



February 27, 2000
2 yr. olds - Kindergarten
1st - 6th Grades

Psalm 63
PSA04

Psalms



Materials I Need:
Legend: 2 = Option 1, Appropriate for 2yr olds - 3yr olds 4 = Option 2, Appropriate for 4yr olds - Kindergarten  = Option 3, Appropriate for 1 st - 2 nd Grade  = Option 4, Appropriate for 3 rd - 6 th Grade
Memory Work: "Because your love is better than life, my lips will glorify you." Psalm 63:3 (NIV)
Aim Questions for 2yr olds - Kindergarten: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Did David write Psalm 63? <i>(yes)</i>2. Was David being chased by his son Absalom? <i>(yes)</i>3. Did David need God to help him? <i>(yes)</i> Why? <i>(Only God was enough to help him.)</i>4. Did David quit trusting God? <i>(no)</i>5. Do you need anything more than God? <i>(no)</i> Aim Questions for 1st - 6th Grade: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Who was David running from? <i>(Absalom)</i>2. What reasons would David have for giving up? <i>(His son wanted to kill him, His friends left him, and his people had turned against him.)</i>3. Why did David seek God? <i>(God is the only one that can satisfy us.)</i>4. What did David do to keep trusting? <i>(He praised God, trusted God, remembered God's works and words.)</i>5. What can you do when people let you down and possessions don't make you happy? <i>(Remember God's promises. Praise God for His character. Trust God to take care of you.)</i>

Hook:



Define These Words (Table Activity/Discussion).



Briefly discuss these words:

thirst	seek	dry	weary	earnest
power	help	praise	love satisfied	
cling	uphold	glory	rejoice	

Look them up in a dictionary, or have the students come up with words which are synonymous with them. Write the words down on the whiteboard or a piece of paper at your table. Leave space next to these words to write the synonyms next to them. This will be helpful when we go through this week's Psalm in more detail during the LOOK time.

Hard Times (Discussion). 4, 🐛, 🦋 Have you or your family ever experienced a trial or difficult time? Gear your discussions in an age appropriate manner. If you are talking to younger students, you might ask them if they ever had a time when they were really sad. The older students will be able to understand trials in their lives a little better, but may need some coaching. Start by sharing some things which have happened to you. This will begin the discussion and set them on the right track. What did they do during this hard time, and what was the outcome? What did they focus on during that difficult period? Did they see evidence that God was helping them during that time? How? This morning we will hear another Psalm written by David during a very scary and hard time for him. We will see that by taking the focus off of himself and his troubles and turning to God gave him the energy he needed to persevere through that time. David had experienced God's blessings before and was able to trust in God's promises. Often when we look back to those hard times in our lives and remember how God brought us through them, it will give us the courage to face the trials in our lives today.

What Is Praise? How Do We Praise God? (Discussion). 4, 🐛, 🦋 What is praise? Is human praise (when mom commends you for doing a good job) different than the praise we give God? What makes them different? Review the attributes of God we have been using these past weeks. Discuss ways we can praise God. When should we praise Him? Why do we praise Him? Look up some verses which talk about praising God, and see what they say. The Psalm we will look at this morning is written as a praise to God by someone going through a very difficult time in his life. Why should we praise God when things are not going well for us?

A Promise Never Broken (Discussion). 🦋 Even though this is a more mature discussion for the older students, it could still be utilized and applied to the younger ones. Have you ever made a promise and not been able to keep it? Even a two year old child has promised to do what Mom or Dad has said and then did the opposite. We have all broken promises before or had promises made to us which were broken. Fortunately, God never breaks His promises. He has given us many promises in His Word which He will always keep for us. As we look at David's Psalm this morning, we will see how he clung to God's promises during a trial in his life, and that gave him the hope and confidence of victory in the end. We can do the same.

What Gives Us Eternal Satisfaction? (Coloring Page/Worksheet). 🐛, 🦋 Using **PSA04.GF1**, cross out the items which the world tells us will satisfy us, and draw a heart around those which God provides for us for eternal satisfaction. For the older students, you can use this worksheet to assist you in a comparative discussion on the temporary versus eternal satisfaction. You may want to return to this worksheet during the LOOK time as you go through Psalm 63 in more detail. What satisfied David?

I Need Help (Activity). Put an incentive (coloring sheets or a piece of sugar free candy) on a high shelf. Have the children take turns trying to reach them on their own. Then have them say to the teachers and leaders, "I need help, please." Lift the child up to get the treat or coloring page. Tell the children that we need God's help in much the same way.

Only God Can Fill Me Up (Activity). Get several medium sized clear containers, one for each table, and lay out a dozen or so dried beans. Have the children try to fill up the container with the beans. With each bean they put in the container have them say one of the following "friends," "treats," "toys." Make it so there aren't near enough beans to fill the container. No matter how many friends, toys, or treats we have, they cannot fill us up. Have a large bin of beans nearby. Write on the container the word "God." Have enough beans to fill all the containers. Pour the beans from the big container into the small container until the container overflows. Then say, "God is the only one who can fill us all the way up."



Book:

Presentation Ideas –



David Meditates on God (*Illustration/Coloring Page*). Psalm 63:6, PSA04.GF2.



David Thirsts for God in the Desert (*Illustration/Coloring Page*). Psalm 63:1, PSA04.GF3.

Bible Adventure –

2yr olds - Kindergarten:

All of us have had happy times and hard times. Do you believe God is taking care of you in times like these? He sure is. Being close to God and trusting God is what we really need. God wants us to know that through hard times we can trust Him.

David had many sons. One of his sons, Absalom, was angry toward his father. He said bad things about David to the people. After a while the people did not like David anymore. Absalom gathered a lot of people together to try and kill David. When David heard about it, he ran away with many of his friends. He ended up in a desert wilderness. Some of David's best friends did not like him anymore. Absalom was chasing David to try to kill him. What a horrible situation for David! His own son wanted to kill him. David could have given up all hope in that desert but he did not. He had great faith in God's love for him. Psalm 63 records David's thoughts while he ran away from Absalom's armies.

David was very close to God. Psalm 63 begins, "O God, You are my God" The most important person or thing in David's life was God. David looked out into the desert and realized he needed God as much as he needed water to live. David needed God to help him. We also need to be close to God just as we need water and food to live.

David needed God's love. "Because your love is better than life, my lips will glorify you," David said. He knew he needed to remember God's love. At night David was worried and scared. He remembered how great God was. Just like David, we need to remember God's love and promises. He praised God for all the things he had done. He trusted God and remembered how God always kept His promises.

What about you? You need God just as much as you need food to eat. When you are scared, you can pray to him and trust that He will take care of you. When friends are mean to you, remember that God is great and loves you. Whenever you feel upset, remember what God has given you already. Thank Him for all the things you do have. God is what you really need.

4's and 5's:

All of us have had happy times and hard times. Maybe your dad lost his job and your family doesn't have enough money. Perhaps you are being picked on at school or at home, and you feel like you don't have any friends. Do you believe God is taking care of you in times like these? Be confident that He is. God wants us to know that through hard times you can trust Him. .

David had many sons. One of his sons, Absalom, was angry toward his father. He said bad things about David and turned people against him. Over time the people of Israel became loyal to Absalom instead of David. Absalom gathered a lot of people together to try and kill David. When heard about it, he ran away with many of his friends. He ended up in a desert wilderness. Some of David's closest friends betrayed him. Absalom and his army were closing in on David preparing to kill him. What a horrible situation for David! His own son wanted to kill him. The

people he loved had turned their backs on him. David could have given up all hope in that desert but he did not. He had great faith in God's love for him. Psalm 63 records David's thoughts while he fled from Absalom's armies.

David was very close to God. Psalm 63 begins, "O God, You are my God" The most important person or thing in David's life was God. David looked out into the desert and realized he needed God as much as he needed water to live. If we don't have water we will die. The same is true for God. We need to be close to God like we need water and food to live.

David said, "Because your love is better than life, I will glorify you." Praising God is to our spirit what dessert is like to our mouths. It is the yummiest part of life. David knew that even though his son was trying to kill him, praising God was the best thing he could do. Late at night when David couldn't sleep because he was worried and scared, He remembered how great God was. He praised God for all the things he had done. He trusted God and remembered how God always kept His promises.

David's problems were huge, but he knew God was bigger and could take care of them all. So it is in our lives. No matter what we face, God's love, protection and justice is sure. Let's follow what we've learned from King David in Psalm 63. In times of distress, cry out to God. Tell Him how you feel. Know that your relationship with Him is more important than anything.

What about you? You need God just as much as you need food to eat. When you are scared, you can pray to him and trust that He will take care of you. When friends are mean to you, remember that God is great and loves you. Whenever you feel upset, remember what God has given you already. God is what you really need.

Prayer: Dear Lord, thank you that You love us and that we can always come to You. Help us to remember that we need You more than anything else.

1st - 6th:

Do you think it is easier to trust God when times are good or when times are hard? When everything is going our way, we tend to think God must be pleased with the way we are living our lives. It's easy to say we believe God is caring for and protecting us. But what about when everything seems to be going wrong? Maybe your dad lost his job, and your family doesn't have enough money. Perhaps you are being picked on at school, and you feel like the situation will never get better. Do you believe God is taking care of you in times like these? Rest assured that He is. God wants us to know that through difficulties He has a plan for our lives, and we can completely rest in His love. Taking another look at the life of King David gives us a wonderful example of trusting our Heavenly Father when at first we might feel like giving up..

King David had several sons. His oldest son, Amnon, committed a terrible sin against his half-sister, Tamar. When David heard about it, he did nothing. But another son, Absalom, was furious. His sister had been disgraced, and he wanted Amnon punished. After two years, Absalom was so angry that he had Amnon killed. King David heard of the murder, and Absalom fled the city. Three years went by until David's military commander convinced him to allow Absalom to come back to Jerusalem. David refused to see his son until finally Absalom arranged events so he could see his father and be assured he wouldn't be punished for his crime.

During these years, Absalom developed a great bitterness toward his father. He gossiped about David and turned people against him. Over time the people of Israel became loyal to Absalom instead of David. Absalom sent spies throughout Israel to gather a large army to attack Jerusalem and kill David. Someone still loyal to David sent word about the coming rebellion, and David fled the city with several hundred of his men. He ended up in a desert wilderness. There, many of David's men left him and followed Absalom. Even some of David's closest friends betrayed him. Absalom and his army were closing in on David, prepared to kill him. What a

horrible situation for David! His own son was seeking his death, and the people he loved had turned their backs on him. David could have given up all hope in that desert but he did not. He had great faith in God's love for him. Psalm 63 records David's thoughts while he fled from Absalom's armies.

Psalm 63 begins, "O God, You are my God, earnestly I seek You; my soul thirsts for You, my body longs for You, in a dry and weary land where there is no water" (vs. 1). David calls God "my God," showing his personal and intimate relationship with Him. He describes his intense longing for God in his time of great need. His whole being thirsts for God as a man thirsts for water in a sun-scorched desert. Then David's memory goes back to those times when he worshiped at the tabernacle in Jerusalem. "I have seen You in the sanctuary and beheld Your power and Your glory" (vs. 2). Once David had witnessed the wonder of God, nothing else could satisfy him. David also reflected on God's forgiveness and goodness to him. He lifted his voice in praise and declared, "Because Your love is better than life, my lips will glorify You. I will praise You as long as I live, and in Your name I will lift up my hands. My soul will be satisfied as with the richest of foods; with singing lips my mouth will praise You" (vs. 3-5). There is no food in the world as delicious and satisfying as God's love. David knew he would spend his entire life praising the wonders of God.

When David had trouble sleeping at night, he dwelt on God's precious words and works. "On my bed I remember You; I think of You through the watches of the night" (vs. 6). He couldn't sleep, so instead he remembered God. Throughout the night, he focused on all the things that are true about God. He remembered God's past care and protection. Instead of worrying, David kept his mind on God. He knew his life was in God's hands and even was able to sing for joy. "Because You are my help, I sing in the shadow of Your wings. My soul clings to You; Your right hand upholds me" (vs. 7-8). What a beautiful word picture! As a mother bird protects her baby under her wings, so David was confident God would likewise protect him. David clung to God because he knew God would strengthen him to face whatever happened.



David knew God's love, but he also knew God's justice. "They who seek my life will be destroyed; they will go down to the depths of the earth. They will be given over to the sword and become food for the jackals. But the king will rejoice in God; all who swear by God's name will praise Him, while the mouths of the liars will be silenced" (vs. 9-11). Because he belonged to God, David knew that those who were against him were against God. Anyone who killed him would receive punishment in hell because they opposed God. David had confidence that whether he lived or died, God's justice would be done; and because of this, David rejoiced.


David's problems were huge, but he knew God was bigger and could take care of them all. So it is in our lives. No matter what we face, God's love, protection and justice is sure. Let's follow what we've learned from King David in Psalm 63. In times of distress, cry out to God. Tell Him how you feel. Know that your relationship with Him is more important than anything. Also, think back to what God has done for you in the past and praise Him. Don't let your mind wander and worry about what might happen. You will be miserable. Instead, concentrate on God and rest in His great love for you. Know that in God's perfect timing, evildoers will be punished. Praise God during the hard times for He is far greater than any problem you could face!









Look:



Sufficiency in Christ (Discussion).   Use some of the following verses to aid you as you lead your small group in a discussion on the sufficiency of Christ for all of us. Review Psalm 63 and highlight those times when David was claiming this. 2 Cor. 9:8, Phil. 4:19, Mk. 11:24, 2 Cor. 3:5, Phil. 4:13, Eph. 1:19, 2 Cor. 12:9, Rom. 8:37, Eph. 1:3, Jn. 15:7, Jn. 14:13, Rom. 8:32, 2 Pet. 1:3,4, Ps. 103:2-4



 **Key To Satisfaction Necklace (Craft). 2, 4** Copy **PSA04.GF4** onto cardstock. Each student will need two keys, one from each row. Glue the two different keys back to back. Punch a hole where indicated. Thread a piece of yarn through the hole long enough to hang around the student's neck. Color, add glitter, or simply stick gold stars on both sides to give a little sparkle. If you add glitter, be sure glue is dry before hanging around their necks. Reinforce the idea that only God can give us true eternal satisfaction. Help them to remember by asking them over and over, "Who satisfies?" They can have contests shouting G O D! How can we feel satisfied? By praising God! Use these keys to play a fun game. Set up some pretend doors using construction paper. Write different things on the doors, and ask the students to try to open them using their keys. Make sure they are stuck down sufficiently so that only the one door which says "Praise To God" can be opened. Behind this door write "God Satisfies."


 **Praise Is The Key To Satisfaction (Discussion). 4,** ,  Review Psalm 63 and focus on how many times David praised God. By doing this, he took the focus off of himself and his hardships and focused on God's promises praising Him for those promises. Make a list of how David praised God in this Psalm and how many promises he held onto which gave him strength. End your discussion with the concluding point that true satisfaction comes when we praise God.



 **God's Attributes In Psalms (Wall Hanging). 2, 4,** ,  Hang a large piece of butcher paper from the ceiling to the floor. As we study through the Psalms, write attributes of God in large letters. Next to each attribute, make a symbol, picture, or cut out a picture from a magazine that represents the attribute and a verse. Review the attributes each week and keep adding new ones. Select five or so of the following for Psalm 63: Satisfaction, Merciful, Loving, Powerful, Glorious, Protector, Sustainer, Just, Deliverer.




Took:

 **Praise God - Promises (Daily Devotional).**  God has given us many promises that we can find in the Bible. In Psalm 63:1-5, King David found satisfaction in God's lovingkindness. Duplex copy **PSA04.GF5 Pgs. 1-4** for each student. Fold and staple into a booklet. Encourage the students this week to use these devotionals to see God's promises in their lives. There is space provided for them to write a praise to thank Him for His goodness to them.



 **Praising God With A Happy Heart (Craft). 2, 4** Copy **PSA04.GF6 Pg. 1** onto cardstock. Each student will need a heart-shaped happy face from **PSA04.GF6 Pg. 1**, a label from **PSA04.GF6 Pg. 2**, scissors, glue, coloring crayons, yarn, 4 chenille wires, and a ½ sheet of construction paper. Have students cut out the heart-shaped happy face. Instruct the students to either go over the lines for the eyes, nose, and mouth with a crayon, or stitch them with yarn (Choose the task which matches your student's abilities.) The remaining portion of the face can then be colored. Add legs and arms using chenille wires. Use additional yarn to add hair. Once you have these items in place, glue a ½ sheet of construction paper as a backing sheet to the heart. This should hold the arms, legs and hair into position. Staple if necessary. Lay flat to dry. Cut out the label "Praising God With A Happy Heart" from **PSA04.GF6 Pg. 2**, and paste across the bottom of the page. Spend the remaining time singing or talking about the different ways we praise God.


Holding On To God's Promises (Craft).   Each student will need a scroll from **PSA04.GF7** to color and decorate. Encourage them to look these verses up with their parents this week. This will make a handy reminder for them to carry inside their Bibles when they may need a comforting reminder.

Praise Is Essential For One's Spiritual Life (Activity).  Encourage each student to develop an acronym using the word "PRAISE." Have the acronym describe the standard for spiritual growth. An example is:

P Power of God working through us.
R Reverence toward Him.
A Adoration of the Almighty.
I Intensely dependent upon Him.
S Satisfaction in Christ alone.
E Eternal attitude for life.

Use this, or ask the students to come up with their own. Remember, the words or phrases which are based from the letter in the word PRAISE should summarize what we learned from Psalm 63 this morning.

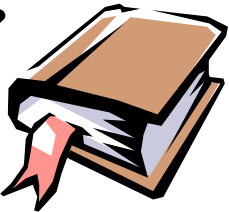
Bedtime Praise Reminder (Craft). **2, 4,**   Each student will need two of the moon and stars picture from **PSA04.GF8**, scissors, coloring crayons, glow in the dark iridescent paint, hole punch, and yarn. Have students cut out the pictures of the moon and stars on the outside border. Color black around the stars, being careful not to color over the verse. Color the moon and stars yellow. Outline the moon, and paint over the top of the stars with the iridescent paint. This needs only to be a touch of paint so that it will glow with the lights off. Punch a hole in the top of the card, and loop a piece of yarn through the hole. Be sure the yarn is long enough so that it can hang over a lamp switch and hang down just below the shade. Encourage the students to take these home and hang them on a lamp next to their bed. This will remind them to give praise to God each night after they turn out their light.

Daily Thankful Heart Booklet (Craft). **2, 4,**  Copy **PSA04.GF9 Pg. 1** onto red paper for the cover. Duplex copy **PSA04.GF9 Pg. 2** onto white paper for the inside pages. Copy **PSA04.GF9 Pg. 3** onto white paper for the outside label. Cut out each set of hearts. With red cover on the bottom, fold in half and stack all sets on top of each other. Staple at left edge to form a booklet! Encourage the students to daily write down praises and thanks to God this week. You may want your students to bring their booklets back next week to share how God blessed them that week. If enough students bring them back, turn it into a HOOK time activity of sharing next week.

What Gives Us Eternal Satisfaction?

Directions: CROSS OUT the items which the world says will satisfy us. Draw a HEART around what God provides for our eternal salvation.

Word of God



nice house



friends

clothes



Salvation

relationship with Christ

car



Peace

toys



Christ

Jewelry



money

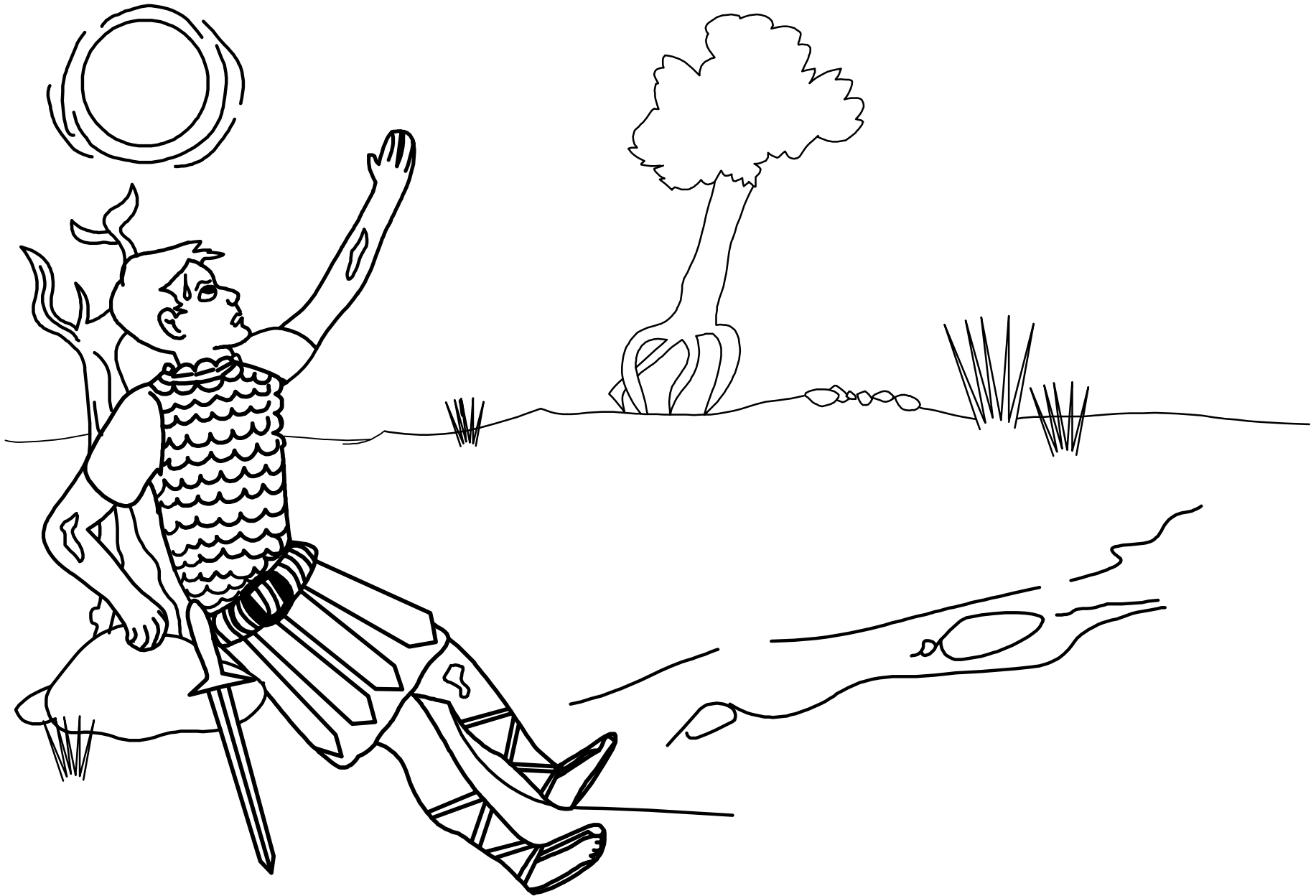


Heaven

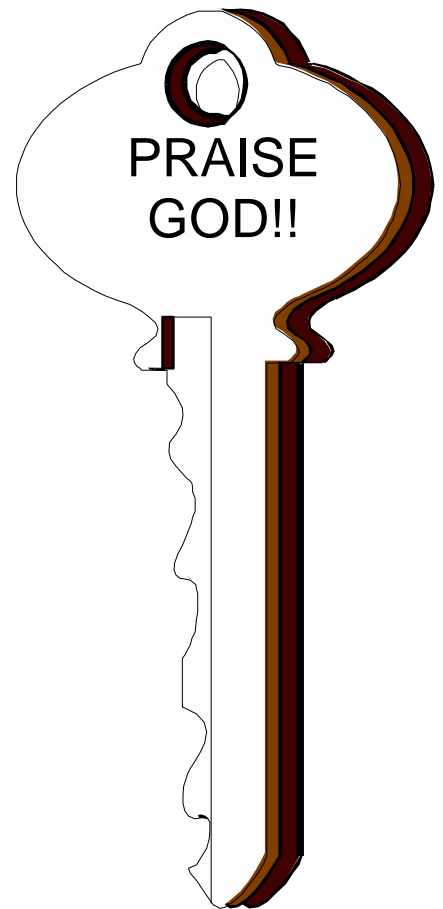
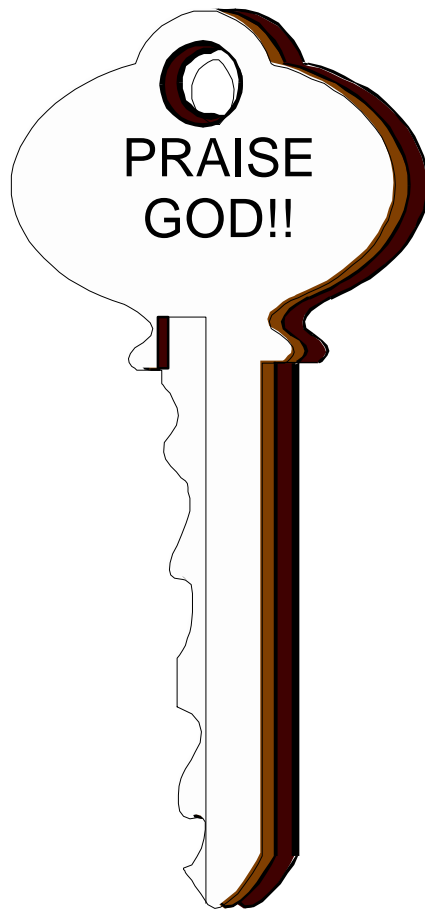
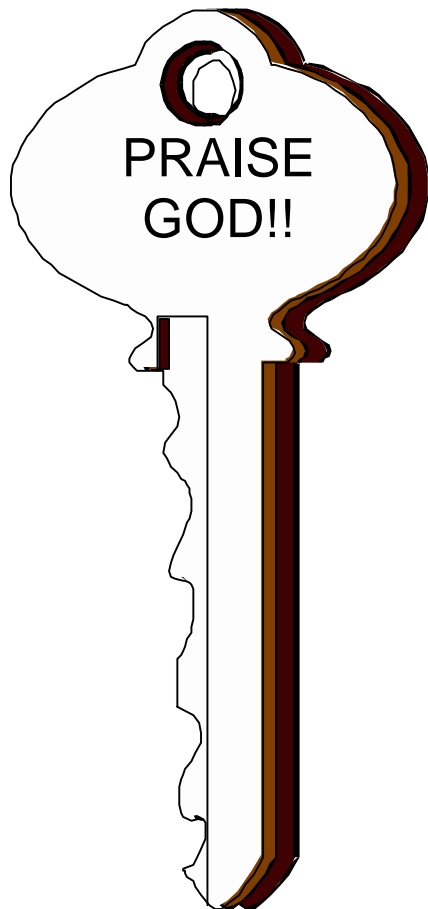
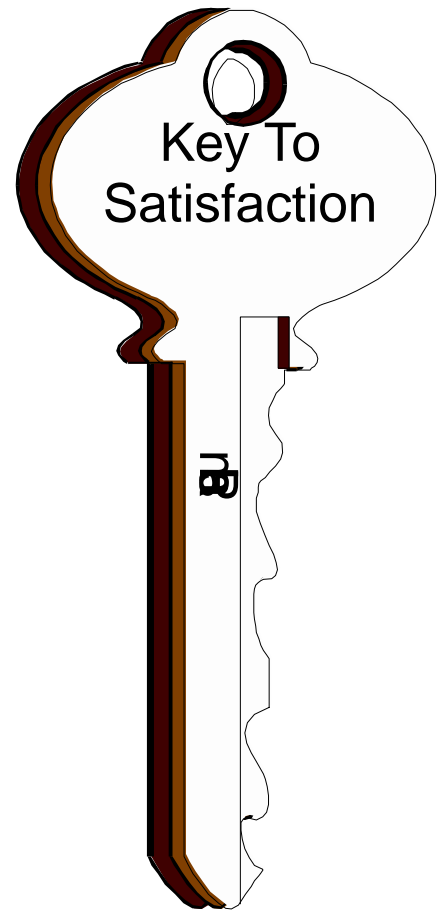
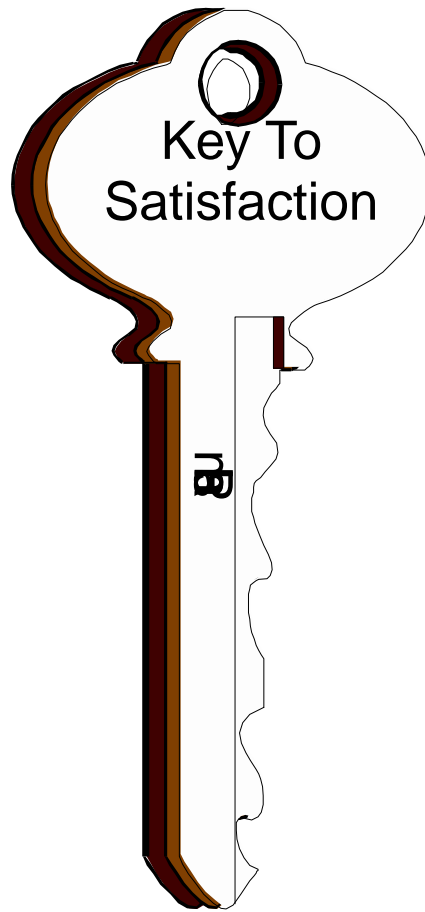
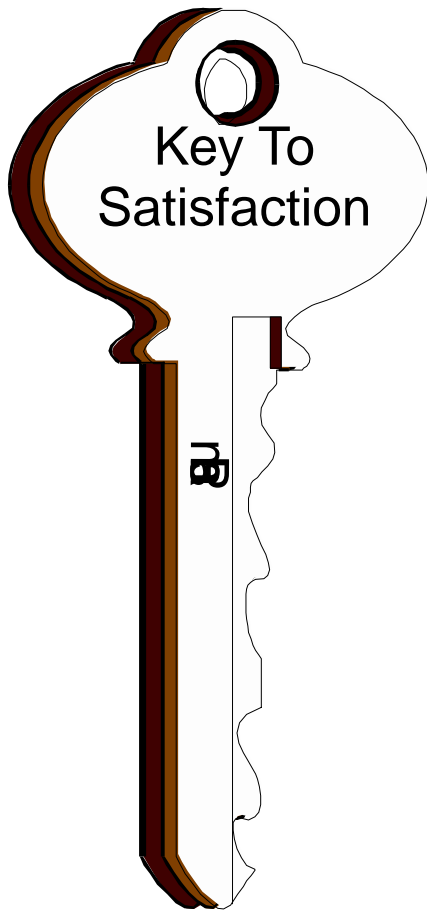
David Meditates on God



David Thirsts for God in the Desert



Key To Satisfaction



DAY SEVEN

God's promise to give us peace.



John 14:27

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you; I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.

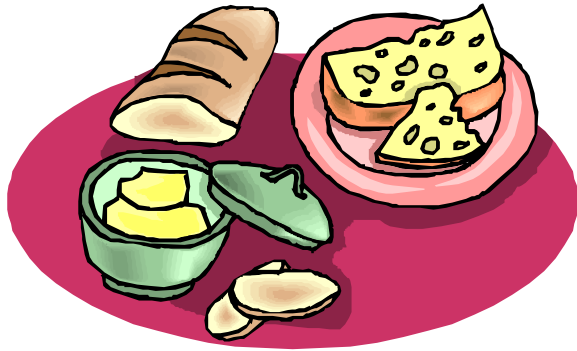
PRAISE



READ ABOUT GOD'S PROMISES TO YOU. WRITE A PRAISE TO GOD THANKING HIM FOR HIS GOODNESS TO YOU.

DAY ONE

God's promise to provide what we need to live.



Luke 12:24

Consider the ravens: They do not sow or reap, they have no storeroom or barn; yet God feeds them, and how much more valuable you are than birds.

PRAISE

DAY SIX

God's promise to love us.



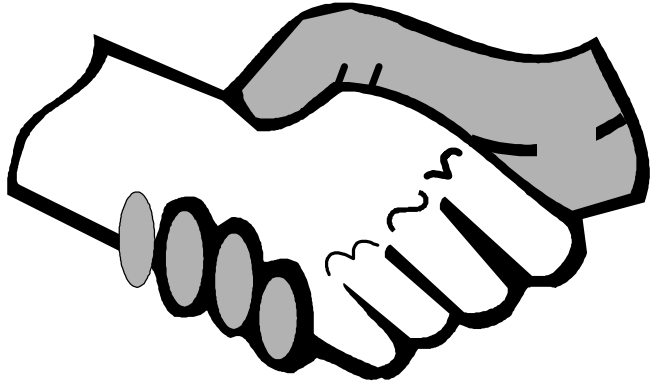
John 14:21

Whoever has My commands and obeys them, he is the one who loves Me. He who loves Me will be loved by My Father and I too will love him and show Myself to him.

PRAISE

DAY FIVE

God's promise to be with us.



John 14:15-17

If you love Me, you will obey what I command. And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Counselor to be with you forever—the Spirit of truth.

PRAISE

DAY TWO

God's promise to clothe us!



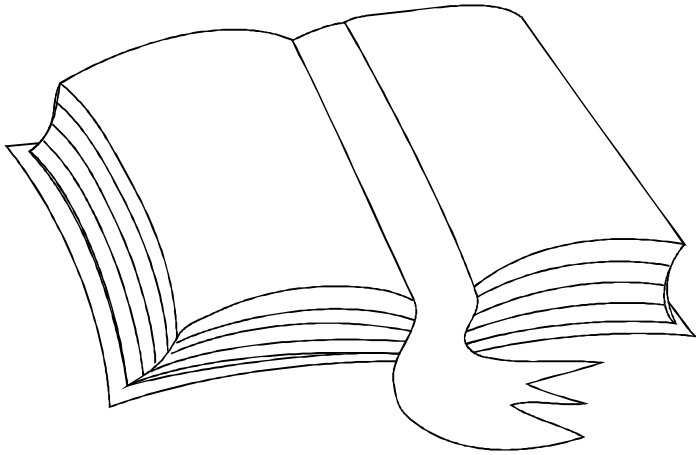
Luke 12:27

Consider how the lilies grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you, not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these.

PRAISE

DAY THREE

God's promise that we can know
Him as a loving Father.



John 14:6
Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

PRAISE

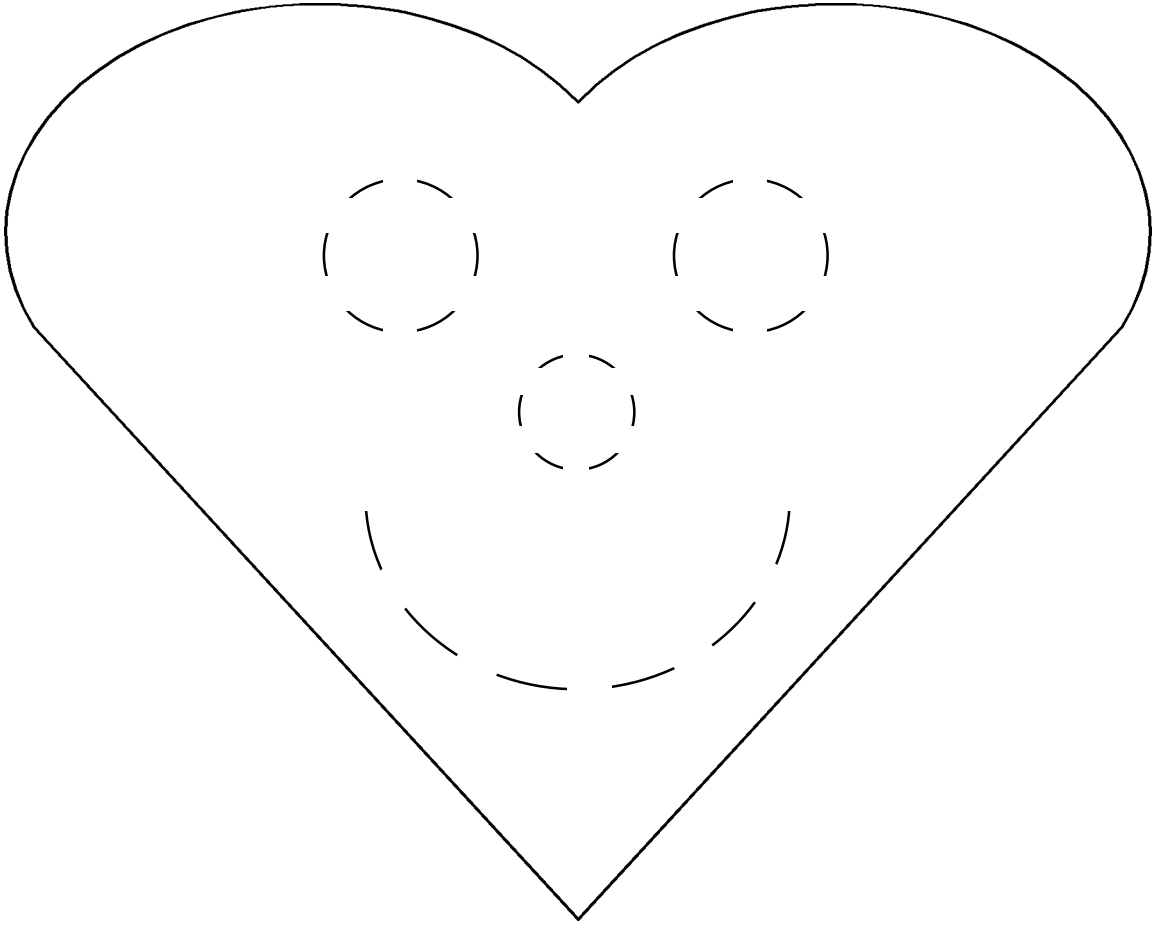
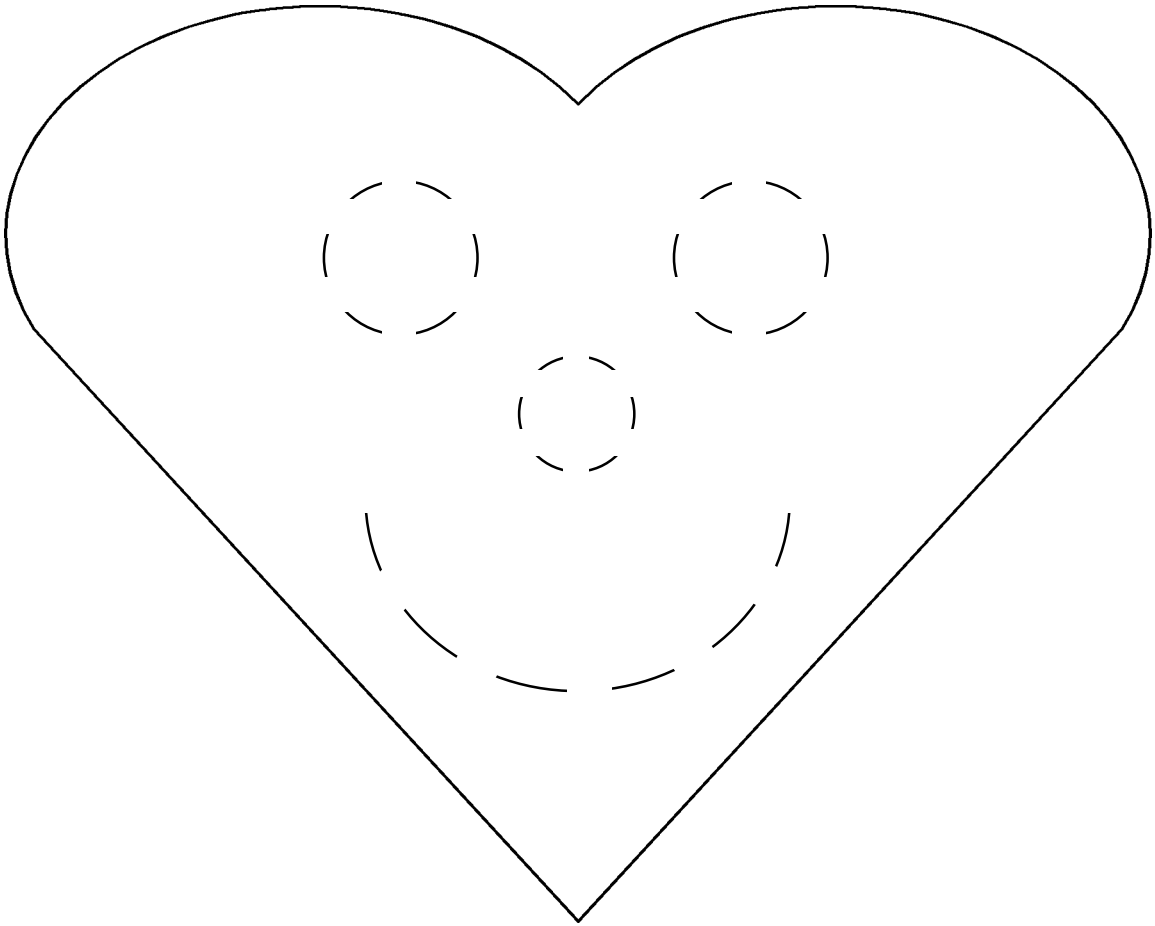
DAY FOUR

God's promise to hear our
prayers.



Matthew 7:7
Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you.

PRAISE



Praising God
With A Happy
Heart
Psalm 63

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Holding On To God's Promises

Love

Matt. 10:30-31
1 Jn. 4:7-12
Prov. 8:17
Ps. 42:8
Rom. 8:38-39

Joy

Jn. 15:10-11
Jn. 16:22
Rom. 16:33
1 Pet. 1:8

Blessing

Jn. 1:16
Jn. 10:10
Rom. 8:28
Eph. 1:3

Encouragement

1 Thess. 5:23
2 Thess. 2:16-17
Heb. 6:10
1Pt.2:9

Security

Jn. 10:27-29
Phil. 1:6
Ps. 23:6
Heb. 6:11-20

Peace

Jn. 14:27
Rom. 5:1-2
Eph. 2:14
2 Thess. 3:16

His Presence

Matt. 18:20
Matt. 28:20
Jn. 6:37
Rom. 8:38-39

Strength

1 Cor. 1:8
Eph. 3:20
2 Thess. 3:3
1 Pet. 5:10

Holding On To God's Promises

Love

Matt. 10:30-31
1 Jn. 4:7-12
Prov. 8:17
Ps. 42:8
Rom. 8:38-39

Joy

Jn. 15:10-11
Jn. 16:22
Rom. 16:33
1 Pet. 1:8

Blessing

Jn. 1:16
Jn. 10:10
Rom. 8:28
Eph. 1:3

Encouragement

1 Thess. 5:23
2 Thess. 2:16-17
Heb. 6:10
1Pt.2:9

Security

Jn. 10:27-29
Phil. 1:6
Ps. 23:6
Heb. 6:11-20

Peace

Jn. 14:27
Rom. 5:1-2
Eph. 2:14
2 Thess. 3:16

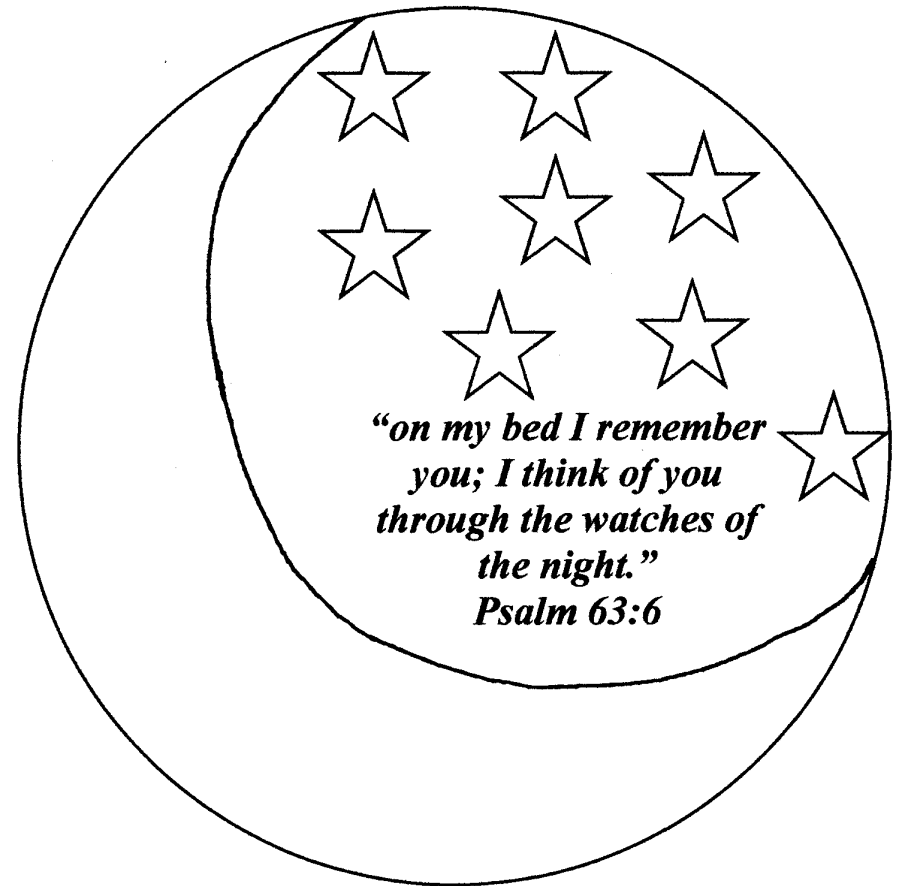
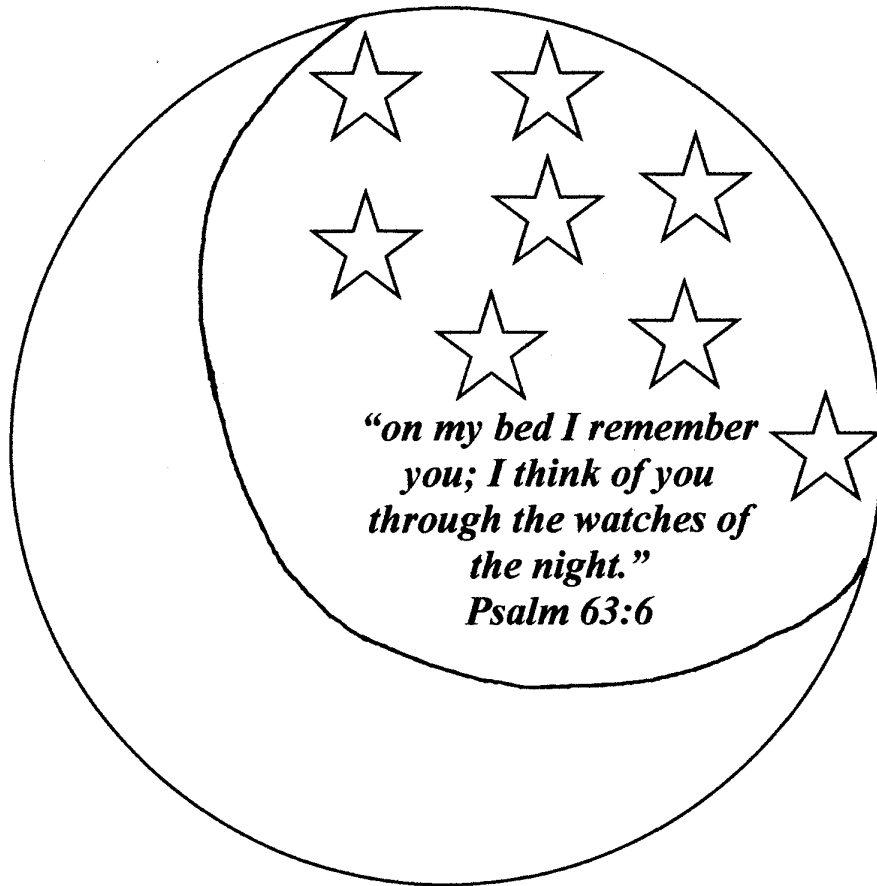
His Presence

Matt. 18:20
Matt. 28:20
Jn. 6:37
Rom. 8:38-39

Strength

1 Cor. 1:8
Eph. 3:20
2 Thess. 3:3
1 Pet. 5:10

Bedtime Praise Reminder



Daily Thankful Heart Booklet

**“Because your love is
better than life, my lips will
glorify you.”
Psalm 63:3**

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Today I Praise God for His

date: _____

Thank You God Today for:

date: _____

Today I Praise God for His

date: _____

Thank You God Today for:

date: _____