

Materials I Need:

Memory Verse:

Two- and three-year-old verse: Ecclesiastes 2:26: To the man who pleases Him, God gives wisdom, knowledge, and happiness.

Four- and five-year-old verse: Ecclesiastes 2:26: To the man who pleases Him, God gives wisdom, knowledge, and happiness.

Aim Questions for 2's & 3's:

1. **Did King Solomon's houses, animals, and the fun he had, make him happy?** *(No. Only God keeps a person happy.)*
2. **Does getting more "things" and having fun all day keep you happy?** *(No. Loving and pleasing God keeps a person happy.)*
3. **Can you and I trust God to do what is best for us, even though sad things sometimes happen?** *(Yes. Say the memory verse.)*

Aim Questions for 4's, 5's & K:

1. **Did King Solomon's houses, animals, and the fun he had, make him happy?** *(No. Only God keeps a person happy.)*
2. **Does getting more "things" and having fun all day keep you happy?** *(No. Loving and pleasing God keeps a person happy.)*
3. **When something sad or bad happens, should I ask, "Why did God let this happen to me?"** *(No. God will help us enjoy His gifts no matter what happens.)*
4. **Can you and I trust God to do what is best for us, even though sad things sometimes happen?** *(Yes. Say the memory verse.)*


Key for symbols:


- This box symbol represents ideas that can be used for two-year-olds through kindergarten. Please remember to slow down the pace for two-year-olds and keep the pace moving for five-year-olds.
- ② This symbol represents ideas that are best used for two- and three-year-olds.
- ④ This symbol represents ideas that are best used for four-year-olds through kindergarten.


Hook:


King Solomon Store Center: Set up an area of the room to represent a store with shelves of toys and books. Have a shopkeeper sit in front of the shelves with a toy cash register or a money box. When the children first arrive at this area, give each of them the same amount (number) of dollars and only enough to buy a couple of items. Remind them that King Solomon was so rich that he could buy everything in the store. Yet King Solomon learned that all the money and toys in the world could not make him happy. Only God could make him happy.

Dress Up Clothes Center: Bring adult clothes and shoes from home that the children can use to dress up in. Provide a mirror so they can see how they look once they feel they are done getting dressed. Under supervision, a little face powder, rouge, lipstick, etc., could make the finishing touches. Parents have a very important job taking care of each one of you. God gave you your parents and you please God when you obey them.

 **Solomon Role Play:** Place a crown on a male teacher and have him sit at a table writing. He could be wearing a lot of jewels and colorful robes, etc. Ask the children to guess who this visitor is and what he is writing. See if they can remember King Solomon, who wrote the book of Ecclesiastes and many of the Proverbs in the Bible. Then interview Solomon, asking him where he looked for happiness. Ask him what he built, how he spent his time, and how it made him feel inside. What did he spend time doing that didn't last? Where did King Solomon find real happiness? What was most important in his life that made him happy?

 **King Solomon Crowns: (ECC02ECGF7)** Cut simple crowns out of a paper bag. Tape or staple each crown to fit each child's head. Let the children color the crowns and glue on several "God starbursts" and Bibles. Talk about how King Solomon found out that only God keeps us happy. Talk about how we can put God and His Word first in our lives because He is in control of all things. Have the children pretend to be King Solomon and review the memory verse while wearing their crowns.

 **Magazine Picture Hunt:** Bring magazines and ask children to find pictures of the sun, stars, moon, mountains, oceans, water, flowers, things that grow in gardens, seasons, people, families, Grandmas and Grandpas. After the Bible Adventure story, discuss how God is in control of all these things and we can trust Him because He always know what is best.

 **Happy Face Bean Bag Toss:** Mark about a four-foot circle on the floor with masking tape. Divide this circle into pie-shaped wedges with masking tape. In each wedge, tape a happy or sad face on a piece of paper. The object of the game is to stand behind a line and take turns trying to get all of the bean bags into the happy face wedges!

② **God is in Charge--Trust Him Center:** Have one child at a time fall backward into the arms of a strong leader. A large pillow or mat on the floor would be good for safety reasons. Emphasize that only one person can have a turn at a time. Having the child stand on a small step would make the fall backwards even more exciting. In today's Bible Adventure, King Solomon tells his readers to trust in God and He will help us.

② **Finger Play** (to use before the Bible Adventure begins):
I wiggle my fingers; I wiggle my toes.
wiggle my shoulders; I wiggle my nose.
Now the wiggles are out of me,
And I'm just as still as I can be.

④ **Review with Sorting Game: (ECC01ECGF12 and ECC01ECGF13)** Cut out the pictures from last week's GF12 page and glue the pictures onto cards that look like game cards. Place several of the GF13 pages and accompanying game cards on the table. If the game card shows something that should be number one in a person's life, place that card over the number one on the GF12 page. If the card shows something that is all right to have, but shouldn't be first in our hearts, place that game card on the number two.

④ **"What Should be First in Your Life?" Game:** Form two lines or teams of children. Line them up across the room from two teachers. Each teacher has a basket with pictures of things children desire and a picture of a Bible. The object is to get all of your team standing behind its teacher because he has picked the Bible out of his basket. The children take turns walking across the room to their designated teacher and picking a paper out of the basket. The teacher asks, "Will this last forever? Should this be first in your life? What should be first?" (Make sure each child answers this question before he returns to the line.) If the child chooses a paper with a toy, he returns to the end of his team's line. If he picks the Bible picture, that team wins and gets to stand behind the teacher. The team that gets all of its children behind its teacher is the winning team.



Book:
Presentation Ideas -

 Color and mount the **ECC02ECGF1**, **ECC02ECGF2**, and **ECC02ECGF3** pictures on construction paper. Show them as you tell the Bible Adventure. Save the pictures and use them for review as you continue through the year.

Bible Adventure for 2's & 3's-

(Have one of the children open your Bible at the bookmark you have placed in the book of Ecclesiastes. Sing "Ecclesiastes" as you open your Bible.) Let's say the name of the Bible book we are learning about. *(Have the children say, "E-ccles-i-a-stes.")*

(Show the review PRV01ECGF1 picture of King Solomon.) King Solomon wrote the book of Ecclesiastes when he was king in Jerusalem.

(Show the ECC02ECGF1 picture.) King Solomon said, "God is in charge of the four seasons of the year. God makes the spring when we plant seeds in the ground. Flowers, vegetables, and grain begin to grow up through the dirt. God is in charge of the summer when the flowers, vegetables, and grain get bigger and start making fruit. God is in charge of the fall when people harvest their fruits and vegetables. God gives food for the winter when the ground freezes and the plants die. Winter is a time of rest and quiet. God is in charge of every season and knows what is best.

(Show the ECC02ECGF2 picture. Point to the baby and then the old man.) God is in charge of everyone who is born. God made you when you were in your mother's "tummy." God knows when you will hurt yourself and when you will get sick. Bad things happen, and good things happen to everyone. We don't have to be afraid about what will happen. God has given you the right parents to take care of you.

(Point to the women laughing and crying.) King Solomon said that there will be times when we are happy and feel like laughing, and then there will be times when we are sad and feel like crying. It is okay to cry if we are sad, but it is not okay to stay sad all the time. God wants us to enjoy our families and the good things we have to do.

(Show the ECC02ECGF3 picture.) God is in charge of our lives. We can trust Him. If you get afraid in a thunder storm *(point to the storm)*, remember that we can trust God to take care of us. If we have a bad dream, we can remember to trust God. He knows what is best for us.

Prayer: Dear God, thank You for the book of Ecclesiastes that tells us how You are in charge of everything--what happens in the spring, summer, fall, and winter, and what happens to us. We trust You because You always do what is best for us. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Bible Adventure for 4's, 5's & K-

(Have one of the children open your Bible at the bookmark you have placed in the book of Ecclesiastes. Sing "Ecclesiastes" as you open your Bible.) Let's say the name of the Bible book we are hearing about. *(Have the children say, "E-ccles-i-a-stes.")*

(Show the review PRV01ECGF1 picture of King Solomon.) Who wrote Ecclesiastes? *(King Solomon.)* King Solomon wrote the book of Ecclesiastes when he was the king of Israel in Jerusalem.

(Show the review ECC01ECGF1 picture.) King Solomon was the richest man in Israel. What did King Solomon own that he thought would make him happy? *(King Solomon built large houses, planted gardens, and owned more animals than anyone else in all Jerusalem. He had lots of money; he could buy whatever he wanted and have all the fun he wanted.)*

Did having "things" and fun make King Solomon happy? No. He said, "Being able to buy whatever I want and have all the fun I want didn't keep me happy. Pleasing God is what makes and keeps me happy."

(Show the ECC02ECGF1 picture.) King Solomon said, "God is in charge of everything that happens in the universe. God created the four seasons of the year. God makes the spring when we plant seeds in the ground. Flowers, vegetables, and grain begin to grow up through the dirt. God is in charge of the summer when the flowers, vegetables, and grain get bigger and start making fruit. God is in charge of the fall when people harvest their fruits and vegetables. God gives food for the winter when the ground freezes and the plants die. Winter is a time of rest and quiet. God is in charge of every season and does what is best."

(Show the ECC02ECGF2 picture. Point to the baby and then the old man.) God is in charge of people, too. God made you when you were in your mother's "tummy." God knows what will happen to you each day of your life. He knows when you will hurt yourself and when you will get sick. Bad things happen, and good things happen to everyone. We don't have to worry about what will happen. God has given you the right parents to take care of you.

We can trust God to know what is best for our families. We shouldn't worry about why God lets a sad thing happen to us or to our families. Your mom might get sick, your dad might lose his job, or your dog might die. Bad things sometimes happen, and it makes us sad.

(Point to the women laughing and crying.) King Solomon said that there will be times when we are happy and feel like laughing, and then there will be times when we are sad and feel like crying. It is okay to cry if we are sad, but it is not okay to stay sad all the time. God wants us to enjoy our families and the good things we have to do. God will help us be happy and thankful in our hearts when we want to please Him.

(Show the ECC02ECGF3 picture.) Trusting God and pleasing Him makes us very precious to God. If you are afraid in a thunder storm *(point to the storm)*, remember that God is with us, and we can trust God to take care of us. If you have a bad dream *(point to the dream)*, you can remember that God is with you. If you are sad about having to move to another neighborhood *(point to the moving van)*, remember that God knows what is best for you. You can trust Him. God will give us people to enjoy and times of laughing to enjoy. The thing that will keep you happy in your heart is pleasing God by obeying your parents.

King Solomon tried to be happy by building more houses, by learning more about creation, and by having fun with friends. King Solomon said, "If you want to be wise and happy, then please God in your heart every day. God will give you wisdom, knowledge, and happiness as you grow older."

Prayer: Dear God, thank You for the book of Ecclesiastes that tells us how You are in charge of everything--what happens in the spring, summer, fall, and winter, and what happens to us. We trust You because You always do what is best for us. In Jesus' name, Amen.



Look:

- Aim Questions:** Tape the numbered Aim Questions to different toys that can be placed beside the teacher or around the room. Ask a child to look for a specific toy with the appropriate number taped to it.
- Memory Verse Review:** Mark the verse in Ecclesiastes with a highlighter pen or with some other method that the children can easily see. Walk around the circle and let each child touch the verse in the Bible as the verse is being said.
- Brown Bag Snack:** Bring today's snack items in brown bags from home and pack enough in each sack to feed one table of children. Make each sack contents different from the other tables. Talk about how you are providing the snack today but you didn't have enough for the whole class so you brought several different foods. Encourage the children at each table to be happy with what they are served even though something at another table may look better to them. Snack suggestions could include: animal cookies, graham crackers, grapes, fruit leather, goldfish, bread and cheese sandwiches, etc.
- Pass the Material Goods Game:** Provide six to eight different shapes and sizes of balls or stuffed animals. Have the class stand in a circle with the teacher. The teacher introduces an item which is passed around the circle from one child to the next. After one item is passed successfully, introduce a second ball or stuffed animal so two things are going around the circle. Encourage the children to watch for the next item coming and to carefully pass it to their neighbor without dropping it. How many items can the circle pass without dropping them? If an item drops, have that child pick it up and get back into the circle to pass it as soon as he can.
- "Why Is?" Question and Answer Time:** The teacher will ask the following questions and the children will answer, "Because God said so!"
Why is the sky blue? Why is Sunday before Monday? Why do I have two feet? Why do dogs bark? Why does it rain? Why is the earth round? Why do we have only one moon?
Ask the children if they have a "why" question that they would like the class to answer. Have them stand and ask the question and the class will respond with the same chorus.
- Laughing and Crying Game:** On a strong cardboard circle or square, draw a happy face on one side and a sad face on the other. Tell the children to choose if they will be happy (jump up and down and laugh) or sad (sit down and cry). After they start acting their parts, throw the circle into the air in the middle of the class. If the happy face lands up, all those being happy get to play again. Those who had chosen to be sad will go sit down by a leader. Repeat with the children acting their parts

before the circle is tossed again. Who is left in the game after several turns? Repeat the whole sequence with all the children starting over again.

Coloring the Child in God's Hand: (ECC02ECGF3 and ECC02ECGF8) Discuss with the children how they can trust God because He controls everything. He controls the weather, makes it snow sometimes, and makes it rain other times. God gives you the best family for you. He gives you the food you need. You might not always be happy, but you can know that God is in control. Trust Him. Let the children color the child in the GF3 picture to be wearing the same colors that they are wearing today. They can glue GF8 pictures of things they might be fearful of or sad about around the picture (if desired).

"God Has a Time for Everything" Activity: (ECC02ECGF9 and ECC02ECGF10) God has the right time for everything in our lives. We can trust Him to do what is right. Give each child a GF9 clock and let them glue the GF10 hearts, happy faces, and words on the different dots and numbers on the clock. See the sample. Talk about the different words that the children have learned. Say things like, "At 8:00 when it's time to go to bed, we can be humble and obey quickly." The children will learn to practice patience with this craft and understand God's blessings for them at the right time.

④ **Situation Action Chant:** Practice hand motions with the children as they repeat the following chant. "God (*point upward*) is in control (*hands up, flexing muscles*) and we can trust Him (*hands over heart*)." As you repeat the different situations that the children might be in, let them chant the above sentence after each situation.

It rains on your picnic.
You can't go to Disneyland.
There is not enough time to get an ice cream cone.
Your friend gets a new bike and you don't.
Your mom is sick.
Your pet dies.
Your dad just lost his job.
You can't have a birthday party at McDonald's.
No apples grow on your tree.
The wind blows and a tree falls down.
You are sick and can't go to a friend's house.

④ **"Seeking to Please God" Maze: (ECC02ECGF4)** Color and discuss the pictures on the GF4 page, or let the children help you set up an actual maze in the room. Pass by all the temptations such as toys, games, food, and clothes on the way to God. Let the children put a Bible sticker by God because the Bible is where we learn about God and what He wants us to obey.

④ **Review Exchange Places:** Seat children in two rows of chairs facing each other. As you repeat the main points in both Ecclesiastes lessons, including some fun and funny statements also, the children exchange places with the children across from them when they hear a true statement. They remain seated if the statement is false.

④ **Hot Potato Variation:** Ask a child to give a bean bag the name of his favorite toy. Tell the children that we don't want to be too attached to a toy because God is to have first place in our hearts, so keep the toy moving from child to child! Stop the game and let another child name a favorite toy and keep that one going, also!

Songs:

Ecclesiastes (*tune: "B-I-N-G-O"*)
E-c-cle-si-as-tes is a book that God put in the Bible.
E-c-cle-siastes, E-c-cle-siastes, E-c-cle-siastes,
A book that is reliable.

Ecclesiastes 2:26, Memory Verse Song (*tune: "Frere Jacques"*)
To the man who, to the man who
Pleases Him, pleases Him,
God gives wisdom, knowledge,
A-and happine-ess,
So please Him, so please Him.

God Gives Wisdom (tune: "The Lord's Army")

God gives wisdom, knowledge, and happiness,
Knowledge and happiness, knowledge and happiness.
God gives wisdom, knowledge, and happiness
To-the man who pleases Him.

I've Got the Joy, Joy, Joy

I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy down in my heart (Where?)
Down in my heart, (Where?) Down in my heart.
I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy down in my heart (Where?)
Down in my heart to stay.
And I'm so happy, so very happy.
I have the love of Jesus in my heart.
And I'm so happy, so very happy.
I have the love of Jesus in my heart.



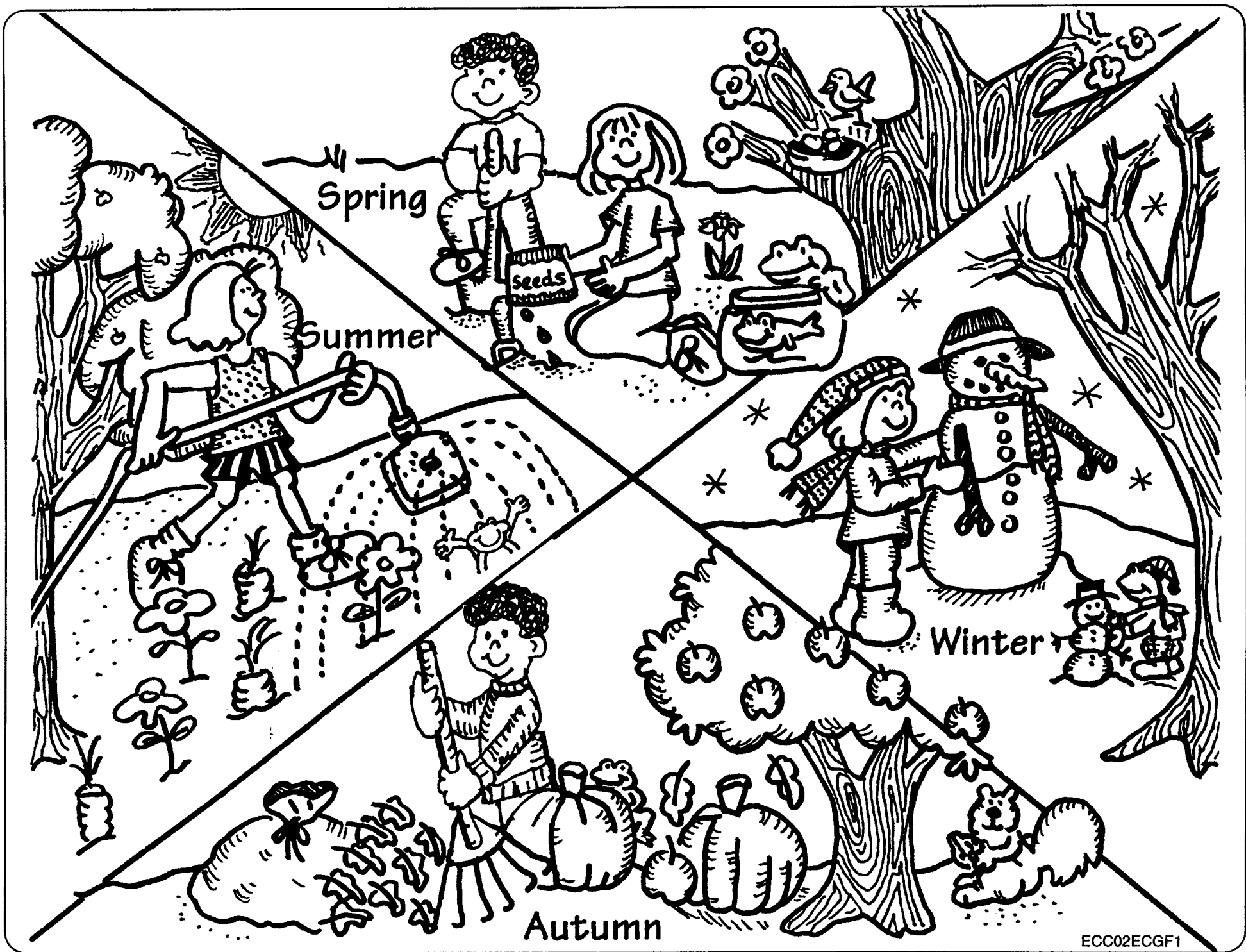
Took:

Ecclesiastes Booklet: (ECC02ECGF11) Color the pictures and add anything small and three dimensional that is appropriate. Review and discuss how we please God and make Him first in our life and why we can trust Him because He controls all things.

Family Picture Center: Materials needed: Paper plates, cut-out pictures of people, glue sticks, magnetic tape. Provide paper plates and pictures of adults and children cut out of catalogs or magazines. Each child can pick out the pictures that look the most like his own mother, father, sisters, and brothers, and paste the family members onto the paper plate using glue sticks. A strip of magnetic tape can be glued on the back of the plate so the picture can be placed on the refrigerator. In today's Bible Adventure, we learned that God has given us just the right parents to take care of our families.

Preschool Page for Parents: (ECC02ECPPP) Send a page home with each child, encouraging parents to reinforce the Bible truths at home. Spend a few minutes before the children go home creatively reviewing the song and memory verse.

④ **Pleasing God This Week: (ECC02ECGF12 and ECC02ECGF13)** Let the children color the GF13 pictures and glue one on each day of the week on the GF12 page. Talk about the children trusting God, obeying and doing _____ on that day of the next week.



Spring

Summer

Autumn

Winter

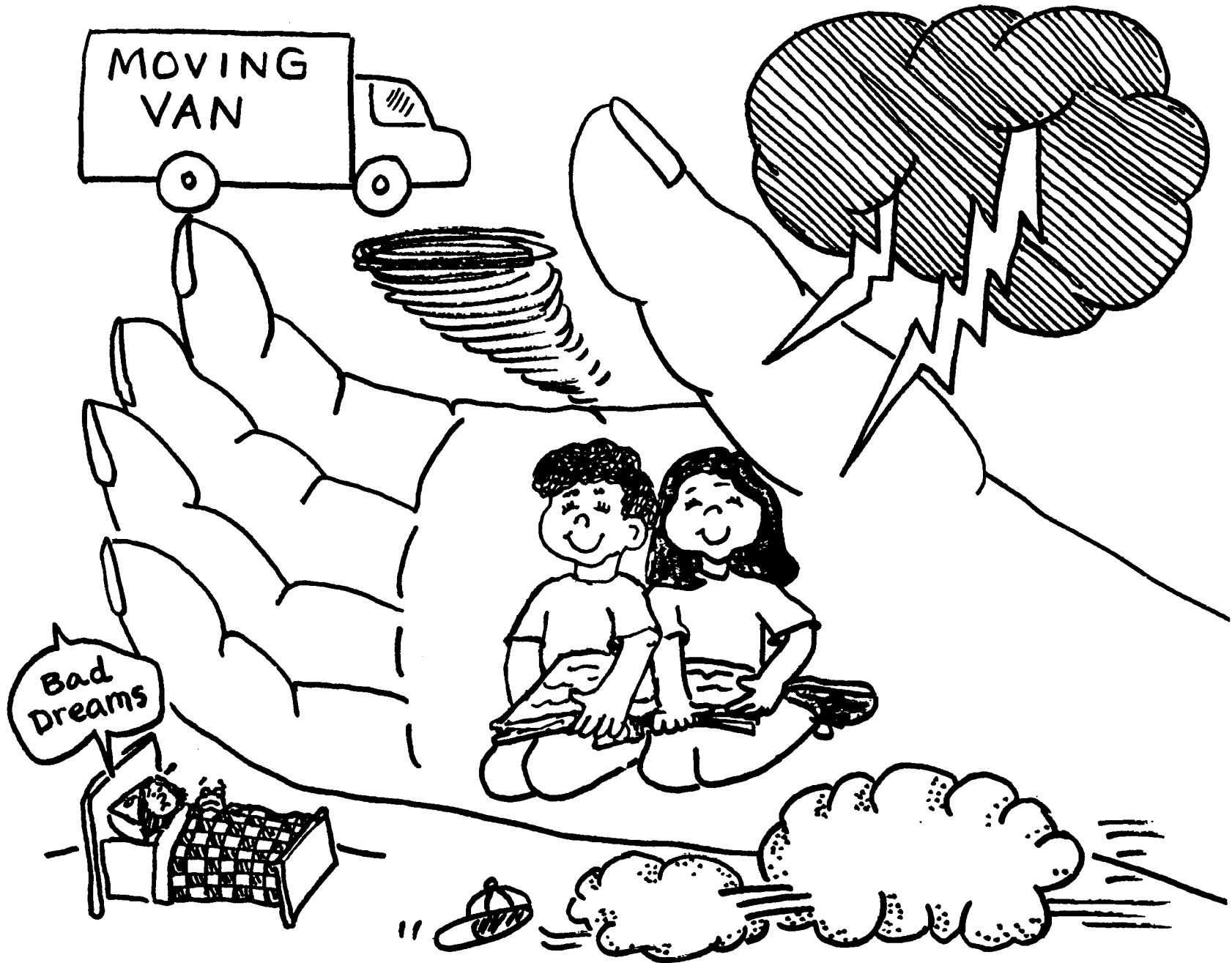


*God decides when a baby
will be born and when
a person grows old and dies.*



*In everyone's life, there are times
when we feel like crying, and there
are times when we feel like laughing.*

*To the man who pleases Him, God gives wisdom,
knowledge, and happiness. Ecclesiastes 2:26*



God is in charge of our lives. We can trust Him.



God is in Charge

God is in charge of all things in our lives.

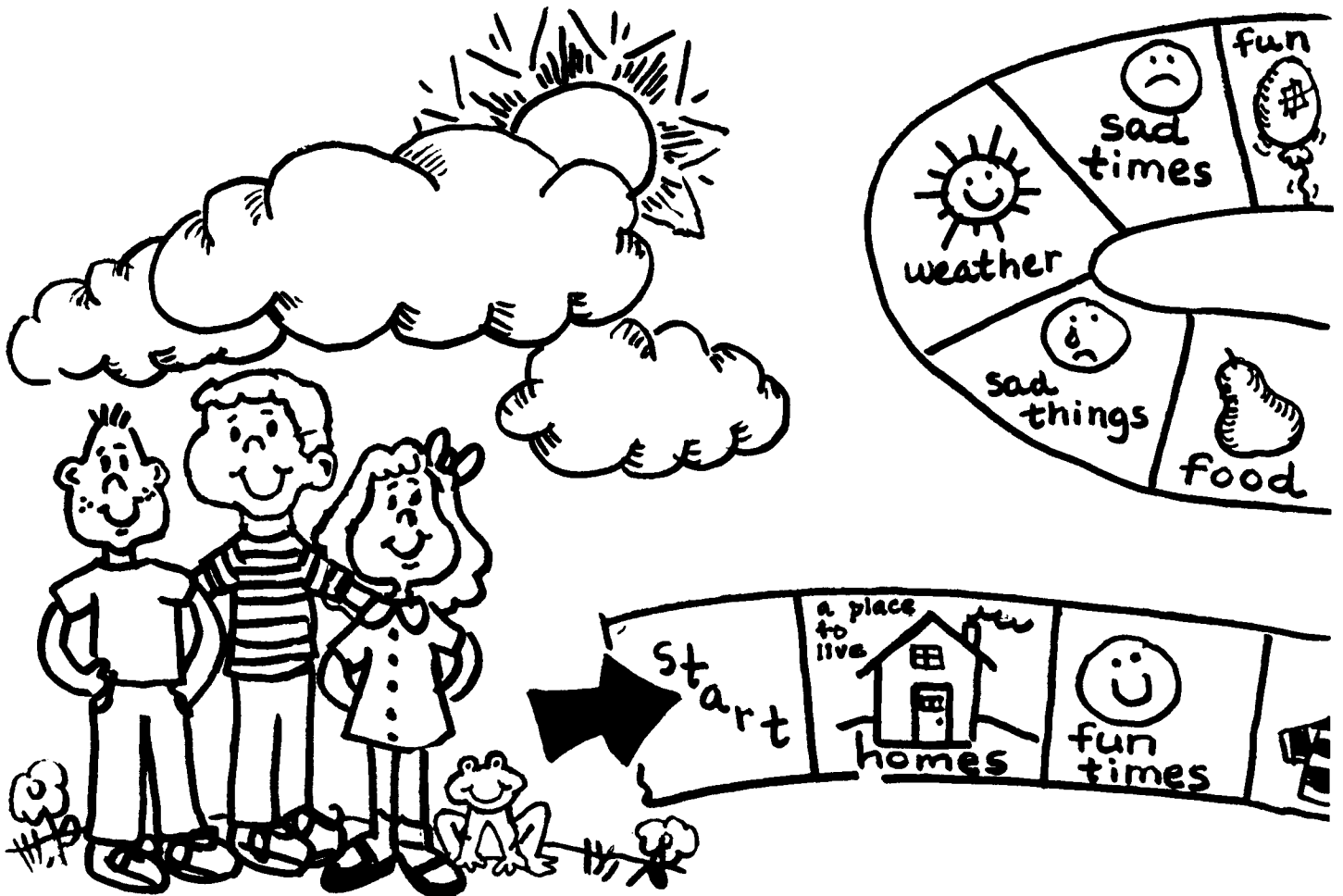
To play this as a game, toss a coin:

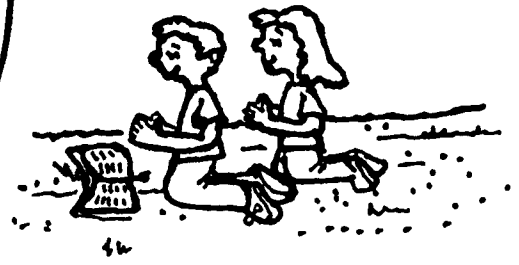
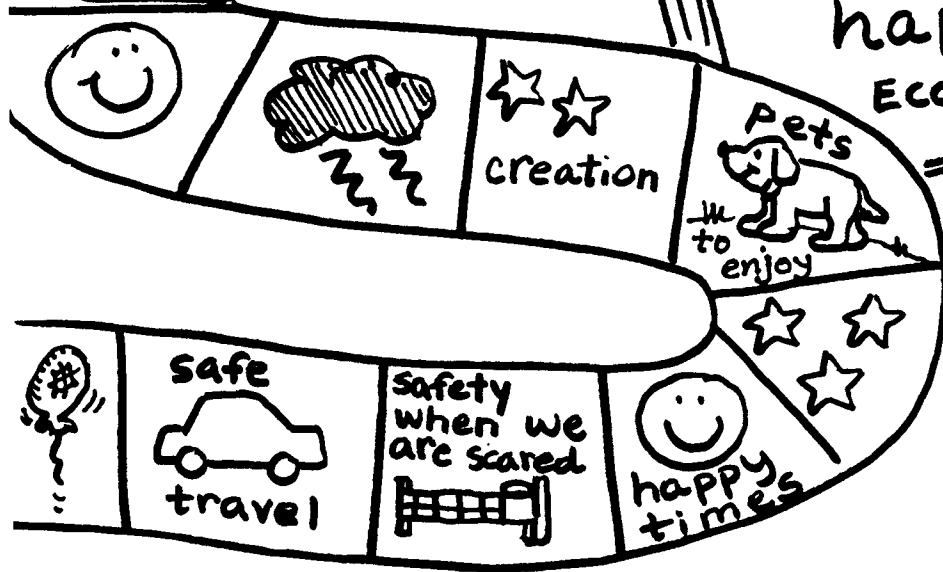
Heads - move forward 1 space

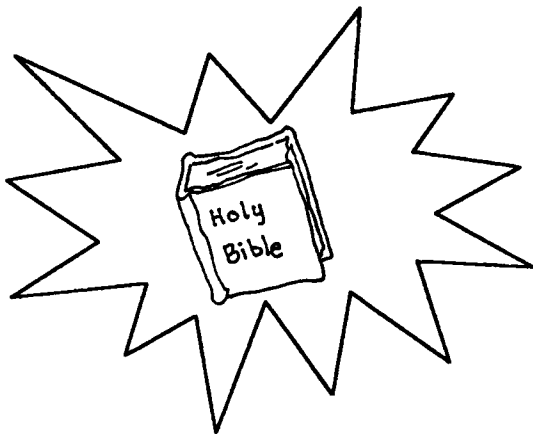
Tails - move forward 2 spaces.

Tell how we can trust God
in the circumstance you land on.

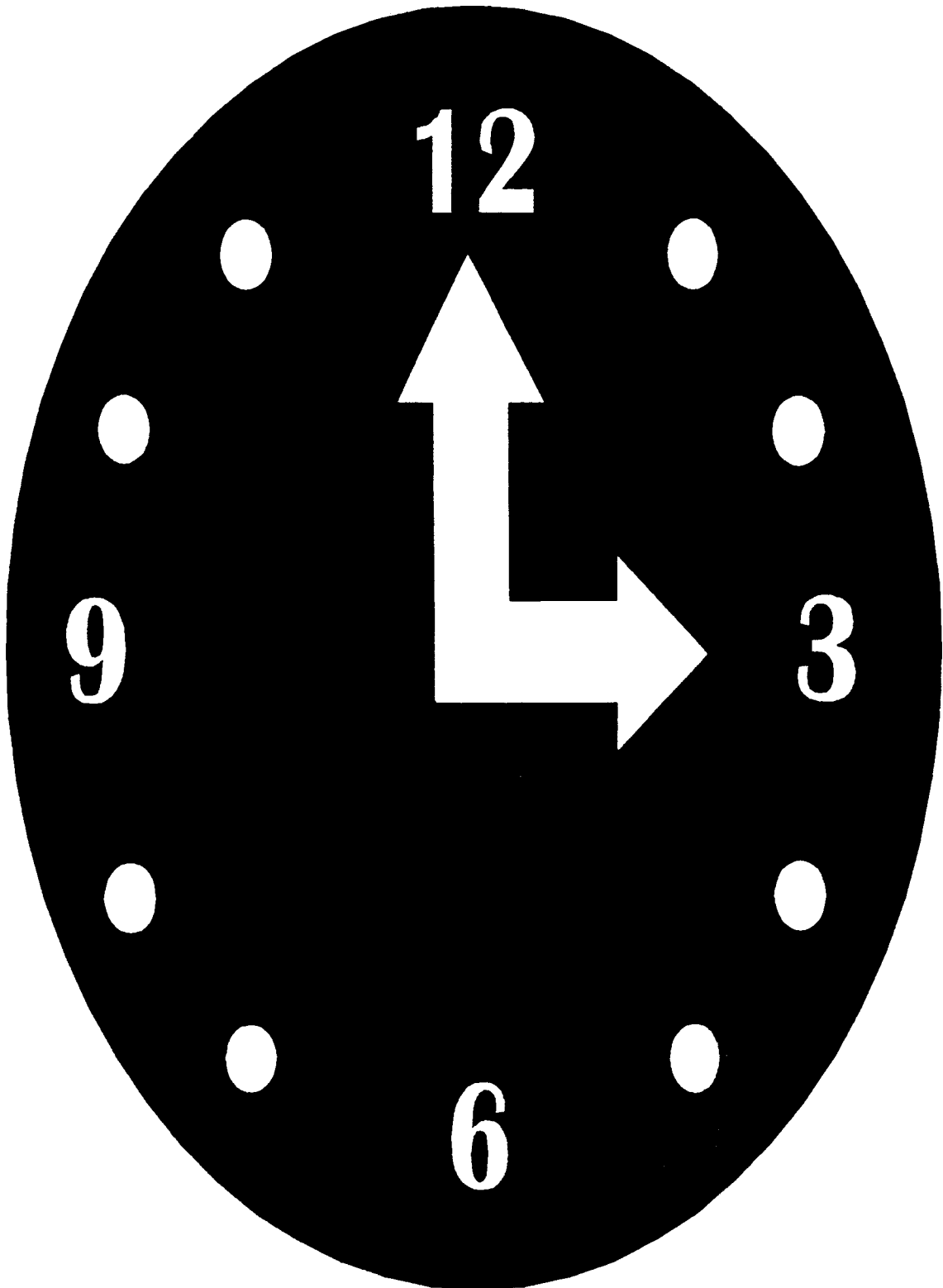
**Remember...If we trust and
obey God, we always win.**





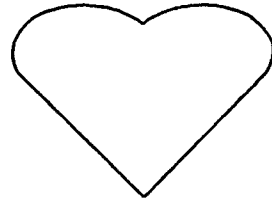
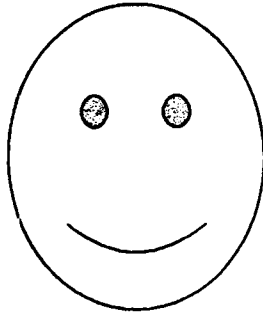


God has a time for everything.



God has a time for everything.

Trust



Wisdom

Goodness

Fellowship

Worker

Humble

Happiness

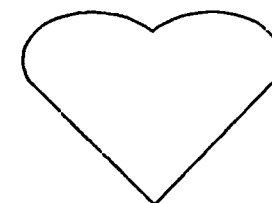
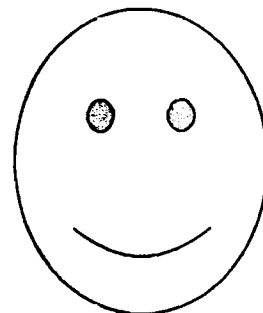
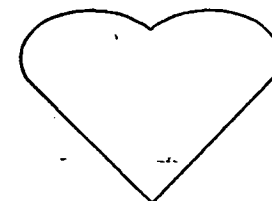
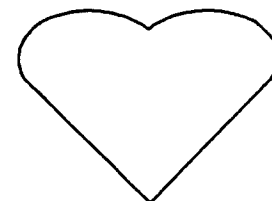
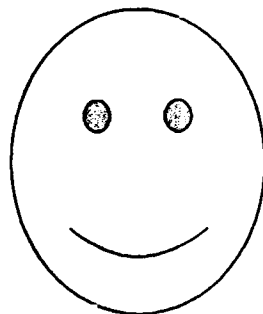
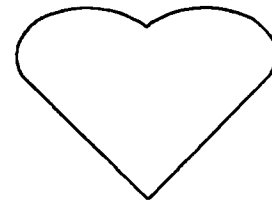
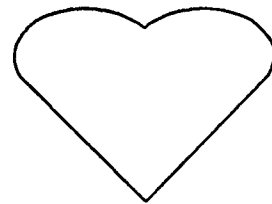
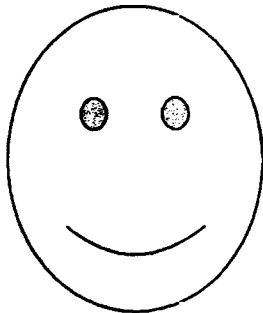
Knowledge

Joyful

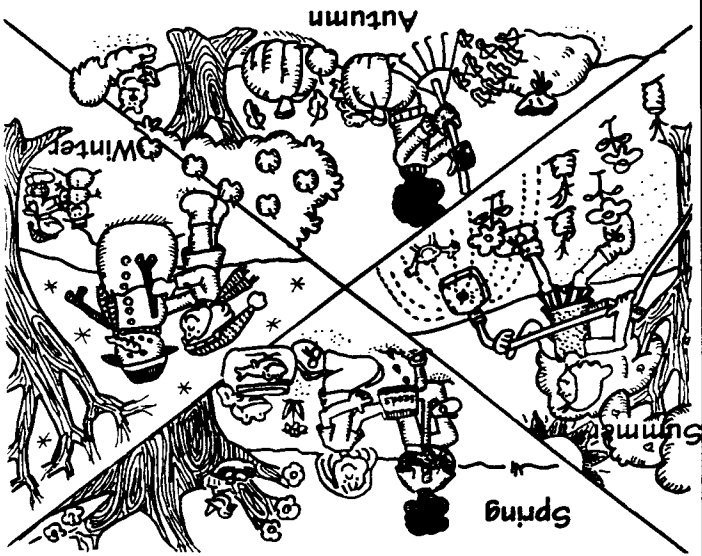
Love

Diligence

Service

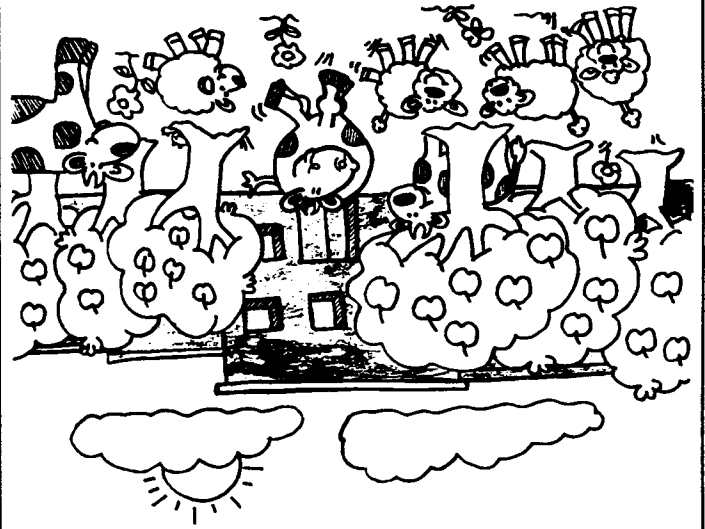


We can trust God to do what is best. 3.



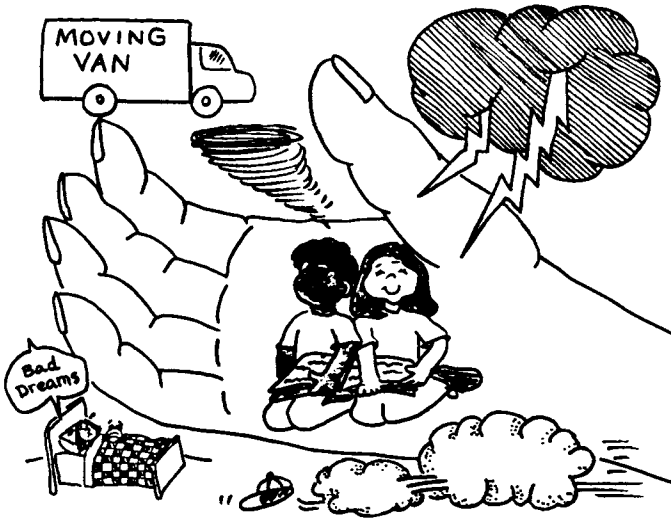
God is in charge of the seasons of the year. God is in charge of our lives.

All of Solomon's possession did not make 2.
Solomon happy. Only God made Solomon happy.



King Solomon had many houses, orchards, animals, and lots of money.

Pleasing God makes me happy.



Ecclesiastes 2:26, Memory Verse Song
(tune: "Frere Jacques")

To the man who, to the man who
Pleases Him, pleases him,
God gives wisdom, knowledge, a-and happine-ess,
So please Him, so please Him.

4.

King Solomon wrote the book of Ecclesiastes.



Ecclesiastes
(tune: "B-I-N-G-O")

E-ccle-si-as-tes is a book that God put in the Bible.
E-ccle-si-as-tes, E-ccle-si-as-tes, E-ccle-si-as-tes,
A book that is reliable.

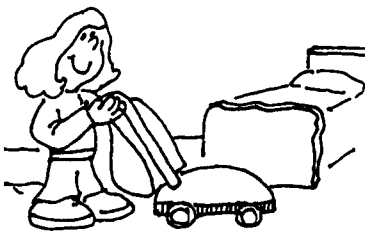
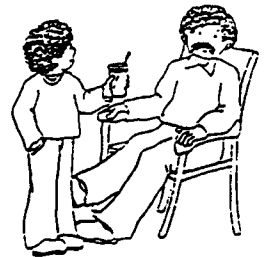
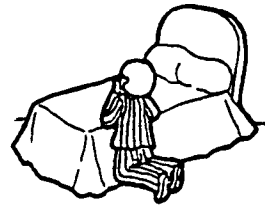
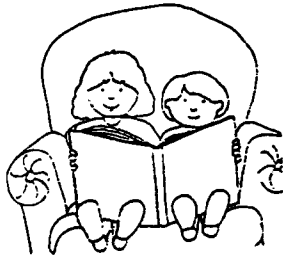
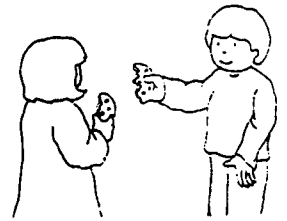
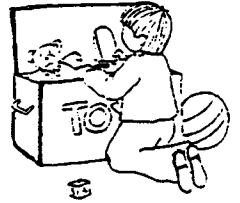
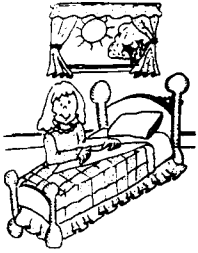
1.

I want to please God this week by...

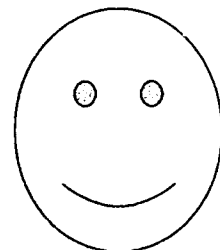
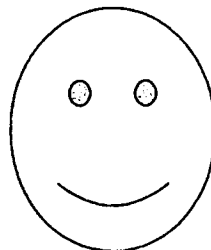
חֲסִידֶיךָ	יְהוָה יִשְׂמַח בְּעֲשׂוֹתָיו	יְהוָה יִשְׂמַח בְּעֲשׂוֹתָיו	יְהוָה יִשְׂמַח בְּעֲשׂוֹתָיו
יְהוָה יִשְׂמַח בְּעֲשׂוֹתָיו	יְהוָה יִשְׂמַח בְּעֲשׂוֹתָיו	יְהוָה יִשְׂמַח בְּעֲשׂוֹתָיו	יְהוָה יִשְׂמַח בְּעֲשׂוֹתָיו
יְהוָה יִשְׂמַח בְּעֲשׂוֹתָיו	יְהוָה יִשְׂמַח בְּעֲשׂוֹתָיו	יְהוָה יִשְׂמַח בְּעֲשׂוֹתָיו	יְהוָה יִשְׂמַח בְּעֲשׂוֹתָיו

To the man who pleases Him, God gives wisdom, knowledge, and happiness. Eccl. 2:26

I want to please God this week by...



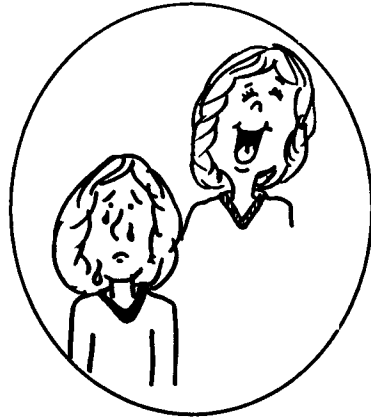
Ecclesiastes 2:26:
To the man who pleases Him,
God gives wisdom, knowledge,
and happiness.



Preschool Page for Parents

Extended Bible School Training in the Home

April 30, 2000
Ecclesiastes 7-12



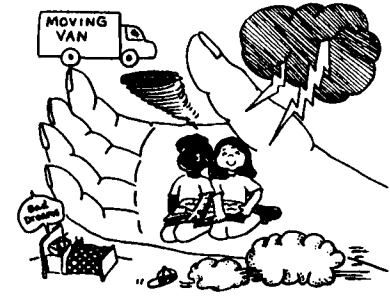
This is what I learned today!

King Solomon learned that being able to buy whatever he wanted didn't make him happy. Pleasing God is what made him happy. God is in charge of everything, and we can trust God to know what is best for us. Sad things happen to each of us, but God will help us to be happy and thankful in our hearts when we continue to obey and please Him during bad times.

Today's Memory Verse:

To the man who pleases Him,
God gives
wisdom, knowledge, and happiness.
Ecclesiastes 2:26

Trust Your Strong Dad!



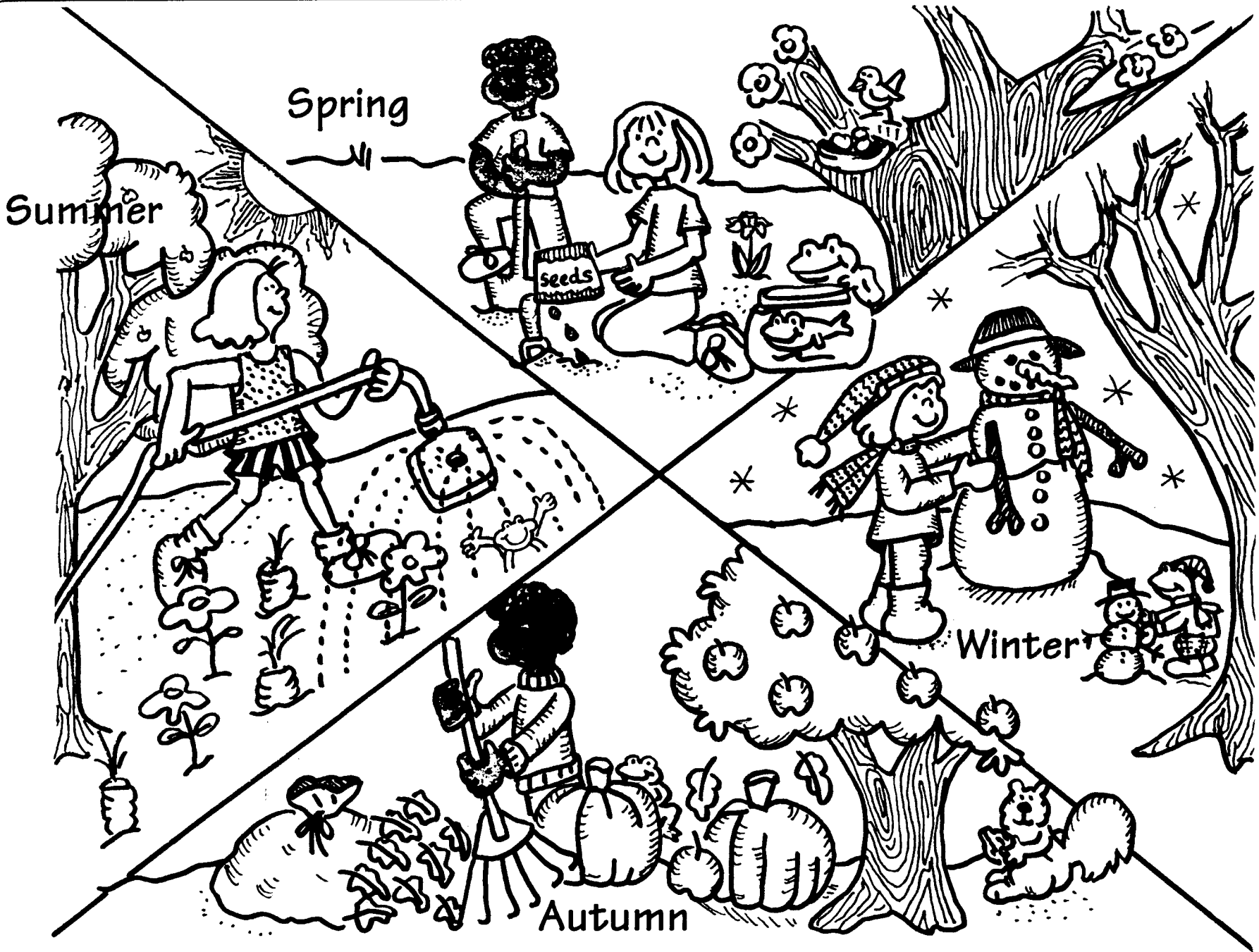
Have one child at a time fall backward into dad's arms. A large pillow or mat on the floor would be good for safety reasons. Having a child stand on a small step would make the fall backwards even more exciting.

Talk about how the child can fully trust himself to his father's strong arms. In the same way, we can fully trust our heavenly Father every day of our lives because He is strong and knows what is best for us.

Use the picture above to talk about how we don't have to be afraid or worried. We can trust God.

Ecclesiastes 2:26 Memory Verse Song (tune: "Frere Jacques")

To the man who, to the man who
Pleases Him, pleases Him,
God gives wisdom, knowledge,
A-and happine-ess.
So please Him, so please Him.



God is in charge of the seasons. We can trust Him with our lives.