

Worship @ 10 am Sunday Mornings in-person at



Zion Reformed United Church of Christ
201 N Potomac Street
Hagerstown, MD 21740
www.ZionReformed.church

or virtually at <https://zionreformed.church/sermons>



Children's Church @ 10:15am Sunday Mornings

(In-person and Virtual Options Available)

To participate virtually, join us at <https://zoom.us/join> or by calling 301.715.8592, and when prompted, enter Meeting ID: **865 7471 1577** and Passcode: **YouthSS**. For more information: Contact Kim Ridenour at miskim@myactv.net or the Church Office at 301.739.7244, or visit <https://zionreformed.church/children>.

Hearing God's Word:



Today in church we will be exploring the story of God's promise to David in 2 Samuel 7:1-14. Other scriptures we will be thinking about at church this week include Psalm 89:20-37, Ephesians 2:11-22; and Mark 6:30-34, 53-56.

God's Promise to David

¹ King David was living in his palace. And the Lord gave him peace from all his enemies around him. ² David said to Nathan the prophet, "Look, I am living in a palace made of cedar wood. But the Ark of the Covenant of God is still kept in a tent!" ³ Nathan said to the king, "Go and do what you really want to do. The Lord is with you." ⁴ But that night the Lord spoke to Nathan. The Lord said, ⁵ "Go and tell my servant David, 'This is what the Lord says: You are not the person to build a house for me to live in. ⁶ I did not live in a house when I brought the Israelites out of Egypt. I have been moving around all this time with a tent as my home. ⁷ I have continued to move with the tribes of Israel. But I have never asked their leaders who take care of them to build me a house of cedar wood.' ⁸ ... I took you from the pasture when you were following the sheep. I took you to become leader of my people, the Israelites. ⁹ I have been with you everywhere you have gone. I have defeated your enemies for you. I will make you as famous as any of the great men on the earth. ¹⁰ Also I will choose a place for my people, the Israelites. I will plant them so they can live in their own home. They will not be bothered anymore. Wicked people will no longer make them suffer as they have in the past. ¹¹ Wicked people continued to do this even when I appointed judges. But I will give you peace from all your enemies. I also tell you that I will make your descendants kings of Israel after you.



¹² "Your days will come to an end, and you will die. At that time I will make one of your sons the next king. ¹³ He will build a temple for me. I will make his kingdom strong forever. ¹⁴ I will be his parent, and he will be my son. When he sins, I will use other people to punish him. They will be my whips.

(International Children's Bible®, ©2015 by Tommy Nelson Inc)

Family Discussion:

A Question for Adults to ask Children:

Why do you think David wanted to build a house for God?

David lived in a palace but the Ark of God, their most precious symbol of God's presence amongst them only lived in a tent. David wanted to give honor and bless God by building a house for God, but God told David that God would bless David and his descendants, the house and kingdom God was planning would last forever.

A Question for Children to ask Adults:

What do you think is the most important thing to make a house a home?

A Question to Answer Together:

What would God's perfect home look like?

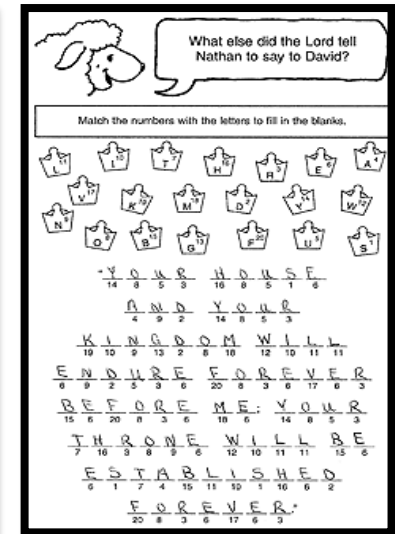
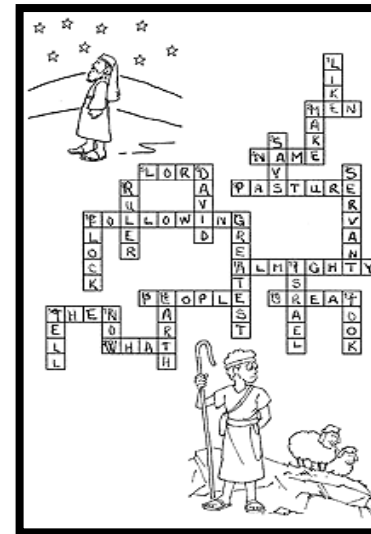
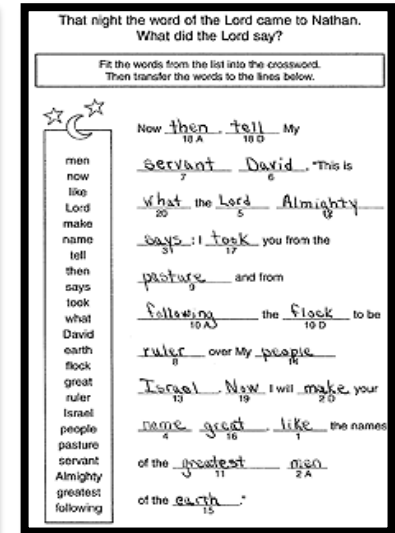
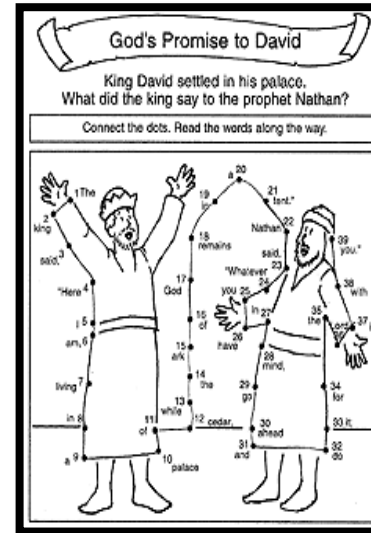
A Prayer to Say Together:

Dear God,

Thank you for the story of David and your promise to him, and that that you love to give us good gifts and to bless us just as you blessed David. Thank you that you are not far from us but that we can invite you into our hearts and know you live inside us through our helper the Holy Spirit. We pray for those in our communities who do not have a safe home or any place to live, please protect & provide for them. Amen.



Answer Key:

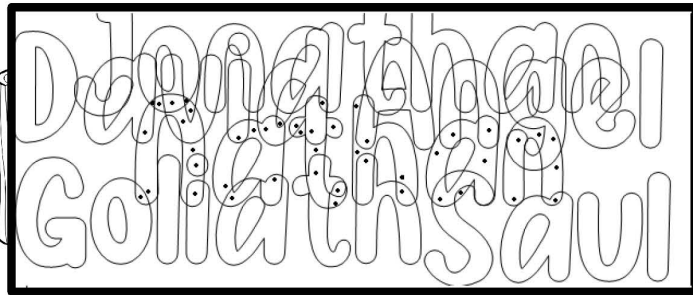


PUZZLE SHEET

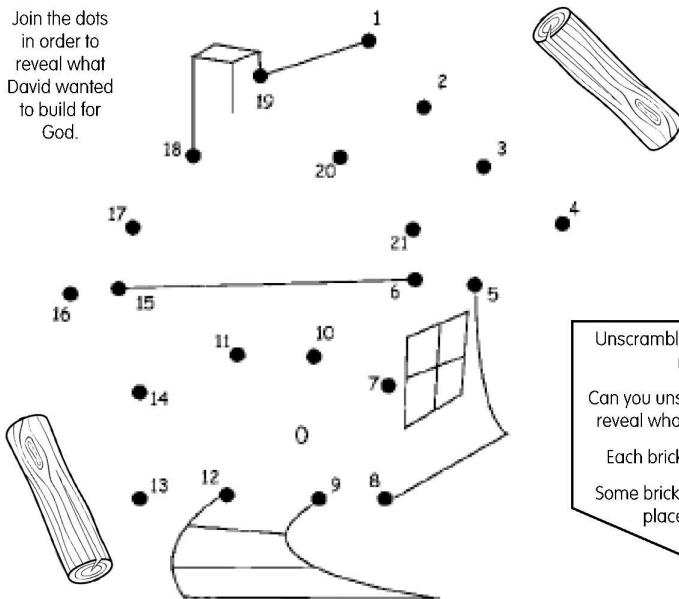
David wanted to build a house for God from cedar wood. How many logs can you find on the page?



Colour all the spaces with a dot to reveal who God sent to speak to David.



Join the dots in order to reveal what David wanted to build for God.



Unscramble the tiles to reveal a message.

Can you unscramble the bricks to reveal what God said to David?

Each brick is used only once.

Some bricks have already been placed to help you.

r	e	a	t	m	e	n	l	i	k	e	g	r	.	e	t	h	m	e	s	h	e	g			
n	a	m	e	n	a	a	r	t	h	a	k	e	e	s	t	I	w	i	N	o	w	e	a	t	,
l	l	m	o	f	t	y	o	u	r	o	n	e													

N	o	w				a	k	e			n	a	m				
			e	t	h												
						.											



Family Activities:

Here are some activities you can do together as a family and discussion ideas to explore God's Word together.

Family Activity 1:



Why not use paper and pens to draw a picture together of what you think God's perfect home might look like or build it together from Legos or blocks?

What rooms and special features would you include?

Who would you invite to live there?

What would the grounds and gardens look like?

Family Activity 2:

We are invited to be part of building God's Kingdom here on the earth, sharing God's love with others and inviting God's rule and reign in our communities. Why not find some stones to decorate with messages of encouragement and love? Paint onto the stones or decorate them with permanent markers.



Family Activity 3:



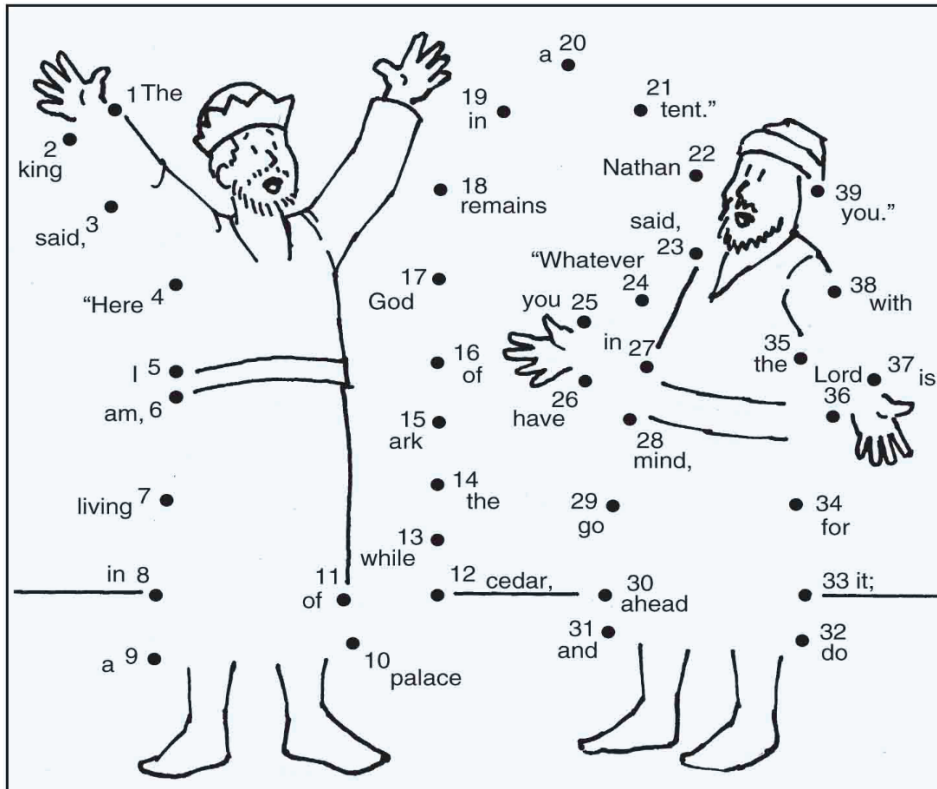
Why not play a game of Hide & Seek? This can be fun at any age. Play a few rounds until everyone has a chance to be "it" and then gather around a pre-prepared dessert and talk about it: Who was the best hider? Finder?

The great thing about God is that God doesn't try to hide from us! God is EVERYWHERE all the time, and wants us to find Him! We can never escape the presence of God.

God's Promise to David

King David settled in his palace.
What did the king say to the prophet Nathan?

Connect the dots. Read the words along the way.



Enter your **SECRET CODE** to unlock games @
games.childrensbulletins.com

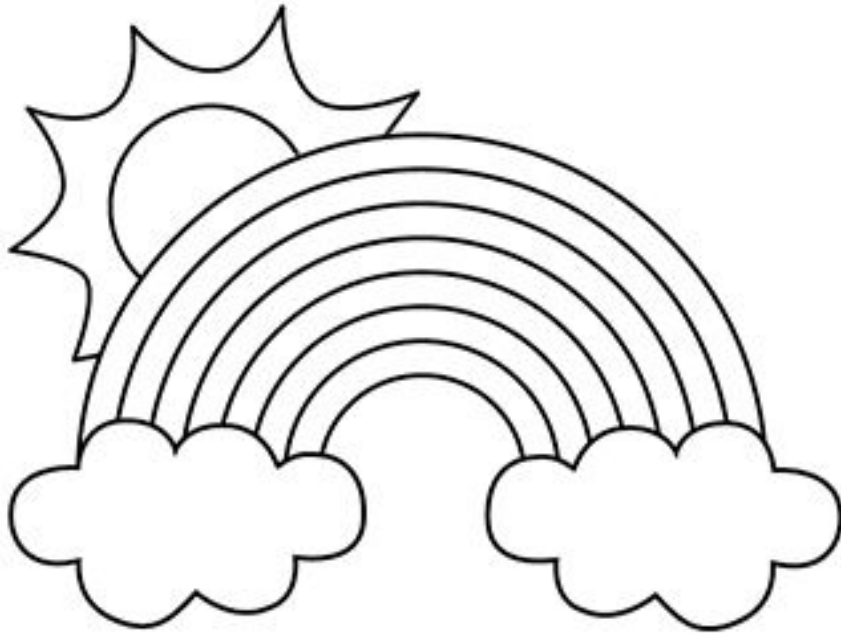
SECRET CODE!
SBSA18

God's Home

We are often told that the church is God's house so you may wonder, "Does God get lonely there during the week?" or "What does God do all week locked in the church?" Maybe you have wondered, "How can God see everyone from inside the church?" or "How can my church be God's house and my friend's church also be God's house?" or "How many houses does God have or need?" Just as God told David, we also must remember, God doesn't live in any one place. The church is not God's house but the place where God's people gather to worship and do God's work together. God is too big to stay in one building no matter how big or fancy. God is always on the move among all the people of the world.



The important thing about churches (including ours) is not the building, but all the worship and ministry that is done in the buildings.



God is always with me.

Psalm 139 tells us that, if we go up to the heavens, God is there. If we rise with the sun in the east and settle in the west beyond the sea, God is there to guide us! Wherever we are God is there to guide and help us!



Verse of the Day

You are like a building that was built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets. Christ Jesus himself is the most important stone in that building, and that whole building is joined together in Christ. He makes it grow and become a holy temple in the Lord. ~Ephesians 2:20-21 (NCV)

That night the word of the Lord came to Nathan.
What did the Lord say?

Fit the words from the list into the crossword.
Then transfer the words to the lines below.



men
now
like
Lord
make
name
tell
then
says
took
what
David
earth
flock
great
ruler
Israel
people
pasture
servant
Almighty
greatest
following

Now _____, _____ My
18 A 18 D

_____, "This is
7 6

the _____
20 5 12

: I _____ you from the
3 17

_____ and from
9

the _____ to be
10 A 10 D

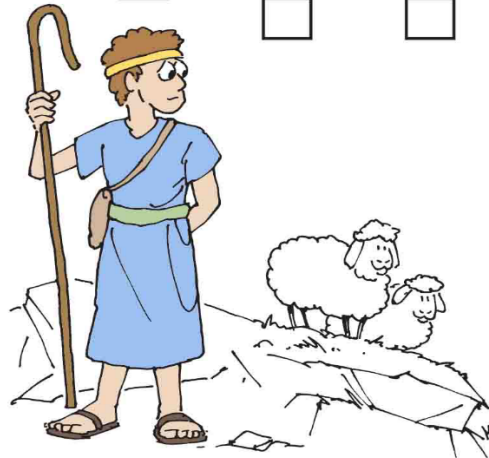
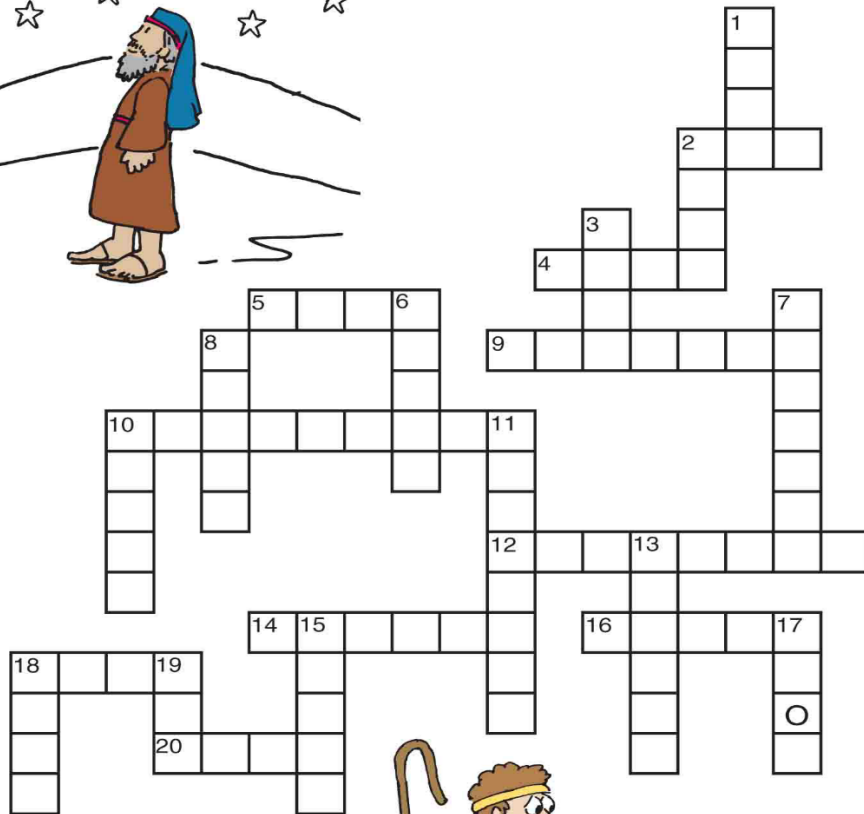
over My _____
8 14

I will _____ your
13 19 2 D

_____, _____ the names
4 16 1

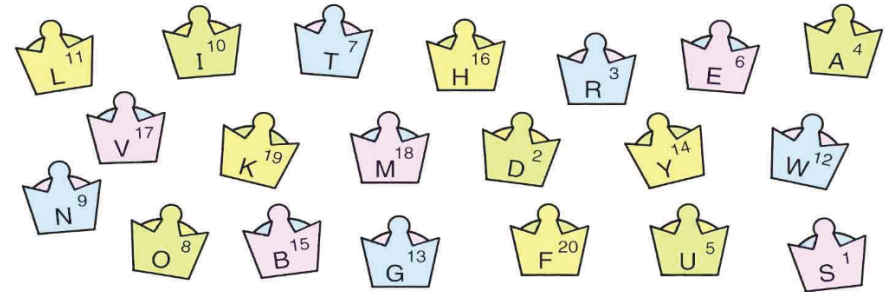
of the _____
11 2 A

of the _____."
15



What else did the Lord tell Nathan to say to David?

Match the numbers with the letters to fill in the blanks.



“ 14 8 5 3 16 8 5 1 6

4 9 2 14 8 5 3

19 10 9 13 2 8 18 12 10 11 11

6 9 2 5 3 6 20 8 3 6 17 6 3

15 6 20 8 3 6 18 6 ; 14 8 5 3

7 16 3 8 9 6 12 10 11 11 15 6

6 1 7 4 15 11 10 1 16 6 2

20 8 3 6 17 6 3 ”