

Tonight's

passage – 1 Samuel 12.¹⁻²⁵

theme – keep on running!

Serving Jesus is often likened in the Bible to running (and finishing) a race: on every page of the worksheet there's a running shoe – see if you can spot it on every page



running a

marathon

Trusting the Lord always is a bit like running a long race!



P _ U _ A
R _ D _ L _ F _ E

Sir M _
F _ R _ H

held the Women's World Record for the marathon for 16 year from 2003 to 2019

Can you fill in the missing letters to complete her name?

Tonight's passage

Towards the end of his life Samuel explains how he has lived – and how God calls us *all* to live.

was only the 2nd person to win both the 5,000m and the 10,000m at successive Olympic Games

Can you fill in the missing letters to complete his name?

SAMUEL

Faithful to the End



a life of faithful service

Read
1 Samuel 12
verses 1-5

Samuel said to all Israel, 'I have listened to everything you said to me and have set a king over you. ²Now you have a king as your leader. As for me, I am old and grey, and my sons are here with you. I have been your leader from my youth until this day. ³Here I stand. Testify against me in the presence of the Lord and his anointed.

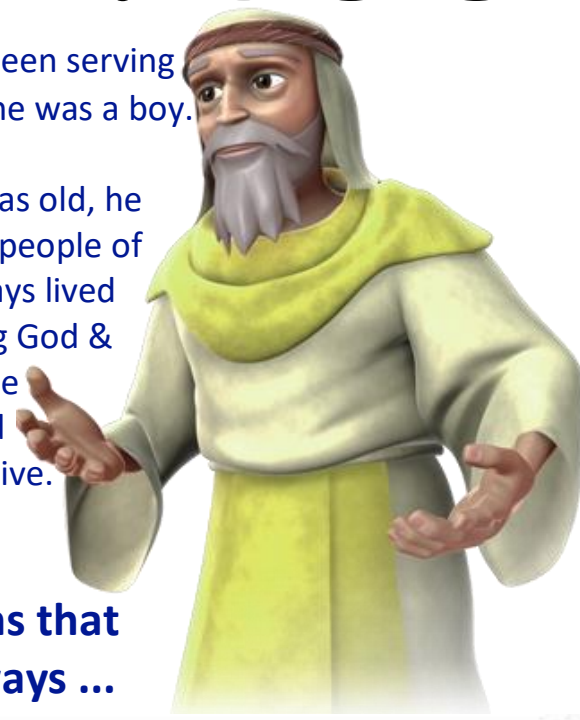
Whose ox have I taken? Whose donkey have I taken? Whom have I cheated? Whom have I oppressed? From whose hand have I accepted a bribe to make me shut my eyes? If I have done any of these things, I will make it right.'

⁴'You have not cheated or oppressed us,' they replied. 'You have not taken anything from anyone's hand.'

⁵Samuel said to them, 'The Lord is witness against you, and also his anointed is witness this day, that you have not found anything in my hand.'

Samuel had been serving the Lord since he was a boy.

Now that he was old, he reminded the people of how he'd always lived his life trusting God & doing things the way God called His people to live.



Faith means that we're always ...

FAITHFUL

.....
To be loyal and true in your words and actions



**LOYAL TO GOD, TRUE TO GOD'S WORD
IN ALL THAT YOU SAY AND DO**

THINK ...

Have you been cheating someone?
Or taking things which aren't yours?



a story of forgetful sinning

Read
1 Samuel 12
verses 7-15

Samuel's life had been very different from that of God's people.

Where Samuel had been **faithful**, the people of God had been **forgetful**. They forgot the Lord continually .. but He patiently came to their help when they cried out to Him.

Can you spot 10 differences between the 2 pictures below?



⁷ Now then, stand here, because I am going to confront you with evidence before the Lord as to all the righteous acts performed by the Lord for you and your ancestors.

⁸ 'After Jacob entered Egypt, they cried to the Lord for help, and the Lord sent Moses and Aaron, who brought your ancestors out of Egypt and settled them in this place.

⁹ 'But they **forgot** the Lord their God; so He sold them into the hands of ... the Philistines and the king of Moab, who fought against them. ¹⁰ They cried out to the Lord and said, "We have sinned; we have forsaken the Lord and served the Baals and the Ashtoreths. But now deliver us from the hands of our enemies, and we will serve you."

¹¹ Then the Lord sent Gideon, Barak, Jephthah and Samuel, and He delivered you from the hands of your enemies all around you, so that you lived in safety.

¹² 'But when you saw that Nahash king of the Ammonites was moving against you, you said to me, "No, we want a king to rule over us" – even though the Lord your God was your king.

¹³ Now here is the king you have chosen, the one you asked for; see, the Lord has set a king over you. ¹⁴ If you fear the Lord and serve and obey Him and do not rebel against His commands, and if both you and the king who reigns over you follow the Lord your God – good! ¹⁵ But if you do not obey the Lord, and if you rebel against His commands, His hand will be against you, as it was against your ancestors.



Read

1 Samuel 12 verses 16-22

¹⁶ 'Now then, stand still and see this great thing the Lord is about to do before your eyes! ¹⁷ Is it not wheat harvest now? I will call on the Lord to send thunder and rain. And you will realise what an evil thing you did in the eyes of the Lord when you asked for a king.'

¹⁸ Then Samuel called on the Lord, and that same day the Lord sent thunder and rain. So all the people stood in awe of the Lord and of Samuel.

¹⁹ The people all said to Samuel, 'Pray to the Lord your God for your servants so that we will not die, for we have added to all our other sins the evil of asking for a king.'

²⁰ 'Do not be afraid,' Samuel replied. 'You have done all this evil; yet do not turn away from the Lord, but **serve the Lord with all your heart**. ²¹ Do not turn away after useless idols. They can do you no good, nor can they rescue you, because they are useless. ²² For the sake of His great name the Lord will not reject His people, because the Lord was pleased to make you His own.

²³ As for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the Lord by failing to pray for you. And I will teach you the way that is good and right. ²⁴ But be sure to fear the Lord and **serve him faithfully with all your heart**; consider what great things he has done for you. ²⁵ Yet if you persist in doing evil, both you and your king will perish.'

Jesus is your king

The people had wanted a king, like all the other nations around them.

So Samuel had to remind them – **you've got a king – the Lord is your King!**

He had 2 important things to say to them. See if you can spot them in the passage and circle them .

1

He would always pray for them and teach them.

2

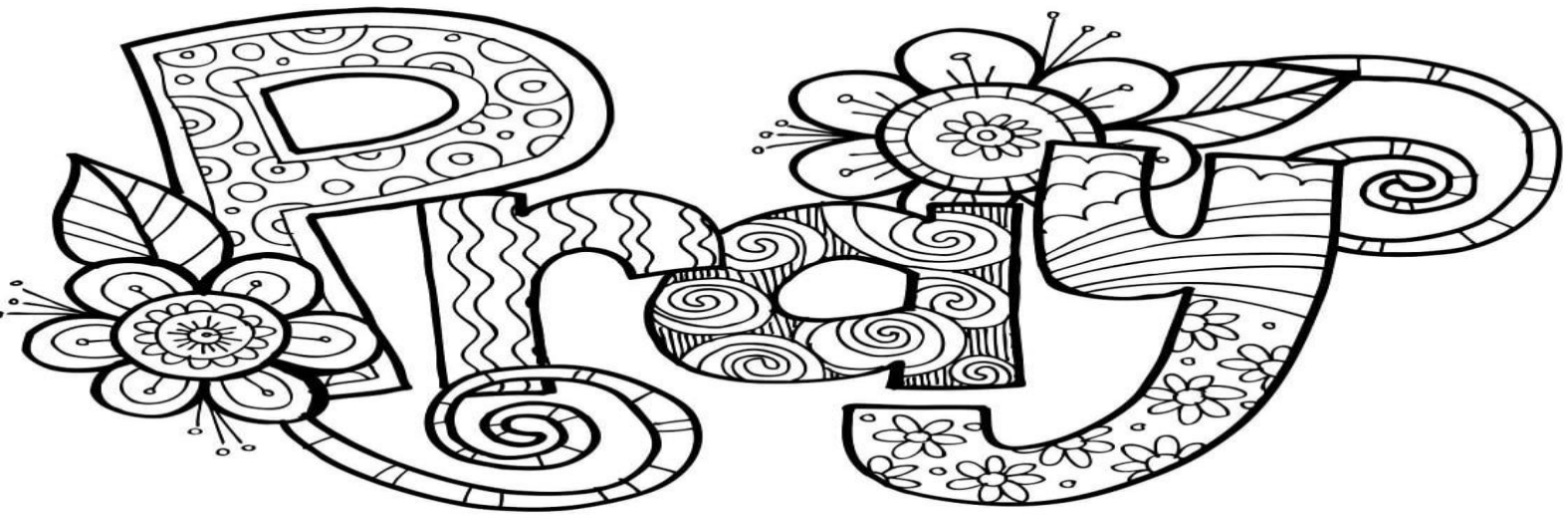
They were to

S _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _
_ _ R _ _ _ T _
_ _ _ _ _ _ U _
_ _ _ _ _ T

Use the letters below to fill in the gaps above and complete Samuel's message to the people

LOVE OTHER
WILD HAY
REAL HER





Think about what you've been learning in this worksheet.

Speak to God about what you've learned: if you want, use this prayer to help you

Thank You, Lord, for the example of Samuel.

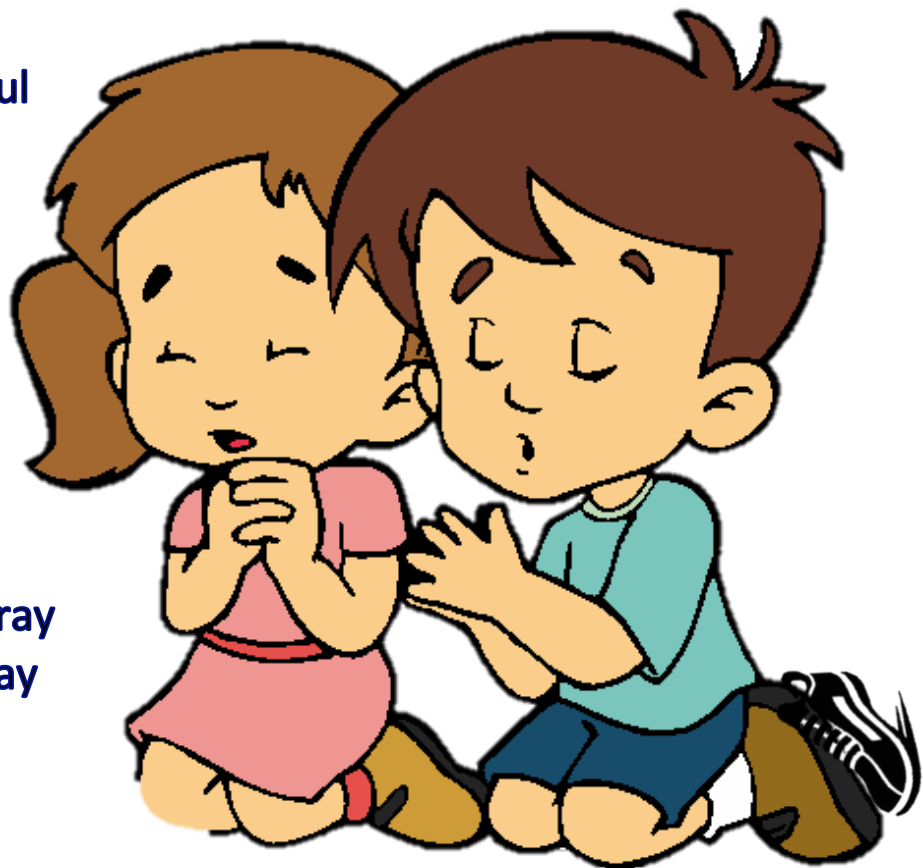
It's amazing to think he served You so faithfully all his life, starting from when he was just a young boy!

I want to serve You like that!

Please help me to be truly faithful to You – and not forgetful!

Help me to learn from Your Word and to do what You teach me in Your Word.

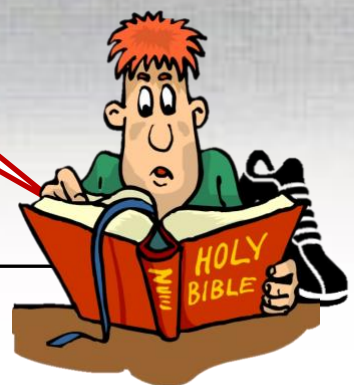
Thank You for the people who pray for me and who teach me the way that is good and right.



Help me to serve You faithfully with all my heart – all my days!

Today's verse for you to try and remember!

**"Be sure to serve
Him faithfully with
all your heart"
1 Samuel 12.²⁴**



Wordsearch

Tonight's Wordsearch is taken from v.24 of 1 Samuel 12.

See if you can find all the words

J N T B A L B N G R E A T X H A L
C B O R W Y G N Q H I M W K G T N
O H E A R T S V A Q D R V H F O R
N V U H F W Q P Y E L O R D G W Z
S P W W E G J M L R D A W A E D Y
I Z M I A Y C H E A H P U Y X F O
D P O T R T J X L D A N P A B A U
E K T H I N G S O P L O T B E I I
R K T R M Y O U R Z L P Y R O T K
J S C A Y Y J F L D E W G Z P H G
G C R R Z I R L E O S F K M N F N
A Z J B R A X J K N E L N P T U B
D G C I O T L I Z E R A P I R L P
M V X Y W H A S E S V N T C O L G
N D W P N B V G L P E D K H E Y J
W H A T S U R E S P E X I Y M E T
T L W Z T H E B D G W D I L R X C

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faithfully
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heart
him
fear



COLOUR in the picture

Try colouring in the picture below as neatly as you can!



"LET US RUN WITH PATIENCE THE RACE THAT IS SET BEFORE US" (HEBREWS 12:1).