

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

Form two groups: David's Army and Saul's Army. Have the two groups stand on opposite sides of the room. Open the Bible to 1 Samuel 26, and show kids the words. **SAY: Today in God's special book, the Bible, we're going to discover a time God kept David safe. King Saul wanted to hurt David, so David was hiding from Saul.**

David's Army, find a hiding place on your side of the room. Pause. **Saul's army found out where David was and went after him. The army decided to camp out for the night near David's hiding spot. Saul's Army, pretend you're camping.** Allow time for kids to settle into imaginary sleeping bags. Place *Squiggles* and the *Buzz Boing Putty* in the "campsite."

SAY: David learned that Saul was camped nearby. David prayed and asked God to keep him safe, and God caused all of Saul's men to go into a deep sleep. David's Army, fold your hands as if you are

praying. Saul's Army, let me see what you look like when you're fast asleep. Pause. **David was able to walk right up to Saul without waking him. David's Army, tiptoe to Saul's sleeping group.** Pause. **One of David's friends told David to kill Saul, but David said no! Instead, he took a spear and a water jug that were next to Saul and went back into hiding. David's Army, take *Squiggles* and the *Buzz Boing Putty*, and go back to your hiding spots.** Pause.

When Saul and his men woke up, they realized David had been close enough to kill Saul. Since David didn't hurt Saul, Saul said he wouldn't hurt David, either. Saul was so happy that David didn't kill him!

ASK: God kept David safe. What are some ways God has kept you safe?

What are some things you can ask God for?

SAY: God kept David safe. When we're afraid, we can ask God to keep us safe, too. ➔ WE ASK GOD FOR WHAT WE NEED.



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SAY: David asked God to keep him safe. He said, "Come with great power, O God, and rescue me!" (Psalm 54:1). God answered his prayer and kept him safe from Saul.

Let's practice saying this verse together! Lead the kids in reciting Psalm 54:1 several times with the following motions:

Come with great power, (*raise your arms and flex your muscles*)

O God, and rescue me! (*reach out a hand as if asking for help*)

We can pray anytime and ask God to keep us safe. Find three people, and tell them the verse, "Come with great power, O God, and rescue me!" Allow time.

ASK: David prayed when he was hiding from Saul. When can you pray this week?

Name one person at school or in your family who needs to know about God. What can you say to that person this week to tell him or her about talking to God?

SAY: We don't usually need to be rescued from evil kings like David did, but Jesus' prayer tells us that when we need anything, we can ask God. Jesus prayed, "Give us today the food we need." That means ➔ **WE ASK GOD FOR WHAT WE NEED.**

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SAY: When David hid from Saul, he prayed and asked God to keep him safe. God answered David's prayer by causing Saul and his army to fall into a deep sleep. God keeps us safe, too. Let's sing a song that reminds us that ➔ **WE ASK GOD FOR WHAT WE NEED.**

Play ● "God Is Our Help" (Psalm 33:20) (track 11) on the **CD**, and lead the kids in singing the song and doing the motions.

SING:

We can depend on the Lord alone to save us. (*point up*)
Only he is the one who will protect us. (*hug yourself*)
Like a shield that will not budge, (*stand stiffly*)
He is watching over us. (*shade your eyes and look around*)
Every moment of the day, (*point to wrist*)
He keeps us safe. (*hug yourself*)
(Repeat.)

I can depend on the Lord alone to save me. (*point up*)

Only he is the one who will protect me. (*hug yourself*)

Like a shield I cannot see, (*hold out hand like a stop sign*)

He is watching over me. (*shade your eyes and look around*)

Every moment of the day, (*point to wrist*)

He keeps me safe. (*hug yourself*)

"God Is Our Help" (Psalm 33:20) by Jay Stocker. ©2004 Group Publishing, Inc. All rights reserved.

ASK: **What does it mean that God is watching over us?**

What do you like about the fact that you can ask God for what you need?

SAY: Our song said God is like a shield. A shield is something soldiers used to keep themselves from getting hurt. And God can keep us safe, just like a shield does, when ➔ **WE ASK GOD FOR WHAT WE NEED.**

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SAY: We've been learning that ➔ **WE ASK GOD FOR WHAT WE NEED.** We can ask God to keep us safe like he kept David safe. Let's learn a song about that.

Play ● "God Keeps Us Safe" (adapted from Psalm 4:8) (track 12) on the **CD**, and lead the kids in singing the song to the tune of "The Farmer in the Dell." Encourage everyone to participate in the motions. Sing the song twice with the **CD**.

SING:

God keeps us safe. (*cross arms over chest*)

God keeps us safe. (*cross arms over chest*)

Through night and day, (*cover eyes with hands; then uncover eyes*)

In every way, (*clap twice*)

God keeps us safe. (*cross arms over chest*)

(Repeat.)

Once kids know the song, choose one "David" and one "Saul." The rest of the kids will form a very tight circle around David, so that Saul can't get through.

Play the song again and have David do the motions as everyone sings and keeps Saul away from David. Repeat several times, switching roles.

ASK: **How well did your friends keep you safe in this game?**

Why can we trust God to keep us safe?

SAY: **Everyone can think of something they need God's help with. There might be things we're scared of, like David was, and we can ask God for help. ➔ WE ASK GOD FOR WHAT WE NEED, and we can trust that he'll keep us safe.**

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Form groups of no more than three. Get *Squiggles* the worm out. SAY: **When David hid in the wilderness, God protected him from his enemy, Saul. Today you're going to make a fort to protect *Squiggles*.**

Give each group three pieces of paper and some tape. Allow time for them to make a structure like a tent or a fort. Give each group a turn putting *Squiggles* in its fort. Then let everyone look at the creations each group has made.

ASK: **Tell about important people in your life you want God to protect.**

How do you want God to protect them this week?

SAY: **Just as God protected David and you protected *Squiggles*, God can protect you. All you have to do is remember ➔ WE ASK GOD FOR WHAT WE NEED.**