WEEK 3

Nov 15, 2026

Josiah - The Boy King

2 Kings 22 & 23

2 Chronicles 34 & 35

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 – In the beginning of the Bible, God made the heavens and the earth, but man sinned. Sin is anything we think, say, or do that displeases God. Sin separates us from God, but God still loves us and wants us to be with Him. He promised to send a Savior to rescue us from sin and bring us back to God! God used different people throughout history to remind the Israelites of His plan to send a Savior. Some of those people were kings.

After the kingdom divided into two parts (Israel and Judah), there were many kings in both regions. Some were good, but most were bad. Most did not worship the one true God.

One of the good kings was just eight years old when he became king. His name was Josiah.

> 2 Chronicles 34:1-2
>
> Josiah was eight years old when he became king, and he reigned thirty-one years in Jerusalem. He did what was right in the Lord's sight and walked in the ways of his ancestor David; he did not turn aside to the right or the left.

Josiah did not like that some of the people were worshipping other gods and had idols – images made of wood or some kind of metal. He decided that these things needed to go away.

> 2 Chronicles 34:3

> In the eighth year of his reign, while he was still a youth, Josiah began to seek the God of his ancestor David, and in the twelfth year he began to cleanse Judah and Jerusalem of the high places, the Asherah poles, the carved images, and the cast images.

After that, he decided it was time to repair the temple that King Solomon had built so many years before.

> 2 Chronicles 34:8
>
> In the eighteenth year of his reign, in order to cleanse the land and the temple, Josiah sent Shaphan (sha-FAN) son of Azaliah (uh-Z AH-le-ah), along with Maaseiah (mah-uh-SIE-uh) the governor of the city and the court historian Joah (JOH-uh) son of Joahaz (jeh-HOH-ahz) , to repair the temple of the Lord his God.

The men who were working on the repairs worked with integrity (they were very honest and did a good job.) They were given silver that had been brought to the temple so that they could buy what they needed to repair the temple. Then something wonderful happened! One of the priests found the book of the law that had been written by Moses.

> 2 Chronicles 34:14-15
>
> When they brought out the silver that had been deposited in the Lord's temple, the priest Hilkiah (hil-KAI-iuh) found the book of the law of the Lord written by the hand of Moses. Consequently, Hilkiah told the court secretary Shaphan, "I have found the book of the law in the Lord's temple," and he gave the book to Shaphan.

Shaphan took the book to King Josiah and began reading from it.

> 2 Chronicles 34:18
>
> Then the court secretary Shaphan told the king, "The priest Hilkiah gave me a book," and Shaphan read from it in the presence of the king.

Josiah had never heard the words of God's law. He heard about God's promise to bless the people if they served the Lord faithfully. And he heard about God's promise to punish the people if they turned away from God and worshipped idols.

Josiah was very upset because he knew that his people had disobeyed God's law. He wanted the people to hear God's laws.

2 Chronicles 34:29-31

So the king sent messengers and gathered all the elders of Judah and Jerusalem. The king went up to the Lord's temple with all the men of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, as well as the priests and the Levites — all the people from the oldest to the youngest. He read in their hearing all the words of the book of the covenant that had been found in the Lord's temple. Then the king stood at his post and made a covenant in the Lord's presence to follow the Lord and to keep his commands, his decrees, and his statutes with all his heart and with all his soul in order to carry out the words of the covenant written in this book. As long as Josiah was king, the Israelites continued to follow the Lord and obey his laws.

2 Chronicles 34:33

So Josiah removed everything that was detestable from all the lands belonging to the Israelites, and he required all who were present in Israel to serve the Lord their God. Throughout his reign they did not turn aside from following the Lord, the God of their ancestors.

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

God's law promised good things for those who obeyed his laws. God has promised good things to us as well. God promised to send his son Jesus to be our Savior and God always keeps his promises.

Josiah tried to lead God's people back to obeying God's Word, but even a good king couldn't change everyone's heart forever. God's people needed more than a king who would tell them what was right. They needed a Savior who could rescue them from sin and give them new hearts. God promised to do this, and Jesus came to save His people from their sins.: We don't obey God to make Him give us a good life. We obey Him because He is good, His ways are right, and He is worthy of our trust. And when we fail, we need Jesus—not a better record of obedience—to rescue us from sin.

Josiah was the last good king of Judah. His sons and grandsons did not lead the people to follow God. Eventually, after many years of sin and little repentance, God allowed the Israelites to be captured by their enemy. And there were years of silence from God before Jesus came. The people needed Jesus – no one else would do.

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:
    - Do you think you would like to be a king at your age?
    - Do you think it would have been hard for adults to follow the leading of a young person?
    - It was very special that Josiah took a stand for following God's law. Do you think that you could take a stand like that?
  - Ask, "What do we learn about God from this story? What does He do?"
    - God's word is forever. He didn't write it for just one person. He wrote it for everyone and it is never too late to start reading it and following it.
  - Ask, "What do we learn about humans from this story? What are humans doing?"
    - We can follow God! No matter what your family believes or how you grew up, you can follow God.
- ★ **Application**: Ask, "What is Jesus asking us to do through this story? Why did God include this in the Bible?"
  - Jesus is asking us to follow him and point others to him.
- ★ **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**: "Your word is a lamp for my feet and a light on my path." -- Psalm 119:105

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 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

Experiential	**Find the Lost Book:** Hide a Bible (or a few) somewhere in the classroom. Let children search for it. When found, read 2 Kings 22:8–13 and discuss why finding God's Law was important.
	A Young Leader's Promise: Ask children to name one way they can honor God this week. They can choose to be honest, show kindness, pray, or learn Scripture. Let each child share their goal if comfortable.
Visual	**Josiah's Story Sequence:** Prepare picture cards showing Josiah becoming king, the temple being repaired, the book being found, Josiah hearing God's Word, and the people renewing their commitment. Children put the cards in story order.
	Before and After: Draw two pictures: one showing a neglected temple and another showing people repairing it and returning to worship God. Have children identify what changed.
Movement	**Turn Around for God:** Have children march in place while the teacher names actions. When they hear an action that honors God, they turn around and give a thumbs-up. For an unwise choice, they pause and suggest a better one.
	Scroll Search Relay: (combine with or in lieu of *Experiential: Find the Lost Book*) Hide several paper scrolls around the room. Teams take turns finding them and bringing them back to the teacher. Read a short verse or story reminder from each one.
Crafts	**God's Word Scroll:** Give each child paper to decorate like an ancient scroll. Write "Your word is a lamp for my feet and a light on my path." -- Psalm 119:105
	Coloring Page: Josiah Hears God's Word
Touch	**Feel the Scroll:** Provide parchment-like paper, ordinary paper, and fabric. Let children compare their textures and make a scroll (*Craft: God's Word Scroll*). Explain that written scrolls were used to preserve and share important words.

Sound	**Hear and Respond:** (*Can be done right after reading from the Bible)* Children listen quietly, then share one thing they heard that can help them honor God. Explain how Josiah responded when God's Law was read to him.
Additional Activities - Pick prompts or clues that relate to the lesson.	**Hangman**
	Sword drills: Competitive verse lookups.
	Pick a Side: Give kids two choices and assign one side of the room to each choice. Read a prompt, let kids move to their preferred side, and invite a few kids to share their answers. Repeat with new prompts.

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

Lesson Activity Pages

November 15, 2026

God's Word Scroll:

Give each child paper to decorate like an ancient scroll. Write "Your word is a lamp for my feet and a light on my path." -- Psalm 119:105.

Trees & Mountains

Write the verse themselves.

Rainbow & Fireweed

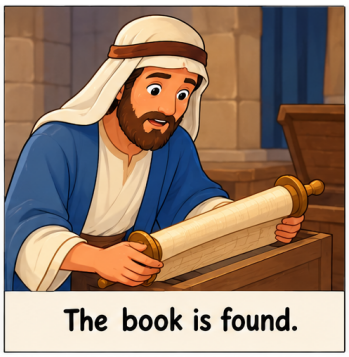
"Your word is a lamp for my feet and a light on my path."
-Psalm 119:105

Josiah's Story Sequence:

Show the cards of Josiah's Story and have the children put them in order.

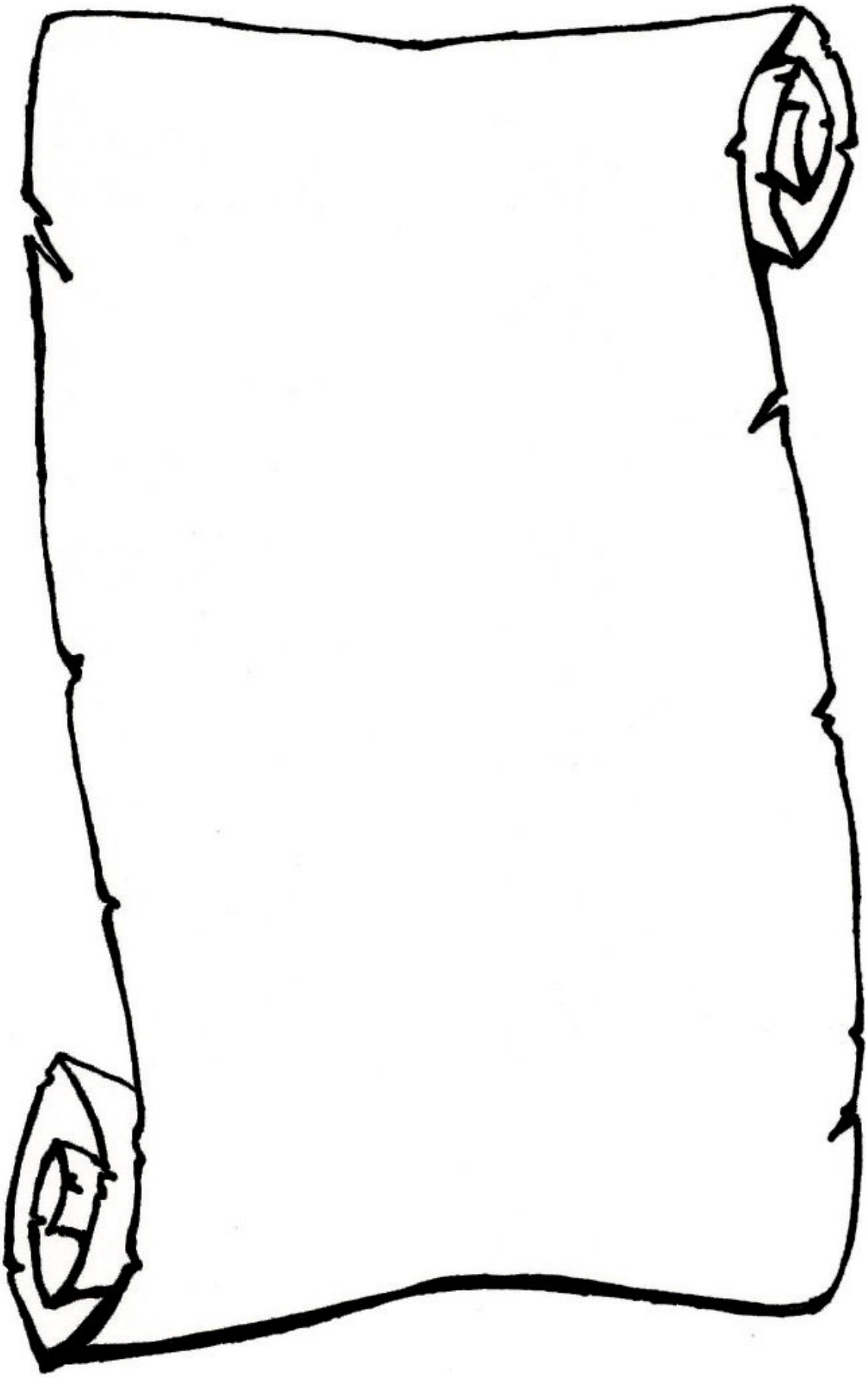


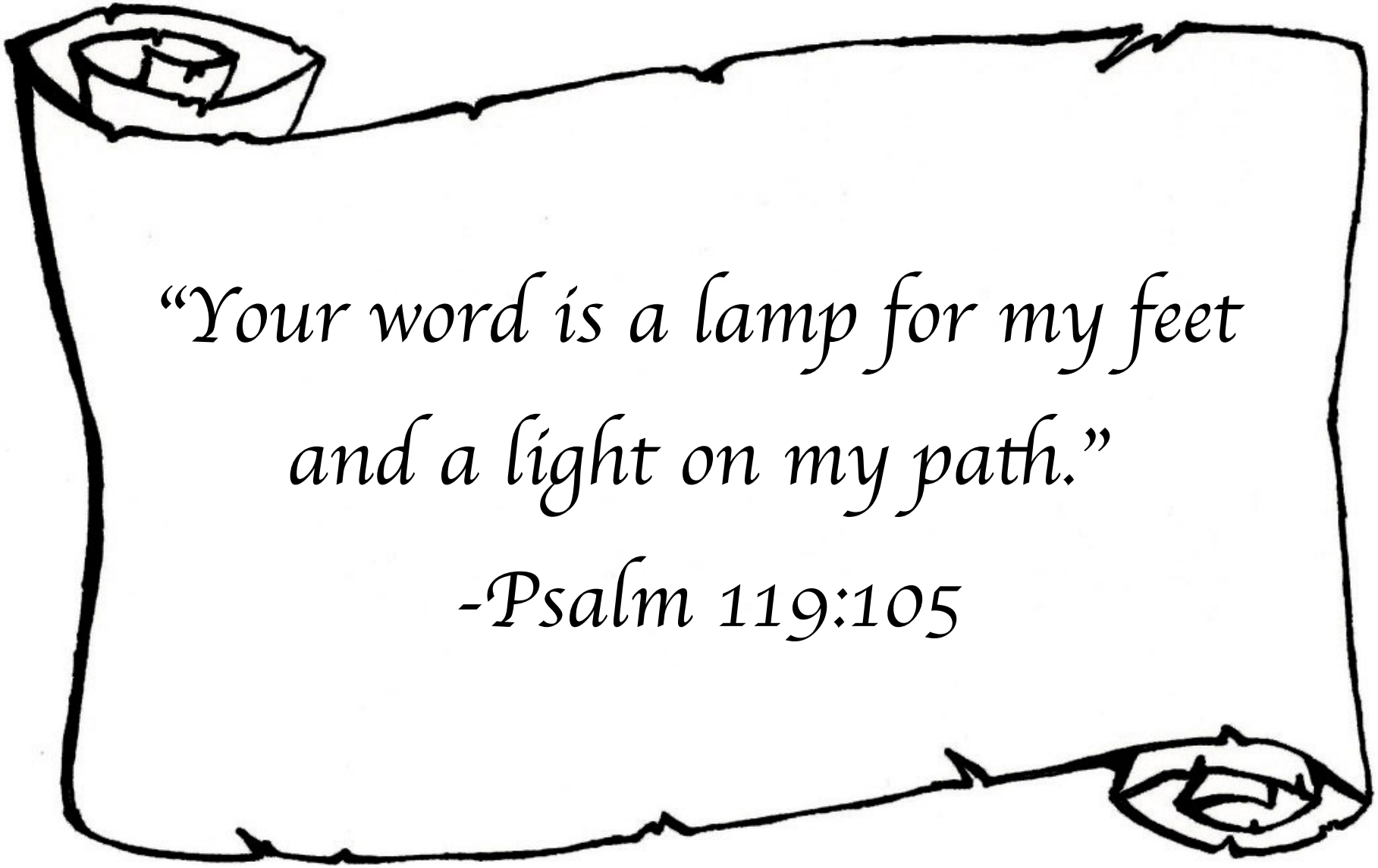











"Your word is a lamp for my feet
and a light on my path."
-Psalm 119:105



2 Kings 22:1—23:3; 2 Chronicles 34:14–32

Josiah Hears God's Word

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Josiah Hears God's Word

2 Kings 22:1—23:3; 2 Chronicles 34:14–32

Josiah was only eight years old when he became king. No one in his country read God's Word anymore. Even the priests who were in charge of the temple didn't know where God's Word was!

One day a priest in the temple found a scroll with God's Word written on it. He ran to the king's helper. "Here is a scroll with God's Word written on it!" the priest said. "King Josiah will want to see this!" The helper took the scroll to the king.

The king's helper read God's Word to Josiah. King Josiah listened to God's Word. King Josiah loved God and wanted to obey God's Word, but when he heard what was written in God's Word, he cried. It made him sad to learn that his people were not obeying God.

King Josiah called all the leaders together. He told them what God's Word said. Josiah and all the leaders promised to obey God's Word.

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November 15, 2026



📖 MEMORY VERSE 📖

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

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

NEXT WEEK:
CLIPBOARD SUNDAY

November 15, 2026



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NEXT LESSON (11/29):
Jesus Coming Foretold



At Creekside, we like to record our kids reciting passages that tell the story of Jesus' birth. If you would like to be a part of this video, please scan the QR code for more information and to sign up!

Recording on Tuesday 11/17



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MEMORY VERSE:

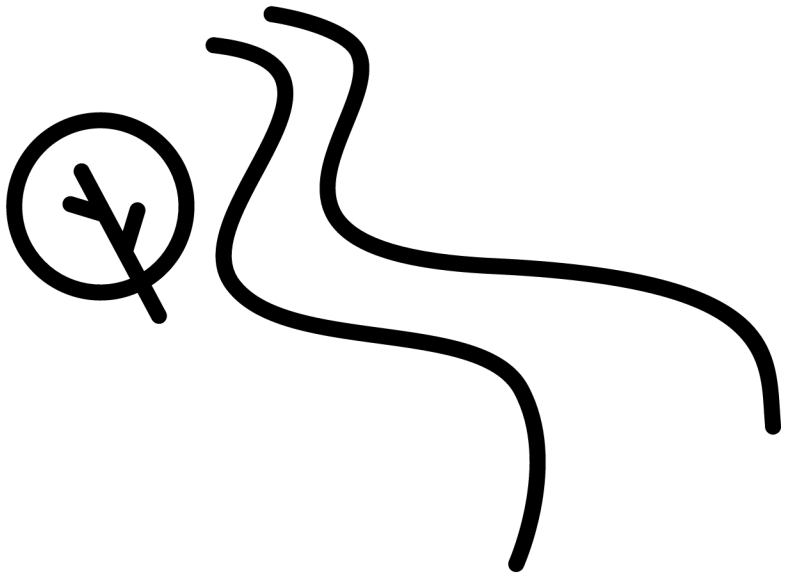
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"Your word is a lamp for my feet and a light on my path."
--Psalm 119:105

Fill in the Blanks

Your _____ is a _____ for my _____ and a _____ on my _____. -Psalm 119:105

Draw light and yourself on this path.



Fill in the Blanks

Your _____ is a _____ for my _____ and a _____ on my _____. -Psalm 119:105

Draw light and yourself on this path.

