

POINT ➔ **WE ASK GOD FOR WHAT WE NEED.**

Open your Bible to 1 Samuel 23, and show kids the words. **SAY: The Bible is God's special book. It says David had to make some big decisions. There were some people who were stealing food, so David asked God what to do. Let's play a game to practice asking for help and following directions.**

Form pairs. One partner will ask the other partner, "What should I do?" The other partner will give one instruction, such as "Hop on one foot" or "Sit on the floor." Then the partners will switch roles.

ASK: What was it like to ask your partner what to do?

What are some things you ask for help with at home?

SAY: When David asked God what to do about the people stealing food, God told him to go and fight against those people. David won the battle because God helped him. Then David found out that

his enemy, Saul, was looking for him. Again, he asked God what to do. Ask your partner for some directions again. Have kids give new instructions to their partners.

God told David that he should hide from Saul. So David followed God's directions.

ASK: What are some directions you obey at home?

SAY: Just as you asked your partner what to do, in the Bible David asked God many times what to do. And God told him how to stay safe.
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Have kids line up on one side of the room. Call out different instructions, such as "Take two steps forward" or "Hop twice toward me." After a few instructions, start using silly phrases, like "Take two jelly beans backward" or "Scribble toward the wall." Give two or three of these silly directions.

ASK: What made my directions easy or confusing?

What do you do when you're confused?

SAY: Just as you weren't always sure what to do during this game, sometimes we don't know the right thing to do in our lives. When David was confused and needed help, he asked God what to do. God can help us when we're not sure what to do. ➔ WE ASK GOD FOR WHAT WE NEED.

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Have kids sit in a circle. SAY: **God has given us lots of people who can help us if we have a problem. Let's think about what kind of problems different people can help us with.**

Read the list below. After each type of person, have kids list problems those people could help with.

- **Firefighters**
- **Police officers**
- **Parents**
- **Teachers**
- **Friends**

ASK: **Tell about a time you asked someone for help.**

Why is it important to ask people for help?

SAY: **We can also go to God when we need help.**

ASK: **What are some problems that God can help you with?**

SAY: **We can ask God for anything we need. There's no problem or question too big or too small for him. David asked God for help when he didn't know the safe thing to do. ➔ WE ASK GOD FOR WHAT WE NEED.**

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SAY: We can ask for God's help with anything. Let's sing a song about asking God for what we need.

Play ● "Pray Every Day" (track 4) on the CD, and lead the kids in singing the song to the tune of "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star."

SING:

Don't be anxious; (*shake head "no"*)
Pray every day. (*make praying hands*)

Trust in God; (*point up*)
He'll show you the way! (*point in front of you*)

If you're scared (*shake knees*)
And worried, too, (*put hands on cheeks*)

God will listen; (*point to one ear*)
He loves you! (*cross arms over chest*)

Don't be anxious; (*shake head "no"*)
Pray every day. (*make praying hands*)

Trust in God; (*point up*)
He'll show you the way! (*point in front of you*)

(Repeat from the beginning.)

ASK: God helped David by showing him the right way to act. What's something God can help you with this week?

God helped David when he was worried about which choice to make. What's a choice you need God's help with?

SAY: Just as God helped David, he can help you, too. ➔ **WE ASK GOD FOR WHAT WE NEED.**

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SAY: Just as David asked God for help, we can pray to God and ask him for what we need, too. Jesus even taught us how to pray. Let's pray a prayer like the one Jesus taught us. We'll start by praising God, then we'll ask him for what we need, and then we'll say we're sorry for the wrong things we've done. Encourage kids to repeat each line after you.

PRAY:

**Dear God,
You're wonderful.
Thank you for loving me.
Thank you for caring about my
family.
Please give my family enough food
to eat and a warm place to live.
Please forgive me for the times I've
made bad choices.
Please help me know the right
choices that make you happy.
Amen.**

ASK: What nice things do you say to God when you pray?

What do you usually ask God for when you pray?

What are some things you've told God you're sorry for?

Tell about a time God answered your prayer.

SAY: ➔ **WE ASK GOD FOR WHAT WE NEED.** You can ask God for anything you need, and he'll listen to you. You can pray anytime, no matter where you are. You can pray like Jesus or David did, or you can just talk to God about whatever you want. He'll listen to every prayer.