

most famous people! The Old Testament Heroes family devotional and activity pack features 25 days of devotionals and 10 new activities. Read the stories of Adam, Abraham, Moses, Ruth, David and more! As you read each day, look for devotionals with a ,,,, or and find a corresponding activity on the noted page. Build an Old Testament Hall of Heroes as you go - you'll find instructions for this fun activity on page 3.

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OLD TESTAMENT HALL OF HEROES

INSTRUCTIONS- Each of the images below corresponds with one day's devotional. As you read about each person, cut out their image and glue or tape it into the appropriate frame on the Old Testament Hall of Heroes pages. You can display your Hall of Heroes on the refrigerator or somewhere else where the whole family can follow along as you learn!







Abraham



Isaac



Joseph



Moses



Joshua



Samson (one of 12 Judges)



Ruth



Samuel



Saul



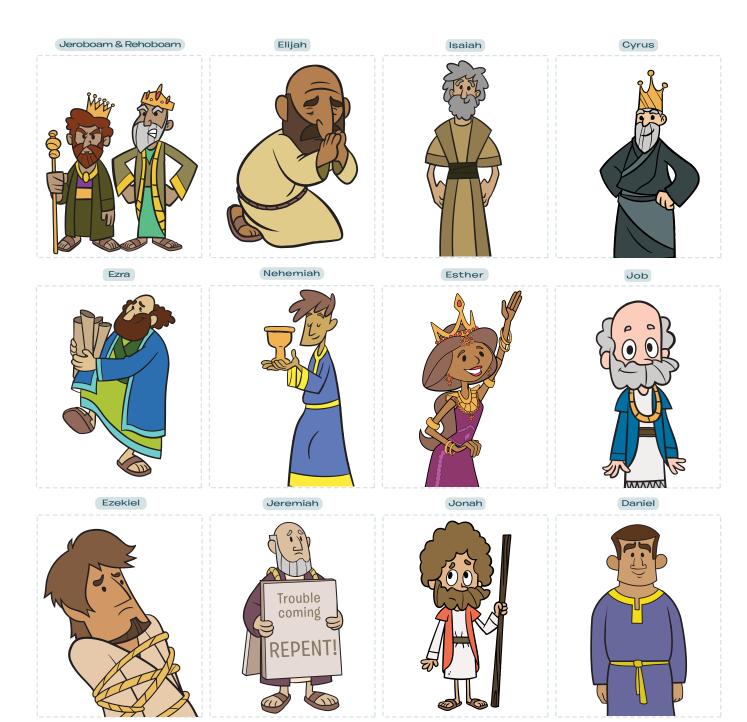
David

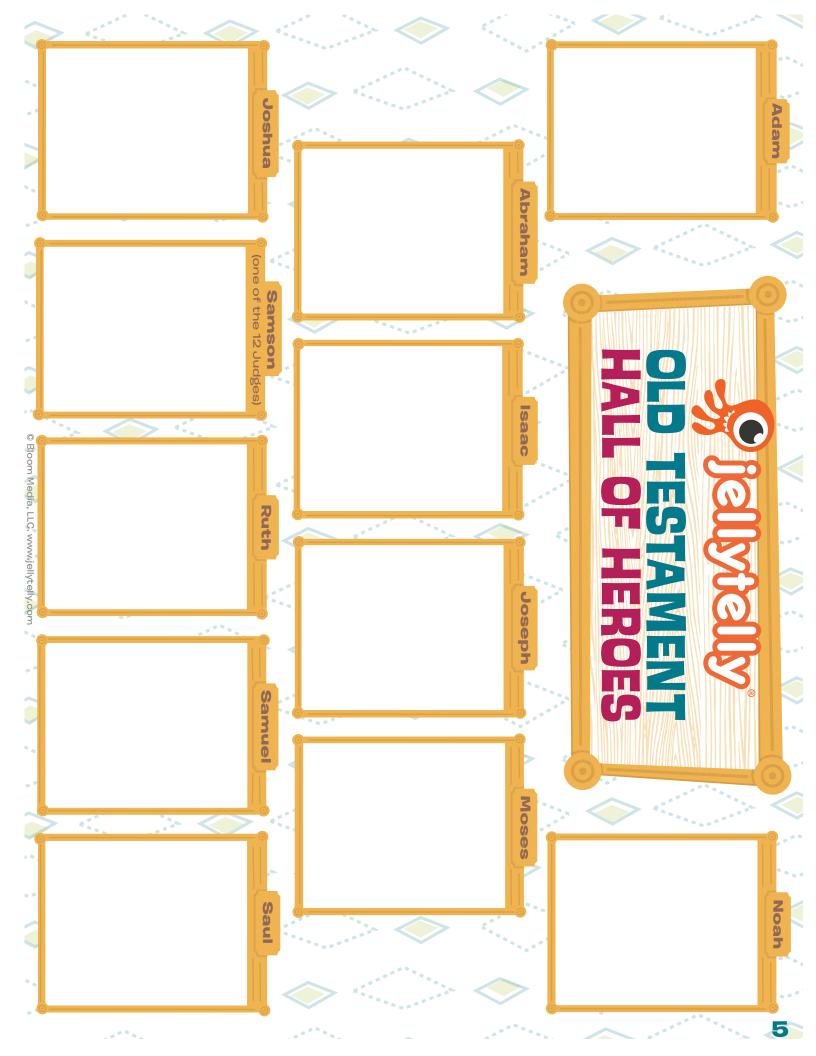


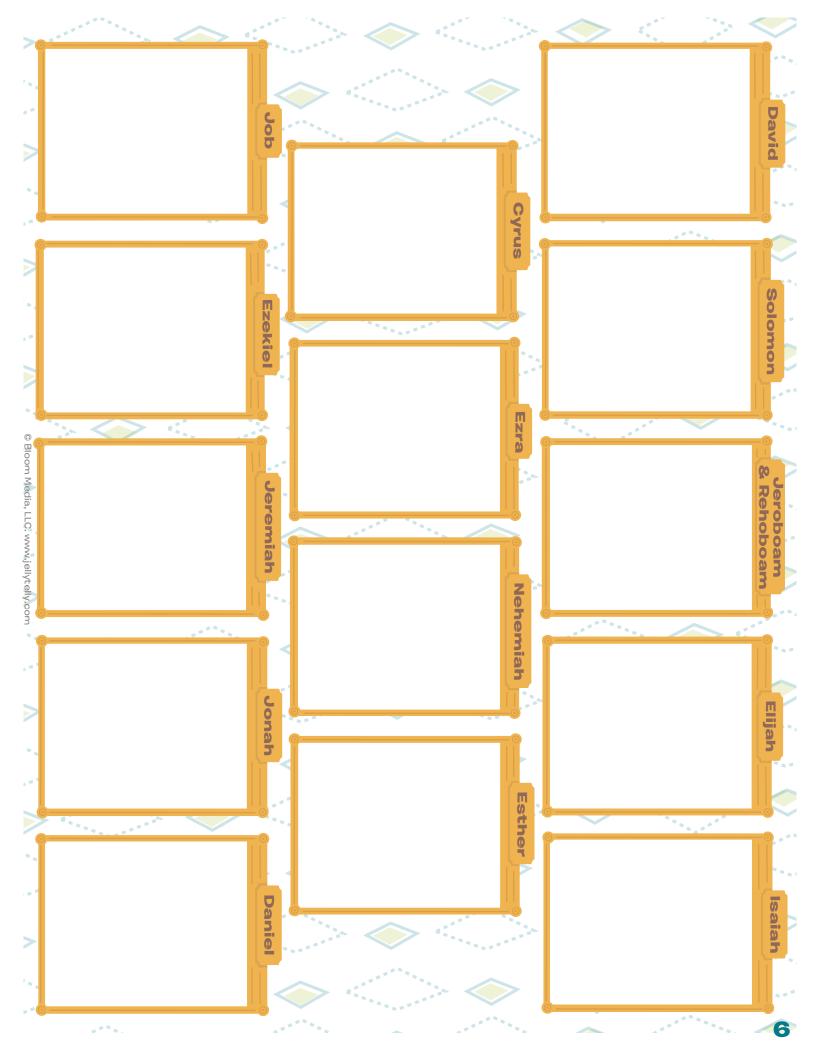
Solomon



OLD TESTAMENT HALL OF HEROES







TESTAMENT HEROES DEVOTIONALS

We can learn so much from the heroes of the Bible! Some of them are unlikely heroes - ordinary people who God uses in extraordinary ways to move forward his great plan. This reading plan will uncover some of your favorite Bible characters and encourage you to see how God worked through them - and think about how God is working through you! Each day includes a Scripture reading and short reflection.







Adam was the first man. God created man to be in his image, and he walked with Adam in the Garden of Eden. God told Adam to work and keep the garden. Adam also named all of the plants and animals. But Adam needed a helper,

and God made a woman named Eve. Adam and Eve enjoyed a beautiful creation and a beautiful relationship with God! Adam and Eve had a choice – they could follow God's rules, or they could choose their own way. When they were temped by the serpent to eat fruit from the tree God told them not to eat from, they chose their own way. Sin entered the world! God's beautiful creation was broken – and so was his perfect relationship with Adam and Eve. But God had a plan that was bigger than sin – he was going to rescue the whole world and make it the way it was supposed to be again. So he began to work through all kinds of people – rich, poor, faithful, sinful, willing, unwilling – and we'll learn about them through this devotional!







Noah was a man who walked with God. God was angry with the sin that had taken over the whole world, and he decided to destroy it. But God told Noah to build a giant ark and take his family and two of

every animal with him, and God would save them from the flood. It rained for 40 days and nights, flooding the whole world, but Noah and his family were safe. When the water had dried and up and Noah could see the mountains again, he and his family went onto land and worshipped the Lord. God promised Noah that he would never again flood the whole world. God made that promise - a covenant - by sending a rainbow in the sky.





God decided to launch his great rescue plan through a man named Abram. He told Abram and his wife Sarah to leave their home, Ur. God made 3 big promises to Abram -

he told Abram that he would be the father of a great nation, that through Abram all the families in the whole world would be blessed, and that God would give Abram and his children their own land, the Promised Land! It was called Canaan. God also gave Abram a new name - Abraham, which means "Father of Many." Even though Abraham and his wife Sarah would face many challenges, they trusted God and followed him. And hundreds of years later, Jesus was born out of Abraham's family! God had a great rescue plan, and he used Abraham to put it into motion.







When God promised Abraham and Sarah that their family would include whole nations and kings, they laughed! They were over 100 years old and had no children. But God promised them a son – and he kept his promise. Their

son, Isaac, was born. God told them that Isaac would be the father of 12 princes and a whole nation would come from him. When Isaac was born, God tested Abraham by telling him to sacrifice his precious son. But then God stopped him before Isaac was killed, and he promised Abraham that because he was going to follow God's command, God would bless Abraham, his family, and the whole world through him!







Isaac had a son named Jacob, who had 12 sons. Jacob's favorite son was Joseph. Jacob gave Joseph a beautiful coat, which made Joseph's brothers jealous. They decided to sell him! Joseph ended up in prison

in Egypt, but the Lord protected him and Joseph became a friend to some of the Pharaoh's men. Joseph interpreted their dreams with the help of God. Later, Pharaoh had some troubling dreams and Pharaoh's friends told him to ask Joseph about their meaning. Joseph interpreted some of Pharaoh's dreams to mean that a great famine was coming to Egypt. Pharaoh stored up food and saved his people from star-vation. Joseph was a hero, and Pharaoh put him in charge of all of Egypt. When Joseph's brothers came came to Egypt to get food, Joseph told them who he was. Joseph's family came to live with him in Egypt, and they were all blessed!





After Joseph's family went to live with him in Egypt, they started to have children and grandchildren. Egypt was full of Israelites! A new pharaoh decided that he didn't like all of the

Israelites living in his country, so he made them all slaves. Pharaoh's daughter saved a baby Israelite boy named Moses. One day when he was older, Moses was out with his sheep and he saw something strange: a bush that was on fire but wasn't being burned up! It was God coming to talk to Moses. God told Moses that the Israelites were suffering in Egypt, and that he wanted Moses to lead them out of slavery and to the Promised Land, which God had promised to Abraham. So Moses obeyed God and went back to Egypt and rescued the Israelites with God's help. Moses was faithful when God asked him to do hard things, and God worked through Moses to save his people from slavery!









Joshua became the leader of the Israelites after Moses died. They were still wandering in the desert, and God chose Joshua to be the one who would lead them into the

Promised Land. But there was a problem! People were already living in the Promised Land. God told Joshua to fight the people and claim the land for the Israelites, but Joshua did not want to fight. God promised that he would be with Joshua, and told Joshua to not be afraid. With God's help, Joshua and the Israelites fought and won - and then they started living in the Promised Land!



Day 8

THE JUDGES



After Joshua died, the Israelites did not have anyone to lead them!
And without a leader, the Israelites had

trouble following God's rules for them. So God sent them judges to help keep them on the right path when they started to stray. The names of the judges were Othniel, Ehud, Shamgar, Deborah, Gideon, Tola, Jair, Jephthah, Ibzan, Elon, Abdon and Samson.







During the time of the judges, a woman named Ruth married an Israelite man and went to live with his family. They lived in Moab, and Ruth was from Moab. Ruth's husband died, and normally when

a woman's husband died she would go back to her family. But Ruth loved her husband's mother, Naomi, very much and promised Naomi she would stay with her! Naomi moved back to Israel, and Ruth went too. Ruth took care of Naomi, and then Ruth married a man named Boaz who was very wealthy and took care of both Ruth and Naomi!







Samuel was a judge and a prophet in Israel. After over 200 years without a ruler, the Israelites wanted a king. They asked God to send them a king,

and God put Samuel in charge of finding one. God told Samuel to pick a man named Saul to be king. Later on, Samuel picked the next king of Israel when he chose a boy named David to be the king after Saul.







Saul was the first king of Israel. The Israelites were under attack from a group of people called the Philistines, and they wanted a king to lead them in battle. God told a prophet named

Samuel to find a king for Israel. Samuel chose Saul, who was very tall and very handsome and led the Israelites in many successful battles. But Saul didn't always do what God told him to do, and eventually God chose another king to lead his people - a man named David.







David is famous for many things! First, when David was a boy he defeated the Philistine giant Goliath in a battle. This made David famous among the Israelites, and King Saul made David a

leader in the army. But God had bigger plans for David - Samuel had anointed David to be the next king of Israel! David was a good king - he followed God, and God blessed him. God promised David that one of his descendants would lead God's people forever! David made some mistakes, but he also loved God very much. David wrote most of the book of Psalms.



SOLOMON



After King David died, his son Solomon became king. Solomon loved God and followed God's commands. One

night, God visited Solomon in a dream and told him that he could ask God for anything. So Solomon asked God for wisdom. God was pleased, because Solomon wanted to be a good king, so he also made Solomon a rich and famous king! Solomon built a beautiful temple for God in Jerusalem, but then Solomon started to be selfish. He built an even bigger house for himself, and he started worshipping other gods. So after Solomon died, all of Israel was punished for his sin - Israel split into 2 countries!





JEROBOAM & REHOBOAM



God told a man named Jeroboam that he would be the next king of Israel after Solomon. When Solomon found out, he tried to

kill Jeroboam! Jeroboam went to Egypt to hide until Solomon died. When Solomon did die, his son Rehoboam became king of Israel. Jeroboam came back and the Israelites started to follow him. God split the kingdom of Israel in two! Jeroboam ruled the northern kingdom of Israel, and Rehoboam ruled the southern kingdom called Judah.







Elijah is a very famous prophet!
Things were not easy for the
Israelites - they suffered during a
time of many bad kings. Elijah
stood up for God against the evil

King Ahab and his wife, Jezebel. Jezebel tried to kill all of God's prophets, so Elijah had to hide in the wilderness! God sent ravens to bring him bread. Elijah also proved to the prophets of a fake god, Baal, that their god was not real. Elijah also performed miracles and God worked through him in many ways to bring glory to God!







Isaiah is another very famous prophet who God used to tell the Israelites some amazing things. Isaiah told the Israelites that they would be in exile (which

means they would be sent away from Israel) for 70 years! Isaiah also told them that a new king – named Cyrus – would be the one to send them home. Another famous prophecy from Isaiah happens in Isaiah 9, where he tells the people of Israel that a king is coming who will save them forever. He is telling them about Jesus!







The Israelites spent 70 years in exile as prisoners after the Assyrians and Babylonians conquered their kingdom. But just as Isaiah had told them, a

new king of the Persian Empire named Cyrus sent them home to Israel! King Cyrus tells them to rebuild the temple in Jerusalem (the one that Solomon had built).







Ezra was an Israelite priest living in Babylon (in the Persian Empire) during the exile. The new king of the Persian Empire was a man named Artaxerxes. Artaxerxes told Ezra to go back to Israel, where the

Israelites were rebuilding the temple in Jerusalem, and teach them God's law. When Ezra arrived, he found the Israelites worshipping other gods! He tore his clothes and hair and told the people to repent. They did and Ezra became the priest over all of Israel.







King Artaxerxes, the king of the Persian Empire, had a cupbearer named Nehemiah.

Nehemiah was an Israelite, and he had heard from other Israelites that the walls around Jerusalem were in bad shape. Nehemiah wanted to go back to Israel and rebuild the walls around Jerusalem, so he asked Artaxerxes for permission - and Artaxerxes said yes! Nehemiah led the Israelites to rebuild the walls, which made Jerusalem safe again. Nehemiah became the governor over all of the Israelites!







In a city called Susa in the
Persian Empire, a mean king
named Xerxes lived. He had
kicked his wife - the queen - out
of the kingdom and wanted a

new queen. A beautiful Jew named Esther lived in Susa, and her cousin Mordecai worked in the king's palace. King Xerxes chose Esther to be his queen! He did not know she was a Jew, and his evil assistant Haman decided to kill all of the Jews left in the Persian Empire. Esther was brave and she knew that she could save her people. So she asked King Xerxes to not kill her or her people – and he agreed!









Job was a man who followed God and always did what was right. He was very wealthy and had many children and animals. But Job's faith was tested - first all of his animals and children died, then Job became sick. He

refused to blame God, though. Job's wife and friends told him to curse God and die because so many bad things had happened, but Job refused. When Job asked God why all of the bad things happened to him, God showed Job that he is a just and wise God and can always be trusted. Job knew this, and God made him healthy again and gave him even more animals and children! Job was faithful even when it was hard, and God was faithful to him in return.







Ezekiel was a prophet who was taken into exile when Israel was conquered by Babylon. When Ezekiel was captured and living in Babylon,

the temple in Jerusalem was still standing back in Israel - but it was about to be destroyed! Ezekiel spent several years warning the Israelites in Babylon that their temple at home was going to be destroyed! After the temple was destroyed, Ezekiel prophesied about the future of Israel - a future full of hope! He told them that God would restore Israel.







Jeremiah was also a prophet who was prophesying during the destruction of Israel and Judah. He was in Judah

when many Israelites were taken into captivity, and he saw Jerusalem and the temple destroyed. Jeremiah spent 40 years telling the Israelites to repent, which means to turn away from sin and back to God, or Israel would be destroyed. Jeremiah is called the "weeping prophet," because he was so sad about what was going to happen to Israel. The people did not listen to him, though, and eventually everything he told them came true.







Jonah was another prophet - a prophet who got a really big second chance from God! God told Jonah to go to Nineveh because of the evil going on there. God was

planning to punish them. But Jonah didn't want to go to Nineveh, so he went and got on a boat going far away. God sent a big storm, and Jonah was thrown into the sea and swallowed by a big fish. Jonah prayed that God would rescue him, and God did! When Jonah was back on land, God told him again to go to Nineveh - and this time he did. Jonah told the people of Nineveh to repent, and they did. God did not punish them like he was going to, and it was because Jonah followed his command!







Daniel was a prophet who was exiled from Israel to Babylon. He lived most of his life in Babylon, where he was a servant of the King Nebuchadnezzar. Daniel

was always faithful to God, even when it made things hard for him! Daniel interpreted King Nebuchadnezzar's dreams, and the king honored him for his work. Daniel also interpreted dreams for King Belshazzar, but after he died then Darius became king. But a new law made it illegal to pray to anyone but the king, and Daniel kept praying to God. He was thrown into a lion's den because of it! But God took care of Daniel, and he was safe.



MATCH

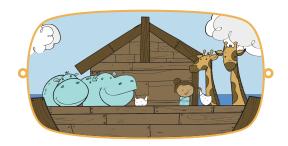


INSTRUCTIONS

Match the person on the left to the correct scene in the middle. Then match the scene to the correct order from the book of Genesis!



















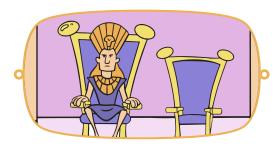




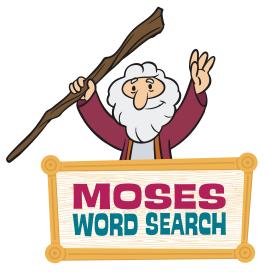












FIND THESE WORDS:

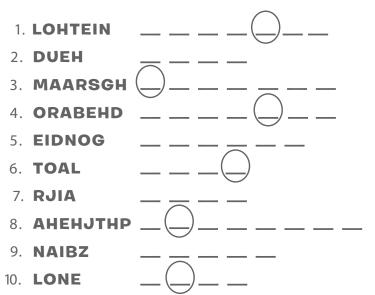
Moses	Mt Sinai
Zipporah	Aaron
Ten Commandments	Red Sea
Pharaoh	Plagues
Burning Bush	Desert

WCVDKARAEYFHJVPSNGUR IWNSBJUVHNDHQCGSB PMREVMVUOAENGHRDJ FTURBNUNRVYSWJUR IAXYTESWSTCS SACVUARJXOFME PKVMNSGLPBREFTDCRFCY PXQJNHQHVSWONEUOCCK HYXJCSGEDYXMUQI RAWBLZGHEBNOTLBHHTL UMUROVWGSKPVGZ HAPTPRSAMIFIIYMOSESB ENCOMMANDMENTSJ ICWYAUKXGR KHMMUYDI EKPGGGOBNDUGILVQHNLK KKAVOZLPEGUVCPUCGEHP SLFMLGAZFTBHUGNFAIYR PAEAFGCBKZOULFMCEQZM V X Z U F S H G D S C S W R V B W K V BWTPNEGFOYRPDHHXGNPB

INSTRUCTIONS

Unscramble the letters to reveal the names of the judges! Bonus: Can you unscramble the final word? Use the circled letters as your clues.





























BONUS

Where were the judges?

11. **NBDAO**

12. NSMOSA

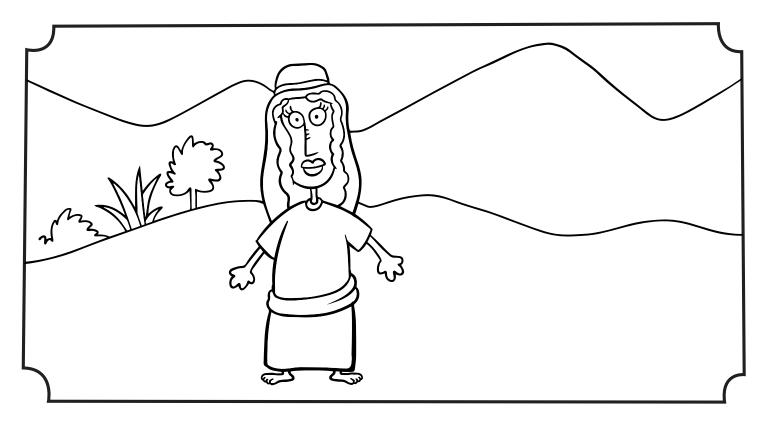


INSTRUCTIONS

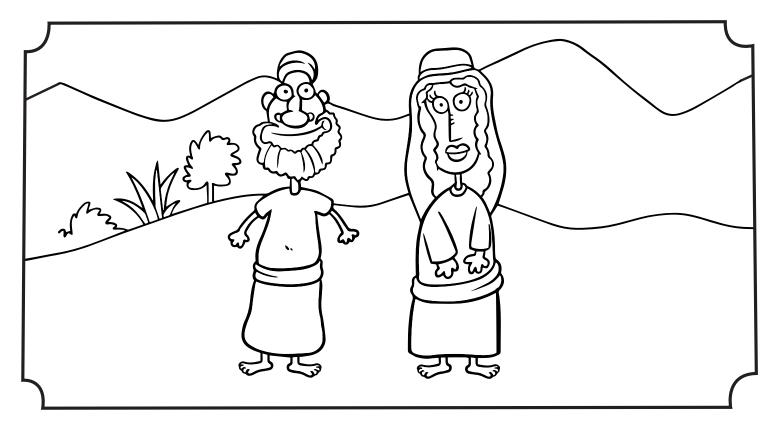
Fill in the blanks on these story cards about Ruth, then add to the pictures to make them complete! When the pictures are complete, staple or bind them together to make your own Ruth storybook.



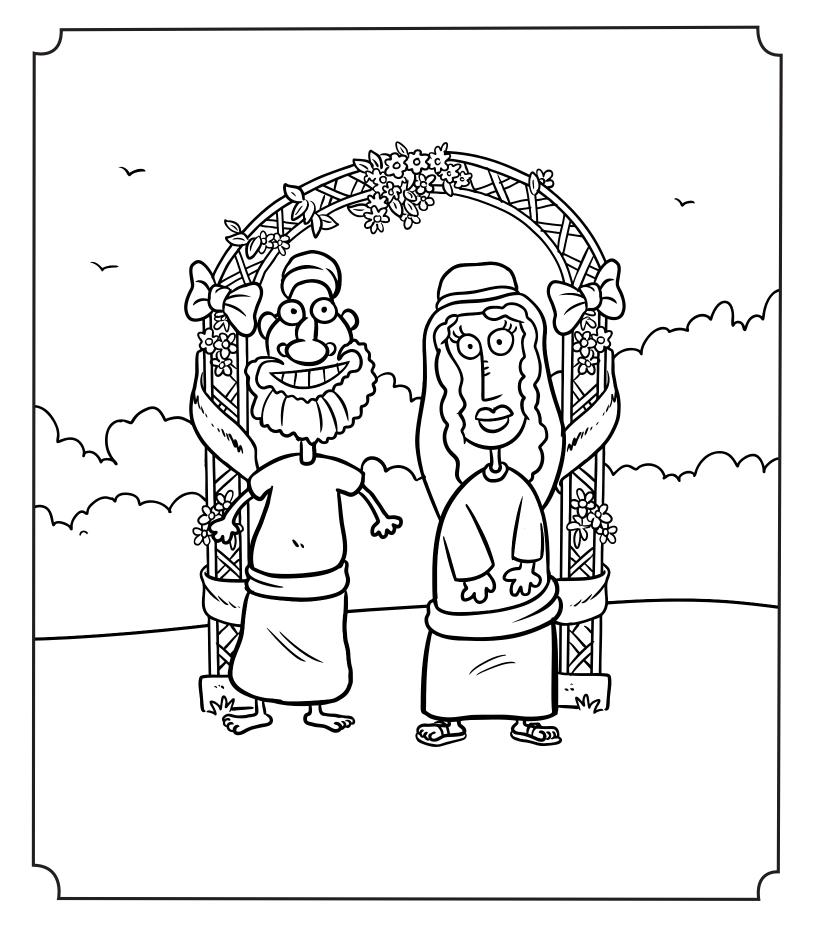
Ruth and her mother-in-law _____ moved to Israel.



Ruth worked in a _____collecting _____ for her and Naomi to eat.



Ruth was working in a field belonging to a man named _____.



Ruth and Boaz ended up getting ______.

Their great-grandson was King David.

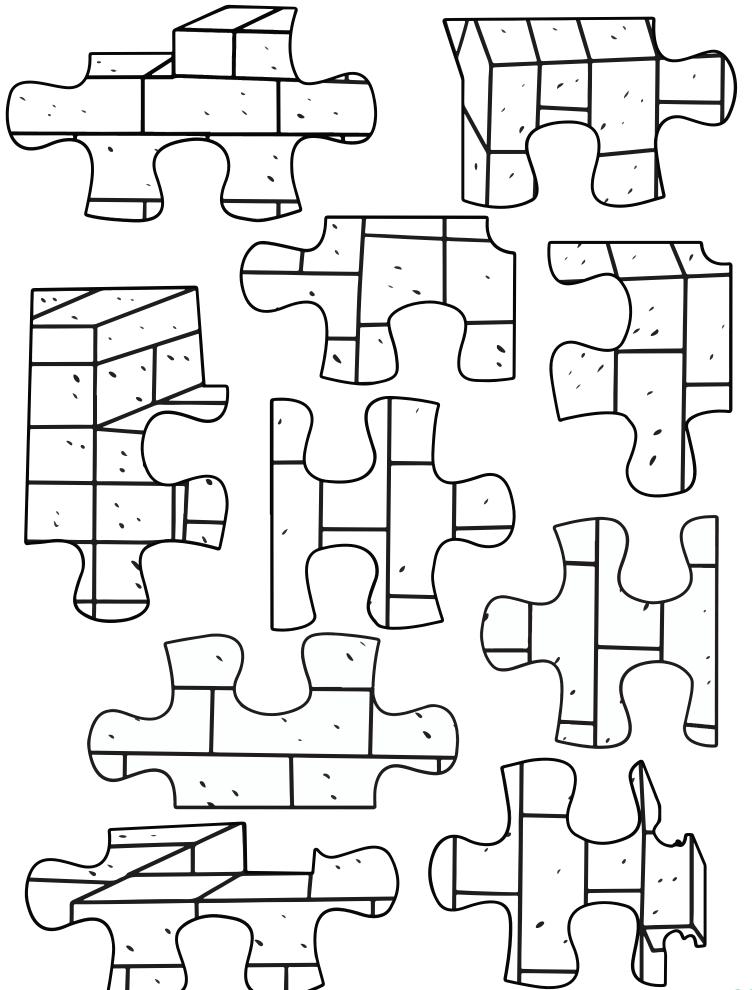


ANSWERS

NEHEMIAH PUZZLE

INSTRUCTIONS

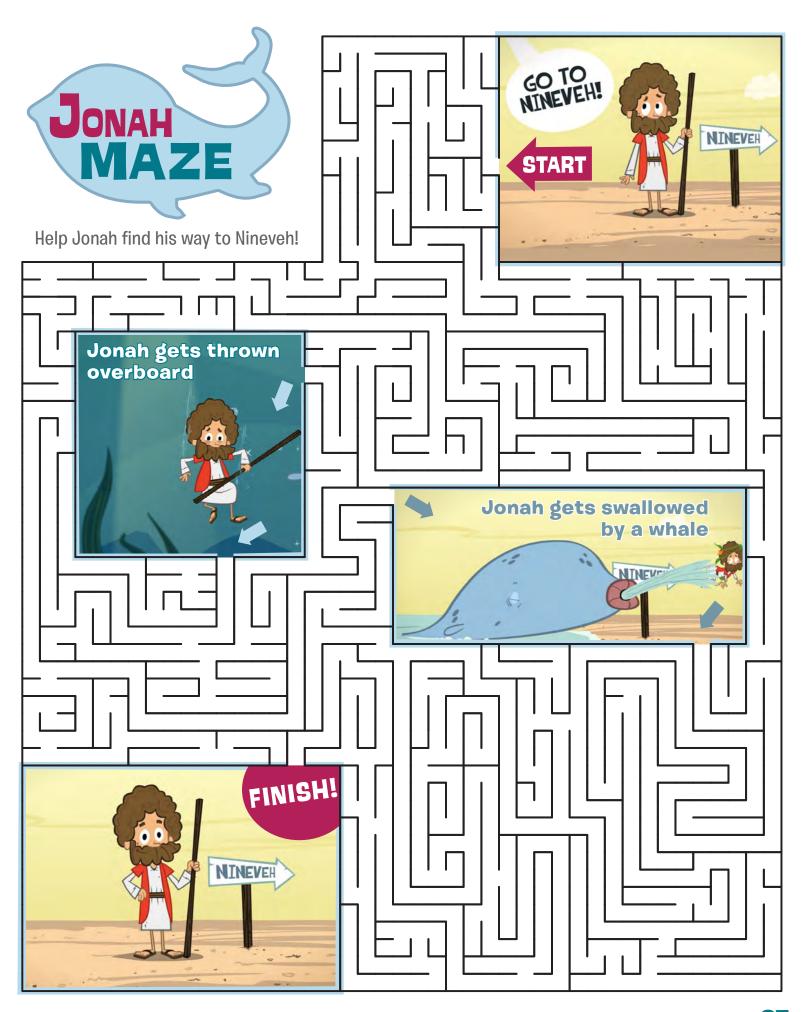
reassemble them on the wall below! Glue or tape them in place and then finish coloring the page. Jerusalem's walls! Color in the scene below, then cut out the puzzle pieces on the next page and Ezra and Nehemiah helped the Israelites rebuild Jerusalem after the Exile, including rebuilding



ESTHER SKETCH

INSTRUCTIONS:

Queen Esther hosted two dinner parties for King Xerxes and Haman. Fill in the dinner party scene! Add decorations to their clothing, food for the table, and anything else you want.

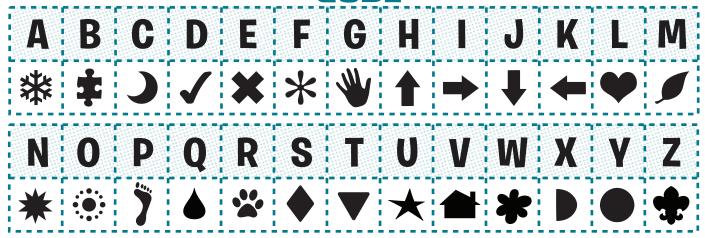




INSTRUCTIONS

Daniel interpreted the writing on the wall for King Belshazzar. Use the secret code below to interpret the messages! Then on the next page, create your own secret code & write messages – then find someone to interpret them!

CODE



INTERPRET THE CODE!











CODE

											В	
NOPQRSTUVWX	Y 7	X	W	V	U	T	S	R	Q	P	0	N

WRITE YOUR OWN SECRET CODE HERE