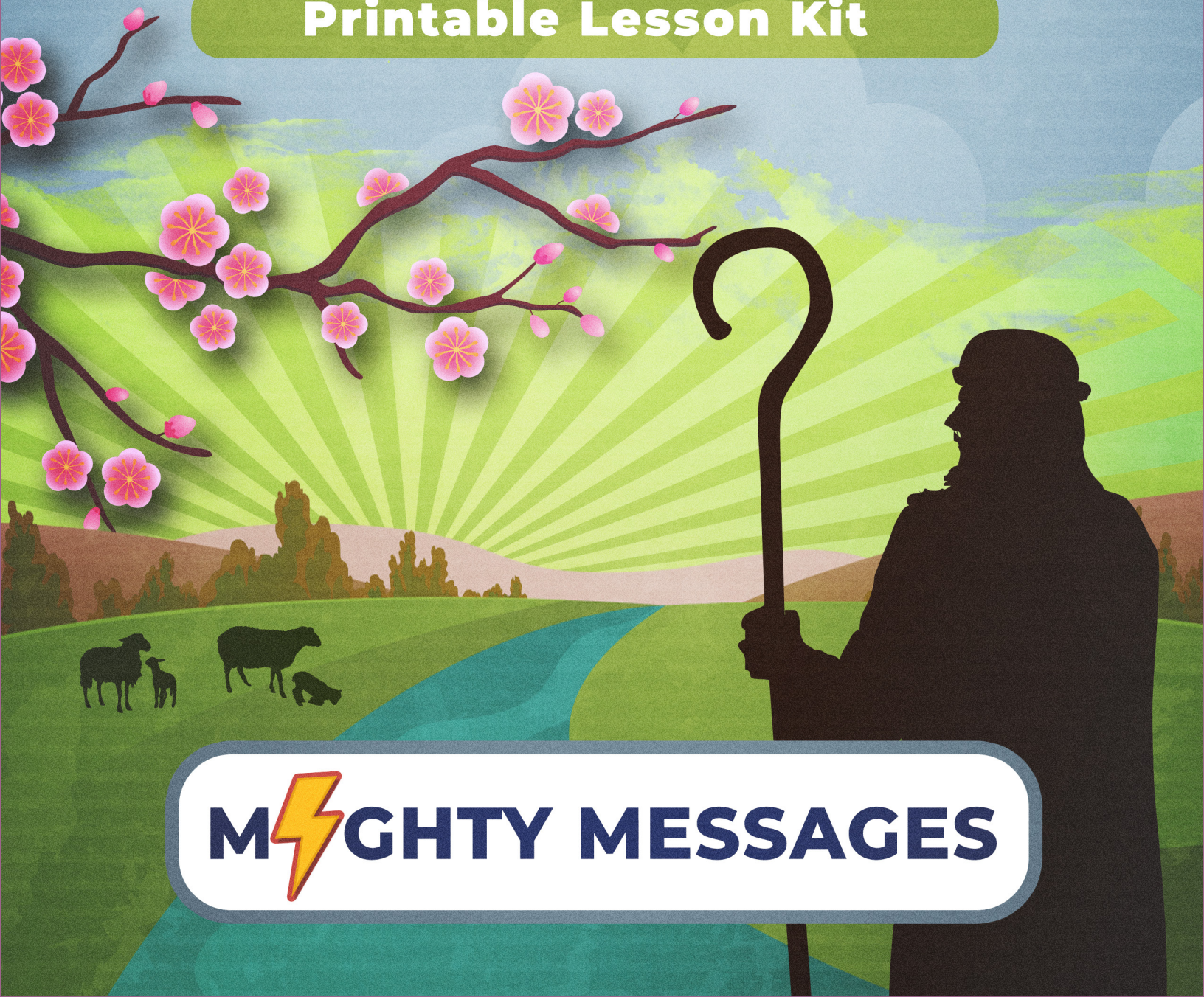


GRADES
K-6

23RD PSALM

Printable Lesson Kit



M **GHTY MESSAGES**

THANK YOU

Thank you for ordering from www.TeachSundaySchool.com. We strive to offer you top notch Bible teaching tools. Feel free to contact us with any questions a marykate@teach Sundayschool.com.

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- 1) Adobe Acrobat PDF Reader is the most universal PDF reader and comes standard on most computers. If you are having issues, check to make sure you are using a recent version of Adobe, which is available free online here.
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23RD PSALM

LESSON OVERVIEW



PSALMS FOR KIDS MIGHTY MESSAGES

This lesson on Psalm 23 will bring comfort and hope to children who are afraid, insecure, or just feeling out of sorts. (That's basically all of us at times!) Psalm 23 is the famous lyric by King David that starts with "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want." It contains the famous line, "Yea though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will feel no evil." Generally, Sunday school lessons are presented in the NIV. However, with so many songs and recitations of Psalm 23 in the King James Version, it will be used in this lesson.



How to Use the Lesson Kit:

This kit includes a variety of activities that you can select from to customize your perfect lesson. We suggest beginning with the Scripture Reading & Lesson followed by the Discussion Questions. From there, feel free to mix & match the activities to build your lesson plan based on the time you have allotted and the age level/interests of your kids.



WHAT'S INCLUDED:

- Scripture Reading & Lesson
- Discussion Questions
- Printable Craft
- Game
- Coloring Page
- Wordsearch
- Crossword Puzzle
- Learning Lookups Journaling
- Parent Handout
- Quiz
- Reference Sheet
- Certificate of Completion
- Answer Page



MATERIALS LIST:

- Crayons
- Glue sticks
- Scissors
- Candy prizes (game)
- Pencils or pens
- Bibles (electronic or hardcopy)

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SCRIPTURE & LESSON

EXCERPTS FROM PSALM 23 IN KJV

Read the following excerpts as shown (NIV translation), or read from your chosen Bible translation:



EXCERPTS FROM PSALM 23 (KING JAMES)

¹ The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

² He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.

³ He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

⁴ Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

⁵ Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

Questions for Children about the 23rd Psalms

1. What is a shepherd? What is God trying to tell us about himself and us in this expression? Think of yourself as a lamb and God as the shepherd. What would God do to you and around you?
2. The first phrase of Verse 4 is among the most famous of all Bible verses. Read it again. Think of yourself in a scary place. Describe it to your classmates. Why do you fear no evil? Describe.
3. My cup runneth over is a very famous expression. It means that you are so full of joy and gratitude that you can't contain yourself. Describe a time you felt that way.



TEACHER'S MIGHTY MESSAGE

You've all heard about David, the teenager who killed the giant, Goliath, right? David went on to become King David. Did you know that? He also wrote nearly 75 of our psalms. Psalm 23 is one. After killing Goliath, young David went on to become a huge war hero for the reigning king, King Saul. But King Saul got jealous. One day he heard the people singing after a great victory in battle, "Saul has killed his thousands, and David, his tens of thousands!" King Saul burned with jealousy because David got more credit than he did, and everyone was singing it!

First, he tried to set David up to get killed in battle. After that didn't work, he tried to kill David himself with an army of his men. David took off into the mountains with some of the men who were loyal to him from his own army division. He slept in caves and feared for his life at every second.

The most awful part for David was that he was very close to God, and he knew it would never do to hate the king God had appointed. It would be disrespectful. So the whole time David fought for his life and feared for his life, he refused to say a bad word about King Saul or let anyone in his army say anything bad. One time he came upon King Saul when the king was sleeping. He refused to kill him even then!

It was at this stage of his life that he wrote Psalm 23. It shows that David had great faith. It never stopped working, even in the scariest circumstances. Jesus and King David would like nothing more than for all of us to learn to have that kind of faith.



23RD PSALM

PRINTABLE CRAFT

LAMB PUPPET



MATERIALS:

- Lamb Puppet Printable Craft (body piece optional)
- Brown Paper Bags
- White Cardstock
- Coloring Utensils
- Scissors
- Glue Stick



PREPARATION:

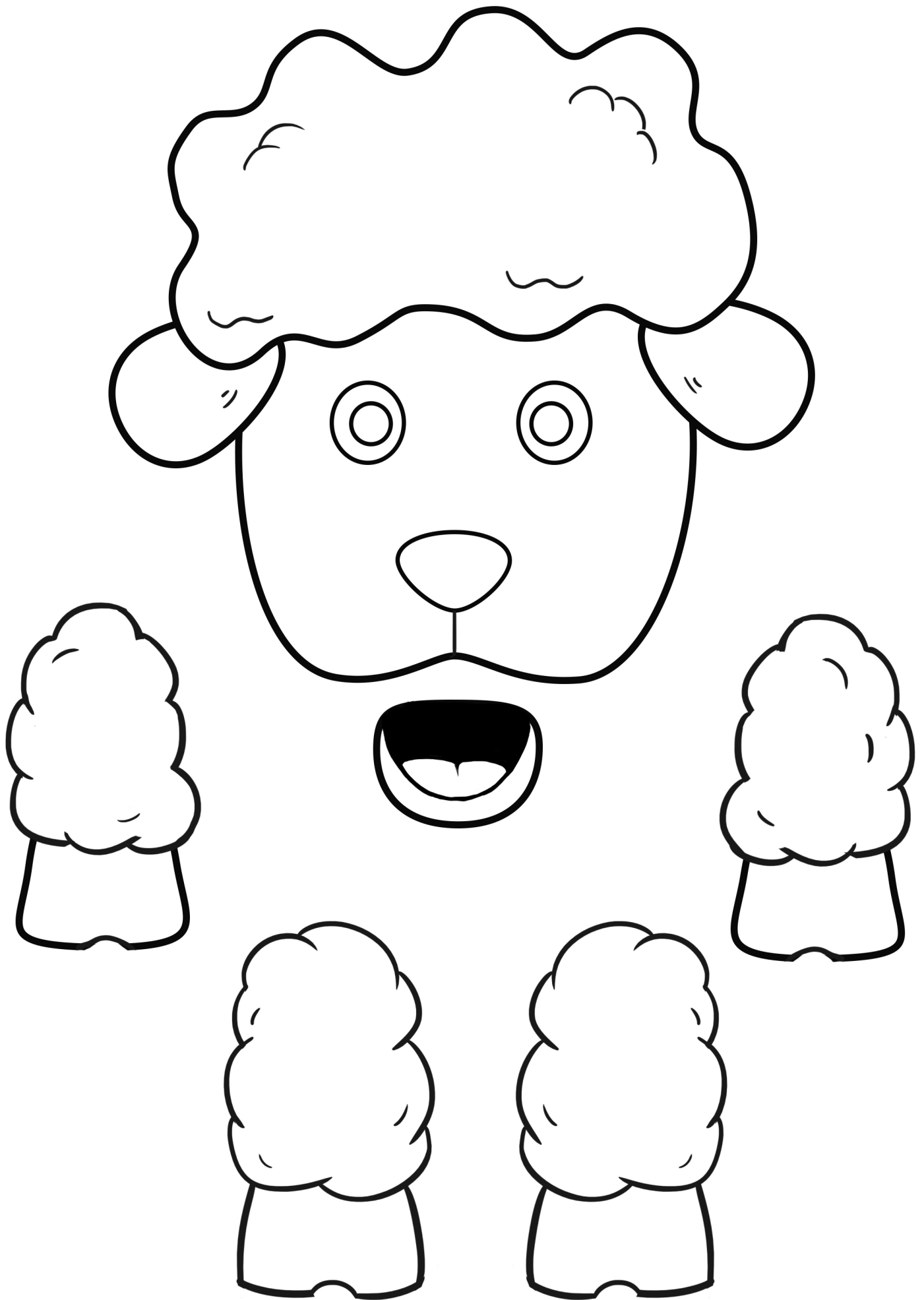
1. Print out a copy of the printable craft for each student

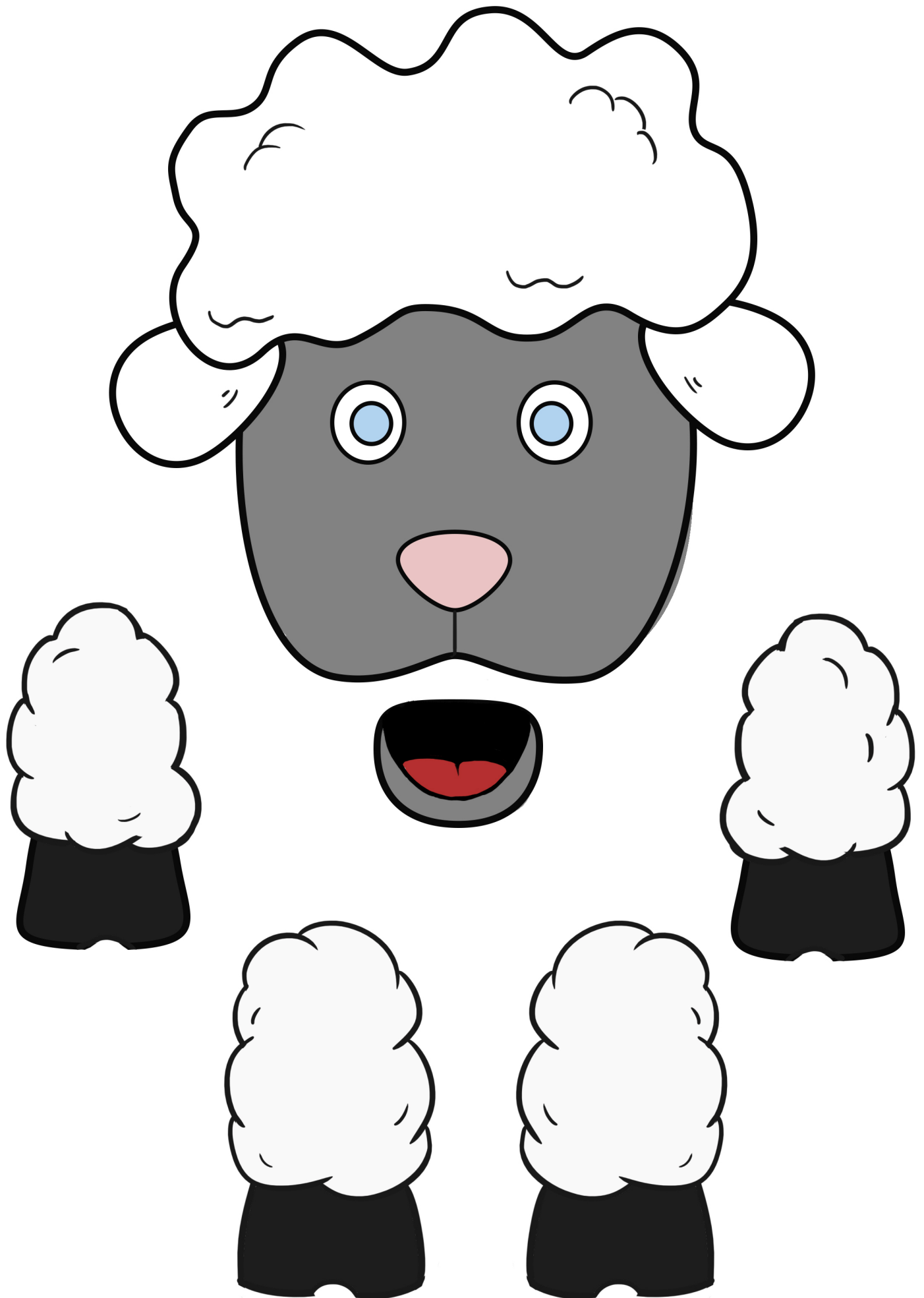
INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Color images as desired
2. Cut out Lamb Puppet Pieces
3. Find where bag folds over to one side, and glue Lamb mouth so that it shows underneath
4. Glue Head on Top of bag fold, matching up mouth pieces
5. Glue arms and legs to Bag
6. Optional: Instead of making a Puppet, you may choose to use the Lamb Body Piece and Glue Head, Mouth, Arms and Legs to Body instead of a brown Paper Bag.
7. Have the children copy the following onto the back of their puppet:

THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD; I SHALL NOT WANT.
HE MAKETH ME TO LIE DOWN IN GREEN PASTURES: HE LEADETH ME BESIDE THE STILL WATERS.
PSALM 23:1-3









yea,

Though I walk

THROUGH

the

VALLEY

of the

of

DEATH.



I will
fear
NO
EVIL.

- Psalm 23:4

23RD PSALM

GAME

FILL IN THE BLANKS

Kids will learn this psalm quickly and easily while having fun and earning prizes. It's easy for the teacher as well, involving only saying the lines over and over and stopping where you want the kids to fill in!



MATERIALS:

- Candy for prizes
- Copy of Psalm 23

OBJECT

To be the student who fills in the most blanks correctly.



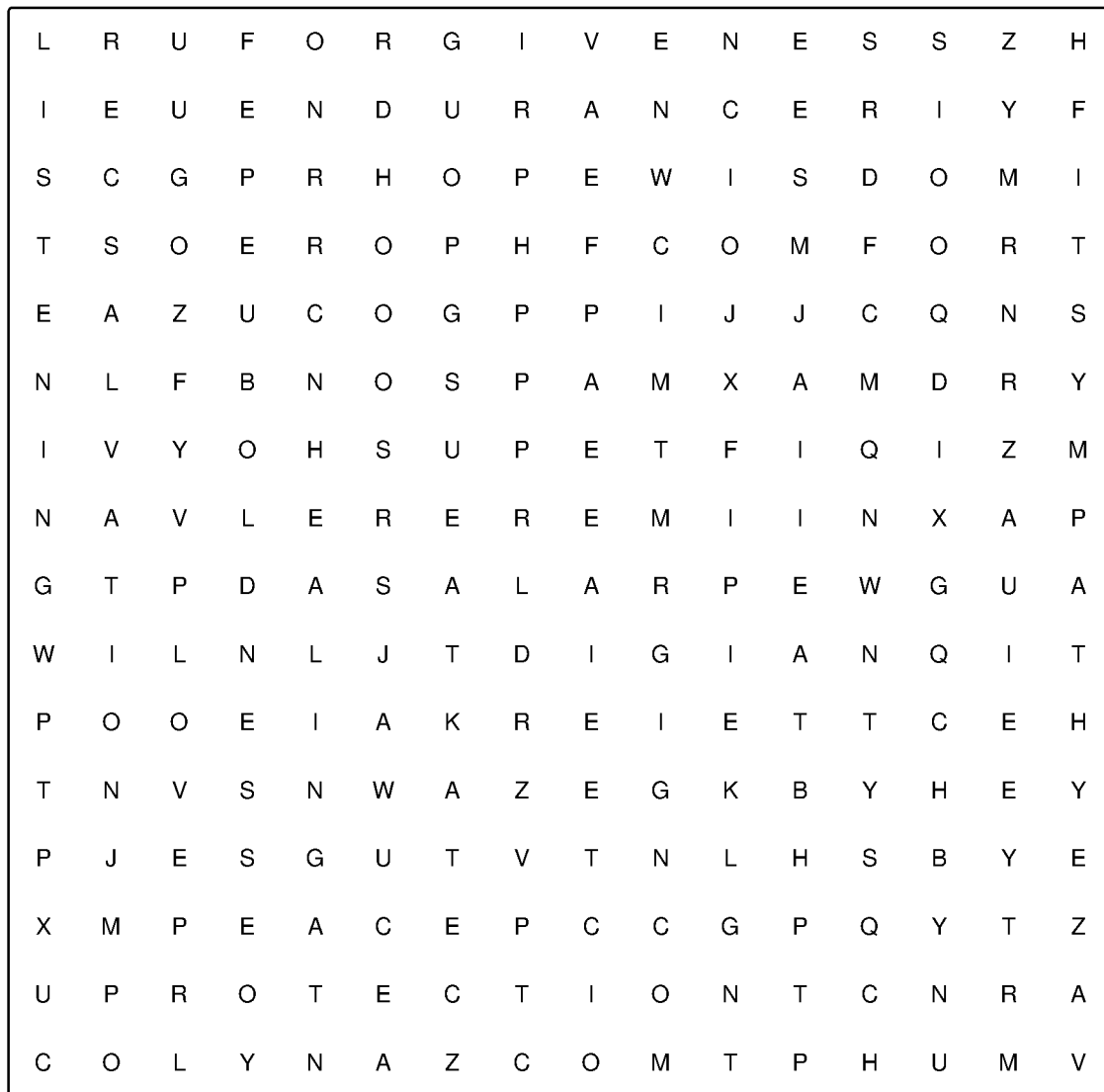
INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Have students repeat Psalm 23 twice with you slowly. Tell them to try to remember the imagery or words.
2. Have them stand up one at a time.
3. Begin reciting Psalm 23, stopping every once in a while, and having the student fill in the blank. If the student can fill in, he may remain standing and try another. If he misses, he is replaced by the next student. Repeat.
4. Give out candy prizes at the end or, if you have something small like candy kisses, give them out for each right answer.

23RD PSALM

WORD SEARCH

Psalm 23 is one of the greatest ways for us to understand God's ultimate gifts to those who draw near to him like King David did. Below are words that describe God and his gifts to us. See how many you can find.



Words to Find:

SYMPATHY
EMPATHY
PROTECTION
COMFORT
LISTENING

FIXING
HEALING
PROSPERITY
PATIENCE
COUNSEL

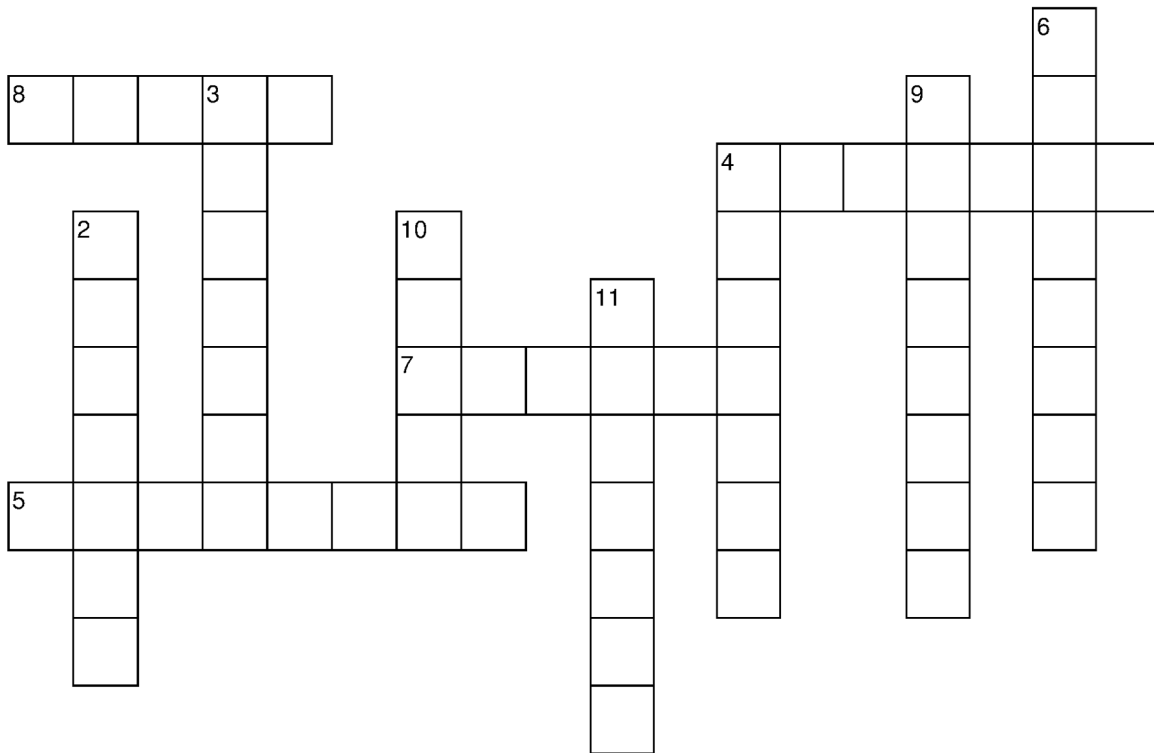
WISDOM
SALVATION
ENDURANCE
HOPE
PEACE

LOVE
FORGIVENESS
STRENGTH
COURAGE
BOLDNESS

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CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Use your Reference Sheet (page 16) to fill in the crossword and learn more about the famous author of Psalm 23.



Across

4. David's son who became king
5. My God, My God, why have you [done this particular thing to] me?
7. David was this number in the order of kings of Israel
8. Number of sons in David's family

Down

2. 50 Psalms were written by this kind of author
3. These declare the glory of God
4. Yea, though I walk through a valley filled with these
6. Around this many years between David's most famous prophecy and the Crucifixion
9. David's order in this family of many boys
10. David's father's name
11. Name of the giant David killed at age 17

23RD PSALM

PARENT HANDOUT



Scriptures to Read: Psalm 23



This Week We Learned About ...

...Psalm 23, the favorite psalm for children. This is the Psalm that starts with “The Lord is my shepherd.” It contains one of the most surfed Bible verses in the world: “Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for thou art with me.” If you’re unfamiliar with Psalm 23 and it sounds a little strange in its language, this lesson is one of a few presented in the King James Version, KJV, because so many songs and recitations use this version.



✓ Questions for Kids:

1. The Lord is my shepherd...I shall not want. What does it mean, here, to want? And why is it important not to want? **A. It means we should be comfortable with what we have.**
2. He maketh me lie down in green pastures is expressing which emotion: love, peace, faith? **A. Peace.**
3. The Valley of the Shadow of Death is a term to describe what? **A. A scary experience.**

✓ Dinner Table Discussion:

Think of a time you had a “Valley of the Shadow of Death” experience. Describe what happened and how God protected you.

Think of a time you got picked on by someone not in your family. Then think of “Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies.” Imagine the person who hurt you watching you do very well later. Explain your hopeful vision to your family.

Scripture Notes (tuck in lunchboxes, tape to mirrors, etc.):



He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.

Psalm 23:2



Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

Psalm 23:4



Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

Psalm 23:6

23RD PSALM

REFERENCE SHEET

- David was a **great warrior, prophet, musician, and poet**. He played an instrument called the lyre, which is a bit like a harp.

- David wrote **73 of the 150 Psalms**, both before he was king and during his reign.

- The following Psalms are attributed to David: **2-32, 34-41, 51-65, 68-70, 86, 95, 103, 105-106, 108-110, 122, 124, 131, 138-145**.

- King David joins others as writers in Psalms including **Asaph, the sons of Korah, Moses, Solomon, and Ethan**. We know little about these other authors, except Moses and King Solomon, who was David's son.

- 50 Psalms are by **unknown authors**.

- The **most surfed verse** among all those King David wrote is currently Psalm 19:1: The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands.

- The **most-surfed for children** is Psalm 23:4, "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil..."

- David's **most stunning prophecy** is in Psalm 22:1: "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" It was said 1,000 years later by Jesus on the cross.

- David was the **second king of Israel** and the most famous king for being faithful to God.

- He was raised as the **youngest of eight boys**. His father Jesse was in prophecy as being in the line of Christ (Isaiah 11:1-10).

- David's **great grandparents were Ruth and Boaz** from the book of Ruth.

- David **defeated the giant Goliath** in the valley of Elah at around age 17. He had already been recently anointed by the prophet Samuel to be the next king of Israel.



LEARNING LOOKUPS

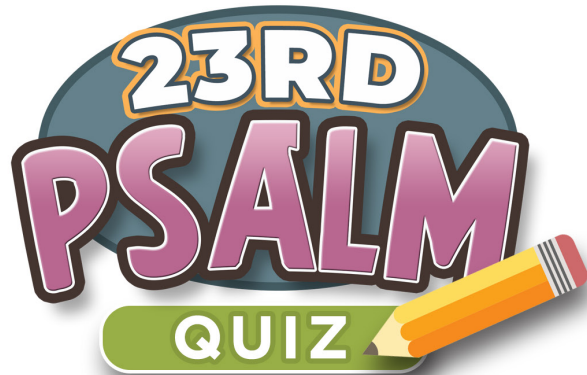
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Lookup: Psalm 23:4 and write it down

Lookup: Psalm 91 and read all 16 verses. Write down your favorite of all:

There are many Bible verses about God protecting his loved ones. Psalm 91 is the most famous, and Psalm 23 is most famous for children. Compare the two. Say which verse or verses make you feel most protected and why.

Create a prayer below. Speak to God and write it. Thank God for his protection in a situation that has been causing you some concern nor anxiety.



See if you can fill in all the blanks of Psalm 23. If you have a problem, look it up in the King James Version. (Your teacher also has the answers.)

PSALM 23 FILL IN THE BLANKS

¹ The LORD is my _____; I shall not want.

² He maketh me to lie down in green _____: he leadeth me beside the still _____.

³ He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the _____ of righteousness for his name's sake.

⁴ Yea, though I walk through the valley of the _____ of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy _____ they comfort me.

⁵ Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine _____: thou anointest my head with oil; my _____ runneth over.

⁶ Surely goodness and _____ shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the _____ of the LORD for ever.



23RD PSALM

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION

NAME:

DATE: