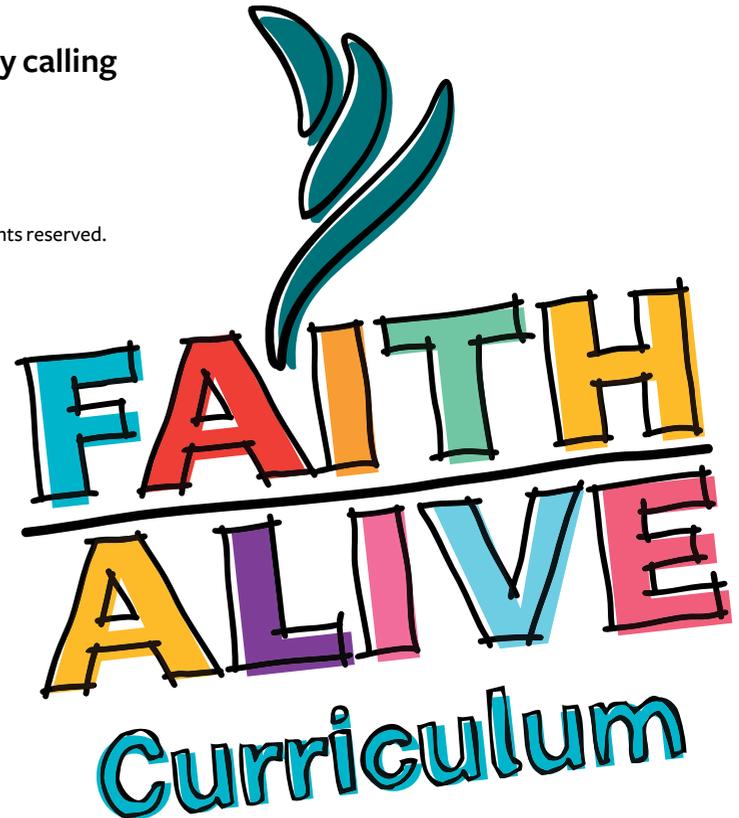


# Sample

Full product can be ordered by calling  
1-800-333-8300 or by visiting  
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# Memory Challenge

LORD, our Lord,  
how majestic is your name in all the earth!  
You have set your glory  
above the heavens.  
Through the praise of children and infants  
you have established a stronghold  
against your enemies,  
to silence the foe and the avenger.

Psalm 8:1-2 (TNIV)

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O Lord, our Sovereign,  
how majestic is your name in all the earth!  
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Out of the mouths of babes and infants  
you have founded a bulwark because of your foes,  
to silence the enemy and the avenger.

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Psalm 8:1-2 (NRSV)

Dear Family,

During the next four weeks our Sunday school group will be learning about God’s faithfulness and God’s justice. Through the stories of kings who didn’t trust God and kings, like Hezekiah, who did, we’ll discover the importance of putting everything in God’s loving hands. We’ll also learn more about talking regularly to our God—the God who always listens and responds.

Please take time to ask your child about these stories during the next few weeks. It would be wonderful if you also prayed together for some of the concerns we talk about in our group!

Sincerely,

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Please take time to ask your child about these stories during the next few weeks. It would be wonderful if you also prayed together for some of the concerns we talk about in our group!

Sincerely,

# Walking by Faith

## *Refrain*

We are walking by faith, we are walking by faith,  
we are walking by faith to the kingdom!  
In prayer we will listen,  
in your wisdom we will grow;  
we will walk by faith till we come to the promised land!

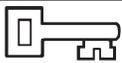
- 1 You are our God, and we your people;  
called by creation and the Spirit.  
We hear your Word, and we will live in you,  
and sing and praise you on the way!
- 2 Jesus the Lord, we will share in your love;  
walking by faith, we will praise you.  
Healing and forgiving, we will join in your song,  
and sing and praise you on the way!
- 3 Risen from death, we are made new in you;  
walking with you, we tell your story.  
Filled with your Spirit, we will one day see your face,  
and sing and praise you on the way.

Words: David Haas

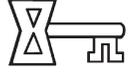
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# Memory Challenge: Unlock Those Words

Complete the missing words in the verses by matching them to the correct key beside each of the words in the list.

O \_\_\_\_\_, our Lord,  


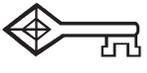
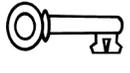
how \_\_\_\_\_ is your \_\_\_\_\_ in all the \_\_\_\_\_!  
  

You have set your \_\_\_\_\_ above the \_\_\_\_\_.  
 

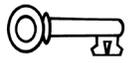
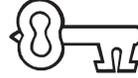
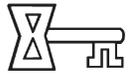
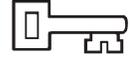
Through the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_  
  

you have \_\_\_\_\_ a \_\_\_\_\_  
 

against your \_\_\_\_\_,  


to \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_.  
  

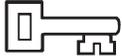
—Psalm 8:1-2 (NIV)

- |          |   |            |   |             |   |
|----------|---|------------|---|-------------|---|
| avenger  |  | glory      |  | majestic    |  |
| children |  | heavens    |  | name        |  |
| earth    |  | infants    |  | established |  |
| enemies  |  | stronghold |  | praise      |  |
| foe      |  | LORD       |  | silence     |  |

# Memory Challenge: Unlock Those Words

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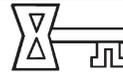
O \_\_\_\_\_, our Lord,



how \_\_\_\_\_ is your \_\_\_\_\_ in all the \_\_\_\_\_!



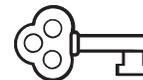
You have set your \_\_\_\_\_ above the \_\_\_\_\_.



Out of the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_,



you have founded a \_\_\_\_\_ because of your \_\_\_\_\_,



to \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_.

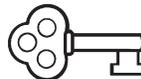


—Psalm 8:1-2 (NRSV)

avenger



foes



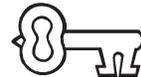
majestic



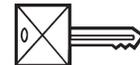
babes



glory



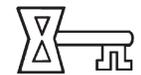
mouths



bulwark



heavens



name



earth



infants



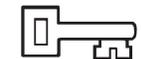
silence



enemy



LORD



# Press Conference

**King Shalmaneser:** Thank you for coming today. It is a glorious day in the history of Assyria. King Hoshea of Israel thought he could outsmart me, the mighty King Shalmaneser of Assyria, by appealing to King So of Egypt for help. But I showed King Hoshea you can't mess with me. King Hoshea is in my prison. And I've sent all his loyal subjects to Halah—a piece of empty land down by the Habor River. They can cry and complain all they want about Israel being their land. Too bad! I have other plans for their beloved Israel.

(1) **Judean Reporter Obed:** King Shalmaneser, your army captured King Hoshea and the people of Israel. But isn't it a fact that the one true God allowed it to happen?

**King Shalmaneser:** Nonsense! [*point to self proudly*] I brought about the capture of that traitor King Hoshea. I showed him he couldn't mess with me. He was under my rule and owed me taxes. The nerve of him—trying to escape his duty by asking King So of Egypt to be on the side of the Israelites. It didn't work!

(2) **Reporter Jenny:** The Bible says that God *allowed* you to capture the Israelites as their punishment for worshipping idols.

**King Shalmaneser:** My reporter covered the battle. Tig can set you straight. Tig, what do you say?

(3) **Assyrian Reporter Tig:** My king and my lord, what the reporter Jenny and the Judean say has some truth. The Israelites had built high places to many gods in all their towns. They had gods on every high hill and under every tree. They burned incense to all kinds of gods.

**King Shalmaneser:** So? What difference does that make?

(4) **Egyptian Reporter Ha:** Did you say SO? Please show some respect for the name of my king.

**King Shalmaneser:** It's not my fault that your king has a common word for a name. Tig, be sensible. What difference does it make that the Israelites worshiped many gods?

(5) **Assyrian Reporter Tig:** I've done some research, O king, and it seems that the God of Israel requires people to worship him alone. If Israel had done that, then this God of theirs promised to bless them and help them. But as I already said, Israel worshiped many gods. They had gods in the shape of calves and poles. They bowed to the stars and moon, they worshiped Baal, they even sacrificed their infant sons and daughters. If they did have one true God, that God would have to think these Israelites were a foolish bunch.

**King Shalmaneser:** No one can take away the victory from me.

(6) **Wise Voice:** If only you knew the truth about the one true God. Long, long ago, all the Israelites were slaves in Egypt. They suffered under the hand of Pharaoh.

**King Shalmaneser:** Ha? Is that true?

(7) **Egyptian Reporter Ha:** Are you picking on my country again? Just because one Pharaoh had a stubborn heart doesn't make King So a bad guy. So's reputation is becoming muddier than the banks of the Nile River.

**King Shalmaneser:** Forget it. Let's hear from that old one again.

(8) **Wise Voice:** It may have been nine hundred years ago, but God told the Israelites never to forget how God saved them from slavery. "Remember the way I saved you," God told them. "Talk about it with your children and write it on the doorposts." God taught them never to worship things but to worship only God. They didn't need to go to King So for help. God would have helped them if they had asked.

**King Shalmaneser:** So you are saying that this punishment I've brought them comes from their God because they were disobedient to him?

(9) **Wise Voice:** Yes. You would have had no power over them if they had turned back to their God.

**King Shalmaneser:** I still find that hard to believe.

(10) **Reporter Jenny:** It's true, O king. And one day, when they return to the God who loves them, when they walk in faith and obedience, their God will forgive them and bless them once again. Your power over them will be ended.

**King Shalmaneser:** Enough already! This conference is over!

# Interview Cards

*Directions to leader:* Please cut apart on the dotted lines and give to children who are reading these parts.

---

**(1) Judean Reporter Obed:**

King Shalmaneser, your army captured King Hoshea and the people of Israel. But isn't it a fact that the one true God allowed it to happen?

---

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The Bible says that God *allowed* you to capture the Israelites as their punishment for worshipping idols.

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---

# Story Problems

## Problem 1

Callie didn't have enough money to buy ice cream at the cafeteria, but she really wanted some. When the class left for lunch, Callie stayed behind. She searched for money in the desks of her classmates. And she found coins in the desks of Roni, Sarah, Eric, Michael, and Joe. She took it all. Now she had enough money to order ice cream every day for a week.

The next day, her five classmates realized their money was gone. These five classmates began blaming others. Soon all eighteen kids in the class were accused of taking the money. Each one of the five whose money was taken blamed at least two others.

- Eric blamed two more people than Sarah.
- Michael blamed twice as many people as Roni.
- And Joe blamed one less than Eric.

How many people did each of the five blame?

## Problem 2

Kris said that people who lived in the Lone Pine section of town were poor because they were lazy. Amanda lived there. Her family didn't have much money because her father was gone and her mother wasn't able to work. Amanda thought about getting back at Kris for being a snob, but instead she explained to Kris that her prejudice was wrong. Kris said she was sorry. "That's OK—I forgive you," Amanda said.

Kris was glad to keep Amanda as a friend and thought it was cool the way Amanda forgave her. Kris decided to forgive her family for eating the last piece of cake when she was gone.

Her brother Joe, the one who actually ate the cake, forgave his friend Ted for being accepted as the last new member of a soccer team without Joe.

Ted forgave his soccer team for losing the last game.

Ten boys on the soccer team each forgave three people.

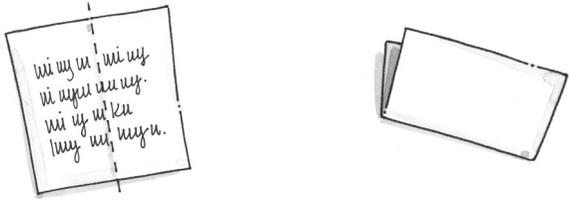
Each one of those forgiven people forgave one more person.

How many people were forgiven all together? The answer can be found in Matthew 18:21, where Jesus told us how many times to forgive someone.

Now figure out how many people are in Kris's family. How many team members are there on the soccer team? How many were forgiven by the soccer team and how many did the last group forgive? These should all add up to the number Jesus gave in Matthew 18:21.

# Folding Directions

1. You will need a colored paper square. Write your message on one side of the paper. Then fold the square in half.



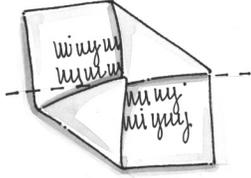
2. Fold in half once more. This will mark the center of the paper.



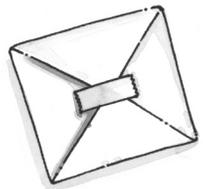
3. Open up so that paper is flat.



4. Fold each corner in to center.



5. Put a sticker or a piece of tape over the point at which the four corners meet.



# Messages from God About Prayer

## God Wants You to Pray

- Psalm 145:18
- Proverbs 8:17
- Jeremiah 29:12
- Ephesians 3:12

## You Can Ask God

- John 16:24
- Philippians 4:6
- James 5:13

## God Will Be There

- Lamentations 3:25
- Matthew 18:20

## God Forgives You

- Psalm 51:1-2
- 1 John 1:9

## When to Pray

- Psalm 88:1
- Ephesians 6:18
- Luke 18:1
- 1 Thessalonians 5:16

## Pray in Faith

- Hebrews 10:22
- Hebrews 11:6

## Worship God in Prayer

- Psalm 77:12-13
- Psalm 103:1
- Psalm 104:1
- Romans 16:27



# Camel Riders and the King of Hesitation

[King Hezekiah runs out to meet the camels.]

Welcome. Merodach, is that you? How is your father, the king? Is all going well in Babylon? *[King Hezekiah identifies one child and shakes his hand.]*

I see you came with a whole company of people from Babylon. Come into the palace where you can cool off from your long journey. Please sit and relax.

I don't mean to be so bold, but I can't help notice you've brought gifts. *[Accept the gifts from the children and open them.]* Broth, tea, chicken soup, cough drops. Why, King Baladan must have heard I was sick. *[Do a little jig.]*

Aah, but I was sick. Very sick. It all started with this achy feeling. Then my head started to hurt, and a boil appeared right here on my neck. You can't see even a trace of it now, but it was huge. The boil kept getting bigger and bigger, and I kept getting weaker and weaker. Never have I been so miserable.

Then, to make things worse, my good friend Isaiah came to visit. Now Isaiah is quite a fellow. He's writing a book, and it's filled with amazing things. He tells of a child to be born someday whose name will be Wonderful and who will save his people. Usually I love

to hear what Isaiah has to say because he speaks the very words of God. But this time he told me, "Put your house in order. You are going to die."

Oh man, how would you like to get a message like that? Would you? How would you? *[point at various children]* That was *not* a message I wanted to hear. It meant that I would have to say goodbye to my family and my friends—forever. I didn't want to die. But what could I do? What would you do? *[Ask a couple of children to respond.]*

I was so disappointed that I turned my face to the wall. Isaiah left quietly, but I prayed loudly—with lots of tears. I said, "Remember, O Lord, how I have been faithful to you. Remember how I have loved you with all of my heart and have done what is good in your eyes."

Before Isaiah even had time to get all the way out of the palace, he received another message from God. So back he came. My face was still toward the wall. He called my name. Then he said, "This is what the Lord, the God of your father David, says: I have heard your prayer and seen your tears. I will heal you. In three days you will feel so good you will go up to the temple of the Lord. And I will add fifteen years to your life."

Isaiah ordered mashed figs for my boil. It looked disgusting—all brown and yellow—something you’d feed to a baby without teeth. It smelled sweet though, so at least I didn’t gag. But what good is this going to do me? I wondered. So I asked Isaiah if I could have a sign from the LORD.

“OK,” Isaiah said. “Would you like the shadow on the steps to go forward ten steps or back ten steps?”

By this time it was noon, and automatically the shadows get longer in the afternoon, so it isn’t a big deal for it to go ahead ten steps. But backward? That’s impossible. So I said, “Back ten steps.” And that’s exactly what happened. It was as if time

hesitated. I wanted my name changed from King Hezekiah to King Hesitated. Because God hesitated the progress of the day just for me!

Can you imagine how I felt? One minute I was going to die, the next minute I knew I would live! I’m going to make sure I enjoy every day of the next fifteen years that God has promised me. Come, I’ll show you my treasures. I have storehouses filled with silver, gold, spices, and fine oil.

You may come back anytime in the next fifteen years. Because God has also promised years of peace for me. As long as I live, Babylon will never be the enemy of Judah.