Oct 25, 2026

David - A Man After God's Own Heart

Multiple Scriptures

Story: Read the story ahead of time. Practice it. For the younger grades, feel free to summarize, if needed. It's okay to reference the story as you are telling it, but the goal is to know the story well enough that you don't have to read it word for word. :) And, we encourage you to have your Bible open during the telling of the story, so the kids know where this story came from.

★ **Introduction & Story**:

Quick Recap - We have finished our quick tour of the beginning of the Bible. God made the world. Mankind sinned. Sin is anything we think, say, or do that displeases God. When we sin, we are separated from God. But God still loves us and wants to be with us. He told us that He would send a Savior. But the Israelites (God's chosen family) had to wait until the New Testament for Jesus to show up! While they waited, God showed them how He has a plan and He loves them even though they are not faithful to Him. God loves us the same way!! We are now in the history section of the Bible. Last week, we talked about the last judge and first king. Today we are going to talk about the most famous king of Israel.

God called David "a man after his own heart."

> Acts 13:22
> ...He raised up David as their king and testified about him, 'I have found David the son of Jesse to be a man after my own heart, who will carry out all my will.'

God called David that because he knew that David would do the things that God wanted him to do.

1. **David was dependent on God.**

Do you remember when David was just a boy, he fought the giant Goliath? King Saul tried to get David to wear his armor, but the armor was much too big for David.

> 1 Samuel 17:37
> David said, "The Lord who rescued me from the paw of the lion and the paw of the bear will rescue me from the hand of this Philistine."
>
> 1 Samuel 17:45

David said to the Philistine, “You come against me with a sword, spear, and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the Lord of Armies, the God of the ranks of Israel.”

2. **David loved God and worshiped him.**

Psalm 63:3-4
My lips will glorify you because your faithful love is better than life. So I will bless you as long as I live; at your name, I will lift up my hands.

Psalm 103:1
My soul, bless the Lord, and all that is within me, bless his holy name.

2 Samuel 6:14-15
David was dancing with all his might before the Lord wearing a linen ephod. He and the whole house of Israel were bringing up the ark of the Lord with shouts and the sound of the ram’s horn.

3. **David accepted responsibility for his sin.**

There was a time in David’s life when he committed a big sin. He did something very selfish. When he realized his sin, he asked the Lord to forgive him and repented of his sin. Repenting means that we turn and go the other direction from sin. We completely change the way we are doing things.

Psalm 51:1-2
Be gracious to me, God, according to your faithful love; according to your abundant compassion, blot out my rebellion. Completely wash away my guilt and cleanse me from my sin.

Psalm 51:4
Against you — you alone — I have sinned and done this evil in your sight.

Psalm 51:10
God, create a clean heart for me and renew a steadfast spirit within me.

4. **David had a hunger for God’s Word.**

Psalm 19:7
The instruction of the Lord is perfect, renewing one’s life; the testimony of the Lord is trustworthy, making the inexperienced wise.

Psalm 119:105
Your word is a lamp for my feet and a light on my path.

5. David sought the Lord.

That means that he wanted to know the Lord better every day. He spent time praying to God. He spent time thinking about God.

> Psalm 63:1
>
> God, you are my God; I eagerly seek you.
>
> Psalm 27:4
>
> I have asked one thing from the Lord; it is what I desire: to dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

★ **Connection to God's Overall Story/Plan**:

Because David wanted to know and please the Lord, God was able to use him in mighty ways. Many generations after David, Jesus was born into his family. Jesus came to save us from our sins.

David gave us a lot of prophecies of Jesus. Jesus spoke some of David's words back to God. David wasn't just a king, but He was used by God to share with the entire world for thousands of years of how good God is in hard times. He wrote a lot of psalms and those have been used as songs for a long time.

Follow Up: As a church, we are encouraging disciple makers to practice the REAP method as it is one useful tool in learning to read the Bible on your own. Retell, Examine, Application, Prayer. Now this may not be everyone's preference, but it is an easy and consistent way to teach children to pull the meaning out of a passage and not just read it or rely on others to teach them what it means. Trees & Mountains - this is a station.

★ **Retell**: Have kids share what they recall from the story. Fill in any major holes they missed.

★ **Examine**:

- Comprehension Questions:
  - Was David a perfect, sinless man?
  - What made David "a man after God's own heart?"
  - Would you like to be known as a person after God's own heart?
- Ask, "What do we learn about God from this story? What does He do?"

        - God used David - a sinner. God forgave David. God loves us. He didn't pick David because he was perfect, but rather used him because David did seek the Lord - even after sinning.
    - Ask, "What do we learn about humans from this story? What are humans doing?"
        - We can return to God after sin. We can know God by spending time with Him and honoring Him.
- ★ **Application**: Ask, "What is Jesus asking us to do through this story? Why did God include this in the Bible?"
    - Jesus wants to use us!
- ★ **Prayer**

Memory Verse: Have the kids use the Bible. They should either share or each have one. If kids have their own Bibles, we can encourage them to use it, but sometimes you may just need to use the class set. Trees & Mountains - this is one station.

- ★ **Verse**: "My lips will glorify you because your faithful love is better than life." -Psalm 63:3

Memory Verse Practice:

Verse Look Up: Explain the address of the verse (Book Chapter:Verse). Explain whether it's in the Old Testament or the New Testament. Read and explain the verse.

- Rainbow Tip: Not necessary until we split classrooms.
- Fireweed Tip: Put Post-It notes on the book of the Bible for the memory verse. Then have them find the chapter and verse.

Practice the Verse:

- Rainbow: Not necessary :)
- Fireweed: Have the kids read it with you several times. Since they are learning to read, group practice is the focus.
- Trees & Mountains: Kids should be learning the verse and saying it on their own. We will provide activities - pick one to have the kids practice. We will PM provide: fill-in-the-blank verses, phrases for the kids to put in order, lines

for the kids to write the verse out, and a worksheet for the kids to say the verse based on just the first letter of each word in the verse.

Books of the Bible:

- ★ If there is time or if kids have mastered the verse, have the kids practice the Books of the Bible. When we are doing Old Testament stories, have them practice the Old Testament; when in the New, practice the New Testament. We will have some activities for them to practice with.
  - Trees/Mountains currently have pencil cases with sets of cards/bookmarks in them.

Sticky Activities: No need to do all of these! Pick which ones work best for your teaching style and time frame! For the Trees and Mountains - there is enough time for two of the stations to do activities.

★ **Sensory:**

Category	Activity 1	Activity 2
Experiential	**Heart Choices:** Give kids everyday situations: *Someone hurts your feelings.* *You make a mistake.* *You're afraid.* *Someone needs help.* Ask: **"What would a heart that follows God choose to do?"**	**Choose the Path:** Create a simple path with several choices. At each decision point, give kids a Bible verse or principle to help them choose which direction to go.
Visual	**David's Heart:** Show the image of David's heart with the phrases: dependent on God, loves and worships God, accepts responsibility, hungers for God's Word, sought the Lord	**David's Life Timeline:** Show David as: **Shepherd → Giant Fighter → King → Worshiper → Repenter → Man Who Followed God**
Touch	**Feel-in-the-Dark Bag:** Put familiar objects in a bag and let	**Washing station:** Use a bucket (or similar vessel) with water for

	kids identify them by touch, connecting it to how difficult things can be when we can't see clearly.	a washing station (alternative could be baby wipes). Talk about how the water (or wipe) cleanses just as David talks about in Psalm 51: “Completely wash away my guilt and cleanse me from my sin.”
Movement	**Psalm Motions:** Create motions for words found throughout the Psalms: **praise, trust, seek, worship, obey, remember, rejoice.**	**Footstep Freeze:** Kids walk along a marked path while music plays. When it stops, they freeze and say, **“God’s Word guides me!”**
Sound	**Follow the Light (song):** Play the song Follow the Light from the David movie. DAVID | "Follow The Light" | ...	**Psalm Soundscape:** Read selected short portions from the Psalms while kids create appropriate sounds: flowing water, wind, sheep, footsteps, or gentle instruments.
Crafts	**David and Goliath:** Cut, color, and assemble spinner activity page using a brad.	**Paper Lantern:** Have kids make a simple paper lantern and write Psalm 119:105 on it.

Send Home Page: Please send home with parents. They are sized 4 to a page.

Lesson Activity Pages

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David and Goliath:
Color, cut, and assemble the activity page with a brad.





David's Life Timeline:
Create cards from the following pages with the phrases (Erin can make them on card stock if you want to use them - just let her know by Wednesday 10/21):
Shepherd → Giant Fighter → King → Worshiper → Repenter → Man Who Followed God

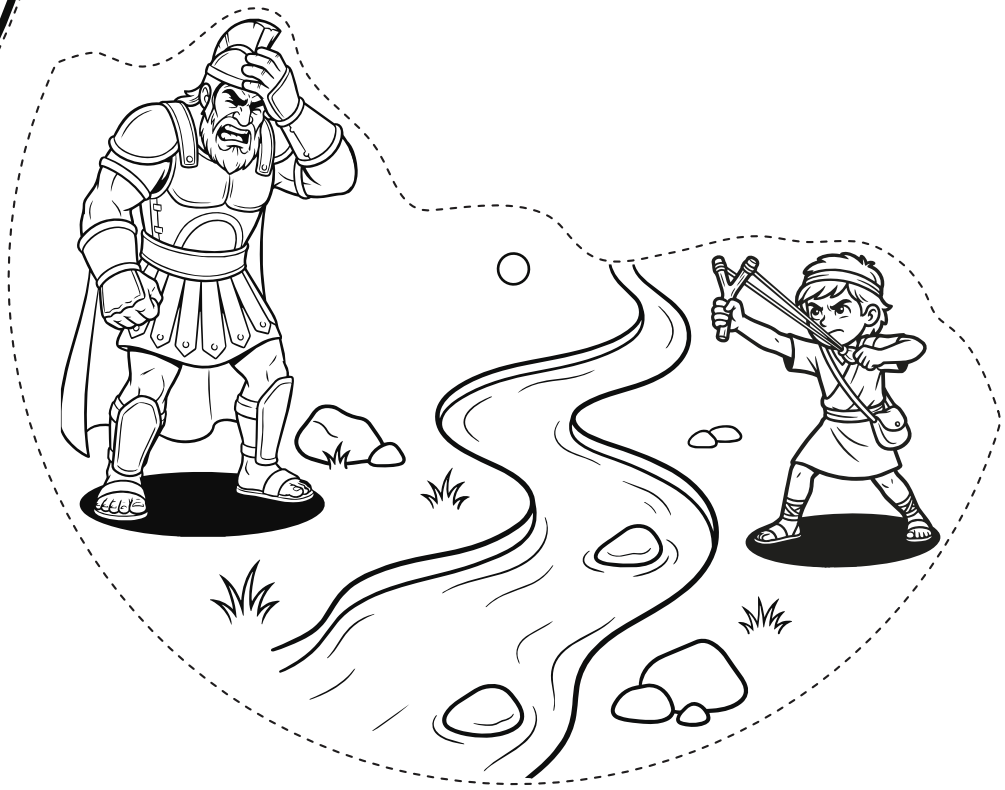


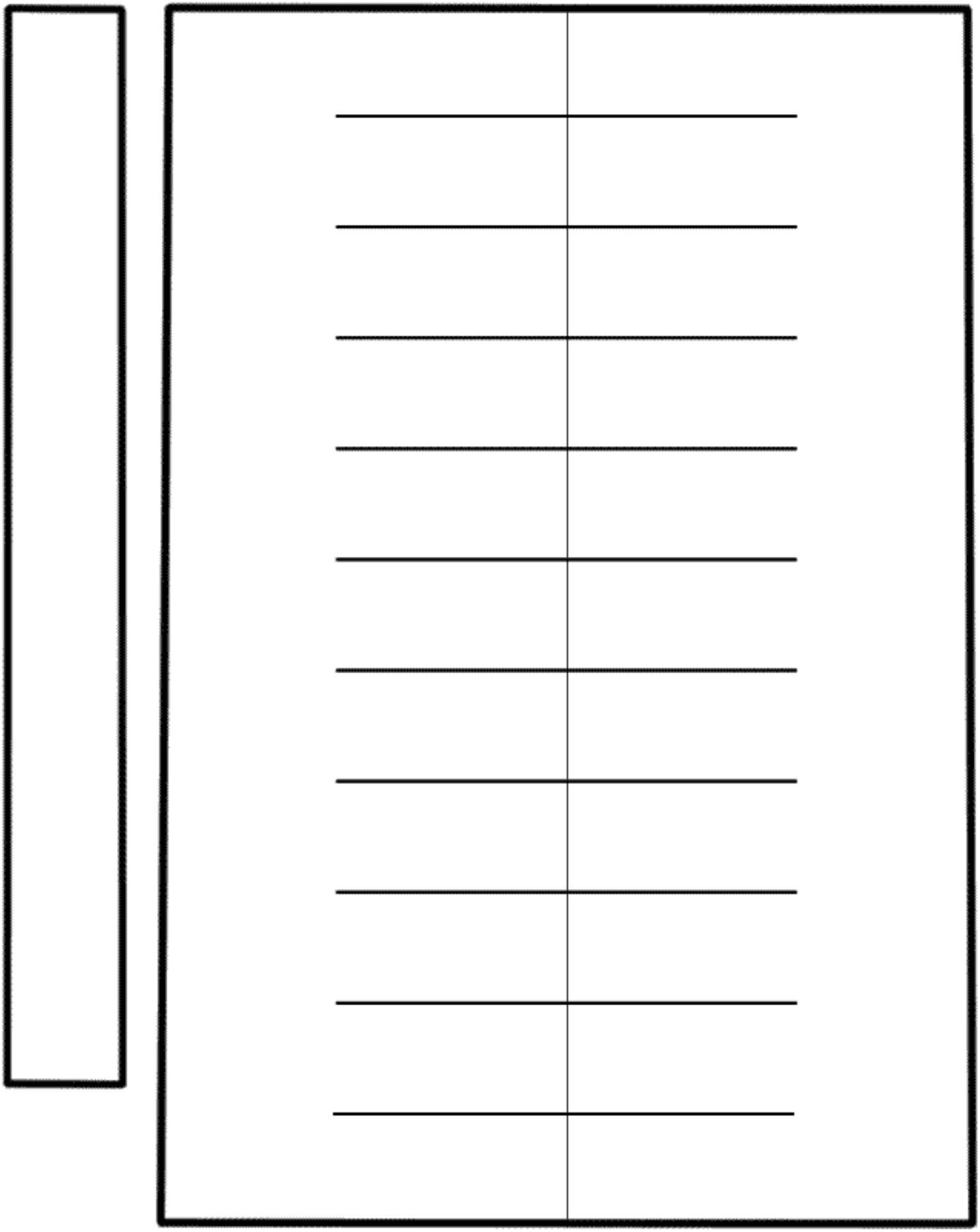
Paper Lantern:
Template on following page.
Have kids write:
"Your word is a lamp for my feet and a light on my path."
-Psalm 119:105.
Fold the lantern portion in half along narrow line down the middle. Cut along 10 thicker black lines (creates the "windows" of the lantern). Glue the ends together and then glue the handle.

The battle is the Lord's

1 Samuel 17:47





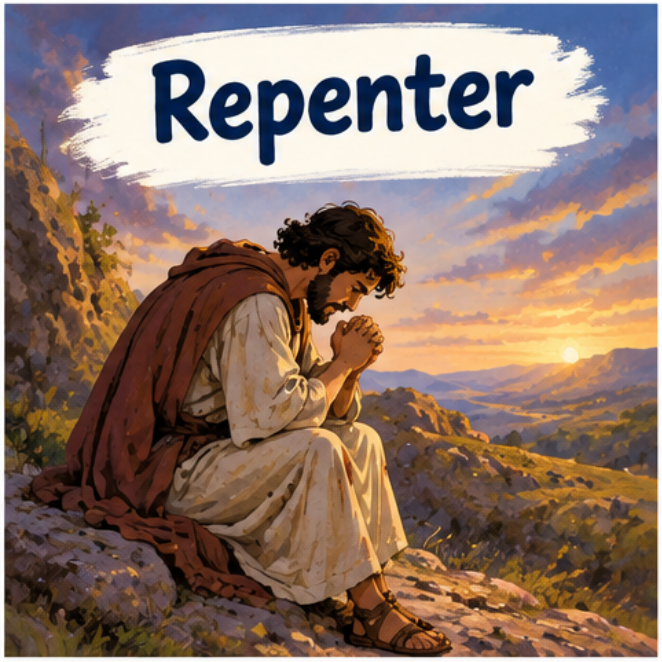



Shepherd

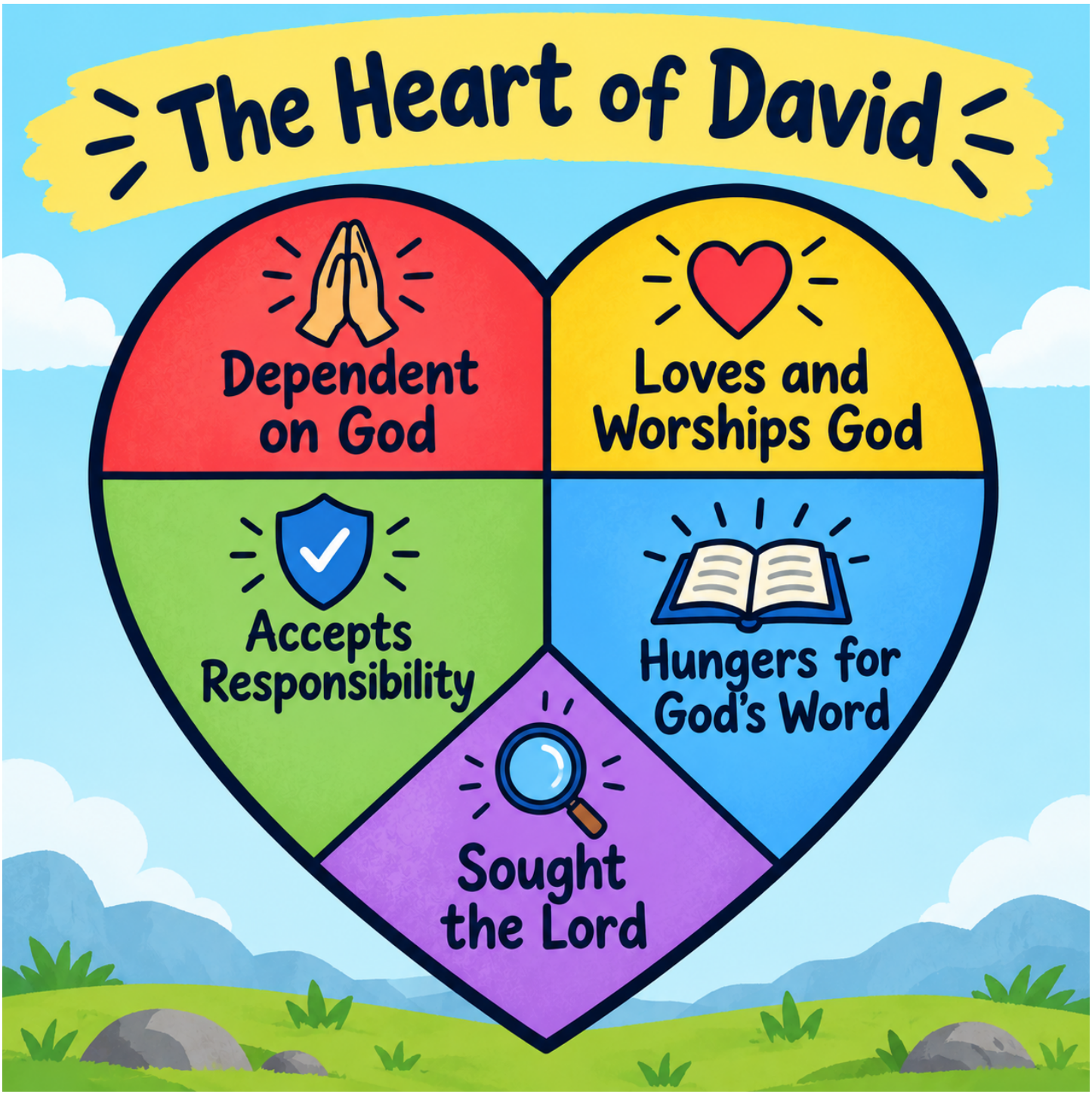

Giant
Fighter


King


Worshiper


Repenter


Man who
followed God


The Heart of David
Dependent on God
Loves and Worships God
Accepts Responsibility
Hungers for God's Word
Sought the Lord



1 Samuel 17

David Fights Goliath

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David Fights Goliath

1 Samuel 17

David's brothers were in King Saul's army. One day, David's father sent him to visit his brothers. David saw the army getting ready to fight the Philistines. Suddenly, a giant Philistine came out. The men in King Saul's army were afraid. They ran back to their tents.

Goliath, the Philistine giant, was more than nine feet tall. Goliath yelled, "Choose a man to fight me! If he is able to kill me, we will become your slaves. But if I win the fight, you will become our slaves!" No one in the Israelite camp wanted to fight Goliath. They didn't think anyone could beat someone so big!

David knew God was stronger than Goliath. David said, "I'll go and fight him." King Saul heard what David said. "You're too young and small to fight Goliath," King Saul said.

"But God helped me fight lions and bears when I took care of my father's sheep, and God will help me now," David answered.

Goliath laughed when he saw David. Goliath even made fun of God! David used just his slingshot and a stone to fight Goliath. God helped David save His people from the Philistine army.

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MEMORY VERSE:

October 25, 2026

"My lips will glorify you because your faithful love is better than life."
--Psalm 63:3

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🎉 YOU CAN DO IT! 🎉
Recite the verse next week & earn a prize!

NEXT WEEK:
Third King: Solomon asks for Wisdom

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Free Resource for Families

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Fill in the Blanks

My _____ will glorify ___ because your _____ love is _____ than _____."
-Psalm 63:3

I can praise God by saying...







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My _____ will glorify ___ because your _____ love is _____ than _____."
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I can praise God by saying...





