

God Answers Hannah's Prayer

Road to a King

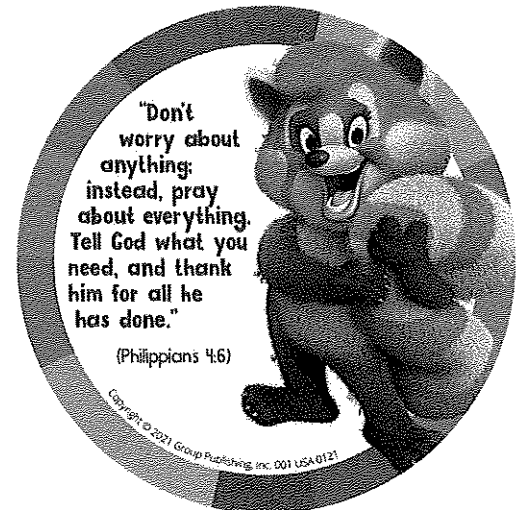
1 Samuel 1:1–2:11

Bible Point

God knows what we need.**Purpose**

Who do you go to when *you* need something? When your heart's longing is unfulfilled? When you're feeling sad, desperate, and needy? Hannah went to God. More than anything, Hannah wanted a child. Over and over, she prayed and asked God to give her what she wanted—and needed most.

Your little friends know what it feels like to really want something and not get it right away. And they can certainly relate to Hannah's tears. Through this lesson, reassure them that God is there to help. He knows our wants and our needs and will always hear our prayers and answer them in his perfect way.

**Prayer**

Dear God, thank you for always knowing what I want and what I need. I know I need you, Holy Spirit, as I guide the children in my care today. I trust that your presence will be with us. Thank you. In Jesus' name, amen.

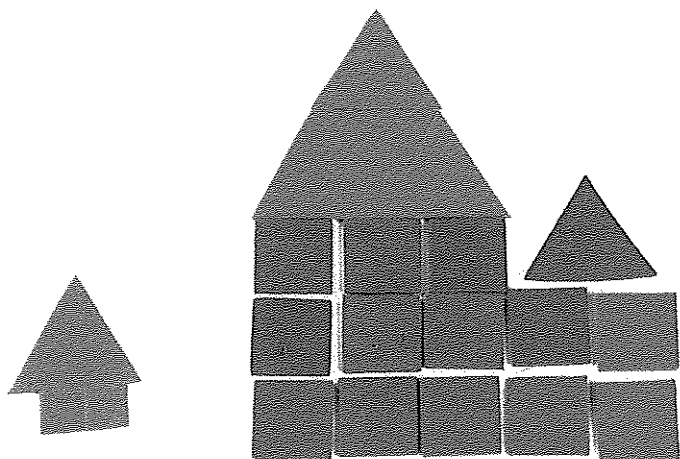
Prep

Opening Options	Sing & Play	Bible Discovery & Goodbye Circle	Apply-It Options
<input type="checkbox"/> Option Cards* <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Foam-Shape Churches</i> : foam shapes in various sizes and colors <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Create-a-Face</i> : cups, cotton balls, craft sticks	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Music CD</i> * <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Music Video DVD</i> * <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Buddy Video DVD</i> * <input type="checkbox"/> Amanda Bible Memory Buddy poster* <input type="checkbox"/> media player <input type="checkbox"/> Bible (bookmark Philippians 4:6)	<input type="checkbox"/> "God Answers Hannah's Prayer" Bible Story poster* <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Music CD</i> * <input type="checkbox"/> Amanda Bible Memory Buddy stickers* (1 per child) <input type="checkbox"/> media player <input type="checkbox"/> Bible (bookmark 1 Samuel 1:8, 10-11, 17-18) <input type="checkbox"/> baby dolls (1 per Crew)	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Game</i> : no supplies <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Food-n-Friendship</i> : snack, napkins, hand cleanser, <i>Music CD</i> *, media player <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Coloring Creation</i> : "God Answers Hannah's Prayer" Coloring Creation pages* (1 per child), crayons, washable markers, wet wipes, <i>Music CD</i> *, media player

* in your **Simply Loved Kit**

Opening Options

Set up one—or both—of these intro activities to start your time together. Each activity connects kids to the Bible Point and to each other. Cut apart these Option Cards, and place one by each activity you choose. Crew Guides will follow the directions and build friendships with kids as they make discoveries together!



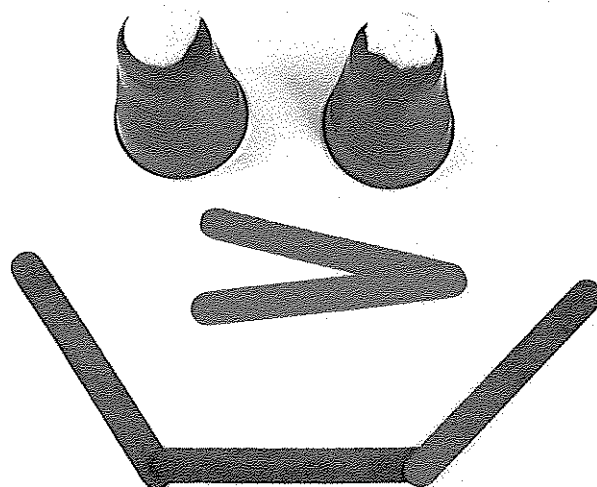
Foam-Shape Churches

Supplies: foam shapes in various sizes and colors

Create shapes that look like church buildings.

? What do you like about our church?

In our Bible story today, a woman named Hannah went to church to ask God for something important because God knows what we need.



Create-a-Face

Supplies: cups, cotton balls, craft sticks

Use the cups, cotton balls, and craft sticks to make happy faces and sad faces.

? What makes you sad? What makes you happy?

In our Bible story today, a woman named Hannah was very sad. She talked to God about it because God knows what we need. After that, Hannah felt happy and thankful!

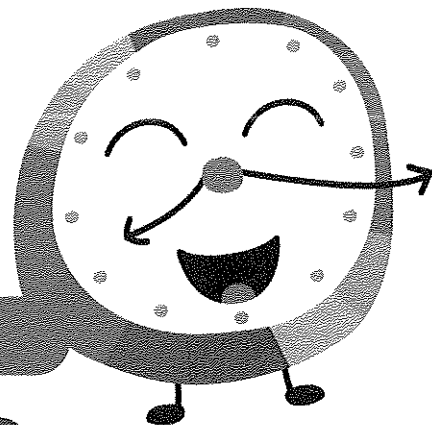
Opening

Now's a great time for Opening Options. Choose one—or both—to introduce today's Bible discoveries.



"The Cleanup Song" (*Music CD track 1*)

Help kids transition by cleaning up before sitting with their Connect Crews. A Connect Crew is a smaller group of kids with one Crew Guide.



Sing & Play

Welcome

Hello, friends! I'm so glad you're here today. Let's sing our welcome song.



"Hello, My Friends" (*Music CD track 2*)

Let's say hello to our Crew Guides. They're our go-to friends who are here to have fun and learn along with us.

- Kids give their Crew Guides two thumbs-up.

Bible Point

Today's Bible Point tells us **God knows what we need. Every time you hear the words "God know what we need," point up with both hands** (demonstrate) and say, "Trust God!" Let's try that together.

When we trust God, we believe that God will take care of us, no matter what. Do what I do!

When we're worried, (*look from side to side*)

God knows what we need. (*Trust God!*)

When we're afraid, (*hug self*)

God knows what we need. (*Trust God!*)

When we're sad, (*pretend to cry*)

God knows what we need. (*Trust God!*)

When we're happy, (*raise hands in joy*)

God knows what we need. (*Trust God!*)

God knows what we need. (*Trust God!*)

Repeat several times.

Repetition cements learning, so be sure to say today's Bible Point A LOT. Have fun with it! Kids will love listening for it and responding with "Trust God!"

Supplies

- Bible
- Music CD
 - "Hello, My Friends"
- Music Video DVD
 - "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms" music video
 - "Good Good Father" music video
- Buddy Video DVD
 - Amanda Bible Memory Buddy video (Week 2)
- media player
- Amanda Bible Memory Buddy poster

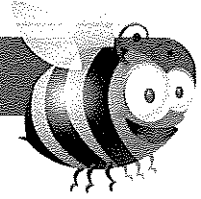


Trust God!

Let's thank God for taking care of us and sing a song!



"Leaning on the Everlasting Arms" music video



Bible Memory Buddy & Verse

It's time to talk to our friend Buzzly Bee. Buzzly helps us *beee* close friends with God. Let's call for Buzzly. Do what I do!

- Flap hands quickly like a bee.
- Make buzzing sounds.



Amanda Bible Memory Buddy video (Week 2)

Our friend Amanda the red panda reminds us that God knows what we need. (Trust God!)

- Show the Bible Memory Buddy poster.
- Red pandas like Amanda eat bamboo leaves for snacks. What do you like to eat for a snack?
- Invite responses from the whole group.
- God gives red pandas and people yummy snacks because God knows what we need. (Trust God!)



Show the Bible. The Bible is God's true story of love! Our Bible Memory Verse comes from the Bible. Let's say it together. I'll say a line, and then you repeat after me.

"Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. (touch temples and shake head "no")

Tell God what you need, (press palms together)

and thank him for all he has done." (touch chin, then extend hand out)

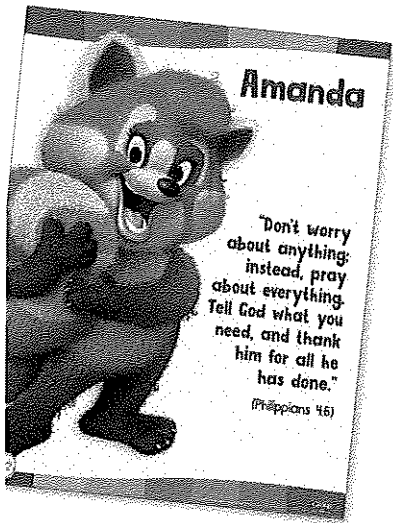
(Philippians 4:6)

God already knows what we need, even before we tell him. God loves us so much! Because God is like a good father, God knows what we need.

(Trust God!)



"Good Good Father" music video



Bible Discovery

God knows what we need. (*Trust God!*) Hold up a Bible. Today our Bible story is about a woman named Hannah. Hannah really wanted something. She wanted it so badly, and she talked with God about it.

- Have everyone get comfy and sit in knee-to-knee circles with Connect Crews.
- **What's something you really want?** Invite Crew Guides to share first.
- Crew Guides give thumbs-up when everyone has shared.

We really want different things. And Hannah? Well, she really wanted a baby. Let's imagine we're caring for a baby. Do what I do!

- Pretend to hold a baby.
- Make cooing baby noises.
- Make crying baby noises.
- Pretend the baby is sleeping and whisper, **"God knows what we need."** (*Trust God!*)

Hannah and her husband, Elkanah (el-KAY-nuh), loved God. And every year they made a special trip to worship God at the Tabernacle. The Tabernacle was kind of like our church building—but it was more of a tent. Let's pretend to go on a trip to the Tabernacle. Follow me!

- Lead everyone around the room, then sit down in a new place.
- **Look around! Wow! What a beautiful church!**

Remember, Hannah really wanted a baby. So when she went to the church, Hannah would ask God to give her a child. She went year after year. And Hannah asked God for a baby over and over.

- Have everyone clasp hands together and say, "Please, God?" several times.

But still, Hannah had no baby. Hannah's husband felt sad for her. And worse, another woman who *did* have children teased and made fun of Hannah. That's not nice at all. It may have hurt Hannah's feelings. Do you know what that's like? Without using words, show me how you feel when someone teases you. Pause while kids respond.

You may feel sad or mad or hurt. It's no fun to be teased. Things seemed hopeless for Hannah. But remember, God knows what we need. (*Trust God!*) Still, Hannah felt very sad. She cried and cried. When people are sad, we want to help and comfort them. Let's pretend to comfort Hannah.

- Have everyone give nearby friends a comforting pat on the shoulder.

Hannah's husband, Elkanah, wanted to comfort Hannah. He was worried about her. Have everyone make a worried face. **Let's read what he said to Hannah.**

Supplies

- Bible
- "God Answers Hannah's Prayer" Bible Story poster
- baby dolls (1 per Crew)

We call helpers Crew Guides. If you lead a small class, you can be the Crew Guide. Simply gather kids in a cozy circle around you. If you have helpers, form smaller groups so each child can be known—and so kids can befriend your helpers, too!



Read the verses from the Bible.

You're showing kids that God's Word is special. And don't worry, we've kept the verses short for young attention spans.



Read aloud 1 Samuel 1:8.

Hannah *did* have a husband. But she really wanted to have a baby and be a mom, too. She went back to the church and prayed to God again.

- Have everyone clasp hands together and say, "Please, God?" several times.

Let's read what Hannah prayed.



Read aloud 1 Samuel 1:10-11.

Hannah promised God that if he would give her a child, she would give the child to God when he or she was old enough. Her child would know God and work for God at the church.

A priest named Eli worked for God at the church. He saw Hannah praying. Eli thought Hannah was acting strangely, so he went to talk with Hannah. Hannah told him about her sadness and her prayers. Eli listened to Hannah and said something that made her happy. Let's read what Eli said.



Read aloud 1 Samuel 1:17-18.

Eli wanted God to answer Hannah's prayer. After hearing Eli's message, Hannah trusted God. Let's imagine we are Hannah. Do this with me.

- **Hannah took a deep breath.** Take a very deep breath.
- **She stood up.** Stand up.
- **She went home.** Have Connect Crews walk back to the place they started from.
- **She ate something.** Pretend to eat.
- **She didn't feel as sad anymore.** Look happy and surprised.

God knew what Hannah needed, and Hannah trusted God. And guess what! Soon Hannah found out she was going to have a baby boy!

- Jump up and down and squeal with delight.
- Clasp hands together and say, "Thank you, God!" several times.

As she held her baby, Hannah's sad heart wasn't sad anymore. It must have been so happy! Hannah named the baby Samuel. God had heard Hannah's prayer and said yes! God hears our prayers, too. God knows what we need. (Trust God!) A baby made Hannah happy. God knows what makes us happy, too! Let's talk in our Connect Crews.

- Have everyone sit in circles with Connect Crews.
- **What makes you happy?** Hold a baby doll and share your answer.
- Have Crew Guides each show a baby doll and invite children to take turns holding it and sharing their happy things.
- Crew Guides give thumbs-up when everyone has shared.



Show the Bible Story poster, pointing out the Tabernacle. **When baby Samuel got older, Hannah took him back to the Tabernacle church. There, Samuel met Eli, the priest. Samuel worked with Eli at the church. Samuel loved and followed God, and he helped other people love and follow God, too.**

Hannah and Eli praised God together, and Hannah's heart was very happy. Let's praise God, too! Do what I do!

- Stand up, raise arms, and say, "Yay, God!"
- Say **"God knows what we need."** (*Trust God!*)

Hannah prayed and asked God for something she really wanted. God heard her prayer but didn't give Hannah what she wanted right away. She had to wait. Let's talk in our Crews one more time.

- ❓ **When have you had to wait for God to answer your prayer?** Share a brief story from your own life first, then have Crew Guides begin Crew conversations.

God knows what we need. (*Trust God!*) **We can pray and talk with God about our feelings and the things we want. God will always hear us, and he'll take good care of us. Let's pray and talk with God now.**

Dear God, when we're sad, you know what we need. And when we're happy, you know what we need. Thank you. Please help us trust you. In Jesus' name, amen.

Now's a great time for Apply-It Options. Choose one or more that fit your time frame to support today's Bible discoveries before the closing Goodbye Circle.

Apply-It Options

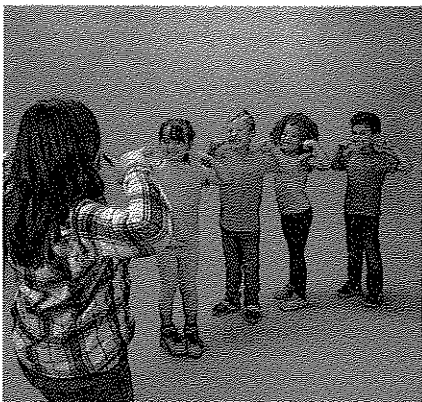
Choose one—or all—of these activities to support kids' learning after Bible Discovery.

Game

Play this version of Follow the Leader—with feelings.

- Have children line up behind you.
- Say, **"I'm the leader, and I feel...happy."** Then walk around the room making happy gestures and expressions for children to mimic. Change emotions a few times.
- Invite children to take turns leading.

We all have feelings. In our Bible story, Hannah felt very sad, and then she felt very happy. God helped her because God knows what we need. (Trust God!) No matter how we feel, we can trust God. God will never stop loving us and helping us.



Food-n-Friendship

Supplies: snack, napkins, hand cleanser, *Music CD*, media player

- Give a napkin to a friend and say, **"God knows what we need."** (*Trust God!*)

 **"God, You Are So Good"**
(*Music CD track 3*)

- Eat snack together.
- **When we pray, we talk with God. Who has something we can talk with God about?**
- Pray together.

In our Bible story, God heard Hannah's prayer. God hears our prayers, too. God knows what we need. (Trust God!) Clean up snack together.



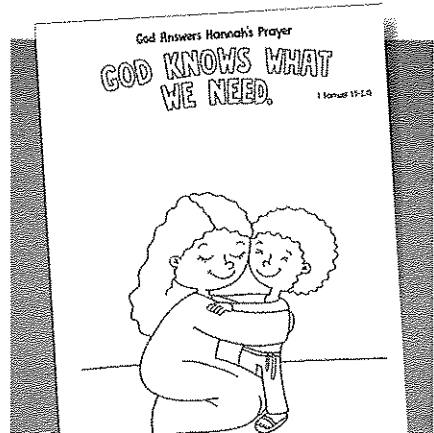
Coloring Creation

Supplies: "God Answers Hannah's Prayer" Coloring Creation pages (1 per child), crayons, washable markers, wet wipes, *Music CD*, media player

In our Bible story, Hannah wanted a baby more than anything. She had to wait a while, but God knew what Hannah needed, and God gave Hannah a baby boy. God knows what we need, too. (Trust God!)

- Color the picture.
- Use washable markers to color children's fingertips. Help kids each press a fingertip on the paper above Hannah's and Samuel's head to create a heart shape.
- Clean fingers with wet wipes.
- Play music as kids create.

 **"Pray About Everything"**
(*Philippians 4:6-7*)
(*Music CD track 6*)



Goodbye Circle

It's almost time to say goodbye! Let's sing our goodbye song as we join hands and make one big circle!



"Goodbye, My Friends" (Music CD track 4)

God knows what we need. (Trust God!) He knows we need families and friends. He knows we need food and churches to go to. And God knows we need Jesus! Jesus, our forever friend, came to earth as a baby, too! Baby Jesus was extra special because he is God's Son. Jesus loves all people so much, including each one of you!

God knows what we need. (Trust God!) That reminds me of how our friend Amanda doesn't have thumbs, but God gave her a unique way to hold things anyway.

- Show the Bible Memory Buddy poster, and remind kids that Amanda helps us remember **God knows what we need. (Trust God!)**
- Invite Crew Guides to give each child an Amanda sticker to wear or take home. Have children come forward and take the sticker from Crew Guides between their thumbs.
- As kids receive their stickers, Crew Guides say, "[Child's name], **God knows what you need.**"

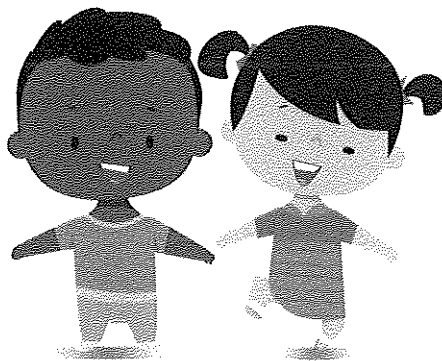
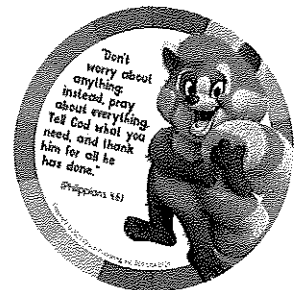


"Pray About Everything" (Philippians 4:6-7)
Music CD track 6)

- Do Bible Memory Verse motions and move to the music!

Supplies

- Music CD
 - "Goodbye, My Friends"
 - "Pray About Everything" (Philippians 4:6-7)
- media player
- Amanda Bible Memory Buddy stickers (1 per child)



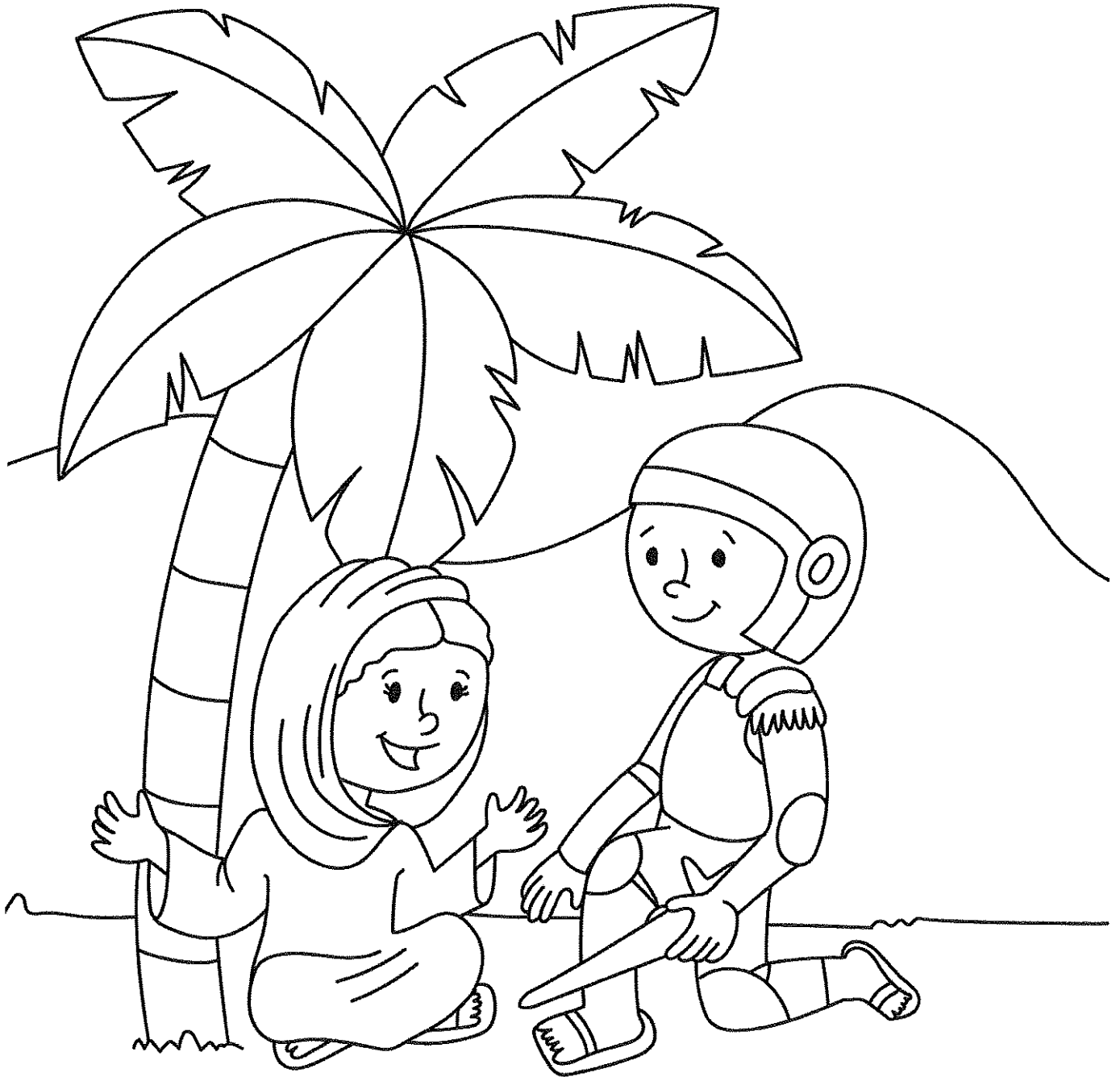
Saying each child's name in a loving way helps kids simply experience God's love through you!



Deborah Becomes Israel's Judge

GOD IS PATIENT.

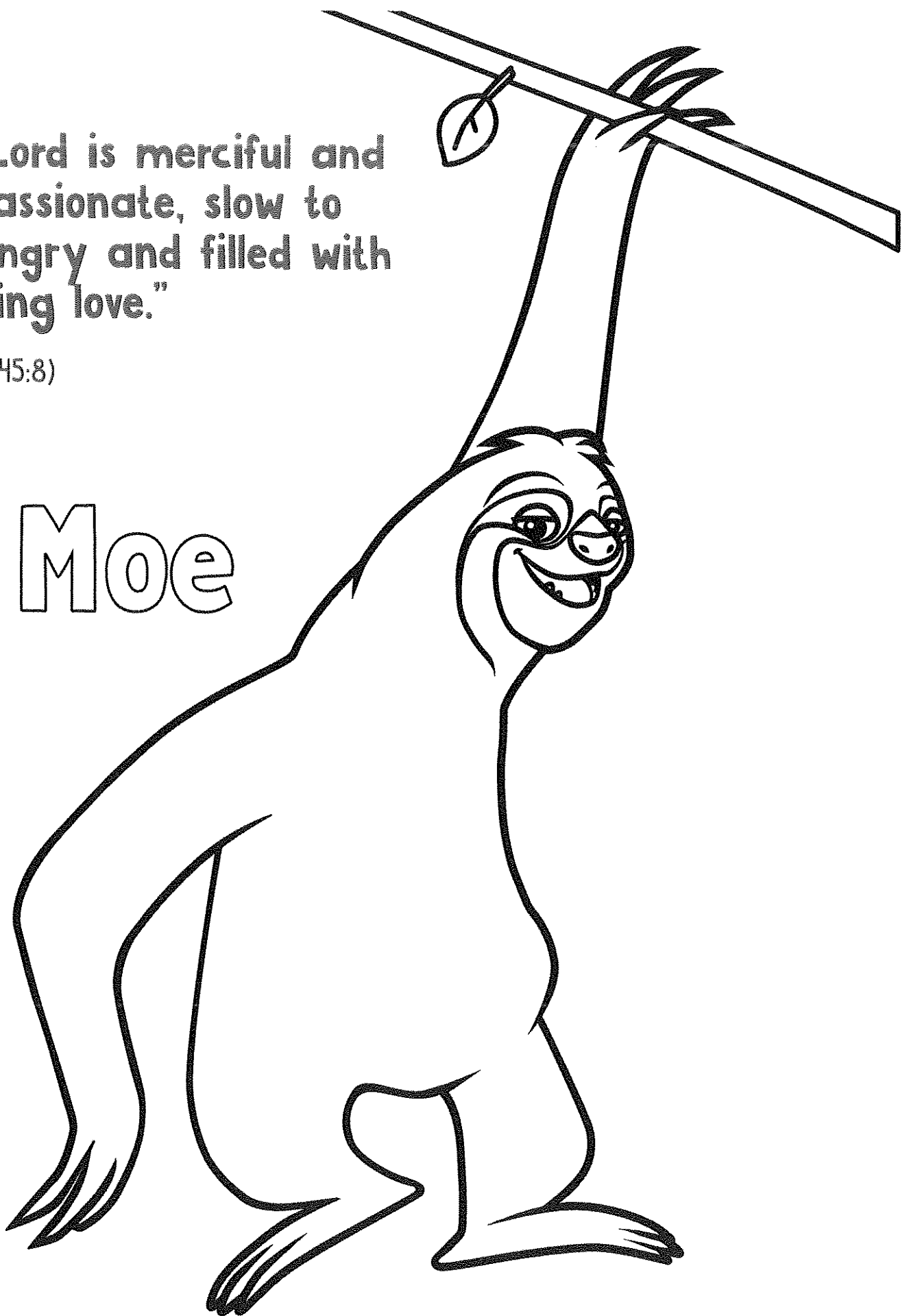
Judges 4:1-16



**"The Lord is merciful and
compassionate, slow to
get angry and filled with
unfailing love."**

(Psalm 145:8)

Moe



All items must be sent by **Jun 25, 2021**. Tell us about your return experience.

Store Information:

Kohls-1371-NAPA

1116 1ST ST

NAPA, CA, 94559

Hours:

Mon - Sun: 10:00 - 21:00

I've got a printer.

- Some Kohl's stores are currently accepting Amazon Returns.
- Please check Kohl's store locator to ensure that returns are being accepted at the store location before proceeding.
- You will not receive your refund until the item is returned.
- Print out the return shipping label.
- Bring it to the designated Kohl's associate.

Return Mailing Label

Cut this label and affix to the outside of the return package

Betsy Gewirz
2452 CABERNET ST
NAPA CA 94558-2503
United States

LAS2
LAS2 L1 AMAZON RETURNS
3837 Bay Lake Trail Ste 113
89030 Las Vegas,NV
United States

D2PjCpPQRRMA



KOH1173832519

L1

Hazmat Label

Cut this label and affix to the outside of the return package

This package contains Lithium ion cells or batteries. This package must be handled with care. A flammable hazard may exist if the package is damaged. Special procedures must be followed if the package is damaged including inspection and repacking if necessary. Damaged cells or batteries should not be transported except under appropriate conditions. For emergency information contact +1-760-476-3961 Access Code: 333146

The lithium battery transport document for this shipment may be re-printed at:

www.amazon.com/transportdoc/lithium-ion

Hazmat Label

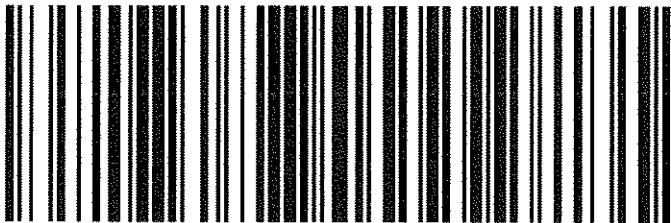
Cut this label and affix to the outside of the return package



Return Authorization Slip

Place this barcode and item description inside your return package (in case your mailing label gets damaged).

D2PjCPpQRRMA

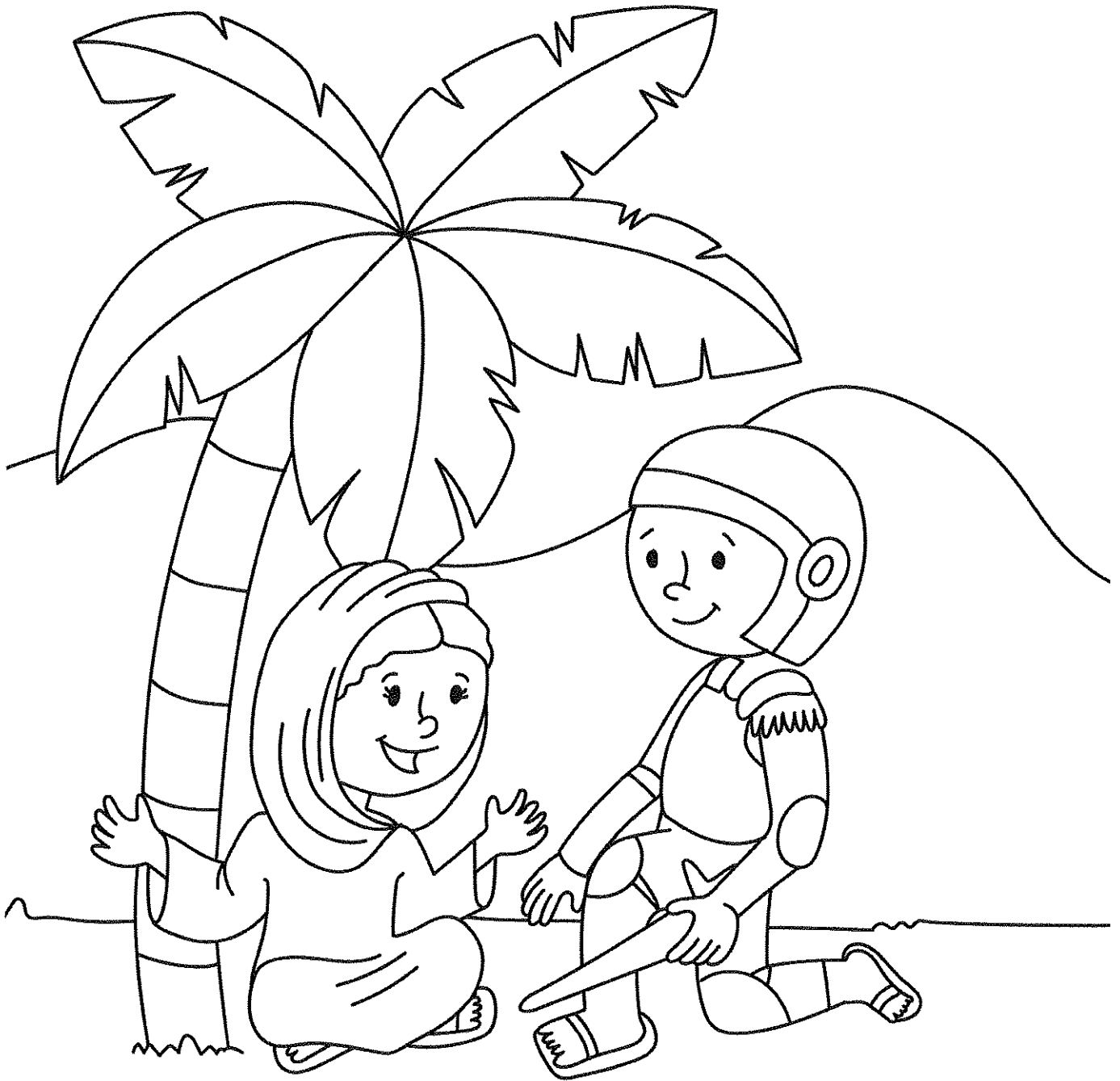


Item Descriptions	Quantity
HR USB Desk Fan Foldable Mini Personal Table Fan with 3 Speed Adjustable, Quiet Operation Portable Handheld Fan Home Office Bedroom Table and Desktop	1

Deborah Becomes Israel's Judge

GOD IS PATIENT.

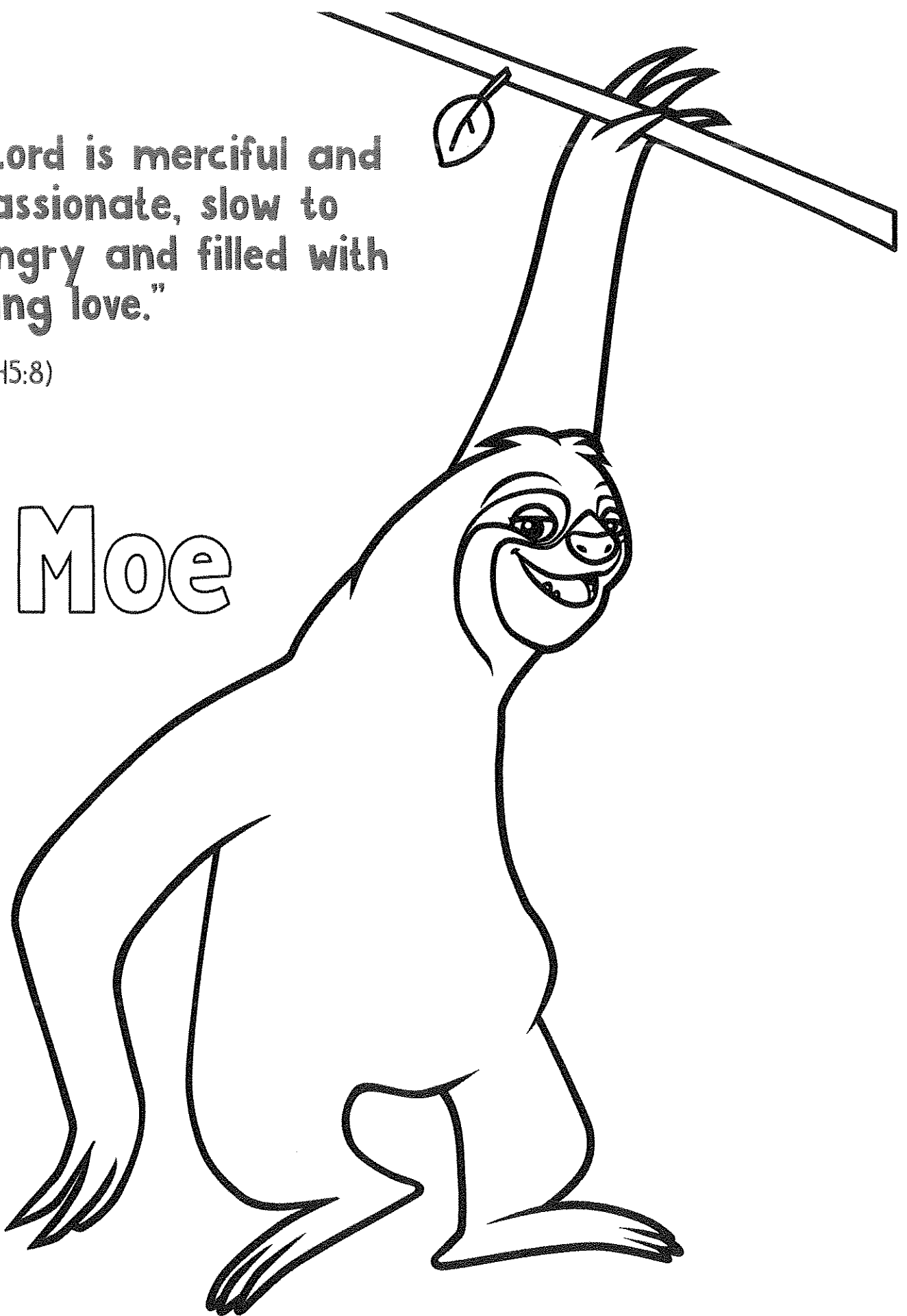
Judges 4:1-16



**"The Lord is merciful and
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get angry and filled with
unfailing love."**

(Psalm 145:8)

Moe



Your return of HR USB Desk Fan Foldable Mini...

1 message

return@amazon.com <return@amazon.com>
To: bgewirz@stjohnsnapa.org

Wed, May 26, 2021 at 10:13 AM



Return Summary

Hello betsy,

We've accepted your return request. Once we receive the item below, we'll issue your refund.

Return Code



[View instructions](#)

[Check return & refund status](#)

Send by:
Fri, Jun 25

Return ship method:
Kohl's Dropoff – no box or label needed



HR USB Desk Fan Foldable Mini...

Estimated refund: \$12.27*

Refund will appear on your Amazon account within 2 to 4 hours after we receive the item.

*The total refund amount may vary based on shipping, late return, or other fees,
[learn more](#).

This email was sent from a notification-only address that can't accept incoming
email. Please don't reply to this message.

Deborah Becomes Israel's Judge

Wanted: Leader of Israel
Judges 4:1-16

Bible Point

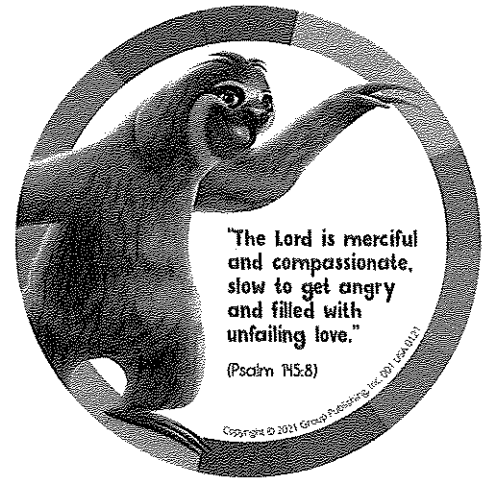
God is patient...and helps us know what to do.

Purpose

What do you do when you don't know what to do? Whose advice do you seek? For God's wayward Israelites, that person was Deborah.

Deborah was a wise and respected woman who was faithful to God. She watched as the Israelites struggled for years because they chose not to obey God. For two decades, they'd lived under the cruel rule of Jabin, king of the Canaanites. But instead of giving up on them, God gave Deborah a plan that would let the Israelites live in peace.

The kids in your group need go-to leaders, too. And you're one of them! Ask God for his wisdom as you guide kids through this lesson.



Prayer

Dear God, I'm so glad I can come to you for guidance and help, no matter what. I ask for your wisdom as I lead your kids today. Thank you for your great love for us. We love you, too. In Jesus' name, amen.

Prep

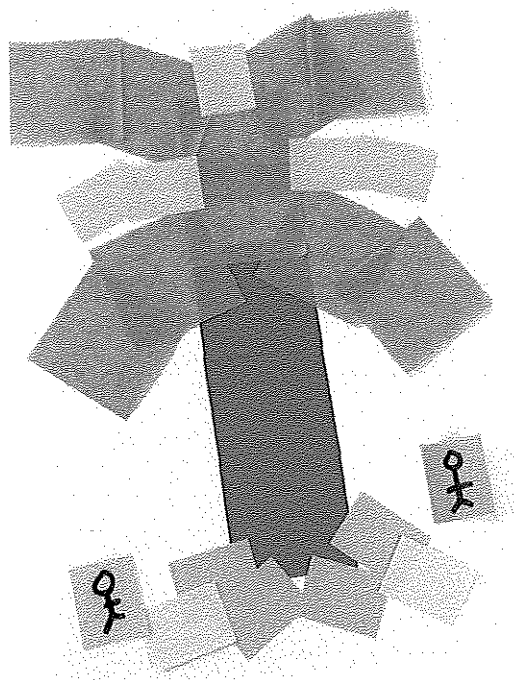
Opening Options	Sing & Play	Bible Discovery & Friendship Finale	Apply-It Options
<input type="checkbox"/> Option Cards* <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Sticky-Note Judges</i> : sticky notes, markers <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Ping-Pong Pass</i> : ping-pong balls, cups	<input type="checkbox"/> countdown video* <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Music Video DVD</i> * <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Buddy Video DVD</i> * <input type="checkbox"/> Moe Bible Memory Buddy poster* <input type="checkbox"/> media player <input type="checkbox"/> Bible (bookmark Psalm 145:8)	<input type="checkbox"/> "Deborah Becomes Israel's Judge" Bible Story poster* <input type="checkbox"/> Moe Bible Memory Buddy stickers* (1 per child) <input type="checkbox"/> Take-It-Home Flyers* (Unit 1, Week 2) (1 per child) <input type="checkbox"/> Bible (bookmark Judges 4:1-3, 5-6, 7, 8-9, 14) <input type="checkbox"/> paper (3 pieces per child) <input type="checkbox"/> pencils	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Explore More</i> : Bibles, shaving cream <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Game</i> : no supplies

* in your **Simply Loved Kit**



Opening Options

Set up one—or both—of these intro activities to start your time together. Each activity connects kids to the Bible Point and to each other. Cut apart these Option Cards, and place one by each activity you choose. Crew Guides will follow the directions and build friendships with kids as they make discoveries together!



Sticky-Note Judges

Supplies: sticky notes, markers

Use sticky notes to create a palm-tree trunk on the wall. Use markers to add a few people by the tree. Then take turns closing your eyes, spinning around, and trying to stick green sticky note “leaves” onto the tree.

? When have you asked someone for advice? What happened?

In our Bible story, a woman named Deborah sat by a large palm tree and patiently gave people messages from God. Deborah helped people know what to do. God is patient and helps us know what to do, too.



Ping-Pong Pass

Supplies: ping-pong balls, cups

Form a circle, and give everyone a cup. Work together to pass a ping-pong ball from cup to cup around your circle without dropping it. Can you go faster each time around?

? What tasks at home or school require more than one person? Who do you ask to help you with them?

We had to be patient as we worked together to pass the ping-pong balls. In our Bible story today, Deborah worked together with God’s people to win a big battle. God is patient. God didn’t *have* to help the Israelites, but he did.

Opening

Now's a great time for Opening Options. Choose one—or both—to introduce today's Bible discoveries.



countdown video (1 minute)

Help kids transition, clean up the activities, and sit with Connect Crews. A Connect Crew is a small group of kids with one Crew Guide.

Sing & Play

Hi, friends! I'm so glad you're here today. Let's start with a song about God's power.



"Your Power Will Pull Us Through" music video

Bible Point

Today's Bible Point tells us **God is patient**. Every time you hear the words "**God is patient**," touch your chin, then move your arm forward like this (demonstrate) and say, "Thanks, God!" This motion is how you say "thank you" in sign language. Pretty cool, huh? Let's try that together.

- Touch your chin, then bring your arm forward and say, "Thanks, God!"
- Repeat several times.

Repetition cements learning, so be sure to say today's Bible Point A LOT. Have fun with it! Kids will love listening for it and responding with "Thanks, God!"

We can always look to God for help and guidance. Sometimes we need to wait for his answer. Even if we get a little grumpy waiting, God is patient with us. We can lean on God when we aren't sure what's going on or what to do. Let's sing that truth together!



"Leaning on the Everlasting Arms" music video

Supplies

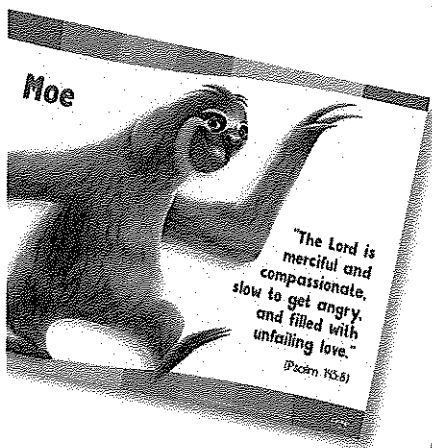
- Bible
- media player
- *Music Video* DVD
 - "Your Power Will Pull Us Through" music video
 - "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms" music video
 - "I Have Decided to Follow Jesus" music video
- *Buddy Video* DVD
 - Moe Bible Memory Buddy video (Week 2)
- Moe Bible Memory Buddy poster



Thanks, God!

Bible Memory Buddy & Verse

Let's check in with Moe the sloth. Moe is our Bible Memory Buddy! Show the Bible Memory Buddy poster. Sloths are super cute, but I wonder how much you know about them. Let's find out with a This-or-That Challenge! You'll hear two fun facts about sloths. It's up to you to decide which one is true—this fact or that!



? Do sloths see in color or only in black and white?

- Have everyone raise their right foot to vote for *this* (see in color) or lift their left elbow to vote for *that* (see in black and white).
- Make a drumroll sound by patting your thighs or the floor.
- Dramatically give the answer: **Sloths cannot see in color! No greens, purples, or blues; they see the world in black and white. Let's find out more about Moe!**
- Watch the Bible Memory Buddy video.



Moe Bible Memory Buddy video (Week 2)



Show the Bible. **The Bible is God's true story of love! The Bible has two main sections: the Old Testament and the New Testament. Our verse comes from the Old Testament—before Jesus came to earth. Let's say the verse together. I'll say a line, and then you repeat it after me.**

"The Lord is merciful (*extend one arm*)
and compassionate, (*extend other arm*)
slow to get angry (*slowly move palms down*)
and filled with unfailing love." (*move arms up*)
(Psalm 145:8)

God is patient. (*Thanks, God!*) **God showed us his unfailing love by sending his only Son, Jesus, to be our forever friend. Let's sing about Jesus now.**



"I Have Decided to Follow Jesus" music video

Bible Discovery

Circle Up & Connect

Let's circle up and spend a little time simply getting to know each other in smaller groups called **Connect Crews**.

- Form Connect Crews with one helper—or Crew Guide—per group.
 - Invite kids to sit in knee-to-knee circles with their Connect Crews.
 - Have kids give their Crew Guides a foot-five.
 - Have kids take turns saying their names and answering this question. Crew Guides go first.
- ❓ **Who do you go to for advice? Tell why you choose that person.**

The Heart of the Matter

Hold up the Bible. **Today we're going to experience a story from the Bible. God's people, the Israelites, had disobeyed God for a long time. But now they needed help and directions from God because they were in a bad situation. They really didn't *deserve* help. But God is patient. (Thanks, God!) And God did something unexpected. Let's try something to understand more about that.** Give each child a sheet of paper and a pencil.

Form pairs, and play Tic-Tac-Toe. One partner will play "X" and the other "O." Play as many games as possible in two minutes.

Then have the partner playing "X" in each pair follow these steps. The other player plays as usual.

- **Put your first X in any corner.** Let the partner go.
- **Put another X in any other corner.** Let the partner go.
- **Put another X in any other corner.** Let the partner go.
- **Look! No matter where your partner goes, you'll most likely win.**

Let partners take turns playing several rounds using the plan you gave them.

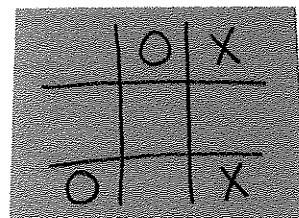
Let's talk about this experience. Invite responses from the whole group.

- ❓ **How did I help you?**
- ❓ **What did you do to deserve my help?**

Supplies

- Bible
- "Deborah Becomes Israel's Judge" Bible Story poster
- paper (3 pieces per child)
- pencils

We call helpers Crew Guides. If you lead a small class, you can be the Crew Guide. Simply circle up with the kids. If you have helpers, form smaller groups so each child can be known—and so kids can befriend your helpers, too!



Welcome a few responses. Be sure to summarize what kids say so everyone can hear.

Like in our activity, the Israelites didn't do anything to deserve God's help. But **God is patient.** (*Thanks, God!*) And through Deborah, he told the Israelites what to do—kind of like I told you X's what to do! Let's talk more about this in our Connect Crews.

- Have Connect Crews sit in knee-to-knee circles.
- 🗣️ **Tell about a time you followed directions to do something or get somewhere. What did you go? Where did you go?**
- Invite Crews to discuss.
- Crew Guides give thumbs-up when everyone has shared.

Experience the Bible Story

Our story is about a woman named Deborah. Deborah was faithful to God. She led God's people during a time they really needed someone to help them remember God. We read about her and other leaders called judges in the book of Judges in the Bible.

God led judges like Deborah to rescue his people from their troubles. And believe me, they got into trouble *a lot*. They worshipped fake gods, forgot God's rules, and didn't love God and put him first. Let's read about the trouble the Israelites found themselves in.



Read aloud Judges 4:1-3.

Yikes! For 20 years, they'd lived under a harsh leader named Jabin, king of Canaan. He made their lives very hard. Jabin's army commander was named Sisera. He was a fearsome military commander. His big army had more than 900 chariots! Have everyone start to count to 900 as fast as they can. Wait for several seconds while they count.

Okay, forget that! We'll be here all day. Let's just say, that's *a lot* of chariots, *a lot* of horses, and *a lot* of warriors!

Considering they faced that kind of opposition, of course the Israelites would cry for help! Let's all cry for help, too! Have everyone yell "Help us, God!" three times.

Meanwhile, Deborah would sit under a palm tree; it was actually called the Palm of Deborah. A tree was named after her! People came to Deborah to ask for help making decisions. And she would talk to God about those things for them.

There are times we're all stumped and don't know what to do. Some people turn to advice columns. Have you seen those before? Pause for a reaction. **You write to a newspaper, radio station, or podcast with your problem, and an expert tells you how to solve it. In Deborah's case, it could be the "Dear Deborah" column. People in Bible times might write things like "I think Hezekiah stole my goat, and I want it back. What should I do?"**

- 🗣️ **If you were Dear Deborah, how would you answer that? What advice would you give?** Invite kids to call out a few answers.

Let's ask some of our own questions, then give each other advice.

- Distribute paper and a pencil to each person.
- Have everyone write or draw a problem they'd ask Dear Deborah for help from God with.
- Then, if people are willing, have them share the questions in Connect Crews and answer them together as "Deborah."
- Give Connect Crews several minutes to discuss.

Deborah wasn't an expert on her own. God helped her! She listened closely for how God told her to make decisions. For that reason, she was also called a prophet, or a person who speaks on behalf of God.

Deborah knew the Israelites were calling out to God to help them. Have everyone yell "Help us, God!" three times, getting louder each time.

God *could* have gotten angry and frustrated with the Israelites. He could have said, "Too bad for you. You didn't listen to me." He could have made their lives even harder as a way to punish them.

But remember our Bible Verse? Say it with me again.

"The Lord is merciful *(extend one arm)*
and compassionate, *(extend other arm)*
slow to get angry *(slowly move palms down)*
and filled with unfailing love." *(move arms up)*
(Psalm 145:8)

God is patient. *(Thanks, God!)* **And God helps us know what to do.**

So instead of punishing the Israelites, God gave Deborah a plan to help them. Deborah asked a great Israelite military leader named Barak to come talk to her at the palm tree. Let's find out what happened.



Read aloud Judges 4:5-6.

Show the Bible Story poster.



Deborah told Barak to call 10,000 soldiers and march them up Mount Tabor. Let's imagine we're walking with the Israelites. March in place. Then Deborah told them to wait. Freeze in place, and have everyone wait for about 10 seconds. Let's read the rest of God's plan.



Read aloud Judges 4:7.

It wouldn't be easy. Sisera's army was strong! That's why they'd stayed in power over the Israelites so long. Barak listened to what Deborah told him and had one request. Let's find out what it was.



Read aloud Judges 4:8-9.

So Deborah agreed to go with Barak, and Barak followed Deborah's plan. He gathered 10,000 warriors, and they went to the mountain.

Meanwhile, Sisera's army moved into the river valley. Have kids march their feet like an army. And they set up camp. Let's set up some tents, too.

Have Crew Guides distribute a piece of paper to each child. Have kids fold the paper in half to create a tent and then stand all the tents in the center of their Crew circles.

- ❓ **What do you think it was like for Barak and the Israelites to wait for the right time? Remember, Sisera wasn't messing around!** Invite kids to call out a few responses.



Read aloud Judges 4:14.

Sisera's army panicked! Have everyone show a shocked face and spin in a circle four times.

Sisera was dizzy with fear! The great commander Sisera jumped off his chariot and ran away on foot. By the time the battle was over, none of Sisera's warriors remained, and God's people could live in peace. Have kids pick up the tents in the center and move them to the outside of the Crew circles. Have everyone take a deep breath and let it out as if relieved.

Even though the Israelites had been disobeying God, God is patient. (Thanks, God!) He helped Deborah and Barak know what to do, and it was God who won the battle for them. God didn't abandon his people.

God won't leave us alone, either. He isn't annoyed with us when we ask him for guidance and help. Instead, God is patient. (Thanks, God!) He wants us to talk with him when we're in trouble, and he'll help us. Let's talk to God right now.

Dear God, thank you that you are merciful, compassionate, slow to get angry, and full of love for each person here today. Help us come to you right away when we face trouble—even of our own making. We need you, and we love you. In Jesus' name, amen.

Now's a great time for Apply-It Options. Choose one—or both—of the following reinforcement activities to support today's Bible discoveries before the Friendship Finale.

Apply-It Options

Choose one—or both—of these activities to support kids' learning after Bible Discovery.

Explore More

Supplies: Bibles, shaving cream



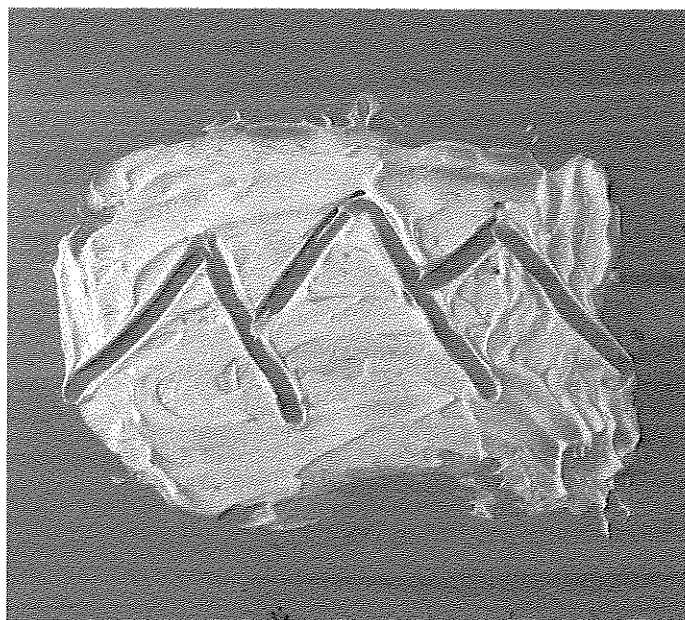
Distribute Bibles, and help kids find and read Psalm 121:1-2 together.

Where can we look for help? To God! God is patient (Thanks, God!) and stronger than any mountain. God is ready to help us when we realize our need for him. Let's create some mountains to remind us of our big, strong God.

- Spray a small pile of shaving cream onto a table for each person.
- Have kids use their hands to spread out the shaving cream and draw mountain ranges.
- Play and create until the shaving cream disappears!

🗣️ **Tell about a time you've hiked or seen a mountain. What did you see that reminded you of God?**

God is patient. (Thanks, God!) God never gets tired of you talking with him and asking for his guidance to help you know what to do.

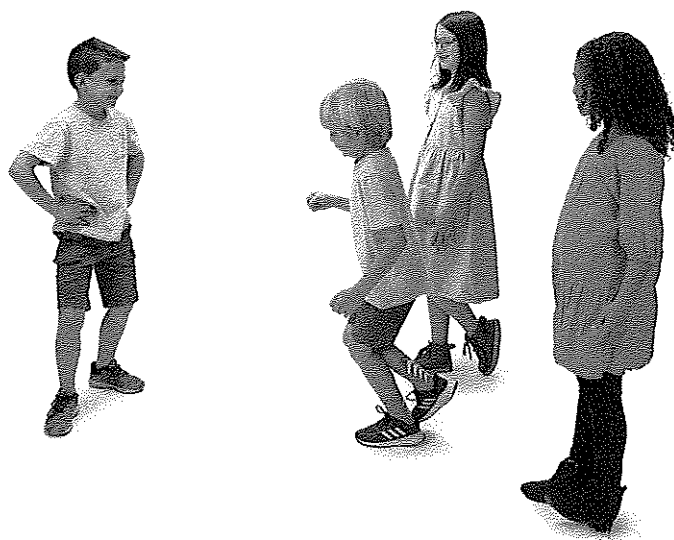


Game

Play a game of "Deborah, May I?" in Connect Crews.

- Choose one person to be Deborah and stand in front of the group.
- Everyone else spreads out across the room, facing Deborah.
- Take turns asking Deborah permission to move forward or backward in a certain way. For example, "Deborah, may I take five hops forward?"
- Deborah answers with "Yes, you may" or "No, you may not" or an alternative movement.
- Play for five minutes or until someone reaches Deborah.
- Choose a new Deborah and play again.

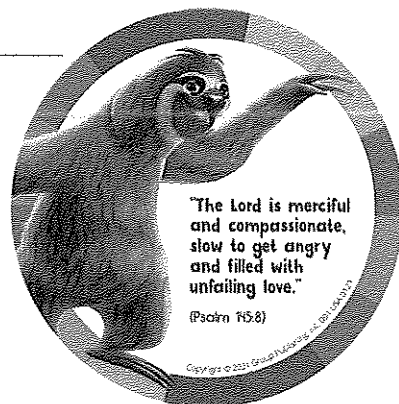
God is patient. (Thanks, God!) You can always talk to God about your questions and ask for his guidance to help you know what to do.



Supplies

- Moe Bible Memory Buddy stickers (1 per child)
- Take-It-Home Flyers (Unit 1, Week 2) (1 per child)

Friendship Finale



Moe, our Bible Memory Buddy, can help us remember **God is patient. (Thanks, God!)**
You'll each receive a Moe sticker to help you remember that even when we mess up, God doesn't give up on us. He's patient, loving, calm, and kind. You can wear your sticker now or take it home with you.

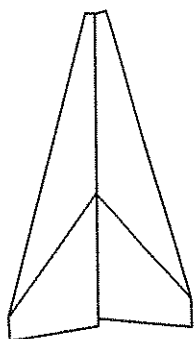
- Ask a willing child to help you demonstrate the following actions.
- While holding the Bible Memory Buddy sticker, Crew Guides stretch their arms high up like trees. Kids reach up in slow motion to receive stickers, pretending they're sloths climbing the tree.
- Crew Guides say, "**God is patient and loves you,** [child's name]."
- Crew Guides give thumbs-up when everyone has received a sticker.

Saying each child's name in a loving way helps kids simply experience the love of Jesus through you!

I'm so grateful that **God is patient. (Thanks, God!) **God knows we're not perfect. We need his help! God gave Deborah a plan to help the Israelites in the Old Testament, and later in the New Testament, God gave all of us Jesus! God loves us so much.****

I'd like to read you something about our friend Jesus. Move apart so you're not right next to anyone else, and sit cross-legged. Pause for kids to move. While you listen, close your eyes and raise your hands palms up, like this. Hold your hands out, palms up. Now listen while I read.

- Read the first section of the Unit 1, Week 2 Take-It-Home Flyer.
- **Now I'll give you one of these flyers to help you talk about Jesus' love in your Connect Crews and at home, too. Think of this as a practice time for talking about Jesus with your family at home.**
- Distribute Take-It-Home Flyers to Crew Guides, and have them share about their own friendship with Jesus as they discuss the "Talk Starter" question and then invite kids to talk.
- Kids share prayer requests—things they'd like to tell Jesus—in their Connect Crews.
- Connect Crews pray together.
- Crew Guides distribute Take-It-Home Flyers and follow the directions to help kids fold the paper to "fly" home. ○



Take-It-Home Flyer

Deborah Becomes Israel's Judge
(Judges 4:1-16)

"The Lord is merciful and
compassionate, slow to get angry
and filled with unfailing love."
(Psalm 145:8)

God is patient...and helps us know what to do.

When you're a kid, you get asked to do lots of stuff for the first time. Like jumping into the deep end of the pool or doing a math problem in front of the whole class. You *think* you're up for it, but you're not exactly sure what to do or even how to do it.

You're not alone. Even grown-ups need help knowing what to do. It's part of life.

If you follow Jesus you can count on new things coming your way. He's always asking his friends to go find a new kid to welcome, or a hungry person to feed, or a sad person to hug. He's big on sending you on adventures.

The good news is that he's patient if an adventure feels too big or hard. Jesus doesn't just push you into the pool and hope you can swim. He gently reminds you that you're in this together and he'll show you what to do.

Ready for a something-new adventure with Jesus?

Talk-Starters

Tell about something
you tried for the first
time and it went well.
How about something
that *didn't* go so well?

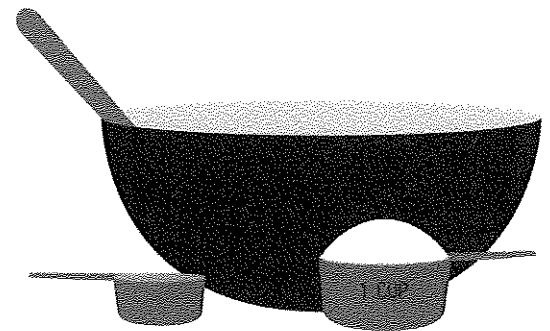
Try-This-@-Home

Ask a grown-up to teach you
how to do something you
don't know how to do. Listen
carefully, and give it a try!



Explore More @ Home

God loves us and is patient with us. We can share his love
and patience with others. See 1 Corinthians 13:4-7.



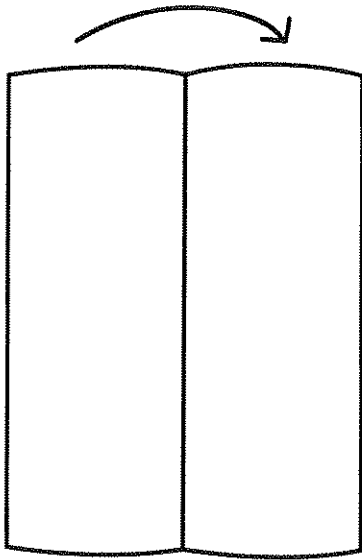
Make this page fly home!

Fold a flyer. When you get home

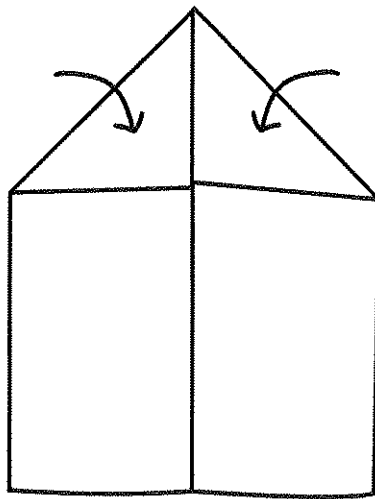
...ask a family member to join you in a first-time challenge: Look at how you've created your plane, and then try to make the same style of plane from sheets of paper—with your eyes closed. How'd you do? Which plane flies farthest?

Here's how:

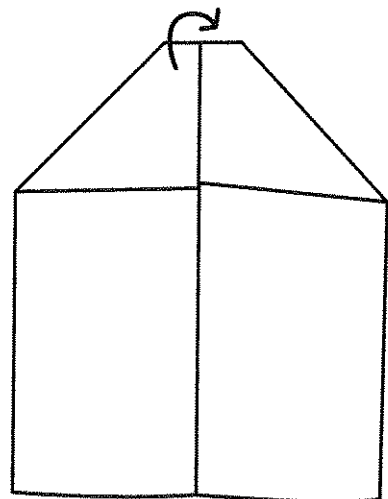
- ① Fold the paper in half lengthwise as shown.



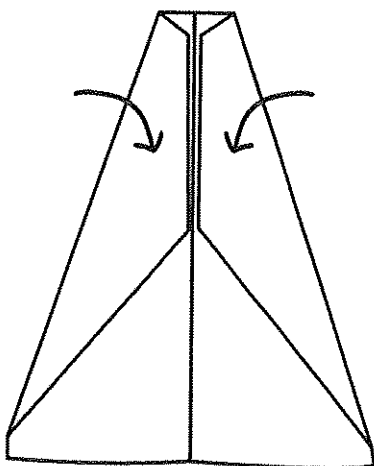
- ② Fold both upper corners to the center.



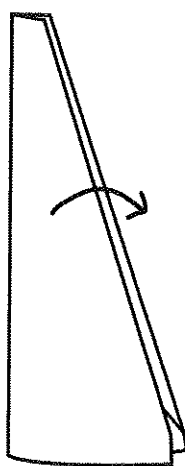
- ③ Fold down the top peak.



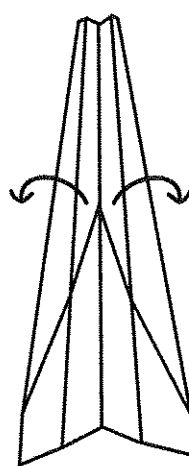
- ④ Fold both upper edges to the center line.



- ⑤ Fold in half.



- ⑥ Fold out the first and second wings.



- ⑦ Take aim, and let it fly!

