

November 17, 1996
4' s, 5' s & K
God Is the Savior.

Isaiah 24-35
3ISA11PK

Materials I Need:

Memory Work:

The Prophet - *Isaiah*

The Principle - *God is the Savior.*

The People - *Israelites living around Jerusalem*

God's Attribute - *God is the Savior.*

Aim Questions:

1. Who was the good king in Jerusalem and why was he called a good king? (Hezekiah was good because he listened to God and obeyed Him. He prayed and asked God to save the Israelites when they were in trouble.)
2. Why were the Israelites living around Jerusalem afraid when the Assyrian King Sennacherib sent his army commander to them? (He told the Israelites their God couldn't keep them safe.)
3. What did King Hezekiah do when he heard the Assyrian threats? (He prayed to God and asked Isaiah to pray, too.)
4. What did God do when Hezekiah and Isaiah prayed? (He promised to keep Jerusalem safe and then He made sure the Assyrians went back to Nineveh and stayed there.)
5. Who was the Savior who kept the Israelites safe in Jerusalem? (God is the only Savior.)
6. What kind of people does God save? (People who pray to God and are cleaned from their dirty sins.)

Hook:

Map Center: (3ISA11PKG1) Using the small map as a guide, outline a map of Samaria, Jerusalem, and Nineveh (Assyria) using masking tape stuck to the floor. You might lightly mark on the carpet with chalk and let the children cover the lines with the tape for you. This map will be used during the Bible Adventure and in the bean bag toss below.

Bean Bag Toss: Have the children stand a distance from the map that you made on the carpet and let them throw bean bags, trying to hit Samaria, Jerusalem, or Nineveh. If the bean bag lands on one of these places, have the child name the city.

Calling for Help: The Israelites did not have telephones or cars to get help when they needed it. Who did Isaiah say would be the Israelite's Savior when they were in trouble? See if you can get someone to answer, "The Israelites should pray to God." We can pray when we need help today. Practice calling on God. Use play or real disconnected telephones to "call" God for help. Use the phone to call someone else to pray for you. Pray for them, too.

King Hezekiah...What-a-Guya! Today's story tells of a king named Hezekiah. This rhymes with "what-a-guya!" King Hezekiah was quite a guy because he obeyed God. Use any kind of drums and let the children slap out rhythms. Repeat the phrase, "Hezekiah, what-a-guya!" while slapping the drums. Try saying it in different ways - loudly, softly, in a silly way, in a nice way, faster and slower.

Have the children listen for King Hezekiah's name in the Bible Adventure today. There are rhythm instruments available at the Children Table, or you can make some out of oatmeal boxes. Have the children listen for King Hezekiah's name in the Bible Adventure today.



Praying Prophet Coloring Paper: (3ISA11PKGF2) Let the children color the picture of the prophet Isaiah praying. Ask the children if they can tell what Isaiah is doing. Ask when the children pray. "Does God always say yes to every prayer? Does God ever say 'Wait' when you pray?" Take this time to review what the prophet Isaiah has told the Israelites.



Book:

Presentation Ideas -



"Get the Wiggles Out" Transition Activity: Talk about celebrations we have, birthdays, holidays, parades, etc. Talk about what we do when we celebrate. Two teachers form a "London Bridge" and sing the following song as the children go under the bridge. "Ho-ow do you celebrate, celebrate, celebrate? Ho-ow do you celebrate...on your birthday? (on Thanksgiving, on Easter Sunday, on Christmas, etc.) The children that are gathered in the bridge get to share. As an alternative, do musical chairs and the one left out gets to share their favorite celebration. Today in our Bible Adventure, the Israelites will celebrate because God saved the Israelites when they prayed.



(3ISA11PKGF1) Use the map you made during Hook time to help teach the story.



(3ISA11PKGF2) Use the GF2 picture of Isaiah praying to the Savior. It would be fun to stick King Hezekiah's face on the same picture to remind the children that both prayed to God, the Savior. Place the picture next to an enlarged map on the floor. Have a child stand on the places and next to Isaiah when appropriate.



Dress up as King Hezekiah and tell the story from his point of view.



(3ISA11PKGF7) Show King Sennacherib's picture as you talk about the Assyrian threats.

Bible Adventure -

Review: Using prophet puppets, go over the following memory review ideas: Obadiah (God was loyal to the children of Jacob, the Israelites), Jonah (God was merciful to the people of Nineveh and Jonah), Nahum (God was slow to anger with the people of Nineveh), Amos (God is righteous - spoken to the children of Jacob, the Israelites in Samaria), Hosea (God was faithful to the Israelites living around Samaria) and Isaiah (God is the Savior of the Israelites living near Jerusalem).

Isaiah was a pretty neat guy. He told us that there would be a Savior coming and he told us two signs that would help us know when He was here. Who remembers the two signs? The Savior would be born as a baby to a virgin girl. There would be a super bright star in the sky that would point to the Savior. Isaiah has more to say about how God saves us. This week you will get to know some new people. They have funny names. You will have to listen very carefully and I am going to need some help to tell this Bible Adventure today.

In our Adventure today, we have two groups of people. One group is the Assyrians. (Choose children to be Assyrians who had destroyed Samaria and had taken the Israelites captive to Nineveh. They will stand on Nineveh. Choose someone to be king Hezekiah of the Israelites living around Jerusalem. He will wear a crown, stand on Jerusalem on the floor and carry a Bible.) This other group of people are the Israelites living near Jerusalem. The king of the Israelites in Jerusalem did listen to God and keep every command. This king's name was Hezekiah. Say "Hezekiah, what a guy-a!" Hezekiah was 25 years old when he became king and he was the best king of Israel since King David. He held fast to the Lord God and always followed Him. He kept the commands the Lord gave Moses. When someone built an altar to worship an idol, Hezekiah sent someone to tear it down. He was a good king. God blessed Hezekiah. (Israelites near Jerusalem cheer!)

(Put a floppy crown on one of the children standing on Nineveh. At this point the children helping you could return to their chairs or continue to help you by silently acting out the Adventure as you tell it.) The Assyrian King Sennacherib and his Assyrian people thought they were the strongest army in the world,

but they didn't have the power that God has. King Sennacherib was trusting in strong men rather than in God. When the Assyrians had a victory, King Sennacherib became cocky and proud. Have you ever heard someone brag about winning a race or beating you at a game of Hungry Hippos? That is just what King Sennacherib did. Just because the Assyrians captured and took over Samaria, he thought they could capture any city they chose. It would be like winning one game and thinking you could win every game. Sometimes today we call people like this "a big head" because they think they are so good. Does that please God our Savior? No! God likes to see us be gentle and kind, trusting in Him for our strength.

King Sennacherib sent out lots of men and did capture many towns around Jerusalem. (Have a few of the children standing on Nineveh move to other areas and cheer.) This made the Israelites near Jerusalem afraid. One day King Sennacherib sent his field commander and a large army to Jerusalem. They came marching right into town, demanding to talk to king Hezekiah. (Assyrians march in place.) When king Hezekiah heard all the noise, he called in his palace administrator and several other men. "Would you go out and talk with King Sennacherib's men for me?" asked Hezekiah. They gladly did what he asked. When they went outside, they heard King Sennacherib's army commander saying very loudly, "Don't listen to Hezekiah! Don't trust in your God to deliver you. He can't help you. Give up now and you won't have to die when we capture Jerusalem. Ha! Ha! We took all those other cities and now we will take you, too." He was yelling this to all the people in Jerusalem. The Assyrian soldier went on to say, "I have a letter here for your king. He will find out what we are planning to do!" (Assyrians could hand a letter to the Israelites in Jerusalem.)

How do you think the people of Jerusalem felt when they heard that? They were probably confused and afraid. Do you think God could help the Israelites? Yes, God was the only one who could save Jerusalem. Hezekiah's palace administrator and friends were really upset when they heard the Assyrians and saw the letter they were sending Hezekiah. To show how sad they were, they tore their clothes and ran to tell Hezekiah what was happening. This was what people did then to show their sadness. Today, we might cry.

When King Hezekiah's friends gave him the letter, he sat in his big king's chair and read it immediately. He put it down on the table, stood up and tore his clothes. How did Hezekiah feel now? Yes, he was sad, too, but he knew where to go for help. He went to God. He put on rough sackcloth and went to the holy temple to pray. The first thing Hezekiah did when he was upset and didn't know what to do, was talk to God. Do you do that? When you get angry with your little brother because he messed up your room, do you pray and ask the all powerful God to help you say the right thing? When you are sad because you lost the game, do you pray first? When your friend asks you to do something you know is wrong, you can ask God to help you do right and not do wrong.

As King Hezekiah prayed, he lay out the Assyrian's letter in front of him and said to God, "Oh, Lord Almighty, God of Israel, you alone are God over all the nations of the earth. You know what is happening to Jerusalem. It is true that the Assyrians are powerful and have captured many cities, but you are more powerful. Please save us from the Assyrians."

King Hezekiah got up from praying and decided to ask his friend, the prophet Isaiah, to pray for the Israelites, too. It is good to ask friends to pray for you. Hezekiah went back to the palace and wrote out a message for the prophet Isaiah. It read, "Pray for God's people! They're in big trouble." (2 Kings 19:4c) As soon as Isaiah got the letter, he read it. You could see agony in his eyes. He got on his knees and prayed to the Lord. He talked to God about the Assyrians who wanted to capture God's people living in Jerusalem. Jerusalem wasn't strong enough to defend itself against Assyria, but God could. Later, Isaiah the prophet sent a message back to King Hezekiah. It said, "Don't be afraid. God will save Jerusalem. The Assyrians will not enter the city. They will not shoot an arrow in Jerusalem. God will defend this city and save it. He will do great things in Israel."

That very night, the Lord caused 185,000 Assyrians to die in their sleep. When the Assyrian commander woke up in the morning, there were bodies all around him. He couldn't fight against Jerusalem without soldiers, so he went back to Nineveh and stayed there. Isaiah had said, "Never be afraid. When you trust the Lord God, He will come to save you." God kept His promise to save His people. What a great celebration there was in Jerusalem. The Israelites in Jerusalem were rejoicing because God answered their prayer and saved them. God is our Savior, too. When a righteous person prays, God is there to save them. If we had been there celebrating with the Israelites, we might have been singing, "The Joy of the Lord is My Strength."

That was an exciting Adventure. It helps us understand how God is our Savior when we hear about how Isaiah and King Hezekiah prayed.

Prayer: Dear Lord God Almighty, You are stronger than anyone or anything. Only You can save us from sin. Thank You for giving us Your story in the Bible. In Jesus' name, Amen.



Look:



Crowns of Joy Craft Center: (3ISA11PKGF3) As the children decorate their crowns, talk about the Israelites getting ready for the Savior and how they would be able to walk on the "Holy Highway" when they followed the Savior. Follow the directions for making the crowns. Sing joyful songs the children know as they skip and hop to Jerusalem. (See Song section) For variety, walk slowly with sad faces as you wander off the holy highway. When someone shouts "Pray to the Savior," the children sing happy songs again.



"Pray at All Times of the Day" Activity Center: Give each child a piece of blank drawing paper. Divide the paper into four sections either by creases or by drawing lines. In one of the boxes, write the word "Morning." Write the word towards the top of the box so there is room to draw a small picture. Ask the children to draw a picture of themselves praying in the morning. In another box, write the word "Noon." Have the children draw themselves praying at noon time. Do the same activity in the other two boxes, labeling the boxes "Afternoon" and "Night." After all the pictures have been drawn, choose several children to share what it is they are saying in their prayer. One at a time, have the children point to one of the pictures on their paper and share. Respond to their sharing supportively, pointing out that King Hezekiah prayed when he needed help and was afraid. This would be a good time to sing "Whisper a Prayer."



"Prayer Box" Craft Center: (3ISA11PKGF4) Let the children color the prayer box. Help them fold and tape the box together. Remind them how good King Hezekiah prayed to God for help and how we, too, can pray to God for help.



"Prayer Request" Game Center: Let the children color pictures of prayer requests on construction paper. Affix the pictures to 2-liter soda bottles weighted down with sand. Let the children bowl and knock down the requests. When one is knocked down, the child who did the knocking gets the opportunity to pray for the request or thank God for an answered prayer. (Bowling ball sets are available, if requested.)



Hopscotch Prayer Center: Play hopscotch with different times of the day written in each square. (Morning, noon, afternoon, bedtime, dinner time, lunch time, etc.) After the children have finished the course, they can thank God for hearing their prayers any time of the day.



Time to Pray Action Center: Make a clock out of a paper plate. Let the hands move with a brad or paper fastener. Let the children divide into two teams. The first group can choose the time of day, and the other group can act out situations appropriate to that time of day that they might need prayer.

Songs:



Little Children, Sing for Joy

Little children, sing for joy
Jesus loves each girl and boy
God's our Savior; yes, it's true
He is near to you and you. (Point to different children)



The Joy of the Lord Is My Strength

We trust the Lord to save us and He does great things.
We trust the Lord to save us and He does great things.
We trust the Lord to save us and He does great things.

The joy of the Lord is my strength.

(Other Verses)

He made the soldiers go back home to Nineveh. (Sing 3 times and end the song as in the first verse)

The Lord is my Savior and He does great things. (Sing 3 times and end the song as in the first verse)

Only righteous people walk the Righteous Road. (Sing 3 times and end the song as in the first verse)

I want to walk the right road, not the sinful road. (Sing 3 times and end the song as in the first verse)

 **Whisper a Prayer in the Morning**

Whisper a prayer in the morning

Whisper a prayer at noon

Whisper a prayer in the evening

To keep your heart in tune.

God is our Savior in the morning

God is our Savior at noon

God is our Savior in the evening


To keep our hearts in tune.

I'll pray to God in the morning

I'll pray to God at noon

I'll pray to God in the evening

I'll keep my heart in tune.

 **Only God** (Sing to the tune "Only You")

Only God (Children echo) could save His people

Only God (Children echo) could save His people

Only God (Children echo) could save His people

He's the God over all.

Only God (Children echo) can be our Savior

Only God (Children echo) can be our Savior

Only God (Children echo) can be our Savior


He's the God over all. Worship Him!


(Other Verses)


Only God....can shake the mountains, can calm the oceans, can give us mercy, is slow to anger, etc.



Took:

 **Telephone Game Center:** Use the same telephone you used during Hook time. Seat the children in a circle. Give one child the phone and have her finish this sentence: "I need help when I'm _____." Then have the child say her sentence in the phone. When finished, pass the phone to the next child to the right and have that child repeat the same sentence. Play continues to the right. After several children have repeated the same sentence, ask the next child to finish the above sentence, and continue as before. The best thing we can do is pray about things we need, just as King Hezekiah did when he was afraid.

 March to joyful music wearing the paper crowns the children made during Look time. They can march down an aisle made of masking tape stuck to the carpet. The aisle reminds us that only those whose hearts trust God as the only Savior will be able to walk on the "Holy Highway."

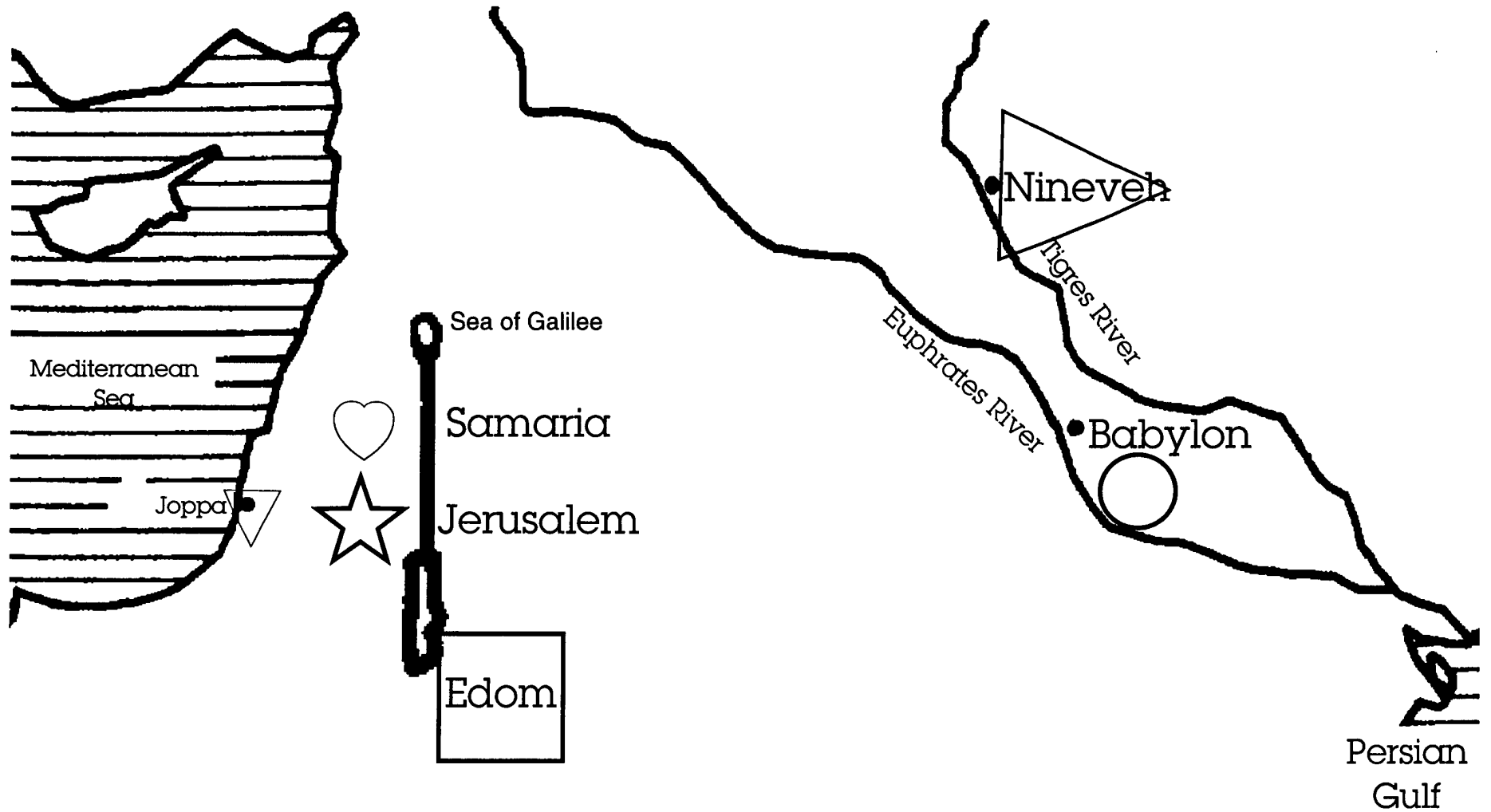
 **Prayer Partners: (3ISA11PKGF5)** Divide the children into pairs. Ask the pairs to pray for one another. When friends pray for each other, they are sometimes called prayer partners. Help all the

children color the prayer partner reminder cards and write their names in the blanks. King Hezekiah asked his good friend, Isaiah, to pray for him. It is good to ask friends to pray for us, too.



Family Partners: (3ISA11PKGF6) We can also be prayer partners for and with members of our family. The children can make the “Hand” Centerpieces for their kitchen tables. They can take the centerpieces home and have each family member write down a prayer request. This can be helpful in getting family members to pray for specific things.

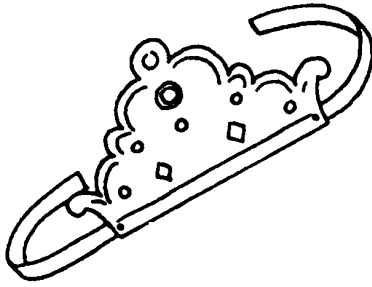
Map of the Middle East during the time of the Prophets



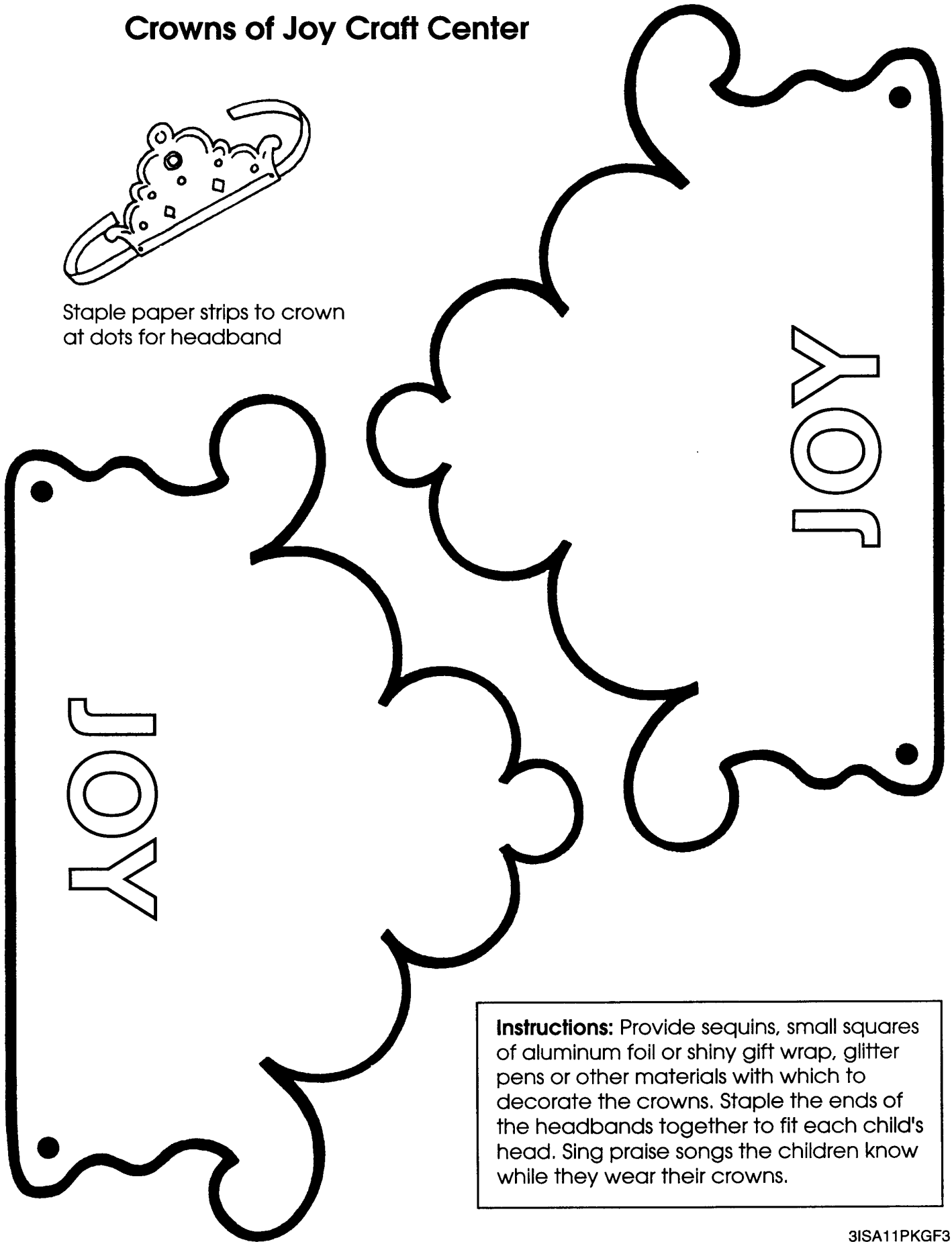


Can you guess who this Old Testament prophet might be?
What is he doing? What does God say about praying?

Crowns of Joy Craft Center

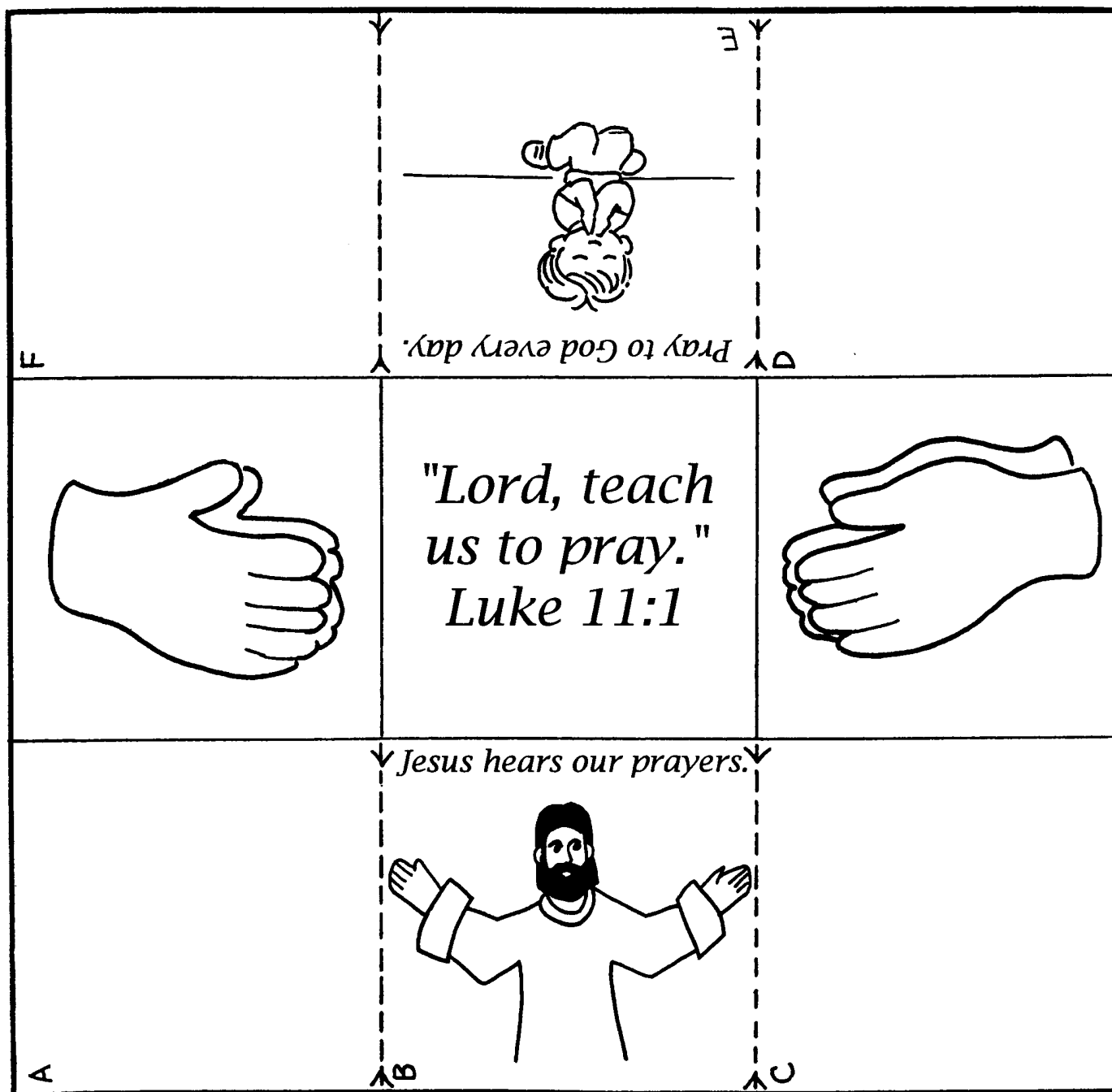


Staple paper strips to crown at dots for headband

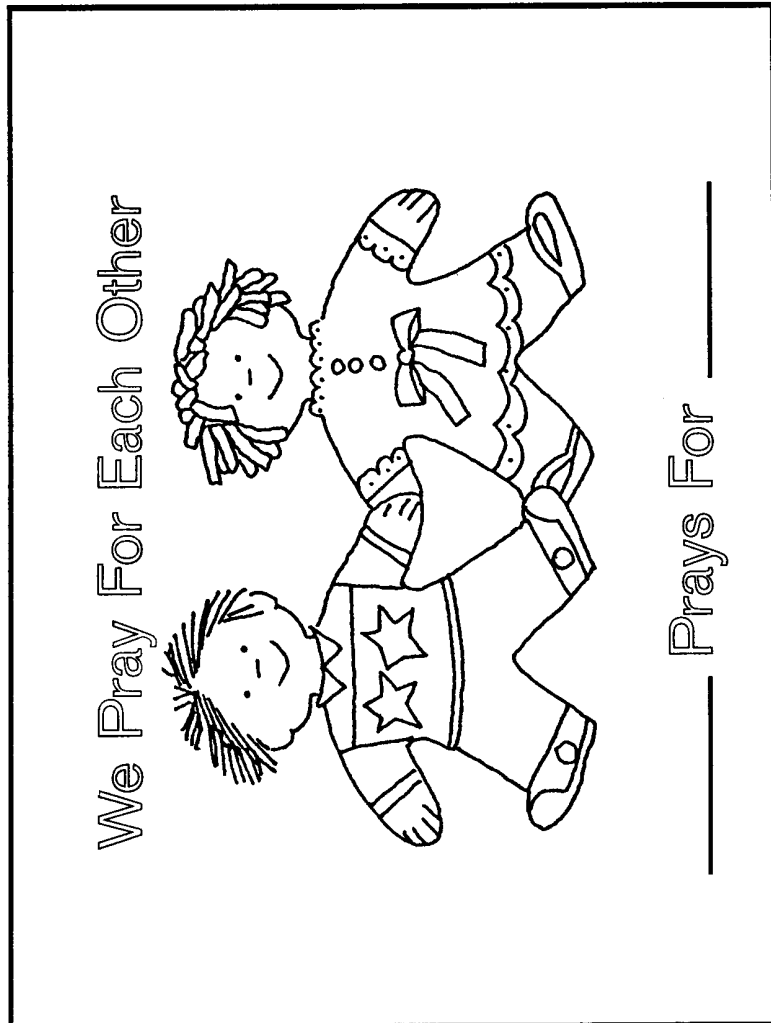


Instructions: Provide sequins, small squares of aluminum foil or shiny gift wrap, glitter pens or other materials with which to decorate the crowns. Staple the ends of the headbands together to fit each child's head. Sing praise songs the children know while they wear their crowns.

"Prayer Box" Craft Center



Cut only along the dotted lines and the solid outline.
Fold into a box shape along the inside solid lines.



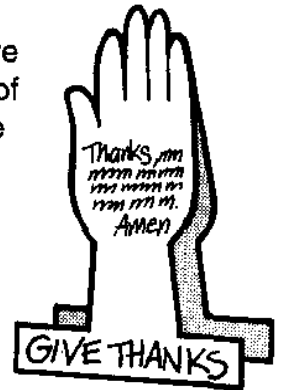
Prayer Partner Reminder Cards

Give each child a copy of the card on this page. Help each child write his or her name on the blank under the first figure, and the name of a friend the child would like to pray for under the second figure. Then encourage the children to color and "dress" the figures to look like themselves and their friends, gluing on scraps of fabric, braid, and lace for clothes. When children are finished, punch two holes at the top and make a yarn hanger.

"Give Thanks" Table Centerpiece

Materials Needed: Construction paper, scissors

Instructions: Have each person trace his or her hand on folded construction paper, making sure that the tips of the middle three fingers touch the fold. Cut out the hand tracing by cutting through both layers of paper except the fingertips. Leave the area near them uncut, creating a hinge in the paper. Leave a straight strip of paper at the wrists for a stand. Encourage the children to place the centerpiece on their kitchen tables and to say the grace at meals.



Give Thanks

Give Thanks

Give Thanks

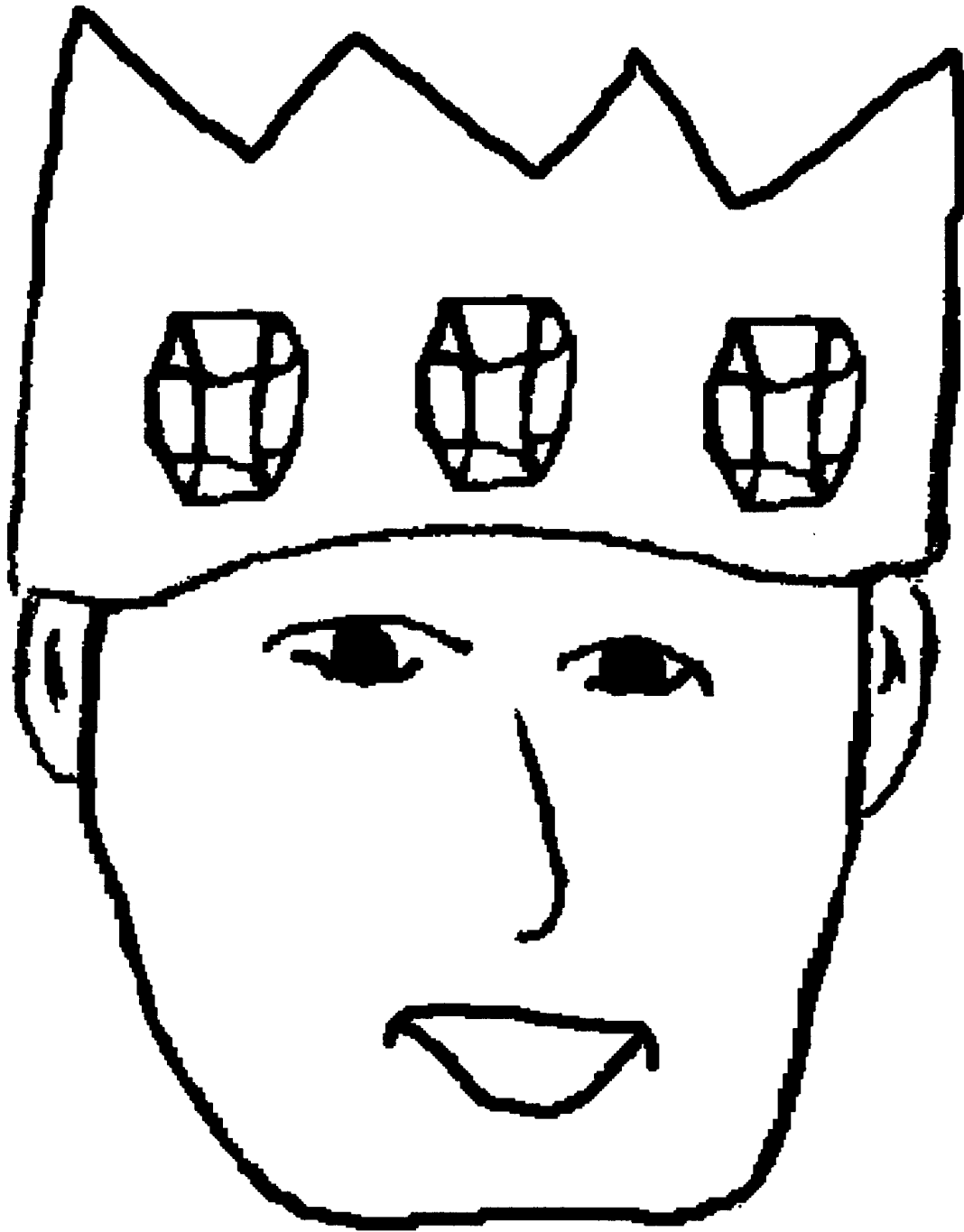
Give Thanks

Give Thanks

Give Thanks

Give Thanks

Give Thanks



King Sennacherib of Assyria