

THE BIRTH OF A NATION



2nd Grade

Chicago CBF

Foundational Bible Studies for 2nd Grade

The Birth of a Nation: Foundational Bible Studies for 2nd Grade
Chicago Children's Bible Fellowship 2016
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 Lesson 3 [Jos 6] And The Walls Came Tumblin Down
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 Lesson 20 [1 Sa 7] Winning With Prayer
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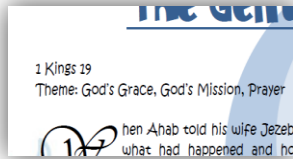
Part 3: The First Kings

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 Lesson 40 [1 Ki 10-11] Sol's Weakness
 Lesson 41 [Ecc] Meaningless, Meaningless!

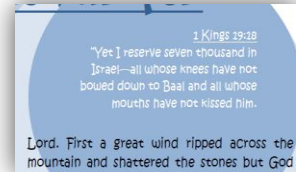
Part 4: Adventures In The Kingdom Of Israel

Lesson 42 [1 Ki 12a; 2 Ch 10] The Kingdom Divided
 Lesson 43 [1 Ki 12b-15a] Worship Calves?
 Lesson 44 [1 Ki 15b-17] Elijah
 Lesson 45 [1 Ki 18] A Little Contest

A Note on using these materials



The Old Testament studies cover a wide range of chapters, so you probably won't have time to read entire passages but rather a summary of the passage. The passages covered in the summary are in the upper left hand corner. Children should be encouraged to read the passage at home with their parents. In the upper right hand corner is a key verse which the children can learn or memorize.

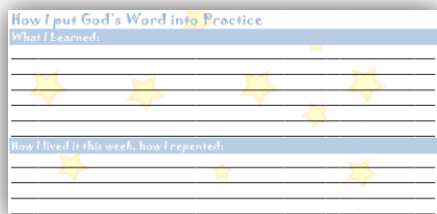
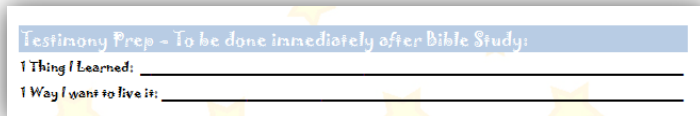


On the second page there is a think about it section and a talk about its section. The think about it section summarizes the main points of the Bible passage and serves as a teacher's guide. The Talk About It questions don't cover every minute detail of the passage but encourage discussion of the main spiritual points. The bolded, underlined questions are questions that don't have a specific answer from the passage but can be discussed giving everyone a chance to give their input. These questions are the focus of the study and the Think About It section gives some guide to answering these questions.



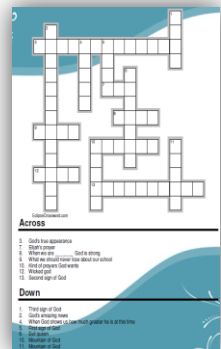
The next page lists around 8 questions for group discussion. The teacher can use these questions to talk with the class about topics that relate the passage to their life so they can get talking and thinking about the application of the passage and have some discussion time.

There is a page for testimony writing (2 for 3rd grade). At the top is space for them to



write one thing they learned and one way they can apply it. This is to assist in testimony writing, since over the course of the week, they often forget the main point of what they learned when they go to write. The testimony section, consists of a brief section for summarizing what they learned and a much longer section describing how they put it into practice or repented this week.

Finally, there's an activity at the end of the lesson. It's good to have fun time to build relationships in the class between each other and the teacher.



May God help you to have His wisdom in using these materials, and have fun!
~Tim McEathron

Preface

“And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature and favor with God and men.” -Luke 2:52

Though there are not many verses mentioned about Jesus’ childhood in the Bible, Luke 2:52 shows that Jesus is the role model of our children’s education. Jesus was fully man and fully the beloved only Son of God. Boy Jesus was favored by God and men while he was growing in wisdom and stature. We want to know how our children can also be favored by God and men.

In 1994, Chicago CBF formed the curriculum team to serve children’s spiritual growth and published two books: one Old Testament and one New Testament. In 2006 we formed the second curriculum team, among teachers who have been serving CBF for more than five years. At the onset we set three goals: 1) to comprehensively teach the Bible in full 2) to assist teachers 3) to help children put the Bible into practice. With these, we gathered together every month for 5 years, prayed and developed 8 books of Bible study materials by grade covering the entire Bible over 8 years.

It was necessary and very fulfilling to make our own materials even though there are so many Bible study materials in the bookstores. We have a special mission and unique task to provide materials which deeply study the Bible for application among CBF children. We know that these books are not perfect. But we believe that God will accept our prayers and labor and use it for raising missionaries and Bible teachers in this generation.

This is an ongoing work and we thank you also for your prayers. Your input is welcome and future updates can be found at www.chicagoubf.org/cbf.

Chicago Children’s Bible Fellowship

AN UNLIKELY FRIEND

Joshua 1:1-2:24

Theme: Courage, Making a decision of faith

After Moses died God spoke to Joshua, the new leader of the Israelites. "It's time to cross the Jordan River and take over the land I promised you," God said. Then He told Joshua how big the Israelites' land would be. "Be strong and courageous," God told Joshua. "I will be with you, as I was with Moses. If you read the book of the law that I gave Moses, and do as it says, you will win."

Joshua did what God told him to do. "We will cross the river in three days," he told the people. "Be ready."

A few miles over the Jordan river, in Canaan, was the mighty city of Jericho with its high walls. Jericho had to be destroyed before the Israelites could go any farther.

Joshua sent two men out of the camp on a mission. "Go spy on the city of Jericho for us, be back in two days," he said. The two men swam the river and walked to Jericho. Once they were in the city, someone reported the strangers to the king, and the king sent men to take them prisoner.

Joshua's two spies hid in the house of a woman named Rahab. She took them in, but

Joshua 1:7

"Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, that you may be successful wherever you go."

someone saw them going into her house. Soon soldiers were banging on the door. Rahab quickly took the two spies up onto the roof and hid them under long stalks or reeds. When the soldiers could not find the spies, they left.



Rahab's window was built into the wall and she let the men down safely to the ground. Rahab spoke to the men as they were about to leave her house. "We know God has given this land to you, everyone here is afraid of your people," she told them. "Your God is God in heaven above and on the earth below. Promise you will save me and my family when you take this city?"

"Yes," the spies promised. "We will see no harm comes to your family. Tell your family to stay inside your house until the city is taken. We will tell your men not to harm anyone in the house with the scarlet rope hanging out the window."

When the two spies returned to Joshua, they had good news. "Everyone is afraid of us! We will be able to take this land as God promised."



THINK ABOUT IT

- ❖ When we obey God's word we have nothing to fear
- ❖ God wants us to be strong and courageous
- ❖ We can have courage to make a decision of faith
- ❖ We can do what's right even when it looks too costly

TALK ABOUT IT

- ❖ Who was Joshua? (Look at: Ex 24:13, 32:17, Nu 13:16, 13:30, 14:6-9, 14:30, 32:12, Deut 31:7)
- ❖ What promise did God make to him?
- ❖ What was his mission?
- ❖ **What does it mean to be courageous?**
- ❖ **How does knowing God is with us drive away all our fear?**
- ❖ **What are some things you want to have the courage to do?**
- ❖ What was the first big challenge in Canaan?
- ❖ How did Joshua prepare for the battle?
- ❖ What happened to the spies in Jericho?
- ❖ How did Rahab save the spies?
- ❖ What was Rahab's testimony about God and the Israelites? (2:11b)
- ❖ What promise did the spies make with her?
- ❖ What report did the spies give to Joshua?
- ❖ **How did the faith of Rahab save her and help her to be part of God's history?** (Look at: Heb 11:31, Jas 2:25; Mt 1:5) *Because of her faith Rahab became the Great Grandmother of King David and even more one of the ancestors of JESUS CHRIST! Wow and she wasn't even a Jew!*
- ❖ **How can you make a decision of faith?**

Questions for Group Discussion

"Be strong and very courageous"

- ❖ Do you have a fear you want to overcome?
 - ❖ Do you pray when you're afraid?
- ❖ Have you ever gotten courage from God?
- ❖ Do you think you are strong and courageous?
 - ❖ Do you worry about bullies?
 - ❖ Are you afraid of being made fun of?
 - ❖ Are you afraid you might be unpopular?
 - ❖ Are you following God's plan?
- ❖ Do you follow God when it might be costly?
 - ❖ Do you serve God in practical ways?
 - ❖ Have you defeated your sin problem?

Can you think of More? List them Below:

An Unlikely Friend

- Joshua 1:7

"Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, that you may be successful wherever you go."

How I put God's Word into Practice

Summary: What is this passage about?

Observation: What did I learn about God in this passage?

Application:

How does the meaning of this passage apply to my life?

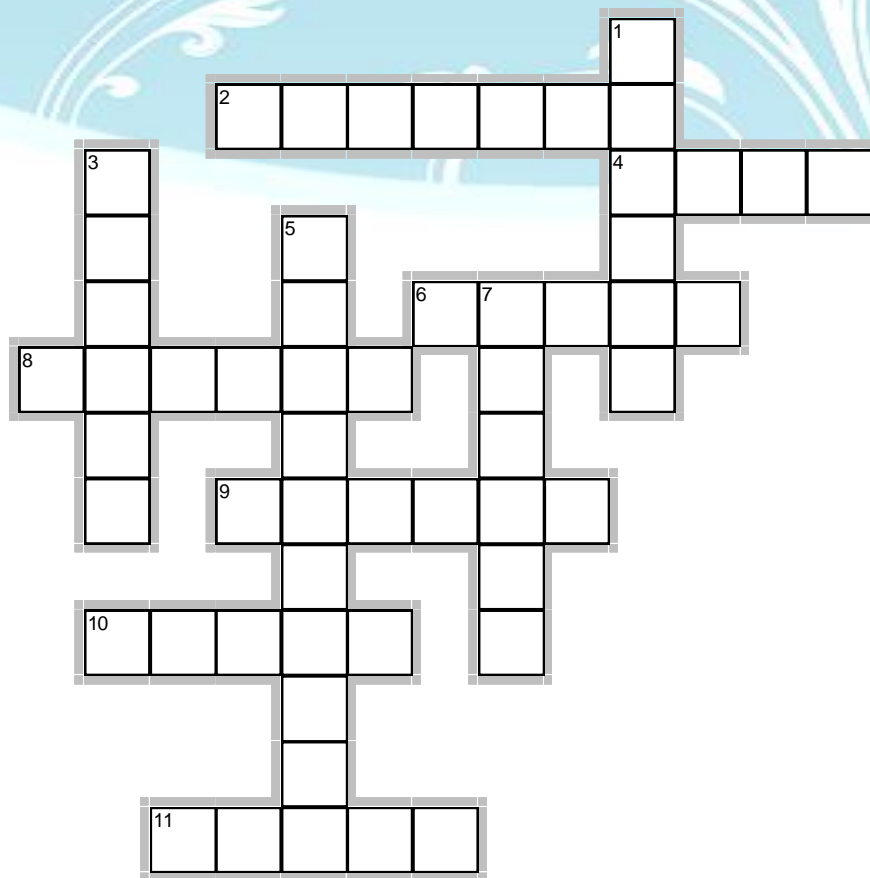
What truths should I believe and keep in my heart?

What changes should I personally make in my life?

Prayer Topics:

...so that you may be blameless and pure children of God in a crooked and lawless generation in which you shine like stars in the universe...

How well do you know God's Word?



Across

2. Great walled city
4. Scarlet _____ hanging in Rahab's window which was a sign that no one will harm them
6. _____ quickly took the two spies up on to the roof and hid them under long stalks.
8. The new leader of Israelites
9. Promised Land
10. Joshua sent two _____ in the city of Jericho
11. First leader of the Israelites

Down

1. Most famous river in Israel
3. Be _____ and very courageous
5. God told Joshua, "Be strong and _____."
7. Everyone in Jericho is _____ because of God

By Faith

Joshua 3-6

Theme: Faith, Obedience

After the spies returned from Jericho, Joshua made the camp ready to cross the Jordan river. Soon they were near the banks of the river. The river was deepest at this time of year. The people were sure many of them would die trying to get across to the other side.

Joshua prayed and God told him what to do. Joshua called out to the priests. "Bring the Ark of the Covenant to the front. Everyone else is to stay at least 3,000 feet behind."

As soon as the feet of the priests touched the water, the river stopped flowing! The water coming downstream just stopped above them and piled up. Then Joshua ordered the rest of the people to cross the river.

Once everyone was safely across the river Joshua called the leaders of the twelve tribes together. "Go gather rocks from the river bed," he said. "Make a pillar of rock here on the shore.

Make another in the middle of the river. This will help you and your children remember what God did for you this day."

When that was done, the priests carried the Ark of the Covenant to the shore. The river flowed again, as if nothing strange had ever happened there.

Joshua 4:24

"He did this so that all the peoples of the earth might know that the hand of the LORD is powerful and so that you might always fear the LORD your God."

The people made a new camp on the plain of the Jordan River, at a place called Gilgal. There they ate the fruits and vegetables of Canaan for the first time and after that the manna never dropped again from the sky.

Now Joshua had to deal with Jericho. Joshua

went away from the camp to pray and study the city. All of a sudden Joshua saw an armed man walking toward him. Joshua called out, "Are you on our side? Or are you an enemy?"

"No," said the man. "I am the captain of the Lord's army."

Then Joshua saw the man was an angel of the Lord. He bowed down. "What does the Lord want to tell His servant?" Joshua asked the angel.

"Take off your shoes. You are on holy

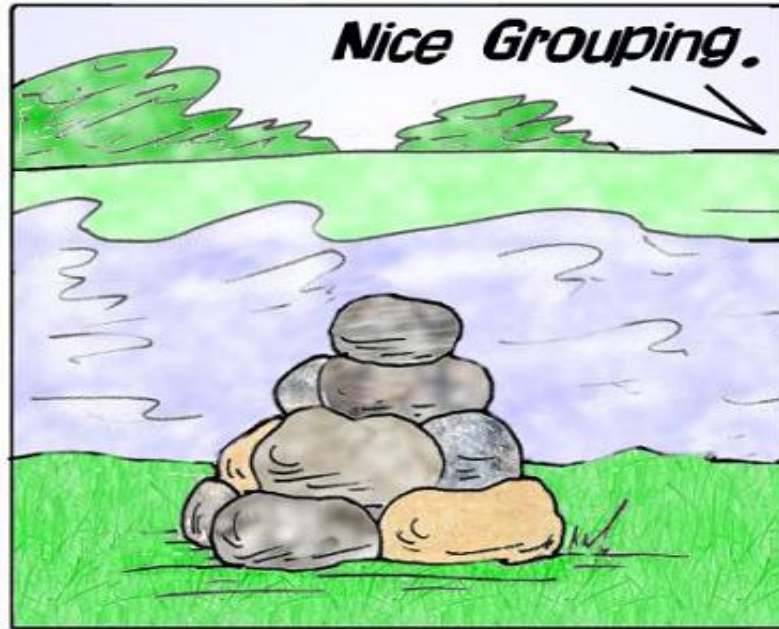
ground," the angel said.

Then God said to him, "I have given you Jericho. I will destroy the city for you." The Lord told him that they would not have to fight their way in but they would march around the city for seven days and God would make the wall fall down. It seemed impossible but Joshua believed God and the people went up against the huge city of Jericho by faith in God Almighty.

My great great uncle tells me a similar SDD Sudden Drought Syndrome occurred about 40 years ago at the Red Sea. A large number of Jews were present then too.



Josh 3:1-17 Crossing the Jordan River on dry land.



Get 12 rocks as a reminder of the miracle at the Jordan. **Joshua 4** It appears that piling up rocks was a big deal for some reason or another.

THINK ABOUT IT



- ❖ Prayer is the beginning point of faith
- ❖ God wanted the Israelites to learn faith in him through Jericho
- ❖ God can overcome any impossible looking problem
- ❖ We must have faith no matter how bad our problem looks
- ❖ It is most important to obey God if we want to win the victories in our life

TALK ABOUT IT



- ❖ When they prepared to enter Canaan what big problem would stop them?
- ❖ How are faith and prayer connected?
- ❖ What did Joshua do when there was a problem?
- ❖ Who did Joshua meet on the way to Jericho?
- ❖ How had Joshua learned from Moses?
- ❖ What was God's promise and plan?
- ❖ What did God do to help them cross the Jordan river?
- ❖ How could this odd plan be possible?
- ❖ What important thing was key to the miracles God did in this passage? It's not just the ark
- ❖ How are faith and obedience connected?
- ❖ How can we win every victory in life?

Questions for Group Discussion

*"the hand of the LORD is powerful...
always fear the LORD your God."*

- ❖ Do you have a problem that seems impossible?
 - ❖ Do you have an uncrossable river or unpassable wall in your life?
 - ❖ Do you pray when you're afraid?
- ❖ Do you have a bully you've been avoiding?
 - ❖ Is there someone in your class you're afraid to talk to?
 - ❖ Do you fear popular kids?
 - ❖ Do you obey God's commands?
- ❖ Can you obey God when it doesn't make sense?
- ❖ Do you pray to things God's way or your way?
 - ❖ Have you overcome a sin problem?
- ❖ Are you fighting the battle against your sin?

Can you think of More? List them Below:

By Faith

-Joshua 4:24

"He did this so that all the peoples of the earth might know that the hand of the LORD is powerful and so that you might always fear the LORD your God."

How I put God's Word into Practice

Summary: What is this passage about?

Observation: What did I learn about God in this passage?

Application:

How does the meaning of this passage apply to my life?

What truths should I believe and keep in my heart?

What changes should I personally make in my life?

Prayer Topics:

...so that you may be blameless and pure children of God in a crooked and lawless generation in which you shine like stars in the universe...

How well do you know God's Word?

Joshua 3-6 Word Search

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

12 Words to find

TRIBES
CAMP
JERICHO
ARK
PRIESTS
LEVITES

JOSHUA
TWELVE
RIVER
SEVEN
STONES
TRUMPET

And the walls came tumblin' down

Joshua 6:1-27

Theme: Faith, Obedience

The Israelites gathered themselves together for war. In front were the herdsmen soldiers from the east bank of the Jordan. Following them were the priests, blowing loud horns. Then came the Ark of the Covenant on the shoulders of other priests. Then came each tribe of the Israelites, marching in order. No one spoke. No one shouted. The only sound was that of the rams' horns blowing. That day they walked all around the city of Jericho once before marching back to their camp.

For the next six days they did the same thing. Every day they marched once around the city in silence, except for the blaring of the rams' horns, and returned to their camp. On the seventh day they marched again. But this time they kept on going. Seven times they marched around the city. Then they stopped. The horns stopped. All was quiet.

Suddenly, Joshua's voice rang out: "Shout! The Lord has given you the city!"

A great cry came from all the people at once. They saw the city walls begin to shake and tremble. Piece by piece, the walls crashed down before them. Only one piece of wall still stood: the wall

Joshua 6:16

"The seventh time around, when the priests sounded the trumpet blast, Joshua commanded the army, 'Shout! For the LORD has given you the city!'"

that formed the house of Rahab, who had saved the spies.

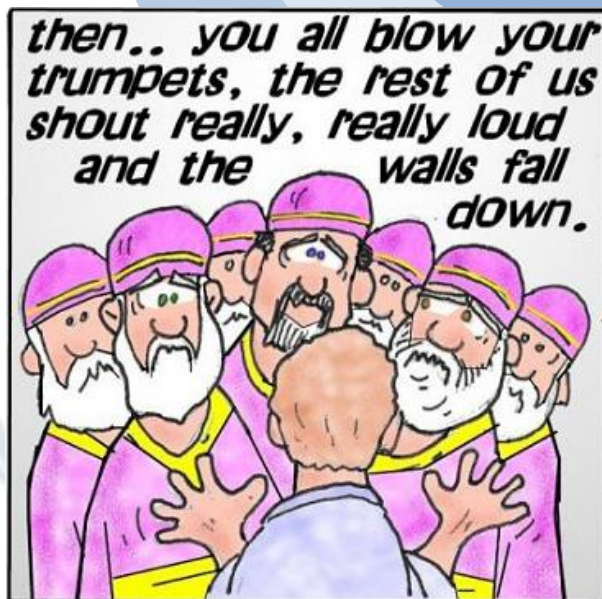
"Go get Rahab and her family," Joshua told the two spies. While this was being done, the rest of the soldiers: went into Jericho. No one fought them. The city was theirs.

Jericho was a rich city, and now everything in it belonged to the Israelites. But Joshua ordered everything brought to him.

The gold and silver and brass and iron was given to the priests for the tabernacle. Everything else was gathered up and burned as a sacrifice to the Lord, who had given them the city.

Then the city itself was destroyed and burned and cursed forever.

And what happened to Rahab, the woman who had saved the spies? She lived with the Israelites from then on. She married a prince from the tribe of Judah, a man named Salmon. And from their marriage came children who would be the ancestors of David, a great king of the Israelites.



Josh 6:6-7 When God explained his plan to overtake Jericho it sounded much more convincing than when Joshua retold it.

Oh look.. we're being attacked
by a Jewish Marching Band!



The mood at the guard tower was ironically light just moments before the fall of Jericho. **Joshua 6**

THINK ABOUT IT



- ❖ God wanted the Israelites to learn faith in him through Jericho
- ❖ God can overcome any impossible looking problem
- ❖ We must have faith no matter how bad our problem looks
- ❖ It is most important to obey God if we want to win the victories in our life

TALK ABOUT IT



- ❖ What made Jericho a very hard city to take over?
- ❖ What did God do for them?
- ❖ What were the Israelites ordered to do to win this battle?
- ❖ What was the only thing he warned them about?
- ❖ **Why might this have been difficult to obey?**
- ❖ Who was the only person in Jericho to survive the battle?
- ❖ **How did this teach the Israelites faith and help them put their trust in the Lord?**
- ❖ What special people came from the descendants of Rehab?
- ❖ What command did Joshua give the people on the seventh day?
- ❖ **What do we learn about trusting the Lord through the passage?**
- ❖ **Why was he so confident?**

Questions for Group Discussion

"Shout! For the LORD has given you the city!"

- ❖ Do you have something that is like a giant wall in your life?
- ❖ Do you run away from your problems or go up to them and shout?
- ❖ Do you ask your parents for help with your impossible problems?
- ❖ Do you go to the Bible and God for answers?
 - ❖ Do you have a bully you're afraid of?
 - ❖ Are you scared of the popular kids? of being unpopular?
- ❖ Do you pray for amazing huge things to happen?
 - ❖ Do you believe completely that it will happen when you pray?
- ❖ Have you defeated your fear of praying at lunch?
- ❖ Have you defeated your fear to invite one person?

Can you think of More? List them Below:

And the Wall Came Tumblin' Down

Joshua 6:16

"The seventh time around, when the priests sounded the trumpet blast, Joshua commanded the army, 'Shout! For the LORD has given you the city!'"

How I put God's Word into Practice

Summary: What is this passage about?

Observation: What did I learn about God in this passage?

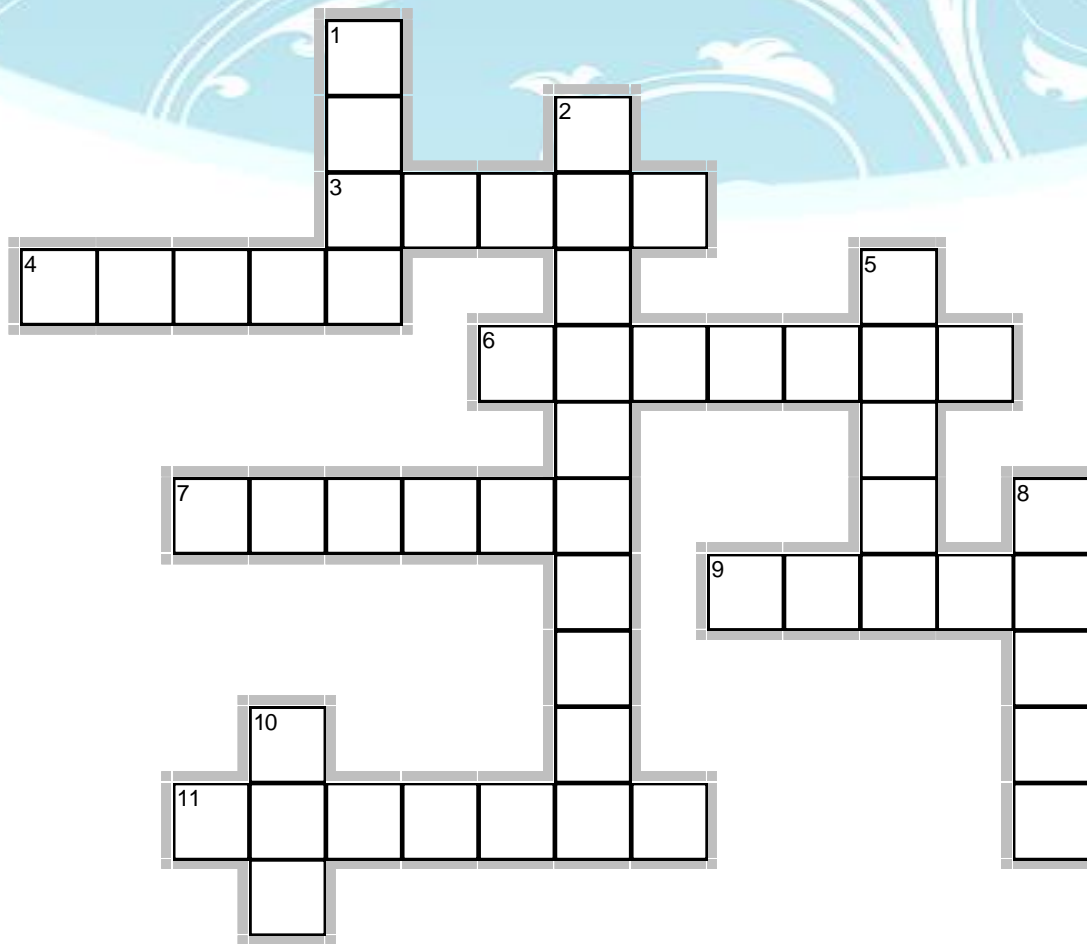
Application:

*How does the meaning of this passage apply to my life?
What truths should I believe and keep in my heart?
What changes should I personally make in my life?*

Prayer Topics:

...so that you may be blameless and pure children of God in a crooked and lawless generation in which you shine like stars in the universe...

How well do you know God's Word?



Across

3. the woman who had saved the spies
4. a great king of the Israelites
6. they walked all around the city of _____
7. a prince from tribe of Judah
9. Piece by _____ the walls crashed down
11. they marched around the city with the blowing of the _____.

Down

1. The _____ has given you the city
2. The gold and silver and brass and iron was given to the priests for the _____.
5. They saw the city walls begin to _____ and tremble
8. how many times they marched around the city
10. A great _____ came from all the people at once

God is watching

Joshua 7:1-8:35

Theme: Obey God, Don't try to hide your sin

Remember how Joshua burned all the treasures in Jericho as an offering to God? That was because everything in the city of Jericho belonged to God since God had conquered the city for the Israelites.

While the Israelites were taking Jericho, a man named Achan, found a house filled with beautiful things. There was a beautiful piece of clothing and a wedge of gold and some silver. When he saw there was no one looking, Achan took these beautiful things and hid them in his tent. But God had seen what Achan had done.

After Jericho was taken, Joshua turned to the little town of Ai. Because Ai was a small place, Joshua only sent 3,000 men to take it. To the Israelites' surprise, the men of Ai fought well and most of the Israelites died.

Joshua and the Israelites were worried. Wasn't God on their side anymore? If they couldn't take a little place like Ai, how could they capture the whole country of Canaan?

Joshua prayed to God, asking what had gone wrong. God told him that one of the Israelites had stolen something promised to Him. Until the

Joshua 7:19

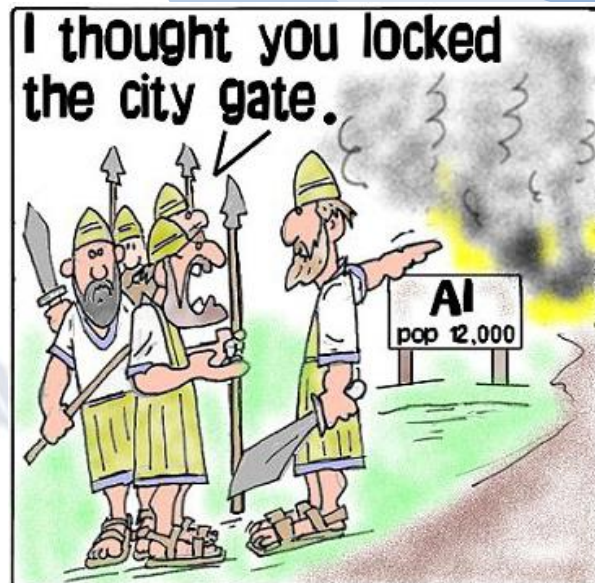
"Then Joshua said to Achan, "My son, give glory to the Lord, the God of Israel, and honor him. Tell me what you have done; do not hide it from me."

treasure was returned and the man punished, there would be a curse on the Israelites.

Early the next morning the Lord showed Joshua that Achan was the thief. As punishment, he and his family were killed by the Israelites. This taught everyone an important lesson. If they wanted God to fight on their side, they had to obey Him very carefully.

The next time Joshua sent an army to Ai the Israelites took the city. God gave him the best plan. One part of the army marched out to fight and then ran away. The soldiers of Ai chased after them. Then the rest of the army went into the totally unguarded city and took it easily. Then they came after the army of Ai and

the Israelites that were running away turned and fought. The soldiers of Ai were caught in the middle of two armies with no chance. With God on their side, victory was easy and hardly any Israelites died in battle. This time God even let them keep everything valuable they found in the city.



JOSH 8 Israel defeats Ai!



THINK ABOUT IT

- ❖ There is no sin that is secret to God
- ❖ We should live knowing God sees everything we do
- ❖ It is most important that we obey God
- ❖ If we want God to help us, first we must do what He says

TALK ABOUT IT

- ❖ How had Achan committed a great sin against God and his fellow Israelites?
- ❖ What surprising thing happened in the battle against Ai?
- ❖ How did the Israelites respond to this? What did Joshua do?
- ❖ What did God reveal to him?
- ❖ What was God's command?
- ❖ Does God care even about the "small sins" that we commit?
- ❖ What was Achan's punishment?
- ❖ Why was God's punishment of Achan necessary for the Israelite community and their future? *The death of Achan and his family may sound very cruel but think for a moment about all God had done for the Israelites. Also think about how Achan's extremely selfish sin had caused 3,000 innocent Israelites to be killed needlessly.*
- ❖ How did God help them the next time they went up against Ai?
- ❖ Who won this time? Was it easy or hard?
- ❖ What do we learn about obeying God?
- ❖ What do we learn about God who sees us through this passage?

Questions for Group Discussion

"Tell me what you have done; do not hide it from me."

- ❖ Do you have bad secrets?
- ❖ Do you tell God all your secret sins in prayer?
 - ❖ Is there a command in the Bible you pretend you don't hear or ignore?
- ❖ Do you obey as much when you are alone as when your parents or teachers are there?
- ❖ How do you spend your time when you are alone?
 - ❖ Do you fully obey your parents?
 - ❖ Do you do your work completely finishing it?
 - ❖ Can people depend on you?
 - ❖ What have you done for God lately?
- ❖ Do you obey God out of duty or out of love?

Can you think of More? List them Below:

God is Watching

Joshua 7:19

"Then Joshua said to Achan, "My son, give glory to the Lord, the God of Israel, and honor him. Tell me what you have done; do not hide it from me."

How I put God's Word into Practice

Summary: What is this passage about?

Observation: What did I learn about God in this passage?

Application:

*How does the meaning of this passage apply to my life?
What truths should I believe and keep in my heart?
What changes should I personally make in my life?*

Prayer Topics:

...so that you may be blameless and pure children of God in a crooked and lawless generation in which you shine like stars in the universe...

How well do you know God's Word?

Joshua 7-8 Word Search

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

12 Words to find

BURNED
ACHAN
TENT
TOWN
PRAYED
ARMY

CONQUER
WEDGE
AI
SURPRISE
CURSE
VICTORY

A Blunder becomes a Victory

Joshua 9:1-27; 10:1-14, 29-30; 11:1-6,12,16,21
Theme: Pray first, God wins the Victory for us

News of the power of the Israelites had spread quickly. The next city the Israelites would attack was Gibeon. The Gibeonites knew they could not defeat the Israelites, so they decided to make peace with them.

The men they sent into the Israelite camp only lived a little ways from there, but they dressed in old clothes and carried old food with them. They wanted Joshua to think they lived far away and had traveled a long time to see him. Joshua didn't pray, so he believed them and promised not to destroy their cities or hurt their people.

It didn't take long for Joshua to discover he had been tricked but a promise is a promise.

So, Joshua made the Gibeonites servants of the Israelites. From then on the Gibeonites would cut wood, carry water, and do the hard work that needed to be done in a camp.

When the other kings heard the Gibeonites had made peace with the Israelites they decided to punish the Gibeonites for serving their enemy, the Israelites.

When the Gibeonites heard an army was marching against them, they rushed to Joshua and asked him for help. They were his servants, and Joshua

Joshua 10:8

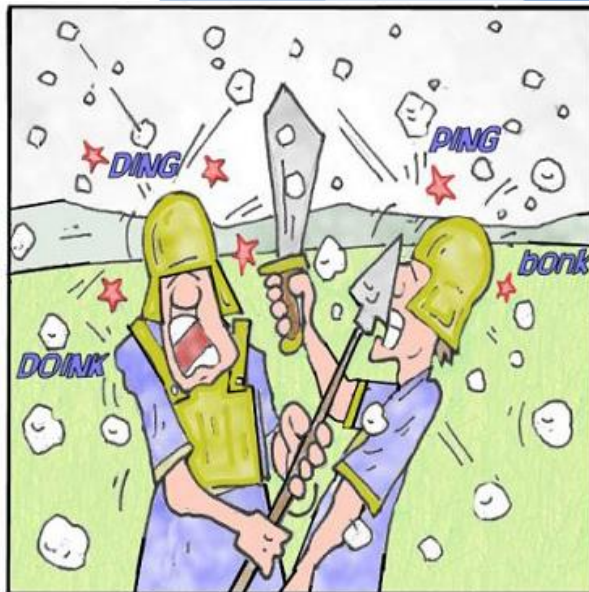
"The LORD said to Joshua, 'Do not be afraid of them; I have given them into your hand. Not one of them will be able to withstand you.'"

had to protect them. This time Joshua prayed and God told Joshua, "Do not be afraid of them; I have given them into your hand. Not one of them will be able to stand up to you."

Joshua was a good general. He immediately gathered together his army. They marched all night over the mountains. Early in the morning he surprised the five kings. This was a very important battle for the Israelites. Here they could defeat five kings at once. And since all five kings worshiped idols, and not the one true God, it was an important battle for God too.

To help the people, God sent a hailstorm down on the kings. The hailstones killed more people than the

Israelites' swords. Soon all five armies were running away, with Joshua and his men right behind them. Joshua asked God to make the sun stand still so it would be light until they won and God did this for him, so that all of them were defeated. The five kings tried to hide in a cave but Joshua found them and sealed them in the cave with a big rock. This victory gave the Israelites control of all the southern part of Canaan.



JOSH 10:11 Hailstorm kills more than sword.



JOSH 10:16-19 5 Kings 'bravely?' hide in a cave to discuss battle/runaway plans. Joshua respects their privacy by ordering a large stone rolled in front of the entrance.

THINK ABOUT IT

- ❖ We should always pray before making big decisions
- ❖ We should not be afraid if God is on our side
- ❖ When we are in God's will our victory is great but when we do our own thing our mistakes are great

TALK ABOUT IT

- ❖ What was the next city that the Israelites would come to?
- ❖ What did the Gibeonites do?
- ❖ How did the Gibeonites plan to trick the Israelites?
- ❖ What did Joshua do this time?
- ❖ What big mistake did the Joshua make?
- ❖ What did God say to Joshua?
- ❖ What should Joshua have done?
- ❖ How did God fight for them?
- ❖ How did Joshua punish the Gibeonites?
- ❖ What can we learn about the power of prayer and obedience?
- ❖ When the other kings heard about the peace treaty what did they do?

Questions for Group Discussion

"Do not be afraid of them; I have given them into your hand"

- ❖ Have you ever made a big mistake?
- ❖ Do you pray before making big choices?
- ❖ Do you pray before tests or projects?
- ❖ Have you ever asked God to show you what he wants?
- ❖ Have you ever prayed that God will turn your mistake into a victory?
- ❖ Have you ever prayed when you were afraid?
- ❖ Do you put God's way before your own ideas?

Can you think of More? List them Below:

A Blunder Becomes a Victory

Joshua 10:8

"The LORD said to Joshua, 'Do not be afraid of them; I have given them into your hand. Not one of them will be able to withstand you.'"

How I put God's Word into Practice

Summary: What is this passage about?

Observation: What did I learn about God in this passage?

Application:

How does the meaning of this passage apply to my life?

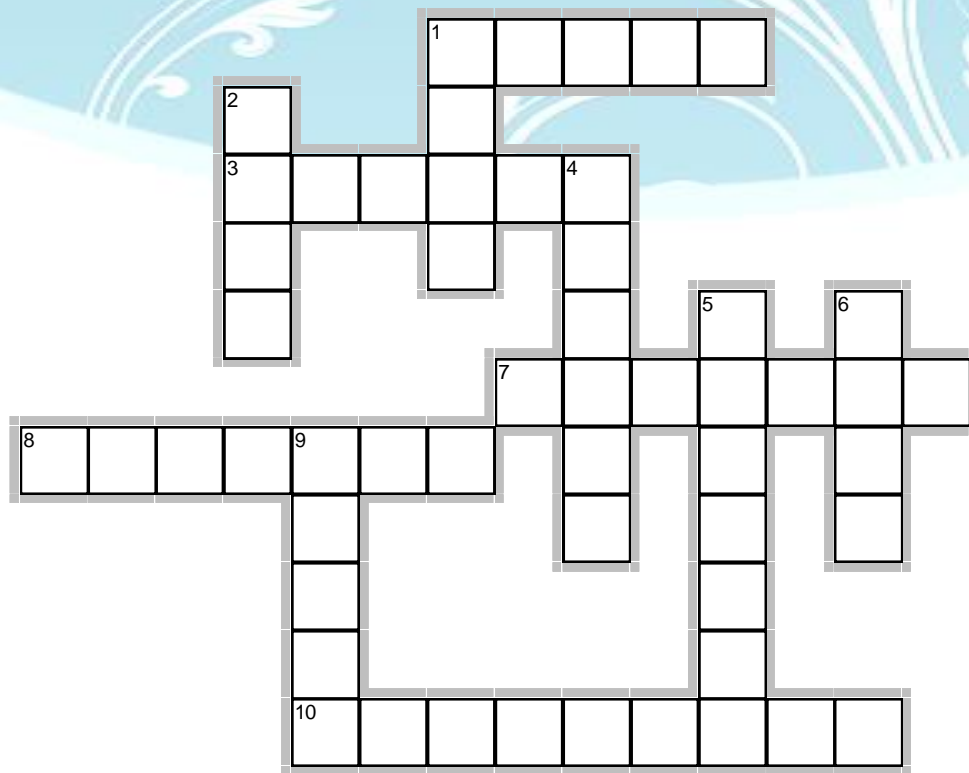
What truths should I believe and keep in my heart?

What changes should I personally make in my life?

Prayer Topics:

...so that you may be blameless and pure children of God in a crooked and lawless generation in which you shine like stars in the universe...

How well do you know God's Word?



Across

1. The Gibeonites decided to make _____ with them
3. Do not be _____ of them; I have given them into your hand.
7. Joshua was a good _____.
8. Joshua had been _____ by the Gibeonites
10. Early in the morning he _____ the five kings

Down

1. Because Joshua didn't _____ to God, he believed the Gibeonites
2. The five kings tried to hide in a _____
4. The Gibeonites knew they could not _____ the Israelites
5. Joshua made the Gibeonites _____ of the Israelites
6. God said to Joshua, "Do not be afraid of them, I have given them into your _____"
9. God sent a hailstorm down on the five _____

The Hard way is Better

Joshua 14:1-19:51

Theme: Trust in God, Don't do what's easy

The great wars in Canaan were over. That didn't mean that the Israelites were the only people living there or that they owned all the cities. So Joshua divided up the land between the 12 tribes so each tribe could conquer their part.

One day Caleb and the leaders of the tribe of Judah came to see Joshua. Caleb was one of the two spies who had wanted to go into the land forty-five years before. Although Caleb was eighty-five years old, God had kept him strong and healthy. Now Caleb had a favor to ask of Joshua.

"Remember how Moses promised me I would have my choice of land when the time came?" Caleb said to Joshua.

"Yes," answered Joshua. "And you may take any land you want. Where do you want to live?"

"The city of Hebron," Caleb answered. "I know the biggest strongest people are living there that I will have to drive out. And the city walls are high. But the Lord will help me."

Now there was plenty of good land Caleb could have chosen. He could have taken a city that was

Joshua 14:12

"Now give me this hill country that the LORD promised me that day. You yourself heard then that the Anakites were there and their cities were large and fortified, but, the LORD helping me, I will drive them out just as he said."

already; controlled by the Israelites. He could have chosen rich land near the river. But he chose a city he would have to fight for, even though he was an old man.

"Fine," said Joshua. "Gather together your men and take your city" And Caleb did just that. He drove the giants out of the city, and his family lived in Hebron for many years.

After this God told Joshua to divide up the rest of the land among the people. After years of living in the desert the people were finally going to have their own land.

Now all the Israelites had their own land, but

they would not live in peace. Nearly all the Canaanites were still there.

Up to now this area had been called Canaan after the Canaanites who lived there. From now on the land would be known as Israel or the land of the 12 tribes.





THINK ABOUT IT



- ❖ If we trust in God we don't have to be afraid of anything
- ❖ It's always better to do what is right not what is easy
- ❖ We shouldn't be selfish but do our share of the work

TALK ABOUT IT



- ❖ After the large battles what did the Israelites do?
- ❖ Was Caleb afraid?
- ❖ Who was Caleb and what had he done in the past?
- ❖ Why was he so confident?
- ❖ Of what did he remind Joshua?
- ❖ How did he set a good example by doing what was really hard?
- ❖ What was Caleb's attitude after waiting 45 years for God's blessing?
- ❖ What is better, to do what is easy or what challenges us?
- ❖ What can we learn about how to wait on God's promises?
- ❖ What do we learn through this passage about how to trust in the power of God?
- ❖ What was amazing about the land Caleb picked?

Questions for Group Discussion

"but, the LORD helping me, I will drive them out just as he said"

- ❖ Do you do what is easy or what is best?
- ❖ Do you avoid things that are hard?
- ❖ Do you like difficult school work?
- ❖ Do you try to challenge yourself to grow?
- ❖ Are you afraid of someone at your school?
 - ❖ Is there a big problem you need courage to overcome?
- ❖ Do you face your problems or run from them?
 - ❖ Do you trust God to solve your problems?
- ❖ Can you challenge kids at your school in faith?

Can you think of More? List them Below:

The Hard Way is Better

Joshua 14:12

"Now give me this hill country that the LORD promised me that day. You yourself heard then that the Anakites were there and their cities were large and fortified, but, the LORD helping me, I will drive them out just as he said."

How I put God's Word into Practice

Summary: What is this passage about?

Observation: What did I learn about God in this passage?

Application:

*How does the meaning of this passage apply to my life?
What truths should I believe and keep in my heart?
What changes should I personally make in my life?*

Prayer Topics:

...so that you may be blameless and pure children of God in a crooked and lawless generation in which you shine like stars in the universe...

How well do you know God's Word?

Joshua 14-19 Word Search

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

10 Words to find

WAR
DIVIDED
LEADERS
HEALTHY
HEBRON

CANAAN
JUDAH
SPIES
LAND
GIANTS

The Avenger of Blood

Joshua 20-21

Theme: Revenge is God's, God's Faithfulness

Joshua 21:45

"Not one of all the LORD's good promises to the house of Israel failed; every one was fulfilled."

The people of Israel had many customs and laws that seem unusual to us. They were still a rather wild people and hard to control. Their ideas of wrong and right were not the same as ours, and their tribal customs were different from our family traditions.

One of their customs was that of the avenger of blood.

Accidents happened in the wilderness. People got angry and killed each other. When that happened, the victim's tribe appointed an avenger of blood to take revenge. The person would find whoever killed their relative and kill him in turn. If he couldn't find the person, he would kill a close relative. This happened whether the first death happened on purpose or by accident. It wasn't a fair system and innocent people often died.

God knew that he couldn't order this to stop. The people hadn't listened to Moses and they wouldn't listen to Joshua. But maybe he could change the custom to protect innocent people. After the land had been divided up, Joshua chose six cities and made them cities of refuge. These cities were spread around the land, so everyone was only one or two days away from one.

If a person accidentally killed another person (or even if he did it on purpose), he would run to the nearest city of refuge. The avenger of blood would

chase after him. If he caught the man before he got to the city of refuge, he would kill him. But if the man made it safely to the city, the avenger could not do anything.

The elders of the city of refuge would look into

the case and see if the murder was an accident or had been done on purpose. If it had been done on purpose, they sent the killer out of the city, and the avenger of blood usually got him. But if he had not meant to kill anyone, he was allowed to stay there and farm some land

especially set aside for innocent people. He would stay there until the high priest of the nation died and was replaced by a new high priest. When that happened, he was free to go home and no one could hurt him.

After setting up the six cities of refuge, Joshua set up the tabernacle in Shiloh, near the center of the land. This made it easy for people to come and worship there three times a year: on Passover, the Feast of the Tabernacles, and the Feast of Pentecost. In all the land of Israel this would be the only altar for worshipping God. Now the land God had promised the Israelites had been divided up fairly among them. Their wandering days were over.





Joshua knew it was time for change when Larry tried to avenge his dog whom Bob had accidentally run over

THINK ABOUT IT



- ❖ God doesn't like revenge
- ❖ God has grace on us no matter what we've done
- ❖ Those who receive God's mission have the best inheritance
- ❖ God is faithful to keep all his promises

TALK ABOUT IT



- ❖ What were the cities of refuge and the avenger of blood?
- ❖ Why did God create a way to protect those who might have committed murderer?
- ❖ What do we learn about God's attitude towards revenge?
- ❖ What did the person who fled to the city have to do when he got there?
- ❖ Was a murderer allowed to get away with his crime?
- ❖ Why is it important to trust God rather than taking revenge?
- ❖ Why is mercy better than revenge?
- ❖ What can we learn about God's grace upon all kinds of people?
- ❖ How does this point to Jesus?
- ❖ How was God's faithfulness revealed through the conquering of Canaan? (21:45)

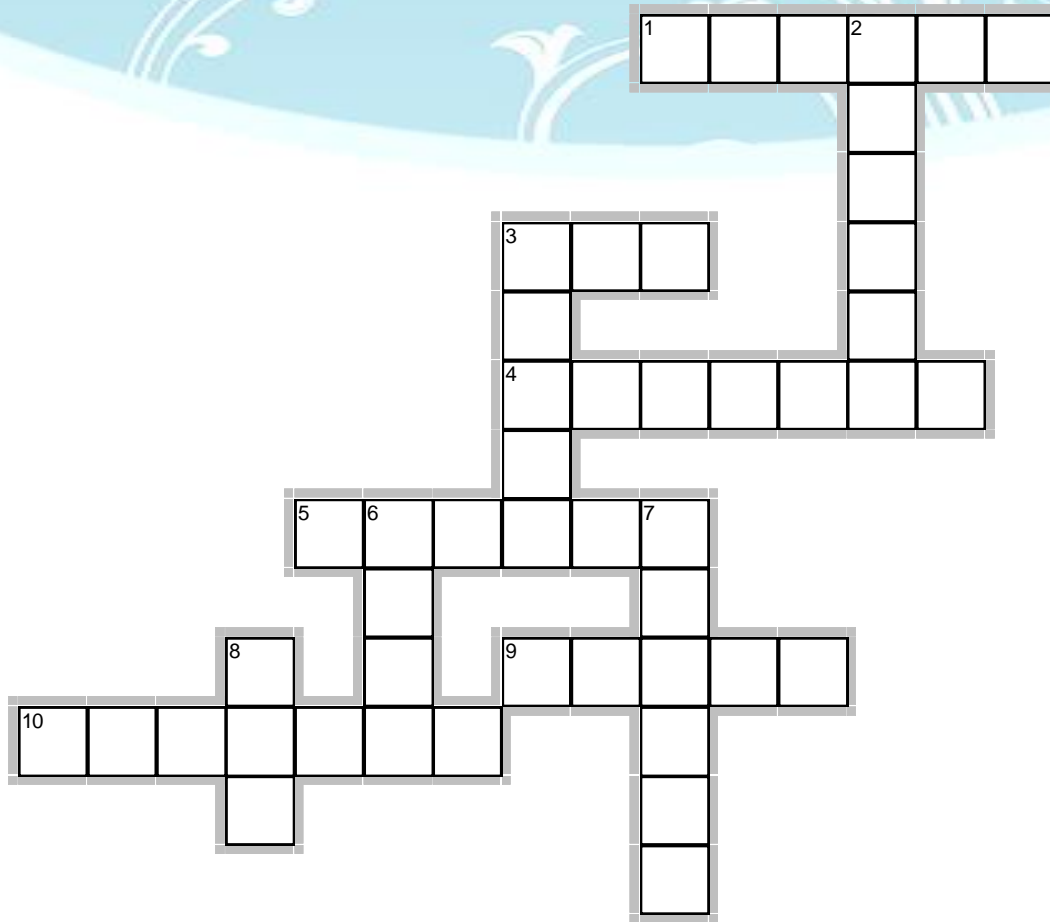
Questions for Group Discussion

"Not one of all the LORD's good promises...failed"

- ❖ Do you like to get revenge?
- ❖ Do you ever just walk away?
- ❖ Do you pray when you're upset?
- ❖ Have you ever solved a problem with words not fists?
- ❖ Have you ever made friends with an enemy?
- ❖ Do you have a bully problem or teasing problem?
- ❖ Have you ever felt like God's enemy? How did God treat you?
- ❖ Have you experienced God's forgiveness?
- ❖ Have you received God's inheritance as a "Kingdom of Priests and a Holy Nation"?

Can you think of More? List them Below:

How well do you know God's Word?



Across

1. Now the land God had promised the Israelites had been divided up _____ among them.
3. Revenge is only for _____ to do.
4. One of their customs was that of the _____ of blood.
5. The _____ of the city of refuge would look into the case
9. Instead of letting people take revenge, the guilty people were given a _____.
10. Were given no land in Israel

Down

2. The cities of _____ were spread around the land
3. God shows _____ to all people, no matter what they have done.
6. When we know how God has forgiven us, we can _____ others.
7. Joshua set up the tabernacle in _____.
8. How many cities did Joshua chose?

A Little Misunderstanding

Joshua 22:1-24:33

Theme: Working out problems, faithfulness

The first people to leave the camp at Gilgal were those who had left their families on the east side of the Jordan River. They had kept their promise to Moses. They had fought, even though they already had their own land. Joshua praised them for their faithfulness and commanded them always to serve God with all their heart and soul.

When they came to the west side of the Jordan river, they built a pile of stones. They built it on a high place, so it could be seen from far away.

This made everyone across the river wonder what was going on. Had these men forgotten the law and built their own altar to God? They knew there was to be only one altar in the land. Worse, had they decided to build an altar to another god?

One man from each of the tribes to the west of the river went to talk to the men from the east. If they had broken the laws the men from the east would have to be killed.

“No, we have done nothing wrong,” the men said. “This is only to remind our children that those on both sides of the river are all one people and that we all worship the same God. It’s a

Joshua 22:27A

“On the contrary, it is to be a witness between us and you and the generations that follow, that we will worship the LORD at his sanctuary with our burnt offerings, sacrifices and fellowship offerings.”

reminder, not an altar.” Now that they understood, the men from the west were happy again.

By now Joshua was almost 110 years old. So he called all the leaders of the tribes to meet him in

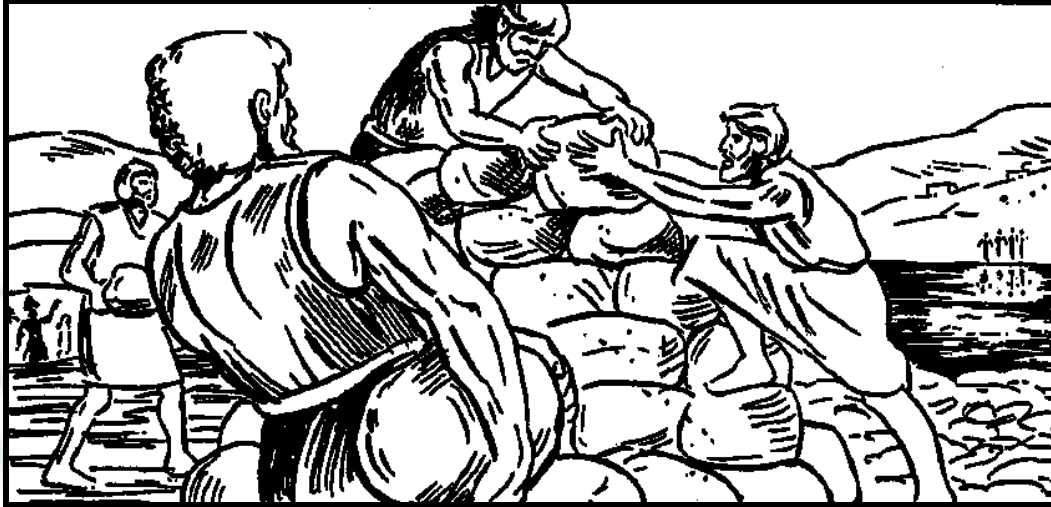
Shechem. When they were all together, he told them their history again from way back to Abraham and Jacob and Moses. He told them every single thing God had done for them over the years. He said that everything they had was a gift from God.

Then he asked the people to make a choice. Would they promise to serve God forever? Or would they listen to the other people nearby and serve other gods?

“We promise to serve our God only,” the people said. Joshua wrote that promise down in the book of the law, so

it would be remembered forever. Soon Joshua died. As long as there were people alive who remembered the great general who had led the people of Israel into the promised land, the people were faithful to God.





THINK ABOUT IT

- ❖ We must decide to be faithful to the end
- ❖ We must be clear about worshipping God the right way
- ❖ We should work out our problems with others, not fight
- ❖ We must make a decision to serve and follow God in our heart

TALK ABOUT IT

- ❖ Who were the last tribes to go home?
 - ❖ How did Joshua praise them?
 - ❖ What command did he give them?
 - ❖ What did these tribes do after crossing the river into their lands?
 - ❖ What did it appear they were doing?
 - ❖ **Why was this a big matter?** Think, would God have punished only those tribes or all the Israelites?
 - ❖ How did they solve this big problem?
 - ❖ What was the actual reason they had built the altar?
 - ❖ What did the Israelites think about this answer?
 - ❖ **Why is it so important for God's people to worship together?**
 - ❖ **Why is it always better to work out our problems not fight?**
- Conclusion to the book of Joshua**
- ❖ Why did Joshua retell their history as he neared death?
 - ❖ What was he most worried about?
 - ❖ How did the people answer him?
 - ❖ **Why must we make a firm decision to serve the Lord?**

Questions for Group Discussion

"we will worship the LORD."

- ❖ Do you talk out your problems?
- ❖ Do you fight with your brother or sister or someone at school?
- ❖ Have you ever prayed asking God to solve your argument or problem?
- ❖ Are you a peacemaker or a fighter?
- ❖ Do you argue with your parents?
 - ❖ Do you show respect?
- ❖ Do you ask God what he wants you to do?
 - ❖ Do you "smash your idols"?
 - ❖ Do you serve the LORD?
- ❖ Are you faithful all the time or just when you're told?

Can you think of More? List them Below:

A Little Misunderstanding

Joshua 22:27A

"On the contrary, it is to be a witness between us and you and the generations that follow, that we will worship the LORD at his sanctuary with our burnt offerings, sacrifices and fellowship offerings."

How I put God's Word into Practice

Summary: What is this passage about?

Observation: What did I learn about God in this passage?

Application:

*How does the meaning of this passage apply to my life?
What truths should I believe and keep in my heart?
What changes should I personally make in my life?*

Prayer Topics:

...so that you may be blameless and pure children of God in a crooked and lawless generation in which you shine like stars in the universe...

How well do you know God's Word?

Joshua 22-24 Word Search

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

12 Words to find


GILGAL
RIVER
FAITHFULNESS
SERVE
ALTAR
GIFT

JORDAN
PRAISED
COMMANDED
SOUL
REMIND
PROMISE

A Present for King Eglon

Judges 2-3

Theme: Faithfulness, Personal Faith

 In time all the men who knew Joshua grew old and died. Soon the people of Israel forgot their own God and began to worship idols. Whenever the Israelites worshiped idols, God would let a strong people from another country come in and take away land from the Israelites, making them slaves. Later, a great man would rise up from the Israelites and turn them back to God. Then they would be rich and free again. This went on for over 300 years.

The men who brought the Israelites back to God were called judges. They were wise men and strong leaders. They knew how to fight.

The first people to attack the Israelites were from Mesopotamia. They ruled the Israelites for eight years. Then the Lord sent the Israelites a man named Othniel, a brother of Caleb. He led the people to freedom, and the Israelites followed God as long as Othniel lived. He was the first of the judges.

But after Othniel died the people went back to worshipping idols. Then the Moabites came in and took over the land. The king of the Moabites was named Eglon.

Judges 2:18
 “Whenever the Lord raised up a judge for them, he was with the judge and saved them out of the hands of their enemies as long as the judge lived.”

When the people cried to God for help, He sent them a judge named Ehud. Ehud went to see King Eglon. “I have a present for the king,” he told the guards. “Let me see him.” Ehud gave the king a wonderful present, then left. But soon he was back again. “I have a message for the king,” he told the guards, “Let me in again.”

In those days men always wore their swords outside their clothing on the right side of their body. The guards could see that Ehud had no sword hanging at his waist. What they didn’t know was that Ehud was left-handed and had a dagger hidden under his clothing!

Ehud drove the dagger deep into the king’s body, then left quietly by the back door. By the time the guards decided to go check on the king, Ehud was miles



Eglon king of Moab is stabbed by Ehud completely losing the sword in Eglon’s significant girth. Ju. 3:21-22

away.

Ehud quickly gathered together an army and drove out the Moabites, who now had no king to lead them in battle. Ehud was the second judge to free the Israelites.

Years later the Philistines attacked the Israelites. Shamgar, the third judge, met them with an army of farmers and drove them back into their own land. But as soon as he died they turned away again.



Shamgar kills 100 philistines with a sharp stick. **Judges 3:31**

THINK ABOUT IT

- ❖ God wants us to have personal faith
- ❖ We can't have faith that depends on someone else but a personal relationship with God
- ❖ We must remain faithful to God no matter what others are doing
- ❖ We must have the courage to fight for God to help others believe

TALK ABOUT IT

- ❖ What happened to the Israelites after the death of Joshua?
- ❖ What happened every time the Israelites were unfaithful?
- ❖ How did God help them at this time?
- ❖ How does this show the amazing patience and love of God?
- ❖ When they became slaves again what should they have remembered?
- ❖ What was the name of the first judge God used to save them?
- ❖ After he died what did they do?
- ❖ What was the name of the second judge who saved them?
- ❖ What happened when he died?
- ❖ What was the name of the third judge who saved them?
- ❖ What happened when he died?
- ❖ What is the problem with having faith that depends on someone else?
- ❖ What kind of faith do we need?

Questions for Group Discussion

"the LORD raised up judges, who saved them"

- ❖ Are you a courageous Christian or are you sometimes scared to share your faith?
- ❖ Do you just believe or do what others tell you or do you have personal faith?
 - ❖ Do you have an identity as a Christian?
 - ❖ Can others tell you are a Christian?
- ❖ Do you act and talk like a Christian in school?
 - ❖ Do you ever give in to peer pressure?
 - ❖ Are you faithful to pray at lunch?
- ❖ Do you stick up for weak classmates who are bullied?
 - ❖ Have you ever been a hero to someone weak or unpopular?

Can you think of More? List them Below:

A Present for King Eglon

Judges 2:18

"Whenever the Lord raised up a judge for them, he was with the judge and saved them out of the hands of their enemies as long as the judge lived."

How I put God's Word into Practice

Summary: What is this passage about?

Observation: What did I learn about God in this passage?

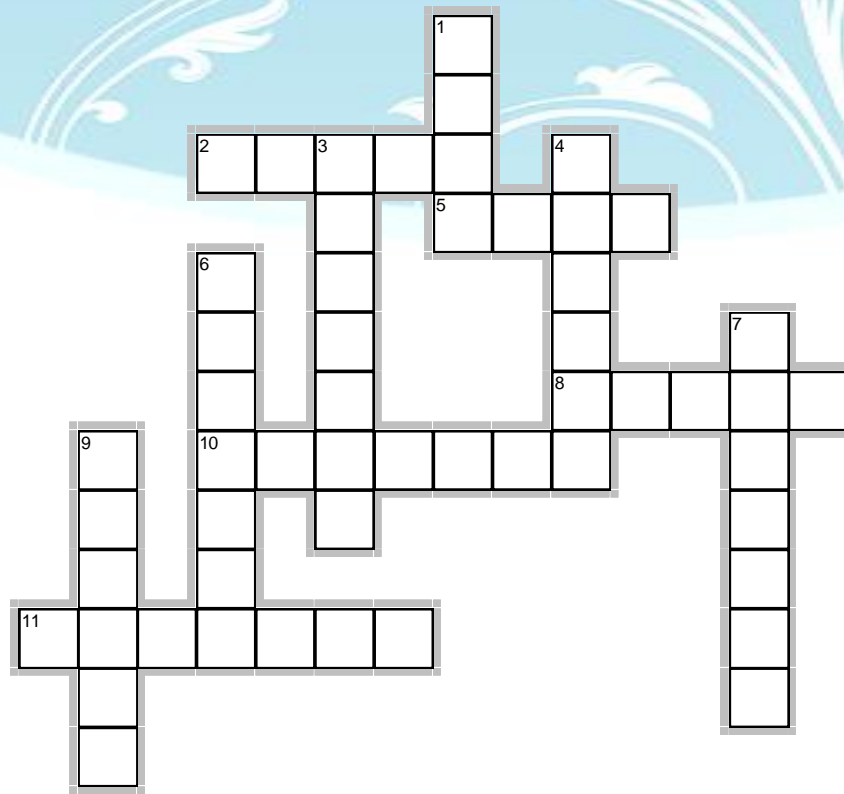
Application:

*How does the meaning of this passage apply to my life?
What truths should I believe and keep in my heart?
What changes should I personally make in my life?*

Prayer Topics:

...so that you may be blameless and pure children of God in a crooked and lawless generation in which you shine like stars in the universe...

How well do you know God's Word?



Across

2. The people of Israel forgot their own God and began to worship _____
5. 2nd Judge who to free the Israelites
8. The king of the Moabites
10. When the Israelites were unfaithful, God handed them over to their _____
11. 3rd Judge

Down

1. They were _____ men and strong leaders.
3. Brother of Caleb
4. The men who brought the Israelites back to God were called _____.
6. Othniel led the people to _____.
7. We need _____ to fight for others and stand up as believers in front of unbelievers
9. The Israelites fell away after the death of _____

Deborah Judge of Israel

Judges 4:1-24, 5:31b

Theme: Obedience, Courage, Faith

One of the times that Israel forgot God they were attacked by the Canaanites. The general of the Canaanites was Sisera, and his army was known far and wide for its iron chariots drawn by horses and they easily defeated the Israelites in the northern part of Israel and ruled them very hard for 20 years.

During this time, Debora was the only woman judge. People came from all over to get her advice. The people did what she said because they knew God was with her. Deborah knew that the Israelites in the north were suffering under the Canaanites. She sent a message to Barak, a brave man she knew who lived in that region.

She told him to gather together an army and attack the Canaanite army to the north. Barak was a good man, but he did not think he could win this battle alone. So he sent a message back to Deborah. "I will go," he said. "But only if you come with me."

Deborah agreed to go with him. But because Barak did not trust God, she said he would not be given the honor of defeating the Canaanites. The honor would go to a woman.

Deborah and Barak collected 10,000 men for the battle. The Israelite army looked awfully small.

"Go down and fight," Deborah told Barak.

Judges 4:9a

"'Certainly I will go with you,' said Deborah. 'But because of the course you are taking, the honor will not be yours, for the Lord will deliver Sisera into the hands of a woman.'"

"The Lord will go before you and give you the victory."

Barak and his army rushed down so fast that the Canaanites didn't have time to hitch up their horses.

Without their chariots and horses, the Canaanites were just normal people, and soon the Israelites were chasing them away.

There was a deep and dangerous brook in the valley. As the Canaanites ran away they pushed and shoved their way into the brook. Many of them were drowned.

When the Canaanite general, Sisera, saw the battle was lost, he ran away too. He found a tent standing all by itself in the valley and rushed to it for help.

The tent was owned by a man

named Heber and his wife, Jael. Jael knew who Sisera was and motioned him into her tent. Then she hid him under a rug so no one would find him.

Sisera, still hiding under the rug, asked Jael for a drink of water. She brought him milk instead, and soon he fell asleep. When he was sound asleep Jael took a hammer and tent spike. She crept up to Sisera and pounded the stake right through his head.

Jael was treated like a hero by the Israelites from then on. As Deborah had predicted, a woman—Jael—had freed her people.

Jael took a tent stake.. and smashed it through Sisera's head.. and he was DEAD!!



The Song of Deborah (Judges 5). Deb graduated from the Moses School of Music with an emphasis on Shock Rock lyrics.



THINK ABOUT IT

- ❖ We should listen to those who have the Word of God
- ❖ It is most important to simply obey God not do it our way
- ❖ God honors those who have the courage to do his will

TALK ABOUT IT

- ❖ Who did God hand the Israelites over to after the death of Shamgar the third judge?
- ❖ How can we have courage when things look impossible?
- ❖ What made Sisera's army so strong?
- ❖ How did Deborah answer his request?
- ❖ How many years were they subject to the Canaanites? (Notice the time is getting longer each time, compare 3:8, 3:14)
- ❖ Who won the battle?
- ❖ Who was Deborah?
- ❖ What happened to General Sisera?
- ❖ What word of God did she give to Barak?
- ❖ How did Jael trick him?
- ❖ How did Barak respond to this clear word of God?
- ❖ How did Deborah's prophecy come true?
- ❖ What was wrong with his response?
- ❖ Even though Barak won the war, because he had no faith Jael got all the glory for killing Sisera; what should we learn from this? Heb 11:6

Questions for Group Discussion

*"the honor will not be yours, for the LORD
will hand Sisera over to a woman."*

- ❖ Do you argue a lot when you're told what to do?
 - ❖ Do you like to complain?
 - ❖ Do you have a hard time trusting God?
 - ❖ How do you react when you read about your sin problem in the Bible?
- ❖ Have you ever challenged yourself to simply obey God's word?
 - ❖ Do you have simple faith?
 - ❖ Are you obedient to God?
 - ❖ Are you obedient to your parents?

Can you think of More? List them Below:

Deborah Judge of Israel

Judges 4:9a

“Certainly I will go with you,” said Deborah. “But because of the course you are taking, the honor will not be yours, for the Lord will deliver Sisera into the hands of a woman.”

How I put God’s Word into Practice

Summary: What is this passage about?

Observation: What did I learn about God in this passage?

Application:

*How does the meaning of this passage apply to my life?
What truths should I believe and keep in my heart?
What changes should I personally make in my life?*

Prayer Topics:

...so that you may be blameless and pure children of God in a crooked and lawless generation in which you shine like stars in the universe...

How well do you know God's Word?

Judges 4-5 Word Search

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

13 Words to find

OBEDIENCE
ATTACKED
IRON
HORSES
SUFFERING
BATTLE
FREED

COURAGE
SISERA
CHARIOTS
DEBORAH
VALLEY
JAEL

DO What?

Judges 6-8

Theme: Courage & Faith to Do What's Right

Once more the Israelites turned away from God to worship idols. This time the Midianites attacked them. They took everything the Israelites grew, leaving them nothing to eat.

One day a man named Gideon was hiding some wheat so the Midianites would not find it. Suddenly he saw an angel under an oak tree. "You are a brave man, Gideon," the angel said. "Go set your people free from the Midianites. But first you must stop them from worshipping idols."

That night Gideon took ten men with him and knocked down the town idols. Then he built an altar to God and used the pieces to light his offering fire.

The next morning the people who worshiped those idols came to Gideon's father to kill Gideon. "If your god is so great let him kill Gideon," his father said. Of course nothing happened. When the people saw that nothing happened to Gideon, they turned back to worshipping the one true God.

Before going to war Gideon wanted a sign, so he asked God to make a fleece he laid outside wet with dew but all the ground dry, then do the opposite the next night. God did both things, and Gideon believed.

Gideon gathered a great army together to defeat the Midianites. Then he spoke to God.

"Your army is too large," God said. "Send home anyone who is afraid to fight." That day, 22,000 men

Judges 6:14
"The LORD turned to him and said, 'Go in the strength you have and save Israel out of Midian's hand. Am I not sending you?'"

left the army and went home. Now Gideon's army had only 10,000 men.

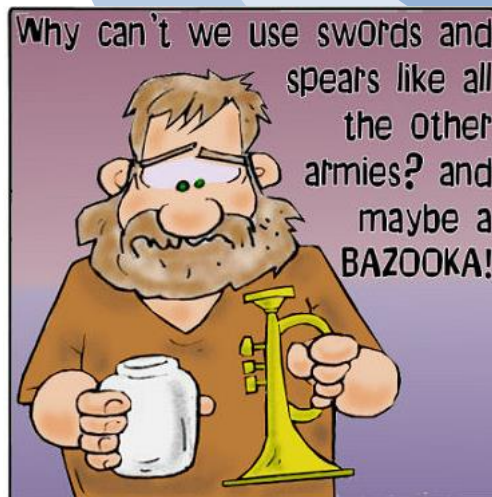
God said, "The army is still too big. Take them down to the river to drink. And only keep those who drink

with their mouth." Out of the 10,000 men only 300 had stayed ready to fight while they drank, keeping their weapons in their hands. Gideon kept the 300 men with him. The rest he sent back to the top of the mountain.

God then told him the plan for victory. Gideon gave each man a lamp, a pitcher, and a trumpet. They put the lighted lamps inside the pitchers. Then they quietly surrounded the Midianite camp in the middle of the night. The Midianites were like the sand on the seashore, there were so many.

All his men shouted at once, broke their pitchers, and let their lamps shine. Then they all blew their trumpets as loudly as they could.

The Midianites woke up, terrified. All around them they saw lights and flashing swords. The air was filled with the sound of trumpets. Thinking there were thousands of men ready to kill them, they started fighting each other. Then they ran off but the 10,000 men on the mountain raced down and cut off the fleeing army, killing many. Then ahead of them was the other army coming to help Gideon. They totally defeated them and the Midianites never came into Israel again.



After the Lord trims a 32,000 man army down to lean mean 300, he arms them with trumpets and jars. **Judges 7:8** (sounds like a comedy skit)



Ju. 7:22 The Midianites fight each other.

THINK ABOUT IT

- ❖ When we are unfaithful to God he will not protect us
- ❖ We must have the courage to do what is right and go where God leads us
- ❖ It is not as important to understand what God asks but to obey because God said it
- ❖ With faith any victory is possible, especially the impossible

TALK ABOUT IT

- ❖ Who conquered the Israelites after the death of Deborah?
- ❖ How big was the second army?
- ❖ Who did God choose to help the Israelites?
- ❖ How did God again shrink the army?
- ❖ **How did this test Gideon's faith, courage and love for God?**
- ❖ How big was the final number?
- ❖ How did the people react?
- ❖ How is the Midianite army described?
- ❖ How did Gideon's father help the people come back to God?
- ❖ What was God's plan?
- ❖ What was God's sign of victory to Gideon?
- ❖ **Why would this be very difficult to believe in?**
- ❖ After Gideon had gathered his army what did God say to him?
- ❖ How did God fight for Gideon?
- ❖ **What is more important strength or faith?**
- ❖ **How can we have God fighting for us in life?**

Questions for Group Discussion

"Go in the strength you have...Am I not sending you?"

- ❖ Do you have something that is an idol in your life?
- ❖ Is there something that you spend all your time and thought on that distracts you from God?
 - ❖ Could you smash your idol, give it away or give it to your parents?
 - ❖ Is there something you want to do for God but you are afraid to do?
 - ❖ Do you think or pray and obey?
- ❖ Could you challenge the unbelief in your school?
 - ❖ Can you live with courageous faith?

Can you think of More? List them Below:

Do What?

Judges 6:14

"The LORD turned to him and said, 'Go in the strength you have and save Israel out of Midian's hand. Am I not sending you?'"

How I put God's Word into Practice

Summary: What is this passage about?

Observation: What did I learn about God in this passage?

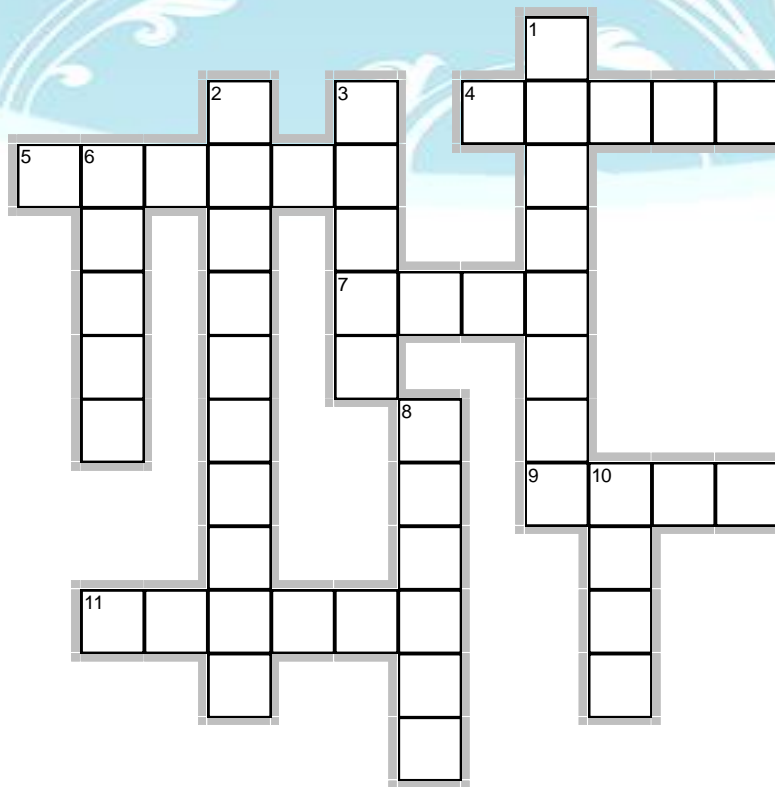
Application:

*How does the meaning of this passage apply to my life?
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What changes should I personally make in my life?*

Prayer Topics:

...so that you may be blameless and pure children of God in a crooked and lawless generation in which you shine like stars in the universe...

How well do you know God's Word?



Across

4. You are a _____ man, Gideon," the angel said.
5. Send home anyone who is _____ to fight."
7. Super weapon of Gideon's army
9. The Midianites were like the _____ on the seashore, there were so many
11. A sign Gideon wanted before going to war

Down

1. The air was filled with the sound of _____.
2. Enemies of Israel
3. We must destroy them
6. The real Super weapon of Gideon's army
8. Who hid some wheat
10. God said, "The _____ is still too big

Jephthah's Foolish Promise

Judges 9-11

Theme: Bible Faith not Emotional Faith

When Gideon and the three judges after him were dead, the people returned to worshiping idols. This time the Ammonites attacked them.

They took over the land of the tribes that lived on the east side of the Jordan River. The Israelites cried out to God but he was very angry with them and told them to ask their idols for help. They got rid of all their idols and kept crying out to him until he could bear it no more.

Finally, a man named Jephthah brought together an army to fight the Ammonites.

Before he went into battle Jephthah made a promise to God. "If you let me beat the Ammonites, whatever comes out of my house first to meet me when I come home will be Yours. I will offer it up as a burnt offering to You."

Jephthah lived a long way from the tabernacle. Although he worshiped God, he didn't know God's laws very well. God had made it plain years ago what kind of sacrifices He wanted.

Jephthah won his battle. But when he returned home the first thing to come out of his house was not a lamb or an ox. It was his only child, his daughter!

Judges 10:16

"Then they got rid of the foreign gods among them and served the LORD. And he could bear Israel's misery no longer."

Jephthah told his daughter about his promise to God. Although she must have been very frightened, she told her father he must keep his promise to God. All she asked was to go into the countryside with her friends for two months

to prepare herself. At the end of that time she came home and Jephthah kept his promise to God: Jephthah's daughter was burned on the altar as a sacrifice.

This was the only time the Israelites had ever offered a living person as a sacrifice to God. If Jephthah had known the laws of God better, such a horrible thing would never have



"You want to watch me to go dance in front...well ok"
Jephthah's animals secret plot revealed

happened.

From these stories we can see how the Israelites lived during the time of the judges, a period of 200 years. No one man ruled over them all. Many families obeyed God's laws the best they could. But others didn't. Some of the tribes lived free. Others lived under the control of other people. Life was dangerous, and people were sometimes foolish. But through it all, God stayed faithful to His people, the children of Israel.



THINK ABOUT IT



- ❖ God never gives up on his children
- ❖ Our faith can't be based on our own idea but on God's word
- ❖ God doesn't want us to make foolish emotional promises but pray and ask for his strength

TALK ABOUT IT



- ❖ After the death of Gideon what did the people again do?
- ❖ When Israel sinned again which nation did God give them over to?
- ❖ What did the Israelites do then?
- ❖ How did God respond to them?
- ❖ When did God finally listen to them?
- ❖ Who did God raise up for them?
- ❖ What foolish vow did Jephthah make?
- ❖ Why was such a vow not right according to God's laws?
- ❖ Did God help him?
- ❖ How did his foolish vow turn bad for him?
- ❖ What can we learn through these chapters about the danger of following God emotionally rather than basing our faith on the Bible?

Questions for Group Discussion

"he will begin the deliverance of Israel"

- ❖ Have you ever done something you regret?
- ❖ Do you pray when you make a decision?
- ❖ Can you read the bible once this week?
 - ❖ Have you ever made a promise you couldn't keep?
 - ❖ Have you ever asked God to help you with something?
- ❖ Do you put God's way before your own?
- ❖ When you sin, do you ask for God's forgiveness?
- ❖ Do you believe that God can help you with anything?

Can you think of More? List them Below:

Jephtha's Foolish Promise

Judges 10:16

'Then they got rid of the foreign gods among them and served the LORD. And he could bear Israel's misery no longer.'

How I put God's Word into Practice

Summary: What is this passage about?

Observation: What did I learn about God in this passage?

Application:

How does the meaning of this passage apply to my life?

What truths should I believe and keep in my heart?

What changes should I personally make in my life?

Prayer Topics:

...so that you may be blameless and pure children of God in a crooked and lawless generation in which you shine like stars in the universe...

How well do you know God's Word?

Judges 9-11 Word Search

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

13 Words to find

GIDEON
IDOLS
CRIED
JEPHTHAH
PROMISE
SACRIFICES
OX

WORSHIP
AMMONITES
ANGRY
FIGHT
OFFERING
LAMB

ISRAEL'S SUPERMAN

Judges 13-16

Theme: Don't Follow Emotions, Find God's Will

After Jephthah three other judges ruled the Israelites. But the people turned back to their idols again. This time the Philistines attacked them and conquered all of Israel, not just a few tribes.

One day an angel came to a man named Manoah whose wife couldn't have children. He told the man that his wife was going to have a son who would save Israel but the boy must be dedicated to God—a Nazarite. He could never drink any wine, and his hair could never be cut. This would be the sign that he was dedicated to God.

The baby was named Samson. Samson grew up to become the strongest man in the Bible. But Samson fell in love with a Philistine woman and told his parents to get her as his wife. His parents weren't happy but this was from God who wanted to attack the Philistines.

One day when Samson was walking along the road to visit this young woman, a young lion pounced out of the bushes and jumped on him. Samson was so strong he killed the lion with his bare hands.

A short time later Samson took the same road to his marriage feast. On the way he came to the dead lion. He saw that bees had made a nest and the lion's body was full of honey.

Judges 13:5b

"His head is never to be touched by a razor because the boy is to be a Nazirite, dedicated to God from the womb. He will take the lead in delivering Israel from the hands of the Philistines."

During the wedding feast everyone started telling riddles. "I'll give you a riddle," Samson said to a group of Philistines. "If you can't answer it, you

owe me thirty suits of clothing. "Out of the eater, something to eat; out of the strong, something sweet."

For three days they tried to find the answer and finally asked Samson's new wife to find the answer for them. She bugged him non-stop until he told her, then she told the others, and Samson owed them thirty suits of clothing.

Samson paid his bet, but not the way the Philistines thought he would. He went out and killed the first thirty Philistines he saw, then gave their clothing to the others!

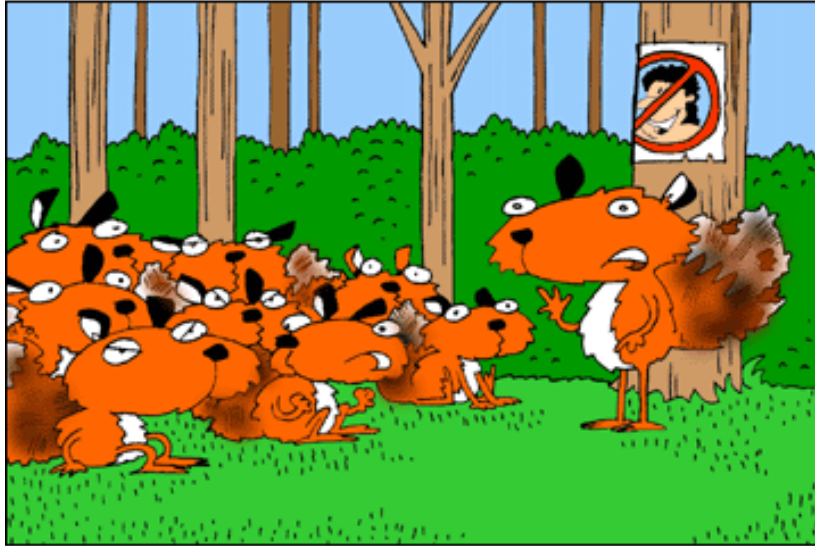
Samson was so mad at his wife that he went back to his parents' house for a while.

When he went back, her father had married her to another man. This got Samson mad again. He found wild foxes, tied them together and put a torch between their tails and turned the foxes loose in the Philistine fields. The foxes ran everywhere and burned down all the crops.

Because of Samson's act of rage, the Philistines killed Samson's wife and her father. The killing continued until Samson left the area to hide for a while but he vowed to be their enemy forever.



Samson plays with the kitty-kat.
Judges 14:5-6



ATTENTION EVERYONE ... THE FIRST MEETING
OF "FOXES AGAINST SAMSON" WILL NOW COME
TO ORDER

THINK ABOUT IT



- ❖ If something else is first in our heart instead of God we will do foolish things (1st commandment)
- ❖ We cannot follow our emotions instead of God
- ❖ We must ask God to show us our mission then do what God wants not what we want

TALK ABOUT IT



- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ When the Israelites again did evil, who did God hand them over to? ❖ What was the angel's message to Manoah? ❖ When Samson was grown who did he choose for a wife? ❖ What was the first sign of Samson's great strength? ❖ What riddle did he ask of the Philistines? ❖ How did they solve his riddle? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ What shows Samson's weakness? ❖ How did he get revenge? ❖ What happened that sparked Samson to attack the Philistines? ❖ What did the Philistines do in return? ❖ <u>What does it show about Israel that God used such a strange hero?</u> ❖ <u>What can we learn from Samson about following our emotions instead of God?</u> |
|---|---|

Questions for Group Discussion

"he will begin the deliverance of Israel"

- ❖ Have you ever done what you wanted instead of asking God?
- ❖ Is God most important in your life?
 - ❖ Have you ever asked God what his plan for your life is?
 - ❖ Have you ever done something just because you were upset?
- ❖ Do you put God's will before your own?
- ❖ Do you pray when you need God's help?
- ❖ Have you ever followed your emotions?
 - ❖ Have you ever taken your anger out on a brother, sister, or friend?

Can you think of More? List them Below:

Israel's Superman

Judges 13:5b

"His head is never to be touched by a razor because the boy is to be a Nazirite, dedicated to God from the womb. He will take the lead in delivering Israel from the hands of the Philistines."

How I put God's Word into Practice

Summary: What is this passage about?

Observation: What did I learn about God in this passage?

Application:

How does the meaning of this passage apply to my life?

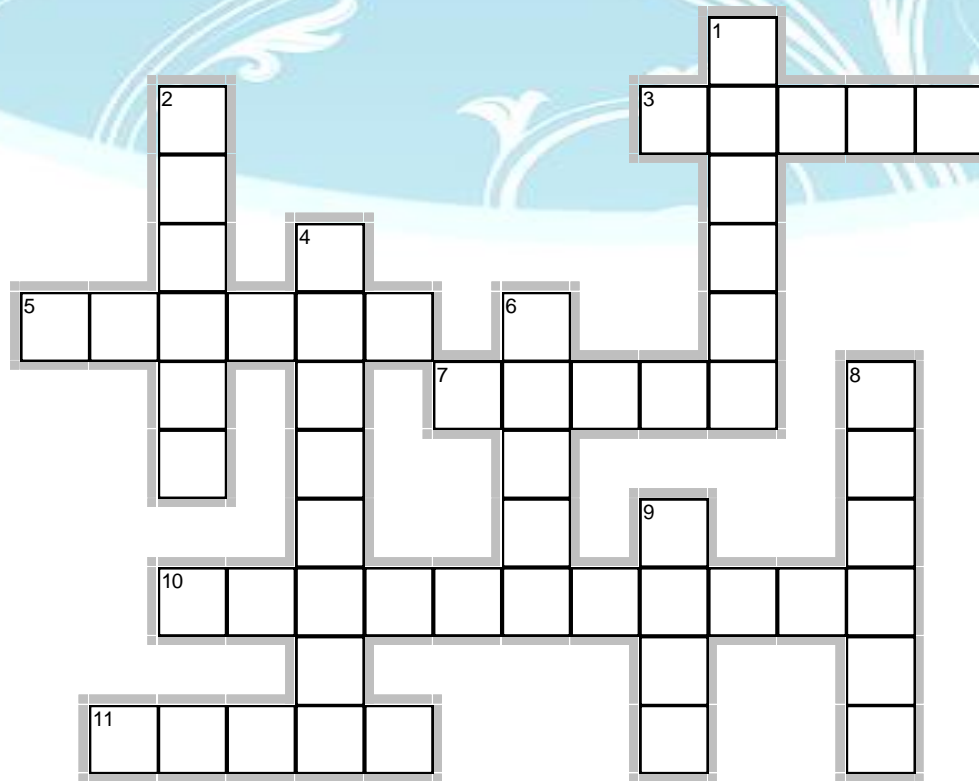
What truths should I believe and keep in my heart?

What changes should I personally make in my life?

Prayer Topics:

...so that you may be blameless and pure children of God in a crooked and lawless generation in which you shine like stars in the universe...

How well do you know God's Word?



Across

3. After Jephthah, how many judges ruled the Israelites?
5. A man whose wife couldn't have children
7. He saw that bees had made a nest and the lion's body was full of _____.
10. They attacked and conquered all of the Israel
11. An ____ told Samson's parents that he would save Israel

Down

1. Samson owed them _____ suits of clothing
2. The foxes ran everywhere and _____ down all the crops
4. Dedicated to God from the womb
6. Samson found wild _____ tied them together and put a torch between their tails
8. _____ grew up to become the strongest man in the Bible
9. Samson killed a ____ with his bare hands

SUPERMAN'S WEAKNESS

Judges 16

Theme: Wickedness is weakness, Faith is power

The Philistines continued to make life terrible for the rest of the Israelites. When the Israelites complained to Samson, he let them tie him up and turn him over to the Philistines. The Philistines laughed at him when they saw him being turned over by his own people. But they didn't laugh long. As soon as he was near them, Samson broke the ropes holding him. He reached down and picked up the jawbone of a donkey that was nearby. Using the jawbone as a sword, Samson killed over 1,000 Philistines that day alone.

Samson was amazingly strong but he had one weakness. He saw a beautiful Philistine woman named Delilah and he had to have her as his wife even though the Philistines were his enemies. She was a bad woman. The Philistines made her promise to find out what made Samson so strong. Day after day, she pestered him. "If you loved me, you would tell me," she said. Samson would tell her a lie every time. Every time she did what he told her, nothing happened to him and he beat up all the Philistines that suddenly showed up. But she kept pestering him so long that he finally told her the truth.

"If my hair is ever cut," he said, "I will no longer be strong."

Judges 16:28

"Then Samson prayed to the LORD, 'Sovereign LORD, remember me. Please, God, strengthen me just once more, and let me with one blow get revenge on the Philistines for my two eyes.'"

That night Delilah cut Samson's hair while he slept. The Philistines rushed in and captured him without a struggle. Then they blinded him and kept him tied up. They would bring him in and laugh at him whenever they felt like it. Of course,

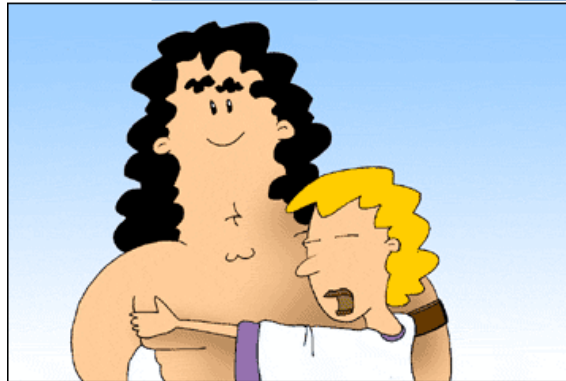
Samson's hair was beginning to grow again.

One day there was a great Philistine feast. The Philistine temple was filled with people. Over 3,000 more were standing on the roof of the temple, hoping to see Samson. All the rulers were there as well.

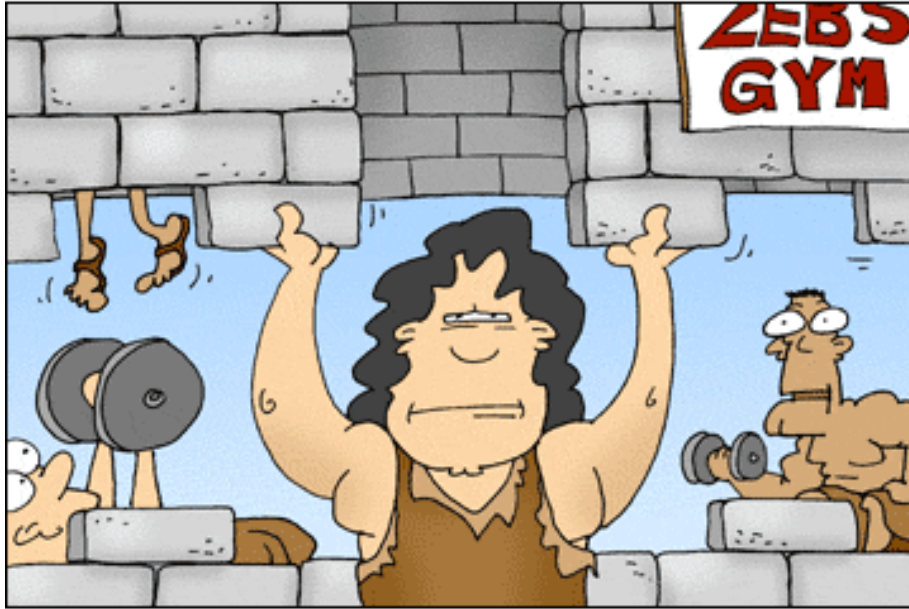
Samson leaned against a column of the temple. He

quietly asked God to give him back his strength just one more time. Then he pushed on two columns with all his strength, pulling the temple down on top of himself and thousands of Philistines.

The people of Samson's tribe found his body and buried him in his own land. Samson wasn't a great judge or tribal leader. All he did to Israel's enemies, he did on his own. Maybe he could have done even more if he had been a great leader and if he didn't have such a problem with women. But at the end of his life Samson asked for God's help and God was with him. With God's help Samson saved Israel from its enemies.



OH SAMSON DARLING, I LOVE YOU TO DEATH
... WHAT'S THE BEST WAY TO KILL YOU?



SAMSON VISITS THE GYM ON A GOOD HAIR DAY

THINK ABOUT IT



- ❖ If something else is first in our heart instead of God we will do foolish things (1st commandment)
- ❖ We cannot follow sinful pleasures and God
- ❖ Wickedness makes us weak but faith is the victory

TALK ABOUT IT



- ❖ Why did the Israelites give Samson to the Philistines?
- ❖ What happened?
- ❖ Who was Delilah?
- ❖ What did the Philistines want from her and how did she respond?
- ❖ How is Samson's weakness again exposed here?
- ❖ What was her question and Samson's answers?
- ❖ Why did he tell her knowing what would happen?
- ❖ What happened when his hair was cut off?
- ❖ **What happens to our strength when we follow a sinful pleasure?**
- ❖ Later when he was brought before the rulers of the Philistines what did he pray?
- ❖ How did God help him one last time?
- ❖ **What can we learn from Samson about trying to live a sinful life and live for God?**
- ❖ **About doing things our own way?**

Questions for Group Discussion

"O God, please strengthen me just once more"

- ❖ Have you ever asked God to give you strength?
 - ❖ Has God ever given you a victory?
 - ❖ Do you put God's will before your own?
 - ❖ Has God ever helped you with a problem?
 - ❖ Do you have faith that God's way is best?
 - ❖ Do you love God more than anything else?
 - ❖ Have you ever relied on your own strength instead of God's?

Can you think of More? List them Below:

Superman's Weakness

Judges 16:28

"Then Samson prayed to the LORD, 'Sovereign LORD, remember me. Please, God, strengthen me just once more, and let me with one blow get revenge on the Philistines for my two eyes.'"

How I put God's Word into Practice

Summary: What is this passage about?

Observation: What did I learn about God in this passage?

Application:

*How does the meaning of this passage apply to my life?
What truths should I believe and keep in my heart?
What changes should I personally make in my life?*

Prayer Topics:

...so that you may be blameless and pure children of God in a crooked and lawless generation in which you shine like stars in the universe...

How well do you know God's Word?

Judges 16 Word Search

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

16 Words to find

BAD
CAPTURE
DELILAH
LIFE
RULER
STRONG
TERRIBLE
WEAK

BEAT
COMPLAIN
DONKEY
PESTER
SAMSON
WORD
TIE
WIFE

DON'T YOU EVER LEARN?

Judges 17-18

Theme: Don't follow idols, Remember God

During the time of the judges there was a man named Micah. He and his mother lived in the mountains of Ephraim near the road that ran from north to south.

Micah stole 1,100 pieces of silver that belonged to his mother and made himself two idols. He set the idols up in his house and made one of his sons his priest. In a little while a young Levite, named Jonathan son of Gershom, passed by Micah's house. The Levites all served as priests in Israel. When Micah offered him a job as his private priest, the young man was very happy, even though he would serve an idol.

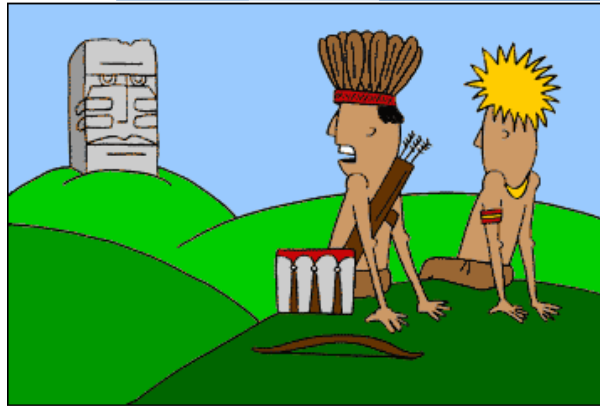
One day five men from the tribe of Dan stopped at Micah's house. These five men were looking for a new home for the tribe away from the dangerous Philistines. They knew the young priest and asked what he was doing in Micah's house, so he showed them the idols and the altar that Micah had set up.

After they left Micah the five men found a small city to the north that would be easy to capture because the people were peaceful—it was cruel to attack them. When they went back to Dan and told the people about the city, part of the tribe decided to move there. In addition to wives and children and flocks, there were 600 men with shields and swords and spears.

Judges 18:30

"There the Danites set up for themselves the idols, and Jonathan son of Gershom, the son of Moses, and his sons were priests for the tribe of Dan until the time of the captivity of the land."

As the little army neared Micah's house, one of the five men told them about the temple and priest in the house.



I'VE BEEN SITTING HERE WATCHING THIS GOD OF OURS FOR A FEW HOURS NOW AND I REALLY DON'T THINK THAT HE IS ALL THAT POWERFUL ... IN FACT, I DON'T EVEN THINK THAT HE CAN WALK

They took the idols away from Micah and convinced the priest to come with them and be their priest. There was nothing Micah could do to stop them.

The people from Dan easily took the little city in the mountains. They rebuilt it and named it Dan, after their tribe. Then they built their own temple for the two idols, and the priest served the idols for many years.

The saddest part of this story concerns the young

Levite. Instead of serving God as he was supposed to, he was serving idols. This young man was the grandson of Moses!

Because the temple at Dan was much closer to the people in the north than Shiloh, many of them worshiped at it, forgetting about the God who had taken them out of Egypt. As the conclusion to the book of Judges, we can see how far the people had fallen from God when they always turned to idol worship.



SO TELL ME MORE ABOUT THIS GOD OF YOURS
... LIKE, FOR EXAMPLE, IF YOU MISTAKE
HIM FOR FIREWOOD WILL HE BURN?

THINK ABOUT IT



- ❖ Families and Societies without God become ruined, sinful and violent
- ❖ We should never forget the Truth to fit in or live an easier life
- ❖ Anything or anyone we make into an idol will not be able to save us, Only God can
- ❖ We should never forget God who has given us every good thing to follow earthly things

TALK ABOUT IT



- ❖ What did Micah do to his own mother?
- ❖ What does this show about the way families had been ruined when they had no God?
- ❖ Who were the Levites?
- ❖ How had God's chosen servants even become corrupted in those times?
- ❖ How could this believer in God serve idols made of silver?
- ❖ Why is truth so important?
- ❖ What did the Danites do to Micah?
- ❖ Were Micah's idols able to save him at this time?
- ❖ Who did it turn out the Levite was?
- ❖ Why was this so sad?
- ❖ Why is this story a good summary of Judges?
- ❖ What can we learn about following the true God through this?

Questions for Group Discussion

"There the Danites set up for themselves the idols"

- ❖ Do you take time to remember all that God has done for you?
- ❖ Have you ever disobeyed God or your parents?
 - ❖ What does God mean to you?
 - ❖ Do you put God before anything else?
 - ❖ Have you ever tried to it in at school?
- ❖ Do you ever read the bible to learn God's truth?
 - ❖ Do you remember to pray each day?

Can you think of More? List them Below:

Don't You Ever Learn?

Judges 18:30

"There the Danites set up for themselves the idols, and Jonathan son of Gershom, the son of Moses, and his sons were priests for the tribe of Dan until the time of the captivity of the land."

How I put God's Word into Practice

Summary: What is this passage about?

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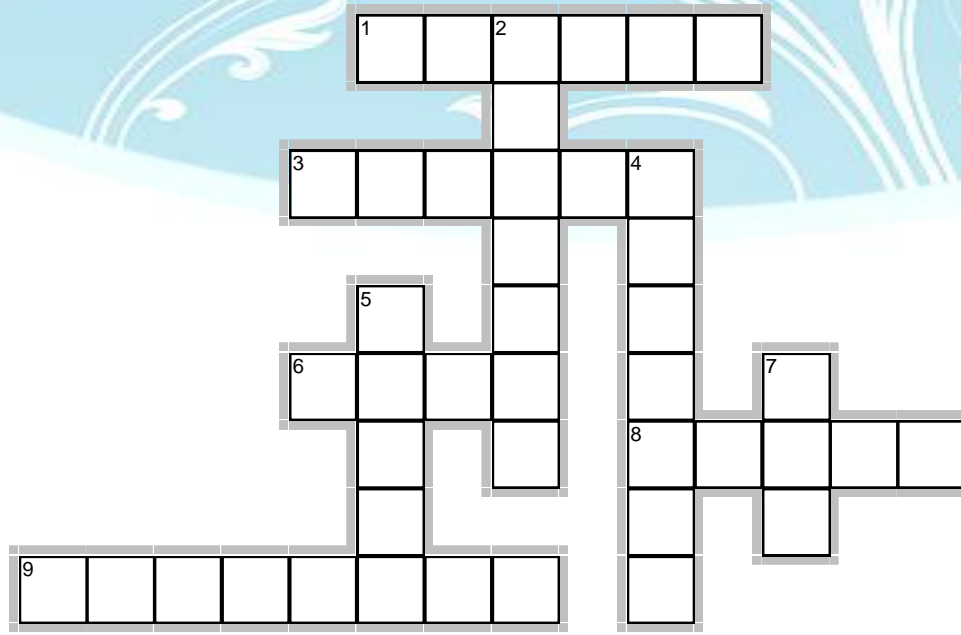
What truths should I believe and keep in my heart?

What changes should I personally make in my life?

Prayer Topics:

...so that you may be blameless and pure children of God in a crooked and lawless generation in which you shine like stars in the universe...

How well do you know God's Word?



Across

1. The people had _____ from God when they always turned to idol worship.
3. Micah stole 1,100 pieces of _____ that belonged to his mother
6. How many men from tribe of Dan stopped at Micah's house?
8. The tribe of Dan began to worship Micah's _____
9. _____ son of Gershom was a grandson of Moses

Down

2. The _____ all served as priests in Israel
4. They _____ it and named it Dan, after their tribe.
5. There was a man named _____ who worshipped idols
7. Instead of following idols, we should follow _____

How to be a blessing pt 1

Ruth 1-2

Theme: Faithfulness, Loving Others, Blessing

One year when food was scarce in Bethlehem a man named Elimelech took his wife Naomi and two sons and moved to the richer country of Moab.

The family stayed there for ten years. The two sons married women from Moab. By the end of the ten years Elimelech and his two sons had died in Moab, leaving behind Naomi and his sons' two wives.

Times were better in Bethlehem by now. Naomi decided to go back to her home there. Her two daughters-in-law were not Israelites, so she told them they should go back to their parents and be happy. She would be fine on her own, she said. One of the women did go away, but the other, who was named Ruth, refused to leave Naomi.

"Where you go, I will go," she said. "Your people shall be my people. And your God will be my God."

Nothing Naomi said would make Ruth change her mind, so the two women went together.

Naomi and Ruth were very poor. They had no one to look after them, and they had no land to farm. In those days, farmers always left a little of their crops standing in the field while they harvested the rest. Poor people could go into the fields and take this food to feed themselves.

Ruth 1:16-17

"Don't urge me to leave you or to turn back from you. Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God. Where you die I will die, and there I will be buried. May the LORD deal with me, be it ever so severely, if anything but death separates you and me." (NIV 1984)

Ruth decided she would take care of Naomi by going to work in the fields even though it was dangerous for a girl to go out there alone. Ruth went into the fields of Boaz, a very rich man, to gather food for herself and Naomi. Boaz saw her

there and asked his workers who she was. Boaz was a relative of Naomi's dead husband. He had heard how good Ruth was to her mother-in-law, and he liked her. He quietly told his workers to leave more food in the field than they usually did and to be kind to Ruth. Ruth worked hard all day to pick it all up.

At lunch Boaz invited her to eat with them but Ruth put a little of the lunch they gave her away for Naomi. She always thought about Naomi and worked hard for her Mother-in-law.

When Naomi saw how much food Ruth brought home she was so excited. Naomi was so blessed to have a daughter-in-law like Ruth who thought about her and loved her so much.



Ruth's To Do list



THINK ABOUT IT



- ❖ To be a blessing we must think about others before ourself
- ❖ Ruth was beautiful because she was so faithful to Naomi and loved her more than herself
- ❖ When we love others we must show it by doing things for them, not just say it
- ❖ To be a blessing we must work hard for others

TALK ABOUT IT



- | | |
|---|---|
| ❖ Who was Naomi? | ❖ How did Ruth take care of her mother-in-law? |
| ❖ What happened to her family? | ❖ Who was Boaz? |
| ❖ What did Naomi tell her daughter-in-laws to do? | ❖ How did he show kindness to Ruth? |
| ❖ What did Ruth say to her mother-in-law? | ❖ Why did he? |
| ❖ <u>Why did she make such a difficult decision?</u> | ❖ How did Ruth even think about Naomi while she was getting fed and receiving many blessings? |
| ❖ <u>How can we be a loving person like Ruth?</u> | ❖ <u>What can we learn from Ruth about how to show our love for others?</u> |
| ❖ Why did they return to Judah? | |

Questions for Group Discussion

*"all nations on earth will be blessed,
because you have obeyed me."*

- ❖ Do you ever pray for others?
- ❖ Have you ever helped someone out, even though it was hard?
- ❖ Do you help your parents at home by doing chores?
- ❖ Do you love others more than yourself?
- ❖ Is there anyone at school who you have trouble getting along with? Can you love them like Ruth?
- ❖ Do you show your love for your brother or sister?
- ❖ Have you ever been faithful to something?
- ❖ Have you ever served someone?

Can you think of More? List them Below:

How to Be a Blessing P#1

Ruth 1:16-17

"Don't urge me to leave you or to turn back from you. Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God. 17 Where you die I will die, and there I will be buried. May the LORD deal with me, be it ever so severely, if anything but death separates you and me."

How I put God's Word into Practice

Summary: What is this passage about?

Observation: What did I learn about God in this passage?

Application:

*How does the meaning of this passage apply to my life?
What truths should I believe and keep in my heart?
What changes should I personally make in my life?*

Prayer Topics:

...so that you may be blameless and pure children of God in a crooked and lawless generation in which you shine like stars in the universe...

How well do you know God's Word?

Ruth 1-2 Word Search

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

12 Words to find

BLESSING
CHANGE
DECIDED
FIELD
LOVE
NAOMI

BOAZ
DAUGHTERS
ELIMELECH
HOME
MIND
RUTH

HOW TO BE A BLESSING PT2

Ruth 3-4

Theme: Obedience, Blessing

After Ruth had gone to work in Boaz' field and he had been so kind to her, Naomi realized that Boaz must like her. Also Boaz was a relative of her dead husband.

He was her kinsman-redeemer, a relative who could marry her to carry on her dead husband's family. This was an important custom because a person's family line was important back then and also it was hard for a woman to survive on her own.

Naomi told her to put on her best clothes and go to where Boaz was at the threshing floor and lay at his feet. Then when he asked why she was there she should tell him that he is her kinsman-redeemer.

This was a difficult thing to do because women weren't allowed there and what Naomi told her to do might seem wrong to others. But Ruth just did everything just as she was told and also trusted Naomi's direction that she should marry Boaz.

Ruth 3:5-6

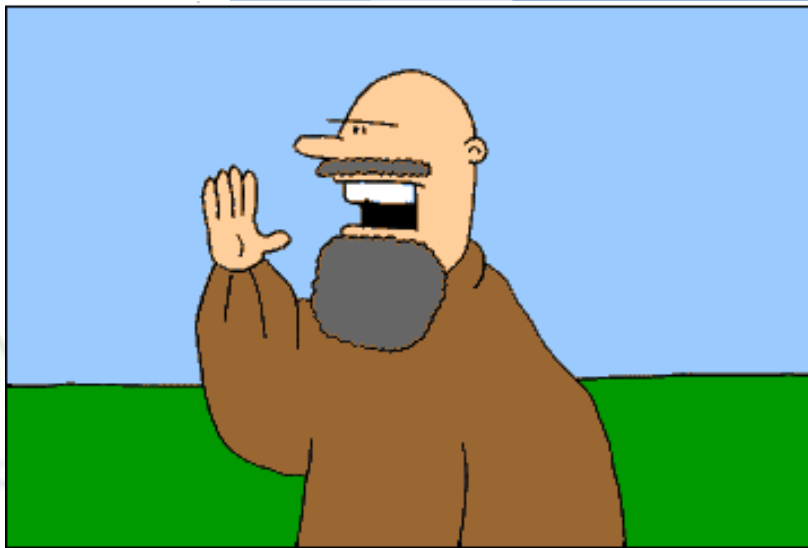
"I will do whatever you say,' Ruth answered. So she went down to the threshing floor and did everything her mother-in-law told her to do."

She went to the threshing floor and did all that Naomi told her. Boaz was so happy and called her a woman of noble character, because she could

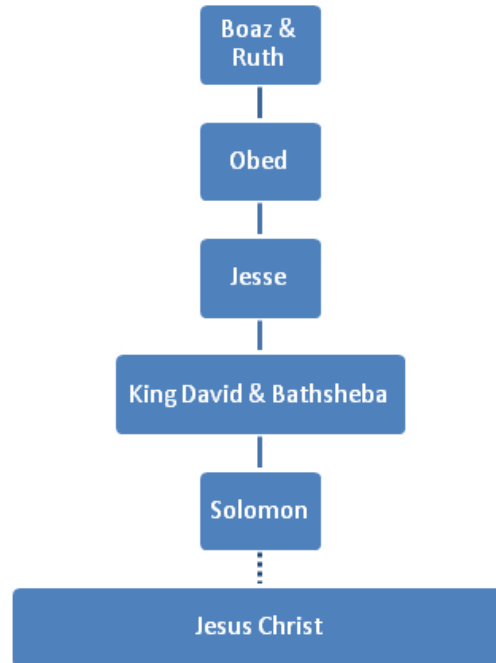
pick anyone but she chose him, because it was the right thing to do.

As was the law, Boaz had to ask the other kinsman-redeemer who was more closely related if he wanted to redeem Ruth. When he said he did not, Boaz married her.

After their marriage Naomi never would have to worry about providing for herself. God greatly blessed Ruth's decision of faith to marry Boaz. Their child Obed was the father of Jesse, who was the father of David the greatest king of all Israel's history. And eventually through him Jesus.



"WHERE'S MY WIFE?" ASKED BOAZ,
RUTH-LESSLY



THINK ABOUT IT

- ❖ We must learn to be obedient and trust our parents in all things.
- ❖ Especially, our love to our parents and to God is expressed by our trust and obedience.
- ❖ God greatly blesses those who give their marriage to God by faith.
- ❖ God greatly blesses those who do something by faith not calculation.

TALK ABOUT IT

- ❖ What does it mean that Boaz was Naomi's kinsman-redeemer?
- ❖ Why was Boaz so happy to see Ruth?
- ❖ What was Naomi's plan?
- ❖ **What does it mean to be a woman of noble character?**
- ❖ How would this be very difficult for Ruth to do?
- ❖ Even though he wanted to marry her how did he decide to do the right thing?
- ❖ **Why might it have been hard for Ruth to decide to marry Boaz?**
- ❖ What famous person came from the marriage of Ruth and Boaz?
- ❖ How did Ruth respond to her mother-in-laws wishes?
- ❖ **How did God greatly bless the decision of faith of one woman who thought of others before herself (think if Ruth had not loved Naomi; King David would never have been born)?**
- ❖ **What can we learn from Ruth about how to show our love through trust and obedience?**

Questions for Group Discussion

"I will do whatever you say"

- ❖ Do you obey your parents?
- ❖ Have you ever done something by faith?
- ❖ Do you trust your parents?
- ❖ Have you ever done the right thing, even if it was hard?
- ❖ Do you obey your teachers?
- ❖ Do you put God's way before your own?
- ❖ Do you ask God for help before making a big decision?
- ❖ Have you ever helped someone make a decision?

Can you think of More? List them Below:

How to Be a Blessing Pt 2

Ruth 3:5-6

"I will do whatever you say," Ruth answered. So she went down to the threshing floor and did everything her mother-in-law told her to do."

How I put God's Word into Practice

Summary: What is this passage about?

Observation: What did I learn about God in this passage?

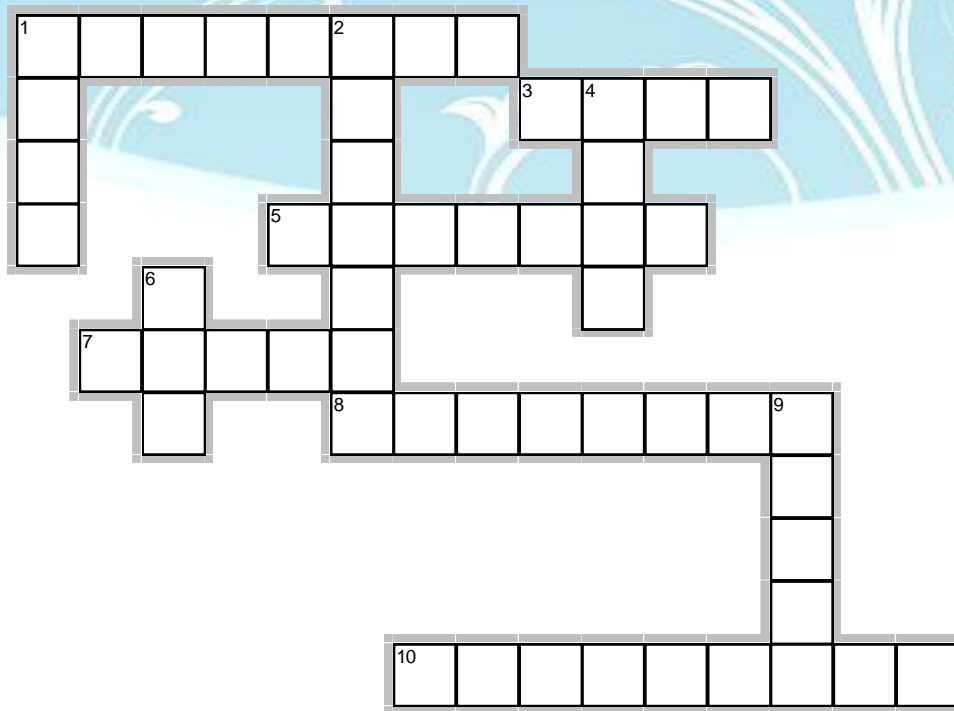
Application:

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What changes should I personally make in my life?*

Prayer Topics:

...so that you may be blameless and pure children of God in a crooked and lawless generation in which you shine like stars in the universe...

How well do you know God's Word?



Across

1. Boaz was a kinsman_____.
3. Kinsman-redeemer for Ruth's family
5. Ruth _____ Naomi's direction that she should marry Boaz.
7. Boaz was so happy and called Ruth a woman of _____ character
8. God greatly blessed Ruth's _____ of faith to marry Boaz.
10. Ruth went to the _____ floor where Boaz where

Down

1. Decided to obey her mother absolutely and honor God
2. Boaz _____ Ruth
4. The father of Jesse
6. We honor our parents because we honor _____
9. Ruth's mother-in-law

The Little Boy Promised to God

1 Samuel 1-3

Theme: Prayer, Acting by Faith

The fourteenth judge of the Israelites was an old man named Eli. He was also the high priest of the tabernacle. About fifteen miles away from the tabernacle lived a man named Elkanah. He had two wives, a common practice in those times. One of them had children, but the other, a woman named Hannah, did not. Every year Elkanah and his wives would go to the tabernacle to pray.

One year Hannah prayed to the Lord for a child. "If You give me a son," she told God, "he will serve You all his life." God heard her prayer, and soon she and Elkanah had a baby boy whom they named Samuel.

When Samuel was old enough to leave his mother, Hannah brought him to Eli and told him of her promise to God. From then on Samuel lived with Eli and served God. He would help in the tabernacle and do work for Eli, who was very old. And every year Hannah would visit her son.

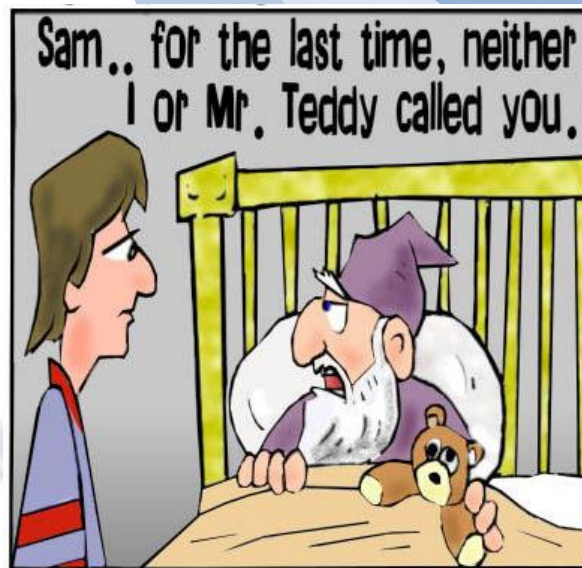
It had been a long time since God had talked to anyone in Israel. One night little Samuel heard a voice call his name. He got up from his bed and went to Eli. "Yes, Eli?" he said. "You called me?"

"No," said Eli. "I didn't call you. Go back to bed." It happened a second time and Eli again told him to go back to bed. But the third time, Eli realized it

1 Samuel 1:11

"And she made a vow, saying, "O LORD Almighty, if you will only look upon your servant's misery and remember me, and not forget your servant but give her a son, then I will give him to the LORD for all the days of his life, and no razor will ever be used on his head."

was God calling Samuel. "Next time, say 'Speak Lord for your servant is listening,'" Eli said.



After a few sleepy chats with Eli.. Samuel realized God was speaking to him. 1 Sam 3

The voice called Samuel once more. Samuel said the words Eli had taught him, and God gave him a message. "Eli's sons are wicked men. I am going to punish them."

Eli's sons worked with him. Eli had tried to bring them up right but he was not strict enough with them and they were stealing from God and the people.

Samuel didn't want to give this message to Eli. He said nothing the next morning. Finally, Eli said,

"You must tell me what the Lord said, Samuel. I need to know." The news from God wasn't good. Eli was sad to hear that his sons were going to be punished by God.

Soon, however, everyone in the country, including Hannah, had heard that God was speaking to Samuel. The people of Israel were happy to have a prophet again, and from that time on Samuel shared God's words with all twelve tribes.



1 Samuel 2:11-17 Eli's evil sons manipulate the sacrifices so that their portions were 'super-sized'.

THINK ABOUT IT

- ❖ We can find peace, no matter what our problem, when we come to God in prayer
- ❖ We must, must, must remember God and thank God when he answers our prayers
- ❖ God always sees our acts of faith and he never fails to bless them
- ❖ God speaks to us through his word, and he uses faithful people to teach his word

TALK ABOUT IT

- ❖ Who was Hannah? What was her problem?
- ❖ When Hannah was deeply troubled, what did she do?
- ❖ What promise did she make to God if he would answer her prayer?
- ❖ How did Hannah finally find peace?
- ❖ What can we learn about prayer from Hannah?
- ❖ How did Hannah keep her promise?
- ❖ How did Hannah reveal her great faith in God? Think about how difficult it must have been for Hannah after wanting a child for so long to give him to God.
- ❖ What can we learn from Hannah about how to respond to answered prayer?
- ❖ What kind of men were the sons of Eli?
- ❖ How did God use Samuel to deliver His rebuke?
- ❖ How did God grow Samuel as a prophet?
- ❖ How does God still reveal himself today? Compare 2:26 to Luke 2:52.
- ❖ How did God use the faith of Hannah to raise up Samuel at just the right time in Israel's history? Think about how God always uses one person's faith at just the right time to do his work.

Questions for Group Discussion

"O LORD Almighty, if you will only look upon your servant's misery"

- ❖ Have you ever asked God to help you?
 - ❖ Do you pray daily?
- ❖ Do you read your bible at least once a week?
 - ❖ Do you thank God when he helps you?
 - ❖ Do you keep your promises?
 - ❖ Have you ever done something by faith?
- ❖ Has God ever answered one of your prayers?
- ❖ Do you remember all God has done for you?

Can you think of More? List them Below:

The Little Boy Promised to God

1 Samuel 1:11

"And she made a vow, saying, 'O LORD Almighty, if you will only look upon your servant's misery and remember me, and not forget your servant but give her a son, then I will give him to the LORD for all the days of his life, and no razor will ever be used on his head.'"

How I put God's Word into Practice

Summary: What is this passage about?

Observation: What did I learn about God in this passage?

Application:

*How does the meaning of this passage apply to my life?
What truths should I believe and keep in my heart?
What changes should I personally make in my life?*

Prayer Topics:

...so that you may be blameless and pure children of God in a crooked and lawless generation in which you shine like stars in the universe...

How well do you know God's Word?

1 Samuel 1-3 Word Search

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

19 Words to find

ELI
FAITH
HANNAH
NEWS
PROMISE
SAMUEL
SHARED
STEAL
VISIT
WIVES

ELKANAH
GOD
HEAR
PRAYER
PUNISH
SERVANT
SPEAK
TABERNACLE
VOICE

GOD'S HOUSE IS MISSING

1 Samuel 4-6

Theme: God's Power

While Eli was still the judge, the Philistines attacked the Israelites again, killing many men. So they said, "Let's take the Ark of the Covenant with us, so God will be with us."

God was still not with the Israelites. Not only were thousands of them killed, but the Philistines took the Ark of the Covenant back home with them after the battle.

When Eli heard the sad news that his sons were killed and the ark stolen, he dropped to the ground, dead.

Because the Ark of the Covenant was the home of God, God was showing them that God no longer lived among them.

The Philistines took the Ark of the Covenant and set it in the temple of Dagon, their main idol.

The next morning they found the statue of Dagon on the floor in front of the holy chest. They stood Dagon back up again, but the next morning, the statue was on the floor again. This time the hands and head of the idol had been cut off too.

When all the people in Ashdod came down with painful boils and sores on their bodies, they moved the Ark of the Covenant to the city of Gath.

1 Samuel 4:22

"The Glory has departed from Israel, for the ark of God has been captured."

Everyone there got sick, too, so they sent it to Ekron. The people there would not let the holy chest into the city. "Send it back to Israel," they said, "before we all die."

The Philistines loaded the Ark onto a wagon, hitched two cows to it, and sent them off in the direction of Israel and the cows walked straight there all by themselves. God had saved the ark himself.

The cows stopped by some fields outside the Israelite town of Bethshemesh. When the people saw the Ark of the Covenant on the wagon they broke the wagon up for its wood, set a fire, and offered the two cows as a sacrifice to God for

bringing their holy chest back to them.

Then they sent the Ark of the Covenant to another town. For twenty years the Ark of the Covenant stayed in the house of a man there. They could not take the chest back to Shiloh because after Eli died everyone left the town and no one ever lived there again.



1 Samuel 5:1-5 Dagon the 'fish' god fell and broke in the night. AND all the Philistines horses and men couldn't put humpty dumpty Dagon together again.



1 Samuel 5&6 After 7 miserable months the Philistines returned the Ark to the Lord... and it positively had to be delivered over night.

THINK ABOUT IT



- ❖ Think about how God saved his own ark in dark times when there were no believers. Could any of the stone gods of the Philistines save themselves or their people? God can do anything
- ❖ By prayer we can win the victory before even fighting
- ❖ When God is not with us we are defeated, we must do whatever it takes to have God with us

TALK ABOUT IT



- ❖ What happened when the Israelites went to battle? Why?
- ❖ What was their plan to win?
- ❖ What should they have done instead?
- ❖ What was the Ark of the Covenant?
- ❖ What was the outcome of this second battle? Why?
- ❖ What happened to Eli when he heard about the ark?
- ❖ What happened in the Philistine temple where they put the Ark?
- ❖ What does this teach us about the one true God and stone idols?
- ❖ What happened in each of the towns the Ark entered?
- ❖ What did the people of Ekron say when it came there?
- ❖ What did they learn about God through this event?
- ❖ What did they finally decide to do with the ark?
- ❖ What can we learn through these events about the great power of the one true God?

Questions for Group Discussion

"The glory has departed from Israel"

- ❖ Do you repent after you sin?
- ❖ Do you believe that God can do anything?
- ❖ Do you ask God for help when you need it?
 - ❖ Do you pray daily?
 - ❖ Do you ask for God's forgiveness?
- ❖ Have you ever asked God to be with you?
 - ❖ Do you ever read the bible to learn more about the powerful God?

Can you think of More? List them Below:

God's House is Missing

1 Samuel 4:22

"The Glory has departed from Israel, for the ark of God has been captured."

How I put God's Word into Practice

Summary: What is this passage about?

Observation: What did I learn about God in this passage?

Application:

How does the meaning of this passage apply to my life?

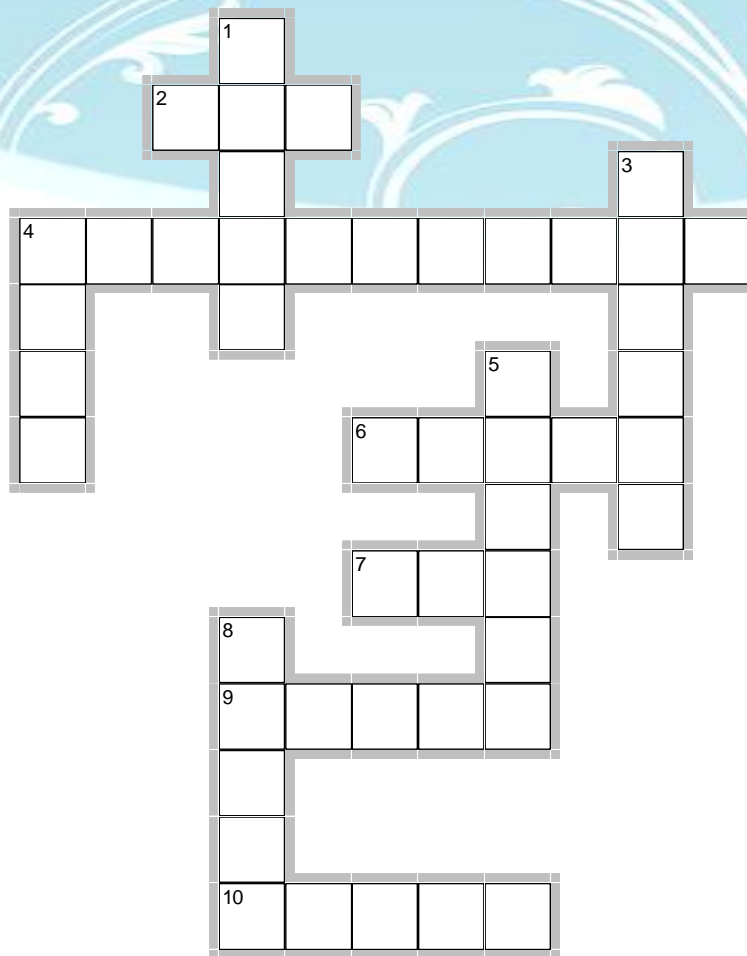
What truths should I believe and keep in my heart?

What changes should I personally make in my life?

Prayer Topics:

...so that you may be blameless and pure children of God in a crooked and lawless generation in which you shine like stars in the universe...

How well do you know God's Word?



Across

2. What was missing from the Israelite Army
4. Main enemies of Israel in Eli's time
6. The people there would not let the holy chest into the city.
7. God's chest or house
9. Fish God of the Philistines
10. God did this for his Ark all by himself

Down

1. Sickness brought by the Ark
3. What we must do when we fail
4. What we must do when we fail
5. Fish God after the second night
8. They have no power because they are not real

Winning with Prayer

1 Samuel 7:2-17

Theme: Repentance, Victory through Prayer

Samuel was still a boy when Eli died and the Ark of the Covenant left Shiloh. All alone now, he went back to his father's house in Ramah. While he was growing up the Philistines ruled Israel. The people were very sad and wanted God but they didn't know how to do it.

As soon as Samuel became a man, he began to travel to all the tribes of Israel. He told them all the same thing. If they would stop worshiping idols, commit themselves to God and serve Him only, God would set them free of the Philistines. When everyone had heard his message—which they knew came from God—they began to worship God again.

Samuel called everyone to a great meeting in a place called Mizpah. He prayed for the people and asked God to forgive their sins. They poured water out before the Lord. Then he promised they would serve God faithfully.

The Philistines saw all the people gathered together and thought they were getting ready for

war. They sent an army to drive everyone back to their homes.



ran from the storm. The men of Israel picked up the Philistines' weapons, chased after them, and won a great battle.

The Philistines stayed away from Israel for many years after that. Samuel ruled over the people as the last of the judges. He was wise and fair, and he kept the people faithful to God.

1 Samuel 7:3

"If you are returning to the LORD with all your hearts, then rid yourselves of the foreign gods and the Ashtoreths and commit yourselves to the LORD and serve him only, and he will deliver you out of the hand of the Philistines."

The Israelites saw the Philistines coming and were frightened. They didn't have any swords or spears with them. They were not trained to fight. The Philistines would kill them all. They begged Samuel to ask God for help.

Samuel gave a sacrifice and prayed and a terrible storm blew over them, with thunder and lightning and huge, dark clouds and the Philistines were afraid. They threw down their weapons and



A COUPLE PRAYER WARRIORS MEET ON THE BATTLEFIELD

THINK ABOUT IT



- ❖ To have God's blessing we must keep the 1st commandment—nothing can come before God
- ❖ Prayer and Repentance are the most important things we need, to live before God
- ❖ Prayer is the greatest weapon we have against the problems of life
- ❖ When **we** fight we are alone but when we pray **God** fights for us

TALK ABOUT IT



- ❖ After the death of Eli who was spiritually in charge of Israel?
- ❖ What 3 things did Samuel tell the Israelites they must do, and why is each important?
- ❖ What would God do in return?
- ❖ What did Samuel do for them?
- ❖ What must we do when we have sinned and feel far away from God? Why?
- ❖ What happened that made the Israelites begin to fear again?
- ❖ What was the Israelites strategy to overcome the Philistines?
- ❖ How does this reveal spiritual growth in them after repentance?
- ❖ What did God do?
- ❖ How does our life change when God is with us?
- ❖ Why is it so important to always repent and come back to God daily?

Questions for Group Discussion

"commit yourselves to the LORD and serve him only"

- ❖ Have you ever prayed for others?
- ❖ Do you ask for God's forgiveness?
 - ❖ Is there anything in your heart that comes before God?
- ❖ Do you come to God and repent after you have sinned?
 - ❖ Do you ask God to help you overcome problems?
- ❖ Do you live before God?
- ❖ Do you believe prayer is the greatest weapon?
 - ❖ Has God ever helped you?

Can you think of More? List them Below:

Winning With Prayer

1 Samuel 7:3

"If you are returning to the LORD with all your hearts, then rid yourselves of the foreign gods and the Ashtoreths and commit yourselves to the LORD and serve him only, and he will deliver you out of the hand of the Philistines."

How I put God's Word into Practice

Summary: What is this passage about?

Observation: What did I learn about God in this passage?

Application:

*How does the meaning of this passage apply to my life?
What truths should I believe and keep in my heart?
What changes should I personally make in my life?*

Prayer Topics:

...so that you may be blameless and pure children of God in a crooked and lawless generation in which you shine like stars in the universe...

How well do you know God's Word?

1 Samuel 7 Word Search

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

13 Words to find

ARK
FREE
LIGHTNING
RAMAH
SERVE
THUNDER
WORSHIP

ARMY
GOD
MIZPAH
SAD
SHILOH
TRIBES

The First King of Israel

1 Samuel 8-10

Theme: God's is our king

When Samuel became an old man the people came to him and said, "We need a king, so we can be like all the other nations."

Samuel didn't want to do this. He knew God was the real king of the people. He also felt a little hurt that the people rejected his sons as judges.

But God told Samuel not to be hurt it was God they were rejecting as their king not him.

Samuel told them a king would take away their sons and make them into soldiers. A king would take their daughters and make them servants. He would take away part of their crops and some of their animals. "If you do this," he warned them, "there will come a time you will be sorry. You will call on the Lord for help, and He will not hear you."

But the people would not listen. God told Samuel to do as the people said and find them a king.

A young man named Saul lived in the smallest of all the tribes, the tribe of Benjamin. He was the tallest man anyone had ever seen, and very handsome. One day when he was out looking for some donkeys that had wandered away, he came to Samuel's town of Ramah.

When Samuel and Saul met, God told Samuel

1 Samuel 8:7

And the LORD told him: "Listen to all that the people are saying to you; it is not you they have rejected, but they have rejected me as their king."

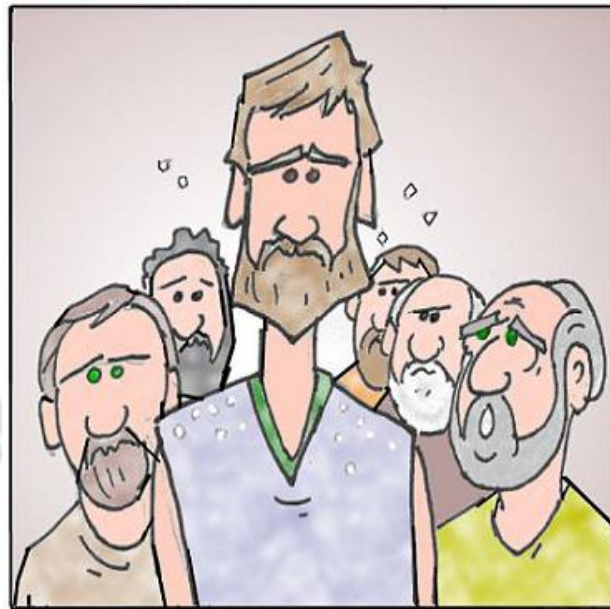
that Saul was to be the king of Israel. This was not something Saul wanted. After treating Saul like royalty overnight, Samuel poured oil over his head as a sign that Saul was dedicated to God. Then he

let Saul go home. But before he left, Samuel told Saul that by the time he was home, Saul would be filled with God's spirit. And that is exactly what happened, although Saul didn't tell anyone at home what had happened to him. He still did not want to be a king.

Soon Samuel called all the Israelites together for a meeting to announce the name of the new king. When he called for Saul, no one

could find him. He had run away and was hiding! Someone found him and brought him before all the people. Most of the people were very pleased with Samuel's choice. Saul looked like a king. But some of them wondered why God had chosen such an unimportant man from a little tribe.

Before the people went home Samuel told them all the rules the king and people had to follow. He wrote them all down in a book and offered the book to the Lord. After 300 years of living under the judges, the people of Israel had a king.





I'M QUITE SORRY SAMUEL ... BUT YOU HAVE TO ADMIT IT'S KINDA FUNNY ... ME, SAUL, LOOKING FOR A DONKEY AND FINDING YOU AGAIN

THINK ABOUT IT



- ❖ It is better to trust in God than in man because men are sinful but God is full of love
- ❖ When we depend on men we will be let down and oppressed but God frees us
- ❖ The greatest blessing is to have King Jesus as our King

TALK ABOUT IT



- ❖ What did the people ask Samuel for?
- ❖ **Who should be their only King?**
- ❖ What did Samuel tell them would happen if they got a worldly king?
- ❖ Who was Saul; how is he described?
- ❖ Did Saul want to be king?
- ❖ What was the sign that God had chosen him?
- ❖ Where was Saul when they were going to anoint him?
- ❖ What did the people think about Saul?
- ❖ **Why can't we follow someone based on looks?**
- ❖ **What can we learn through this about accepting God's kingship?**
- ❖ **Why can worldly kings never be as good as God?**

Questions for Group Discussion

"they have rejected me as their king"

- ❖ Do you trust that God knows what's best for you?
- ❖ Do you try to fit in, or do you live before God?
- ❖ Have you ever trusted in God?
- ❖ Do you believe that Jesus is your king?
- ❖ Have you ever doubted God?
- ❖ Do you pray that Jesus may be your king?
- ❖ Do you spend more time doing what you want to do, or doing what God wants?
- ❖ Have you ever followed directions, even when it was a hard choice?

Can you think of More? List them Below:

The First King of Israel

1 Samuel 8:7

And the LORD told him: "Listen to all that the people are saying to you; it is not you they have rejected, but they have rejected me as their king."

How I put God's Word into Practice

Summary: What is this passage about?

Observation: What did I learn about God in this passage?

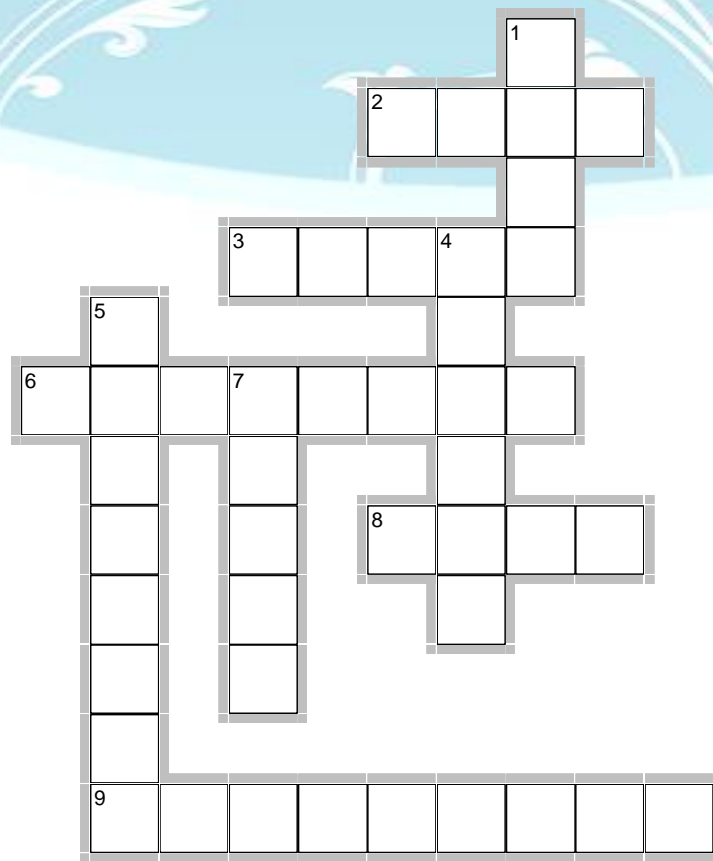
Application:

How does the meaning of this passage apply to my life?
What truths should I believe and keep in my heart?
What changes should I personally make in my life?

Prayer Topics:

...so that you may be blameless and pure children of God in a crooked and lawless generation in which you shine like stars in the universe...

How well do you know God's Word?



Across

2. ____ was to be the next king of Israel
3. It is better to ____ in God than in man
6. Saul was from the tribe of ____
8. God told Samuel to do as the people said and find them a ____
9. Samuel poured oil over his head as a sign that Saul was _____ to God

Down

1. Samuel was ____ that the people rejected his sons as judges.
4. Saul would be filled with God's ____
5. "...it is not you they have rejected, but they have _____ me as their king"
7. The greatest blessing is to have ____ as our king

Saul's First Victory

1 Samuel 11-12

Theme: Only God is King

Saul was legally the king of Israel, but he didn't change his way of living. He stayed in his old home and worked the same fields he had always worked. He didn't live in a palace or have servants or collect taxes from the people.

One day a messenger came to Saul from the town of Jabesh. The Ammonites on the east of Israel had attacked Jabesh. The people there knew they could not win a battle against the Ammonites, so they made a deal with them. They promised to serve the Ammonites if they would let them live. The Ammonite king agreed on one condition: In a week his soldiers would come into town and take out the right eye of every man in town.

The men didn't want to lose their eyes, so they asked Saul for help. Then the Spirit of God came upon him and he burned with anger. Saul didn't have an army. He didn't even know if the people would come and fight for him but he took the oxen he was using in the fields, killed them, and cut them into twelve pieces. He sent one piece to

1 Samuel 12:24

"But be sure to fear the LORD and serve him faithfully with all your heart; consider what great things he has done for you."

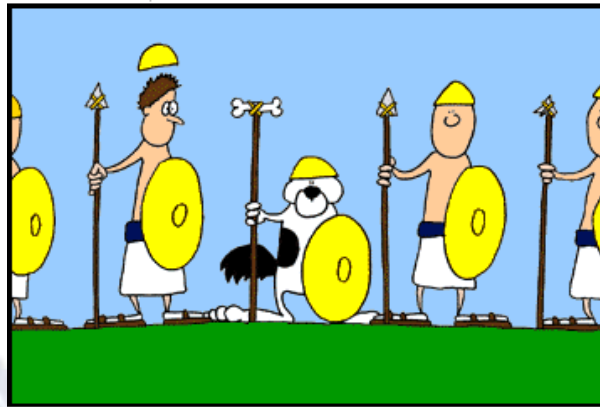
each of the twelve tribes, along with this message: "Come to fight with Saul and Samuel, or this will happen to all your oxen."

All the tribes sent their fighting men to Saul and Samuel, who led them into Jabesh and defeated the Ammonites. After the battle Samuel led everyone to Gilgal.

There the people all anointed Saul as King. Samuel reminded all the people of the great things God had done for them in the past. He had taken them out of Egypt, given them their

own homes, and given them the judges. "You have done wrong to choose a king," Samuel told them. "But as long as you fear the Lord, obey the Lord, and do not rebel against him, everything will go well for you. I will always pray for you and teach you the right way," he promised.

Then Samuel went back to his home in Ramah and Saul ruled as king from his home in Gibeah.



Saul's first army



THINK ABOUT IT



- ❖ We must remember all the good things God has done so we can trust him in the future
- ❖ We should trust only in God not in other people
- ❖ We should obey our leaders but have only one king in our heart: God
- ❖ More than anything we must have holy fear of God and obey him out of our love

TALK ABOUT IT



- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ What big problem came up for Jabesh Gilead and what did they do? ❖ Why wasn't Saul living like a king? ❖ Why did Saul suddenly begin to act like a king and what did he do? ❖ <u>How can we have courage and wise action in time of emergency?</u> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ What did the people do for him after this? ❖ Of what did Samuel remind the people? ❖ <u>How was asking for a king opposite to all they had learned from their history?</u> ❖ <u>What 3 things did he command them to always do?</u> ❖ <u>Why are fearing God and obeying him the most basic things we must do?</u> |
|---|--|

Questions for Group Discussion

"But be sure to fear the LORD and serve him faithfully with all your heart"

- ❖ Is God first in your heart?
- ❖ Do you trust God?
- ❖ Do you obey your parents because you love them?
- ❖ Have you ever made a decision to put God first?
- ❖ Do you have a holy fear of God?
- ❖ Have you ever done anything to thank God for what he has done?
- ❖ Do you ask God for help in prayer?

Can you think of More? List them Below:

Saul's First Victory

1 Samuel 12:24

"But be sure to fear the LORD and serve him faithfully with all your heart; consider what great things he has done for you."

How I put God's Word into Practice

Summary: What is this passage about?

Observation: What did I learn about God in this passage?

Application:

How does the meaning of this passage apply to my life?

What truths should I believe and keep in my heart?

What changes should I personally make in my life?

Prayer Topics:

...so that you may be blameless and pure children of God in a crooked and lawless generation in which you shine like stars in the universe...

...so that you may be blameless and pure children of God in a crooked and lawless generation in which you shine like stars in the universe...



How well do you know God's Word?

1 Samuel 11-12 Word Search

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

16 Words to find

AGREE
BATTLE
COLLECT
FEAR
JABESH
MESSENGER
SAUL
SOLDIERS

AMMONITE
CHANGE
DEFEATED
GIBEAH
KING
PALACE
SERVANTS
WAY

The Brave Young Prince

1 Samuel 13:1-14:46

Theme: Obedience better than Strength

When Saul was anointed as king, the first thing he did was to get an army together to attack the Philistines. Some of them men were with Saul and some with Jonathan. Jonathan was a brave young man and he attacked a Philistine outpost and won. When word of this was heard, the Philistines gathered a great army to attack Saul and Jonathan.

Saul called for more soldiers to meet him at Gilgal, and the people came. But they were frightened, and not really willing to fight. None of them had weapons, only farm tools. Samuel sent word that Saul could not attack until he had come to sacrifice to God and pray for the people. But it took Samuel a long time to get there. And while Saul waited, the frightened people began to sneak away from his camp. His army was getting smaller and smaller. Finally Saul was afraid to wait any longer. He offered his own sacrifice and prayed to God himself, even though he was not a priest.

While the fire was still burning, Samuel arrived. "What have you done?" Samuel cried. "If you had obeyed God, He would have kept you safe. Now God must find another man to rule this nation, someone who will obey Him."

When Jonathan saw all the scared soldiers he decided to go fight. He went to the priests

1 Samuel 14:6

"Come, let's go over to the outpost of those uncircumcised men. Perhaps the LORD will act in our behalf. Nothing can hinder the LORD from saving, whether by many or by few."

to ask for God's direction then went up and defeated an entire outpost of the Philistines with only his armor bearer!

Then the Philistines became afraid and Saul won a great victory over the Philistines. While they

were chasing the Philistines away, Saul gave an order to all his army. No one was to stop and eat until the day was over. Anyone who did not obey would be killed.

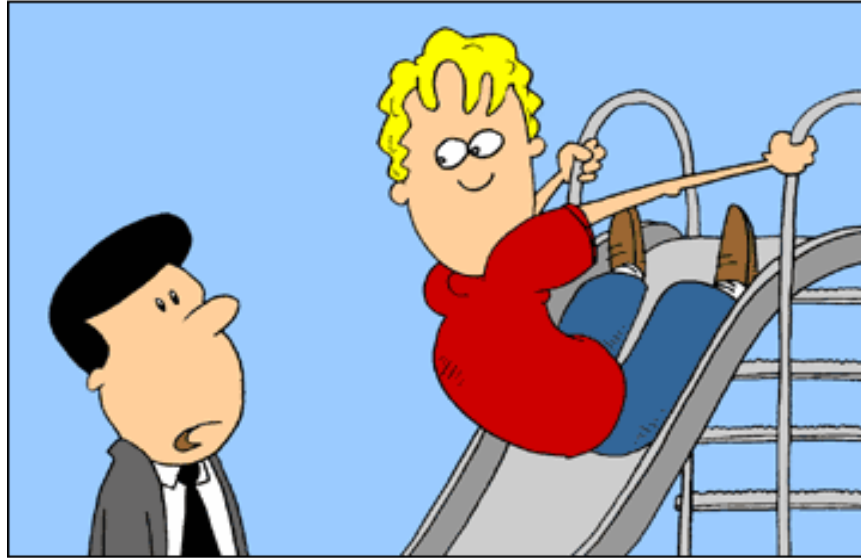
But the battle would have been over earlier if his men had eaten and kept up their strength.

Jonathan got back from destroying the outpost and had not heard Saul's order. As he was chasing the Philistines, he stopped to eat some honey. After the battle Saul heard that his son had disobeyed him. "I made an oath," Saul said. "You must die."

But the people would not let Saul kill his own son. "He has won a great victory," they said. "You will not hurt even one hair on his head." They let Jonathan go free. Saul did many other things that were against God's law and he didn't even know or care.

The Philistines stayed away from Israel for a long time after this battle. But the Israelites were beginning to wonder if Saul was the right man to be their king.





MEMBERS OF THE CONGREGATION HAVE INFORMED ME THAT YOU ARE BACKSLIDING

THINK ABOUT IT



- ❖ Sometimes it's really hard to obey God's commands to the end but obedience leads to victory
- ❖ We can do all things through God who gives us strength ~Philippians 4:13
- ❖ To lead others we must first learn to be led by God, a true leader must be the servant of God

TALK ABOUT IT



- ❖ What was the first thing Saul did as king?
- ❖ How did God use this one small act of faith to win the entire war for the Israelites?
- ❖ What did Saul do when he got impatient waiting for Samuel?
- ❖ What foolish command did Saul give to his men?
- ❖ How did it reveal Saul's lack of understanding of God and also his pride?
- ❖ What did Jonathan do and what was the penalty?
- ❖ How did the men save Jonathan?
- ❖ Did Saul understand God's heart?
- ❖ Who is the real hero in this passage?
- ❖ What do we learn here about the importance of obeying God's commands?
- ❖ In our battles in the world what is more important strength or faith?
- ❖ What did Jonathan decide to do when he saw the scared men?

Questions for Group Discussion

"she hid him for three months"

- ❖ Have you ever followed directions, even if it was hard?
- ❖ Do you pray when you need help?
 - ❖ Has God ever helped you overcome something?
- ❖ Do you thank God for all he has done?
 - ❖ Have you ever asked God to give you strength?
- ❖ Do you believe that God can do anything?
 - ❖ Do you listen when you are rebuked?
 - ❖ Are you a leader to others?

Can you think of More? List them Below:

The Brave Young Prince

1 Samuel 14:6

"Come, let's go over to the outpost of those uncircumcised men. Perhaps the LORD will act in our behalf. Nothing can hinder the LORD from saving, whether by many or by few."

How I put God's Word into Practice

Summary: What is this passage about?

Observation: What did I learn about God in this passage?

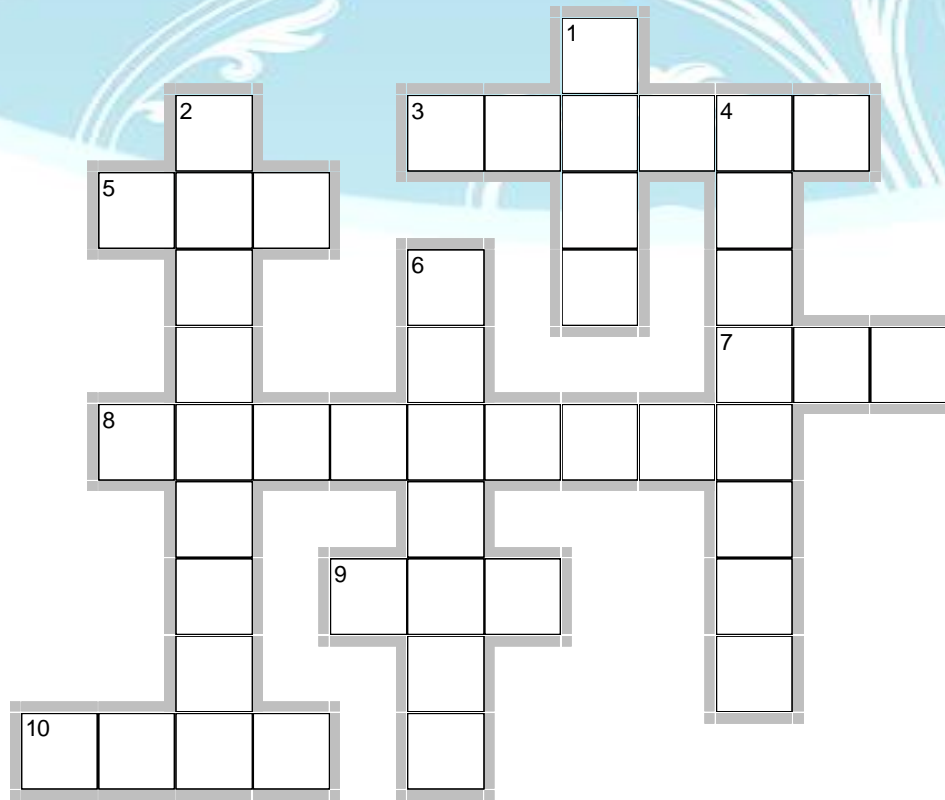
Application:

*How does the meaning of this passage apply to my life?
What truths should I believe and keep in my heart?
What changes should I personally make in my life?*

Prayer Topics:

...so that you may be blameless and pure children of God in a crooked and lawless generation in which you shine like stars in the universe...

How well do you know God's Word?



Across

3. Saul offered his own sacrifice and prayed to God himself, even though he was not a _____
5. Saul did many things that were against God's ___ and he didn't even care
7. Saul said no one was to stop and ___ before the day was over
8. When Jonathan asked for God's _____, he won the battle
9. To lead others we must first learn to be led by ___
10. Sometimes it's really hard to ___ God's commands

Down

1. The Israelites began to wonder if Saul was the right man to be their _____
2. Saul could not attack until he had come to _____ to God
4. We can do all things through God who gives us _____
6. Obedience leads to _____

SAUL'S GREAT LOSS

1 Samuel 15

Theme: Obedience better than Ritual

Many years ago when the Israelites had just come out of Egypt a wild people of the desert, the Amalekites, had attacked them because they were defenseless. They were an evil people who even sacrificed their children to their god. God told Saul, through Samuel, to go attack these people. God said that Saul should kill every one of these people. He must destroy everything that even belonged to them keeping nothing, not even their animals.

Saul went and defeated these people. But he did not kill their king, Agag, and he kept all the best of their sheep, cattle, fattened calves, and lambs. He only destroyed the bad stuff they didn't want. It was the total opposite of what God said.

God said to Samuel, "I am sad that I made Saul king, he does not obey my commands."

Samuel went to meet Saul on his way home. He saw many animals and heard the sound of big herds. "Why didn't you kill them all, as God said?" he asked Saul.



1 Samuel 15:22

"Does the LORD delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices as much as in obeying the LORD? To obey is better than sacrifice, and to heed is better than the fat of rams."

"The people wanted to bring back the best," Saul said. "They wanted to use them as sacrifices to God."

"Stop!" Samuel told Saul. "You once thought you were very small but God made you a great king. Why didn't you obey?"

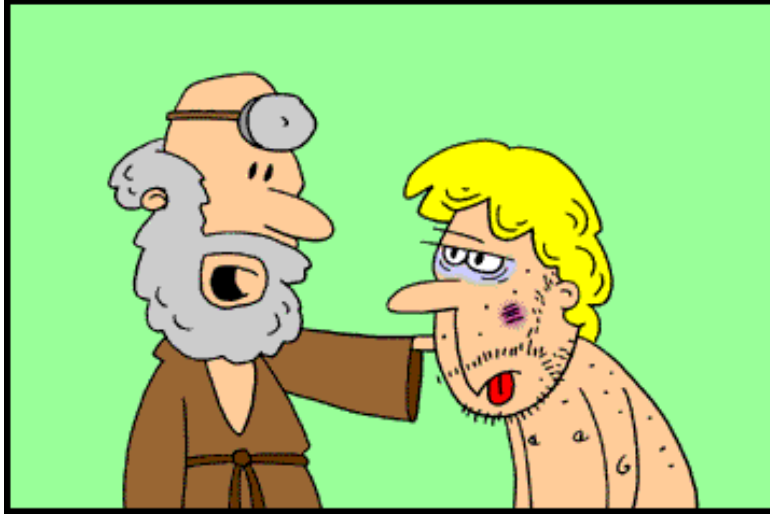
"But I did obey." Said Saul, "I destroyed the Amalekites and brought back their king and the men brought back the animals as sacrifices."

"Is God happy with sacrifices more than obeying him? To obey is better than sacrifice."

Saul acted like he was sorry but Samuel turned to leave. As he turned Saul grabbed his robe and it tore. "God has torn the kingdom from you today and given it to someone better." Samuel said. "God does not change his mind."

Saul wanted Samuel to come worship with him, but only so the people wouldn't reject him. Samuel went with him and he put Agag to death.

Samuel then went back to his home and never saw Saul again but he cried for Saul all his life and God was sad he had made Saul king.



NEAR AS I CAN TELL YOU'VE BEEN SMITTEN
... BEST THING FOR YOU IS TO REPENT AND
PRAY TWICE AND THEN CALL ME IN THE
MORNING

THINK ABOUT IT



- ❖ The most important thing we must do is learn to obey
- ❖ In our heart God must be Lord, that means we do what he commands not what we want
- ❖ God is not happy if we keep rituals but don't live the way he commands
- ❖ God does not delight in sacrifices but in the faith in our heart

TALK ABOUT IT



- ❖ Who were the Amalekites?
- ❖ What was God's command to Saul?
- ❖ Why was it necessary to totally wipe out all of these people?
- ❖ What must we do with bad influences in our life?
- ❖ Why didn't Saul carry out God's command completely?
- ❖ Did he think he was wrong?
- ❖ Is it ok to obey God's command our own way?
- ❖ How did God feel about Saul?
- ❖ What did Samuel tell Saul?
- ❖ Why is it more important to obey than to keep rituals?
- ❖ What is it that God really wants from us?
- ❖ What must we do to please God?

Questions for Group Discussion

"To obey is better than sacrifice"

- ❖ Do you obey God?
- ❖ Do you obey your parents?
- ❖ Do you listen to your teachers?
- ❖ Is God first in your heart?
- ❖ Have you ever obeyed directions, even when you didn't want to?
- ❖ Do you put God's will before your own?
- ❖ Have you ever followed someone who was a bad influence?

Can you think of More? List them Below:

Saul's Great Loss

1 Samuel 15:22

"Does the LORD delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices as much as in obeying the LORD? To obey is better than sacrifice, and to heed is better than the fat of rams."

How I put God's Word into Practice

Summary: What is this passage about?

Observation: What did I learn about God in this passage?

Application:

*How does the meaning of this passage apply to my life?
What truths should I believe and keep in my heart?
What changes should I personally make in my life?*

Prayer Topics:

...so that you may be blameless and pure children of God in a crooked and lawless generation in which you shine like stars in the universe...

How well do you know God's Word?

1 Samuel 15 Word Search

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

13 Words to find

AGAG
CATTLE
DEFENSELESS
LAMBS
SHEEP
STOP
WILD

ATTACK
DEFEATED
HERDS
RITUAL
SOUND
TORN

GOD LOOKS at the HEART

1 Samuel 16

Theme: God's values

Saul served as king for many more years. God was not happy with him, but He waited until the right man came along and was trained before He took away the kingdom.

One day the Lord told Samuel to go to Bethlehem and find a man named Jesse. "I will choose a man after my own heart, to be king."

One of Jesse's sons would be the next king. Samuel told everyone he was going to sacrifice and pray with the people near Bethlehem. He didn't want Saul to know he was going to find the new king. Samuel looked at each of Jesse's sons very carefully, but God did not choose any of them. "Do you have any more sons?" he asked Jesse.

"There is the youngest in the field caring for the sheep," Jesse said.

When the boy, whose name was David, was brought to Samuel, the Lord told him he would be the new king. But David was only fifteen years old! The Lord said to Samuel, "Man looks at the outward appearance but God looks at the heart."

David would grow to be a shepherd king like God for his people. The Lord told Samuel to pour oil over the boy's head. This action meant David was

1 Samuel 16:7

"Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart."

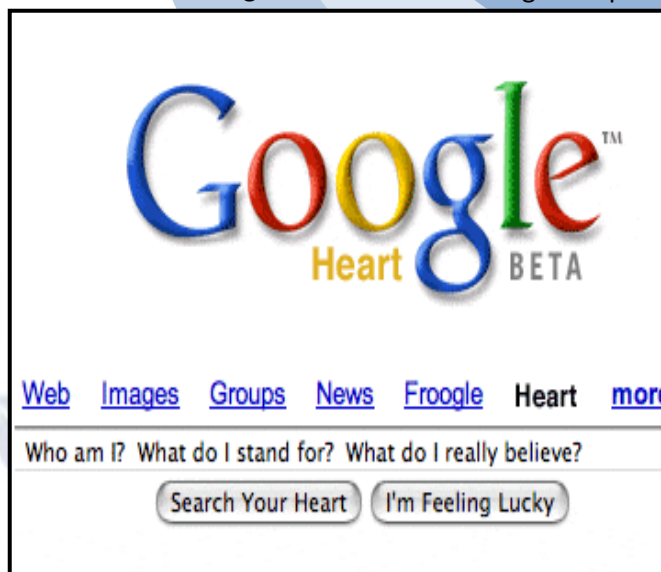
anointed as the new king. But he would not be king until the time was right. Only Samuel knew David would grow up to be king, and he told no one.

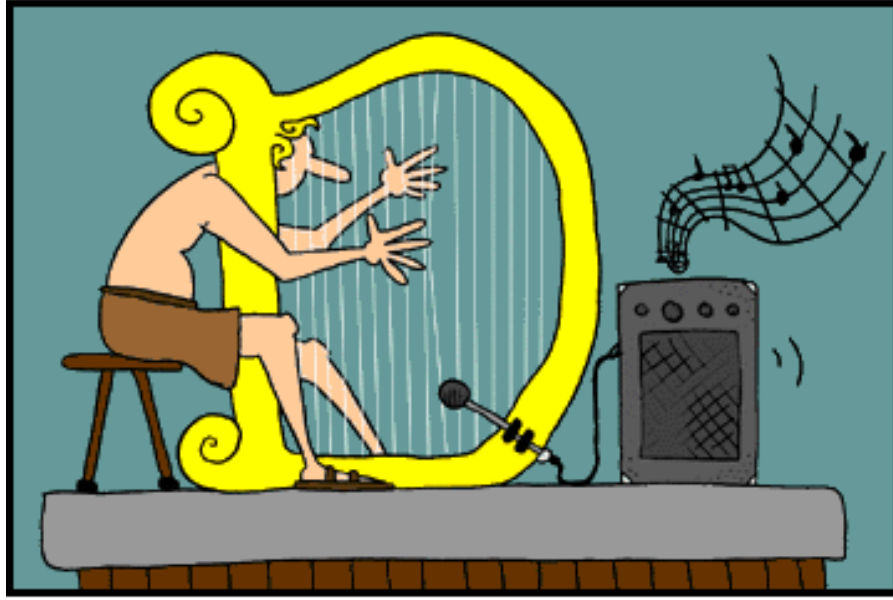
As he grew, David began to show signs of greatness. He fought lions and bears that attacked his sheep. He learned to throw stones with a sling. And while he was alone in the fields, he learned to play the harp and make beautiful music. The spirit of God was with him.

God's spirit was leaving Saul and instead he was possessed by an evil spirit that made him do crazy things and people thought he was going insane.

One day someone told Saul about David and David was brought to Saul to play music for him. When David played, the evil spirit would leave him. David became Saul's armor-bearer. David would go with him into battle and carry his sword and shield until they were needed.

After a while Saul seemed to be better and David went back to his home in Bethlehem.





AFTER HIS BIG GIG WITH KING SAUL, DAVID
TOOK HIS HARP ON THE ROAD

THINK ABOUT IT



- ❖ We must grow in God's heart, learning to live and think and love like God day by day
- ❖ Through Bible study we should grow in understanding of God so we can be more like him
- ❖ God wants us to be shepherds for people just like him

TALK ABOUT IT



- ❖ Why had God rejected Saul as king?
- ❖ What did he tell Samuel to do?
- ❖ What did God want in the new king?
- ❖ What does it mean to be "after God's own heart"?
- ❖ When he arrived at Jesse's home who was not presented to him?
- ❖ Why was David not considered a possibility?
- ❖ **Why is it so important that God looks at the heart?**
- ❖ **What is more important what is on the outside or what is on the inside?**
- ❖ What happened to Saul?
- ❖ How did David become a blessing for Saul?
- ❖ **Think about the difference in what made David great and Saul no good.**

Questions for Group Discussion

*"Man looks at the outward appearance,
but the LORD looks at the heart"*

- ❖ Do you want to be a child after God's own heart?
- ❖ Are you a good influence to those around you?
- ❖ Do you love God with all your heart?
- ❖ Do you worry more about your outward or inward appearance?
- ❖ Have you ever helped someone who was having a hard time?
- ❖ Do you put God's will first in your life?
- ❖ Do you obey your parents?

Can you think of More? List them Below:

God Looks at the Heart

1 Samuel 16:7

"Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart."

How I put God's Word into Practice

Summary: What is this passage about?

Observation: What did I learn about God in this passage?

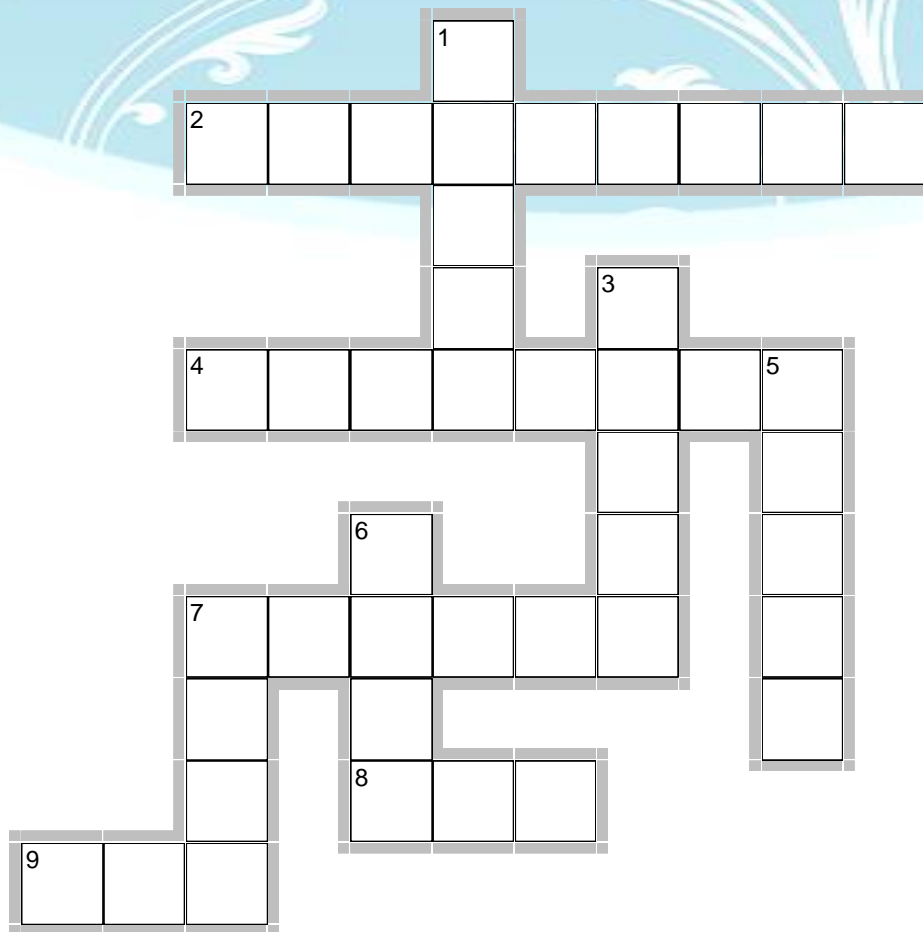
Application:

*How does the meaning of this passage apply to my life?
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Prayer Topics:

...so that you may be blameless and pure children of God in a crooked and lawless generation in which you shine like stars in the universe...

How well do you know God's Word?



Across

2. God told Samuel to go to _____ and find a man named Jesse
4. David would grow to be a _____ king like God for his people
7. The ____ of God was with David
8. We should grow to be more like ____
9. The Lord told Samuel to pour ____ over David's head

Down

1. David fought lions and bears that attacked his _____
3. "Man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the _____"
5. God chose _____ to be the new king
6. "I will chose a man after my own heart to be _____"
7. God was not happy with _____ as king

The Stone that Saved Israel

1 Samuel 17

Theme: Courage, Fighting Spirit

Saul fought the Philistines all the time he was king. He could never chase them out of the land because they were so strong and God would no longer help him.

For days, one particular Philistine, a giant of a man, had been going out of the enemy camp and making fun of the Israelites. His name was Goliath, and he was nine feet tall. He wore armor from head to foot and carried a spear so heavy that no one else could even pick it up. Every day he would call for one of the Israelites to come and fight him. All the Israelites, including Saul, were trembling in fear.

Among Saul's soldiers were David's three older brothers. One day Jesse sent David with a message for his brothers.

When David heard the giant talking this way to God's army, he became angry and said he would go out and meet him! Saul had not seen David in years and did not know him. To Saul, David looked like a little shepherd boy. "You cannot beat this giant," Saul told David.



ARE YOU SURE ABOUT THIS, DAVID? ... HE'S GOT CHEERLEADERS!

1 Samuel 17:45

"You come against me with sword and spear and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the LORD Almighty, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied."

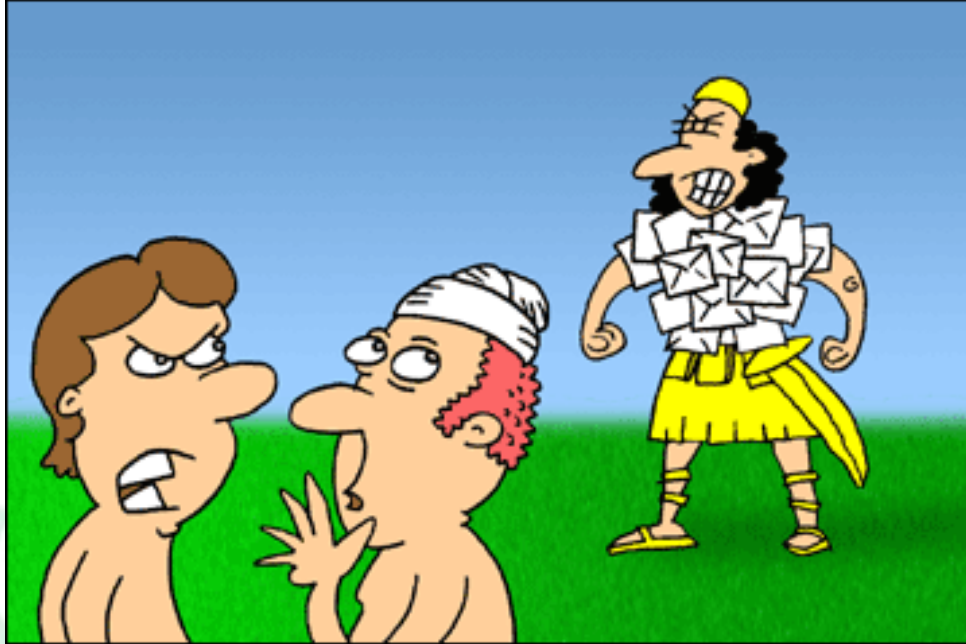
"The Lord helped me kill lions and bears when they came after my sheep," David said to the king. "He will help me kill this man too."

David had faith in God. Even though Saul gave him armor and a sword he didn't want them. He took only a sling and some smooth stones. Goliath laughed, "who is this little dog coming out to me?"

"You come at me with a sword and spear," David called to Goliath. "But I come with God, who you insulted."

David did not come too close to Goliath. He stayed out of range of his huge spear and sword. He hurled a stone as hard as he could, and guess what? The stone hit Goliath right between the eyes and knocked him out cold! Then David rushed up, took Goliath's own sword, and cut off the giant's head.

When the Philistines saw their giant was dead, they turned and ran. The army of the Israelites chased them, killing thousands. David had saved the Israelites from their enemies with one little stone and one huge God.



DON'T WORRY DAVID ... HIS COAT OF MAIL
ISN'T FIRST CLASS

THINK ABOUT IT



- ❖ We may think we are strong but without God we can never defeat our enemies
- ❖ With faith we must jump into any battle and be ready to face any enemy without fear
- ❖ When we have a huge God behind us it doesn't matter how small we are, we will win

TALK ABOUT IT



- ❖ Who came to battle the Israelites?
- ❖ Who was their champion?
- ❖ Why didn't the Israelites fight him?
- ❖ What did David decide when he heard Goliath's insults?
- ❖ **What should be our attitude towards evil and sin?**
- ❖ Was David big and strong? Did he take armor? Was he even a tiny bit afraid?
- ❖ **How can we have David's courage?**
- ❖ How did Goliath make fun of David?
- ❖ What was David's bold testimony of faith?
- ❖ **Where does our fighting strength come from?**
- ❖ Who won the battle?
- ❖ **What are some Goliath's that we face in our own life? How can we overcome them?**

Questions for Group Discussion

"I come against you in the name of the LORD Almighty"

- ❖ What intimidates you? How can you overcome this fear?
- ❖ What are some Goliaths you face personally?
 - ❖ Have you ever overcome a giant problem in your life by faith?
 - ❖ When are some times that you've had to fight for what is right?
 - ❖ Have you ever wished that you could be more courageous about your faith?
- ❖ Do you believe in the power of the name of God?
- ❖ Would you stand up for someone else who is bullied?
 - ❖ Do you trust that God will deliver you?

Can you think of More? List them Below:

The Stone That Saved Israel

1 Samuel 17:45

"You come against me with sword and spear and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the LORD Almighty, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied."

How I put God's Word into Practice

Summary: What is this passage about?

Observation: What did I learn about God in this passage?

Application:

How does the meaning of this passage apply to my life?

What truths should I believe and keep in my heart?

What changes should I personally make in my life?

Prayer Topics:

...so that you may be blameless and pure children of God in a crooked and lawless generation in which you shine like stars in the universe...

How well do you know God's Word?

1 Samuel 17 Word Search

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

14 Words to find

ARMOR
CAMP
DAVID
FEAR
LIONS
SPIRIT
WORD

BEARS
COURAGE
ENEMY
FIGHTING
SLING
STRONG
TREMBLE

Saul is Jealous

1 Samuel 17-20

Theme: God's blessing, Persecution

After Goliath was dead Saul made David an officer in his army and took him home with him. Whatever Saul sent David to do, he did so well that he gave him a high rank and put him in charge of 1,000 men.

But Saul was jealous of David. Everyone made such a fuss over him. They even sang "Saul has killed thousands and David ten thousands!" Could he be the one who would take the kingdom away from him?

Saul promised David that he could marry his daughter Michal after he had killed 100 Philistines—he hoped the Philistines would kill David. David didn't just kill 100; He killed 200 Philistines and then he married Michal.

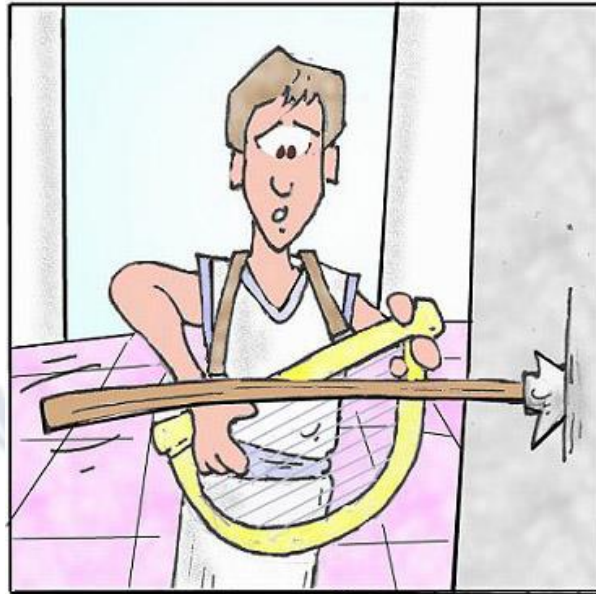
Saul still liked to have David play music for him to calm him down.

Many times Saul was so upset he would pick up his spear and throw it at David while he was playing! But David was careful and always jumped aside in time.

1 Samuel 18:14-15

"In everything he did he had great success, because the LORD was with him. When Saul saw how successful he was, he was afraid of him."

One night Saul sent his soldiers to bring David to him. David ran away to Samuel and stayed with him until Saul calmed down again.

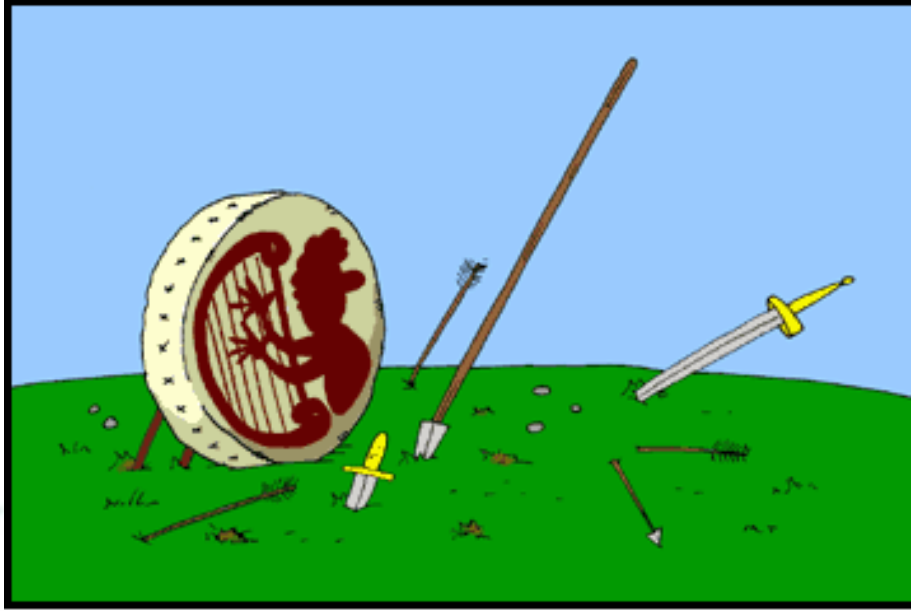


If Saul was a talent judge on American Idol.. he would be Simon. 1 Sam 18:10-

While he was hiding from Saul, David met Saul's son Jonathan, the brave and faithful warrior we read about earlier. David and Jonathan became good friends. Jonathan told David to stay away from Saul for a little while. "I will come back in three days and give you a sign whether you can come back or not" he said to David.

While they were together the two young men promised to be friends forever and to never hurt each other.

At the end of the second day, Saul was still mad at David. He wanted him brought back so he could kill him. Jonathan went out to David's hiding place and Jonathan gave the signal. David could not come back. After this, David spent a long time running from Saul but in whatever he did God blessed him.



AT KING SAUL'S TARGET RANGE

THINK ABOUT IT



- ❖ To be truly great we must be great in God
- ❖ Those who live for God are a great blessing but those who live for themselves a burden
- ❖ We should love everyone around us even when they are mean so we can be a blessing

TALK ABOUT IT



- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ How did David show he was really great? ❖ How did Saul reward young David? ❖ Why did Saul become so jealous? ❖ <u>Why was David so great? How can we?</u> ❖ How did Saul try to kill David? ❖ How did God bless and protect David? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ How did David care for Saul, even when he was trying to kill him? ❖ What did David eventually have to do? ❖ Who did he make friends with? ❖ How did Jonathan help him? ❖ <u>What can we learn through this passage about the power of having God with us?</u> ❖ <u>What should we do even the world becomes hostile towards us, like Saul was to David?</u> |
|--|--|

Questions for Group Discussion

"because the LORD was with him."

- ❖ Jonathan chose David as a friend because he was chosen by God? How do you choose your friends?
- ❖ Do you have even one friend who is more important to you than anybody else in the whole world?
- ❖ How can you make such a friend like David and Jonathan?
- ❖ Are you competing with your friends or can you genuinely rejoice when they succeed?
- ❖ If your friend were to run against you for class president could you support her even if you were to lose?
- ❖ Do you do things for your friends?
- ❖ Do you sacrifice for your friends?
 - ❖ Do you serve your friends?
 - ❖ Is God in your friendships?

Can you think of More? List them Below:

Saul is Jealous

1 Samuel 18:14-15

"In everything he did he had great success, because the LORD was with him. When Saul saw how successful he was, he was afraid of him."

How I put God's Word into Practice

Summary: What is this passage about?

Observation: What did I learn about God in this passage?

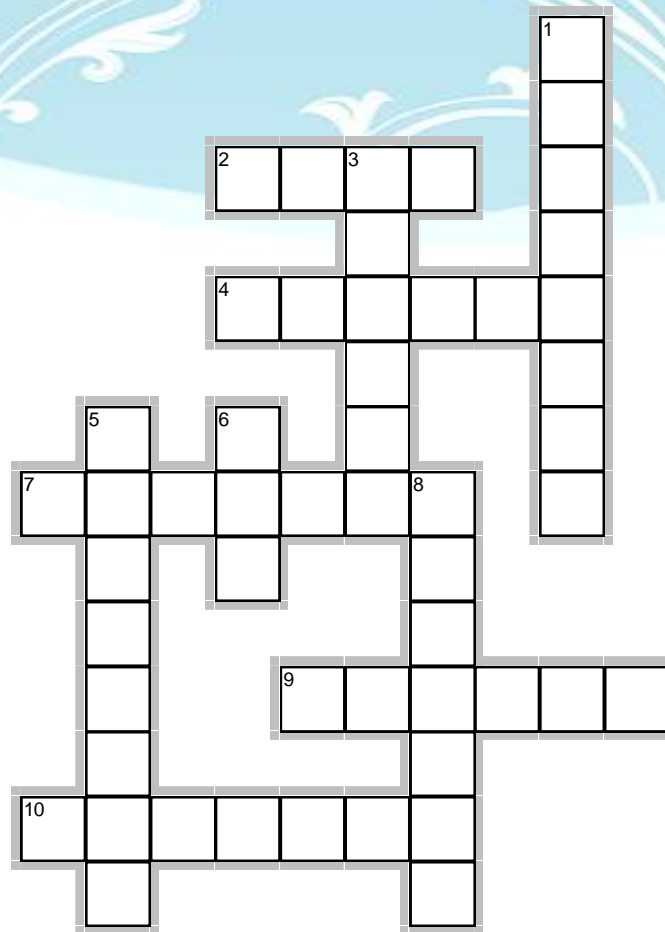
Application:

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What changes should I personally make in my life?*

Prayer Topics:

...so that you may be blameless and pure children of God in a crooked and lawless generation in which you shine like stars in the universe...

How well do you know God's Word?



Across

2. David _____ music for Saul to calm him down.
4. We should never _____ God who has given us every good thing
7. David and Jonathan became good _____.
9. Saul's daughter who became wife of David
10. Saul was _____ of David

Down

1. He made a covenant in the house of David saying " may the Lord call David's enemies to account.
3. Saul became more and more _____ of David because the Lord was with David.
5. Saul _____ David that he could marry his daughter Michal after he had killed 100 Philistines
6. "Saul has killed thousands and David _____ thousands!"
8. David had great _____, because the Lord was with Him.

DAVID FINDS THE GIANT'S SWORD

1 Samuel 21:1-22:23

Theme: Don't be legalistic, Stand up for what is right, be a good shepherd

David ran away from Saul so quickly that he didn't pack any food or weapons. On his way he stopped at Nob, where the priests of God lived, to find some food.

David went to the chief priest and told him a lie, maybe to protect him from knowing he was helping him escape. He said Saul had sent him on a secret mission. He had to leave so soon that he didn't have time to pack food or weapons. Did the priests have something he could eat and perhaps a spear or a sword?

The chief priest gave David the holy bread, which was to be eaten only by the priests, and then showed him Goliath's sword, which was stored there. Even though it was against the law for David to eat the bread, the priest decided God would want him to help rather than only keeping the rule.

David hid in the land of the Philistines, then in the wilderness, in a large cave he found there. Soon other men who also had lots of problems began to join him, and in time he had a little army of 400 men. Wherever he went people felt he was their shepherd.

Saul was looking all over for David. He was sure David was planning to attack him and take away the kingdom. "Can't any of you find him?" he

1 Samuel 21:6

"So the priest gave him the consecrated bread, since there was no bread there except the bread of the Presence that had been removed from before the LORD and replaced by hot bread on the day it was taken away."

asked his men one day. One of the men stepped forward and said he had seen David taking food and a sword from the priests at Nob.



OUR RECORDS SHOW THAT YOU HAVE NOT BEEN KEEPING UP WITH YOUR PRAYERS ... I'M AFRAID WE'RE GOING TO HAVE TO SEND SOMEONE OVER TO RE-POSSESS YOU

Saul had all the priests brought to him. "Why did you help my enemy?" he asked them.

The head priest came forward. "We did not know he had done anything wrong," he told Saul. "He said he was working for you, so we gave him what he needed."

The king ordered his guards to kill all the priests, but they refused. It would be a

great sin to kill God's priests. Then Saul looked at the man who had told him about the priests. "You are the only faithful man I have. You kill them," he said.

This man obeyed the king, and then went to the city of Nob and burned the city down.

Only one priest lived. He found David in the wilderness and gave him the bad news. "I should have been more careful," David said. "This is my fault. Stay here with us and be the high priest."

Everyone in the kingdom heard that Saul had killed the priests and that the new high priest was now living with David. They began hoping that David would defeat Saul and become their king.



THINK ABOUT IT



- ❖ God wants us to follow his heart not just rules
- ❖ God's law isn't meant to be legalistic but to help us and bring us to God
- ❖ David was loved by many people because he was a good shepherd and loved them
- ❖ We have to stand up for what is right

TALK ABOUT IT



- ❖ Who welcomed David while he was running?
- ❖ What did he ask him for?
- ❖ Why wasn't the priest worried to give him the consecrated bread?
- ❖ **What can we learn here about being legalistic?** (Look at Mt 12:4-8) *Is it more important to legalistically do what is written or do what we can see God wants us to do?*
- ❖ Where did David go next?
- ❖ Why did many people join him?
- ❖ How did Saul find out about David?
- ❖ What crazy command did Saul give?
- ❖ Why didn't his soldiers want to carry it out?
- ❖ Who carried out the command?
- ❖ **What did the people begin to long for? Why do we all need a good and godly shepherd?**

Questions for Group Discussion

*"let your servant remain here as my
lord's slave in place of the boy"*

- ❖ Do you ever legalistically judge and say bad things about the kids at your school?
 - ❖ Do you sometimes follow the rules so much that it hurts others?
- ❖ Have you ever ignored someone in need because you thought they are a sinner?
- ❖ Have you ever overcome criticizing others and made friends with a "bad kid"?
- ❖ Do you help people in need or only those who you like or who are like you?
 - ❖ Are you a good shepherd to others?
 - ❖ Are you a good example to your friends?
- ❖ Have you ever stood up for what was right?

Can you think of More? List them Below:

David Finds the Giant's Sword

1 Samuel 21:6

"So the priest gave him the consecrated bread, since there was no bread there except the bread of the Presence that had been removed from before the LORD and replaced by hot bread on the day it was taken away."

How I put God's Word into Practice

Summary: What is this passage about?

Observation: What did I learn about God in this passage?

Application:

*How does the meaning of this passage apply to my life?
What truths should I believe and keep in my heart?
What changes should I personally make in my life?*

Prayer Topics:

...so that you may be blameless and pure children of God in a crooked and lawless generation in which you shine like stars in the universe...

How well do you know God's Word?

1 Samuel 21-22 Word Search

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

18 Words to find

RIGHT
SHEPHERD
WEAPONS
SECRET
AGAINST
HOLY
ATTACK
FOOD
NOB

GOOD
STOPPED
PROTECT
SHOWED
EAT
BREAD
FIND
REFUSED
HOPING

David spares Saul's life

1 Samuel 24:1-22; 26:1-27:4

Theme: Do what is right to God not to people

Saul kept on searching for David, trying to kill him. One day David and his men were hiding way back in a large cave. Saul walked into the front of the cave, looked around, and lay down for a nap.

In the back of the cave the men told David, "Go kill him! God has given him to you."

"No," David whispered. "God has anointed him king. I will not kill him."

Instead, David quietly snuck up to Saul and cut off a piece of his long robe. But David felt so guilty about doing it. When Saul awoke and left the cave, David followed him, then he called out, "My lord and king!"

Saul looked around and saw David bowing down to him. "Why are you trying to kill me?" David asked the king. "Look at this." He held up the piece of cloth from Saul's robe. "I could have killed you today, but I didn't."

Saul's eyes filled with tears. "You are a better man than I, David I know it is God's will that you be king. When you are, promise me you will not hurt my family."

David made that promise and Saul went back to his home.

1 Samuel 24:6

"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."

But soon Saul began to hunt David again. One night while Saul's army slept, David and one of his

men walked quietly through the camp. God had even put them all in a deep sleep so no one woke. It seemed like God was giving Saul to David. They found Saul asleep, his spear and water bottle by his head. His companion wanted to spear Saul for David. David would not let the king be harmed, but he did take the spear and water bottle when they left.

The next morning David called out to Saul again and showed

him the spear and water bottle he had taken. "Send someone up to bring these back to you," he said. "I spared your life today. May God spare mine." Saul said "May you be blessed, my son David; you will do great things and surely triumph." Saul knew David was a much better king than him but he couldn't repent.

So David went with his army to live in a small Philistine town where he was safe, until the end of Saul's life.



David performs unrequested alterations on King Saul's robe, and a few accessories. 1 Samuel 24:3-5



SAUL SUFFERED FROM CHRONIC SHORT-TERM MEMORY LOSS. 1 SA 26

THINK ABOUT IT



- ❖ We should always think about whether our actions please God
- ❖ We should do what God wants not what seems right to others (peer pressure)
- ❖ Respect God's servants no matter what you may think about them
- ❖ Let God be the judge, don't take revenge on your enemies

TALK ABOUT IT



- ❖ How did God deliver Saul into David's hands?
- ❖ What did David's men tell him?
- ❖ What did David do? and say to Saul? Why?
- ❖ **What does it mean to live before God?** As Christians, what is more important what others think we should do or what God thinks
- ❖ What was Saul's reaction to the mercy David showed him?
- ❖ What happened again after a little while?
- ❖ How did God again deliver Saul into David's hands?
- ❖ What did his companion want to do?
- ❖ **What could David have thought?** Think about it, God put everyone asleep and he didn't even have to do the act of killing but still he did what was right before God
- ❖ How did he again prove his mercy to Saul? What was Saul's reaction?
- ❖ **Why is it never right to take revenge?**
- ❖ **How can we live before God when our friends are pressuring us to do wrong?**
- ❖ **What is the most important word to remember in living before God?** Here's a hint L_ _ _

Questions for Group Discussion

"The LORD forbid that I should do such a thing"

- ❖ Have your friends ever pressured you to do what seems easy rather than doing what is right?
- ❖ Have you ever struggled to do the right thing when everyone is doing something else?
 - ❖ Have you ever hurt someone because you were too tough about a rule?
- ❖ Have you ever struggled to show grace to someone who you wanted to judge?
- ❖ Has anyone ever shown you grace and love when you deserved to be punished according to the rules?
 - ❖ Have you ever had a grudge against someone or wanted revenge?
- ❖ Have you ever struggled to obey your elders, when you didn't want to?

Can you think of More? List them Below:

David Spares Saul's Life

1 Samuel 24:6

"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.'"

How I put God's Word into Practice

Summary: What is this passage about?

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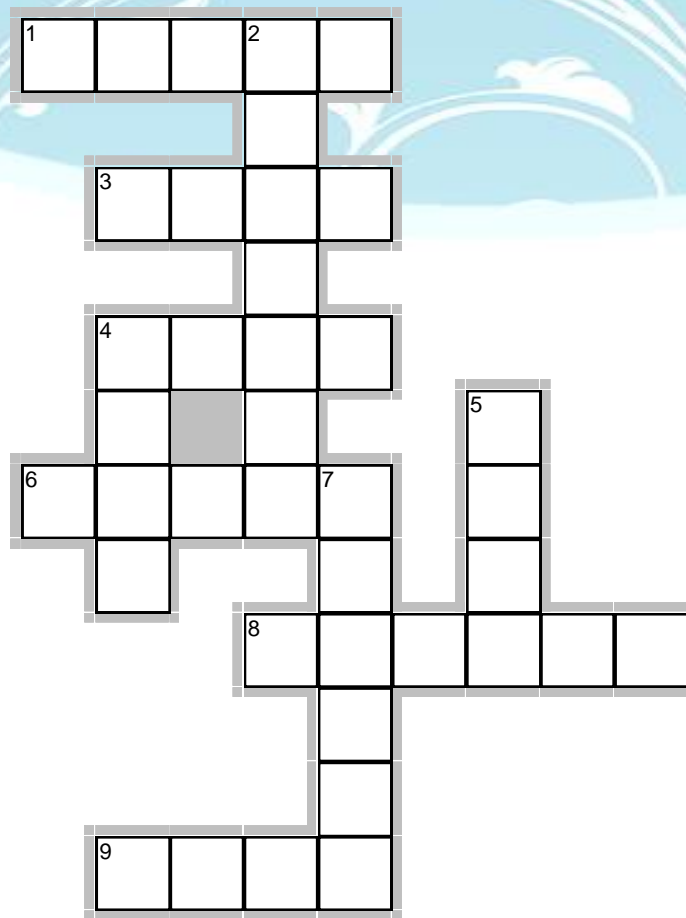
Application:

*How does the meaning of this passage apply to my life?
What truths should I believe and keep in my heart?
What changes should I personally make in my life?*

Prayer Topics:

...so that you may be blameless and pure children of God in a crooked and lawless generation in which you shine like stars in the universe...

How well do you know God's Word?



Across

1. I spared your life today, may God ____ mine
3. The most important word to remember in living before God is ____
4. David didn't kill Saul because he is God anointed ____
6. God had even put them all in a deep _____ so no one woke.
8. Saul knew David was a much better king than him but he couldn't ____
9. David went down to the _____ where Saul was

Down

2. Let God be the judge, don't take _____ on your enemies
4. Saul kept on searching for David, trying to ____ him
5. David quietly sneaked up to Saul and cut off a piece of his _____
7. We should always think about whether our actions _____ God

Anger Management

1 Samuel 25:1-44

Theme: Overcoming our temper

While David was running from Saul he and his army hid for a while in the desert of Moan in Carmel. There a very mean man named Nabal, owned a lot of land and cattle.

The whole time David and his men were there, they protected Nabal's shepherds. Many times the shepherd's lives could be in danger because they were all alone in the wilderness with many sheep. But because David and his men were there nothing happened to the shepherds.

After a while, it came time to shear the sheep and sell their wool. It was a festive time, and Nabal would make a lot of money because none of his sheep were lost. David sent some of his men to politely ask if his servant David could have whatever little Nabal felt like giving to him and his men to eat, since they had protected his sheep so well.

But Nabal hurled insults at them and called David a runaway slave. When his men reported this to David he became very angry. "Put on your swords!" he said. "It's been useless—all my watching over this fellow's property in the desert so that nothing of his was missing. He has paid me back evil for good. Now I will kill him and everyone in his household." Then he and four hundred men went up to attack Nabal.

1 Samuel 25:32-33

"Praise be to the LORD, the God of Israel, who has sent you today to meet me. May you be blessed for your good judgment and for keeping me from bloodshed this day and from avenging myself with my own hands."

David wasn't really thinking. Nabal was totally wrong but David lost his temper and was going to do something violent that wasn't right before

God. God never likes it when people lose their temper and get violent.

One of Nabal's servants went to his wife Abigail and told her what had happened. "When we were with David his men were like a wall around us, please do something."

Abigail lost no time. She loaded up many donkeys with all the food she could find and went to David. When Abigail saw David, she fell at his feet and said: "Blame me, for my

husband is a fool. I would not have treated you this way. I know you will become king of Israel, because you fight for the Lord. So you cannot have this innocent blood on your hands, it will make you feel so guilty and ruin your conscience. Let God decide what will happen to him. Please accept my gift and forgive us."

David was so surprised and thanked her for stopping him from something foolish. Nabal knew nothing about this. When Abigail told him, he had a heart attack and died. So, David took Abigail as his wife.



Nabal insults David's servants and mocks David. BAD MOVE. 1 Samuel 25:9-11



In a moment of desperation Willie recited Matthew 5:22 in hopes that brother Nate would not pummel him for eating the last 4 cookies.

THINK ABOUT IT



- ❖ God is not happy when we lose our temper
- ❖ God wants us to be peacemakers
- ❖ Humble people are a great blessing and are blessed but proud people will be judged

TALK ABOUT IT



- ❖ What nice thing did David and his army do for the rich Nabal?
- ❖ What would God think if David listened to his temper and killed everyone?
- ❖ When sheering time came what favor did David ask of Nabal?
- ❖ What did Abigail do and say to David?
- ❖ Was it fair for him to ask this?
- ❖ What shows her faith? Her humbleness?
- ❖ How did Nabal respond?
- ❖ Abigail was a peacemaker, who are some other peacemakers in the Bible?
- ❖ What did David want to do because of Nabal's selfishness?
- ❖ Why is it so hard to make peace?
- ❖ How can we be people of peace like Abigail?
- ❖ Is it right to loose our temper even when someone does something really bad to us? Why?
- ❖ What happened when Abigail told Nabal what she had done?

Questions for Group Discussion

"May you be blessed for your good judgment"

- ❖ Do you naturally help those around you in need?
 - ❖ Are you stingy or generous?
 - ❖ Do you have a temper?
- ❖ Have you ever been paid evil for good?
How did you react?
- ❖ Have you ever made peace between
kids or friends who wanted to fight?
- ❖ Is there anyone you need to make peace with?
- ❖ Has a godly person ever helped you repent
and not do something foolish?
- ❖ Have you ever given godly advice to someone
to help them not make a foolish mistake?

Can you think of More? List them Below:

Anger Management

1 Samuel 25:32-33

"Praise be to the LORD, the God of Israel, who has sent you today to meet me. May you be blessed for your good judgment and for keeping me from bloodshed this day and from avenging myself with my own hands."

How I put God's Word into Practice

Summary: What is this passage about?

Observation: What did I learn about God in this passage?

Application:

*How does the meaning of this passage apply to my life?
What truths should I believe and keep in my heart?
What changes should I personally make in my life?*

Prayer Topics:

...so that you may be blameless and pure children of God in a crooked and lawless generation in which you shine like stars in the universe...

How well do you know God's Word?

1 Samuel 25 Word Search

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

15 Words to find

HID
LAND
ALONE
SHEEP
WOOL
GIVING
VIOLENT
THANK

NABAL
CATTLE
DANGER
SHEER
POLITE
PAID
BLAME

All Alone

1 Samuel 28:1-31:13

Theme: Wickedness will make us lonely,
Without God we cannot win

The next time the Philistines attacked the Israelites, their king told David he had to fight on their side since he was living with the Philistines, after all. It was terrible to fight his own country but David and his 600 men went and joined the army.

But other Philistines did not trust David. "He will turn on us and fight for his own people," they said. They sent David and his men back to their own town. But when they got home a terrible surprise awaited them. The wild men from the desert had attacked while David was gone and had taken everything and burned the city. All their wives and children had been taken away as slaves. Even David's two wives were gone.

David chased after the men from the desert and caught them. Some of them escaped into the desert on camels, but the rest he killed. Then he took back everything that was his, and all that had been stolen from other cities. He divided all this up among his own men. Now David was a rich man.

Meanwhile, Saul was about to be attacked by the Philistine army. Samuel was dead. David was

gone. And Saul knew that God was not with him anymore. He needed some help.

So Saul went to a witch, who said she could talk to dead men. Saul asked to speak to the spirit of Samuel, and God allowed Samuel's spirit to speak to Saul.

"Why are you bothering me?" Samuel's spirit asked
"I need help," Saul answered. "Tell me what to do."

"You did not obey God. Tomorrow you and your three Sons will die," Samuel's spirit told Saul.

The next day the Philistines attacked the Israelites' camp when they were not ready to fight. Many were killed, including Saul's son Jonathan, David's friend. When Saul saw the battle was lost and his sons were dead, he killed himself with his own sword.

Saul had been king for forty years. During that entire period he had fought the Philistines. David could have helped him, but Saul in his jealousy had chased him away. Samuel could have helped him, but Saul would not obey God. After Saul's death the Philistines took over the land of Israel.

1 Samuel 28:19

"The LORD will hand over both Israel and you to the Philistines, and tomorrow you and your sons will be with me. The LORD will also hand over the army of Israel to the Philistines."





THINK ABOUT IT



- ❖ Because Saul drove away David he lost the one he needed to win the battle
- ❖ Because of Saul's disobedience, God rejected him and he had no one to help him
- ❖ Saul's wickedness made him totally alone in the time of his greatest need
- ❖ Pride, Selfishness and Disobedience will leave us all alone

TALK ABOUT IT



- ❖ What did the king of the Philistines tell David to do? Why?
- ❖ How was David saved from this terrible situation?
- ❖ What had happened while David was away?
- ❖ How did this big problem turn into a great victory?
- ❖ **Why did everything always turn into victory for David?**
- ❖ What did Saul do when he learned about the Philistine attack?
- ❖ Why did Saul have no one else to go to for help?
- ❖ **How does wickedness leave us lonely?**
- ❖ Who did Saul want the witch to bring up?
- ❖ What did Samuel tell Saul?
- ❖ **If we don't want to be alone and without God what should we do?**
- ❖ What happened to Saul and his sons?
- ❖ What happened to Israel after this?
- ❖ **How can we not end up like Saul?**

Questions for Group Discussion

*"The LORD will hand over both
Israel and you to the Philistines."*

- ❖ Have you ever been proud?
- ❖ Do you ever pray that God may be with you?
- ❖ Do you read your bible at least once a week?
- ❖ Has God ever helped you overcome something?
 - ❖ Do you trust God or your own ideas?
 - ❖ Do you obey God, your parents,
and your teachers?
 - ❖ What is first in your heart?
- ❖ Have you ever asked God to help you?

Can you think of More? List them Below:



All Alone

1 Samuel 28:19

"The LORD will hand over both Israel and you to the Philistines, and tomorrow you and your sons will be with me. The LORD will also hand over the army of Israel to the Philistines."

How I put God's Word into Practice

Summary: What is this passage about?

Observation: What did I learn about God in this passage?

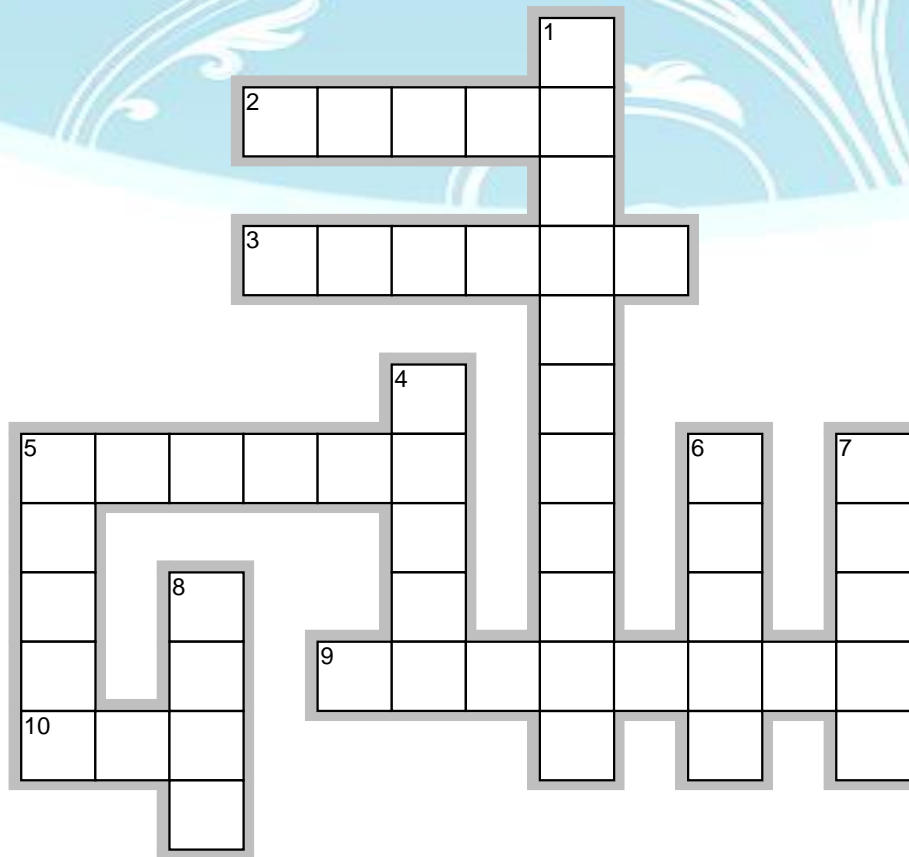
Application:

*How does the meaning of this passage apply to my life?
What truths should I believe and keep in my heart?
What changes should I personally make in my life?*

Prayer Topics:

...so that you may be blameless and pure children of God in a crooked and lawless generation in which you shine like stars in the universe...

How well do you know God's Word?



Across

2. Instead of going to God, Saul went to a _____
3. Wickedness will make us _____, without God we cannot win
5. Saul asked to talk to the spirit of _____
9. God _____ Saul as king because of his disobedience
10. "You and your three sons will ____"

Down

1. The entire country of Israel was handed over to the _____ because of Saul's wickedness
4. Saul's wickedness left him totally _____
5. Saul killed himself with his own _____
6. Saul was king for _____ years
7. _____, selfishness and disobedience will leave us all alone
8. Since Saul did not _____ God, him and his three sons died

TO be TRULY Great pt 1

2 Samuel 5:1-25

Theme: True Greatness, Living to please God

Now that Saul and Jonathan were dead, the rulers of the twelve tribes came to David to make him king. They remembered God had told David "You will shepherd my people Israel." They remembered his great victories and wanted him to shepherd them.

Israel was in sad shape when David became king.

The Philistines controlled large parts of it. The Canaanites controlled other parts, including the city of Jerusalem, a huge city surrounded by walls. David knew he had to take Jerusalem from the Canaanites if he were going to rule the land.

The Canaanites laughed at the Israelites. "You cannot take this city," they said. Then they put all their blind and crippled people up on top of the wall. "Even our blind and crippled can protect this city from you!"

David became angry. "The first man to climb to the top of this wall and kill those people will be my general," he told everyone. Everyone climbed up the wall as fast as they could to win this honor. The first to get there was a man named Joab. As

2 Samuel 5:2

"In the past, while Saul was king over us, you were the one who led Israel on their military campaigns. And the LORD said to you, 'You will shepherd my people Israel, and you will become their ruler.'"

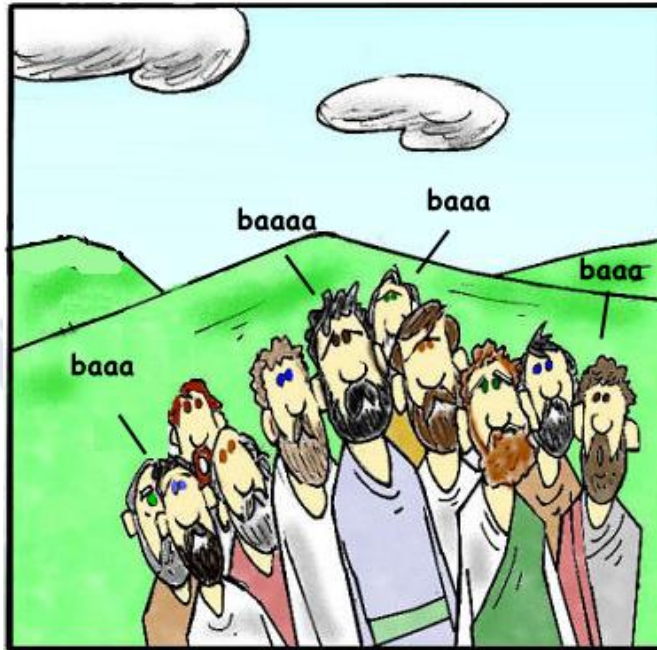
long as David lived, Joab was the general of his army.

David captured Jerusalem and made it his home. Under David, Jerusalem became even stronger than before. People came from all around to live there, and it became the biggest city in the country.

When the Philistines heard Israel had a new king, they attacked Jerusalem. Two times David defeated them. It was because God was helping David. Once, God gave David the signal to attack by sending a sound in the trees above him. He drove the Philistines back into their own land and destroyed their main city. Then David went on and captured all the land the Philistines had

owned. For the first time in 100 years, the Israelites had peace and all their land as their own.

Because of his desire to please God David was able to accomplish what Saul tried to do in his lifetime. When we have a life purpose to please God, we become great and God makes us a blessing to many.



You will be a Shepherd for my people Israel 2 Samuel 5:2



YOU ARE THE WEAKEST LINK ... GOODBYE

THINK ABOUT IT



- ❖ When our greatest desire in life is to please God we can be truly great
- ❖ When God is with us, we can do far greater things than we can by ourselves
- ❖ We should seek to be like David who lived to please God and became a blessing in all he did

TALK ABOUT IT



- ❖ What did the people remember about David and what did they do?
- ❖ What problem faced him as the new King?
- ❖ What did the Canaanites think when David came to attack them?
- ❖ How could David challenge such a big and strong city?
- ❖ What did the Canaanites do to make fun of David?
- ❖ Who won the honor of becoming David's general?
- ❖ Who won the battle?
- ❖ Who attacked them next?
- ❖ How great was David's victory in this battle?
- ❖ **Think about it, David was a great warrior, and courageous and caring shepherd, a wise and respectable king, a man after God's own heart, what was his secret?**
- ❖ **Did David want to become great? What was most important to him?**
- ❖ **What can truly make us great and a blessing?**

Questions for Group Discussion

*"You will shepherd my people Israel,
and you will become their ruler."*

- ❖ Is your greatest desire in life to please God?
 - ❖ Do you glorify God in all that you do?
- ❖ Have you ever asked God to be with you?
 - ❖ Has God ever helped you with something that seemed impossible?
 - ❖ Do you always thank God for what he has done?
 - ❖ Do you live before God?
- ❖ Are you a good example to others?
 - ❖ Is God your king?

Can you think of More? List them Below:

To Be Truly Great P#1

2 Samuel 5:2

"In the past, while Saul was king over us, you were the one who led Israel on their military campaigns. And the LORD said to you, 'You will shepherd my people Israel, and you will become their ruler.'"

How I put God's Word into Practice

Summary: What is this passage about?

Observation: What did I learn about God in this passage?

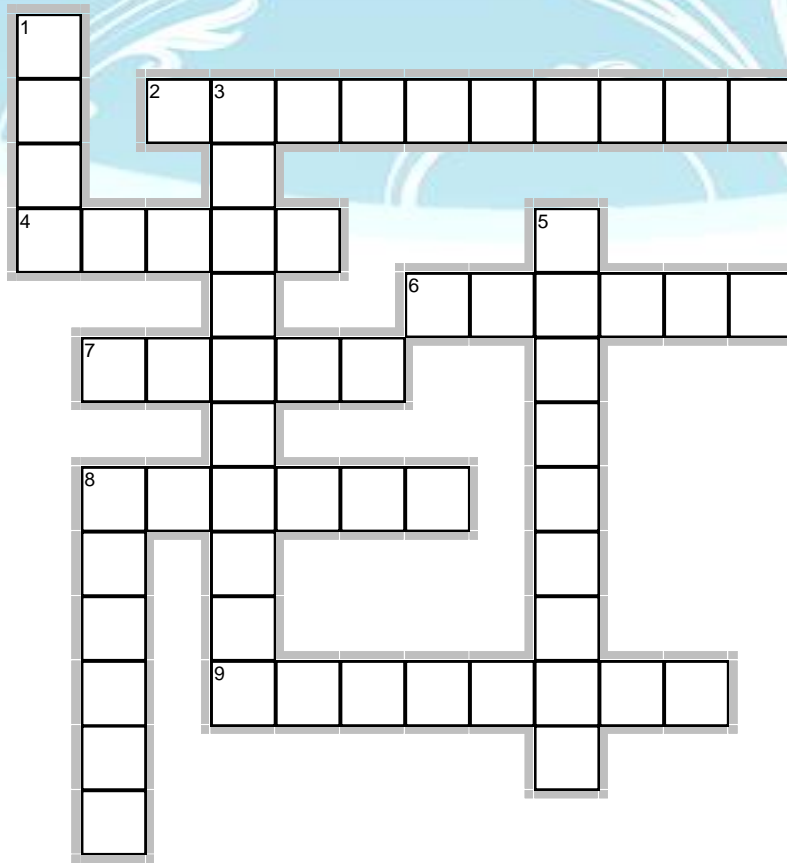
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Prayer Topics:

...so that you may be blameless and pure children of God in a crooked and lawless generation in which you shine like stars in the universe...

How well do you know God's Word?



Across

2. David was able to _____ what Saul tried to do in his lifetime because of his desire to please God.
4. The Canaanites teased David by putting _____ and crippled on top of the wall
6. We can be truly great when our greatest desire in life is to _____ God
7. David was a man after God's own _____
8. The rulers of the twelve _____ came to David to make him king.
9. God had told David "You will _____ my people Israel.

Down

1. General of David's army
3. Israel was still controlled by _____ and Philistines
5. Huge city surrounded by walls
8. David was _____ years old when he became a king.

Bible Verse Jumble:

Assemble the following Bible verses from cut out words as fast as you can.

Instructions

- Make two piles of each verse and compete in teams to assemble it first one verse at a time.
 - If it is too difficult word by word, cut two words together instead of individually.
-
- ❖ 1 Samuel 5:2 “In the past, while Saul was king over us, you were the one who led Israel on their military campaigns. And the LORD said to you, 'You will shepherd my people Israel, and you will become their ruler.' ”
 - ❖ 1 Samuel 5:10 “And he became more and more powerful, because the LORD God Almighty was with him.”
 - ❖ 1 Samuel 5:12 “And David knew that the LORD had established him as king over Israel and had exalted his kingdom for the sake of his people Israel.”
 - ❖ 1 Samuel 5:19 “So David inquired of the LORD, "Shall I go and attack the Philistines? Will you hand them over to me?" The LORD answered him, "Go, for I will surely hand the Philistines over to you."

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TO be Truly Great pt2

2 Samuel 6:1-7:29

Theme: True Greatness, Living to please God, Loving God

Now that the land was free, David wanted the Ark of the Covenant back. He built a big tabernacle in Jerusalem, then went to get the holy chest from its hiding place. The men who had been taking care of the Ark of the Covenant all this time put it on a wagon and walked beside it. But they were not priests.

One time the wagon hit a bump and the chest almost fell off. A man named Uzzah reached out his hand to steady the holy chest and touched it. As soon as he did, God killed him for his lack of respect.

This frightened David and the people. He was afraid to bring the Ark of the Covenant into Jerusalem because it might harm him or the people. For the next three months the Ark of the Covenant remained in the home of a nearby family. Instead of harming the family, the holy chest brought them great blessings.

At the end of that time David sent priests to get the chest. This was the way it should have been done the first time. David brought the ark into Jerusalem dancing for joy before God because he

loved God so much and was so happy to have God's Ark with them. The priests put the Ark of the Covenant in the tabernacle David had made for it, and everything was fine. The daily services

began again, after many years, and the people were happy to have God living with them again.

David was now living in a great palace in Jerusalem and he thought the Ark of the Covenant should be in a great temple instead of a tent. But to be sure, he asked a man named Nathan, who was God's prophet.

God told Nathan to give David a message. "I took you from your sheep and gave you great power," the Lord said to David. "Because you have done My will, your son will follow you as king. He shall be the one to build me a house and a temple. I will give you and all those who follow a kingdom that will last forever."

This was good news for David and for us, for Jesus Christ would come from David's family, and He will rule the world forever.

2 Samuel 7:16

"Your house and your kingdom will endure forever before me; your throne will be established forever."





MANY FOLKS WERE TAKEN ABACK BY PASTOR'S
"NEW SALVATION" DANCE

THINK ABOUT IT



- ❖ We can't just do things our way, but we have to find God's way
- ❖ True worship is from the heart and is full of joy, it is our expression of love
- ❖ To be truly great we should have a burning love for God
- ❖ To be truly great we should think about God before ourselves

TALK ABOUT IT



- ❖ What did David want to do now that there was peace in Israel? Why?
- ❖ **Was it David's deeds or his heart that really made him great?**
- ❖ What happened on the way to Jerusalem?
- ❖ What did David do because of this?
- ❖ What happened to the family he gave the ark to?
- ❖ How did he handle the ark the second time?
- ❖ **Why is it important to worship God His way?**
- ❖ How did David worship as the Ark was brought in?
- ❖ What did David want to do with the ark? Why?
- ❖ What was the word of God that came to him?
- ❖ What did God mean by his kingdom would endure forever?
- ❖ **Why is this the greatest promise?**
- ❖ **What do we learn about how to be truly great, a blessing, and pleasing to God?**

Questions for Group Discussion

"Your house and your kingdom will endure forever"

- ❖ Do you do things God's way or your own way?
 - ❖ Have you ever put God before yourself?
- ❖ Have you ever done anything to show your love and thankfulness to God?
 - ❖ Do you live to please God?
- ❖ Have you ever made a decision to obey?
 - ❖ Who is first in your heart?
- ❖ Do you ask God to come into your life?
- ❖ Can you read the bible twice this week?

Can you think of More? List them Below:

To Be Truly Great pt2

2 Samuel 7:16

"Your house and your kingdom will endure forever before me; your throne will be established forever."

How I put God's Word into Practice

Summary: What is this passage about?

Observation: What did I learn about God in this passage?

Application:

*How does the meaning of this passage apply to my life?
What truths should I believe and keep in my heart?
What changes should I personally make in my life?*

Prayer Topics:

...so that you may be blameless and pure children of God in a crooked and lawless generation in which you shine like stars in the universe...

How well do you know God's Word?

2 Samuel 6-7 Word Search

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

15 Words to find

TABERNACLE
HOLY
AFRAID
REMAIN
TRUE
LIVING
PALACE
FOLLOW

BUILT
CHEST
HARM
POWER
PLEASE
HAPPY
DAVID

The Promise to a Friend

2 Samuel 8-9:13

Theme: Keep our word, Live before God

David had to fight many battles after he took over as Israel's king. He defeated the Moabites, the Syrians, and the Edomites. After these victories Israel's land went from the desert to the ocean, from the Euphrates River down to the wilderness on the south.

When he finally was at peace David remembered his promise to his friend Jonathan, Saul's son. He asked the people around him if they knew any relatives of Saul who were still living. They told him one of Saul's servants was still taking care of Saul's farmland. The man was named Ziba. He had become a rich man taking care of the land Saul owned.

David said to Ziba, "Are any of Saul's family still alive? I want to show them some of the kindness that God has shown me."

"Saul's son Jonathan had a son. He is still living east of the Jordan," Ziba told David.

Jonathan's son had been a little baby when Jonathan was killed. His nurse had taken him and run away to hide from the Philistines. As she ran she fell, and the baby's feet were hurt so badly

2 Samuel 9:1

"David asked, 'Is there anyone still left of the house of Saul to whom I can show kindness for Jonathan's sake?'"

that he became crippled. As a man he was unable to walk properly.

In those days kings often killed every person in the family of the king before them so no one would try to take their throne away. Maybe that is

why Jonathan's son—whose name was

Mephibosheth—lived so far away from Jerusalem. When he was called to David's palace, the crippled man was afraid he was about to be killed.

"Don't be afraid," David told Mephibosheth. "I loved your father, and he loved me. All

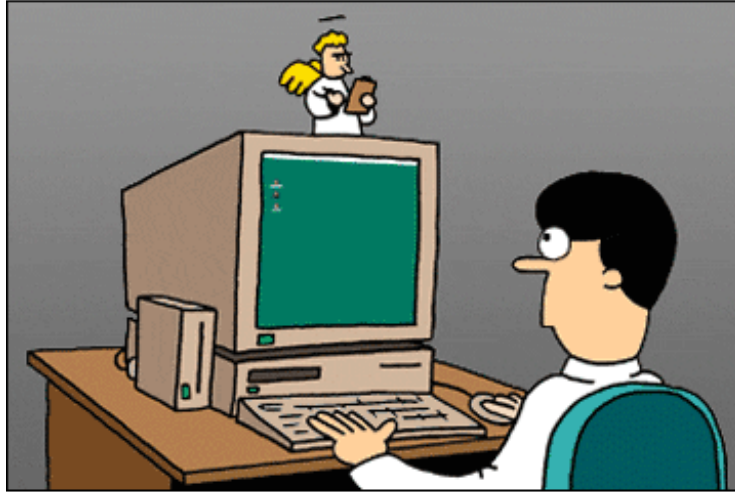
Saul's lands are yours now, but you will live here with me in the palace."

Then David called Ziba, Saul's servant, in to him. "You take care of the land as before," he said. "But the harvest belongs to Jonathan's son now. You will serve him."

So the lame man was taken into the palace and treated with honor. And Ziba, with his fifteen sons and twenty servants, now served Saul's grandson.



Hey I'm a cripple! I'm protected under the Israelite disabilities act



ALBERT WAS QUITE IMPRESSED WITH HIS NEW
SAFE-SEARCH SOFTWARE

THINK ABOUT IT



- ❖ When we give our life for God's purpose we can carry out his great vision and will
- ❖ As we become blessed, we must not become selfish but grow in kindness and consideration
- ❖ We must learn to keep our word no matter what
- ❖ We must live before God, not people
- ❖ We must have the character to do what is right, rather than what is popular

TALK ABOUT IT



- ❖ What great thing did David accomplish as king? *Think about God's promise to the Israelites. Had they ever finished taking over the whole land before this?*
- ❖ When he became rich and famous what did he think about first?
- ❖ **What does this show about David?**
- ❖ **As God blesses us why must we grow in character, kindness and consideration?**
- ❖ **What usually happens to people when they get everything they want?**
- ❖ Who did David find from Saul's family?
- ❖ What relative of Saul was still living?
- ❖ What was Mephibosheth worried about when he was summoned?
- ❖ What did David do for him?
- ❖ **Why would it have been risky for David to show kindness to the very son of Jonathan and only remaining member of the line of Saul?**
- ❖ **What does it mean to live before God not people?**
- ❖ **How can we have the character to do what is right, not what is acceptable in the world?**

Questions for Group Discussion

"to whom I can show kindness for Jonathan's sake"

- ❖ Have you ever asked God what his plan for your life was?
- ❖ Do you live before God or before others?
 - ❖ Have you ever kept a promise?
 - ❖ Do you truly care about your friends?
- ❖ Do you do what is right even when it's hard?
- ❖ Have you ever shown kindness to someone?
 - ❖ Has God ever blessed you?
- ❖ Are you a good influence to those around you?

Can you think of More? List them Below:

The Promise to a Friend

2 Samuel 9:1

"David asked, 'Is there anyone still left of the house of Saul to whom I can show kindness for Jonathan's sake?'"

How I put God's Word into Practice

Summary: What is this passage about?

Observation: What did I learn about God in this passage?

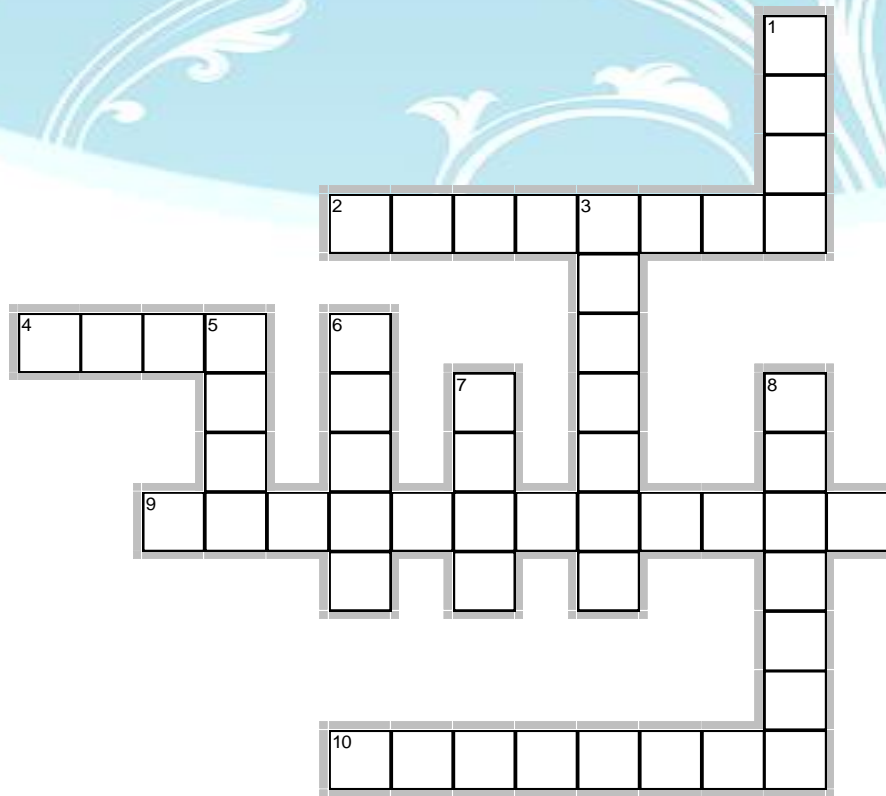
Application:

*How does the meaning of this passage apply to my life?
What truths should I believe and keep in my heart?
What changes should I personally make in my life?*

Prayer Topics:

...so that you may be blameless and pure children of God in a crooked and lawless generation in which you shine like stars in the universe...

How well do you know God's Word?



Across

2. Mephibosheth is a _____ man and was afraid that he is about to be killed
4. When we give our life for God's purpose, we can carry out his great vision and ____
9. David visited Jonathan's son named _____
10. David show his _____ to Saul's family that God had shown him.

Down

1. We must learn to keep our ____ no matter what
3. David kept his _____ to his friend Jonathan
5. We must ____ before God, not people
6. We must have the character to do what is _____, rather than what is popular
7. ____ was one of Saul's servants who took care of Saul's farmland
8. David had to fight many _____ after he took over as Israel's king

David's Gets Lazy

2 Samuel 11-12; Psalm 51

Theme: Repentance, Laziness brings Sin

One time David's army was out fighting the Ammonites but David did not go with them as he should, he stayed home. David took a walk on the roof of his palace. As he gazed down into a garden below he saw a beautiful woman. When David asked a servant who she was he discovered her name was Bathsheba. She was the wife of one of David's soldiers, a man named Uriah.

David had many wives and children, but Bathsheba was Uriah's only wife. She was so beautiful that David made her come to the palace and he slept with her and she became pregnant.

David sent a message to his general, Joab: "See that Uriah is put in the front line of the battle and killed," it said. If her husband died then David could cover up his sin by marrying her quickly, so people would think they had the baby after marriage. Joab did as he was told, and Uriah was killed in the next battle.

When her time of crying for her husband was over, Bathsheba was brought into David's home and later she married David. Soon she had the little son whom David had tried to hide.

But God knew what he had done, and He sent the prophet Nathan to David with a

message. Nathan told David a little story.

"Once there was a very rich man with lots of animals. Near him lived a poor man with only one little lamb. He loved that lamb very much and took good care of it. One day company came to eat with the rich man. Instead of taking one of his many sheep and killing it for dinner, the rich man took the poor man's only lamb and ate it."

David was frowning. "That man deserves to die! He must give the poor man four times it's worth. You can't treat a poor man that way."

Nathan looked at David. "You are that man. You took a man's life and his wife, when you already had plenty. You will be punished for this."

Then David saw how bad he had been to Uriah and begged the Lord's forgiveness.

"You are forgiven," Nathan told him. "But the baby you love so much will surely die."

Soon after, David and Bathsheba's baby became very ill and died. God would bring many other problems into David's life to rebuke him but God still loved him. Later God would give David and Bathsheba another son. They would name him Solomon. The Lord loved Solomon, and he grew up to be a very wise man.

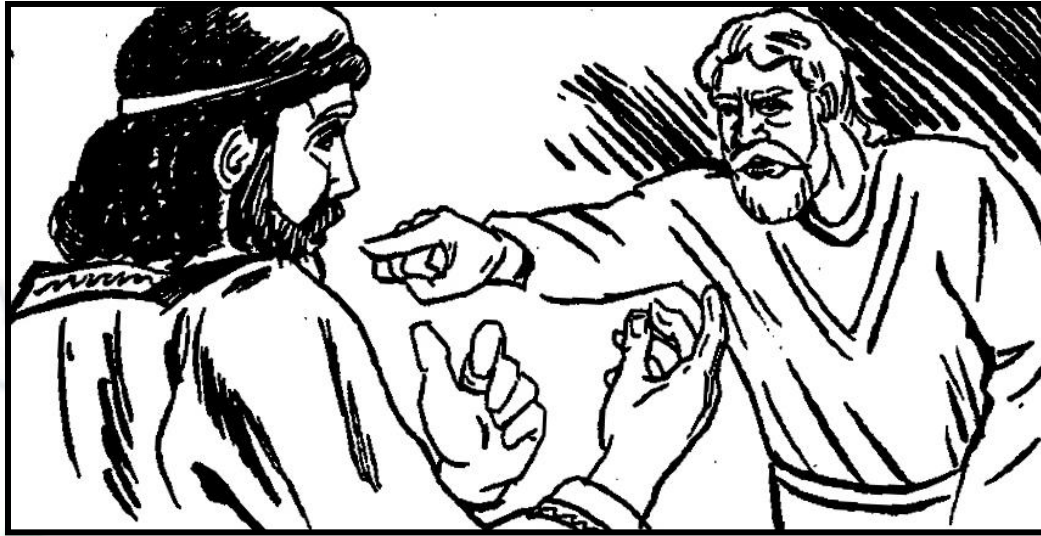
2 Samuel 12:13

"Then David said to Nathan, 'I have sinned against the LORD.' Nathan replied, 'The LORD has taken away your sin. You are not going to die.'"

No more in the back of the line for me. I get to lead us into battle.. right where the action is. Cuz' King David is my friend!



Uriah the Hittite, husband of Bathsheba marches bravely into battle? God rest his soul. 2 Samuel 11:14-17



THINK ABOUT IT



- ❖ Laziness leads us into temptation
- ❖ Trying to hide our sin only leads us into greater sin
- ❖ When we know we have sinned we must confess openly and repent honestly before God
- ❖ God will always forgive us when we repent because he loves us deeply
- ❖ God's forgiveness doesn't mean we can keep sinning; God takes the payment for our sin not the consequences—those who keep sinning ruin their life but those who repent save it

TALK ABOUT IT



- ❖ What was David's army doing at this time?
- ❖ Why wasn't David with them?
- ❖ What temptation caught him at this time?
- ❖ How can being lazy lead us into sin?
- ❖ How can doing our mission help us stay out of sin?
- ❖ What commandment did David break?
- ❖ How did he try to hide his sin?
- ❖ What commandment did David break this time?
- ❖ What happens when we try to hide our sin?
- ❖ How did Nathan wisely help David to see his sin?
- ❖ How did David react when he saw he was the man?
- ❖ Why did God still punish him? It is important to remember that when we repent, God takes away the payment for our sin (death) but not the consequences (a murderer who repents still deserves to go to jail), so we must be careful not to sin on purpose.
- ❖ Look at Psalm 51 (written by David after this event). What should be our attitude toward God's law and repentance?

Questions for Group Discussion

"I have sinned against the LORD"

- ❖ Have you ever been lazy?
- ❖ When you sin do you immediately ask God to forgive you?
- ❖ Have you ever tried to hide your sin?
- ❖ Do you confess your sins openly to God?
- ❖ Can you remember the last time you repented?
 - ❖ After you sin and repent, do you continue to sin or do you stop?
 - ❖ Do you accept the rebuke and discipline of your parents?
 - ❖ Do you pray that God may protect you from temptations?

Can you think of More? List them Below or in your Testimony:

How well do you know God's Word?

2 Samuel 11-12 Word Search

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

19 Words to find

BATHSHEBA
BEAUTIFUL
DAVID
FROWN
MARRIAGE
PROPHET
REPENTANCE
SAW
URIAH
WOMAN

BATTLE
BEG
FORGIVENESS
GAZED
NATHAN
REBUKE
ROOF
SON
WALKED

David's Great Tragedy

2 Samuel 13-17:23

Theme: Sin's Influence, Rebuking

The prophet Nathan warned David that bad things would happen to him and his family, and they did.

One of David's favorite sons was named Absalom. David's son Amnon had tried to take his sister as his wife by force, so Absalom killed him and ran away. But, David loved him so much he called him back and let Absalom back into his palace.

Absalom wanted to be king in place of his father. He did favors for everyone he met and treated everyone nicely. He would promise people anything they wanted. As time went by, more and more people loved Absalom. At the end of four years Absalom asked David if he could go to Hebron to worship God.

It may seem strange, but David had no idea what this man—his son—was trying to do because he wasn't taking care of his kingdom.

Soon afterward word came from Hebron. Absalom had made himself the new king! David heard that many of the rulers were with Absalom, and the people wanted him as king. He took a few of his servants, his wives, and his children and left Jerusalem.

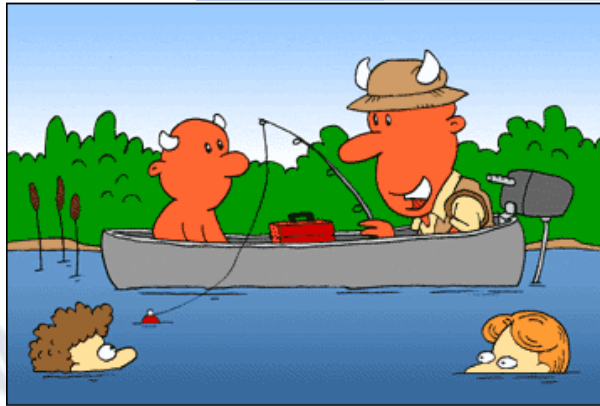
Absalom sought advice from one of the royal advisers, who told him to attack David while he was weak but another adviser, who was loyal to David, convinced him that David was a fighter and he could not win. This was from God who wanted to destroy Absalom. Absalom waited. He would stay there until

2 Samuel 15:25

"Take the ark of God back into the city. If I find favor in the LORD's eyes, he will bring me back and let me see it and his dwelling place again."

his own army was stronger and bigger, and then he would kill his father. While Absalom waited, David's army grew bigger and bigger.

When Absalom had gathered all the men of Israel he went to war. David told every one of his commanders, "Please, do not kill Absalom."



IT DOESN'T MATTER IF WE CATCH THEM AS LONG AS THEY TAKE THE BAIT

David's army won a great victory that day. Absalom was forced to run away from the battlefield. As he rode through a deep wood, his long hair caught in the branches of an oak tree leaving Absalom hanging from the tree branches.

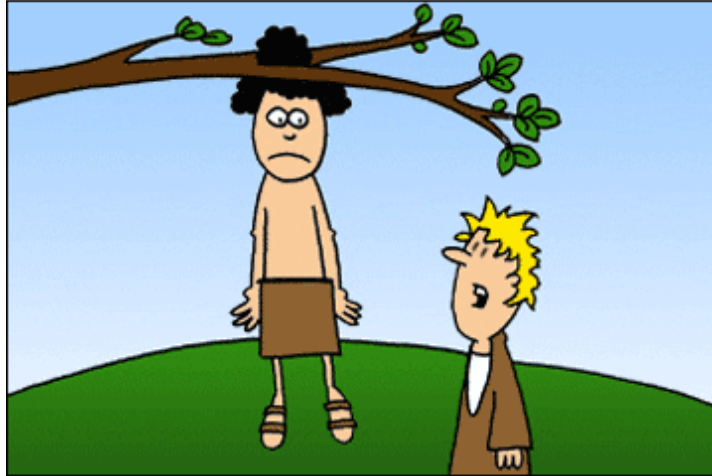
Joab, David's general, rushed into the woods and killed the young man. This was against David's orders,

but if he had lived, Absalom would have been a problem again.

When David heard that his son was dead, he cried for days. His army came back but no one treated them like the heroes they were.

Finally, Joab went to talk to David. "You must stop this," he said to his king. "Everyone thinks you would be happier if we had all died, instead of Absalom. Treat those who fought for you with the respect they deserve. If you don't, no one will ever follow you again."

David knew Joab was right. He got up, washed his face, and went out to meet everyone who had fought for him.



WOW, ABSALOM ... AND I THOUGHT THAT I WAS HAVING A BAD HAIR DAY

THINK ABOUT IT



- ❖ Our sins are a terrible influence on those around us
- ❖ Our sin does not just hurt us but can really hurt those we care most about
- ❖ When we love someone we have to rebuke their sin when necessary
- ❖ We all need discipline from God and others to help us when we are full of sin

TALK ABOUT IT



- ❖ What had David done in the previous passage?
- ❖ How did God help him at this time?
- ❖ What kind of influence did this have on his family?
- ❖ What did David ask of his commanders?
- ❖ What consequences did he begin to see of his sin?
- ❖ Who won the battle?
- ❖ **How does sin spread, what is the great danger of sin's influence?**
- ❖ How did Joab disobey David's command?
- ❖ Did David rebuke Absalom's sin?
- ❖ How did David selfishly react when he heard the outcome of the battle?
- ❖ What did Absalom finally do?
- ❖ How did Joab rebuke David and help him do what was right?
- ❖ **Why is it necessary to rebuke people's sin?** (Think about Nathan and David)
- ❖ **What terrible tragedy happens to those who do not repent and overcome their sin?**
- ❖ What did David do?

Questions for Group Discussion

"If I find favor in the LORD's eyes"

- ❖ Are you a good influence to those around you?
- ❖ Have you ever done something you knew was wrong?
- ❖ Do you accept discipline?
- ❖ Do you accept the rebuke of your parents?
- ❖ Have you ever been jealous?
- ❖ Has your sin ever gotten out of control, and you did something you didn't want to?
- ❖ Do you love your enemies?
- ❖ Do you pray that God may forgive your sins?

Can you think of More? List them Below:

David's Great Tragedy

2 Samuel 15:25

"Take the ark of God back into the city. If I find favor in the LORD's eyes, he will bring me back and let me see it and his dwelling place again."

How I put God's Word into Practice

Summary: What is this passage about?

Observation: What did I learn about God in this passage?

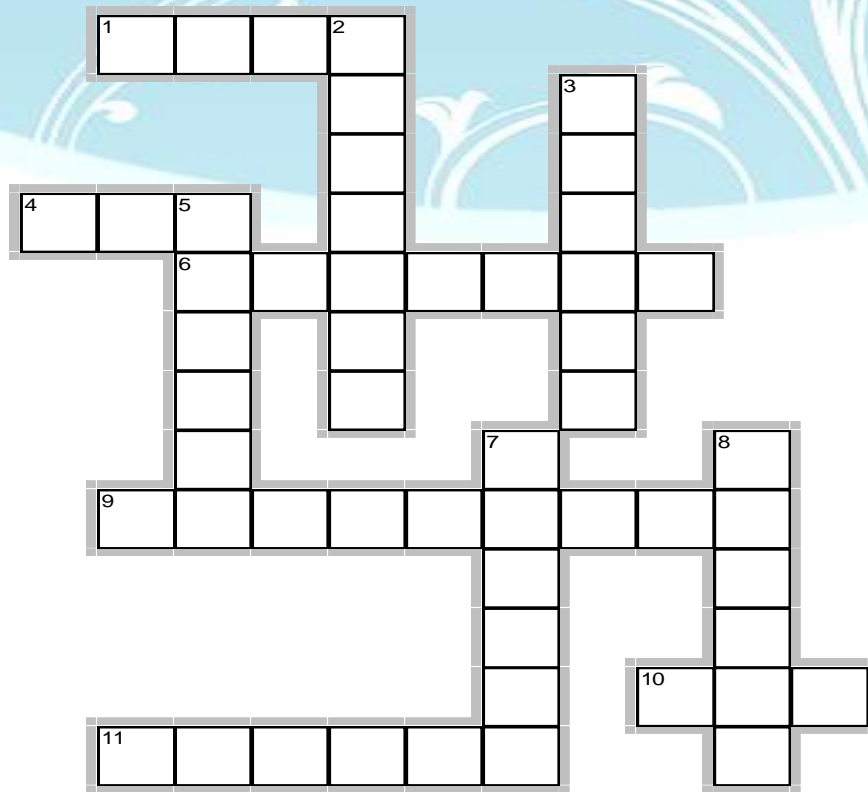
Application:

*How does the meaning of this passage apply to my life?
What truths should I believe and keep in my heart?
What changes should I personally make in my life?*

Prayer Topics:

...so that you may be blameless and pure children of God in a crooked and lawless generation in which you shine like stars in the universe...

How well do you know God's Word?



Across

1. We all need discipline from God and others to ____ us when we are full of sin
4. Our ____ does not just hurt us but can really hurt those we care about
6. _____ was David son who made himself the new king
9. Our sins are a terrible _____ on those around us
10. People helped David because they all knew ____ was with him
11. Absalom sought _____ from one of the royal advisers.

Down

2. The _____ of the tabernacle loved David and said they would help him too
3. Absalom did _____ for everyone he met and treated everyone nicely
5. The prophet _____ warned David that many bad things would happen to him
7. When we love someone we have to _____ their sin when necessary
8. Absalom asked David if he could go to _____ to worship God

I'M KING, NO I'M KING!

1 Kings 1:1-53

Theme: God's Sovereignty, God's Plan

When David grew old he began to collect wood and gold and silver to be used for building God's temple. But God would not let David build it because David was a fighter. God said David's son Solomon would be a king of peace and he would build it. So, while he lived, David stored up all that Solomon would need and David promised Bathsheba that her son Solomon would be king after him.

Now it was many years later and David became sick. No matter how many covers they put on him he could no longer keep warm and had to stay in bed. Since he could no longer rule, Absalom's next youngest brother, Adonijah, tried to make himself king without telling David. He had the support of several of the priests as well as Joab, David's general.

Nathan the prophet and Zadok the priest knew that this was not what God had promised and quickly went to tell David.

1 Kings 1:29-30

"The king then took an oath: "As surely as the LORD lives, who has delivered me out of every trouble, I will surely carry out today what I swore to you by the LORD, the God of Israel: Solomon your son shall be king after me, and he will sit on my throne in my place."

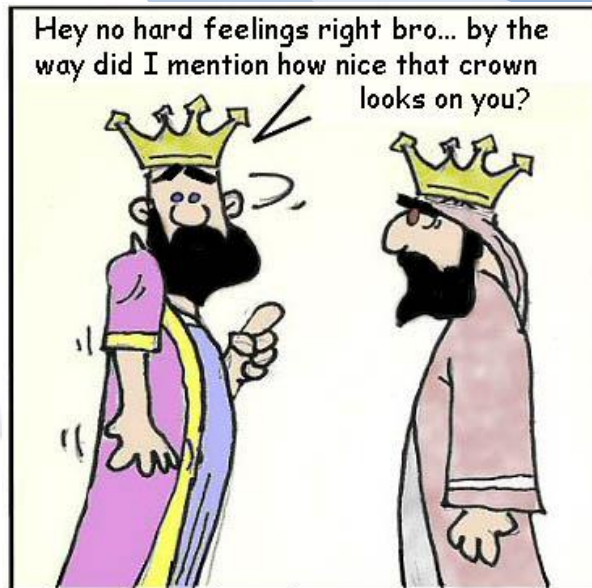
When David heard of this, he decided to crown

Solomon king right away. Solomon's head was anointed with oil. The priests blew their horns in celebration. From his bed David sent his blessing to the new king and bowed down in worship to God for his blessing.

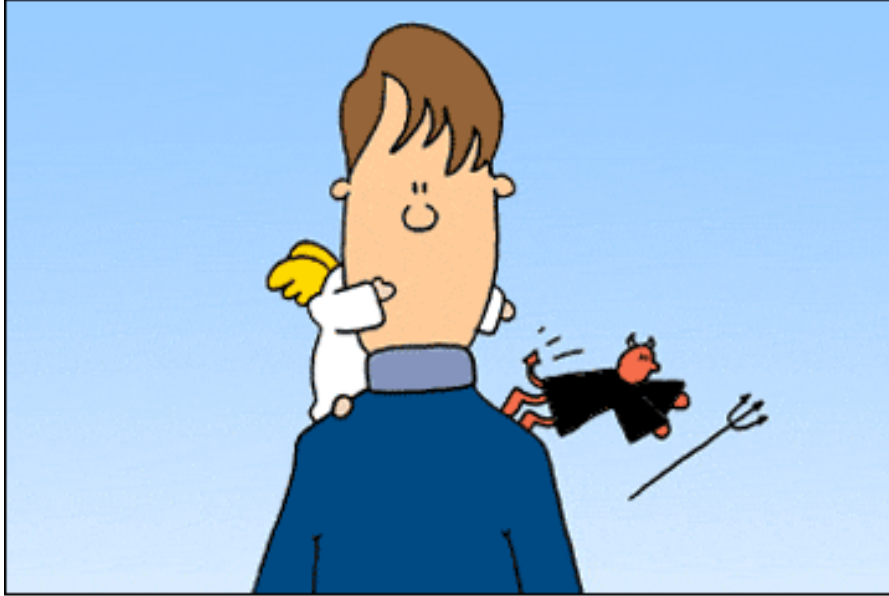
Adonijah, who had tried to crown himself king, ran to the tabernacle to pray and hide. But Solomon forgave him and those who had followed him and he returned to the palace peacefully.

Soon David died at a

good old age. He had been king of Israel for thirty-three years. He was buried on Mount Zion and remains to this day the greatest and most beloved king of Israel.



Adonijah must have done some pretty fast talking when Solomon was suddenly crowned king in his place **1 Kings 1**



THINK ABOUT IT



- ❖ Sometimes things may look out of control and messed up but God is in control of everything
- ❖ God's will overcomes all obstacles
- ❖ God is the God of History who does all things to fulfill his plan of world salvation
- ❖ We must put our trust in God's sovereignty and believe he will fulfill all he has promised

TALK ABOUT IT



- ❖ Why did David want to build a temple?
- ❖ Why couldn't he be the one to build it?
- ❖ **What does this teach us about God's view of war?**
- ❖ What happened to David at the beginning of this passage?
- ❖ What did his son Adonijah try to do?
- ❖ What did Nathan the prophet remember?
- ❖ What did David do?
- ❖ **What can we learn here about God's will that overcomes all obstacles?**
- ❖ **What does this teach us about the God of History?**
- ❖ **What should be our attitude knowing that God is in control of all things?**
- ❖ How did Adonijah try to hide?
- ❖ How did Solomon show himself to be a king of peace?
- ❖ **What do we learn about God's sovereignty through this passage?**

Questions for Group Discussion

"As surely as the LORD lives, who has delivered me out of every trouble"

- ❖ Have you ever forgiven someone who has been mean to you?
- ❖ Has God ever helped you overcome a problem?
- ❖ Do you pray that God may be with you?
- ❖ Do you argue, or do you make peace?
- ❖ Is it hard for you to forgive your brother or sister when they do something wrong?
- ❖ Have you ever asked God what his plan for you was?
- ❖ Has there ever been a time when you trusted God?
- ❖ Do you believe that God is powerful?

Can you think of More? List them Below:

I'm King, No I'm King!

-1 Kings 1:29-30

"The king then took an oath: "As surely as the LORD lives, who has delivered me out of every trouble, I will surely carry out today what I swore to you by the LORD, the God of Israel: Solomon your son shall be king after me, and he will sit on my throne in my place."

How I put God's Word into Practice

Summary: What is this passage about?

Observation: What did I learn about God in this passage?

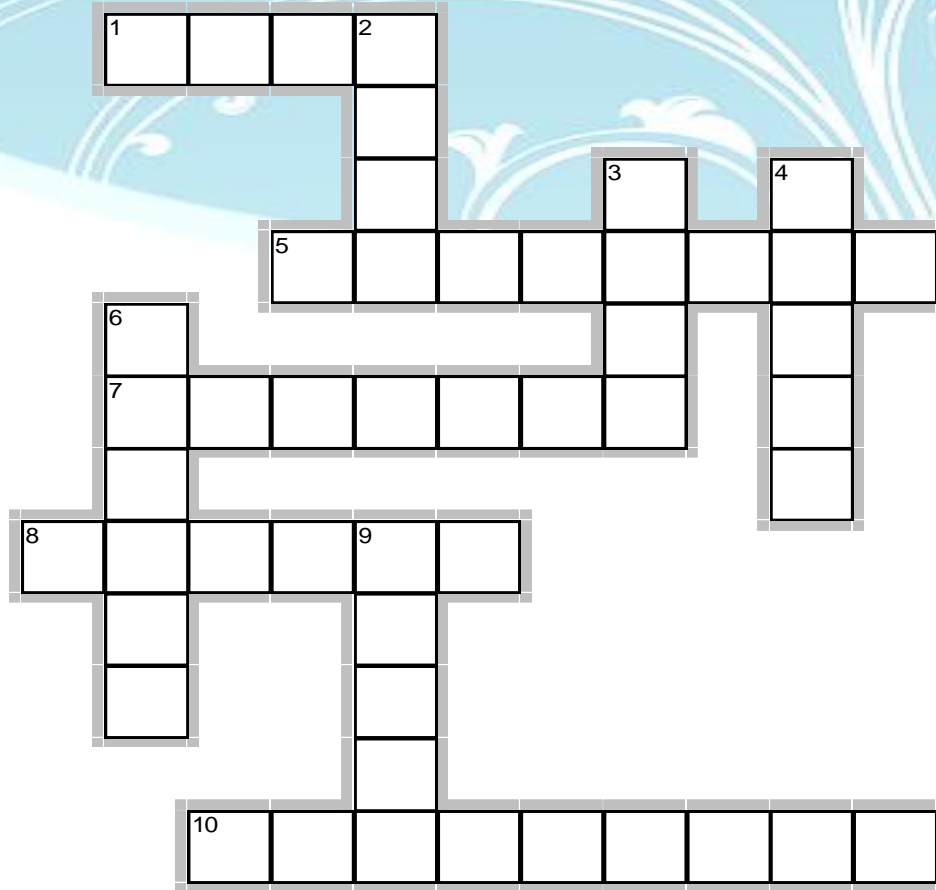
Application:

*How does the meaning of this passage apply to my life?
What truths should I believe and keep in my heart?
What changes should I personally make in my life?*

Prayer Topics:

...so that you may be blameless and pure children of God in a crooked and lawless generation in which you shine like stars in the universe...

How well do you know God's Word?



Across

1. God's _____ overcome all obstacles
5. He tried to make himself king without telling David.
7. A Shunammite beautiful girl who served King David to keep him warm
8. King David had been king for _____ three years.
10. Solomon's mother

Down

2. As surely as the _____ lives, who has delivered me out of every trouble, I will surely carry out today what I swore to you
3. Solomon your son shall be _____ after me and he will sit on my throne in my place.
4. _____ the priests and Nathan anointed Solomon as king over Israel.
6. a prophet who told king David that Adonijah making himself king before David.
9. We must put our _____ in God's sovereignty

The Greatest Gift

1 Kings 3-4, 2 Chronicles 1:1-13
Theme: Serving, Seeking Wisdom

When Solomon was crowned king he was only about twenty years old, and he had a large land to rule. That is a large responsibility for someone so young. Besides the land of Israel, Solomon ruled over all the other lands around. But he was a king of peace, and there were no wars while Solomon ruled.

Soon after he became king, Solomon went to the tabernacle to pray to God. That night God came to him in a dream. "Ask for anything you want," God told the young king.

"Lord," Solomon said, "You were kind to my father, and now I am king. But I'm too young to rule all these people. I don't know enough. Please give me wisdom so I will rule them right."

God was very pleased with Solomon's request. He had not asked for riches or power or a long life for himself. He had thought of his people first. God told Solomon, "You will be wiser than any king before or after you. And I will give you riches and long life too."

1 Kings 3:9

"So give your servant a discerning heart to govern your people and to distinguish between right and wrong. For who is able to govern this great people of yours?"

Soon after, Solomon had to make a hard choice. Two women came to him and asked him to judge between them. They had each had a baby. One night one of the babies had died, while the other lived. Now both women said the living baby was theirs. It was up to Solomon to decide which baby belonged to which mother.

"Bring me a sword," Solomon told his men. Then he told them, "Cut the living baby in half and give one-half to each of the women."

One of the women agreed to this. But the other cried, "No! Let her have the baby. Don't kill it."

"Give the baby to the one who would not let you kill it," Solomon said. "She is certainly the mother."

When all the people heard of this, they knew they had a very wise king.



I'D LIKE THE HALF THAT DOESN'T NEED CHANGING



THIS FEAT LEFT NO DOUBT AS TO SOLOMON'S WISDOM

THINK ABOUT IT



- ❖ Our first goal as Christians should be to serve and bless others
- ❖ Learning should be our number one priority, both in school and in God
- ❖ We must be excellent students so we are wise for salvation and useful to God and others
- ❖ Wisdom is the greatest gift, next to salvation, that we can have
- ❖ We must seek God the source of all wisdom and understanding with all our heart and mind

TALK ABOUT IT



- ❖ Who was king after David?
- ❖ How old was Solomon when he became king?
- ❖ How was Solomon different as a king?
- ❖ **Why might Solomon have been so different?**
- ❖ What was God's offer to Solomon?
- ❖ What did Solomon choose?
- ❖ What did Solomon value most?
- ❖ **What should be our attitude toward learning and growing in wisdom?(Pr 4:6-7, 16:16, 24:14)**
- ❖ What did God do for Solomon?
- ❖ **What is the added blessing given to those who seek God first?(Mt 6:33)**
- ❖ How did Solomon use his wisdom as a judge?
- ❖ How did he know the correct mother?
- ❖ **How can we use our own gifts to serve God?**

Questions for Group Discussion

"So give your servant a discerning heart"

- ❖ Have you ever served someone?
- ❖ Have you ever helped one of your friends with a problem?
- ❖ What do you ask God for in prayer?
 - ❖ How often do you pray?
 - ❖ Has God ever helped you with something when you asked him?
 - ❖ Do you believe that God knows what's best for you?
- ❖ Do you work hard in school to glorify God?
 - ❖ Do you seek God by reading the bible every week?

Can you think of More? List them Below:

The Greatest Gift

1 Kings 3:9

"So give your servant a discerning heart to govern your people and to distinguish between right and wrong. For who is able to govern this great people of yours?"

How I put God's Word into Practice

Summary: What is this passage about?

Observation: What did I learn about God in this passage?

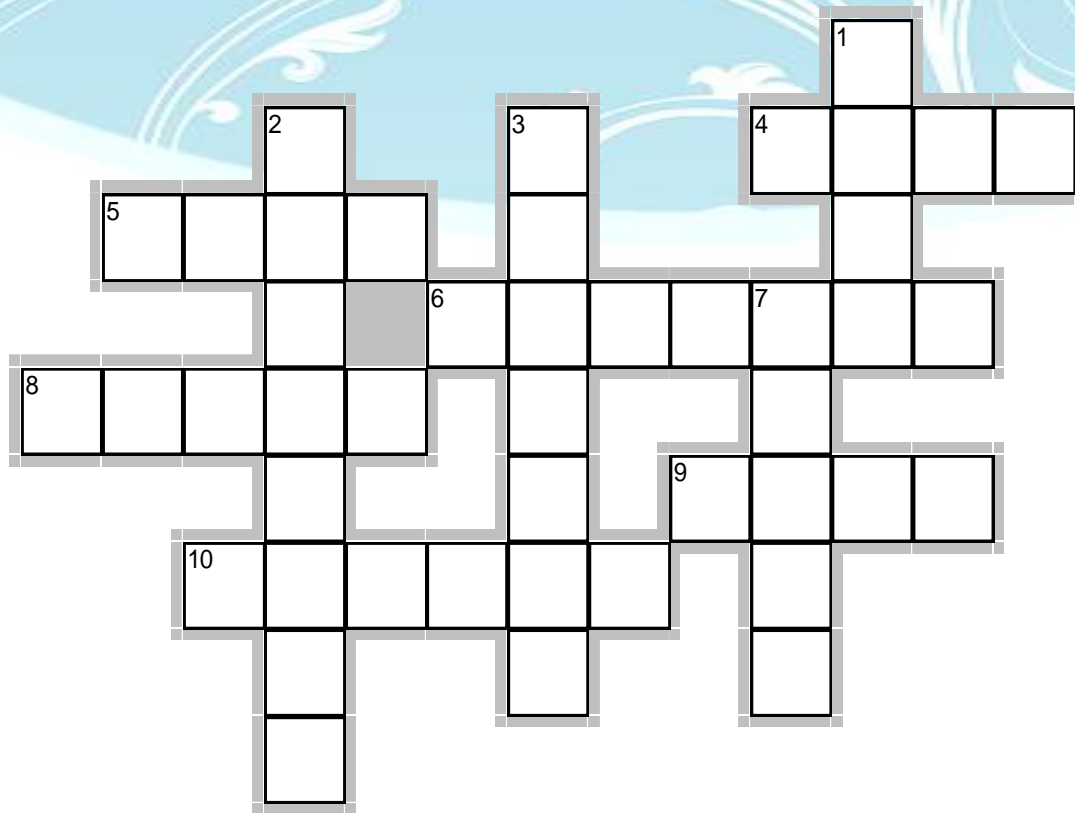
Application:

*How does the meaning of this passage apply to my life?
What truths should I believe and keep in my heart?
What changes should I personally make in my life?*

Prayer Topics:

...so that you may be blameless and pure children of God in a crooked and lawless generation in which you shine like stars in the universe...

How well do you know God's Word?



Across

4. Wisdom is the greatest ____ salvation that we can have
5. We must ____ God, the source of all wisdom and understanding
6. God was very _____ with Solomon's request
8. "So give your servant a discerning _____ to govern your people and to distinguish between right and wrong
9. Solomon went to the tabernacle to ____ to God
10. Solomon asked God for _____

Down

1. We must be excellent students so we are ____ for salvation
2. _____ should be our number one priority
3. _____ was crowned king when he was twenty years old
7. Our first goal as Christians should be to ____ and bless others

A HOUSE FOR GOD

1 Kings 5-9; 2 Chronicles 3-7

Theme: Service, Prayer, Our temple

Solomon's great work was building the temple of God. David had collected a lot of the materials that would be needed and Solomon got the rest by making deals with other kings. All the pieces of the temple were made to fit together perfectly.

The temple was built very much like the tent tabernacle. The large temple structure had one large room and many side rooms and behind that was the Holy of Holies, where the Ark of the Covenant would stand. It was placed between two huge cherubim statues whose wings spread out and overshadowed the

ark. But the temple unlike the tabernacle was made of stone and wood, a permanent house. The entire inside of the temple including the cherubim were covered in gold. Outside the temple was a huge altar for burning sacrifices and a large basin of water for ceremonial washing. Surrounding this courtyard was a wall, so that it looked very much like the tent had.

Solomon spent seven years building the house of God. A great service was held to dedicate the temple, with more offerings than could be counted. The Ark of the Covenant was placed in the Holy of Holies.

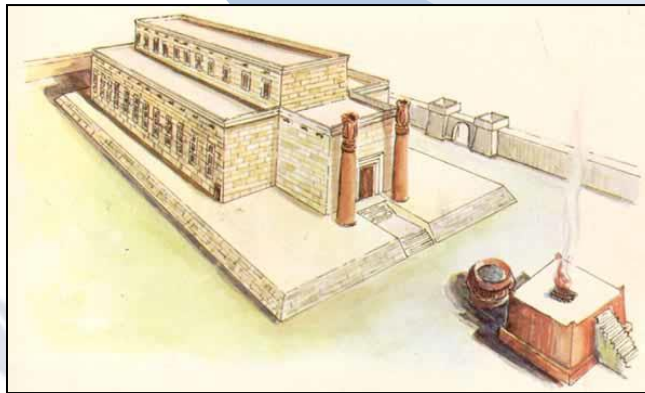
Then the glory of the Lord came down in a thick cloud and filled up the temple. It was so thick that

1 Kings 9:3

"I have heard the prayer and plea you have made before me; I have consecrated this temple, which you have built, by putting my Name there forever. My eyes and my heart will always be there."

the priests could not do anything in the temple. In this way God showed them he was pleased and promised that he would stay with the people and be their God and hear their prayers.

Then Solomon himself prayed before the Lord a long time. He asked God to make this temple a house of prayer. When they had sinned he would forgive them and hear their prayers and heal them. He prayed God would hear them no matter what their sin or even if they were carried off as



prisoners to another country. Even if a foreigner came and prayed in the temple, no matter what, God would hear when they prayed to Him and asked for His forgiveness and he would heal them.

Solomon then began building his palace. He spent thirteen years building it, twice the time spent on the temple.

After this the Lord came to Solomon in a dream. "I have heard your prayers," He said. "I will live in the temple. And if you obey Me, as your father did, your family will rule forever. But if you turn from Me, I will leave the temple. Then your enemies will come and destroy this house you built for Me."



THINK ABOUT IT

- ❖ Solomon was happy to give seven years of his life to make a house for God out of love
- ❖ We each should be happy to find how we can give back to God and devote our whole life
- ❖ Prayer is the most important thing we can do as believers
- ❖ God hears our prayers and will turn and forgive us when we come with a repentant heart
- ❖ God also will discipline us, if we turn away from him, for our good

TALK ABOUT IT

- ❖ What was the great work of Solomon?
- ❖ How long did the temple construction take?
- ❖ **Why did they make such a great temple? ?**
- ❖ What is the purpose of the temple?
- ❖ **Why is the temple so important to their spiritual life?**
- ❖ What happened when the temple was finished?
- ❖ What did Solomon do when it was finished?
- ❖ What was the main point of Solomon's prayer?
- ❖ **Why is it so important as Christians that we learn to pray for others?**
- ❖ **What is the most important purpose of any church?**
- ❖ What was God's answer and warning to Solomon's prayer?
- ❖ **What should be our attitude toward God's house?**

Questions for Group Discussion

*"I have consecrated this temple...
by putting my Name there forever."*

- ❖ Do you ask what God's plan for you is?
 - ❖ Have you ever done something to serve God or others?
 - ❖ Do you respect the church?
 - ❖ Do you always pray, even when you are tired or busy?
 - ❖ Do you accept discipline?
- ❖ Do you believe that God was with you?
- ❖ Is there anything you could do to serve God?
 - ❖ Do you give a weekly offering to show your love for God?

Can you think of More? List them Below:

A House for God

1 Kings 9:3

"I have heard the prayer and plea you have made before me; I have consecrated this temple, which you have built, by putting my Name there forever. My eyes and my heart will always be there."

How I put God's Word into Practice

Summary: What is this passage about?

Observation: What did I learn about God in this passage?

Application:

*How does the meaning of this passage apply to my life?
What truths should I believe and keep in my heart?
What changes should I personally make in my life?*

Prayer Topics:

...so that you may be blameless and pure children of God in a crooked and lawless generation in which you shine like stars in the universe...

How well do you know God's Word?

1 King 5-9, 2 Chronicles 3 Word Search

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

22 Words to find

FAITHFULNESS
ISRAEL
SOUTHERN
REJOIN
DISOBEYED
GOLDEN
IDOLS
JOSIAH
CAPTURE
ASHES
CHILDREN

JEROBOAM
WORSHIP
FRIENDS
REMEMBER
LAW
CALVES
ALTARS
ANGRY
USELESS
HAND
NADAB

SOL'S WEAKNESS

1 Kings 10-11

Theme: Putting God First

While Solomon was king, Israel was a great nation. Solomon was very wise and knew about many things. He wrote three thousand sayings in the Old Testament book of Proverbs, and he wrote more than a thousand songs. He knew about trees and animals, and things other people knew nothing about.

Nobles and kings came from all over the world to visit Solomon and talk to him, bringing many rich gifts every year and even giving their daughters to marry him.

One of these visitors was the Queen of Sheba. Her land was 1,000 miles away from Israel. She had heard of this wise king and wanted to see him herself. When she came, she brought Solomon rare and expensive presents and planned to test him with very hard questions. When she heard Solomon speak and saw all the wealth he had and the offerings he made at the temple she was overwhelmed.

"I didn't think it was true you were this wise and rich but I hadn't heard half of it. How happy your men must be! Praise be to the LORD! In his eternal love for Israel, he has made you king, to maintain justice and righteousness," she said.

1 Kings 10:9

"Praise be to the LORD your God, who has delighted in you and placed you on the throne of Israel. Because of the LORD's eternal love for Israel, he has made you king, to maintain justice and righteousness."

However, Solomon had many wives—over 700 wives of nobility and 300 slave women for having children! Many of them were not Israelites and worshiped idols. To please them, he built several temples for their idols. He even went there and worshiped the idols himself.

This made God angry with Solomon. For David's sake, God said Solomon's son would rule over one of the tribes of Israel. But the rest of the country would be ruled by one of Solomon's servants because Solomon had disobeyed. Although God had given him peace all his life, God made the king of Edom his enemy, as well.

The servant who would rule over

Solomon's kingdom was named Jeroboam. Solomon tried to have Jeroboam killed, but he escaped into Egypt and stayed there until Solomon died. Solomon was king for forty years. When he died he was buried on Mount Zion. His son Rehoboam became the new king.



and when the *Queen of Sheba* learned about Solomon, she came to test him with very hard questions. **1 Kings 10:1**



OF COURSE YOU ARE MY FAVORITE WIFE ...
WHY ELSE WOULD I BE GIVING YOU SUCH A
FANCY NAMETAG?

THINK ABOUT IT



- ❖ When Solomon kept God in first place no one was as great as him, but when he let something else take first place he became nothing and his wisdom turned to foolishness
- ❖ We must use our gifts for God's glory and to reveal God the giver of our gifts
- ❖ God requires first place in our heart and life, according to the first commandment
- ❖ When man puts something else as the foundation of his life he is sure to fall
- ❖ It is much harder to bear God's blessing than to get it so we must never get comfy but struggle

TALK ABOUT IT



- ❖ Who was Solomon?
- ❖ What had made Solomon great?
- ❖ What is the book of wise sayings that Solomon wrote?
- ❖ Who came to visit Solomon?
- ❖ What did she believe after listening to him and seeing his kingdom?
- ❖ How can we use our gifts to help others see God?
- ❖ Read 1 Co 10:31. What must we do with God's gifts?
- ❖ What did Solomon do with his gift that greatly displeased God?
- ❖ Read the 1st, 2nd and 3rd commandments. What happens when we give something other than God first place in our heart?
- ❖ What was Solomon's punishment?
- ❖ Did he repent and accept God's rebuke?
- ❖ Who did God give the kingdom to?
- ❖ What can we learn about glorifying God through this passage?

Questions for Group Discussion

*"he has made you king, to maintain
justice and righteousness."*

- ❖ Do you love God more than anything else in the world?
- ❖ Do you put God first in your life?
- ❖ When you sin, do you repent?
- ❖ Have you asked God to forgive you this week?
 - ❖ What are some of your talents/gifts?
Can you think of a way to use them for God?
 - ❖ Do you ever take time to think about all that God has done for you?
 - ❖ Do you do what those around you do, or what God wants you to do?
 - ❖ Has God ever given you something?

Can you think of More? List them Below or in your Testimony:

Sol's Weakness

1 Kings 10:9

"Praise be to the LORD your God, who has delighted in you and placed you on the throne of Israel. Because of the LORD's eternal love for Israel, he has made you king, to maintain justice and righteousness."

How I put God's Word into Practice

Summary: What is this passage about?

Observation: What did I learn about God in this passage?

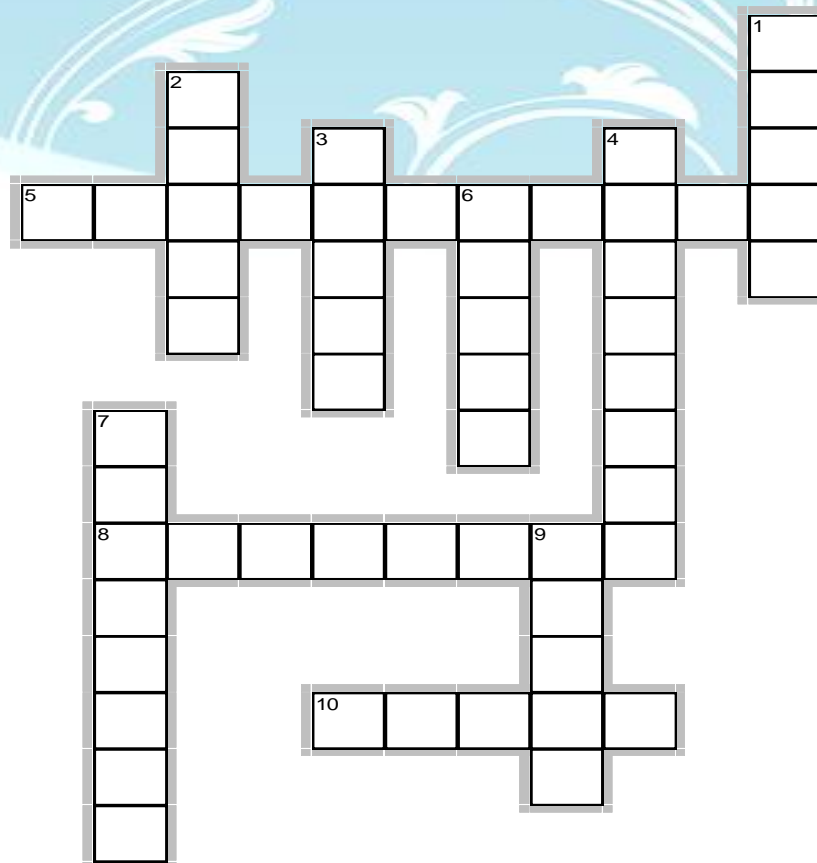
Application:

*How does the meaning of this passage apply to my life?
What truths should I believe and keep in my heart?
What changes should I personally make in my life?*

Prayer Topics:

...so that you may be blameless and pure children of God in a crooked and lawless generation in which you shine like stars in the universe...

How well do you know God's Word?



Across

5. When Solomon let something else take first place, his wisdom turned to _____
8. When Solomon died, his son _____ became the new king
10. We must use our gifts for God's _____

Down

1. When Solomon kept God in _____ place, no one was as great as him
2. Solomon worshipped his wives' _____
3. We should use our _____ to help others see God
4. The servant who would rule over Solomon's kingdom.
6. God requires first place in our _____ and life
7. It's harder to bear God's blessing than to get it, so we must never get comfy but _____
9. God was _____ with Solomon because he worshipped idols himself

MEANINGLESS, MEANINGLESS!

Ecclesiastes

Theme: Meaninglessness of worldly things

Solomon was the king of Israel after King David. God gave him the option of having any blessing he wanted. Solomon chose to have wisdom to rule as a good king for God. God was so pleased with this answer that he blessed him to be the wisest person ever to live. And because he didn't ask for wealth or glory God gave him also these things as well and no one was as rich or as respected as him.

But Solomon soon became more in love with the blessing than the one who blessed him. He took many wives—over 700! and other women as well. They led him to sin by worshipping their gods. Solomon was so wise but he became very foolish. So God promised him that the kingdom would be torn out of the hand of his son.

In the book of Ecclesiastes, Solomon repents for his life of seeking pleasure. It is his life testimony about how he ran after every pleasure and good thing under the sun. And what was his conclusion in the end? "Meaningless, meaningless! Utterly meaningless! Everything is meaningless."

Solomon tried to find wisdom but found that it is like chasing the wind, because all wisdom is found

Ecc 1:2

"Meaningless, meaningless! Utterly meaningless! Everything is meaningless."

in God. He chased after every pleasure his eyes saw but he found he was never satisfied. Instead he wanted more and more until he was out of control. He thought about how much better wisdom is than foolishness but he realized that in the end they are the same before God and death

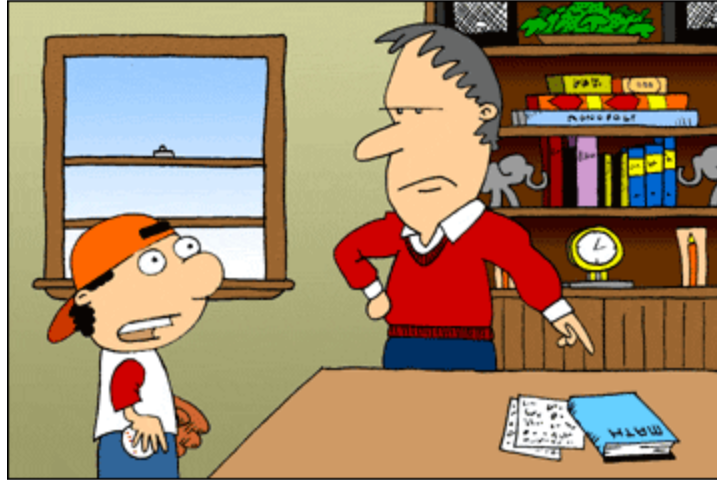
takes both the wise and the fool equally. He realized that all the works that he had done in his life would be given to another after he died who would not care about them. Nothing he did would last or make much difference, so also his works were of no meaning.

In the end he saw that the only meaning in life is God. Everything else is meaningless because man comes from the dust and returns to the dust along with everything he did in his

difficult life. It sounds kind of sad, like Solomon is complaining too much. But actually in his great wisdom and final repentance he accepted the most important truth: all things find meaning in God alone. And when God is the ultimate meaning of our life everything we do has meaning and great purpose. A life of sin is meaningless but a life in God is the most meaningful.



Trying to find happiness in wisdom, fun, wine, work, etc, etc. is like chasing the wind. **Ecclesiastes and Life in a Nutshell**



BUT FATHER ... ECCLESIASTES 12:12
 CLEARLY STATES "OF MAKING BOOKS THERE IS
 NO END, AND MUCH STUDY IS A WEARINESS OF
 THE FLESH"

THINK ABOUT IT



- ❖ Trying to find happiness from pleasure is like chasing the wind: you will never catch it
- ❖ All worldly things are meaningless and never make us feel better if God is not part of them
- ❖ In God all things find their meaning and existence, the best purpose of life is to seek God

TALK ABOUT IT



- Who was Solomon?
- What made Solomon great?
- What caused Solomon's downfall?
- **How did this happen to so great a man?**
- What was his punishment?
- What was Solomon's conclusion about seeking worldly things?
- **How can all the meaningless things that Solomon talks about find meaning?**
- **Why are worldly things all meaningless in the end?**
- What happens to everything we did on earth when we die?
- What is the only thing that will matter when we appear before God?
- **What then is the best purpose of life?**
- How much then should we seek God? (Dt 6:5)
- **How can we find true happiness?**

Questions for Group Discussion

"Meaningless, meaningless!"

- ❖ Did you repent after you sinned this week?
 - ❖ Have you ever tried to make your own decisions in life, or do you always ask God?
 - ❖ Have you ever said sorry to your parents, brother/sister, friend, or teacher when you did something wrong?
 - ❖ Do you ask God for his forgiveness?
- ❖ Have you ever done something you didn't want to do at first, but you knew was right?
(Ex: doing homework, studying, reading the bible)
 - ❖ Did you ever ask God to show you his meaning/purpose for your life?
 - ❖ Do you find your happiness in God?

Can you think of More? List them Below:

How well do you know God's Word?

Ecclesiastes Word Search

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

25 Words to find

BLESSING

FOOLISH

GOD

LED

MEANINGFUL

OPTION

PURPOSE

REPENT

RULE

TORN

WEALTH

WISDOM

WIVES

DUST

GLORY

GOOD

LIFE

MEANINGLESS

PLEASURE

REALIZED

RESPECTED

SIN

TRUTH

WIND

WISEST

The Kingdom Divided

1 Kings 12:1-24; 2 Chronicles 10:1-19

Theme: God's Judgment

When Solomon died the people rose up against his son Rehoboam. They complained about the high taxes and heavy work they had to do for the king. Their leader was Jeroboam.

The people told Rehoboam he could be their king if he lightened the burdens his father had put on them. The wise elders in Rehoboam's palace agreed with the people. If he made their burden lighter the people would love and serve him all his days.

But when Rehoboam asked the young princes around him the same question, he got a very different answer. These were spoiled men who were used to living off the work of others. They said Rehoboam should work the people even harder. "Tell them, I'm much stronger than my father if he whipped you with whips, I'll whip you with scorpions!" Rehoboam listened to the young men instead of his elders.

When Rehoboam told the people he was going to work them even harder than his father had, the people refused to make him their king. Ten of the twelve tribes broke away and made Jeroboam

1 Kings 12:20
 "When all the Israelites heard that Jeroboam had returned, they sent and called him to the assembly and made him king over all Israel. Only the tribe of Judah remained loyal to the house of David."

their king. These ten tribes were from the northern part of the country. Their new kingdom was called the kingdom of Israel and its capitol was Shechem and later Samaria.



Innovations in WHIP technology by King Rehoboam. It slices! It dices! It's the new RipMaster 2000. 1 Kings 12:11

Rehoboam was king of the land in the south which was called Judah and its capitol remained Jerusalem. When the other nations nearby saw this happen, they broke away from the rule of Rehoboam too. The Syrians, Ammonites, Moabites, and Edomites all set up their own kings. David had captured all these lands years ago. Now they were lost.

Rehoboam began to gather an army to fight the ten tribes that left him, but God told him not to fight his own brothers, this was God's doing. As God had foretold to Solomon, the kingdom was torn in half. Ten tribes were given to Solomon's servant and only one tribe was left to be ruled by his son. The divided kingdoms each had their own line of kings and their own history in God from this point on.



THINK ABOUT IT

- ❖ God has put our elders above us; so, respecting them is respecting God
- ❖ We should never listen to the foolish advice of our peers over the wise advice of our elders
- ❖ When God is not the center of a family, a church or a nation, they become divided
- ❖ God must be the glue that holds us together in the world

TALK ABOUT IT

- ❖ After the death of Solomon what did the people want?
- ❖ What was the name of the Southern Kingdom and its capital?
- ❖ What did the elders suggest?
- ❖ Did Rehoboam repent or ask God what to do?
- ❖ What did the young princes suggest?
- ❖ What did God command him when he went to war?
- ❖ Who did Rehoboam listen to? Why?
- ❖ **What happens to a home, a church, or even a country when people forget about God? (Think about what happened to Israel in this passage)**
- ❖ **Why is it so important that we learn to respect our elders?**
- ❖ **What can we learn about respecting God's authority and the authority of those above us through this passage?**
- ❖ What did the people do because of Rehoboam?
- ❖ What was the name of the Northern Kingdom and its capital?

Questions for Group Discussion

*"they sent and called Jeroboam...
and made him king over all Israel."*

- ❖ Do you respect your elders?
- ❖ Do you listen to your teachers?
- ❖ Do you obey your parents?
- ❖ Have you ever taken advice from a Godly person?
- ❖ Have you ever asked God to help you make a decision?
- ❖ Have you ever put God at the center of your heart?
- ❖ Can you try to read your bible two times this week?
- ❖ Can you ask God to be with you?

Can you think of More? List them Below:

A Kingdom Divided

1 Kings 12:20

“When all the Israelites heard that Jeroboam had returned, they sent and called him to the assembly and made him king over all Israel. Only the tribe of Judah remained loyal to the house of David.”

How I put God's Word into Practice

Summary: What is this passage about?

Observation: What did I learn about God in this passage?

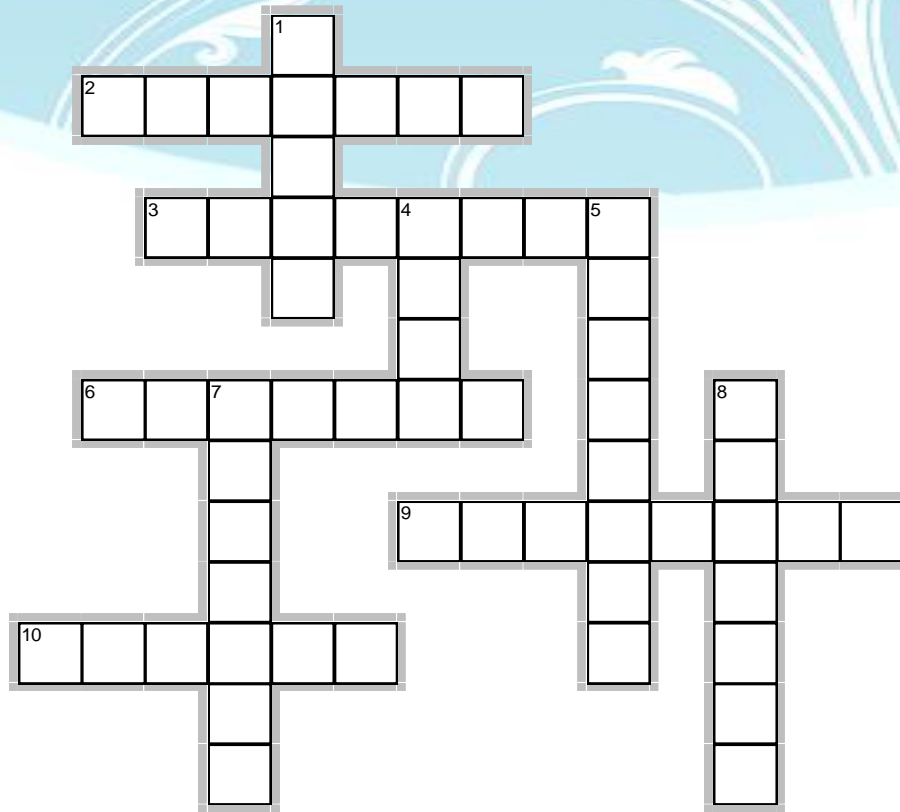
Application:

*How does the meaning of this passage apply to my life?
What truths should I believe and keep in my heart?
What changes should I personally make in my life?*

Prayer Topics:

...so that you may be blameless and pure children of God in a crooked and lawless generation in which you shine like stars in the universe...

How well do you know God's Word?



Across

2. When God is not the center of a family, a church, or a nation, they become _____
3. God must be the glue that holds us _____ in the world
6. The people wanted Rehoboam to lighten their _____
9. Ten tribes broke away and made _____ their king
10. Rehoboam did not listen to the _____

Down

1. The divided kingdoms each had their own line of ____ from this point on
4. As God foretold to Solomon, his kingdom was ____ in half
5. When Solomon died, the people rose up against his son _____
7. God has put our elders above us, so we should _____ them
8. We should never listen to the _____ advice of our peers

Worship Calves?!

1 Kings 12:25-15:34
Theme: Faithfulness

God told Jeroboam that he should be the king of the ten tribes of the north called Israel. God said, "If you serve God and do what I want, your sons will rule after you."

The people from the north still went to Jerusalem in the southern kingdom to worship God. Jeroboam did not think this was good. He was afraid they would become friends with people in the kingdom of Judah and someday rejoin them. Then he would not be king anymore.

Remember how God had said there should only be one temple in the land? Jeroboam disobeyed that law and put up two more temples in the north. He even put golden idols shaped like calves for the people to worship in the temples. He told his people the trip to Jerusalem was too far for them. They should worship the idols at his temple.

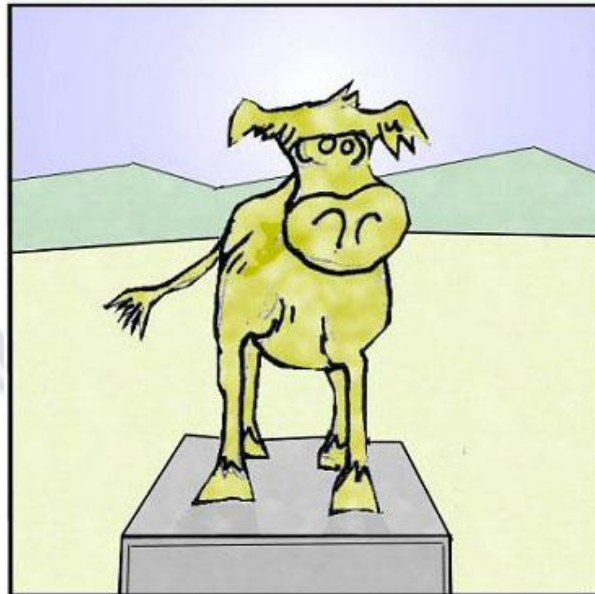
One day while Jeroboam was at one of these temples, a prophet from Judah came to him. He told Jeroboam that all his altars would be destroyed by a man from David's family named Josiah. This made Jeroboam angry. He pointed at the prophet and told his men to capture him. As he pointed, his hand dried up and became useless.

1 Kings 14:8

"I tore the kingdom away from the house of David and gave it to you, but you have not been like my servant David, who kept my commands and followed me with all his heart, doing only what was right in my eyes."

Then the altar fell apart, with its ashes falling onto the ground.

Jeroboam knew he had done wrong. "Please," he said to the prophet, "ask God to make my hand well."



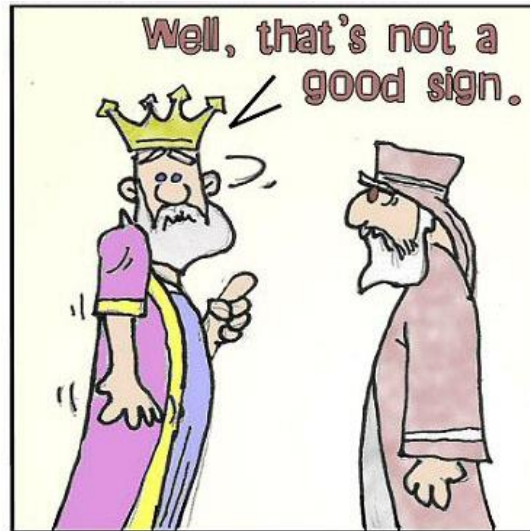
So Jeroboam had 2 golden calves made to be worshiped. 1 Kings 12:29 A CALF? Maybe a lion, tiger, or bear.. but a calf? Oh my!

The prophet prayed for the king, and God answered his prayer. Jeroboam's hand became better right away.

But Jeroboam did not change his ways; he and his people still worshiped the idols. One day a prophet gave Jeroboam more bad news. "You have led your people against Me," God said through the prophet. "For that, you will be punished. Every one of your children will die. God will have the people of Israel

taken away to a far land because they worshiped idols."

After Jeroboam died and his son Nadab became king, a servant killed Nadab and all the other children of Jeroboam. The kingdom had been taken away from the man who led his country into sin.



King Jeroboam angrily points his finger at the man of God, and shouts "Take him" and his arm goes paralyzed. **1 Kings 13:1-6**

THINK ABOUT IT



- ❖ God is the giver of all things so obeying him is the best secret to success
- ❖ We can only grow when we remember what God has done, then repent and change
- ❖ Our sin is not just our problem but spreads and also hurts everyone around us
- ❖ We must pray to have Godly leaders so our people will not be led into sin

TALK ABOUT IT



- ❖ How did Jeroboam become king of Israel?
- ❖ What was his worry when he became king?
- ❖ **Why was this a very foolish thing to worry about?**
- ❖ How did he break God's commands?
- ❖ **Why is it so important to pray for our government?**
- ❖ How did God rebuke Jeroboam?
- ❖ How did Jeroboam react to this rebuke?
- ❖ What happened to him and the altar?
- ❖ How did his attitude toward God change when he needed something from God?
- ❖ What did he do after he got what he wanted?
- ❖ **Why do many people who ask for God's help never repent and grow spiritually?**
- ❖ What was God's punishment for Jeroboam's sin?
- ❖ **Who gets hurt because of our sin, is it just our problem?**
- ❖ **What must we do if we want to get and keep God's blessing? (Jn 14:15)**

Questions for Group Discussion

"I am going to bring disaster on the house of Jeroboam."

- ❖ Have you ever done something you weren't supposed to do? Did you repent?
 - ❖ Have you ever prayed that God may be your leader?
 - ❖ Do you love God more than anything else in the world?
 - ❖ What has God done for you?
 - ❖ Do you accept punishment?
- ❖ When God forgives you, do you keep on sinning or do you repent?
- ❖ Can you remember a time when you repented of your sins?

Can you think of More? List them Below:

Worship Calves?!

1 Kings 14:8

"I tore the kingdom away from the house of David and gave it to you, but you have not been like my servant David, who kept my commands and followed me with all his heart, doing only what was right in my eyes."

How I put God's Word into Practice

Summary: What is this passage about?

Observation: What did I learn about God in this passage?

Application:

*How does the meaning of this passage apply to my life?
What truths should I believe and keep in my heart?
What changes should I personally make in my life?*

Prayer Topics:

...so that you may be blameless and pure children of God in a crooked and lawless generation in which you shine like stars in the universe...

How well do you know God's Word?

1 King 12-15 Word Search

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

22 Words to find

FAITHFULNESS

ISRAEL

SOUTHERN

REJOIN

DISOBEYED

GOLDEN

IDOLS

JOSIAH

CAPTURE

ASHES

CHILDREN

JEROBOAM

WORSHIP

FRIENDS

REMEMBER

LAW

CALVES

ALTARS

ANGRY

USELESS

HAND

NADAB

Elijah

1 Kings 16-17

Theme: Wickedness is Weakness, Purity is Power

The kingdom of Israel in the north had many kings. From Nadab came Baasha, Elah, Zimri and Omri. Each king was worse than the last and worshiped idols. Each was killed by the one who took over as king. Omri was strong and the worst king yet in Israel. He built a city named Samaria in the middle of the kingdom and lived there. Before him, the kings had lived in many places. From now on, the king of Israel would live in the town of Samaria.

Omri's son Ahab became king when Omri died, and he was worse than any of the kings before him. Ahab married a woman named Jezebel who brought new gods into Israel and killed all the prophets of the Lord she could find. Those who were left went to hide in caves in the mountains.

During Ahab's rule the Lord sent the prophet Elijah to him. Elijah lived in the wilderness. He wore animal skins for clothing and had long hair and a beard. One day he walked up to Ahab and said, "There will be no rain or dew here until I call for it." Then he walked away and disappeared. He hid in the wilderness and drank from a brook there. Every day God sent wild

1 Kings 17:1

"As the LORD, the God of Israel, lives, whom I serve, there will be neither dew nor rain in the next few years except at my word."

birds—black ravens to: Elijah. These birds brought him food to live on.

Just as Elijah said, no rain or dew fell on the land. Even Elijah's little brook in the wilderness went dry. How would he live in the wilderness with no water? One day the Lord told Elijah to go to a

certain town. A woman then would take care of him. When Elijah found the woman she had only a little food and oil for cooking. She and her son were starving too.

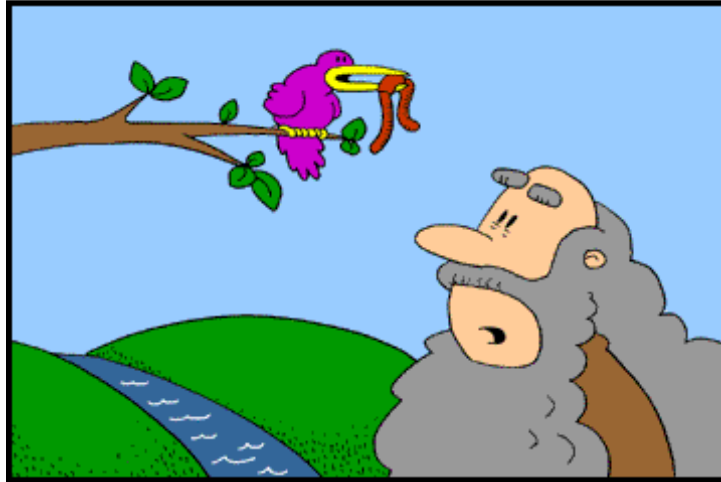
Elijah promised that her barrel of grain would not go empty until the rains came back. She would have enough grain and oil for cooking until then. The woman trusted Elijah and God. She used up the last of her food to feed the prophet and her family. When it was time to eat

again, there was always enough for one more meal.

One day the woman's son became sick and died. Elijah carried the boy up to his own room and prayed that God would make the boy live again. God heard his prayer and healed the boy.



Ahab marries Jezebel. 1 Kings 16:30-33 It was a marriage definitely made in.. well.. made a bit SOUTH of Heaven.



NOT BEING A BIRD EXPERT, ELIJAH GOT
PRETTY NERVOUS WHEN HE SPOTTED WHAT HE
THOUGHT WAS A RAVEN

THINK ABOUT IT



- ❖ Wickedness is weakness but Purity is power
- ❖ A wicked life is a curse: the godly say "do onto others as you would have them do onto you," but the wicked say "do one to others before they do one to you."
- ❖ One who lives in the center of God's will, will never be defeated
- ❖ When we seek God and his righteousness first all things are provided for us ~Mt 6:33

TALK ABOUT IT



- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ What were the kings of Israel like? and Ahab? ❖ What terrible thing did queen Jezebel do? ❖ What was Elijah's message to Ahab and Jezebel? ❖ <u>How could Elijah go, knowing what Jezebel had done to the other prophets?</u> ❖ How did God protect and provide for him? ❖ <u>What can we learn about God's care for those who courageously obey him?</u> ❖ What was the widow's problem? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Why was it almost impossible to follow Elijah's command? ❖ What happened when she obeyed Elijah? ❖ What happened to her son? ❖ How did God again reward her for her obedience? ❖ <u>What was the source of Elijah's power?</u> ❖ <u>What can we say about the power of the wicked and the power of the pure?</u> |
|---|---|

Questions for Group Discussion

"As the LORD, the God of Israel, lives, whom I serve."

- ❖ Can you think of a time when you asked God for help?
- ❖ Can you think of one good thing God has done for you this month?
- ❖ Do you thank God for all he has done?
- ❖ Do you trust that God cares for you?
- ❖ When you have a big test or a hard assignment coming up, do you pray?
- ❖ Is God at the center of your heart?
- ❖ Have you ever helped someone like the woman Elijah met did?
- ❖ Has God ever done something great for you? Did you thank him?

Can you think of More? List them Below:

Elijah

1 Kings 17:1

"As the LORD, the God of Israel, lives, whom I serve, there will be neither dew nor rain in the next few years except at my word."

How I put God's Word into Practice

Summary: What is this passage about?

Observation: What did I learn about God in this passage?

Application:

How does the meaning of this passage apply to my life?

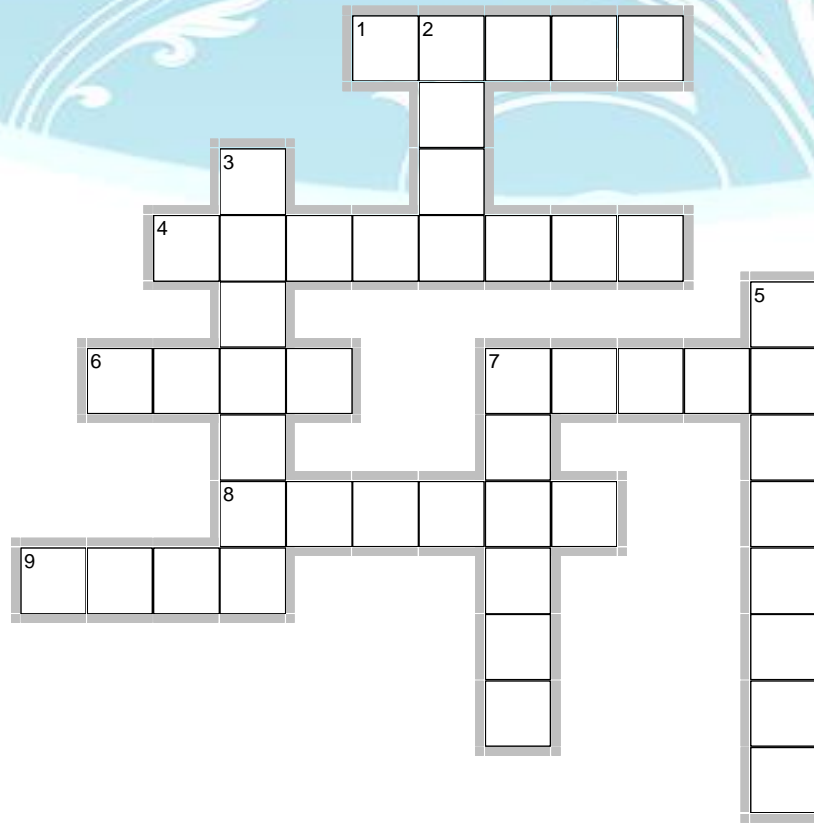
What truths should I believe and keep in my heart?

What changes should I personally make in my life?

Prayer Topics:

...so that you may be blameless and pure children of God in a crooked and lawless generation in which you shine like stars in the universe...

How well do you know God's Word?



Across

1. Elijah promised that the woman's barrel of _____ would not go empty
4. Wickedness is _____
6. When we _____ God and his righteousness first, all things are provided for us
7. Purity is _____
8. During Ahab's rule, the Lord sent the prophet _____ to him
9. One who lives in the center of God's _____, will never be defeated

Down

2. Just as Elijah said, no _____ or dew fell on the land
3. Ahab's wife, _____, brought new gods into Israel
5. Jezebel killed all the _____ of the Lord she could find
7. When Elijah _____, God healed the boy

A Little Contest

1 Kings 18

Theme: The Power of Faith

For three years no rain fell in Israel. No food could grow and all the animals were dying. King Ahab knew he had to find Elijah and get him to bring the rains back. Ahab sent men to search for him everywhere, and he even asked kings of other countries to look for him. But Elijah could not be found.

In the third year of no rain, Ahab called the chief of his servants to him. Obadiah was a good man who worshiped God and tried to do right, even though he served Ahab. When the time was right, Elijah let Obadiah find him.

Ahab rushed out to meet with Elijah and ask for his help. Elijah told Ahab to bring all his people to Mount Carmel. He was also to bring the 400 prophets who served the idol Baal and the 400 who served the idol Asherah.

When all the people were gathered together, Elijah told them they had sinned by worshiping idols. Then he gave them a strange order. They were to prepare two sacrifices. One would be for Baal and one for the Lord. Neither of the two fires would be lit. The people could all pray to Baal and ask him to light the fire for his sacrifice. Elijah would ask God to light his fire.

1 Kings 18:15

“When all the people saw this, they fell prostrate and cried, ‘The LORD—he is God! The LORD—he is God!’”

No matter what the prophets did, Baal’s sacrifice would not catch on fire. They screamed out, they rolled on the ground and even cut themselves again and again but nothing happened. Elijah laughed at them. “Try again,” he said. “Maybe Baal is asleep.

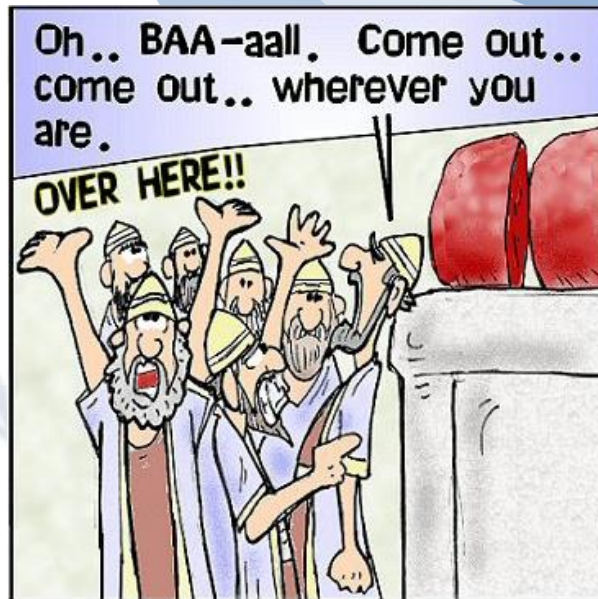
Maybe he’s away on vacation!”

In the middle of the afternoon Elijah told the people to soak the wood under his sacrifice with water. This would make it very hard to light. Three times they poured barrels of water over Elijah’s altar until it was soaking wet. Then Elijah stood before the altar and asked God to light the fire and show that He was the true God. Fire fell from the sky and lit the fire and the offering was burned up.

The people fell on their faces and cried, “The

Lord is God!”

Elijah ordered the people to capture all the priests of Baal and kill them because they had led Israel into sin, Then he went up to the top of the mountain and prayed to God for rain. In a little while the sky was covered with clouds and rain fell on the land for the first time in three years.



PRAY HARDER, NOT SMARDER!! Was the prayer motto for the prophets of Baal.
1 Kings 18



When it comes to Prophet trash talk.. Elijah had game!! **1 Kings 18**
With God on our side.. 'we got game' too!

THINK ABOUT IT



- ❖ False God's are powerless and only let us down but God is all-powerful and faithful
- ❖ We must destroy all the bad influences in our life with no mercy
- ❖ God gives us hard times to help us to repent; once we do he is quick to bless us

TALK ABOUT IT



- ❖ What problem was there in Israel at the beginning of this passage? Why?
- ❖ Who did Ahab ask for help? Why?
- ❖ What was the contest that Elijah proposed?
- ❖ How did Elijah rebuke the people?
- ❖ **What had God been teaching them about life without God?**
- ❖ **What happens to a nation or even a person when they do not have God?**
- ❖ What happened when the Baal prophets prayed?
- ❖ What did Elijah do when it was his turn?
- ❖ What happened when he prayed?
- ❖ **What do we learn about the power of the one true God?**
- ❖ What did the people do when they saw God's power?
- ❖ Why was it necessary to kill all the prophets of Baal?
- ❖ What happened as soon as the people repented?
- ❖ **What can we learn about God's punishment and his grace through this passage?**
- ❖ **Why is it foolish to make something else God in our lives?**

Questions for Group Discussion

"The LORD -he is God! The LORD -he is God!"

- ❖ When you are scared or worried, do you trust that God is with you?
- ❖ Do you follow bad influences or God?
- ❖ Has there ever been a time when you were a good example to someone around you?
- ❖ Do you believe that God is powerful?
- ❖ Have you ever told a friend about God?
- ❖ Do you repent when you do something wrong?
 - ❖ Do you ever ask God to forgive you?
- ❖ Have you ever had a hard time with something?
Did you ask God for help?
- ❖ Have you ever been bullied? Do you pray about it?

Can you think of More? List them Below:

A Little Contest

1 Kings 18:15

"When all the people saw this, they fell prostrate and cried, 'The LORD—he is God! The LORD—he is God!'"

How I put God's Word into Practice

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How well do you know God's Word?

1 King 18 Word Search

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

19 Words to find

POWER

FOOD

AHAB

SERVANTS

MOUNT

FIRES

SACRIFICE

GROUND

SOAK

THREE

FAITH

ELIJAH

RAIN

RIGHT

BAAL

LIGHT

ROLLED

ASLEEP

BARRELS

