

2SAMUEL



2 Samuel

Youth Bible Study

by Pat Kampenga

Master Copy: May be duplicated for the use of your group only.

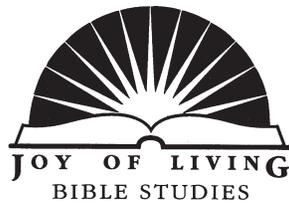
Joy of Living 2 Samuel Youth Bible Study

Copyright 2007 • **Joy of Living Bible Studies** • Ventura, CA
(800) 999-2703 • (805) 650-0838 • Fax: (805) 650-6730 • E-mail: info@joyofliving.org

2 Samuel

Youth Bible Study

by Pat Kampenga



Before you begin

An ideal curriculum for home-school, Bible class, Sunday School or personal Bible Study, **Joy of Living Youth Curriculum** is flexible and easy to use. Each lesson covers the same scripture passage as the adult **Joy of Living Study**.

Age:

This course encourages students of various ages to develop a habit of personal Bible study. Since the study requires reading the Bible and writing answers to the questions, the minimum age should be about 6 years old. Although the questions are geared to about age 10, older students will profit by gaining a basic knowledge of the Bible. Students over the age of 14 may be mature enough to study the adult Joy of Living course.

The lessons:

The study is divided into weekly units. Each week is divided into three sections:

- a suggested class schedule including craft and game ideas
- leader's lesson sheets (these contain the answers for the lesson completed by the students during the previous week)
- student questions for the next lesson (these are passed out at the end of the class)

Students complete the written lessons at home and are encouraged to do a few questions each day rather than trying to complete all the questions in one day. This will aid the students in developing a pattern of daily Bible Study. The "HARD" and "RISKY" questions are to inspire the student to think and reason and help them dig deeper into God's Word.

For homeschool or personal Bible study:

The curriculum may be used in a variety of ways. Following are a few suggestions:

- Lessons may be completed by the individual student and graded for accuracy. Discussion time is optional, although it is encouraged.
- Students within the same family or group may work on the lessons together. A discussion time with a parent or other adult is suggested.
- Adults may work one-on-one with the student(s) while they complete the lesson.
- Lessons may be used as part of family devotions. Read the portions of scripture aloud and use the questions to prompt discussion of the Bible passage.

For use with groups:

There is great flexibility in implementing this curriculum. Since each class has its own needs, space, finances, and time frame the class schedule is supplied as a general outline and can be changed to suit specific situations and needs.

Each class session has free time, recreation/snack time, question discussion time, and craft time.

Remember - Keep the pace moving to avoid boredom and trouble, while providing continuity.

Suggested time SCHEDULE to be adapted to individual group:

- 15 - 20 min. - unstructured free time
- 15 - 20 min. - game/snack time
- 15 - 20 min. - discussion time
- remaining time for craft

Helpful Hints for Groups

Facility/Equipment

- Whatever the class size, access to a gym or large game room is worthwhile for team play and group activities.
- If the church has the room, a separate cupboard for supplies is a plus.
- Access to a TV/DVD player is helpful but not necessary.
- A volleyball or similar ball is good to have on hand for a variety of games.

Discussion Time

- Use the counting off system to divide the class into groups for discussion time. (Avoid, if possible, separating into groups according to age or family.)
- Each discussion group should have an adult leader. Older children should not be used (unless absolutely necessary) as leaders or sitters; they are there for fellowship and learning, too.
- With many of the questions there is no right or wrong answer. The questions are to encourage the student to think and reason and to dig deeper into God's Word. However, since discussion time is also a form of teaching, the leaders are given answers on their question sheets to aid them in the discussion, with occasional commentary insights added in brackets.
- As you discuss the lesson be careful not to belittle a student's opinion or idea. Even if the answer is wrong you can encourage the student by saying something similar to, "I like to see that you're thinking, do you think perhaps....(then give the correct answer)" or "I can see that you are thinking about the question, does anyone else have thoughts on this question?"

Teachers/Leaders/Helpers

- The number of leaders and helpers is determined by the size of the class. The ideal situation is one discussion leader per every 5 children.
- In addition to the main leader, it is helpful to have a game leader, and craft leader.
- Responsibilities are determined within each class structure.
- Parent volunteers may be requested when extra help is needed. If there is a large number of children, the parents have to volunteer only once or twice the entire year.
- Scheduling parents to bring treats is a financial bonus. Keeping cost to a minimum is being a good steward of God's resources.

Game Time

Although board games, puzzles, hidden pictures, crosswords, coloring, and quiet activities do not keep the attention of active children, they should not be ruled out as alternative game time activities. Ball games, races, or tag games are suggested and favored to holding everyone's interest.

Suggestions for obtaining craft ideas & supplies:

Garage/yard/rummage sales

library craft books

children's magazines

YMCA, Park & Recreation Dept., churches (almost every city has a summer program for children, which includes a craft time; they may have leftover craft supplies they would like to donate)

Supplies to have on hand for crafts not in kits:

glue, glue sticks, glue gun

scissors (at least 1 pair for every 2 students)

paint (tempera-washable)

paint brushes

paper towels

newspapers

construction paper

crayons

colored markers

colored pencils

paper cups, napkins (snack time)

various items to pass in relay races

balls, basketball, nerf, etc.

Scripture quotations in this course are from:

The Simplified Living Bible (TSLB) copyright © 1990 by KNT Charitable Trust. *The Simplified Living Bible* is adapted from *The Living Bible*. copyright © 1971 owned by assignment by KNT Charitable Trust. Used by permission of Tyndale House Publishers. Inc., Box 80, Wheaton, Illinois 60189.

Also quoted in this course:

The Ryrie Study Bible, New American Standard Translation (NAS) copyright © 1976, 1978 by The Moody Bible Institute of Chicago. The Scripture text of the New American Standard Bible are used by permission of The Lockman Foundation, La Habra, California, © 1960, 1962, 1963, 1968, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1975, 1977.

Also quoted is the *Life Application Bible*, New International Version edition (NIV), published jointly by Tyndale House Publisher, Inc. and Zondervan Publishing House, copyright © 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, by Tyndale House Publishers Inc., Wheaton, IL 60189.

The Quest Study Bible, (NIV, QUEST) New International Version, copyright © 1994 by Zondervan Corporation, Grand Rapids, MI.

Bibliography

Webster's Seventh New Collegiate Dictionary. Springfield, MA: G. & C. Merriam Company, 1967.

The Bible Story Clip Art Book. Gospel Light Publications, Ventura, CA, 1989.

The Holt Intermediate Dictionary of American English, New York: Holt, Rinehart & Winston. Inc. 1967,66.

Unger's Bible Dictionary. Chicago, IL: Moody Press. 1966.

Reproducible Maps, Charts, Time Lines & Illustrations. Ventura, CA: Regal Books, 1989.

The International Bible Commentary. Editors F. F. Bruce, H. L. Ellison, G C.D, Howley. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan Publishing House, 1986.

The Bible Knowledge Commentary. Editors John F. Walvoord, Roy B. Zuck. Victor Books, 1985.

2 Samuel — Game & Craft List

	Game	Craft	Page
Week 1	Simple Relay	Food Day	8
Week 2	Base Tag	Spiral Puzzle	18
Week 3	Peanut Relay	Arabian Head Band	28
Week 4	Balloon Obstacle Race	Stone Carving	36
Week 5	Web of Yarn	Armlets/Bracelets	45
Week 6	Obstacle Egg Roll Relay	Craft Stick Note Pad & Pen Holder	53
Week 7	Quick Observation	Spice Ropes	61
Week 8	S. S. Simple Sheep	Turkey Thanksgiving Decoration	68
Week 9	Floor Basketball	Advent Calendar	78

2 SAMUEL — WEEK 1

NO LESSON DISCUSSION

15 - 20 minutes Free time — games, fellowship, make NAME TAGS

MATERIALS:

index cards	clear contact paper
crayons	hole punch
felt tip pens	large safety pins
stickers	

Each child creates his own name tag using whatever he wishes from the materials at hand. Once his tag is finished, cover with contact paper, punch a hole in the center at the top; pin to shirt.

15 - 20 minutes Snack and group recreation: SIMPLE RELAY

Divide into teams, and mark two goal lines. Teams line up behind one goal line. Place a book on the head of the first player in each line. The object is to go to the opposite goal and back. If the book falls off, player must stop, pick it up and put it back on his head, remove his hands, and continue. When the first player reaches his teammates, he hands the book to the second player in line and then goes to end of row, while the remaining players repeat the process. When all players are back in their original positions, the team sits down. The team that finishes first wins.

15 - 20 minutes Discuss class rules, if you have them.

to end of class CRAFT: FOOD DAY

DONUT HOLES

electric fry pan	oil
tongs	paper plates
refrigerated canned biscuits	bowl or plastic bag
cutting board	knife
sugar, cinnamon, powdered sugar	

Have each child divide a biscuit into four parts, and roll each part into a ball. An adult should fry each child's donut holes in hot oil until golden brown. Remove with tongs and drain on paper plate. Dip into powdered sugar, or mixture of cinnamon and sugar. Eat when cool.

CRUNCHY CANDY

1 cup chocolate chips	1 tsp. vanilla
1/2 cup chunky peanut butter	1/2 cup chopped peanuts
3 cups crispy rice cereal	tablespoon
waxed paper	

Melt the chips (in double boiler or microwave oven). Add the peanut butter and stir until it is melted, remove from heat. Quickly stir in vanilla, peanuts, and cereal. Drop by tablespoons onto waxed paper. Refrigerate for 1/2 hour to harden.

GRAHAM CRACKER BALLS

10 graham crackers	1/3 cup condensed milk
1/3 cup chocolate chips	crushed nuts
coconut	bowl, spoon
waxed paper	

Crush crackers in bowl. Add milk and chocolate chips and mix. Form into small balls and roll in coconut or crushed nuts.

CRISPY RICE SHAPES

3 tbsp. margarine	1 pkg. marshmallows (10 oz., about 40 regular)
6 cups crispy rice cereal	
cooking spray	13 x 9 inch pan
candy sprinkles	3 1/2" cookie cutters

Melt margarine over low heat. Add marshmallows and stir until completely melted. Remove from heat. Add crispy rice cereal and stir until well coated. Spray pan and press mixture evenly into pan. While still warm decorate with candy sprinkles. Cut into shapes with cookie cutters. Makes about 9 shapes.

HOT CHEESE TOPPERS

your favorite cheese	whole wheat crackers
apples, bacon bits, olives	salsa
pepperoni	

Top crackers with cheese, sliced to fit. Place on a foil lined cookie sheet. Place in a 350 degree oven for 8-10 minutes. Top with apples, bacon bits, sliced olives, salsa or pepperoni.

VEGETABLE DIP

2/3 cup sour cream	2/3 cup mayonnaise
2 tsp. Bon Appetit	2 tsp. dill seed
2 tbsp. green onions, sliced	2 tbsp. parsley flakes

Mix all together in a small bowl. Chill. Serve with chopped vegetables or chips.

3. Where did David go and who lived there?

4. **CHALLENGE:** What promise of reward does David make his men in 1 Chronicles 11:6, and who got it? **HINT:** Look at “DAVID’S FAMILY TREE,” one of the handouts following this week’s questions, to find out who his relatives are. This could be important later in our study.

Read 2 Samuel chapter 5, verses 13 - 25.

1. **HARD:** Verse 14 gives a list of David’s sons. This list is important because it names two men who are ancestors of Jesus Christ. David’s sons are: Shammua, Shobab, Nathan, Solomon, Ibhar, Elishua, Nepheg, Japhia, Elishama, Eliada and Eliphelet. (If you can say all these names your teacher needs to give you a prize.) Read Matthew 1:5-17, which is believed to be the ancestors of Joseph, and Luke 3:23-32, which is believed to be the ancestors of Mary. Which of David’s sons is listed in the Matthew and Luke verses?

2. **HARD:** What did David do each time before he fought the Philistines?

3. After David won the first battle, what does verse 20a say he did?

4. **PERSONAL:** Do you have problems? Are you scared about something? Why not do what David did?
- Ask God to help you. 1 Peter 5:6 says: “Humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God. In his good time he will lift you up.”
 - Follow what He tells you as 1 Peter 5:7 says: “Let God have all your worries and cares. He is always thinking about you and watching everything that concerns you.”
 - Thank Him for His answers, even before you see them. Philippians 4:6 reads: “Don’t worry about anything. Instead, pray about everything. Tell God your needs, and don’t forget to thank him for his answers.”
 - Then tell others what God did. Don’t take the credit for something He did. Give God glory and praise for all He has done for you as David did in 2 Samuel 5:20.

Read 2 Samuel chapter 6 verses 1-7, and 1 Chronicles chapter 13, verses 1-7.

It had been a long time since the Ark of God had been in the Tabernacle of the Lord. Many years before, when the prophet Samuel was a boy, Israel had been at war with the Philistines. At that time the Israelites thought that if they carried the Ark with them into battle they would win. But the Ark of God was captured by the Philistines. After 7 months the Philistines returned the Ark to Israel because God had allowed a plague to kill many of them. The Israelites took the Ark to the home of Abinadab where his son, Eleazar, was assigned to guard it. All Israel was sad, because it seemed to them that the Lord had left them.

The Ark was a reminder and picture of God’s presence among His people and was to be handled only in the special way God had told them. God wanted the Ark to be carried by poles that stayed in rings on the side of it. Only the Levites could carry it. It had to be covered with special cloths. Because the Ark was holy, the wood could not be touched. (If you would like to read more about the Ark, see Exodus 25:13-15 and Numbers 4:6,15).

1. What does 2 Samuel 6:2 say David and his men did?

2. How did the Philistines handle the Ark in 1 Samuel 6:7,8a?

3. How did David's men handle the Ark in 2 Samuel 6:3?

4. **RISKY:** Who handled the Ark the way God wanted it to be handled? The Philistines or David and his men?

Read 2 Samuel chapter 6, verses 8-15, and 1 Chronicles chapter 15, verses 11-15.

1. David was angry at God for Uzzah's death. Then he became afraid. He realized he made a mistake in moving the Ark the way he did. He learned a lesson. What do Psalm 111:10 and 112:1 say about fearing God and obeying His commands?

2. What happened to Obed-Edom that made David want to bring the Ark to the City of David?

3. What does 1 Chronicles 15:13,15 say David did this second time to move the Ark?

Read 2 Samuel chapter 6, verses 16 - 23.

1. Where did David put the Ark, and what did he do there?

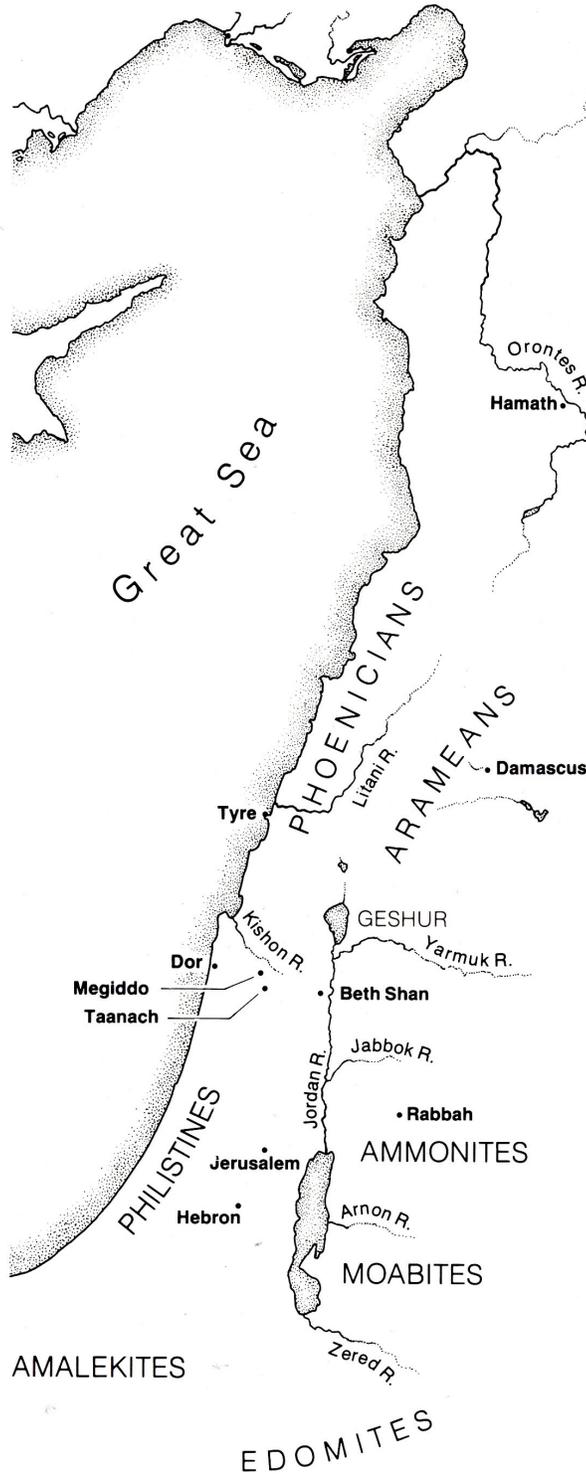
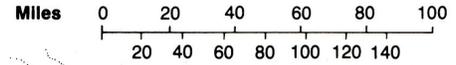
2. Michal, David's first wife, scolded David for celebrating before God and the people. David was doing something that was pleasing in God's eyes, but was embarrassing to her. What do these verses say that all Christians must do?

Acts 5:29

Ephesians 6:6,7

3. **PERSONAL:** The Bible is God's word to us. It is important that we hide some of its verses in our heart. There might come a time when you will need God's command, and having it hidden in your heart will help you to obey Him. This year, why not try to memorize one verse each week. By the end of the year you will have more of God's message to you in your heart than you had at the beginning of the class. Be sure you memorize verses you don't already know. Here are three from this lesson: Psalm 111:10, Psalm 112:1, Acts 5:29.

David's Conquests



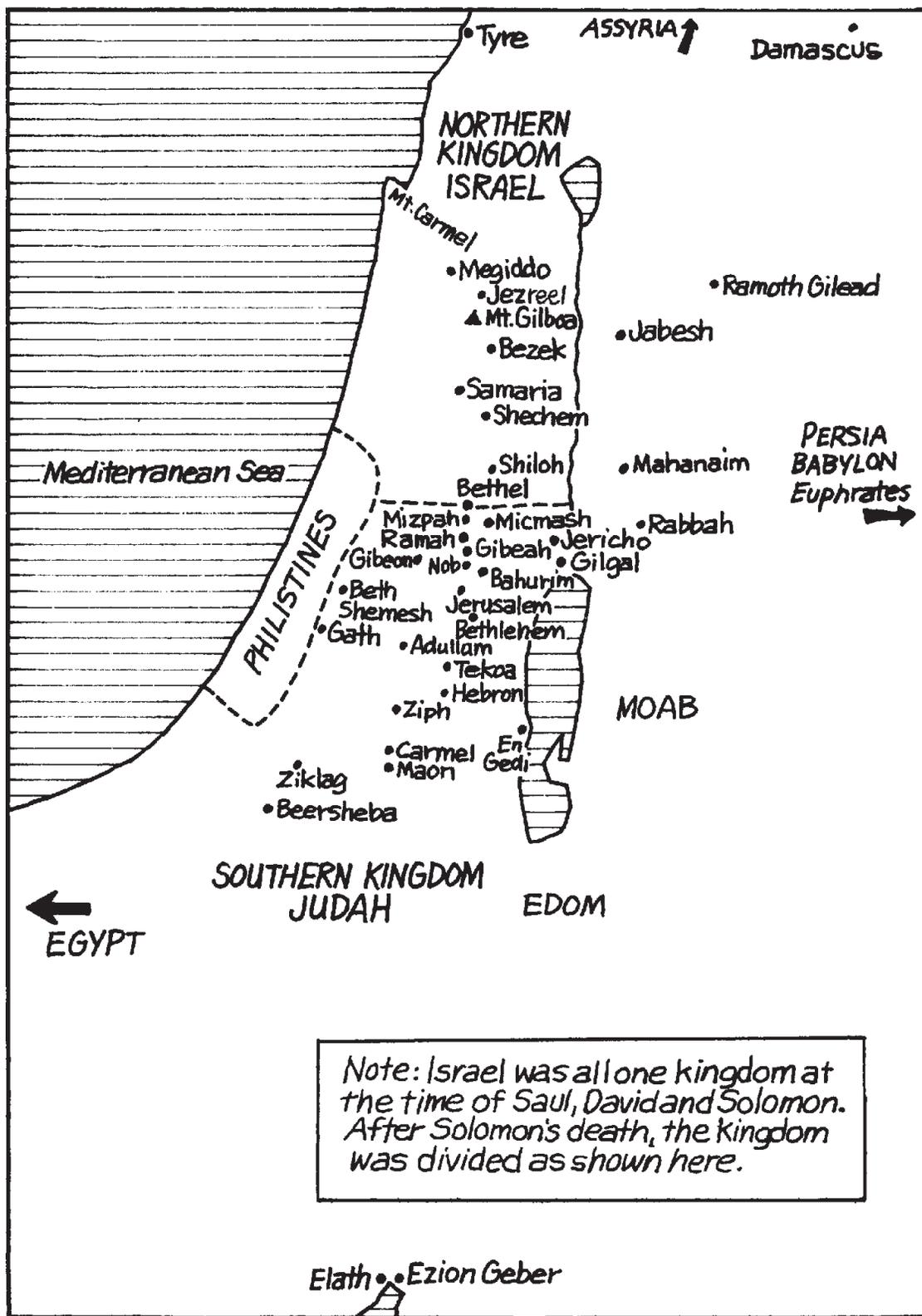
Once he had become king over all Israel (2Sa 5:1-5), David:

1. Conquered the Jebusite citadel of Zion/ Jerusalem and made it his royal city (2Sa 5:6-10);
2. Received the recognition of and assurance of friendship from Hiram of Tyre, king of the Phoenicians (2Sa 5:11-12);
3. Decisively defeated the Philistines so that their hold on Israelite territory was broken and their threat to Israel eliminated (2Sa 5:17-25; 8:1);
4. Defeated the Moabites and imposed his authority over them (2Sa 8:2);
5. Crushed the Aramean kingdoms of Hadadezer (king of Zobah), Damascus and Maacah and put them under tribute (2Sa 8:3-8; 10:6-19). Talmi, the Aramean king of Geshur, apparently had made peace with David while he was still reigning in Hebron and sealed the alliance by giving his daughter in marriage to David (2Sa 3:3; see 1Ch 2:23);
6. Subdued Edom and incorporated it into his empire (2Sa 8:13-14);
7. Defeated the Ammonites and brought them into subjection (2Sa 12:19-31);
8. Subjugated the remaining Canaanite cities that had previously maintained their independence from and hostility toward Israel, such as Beth Shan, Megiddo, Taanach and Dor.

Since David had earlier crushed the Amalekites (1Sa 30:17), his wars thus completed the conquest begun by Joshua and secured all the borders of Israel. His empire (united Israel plus the subjugated kingdoms) reached from Ezion Geber on the eastern arm of the Red Sea to the Euphrates River.

Used by permission of Gospel Light.

WHERE IT ALL HAPPENED (1 and 2 Samuel; also 1 and 2 Chronicles, Psalms)



Used by permission of Gospel Light.

2 SAMUEL — WEEK 2

DISCUSSION LESSON 1

15 - 20 minutes Free time — games, fellowship

15 - 20 minutes Snack and group recreation: BASE TAG

Use a piece of cardboard to make one base per player. (An empty cereal box is good, and then it can be used for stencils during craft time below.) Scatter bases around the playing area. Choose “IT,” who stands on one of the bases near the center of the playing area. Other players each stand on one base. When “IT” leaves his base, so must the others. “IT” tries to tag a player before the player reaches a new base. Only one player may stand on a single base. If a player is tagged, he becomes the new “IT.”

15 - 20 minutes Discuss LESSON 1

to end of class CRAFT: SPIRAL PUZZLE

MATERIALS:

empty paper towel tube

Bible verses

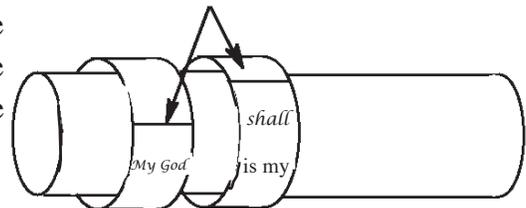
Prior to Class: Run one copy of the Bible verses strips for each student. (See next page.)

In class: Cut apart Bible verse strips.

In correct numerical sequence, place each strip around the paper towel tube so that the edge of the strip is on the line indicated.

Tape ends securely.

Wrap strips loosely around tube. Tape ends together



The strips must be loose enough to move easily around the tube. For an added activity, allow the children to compete with each other to see who can be first to align the strips to form the correct Bible verse. Have the kids mix up the verses and then exchange puzzles prior to competition.

The Lord

at all

all your needs.

Hebrews 13:6

My God

one

helper.

Philippians. 4:19

Pray

shall supply

another.

Ephesians 6:18

Love

is my

times.

John 15:12

Align top of strip to dotted line and tape to form loop.

1

Align top of strip to dotted line and tape to form loop.

2

Align top of strip to dotted line and tape to form loop.

3

Align top of strip to dotted line and tape to form loop.

4

2 SAMUEL – LESSON 1 ANSWERS

2 Samuel continues the story of David which began in 1 Samuel. We begin our study with 2 Samuel 5:6-13, and 1 Chronicles 11:4-7. Saul, Israel's first king, ruled Israel for many years. At the beginning of his reign, or rule, God, through His Holy Spirit, helped Saul. But Saul did not obey God, so God told His prophet Samuel to secretly anoint David as king of Israel. Saul became jealous of David and began chasing him all over Israel, trying to kill him. He did this for 10 - 15 years. Then Saul was killed in a battle with the Philistines. Now it was time for David to take over the kingdom.

But Abner, Saul's army commander, thought Saul's son Ish-Bosheth should be king. Ish-Bosheth lived in northern Israel, and David lived in the south, called Judah. The armies of Ish-Bosheth and David fought each other. This was a civil war. After David's victory, Abner and Ish-Bosheth were murdered. Then the leaders from the north came to David and asked him to be their king, too.

The family line of David and the maps included with this lesson will help you as you read the rest of David's story in 2 Samuel.

Read 2 Samuel chapter 5, verses 1-13, and 1 Chronicles chapter 11 verses 3-9.

1. What did the leaders tell David? 2 Samuel 5:2b: “The Lord has said that you should be **the shepherd and leader of his people.**” [The leaders of the remaining tribes now recognize that David is the one God wants to have as the king over all Israel. This is the third time for David to be crowned king. He had been secretly anointed king by Samuel, 1 Samuel 16:13; crowned king over Judah, 2 Samuel 2:4; and now is king over all Israel.]
2. What do you learn about David from 2 Samuel 5:4,5? “**He [David] had already been the king of Judah for seven years. He began his rule there at the age of 30 [over Judah; 37 over all Israel]. He then ruled 33 years in Jerusalem as king of both Israel and Judah. So he ruled for 40 years in all.**” [David began his rule in Hebron, 2 Samuel 5:3, and 2 Samuel 2:4. This quote is from The Bible for Children, the Simplified Living Bible Text; other translations say he ruled in Hebron 7 1/2 years and in Jerusalem 33 years for a total of 40 1/2 years.]
3. Where did David go and who lived there? Jerusalem; Jebusites. [Jerusalem was in the land of Benjamin. The Jebusites were a Canaanite tribe the Benjamites had not thrown out of the land (Judges 1:21). David wanted the capital of Israel to be in Jerusalem because this was a very strategic location. It was 5-6 miles from his home town of Bethlehem, and it was in the center of the Israel, sitting on the border between Judah and the northern tribes, thereby making it accessible to all the tribes.]

4. **CHALLENGE:** What promise of reward does David make his men in 1 Chronicles 11:6, and who got it? HINT: Look at “DAVID’S FAMILY TREE,” one of the handouts following this week’s questions, to find out who his relatives are. This could be important later in our study. “David had said, ‘Whoever leads the attack on the Jebusites will **become commander-in-chief.**’ **Joab son of Zeruiah** [David’s sister] went up first, and so he received the command” [NIV].

Read 2 Samuel chapter 5, verses 13 - 25.

1. **HARD:** Verse 14 gives a list of David’s sons. This list is important because it names two men who are ancestors of Jesus Christ. David’s sons are: Shammua, Shobab, Nathan, Solomon, Ibhara, Elishua, Nepheg, Japhia, Elishama, Eliada and Eliphelet. (If you can say all these names your teacher needs to give you a prize.) Read Matthew 1:5-17, which is believed to be the ancestors of Joseph, and Luke 3:23-32, which is believed to be the ancestors of Mary. Which of David’s sons is listed in the Matthew and Luke verses? **Nathan and Solomon.** [It is believed the genealogies of Matthew and Luke list the royal line through Joseph and the blood line through Mary. Both lines point to Jesus Christ as Messiah. Although David had many wives and concubines, polygamy was not condoned by the Lord. There are many Old Testament records that indicate the problems involved when a man has more than one wife. However, it was practiced in David’s day for a variety of reasons. It denoted wealth, rank, and was politically advantageous. But by the time the early church was established, God’s marriage ideal was made clear: one man, one woman, one flesh.]
2. **HARD:** What did David do each time before he fought the Philistines? [**He sought God’s guidance.**] Verse 19a: “Then David asked the Lord, ‘Shall I go out and fight against them? Will you defeat them for me?’” [The Philistines were comfortable with Israel when David seemed to be a Philistine ally (1 Samuel 21:10ff), and when the tribes were fighting among themselves. War between the tribes weakened Israel’s power. But once the tribes of Israel were united, the Philistines became a little nervous. They knew David was practically invincible, and they wanted to stop him.]
3. After David won the first battle, what does verse 20a say he did? [**He gave God the glory, or credit, for the victory.**] “So David went out. He fought with them at Baal-perazim and defeated them. ‘The Lord did it!’ he exclaimed.” [Once the Philistines were defeated, they retreated and regrouped, then they waged war again. The second time around they left their idols behind, since the idols had not helped them win the first time. David and his men took the idols and eventually burned them, 1 Chronicles 14:12.]
4. **PERSONAL:** Do you have problems? Are you scared about something? Why not do what David did?
- a. Ask God to help you. 1 Peter 5:6 says: “Humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God. In his good time he will lift you up.”

- b. Follow what He tells you as 1 Peter 5:7 says: “Let God have all your worries and cares. He is always thinking about you and watching everything that concerns you.”
- c. Thank Him for His answers, even before you see them. Philippians 4:6 reads: “Don’t worry about anything. Instead, pray about everything. Tell God your needs, and don’t forget to thank him for his answers.”
- d. Then tell others what God did. Don’t take the credit for something He did. Give God glory and praise for all He has done for you as David did in 2 Samuel 5:20.

Read 2 Samuel chapter 6 verses 1-7, and 1 Chronicles chapter 13, verses 1-7.

It had been a long time since the Ark of God had been in the Tabernacle of the Lord. Many years before, when the prophet Samuel was a boy, Israel had been at war with the Philistines. At that time the Israelites thought that if they carried the Ark with them into battle they would win. But the Ark of God was captured by the Philistines. After 7 months the Philistines returned the Ark to Israel because God had allowed a plague to kill many of them. The Israelites took the Ark to the home of Abinadab where his son, Eleazar, was assigned to guard it. All Israel was sad, because it seemed to them that the Lord had left them.

The Ark was a reminder and picture of God’s presence among His people and was to be handled only in the special way God had told them. God wanted the Ark to be carried by poles that stayed in rings on the side of it. Only the Levites could carry it. It had to be covered with special cloths. Because the Ark was holy, the wood could not be touched. (If you would like to read more about the Ark, see Exodus 25:13-15 and Numbers 4:6,15).

1. What does 2 Samuel 6:2 say David and his men did? “**He led them to Baal-judah to bring home the Ark of the Lord. The Lord’s seat is above the Guardian angels on the Ark.**”
2. How did the Philistines handle the Ark in 1 Samuel 6:7,8a? “**Now build a new cart. Hitch two cows to it that have just had calves. Choose cows that have never been yoked before. Then shut their calves away from them in the barn. Put the Ark of God on the cart.**”
3. How did David’s men handle the Ark in 2 Samuel 6:3? “**The Ark was put on a new cart. It was taken from the hillside home of Abinadab. It was driven by Abinadab’s sons, Uzzah and Ahio.**”
4. **RISKY:** Who handled the Ark the way God wanted it to be handled? The Philistines or David and his men? **Neither. They both handled it incorrectly.**

Read 2 Samuel chapter 6, verses 8-15, and 1 Chronicles chapter 15, verses 11-15.

1. David was angry at God for Uzzah's death. Then he became afraid. He realized he made a mistake in moving the Ark the way he did. He learned a lesson. What do Psalm 111:10 and 112:1 say about fearing God and obeying His commands? "How can men be wise? The only way to begin is by respecting God. For growth in wisdom comes from obeying his laws. Praise his name forever... Praise the Lord! For all who fear God will be happy. Those who trust in him will be blessed. Yes, happy is the man who loves to obey his commands."
2. What happened to Obed-edom that made David want to bring the Ark to the City of David? 2 Samuel 6:11-12: "It stayed there for three months. **And the Lord blessed Obed-edom and all his family.** David heard this. So he brought the Ark to the City of David with great joy."
3. What does 1 Chronicles 15:13,15 say David did this second time to move the Ark? "The Lord destroyed us before because you, the Levites, did not carry it. We did not ask the Lord how we should carry the Ark." Then the Levites carried the Ark on their shoulders with its carrying poles. They did just as the Lord had ordered Moses."

Read 2 Samuel chapter 6, verses 16 - 23.

1. Where did David put the Ark, and what did he do there? Verse 17: "The Ark was put inside the tent that David had made for it. And he sacrificed burnt offerings and peace offerings to the Lord." [The city of David is Jerusalem. A ceremonially clean person could assist a priest in offering sacrifices.]
2. Michal, David's first wife, scolded David for celebrating before God and the people. David was doing something that was pleasing in God's eyes, but was embarrassing to her. What do these verses say that all Christians must do?

Acts 5:29 "But Peter and the apostles replied, 'We must obey God rather than men.'"

Ephesians 6:6,7 "Don't work only when your master is watching. For then you will be lazy when he isn't looking. Work hard and with gladness all the time. Do everything as if you are working for Christ. Do the will of God with all your hearts."

[Michal may have remained barren as a result of separation from David. Her second husband Paltiel (1 Samuel 25:44) followed her to Bahurim after David's demand for her return. But Abner told Paltiel to return to his home. Nothing more is said about him (2 Samuel 3:14-16).]

3. **PERSONAL:** The Bible is God's word to us. It is important that we hide some of its verses in our heart. There might come a time when you will need God's command, and having it hidden in your heart will help you to obey Him. This year, why not try to memorize one verse each week. By the end of the year you will have more of God's message to you in your heart than you had at the beginning of the class. Be sure you memorize verses you don't already know. Here are three from this lesson: Psalm 111:10, Psalm 112:1, Acts 5:29.

2 SAMUEL — LESSON 2

Before you begin your lesson:

- a. Pray for God's Holy Spirit to help you answer the questions.
- b. Some questions may be too hard; it's ok to write "I don't know."
- c. Think about what God's Word is telling you for today.
- d. With some questions, it might be helpful to write the scripture verse on your paper.

Read 2 Samuel chapter 7, verses 1 - 17.

1. In 2 Samuel 5:11 we are told that King Hiram of Tyre sent cedar lumber, carpenters, and masons to David so he could build his palace. What does 2 Samuel 7:2 say David wanted to do?

2. The prophet Nathan gave David the go-ahead to do as he planned. But God had other plans. What did the Lord tell Nathan in verses 12,13?

Read 2 Samuel chapter 7, verses 18 - 29.

1. David didn't cry, pout, or kick and scream when God said he couldn't build a house for Him. Instead, David prays a prayer of thanksgiving for all God has done for him. Have you ever asked God for something and you didn't get what you asked? What is one reason James 4:3 gives for God saying "NO" to your prayer?

2. **RISKY:** Even though David didn't get what he wanted, he asks God to do as He promised him through the prophet Nathan as recorded in verses 11-16. What reason does David give for asking this? See verse 26 for your answer.

3. David says God's words can be trusted. What does John 17:17 say about God's words?

Chapter 8 records some battles David fought. He became famous. He gave honor to God and God gave him victory over his enemies. David ruled with justice and fairness to everyone.

Read 2 Samuel chapter 9, verses 1 - 12.

1. Why did David want to know if there was anyone from Saul's family still living?
2. What does 2 Samuel 4:4 say about Jonathan's son?
3. **HARD:** What reason does 1 Samuel 20:14,15 give for David's kindness to Mephibosheth?
4. What did David tell Ziba to do for Mephibosheth?

David was kind to Mephibosheth by allowing him to eat at the king's table. This was a high honor. It may have meant David personally took care of Mephibosheth, not that he always ate with the king. This was a kindness kings did not usually give in that day.

5. God's word tells us about being kind or showing kindness to others. What do these verses say?

Galatians 5:22

Ephesians 4:31,32

Colossians 3:12

Read 2 Samuel chapter 10, verses 1 - 6.

1. David wanted to show Hanun kindness and sympathy over the death of Nahash, Hanun's father. But what did Hanun's nobles tell him about David?
2. What did Hanun do to David's men?
3. **PERSONAL:** Have you gotten mad at someone because they did or said something you didn't understand, and then they apologized for it? What does Colossians 3:13 say you should do about it?

Read 2 Samuel chapter 10, verses 7 - 19.

1. War broke out because Hanun misunderstood David's act of kindness. What do verses 9,10 say Joab, David's army commander, did with his troops?
2. **CHALLENGE:** Did Israel trust God in this battle? Give verse with your answer.
3. What does verse 19 say happened to the Arameans (Syrians)?

4. What does Jeremiah 17:7,8 say about the person who trusts God?

5. **PERSONAL:** Are you trusting the Lord as the verses in Jeremiah say you should? Why not memorize these verses so that when you are tempted not to trust God, the Holy Spirit can remind you to trust Him? If you don't know God, you can come to Him through Jesus. You need to believe Jesus died to pay for your sins, ask God's forgiveness for your sins, ask Jesus into your heart so that you can live to please God, believe that He has come into your heart, and trust God to teach you through His Holy Spirit what He wants you to know and how to live.

2 SAMUEL — WEEK 3

DISCUSSION LESSON 2

15 - 20 minutes Free time — games, fellowship

15 - 20 minutes Snack and group recreation: PEANUT RELAY

You'll need bowls and peanuts in the shell. Divide into teams. Place a peanut filled bowl in front of each team. At the goal end, place an empty bowl. At the signal, the first player in each team scoops up as many peanuts as he can using the BACK of his hand. He races to the goal line and dumps his peanuts in the empty bowl. Any peanuts outside the bowl may not be retrieved. He races back to his team and taps the next player. As soon as a team is finished, game ends. The winner is the team with the most peanuts in their second bowl.

15 - 20 minutes Discuss LESSON 2

to end of class CRAFT: ARABIAN HEAD BAND

MATERIALS:

yarn
twine

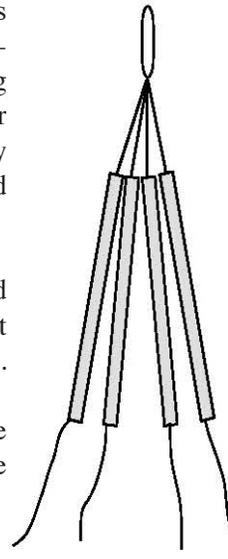
plastic drinking straws
masking tape

Cut two lengths of twine, 72" inches long. Fold twine in half (see sketch A) and tie a loop in the folded end. Place loop over a doorknob or chair back. Thread each strand through a drinking straw (see sketch B). Push the straws against the knot. To keep the straws from slipping you may want to place a piece of masking tape at the end of the straws. Weave yarn over and under the straws until they're completely covered; then push the woven materials toward the knot and pull the straws toward you.

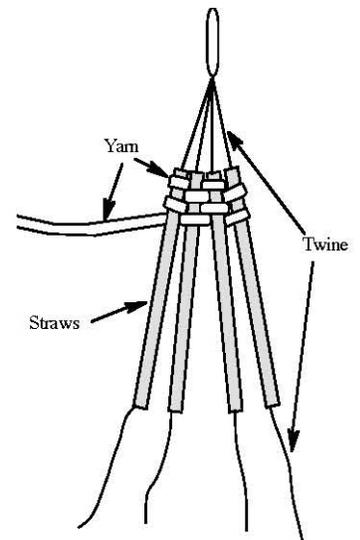
Keep weaving in this manner until your band is as long as you need it. Remove straws. Knot the twine at both ends to hold the yarn in place.

This craft takes a long time. You may choose to work on it for two sessions or may allow the children to take the craft home to complete.

Sketch A



Sketch B



Sketch C

2 SAMUEL – LESSON 2 ANSWERS

Read 2 Samuel chapter 7, verses 1 - 17.

1. In 2 Samuel 5:11 we are told that King Hiram of Tyre sent cedar lumber, carpenters, and masons to David so he could build his palace. What does 2 Samuel 7:2 say David wanted to do? “Look! Here I am living in this great cedar palace! But the Ark of God is out in a tent!” [Build a house for God to live in.]
2. The prophet Nathan gave David the go-ahead to do as he planned. But God had other plans. What did the Lord tell Nathan in verses 12,13? “For when you die, I will put one of your sons upon your throne. And I will make his kingdom strong. He is the one who shall build me a temple. And I will keep his kingdom for all time.” [The son who built the temple is Solomon. Many years later Jesus Christ, also a descendant of David, was born. His kingdom is the final fulfillment of these words.]

Read 2 Samuel chapter 7, verses 18 - 29.

1. David didn't cry, pout, or kick and scream when God said he couldn't build a house for Him. Instead, David prays a prayer of thanksgiving for all God has done for him. Have you ever asked God for something and you didn't get what you asked? What is one reason James 4:3 gives for God saying “NO” to your prayer? “When you do ask you don't get it because your whole aim is wrong. You want only what will make you happy.”
2. **RISKY:** Even though David didn't get what he wanted, he asks God to do as He promised him through the prophet Nathan as recorded in verses 11-16. What is the reason David gives for asking this? See verse 26 for your answer. “So that your name will be great forever. Then men will say, ‘The Lord Almighty is God over Israel!’ And the house of your servant David will be established before you” (NIV).
3. David says God's words can be trusted. What does John 17:17 say about God's words? “Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth” (NIV).

Chapter 8 records some battles David fought. He became famous. He gave honor to God and God gave him victory over his enemies. David ruled with justice and fairness to everyone.

Read 2 Samuel chapter 9, verses 1 - 12.

1. Why did David want to know if there was anyone from Saul's family still living? Verse 1: “One day David began wondering if any of Saul's family was still alive. He wanted to be kind to them as he had promised Prince Jonathan.”
2. What does 2 Samuel 4:4 say about Jonathan's son? “There was a little lame grandson of King

Saul's. His name was Mephibosheth. He was the son of Prince Jonathan. He was **five years old when news came that Saul and Jonathan were dead.** The news of Israel's defeat at the battle of Jezreel had reached the capital. So **the child's nurse** grabbed him and ran. But she fell and **dropped him** as she was running. Because of this, **he became lame.**" [Mephibosheth's lameness was a result of his nurse dropping him. He wasn't lame before this. He was no longer little, he was probably a young man, possibly in his twenties. He may have stayed in hiding because he feared for his own life. His family had been killed many years earlier. And since he was the remaining heir to Saul's throne, and he had the legal right to be the ruler over Israel, he feared he would be killed as well. It was a common practice of kings to find their predecessor's family and kill them, thereby eliminating any rivals to the throne.]

3. **HARD:** What reason does 1 Samuel 20:14,15 give for David's kindness to Mephibosheth? [Jonathan says]: "And remember, you must always **show the love and kindness of the Lord to me.** And you must also show it to my children. Remember this after the Lord has destroyed all of your enemies." [This was a promise David made when Jonathan warned him about Saul's pursuit and threat of death to David. As was the custom to show respect and honor, Mephibosheth bows down to his host David.]
4. What did David tell Ziba to do for Mephibosheth? Verse 10a: "You and your sons and servants are to **farm the land for him.** You will grow food for his family."

David was kind to Mephibosheth by allowing him to eat at the king's table. This was a high honor. It may have meant David personally took care of Mephibosheth, not that he always ate with the king. This was a kindness kings did not usually give in that day.

5. God's word tells us about being kind or showing kindness to others. What do these verses say?

Galatians 5:22 "But with the Holy Spirit in our lives there will be different kinds of fruit. They are love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, and faith."

Ephesians 4:31,32 "Stop being mean, bad-tempered, and angry. Fighting, harsh words, and dislike of others should have no place in your lives. Instead, be kind to each other and tenderhearted. Forgive one another just as God has forgiven you because you belong to Christ."

Colossians 3:12 "God has chosen you and given you this new kind of life. He has deep love and concern for you. So you should have a heart full of mercy and kindness to others. Be humble and ready to suffer quietly and patiently."

Read 2 Samuel chapter 10, verses 1 - 6.

1. David wanted to show Hanun kindness and sympathy over the death of Nahash, Hanun's father. But what did Hanun's nobles tell him about David? Verse 3: "But Hanun's officers didn't trust

them. **'These men aren't here to honor your father!'** they said. **'David has sent them to spy out the city!'** He wants to come and take it!" [At some time, Nahash had shown David an unidentified kindness.]

2. What did Hanun do to David's men? Verse 4: "So Hanun took David's men. He shaved off half their beards. He cut their robes off at the hips. Then he sent them home half naked." [The beard to an Israelite was a sign of dignity, maturity, manhood and freedom. The beard was always well kept. Shaving the beard was a show of contempt. Slaves were clean shaven as a sign of servitude. The garments were cut in the back exposing their buttocks. Public nakedness was shameful. These acts were humiliating.]
3. **PERSONAL:** Have you gotten mad at someone because they did or said something you didn't understand, and then they apologized for it? What does Colossians 3:13 say you should do about it? "Be gentle and ready to forgive. Never hold grudges. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others."

Read 2 Samuel chapter 10, verses 7 - 19.

1. War broke out because Hanun misunderstood David's act of kindness. What do verses 9,10 say Joab, David's army commander, did with his troops? "Joab soon saw that he would have to fight on two fronts. So he chose the best fighters in his army. **He put them under his personal command.** Then he took them out to fight the Syrians in the fields. He left **the rest of the army** to his brother Abishai. They were **to attack the city.**"
2. **CHALLENGE:** Did Israel trust God in this battle? Give verse with your answer. Yes, verse 12. "Courage! We must really act like men today! We must be strong if we are going to save our people and the cities of our God. May the Lord's will be done."
3. What does verse 19 say happened to the Arameans (Syrians)? "**Hadadezer's allies saw that the Syrians had been beaten. So they made peace with David** and became his servants. And the Syrians were afraid to help the Ammonites anymore after that."
4. What does Jeremiah 17:7,8 say about the person who trusts God? "**But happy is the man who trusts in the Lord. Happy is he who has made the Lord his hope and strength. He is like a tree planted by a river. The roots of such a tree reach deep into the water. So it will not be bothered by the heat. It won't be worried by long months without rain. Its leaves stay green. And it goes right on growing its sweet fruit.**"
5. **PERSONAL:** Are you trusting the Lord as the verses in Jeremiah say you should? Why not memorize these verses so that when you are tempted not to trust God, the Holy Spirit can remind you to trust Him? If you don't know God, you can come to Him through Jesus. You need to believe Jesus died to pay for your sins, ask God's forgiveness for your sins, ask Jesus into your

heart so that you can live to please God, believe that He has come into your heart, and trust God to teach you through His Holy Spirit what He wants you to know and how to live.

Read 2 Samuel chapter 11, verses 10 - 15.

1. Why didn't Uriah go home?
2. In his letter to Joab, what did David tell Joab to do?

Read 2 Samuel chapter 11, verses 16 - 27.

1. What did Bathsheba do when she heard about Uriah?
2. What did David do about Bathsheba?
3. God knew what David did and was not pleased. But God allowed David's story to stay in the Bible. What do these verses say about God knowing everything?

Job 34:21

Proverbs 15:3

Jeremiah 16:17

Hebrews 4:13

Read 2 Samuel chapter 12, verses 1 - 14.

1. Nathan the prophet told David a story. How would you tell this story?
2. David was upset by Nathan's story. What did Nathan tell David in verses 7,8?

3. David finally admitted his sin. Have you ever disobeyed and tried to cover it up? What does God say in Proverbs 28:13 about covering up your sin, and admitting it?

Below are a few Bible verses that tell what happens to a person when he sins and when he confesses.

SINS

- Psalm 6:6 - worn out, cry, have pain
- Psalm 31:10 - weak, sad
- Psalm 32:4 - weak, worn out, dried up

CONFESSES

- Psalm 32:1 - sins covered, guilt forgiven
- Psalm 32:5 - forgiven, no more guilt
- Psalm 51:7 - clean, whiter than snow

4. What time does Psalm 32:6 say is best to tell God our sins?

Read 2 Samuel chapter 12, verses 15 - 25.

1. In verse 14 Nathan told David his baby would die. What did David do when the baby was sick?
2. What did David do when the baby died?
3. Second Samuel 12:23 says David believed he would see the baby again in heaven. What does John 11:25 say about living forever?
4. **PERSONAL:** There is a saying that goes “keep short accounts with God.” That means when we sin, we are to do what Psalm 32:6 says: “confess his sins to God... when he is aware of them.” Have you told God your sins yet this week? Don’t say you didn’t do anything wrong, because then you call God a liar. See 1 John 1:8. Did you do something wrong and then ask God’s forgiveness? If that happened, did you still have to suffer the consequences? That means get punished for what you had done wrong. Would you like to share that with your class? Did you memorize a verse this week? How about Psalm 32:6?

2 SAMUEL — WEEK 4

DISCUSSION LESSON 3

- 15 - 20 minutes Free time — games, fellowship
- 15 - 20 minutes Snack and group recreation: **BALLOON OBSTACLE RACE**
- Use objects in your room to set up an obstacle course: chairs, books, newspaper (from craft), etc. One at a time, holding a blown-up balloon between their legs, each player must go inside one obstacle, outside the next, inside the next, and so on. Use a watch (or a stopwatch) to time each rider. Lowest time wins.
- 15 - 20 minutes Discuss LESSON 3
- to end of class **CRAFT: STONE CARVING**

MATERIALS:

utility knife	measuring cups
water	newspapers
craft sticks	stick for stirring
large bowl	vermiculite (garden supply stores)
plaster of paris	
permanent felt-tip pens in muted colors	
milk cartons or small frozen food containers for molds	



To make imitation rocks, combine in a large bowl: 1 cup plaster of paris, 3/4 cup vermiculite, 3/4 cup water. Mix well and pour into molds. Allow to harden.

Sharpen one end of each craft stick with utility knife. Cover work area with newspaper. Peel away molds from imitation rock. Scratch a simple design in the rock; paint with felt pens. Dry. You may need to trim or shape the rock.

from BIBLE TIMES Crafts for Kids

NOTE: Memorize 1 Corinthians 10:13, “But when you are tempted, he [God] will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it” (NIV), because it will be used at game time next week.

“She soon found out that she was pregnant.” [The mention of her purifying herself may be to show she was not pregnant at the time of David’s summons.]

Read 2 Samuel chapter 11, verses 10 - 15.

1. Why didn’t Uriah go home? Verse 11: “Uriah replied, ‘The Ark and the army are far from home. The general and his officers are camping out in open fields. How could I go home to enjoy a good meal? How could I go and sleep with my wife? I swear that I will never be guilty of acting like that.’” [Uriah may have been a mercenary. It is likely he had been with David early in David’s career since he is listed among David’s thirty mighty men (2 Samuel 23:39). His name indicates his parents were probably converted to the Israelite faith. His name means “My light is the Lord.”]
2. In his letter to Joab, what did David tell Joab to do? Verse 15: “The letter told Joab to put Uriah at the front of the battle. He was to send him where the fighting was hottest. Then he was to pull back and leave him there to die!” [Joab didn’t know why David wanted Uriah dead. He may have thought Uriah had done something wrong to incur the king’s wrath. Uriah’s loyalty to Israel cost him his life.]

Read 2 Samuel chapter 11, verses 16 - 27.

1. What did Bathsheba do when she heard about Uriah? Verse 26: “Bathsheba heard that her husband was dead. So she **mourned for him.**”
2. What did David do about Bathsheba? Verse 27: “Then, when the time of mourning was over, David sent for her. He brought her to the palace and she became one of his wives. And she gave birth to his son. But the Lord was very angry with what David had done.”
3. God knew what David did and was not pleased. But God allowed David’s story to stay in the Bible. What do these verses say about God knowing everything?

Job 34:21 “For God watches the deeds of all mankind. He sees them all.”

Proverbs 15:3 “The Lord is watching everywhere. He keeps his eye on both the evil and the good.”

Jeremiah 16:17 “For I am closely watching you, and I see every sin. You cannot hope to hide from me.”

Hebrews 4:13 “God knows about everyone everywhere. Everything about us is wide open to the eyes of our living God. Nothing is hidden from him to whom we must explain all we have done.”

Read 2 Samuel chapter 12, verses 1 - 14.

1. Nathan the prophet told David a story. How would you tell this story? A rich man used a poor man's only sheep to feed a stranger.
2. David was upset by Nathan's story. What did Nathan tell David in verses 7,8? "Then Nathan said to David, 'You are the rich man! The Lord God of Israel says, "I made you king of Israel. I saved you from the power of Saul. I gave you this palace and many wives. I gave you the kingdoms of Israel and Judah. And I would have given you much, much more!"'"
3. David finally admitted his sin. Have you ever disobeyed and tried to cover it up? What does God say in Proverbs 28:13 about covering up your sin, and admitting it? "A person who refuses to admit his mistakes can never be successful. But if he admits and leaves them, he gets another chance."

Below are a few Bible verses that tell what happens to a person when he sins and when he confesses.

SINS

Psalm 6:6 - worn out, cry, have pain
Psalm 31:10 - weak, sad
Psalm 32:4 - weak, worn out, dried up

CONFESSES

Psalm 32:1 - sins covered, guilt forgiven
Psalm 32:5 - forgiven, no more guilt
Psalm 51:7 - clean, whiter than snow

4. What time does Psalm 32:6 say is best to tell God our sins? "Each believer should confess his sins to God. He should do this **when he is aware of them**. He should do this **while there is time to be forgiven**. Judgment will not touch him if he does."

Read 2 Samuel chapter 12, verses 15 - 25.

1. In verse 14 Nathan told David his baby would die. What did David do when the baby was sick? Verse 16: "David begged the Lord to let the child live. He lay all night before the Lord on the bare earth. And he would not eat."
2. What did David do when the baby died? Verse 20: "Then David got up off the ground. He washed himself, brushed his hair, and changed his clothes. Then he went into the Tabernacle to worship the Lord. After that he went back to the palace and ate." [Only God knows everything. The child's death was not an act of judgment against it, but against David for his sin. David was deprived of the privilege and joy of knowing this gift of God. It is the consequence of his sin. This pain may have turned David's focus back to the Lord.]
3. Second Samuel 12:23 says David believed he would see the baby again in heaven. What does

John 11:25 say about living forever? “Jesus told her, ‘I am the resurrection and the life. Anyone who believes in me, even though he dies, will live again.’”

4. **PERSONAL:** There is a saying that goes “keep short accounts with God.” That means when we sin, we are to do what Psalm 32:6 says: “confess his sins to God... when he is aware of them.” Have you told God your sins yet this week? Don’t say you didn’t do anything wrong, because then you call God a liar. See 1 John 1:8. Did you do something wrong and then ask God’s forgiveness? If that happened, did you still have to suffer the consequences? That means get punished for what you had done wrong. Would you like to share that with your class? Did you memorize a verse this week? How about Psalm 32:6?

2 SAMUEL — LESSON 4

Before you begin your lesson:

- a. Pray for God's Holy Spirit to help you answer the questions.
- b. Some questions may be too hard; it's ok to write "I don't know."
- c. Think about what God's Word is telling you for today.
- d. With some questions, it might be helpful to write the scripture verse on your paper.

Read 2 Samuel, chapter 13, verses 1 - 14.

1. In 2 Samuel 3:2-5 some of David's sons are listed. What are the names of his first and third sons?

2. Amnon thought about his half sister Tamar in a lustful and sinful way, making himself sick. He had no way of talking to her because the unmarried princesses lived in strict seclusion. What did his cousin Jonadab tell Amnon to do?

3. Jonadab told Amnon to lie, and lying is sin. What does Proverbs 12:13 say about lying?

Read 2 Samuel chapter 13, verses 15 - 28.

1. What Amnon did to his half-sister Tamar was wrong and caused her shame. Once he was sick with love for her. But now he feels something else. What is it?

2. What did Tamar do when she left Amnon?

3. How did these men react to the news about Tamar?

David

Absalom

4. **RISKY:** What took Absalom 2 years to plan against Amnon?

5. What do these verses say about hate and revenge?

Leviticus 19:17-18

Romans 12:19,21

Read 2 Samuel chapter 13, verses 29 - 38.

1. What happened in 2 Samuel 13:29?

2. What was David told in 2 Samuel 13:30?

3. What did Jonadab tell David in 2 Samuel 13:32?

4. Absalom ran to Geshur. How long did he stay there?

Read 2 Samuel chapter 14, verses 1 - 21.

1. Joab knew what the king wanted. What was it?
2. Joab got a woman to tell King David a make believe story about her sons. But it really was about David, Absalom and Amnon. After her story, what did David do?
3. The woman told David he had wisdom. What do these verses say about wisdom?

Proverbs 1:7

James 3:17

Read 2 Samuel chapter 14, verses 22 - 33.

1. What rules did David tell Joab that Absalom had to follow?
2. Why did Absalom cut his hair?
3. Absalom must have thought his father was really mad at him because it had been two years since his return to Jerusalem. He tried to get Joab to set up a meeting with King David, but even Joab didn't want to see Absalom. How did Absalom finally get Joab's attention?

4. Seven years have passed since Amnon shamed Tamar. Absalom didn't forgive Amnon and then killed him. It would seem David didn't forgive Absalom. What does Colossians 3:13 say about forgiveness?
5. **PERSONAL:** It's not easy to forgive someone who has hurt you. Or maybe you have hurt someone and need to ask their forgiveness. No one is without fault. Put your name in the following scriptures and then do what Colossians 3:13 says.

Psalm 139:23-24 "Search _____, O God, and know _____'s heart. Test _____'s thoughts. Point out anything you find in _____ that makes you sad. Lead _____ along the path of everlasting life."

Colossians 3:13 "Be gentle and ready to forgive. Never hold grudges. Remember, the Lord forgave _____, so _____ must forgive others."

NOTE: Memorize 1 Corinthians 10:13, "But when you are tempted, he [God] will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it" (NIV), because it will be used at game time next week.

2 SAMUEL — WEEK 5

DISCUSSION LESSON 4

15 - 20 minutes Free time — games, fellowship

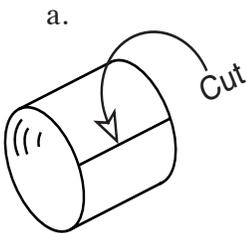
15 - 20 minutes Snack and group recreation: WEB OF YARN

Repeat from memory, 1 Corinthians 10:13, “But when you are tempted, he [God] will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it” (NIV). Sit in a circle. Holding the loose end of a ball of yarn, leader tosses the ball to another player while saying the first word of the memory verse. The second player pinches the yarn strand and tosses the ball of yarn to another player while saying the first two words of the verse. Play continues in this manner until the entire verse is said. If someone misses a word, they remain in the circle, and play continues. When the verse has been said, the last one with the ball of yarn tries to untangle the web.

15 - 20 minutes Discuss LESSON 4

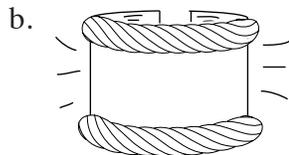
to end of class CRAFT: ARMLETS/BRACELETS

MATERIALS:

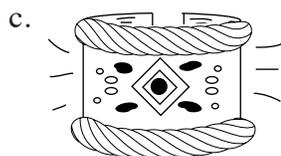


pencil
scissors
paper clips
acrylic stones, sequins, beads, etc.
toilet paper or paper towel tubes
metallic gold or silver acrylic spray paint
trim— rickrack, braid, cord, etc.

craft glue
newspapers
ruler



Cut tubes into 2” hoops— two per child. Cut an opening in each hoop (sketch a). Lay hoops on newspaper in outside area and spray paint. Cut trim into 5 1/2” lengths (or circumference of tube). Cover work area with newspapers. Squeeze a line of glue along edge of one hoop. Press a length of trim onto line of glue (sketch b). While drying, secure trim with paper clips. Repeat for trim on other edge. Decorate with stones, sequins, beads, another row of trim, etc. Allow to dry. Create another armlet or bracelet. (Older students may want to make this for a younger sibling.)



from *BIBLE TIMES Crafts for Kids*

2 SAMUEL – LESSON 4 ANSWERS

Read 2 Samuel chapter 13, verses 1 - 14.

1. In 2 Samuel 3:2-5 some of David's sons are listed. What are the names of his first and third sons? First born: Amnon. Third born: Absalom.
2. Amnon thought about his half sister Tamar in a lustful and sinful way, making himself sick. He had no way of talking to her because the unmarried princesses lived in strict seclusion. What did his cousin Jonadab tell Amnon to do? Verse 5: "Well,' Jonadab said, 'I'll tell you what to do. Go back to bed and **pretend you are sick**. Your father will come to see you. When he does, ask him to let Tamar come. Tell him you want her to make some food for you. Tell him you'll feel better if she feeds you."
3. Jonadab told Amnon to lie, and lying is sin. What does Proverbs 12:13 say about lying? "Lies will get anyone into trouble. But honesty is its own defense."

Read 2 Samuel chapter 13, verses 15 - 28.

1. What Amnon did to his half-sister Tamar was wrong and caused her shame. Once he was sick with love for her. But now he feels something else. What is it? Verse 15a: "Then suddenly his love turned to hate. Now **he hated her** more than he had loved her." [Tamar tried to stall for time by suggesting he ask the king for her hand in marriage. This was forbidden by law, Leviticus 18:11: "You may not sleep with a half-sister — your father's wife's daughter." If he would marry her, this would give her some respectability, Deuteronomy 22:28,29: "If a man happens to meet a virgin who is not pledged to be married and rapes her and they are discovered, he shall pay the girl's father fifty shekels of silver. He must marry the girl, for he has violated her. He can never divorce her as long as he lives." Tamar probably remained unmarried.]
2. What did Tamar do when she left Amnon? Verse 18,19: "So his servant put her out and bolted the door after her. She was wearing a richly ornamented robe, for this was the kind of garment the virgin daughters of the king wore. Tamar **put ashes on her head and tore the ornamented robe she was wearing**. She **put her hand on her head and went away, weeping** aloud as she went" (NIV). [Being extremely distraught, she put ashes on her head, signifying deep grief, as if someone had died, and tore her royal robes. These actions show how deeply troubled she was by the rape. In the KJV the words "garment of divers colours" appears regarding Tamar's robes. The construction of this garment was similar to that of Joseph's coat of many colors. This garment may have been various colors of cloth pieced together; or colored threads, stripes or plaids. Ashes on the head, tearing of clothes, as well as hands on the head, were signs of great mourning. In fact, the hands on the head seemed to signify God's hand of affliction had come on the person.]

3. How did these men react to the news about Tamar?

David— Verse 21: “When King David heard what had happened, he was very **angry**.” [Although he was angry, he did nothing to punish Amnon, his first born, and next in line to be king (1 Chronicles 3:1).]

Absalom— Verse 22: “Absalom never said a word to Amnon, either good or bad; **he hated Amnon** because he had disgraced his sister Tamar” (NIV).

4. **RISKY:** What took Absalom 2 years to plan against Amnon? Amnon’s death. [Although Absalom invited all his brothers, his request to David was to send Amnon in David’s place.]

5. What do these verses say about hate and revenge?

Leviticus 19:17-18 “Do not hate your brother. Rebuke anyone who sins. Do not let him get away with it, or you will be equally guilty. Do not seek vengeance. Do not bear a grudge. Love your neighbor as yourself. For I am the Lord.”

Romans 12:19,21 “Dear friends, if people are mean to you, don’t try to get even. Leave that to God. He has said that he will pay them back. Don’t let evil be the winner. Crush evil by doing good.”

Read 2 Samuel chapter 13, verses 29 - 38.

1. What happened in 2 Samuel 13:29? “**So they murdered Amnon**. Then the other sons of the king jumped on their mules and ran.” [The reference to mules signifies the men’s rank or class in society, their royalty.]

2. What was David told in 2 Samuel 13:30? “As they were on the way back to Jerusalem, a report reached David. ‘**Absalom has killed all of your sons,**’ the report said. ‘Not one is left alive.’”

3. What did Jonadab tell David in 2 Samuel 13:32? “**But just then Jonadab got there. He was the son of David’s brother Shimeah. He said, ‘No, not all have been killed. It was only Amnon! Absalom has been plotting this ever since Amnon slept with Tamar. No, no! Your sons aren’t all dead! It was only Amnon.’**” [Maybe Jonadab’s clarification of those dead was a result of a guilty conscience for giving Amnon inappropriate counsel previously.]

4. Absalom ran to Geshur. How long did he stay there? Verse 38: “Absalom stayed there for **three years**.” [King Talmi is Absalom’s grandfather, 2 Samuel 3:3. Absalom had to flee because his killing of Amnon was premeditated; he’d planned it for two years. Numbers 35:16-21 lists various types of murder. The one doing the killing is to be put to death by the avenger of blood, or kinsman-redeemer. With Amnon dead, Absalom is in line to inherit the throne. David may have wanted to keep him out of the public eye until the incident was forgotten.]

Read 2 Samuel chapter 14, verses 1 - 21.

1. Joab knew what the king wanted. What was it? Verse 1: “General Joab saw how much the king wanted to **see Absalom.**”
2. Joab got a woman to tell King David a make believe story about her sons. But it really was about David, Absalom and Amnon. After her story, what did David do? Verse 21: “So the king **sent for Joab.** He told him ‘All right, **go and bring back Absalom.**” [What Joab and the woman did may look like a lie, it was really a parable. She was telling David what he was doing wrong in his own life. Very much like the story told by Nathan regarding Bathsheba.]
3. The woman told David he had wisdom. What do these verses say about wisdom?

Proverbs 1:7 “How does a person become wise? The first step is to trust and respect the Lord! Only fools won’t let anyone teach them” (NIV).

James 3:17 “But the wisdom that comes from Heaven is pure. It is full of quiet gentleness. It allows debate and is willing to give in to others. It is full of mercy and good deeds. It is real and direct and heartfelt.”

Read 2 Samuel chapter 14, verses 22 - 33.

1. What rules did David tell Joab that Absalom had to follow? Verse 24: “‘He may **go to his own rooms,**’ the king ordered. ‘But he must **never come here. I refuse to see him.**”
2. Why did Absalom cut his hair? Verse 26: “He cut his hair only once a year. And he cut it then only **because it weighed three pounds.** It was too much of a load to carry around!”
3. Absalom must have thought his father was really mad at him because it had been two years since his return to Jerusalem. He tried to get Joab to set up a meeting with King David, but even Joab didn’t want to see Absalom. How did Absalom finally get Joab’s attention? Verse 30: “So Absalom spoke to his servants. ‘Go and **set fire to that barley field of Joab’s** next to mine,’ he said. So they did this.” [It’s possible Joab felt he too had better cut his ties with Absalom if the king didn’t want to see him.]
4. Seven years have passed since Amnon shamed Tamar. Absalom didn’t forgive Amnon and then killed him. It would seem David didn’t forgive Absalom. What does Colossians 3:13 say about forgiveness? “Be gentle and ready to forgive. Never hold grudges. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others.”

5. **PERSONAL:** It's not easy to forgive someone who has hurt you. Or maybe you have hurt someone and need to ask their forgiveness. No one is without fault. Put your name in the following scriptures and then do what Colossians 3:13 says.

Psalm 139:23-24 "Search [your name], O God, and know [your name]'s heart. Test [your name]'s thoughts. Point out anything you find in [your name] that makes you sad. Lead [your name] along the path of everlasting life."

Colossians 3:13 "Be gentle and ready to forgive. Never hold grudges. Remember, the Lord forgave [your name], so [your name] must forgive others."

2 SAMUEL — LESSON 5

Before you begin your lesson:

- a. Pray for God's Holy Spirit to help you answer the questions.
- b. Some questions may be too hard; it's ok to write "I don't know."
- c. Think about what God's Word is telling you for today.
- d. With some questions, it might be helpful to write the scripture verse on your paper.

Read 2 Samuel chapter 15, verses 1 - 9.

1. What did Absalom buy for himself?

2. Where did Absalom go and what did he do there?

3. **CHALLENGE:** What do you think Absalom was saying about himself in verse 4?

4. **PERSONAL:** It sounds as if Absalom thought he could do a better job of judging the people than David or his judges were doing. People get into trouble when they think they are better than someone else, or when they think they can do something better than anyone else. People can also get into trouble when they put themselves down. That is not what God wants for His creation. What does the King Solomon, Absalom's brother, say in Proverbs 3:7?

5. What happened because of Absalom's actions?

6. **CHALLENGE:** Absalom lived in Jerusalem. He wanted to go to Hebron to fulfill a promise to God. He made this promise while he was in exile in the territory of Geshur. Where are Jerusalem, Hebron, and Geshur on your map? (See Lesson 1 Handout, Page 2.) Do you think Absalom's reason for making this trip was honest? Did David doubt Absalom's honesty?

Read 2 Samuel chapter 15, verses 10 - 18.

1. Besides secretly judging David's people, what were the other two sneaky things Absalom did?
2. What did the messenger tell David?
3. What did King David say to this messenger?
4. The people who were loyal to David joined him as he left Jerusalem. Who and how many foreigners are listed in this group?

Read 2 Samuel chapter 15, verses 19 - 29.

1. Who is Ittai and what did David want him to do?
2. What did Ittai tell David?

3. Ittai is the kind of friend we should be and the kind to have. What do these verses say about friendships?

Proverbs 17:17

Proverbs 18:24

Proverbs 27:10

4. Zadok and Abiathar, the priests, and the Levites took the Ark and followed David. What did David tell Zadok to do?
5. **HARD:** How did David feel about what was happening to him? See verses 25b, 26 for your answer.

Read 2 Samuel chapter 15, verses 30 - 37.

1. Ahithophel was once David's advisor. Now Ahithophel was giving advice to Absalom. What did David ask God to do about Ahithophel's ideas?
2. David's friend Hushai heard about David and that made him sad. David didn't want Hushai to join the runaway group. What did David want him to do?
3. We have just read an exciting true story. It really happened. It wasn't made up, or make believe. What does 2 Timothy 3:16 say? This is a good verse to memorize.

2 SAMUEL — WEEK 6

DISCUSSION LESSON 5

15 - 20 minutes Free time — games, fellowship

15 - 20 minutes Snack and group recreation: OBSTACLE EGG ROLL RELAY

You'll need one hard cooked egg per team. Divide into teams. Set up an obstacle course for each team. Use the obstacles from last week's game, or other obstacles. Place an egg in front of the first player of each team. At the signal, the first player assumes a crawling position. Player rolls the egg around the obstacles using only the tips of the fingers of one hand. When player reaches goal line, he picks up the egg and races back to his team, gives the egg to the next player in line, runs to the end of the line and sits down. Play continues until a team is in their original positions sitting down.

15 - 20 minutes Discuss LESSON 5

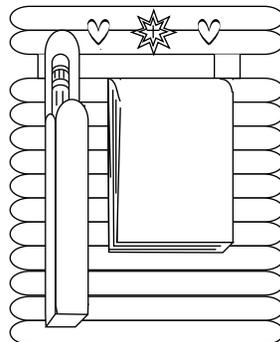
to end of class CRAFT: CRAFT STICK NOTE PAD & PEN HOLDER

MATERIALS:

24 craft sticks	spray varnish
small notepad (optional)	stickers (optional)
acrylic paint/brush	felt tip pens (optional)
Extra Thick Tacky Craft Glue	
2 jumbo craft sticks—cut beforehand	
sawtooth hanger, wire twisters, or pop can tab	

Instructions on the next page.

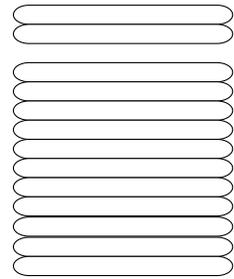
SUGGESTION: Copy the illustration on the next page as a guideline for each child.



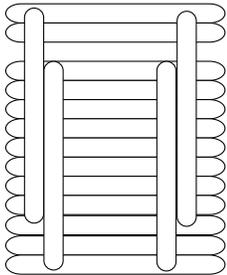
CRAFT STICK NOTE PAD & PEN HOLDER

See illustration “a”:

- Lay 13 craft sticks flat, with long sides touching (bottom of pad).
- Leave a space of $\frac{1}{2}$ ” and lay 3 more next to each other (top of pad). (This space is needed for the notepad cardboard to slide through.)



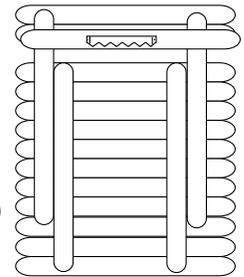
a.



b.

See illustration “b”:

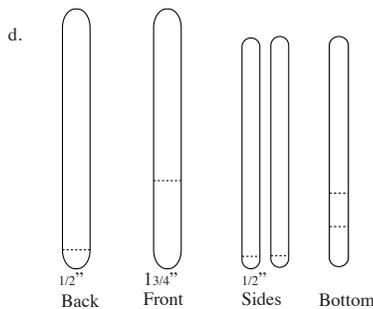
- Lay 2 sticks about $\frac{1}{2}$ ” from each side, over bottom section; make sure notepad will fit between these sticks.
- Glue 2 more sticks over top section overlapping the bottom section.



c.

See illustration “c”:

- About $\frac{1}{2}$ ” from top, glue a cross stick.
- Glue the sawtooth hanger on this cross stick. (Hold the sticks in place until secure.)

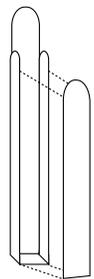


See illustration “d”:

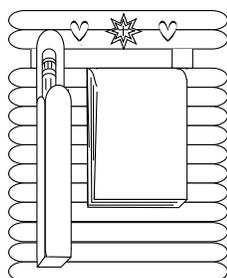
- Use the jumbo sticks for the pen holder. Trim $\frac{1}{2}$ ” off one end of one jumbo stick, and $1\frac{3}{4}$ ” off one end of the other. The shorter stick will be the front of the pen holder.
- Cut $\frac{1}{2}$ ” off one end of two craft sticks, and a $\frac{3}{4}$ ” piece of the last craft stick. These are the sides and bottom of holder.

See illustration “e”:

- Glue the edges of the craft sticks, flat short side pointing down, to the flat sides of the larger jumbo craft stick .
- Glue the $\frac{3}{4}$ ” length at base between the two craft stick sides.
- Glue the shorter jumbo craft stick in front of the two craft sticks. You’ll be creating a tall, thin box.



e.



f.

See illustration “f”:

- When the pen holder is dry, glue to notepad base.
- Decorate as desired. (Paint, felt pens, stickers.)
- Slide notepad cardboard backing through holder opening.

2 SAMUEL – LESSON 5 ANSWERS

Read 2 Samuel chapter 15, verses 1 - 9.

1. What did Absalom buy for himself? Verse 1: “Absalom then bought a great chariot and chariot horses. He hired 50 footmen to run ahead of him.” [These are customs that Absalom could have picked up while he was living with his mother’s family in Geshur. A runner was also known as a footman. He was a member of the infantry as well as a king’s bodyguard.]
2. Where did Absalom go and what did he do there? Verse 2: “He got up early every morning and went out to the gate of the city. Often people would come to bring cases to the king for trial. Absalom called them over and showed an interest in their problems.” [The city gate was where business deals were transacted, the bazaar or open air market was operated, and government decisions were made.]
3. **CHALLENGE:** What do you think Absalom was saying about himself in verse 4? Absalom wanted to be judge so he could rule over people. “I surely wish I were the judge. Then anyone with a problem could come to me. I would give him justice!” [The implication is that King David was too busy to deal with the problems of these men, and his judges were unable to handle anyone’s problems as well as Absalom could.]
4. **PERSONAL:** It sounds as if Absalom thought he could do a better job of judging the people than David or his judges were doing. People get into trouble when they think they are better than someone else, or when they think they can do something better than anyone else. People can also get into trouble when they put themselves down. That is not what God wants for His creation. What does the King Solomon, Absalom’s brother, say in Proverbs 3:7? “Don’t be proud and sure of your own wisdom.”
5. What happened because of Absalom’s actions? Verse 6: “So in this way Absalom stole the hearts of all the people of Israel.”
6. **CHALLENGE:** Absalom lived in Jerusalem. He wanted to go to Hebron to fulfill a promise to God. He made this promise while he was in exile in the territory of Geshur. Where are Jerusalem, Hebron, and Geshur on your map? (See Lesson 1 Handout, Page 2.) Do you think Absalom’s reason for making this trip was honest? Did David doubt Absalom’s honesty? Hebron is south of Jerusalem, while Geshur is north. This was probably not an honest reason for the trip. David did not question Absalom’s motives. [Hebron is an important place in the life of David. Six of David’s sons, including Absalom, were born there, and David ruled from Hebron for 7 years.]

Read 2 Samuel chapter 15, verses 10 - 18.

1. Besides secretly judging David's people, what were the other two sneaky things Absalom did? Verse 10: "But while he was there, he sent spies to every part of Israel. He did this to turn them against the king. 'You will soon hear trumpets,' his message read. 'When you do, you will know that Absalom has been crowned in Hebron.'"
2. What did the messenger tell David? Verse 13: "A messenger soon came to Jerusalem to tell King David. 'All Israel has joined Absalom,' he said. 'They have rebelled against you!'"
3. What did King David say to this messenger? Verse 14: "'Then we must run at once!' David said right away. 'If we don't, it will be too late! We must get out of the city before he gets here. If we do, both we and the city of Jerusalem will be saved.'" [David knew what Absalom's anger could do; after all, Absalom had killed his brother. David also didn't want to see the city, Jerusalem, engaged in war. Later, in 2 Samuel 15:30, we will learn that David looked upon this as punishment from the Lord.]
4. The people who were loyal to David joined him as he left Jerusalem. Who and how many foreigners are listed in this group? Verse 18: "All his men marched past him along with the Kerethites and Pelethites; and all the six hundred Gittites who had accompanied him from Gath marched before the king" (NIV).

Read 2 Samuel chapter 15, verses 19 - 29.

1. Who is Ittai and what did David want him to do? Verse 19: "But suddenly the king turned to Ittai. He was the captain of the 600 Gittites. David said to him, 'What are you doing here? Go on back with your men to Jerusalem, to your king. For you are a guest in Israel, a foreigner in exile.'" ["David had many loyal non-Israelites in his armed forces. The Gittites, from the Philistine city of Gath, were apparently friends David had acquired while hiding from Saul. The Kerethites and Pelethites were also from Philistine territory. Although Israel was supposed to destroy wicked enemies, the nation was to welcome foreigners who came on friendly terms (Exodus 23:9; Deuteronomy 10:19) and to try to show them the importance of obeying God" (LAB, NIV, notes).]
2. What did Ittai tell David? Verse 21: "But Ittai replied, 'I make this promise by the name of God and by your own life! Wherever you go, I will go. I will stay with you no matter what happens. I will stay with you if it means life or death.'"
3. Ittai is the kind of friend we should be and the kind to have. What do these verses say about friendships?

Proverbs 17:17 "A true friend is always loyal. And a brother is born to help in time of need."

Proverbs 18:24 “Some people only pretend to be friends. But a true friend sticks closer than a brother.”

Proverbs 27:10 “Never leave a friend, either yours or your father’s. Then you won’t need to go to a distant relative for help in your time of need.”

4. Zadok and Abiathar, the priests, and the Levites took the Ark and followed David. What did David tell Zadok to do? Verse 25a: “Then, following David’s orders, Zadok **took the Ark back into the city.**”
5. **HARD:** How did David feel about what was happening to him? See verses 25b, 26 for your answer. “‘If the Lord is pleased with me,’ David said, ‘he will bring me back. He will let me see the Ark and the Tabernacle once again. But maybe he is finished with me. If so, let him do what seems best to him.’” [David knew if the Lord wanted him to return to Jerusalem, he would. There was no need to keep the Ark from those remaining in Jerusalem.]

Read 2 Samuel chapter 15, verses 30 - 37.

1. Ahithophel was once David’s advisor. Now Ahithophel was giving advice to Absalom. What did David ask God to do about Ahithophel’s ideas? Verse 31b: “Someone told David that Ahithophel, his advisor, was helping Absalom. When David heard this, he prayed to the Lord. He said, ‘O Lord, please **make Ahithophel give Absalom bad advice!**’”
2. David’s friend Hushai heard about David and that made him sad. David didn’t want Hushai to join the runaway group. What did David want him to do? Verses 34-36. “Tell Absalom, ‘I will counsel you as I did your father.’ Then you can make Ahithophel’s advice seem useless. Zadok and Abiathar, the priests, are there. Tell them the plans that are being made to capture me. They will send their sons Ahimaaz and Jonathan to find me. **They will tell me what is going on.**”
3. We have just read an exciting true story. It really happened. It wasn’t made up, or make believe. What does 2 Timothy 3:16 say? This is a good verse to memorize. “The whole Bible was given to us by inspiration from God. It is useful to teach us what is true. It helps us to know what is wrong in our lives. It straightens us out and helps us do what is right.”

2 SAMUEL — LESSON 6

Before you begin your lesson:

- a. Pray for God's Holy Spirit to help you answer the questions.
- b. Some questions may be too hard; it's ok to write "I don't know."
- c. Think about what God's Word is telling you for today.
- d. With some questions, it might be helpful to write the scripture verse on your paper.

Read 2 Samuel chapter 16, verses 1 - 12.

In 2 Samuel 9:1-13, we read about Ziba. He was Saul's servant. David had asked him if any of Saul's family lived. David gave Ziba the right to farm Mephibosheth's land for him. Now Ziba returns. He met David with provisions as a way of saying thank you for David's kindness to him.

1. Why did Mephibosheth stay in Jerusalem?

2. When Mephibosheth first came to see David, he was afraid of David. What did David give Mephibosheth as recorded in 2 Samuel 9:9,13?

3. David had been kind to Mephibosheth, and was surprised that Mephibosheth wanted to be king. So, without checking Ziba's story, David believed Ziba. What did David say to Ziba?

4. **PERSONAL:** Has someone ever told you something about a friend and you believed their story without checking it out? That's called gossip. The dictionary says "gossip" means "Idle talk, often unfriendly, about people and their affairs" (HOLT). What does Proverbs 16:28 say about gossip?

5. **CHALLENGE:** Look at David's Family Tree (Lesson 1 Handout, Page 1) and read 1 Samuel 26:6-8. What do you learn about Abishai?

6. Shimei was calling David names and throwing stones at him and his troops. What did Abishai want to do?

7. Abishai was always quick to use his sword. What does James 1:19 say we should be quick to do?

8. **HARD:** David told Abishai not to worry about someone cursing him when his own son was out to kill him. David was trusting God to work everything out. What does 1 Corinthians 4:5 say about the things people do? This is a warning and a promise.

Read 2 Samuel chapter 16, verses 13 - 23.

1. While David and his men were marching to their destination, Hushai met with Absalom. How did Hushai answer when Absalom questioned his loyalty?

2. What Ahithophel told Absalom to do in verse 21 was not only sin in God's eyes, but wrong in the eyes of the people. The wife or concubine of a king belonged only to him. He didn't have to share with anyone else. She was his personal property. If another man stole her from the king, this was not only an insult, but a threat to the king's power. And that's what Absalom did, and it was sin. But God had told David this would happen. What does God say in 2 Samuel 12:11,12?

3. What do you learn about Ahithophel's advice?

Read 2 Samuel chapter 17, verses 1 - 19.

1. Absalom was given two different kinds of advice. What do these verses say is the best kind of advice?

Proverbs 3:5-7

James 1:5

2. Whose advice did Absalom take?
3. The messengers Hushai sent to David almost didn't make it. How were they protected?

Read 2 Samuel chapter 17, verses 20 - 29.

1. Ahithophel killed himself because his advice wasn't taken. It is sin for us to kill ourselves or others. What do these verses say about the life God gives?

Job 14:5

Psalm 31:15

Psalm 139:16

2. Who is in charge of Absalom's army?
3. **PERSONAL:** Which verse have you chosen to memorize? If you can't think of one, why not use Psalm 139:16: "You saw me before I was born. You planned each day of my life before I began to breathe. Every day was recorded in your book!"

2 SAMUEL — WEEK 7

DISCUSSION LESSON 6

15 - 20 minutes Free time — games, fellowship

15 - 20 minutes Snack and group recreation: QUICK OBSERVATION

Choose three players, about the same size, to be actors. The actors leave the room. In another room one actor exchanges an article of clothing with another, adds or removes something, combs hair differently, etc. (This should be supervised.) Items to be exchanged could be a belt, a shoe, a sock, a hat, an outer shirt or sweater, etc. In single file they reenter the main room, and parade in front of other players once and return to their dressing room. The first observation player to raise his hand makes a guess at to what has changed. If he guesses right, he gets a point. If not, someone else gives it a try. In the meantime, the actors are altering their appearance again. Or not. And play continues until time is called or goal has been reached. Changing places gives others a chance.

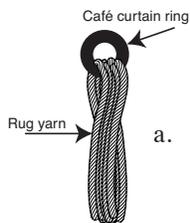
15 - 20 minutes Discuss LESSON 6

to end of class CRAFT: SPICE ROPES

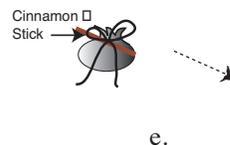
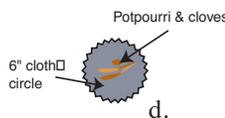
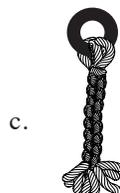
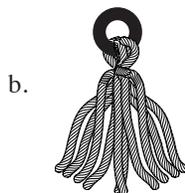
MATERIALS:

whole cloves, potpourri
3- circles of cloth, 6"-7"
café curtain ring, or wooden hoop
3 cinnamon sticks (optional)

3 - 6" pieces ribbon
6 - 36" strands rug yarn
2 - 6" pieces rug yarn
3 safety pins



Cut cloth at home with pinking shears. Pull yarn strands through the café curtain hoop to the middle of the yarn; fold over (see figure a.) Tie off the ring at the top with a piece of yarn, leaving tails (see figure b.) Have the students take turns holding each other's hoop while the strands of yarn are divided into thirds of 4 strands each and braided. Secure end with another piece of yarn (see figure c.) To make sachets: Fill cloth circles with spice (figure d.); tie with a piece of ribbon, add a cinnamon stick (optional) and attach to rope with safety pin (figure e.)



2 SAMUEL – LESSON 6 ANSWERS

Read 2 Samuel chapter 16, verses 1 - 12.

In 2 Samuel 9:1-13, we read about Ziba. He was Saul's servant. David had asked him if any of Saul's family lived. David gave Ziba the right to farm Mephibosheth's land for him. Now Ziba returns. He met David with provisions as a way of saying thank you for David's kindness to him.

1. Why did Mephibosheth stay in Jerusalem? Verse 3b: “He stayed at Jerusalem,’ Ziba replied. ‘He said, “ Now I’ll get to be king! Today I will get back the kingdom of my father, Saul.””
2. When Mephibosheth first came to see David, he was afraid of David. What did David give Mephibosheth as recorded in 2 Samuel 9:9,13? “Then the king called Saul’s servant Ziba. ‘I have taken **all that belonged to Saul** and his family,’ he said. ‘I have given it to your master’s grandson.’ But Mephibosheth moved to Jerusalem to live at the palace. He was lame in both feet.”
3. David had been kind to Mephibosheth, and was surprised that Mephibosheth wanted to be king. So, without checking Ziba's story, David believed Ziba. What did David say to Ziba? Verse 4a: “In that case,’ the king told Ziba, ‘**I give you all he owns.**” [David rescinds this order in 2 Samuel 19:29.]
4. **PERSONAL:** Has someone ever told you something about a friend and you believed their story without checking it out? That's called gossip. The dictionary says “gossip” means “Idle talk, often unfriendly, about people and their affairs” (HOLT). What does Proverbs 16:28 say about gossip? “An evil person plants trouble. Gossip pulls the best of friends apart.”
5. **CHALLENGE:** Look at David's Family Tree (Lesson 1 Handout, Page 1) and read 1 Samuel 26:6-8. What do you learn about Abishai? **FAMILY TREE: David's nephew, son of David's sister Zeruah; Joab's brother.** 1 Samuel 26:6-8: “Any volunteers to go down there with me?” David asked Ahimelech and Abishai. Ahimelech was a Hittite and Abishai was Joab's brother and the son of Zeruah. ‘I’ll go with you,’ Abishai replied. So David and Abishai went to Saul's camp and found him asleep. His spear was in the ground beside his head. ‘God has put your enemy within your power this time for sure,’ **Abishai whispered** to David. ‘**Let me go and put that spear through him.** I’ll pin him to the earth with it. I’ll not need to strike a second time!’”
6. Shimei was calling David names and throwing stones at him and his troops. What did Abishai want to do? Verse 9: “Why should this dead dog curse my lord the king?’ Abishai demanded. ‘Let me go over and cut off his head!’” [Shimei was blaming David for Saul's death, and claiming God was avenging Saul by dividing David's family.]

7. Abishai was always quick to use his sword. What does James 1:19 say we should be quick to do? “My dear brothers, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to **listen**, slow to speak and slow to become angry” (NIV).
8. **HARD:** David told Abishai not to worry about someone cursing him when his own son was out to kill him. David was trusting God to work everything out. What does 1 Corinthians 4:5 say about the things people do? This is a warning, and a promise. “Be careful **not to jump to conclusions** before the Lord returns. You should not decide if someone is a good servant or not. When the Lord comes he will turn on the lights. Everyone will see what each one of us is like deep in our hearts. And everyone will know why we have been doing the Lord’s work. Then God will give to each one whatever praise is coming to him.”

Read 2 Samuel chapter 16, verses 13 - 23.

1. While David and his men were marching to their destination, Hushai met with Absalom. How did Hushai answer when Absalom questioned his loyalty? Verses 18,19: “‘Because I work for the man who is chosen by the Lord and by Israel,’ Hushai replied. ‘And anyway, why shouldn’t I? I helped your father and now **I will help you!**’”
2. What Ahithophel told Absalom to do in verse 21 was not only sin in God’s eyes, but wrong in the eyes of the people. The wife or concubine of a king belonged only to him. He didn’t have to share with anyone else. She was his personal property. If another man stole her from the king, this was not only an insult, but a threat to the king’s power. And that’s what Absalom did, and it was sin. But God had told David this would happen. What does God say in 2 Samuel 12:11,12? “I promise that because of this, **your own family will rebel against you**. I will give your wives to another man. And he will go to bed with them in public view. You did it in secret. But I will do this to you openly. It will be done in the sight of all Israel.”
3. What do you learn about Ahithophel’s advice? Verse 23: “Absalom did whatever Ahithophel told him to, just as David had. For **every word Ahithophel spoke seemed wise**. His advice seemed **as though it had come right from the mouth of God.**”

Read 2 Samuel chapter 17, verses 1 - 19.

1. Absalom was given two different kinds of advice. What do these verses say is the best kind of advice?

Proverbs 3:5-7 “If so, then trust the Lord with all your heart. Don’t ever trust yourself. In all you do, put God first. He will direct you and crown your efforts with success. Don’t be proud and sure of your own wisdom. Instead, trust and respect the Lord. Always turn your back on evil.”

James 1:5 “If you want to know what God wants you to do, ask him. He will gladly tell you. He is ready to give wisdom to all who ask him. He will not scold you.”

2. Whose advice did Absalom take? Verse 14: “Then Absalom and all the men of Israel agreed. ‘Hushai’s advice is better than Ahithophel’s,’ they said. The Lord had arranged to defeat the plan of Ahithophel. This was because Ahithophel had really given the better plan. The Lord did this to bring disaster on Absalom!”
3. The messengers Hushai sent to David almost didn’t make it. How were they protected? Verses 18,19: “But a boy saw them leaving En-rogel to go to David. And he told Absalom about it. They escaped to Bahurim where a man hid them inside a well in his back yard. The man’s wife put a cloth over the top of the well. She put grain on it to dry in the sun. That way no one thought they were there.”

Read 2 Samuel chapter 17, verses 20 - 29.

1. Ahithophel killed himself because his advice wasn’t taken. It is sin for us to kill ourselves or others. What do these verses say about the life God gives?

Job 14:5 “You have given mankind such a short life. Months are all you give him! Not one bit longer may he live.”

Psalm 31:15 “My times are in your hands. Rescue me from those who hunt me down.”

Psalm 139:16 “You saw me before I was born. You planned each day of my life before I began to breathe. Every day was recorded in your book!”

2. Who is in charge of Absalom’s army? Verse 25: “Absalom had chosen Amasa as general of the army. He was to take Joab’s place. Amasa was Joab’s second cousin. His father was Ithra, an Ishmaelite. His mother was Abigail, the daughter of Nahash. She was the sister of Joab’s mother, Zeruah.”
3. **PERSONAL:** Which verse have you chosen to memorize? If you can’t think of one, why not use Psalm 139:16: “You saw me before I was born. You planned each day of my life before I began to breathe. Every day was recorded in your book!”

2 SAMUEL — LESSON 7

Before you begin your lesson:

- a. Pray for God's Holy Spirit to help you answer the questions.
- b. Some questions may be too hard; it's ok to write "I don't know."
- c. Think about what God's Word is telling you for today.
- d. With some questions, it might be helpful to write the scripture verse on your paper.

Read 2 Samuel chapter 18, verses 1 - 18.

Remember, as we begin this chapter, David is in the city of Mahanaim. He is not in his palace. In ancient times, cities had walls built around them to protect the people from their enemies, like the forts you might see in cowboy movies.

1. In David's time, kings led their troops into battle. Why did David stay behind in Mahanaim?

2. What happened to Absalom because he needed a haircut?

3. All the troops knew David's command to be kind to Absalom. Absalom didn't die when he hung from a tree. He died when Joab killed him. Joab didn't obey David's authority. What does 1 Peter 2:13 say about obeying authority, and those who have the right to make and enforce the rules?

4. We remember certain people by building some kind of monument, like a statue. But Absalom built his own monument. This could be called boasting. In the Bible boasting is called pride. What do these verses say about pride?

Psalm 10:4

Psalm 62:10

Proverbs 11:2

Read 2 Samuel chapter 18, verses 19-33, and chapter 19, verses 1-4.

1. Ahimaaz was one of the men in 2 Samuel 17:17-19 who brought Absalom's battle plan to David. What did Ahimaaz want to do now?
2. David thought the runners were bringing good news. What did David do when the Cushite told him Absalom was dead?
3. It's okay to cry, even for boys, when hurt. If someone we know dies, it's good to cry because we will miss him. What are God's promises about tears in heaven in Revelation 21:4?
4. **RISKY:** What did the troops do when they heard how David responded to the news of Absalom's death?

Read 2 Samuel chapter 19, verses 5 - 23.

1. What did Joab tell David to do at the beginning of verse 7?
2. Absalom had chosen Amasa as general over his army instead of Joab (2 Samuel 17:25). Amasa and Joab were cousins. Amasa's mother was Abigail, and Joab's mother was Zeruihah, sisters of David. In the letter David sent to the priests (2 Samuel 19:11,12), what did he promise Amasa in 2 Samuel 19:13?
3. **CHALLENGE:** What had Shimei done to David that he needed to ask David's forgiveness? See 2 Samuel 16:6-8 for your answer.

4. In 1 Samuel 26:6-8 we read Abishai wanted to kill King Saul for David. In 2 Samuel 16:9 he wanted to kill Shimei. He still wants to kill Shimei. How does David answer Abishai and Shimei?

Read 2 Samuel chapter 19, verses 24 - 43.

1. What did Mephibosheth look like, and what question did David ask him?
2. **CHALLENGE:** Mephibosheth said in verse 26 that Ziba betrayed him. What do you think he meant? See 2 Samuel 16:3 to help with your answer.
3. Mephibosheth was happy with the kindness David had shown him. But David wanted to do more. In 2 Samuel 16:4 David had given Ziba everything that belonged to Mephibosheth. Now David wants to correct this wrong by dividing the fields between Mephibosheth and Ziba. What does Mephibosheth say about David's offer?
4. We met Barzillai in 2 Samuel 17:27 when David fled to the city of Mahanaim. Barzillai had brought provisions to David and the people. How does David want to thank him?
5. How did Barzillai answer David in verses 34-37? Tell it in your own words.
6. In verses 41-43 an argument is starting between the relatives. It's like when you and a brother, sister, cousin, or friend disagree about something and you start saying unkind things to each other. Each of you think you are right in what you are saying. What does the apostle Paul tell Timothy in 2 Timothy 2:14,23,24 is the best way to deal with different ideas?

2 SAMUEL — WEEK 8

DISCUSSION LESSON 7

15 - 20 minutes Free time — games, fellowship

Note: you may wish to start craft early, as paint will need to dry on styrofoam cups, prior to other steps.

15 - 20 minutes Snack and group recreation: SHEP SHEPHERDS SIMPLE SHEEP

Sit in a circle. One person is chosen to be Shep. Shep sits in the center of the circle, and pretending to be a dog, trots over to a player in the circle and begins acting like a dog, barking, howling, licking (don't let it get too out of hand), etc. The player must stroke Shep's head and say, "Shep shepherds simple sheep" three times. And it must be done without smiling or laughing. Shep, on the other hand, is doing his best to make the player smile. If the person who is petting smiles, he must change places with Shep. Someone needs to act as judge to be sure the rules are followed.

15 - 20 minutes Discuss LESSON 7

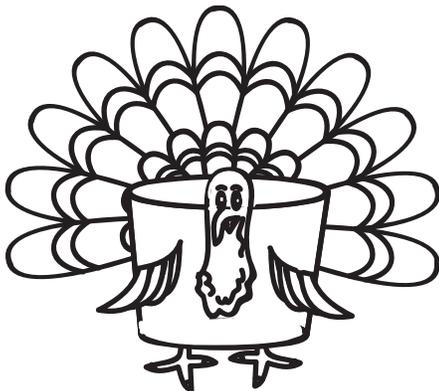
to end of class CRAFT: TURKEY THANKSGIVING DECORATION

MATERIALS:

white styrofoam cup
crayons/markers
brown/yellow paints
scissors

turkey picture (next page)
glue
brushes

Prior to class: Copy one turkey on white paper for each student.



In Class: Dip paint brush into brown paint, then wipe off as much as you can without removing all the paint. Dab the cup gently with brush, dotting it with color. Repeat with yellow.

Color the turkey feathers; cut out.

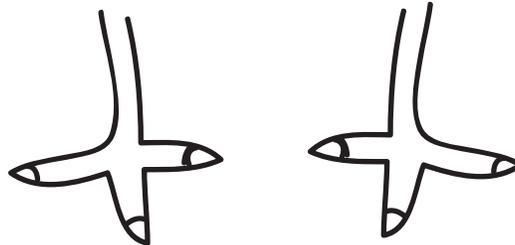
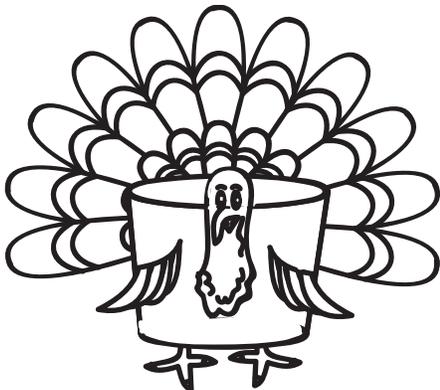
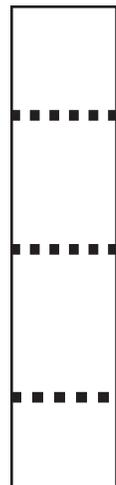
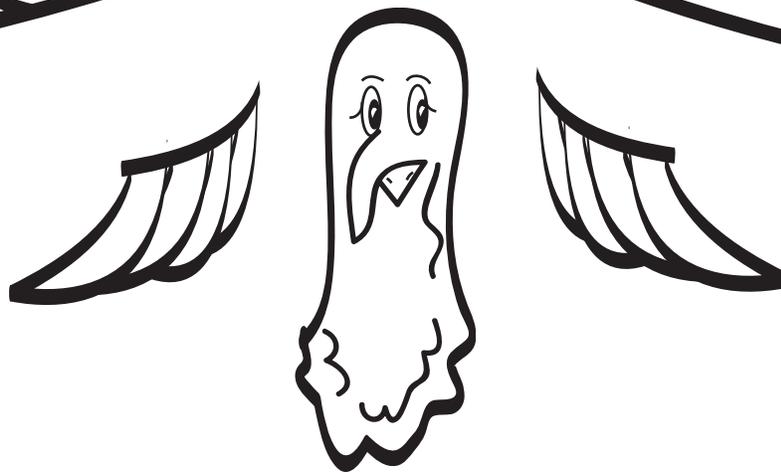
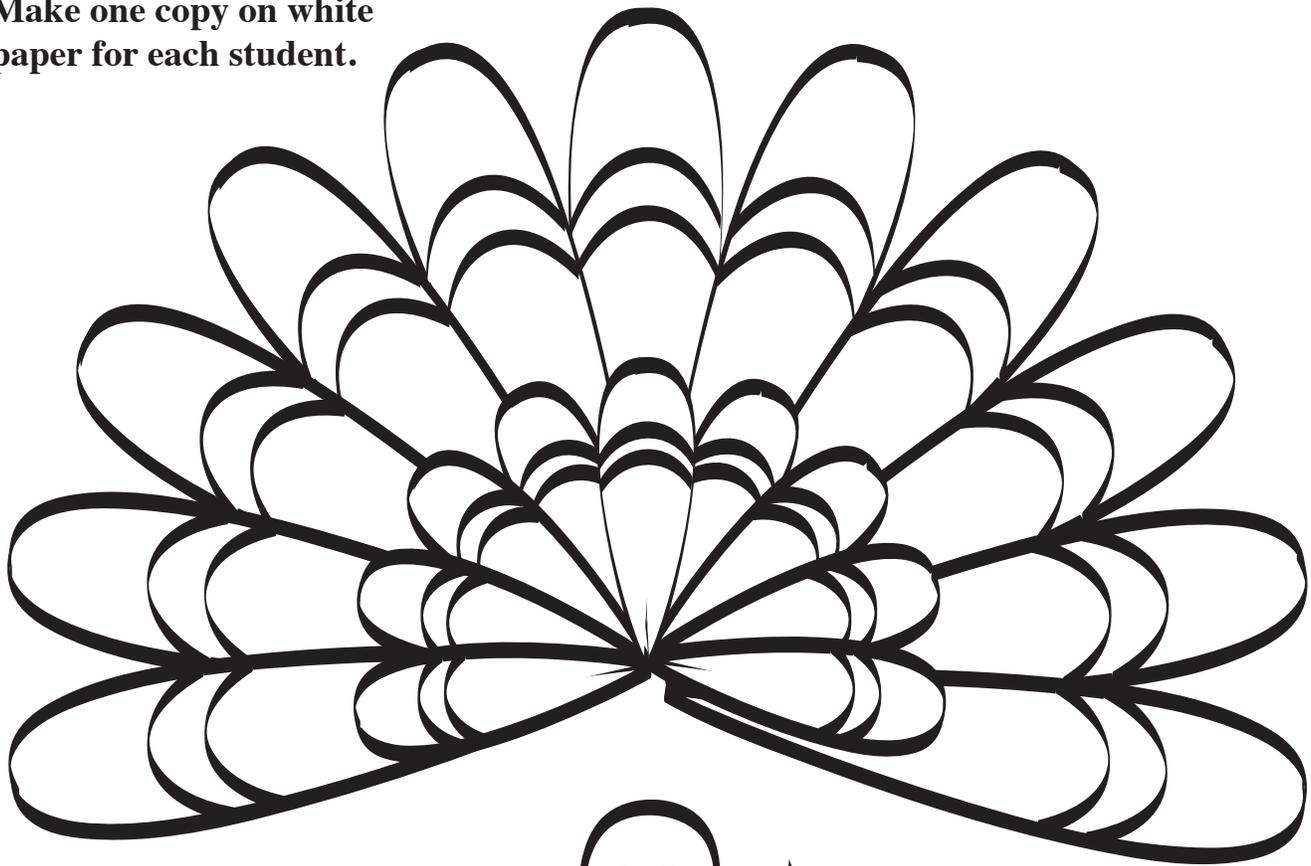
Glue the feathers, wings, and feet to the dry painted cup.

Accordion pleat the small strip of paper.

Glue head to one end of strip, then glue the other end to cup so that head protrudes slightly.

Fill 3/4 full with paper, or other stuffing; at last minute add candy corn, mints, nuts, etc.

Make one copy on white paper for each student.



Finished decoration.

2 SAMUEL – LESSON 7 ANSWERS

Read 2 Samuel chapter 18, verses 1 - 18.

Remember, as we begin this chapter, David is in the city of Mahanaim. He is not in his palace. In ancient times, cities had walls built around them to protect the people from their enemies, like the forts you might see in cowboy movies.

1. In David's time, kings led their troops into battle. Why did David stay behind in Mahanaim? **David's men urged him to remain behind to be safe.** Verse 3: “‘You must not do it!’ they said. ‘We might have to turn and run. Half of us might even die! But that will mean little to them. They will be looking only for you. You are worth 10,000 of us! It is better that you stay here in the city. From here, you can send us help if we need it.’”
2. What happened to Absalom because he needed a haircut? Verse 9: “During the battle Absalom came upon some of David's men. So he ran away on his mule. The mule went under the thick branches of a great oak tree. There **Absalom's hair got caught in the branches.** His mule went on, leaving him hanging in the air.” [In verse 8, Absalom's men fled into the forest where they died due to the elements of the unfriendly terrain. The Israelites probably didn't use horses in obedience to Deuteronomy 17:16, “Be sure that he doesn't build up a large stable of horses for himself. He must never send his men to Egypt to raise horses for him there. For the Lord has told you, ‘Never go back to Egypt again.’” In Israel, mules were considered the royal mounts. Solomon, however, changed that conception.]
3. All the troops knew David's command to be kind to Absalom. Absalom didn't die when he hung from a tree. He died when Joab killed him. Joab didn't obey David's authority. What does 1 Peter 2:13 say about obeying authority, and those who have the right to make and enforce the rules? “For the Lord's sake **obey every law of your government.** Obey the laws of the king as head of the state.”
4. We remember certain people by building some kind of monument, like a statue. But Absalom built his own monument. This could be called boasting. In the Bible boasting is called pride. What do these verses say about pride?

Psalm 10:4 “These **wicked men are very proud.** They seem to think that God is dead. They wouldn't think of looking for him!”

Psalm 62:10 “**Don't become rich, by cheating and stealing. If you become rich, don't be proud.**”

Proverbs 11:2 “**Proud people end in shame. But the humble become wise.**”

Read 2 Samuel chapter 18, verses 19-33, and chapter 19, verses 1-4.

1. Ahimaaz was one of the men in 2 Samuel 17:17-19 who brought Absalom's battle plan to David. What did Ahimaaz want to do now? Verse 19: "Then Zadok's son Ahimaaz said, 'Let me **run to King David**. I will bring him the good news. I will tell him that the Lord has saved him from his enemy Absalom.'" [Commentators disagree over why Ahimaaz was not sent. Some say it is because he didn't have all the facts. Others believe it is because the bearer of bad news was usually killed, as seen in 2 Samuel 1:1-15 when David heard the news of Saul's death. In either case, Ahimaaz was at first denied the right to tell David the news.]
2. David thought the runners were bringing good news. What did David do when the Cushite told him Absalom was dead? Verse 33: "Then the king **broke into tears**. He went up to his room over the gate. He cried as he went, 'O my son Absalom, my son, my son Absalom. If only I could have died for you! O Absalom, my son, my son.'"
3. It's okay to cry, even for boys, when hurt. If someone we know dies, it's good to cry because we will miss him. What are God's promises about tears in heaven in Revelation 21:4? "He will wipe away all tears from their eyes. There shall be no more death, sorrow, crying or pain. All of that has gone forever."
4. **RISKY:** What did the troops do when they heard how David responded to the news of Absalom's death? Verse 19:3 "The whole army **crept back into the city**. They walked **as though they were ashamed**. They acted like they had been beaten in battle." [This day should have been treated with great joy. David's men had just put down a rebellion. Because David displayed his grief instead of congratulating the troops, they thought their victory was in vain.]

Read 2 Samuel chapter 19, verses 5 - 23.

1. What did Joab tell David to do at the beginning of verse 7? "Now go out there and **praise the troops**."
2. Absalom had chosen Amasa as general over his army instead of Joab (2 Samuel 17:25). Amasa and Joab were cousins. Amasa's mother was Abigail, and Joab's mother was Zeruihah, sisters of David. In the letter David sent to the priests (2 Samuel 19:11,12), what did he promise Amasa in 2 Samuel 19:13? "And he told them to tell Amasa, 'You are my nephew. And may God strike me dead if I do not appoint you. **You will be the commander of my army in place of Joab**.'" [Amasa had led the tribe of Judah. It is possible David promoted him in order to win the hearts of the tribe of Judah, and to avoid a division between the tribes. Although it isn't mentioned, David may have suspected Joab killed Absalom, disobeying a direct order, and Joab's demotion showed David's displeasure with him.]

3. **CHALLENGE:** What had Shimei done to David that he needed to ask David's forgiveness? See 2 Samuel 16:6-8 for your answer. "David and his party came to Bahurim. As they drew near, a man came out of the village **cursing them**. His name was Shimei, the son of Gera. He was a member of Saul's family. He threw stones at the king and his officers. But all the mighty warriors gathered around David. 'Get out of here, you murderer, you scoundrel!' he shouted at David. 'The Lord is paying you back for murdering King Saul and his family. You stole his throne! Now the Lord has given it to your son Absalom! At last you will taste some of your own medicine, you murderer!'"
4. In 1 Samuel 26:6-8 we read Abishai wanted to kill King Saul for David. In 2 Samuel 16:9 he wanted to kill Shimei. He still wants to kill Shimei. How does David answer Abishai and Shimei? Verses 22,23: "David replied, 'What do you and I have in common, you sons of Zeruiah? **This day you have become my adversaries!** Should anyone be put to death in Israel today? Do I not know that today I am king over Israel?' So the king said to Shimei, 'You shall not die.' And the king promised him on oath" (NIV). [Remember, Joab had killed Absalom, and now his brother Abishai wants to kill Shimei. David sounds a little tired of all the killing.]

Read 2 Samuel chapter 19, verses 24 - 43.

1. What did Mephibosheth look like, and what question did David ask him? Verses 24,25: "Now Mephibosheth came from Jerusalem to meet the king. He was Saul's grandson. **He had not washed his feet or clothes** for a long time. And he had **not trimmed his beard** since the day the king left Jerusalem. 'Why didn't you come with me, Mephibosheth?' the king asked him." [Mephibosheth's appearance was an indication he had been praying and fasting for David. It demonstrated his loyalty to the king, and how sad he was over recent events.]
2. **CHALLENGE:** Mephibosheth said in verse 26 that Ziba betrayed him. What do you think he meant? See 2 Samuel 16:3 to help with your answer. "**'And where is Mephibosheth?'** the king asked him. 'He stayed at Jerusalem,' Ziba replied. '[Mephibosheth] said, **'Now I'll get to be king!** Today I will get back the kingdom of my father, Saul!'"
3. Mephibosheth was happy with the kindness David had shown him. But David wanted to do more. In 2 Samuel 16:4 David had given Ziba everything that belonged to Mephibosheth. Now David wants to correct this wrong by dividing the fields between Mephibosheth and Ziba. What does Mephibosheth say about David's offer? Verse 30: "**'Give him all of it,'** Mephibosheth said. **'I am content just to have you back again!'**"
4. We met Barzillai in 2 Samuel 17:27 when David fled to the city of Mahanaim. Barzillai had brought provisions to David and the people. How does David want to thank him? Verse 33: "**'Come across with me and live in Jerusalem,'** the king said to Barzillai. 'I will take care of you there.'"

5. How did Barzillai answer David in verses 34-37? Tell it in your own words. “**No,** he replied. **I am far too old** for that. I am 80 years old today. Food and wine are no longer tasty. I am too old to hear the voices of men and women singers. I would only be a burden to my lord the king. Just to go across the river with you is all the honor I need! **Let me return again to die in my own city.** For there my father and mother are buried. But here is Chimham. Let him go with you. Give him all the good things you want to give him.”
6. In verses 41-43 an argument is starting between the relatives. It’s like when you and a brother, sister, cousin, or friend disagree about something and you start saying unkind things to each other. Each of you think you are right in what you are saying. What does the apostle Paul tell Timothy in 2 Timothy 2:14,23,24 is the best way to deal with different ideas? “**Remind your people of these great facts. Command them in the name of the Lord not to argue over unimportant things. Such arguments are confusing and useless and even harmful. Again I say, don’t get involved in foolish arguments. They only upset people and make them angry. God’s people must not argue. They must be gentle, patient teachers of those who are wrong.**”

2 SAMUEL — LESSON 8

Before you begin your lesson:

- a. Pray for God's Holy Spirit to help you answer the questions.
- b. Some questions may be too hard; it's ok to write "I don't know."
- c. Think about what God's Word is telling you for today.
- d. With some questions, it might be helpful to write the scripture verse on your paper.

Read 2 Samuel chapter 20, verses 1 - 10.

In chapter 19, the ten tribes of Israel who followed Absalom were arguing with the tribe of Judah. This was the beginning of the divided kingdom which we will study in the books of Kings.

1. Who deserted David, and who stayed with him?

2. What job did David give Amasa?

3. What did David tell Abishai to do since Amasa had not yet returned?

4. What two things did Joab do to Amasa?

5. **RISKY:** What Joab did to Amasa was cruel. He was pretending to be Amasa's friend while all the time being an enemy. Jealousy on Joab's part may be the reason for his actions. Remember, Amasa was given Joab's job as commander of the army twice. Once by Absalom when he rebelled, and again after Absalom's death when David awarded Amasa the job. What does James 3:16 say about jealousy?

Joab and Abishai chased Sheba the troublemaker to Abel Beth Maacah. Because all cities had a protective wall built around them, Joab built a battering ram to knock down the wall. Abel was a peaceful city, and the people didn't want trouble. So a wise woman convinced Joab to let the townspeople take care of Sheba. When they found Sheba, they cut off his head and threw it over the wall to Joab. Then Joab returned to Jerusalem.

Chapter 21 lists several gory war stories. Lots of names are listed. Some of them are the same names as others we have read about. But they are not the same people.

Chapter 22 is David's victory song. He wrote it after he had been saved from Saul, and other enemies. It is like Psalm 18.

Chapter 23 records a message from David. It lists the men in his army who were the mighty men of valor. There was the ultimate group of 3, and the exceptional group of 30. Uriah, Bathsheba's husband, is listed among the group of 30 (2 Samuel 23:39).

Use this number/alphabet key pad to decode the following verses from 2 Samuel 22. The vowels in each word are given for you. The first verse is done for you. The New International Version Bible was used.

	ABC	DEF
1	2	3
GHI	JKL	MNO
4	5	6
PRS	TUV	WXY
7	8	9

Verse 2: "The Lord is my 7-O-2-5, my 3-O-7-8-7-E-7-7, and my 3-E-5-I-8-E-7-E-7."

R-O-C-K

F-O-R-T-R-E-S-S

D-E-L-I-V-E-R-E-R

Verse 4a: "I call to the Lord, who is 9-O-7-8-4-9 of 7-7-A-I-7-E."

Verse 7: “In my 3-I-7-8-7-E-7-7 I called to the Lord; I 3-A-5-5-E-3 out to my God.

From his temple 4-E heard my voice; my 3-7-9 came to his E-A-7-7.”

Verse 29: “You are my 5-A-6-7, O Lord; the Lord turns my 3-A-7-5-6-E-7-7 into

5-I-4-4-8.”

Verse 31: “As for God, his way is 7-E-7-3-E-2-8; the 9-O-7-3 of the Lord is

3-5-A-9-5-E-7-7. He is a 7-4-I-E-5-3 for A-5-5 who take refuge in him.”

Verse 50: “Therefore, I will 7-7-A-I-7-E you, O Lord, among the nations; I will

7-I-6-4 praises to your name.”

Read 2 Samuel chapter 24, verses 1 - 25.

1. What did David tell Joab to do?
2. How long was Joab gone?
3. Who had more fighting men, Israel or Judah? Give the numbers for each side. Remember, Judah is made up of both the tribes of Judah and Benjamin, and Israel is made up of the other 10 tribes, or descendants, of Jacob. We will study more about this division in the books of Kings.

4. David knew he'd done wrong. So he confessed his sin to God. God told David to choose one of three punishments. Why did David choose the plague?

5. Why did the plague stop?

6. What did David do to show he was grateful the plague had ended?

7. God wants us to confess our sin to Him. What does Psalm 51:17 say that shows we need to repent of our sin?

8. **PERSONAL:** How many verses have you memorized? If your Bible were taken from you today, would you have enough verses stored in your memory to remind you of God's love? Share at least one you have memorized since the beginning of this study.

2 SAMUEL — WEEK 9

DISCUSSION LESSON 8

15 - 20 minutes Free time — games, fellowship

15 - 20 minutes Snack and group recreation: FLOOR BASKETBALL

With **masking tape or chalk**, draw a circle on the floor, a little larger than the size of a **basketball**. Draw another circle around the first circle about 3 or more feet outside the floor “hoop.” Divide players into two teams. Choose two players to “jump ball” to see who has first try to make a basket. Players with the ball may dribble, pass, or shoot for a basket. But they cannot step inside the larger circle to do it. The opposing team tries to steal the ball and make a basket as well. When a basket is made, the other team gets the ball. Set a score, or time limit. Play till either one is reached.

15 - 20 minutes Discuss LESSON 8

to end of class CRAFT: ADVENT CALENDAR

MATERIALS:

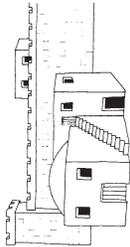
2 Calendar page masters (following)	small Christmas stickers
green, red & white copier paper	hole punch, craft knife
construction paper (Christmas colors)	glue
colored pencils/crayons/felt pens	yarn

Prior to class, run one copy of the Calendar page with dotted lines on either green or red paper for each child, and one copy of Calendar page with pictures on white paper for each child. Using craft knife, cut along the dotted lines on colored Calendar page.

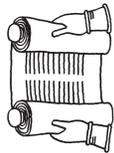
In class: Allow the children to color the individual pictures on white Calendar page. Place colored Calendar page over white Calendar page and glue only the edges, making certain that corners line up. Glue calendar to construction paper and punch two holes in the top of construction paper. Thread yarn through holes for hanging. For additional decoration, you may allow the children to place a Christmas sticker on each numbered day of the colored Calendar page, making certain they don't cover the number.

Beginning on December 1st, the children can then mark the days until Christmas by opening the numbered “door” that corresponds to the day. (December 1st = Door #1, December 2nd = Door #2, etc.) On Christmas both doors #25 will be opened to reveal Baby Jesus and the message that our Savior is born.

The Savior will be born in Bethlehem
Micah 5:2



The Savior will be born to a virgin.
Isaiah 7:14



The Angel of the Lord talks to Joseph in a dream.
Matthew 1:18-24



Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given...
Isaiah 9:6



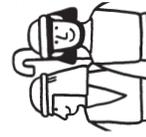
Gabriel visits Mary.
Luke 1:26-38



For God so loved the world that He gave His only son....
John 3:16



The shepherd's hurry to see Jesus.
Luke 2:16



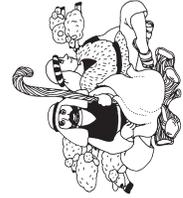
The Angel tells them the Savior is born.
Luke 2:11-12



There is no room for them in the end.
Luke 2:7



And there were shepherds, keeping watch over their flocks by night.
Luke 2:8



Shepherds see the Angel of the Lord.
Luke 2:8-10



1 2 3 4 7 8

5 6 13

9 10 14 15 16 23 24

17 18 19 20 21 22 25

The Father sent the

Son to be the

Savior of the World.

-1 John 4:14

2 SAMUEL – LESSON 8 ANSWERS

Read 2 Samuel chapter 20, verses 1 - 10.

In chapter 19, the ten tribes of Israel who followed Absalom were arguing with the tribe of Judah. This was the beginning of the divided kingdom which we will study in the books of Kings.

1. Who deserted David, and who stayed with him? Verse 2: “So **all except Judah and Benjamin turned around.** They turned from David and followed Sheba! But the men of Judah stayed with their king. They went with him from the Jordan to Jerusalem.”
2. What job did David give Amasa? Verse 4: “Then the king ordered Amasa to **call out the army of Judah.** He was to do this within three days and then report back at that time.”
3. What did David tell Abishai to do since Amasa had not yet returned? Verse 6: “Then David said to Abishai, ‘Sheba is going to hurt us more than Absalom did. Quick, take my bodyguard and **chase after him.** Catch him before he gets into a walled city where we can’t get him.’”
4. What two things did Joab do to Amasa? Verses 8-10: “As they got to the great stone in Gibeon, they came face to face with Amasa. Joab was wearing his uniform with a dagger tied to his side. He stepped forward to greet Amasa. As he did this, he took the dagger from its sheath. ‘I’m glad to see you, my brother,’ Joab said. **He took him by the beard with his right hand.** He did this **as though he was going to kiss him.** Amasa didn’t see the dagger in Joab’s left hand. Then **Joab stabbed him** in the stomach with it. And his insides gushed out onto the ground. He did not need to stab him again, and Amasa died there. Joab and his brother, Abishai, left him lying there. Then they went after Sheba.” [Amasa was not expecting this double cross. Usually a man watched his opponent’s right hand because this is where a sword is hidden, but Joab reached out in friendship with his right hand, thus putting Amasa at ease. The left hand delivered the death blow. It is believed by some that Joab doubted Amasa’s loyalty to David, and that is why he took such drastic measures.]
5. **RISKY:** What Joab did to Amasa was cruel. He was pretending to be Amasa’s friend while all the time being an enemy. Jealousy on Joab’s part may be the reason for his actions. Remember, Amasa was given Joab’s job as commander of the army twice. Once by Absalom when he rebelled, and again after Absalom’s death when David awarded him the job. What does James 3:16 say about jealousy? “**Wherever there is jealousy or ambition, there will be disorder and every kind of evil.**”

Joab and Abishai chased Sheba the troublemaker to Abel Beth Maacah. Because all cities had a protective wall built around them, Joab built a battering ram to knock down the wall. Abel was

a peaceful city, and the people didn't want trouble. So, a wise woman convinced Joab to let the townspeople take care of Sheba. When they found Sheba, they cut off his head and threw it over the wall to Joab. Then Joab returned to Jerusalem.

Chapter 21 lists several gory war stories. Lots of names are listed. Some of them are the same names as others we have read about. But they are not the same people.

Chapter 22 is David's victory song. He wrote it after he had been saved from Saul, and other enemies. It is like Psalm 18.

Chapter 23 records a message from David. It lists the men in his army who were the mighty men of valor. There was the ultimate group of 3, and the exceptional group of 30. Uriah, Bathsheba's husband, is listed among the group of 30 (2 Samuel 23:39).

Use this number/alphabet key pad to decode the following verses from 2 Samuel 22. The vowels in each word are given for you. The first one is done for you. The New International Version was used.

	ABC	DEF
1	2	3
GHI	JKL	MNO
4	5	6
PRS	TUV	WXY
7	8	9

Verse 2: "The Lord is my r o c k, my f o r t r e s s, and my d e l i v e r e r."
 7-O-2-5 3-O-7-8-7-E-7-7 3-E-5-I-8-E-7-E-7

Verse 4a: "I call to the Lord, who is w o r t h y of p r a i s e."
 9-O-7-8-4-9 7-7-A-I-7-E

Verse 7: "In my d i s t r e s s I called to the Lord; I c a l l e d out to my God.
 3-I-7-8-7-E-7-7 3-A-5-5-E-3

From his temple h e heard my voice; my c r y came to his e a r s."
 4-E 3-7-9 E-A-7-7

Verse 29: "You are my l a m p, O Lord; the Lord turns my d a r k n e s s into
 5-A-6-7 3-A-7-5-6-E-7-7

light.”

5-I-4-4-8

Verse 31: “As for God, his way is perfect; the word of the Lord is
7-E-7-3-E-2-8 9-O-7-3

flawless. He is a shield for all who take refuge in him.”
3-5-A-9-5-E-7-7 7-4-I-E-5-3 A-5-5

Verse 50: “Therefore, I will praise you, O Lord, among the nations; I will
7-7-A-I-7-E

sing praises to your name.”
7-I-6-4

Read 2 Samuel chapter 24, verses 1 - 25.

1. What did David tell Joab to do? Verse 2: “So the king spoke to Joab, commander of his army. He said, ‘Count all the people. Count them from one end of the nation to the other. That way I will know how many of them there are.’” [David must have allowed Joab to be restored to his original position even though he killed Amasa. 1 Chronicles 21:1 says that it was Satan who incited David to take a census. Although the Lord allowed it to be taken, He considered it to be sin. This census of the military was a test for David: would he continue to trust in God for protection from his enemies, or trust in his own military power? We are constantly being faced with choices. Sometimes we do not seek God’s will as we make the choice. We trust in ourselves to deal with the issue. To the Lord, that is sin, for we are to consult Him in all matters, big and little, then trust Him to help us carry out our choice. Everything we do should be taken to the Lord first. Then after we’ve prayed, we can carry out our choice. This is known as praying without ceasing.]
2. How long was Joab gone? Verse 8: “They went through the whole land. They finished counting the people in nine months and twenty days.”
3. Who had more fighting men, Israel or Judah? Give the numbers for each side. Remember, Judah is made up of both the tribes of Judah and Benjamin, and Israel is made up of the other 10 tribes, or descendants, of Jacob. We will study more about this division in the books of Kings. Verse 9: “And Joab told the king the number of the people. There were 800,000 men of fighting age in Israel. There were 500,000 of that age in Judah.”
4. David knew he’d done wrong. So he confessed his sin to God. God told David to choose one of three punishments. Why did David choose the plague? Verse 14: “‘This is a hard decision.’ David replied. ‘But it is best that we be punished by the Lord. His mercy is great. This is better than being punished by other people.’” [In verse 1 we are told that God was angry with

Israel. But the Bible doesn't give the exact reasons for His anger. David knew the best punishment rested with God's mercy. Many times we do something that we don't think is a sin, but in God's eyes it is. Then we begin to have problems. And the consequences for our sin can cause problems for others. Sometimes the Lord will show us we have sinned, sometimes not, but no matter what, we need to confess and be cleansed.]

5. Why did the plague stop? Verse 16: "The death angel was about to destroy Jerusalem. But the **Lord was sorry for what was happening**. So he told the angel to stop. The angel was by the threshing floor of Araunah the Jebusite at the time." [This is the site where Solomon will build the Temple.]
6. What did David do to show he was grateful the plague had ended? Verse 25: "And David **built an altar** there **to the Lord**. He offered burnt offerings and peace offerings. And the Lord answered his prayer, and the plague stopped."
7. God wants us to confess our sin to Him. What does Psalm 51:17 say that shows we need to repent of our sin? "It is a broken spirit you want. You want me to be sorry for my sin. A broken heart, O God, you will not ignore."
8. **PERSONAL:** How many verses have you memorized? If your Bible were taken from you today, would you have enough verses stored in your memory to remind you of God's love? Share at least one you have memorized since the beginning of this study.