

### God's Unfolding Story

**Bible Story:**  
David the King  
(2 Samuel 5:3-4;  
7:1-16; 9:1-13)

**Bible Phrase:** "God is my  
helper" (Psalm 30:10).

**Bible Truth:** God will help me  
do what is right.



1. God created everything.



2. People disobeyed God.



3. God chose a special people.



4. God sent Jesus to help us.



5. Jesus began the Church.



6. Jesus is preparing heaven for us.

### Suggested Schedule:

#### Arrival

Centers – 25 minutes  
Clean-up Time – 5 minutes  
Bible Story Time – 15 minutes  
Craft Time – 10 minutes  
Snack Time – 10 minutes  
Game Time/Dismissal



### Unfolding God's Story for Teachers

**The King**—Our passage for this lesson begins with the coronation of David as king over all of Israel. David had reigned over his own tribe of Judah during the previous seven-and-a-half years. Then, after the death of King Saul's son Ish-Bosheth, representatives from all the tribes came together at Hebron in Judah to express their allegiance to David as king. They recognized David as their own flesh and blood, affirmed his leadership in the past, and affirmed that God had set him apart to shepherd His people. At last David became king over all Israel. He ruled over Judah, and then over Israel, for a total of just over forty years; then he died at 70 years of age. During his rule, David won victories over his enemies, established Israel's capital in Jerusalem, and moved the Ark of the Covenant to Jerusalem.

**The Covenant**—After David had settled into his palace, he was troubled that his house was of cedar while God's house was merely a tent. He desired to build a sacred temple for the Lord. Although admirable, this was not God's plan for David. Instead God made a covenant with David that He—the Lord—would build David's house and establish his dynasty forever (see 2 Sam. 7:14-16). Jesus Christ, whose throne is eternal, fulfilled this prophecy. He gives direction and hope to Israel's future and to the future of all peoples worldwide.

**The Kindness**—Once David's reign was secure, he set out to fulfill covenant he had made with Jonathan, his best friend. He had promised to care for Jonathan's family in the event of his death. Thus, he would not cut off Saul's descendants. David wanted to honor that promise, so he searched for anyone left in the house of Saul. A crippled son of Jonathan named Mephibosheth was living in exile. He was brought before King David, and, perhaps to Mephibosheth's surprise, was invited to live in the palace and eat

at the king's table. What kindness! Mephibosheth's son Mica fathered four sons, thus preserving the family line of a cherished friend.

**The Connection**—God loved David and considered him a man after His own heart. Through David's failures and in his victories he continued to believe, "The LORD is my rock, my fortress, and my deliverer" (2 Sam. 22:2). David was keenly aware of God's strength, provision, and power. We see in these accounts of David's life that God's own story continued to unfold. We are benefactors of the precious covenant God made with David thousands of years ago. Israel waited for the Everlasting King, and Christ came, bringing the fullness of God's blessing to all who believe. We expectantly await Christ's return, when we will join Him in His everlasting kingdom.

### Lesson Plan

#### Arrival

- Greet children at eye level and express how happy you are to see them.
- Be sure each child has a name tag and the security measures of your church are followed.
- Label all coats and personal belongings. Strongly encourage children who have brought items from home, such as toys and books, to place them on a shelf while they are working with other materials. Assure children their items will be safe and they can take them home at the end of the session.
- Help each child make a choice where he or she would like to begin his or her Center Time.

# Center Time



## Puzzle Center:

Work Puzzles

### Supplies:

- Offer a variety of non-fantasy wooden or cardboard puzzles for the children to work.

**What to Do:** Encourage preschoolers to finish the puzzles they begin. Affirm children as they work together to complete the puzzles.

**Link to the Bible Story:** As children work, look for opportunities in conversation to say the Bible phrase or to briefly tell the Bible story.

## Bible Learning Center:

Make a Puzzle

### Supplies:

- Copies of Activity Page: Puzzle, "David the King" (Reproducible)
- Washable markers or crayons
- Child's scissors, envelopes or construction paper

**What to Do:** Invite children to cut on the dash lines to make a puzzle from today's Bible story picture. Encourage children to work on putting the puzzle together. Children can place their puzzle pieces in an envelope, or you, as the teacher, can make an envelope from construction paper.

**Link to the Bible Story:** As children work, use the picture to talk about the Bible story. For instance, you might say, "This is a picture of David when he became king of Israel. David remembered a promise he had made to his friend Jonathan. The man in the picture is Mephibosheth, he was Jonathan's son. David took care of Mephibosheth after Jonathan died. Our Bible Phrase reads, 'God is my helper' (Psalm 30:10). God helped David to be a great king."

## Art Center: Food Collage

### Supplies:

- Construction paper or large sheet of white paper for class collage – (1 sheet per child)
- Magazine pictures of a variety of foods

**What to Do:** Print today's Bible phrase, "God is my helper" (Psalm 30:10), on each paper or on the large paper if making one class collage. Invite children to choose favorite foods to glue on the paper.

**Link to the Bible Story:** As preschoolers work, talk about the lesson. You might say, "In our story today David becomes the king of Israel. David was a good king because he depended on God to help him. David remembered a promise he had made to his friend Jonathan to take care of his family. David invited Jonathan's son Mephibosheth to come and live in the palace. Mephibosheth would eat all his meals with King David."

## Home Living Center:

Role Play

### Supplies:

- Small rocking chair, sink and stove unit and small table and chairs; plastic dishes, child pots and pans; pretend food items; doll, doll bed, and doll accessories

**What to Do:** Home living items naturally encourage children to act out roles and activities they observe at home.

**Link to the Bible Story:** As children work and play together, listen for opportunities to talk about the Bible story. Say, "In our Bible story today we will learn that when David became king of Israel, he invited Jonathan's son to come and live with him in the palace. Mephibosheth ate his meals with King David at the palace."

## Block Center:

Build with Blocks

### Supplies:

- Wooden blocks

**What to Do:** Provide a small carpet if possible. Blocks are best located in a corner of the room away from the traffic flow.

**Link to the Bible Story:** While children are engaged in building with the blocks, suggest they build a palace. Comment that in today's Bible story King David invited Mephibosheth, son of his friend Jonathan, to live with him in the palace.

## Clean-up Time

Encourage preschoolers to help at clean-up time. Assign specific tasks for preschoolers to do such as placing all the crayons in the basket, throwing away the trash, gathering all the glue sticks, etc. Guide children to the Bible Story Time area.



## Bible Story Time

**Supplies:** • Bible

- Teaching Picture "David the King" (Reproducible)
- God's Unfolding Story Cube (Reproducible/Cardstock)

## Introduction

• Show the God's Unfolding Story Cube. Express to the boys and girls that even though we find many stories in the Bible, the Bible really tells one big story, and all the little stories are a part of the big one we can call God's Unfolding Story. Tell children that each picture represents a chapter in God's Unfolding Story. Turn the cube and talk about each chapter in the story. (Refer to page 1.) Express that every story from the Bible is from one of the main chapters in God's Unfolding Story. Today's story is from the third chapter, God chose a special people.

• Introduce the story. You might say, "Today we will hear our final story about David. In today's story David becomes king of the nation of Israel. David would need to depend on God to help him be a good king. In our story, David kept a promise he had made long ago to a very special friend."

## Bible Story

### David the King

(2 Samuel 5:3-4; 7:1, 3-16; 9)

One day David heard some very sad news. King Saul and his son Jonathan had died in a battle. Jonathan had been David's best friend. Years before the death of King Saul, God told Samuel to anoint David as the next king of Israel. Because of King Saul's death, it was time for David to take the throne. The people gathered around David and crowned him king. It was a happy time for David and for the Israelites. During David's years as king, God protected him from his enemies. God promised David He would be with him forever. David was a great king as he ruled over Israel. He wasn't perfect, but for the most part, he did what was just and right for all the people. God helped David to be a good king.

One day David was thinking about his friend Jonathan. When they were young men, David had promised Jonathan he would always look after his family even if Jonathan died. David asked his helpers, "Is there anyone alive who belonged to Jonathan's family?" His helpers discovered a son of Jonathan who still was alive. His name was Mephibosheth. Mephibosheth had fallen as a small boy and now was crippled; he probably walked with the help of crutches. Mephibosheth lived in another city.

David wanted to keep his promise to Jonathan.

Mephibosheth was brought to King David. When Mephibosheth arrived, he was not sure why the king would want to see him. David told him not to be afraid. Perhaps David told Mephibosheth stories about the friendship he had with his father. King David invited Mephibosheth and his family to come and live with him in the palace. From that point forward, Mephibosheth ate at the table with King David. David kept his promise to Jonathan, his best friend.

## Talk Time

1. Show the teaching picture for today's Bible story. Review by using these or similar questions. "What kind of king was David? Who helped David to be a great king? Who was Mephibosheth? How did David keep his promise to his friend Jonathan?"
2. Read the Bible phrase on the teaching picture. Say the phrase together, "God is my helper" (Psalm 30:10). Explain, "God wants us to work and play in ways that honor and respect Him. Just as God helped King David rule Israel well, God wants to help us in all we do. It is important that we ask God for His help. Let's think together about situations in which we need God's help. What about obeying your parents, sharing a cookie or favorite toy, giving back something that you found and would like to keep, or, instead of playing, doing a job to help your mom and dad? It is not easy to do the right thing. We often want to do what we want, but God can give us the power to honor and obey Him. Let's say our Bible phrase again, 'God is my helper' (Psalm 30:10)."
3. Close the Bible Story Time by inviting children to join you in prayer. Say a prayer, asking God to help each one live his or her life to honor Him.
4. Direct children to Craft Time.

## Craft Time:

Make a Crown

### Supplies:

- Copies of "Crown" (Reproducible, cardstock recommended, 1 copy for every child)
- Crayons or markers, glue
- Plastic jewels

**What to Do:** Cut out each crown and assemble, but leave the crowns flat to color and decorate. Invite children to color and decorate their crowns with the jewels. Assist with adjusting each crown to each child's head size. Tape each one to fit securely.

**Link to the Bible Story:** As children make their crowns, review the Bible Phrase, "God is my helper" (Psalm 30:10). Talk about ways God helped David to be a great king.

## Snack Time

Be sure to wash hands or use hand sanitizer. Say a thank-you prayer to God for the snack. When snack time has ended, encourage preschoolers to help with cleaning up.

## Game Time / Dismissal: Show Me

**What to Do:** Ask children to stand in a circle in the Game Time area. Ask children to show you the following:

*Show me how you would sweep the floor.*

*Show me how you would pick a flower.*

*Show me how you would brush your teeth.*

*Show me how you would eat an ice cream cone.*

*Show me how you would pet your dog.*

*Show me how you would skate.*

*Show me how you would run in place.*

*Show me how you would pretend to fly like an airplane.*

*Show me how you would hop in place.*

*Show me how you would put on your shoes.*

*Show me how you would wave goodbye.*

*Show me how you would sit quietly.*

At the close of the game, explain to children there are many things they can do. Sometimes we are asked to do things that are hard or that we don't want to do. Remember our Bible phrase, "God is my helper" (Psalm 30:10). God wants us to ask Him to help us do what honors Him.

Dismiss children as parents arrive. Be sure to follow the security procedures of your church.





# Resources and Supplies

Old Testament Unit 10: David  
Lesson 5: David the King

## Standard Art Supplies

(Supplies that are generally in the room)

Washable markers  
Crayons  
Child scissors  
Playdough and accessories  
Drawing paper  
Easel (optional)  
Glue/glue sticks  
Tempera paint, 4 colors  
Tape/masking tape  
Pencils/colored pencils  
Hole punch  
Teacher scissors  
Stapler/staples  
Permanent markers  
Watercolors  
Paintbrushes  
Yarn

## Standard Equipment

(Equipment that is generally in the room)

Bible  
Small beanbag for Bible Story Time  
Assorted wooden/cardboard puzzles  
Set of wooden blocks  
Small cars and trucks  
Doll bed  
Baby doll (soft plastic)  
Stove/sink unit  
Play dishes/pots and pans  
Small table and chairs  
Small carpet for block area  
Play food items  
Storage shelf for blocks  
Tables and chairs for art, puzzles,  
and Bible Learning Center  
CD player/Children's Worship CDs

## Reproducibles

(Included with the lesson plan downloads)

Activity Page: Puzzle, "David the King" (1 per child)  
"Crown" (1 copy for every child, cardstock recommended)  
Teaching Picture: "David the King" (1 copy per class)  
God's Unfolding Story Cube (Cardstock—1 copy per class)  
Parent Page (1 copy per child)  
Coloring Page, "David the King"

## Additional Art Materials

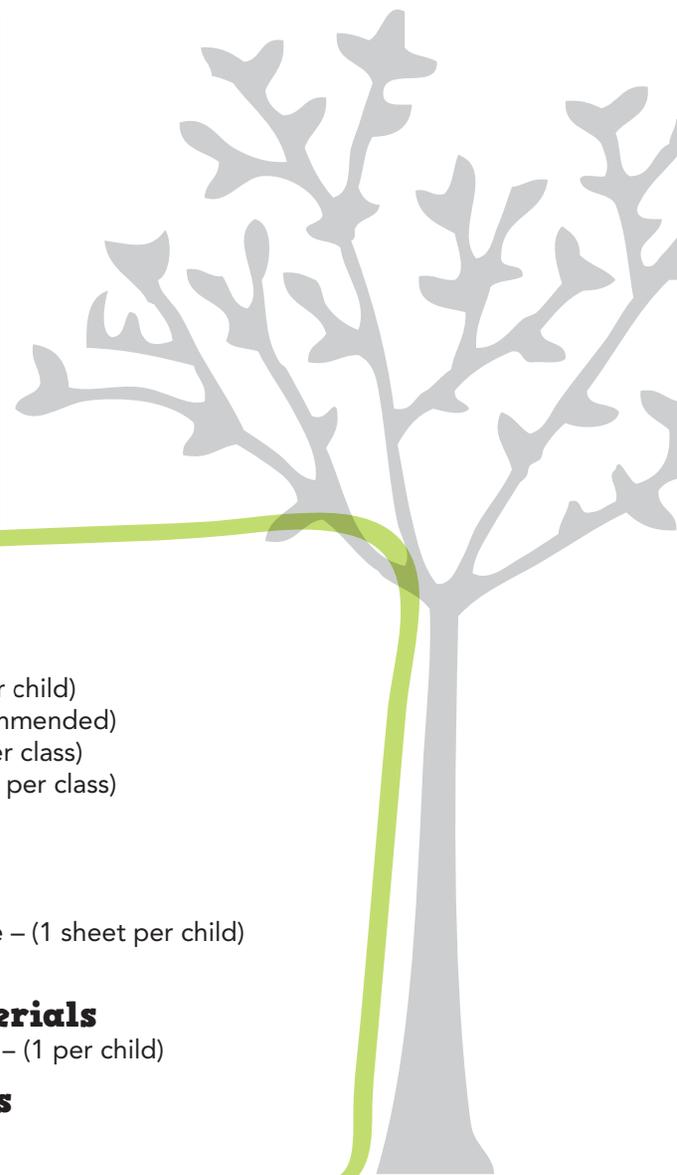
Construction paper or large sheet of paper for class collage – (1 sheet per child)  
Cut out pictures of foods

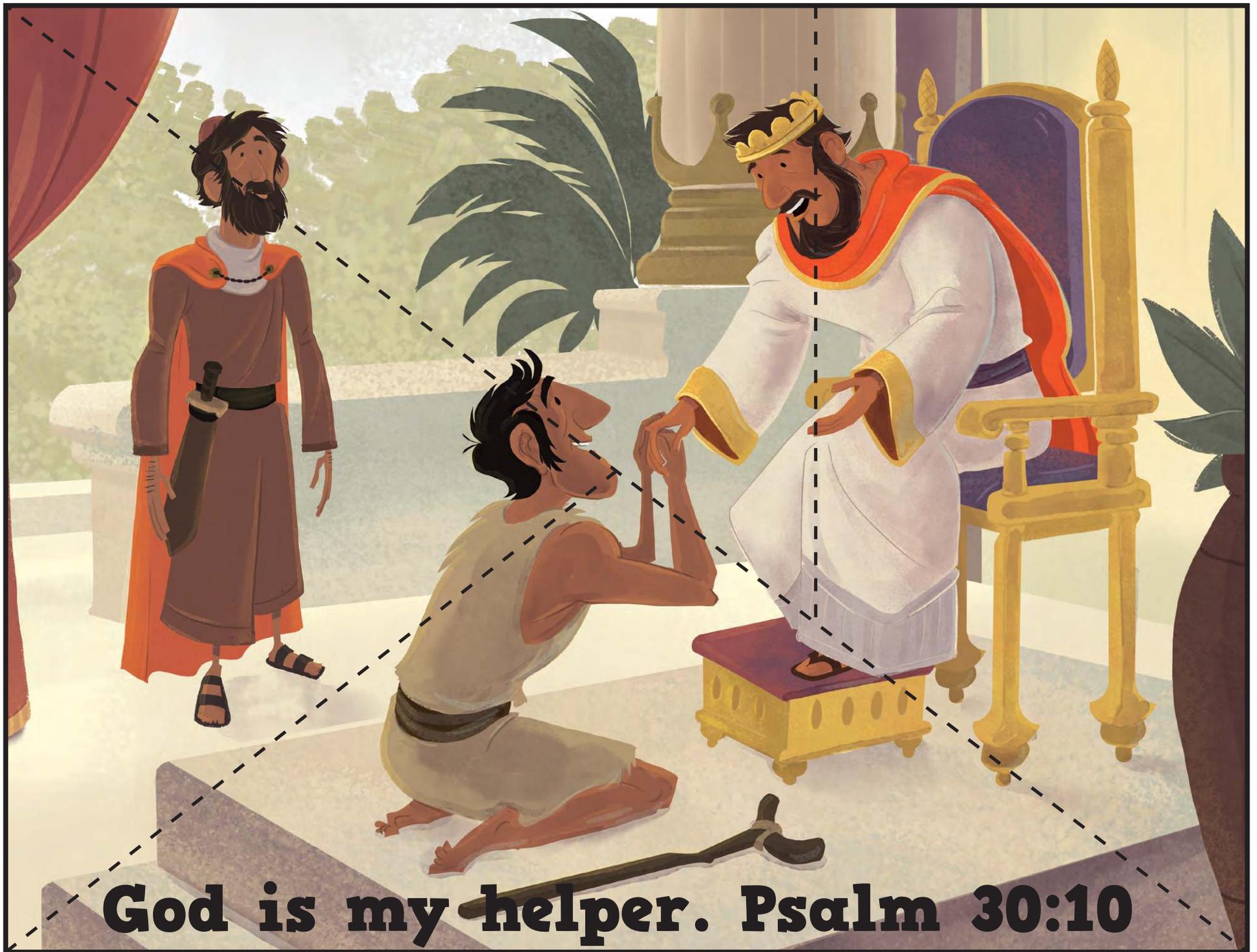
## Additional Bible Learning Materials

Envelopes or construction paper to make envelopes – (1 per child)

## Additional Craft Materials

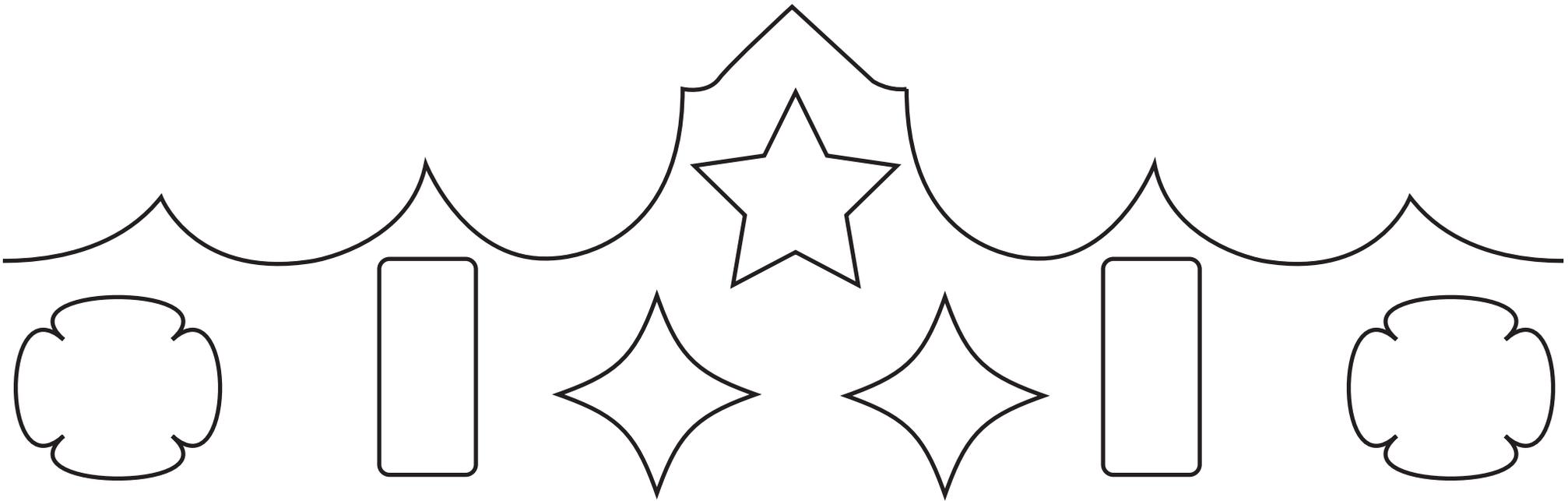
Plastic jewels for decorating a crown





Activity Page: Puzzle, "David the King" Instructions: Copy one sheet per child. Cut along the dashed lines to make a puzzle. Place puzzle pieces in a ready made or teacher made envelope.

OT10 Lesson 5 Hour A Bible Learning Center  
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**God is my helper. Psalm 30:10**



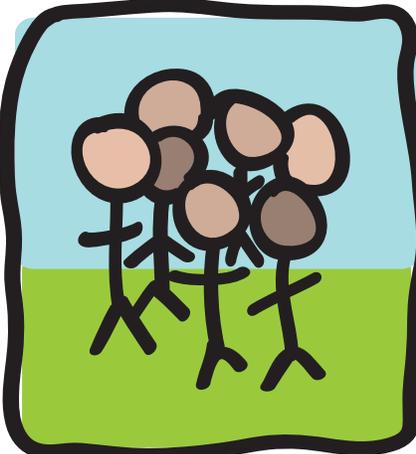
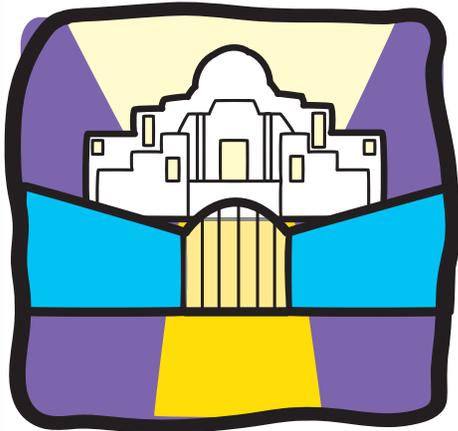
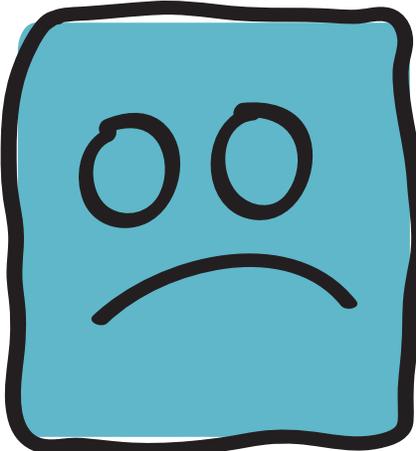
extender strip



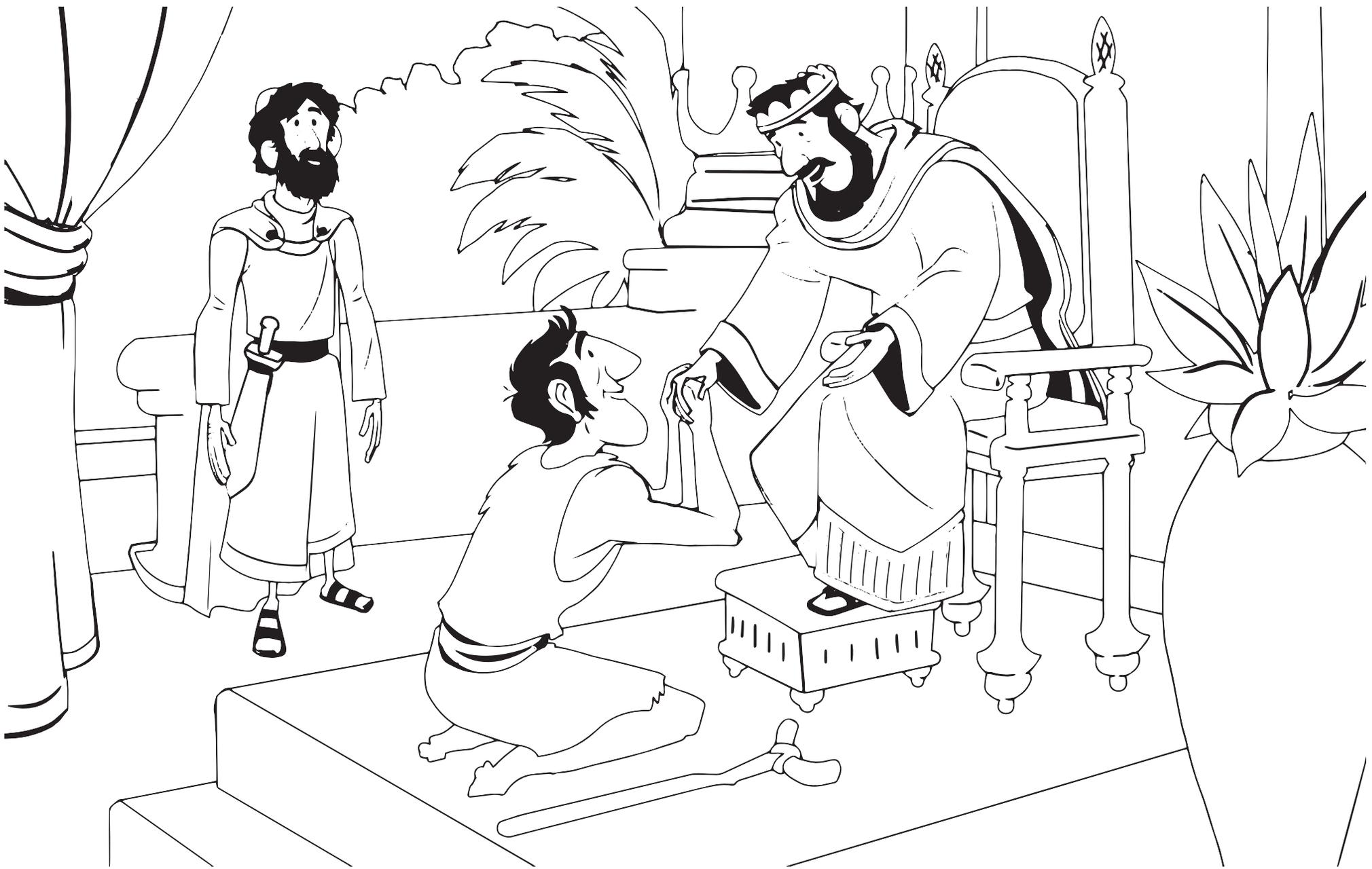
extender strip



**Craft: "Crown"**  
Instructions: One copy for every child. Cardstock recommended. Cut out the parts of the crown. Decorate the crown with crayons, markers and plastic jewels.



God's Unfolding Story Cube  
**Instructions:** Cut out on dotted lines, fold on solid lines. Glue or tape to form a cube.



**God is my helper. Psalm 30:10**