

STAR

EXPLORE THE GOOD NEWS

Living the Good News
4th Sunday in Lent-A

OF DAVID

- David was a beloved king of the Jewish people.
- You can read the story of his anointing in 1 Samuel 16:1-13.
- First, unscramble the words in the stars.

Fit each word into one of the sentences about David.

1. God sent _____ to anoint David as king.
2. David was the youngest son of _____.
3. Jesse had _____ sons.
4. Jesse lived in _____.
5. David took care of his father's _____.
6. Samuel used _____ oil to anoint David as king.



TRAVEL THROUGH THE OLD TESTAMENT

A child is born to us! A son is given to us! And he will be called, "Wonderful Counselor," "Mighty God," "Eternal Father," "Prince of Peace." His royal power will continue to grow; his kingdom will always be at peace. He will rule as King David's successor, basing his power on right and justice, from now until the end of time."

(abridged from Isaiah 9:6-7b)

Mighty God

King

- When God's People came to their new land, they did not have kings as other countries did. Instead men and women called "judges" were their leaders and helped carry out God's plans.
- But the people wanted to live as other countries lived. They wanted to feel more powerful and demanded to have a king. Read 1 Samuel 8:10-22.
- God chose a king for them, but God's choice surprised the people. Instead of choosing a king from the oldest tribe, God chose a boy named David. David's great-grandmother, Ruth, had been a foreigner who chose to join God's People. God still wanted all people to be part of God's plan.
- God promised David that a son of his would sit on his throne "forever." This son would be called the Messiah, the one chosen by God to carry out God's plan.
- Christians believe that Jesus Christ is this chosen Messiah who has carried out God's plan for all people.

Wonderful
Counselor
Eternal Father
Prince of Peace



March 22

Preschool/Kindergarten

4th

David Was a Shepherd Boy



Living the Good News
4th Sunday in Lent — A

Sing this song to the tune of "Oh, Do You Know the Muffin Man":

Oh, David was a shepherd boy,
a shepherd boy, a shepherd boy,
Oh, David was a shepherd boy,
who lived in Bethlehem.

Oh, God chose him to be the king,
to be the king, to be the king,
Oh, God chose him to be the king,
the king of Israel.



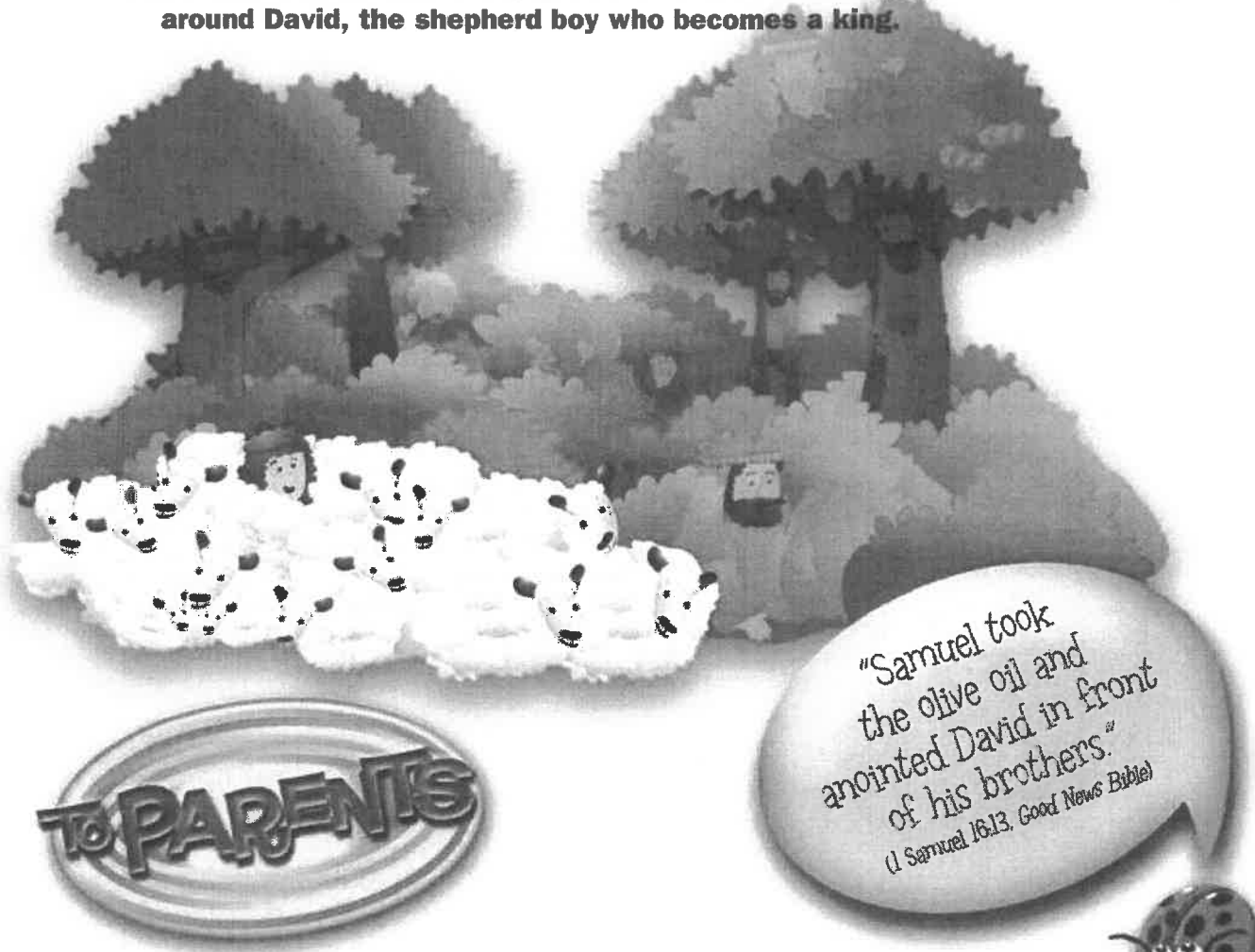
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Illustration by Helen Harrison.

The Youngest Son

Jesse has eight sons.
God chooses David, the youngest son, to be king.

Find the eight sons of Jesse hidden in this picture. Draw a blue circle around the seven older sons. Draw a red circle around David, the shepherd boy who becomes a king.



Today's scripture (1 Samuel 16:1-13) is marked by a common motif of Western storytelling: the youngest child who is favored over the elder siblings—contrary to the expectations of a society where inheritance was often reserved for the eldest son.

In the Bible, this motif acknowledges the freedom of God's grace, as well as the possibility that even the youngest member of a family may be the one needed to solve a specific problem.

As parents, we have many opportunities to show our children that we value their contributions to family life. One such opportunity is the family council. This is a time set each week when family members can freely air their needs, concerns and grievances.

Get into the habit of asking the help of all your family members when you wrestle with a problem. Your children might surprise you with their creative and thoughtful solutions.

March 22

Primary
Gr 2-3

WELCOME THE GOOD NEWS

Living the Good News
4th Sunday in Lent - A

GOD CHOOSES A KING

God says, "Samuel, go to Jesse's house. Jesse has eight sons and I have chosen one of them to be a king."

Samuel walks to Jesse's house. "Show me your sons," Samuel says to Jesse.

First the oldest son comes out. He is handsome and strong; he wears wonderful clothes.

Samuel thinks, "This must be the one who will be king."

But God says, "No. I don't care how strong and handsome he is. This is not the one."

Then the second son comes out, but again God says, "No!" And so it goes with the third son, the fourth son, the fifth son, the sixth son and even the seventh son.

Jesse says, "I have one more son, but he's too young."

Samuel says, "Tell him to come here."

So the youngest son comes in. His name is David.

"Yes!" says God to Samuel. "This youngest boy of all is the one I choose to be king!"



WELCOME GOD'S WORD

**“Go to Bethlehem, to a man,
named Jesse.” (1 Samuel 16:1,
Good News Bible)**

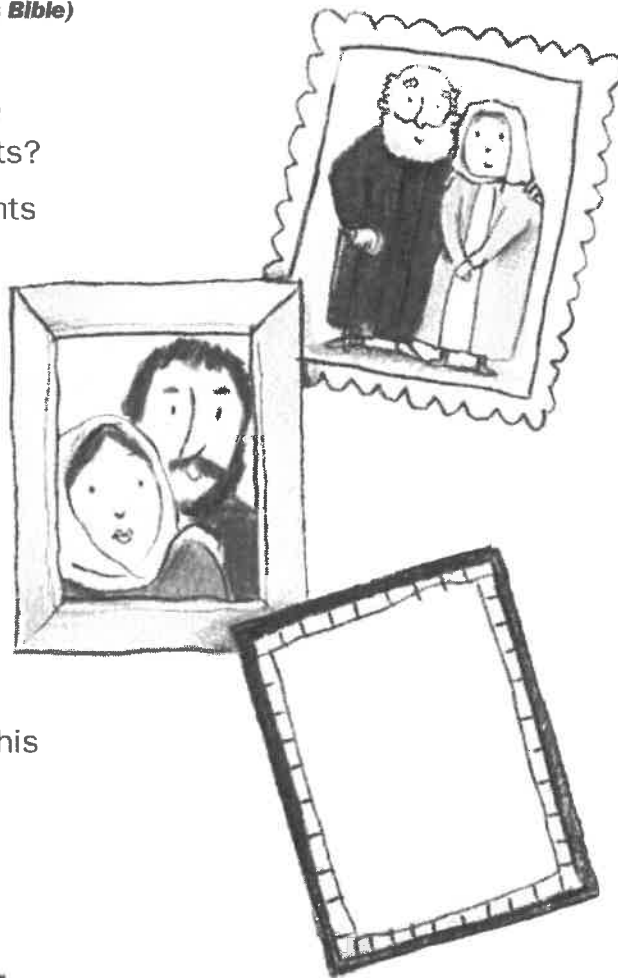
* Who are your grandparents? Do you know who their parents were? their grandparents?

* Jesus had grandparents, great-grandparents and great-great-grandparents, too! With a friend or family member, read a story about Jesus' family in 1 Samuel 16:10-13.

- The Bible says that God was with David.
- That means that God helped David in many ways.

* Talk this over with your friend or family member: How has God helped our family?

* Find other members of Jesus' family on this page. Can you tell their stories?



Today is the fourth Sunday of Lent. What are you and your family doing to get ready for Easter?

Some families try to fast or eat less during Lent. They give the money they save to the poor. Talk this over with your family:

- How could we eat less this Lent?
- How could we give away the money we save?

Here are some ideas for eating less:

- Skip one snack time this week.
- Skip one dessert this week.
- Eat one very simple meal this week—maybe soup and bread!