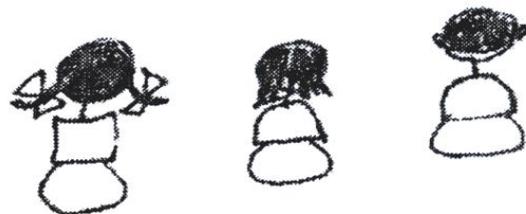


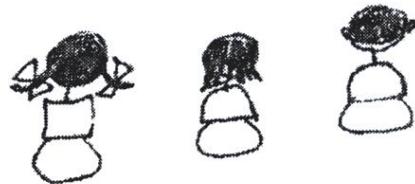
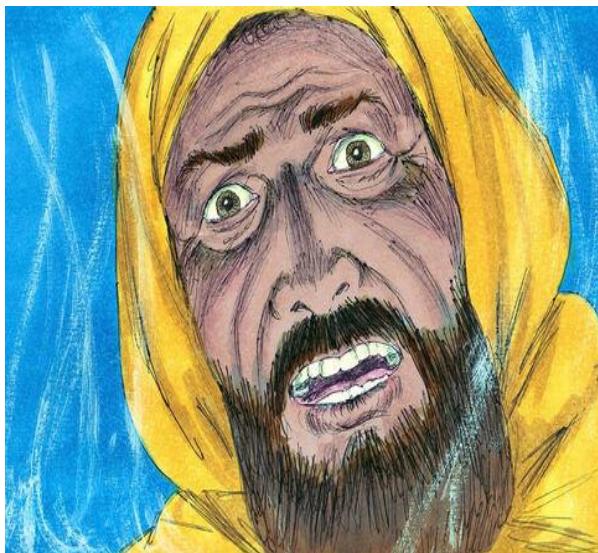
David Was a Man After God's Own Heart!

Revised 11-4-21



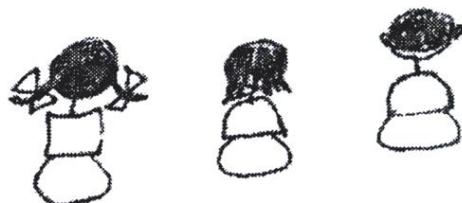
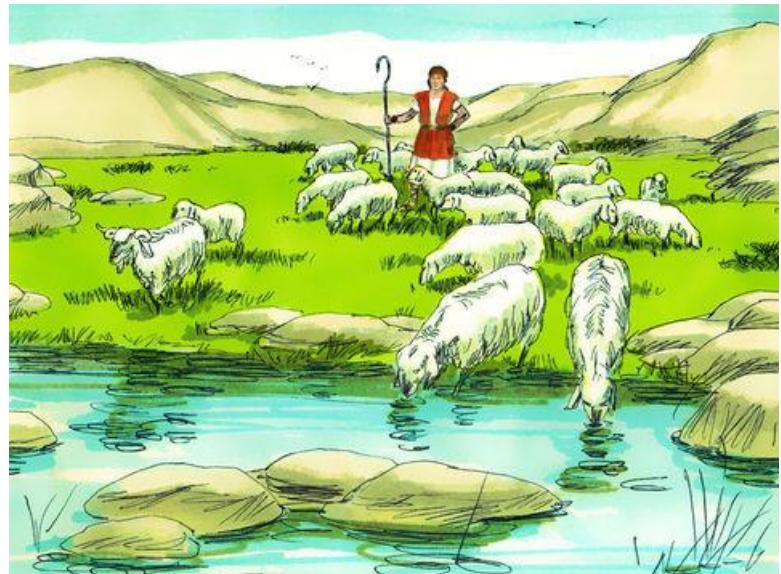
Samuel was talking to King Saul. *1 Samuel 13:14* But now your kingdom shall not endure [last]. The LORD has sought out Himself a man after His own heart as ruler over His people, because you have not kept what the LORD commanded you.

Samuel was a prophet. This means that God made certain things known to him so he could tell others. Samuel let King Saul know that someone else would take his place as king. This was because King Saul did not obey some of God's commands. He let fear and pride take over his thinking. He was thinking of his own glory and reputation. He was not trusting in God. Read *1 Samuel 13:8-14*

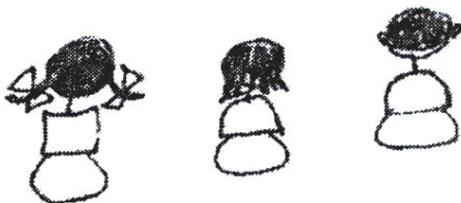


God trained David to be the king. He trained David to trust in Him. When David was young he was a shepherd taking care of his father's sheep. A bear and a lion attacked David's sheep. Through God's power, David rescued the sheep and killed the lion and the bear. God was showing David that He would take care of him. God was growing David's trust in Him.

1 Samuel 17:37 And David said, "The LORD who delivered me from the paw of the lion and the paw of the bear, He will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine."



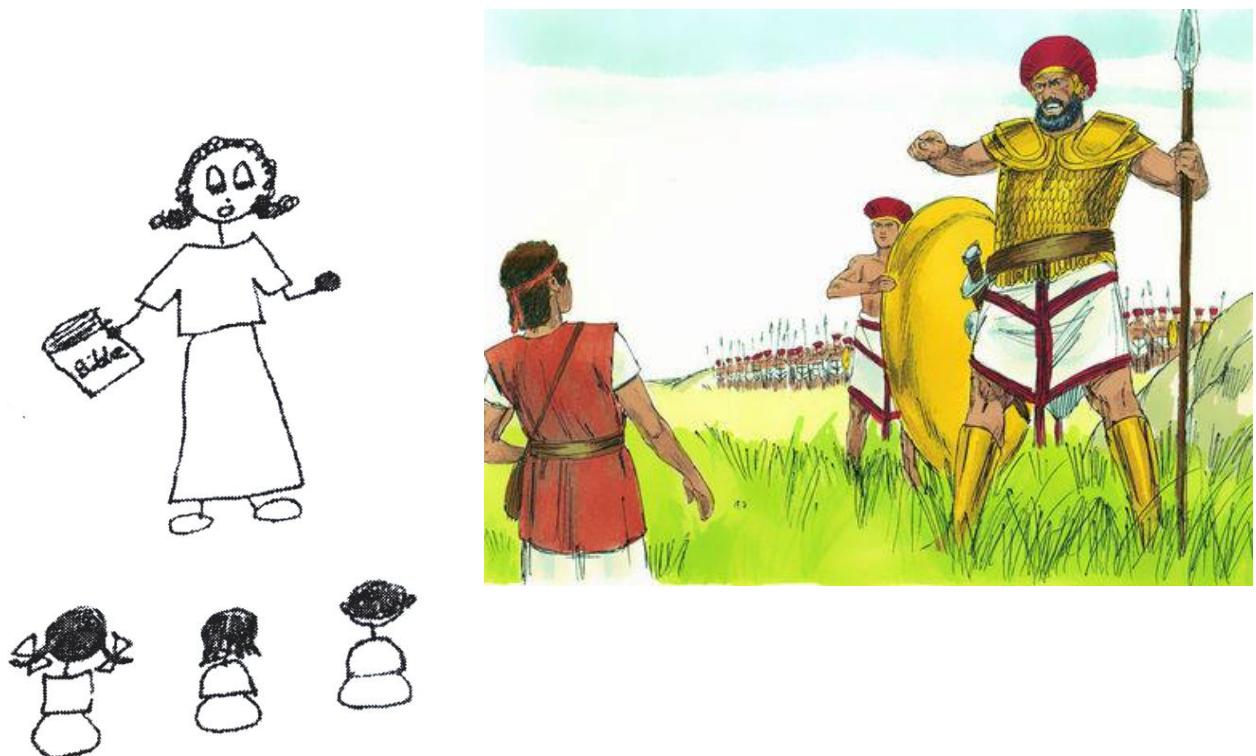
God called David "a man after My heart" because David looked at life from God's viewpoint. He chose to have faith in God! Another time when David trusted God was when the Israelite army was being challenged by the Philistines and their leader, Goliath. Goliath was huge - around 9 feet tall! David had been sent by his father, Jesse, to take food to his brothers who were at the camp waiting to fight the Philistines. Everyone in the army was afraid of Goliath. David said, *1 Samuel 17:26b* "For who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should taunt [make fun of] the armies of the living God?



David said that he would fight Goliath. Goliath was upset that a young man with no weapons came to fight him.

1 Samuel 17: 42-43 When the Philistine looked and saw David, he disdained him [thought David was not able to fight him]; for he was but a youth, and ruddy, with a handsome appearance. The Philistine said to David, "Am I a dog, that you come to me with sticks?"

David had only a stick, five smooth stones and his sling. He was trusting in God to help him fight Goliath. He was giving honor and glory to God! *1 Samuel 17:45-46a Then David said to the Philistine, "You come to me with a sword, a spear, and a javelin, but I come to you in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have taunted [made fun of]. This day the LORD will deliver you up into my hands..."*



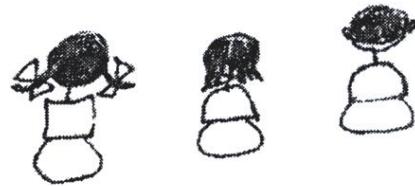
1 Samuel 17:49 And David put his hand into his bag and took from it a stone and slung it, and struck the Philistine on his forehead. And the stone sank into his forehead, so that he fell on his face to the ground .

The people around David probably didn't think that he would be able to kill Goliath with the stones. God wanted Goliath killed, so God made sure that David would hit the Philistine where it would hurt him. God knew David was counting on Him! And, David knew that the battle was the Lord's. Only God could help David do His will.



Years passed and David finally ruled as king of Israel. After he became king, he did some things which were not in the plan of God. He had Uriah killed in battle; took Uriah's wife - Bathsheba - for his wife; and tried to cover up his sins. Not a good thing to do! At this time, David was not following the plan of God. He was following his own, selfish plan!

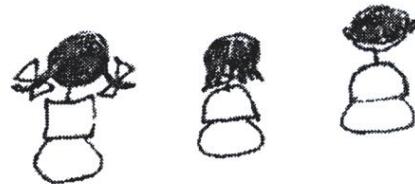
2 Samuel 12:9 (Nathan speaking.) "Why have you despised the word of the LORD by doing evil in His sight? You have struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword, have taken his wife to be your wife, and have killed him with the sword of the sons of Ammon."



David was miserable because he had sinned against God. He was still God's child but he was not having a good relationship with God. He was following his own sin nature and not following God's divine plan for his life. This will always make us miserable! However, when his sins were pointed out to him by Nathan, a prophet and advisor to David, he did return to God!

2 Samuel 12:13 Then David said to Nathan, "I have sinned against the LORD."

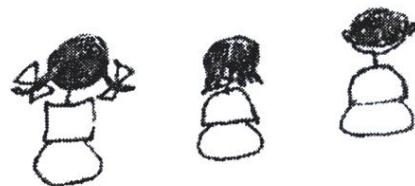
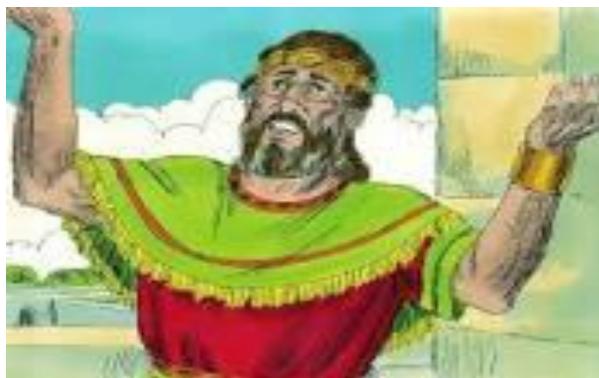
Psalm 32:5 I acknowledged my sin to You, and my iniquity I did not hide; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD"; and You forgave the guilt of my sin.



David confessed his sins to God. Then he had a good relationship with God again. David was acting like a man after God's own heart again. However, David suffered the consequences of his sins. He had a lot of heartbreaks.

David was only able to handle them through the power of God. God never left him on his own, trying to use human power. David praised God in this psalm:

Psalm 103:1 - 5 Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless His holy name. Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget none of His benefits; Who pardons all your iniquities; Who heals all your diseases; Who redeems your life from the pit, Who crowns you with lovingkindness and compassion; Who satisfies your years with good things, so that your youth is renewed like the wings of eagles.



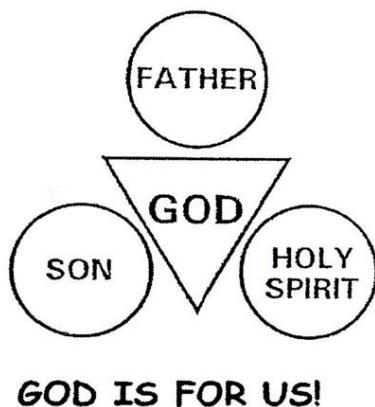
God wants us to be His obedient children. When we are, He is pleased. When we look at life with God's viewpoint and trust in Him, we are children after God's own heart. When we get off track by sinning, He wants us to come back to Him. God wants us to see how we have gotten off track; God the Holy Spirit will make it clear to us. He will also give us the power to get back on track. God wants us to have His divine viewpoint of life again. God wants us to have a good, friendly relationship with Him.

Psalm 139:23-24 Search me, O God, and know my heart; try me and know my anxious thoughts; and see if there be any hurtful way in me, and lead me in the everlasting way.

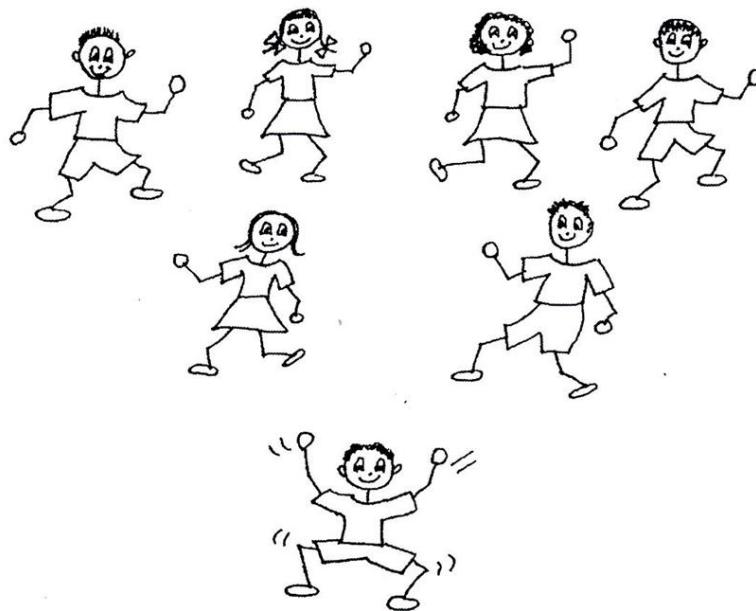


In good times and bad times, God wants us to "pour out our hearts to Him" like David did. He wants us to know that we can always go to Him and tell Him what is on our minds. He is our security and protection. As David said in Psalm 62:8, "God is a refuge for us." He is our shelter! He wants us to be children after His own heart!

Psalm 62:8 Trust in Him at all times, O people; pour out your heart before Him; God is a refuge for us.



GOD IS FOR US!





More Psalms of David

Psalm 61:3 For You have been a refuge for me, a tower of strength against the enemy. Let me dwell in Your tent forever; let me take refuge in the shelter of Your wings.

Psalm 63:3-4 Because Your lovingkindness is better than life, my lips will praise You. So I will bless You as long as I live; I will lift up my hands in Your name.

Psalm 33:13-15 The LORD looks from heaven; He sees all the sons of men; From His dwelling place He looks out on all the inhabitants of the earth, He Who fashions the hearts of them all, He who understands all their works.

Psalm 33:20-22 Our soul waits for the LORD, He is our help and our shield. For our heart rejoices in Him, because we trust in His holy name. Let Your lovingkindness, O LORD, be upon us, according as we have hope in You.

Psalm 34:4 I sought the LORD, and He answered me, and delivered me from all my fears.