

Winter Quarter: December 2023 • January • February 2024



BEGINNERS' STORIES



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Letter to the Parents

Dear Parents,

Thank you for sharing your child with me as we learn about God's Word together. Your child is going to enjoy learning the lessons for this quarter.

Unit I, "Meeting People with Faith," has five lessons from the books of Ruth, 1 Samuel, Matthew, and Luke. In lesson 1, we see how Ruth trusted God to provide for her and her mother-in-law. Lesson 2 details how David trusted that God would enable him to slay the giant, Goliath. Lesson 3 draws on the stories of the women named in Matthew 1. In lessons 4 and 5, Elizabeth, Mary, and the Wise Men trusted that God was sending the Christ Child to bring salvation and be the Messiah.

Unit II, "Growing in Faith," has four lessons from the books of Hebrews, Proverbs, 2 Chronicles, and Romans. The lesson from Hebrews explores why "faith that pleases God" matters. Similarly, the lesson from Proverbs admonishes us to have faith and live by faith. In 2 Chronicles, we see the example of Jehoshaphat's faith. The lesson from Romans reminds Christians that through faith, their existence must be transformed by their having a renewed mind.

Unit III, "Faith Takes Courage," has four lessons from the books of Isaiah, Daniel, and Habakkuk. Isaiah reminds us how in living by faith, the righteous can see God's power throughout creation. Daniel shows how the three Hebrew boys trusted God to protect them in the fiery furnace, and how Daniel trusted God to protect him in the lions' den. And Habakkuk received instructions reminding him to be still and wait on God.

Your Child's Teacher



December 3, 2023

Ruth Makes the Right Choice

Lesson Scripture: **Ruth 1:6-10, 14-16**

Key Verse

Ruth replied, "Don't urge me to leave you or to turn back from you. Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God." (Ruth 1:16)



Ruth Makes the Right Choice

(Ruth 1:6-10, 14-16)

Naomi's husband and her sons died in Moab. Naomi's daughters-in-law, Orpah and Ruth, were like daughters to Naomi. One day, Naomi decided to return to her homeland of Judah. The three women started on their journey.

Naomi said, "Daughters, you have been good to me; go home to your mothers. May the Lord God bless you to marry again." They cried as she kissed them goodbye. Orpah cried and went back home, but Ruth would not leave.

Ruth said, "Where you go, I will go. Your God will be my God!" Ruth's decision was a true act of love.

For the Parents

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Today's lesson told the story of Naomi and her two daughters-in-law, Ruth and Orpah. These women were widows and had difficult decisions to make. Orpah returned to her mother's home, but Ruth chose to stay with Naomi. Ruth showed love in action. As you review this lesson with your child, talk about family love. Name your family members and include good friends who are like family to you.

Your Child's Teacher



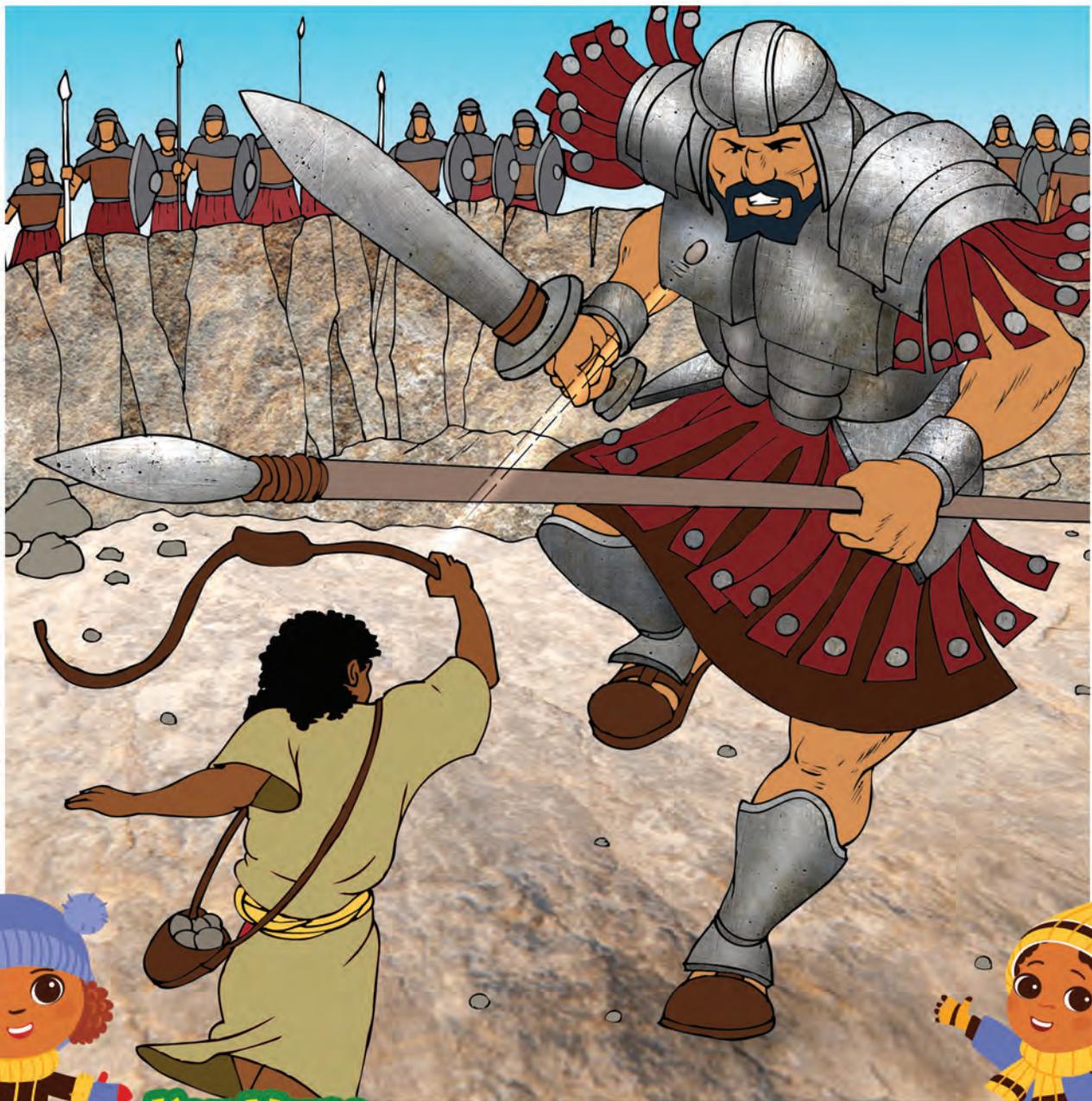
Faith Block

I choose to be
with family!



David's Courage

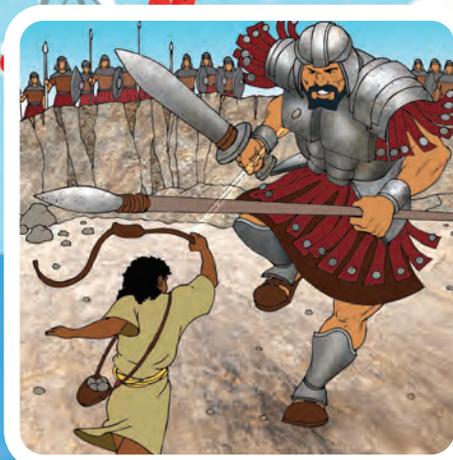
Lesson Scripture: 1 Samuel 17:31-37, 45, 48-50



Key Verse

[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 17:37a)





David's Courage

(1 Samuel 17:31-37, 45, 48-50)

Goliath was a giant Philistine warrior.

David said to King Saul, "No one should be afraid of this warrior! I will fight him."

"No," answered Saul. "You can't fight him. You're just a boy!"

David said, "I take care of my father's sheep.

If the lion or bear attacks, I grab it by the throat and beat it to death. I will do the same to this Philistine, who has laughed at those who love God. The Lord saved me from lions and bears; He will save me from Goliath!"

Saul answered. "Go, and the Lord God be with you."

For the Parents

Dear Parents/Guardians,

In this lesson, young David trusted God to help him defeat a giant Philistine warrior named Goliath. He explained how God protected him whenever he was in danger. David trusted God when no one else did. Have you protected your child from a dangerous situation? Talk with your child about the times when you have protected him or her. Use this example to explain how God protects His children.

Your Child's Teacher



Faith Block

God protects me!



December 17, 2023

Making a Difference

Lesson Scripture: **Matthew 1:1-6**

Key Verse

This is the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah the son of David, the son of Abraham. (Matthew 1:1)





Making a Difference

(Matthew 1:1-6)

We all have family members that lived before we were born. Those who lived long before we were born are called *ancestors*. They made a difference in this world by giving birth to our families.

Jesus had ancestors, too! We have learned about Ruth and her kindness to Naomi. We have heard about David and how God helped him. Ruth and David were Jesus' ancestors!

We can find the names of people in Jesus' family in the Bible. Every single one was a person who lived and made a difference in this world because they were the family of Jesus!

For the Parents

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Today's lesson introduced a new word for your child. That word is *ancestors*. The Scriptures in Matthew give us the genealogy of Jesus, tracing back to Abraham. As you review this lesson, show family pictures, and tell your child the names of family members who lived long ago. Explain that none of us would be here if not for our ancestors. They made a difference in this world by living before us.

Your Child's Teacher



Faith Block

Every person
can make a
difference!

