GENESIS TO REVELATION | BIBLE ACCOUNT

Ravens Bring Elijah Food

1 Kings 17:1-7



YOUR BIBLE READING

God cared for Elijah through an unexpected provision.

Inside: two extended reading pages, a thoughtful reflection, creative activities and a grown-up guide.

AGES 6-10 WITH AN ADULT • 6 COLORFUL A4 PAGES • ENGLISH ONLY

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 1 OF 2

Beside the Brook

1 Kings 17:1-7



Elijah was a prophet, a person who brought God's message. He spoke to King Ahab about a coming drought. There would be no rain or dew except according to the word God gave through him. This was a serious message for a land where people and animals depended on water. A royal palace could not command the rain to return simply because a king wanted it.

After this, God gave Elijah an instruction for his own next step. He was to leave, turn eastward, and hide near the brook Cherith, close to the Jordan. A brook is a smaller stream of flowing water. Elijah would not remain at the king's court. He was directed to a particular place where he could stay out of sight and drink while the drought continued.

God's instruction included a surprising promise about food. Ravens would bring it to Elijah there. Ravens are birds, not people who prepare a table or carry supplies in the usual human way. The account presents this as God's unusual provision for his prophet. Elijah was not asked to arrange a delivery himself. He was told where to go and what God had appointed for that place.

Elijah went and did as God had told him. He stayed by Cherith and drank from the brook. The story gives us this clear action without describing a long speech from Elijah. He heard an instruction and followed it. His shelter and water belonged to a real location within a difficult time. God's message about the drought and God's care for the prophet appear together in this brief account. His next task was to live where God had directed him.

Remember: I can receive help with a thankful heart.

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 2 OF 2

Food, Water, and a Changing Place

1 Kings 17:1-7



The ravens brought Elijah bread and meat in the morning. They brought bread and meat again in the evening. Between these deliveries, the brook supplied drinking water. The repeated meals are a simple part of the story's wonder. Elijah needed food more than once, and the provision met that continuing need. God's care was shown in something practical: there was food to eat and water to drink.

The passage does not tell us where the ravens obtained the food or how they carried it. We can leave those questions open instead of filling them with invented details. What the account does tell us is enough to follow its meaning. God had promised to provide in this unexpected way, and the food arrived as promised. The ordinary need to eat was met through an extraordinary event.

Then the situation changed. After some time, the brook dried up because rain had not fallen in the land. Elijah's presence did not keep the stream running forever. This detail matters: the story does not end by pretending the drought had become easy. The place that had supplied water could no longer do so. The account stops this scene at that change, leaving Elijah at the edge of a new need.

We can understand this account without turning it into a rule that every empty table will be filled by birds. It describes a particular provision during Elijah's work as a prophet. Its ending also reminds readers to notice changing circumstances. Receiving help at one stage does not mean every later step will look the same. The dried brook belongs beside the morning and evening meals as part of the whole story.

Pause and think: Which ordinary form of care could you notice and appreciate more carefully today?

THINK, NOTICE & GROW

Recognizing Practical Care



Food and water can seem ordinary when they are easy to reach. Elijah's story asks us to notice their importance. Think about the work behind a meal you have eaten: growing, carrying, preparing, and sharing. Giving thanks can include gratitude for the people involved. It can also help us remember families whose meals are uncertain, without assuming that their hardship says anything about their goodness.

The ravens belong to a particular miracle in the Bible. In our lives, practical care often arrives through people: a neighbor shares food, a school offers lunch, or a grown-up helps a family find support. These are present-day examples, not added events in Elijah's account. If you are hungry or worried about having enough, tell a trusted adult. Asking for help is a sensible thing to do.

The brook eventually dried. That ending makes room to speak honestly about change. Something that helped yesterday may not be enough today. A wise response is to notice the need rather than pretend it is gone. We can receive care with gratitude, pay attention when circumstances change, and learn to offer practical kindness when another person needs food, water, or support.

A SMALL STEP FOR TODAY

God's provision for Elijah was practical and surprising, and the changing brook still mattered.

Which ordinary form of care could you notice and appreciate more carefully today?

Read, Remember & Create

Name: _____ Date: _____

1 Think about the reading

1. Where did Elijah stay?

2. What happened to the brook after a while?

2 Put the ideas in order

Write 1, 2 and 3 for the order these ideas appear in the reading.

- ☐ The brook eventually dried up.
- ☐ Ravens brought Elijah food morning and evening.
- ☐ God sent Elijah to the brook.

3 Draw a meaningful picture

Draw ravens near the brook where Elijah drank.

Tell someone how your picture connects to the reading.

Read & Grow Together

Read and learn with context

This English edition is designed for ages 6-10 with an adult. Read both extended readings together, or enjoy one each day. Pause at unfamiliar words, invite questions and use the reflection page to connect the story with everyday life. These are retellings and lessons with explanations; read the listed Bible passage for context. Poetry, parables, letters and symbolic visions are identified by type.

Remember this

I can receive help with a thankful heart.
Original memory thought, not a direct Bible quotation. Related passage: 1 Kings 17:4-6

A thoughtful conversation

This is a particular miracle during a drought, not a promise that food or water will always arrive without human help. The dried brook is part of the story.

Activity answers

1. Beside the brook Cherith, near the Jordan.
2. It dried up because there had been no rain.
Sequence boxes, top to bottom: 3, 2, 1. Personal responses and drawings will vary.

Optional prayer

God, thank you for food and for those who help us. Amen.

Print and share

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Sources and sharing

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GENESIS TO REVELATION | BIBLE ACCOUNT

The Widow's Flour and Oil

1 Kings 17:8-16



YOUR BIBLE READING

God’s promised provision sustained a vulnerable household.

Inside: two extended reading pages, a thoughtful reflection, creative activities and a grown-up guide.

AGES 6-10 WITH AN ADULT • 6 COLORFUL A4 PAGES • ENGLISH ONLY

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 1 OF 2

A Mother's Nearly Empty Jars

1 Kings 17:8-16



The drought had made food difficult to find. God directed Elijah to Zarephath, a town belonging to Sidon, and told him that a widow there would provide food for him. Elijah traveled to the town. At its gate, he found a woman gathering sticks. She was the widow named in God's instruction, a mother trying to prepare something to eat during a time of terrible shortage.

Elijah asked her to bring a little water in a container. As she went to get it, he also asked for a piece of bread. She explained how little she had. There was no baked bread ready to share. Only a handful of flour remained in a jar, together with a little oil in another container. These were the ingredients she had for herself and her son.

The sticks were for preparing their food. The woman expected to make a last meal, eat it with her child, and then have nothing left to sustain them. Her words expressed a real fear of death from hunger. She was not describing a small inconvenience or a wish for a fancier dinner. A mother and child faced the frightening possibility that the food they needed would soon be gone.

Elijah told her not to be afraid and brought a specific promise from Israel's God. The jar of flour would not be used up, and the oil would not fail, until God sent rain on the land. He asked her to make a small loaf for him first, then food for herself and her son. His request came with that particular promise; the coming provision was meant to sustain her household too.

Remember: God's care reaches people beyond familiar places.

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 2 OF 2

Enough Through the Days

1 Kings 17:8-16



The woman went and prepared food as Elijah had said. The account tells us that she, Elijah, and her household ate for many days. The small supply did not come to an end as she had feared. There was flour to prepare and oil to use. The rain had not yet returned, but the people in this home received what they needed to continue eating during the drought.

The wonder of the story is stated simply. The flour did not run out, and the oil did not fail, according to the word God had spoken through Elijah. We are not told that new jars appeared or that the containers became overflowing mountains of food. Those would be extra details. The account draws our attention to a faithful promise and to daily provision that continued through a difficult time.

Zarephath was outside Israel, in the region of Sidon. God's care in this account reached a household beyond the prophet's own people. The woman's poverty did not make her invisible or less important. Her need was named plainly, and the promise included her and her son. The food was not only a welcome for Elijah. It was also life-sustaining provision for people who had feared they would have none.

This episode does not describe the end of every hardship in the land. It describes God's particular help for this household during the drought. The story also gives no rule that a hungry person must surrender their last meal whenever someone asks. Elijah carried a specific word about these jars. Reading carefully means keeping that promise connected to this account, while allowing its picture of practical care to deepen our concern for hungry neighbors.

Pause and think: What would respectful, practical help for a family short of food look like in your community?

THINK, NOTICE & GROW

Care Where Food Is Scarce



Hunger is not a measure of a person's goodness. People can have too little food because of drought, illness, loss of work, war, or many other difficulties. The widow's nearly empty jars invite compassion. We do not need to make up reasons to blame her. In the story, her household's need is important enough to be clearly described and included in God's promised care.

For our lives today, helpful kindness may mean sharing through a trusted family or community food program. It may mean telling a grown-up that someone needs lunch. Children are not responsible for solving a family's food shortage, and they should not feel pressured to give away essential food or money. If you are worried about having enough, ask a trusted adult to help you find support.

Gratitude can grow beside concern for others. At a meal, you might notice the food you have and the people whose work brought it to you. You can also ask what kind of help would be useful to someone else, rather than deciding without listening. The widow's story keeps our attention on real nourishment and on people whose needs deserve care and respect.

A SMALL STEP FOR TODAY

God's particular promise sustained the widow's household and shows care for people facing hunger.

What would respectful, practical help for a family short of food look like in your community?

Read, Remember & Create

Name: _____ Date: _____

1 Think about the reading

1. What food supplies did the widow have?

2. Who had food because of God's provision?

2 Put the ideas in order

Write 1, 2 and 3 for the order these ideas appear in the reading.

- ☐ He told her God's promise about the flour and oil.
- ☐ Her household ate for many days as the supplies lasted.
- ☐ Elijah met the widow gathering sticks.

3 Draw a meaningful picture

Draw the widow's flour jar and oil jar beside bread for the household.

Tell someone how your picture connects to the reading.

Read & Grow Together

Read and learn with context

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Remember this

God's care reaches people beyond familiar places.
Original memory thought, not a direct Bible quotation. Related passage: 1 Kings 17:14-16

A thoughtful conversation

Elijah carried a specific promise for this household. Never use this story to pressure children or struggling families to give away food or money in return for a promised miracle.

Activity answers

1. A little flour and oil.
2. The widow, Elijah, and her household.
Sequence boxes, top to bottom: 2, 3, 1. Personal responses and drawings will vary.

Optional prayer

God, help us care about families who need food. Amen.

Print and share

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GENESIS TO REVELATION | BIBLE ACCOUNT

Elijah Hears a Gentle Whisper

1 Kings 19:1-18



YOUR BIBLE READING

God met a weary Elijah with care, truth, and direction.

Inside: two extended reading pages, a thoughtful reflection, creative activities and a grown-up guide.

AGES 6-10 WITH AN ADULT • 6 COLORFUL A4 PAGES • ENGLISH ONLY

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 1 OF 2

Rest Before the Journey

1 Kings 19:1-18



Queen Jezebel threatened Elijah's life. Frightened, he fled to Beersheba and then traveled farther into the wilderness. Under a tree, he sat down in deep distress. He felt unable to continue and spoke to God about wanting his life to end. The story does not treat him as a person who must hide all sorrow because he is a prophet. His weariness and despair are allowed to be heard.

Elijah lay down and slept. An angel touched him and told him to rise and eat. Near his head were bread baked on coals and a jar of water. He ate, drank, and lay down again. God's care at this moment included the needs of his body. The next thing given to him was not a long list of tasks, but food, water, and more rest.

The angel returned a second time and told Elijah to eat because the coming journey would be too much for him otherwise. Elijah ate and drank again. Strengthened by that food, he traveled forty days and forty nights to Horeb, the mountain of God. The account describes a particular journey made possible through particular help. The strength did not come from pretending he had never been afraid or exhausted.

At Horeb, Elijah stayed in a cave. God's word came to him with a question about what he was doing there. Elijah answered honestly. He spoke of his zeal for God and of the people turning away, tearing down altars, and harming prophets. He believed he alone was left, and others were now seeking his life. The question opened space for Elijah to tell God how the danger looked from where he stood.

Remember: When I feel alone, I can ask for care and help.

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 2 OF 2

The Quiet Voice and the Next Step

1 Kings 19:1-18



Elijah was told to stand on the mountain before God. A strong wind tore at the mountains and broke rocks. After the wind came an earthquake, and after the earthquake came fire. Yet the account says that God was not in these mighty events. The scene directs our attention beyond impressive noise and force. The next sound was a gentle, quiet voice, small beside the great disturbances that had passed.

When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his cloak and went to stand at the entrance of the cave. Again, a voice asked what he was doing there. Elijah repeated his account of danger and loneliness. He was not suddenly given a different memory of everything that had happened. He brought the same heavy concern before God, and God answered with direction for what was still ahead.

God told Elijah to return and gave him work involving future kings and a prophet. Elisha was named as the one who would serve as prophet after him. Elijah's story was part of a larger work that would continue beyond his own strength and lifetime. He was not the whole future of God's people by himself. Others would have responsibilities, and God's purposes were not limited to what Elijah could carry alone.

God also corrected Elijah's belief that he was the only faithful person left. There were seven thousand in Israel who had not bowed to Baal. Elijah had felt completely alone, but that feeling did not describe the whole truth. The scene closes with a wider view: God had heard him, cared for him, and shown him a next step. There were other faithful people, even where Elijah could not yet see them.

Pause and think: What kind of care helps you when worries begin to feel too heavy?

THINK, NOTICE & GROW

When the Heart Feels Overwhelmed



Elijah's distress was serious. If you ever feel that you cannot go on or that you do not want to be alive, tell a trusted adult right away. You deserve care and protection. A parent, teacher, or another safe grown-up can help you find support. This is a way to care for ourselves today, not a new detail added to Elijah's journey in the wilderness.

Notice how food, water, and rest appear before the long journey. Bodies and feelings are connected, and ordinary care matters. Rest alone does not answer every deep struggle, but being tired does not make us failures. We can receive help without being ashamed. We can also notice when someone else needs a quiet companion or a grown-up's support rather than another demand to try harder.

Elijah thought he was the only one left. Sometimes loneliness makes the world seem smaller than it is. Speaking honestly with a safe person can help us discover support we could not see alone. The quiet voice at Horeb reminds us to make room for listening. Being cared for can include comfort, truthful correction, and help finding a manageable next step.

A SMALL STEP FOR TODAY

God met Elijah's weariness with practical care, truthful words, and a way forward.

What kind of care helps you when worries begin to feel too heavy?

Read, Remember & Create

Name: _____ Date: _____

1 Think about the reading

1. What did Elijah receive before his long journey?

2. Was Elijah really the only faithful person left?

2 Put the ideas in order

Write 1, 2 and 3 for the order these ideas appear in the reading.

- ☐ God spoke gently and showed Elijah that he was not alone.
- ☐ Elijah fled and rested in the wilderness.
- ☐ He traveled to Horeb after receiving food and water.

3 Draw a meaningful picture

Draw Elijah at the cave entrance after the wind, earthquake, and fire.

Tell someone how your picture connects to the reading.

Read & Grow Together

Read and learn with context

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Remember this

When I feel alone, I can ask for care and help.
Original memory thought, not a direct Bible quotation. Related passage: 1 Kings 19:5-8,18

A thoughtful conversation

The full passage includes Elijah wishing to die. With young children, name deep distress gently and encourage telling a trusted adult. Rest matters, but it is not a complete answer to every mental-health struggle.

Activity answers

1. Food, water, and rest.
2. No. God told him that many in Israel had remained faithful.
Sequence boxes, top to bottom: 3, 1, 2. Personal responses and drawings will vary.

Optional prayer

God, help us receive rest and tell someone when we feel overwhelmed. Amen.

Print and share

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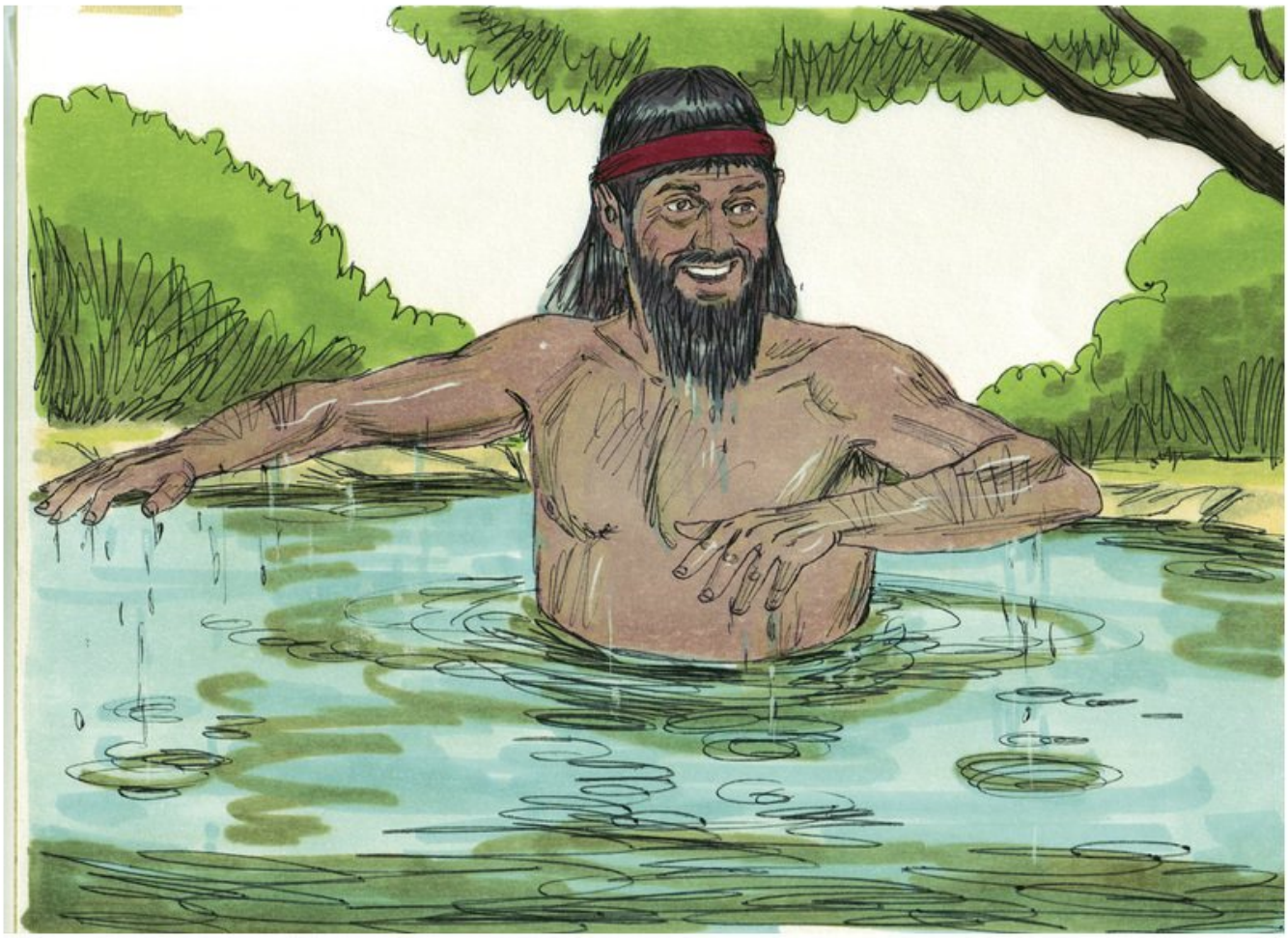
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GENESIS TO REVELATION | BIBLE ACCOUNT

Naaman Learns Humility

2 Kings 5:1-19



YOUR BIBLE READING

Humility makes room to listen and receive a gift.

Inside: two extended reading pages, a thoughtful reflection, creative activities and a grown-up guide.

AGES 6-10 WITH AN ADULT • 6 COLORFUL A4 PAGES • ENGLISH ONLY

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 1 OF 2

Help from Unexpected Voices

2 Kings 5:1-19



Naaman was a respected commander in the Syrian army. He had achieved victories and was important to his king, yet he lived with a serious skin disease. His position did not protect him from illness. In his household served a young girl who had been taken captive from Israel. Her situation was unjust, but the story allows us to hear her voice as a person with something important to say.

The girl told Naaman's wife that a prophet in Samaria could help him. Her words were reported, and Naaman obtained permission from his king to travel. He took a letter to Israel's king, together with valuable gifts and clothing. The letter asked that Naaman be healed. Israel's king was deeply alarmed: he had no power to cure the disease and feared that the request might become a reason for conflict.

Elisha heard about the king's distress and sent word that Naaman should come to him. Naaman arrived at the prophet's house with horses and chariots. He had traveled as a powerful man accustomed to being noticed. But Elisha did not come outside to perform a grand ceremony. He sent a messenger with a plain instruction: Naaman was to wash in the Jordan seven times, and his skin would be restored.

Naaman became angry. He had expected Elisha to appear, call on God, and wave his hand over the diseased place. He also thought the rivers of Damascus were better than Israel's waters. The instruction did not fit the treatment he had imagined. He turned away in a rage. The account pauses with help within reach, yet a disappointed expectation standing between the commander and the simple action he had been asked to take.

Remember: I can listen with humility instead of demanding my own way.

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 2 OF 2

A Gift That Could Not Be Bought

2 Kings 5:1-19



Naaman's servants came near and reasoned with him. They asked whether he would have attempted a difficult task if the prophet had required one. If so, why refuse the simple instruction to wash? Their words challenged his anger without claiming to be more important than he was. The commander who could order soldiers now needed to listen to people whose place in the household was far below his own.

Naaman went to the Jordan. He dipped himself seven times according to Elisha's message, and his skin was restored. The healing was an extraordinary act in this ancient account, not a treatment people are told to copy today. Naaman returned to Elisha with his company. He declared his recognition of Israel's God and offered a gift. The response to his healing included gratitude and a changed understanding of whom he would worship.

Elisha refused to take the payment. Even when Naaman urged him, he would accept nothing. The rich commander could not turn this gift into something he had purchased. Earlier, Naaman's expectations had centered on impressive action and better rivers. Now the prophet's refusal pointed away from the price of the gifts and toward God. Healing had not depended on Naaman's wealth or on his ability to arrange a grand welcome.

Naaman also asked about the difficulty of returning to service under a king who worshiped another god. He wanted to worship Israel's God, yet his duties included supporting his master when the king bowed in another temple. He asked for pardon concerning that situation. Elisha sent him away in peace. The account ends this meeting with the commander preparing to return home, carrying new faith into a life whose responsibilities still required careful thought.

Pause and think: Whose helpful idea might you hear more clearly if you set aside the need to be impressive?

THINK, NOTICE & GROW

Listening Without Looking Down



The first helpful voice in this account belongs to a captive girl. Her kindness does not make her captivity right. People in unfair circumstances still have dignity, insight, and a voice worth hearing. The story gives no reason to treat her as less important because she had little power. We can notice how often people with impressive titles need help from someone they might otherwise overlook.

Naaman's servants helped him reconsider an angry reaction. In our lives, a younger sibling, a quiet classmate, or someone new to a group may offer a useful idea. Listening does not mean accepting every suggestion without thought. It means giving the person a fair hearing. Humility asks whether our own pride or disappointment is keeping us from considering something wise and good.

Naaman's healing is not a promise that faith or obedience will cure every illness. People who remain sick are not less valuable or necessarily less faithful. Medical care, patience, and practical support remain important. This story's invitation is to listen humbly and receive a gift with gratitude, while remembering that kindness and respect are owed to people in every condition of health.

A SMALL STEP FOR TODAY

Humility helps us hear wise voices and receive gifts that status or money cannot buy.

Whose helpful idea might you hear more clearly if you set aside the need to be impressive?

Read, Remember & Create

Name: _____ Date: _____

1 Think about the reading

1. Why was Naaman angry at first?

2. Did Elisha accept payment for the healing?

2 Put the ideas in order

Write 1, 2 and 3 for the order these ideas appear in the reading.

- ☐ He returned healed and thanked the God of Israel.
- ☐ Naaman listened to his servants and washed in the Jordan.
- ☐ A captive girl told Naaman's wife about the prophet.

3 Draw a meaningful picture

Draw Naaman beside the Jordan after listening to his servants.

Tell someone how your picture connects to the reading.

Read & Grow Together

Read and learn with context

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Remember this

I can listen with humility instead of demanding my own way.
Original memory thought, not a direct Bible quotation. Related passage: 2 Kings 5:13-16

A thoughtful conversation

This ancient miracle is not medical advice or a guarantee of healing today. Naaman's illness did not prove wrongdoing. The girl's captivity was an injustice, not a good thing made acceptable by her kindness.

Activity answers

1. He expected a grand action instead of a message to wash in the Jordan.
2. No. He refused the gift Naaman offered.
Sequence boxes, top to bottom: 3, 2, 1. Personal responses and drawings will vary.

Optional prayer

God, help us listen humbly and value every person. Amen.

Print and share

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Sources and sharing

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GENESIS TO REVELATION | BIBLE ACCOUNT

The Floating Axe Head

2 Kings 6:1-7



YOUR BIBLE READING

An honest cry for help can include an everyday trouble.

Inside: two extended reading pages, a thoughtful reflection, creative activities and a grown-up guide.

AGES 6-10 WITH AN ADULT • 6 COLORFUL A4 PAGES • ENGLISH ONLY

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 1 OF 2

A Shared Building Project

2 Kings 6:1-7



A group of prophets lived and met with Elisha. Their place had become too small for them. Rather than pretending there was enough room, they named the problem and proposed a plan. They wanted to go to the Jordan, cut timber, and make a larger place where they could live. The opening of this short account is about shared needs and ordinary work, not about a king or a battle.

The men asked Elisha's permission to go, and he agreed. One of them then asked him to come with them. Elisha said he would go, and they traveled together to the Jordan. The group would carry out the cutting themselves. Each man was to bring timber for the building. Their plan depended on people contributing effort to make a place that could serve the whole group better than the smaller one.

At the river, they began cutting trees. One man was chopping when the iron head of his axe fell into the water. An axe has a handle and a cutting head; it was the heavy metal part that had gone into the river. The useful tool could no longer do its work as it had before. A project that had begun with a practical plan now contained an unexpected problem.

The man cried out to Elisha. The axe was borrowed, he explained. That detail makes his distress easy to understand: he had responsibility for something that belonged to someone else. The passage does not give us his income or the lender's reaction, so we need not invent either one. It tells us enough to hear an honest concern. The man did not hide the loss or pretend the tool had never been in his care.

Remember: I can ask for help and be honest about borrowed things.

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 2 OF 2

The Iron Comes to the Surface

2 Kings 6:1-7



Elisha asked where the axe head had fallen. The man showed him the place. This small exchange keeps the problem specific. They were not speaking only about a general feeling of worry, but about a particular borrowed object and the water into which it had disappeared. Before the surprising event, the man was able to point out what had happened and let someone else understand the source of his distress.

Elisha cut a stick and threw it into the water at that place. Then the iron axe head floated. The account presents this as something extraordinary. Heavy iron does not normally rise to the surface like a small piece of dry wood. The stick is part of what Elisha did in this particular event, but the passage does not teach that throwing sticks into water is a method for recovering lost metal.

Elisha told the man to take it up. The man reached out his hand and recovered the axe head. His own action belongs at the end of the account: the object did not simply disappear from the story once it floated. He took hold of the thing he had been so worried about losing. The borrowed tool's missing piece was back within reach, and the immediate trouble had been answered.

The passage stops there. It does not describe a finished building, a conversation with the lender, or the rest of the day's work. We can respect that ending and still understand why this little story matters. Among larger accounts of armies and rulers, Scripture makes room for a worker's distress over a borrowed tool. The concern was ordinary and specific. God's unusual help, shown through Elisha, met that concern without treating it as too small to notice.

Pause and think: How could you respond honestly and safely if something you borrowed were lost or damaged?

THINK, NOTICE & GROW

Honesty When Something Goes Wrong



A borrowed object carries a small trust. A book, a pencil, or a game belongs to another person, and we are asked to care for it. Accidents can still happen. The man in this account did not cover up his trouble. For us, an honest first step might be telling the owner or asking a trusted adult for help. Hiding a mistake often makes it harder to repair.

The floating axe head was a particular miracle, not a promise that every lost thing will reappear. Looking carefully, explaining where you last saw something, and accepting responsibility are sensible actions today. Children should ask adults for help around deep water, sharp tools, or other dangers. Retrieving an object is never more important than a person's safety, even when the object is valuable or borrowed.

Notice that Elisha first asked where the loss happened. Helpful care often includes a patient question. When someone tells you about a problem, listening to the details may help more than laughing or scolding. You do not need to perform a miracle to be kind. You can take an everyday worry seriously and help the person find an honest, safe next step.

A SMALL STEP FOR TODAY

Small, ordinary troubles can be named honestly and met with thoughtful care.

How could you respond honestly and safely if something you borrowed were lost or damaged?

Read, Remember & Create

Name: _____ Date: _____

1 Think about the reading

1. Why was the man especially worried about the axe?

2. What did he do after the axe head floated?

2 Put the ideas in order

Write 1, 2 and 3 for the order these ideas appear in the reading.

- ☐ A borrowed axe head fell into the water.
- ☐ Elisha made it float, and the man recovered it.
- ☐ The group went to the Jordan to cut wood.

3 Draw a meaningful picture

Draw the axe head floating near Elisha’s stick.

Tell someone how your picture connects to the reading.

Read & Grow Together

Read and learn with context

This English edition is designed for ages 6-10 with an adult. Read both extended readings together, or enjoy one each day. Pause at unfamiliar words, invite questions and use the reflection page to connect the story with everyday life. These are retellings and lessons with explanations; read the listed Bible passage for context. Poetry, parables, letters and symbolic visions are identified by type.

Remember this

I can ask for help and be honest about borrowed things.
Original memory thought, not a direct Bible quotation. Related passage: 2 Kings 6:5-7

A thoughtful conversation

Describe this as a particular miracle, not a method for finding lost objects. Children should stay away from axes and river edges and ask adults for help with lost property.

Activity answers

1. It was borrowed.
2. He reached out and took it.
Sequence boxes, top to bottom: 2, 3, 1. Personal responses and drawings will vary.

Optional prayer

God, help us be honest when something goes wrong and ask for help. Amen.

Print and share

Each pack has 6 pages. Print on A4 at Actual Size (100%). The worksheet is page 5. You may print just that page, or use the separate 150-page activity book. The collection contains 150 packs in Bible book order, 15 volumes and one ZIP. Catalog pack IDs stay the same when new readings are added.

Sources and sharing

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GENESIS TO REVELATION | BIBLE ACCOUNT

Hezekiah Brings a Letter to God

2 Kings 19:1-20,32-37



YOUR BIBLE READING

We can bring frightening news honestly before God.

Inside: two extended reading pages, a thoughtful reflection, creative activities and a grown-up guide.

AGES 6-10 WITH AN ADULT • 6 COLORFUL A4 PAGES • ENGLISH ONLY

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 1 OF 2

A Threatening Letter

2 Kings 19:1-20,32-37



Hezekiah, king of Judah, received frightening news about Assyria. The Assyrian king's representatives had spoken against Jerusalem and against the God its people trusted. Their armies had already conquered many places. Hezekiah tore his clothes, put on rough clothing used in mourning, and went to God's house. The danger was real. The account does not ask us to imagine a ruler who had no reason to be afraid.

Hezekiah sent officials and leading priests to the prophet Isaiah. They carried his request for prayer on behalf of the people who remained. Isaiah returned a message telling the king not to be ruled by the insulting words he had heard. God would send the Assyrian ruler back to his own country. Even before the letter arrived, Hezekiah had sought help rather than trying to hold all the fear alone.

The Assyrian king then sent another message. It warned Hezekiah not to believe that his God could keep Jerusalem safe. The letter pointed to nations Assyria had destroyed and asked whether their gods had rescued them. Its words were intended to make trust seem foolish. The sender wanted Jerusalem's king to look at Assyria's victories and believe that no different outcome could ever be possible for his own threatened city.

Hezekiah took the letter from the messengers and read it. Then he carried it to God's house and spread it out before God. This did not mean God needed to read paper to understand the danger. It was a concrete way for Hezekiah to bring the threatening words into prayer. The thing he had received from his enemies became the thing he laid openly before the God he was asking to help.

Remember: I can tell God what is frightening me.

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 2 OF 2

The Danger Brought into Prayer

2 Kings 19:1-20,32-37



Hezekiah began his prayer by naming who God was: the God of Israel, ruler over all the kingdoms of the earth, and maker of heaven and earth. Assyria's king was powerful, but his power did not make him the creator of the world. Remembering this larger truth gave the prayer its starting point. Hezekiah did not begin by pretending that the threatening army was small or that other nations had never suffered.

He spoke honestly about those losses. Assyria had laid waste to lands and burned the things those peoples worshiped. But those objects had been made by human hands from wood and stone. Hezekiah distinguished them from the living God. He asked God to hear the Assyrian king's insults and save Jerusalem, so that the kingdoms would know who God was. His request joined the city's need with honor for God's name.

Isaiah sent Hezekiah God's answer. His prayer had been heard. The Assyrian king would not enter Jerusalem, fire an arrow there, or build a siege mound against it. God would defend the city. During the night, God's angel struck the Assyrian camp, and many soldiers died. This was a solemn act of judgment within a war, not a cheerful game in which the suffering of enemies was something to enjoy.

The Assyrian king withdrew, returned home, and stayed in Nineveh. The passage also records his later death and the reign of his son. Jerusalem had been spared according to the promise God sent through Isaiah. The letter's prediction of certain defeat had not become the final word. Hezekiah had brought the threat before God, and a particular answer had come for this city in this moment of its history.

Pause and think: How could putting a worry into words help you share it with God and a trusted adult?

THINK, NOTICE & GROW

Naming What Frightens Us



Sometimes a worry feels larger when it stays hidden. Hezekiah brought an actual letter into his prayer. In your life, you might tell God about a frightening message, a difficult conversation, or a concern at school. You can put the worry into words, draw it, or speak about it with a trusted adult. These are ways of naming a concern rather than keeping it locked inside.

The rescue of Jerusalem followed a particular promise through Isaiah. It does not mean that praying people never suffer or that every threat disappears. If someone sends you frightening messages or tells you to keep a threat secret, ask a safe adult for help. Prayer and practical protection can go together. You do not have to choose between telling God and telling someone who can act.

Hezekiah's prayer also remembers something bigger than the threatening king. Taking a wider view does not make danger imaginary. It helps us avoid giving fear every word in the story. We can describe a problem truthfully, seek wise support, and ask God for courage and care while adults help us take the steps that are needed.

A SMALL STEP FOR TODAY

We can bring frightening news honestly to God while seeking the help and protection we need.

How could putting a worry into words help you share it with God and a trusted adult?

Read, Remember & Create

Name: _____ Date: _____

1 Think about the reading

1. What did Hezekiah do with the letter?

2. Who sent God's answer to the king?

2 Put the ideas in order

Write 1, 2 and 3 for the order these ideas appear in the reading.

- ☐ God defended the city, and the Assyrian king withdrew.
- ☐ Hezekiah spread the letter before God and prayed.
- ☐ An Assyrian letter threatened Hezekiah and Jerusalem.

3 Draw a meaningful picture

Draw the letter spread open as Hezekiah prays.

Tell someone how your picture connects to the reading.

Read & Grow Together

Read and learn with context

This English edition is designed for ages 6-10 with an adult. Read both extended readings together, or enjoy one each day. Pause at unfamiliar words, invite questions and use the reflection page to connect the story with everyday life. These are retellings and lessons with explanations; read the listed Bible passage for context. Poetry, parables, letters and symbolic visions are identified by type.

Remember this

I can tell God what is frightening me.
Original memory thought, not a direct Bible quotation. Related passage: 2 Kings 19:14-19

A thoughtful conversation

This rescue follows a specific prophetic promise and does not mean prayer prevents every harm. If a child receives threats, involve a safe adult and appropriate practical help.

Activity answers

1. He spread it before God and prayed about it.
2. The prophet Isaiah.
Sequence boxes, top to bottom: 3, 2, 1. Personal responses and drawings will vary.

Optional prayer

God, help us bring our fears to you and seek wise help. Amen.

Print and share

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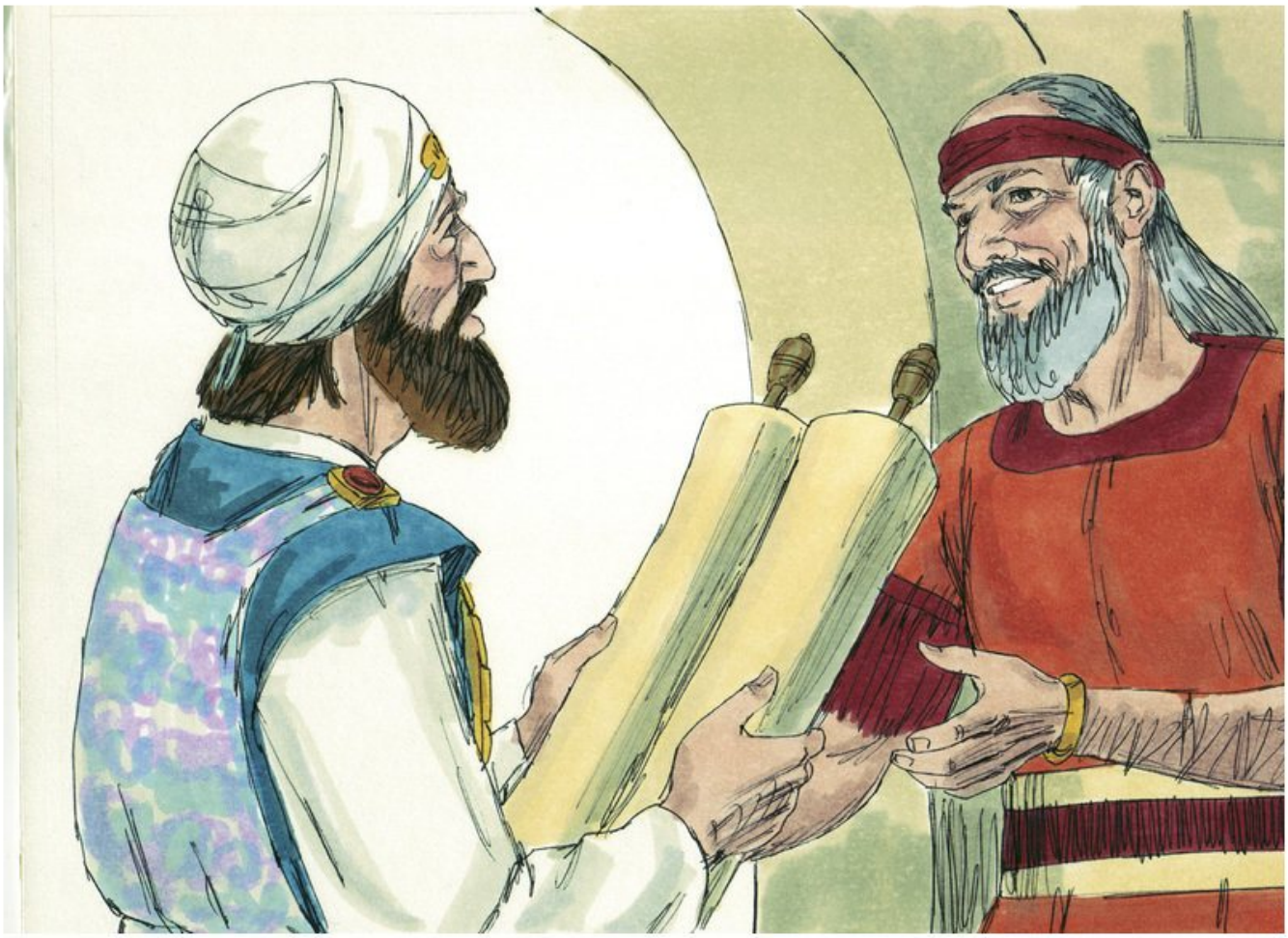
Sources and sharing

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GENESIS TO REVELATION | BIBLE ACCOUNT

Josiah Finds the Book of the Law

2 Kings 22:1-23:3



YOUR BIBLE READING

Hearing God’s word calls for a humble and faithful response.

Inside: two extended reading pages, a thoughtful reflection, creative activities and a grown-up guide.

AGES 6-10 WITH AN ADULT • 6 COLORFUL A4 PAGES • ENGLISH ONLY

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 1 OF 2

The Book Found in the Temple

2 Kings 22:1-23:3



Josiah became king of Judah as a child and sought to do what was right before God. Years later, when he was an adult, he ordered repairs to the temple. The money collected there was to be given to those overseeing the work. They would pay carpenters, builders, and stoneworkers and buy the timber and prepared stone needed to repair the damage. The account describes the workers as trustworthy in handling the funds.

During this work, Hilkiah the high priest found the book of the law in God's house. He gave it to Shaphan, the royal secretary, who read it. Shaphan went to report to Josiah about the repair money and also told him about the book. Then he read its words aloud to the king. The important discovery was not made by Josiah himself, but it became a message he needed to hear.

Josiah was deeply troubled when he heard the words. He tore his clothes, an ancient expression of grief and alarm. He understood that the people and their ancestors had not lived according to the covenant written there. The king did not respond by saying that the book must be unimportant because it challenged them. He recognized the seriousness of what had been neglected and sought to learn what God's word meant for the people now.

He sent a group of officials and priests to inquire about it. They went to Huldah the prophetess in Jerusalem. This detail gives her a clear place in the account: she was consulted as someone who could bring God's message. The king's concern led to listening, and listening led to a difficult answer. What they would hear concerned both the nation's wrongdoing and Josiah's own humble response to the words that had been read.

Remember: I can listen, learn, and choose a better way.

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 2 OF 2

Hearing Becomes a Promise

2 Kings 22:1-23:3



Huldah delivered a serious warning. The people had turned away from God and worshiped other gods, and judgment would come upon the place and its inhabitants. The discovery of the book did not make the history of wrongdoing vanish. God's message required them to face it. For a child reading this story, the important point is that the people were being called to take their covenant and their choices seriously.

Huldah also had a message for Josiah himself. God had heard him because his heart was tender and he had humbled himself. His tears and sorrow had not gone unnoticed. He was told that he would not see the full disaster described for the place. The officials took this answer back to the king. He had received both a warning about the nation and an acknowledgment of the way he had responded.

Josiah then gathered the elders and the wider community. He went to the temple with priests, prophets, and people of different ages and positions. There he read aloud the words of the covenant book that had been found. What had first reached the king through Shaphan was now heard by the gathered people. The message was not kept inside a small group of officials as though ordinary listeners had no part in it.

Standing by a pillar, Josiah made a covenant before God. He promised to follow God and keep his commands with his whole heart and soul. The people agreed to the covenant too. The scene moves from a damaged building to a recovered book, then to a public commitment. Repairing the temple mattered, but the people also needed to renew the way they lived. The words they had heard called for more than admiration; they called for faithfulness.

Pause and think: What would help you put an important lesson into practice after you have heard it?

THINK, NOTICE & GROW

Receiving a Needed Correction



It can be uncomfortable to learn that something needs to change. Perhaps a rule you ignored has a good purpose, or a friend explains that your joke was hurtful. Josiah did not cover his ears when the words challenged him. His response invites us to listen with humility. A correction may be an opportunity to understand more clearly and choose a better next action.

The book was found during repairs, but Josiah was not the person who found it. Hilkiah, Shaphan, Huldah, the king, and the people each have a role. Good listening can depend on several voices. We do not need to make one person the whole story. Notice how bringing, reading, explaining, and hearing the words all helped the community face what had been neglected.

Josiah's promise concerned a way of life. In our lives, putting teaching into practice might mean telling the truth after admitting a lie, returning something taken without permission, or changing a habit that hurts others. These are present-day examples, not extra events in the king's story. A sincere response can begin with a humble admission and continue through a concrete, caring choice.

A SMALL STEP FOR TODAY

Hearing good teaching calls us to respond with humility and faithful action.

What would help you put an important lesson into practice after you have heard it?

Read, Remember & Create

Name: _____ Date: _____

1 Think about the reading

1. Who actually found the book in the temple?

2. What did Josiah promise after the public reading?

2 Put the ideas in order

Write 1, 2 and 3 for the order these ideas appear in the reading.

- ☐ The king and people renewed their commitment to God’s covenant.
- ☐ Hilkiah found the book during the temple repairs.
- ☐ Josiah heard it and sought God’s message through Huldah.

3 Draw a meaningful picture

Draw Josiah listening as Shaphan reads the covenant book.

Tell someone how your picture connects to the reading.

Read & Grow Together

Read and learn with context

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Remember this

I can listen, learn, and choose a better way.
Original memory thought, not a direct Bible quotation. Related passage: 2 Kings 23:2-3

A thoughtful conversation

Hilkiah finds the book; Josiah hears and responds. Josiah was an adult by the temple repairs. Tearing clothing expressed grief in that culture and is not an activity for children to copy.

Activity answers

1. Hilkiah the high priest.
2. To follow God wholeheartedly and keep his commands.
Sequence boxes, top to bottom: 3, 1, 2. Personal responses and drawings will vary.

Optional prayer

God, help us receive correction and put good teaching into practice. Amen.

Print and share

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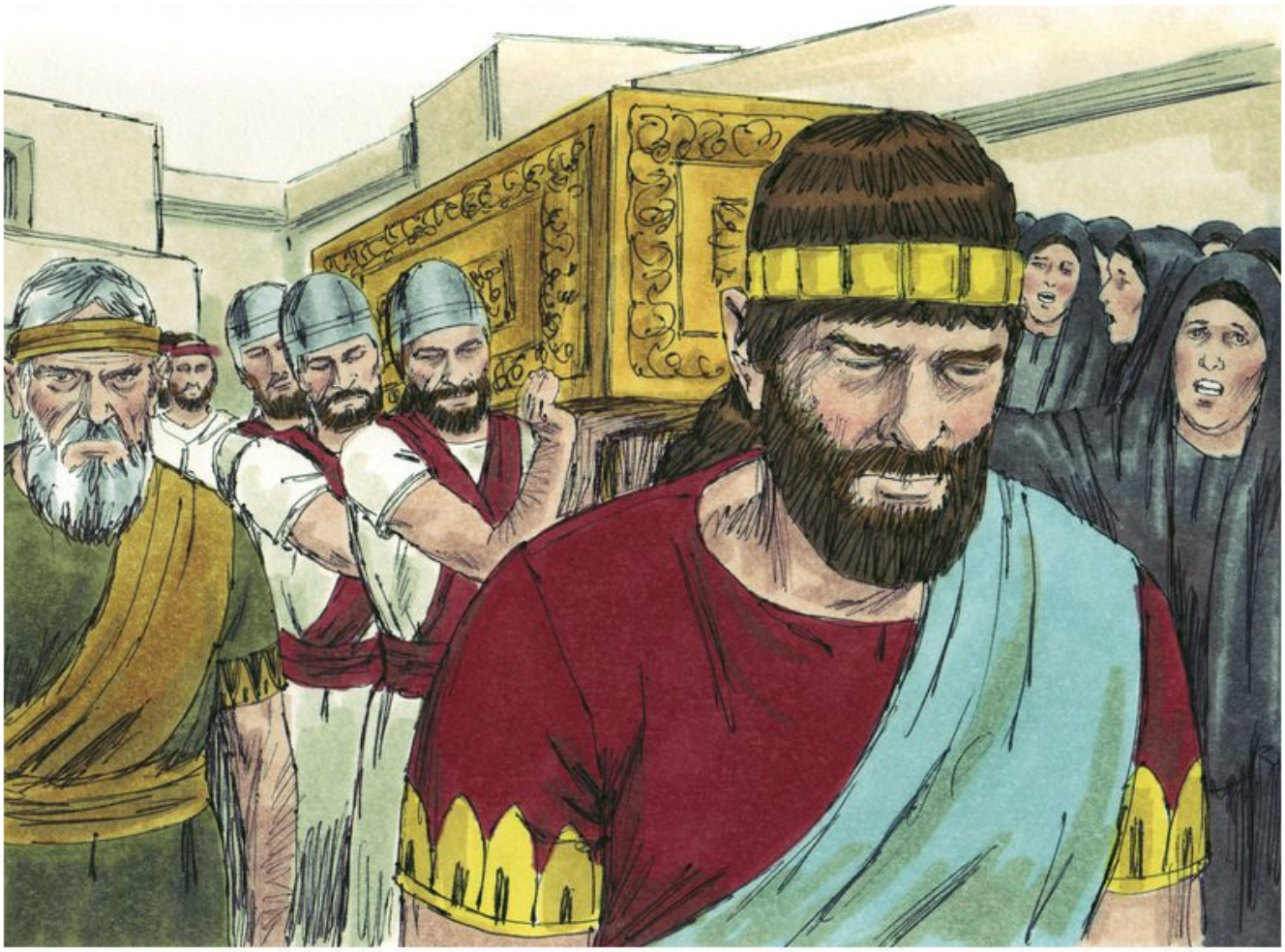
Sources and sharing

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GENESIS TO REVELATION | BIBLE ACCOUNT

Gifts Given with Thankful Hearts

1 Chronicles 29:1-20



YOUR BIBLE READING

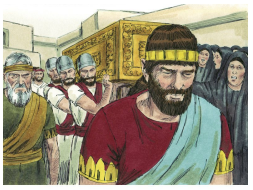
Willing giving and gratitude belong together in preparing a shared work.

Inside: two extended reading pages, a thoughtful reflection, creative activities and a grown-up guide.

AGES 6-10 WITH AN ADULT • 6 COLORFUL A4 PAGES • ENGLISH ONLY

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 1 OF 2

Materials Gathered for God's House



1 Chronicles 29:1-20

David spoke to the gathered people about a great task. His son Solomon had been chosen for it and was still young. The house being prepared was for God, not simply a palace meant to impress a human ruler. David had assembled materials with care: gold, silver, bronze, iron, wood, precious stones, and marble. Different parts of the work would need different supplies and the hands of skilled people to use them.

David also gave gold and silver from his own treasure, beyond what had already been prepared. He explained his affection for God's house and invited others to offer willingly. The account joins giving with purpose. These materials were intended for the work, including what artisans would make. The invitation did not pretend that a valuable object could build a wall by itself or replace the knowledge of those who would carry out the task.

Leaders of families and tribes, army commanders, and officials overseeing the king's work gave willingly. They contributed metals for the service of God's house. People who had precious stones brought those too, and the stones were placed under the care of Jehiel. The offerings involved many people and different kinds of resources. A shared task was being supplied, with named responsibility for keeping what had been given rather than leaving every gift without care.

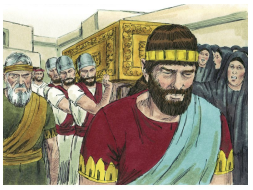
The people rejoiced because the giving was willing and wholehearted. David rejoiced greatly too. The scene then turned from collecting materials toward thanksgiving. The gifts were impressive, but the next part of the passage would ask the assembly to think about where all their resources had come from. The reading follows the offerings into David's public prayer rather than ending with the size of the treasure as though that were the whole meaning of their giving.

Remember: I can receive with thanks and share thoughtfully rather than boast about what I own.

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 2 OF 2

David Gives Thanks with the People

1 Chronicles 29:1-20



David praised God before the assembly. He spoke of God's greatness, power, glory, and rule, saying that everything in heaven and earth belonged to him. Riches and honor were not things David could claim to have created from nothing. The prayer turned attention away from pride in human possessions and toward gratitude. David thanked God and praised his name in front of the people whose offerings had just been described.

Then David asked how he and his people were able to give so willingly. Everything came from God, he said, and what they offered had already belonged to him. This did not make their choices meaningless. It placed those choices inside a larger understanding of receiving before giving. The store of materials for God's house was not a reason to boast that the people were independent of every gift or source of strength beyond themselves.

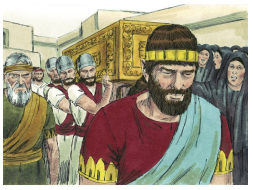
David described human life as brief, like a passing shadow, and remembered their ancestors as travelers before God. He said that God knew the heart and delighted in uprightness. David had given willingly and was glad to see the people doing the same. His prayer asked that this desire remain with them. The request looked beyond one impressive gathering toward the character and intentions with which the community would continue its life together.

David also prayed for Solomon to have a wholehearted commitment to God's commandments and to complete the house for which preparation had been made. Then he called the assembly to bless God. The people praised the God of their ancestors and bowed. This passage stops with their shared worship. It records preparation and thankful giving, rather than the later completion of the building. Their resources, willingness, and prayer belong to a beginning that still requires work.

Pause and think: How could gratitude change the way a group gives to a shared task?

THINK, NOTICE & GROW

Look at Both the Gift and Its Purpose



Imagine contributing to a school garden. Some people have tools to lend with permission; others can offer seeds, planning, or supervised time. Before bringing anything, the group needs to know what is useful. What question could you ask about the purpose? This example is not part of David's gathering. It shows how a gift can support a real task instead of becoming a competition over who brings the most.

Think of something you use that other people helped provide: a book, a meal, or a place to learn. Who contributed to it? You may not know every name, but noticing the chain can encourage gratitude. It does not mean ignoring your own effort. It means remembering that even useful work often depends on resources and care received from others along the way.

Willing giving allows people to consider their situation. You do not need to surrender money or a treasured possession to prove your faith. A caregiver can help you choose an appropriate contribution, including a skill or a little time. Thankfulness can also appear in caring for shared materials so that the next person can use them, not only in bringing something new.

A SMALL STEP FOR TODAY

David and the people give willingly, then thank God as the source of the resources they can share.

How could gratitude change the way a group gives to a shared task?

Read, Remember & Create

Name: _____ Date: _____

1 Think about the reading

1. Who would carry forward the building work?

2. What did David say about the source of their gifts?

2 Put the ideas in order

Write 1, 2 and 3 for the order these ideas appear in the reading.

- ☐ David prays with gratitude, and the assembly praises God.
- ☐ The leaders and people offer and rejoice.
- ☐ David presents prepared materials and invites willing giving.

3 Draw a meaningful picture

Draw different materials and tools around a thank-you banner for a shared building project.

Tell someone how your picture connects to the reading.

Read & Grow Together

Read and learn with context

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Remember this

I can receive with thanks and share thoughtfully rather than boast about what I own.
Original memory thought, not a direct Bible quotation. Related passage: 1 Chronicles 29:14-19

A thoughtful conversation

Keep the reading within verses 1-20: it concerns preparations, willing offerings, and prayer, not the later sacrifices or Solomon's enthronement. David's words about all gifts coming from God should invite gratitude, not pressure children to give beyond their means. Include skills and care among appropriate modern examples of sharing.

Activity answers

1. David's son Solomon would carry it forward.
2. All came from God, and they were giving from what they had received.
Sequence boxes, top to bottom: 3, 2, 1. Personal responses and drawings will vary.

Optional prayer

If you wish: God, thank you for what we receive. Help us share willingly and wisely.

Print and share

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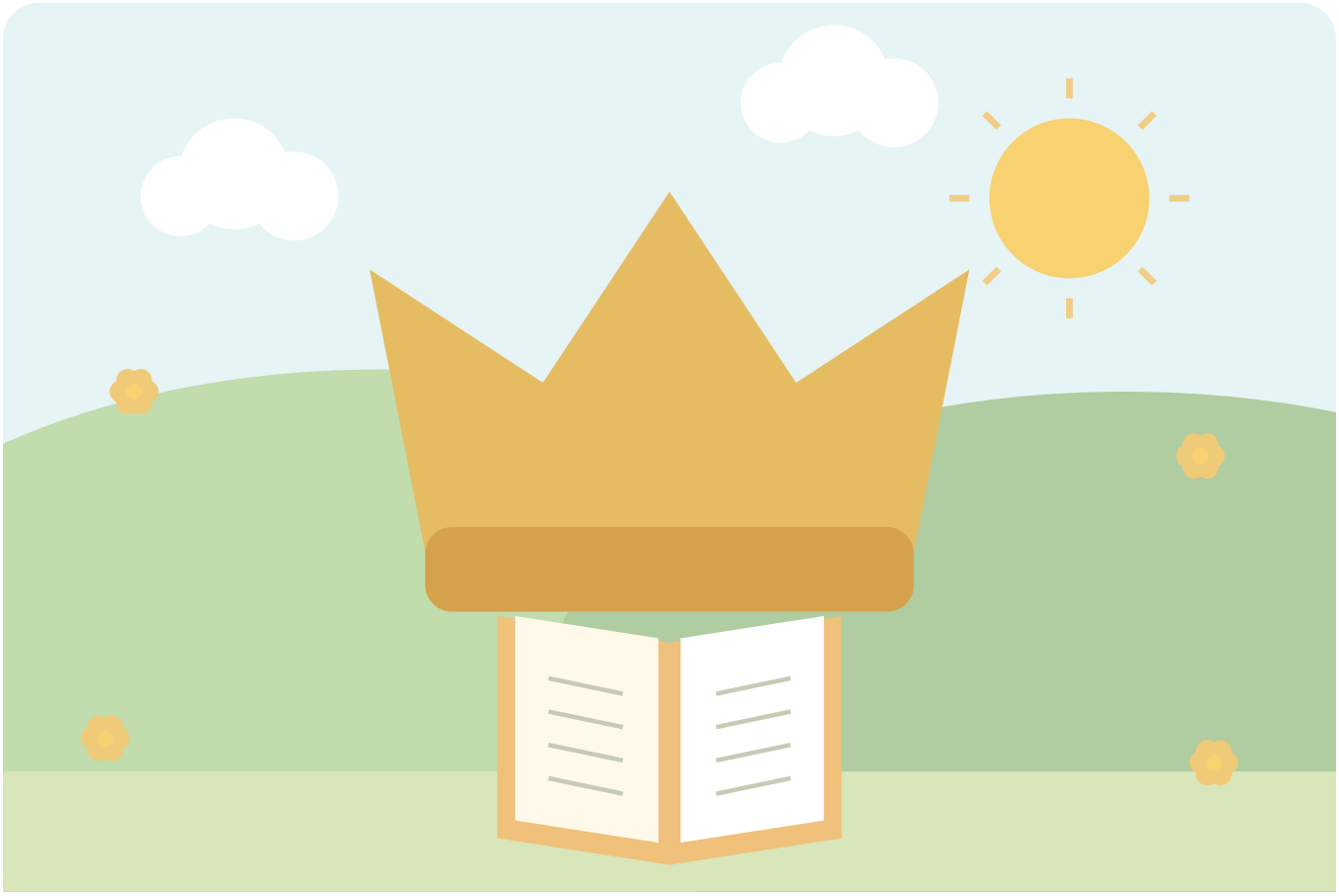
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GENESIS TO REVELATION | BIBLE ACCOUNT

A King Asks God for Help

2 Chronicles 20:1-30



YOUR BIBLE READING

A faithful leader can admit limits and ask for help.

Inside: two extended reading pages, a thoughtful reflection, creative activities and a grown-up guide.

AGES 6-10 WITH AN ADULT • 6 COLORFUL A4 PAGES • ENGLISH ONLY

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 1 OF 2

Jehoshaphat Brings the Danger Before God



2 Chronicles 20:1-30

Jehoshaphat, king of Judah, received alarming news. A great force was coming against his people. Armies associated with Moab, Ammon, and Mount Seir were approaching, and the danger was real. The king was afraid and turned to seek God. He announced a fast throughout Judah. People came from the towns to ask for God's help together, rather than leaving the crisis as a private worry known only in the palace.

Jehoshaphat stood before the assembly at God's house and prayed. He spoke of God's rule over the nations and power that no one could resist. He remembered the land given to Abraham's descendants and the place built for worship there. Now people were coming to drive Judah out. The prayer connected what the community remembered of God's care with the threatening situation they were facing in their own time.

The king did not pretend to have enough power or a complete plan. He told God that they could not face the great force by themselves and did not know what to do. Their eyes were turned toward God. Judah stood there with their wives and children, including little ones. The account shows a gathered community hearing a leader honestly acknowledge what he did not know instead of covering his limits with a boast.

Then God's Spirit came upon Jahaziel, a Levite among the assembly. He brought a message for the king and people. They were not to be overwhelmed by the army's size, because this battle belonged to God. They were to go out the next day, take their positions, and see God's rescue. Jahaziel gave a location where the enemy would be found. The message specifically said that Judah would not need to fight in this battle.

Remember: I can bring a real worry to God and seek help without pretending to know every answer.

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 2 OF 2

Singing, a Rescue, and a Quiet Kingdom

2 Chronicles 20:1-30



Jehoshaphat bowed facedown, and the people worshiped. Levites stood and praised God with loud voices. Early the next morning, they went toward the wilderness of Tekoa. The king urged the people to trust God and his prophets. After consulting the people, he appointed singers to go before the army. Their song thanked God for his enduring loving kindness. The account places praise on the road before the people saw how the rescue would happen.

As the singing began, God acted against the approaching force. The armies turned against one another. Ammon and Moab attacked Mount Seir, and then the remaining enemies fought each other. By the time Judah reached the lookout and saw the place, the opposing soldiers had died. This is a terrible loss of life within the account. It should be named gently, rather than replaced with an invented ending in which everyone simply decided to go home.

Jehoshaphat and his people gathered valuables from the defeated camp. There was so much that collecting it took three days. On the fourth day they assembled in a valley to bless God. The place was called Beracah, meaning blessing. They then returned toward Jerusalem with Jehoshaphat leading. Their return included music, harps, trumpets, and a visit to God's house. The people who had first gathered because of danger were now returning after the special rescue they had received.

Other kingdoms heard that God had fought against Israel's enemies, and fear of God spread among them. Jehoshaphat's kingdom had quiet and rest around it. This passage records one particular rescue in Judah's history. It does not promise that singing a song or saying the same prayer will make every army, illness, or danger disappear. Its account of help can be read with gratitude while still taking present dangers seriously and seeking wise protection.

Pause and think: How can admitting that you need help become a thoughtful first step?

THINK, NOTICE & GROW

Ask for Help Without Pretending You Know Everything



The king admits that he does not know what to do. What makes that different from giving up? He turns to God and gathers the community rather than hiding the danger. In an ordinary situation, you might tell a trusted adult that you do not understand a problem. Naming it clearly can be the beginning of finding help, information, and a safer next step together.

Music can help people express hope, sorrow, thanks, or courage. Think of a song that helps you remember something meaningful. What words or rhythm stay with you? A song is not a magic tool that controls what happens next. You can enjoy its help in expressing faith or feeling without blaming yourself if a difficult situation continues after you sing or pray.

The story includes people killed in battle. You can care about the safety Judah received and still feel sad about lives lost. This account does not tell children to celebrate harm or face danger alone. If a threat worries you, bring it to an adult who can take practical action. Prayer and responsible protection can stand beside each other.

A SMALL STEP FOR TODAY

Jehoshaphat admits his need, Judah seeks God together, and this particular danger ends in a special rescue.

How can admitting that you need help become a thoughtful first step?

Read, Remember & Create

Name: _____ Date: _____

1 Think about the reading

1. What did Jehoshaphat admit in his prayer?

2. What did Jahaziel say Judah would not need to do?

2 Put the ideas in order

Write 1, 2 and 3 for the order these ideas appear in the reading.

- ☐ Jahaziel brings a message, and the people go out with praise.
- ☐ Judah sees the rescue and returns with thanksgiving.
- ☐ Judah gathers as Jehoshaphat asks God for help.

3 Draw a meaningful picture

Draw the gathered community listening to the king’s prayer, using gentle symbols rather than battle injuries.

Tell someone how your picture connects to the reading.

Read & Grow Together

Read and learn with context

This English edition is designed for ages 6-10 with an adult. Read both extended readings together, or enjoy one each day. Pause at unfamiliar words, invite questions and use the reflection page to connect the story with everyday life. These are retellings and lessons with explanations; read the listed Bible passage for context. Poetry, parables, letters and symbolic visions are identified by type.

Remember this

I can bring a real worry to God and seek help without pretending to know every answer.
Original memory thought, not a direct Bible quotation. Related passage: 2 Chronicles 20:12

A thoughtful conversation

This chapter records a particular national rescue, including enemy deaths and collected valuables. Do not turn it into a promise that praise prevents all harm or produces wealth. Acknowledge loss without gore. Children can learn honest help-seeking while adults retain responsibility for responding to threats, war anxiety, and practical safety.

Activity answers

1. He lacked power against the force and did not know what to do.
2. They would not need to fight this particular battle.
Sequence boxes, top to bottom: 2, 3, 1. Personal responses and drawings will vary.

Optional prayer

If you wish: God, help me ask honestly for support and care about people facing danger.

Print and share

Each pack has 6 pages. Print on A4 at Actual Size (100%). The worksheet is page 5. You may print just that page, or use the separate 150-page activity book. The collection contains 150 packs in Bible book order, 15 volumes and one ZIP. Catalog pack IDs stay the same when new readings are added.

Sources and sharing

English retellings, lessons, reflections and activities by DigiPick (2026), based on 2 Chronicles 20:1-30. Source checked with the public-domain World English Bible. Illustration: original symbolic vector artwork by DigiPick.store; a learning aid, not an additional Bible event.
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GENESIS TO REVELATION | BIBLE ACCOUNT

A Beginning Filled with Joy and Tears

Ezra 3:1-13



YOUR BIBLE READING

A new beginning can hold gratitude and grief together.

Inside: two extended reading pages, a thoughtful reflection, creative activities and a grown-up guide.

AGES 6-10 WITH AN ADULT • 6 COLORFUL A4 PAGES • ENGLISH ONLY

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 1 OF 2

Worship Begins Before the House Is Built

Ezra 3:1-13



The people who had returned from captivity were living in their towns. In the seventh month, they gathered together at Jerusalem. Jeshua and the other priests, along with Zerubbabel and his relatives, built the altar of Israel's God. They followed the law given through Moses. The work began with a place for offerings, even though the larger temple building had not yet been raised around it or given its new foundation.

They set the altar on its base despite fear of the surrounding peoples. Offerings were made morning and evening. They also kept the Feast of Booths according to the written instructions, with the required daily offerings. Worship had a pattern involving special days and ordinary days. The account does not say they waited until every part of life felt easy before beginning. It names both their fear and the actions they took together.

From the first day of that seventh month, they began offering sacrifices. Yet the temple's foundation was still not laid. This distinction matters: the altar and the temple foundation were not the same stage of work. The passage marks a beginning that was real but incomplete. People could worship at the altar while there remained much to arrange for the house itself, with builders, materials, and oversight still needed for what would come next.

Money was given to masons and carpenters. Food, drink, and oil went to the people of Sidon and Tyre so that cedar could be brought from Lebanon by sea to Joppa, under the permission granted by Cyrus, king of Persia. The building needed more than enthusiasm. Workers and supplies had to be provided. The account moves from a gathered community and an altar toward the practical preparation required for the next stage of rebuilding.

Remember: I can notice progress without asking people to forget what they have lost.

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 2 OF 2

One Foundation, Different Responses

Ezra 3:1-13



In the second year after arriving, the work on God's house began in the second month. Zerubbabel, Jeshua, the priests, Levites, and others who had returned took part. Levites twenty years old and above were appointed to oversee the work. Named families shared the responsibility of directing the workers. This was a community task with arrangements for supervision, rather than a finished temple appearing simply because the people had agreed that they wanted one.

When the builders laid the temple foundation, priests stood in their special clothing with trumpets. Levites from Asaph's family had cymbals. They praised God according to the directions associated with David. They sang back and forth with thanks for God's goodness and enduring kindness toward Israel. The new foundation gave the people a reason to gather in praise. It marked progress they could see, though it was not yet the completed house.

Many people shouted loudly with joy. At the same time, older priests, Levites, and family heads who had seen the first temple wept aloud. They were looking at the new foundation with memories the younger people did not share in the same way. The passage records their tears without making up private conversations explaining exactly what each person thought. Joy and weeping were both heard at this important beginning in Jerusalem.

The sounds mixed so strongly that people could not distinguish the joyful shouting from the crying. The noise carried far away. This is where the chapter ends, with a foundation laid and a community responding in different ways. It does not force every person into one approved feeling. A new beginning can bring thanks while also making earlier losses vivid. The reading lets both responses stand beside the practical progress of the rebuilding work.

Pause and think: How could you welcome both joy and sadness when someone faces a new beginning?

THINK, NOTICE & GROW

Make Room for More Than One Feeling



Imagine moving to a new classroom. You might enjoy something in the new space and miss something about the old one. Another child may feel differently. This is an ordinary example, not an event added to Ezra. How could a group celebrate a beginning without requiring everyone to say that nothing has been lost? Listening can make room for both appreciation and sadness.

A foundation is an early part of a building, not the whole finished structure. Think of a project you can divide into stages. Which step would be worth noticing before everything is complete? An adult might help you see progress that is easy to overlook. Celebrating one stage need not mean pretending the work is finished or that no further help will be needed.

People of different ages may carry different memories of the same place. Ask a trusted older person about a school, home, or community space they remember. Let them choose what to share. You do not need to correct their feelings. A careful question can help you understand why a place means more to someone than the walls or objects you can see today.

A SMALL STEP FOR TODAY

The returned community lays a new foundation, and joy and tears are heard together without becoming the same response.

How could you welcome both joy and sadness when someone faces a new beginning?

Read, Remember & Create

Name: _____ Date: _____

1 Think about the reading

1. What was built before the temple foundation was laid?

2. What two sounds mingled when the foundation was laid?

2 Put the ideas in order

Write 1, 2 and 3 for the order these ideas appear in the reading.

- ☐ Praise, joyful shouting, and weeping mingle.
- ☐ The people rebuild the altar and begin worship.
- ☐ Workers and materials are prepared, and the foundation is laid.

3 Draw a meaningful picture

Draw a foundation with people using symbols of music and tears to show different responses.

Tell someone how your picture connects to the reading.

Read & Grow Together

Read and learn with context

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Remember this

I can notice progress without asking people to forget what they have lost.
Original memory thought, not a direct Bible quotation. Related passage: Ezra 3:10-13

A thoughtful conversation

Distinguish the rebuilt altar from the later laying of the temple foundation, and do not claim the whole temple is completed here. The older witnesses' tears are recorded, but their individual thoughts are not. Allow children mixed feelings about change; joy does not make grief wrong, and grief does not cancel real progress.

Activity answers

1. The altar was built and offerings began.
2. Joyful shouting and loud weeping mingled.
Sequence boxes, top to bottom: 3, 1, 2. Personal responses and drawings will vary.

Optional prayer

If you wish: God, help me welcome honest feelings and notice hopeful beginnings with care.

Print and share

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