

# DAVID SPARES SAUL'S LIFE

## *1 Samuel 24:1-22*

### **1 Samuel 24**

<sup>1</sup>After Saul returned from pursuing the Philistines, he was told, "David is in the Desert of En Gedi." <sup>2</sup>So Saul took three thousand chosen men from all Israel and set out to look for David and his men near the Crag of the Wild Goats.

<sup>3</sup>He came to the sheep pens along the way; a cave was there, and Saul went in to relieve himself. David and his men were far back in the cave. <sup>4</sup>The men said, "This is the day the LORD spoke of when he said to you, 'I will give your enemy into your hands for you to deal with as you wish.'" Then David crept up unnoticed and cut off a corner of Saul's robe.

<sup>5</sup>Afterward, David was conscience-stricken for having cut off a corner of his robe. <sup>6</sup>He said to his men, "The LORD forbid that I should do such a thing to my master, the LORD'S anointed, or lift my hand against him; for he is the anointed of the LORD." <sup>7</sup>With these words David rebuked his men and did not allow them to attack Saul. And Saul left the cave and went his way.

<sup>8</sup>Then David went out of the cave and called out to Saul, "My lord the king!" When Saul looked behind him, David bowed down and prostrated himself with his face to the ground. <sup>9</sup>He said to Saul, "Why do you listen when men say, 'David is bent on harming you'?" <sup>10</sup>This day you have seen with your own eyes how the LORD delivered you into my hands in the cave. Some urged me to kill you, but I spared you; I said, 'I will not lift my hand against my master, because he is the LORD'S anointed.' <sup>11</sup>See, my father, look at this piece of your robe in my hand! I cut off the corner of your robe but did not kill you. Now understand and recognize that I am not guilty of wrongdoing or rebellion. I have not

wronged you, but you are hunting me down to take my life. <sup>12</sup>May the LORD judge between you and me. And may the LORD avenge the wrongs you have done to me, but my hand will not touch you. <sup>13</sup>As the old saying goes, 'From evildoers come evil deeds,' so my hand will not touch you.

<sup>14</sup>"Against whom has the king of Israel come out? Whom are you pursuing? A dead dog? A flea? <sup>15</sup>May the LORD be our judge and decide between us. May he consider my cause and uphold it; may he vindicate me by delivering me from your hand."

<sup>16</sup>When David finished saying this, Saul asked, "Is that your voice, David my son?" And he wept aloud. <sup>17</sup>"You are more righteous than I," he said. "You have treated me well, but I have treated you badly. <sup>18</sup>You have just now told me of the good you did to me; the LORD delivered me into your hands, but you did not kill me. <sup>19</sup>When a man finds his enemy, does he let him get away unharmed? May the LORD reward you well for the way you treated me today. <sup>20</sup>I know that you will surely be king and that the kingdom of Israel will be established in your hands. <sup>21</sup>Now swear to me by the LORD that you will not cut off my descendants or wipe out my name from my father's family."

<sup>22</sup>So David gave his oath to Saul. Then Saul returned home, but David and his men went up to the stronghold.

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POSSIBLE POINTS	MY POINTS	QUESTIONS
5		1.) What did David do to Saul's robe?
5		2.) What did David say to Saul?
5		3.) What did Saul do because David did not kill him? (Verse 16)
5		4.) Why do you think David chose not to kill Saul?

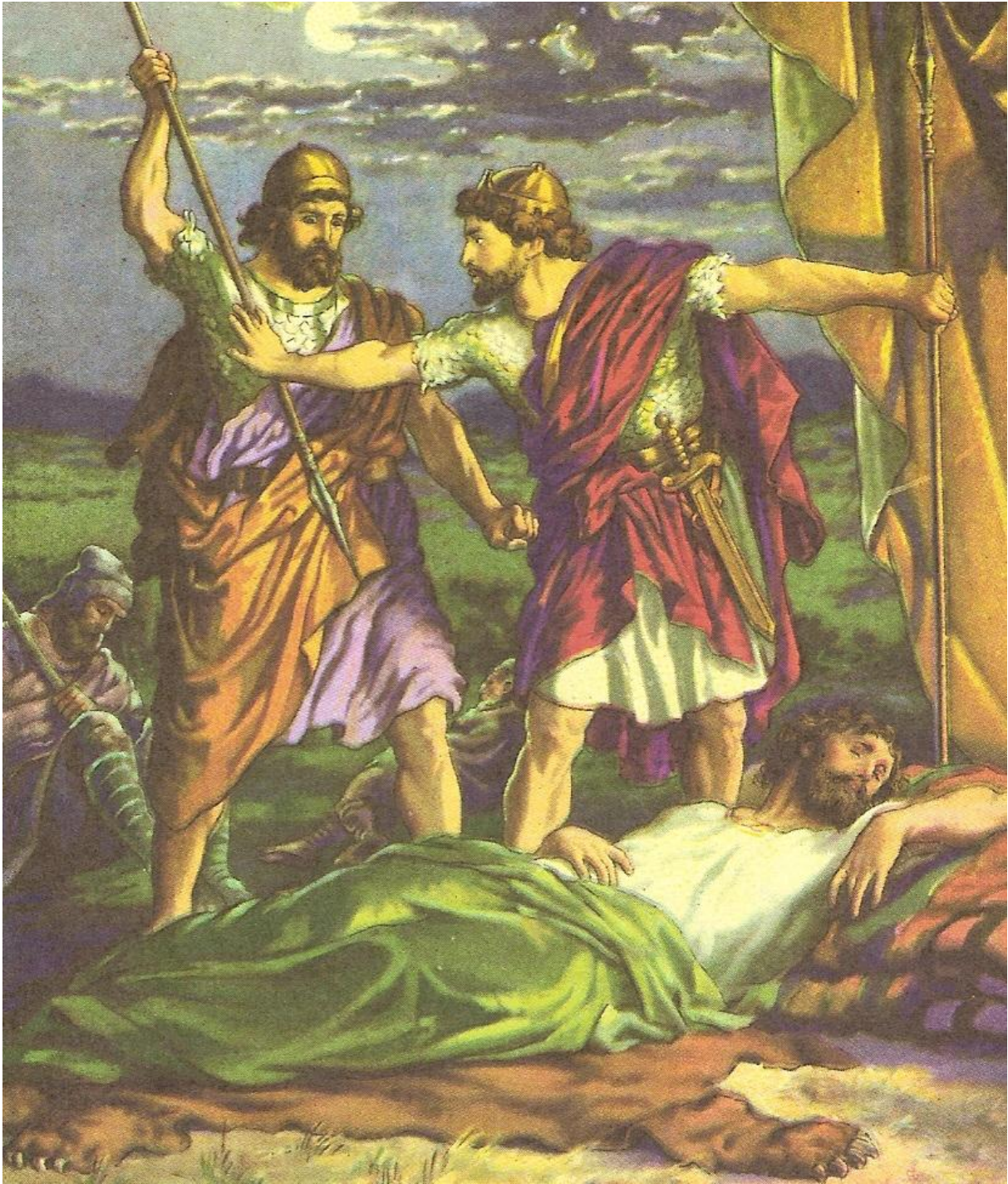
POSSIBLE POINTS	MY POINTS	MEMORY VERSE
10		<p>“For the LORD is our judge, the LORD is our lawgiver, the LORD is our king; it is he who will save us.”</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Isaiah 33:22</p>

POSSIBLE POINTS	MY POINTS	HOME CONNECTION	PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE
5		<i>I have read, or been read, the passage of scripture for this week.</i>	
5		<i>I have answered the questions aloud to an adult at home this week.</i>	
10		<i>I have recited the memory verse out loud to an adult at home this week.</i>	

TOTAL POINTS	CLUB CONNECTION
	LEADER'S SIGNATURE _____ DATE __/__/__

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Picture from *The Bible in Pictures for Little Eyes* by Kenneth N. Taylor. Moody Press: Copyright © 1956.

# DAVID SPARES SAUL'S LIFE

*1 Samuel 24:1-22*



*David shows Saul the piece of his robe that was cut off*

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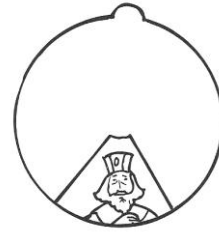
*1 Samuel 24:1-22*

## CRAFT/ACTIVITY: STORY SPINNERS

Students will illustrate five scenes from the story to recall key events from the story.

### MATERIALS

1. 67 lb. White Cardstock
2. Story Spinner Patterns (1 & 2)
3. Scissors
4. Markers, Crayons, or Colored Pencils
5. Paper Brads



### DIRECTIONS

1. Copy the two story spinner patterns (1 & 2) onto 67 lb. cardstock for each student.
2. Have the students illustrate the four sections using markers, crayons, or colored pencils.
3. Have the students cut out both of the story spinner patterns.
4. Place pattern 2 on top of pattern 1.
5. Push a brad through the black dot in the center.
6. Spin the top part on the story spinner to reveal things that students do not need to worry about.

### FOR DISCUSSION

While the students are illustrating their story spinners, remind them that David chose to let the Lord be Saul's judge. He did not take matters into his own hand. Help students realize that God will judge each of us for our own actions. If someone wrongs us, we need not retaliate.

### TIME NEEDED TO COMPLETE:

Approximately 15 minutes

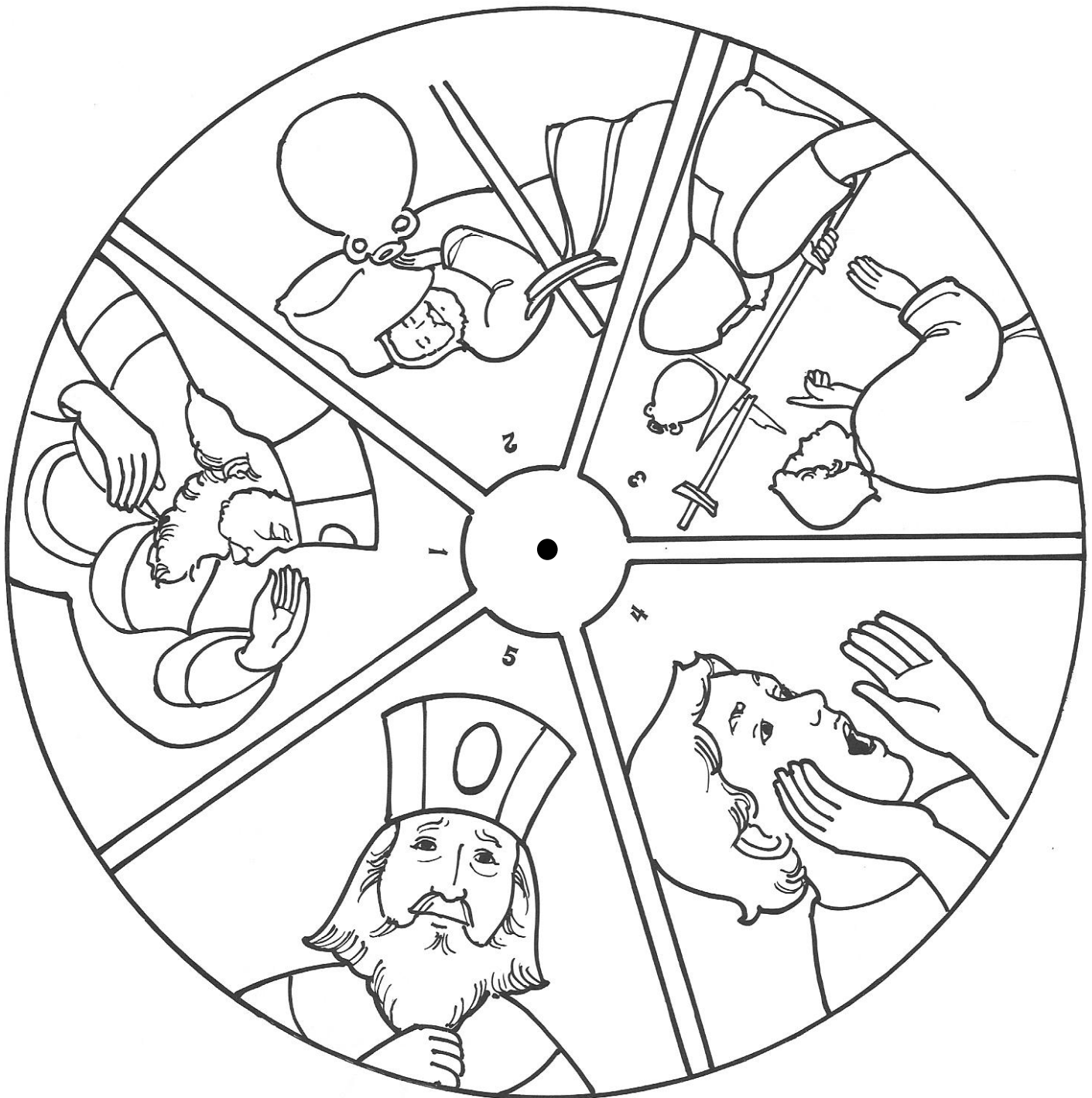
### MEMORY VERSE

*"For the Lord is our judge, the Lord is our lawgiver, the Lord is our king; it is he who will save us." Isaiah 33:22*

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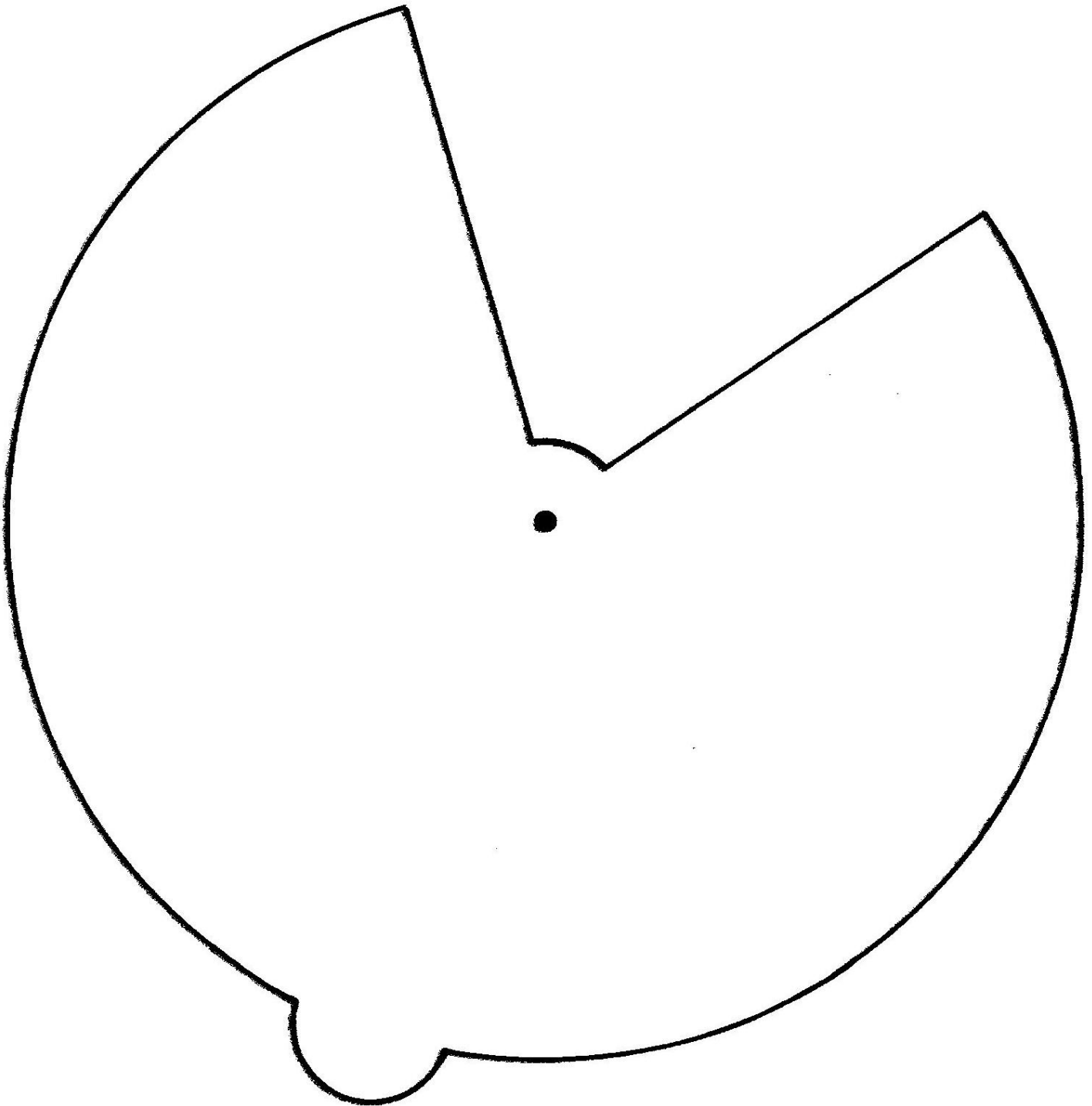
## STORY SPINNER PATTERN 1



# DAVID SPARES SAUL'S LIFE

*1 Samuel 24:1-22*

STORY SPINNER PATTERN 2

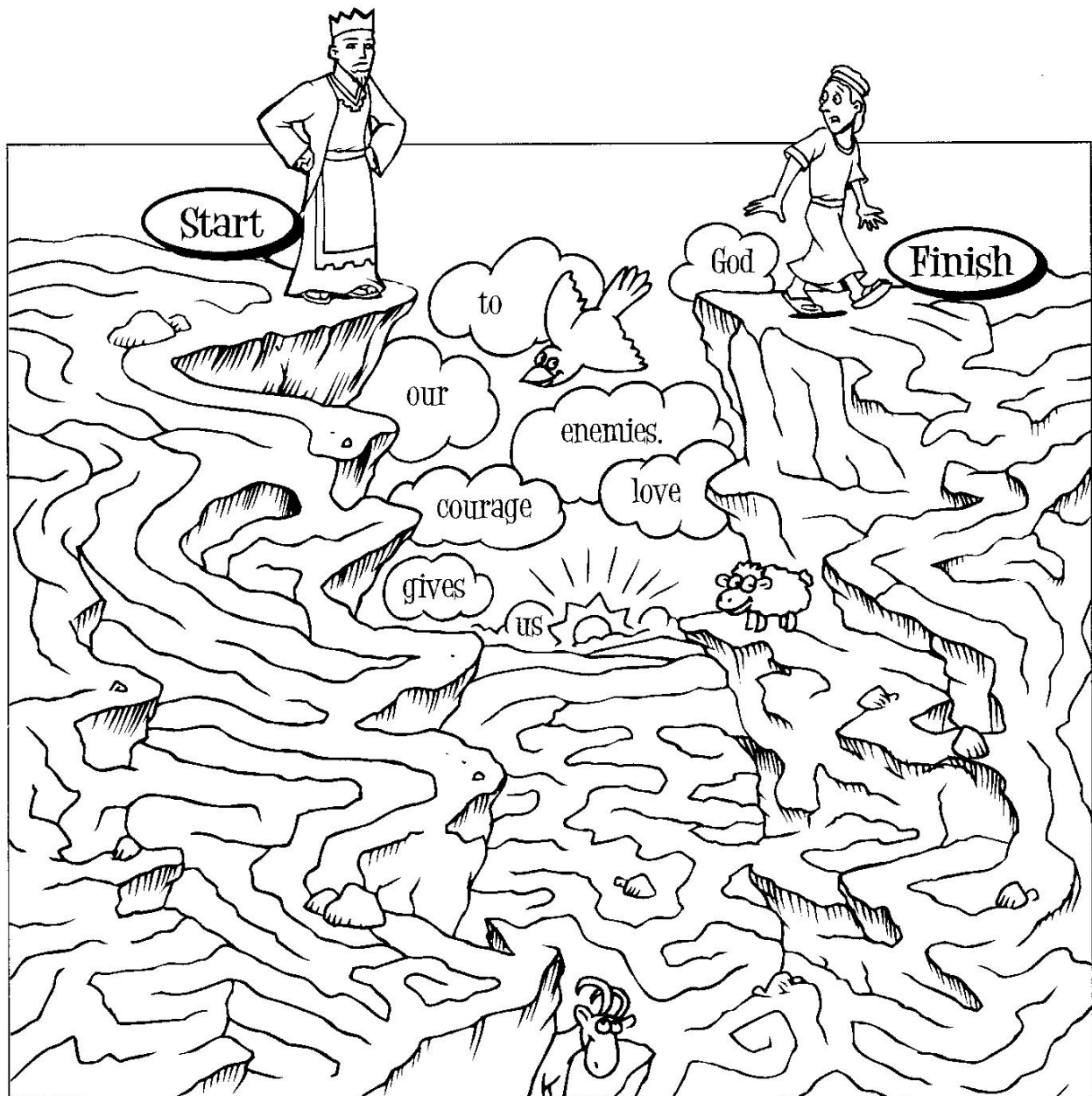


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## The Challenge

King Saul was so jealous of David, he wanted to get rid of him. David had to run away, but God protected him. Trace the path David took for his escape.



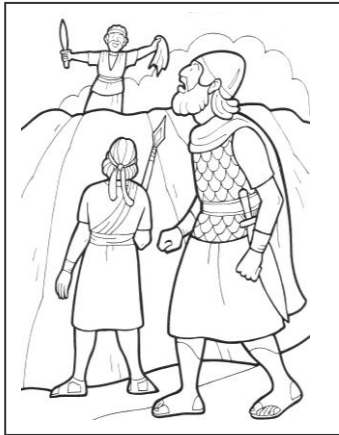
## The Super Challenge

Order the words in the clouds to make a sentence about one of God's gifts to us.

# THE BIBLE TIMES HERALD

A SPECIAL REPORT ON 1 SAMUEL 24:1-22

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Saul took 3,000 men to go look for David. Saul wanted David dead.

Saul had to go to the restroom, so he found a cave. Saul didn't know that David

was living in that very cave!

David snuck up behind Saul and cut off a corner of his robe. Saul didn't know that David had done this. Saul left the cave.

Then David went outside the cave and called to Saul. David bowed down and put his face to the ground. David showed Saul the piece of his robe that was cut off.

"I will not lift my hand against my master, because he is the Lord's anointed," David told Saul. "May the Lord judge between you and me."

Saul began to cry. He realized that David had spared his life.

"I know that you will surely be king and that the kingdom of Israel will be established in your hands," said Saul.

For more details, please read 1 Samuel 24:1-22 in the Bible.

## QUESTIONS

1. Where was David hiding?
2. What did David do to Saul's robe?
3. Did David kill Saul?
4. Do you think David did the right thing?

## MEMORY VERSE

"For the Lord is our judge, the Lord is our lawgiver, the Lord is our king; it is he who will save us."

Isaiah 33:22

## HELP SAUL FIND DAVID

