

Theme: Never give up following God!

Games: Find the ring: Sit in a circle with a piece of string, long enough to go round the inner circumference. Thread a small ring on the string and pass from hand to hand while others pretend to pass it. A player in the middle has three guesses to find out where the ring is.

The sun shines on... Ask the children to sit in a circle, if possible on chairs. Have a volunteer stand in the middle and then take their chair away. The volunteer then says "the sun shines on all the people..." And picks a category like "who likes shreddies" "who's wearing a skirt" "who walks to school". Anyone who fits the description needs to jump up and change places while the volunteer needs to get an empty chair to sit on. The person without a chair is the next to be in the middle.

Memory Verse: 2 Thessalonians 3 v 13 *"But you, brothers and sisters, must not get tired of doing good"* You could write each word as an anagram and stick them round the room. As the children arrive, give out pencils and paper and they have to go round unscrambling the words.

Introduction: Have a plastic cup building contest! Get the group into teams and show them the best way to build a tall tower with plastic cups! (You will have to work out the best way!) The first person from each team has 30 secs to start building, on your call, the next person comes up and so on until the whole team have had a go. The object is to keep building even when the cups fall down and maybe you shake the table or try to put the contestants off!

Story: 1 Samuel Chapter 12. The story has been written out in the resources section.

Application: Samuel served God faithfully all his life. He obeyed God even when the people went their own way. He never gave up on God and continued to trust Him. Samuel wanted the Israelite people to do the same. He told them to always listen to the Lord and follow His ways, then all would go well with them. The same message is true for us to-day! His plans for us are always perfect. Jesus came to the earth to show us the best way to live our lives. Think of some of the things Jesus did and said to show us how to live God's way.

Prayer: Sit in a circle and give out post- it notes and pencils. Ask the children to think of ways they can follow God's way. Eg: *Be kind to your family, help your teacher, forgive others, be patient, stand up for what is right.....* Write them down and then pray as a group or round the circle asking God to help us.

Resources: Story, funsheet

Song: "Have we made our God too Small" - Kingsquad CD

Samuel Addresses the People

One day Samuel spoke to the Israelites again. He said he had always told them what God wanted. He also told them it was wrong to ask for a king. But the Lord would not hold this against them. If the Israelites and their king worshipped the Lord and listened to his voice, all would be well. But if they didn't, there would be hard times ahead for them.

Then Samuel prayed. Suddenly the Lord sent thunder and rain. All the people were terrified of the Lord and of Samuel.

'Pray to the Lord your God for us, or we will die!' they cried.

Samuel told them not to be afraid. They just had to hold onto the Lord's hand, and he would be with them.

The Lord is mighty and important. If he tells us to listen, then we must listen. It's the best thing we can ever do because it pleases the most powerful Person in the whole world. Just think, it is possible for us, for ordinary, puny little people to make the Lord happy!

**"But you, brothers
and sisters,
must not
get tired of
doing good"**

Unscramble the letters
to find a hidden message

REVEN IVEG PU

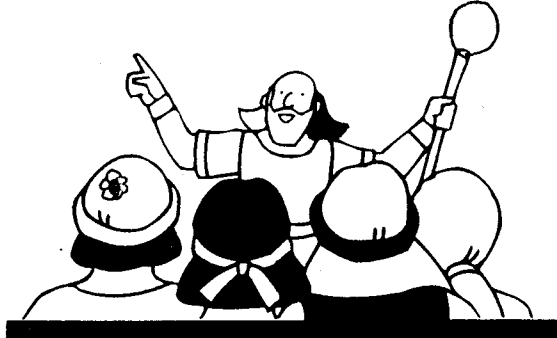
2 Thessalonians

3 v 13

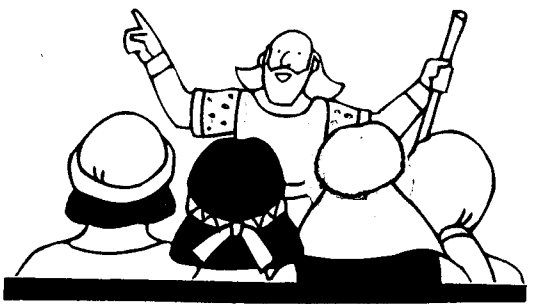
Spot the 6 differences



Samuel leads Israel.



Samuel leads Israel.



KEEP GOING

SAMUEL

LORD

RIGHT

ISREALITES

WORSHIP

PEOPLE

SPOKE

HAPPY

P	S	I	Q	V	Q	L	R	V	I
I	P	T	U	X	E	I	W	S	M
H	O	N	M	U	G	D	R	E	N
S	K	L	M	H	O	E	R	N	Q
R	E	A	T	N	A	P	P	O	M
O	S	Z	J	L	E	L	I	X	L
W	G	N	I	O	G	P	E	E	K
X	I	T	P	E	O	P	L	E	S
Y	E	Y	P	P	A	H	N	O	F
S	F	R	Q	N	S	A	G	A	M