

God chose David even though he was young and others overlooked him

Objective: That the children will know God looks at the heart even though people look at outward things.



For the teacher:

Pray asking God to use this lesson in your life and in the lives of the children.

Think about the children in your class. Which ones are super intelligent? Which ones have parents with important positions? Which children have nicer possessions than the rest?

Do you treat all the children equally or do you treat certain ones better than the rest? How can you be sure you are not playing favorites?

Read James 2:1-5

My friends, if you have faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ, you won't treat some people better than others. Suppose a rich person wearing fancy clothes and a gold ring comes to one of your meetings. And suppose a poor person dressed in worn-out clothes also comes. You must not give the best seat to the one in fancy clothes and tell the one who is poor to stand at the side or sit on the floor. That is the same as saying that some people are better than others, and you would be acting like a crooked judge.

Has anything like that ever happened in your church? Think about what you observed.

Read 1 Samuel 16:7

But the Lord told him, "Samuel, don't think Eliab is the one just because he's tall and handsome. He isn't the one I've chosen. People judge others by what they look like, but I judge people by what is in their hearts."

Pray asking God to help you treat all the children with love and appreciation whether they are rich or poor, well behaved or troublemakers. Also pray that each child will see himself the way God sees him rather than the way people see him.



Before class:

- ✓ Make sure the video equipment is in good working order.
- ✓ Learn the song and the hand motions. (The words to the song are found following lesson 5.)
- ✓ Make copies of the worksheet for the small children.
- ✓ Bring a blank sheet of paper for each of the older children.



Let's start by talking with God

Thank you God that you see our hearts, rather than what people see. Amen

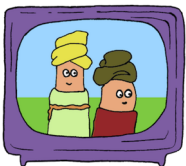


Let's talk about our lives

Have you ever been the last person chosen for a game?
How did that make you feel?

Are any of you the youngest in your family? Do you like being the youngest? Why or why not?

Today we are going to hear a story about a boy who was overlooked at first because he was the youngest in his family. However God chose him for a very important job because God saw what was in his heart.



Let's watch the video

Today, we will watch a video called "The King's Heart".



Let's sing the song using the hand motions



Let's talk about what we saw

Divide the children into small groups based on their ages and ask,
What special job did God choose David to do? To be Israel's king.

Why do you think God chose David instead of one of his older brothers?
Let the children share their thoughts.



Ask the children to look up 1 Samuel 16:7 in the Bible and to read it out loud.
But the Lord told him, "Samuel, don't think Eliab is the one just because he's tall and handsome. He isn't the one I've chosen. People judge others by what they look like, but I judge people by what is in their hearts."

Tell the children, **God saw exactly what was in David's heart and he was pleased with what he saw.**

What did he see? David was humble. He respected God. He was also very brave.

Tell the children; **you don't have to be rich, intelligent or pretty to be used by God. He uses whomever he wants based on what he sees in that person's heart.**

Close your eyes for a minute and think. What does God see in my heart? Do I love God and others? Do I believe in God? Am I proud or sinful?



Let's pray with the children

Lord, thank you that you see everything that's in my heart. Help me to be humble and brave like David. Amen.



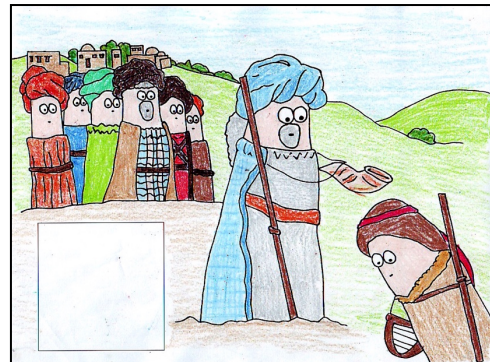
Worksheet for the small children

On this worksheet we see Samuel anointing David as king.



Read the verse with the children that says,
People judge others by what they look like, but I judge people by what is in their hearts. 1 Samuel 16:7b

Use the drawing to review the story.
For example, point to David and ask one of the children, **who is the young man?**
Then point to the prophet and ask, **who is this?** Samuel. **What is he pouring on David's head?** Oil. **Why?** He is



anointing David to be the new king of Israel. **Who are the people watching in the distance?** David's father and brothers.

Activity for the older children

Ask the children to fold a piece of paper in half. Have the children draw a picture showing what other people think when they see them on the front panel.

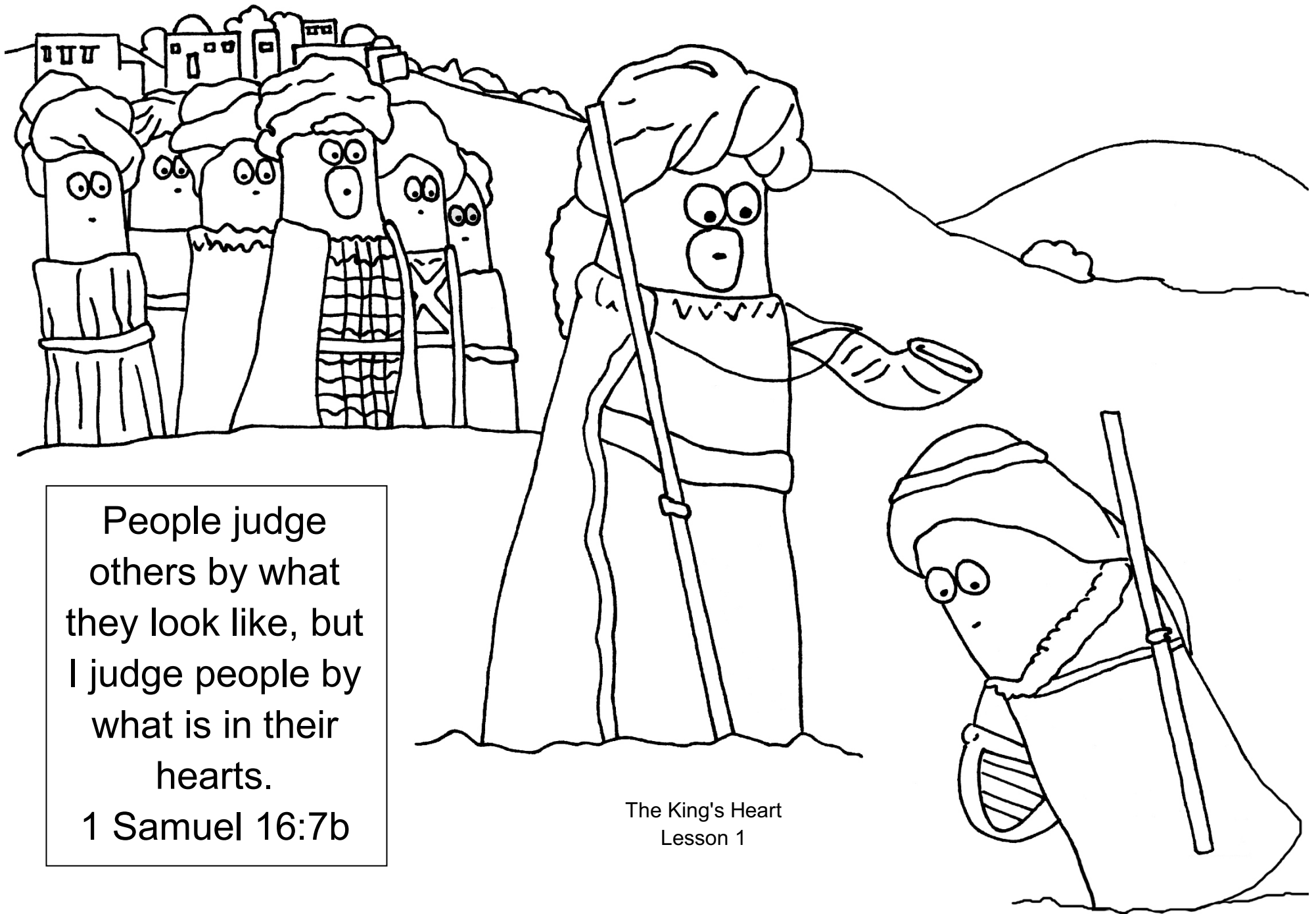


On the inside of their papers, they should write or draw something that God sees in them that people don't see. For example, they could write about a special desire they have. Help the children to think of things they can write or draw on their papers.



Let's talk with God to end the class

God, thank you that you see what is in each of our hearts. We want to be humble and brave to do the things you want. Amen



People judge
others by what
they look like, but
I judge people by
what is in their
hearts.

1 Samuel 16:7b

The King's Heart
Lesson 1

David conquered Goliath

Objective: That the children can be sure God is with them and will help them face any problem, no matter how big it is.



For the teacher:

Pray asking God to be at work in your life and in the lives of the children.

Read about David and Goliath in 1 Samuel 17 or read the summary that you will find at the end of this lesson.

Some versions of the Bible say that Goliath was almost 3 meters (over nine feet) tall. Why do you think David wasn't afraid to fight Goliath, while Saul and the other Israelites were? (See 1 Samuel 17:45)

Although our circumstances are different than those of the Israelites, at times we face problems that seem as huge and insurmountable as Goliath.

What big problems do the children in your class have?

For example, what problems do you see in their families? What problems do they confront at school? What problems do they face with other children or adults?

Children confront many problems, for example an alcoholic in their home, family violence, rejection (at school or at home), being made fun of, threats, physical or verbal abuse, or being misunderstood by their teachers.

It's your responsibility as their teacher to help any child that you see is suffering. Some problems can be avoided or helped by talking with the child's parents or school teacher. Others are difficult to address, but not impossible. As you seek a solution, make sure you bathe the situation with prayer.

What kinds of problems do you think you can help solve? What types of problems are too difficult for you to address? In what other ways can you help the children?

Read Romans 8:38

I am sure that nothing can separate us from God's love—not life or death, not angels or spirits, not the present or the future.

Also read John 16:33b

[Jesus said] While you are in the world, you will have to suffer. But cheer up! I have defeated the world.

According to these verses, why can we confidently confront any problem we face in this life?

Pray about the problems the children in your class have or may face. Ask God to encourage them and to rescue them from any bad situations in which they find themselves.



Before class:

- ✓ Review the song and the hand motions. The words to the song are found following lesson 5.
- ✓ Read the instructions for dramatizing the story and assemble the following items:
 - Copies of the script for each student (only if the children can read)
 - Costumes for each actor: especially a crown for King Saul, a sword and shield for Goliath, and a slingshot for David
- ✓ Make copies of the first worksheet for the small children.
- ✓ For the older children, print or enlarge the drawing of Goliath. Also bring masking tape, a piece of paper for each child, and pens or pencils.



Let's start by talking with God

Father God, thank you that you are a living and powerful God. We trust you to help us whenever we confront challenges and problems. Amen.



Let's talk about our lives

Do you know someone who is bigger and stronger than you who makes fun of you or of other children?

What does that person say?

How does that make everyone feel?

Today we are going to see that even though we may face big problems, we have a living, all powerful God and we can trust in Him!



Let's act out the story

Have the children act out the story of David and Goliath using the script at the end of this lesson or have them act it out based on what they remember from the video.



Let's sing the song using the hand motions



Let's talk about what we saw

Divide the children into small groups based on their ages and ask,

How did Saul and the Israelite people feel when Goliath came out to challenge them? They were afraid.

Why do you think they were so afraid? Goliath was huge and they didn't think they could beat him.

How tall was Goliath? He was almost three meters (9 feet) tall. Show the children how high three meters is.

In your opinion why wasn't David afraid to fight against Goliath, even though Goliath was so much bigger than him? Explain to the children that **David was sure that the God of Israel would fight for his people.**

Say to the children, **our situation is very different than that of the Israelites. We are not in a war. We shouldn't hit or fight. But we do need to listen closely to God and be brave when we confront big problems.**

What big problems do you or others face at home, at school, in the community or with friends? For example being made fun of, being called names, theft, alcoholism, violence or parents without work.

What can you do, when someone has a problem like this? For example, if a child is bullying the others you can tell your parents or a teacher. You can pray asking for help from the Lord. You can ask someone else for help.



Ask the children to look up John 16:33b in the Bible and read it out loud.

While you are in the world, you will have to suffer. But cheer up! I have defeated the world. Juan 16:33b

Explain to the children that Jesus said these words. He was killed but came back to life with great power. Because of this we are confident that he is the living God and has the power to help us.

If you have problems you can tell them to Jesus and also to people that you trust.



Let's pray with the children

Ask the children if they have a problem that they would like you to pray about with them. Listen to the problems that the children share with you and pray for each one of them.



Worksheet for the small children

We see David fighting against Goliath on this page.



Read the verse with the children that says, *While you are in the world, you will have to suffer. But cheer up! I have defeated the world. John 16:33b*



Activity for the older children

The following materials are needed:

- ✓ A large drawing of Goliath. You can use the one at the end of this lesson or make a larger one.
- ✓ Masking tape
- ✓ Pieces of paper for each child (to write on and then make into a ball)
- ✓ Pens or pencils

Tape the picture of Goliath onto the wall. Give each child a piece of paper. Explain that they should write down or draw a picture of a problem they face at home, at school, or in the community. It can be anything that worries them or makes them sad. If the child doesn't have a personal problem to write on the paper, then he can write about a problem that a friend or relative faces. After each child has written something, pray with them asking God to help them trust Him and to find a solution to the problem.

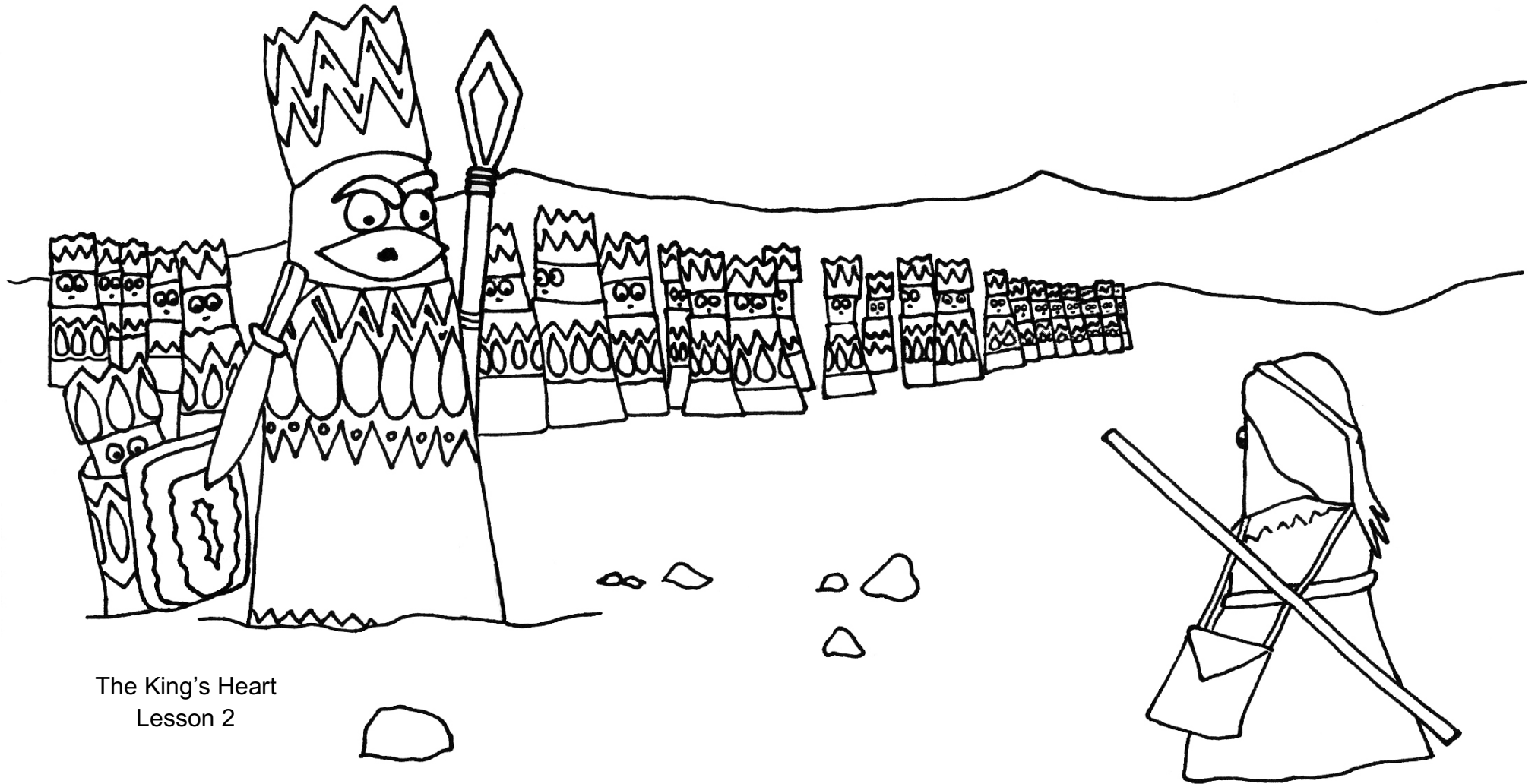
Then have each child crumple his or her paper into a ball and throw it at Goliath, trying to hit him on the forehead with it. The teacher can put a piece of masking tape with the child's name on it in the spot where their paper ball hit. At the end, the teacher can see whose ball came the closest to hitting Goliath in the middle of his forehead.

If you don't want the children to throw their papers, have them fold them instead and put a piece of masking tape on them. Then cover their eyes with a blindfold, turn them in a circle several times and have them attach their paper to Goliath. They are not to feel around on the drawing. At the end, see which child managed to get their piece of paper closest to the middle of Goliath's forehead.



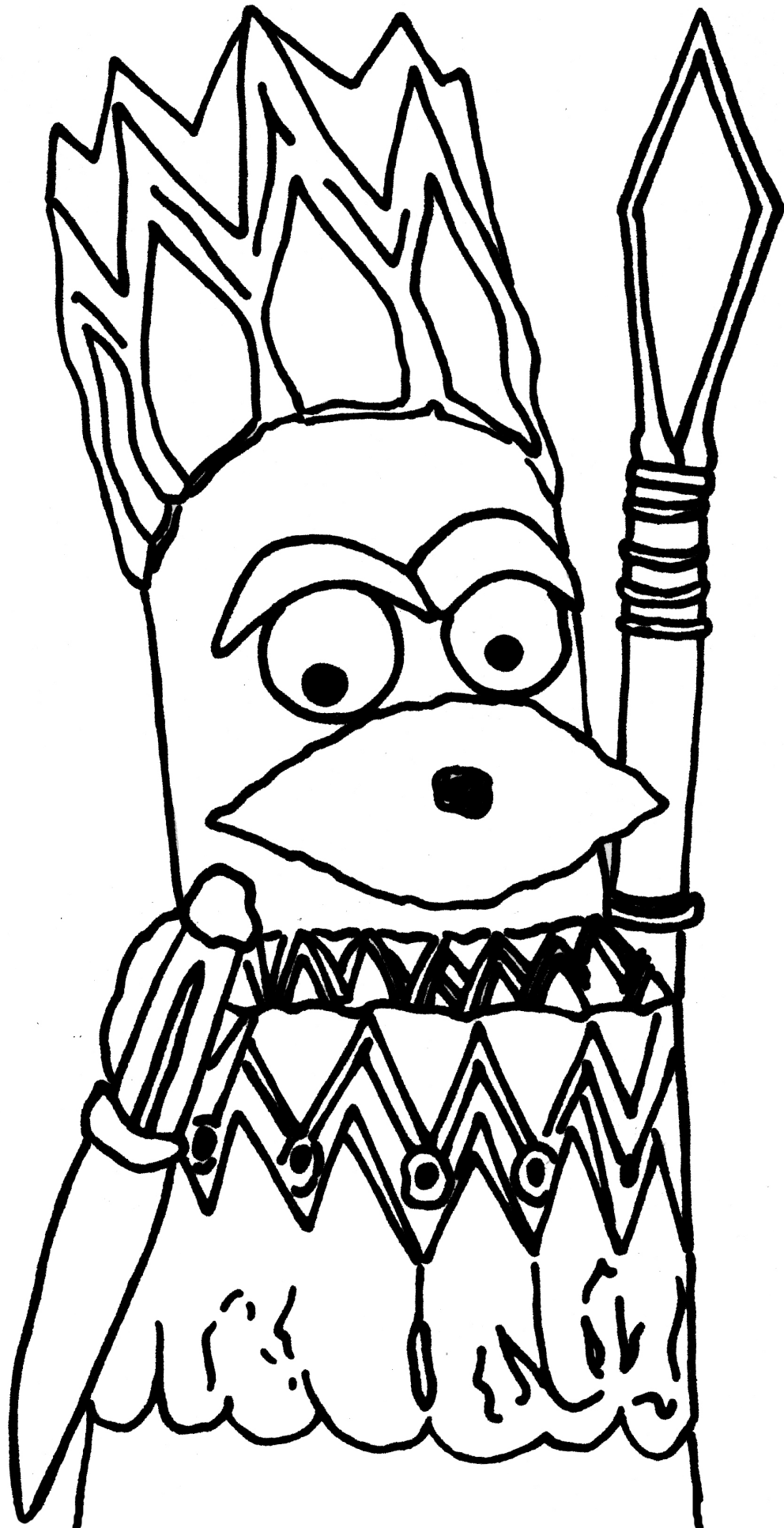
Let's talk with God to end the class

Lord Jesus help me to face the problems in my life bravely. Amen.



The King's Heart
Lesson 2

While you are in the world, you will have to suffer. But cheer up! I have defeated the world. John 16:33b



Play “David and Goliath”

Based on 1 Samuel 17

Characters: Narrator, Goliath (needs to be a tall child or an adult), David, King Saul and two Israelites with speaking parts. The rest of the children should be divided up into two groups –the Philistines on one side and the Israelites on the other.

Narrator: The Philistines gathered their army to fight against Israel. Then Goliath, a Philistine hero, came out and challenged the Israelites. Goliath was extremely tall and big, and he shouted to the Israelites.

Goliath: Choose someone from your army to come out and fight me! If he kills me, we will be your slaves, but if I kill him, then you will serve us!

Narrator: Saul and his soldiers were afraid of Goliath and didn't know what to do. One day, David, a young shepherd went to the army's camp to take some food to his brothers and heard about Goliath.

Israelite 1: Look at that man. He is insulting Israel.

David: Who does this Philistine think he is challenging the army of the living God? What will the person who kills him be given?

Israelite 2: King Saul has promised a great reward to the person who kills Goliath.

David: Really?

Narrator: The soldiers realized that David was interested in fighting against Goliath, so they took him to King Saul.

David: Your Majesty, don't worry. I will fight Goliath.

King Saul: Don't be silly. How can a boy fight against someone his size?

David: I'm a shepherd and I have beaten and killed lions and bears when they attacked my sheep. If God saved me from the lion and the bear, he can certainly save me from this Philistine who is challenging the army of the living God.

King Saul: All right, go ahead. The Lord God will help you.

Narrator: David didn't want to use Saul's armor. He went out to fight Goliath with just his shepherd's staff, his slingshot and 5 stones.

Goliath: Ha ha ha ha! Do you think I'm a dog to fight against me with a stick? I'm going to kill you, little boy.

David: You come against me with a sword and a spear, but I'm coming against you in the name of the Lord Almighty, the God of the armies of Israel whom you have challenged. When I kill you, the entire world will know there is a God in Israel.

Narrator: Goliath came closer and David ran to meet him. He put a stone in his sling and shot it. It hit the giant on his forehead and Goliath fell to the ground. When the Philistines saw that their champion was dead, they ran away. Then the Israelites shouted in triumph and pursued them.

God gave us a righteous and merciful king: Jesus, a descendent of David

Objective: That the children will thank God because Jesus is a humble, brave, fair, forgiving king who respects God and who will reign forever



For the teacher:

Pray asking God to use this lesson in your life and in the lives of the children.

Based on your understanding of David's story, what qualities did God look for in the king's heart?

How did David show that he was brave, humble and respected God?

Although David was a good man who showed humility, he wasn't perfect. He couldn't reign over Israel as king for all time because he grew old and died. However God promised that one of David's descendants would become king and reign forever. He would be good and would live a perfect life. That king is Jesus.

Read Jeremiah 23:5

Someday I will appoint an honest king from the family of David, a king who will be wise and rule with justice.

Now read Matthew 25:31

When the Son of Man comes in his glory with all of his angels, he will sit on his royal throne.

What do these verses tell us about Jesus?

Describe Jesus' character.

Think for a few minutes about what your actions and reactions might be when Jesus comes back in his glory. Be prepared to give the children some examples of what they could do when Jesus comes back as King.



Before class:

- ✓ Make sure the video equipment is in good working order.
- ✓ Make copies of the worksheet for the small children.
- ✓ Print out the Bible themes and references at the end of this lesson for the older children. Bring four bibles, pencils, crayons, markers, paint and four large sheets of paper so each group can make a poster or mural.



Let's start by talking with God

God, thank you that you care about having a good ruler govern your people. Please teach us more about you. Amen



Let's talk about our lives

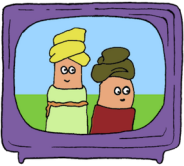
Use your creativity to tell the following story to the children. Explain that it is made-up.

Once upon a time, in a country far, far away the king died. He didn't have any children to become king after him, so the citizens of the country started to look for someone to be the next king. Many different people came forward as possibilities. One was a famous singer who said, "I deserve to be king because I have a beautiful voice, I'm good looking and lots of people know who I am." Another was a professional athlete. He said, "I'm strong and I'm famous, so I would be a good king for you." Another was a soldier. He said, "I can win many wars and I can help our nation conquer the nations around us." But there was a man who was both humble and wise. He said, "I love God and I know that God loves you. If you will allow me, I will serve you. I will rule fairly and will take care of the needs of the poor. I will not start a war with other countries, but if we are attacked, I will be the first to give my life for you." The people listened to him and although he wasn't rich or handsome, they decided to make him king. He was true to his word and served his people for many years. When he died many came to his funeral and said good things about him.

Ask the children,

**Who was the best choice to be king of these people?
Why?**

Today we are going to see that God wants the leaders of his people to be humble, respectful of him, brave and to forgive their enemies.



Let's watch the video

The children will watch "The King's Heart." Have them take note of the things David did and why he was a good choice to be their king.



Let's sing the song using the hand motions



Let's talk about what we saw

Divide the children into small groups based on their ages and ask,

What was the name of the king of Israel that God rejected because of his wrong attitudes and actions? Saul.

Why do you think God choose David to replace Saul as king? David was humble, brave and respected God.

What did David do that showed he was brave, humble and respected God? For example, when he fought against Goliath and killed him, when he forgave Saul, and when he cried because Saul had died.

Would you have liked David to be your king? Why or why not?

Tell the children, **David was humble and good but he wasn't perfect. He couldn't reign for all time because he grew old and died. But God promised to send David's descendant as king to his people, someone who would be good and perfect.**



Ask the children to look up Jeremiah 23:5 in the Bible, and read it out loud. *Someday I will appoint an honest king from the family of David, a king who will be wise and rule with justice.*

Who is the king that God promised to send? It's Jesus.

Remind the children that Jesus was born, grew up, taught people, performed miracles, died on the cross, was buried and was raised from

the dead in three days. He went up to heaven and is now seated there with God.



Ask the children to look up Matthew 25:31 in the Bible and to read it out loud. *When the Son of Man comes in his glory with all of his angels, he will sit on his royal throne. Matthew 25:31*

Explain that **one day Jesus will come back to earth to reign over his people forever. On that day, he will judge all those who have rejected him as king, but he will be merciful to all those who trusted in him.**

What would you like to do when you see Jesus coming back to earth to be our king forever? Let the children express their thoughts, and if they don't know what to say, then give them some examples.

Would you like to talk to Jesus now and ask him to be your king?



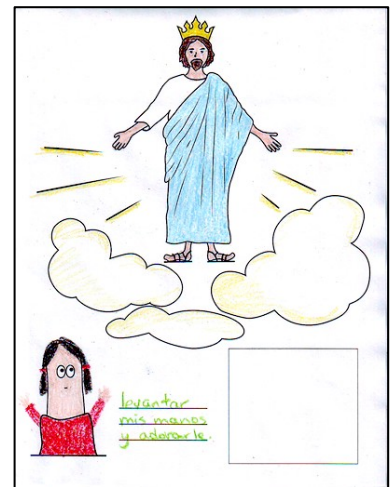
Let's pray with the children

Lord Jesus, thank you that you are a good, humble, and brave king who forgives his enemies. I trust in you and I want you to be my king. Help me to love and follow you so that when you return I won't be afraid. Amen.



Worksheet for the small children

On the worksheet we see Jesus glorified in the clouds as king. On the bottom of the worksheet there is someone watching Jesus return. Have each child put hair like theirs on the Dedito and write out something they want to do when they see Jesus coming down to earth as king. For example, "When I see Jesus I want to lift up my hands and worship him, or I want to bow down before him, or I want to sing with joy to him."



Read the verse with the children:

When the Son of Man comes in his glory with all of his angels, he will sit on his royal throne. Matthew 25:31



Activity for the older children

In this activity the children will work in groups. Each group will make a poster or mural showing what Jesus is like.

The following materials are needed for this activity:

- ✓ The four themes found at the end of this lesson
- ✓ Four bibles
- ✓ A large sheet of paper or poster board for each group
- ✓ Colored pencils, crayons, paints and/or markers
- ✓ Tape

Divide the children into four groups, with no more than 6 children in each group. Give each group one of the themes found at the end of this lesson. They can glue the theme they are assigned onto their mural. Ask them to read the Scripture portion on their papers and to think about what they can draw that would represent that theme. When the children finish, display each drawing. Then ask each group to explain what happened in the scene they drew and what that teaches us about Jesus' character.

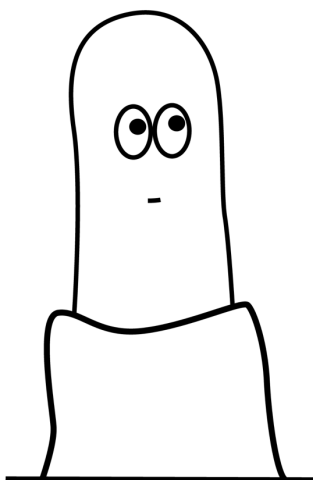


Let's talk with God to end the lesson

Thank you Jesus for being our king. We believe in you. Amen.



The King's Heart, Lesson 3



When Jesus
comes to rule, I
want to

When the Son of Man
comes in his glory
with all of his angels,
he will sit on his royal
throne.

Matthew 25:31

Luke 4:5-8 The temptation.
Jesus obeyed God.

John 13:3-5 Jesus washed his
disciples feet - He is humble and
came to serve others.

Matthew 25:31-40 Jesus will judge all people – He is powerful and will come in glory to judge each person based on how they treat those in need.

Luke 23:33-34 Jesus prayed for the soldiers who killed him – Jesus forgives his enemies.

Jesus is my good shepherd

Objective: That the children will see how carefully Jesus looks after them, and they will commit themselves to follow him as their good shepherd.



For the teacher:

Pray asking God to use this lesson in your life and in the lives of the children.

Psalm 23 is one of the most beautiful and well-known portions of scripture in the Bible. Read the first four verses of this psalm:

You, Lord, are my shepherd.

I will never be in need.

You let me rest in fields of green grass.

*You lead me to streams of peaceful water,
and you refresh my life.*

You are true to your name,

and you lead me along the right paths.

*I may walk through valleys as dark as death,
but I won't be afraid.*

You are with me

and your shepherd's rod makes me feel safe.

David was the author of this psalm. Think about his life.

In what ways was God a shepherd to King David throughout his life?

What experiences did David have that seemed like a valley as dark as death?

Even though you may know this psalm by heart, read it again and think about the following questions:

How has Jesus been a shepherd to you in recent years?

What dark valleys have you been through or are you afraid of going through?

Where do you find rest for your soul?

Pray, thanking God for his special watchcare over your life



Before class:

- ✓ Bring a blindfold to use in the game.
- ✓ Prepare the following materials to use in telling the story.
 - Color David, the lion, Jesus and the sheep's faces found at the end of this lesson. Cut them out.
 - Glue the figures of David, the lion and Jesus onto plastic cups.
 - Make little sheep out of cotton balls and glue the faces onto them.
 - Bring a piece of blue fabric or blue tissue paper to use as a river, and some green fabric or tissue paper for a meadow. Also find four sticks that are about 8 inches long (20 centimeters) to create a sheepfold.
- ✓ Practice telling the story of the good shepherd, following the instructions at the end of this lesson.
- ✓ Make copies of the worksheet for the small children. Bring cotton, glue, colored pencils or crayons.
- ✓ Bring a blank sheet of paper for each older child. In addition bring colored pencils, markers or crayons and some Bibles.



Let's start by talking with God

Lord, thank you for your watch care over each of us. Help us to know you as our good shepherd. Amen.



Let's play a game

Choose children for the following parts:

- A lion
- A shepherd
- All the other children will be sheep (if there are a lot of children and plenty of space, divide them into two groups. One group will be the sheepfold where the lion can't come in and the rest will be sheep.)

The game is as follows. The lion tries to trap the sheep, but he is blindfolded so he can't see them. The shepherd tries to protect the sheep. The sheep must crawl, and as they move they must bleat. When the lion traps a sheep this child is out of the game. The teacher will decide how long the game will last.



Let's talk about our lives

After the game, ask the children,

How did those of you who were sheep feel?

Was it easy or difficult for the lion to trap the sheep? Why?

What did you think of the shepherd? Was he a good shepherd? Why or why not?

What is the shepherd's job? To take care of the sheep.



Tell the story to the children

Tell the children to sit in a circle on the floor. Sit down with them and tell the story using the figures of David, the lion, the sheep and Jesus that are found at the end of this lesson.

Place the green cloth or tissue paper on the floor, and place the blue paper on top of it to form a river. Put David in the green area. Say

David was a shepherd. He took care of his sheep.

Place the sheep around David.

He knew each sheep by name. He always walked with them where ever they went. He would look for water for them to drink and grass for them to eat.

Move David and the sheep over by the river.

At the end of each day, David would place his sheep in a fold. He made sure they were all there.

Lay the four sticks down to form a sheepfold with a door on one side. Then have each sheep go into the fold. When they are all inside, put David in the entryway.

One day David and his sheep were out in the countryside.

Move David and have the sheep come out of the fold.



Suddenly a lion appeared! It came closer and closer, planning to eat a small sheep that was separated from the rest.

Move the lion close to one sheep.

But David ran to save it. He beat the lion savagely with his shepherd's rod and killed it.

Have David beat the lion with his rod, and then make the lion fall over.



David was a good shepherd who took excellent care of his flock. He was also a musician and liked to play the harp.

Point out the harp that David carried with him.

He wrote a psalm that says:

Read each sentence slowly so that you and the children can meditate on the meaning.

You, Lord, are my shepherd.

I will never be in need.

You let me rest in fields of green grass.

You lead me to streams of peaceful water,

and you refresh my life.

You are true to your name,

and you lead me along the right paths.

I may walk through valleys as dark as death, but I won't be afraid.

You are with me and your shepherd's rod makes me feel safe. (Psalm 23:1-4)



One day David became king of his people. He was a good king, but after many years he died and was buried in a tomb.

Lay David down.

Place the figure of Jesus where all the children can see him.

Many years later, Jesus, one of David's descendants said, "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives his life for the sheep." That's what happened. Jesus died on a cross for you and me, but three days later he rose from the grave and went up to heaven!

Lift Jesus up and hold him over your head.

Jesus knows you and he knows me. He watches over us, just like David watched over his sheep. We can't see him, but he is our shepherd and he always will be.



Let's sing the song using the hand motions



Let's talk about what we saw

Divide the children into small groups based on their ages, and ask,

What are some of the things David did for his sheep? He took care of them, he showed them where to go, he found water and pasture for them and he protected them.

What did he do when a lion wanted to eat one of his sheep? David beat it with his rod and killed it.

David was very strong. But even so, he needed someone to take care of him, to guide him and to protect him. Who was David's shepherd? God was.

And who is our shepherd? Jesus. (Jesus is God's son. He became a man and lived here on earth.)



Ask the children to look up John 10:14-15 in the Bible and to read it out loud.

Explain that Jesus said these words when he was here on earth.

I am the good shepherd. I know my sheep, and they know me. Just as the Father knows me, I know the Father and I give up my life for my sheep. John 10:14-15

What does this verse tell us about Jesus? He knows us, he is our shepherd and he sacrificed his life for us.

If you don't know him yet, you can tell Jesus that you want him to be your shepherd. You need to be willing for him to teach you and correct you. He will always be near to you and will watch over you.



Let's pray with the children

Lord Jesus, you are my good shepherd. I want you to be my shepherd, to correct me and teach me. I want you to always be near me watching over me. I don't want you to ever leave me. Amen



Worksheet for the small children

The following materials are needed:

- ✓ A copy of the worksheet for each child
- ✓ Cotton and glue
- ✓ Pencils and crayons

This worksheet shows Jesus and a sheep. The children should write their name on the blank line if they want Jesus to be their shepherd. It says " _____ is one of Jesus' sheep." They can also glue cotton on the sheep.



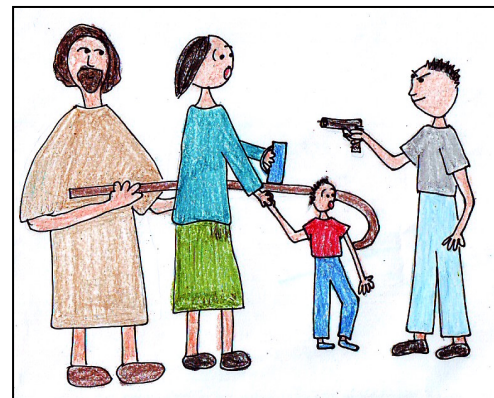
Read the verse with the children where Jesus says, *I am the good shepherd. I know my sheep and they know me. John 10:14*



Activity for the older children

Explain to the children that part of a shepherd's responsibility is to take care of the sheep when they are in a dark or dangerous place.

Give the children a blank piece of paper and ask them to draw a dangerous experience they've been through or could have. Then they can draw a picture of Jesus protecting them or copy part of Psalm 23.

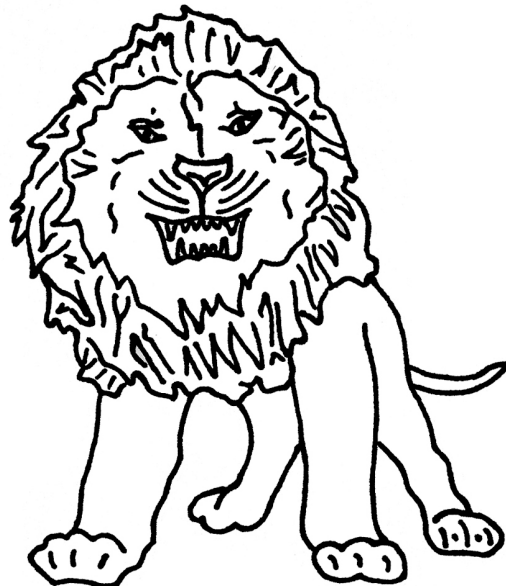
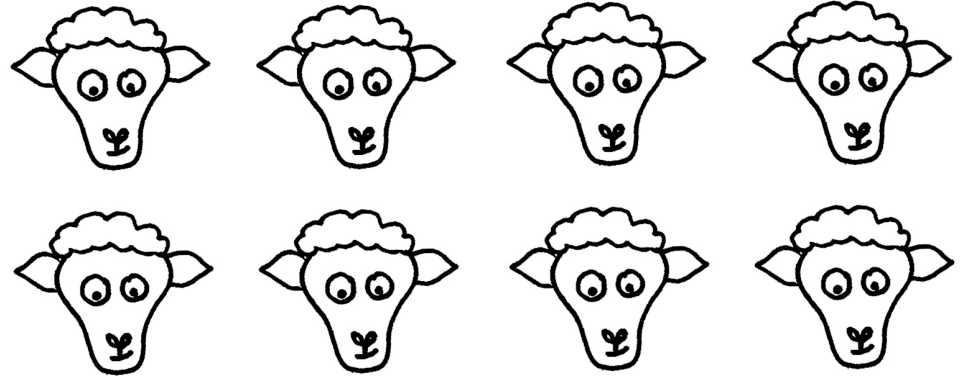


Let's talk with God to end the class

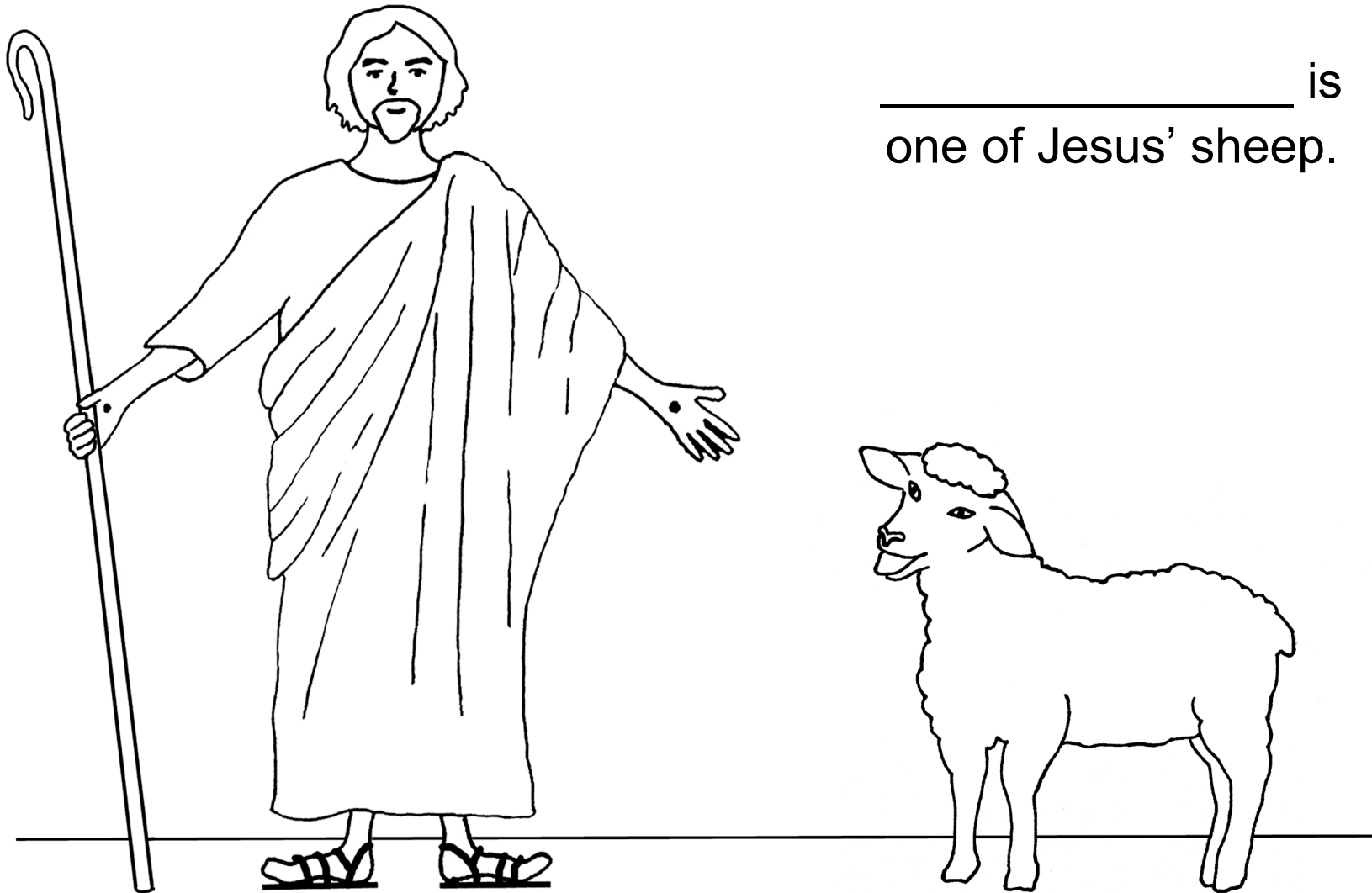
Thank you Lord Jesus for taking care of us. Amen.

Instructions:

1. Color each figure then cut it out.
2. Glue David, the lion and Jesus on to disposable cups.
3. Glue the faces of the sheep onto cotton balls.
4. Get green and blue tissue paper or fabric and four sticks about 8 inches long for the props.



Jesus said: I am the good shepherd. I know my sheep and they know me. John 10:14



_____ is
one of Jesus' sheep.

When David faced problems he looked for help from the Lord

Objective: That the children will understand that whenever they have a problem or are in a difficult situation they can trust God to help them.



For the teacher:

Pray asking God to use this lesson in your life and in the lives of the children.

Think about when David had to flee from Saul.

Why did Saul come after David to kill him?

It wasn't David's fault that Saul was jealous of him.

How did David show that he continued to trust God despite the problems he faced?

One of the ways David showed that he trusted God was through the Psalms that he wrote as prayers to God. Read Psalm 56:1, 3 and 4.

Have pity, God Most High!

My enemies chase me all day.

But even when I am afraid,

I keep on trusting you.

I praise your promises!

I trust you and am not afraid.

No one can harm me.

How was David feeling when he wrote this psalm?

Why did he feel like that?

How did he express his trust in God despite his difficulties?

Think about the children in your class. When do they need to trust God to protect them?

Now think about the Christian leaders you know. Have any of them ever been falsely accused of something? Have they gone through times without enough food or money, of persecution, the death of a family member, sickness or some other problem? How can you encourage this person to keep trusting God?

If you know a believer who is going through a difficult time, pray that he or she would have the strength to keep trusting and obeying God in the midst of those problems.



Before class:

- ✓ Make sure the video equipment is in good working order.
- ✓ Make copies of the worksheet for the small children.
- ✓ For the older children write out Psalm 57:1 so that they can easily see and copy it. Bring sheets of colored paper, markers and other supplies for the note they will write.



Let's start by talking with God

God, help us to look to you for help in difficulties and to encourage others to do the same. Amen.



Let's play a game

Have the children play hide-and-seek.

One child will search for the rest. He should close his eyes and count while the other children hide. When he is done counting, he starts to look for the others. If there aren't very many places to hide, you can blindfold the child who is searching for the rest or you can just select a small group of children to hide.



Let's talk about our lives

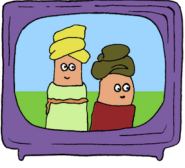
Ask the following questions:

What did you think of the game?

How did you feel when you were hidden?

Was it easy to be perfectly quiet and not make any noise?

Explain to the children that **if they were afraid or felt nervous about hiding in a dark place then they could understand how David felt when Saul was following him and he hid in a cave.**



Let's watch the video

Today, the children will watch "The King's Heart". They should think about how David felt when he had to flee from King Saul and the things he did to show that he continued trusting God despite what was happening.



Let's sing the song using the hand motions



Let's talk about what we saw

Divide the children up into small groups based on their ages and ask,

From whom was David fleeing?

Why did Saul want to kill David? He was jealous of him.

Why do you think David didn't kill Saul when he had the chance? David respected King Saul and trusted God to deliver him.

What did David say when his friends discouraged him by telling him that Saul was going to kill him? David said that God would protect him and he trusted God to do as he said.

Explain to the children that **even though David had faith in God, there were also moments when he was afraid or when he despaired. But he didn't allow those feelings to control him. David expressed his trust in God by writing psalms, crying out to God for his help.**



Ask the children to look up Psalm 56:3-4 in the Bible and to read those verses out loud.

But even when I am afraid, I keep on trusting you. I praise your promises! I trust you and am not afraid. No one can harm me. Psalm 56:3-4

Ask the children, **have you ever been in a situation when you were afraid, like you got lost from your mother, or you were walking alone in a dark place or something bad happened to your family?** Let the children talk about their experiences.

Tell the children, **when you are afraid, you can cry out to God just like David did. You can trust Him to help you through every difficulty**



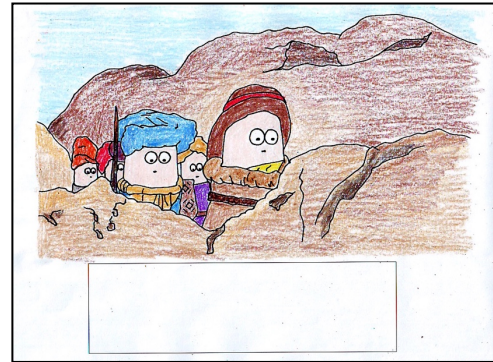
Let's pray with the children

God, thank you that you hear me and protect me. Help me to be like King David who cried out to you when he was afraid and you helped him. Amen.



Worksheet for the small children

On this worksheet we see David fleeing from Saul in the mountains.



Read the verse with the children that says, *When I am afraid, I keep on trusting you.*
Psalm 56:3



Activity for the older children

The children will write a letter or note to encourage someone who is going through a difficult time in their life.

The following materials are needed:

- ✓ Psalm 57:1 written out so that the children can see it and copy it.
- ✓ A sheet of colored paper for each child
- ✓ Markers and other materials to decorate their notes



Read Psalm 57:1 and explain that **David wrote this psalm when he was fleeing from Saul.**

God Most High, have pity on me! Have mercy. I run to you for safety. In the shadow of your wings, I seek protection till danger dies down. Psalm 57:1

Say to the children, **there are people today that have problems similar to those King David had. For instance there are pastors and Christian leaders who are sick, who have family problems or someone wants to hurt them. They need a lot of faith in order to keep doing what they should and to continue trusting God like David.**

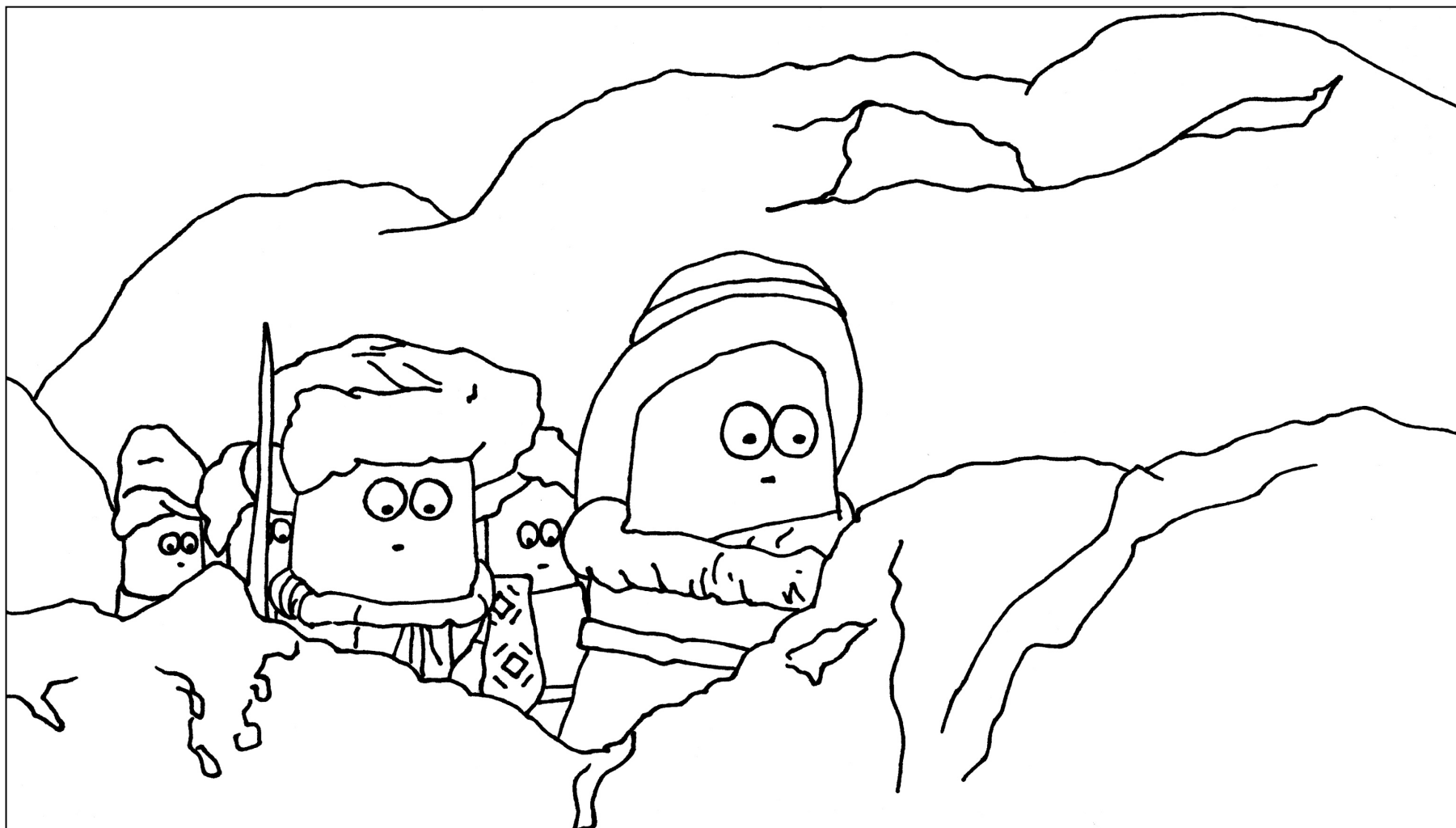
**Do you know someone who faces one of these problems?
How can you encourage him or her to continue to trust God?**

Help the children to write a card to someone they know who has a problem. They can include Psalm 57:1, another passage of scripture, a drawing or a personal note to encourage this person.



Let's talk with God to end the lesson

Lord, we want to ask you to help those who are going through a difficult time. Please help them to continue to trust you and to obey you. Amen.



When I am afraid,
I keep trusting you.
Psalm 56:3

The King's Heart
Lesson 5

Song: My Soul Has Found the Perfect Refuge

//Oh Lord my soul has found the perfect refuge.
My heart has known its truest rest.
Now from this rock I will not be shaken.
My heart has known its truest rest.

I'll stand in awe Lord, for all power belongs to you.
I'll pour my heart out for your unfailing love.
Oh Lord my soul has found the perfect refuge.
My heart has known its truest rest.//

Song: My Soul Has Found the Perfect Refuge

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Lessons to be used with the video *The King's Heart*
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The Biblical references were taken from the Contemporary English Version © 1995
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