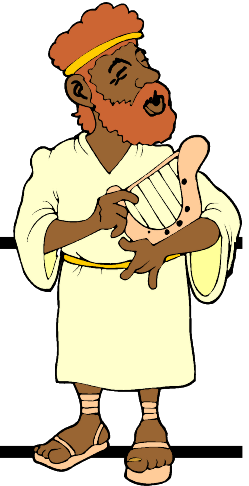


Get Ready!

One Little Stone

By: Robin Simpson



Text

1 Samuel 17 (New International Version)

Key Quest Verse

“Love the Lord your God with all of your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.”
Deuteronomy 6:5 (NIV)

To help the children learn the memory verse in a fun and easy way, teach them to sing the verse to the tune of “One Little Two Little Indians”.

Love the Lord your God with all of your heart;
Love the Lord your God with all of your heart;
Love the Lord your God with all of your heart, Deuteronomy 6:5

Love the Lord your God with all your soul;
Love the Lord your God with all your soul;
Love the Lord your God with all your soul, Deuteronomy 6:5

Love the Lord your God with all your strength;
Love the Lord your God with all your strength;
Love the Lord your God with all your strength, Deuteronomy 6:5

Love the Lord your God with all your heart;
Love the Lord your God with all your soul;
Love the Lord your God with all your strength, Deuteronomy 6:5

Get Ready!



Bible Background

David was the youngest son of eight to Jesse of Bethlehem. God sent Samuel to anoint David as the next King. God had previously anointed Saul but because Saul did not obey God, God did not want Saul to remain King of Israel. After David's consecration by Samuel, the spirit of the Lord was upon him.

Just like the spirit of the Lord came to David, the spirit of the Lord left Saul and bad spirits came upon him, tormenting him. David was called upon to play the harp for Saul. Saul liked David and every time David played his harp, the evil spirits would leave. Apparently David would travel back and forth between Saul and his father's home. He was at his father's when Israel went to battle with the Philistines. Saul was still king.

Lesson Quest

What I want my students to:

Know: David loved God with his whole heart and because of his faith, God blessed him with strength. David won the battle with Goliath because he gave God the credit, not himself.

Feel: Even at a young age, they too can have a loving relationship with God and God will be with them.

Do: Talk to God on a daily basis to build a relationship with God. Give God their whole heart, which will help build their faith.

Get Ready!

Leader's Devotion

I can remember going to Sunday School and learning about David and Goliath and I can still sing the song, “Only a Boy Named David” by heart. But to really grasp the story for all its’ worth and to gain insight on what I can really learn from the story, I had to go back to the Bible and re-read the story. Three fascinating facts came to me as I re-read the story.

The first fascinating fact was that David was picked by God. No matter how hard we look for characteristics in a person and make assessments of outwardly appearances, God knows our heart. There is no hiding from God. God knew David’s heart and because of his sincere love for God, was selected to be the next king of Israel. Samuel could not see this but only looked at how young he was. His age wasn’t an issue for God, only where his heart belonged.

Secondly was David’s physical and mental strength. I did not realize his strength was given when Samuel anointed him. He could kill a lion and bear with his bare hands. When it came to Goliath’s challenge, David stepped right up to the plate! The Bible doesn’t indicate David was afraid of Goliath at all. Instead the opposite. David believed God was behind him 110%. No doubt or fear there!

And last but not least, David gave all the glory and praise of success to God. He knew that because of the God of Israel, he would be victorious. His strength was from God, and nothing of his own doing.

Have I given my whole heart to God twenty four hours a day, seven days a week? I think I have but when I look at David’s life in depth, I wonder if I have stepped up to the plate when God has asked me to. Do I give God the credit for all the good in my life? Do I fully rely on God during the troubled times of my life? There’s a lot to learn from the story of David for us grown ups too!

*Get Set!***Option A**

Materials: None

Procedure: Have the children get in a circle and hold hands. Play “Ring around the Rosy” a couple of times. (Ring around the rosy, pocket full of posy, ashes, ashes, we all fall down.)

The children should be familiar with this old game. Tell the children that now we are going to do the same game but with different words and instead of falling down, this time we will fall on our knees. Teach the children to say the following in place of the words above and play this game a couple of times until they have the new words memorized.

Circle full of my friends;
Want forgiveness of sins,
Praying, praying, we fall on knees!

The last time you play the game, have the children remain in praying position. Instruct them to place their hands in praying position and tell them that to build a relationship with their heavenly Father, God, they must learn to talk to Him like they talk to their earthly father. God listens when they pray. Pray a short prayer and then see if any of the children would like to pray.

After praying, tell the children that, **“Regardless how old or young a person is, they can have a loving relationship with God. There is a story in the Bible about a young boy named David who loved God and because of his love and faith in God, God was with him. We will learn about David’s story today.”**

GO TO THE BIBLE STORY

*Get Set!***Option B**

Materials: Have a large glass jar filled with stones setting on the table in your room. Make sure you have counted how many stones are in the jar. (*You could use rock candy or M & M's as a substitution instead of the stones if you like, but refer to whatever you choose as "stones".*)

Procedure: When the children come into the room, ask them to guess how many are in the jar. Write their name on the board along with their guess. Once all of the children have guessed, find out who is closest to the correct amount and give that person a small prize. (Pet rock, bag of M & M's, etc.)

Tell the children that the word stone can be found 145 times in the Bible (NIV) with many different uses. See if the children can guess what some of the uses for stones were in the Bible.

Pillow (Genesis) Altar Worship Protection (Breastplate)
Writing Tablets Tombstones Jewelry Decoration
Build Houses Cutting Tool Weapon Boundary Fence

Today's story is about a young boy who used a stone as a weapon. Let's listen to the story about a boy named David.

GO TO THE BIBLE STORY

Get Set!



Bible Story

Teacher Tip: Provide markers for students to highlight portions of the story in their Bibles

You may choose to have an elderly man dress up in a robe and turban with a shepherd's hook to tell this story or you may choose to tell the story yourself, as David.

Hello. My name is David. I'd like to tell you a story. It's a true story. One I am quite fond of myself because it's a story about my youth. I was a shepherd boy. Do you know what a shepherd is? I stayed out in the field with the sheep my father owned. I made sure no wild beast would take a sheep for its dinner! Bet you don't have shepherds in your time, or, do you? Well, I liked being a shepherd because I was outside all day enjoying the big fluffy clouds, the whistling melody of the wind and the dancing leaves in the air! I spent a lot of time playing my harp and talking to my heavenly father, God. Hey, now that's something we do have in common. We all have a heavenly father, God!!! Do you talk to Him too?

This particular story starts when I was a young boy, shepherding my father's flock. Dad came to me and asked me to take food to my brothers and to report back how they were doing. My brothers normally help me with the sheep but they were gone. They were fighting a battle with the Philistines. I called them Phillys for short. My brothers and I are Israelites. I guess you could call us Litees for short too! I loaded up and began the long journey to where they were fighting. You know, we didn't have cars like you do to get around.

Well, I made it. The Phillys were on one hill facing another hill that the Litees were on. There was a valley in the middle that separated them. I'll tell you, the fight was getting really strange. Those Phillys have been sending out this giant of a guy once a day for 40 days! Now, when I say giant, he was over 9' tall. Do you happen to know any fellows over 9' tall? Anyway, he'd come out and stand on top of the hill and start shouting at the Litees. He'd say that the Israelites should choose one man to come out and fight him. If the one man the Litees chose was able to kill this giant named Goliath, then the Philly's would lose. But if Goliath killed our guy, we would lose. Well, I had gotten there just in the nick of time to hear him shout out his message once more. All of the Litees were afraid and didn't know what to do. I knew though, that my God would be with me so I volunteered to be the ONE!

This made my oldest brother mad. He thought I was being mister big shot but I think he was just jealous. I knew in my heart that my faith in God would lead me to do what was right. I said to Saul, the commander in charge of the Israelites, "Let no one lose heart on account of this Philistine, your servant will go and fight him." But Saul didn't think I was able to fight him seeing how I was only a young boy. So, I told Saul about my being able to kill a lion and a bear once while watching my father's sheep. One day a lion had come into the field and took a sheep. I went after it, struck it and rescued the sheep from its mouth.

Bible Story cont.

The lion turned on me so I grabbed it by its hair and killed it. Another time a bear came and I did the same thing. My God is with me and because of my faith, He has given me strength. Finally, Saul agreed I would go meet this giant!

So there I was, being geared up for battle with a GIANT! They led me into this tent to be fitted with armor. They put a bronze helmet on my head, a heavy coat of metal, like a shirt on me and gave me a sword. I was trying to walk around but, it was way too heavy. No way could I meet this giant with all of this on. I had to take it off. I chose not to wear the armor for my visit with Goliath.

With just my staff, and sling I went outside and selected 5 stones from the stream. I was ready to meet the giant named Goliath, face to face. As I was walking toward him, he would come walking toward me, closer and closer. When he got close enough to notice, he saw I was just a young boy and it made him mad. He said to me, “Am I a dog, that you come at me with sticks?” Then he really messed up! He started talking to his fake gods about me. He looked straight at me and said, “Come here, and I’ll give your flesh to the beasts of the air and the beasts of the field.” Yeah, right, like that’s going to happen.

So now it was my turn to speak and here is what I said. “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. This day the Lord will hand you over to me and I’ll strike you down and cut off your head. Today I will give the carcasses of the Philistine army to the birds of the air and the beasts of the earth and the whole world will know that there is a God in Israel. All those gathered here will know that it is not by sword or spear that the Lord saves, for the battle is the Lord’s and he will give all of you into our hands.”

He started coming towards me again to attack me so I ran quickly towards him. I reached into my bag and took out a stone. I placed it in my sling and slung it. Pow, it hit the giant right smack dab on the forehead. The stone hit so hard it sank into his forehead and he fell facedown onto the ground.

Now this next part of the story may gross you out but it really did happen. I ran over to the giant, drew out his sword and cut his head off. This made all of the other Philly’s turn around and run. The battle and fighting was over.

Now you might ask, what was the purpose of telling you this story? Well, I guess I’d like you to know that our God is an amazing God. I don’t like to fight or do gross stuff but it was necessary to show the Phillys, who by the way didn’t believe in God, that he existed and that with God on your side, you will have strength to overcome lots! God was my strength and the reason I won the battle with Goliath.

By the way, did I tell you this story is recorded down in history. You can read this story and lots more fun, adventurous stories in the Bible. My story is in the book entitled 1 Samuel. Well, gotta go for now. Enjoy the rest of your lesson!

Go!**Def-Eating the Phillies****FOOD**

Materials: Thinly Sliced Deli Meat, Hoagie Buns, Horseradish Sauce or Mayo, Onions, Green Peppers, Cheese (Optional)

Quest Connection

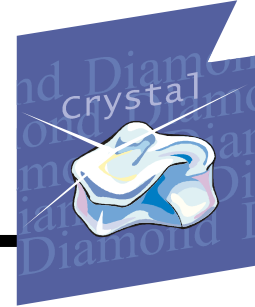
It was important for God’s people, the Israelites to defeat the Philistines and take back their land. By David defeating Goliath, the Israelites won. We are going to make Philly sandwiches pretending they represent the Philistines and like David we too will def‘eat’ the sandwiches by eating them!!!

Procedure: Instruct the children to make their personal “philly” sandwiches with the ingredients they like. You may want to warm up the deli meat so it is hot or if you prefer, the children could make their sandwiches and you can broil them open faced for a small amount of time. Then instruct the children to eat and enjoy!!!

Close

Explain to the children that they too can have a loving relationship with God. One way to build that relationship is through prayer and trusting in God. As they grow older, they may come across their own “philly” problems. A “philly” could be defined as a mean person, temptation to do wrong, etc. By trusting in God, they too can overcome tough times. And with victory, they need to remember to give God the credit!

Go!



Rock Candy

SCIENCE

Materials: 1 cup water	2 cups white granulated sugar
1 jar	1 – 3 lengths of string or cord
1 – 3 paper clips	1 pencil
Food coloring	A layer of sugar on a plate

(Recipe for 1 to 3 children in a family. Increase the recipe by how many jars you will be using.)

Quest Connection

How sweet the victory was for God’s people, the Israelites, and all because of one little stone! You might say the Israelites had a little taste of “rock candy”! Today, we are going to start making rock candy that you will take home with you. As you wake up each day this week, you will look at your jar and start to see the rock candy form and get bigger. On the third day, your rock candy should be ready.

Procedure: Take the string lengths and roll them in the plate of sugar. This will create a “grab” for the crystals to start forming on.

Tie the string around the pencil. If you have more than one child in a household, tie up to 3 strings around the pencil. (1 per child.) Make sure the string(s) hangs down close to the bottom of the jar. You may choose to weigh down the string with a paperclip. (Make sure the size of the jar can accommodate 3 strings at once, otherwise, each child will need their own jar. The strings should be about 1 inch apart.)

Boil the water in a saucepan. Remove from heat and stir in the first 1 ½ cups of sugar until completely dissolved. Continue to add the remaining ½ cup of sugar a tablespoon at a time making sure to stir until dissolved. Add a couple drops of food coloring.

Pour the sugar water into the jar and then insert the strings with the pencil resting across the mouth of the jar. Instruct the children to take the jars home and place in a still, safe place where it will not be disturbed but where they can see the jars each day.

The sugar crystals will begin to grow in a day or two. When they have grown as big as they would like, they can remove the string from the jar and eat the candy!

Go!

Close

Instruct the children that when they look at their rock candy each day, to pray to God. This will help grow their relationship to Him. How sweet it is to have God on your side!

Go!



Stone Lace

ARTS AND CRAFTS

Materials: Pretty rock or stone about the size of a whole pecan, Hemp cording especially made for crafting, recommend 20#.Glue Gun

Quest Connection

God always provides a way for his people. David had access to 5 little stones but it only took one stone to kill Goliath. Can you imagine what it would have been like if David did not trust God and there were no stones to use. He would have been stonelace'. We don't want to be without God. So in order for us to remember the story of David, we are going to make a stone necklace. A reminder to trust in God so we are never stone "lace"!

Procedure: Cut 1 yard of hemp per student. Glue the middle of the hemp to the back of the stone. Then instruct the children to wrap the stone in various angles using the same amount of cording from each side and when they have wrapped the stone 5 or so times, tie the two ends together really tight behind the stone. Secure with glue. (You want to see the stone through the hemp wrappings.) Then take the remaining cords on both sides and leave enough space to go over their head and tie into a necklace.

Close

When you feel alone and need a reminder that God is with you, reach for your stone "lace" and put it on. Remember the story of David and Goliath and talk to God about your troubles. He will always be there for you. He is a great provider!

Go!

Joyful Noise



MUSIC

Materials: Shoe box (without lid) per child , several rubber bands, different thicknesses (3 to 4 per child) , crayons or markers to decorate outside of shoeboxes

Quest Connection

Part of our relationship with God is built by worshiping Him. God loves for us to praise Him in song and with music. David used his harp to worship God. Today, we are going to make a homemade harp out of a shoe box and see what kind of “joyful” noise we can make in praising God!

Procedure: Have the children decorate the outside of the boxes. Have the children place 3 to 4 rubber bands of different thicknesses around the shoebox. They should be able to pluck or strum the bands and get various sounds.

Close

Lead the children in some Christian songs they already know. They may choose to strum along with their harps. Close by telling the children that it is good to praise God in lots of ways. Singing and playing an instrument are only a couple of ways. God is also praised by their obedience to do right and by their communicating with Him in prayer.

Have the children try to make up a song using their newly created harps.



Go!

Slingshot



ARTS AND CRAFTS

Materials: 2 - 6 Nylon Rings (Made from panty hose. Cut off the toe and top part. Roll up each leg to form the ring.) Elastic Band or Braided Nylon Rope (Tie the ends to form a circle. Make sure the circle is big enough to go under the child's foot and the length up to elbow level.)

(The above is enough for one child.)

Quest Connection

David used a slingshot to kill Goliath. Do you know what a slingshot looks like or how they work? For fun, we are going to make a slingshot that will not hurt anyone. Our sling shot doesn't look or work like the one David used. I'm sure the purpose of David's sling shot was to keep the lions and bears away from the sheep while he was shepherding his father's flock and not to go around killing people. God was with David and used his ability to do what needed to be done!

Procedure: Put braided nylon rope under one foot and pull the circle up so that you are parallel to the rope circle that is now the slingshot. Hold taunt.

Fold the nylon ring around the slingshot, folded side facing away from you. Pinch ring finger with thumb and pointer finger. Pull back. When ready to shoot, let thumb and fingers go at the same time.

Have the children aim at a basket or targets in the room or outside.

Close

David was right on target with his slingshot! You too can be right on target when you obey and trust God. Close with prayer asking God to steer the children in the right direction so they will be right on target for a good life.

Go!

Stone Transfer



GAME (Check the internet for more information or instructions on playing Mancala.)

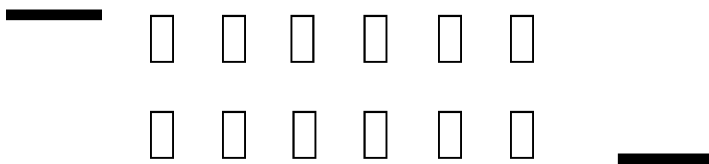
Materials: 1 egg carton per Child, 2, 5 ounce cups per child, 48 small stones or rocks per child

Quest Connection

Today we are going to make a game that you can take home with you. The game is called Mancala and is thought to be the oldest game around. The word, “Mancala” means “to transfer” in Arabic. When playing the game of Mancala, think about how David transferred a stone by using his sling shot to kill Goliath. By killing Goliath the land was transferred back to God’s people, the Israelites.

Procedure: Cut the lid off the egg carton. Place 4 stones in each of the egg carton spaces. Place a 5 ounce cup on each side of the egg carton. The game is played with 2 players. Each player has one side of the egg carton (6 spaces) and the cup to the right of the six spaces. The cup to the right of the 6 spaces is called Mancala.

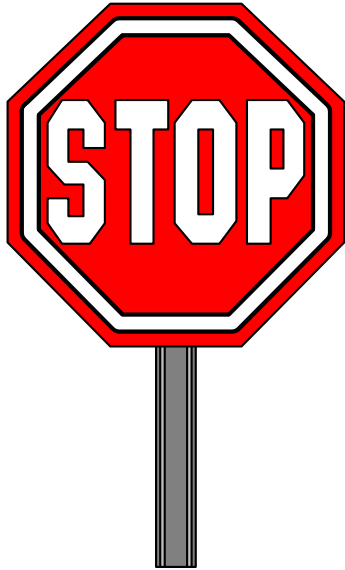
The object is to have the most stones in your Mancala at the end of the game. The 1st player chooses one of his spaces and takes all the stones out of it. He/she places one stone in each space to the right of the space where he removed the stones. He/she would include their Mancala cup in the placing of stones, but do not include your opponent’s Mancala cup. Move counter clockwise. If the last stone is placed into the Mancala cup, then the player gets to go again. Otherwise, player 2 does the same thing. Play continues until a player runs out of stones. The game is over and whoever has the most stones in their Mancala wins!



Close

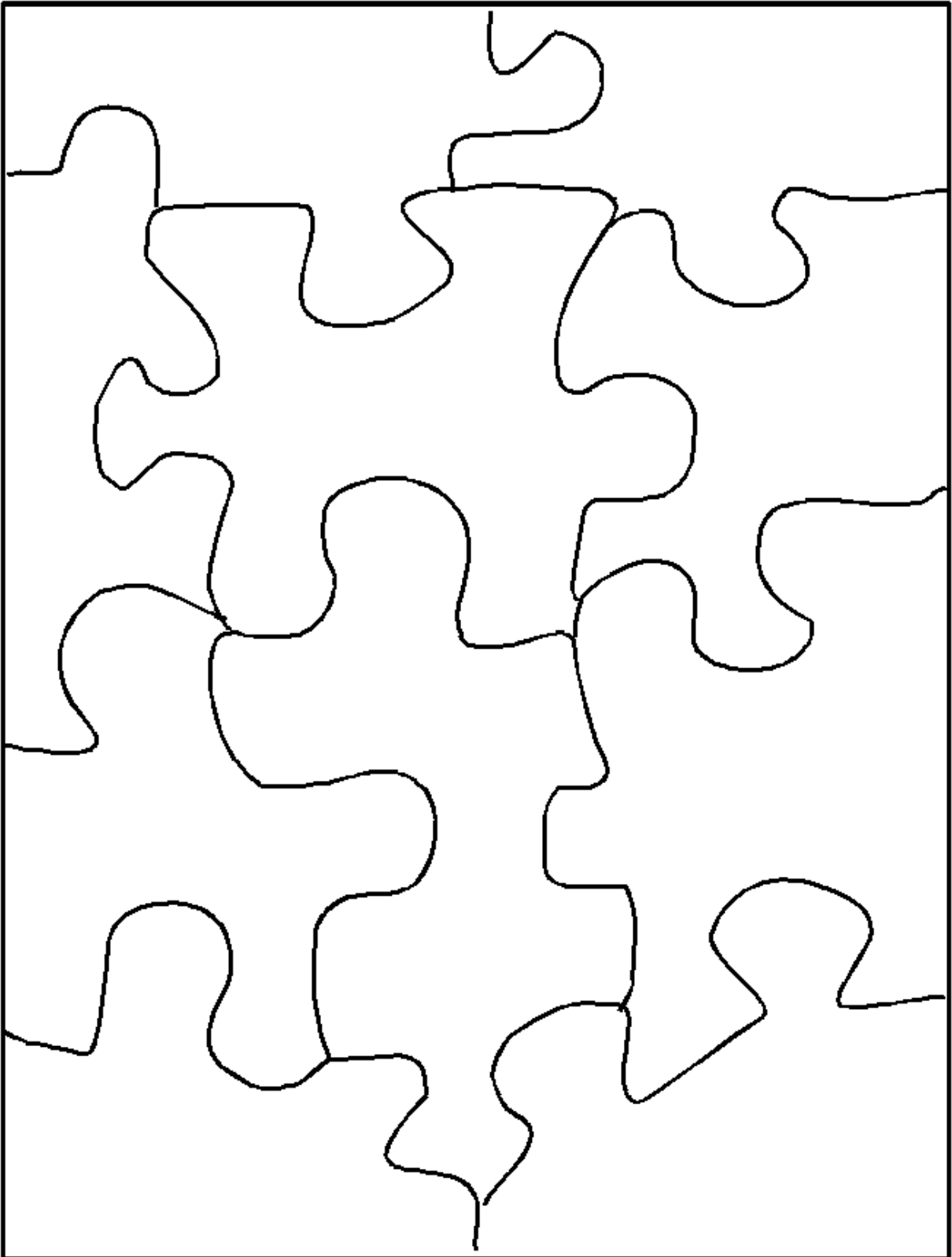
Talk to the children about what they can transfer to God. Maybe problems they have at school or at home with siblings. They can transfer these problems to God by talking to Him through prayer.

Below draw or write down the things you need to stop doing to have a better relationship with God.

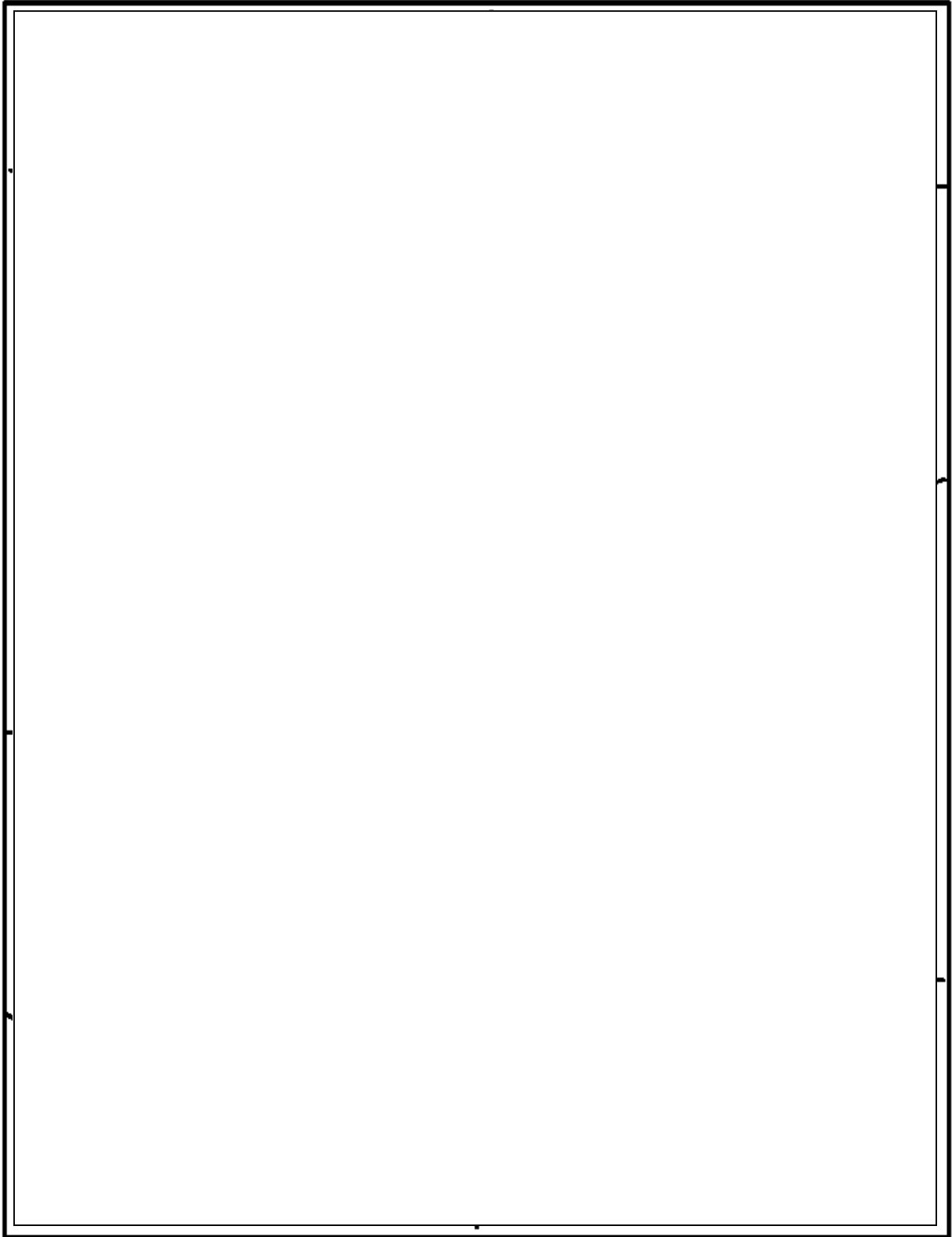


Draw or write down the things you need to start doing to have a better relationship with God.

Glue this page to construction paper or light cardboard (See next page)



Draw and color a picture of a scene from the Bible Story. Glue to the empty side of the puzzle on the previous puzzle. Cut around the puzzle pieces! Can you put it back together?



Can you find 30 lions?



Read some of the Psalms. Write some of the adjectives that David used to describe God.



**What are some of the Goliaths in your life?
Write a prayer asking God to help you defeat them.**



Dear Heavenly Father,

**In Jesus' Name,
Amen**