name of Zedekiah?

Find out and write down the names of 20 Kings
who ruled Judah from Bible.

And tell these names to your teacher in next week.



1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

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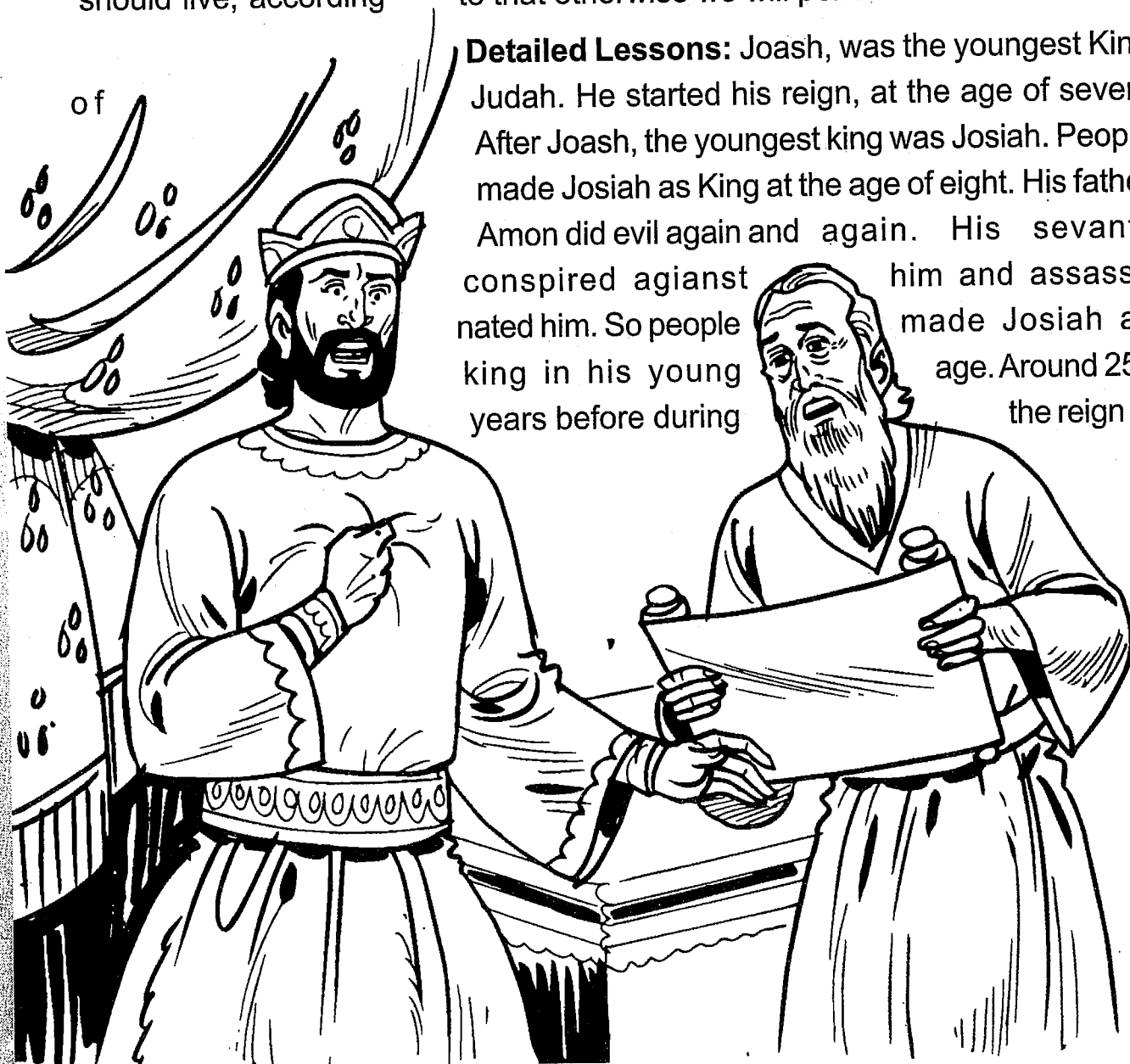
JOSIAH

Reference: 2 Kings 22-23:30; 2 Chronicles 34-35

Aim: To understand, there are chance to get into the hands of enemies if we are not alert, eventhough we walk in the paths of God.

Introduction: You might have seen so many perished during the midst of their life eventhough they lead a good life, what is the reason? We should have an immense relationship with God, we should understand the will of God and should live, according to that otherwise we will perish.

Detailed Lessons: Joash, was the youngest King Judah. He started his reign, at the age of seven. After Joash, the youngest king was Josiah. People made Josiah as King at the age of eight. His father Amon did evil again and again. His sevants conspired agianst him and assassi- nated him. So people made Josiah as king in his young age. Around 250 years before during the reign of



Jeroboam (BC 931-910) there was a prophecy about Josiah, even though his birth was around BC 648.

History and background

We have already learnt about King Hezekiah. Manasseh his son, was born to him during the 15 years which was added to his life by God. And when Manasseh became the King, he did evil in the sight of the Lord. The King Manasseh seduced Judah to do more evil. Wherefore the Lord brought upon them the captains of the host of the King of Assyria, which took Manasseh among the thorns, and bound him with fetters and carried him to Babylon. And when he was in affliction, he brought the Lord his God and humbled himself greatly before the Lord. And prayed unto him and God heard his supplication, and brought him again to Jerusalem into his Kingdom. Then Manasseh knew that the Lord he was God. As we said earlier, his servants assassinated him. In his stead, people made Josiah as King. Josiah was eight years old when he began to reign, and he reigned in Jerusalem thirty one years. And he did that which was right in the sight of the Lord, and walked in the ways of David his father and declined neither to right nor to left. For in the eighth year of reign, when he was 16 years old, he began to seek after the God. And made Judah to return back to God and done so many reformation.

Spiritual Reformation

In the twelfth year of his reign, when he was 20 years old, he began to purge Judah and Jerusalem from the high places, the groves, the carved images and the molten images. He brake the groves, craved images and the molten images into pieces and made dust to them and strowed it upon the graves of them that had sacrificed unto them. And he burnt the bones of the priests upon their altars and cleansed Judah and Jerusalem. He cut down all the idols throughout all the land of Israel and he returned to Jerusalem. After that he reopened the temple of God in Jerusalem. Now in the eighteenth year of his reign, he set a few to repair the house of the Lord. When they got into the temple of Lord to repair, they found out the money that was brought into the house of God. The money was handed over to the workmen that wrought in the house of the Lord, to repair and amend the house. God made people to work along with the King who stepped down to do things which was right in the sight of the Lord.

Found out-Book of the laws

And when they brought out the money that was brought into the house of the Lord, Hilkiyah the priest found a book of the law of the Lord given by Moses. Hilkiyah delivered the book to Shaphan the scribe. And Shaphan carried the book to the King and he read it before the King. The book of the law was not found for a long

time. So that the Kings and people didn't know the words of God. When the King had heard the words of the law, that he rent his clothes. The King commanded to, "Go, enquire of the Lord for me and for them that are left in Israel and in Judah, concerning the words of the book that is found. The King made a covenant with God that they will obey the laws of the God. As did the people too. During the reign of Josiah everyone walked in the ways of the Lord.

As he set the points in their charges and encouraged them to the service of the house of the Lord. They put holy ark in the house of the Lord. Moreover Josiah kept a passover unto the Lord. The singers the sons of Asaph were in their place. And doorkeepers did the duties. So all the service of the Lord was prepared the same day, to keep the passover and to offer burnt offerings upon the altar of the Lord, according to the commandment of King Josiah. There was no passover like to kept in Israel from the day of Samuel the prophet. Neither did all the Kings of Israel keep such a passover as Josiah kept. From this we can understand that a great reformation happened in the reign of Josiah.

End of Josiah

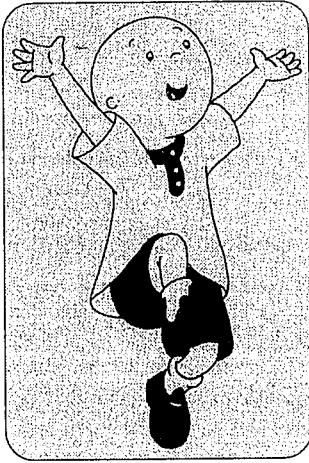
After all this, when Josiah prepared the temple, Necho King of Egypt came upto fight against charchemish by Euphrates and Josiah went out against him. But King Necho sent his ambassadors to Josiah saying, what have I do with thee, thou King of Judah? I come not against thee this day, but against the house of charchemish where with I have war. So King Necho again said to King Josiah to not interfere in this. Nevertheless, Josiah would no turn his face from him, but disguised himself that he might fight with him, and came to flight in the valley of Megiddo. And the archers shot at King Josiah, he got sore wounded and he died.

Josiah-Turned promised into Lamentation

King Josiah, who found out the laws of the Lord and who lived according to that, the promise to him was: "Behold I will gather thee to thy fathers, and thou shalt be gathered to thy grave in peace" (2 Chro. 34:28). But what happened to Josiah? Promise didn't happen, he didn't die in peace. He interfered in unwanted thing and died. "And was buried in one of the sepulchres of his fathers" (2 Chronicle 35:24). Today also, there are people who live according to the wil of God but in the midst of it they will not seek God and get into trouble. The life of Josiah gives us the lesson. If the promised is to be fulfilled we seek God.

Application

Our life should be fulfilled in God's promise. For that we should relay upon God. Don't lean unto your understanding. And we should arrange our life according to the word of God. Reformation is a thing which God likes the most.

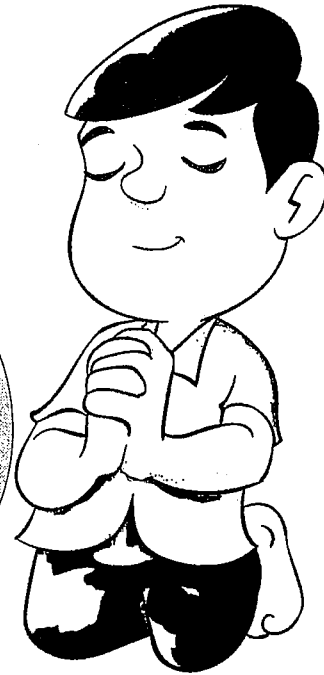


MY DECISION

I will give priority to God's will in all my life's decision.

MY PRAYER

Lord! My understandings are upto a limit, provide me with thy will that I may walk in thy ways.
Amen.



MEMORY VERSE

Proverbs 3:6

In all thy ways acknowledge him
and he shall direct thy paths.

Questions

1. Name of Josiah's grandfather?
2. What was the promise to Josiah?
3. How was the end of Josiah?

Write down the correct number from bracket
(15,7,8,31,250,20)



1. Joash's age when he began to reign?

.....

2. Josiah's age when he began to reign?

.....

3. Number of years God added to Hezekiah?

.....

4. How many years did Josiah reign in Jerusalem?

.....

5. Josiah's age at the twelfth year of his reign?

.....

6. How many years before the prophecy was said about Josiah's birth?

.....

Read the portion 2 Chronicles 34 and write down the answers

1. Name of Azaliah's son?

2. Father of Joahaz the recorder?

3. Name of the high priest?

4. Name of Shallum's wife, who was a prophetess?

5. Who carried out the book of the laws to King?

25

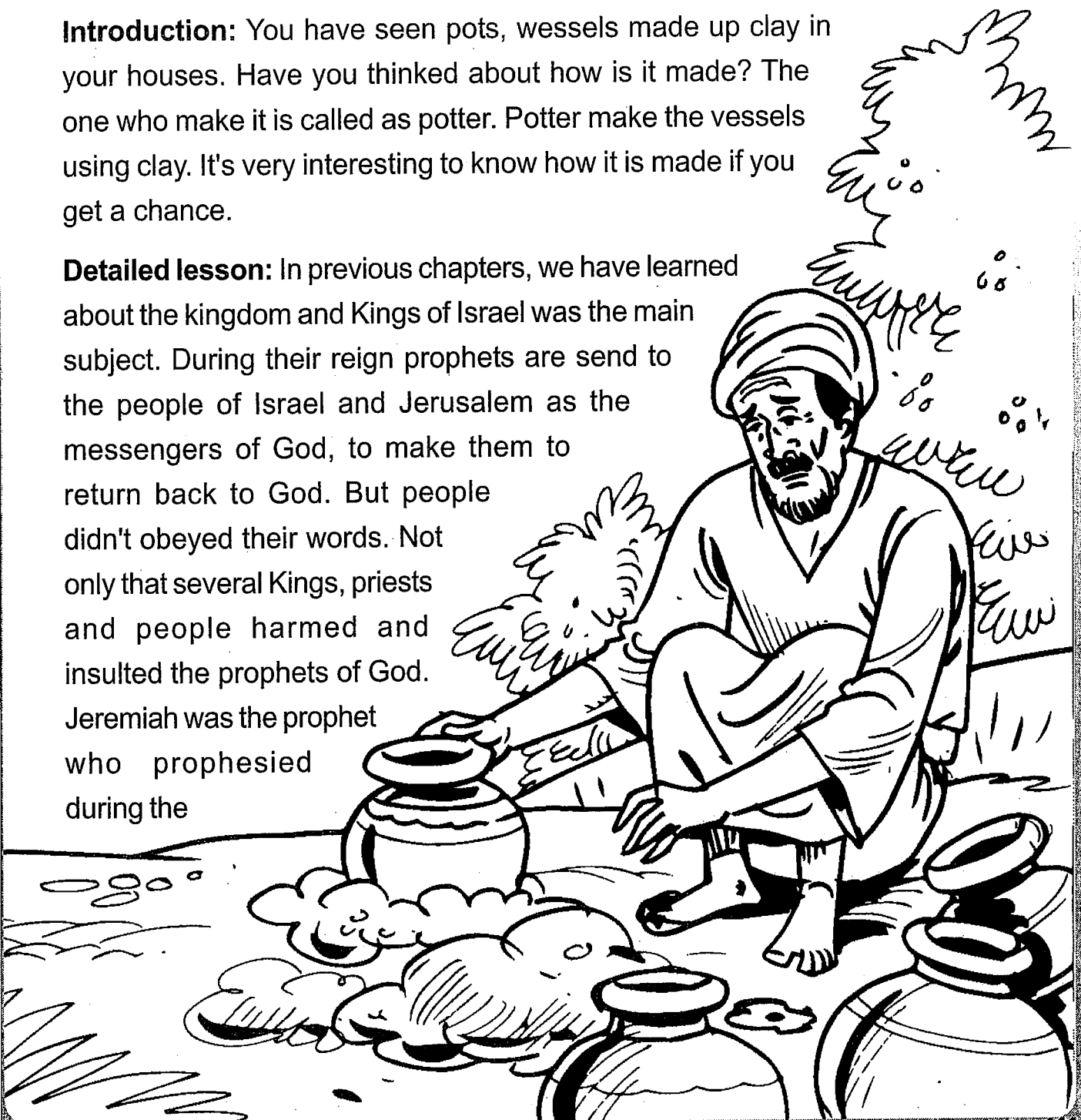
CLAY IN POTTER'S HAND

Reference: Jeremiah 18:1-6

Aim: God is our creator. Creator has full authority upon his creation. We should submit ourselves fully in God's hand to get moulded.

Introduction: You have seen pots, wessels made up clay in your houses. Have you thinked about how is it made? The one who make it is called as potter. Potter make the vessels using clay. It's very interesting to know how it is made if you get a chance.

Detailed lesson: In previous chapters, we have learned about the kingdom and Kings of Israel was the main subject. During their reign prophets are send to the people of Israel and Jerusalem as the messengers of God, to make them to return back to God. But people didn't obeyed their words. Not only that several Kings, priests and people harmed and insulted the prophets of God. Jeremiah was the prophet who prophesied during the



period when the people of Judah was captured as slaves to Babylon. Before giving the God's word to the people God made Jeremiah to go to a particular place. Now we are going to learn about that.

Jeremiah in Potter's House

One day Jeremiah got the word from the Lord that, "Go down to the potter's house, and there I will give you my message." God will give us his messages in different ways. As per the instruction of God, Jeremiah went down to potter's house. Potter's usually stay in low laying areas. Because, they will get clay from fields for making the vessels. When Jeremiah went to potter's house, he saw potter working at the wheel. Every potter, have a wheel to get his work done. The potter will put the clay upon the wheel and move his hand above it, thus the clay get shape up.

The wheel rotates in a particular speed. Potter will have an idea in his mind about the shape of the vessel to be made. According to that only the speed of wheel and the potter's hand motions are arranged.

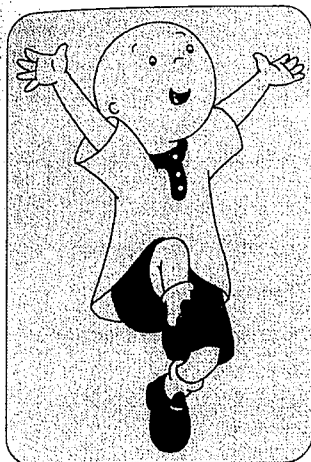
While Jeremiah was observing the potter's work, the pot he was shaping from clay was marred in his hands. So the potter shape up it into another pot, which was best to him. Then the word of the Lord came to Jeremiah.

Godly Lessons from Potter's House

Lord said to Jeremiah: "O house of Israel, can I not do with you as this potter does?" Like clay in the hands of potter, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel. There are so many things that we can learn from this.

Application

1. As the potter, God is our creator.
2. We are like clay in the hands of God.
3. In God's workplace, God shapes us according to his plan.
4. As the clay in potter's wheel, we should submit ourselves to God.
5. When we are in God's hand, if something happens God will make us up again.
6. As the pot get shaped in the wheel as it rotates, God will shape us through hardships in our life.
7. As the potter's hand, throughout our shapening God's hands will be with us.

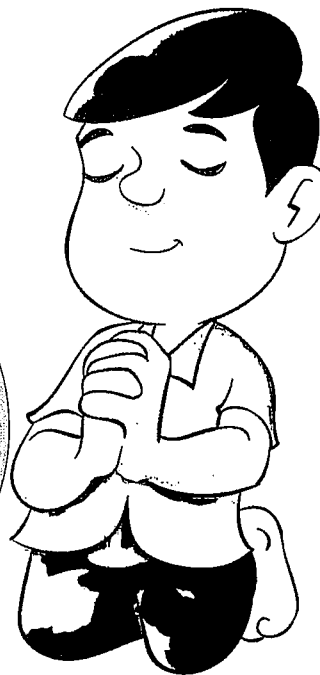


MY DECISION

I will give myself unto God's hand
always, as the clay in potter's hands.

MY PRAYER

Oh God! the creator,
I submit myself to thy hands,
mould me as thy will.
Amen.



MEMORY VERSE

1 Peter 5:6

Humble yourselves therefore,
under the mighty hand of God,
that he may exalt you in due time.

Questions

1. Whom did God send to potter's house?
2. What all lessons God gave to Jeremiah from potter's house?

Number up 1,2,3 according to the instances happened

1. As the word of the Lord, Jeremiah
went to the potter's house ☐
2. Pot in potter's hand got marred. ☐
3. The word came from the Lord to Jeremiah ☐
4. Potter working at the wheel. ☐
5. Potter formed another pot, which is marred. ☐



**Write down three things that are applicable practically
by you from this lesson.**

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

GOD'S VINEYARD

Reference:
Isaiah 5:1-7

Aim: Church resembles garden. For bearing good fruit God has

set us to be in his garden. We are responsible to bear good fruit as God desires.

Introduction

There are so many gardens having different kind of plants and fruit bearing trees around us. In Kerala, we have different gardens, having coconut, plantain, tea etc. But in Israel, we can see so many gardens having different types of fruit bearing trees. In Bible, we can see so many vineyard, olive gardens were present in Israel. There are so many parables regarding vineyard in Bible.

Detailed lesson:

God has selected humans at different times and made to be his people. In old testament, God selected Israel as his people. In new testament, God has established his church and those who are selected are added to the church. God have a special plan for those who are selected by him. Through several parables God has conveyed his plan about his people. In that, the parable of vineyard is commonly used in old and new testament. God keeps his selected one as his own.

Parable of Vineyard

Here we are studying the parable mentioned in the book of Isaiah. A gardener had a fruitful vineyard on a hill. First, he prepared the land, that he may cultivate vine in that. For that, he cleared up all the stones in that. Then he fenced it. After that he planted it with the finest wine. And

built a tower in the middle of it and also made a winepress therein. These all were the preparation of his hope. The tower was with the guards to keep it. It also had a winepress in it to press the grapes when it bears. He waited patiently and cared for it, till it bears fruit. But at the last, the result was bad. It yielded the bad fruit.

Lesson From the Parable

Along with this parable God has revealed the secret in it. God tells that, the man of Judah and Jerusalem are his vineyard. God selected these people among from all the other and planted them in their promise land. He gave them all blessings. God had the hope that they will bring glory to thy name. But they turned to false god. They made idols and worshipped them. They have break the commands of God. They have rejected his kingship. God's heart brokened when Israel sinned. But God send his prophets to encourage them to return back to him.

Reaction to Vineyard and Its meaning

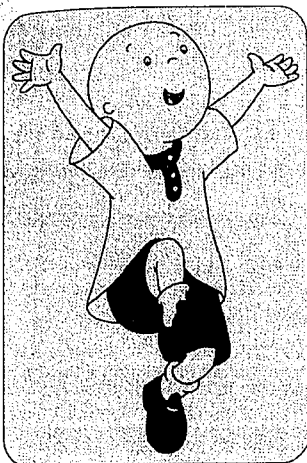
We can see the reaction of the gardener in our reading portion. What will the gardener do to the garden which yielded had fruit? He destroyed the fence around it. Animals entered into it and ate it up. Others stamped on it. Not only that, thorns and other bushes grew up in that. What is it meaning? As the Judah and Jerusalem astray from the God, he made them to be slaves to other countries. He made them to be in the hands of gentile Kings. They destroyed Jerusalem and its goodness.

Meaning in New Testament

Church is denoted as new covenant Israel. So that we are also the vineyard of God. In John 15, Jesus itself have resembled church as vineyard. Jesus is the true vine and my father is the gardener and we are the branches of it. We are the branches that bear good fruit. God has provided us with good things to bear good fruits. It is our responsibilities to bear good fruit for God in right time. What is our fruit? Our good deeds are the fruits. Good deeds should be produced for the glory of God. We must give priority to spiritual things. As in the parable, God will react to us as he had reacted to the people of Israel.

Application

Our aim should be to make our lives fruitful for God. Our deeds should bring glory to God. Through as others should understand God's love. When we bear good fruit our heavenly father is glorified. Thus we will become the disciples of God.

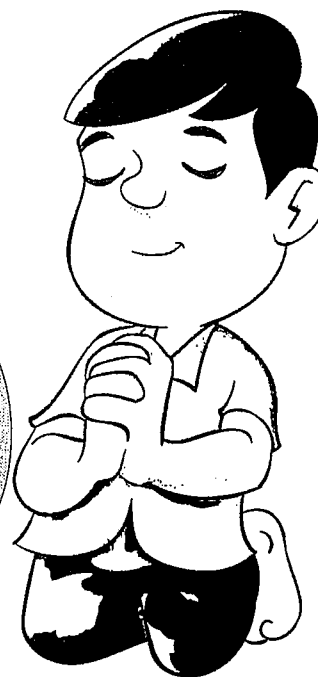


MY DECISION

I will try to be good to make the heavenly father glorified.

MY PRAYER

God, help me to live a fruitful life. Amen!



MEMORY VERSE

John 15:1

"I am the true vine,
and my father is the gardener."

Questions

1. The parabe in Isaiah is resembled to?
2. What did the gardener done with the garden which beared bad fruit?
3. In John 15, Jesus resembled church as?

Write down the right answers by striking out the letters alternatively.



1. For whom the tower in vineyard was made?

..... (gauraprmduso)

2. What bore in vineyard?

..... (boapdafcroukiot)

3. What is called as New Covenant Israel?

..... (cohauerscph)

4. Who is the gardener of church?

..... (Haeoarvseonalsdy Feastphsaeor)

5. For what we should give priority?

..... (Sopeirdiotsucafl toheisnoges)

Write down practically applicable things you learned from the parable

Lesson

27

PARABLE OF TALENTS

Reference: Mathew 25:14-30

Aim: God has given us talents, we should use that as per the will of God and we should be faithful in using it.

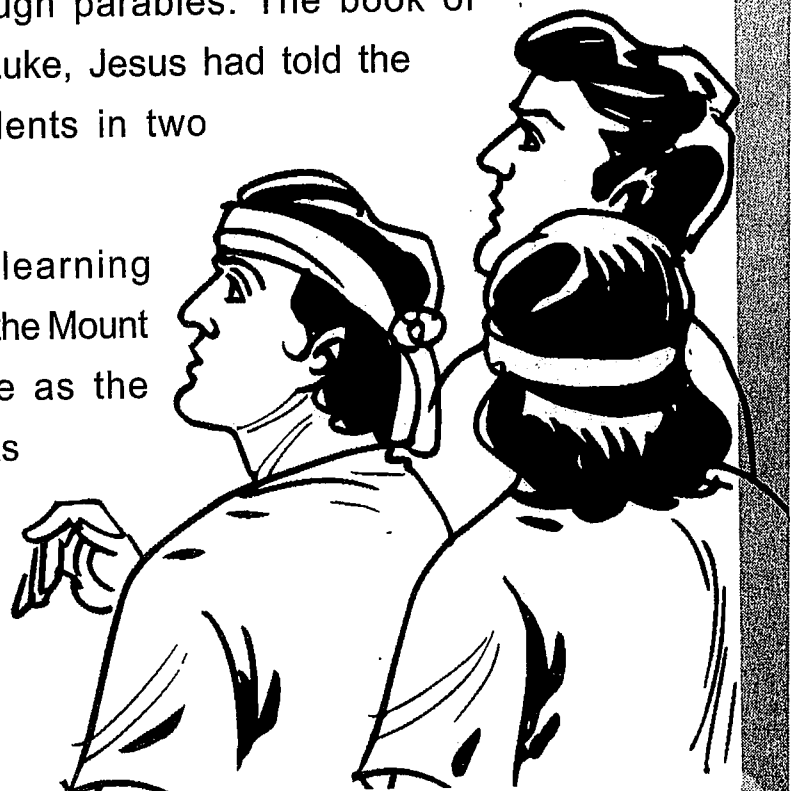
Introduction: If you are asked a famous cricketer, whose name will you tell? Sachin Tendulkar? Are we all happy to hear and speak about the person who showed his/her talents in different field? Do we like to hear about those who failed and were unfaithful? Let us see what God want to tell us from this parable.

Detailed lesson

Jesus had said parable relating to our daily life. Jesus said about, why he came to this world and he showed his characters through parables. The book of Mathew and Luke, Jesus had told the parable of talents in two different ways.

What we are learning today was said by Jesus in the Mount of Olive. We can see this parable as the continuation of Mathew 24 where he was telling about his second coming. After the parable of ten virgins this parable is added along with that.

Background



When Mathew wrote his gospel, he thought of people of Judah as readers. As we read earlier the good King of Judah was David. After that the kingdom gradually came to an end, haven't we learnt that? But Judah got on hope through prophets. What is that? Like David they will get an anointed King. They will call him as "Messiah." For this they are waiting for a long time. The book of Mathew, tells that "Messiah" is Jesus. So that firmly sticking into the subject "Kingdom of God", Mathew illustrates Jesus as King, Bridegroom, the man travelling to a far country by entrusting the talents to his servants.

Giving of Talents

A man travelling into a far country (foreign land), who called his servants and entrusted his property to them. According to their capability the man gave the talents. For the first, he gave five talents, for the second one two talents and for the third one talent. For us also God has given different talents, in different kind. There is no meaning in comparing our talents with others. Doing that is wrong in the sight of God. When we try to compare us with others envy, competition, depression and revenge over rule us. As per God's word these all are sins. This master was the one who had understood the abilities of his servants. Like this our God knows us very well. God won't ask us to do things beyond our talents. After giving the talents, the master went for the journey.

Reactions of the Ones who Received the Talents

The man who had received the five talents went at once and put his money to work and gained five more, so also the one with two talents gained two more. The message what we can obtain from these two is that we must also use our talents and increase that. After a long time the master returned back. The master is not questioning the one who had five talents why he didn't made it. Twenty as he made it ten, and also with the second he is not questioning why he didn't made it eight as he made it four. We should be faithful in what we are entrusted, its the will of God. And also God doesn't have an intention in multiplying his wealth by making us to work. God's aim is to makes us grow spiritually and making us able in handling things, so he had gifted us with his talents. The responsibilities that God entrust us is in sake of kingdom of God and for the goodness in our life.

Don't you want to know about the one who got one talent? As the other two got

talents, they went out and gained more, but third one started to think, What did he think? He thought about the master, that he is a hard man, harvesting where he have not sown and gathering where he have not scattered seed. He hide the talent in the ground. He didn't used that, he was lazy. God doesn't like lazy ones. We should not have laziness in our life.

Master Who Settle Accounts

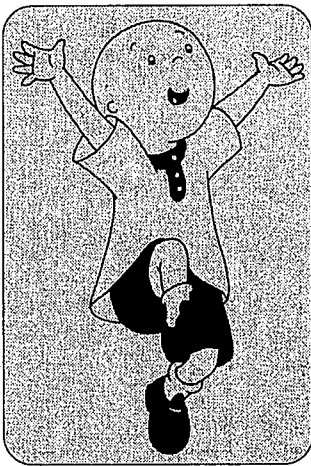
After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them. The man who have received 5 talents and who have received 2 talents brought what they have gained. Master replied, "Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things. I will put you incharge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!" The third man said about his attitude as it. After hearing this master replied, "If you have put my money on deposit with the bankers, so that when I returned I would have received it back with interest." What does it mean? If we don't have ability we should share with the one who have or we should encourage them. Don't let the talents unused that we received. Master reacted to him, "you wicked, lazy servant, you thought of me and didn't used the talents you received. So throw that worthless servant outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Spiritual Meaning

Before the ascension of Jesus, he had entrusted us with several responsibilities. We should use that and should not be lazy. Jesus will come back to settle down the accounts. Jesus aimed our spiritual growth. For that Jesus had given us talents or abilities. We should use it faithfully. God won't ask us anything beyond our abilities. This parable reminds us about one thing that even after a long time he will come back one day to settle down the accounts. We should hear that we are called as "good and faithful servant" rather than of hearing ""wicked and lazy servant".

Application

Paul reminds us in Romans 12:11 that, "Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervour, serving the Lord. God has given us different kinds of talents. We are responsible to use that in sake of goodness for others. We all have a day to settle out the accounts. God should be happy to think about us on that day.

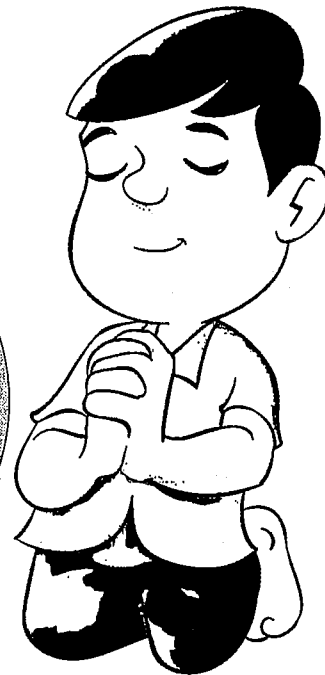


MY DECISION

I will find out the talents that God has given to me and I will make use of it faithfully.

MY PRAYER

Master of life, help me to use the talents you have given to me for your glory for the goodness of others and for my spiritual growth.
Amen!



MEMORY VERSE

2 Corinthians 5:10

For we must all appear before the judgement seat of Christ; that everyone may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.

Questions

1. Who was the good king of Judah?
2. What was the response of the man who received one talent?
3. How the master appreciated the man who gained talents?
4. For what God has gifted us with talents?

Write down 5 talents that you are sure about?



1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

Fill in the Blanks

1. An anointed King for whom Judah hoping for is

.....

2. illustrates Jesus as King and bridegroom.

3. The talent received by the first man is

4. The man who got two talents, gained talents more.

5. The man who got one talent, he.....

Lesson

28

PARABLE OF WEDDING BANQUET

Reference: Mathew 22:1-14, Luke 14:15-24

Aim: To understand, that the chances God gives to us is to obey him thankfully.

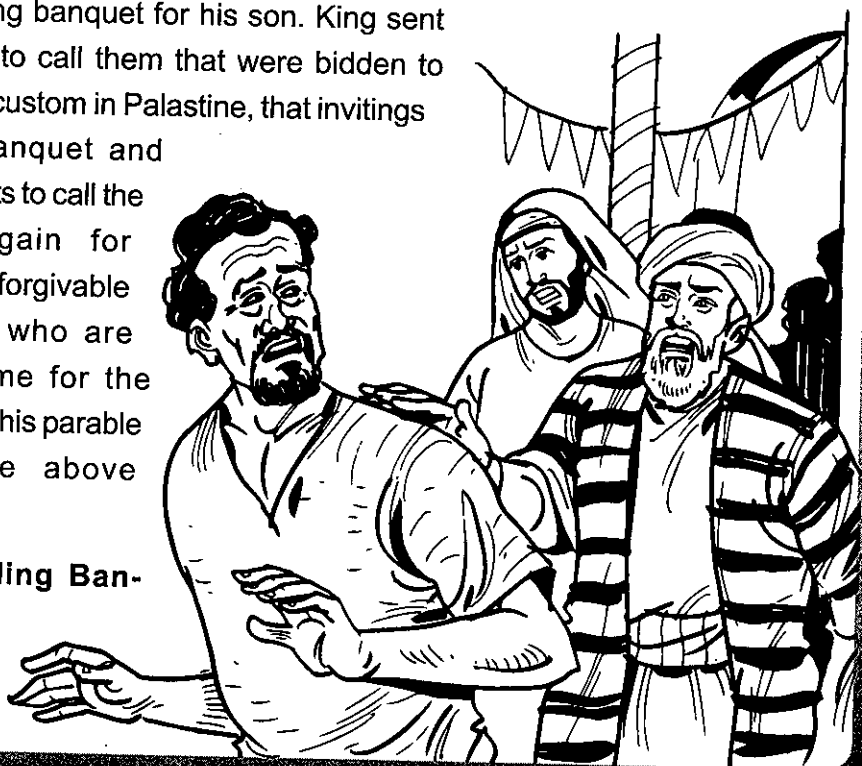
Introduction: Are we happy to go to a wedding house? Haven't you attended marriages by wearing new dresses and all? Haven't we understand that the one who invite use for wedding are happy to see us? Today we are going to learn about a wedding of a King's son.

Detailed Lesson: This parable is mentioned in Mathew and Luke. In Mathew, it is written as kings son wedding and in Luke, it is as a rich man preparing a great banquet. In both we can see that the invited ones didn't reach in correct time. At last those who are not invited got the chance to attend the banquet.

History: In Mathew, Jesus illustrates the kingdom of God as a king who prepared a wedding banquet for his son. King sent forth his servants to call them that were bidden to the wedding. It's a custom in Palastine, that invitings others for the banquet and sending the servants to call the invited ones again for banquet. It's an unforgivable thing that those who are invited didn't come for the wedding banquet. This parable is based to the above mentioned one.

Parable of Wedding Banquet

Here on the day of wedding banquet,



the King sent forth his servants to call the invited ones. But no one came for the banquet. Again he sent forth other servants saying tell them which are bidden about the dinner and things arranged for them. But the bidden one made light of it and went their ways, one of his farm and to his merchandise. And the remnant took his servants, and entreated them spitefully and killed them. But when the King heard thereof, he was wroth and he sent forth his armies and destroyed those murderers and burned up their city. The bidden one are wealthy but they were fools.

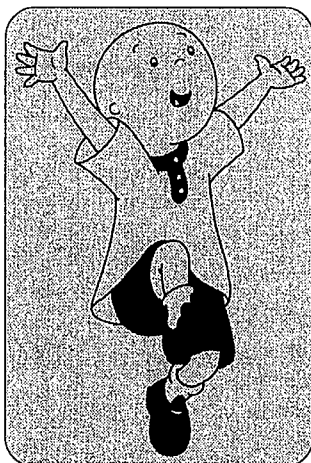
Then the King said to his servants to gather together all as many as they found. The servants went out into the highways and gathered together all as many as they found, both bad and good, and the wedding was finished with guests. By this parable, Jesus is giving a warning to Judah. What is it? John the Baptist, Jesus and his disciples came Judah for inviting them to the banquet in Kingdom of Heaven. But the didn't recognised "Messiah". Jesus did all things for salvation through cross and he is inviting them again. But some believed him. The priests, rich ones, pharisees rejected the call of Jesus so they are set for judgement. Here the one who are gathered together are people from other countries except Judah. We also get included in this.

Parable-Second Part

All of them got chance to get into the banquet who all are not worthy. The King had arranged wedding garment for all who came to attend the banquet. It was a custom in olden days, to honour the invited one and not wearing it entering into banquet is as insulting them. And when the King came into see the guests, he saw there a man which had not on a wedding garment. And he said unto him, friend, how did you get in here without wedding garments. And he was speechless. Then said the King to servants, bind him hand and foot and take him away, and cast him into outer darkness, there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth. From this, we can understand, what are the consequences we want to face if we reject the opportunities given to us by God.

Application

This parable ends up with a phrase, "For many are called, but few are chosen." We are the called one, but we should ensure about the salvation. God gives us salvation to kingdom of heaven without any cost. This parable reminds us not to see this as light and not to lose opportunity, not only that the consequences we want to face if we reject the call.

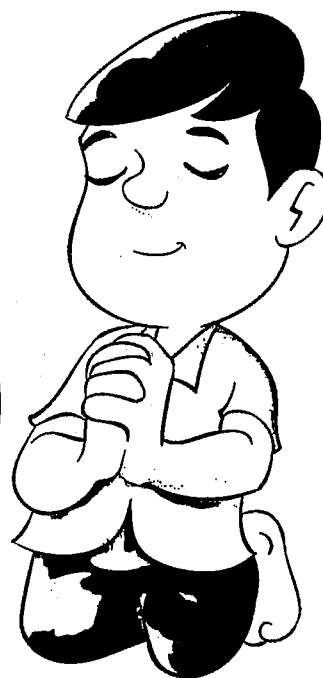


MY DECISION

I will live my life by understanding the value of the invitation to the kingdom of heaven.

MY PRAYER

Oh Lord my King, give me the grace to live my life by pleasing you as I got the chance to become a member in your kingdom. Amen.



MEMORY VERSE

2 Peter 1:10

Wherefore the rather, brethren,
give diligence to make your calling
and election sure: for if ye do
those things, ye shall never fall.

Questions

1. What is the warning given to Judah by Jesus?
2. What was done to the man who didn't wear the wedding garment?
3. What is the message that we get from this parable?

Fill in the blanks

1., Jesus and disciples came to invite Judah for the banquet in kingdom of heaven.
2., pharisees, rich ones rejected the call of Jesus,
3. One man entered the banquet without garment.
4. One the banquet day, king sent to see all the invited ones.
5. The King send his to gather up all in the highways.



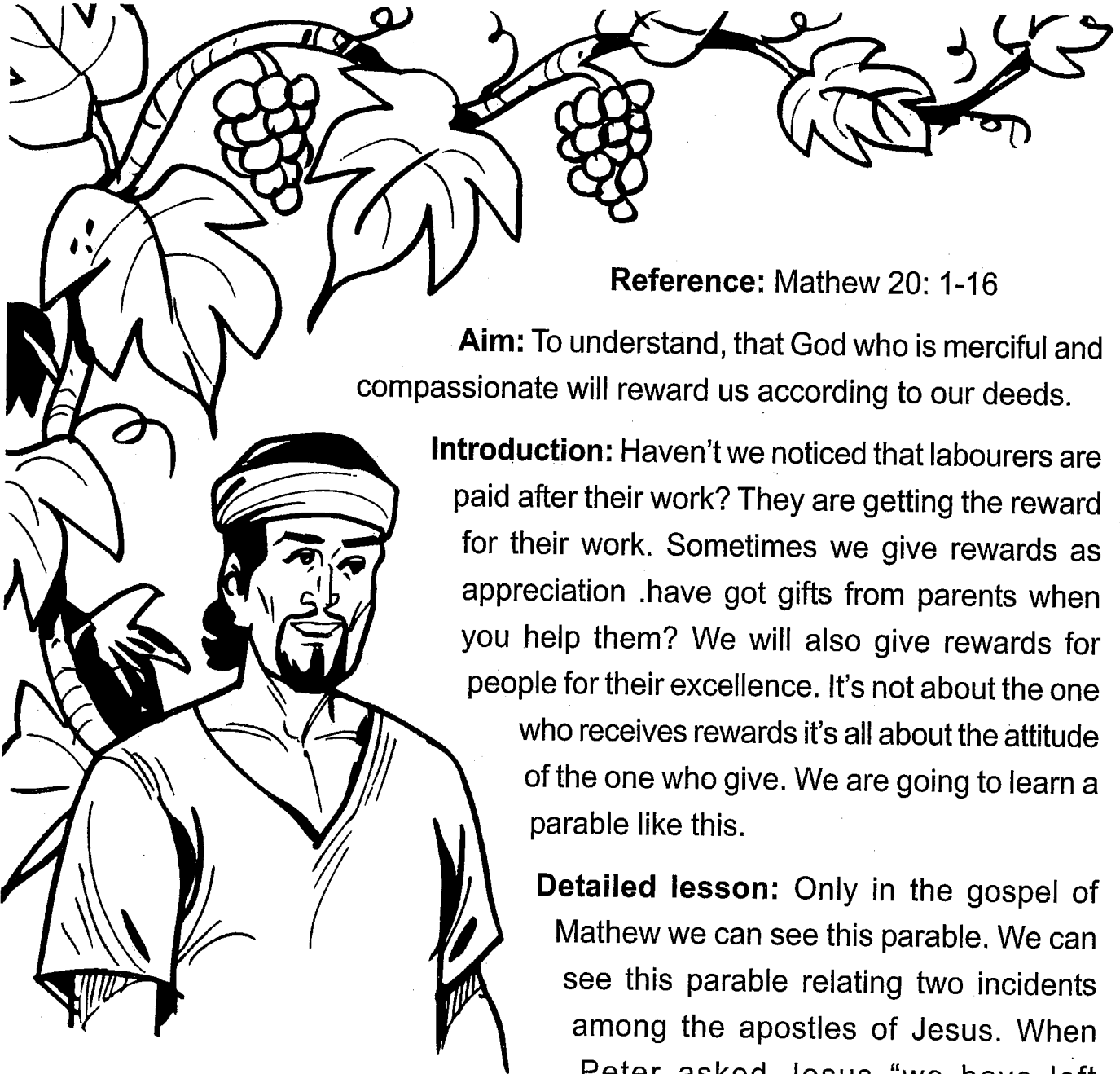
Fill in the blanks with the matching one.

- | | | | | | | | |
|---|---------|---|-------------|---|--------|---|--------|
|  | Farm |  | Merchandise |  | Killed |  | Burned |
|  | One man |  | Others |  | King | | |

1.  send his people  
2.  send his people 

3.  send his servants 
4.  
 send his army and 
the murderers and  up the city.

THE SERVANTS IN THE VINEYARD



Reference: Mathew 20: 1-16

Aim: To understand, that God who is merciful and compassionate will reward us according to our deeds.

Introduction: Haven't we noticed that labourers are paid after their work? They are getting the reward for their work. Sometimes we give rewards as appreciation .have got gifts from parents when you help them? We will also give rewards for people for their excellence. It's not about the one who receives rewards it's all about the attitude of the one who give. We are going to learn a parable like this.

Detailed lesson: Only in the gospel of Mathew we can see this parable. We can see this parable relating two incidents among the apostles of Jesus. When Peter asked Jesus "we have left everything to follow you! What then will

be there for us?" Jesus said this parable. Apart from that the mother of Zebedee's came to Jesus desiring a certain thing. This is also a background for the parable. Through this parable we learn that God rewards us, not in accordance with the work we have done.

Master who searches for servants

For the kingdom of heaven, is like unto a man that is a householder, which went out early in the morning to hire labourers into his vineyard. At the time of Jesus, there was a practice that workers wait in the morning in market place to get hired by the masters who required them. The master who wanted workers will reach that place, and agree with the labourers for a penny a day and will sent them to the vineyard and give the pay in the evening.

Master and servants

In this lesson, we learn that a master went to the place where he will get the servants. There were so many waiting for and he agreed with the labourers for a penny a day, he sent them into his vineyard. The duty time during those days was morning six to evening six. The early morning (first hour) is similar to our 6 o'clock in morning and third hour is 9 o'clock here, sixth hour is 12 o'clock in the noon, 9th hour is 3 o'clock in the afternoon and eleventh hour is 5 o'clock in the evening. And he went out about the third hour. And saw others standing idle in the market-place, and said to them go to the vineyard and whatsoever is right I will give you. And they went their way. Again he went out about the sixth and ninth hour, and did likewise. And about eleventh hour he went out, and found others standing idle, and said them, why you standing here all the day idle? They said unto him, no one had hired us. He said to them to go to the vineyard.

So when it's evening the masters called his steward call the labourers and give them their hire, beginning from the last unto the first. And when they came that were hired about the eleventh hour, they received every man a penny. But when the first came, they supposed that they should have received more: and they likewise received every man a penny. And when they received it, they murmured against the master. Saying, these last have wrought but one hour, and you have made them equal unto us, which have borne the burden and heat of the day. But master answered them:

1. I am not being unfair to you.
2. Didn't you agree to work for a penny
3. Take your pay and go.
4. I will give to the last even the same as I gave you.
5. Don't I have the right to do what I want with my own money

6. Are you envious because I am good?

Meaning of the parable

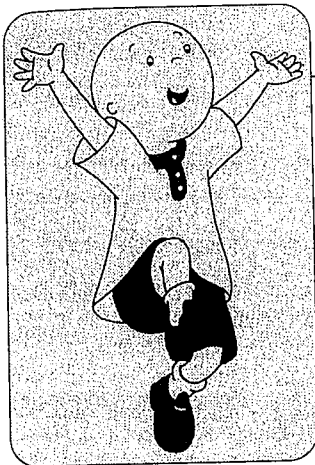
We will get reward according to the attitude of the master not according to the deeds which we have done. There are two groups of labourers in this parable. First group started doing work on the condition that they would be given a penny. The second groups of people leave it to the master that because he had already told them that they would be given whatever is right. Both groups should work for the master without looking a head of reward. Jesus spoke this parable to teach us the discipleship.

It shows us the character of God that he is generous and never denies what the labourers deserve. According to the law they should not hold back the wages of a hired man over night (Levi 19:13, Deut 24:14, 15).so wages were given in the evening itself. The workers who were hired in the eleventh hour and who came first received the same. Here we can see the picture of a heavenly God who is loving and just. Jesus pictures the generosity of the God and the selfishness of man through this parable.

Through this parable Jesus teaches the mercy and grace of God by calling these people "friend" who grumbled against the master. This parable is a warning to the request of Zebedee sons and to the question of Peter. There is no first or last in the kingdom of God. Discipleship is more important than anything else. Discipleship enables a man to give up anything for his master without expecting a reward.

Application

Two important attitude of discipleship required I the kingdom of God is to follow and to obey. Those who consider God as their master should not serve God in sake of any rewards. Jews rejected Jesus yet they justified themselves that they were God's own people and they were the first in the kingdom of God. We should be thankful to God because he made us worthy by his grace. It is a great sin if we follow and serve God for material blessings and to obtain our selfish desires.



MY DECISION

I won't follow God for material blessings and to obtain selfish desires.

MY PRAYER

Oh God, my master thanks for calling me unto your vineyard. Help me to follow you when I receive the blessings from you even though I'm not worthy of it.
Amen



MEMORY VERSE

Isaiah 40:10

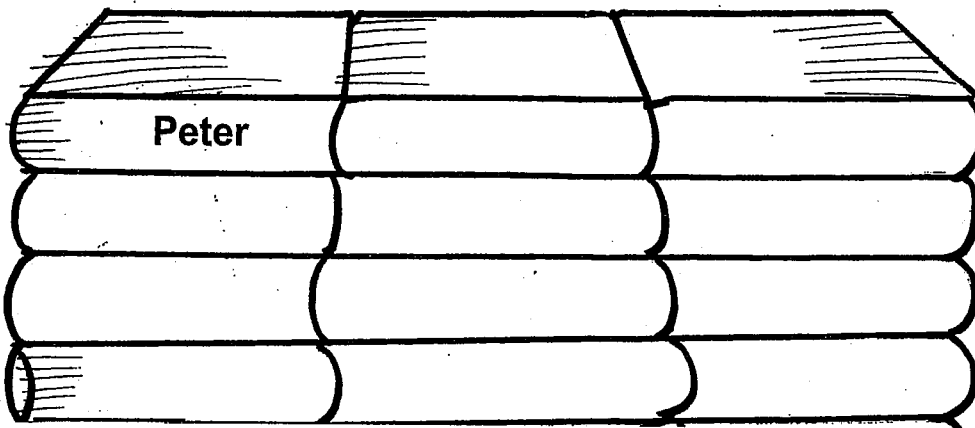
Behold, the Lord God will come with strong hand, and his arm shall rule for him: behold, his reward is with him, and his work before him.

Questions

1. Working hours of Jews?
2. What was the reply of master to the ones who murmured against him?
3. What is the moral you get from this parable?



**Write the names of Jesus' disciples
in the books below:**



**Select the correct number from bracket and fill in the
columns:**

(1, 3, 6, 9, 12)

1. How much penny did master agreed with the labourers

☐

2. At what time did the first labourers went for work

☐

3. At what time did the second labourers went for work

☐

4. At what time did the last labourers went to the vineyard

☐

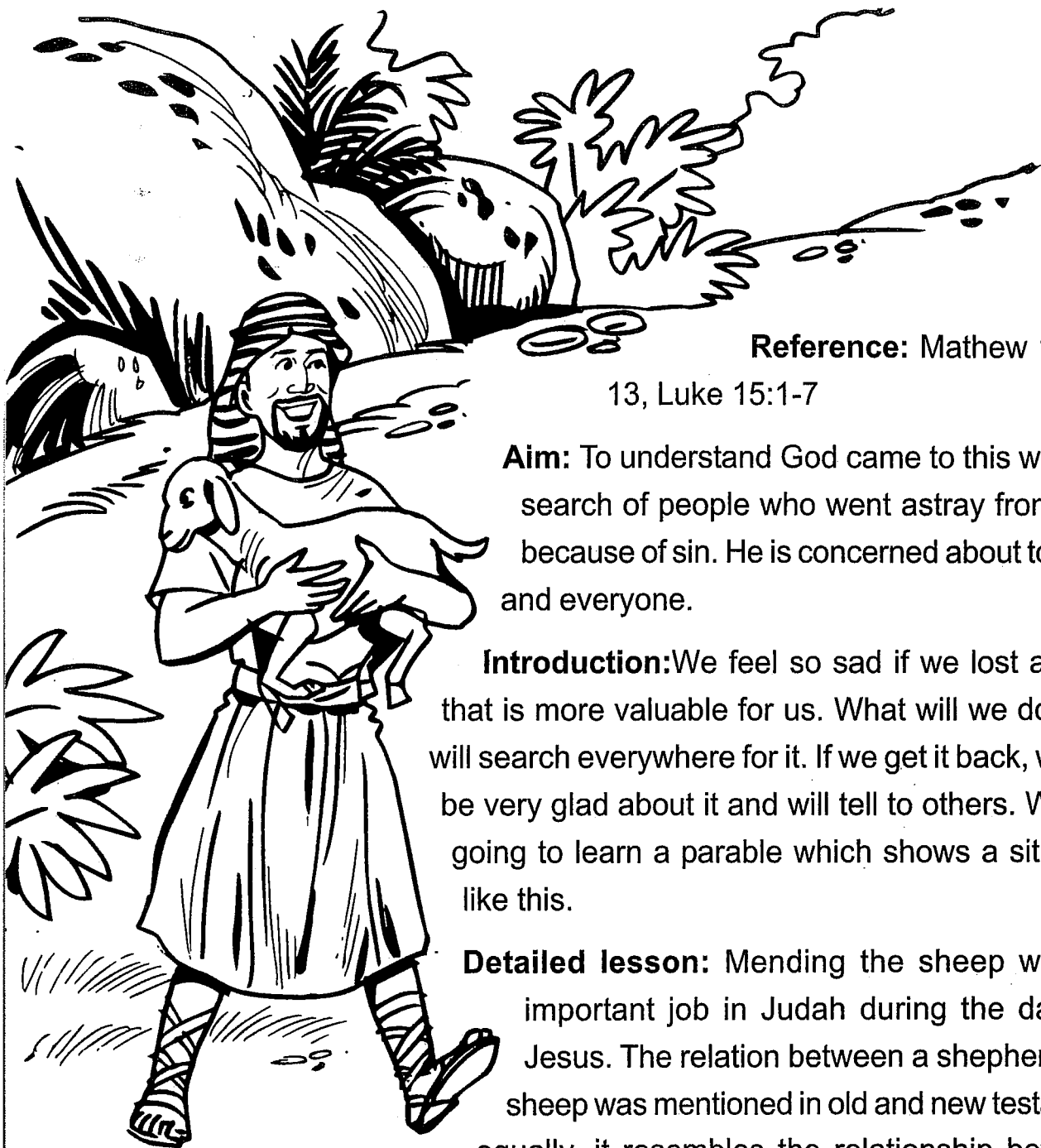
5. How much penny did the last labourers got

☐

Lesson

30

THE LOST SHEEP



Reference: Mathew 18:12-13, Luke 15:1-7

Aim: To understand God came to this world in search of people who went astray from God because of sin. He is concerned about to each and everyone.

Introduction: We feel so sad if we lost a thing that is more valuable for us. What will we do? We will search everywhere for it. If we get it back, we will be very glad about it and will tell to others. We are going to learn a parable which shows a situation like this.

Detailed lesson: Mending the sheep was an important job in Judah during the days of Jesus. The relation between a shepherd and sheep was mentioned in old and new testament equally, it resembles the relationship between God and man. Luke 15 teaches three parables in which God is in search of lost man, so that Luke 15 is called as gospel of gospels. Most of the pet animals have understanding to return to their master through the way they went, but sheep does not have understanding. So Jesus resembles lost man as sheep in

this parable.

Background of parable

The Pharisees and the priest do not liked Jesus because he stayed with sinners and tax collectors and ate with them. Women were not given equal status in a Jewish society. Orthodox Jewish did not speak to their wives in public. But Jesus violated all these customs (John 4:15, Luke 10:38-42). He stayed with the tax collector Mathew. The Pharisees and the priest viewed this as against their laws so the regarded Jesus as the friend of sinners. In this situation Jesus is telling this parable.

Parable of lost sheep

A man owned 100 sheep. The shepherd took the sheep out in the morning and when he brought them back in the evening he counted them. One day, while he was counting the sheep he came to know that he lost one sheep. So he left the other 99 sheep safe and went in search for the lost sheep. The shepherd forget about tiredness what he is having and go around the way he mended the sheep in search of the lost one.

A sheep lacks understanding. It goes aimlessly if it loses its way. It is the duty of the shepherd to find out the lost sheep. If the shepherd does not get it back he has to get the proof that it was killed by some wild animals. The shepherd has the responsibility of each sheep. The searching shepherd had more difficulties than the lost sheep.

In this parable, the shepherd suffers all difficulties and went in search of the lost sheep. When he found it out he came back carrying the sheep on his shoulder. The shepherd came back in great happiness because he got the lost one. When other shepherds see this they also join with him to share the happiness.

Meaning of the parable

Here Jesus is giving us the idea why he is staying with the tax collector and sinners. From this we are getting a clear picture that God came to this world in search of sinners. It's difficult for man to get back to God by his own efforts. As shepherd went in search of lost sheep in wilderness, this world is covered with sins. But God didn't consider about these, he was ready to get crucified to find us. When we return to the home in heaven by having faith in God, the heaven rejoices.

Application

When we confess and return to God there is great joy in heaven. Repentance should happen always in our life. When we live in this sinful world we should confess that. God loves us so much, so that he is ready to save those who want to come back.

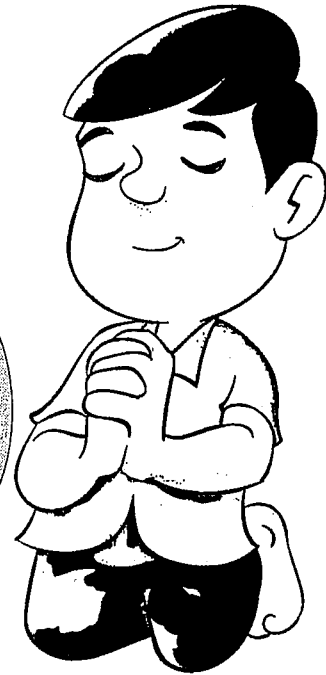


MY DECISION

I will try to keep the love of my God and the happiness in heaven always in me.

MY PRAYER

God, who came in search of me,
help me to live with you always.
Amen.



MEMORY VERSE

Mathew 18:14

Even so it is not the will of your
Father in heaven that one of
these little ones should perish.

Questions

1. What did the shepherd do when he found the lost sheep?
2. What resembles the relation between shepherd and sheep?
3. Briefly explain the meaning of the parable Lost Sheep?

Mark True ☒ or False ☒:

1. Sheep lacks understanding ☐
2. The searching shepherd had more difficulties than the lost sheep. ☐
3. It's difficult for man to get back to God by his own efforts. ☐
4. Shepherd went in search of lost sheep in wilderness. ☐
5. The relation between a shepherd and sheep resembles the relationship between man and man. ☐



Find out 5 bible portions from New Testament which shows God as Shepherd and us as Sheep:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Lesson

31

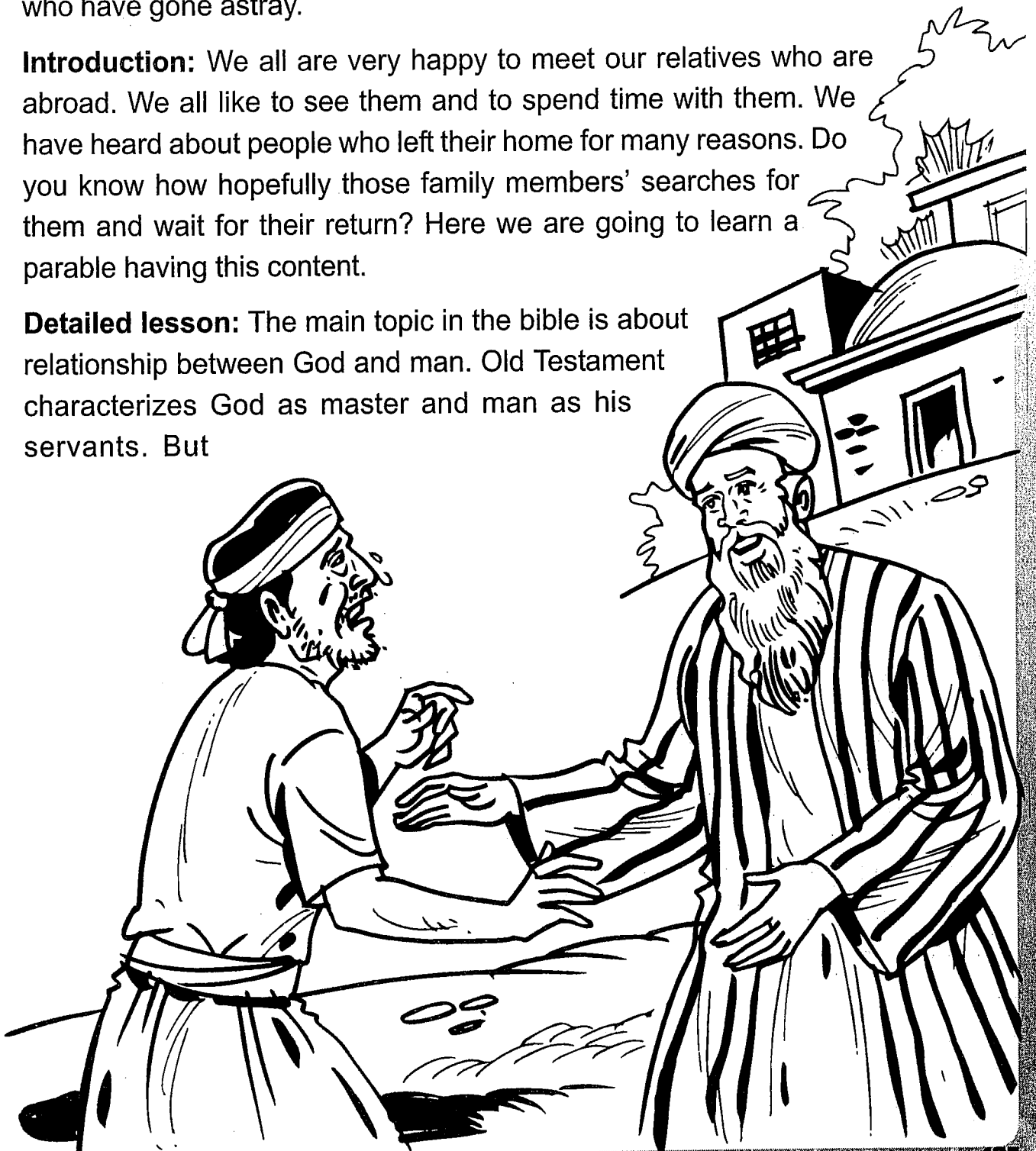
THE LOST SON

Reference: Luke 15:11-32

Aim: To understand that God loves everyone and he is willing to accept anyone who have gone astray.

Introduction: We all are very happy to meet our relatives who are abroad. We all like to see them and to spend time with them. We have heard about people who left their home for many reasons. Do you know how hopefully those family members' searches for them and wait for their return? Here we are going to learn a parable having this content.

Detailed lesson: The main topic in the bible is about relationship between God and man. Old Testament characterizes God as master and man as his servants. But



in New Testament it's like Father and son. This parable is a good example about the relation of God and man as father and son. We all know that in this parable the center character is the lost son, but when we learn about all parables in Luke 15 and the other parables together we can understand that the center character is the loving father. Jesus is illustrating this parable to reveal the God's love.

Background of parable

Jesus is telling about this parable after the parables of lost coin and lost sheep. In the first two parables the shepherd and a woman is searching for the lost ones. But in this the one that is lost realizes is situation and comes back. For that Jesus came into world to turn back sinners to God, so Jesus stayed with them. But the Pharisees and the priest did not like this. So Jesus said this parable to reveal the character of heavenly father.

Parable of the loving father

A man had two sons. And the younger of them said to his father, father, give me the portion of goods that falleth to me. And he divided unto them his living. And not many days after the younger son gathered all together, and took his journey into a far country, and there wasted his substance with riotous living. And when he had spent all, there arose a mighty famine in that land; and he began to be in want.

And he went and joined himself to the citizen of that country; and he sent him into his fields to feed pigs. Jews considered this job as indecent. Since he had no other alternative he did it to sustain his life. This shows how much he was broken. Pods were the food of pigs. During famine poor people also fed on pods, he longed it to get it. But he did not get.

In the midst of misery he thought of his home and his loving father. He realized that his father's servants had food to spare and he was starving to death. So, he decides to go back to his father and after a few days of journey he was about to reach his home. When his father saw him from a distance and was filled with love and compassion for him ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him. Son confessed to his father. Father called up his servants and gave him the best robe to put on and a ring for his finger and sandals for his feet. The father ordered to prepare a feast. The return of the lost son made him happy. So he wanted to enjoy celebrating a feast. The elder son was in fields when he came to know all things he was enraged. He was not willing to accept his younger brother. But father accepted him because of his love and compassion. And he made his elder son to understand that we should accept the one who was lost when he

returns.

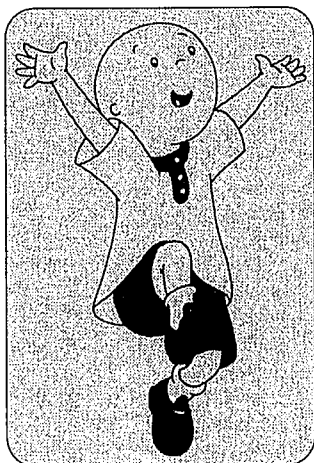
Meaning and interpretation of parable

This parable reveals about a loving father who is always there for us to provide our needs when we ask. God is the father and the lost son is the man who goes astray from God. His riotous life shows a life without God. Lose and famine he had to suffer shows the emptiness in life without God. The situation in which he wanted to feed the pigs reveals the hardship to be endured without God.

According to the custom prevailed in the Jewish society two third of the property should be given to the eldest son and one third to the youngest son (Deut 21:17). But here even the son wasted all the property he had, father is giving him again all that he wants. It's because of his repentance. Our heavenly father is wealthy to return us all things if we come to him with repentance. Son's prayer to his father was: "Father I have sinned against heaven and against you, I am no longer worthy to be called your son, make me like one of your hired men". Here we understand that our heavenly father forgives when we confess our sins. According to the Jewish custom a respectable man will not go out of his house to receive any guest. Here we can see a compassionate father who violated that custom when he saw his son.

Application

God is willing to forgive those who repent their sins. The heavenly father gave his son Jesus for our salvation. We all have gone astray from the presence of God, if we return to him he will give us all the blessings and will make us as his son. This story was a warning to the Pharisees there. Through this parable Jesus taught the position of a man who had self justification. This parable gives us assurance that we are the sons of God.

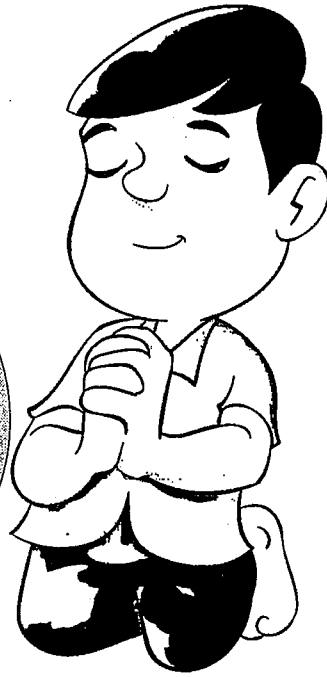


MY DECISION

As God is my father I will not go astray from his presence. I will try to keep the relationship between me and God rather than other relations.

MY PRAYER

Heavenly father, help us to live a life as your sons according to the way shown to us by your son Jesus Christ. Amen.



MEMORY VERSE

John 3:16

For God so loved this world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Questions

1. What is the main thought in New Testament?
2. What was the prayer of the lost son when he returned?
3. What all things father done for his lost son when he came back?
4. What lesson do we get from this parable?



I. This parable tells about six persons. Read Luke 15:11-32 and write down whom are they:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

II. Number down 1, 2, 3 according to the incident happened:

1. Lost son remembered of his own house.

☐

2. He reached a far country.

☐

3. When his father saw him from a distance, he ran to his son.

☐

4. One man had two sons.

☐

5. Citizen in far country sent him to feed pigs.

☐

6. He confessed his sins to his father.

☐

7. Father accepted him to the house.

☐

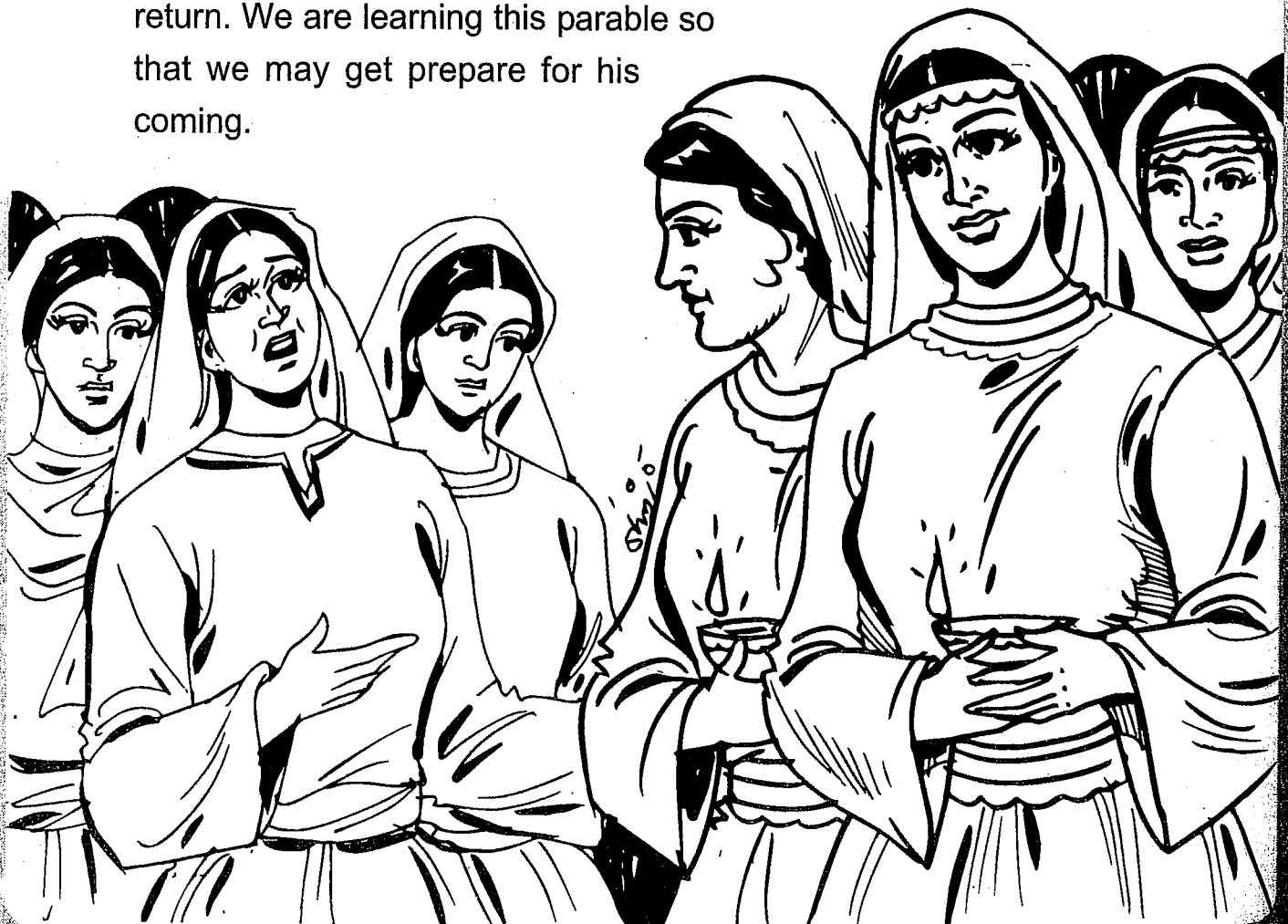
THE TEN
VIRGINS

Reference: Mathew 25: 1-13

Aim: To learn that Jesus will always keep his promise and we should be ready for his second coming.

Introduction: We will be very happy to receive guests in our house, and we will make arrangements for them and we ourselves get ready to spend time with them. So if it is the condition in world means then how happy we will be to get prepared ourselves for the second coming of Jesus.

Detailed lesson: Jesus said: "I am going to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am". But not giving any idea regarding his return. We are learning this parable so that we may get prepared for his coming.



Background of parable

When Jesus was sitting on mount Olive his disciples asked him "what will be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age". Then Jesus spoke to them about his second coming. The parable of ten virgins is a continuation of this reply. The custom of wedding in Syria has been adopted here to explain the truth. Usually the wedding used to be conducted at the bride's residence. The bridegroom would be given a ceremonial welcome with great festivity. The bride who was adorned herself would be brought in front of the bridegroom by virgins. They spend some time in bride's residence. Then they would leave for the bridegroom residence. When the feast would be going on the door would be kept closed in order to avoid disturbances. Jesus illustrates his second coming with a parable like this.

Parable of ten virgins

Ten virgins, who took their lamps, and went forth to meet the bridegroom. And five of them were wise and five were foolish. They that were foolish took their lamps and took no oil with them, but the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps. Why? During that time they knew that bridegroom will come but didn't know about the time. Sometimes will come on time, or sometimes will get delayed. It's the responsibility of virgins to be ready till time. The elected virgins should be aware of things that they should arrange; five virgins didn't do that, that's why they are called foolish. But the other five took oil in vessels with their lamps, so they are called wise.

Virgins were eagerly waiting for the bridegroom till evening, but bridegroom didn't come till that. The virgins who ought to follow the bridegroom slept in the resting place because arrival of bridegroom was delayed. When the bridegroom set out from bride's residence there was shouting of joy that the bridegroom is coming. Though they were chosen got ready to receive the bridegroom, five of them were not ready to participate in the whole journey to welcome the bridegroom. They did not take the oil with their lamp went out while trimming. So they asked the wise virgins to lend them some oil. But the wise answered, saying, not so lest there be not enough for us and you, but go rather to them that sell, and buy for yourselves. So, the foolish ones went in search of those who used to sell oil. Meanwhile, the bridegroom came and those who had oil in their lamps went with him to the wedding banquet. When the foolish ones came back with oil, the bridegroom had already left. They reached the banquet. The door was closed. They said, sir open the door

for us. He replied” I don’t know you”. Jesus ends the parable by saying, “watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour wherein the son of man cometh”.

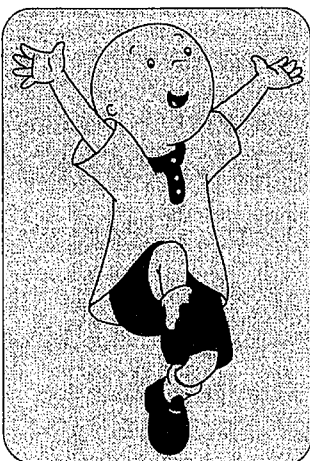
Meaning and interpretation of parable

It’s important to understand the concept of the parables. As we saw in the introduction our hope is in the return Jesus, but we are not aware about the hour. So this parable gives us the message that we should keep watch. Mathew 24, tells that by see the changes in our surroundings we can understand the signs of coming of Jesus. That is, the changes that happen when Jesus comes. But the foolish virgins didn’t understand from surroundings that coming of the bridegroom will be delayed and they didn’t take oil with them. Oil resembles the fullness in spirit; this helps us to understand the coming of Jesus. “Slept” show the laziness that could happen to the churches.

The wise virgins took oil with their lamps this shows our preparation. We should be prepared for the coming of Jesus very carefully. “Arrival of bridegroom at the midnight” shows the delayed coming of Jesus. The coming of Jesus may happen at any time, so we should be prepared wisely, because at that time we will not be able to get ready.

Application

It’s not only enough to get prepared we must be filled with the power of the spirit. We should be prepared to receive the bridegroom. We do not know the hour of coming of Jesus, even though we should get prepared from signs happening around us. Preparation after knowing the bridegroom has come will be vain.

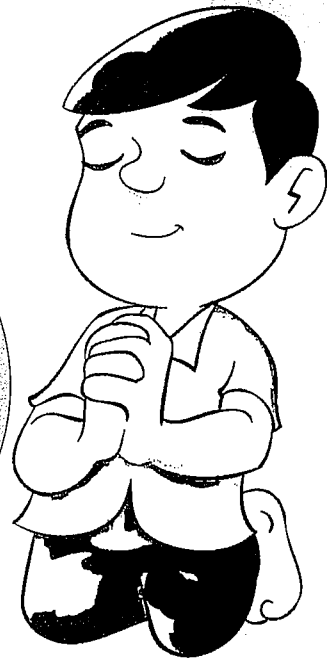


MY DECISION

I will wait for the coming of Jesus by preparing myself with the power of his spirit and knowledge of his word.

MY PRAYER

Oh lord, help me to prepare myself and others for the coming of yours. Amen.



MEMORY VERSE

1 Thessa. 5: 23

And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly, and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Questions

1. What reason made five virgins as wise ones?
2. What replied did foolish virgins got when they asked to open the door?
3. Jesus ends this parable by encouraging us through what?



I. Mark true ☒ or false ☒

1. For Jews wedding takes place at Bridegroom's residence. ☐
2. Foolish took oil in vessels. ☐
3. Bridegroom arrived at midnight. ☐
4. "Slept" show the laziness that could happen to the churches. ☐
5. Fullness in spirit helps us to receive the bridegroom. ☐

II. Read Mathew 25:1-13 and number down 1, 2, 3 according to the incident happened

- ☐ 1. Everyone slept as arrival of bridegroom delayed.
- ☐ 2. Foolish virgins didn't take oil with their lamps.
- ☐ 3. They said: Sir, open the door.
- ☐ 4. Those who were ready entered with him to the wedding banquet.
- ☐ 5. It is said as: "I don't know you".
- ☐ 6. They asked the wise virgins to lend them some oil.

Lesson 33

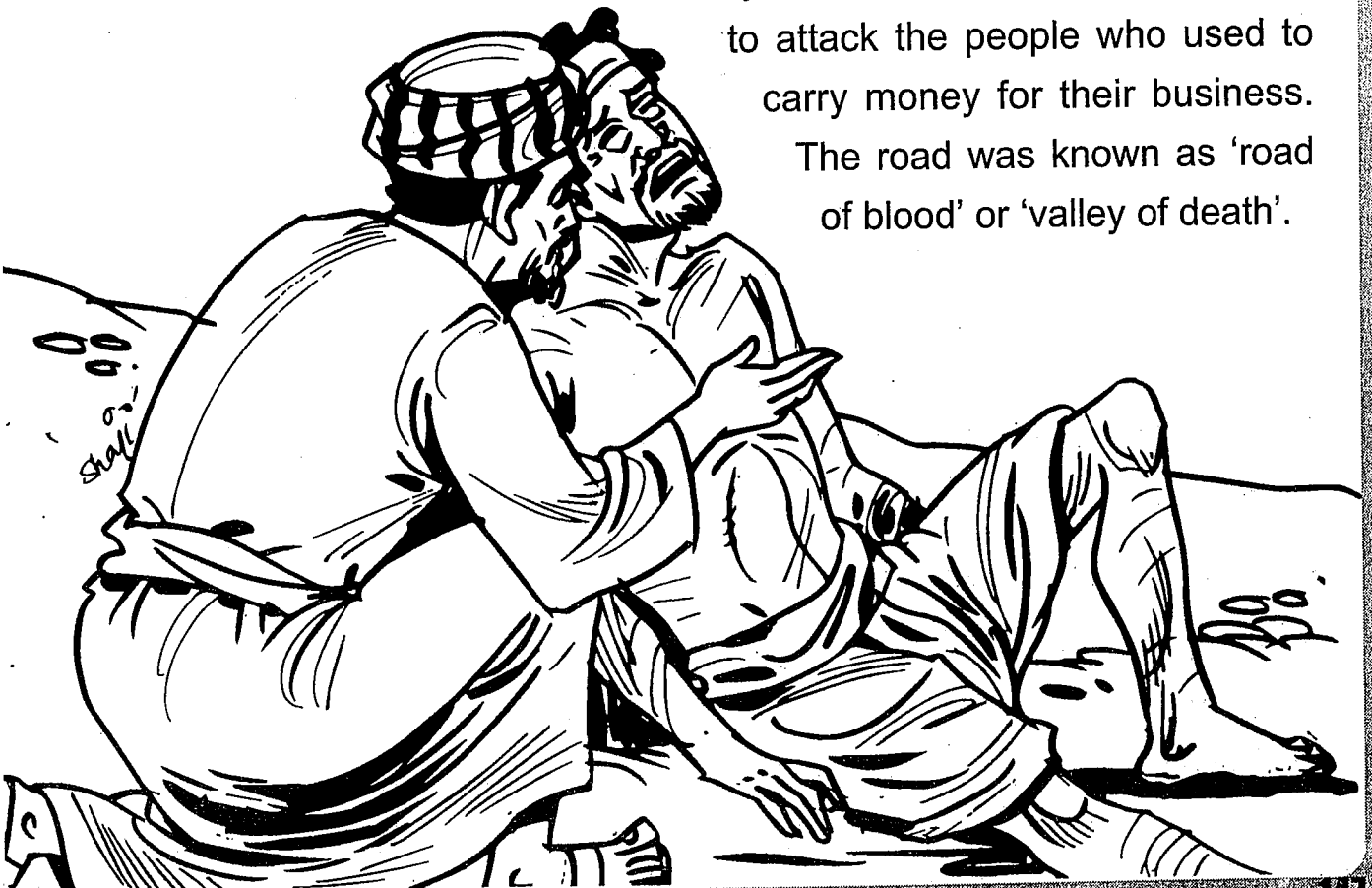
THE GOOD SAMARITAN

Reference: Luke 10: 25- 37

Aim: To understand that, we reveal our love for Christ by loving our neighbours (friends) and if we have good relationship with God, we will maintain a good relationship with our society.

Introduction: What will be our attitude if one got hurt? Will help your friend if any harm happens to him? Sometimes the one who got hurt may have done badly to us; will we will do to them? From this lesson we are going to learn that we must help those who are in need.

Detailed lesson: During the time of Jesus the main cities where Jerusalem and Jericho. People used to pass through the way which connected these cities for business. From Jerusalem it was about 20 miles away, and the way was so isolated. Robbers used to attack the people who used to carry money for their business. The road was known as 'road of blood' or 'valley of death'.



Background of parable

During the time of Jesus' ministry, a lawyer stood up, and tempted him, saying, Master, what shall I do to inherit eternal life? But Jesus made him answer the question by asking another question to him that, what is written in the law? The man wanted to justify himself in-front of Jesus and asked him that who his neighbor was. Since he was an expert in law, he was a learned man and he knew everything about the law. Jesus said this parable as a reply to this question.

Parable of Good Samaritan

It's a famous parable of Jesus. A Samaritan was considered as an enemy by the Jews; they didn't go to Samaria or didn't have any relationship between them. Jesus tells about a Good Samaritan to degrade the man who wanted to justify himself.

A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he fell into the hands of robbers. They stripped him of his clothes beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. A priest happened to be going down of the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. So too a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan, as he travelled came where the man was when he saw him he took pity on him. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his donkey, took him to an inn and took care of him. The next day he took two silver coins and gave them to the innkeeper. "Look after him" he said, and when I return I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have incurred. Jesus asked the lawyer that, "which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?" The lawyer replied, "The one who had mercy on him". Jesus told him, "Go and do likewise".

Message from the parable

Jesus told this parable to destroy the power of self justification and differentiation. This parable gives us the message that we should humble ourselves and help others in their need without any hesitation.

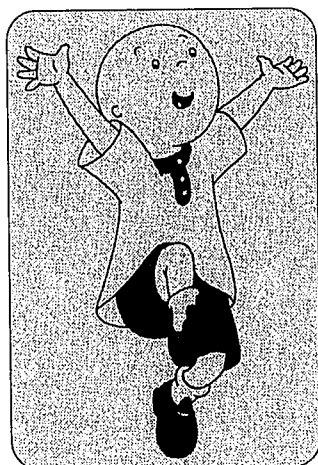
In this parable the lawyer, the priest, the Levite they are the one who stand first of the spiritual life. Here they all boasted about that they love God, but they were not able to prove that practically in life. By loving others only we can prove that we love God.

The Samaritan had many justifications to leave the wounded man, we can guess from the story that he might be a merchant because he knew the innkeeper very well. He bandaged his wounds and he put the man on his donkey took him to an inn and took care of him and gave the innkeeper a fairly good amount of money for his expense. And also promised to pay extra expense if required.

Jesus is giving warning to the lawyer and all others who have having self esteem that they have fulfilled their duties on earth. According to the Armenian Christians of fifth century, Jesus is the good Samaritan and the whole mankind is the wounded man. But the background of this parable does not lead to such an interpretation.

Application

Attitude like a Good Samaritan is needed to get eternal life. Lawyer approached Jesus to tempt him and to justify himself, but Jesus made that opportunity to give good lessons. As like we also want to make all the opportunities as a blessing. Help the poor and needy is actually a part of spiritual life. God tells that loving God is equal to loving your neighbor (Mat 22:37-40).

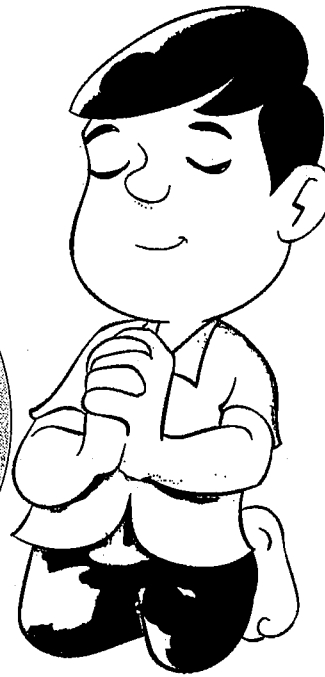


MY DECISION

Now onwards, I will use all my opportunities to help others.

MY PRAYER

Oh loving God, as a loving child of yours' prepares me to be help for others in their needs. Amen.



MEMORY VERSE

1 John 4: 20

If a man says, I love God, and hated his brother, he is a liar: for he that loved not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?

Questions

1. Name the ways that connects cities of Jerusalem and Jericho?
2. How will we prove that we love God?
3. How long is it from Jerusalem to Jericho?
4. What lessons do we get from this parable?

1. Circle out the messages given to us by Samaritan from the following:



Adchloveikle

Qscfhumilitywed

Qsadhlpokm

aewdunselfishnmj

2. Circle out the messages given to us by Samaritan from the following: Choose the correct letter:

Samaritan	S	Lawyer	N	Levite	L	Innkeeper	V
-----------	---	--------	---	--------	---	-----------	---

1. ☐ Tempted Jesus.
2. ☐ Had compassion on the wounded one.
3. ☐ He passed by the wounded one.
4. ☐ Asked who my neighbor is.
5. ☐ Who received two silver coins?

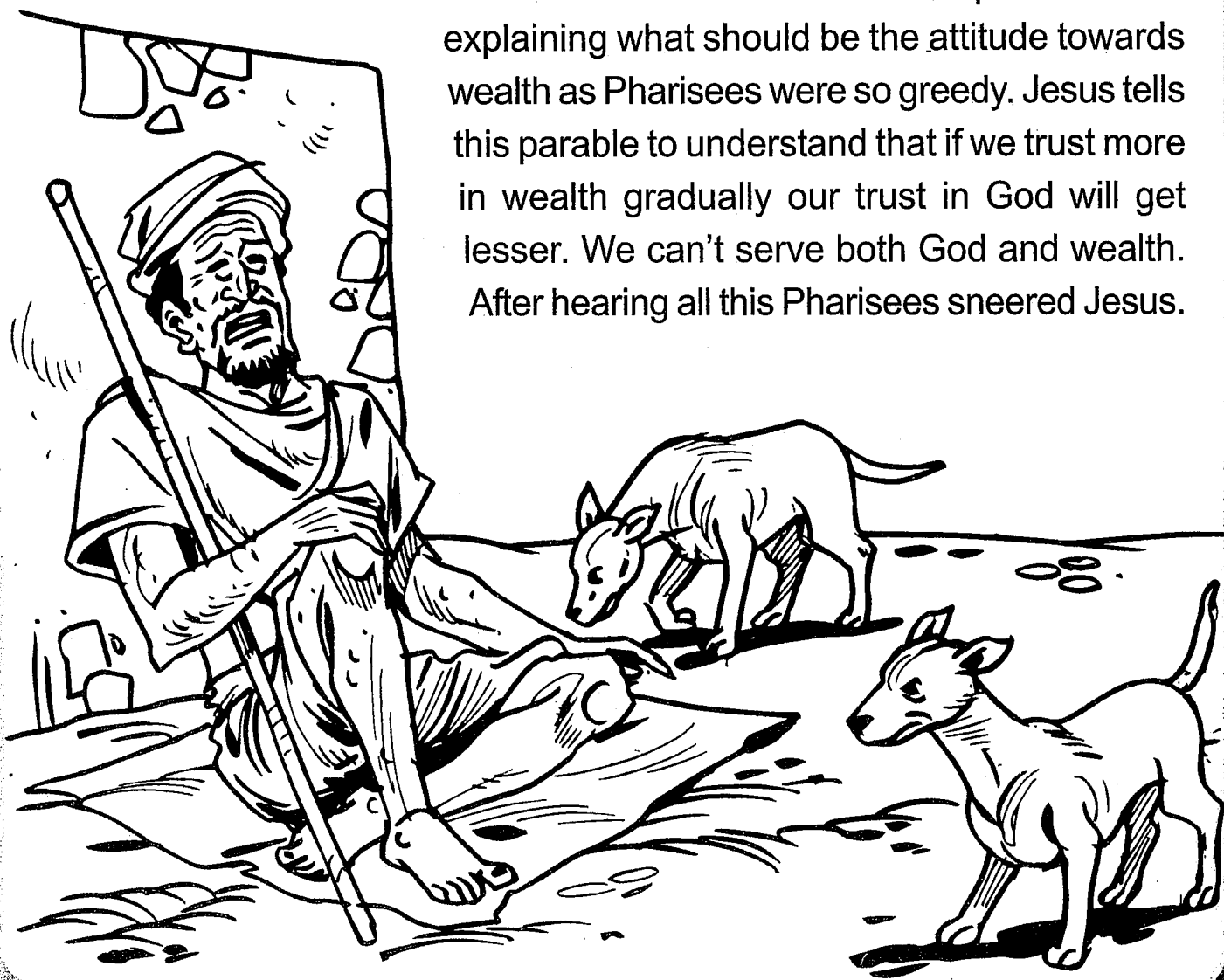
THE RICH MAN AND LAZARUS

Reference: Luke 16: 19-31

Aim: To understand the realities of life after death and to standardize our life to face that reality.

Introduction: Do you know that we have a life after death? Have heard about that? Here we are going to learn about life after death and how we want to get ready for that.

Detailed lesson: Jesus illustrates this parable after explaining what should be the attitude towards wealth as Pharisees were so greedy. Jesus tells this parable to understand that if we trust more in wealth gradually our trust in God will get lesser. We can't serve both God and wealth. After hearing all this Pharisees sneered Jesus.



As a reply for this Jesus said, it's not about what we do it's about what's in our heart according to that you can enter the kingdom of God. Here Jesus telling about the rich man and Lazarus. Let's learn.

Story about rich man and Lazarus

The rich man was dressed in purple and fine linen and lived in luxury every day. He spent his money lavishly. Lazarus was a beggar who was laid at the gate of the rich man. His body was covered with sores. He was lying at the gate of the rich man longing to eat what spills from the rich man's table.

One day Lazarus died. The angels took Lazarus to Abraham's bosom. Abraham has been considered as the father of the faithful. The Jews were proud of telling that Abraham was their father. The bosom of Abraham is a precursor of real heaven. The rich man also died. He reached 'Hades' the place of torment.

Being in torments in Hades, the rich man lifted his eyes and saw Abraham afar off and Lazarus in his bosom. Then he cried and said, "Father Abraham, have mercy on me and send Lazarus that he may dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am tormented in this flame. Abraham replied, Son, you lead a luxurious life on earth and Lazarus who lived in poverty. Now he was comforted while the rich man was in agony. Not even that there is a great gulf fixed between us, no one can come there and no one can come up here.

Rich man again asked one thing that, "I beg you, father send Lazarus to my father's house, for I have five brothers. Let him warn them, so that they will not also come to this place of torment. Abraham replied, "They have Moses and the prophets; let them listen to them." Rich man said, "No father Abraham, if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent". Abraham said to him, "If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone rises from the dead". By telling this Jesus ends the story.

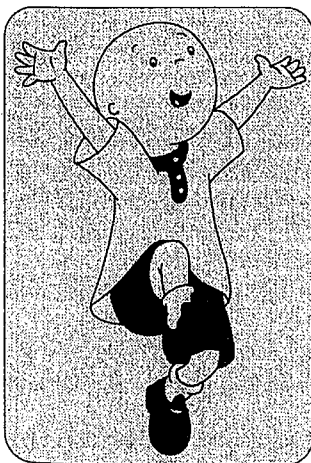
Interpretation of the story

Our life after death is determined how we keep our relationship with God while we are on earth. Wealth does not help one to reach to God. Here we can see that Abraham was helpless before requests made by rich man; no one can help us after death. Even the other request of rich man to send Lazarus to his brothers was also rejected from this we can understand the depth of the everlasting judgment.

From the words of Abraham we can understand how much we want to obey the God's word. It's better to repent by hearing God's word rather than believing a miracle from one who rose from death. The name of the rich man is not mentioned but the name of Lazarus who was regarded wretched by everyone was mentioned.

Application

Two places are kept for man after death; one is Heavens and the other Hades. But it's only after the everlasting judgment. Before that we are placed in paradise and torment place. If paradise giving rest and peace then how great will be there in Heavens. After death we will be able to talk, understand, and remember the past these all are understood from this. So that we should prepare ourselves according to the word of God.

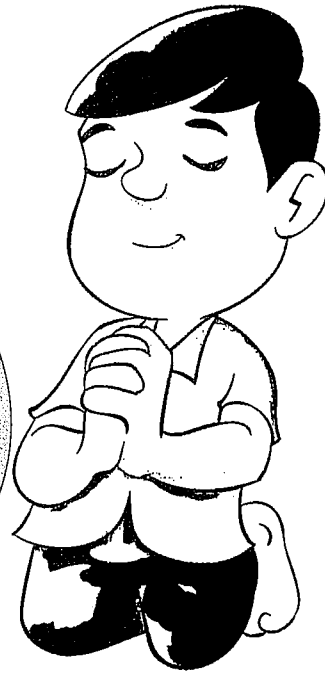


MY DECISION

As the eternity is to be deciding in this life itself I will live according to the word of God.

MY PRAYER

Almighty God, help me to confirm
an eternal life with you rather than
living a wealthier life.
Amen.



MEMORY VERSE

Heb 9: 27, 28

And as it is appointed unto men once
to die, but after this the judgment: so
Christ was once offered to bear the
sins of many; and unto them that look
for him shall he appear the second
time without sin unto salvation.

Questions

1. To which place the rich man went after his death?
2. Whom all the rich man saw when he lifted his eyes while he was in Hades?
3. For what rich man cried out first?
4. What happen when Lazarus died?

Read today's reading verse and write down the conversation between Father Abraham and Rich Man in the box below:



35

PARABLE OF THE SOWER

Reference: Mat 13: 1-9; 18-23; Mark 4: 1- 20; Luke 8: 4-8

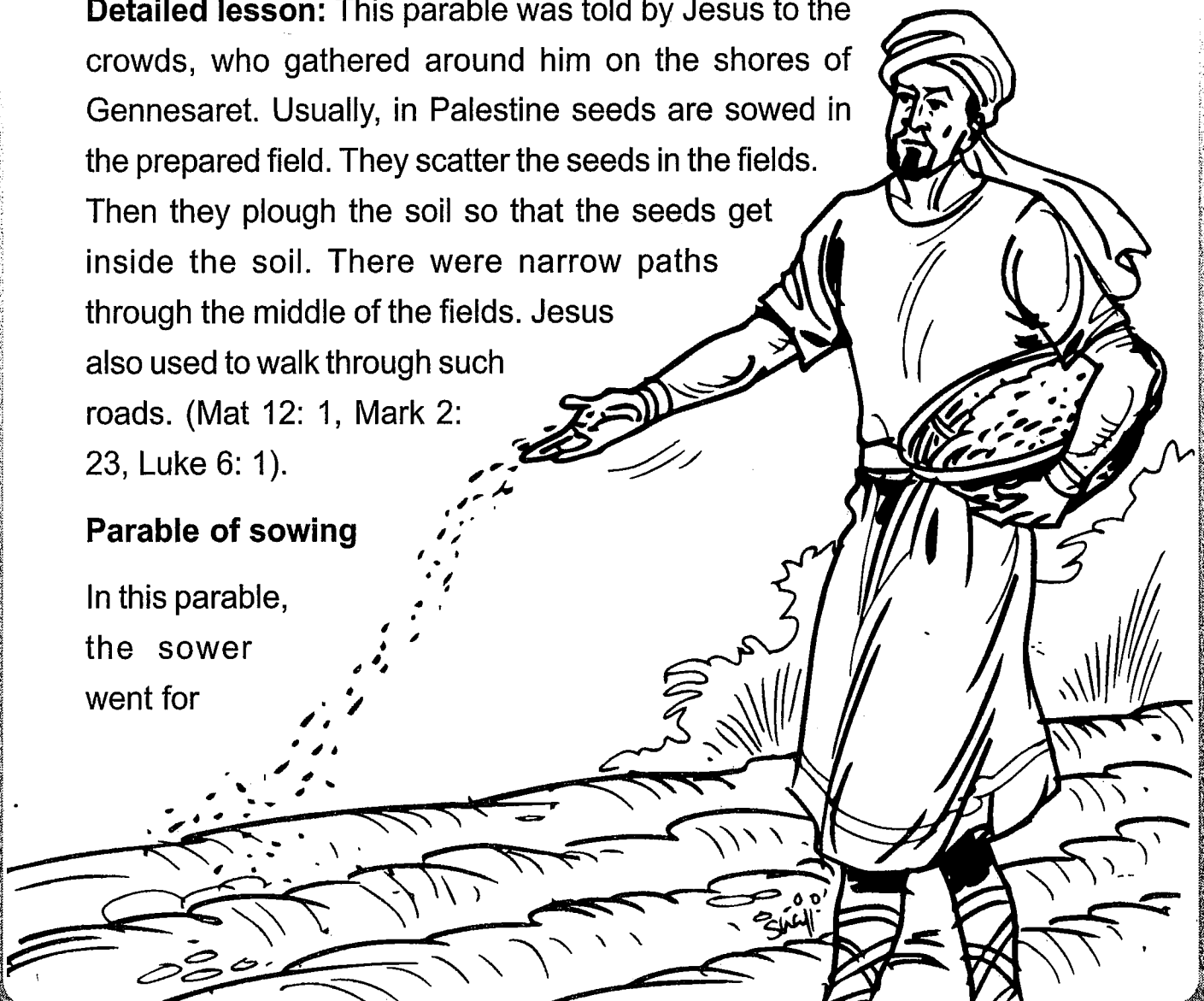
Aim: Word of God helps us to grow spiritual. To understand the importance of God's word in our life.

Introduction: Have seen sower sowing in fields? In the time of Jesus, there were agriculture of wheat and other grains. So the sights of sowing seeds were very common thing at that time. Jesus illustrates word with this. Let's learn about that.

Detailed lesson: This parable was told by Jesus to the crowds, who gathered around him on the shores of Gennesaret. Usually, in Palestine seeds are sowed in the prepared field. They scatter the seeds in the fields. Then they plough the soil so that the seeds get inside the soil. There were narrow paths through the middle of the fields. Jesus also used to walk through such roads. (Mat 12: 1, Mark 2: 23, Luke 6: 1).

Parable of sowing

In this parable,
the sower
went for



sowing. While sowing some had fallen along the path, it was trampled on and the birds of the air ate it up (Luke 8: 5). Some fell on rocks, when it sprouts up the plants withered because they had no moisture and enough soil. Some seed fell among the thorns which grew up with it and choked the plants. Some seed fell on good soil and yielded crop, a hundred times, sixty times and thirty times more than that was sown. He, who has ears, let him hear. By telling this Jesus ends the parable.

Meaning of parable

When Jesus was with his disciples he explains the parable. Mathew referred seed as kingdom of God, Mark as word and Luke as word of God.

The seed that fallen along the path refers that Satan takes away the word from one's heart by bringing false prestige, doubt and a craving desire for worldly pleasures. Some fell on rock shows that the one who accepted His word with enthusiasm since they did not have deep spiritual experiences, they became frustrated. Some seeds fell among the thorns shows a person hears the word, as they go their way, they are choked by life's worries, riches and pleasures and they do not mature.

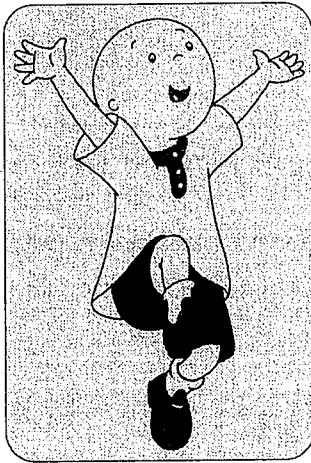
Some fell on good soil and yielded crop shows, when the word of God was sown in our hearts it will yield good crops with a result as the sower got the yields from crops. For this kind of yielding is expected by the sower.

Application

These four fields resemble our hearts. We should prepare our heart according to the word of God so that we may yield well. Don't allow Satan to take away the seeds from us. Don't let our hearts to be as useless fields. Do not pleasure in the worldly things.

If we compare our hearts with the well yielding field we can understand some specialties: (Luke 8: 15)

1. A good heart
2. An honest heart
3. A heart which hold fast the word
4. A heart which bring forth fruit with patience

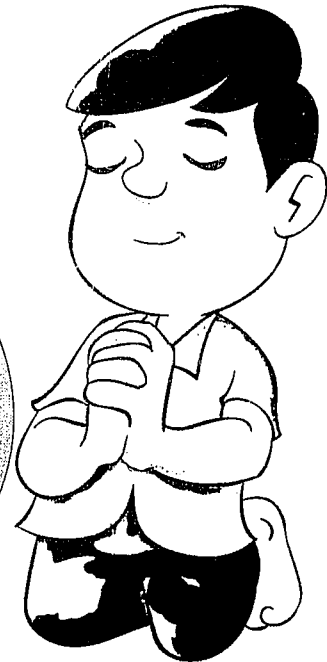


MY DECISION

I will keep my heart which bring forth good fruit and will not let anything to grow that is useless.

MY PRAYER

Almighty God, I submit my heart unto to thee as a good field where they words may grow. Help me to overcome all situations that hinder the good yielding. Amen.



MEMORY VERSE

1 Peter 1: 23

Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.

Questions

1. Four places where seeds fallen?
2. What happen to the seed fallen between the thorns?
3. What happen to the seed fallen along paths?
4. To what the seeds resembles?

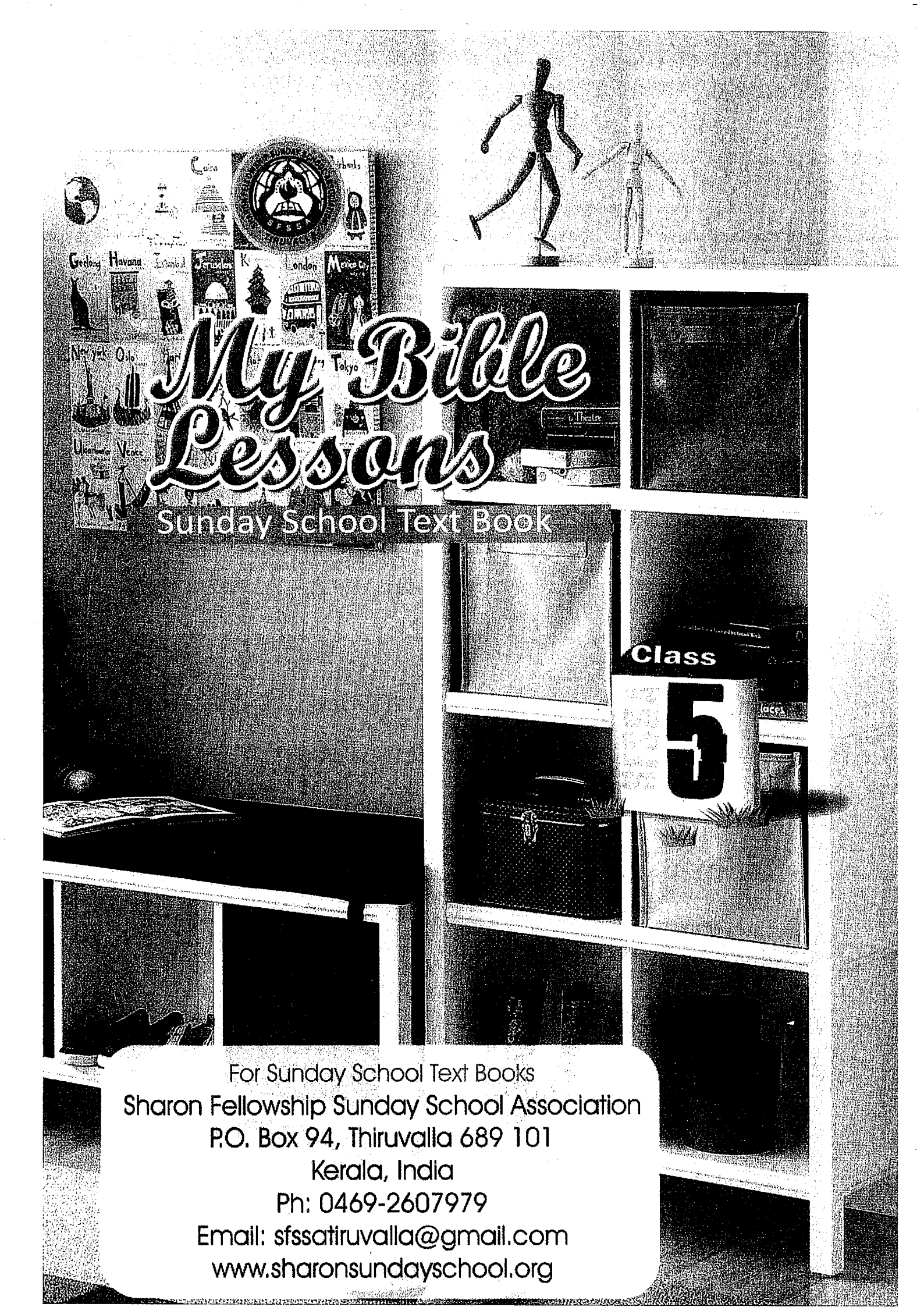
I. Match the following:

- | | | |
|------------|---|---------------|
| Path | - | word of God |
| Seed | - | withered |
| Thorns | - | birds |
| Good field | - | hundred times |



II. Write down the four specialities of good heart:

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



My Bible Lessons

Sunday School Text Book

Class

5

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