

Old Testament

Mission Arlington ◦ Mission Metroplex Curriculum ◦ 2011

One Year Plan



GOD'S WORD

Created for use with young, unchurched learners Adaptable for all ages.

THE SUN STANDS STILL



Memory Verse:

If any of you need wisdom,
ask God for it. He will give it to you.
God gives freely to everyone.
(James 1:5 NIV)

JOSHUA 9-10

Lesson Goals

1. Understand that Joshua did not consult God about the treaty with the people of Gibeon.
2. Learn that the people of Gibeon deceived Joshua and the elders of Israel.
3. Understand that Joshua and the elders made a mistake.
4. Recognize that God was faithful to protect Israel.

Prayer Time

1. Take a moment to listen to God.
2. Thank God for sending Jesus to deliver us from sin.
3. Ask God to help you follow Him.
4. Pray for friends and family members who need to be delivered from sin.

GOD'S WORD

Read Joshua 10:1-15. (Hold your Bible throughout the story.)

Do You Know Jesus?

We make mistakes just like Joshua. These mistakes, sins, separate us from God. God loves us and does not want us to be separated from Him. So, He sent His Son, Jesus, to take the punishment for our sins. Jesus died on a cross to save us from our sins. We must tell God we are sorry for our wrongs and promise to do things God's way. God will forgive and wipe away all our sin. When Jesus comes to stay with you, He changes your life and helps you do things God's way.

Application

Joshua and the elders did not consult God about the treaty with the people of Gibeon, and they were deceived. The Israelites made a mistake, but God was faithful to protect Israel. God wants us to seek His advice on the decisions we make. That will help us avoid problems and dangerous situations. God has our best in mind, and we can trust Him completely.

Begin With Prayer

Last week, we learned how God gave Joshua specific instructions. The Israelites obeyed and believed God. The walls of Jericho fell just as God said they would. God is faithful to what He says He will do.

Joshua listened to God and did things God's way. One time, though, he did not ask God about a decision. God had told the Israelites not to make a peace treaty with anyone living near them. A group of people from a nearby town called Gibeon came to Joshua and asked him to make a peace treaty with them. They lied and told Joshua that they were from a faraway town. They even wore old, worn-out clothes and took old, moldy bread to show Joshua. They told the Israelites that their clothes and food were new when they left their town!

Joshua did not talk to God to see what God wanted him to do. Instead, he made a peace treaty with the people. Later, the Israelites discovered that the people lived near them! The Gibeonites had deceived Joshua. Joshua realized that he had made a big mistake by trying to do things on his own. Now he had to honor the peace treaty with the people of Gibeon.

Pretty soon, neighboring towns decided to fight the Gibeonites because they had made peace with Joshua. The Gibeonites came to Joshua and reminded him of their peace treaty. They said that Joshua must help them fight these enemies since they had made a treaty.

Joshua kept his agreement and helped the people fight off their enemies. He took his best fighting men and marched all night to fight the enemies. As they were marching, God told Joshua that he did not need to be afraid. He told Joshua that they would win.

When they arrived in the town of Gibeon, they surprised the enemies. God made the people become confused, and Joshua was able to defeat them. Many people ran along the road to escape Joshua's men. As Joshua's army pursued them, God rained down huge hailstones from the sky. The hailstones were so large that it killed the enemies!

Something even more amazing happened also. While Joshua's men were fighting, Joshua prayed to God. He asked God to make the sun stand still until they had won the victory. (Joshua 10:12-15)

The Bible says, "The sun stopped in the middle of the sky. It didn't go down for about a full day." (Joshua 10:13) God listened to Joshua and granted his prayer request. The Bible says, "There has never been a day like it before or since." (Joshua 10:14)

God wants us to seek His advice on the decisions that we make. "If any of you need wisdom, ask God for it. He will give it to you. God gives freely to everyone." (James 1:5 NIRV)

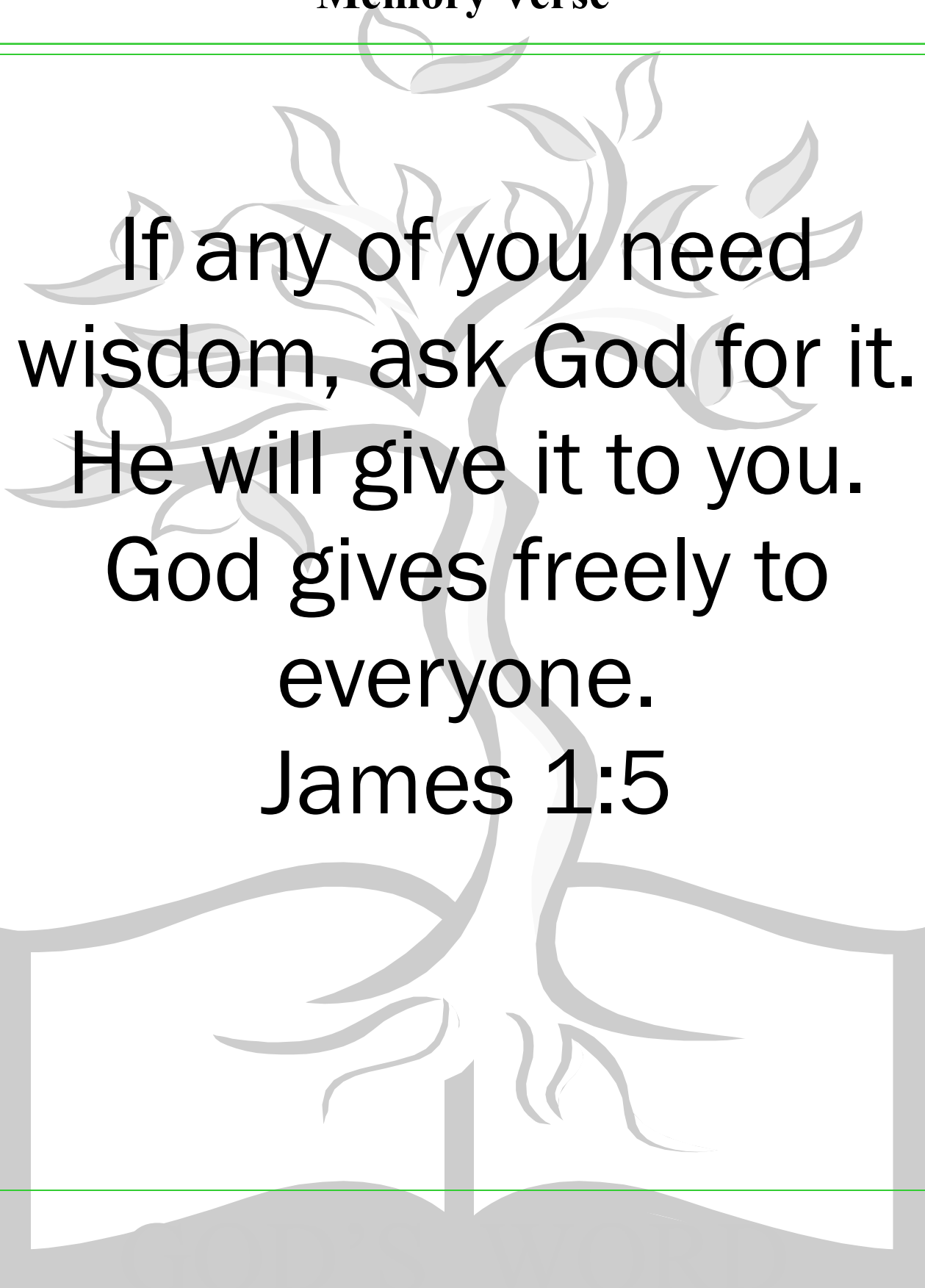
Review

1. **What did the people of Gibeon ask Joshua?** (The people of Gibeon asked Joshua for a peace treaty.)
2. **Did Joshua ask God what to do?** (No. They agreed to the treaty without asking God.)
3. **What did the people of Gibeon ask next?** (The people of Gibeon asked Israel to defend them.)
4. **What did God do for Joshua?** (He answered Joshua's prayer and made the sun stand still in the sky until they won the battle.)

Planning for the next week:

Deborah — Judges 4-5

Memory Verse



If any of you need
wisdom, ask God for it.
He will give it to you.
God gives freely to
everyone.
James 1:5

Preschool Lesson

Read Joshua 10:1-15 (Hold your Bible throughout the story.)

Memory verse for younger children:

If any of you need wisdom, ask God for it. James 1:5

Teacher: Make a sun puppet to tell the story.

Begin With Prayer

Last week, we learned how God gave Joshua specific instructions. The Israelites obeyed and believed God. The walls of Jericho fell just as God said they would. God is faithful to what He says He will do.

Joshua listened to God and did things God's way. One time, though, he did not ask God about a decision. God had told Joshua not to make a peace treaty with anyone in their area. A group of people from a nearby town called Gibeon came to Joshua and asked him to make a peace treaty with them. That meant that they would not fight each other, and that they would help when someone tried to fight them. The Gibeonites lied and told Joshua that they were from a faraway town. They even wore old, worn-out clothes and took old, moldy bread to show Joshua. They told the Israelites that their clothes and food were new when they left their town!

Joshua made a peace agreement with the town of Gibeon. That means that they would not fight them and they would help if someone else tried to hurt them.

One day, several kings decided to fight the people of the town of Gibeon. The Gibeonites came to Joshua and reminded him of their peace agreement. They shared that Joshua must help them fight these enemies since they had a treaty.

Joshua kept his promise and helped the people fight off their enemies. He took his best fighting men and marched all night to fight the enemies. (*Make marching stomps on the floor.*) As they were marching, God told Joshua that he did not need to be afraid. He told Joshua that they would win. (*Raise your arms in victory!*)

When they arrived in the town of Gibeon, they surprised the enemies. God made the people become confused and Joshua was able to win. Some of the enemies ran along the road to escape Joshua's men. (*Run in place.*) As they ran, Joshua's men chased after them. God rained down huge hailstones from the sky. The hailstones were so large that it killed the enemies along the road. Something even more amazing happened also. While Joshua's men were fighting, Joshua prayed to God. He asked God to make the sun stand still until they had won the victory. Believe it or not, the sun stopped in the middle of the day and didn't go down until almost a full day had passed!

God listened to Joshua and answered his prayer. He hears us, too, and listens to our prayers. Let's take time to pray to God and tell Him thank you for loving us and taking care of us.

Sing a song to the tune of "Itsy Bitsy Spider."

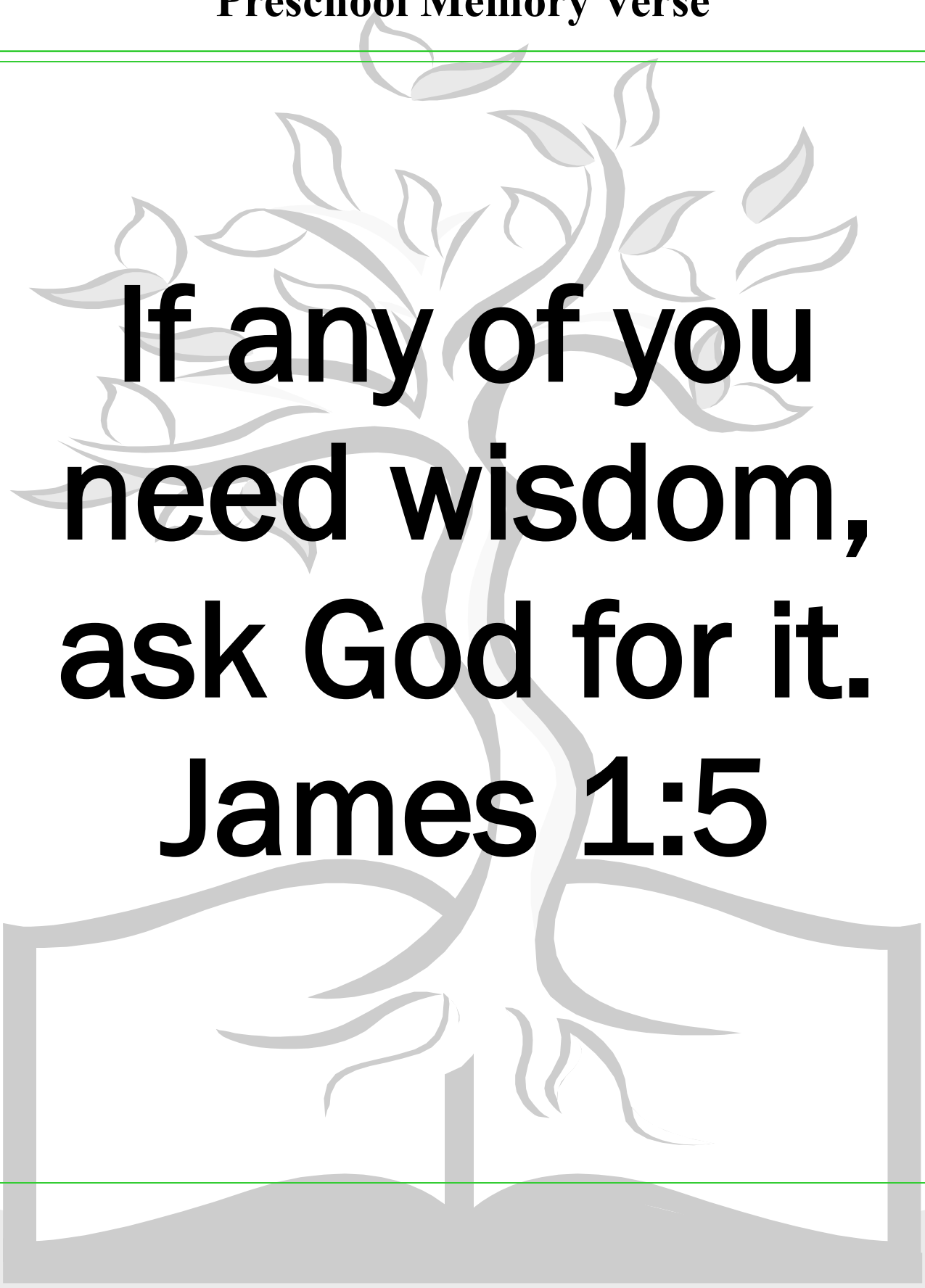
The enemies of the land came to Gibeon, (Move your finger like you are walking.)

Joshua's people marched to help them out. (March.)

Out came the sun when Joshua prayed (Make a circle with your hands for a sun.)

And Joshua's people won the victory! (Raise your hands in victory.)

Preschool Memory Verse



**If any of you
need wisdom,
ask God for it.
James 1:5**

Learning Activities

- Memory verse activity** — Make a Sun Mobile. Write the memory verse on the mobile.
- Test your memory** — Write key phrases about the story on paper. Make hailstones out of wadded up paper. When that part of the story happens, let the students throw the balls! Set boundaries with the kids before you begin so that they do not get out of control!
- Taste activity** — Oranges remind us of the big orange sun. Bring oranges to eat or squeeze them into orange juice to drink.
- Think about it** — Talk about how Joshua's prayer was answered. Make a list of requests for prayer. Share how God hears every request and will answer in the best way. It may be different from what you wanted, but God knows best.

Joshua and the elders learned a lesson the hard way about listening to God and doing things His way. Talk about the importance of praying about the decisions we make.

The Israelites made a treaty with the people of Gibeon so they had to fight to protect them. Talk about the importance of keeping your promises, especially to God.

- Touch activity** — Make crazy sunglasses. Use colored cellophane as the lens.

Create a Sun Puppet.

Play the "Stand Still Game." Have someone stand still like the sun in today's story. Now time them to see how long they can stand still. The winner is the one who can stand still the longest while others are trying to make him laugh, etc.

- Run and play** — Bring Styrofoam balls. Let the children pretend they are hailstones. Have one team throw the balls and the other team run away from the balls.

Let one child dress in yellow and pretend to be the sun. Let the others run around the sun. Allow the children to take turns being the sun.

- Listen** — As the children take time for silence, remind them that God wants us to seek His advice when we make decisions.

- Sing** — Sing "Awesome God," "My God is So Big," or another song related to the story.

- Reach out** — During class, pray for kids that did not come today. Ask the children to go with you to deliver the handouts to those who were absent. Take a mobile with the memory verse for them.

Rooted and Grounded



Pray

Thank God for sending Jesus to save us from our sins.
Ask God to help us seek His wisdom before making decisions.
Pray for those who do not know that Jesus loves them.

Read the Bible Daily

This week, read Joshua 9-10. Also, read a chapter of Psalms and Proverbs each day. Proverbs is a book of wise sayings, so this is a good place to go when making decisions.

Think About It

Joshua and the Israelite leaders made a decision without seeking God's direction. That is never a good idea. We should seek God in every decision we make, whether big or small. He wants to protect us from things and situations that would not be good for us. He can help us avoid big problems!

Do It

The next time you have a choice to make, remember to ask God for guidance. Read His Word and pray, and He will show you what to do.

Tell About It

Share the Bible story and memory verse with a friend. Talk about how God wants to help us by giving us wisdom.

Change it

Joshua and the Israelites kept their promise to help the Gibeonites. Do you keep the promises you make? If you struggle with this, ask God to help you be truthful and keep your promises.

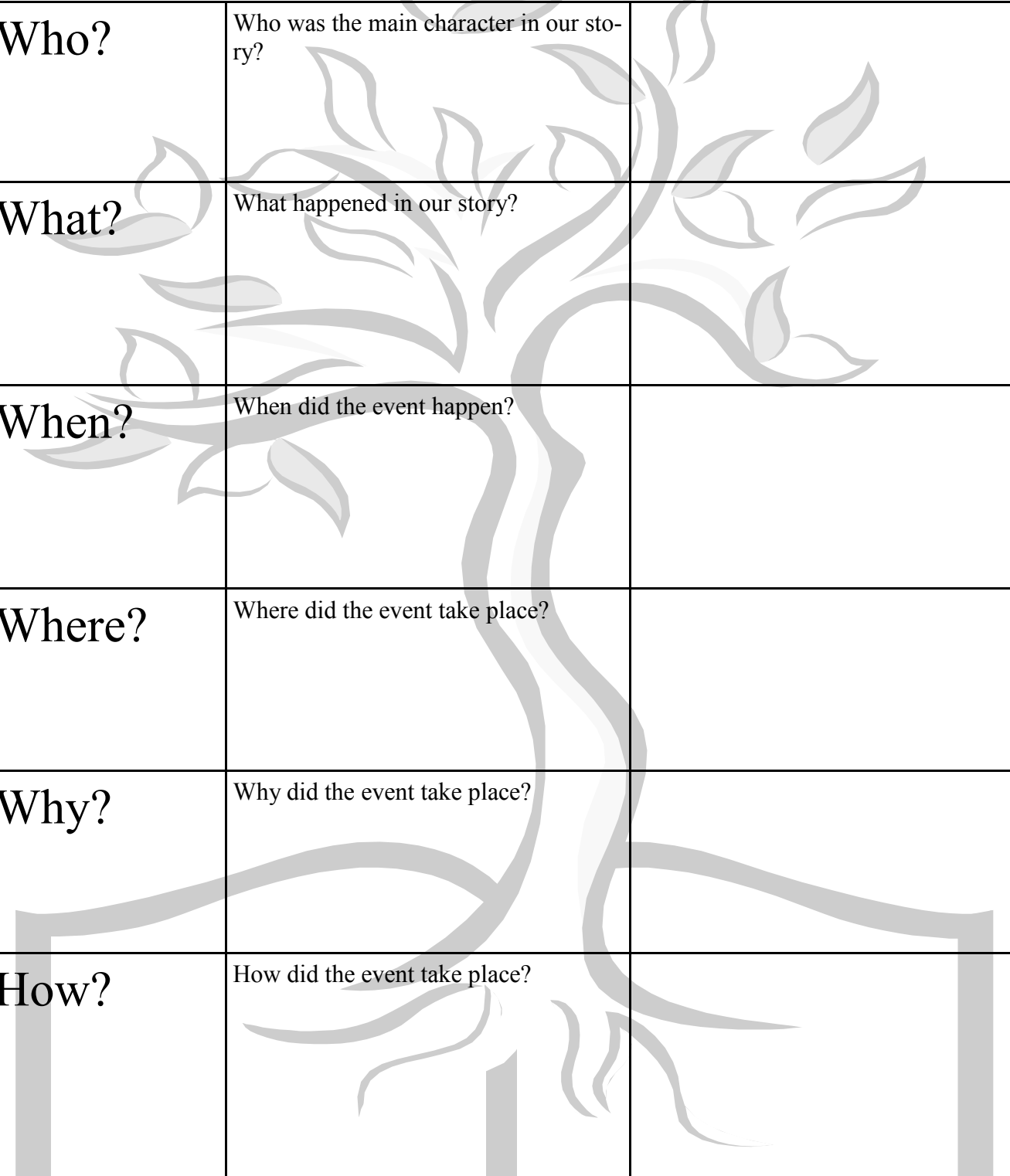
Word Art

Trace the letters.

The
sun
stood
still

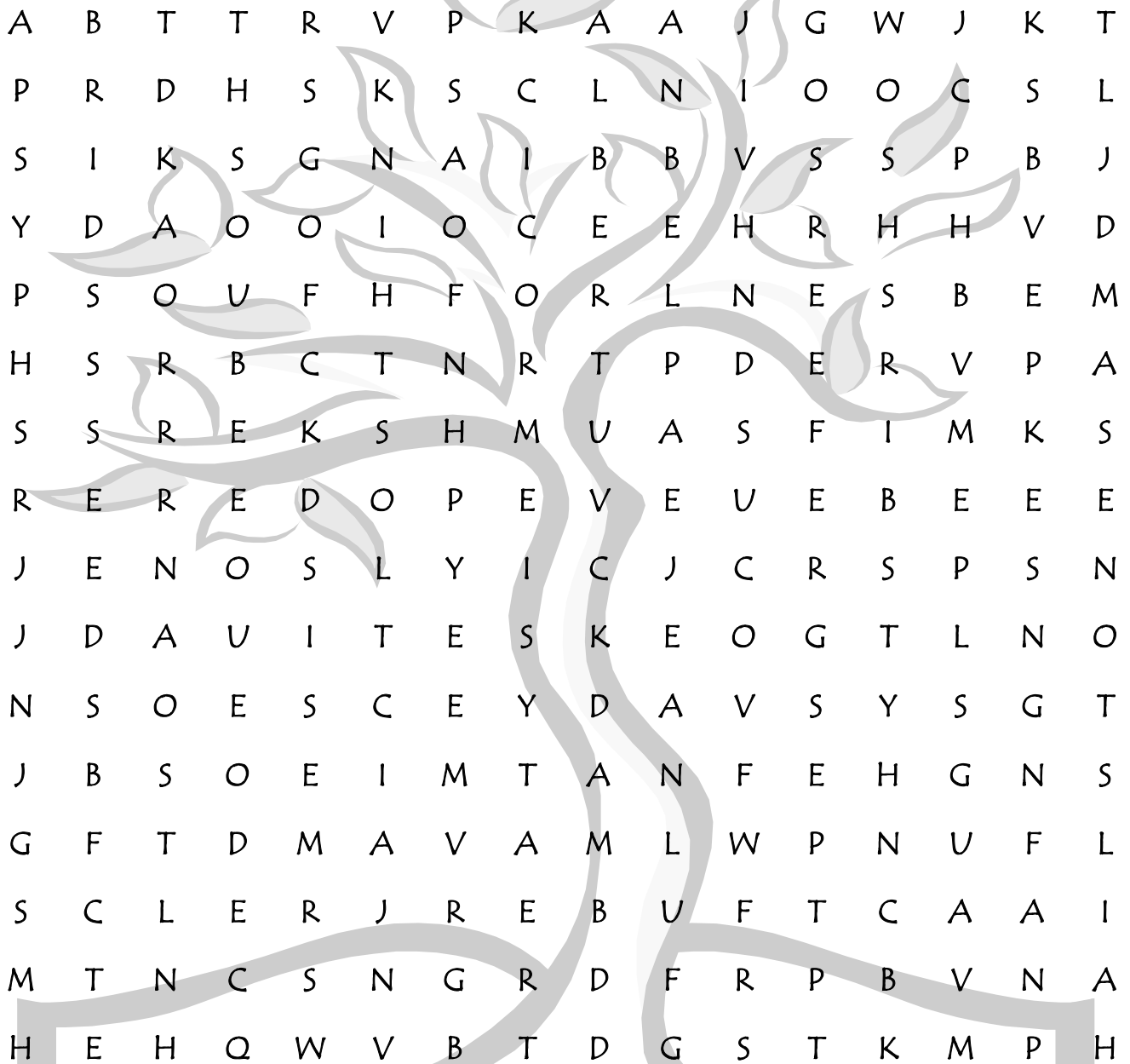
GOD'S WORD

Learning the Facts



Who?	Who was the main character in our story?	
What?	What happened in our story?	
When?	When did the event happen?	
Where?	Where did the event take place?	
Why?	Why did the event take place?	
How?	How did the event take place?	

Word Search



A 15x15 grid of letters for a word search. The letters are arranged as follows:

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

GIBEON

ELDERS

JOSHUA

DECEIVED

FIGHT

HAILSTONES

ENEMIES

SUN

TREATY

Word Search Solution

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

GIBEON

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DECEIVED

FIGHT


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Preschool Word Search



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

SUN

STILL

ENEMIES

TREATY

JOSHUA

HAIL

Preschool Word Search Solution

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

SUN

STILL

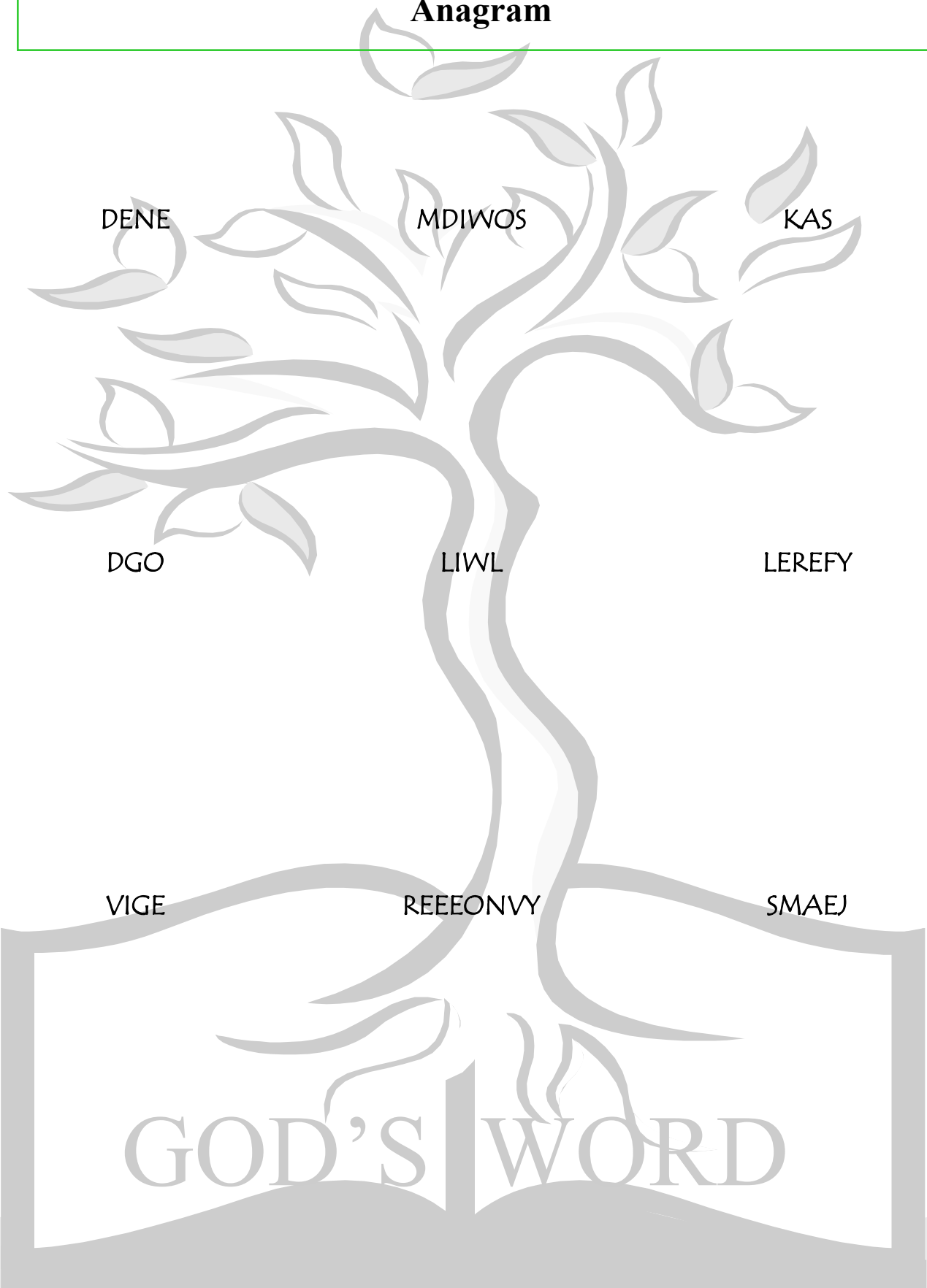
ENEMIES

TREATY

JOSHUA

HAIL

Anagram



DENE

MDIWOS

KAS

DGO

LIWL

LEREFY

VIGE

REEONVY

SMAEJ

GOD'S WORD

Anagram Solution

