



Treasured
2022
Children's
Sabbath *by God*

North American Division
Children's Ministries

Children's Sabbath 2022 will help children understand that they are valued and treasured by God. The Children's Sabbath program is written in three parts focusing on how precious we are to God!

NIV Bible used

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A lesson about how much God treasures His children.

Based on "Jasper Canyon" VBS Where every kid is treasured by God!

Key Verse

For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful; I know that full well.

Psalm 139:13-14



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Volunteers Needed

- Greeters* X
- Skit Participants* X
- Praise Leaders* X
- Prayer Leader* X
- Ushers* X

Resources

- X *Invitation Flyers*
- X *Poster*
- X *Letter to the Pastor*
- X *Songs*
- X *Decision Cards*
- X *Optional Pastor Sermon Outline*

Other volunteers will also be needed depending on the Activities chosen to include.

*Jasper Canyon Music CD/DVD audio tracks and music videos featuring kids performing the actions to each song is available from AdventSource at www.adventistvbs.org and 402.486.8800. Catalog #039763

Downloads available at
Childmin.org

Supply List & Set-up Instructions

Welcome

1. Gem stickers

Ahead of time: cut the sheets of stickers into smaller squares (up to 4 stickers per square) and have children ready to hand these stickers out to the congregation.

Skit

1. Large squares of cardboard or posterboards (for signs large enough to be seen from far away - larger congregations would require larger signs)
2. Black paint or large permanent markers
3. 2 field costumes (Khaki pants, green shirt, and brown vest and hat) you can add other gear if available to make costume more authentic.
4. Binoculars,
5. shovel or pickaxe
6. magnifying glass
7. Costumes & Props (see skit for details)

Ahead of time: have each child write their names on one side of the cardboard and a way God made them special on the other side. Have your children practice holding the signs up, flipping them over and talking about their special gift. See further examples in the program.

Part 1 - Formed by God

1. Yellow poster board (light)
2. Large cutout of cloud using white poster board (sky)
3. Rock (dry land – the rock should be visible and large enough to be held by two hands)
4. Clear glass of water (seas)
5. Branch with leaves or plastic greenery (plants)
6. Printout or cutout of sun, moon and stars (you can give one to each child)
7. Bird toy (or print a picture)
8. fish toy (or print a picture)
9. Stuffed animals, animal masks, or animal printouts
10. Playdough

Ahead of time: Designate one prop to each child. (you will need at least 12 children) Have them practice holding their prop up while speaking clearly and confidently. Each child will have a line after “God spoke and said” These lines are highlighted in yellow in the program. If you do not have enough children, you can designate more than one prop to each child. Be sure they know what order they will hold their props and when they will speak.

Prayer Activity

Tapestries (choose one of the following ideas)

Ahead of time: There are two different suggestions for the activity with two different sets of supplies. Choose which idea will work best with your budget and resources. The script will be the same for both. The method for using the ribbons will change. Tapestry idea 1, everyone will weave the ribbon onto the plastic fencing. Tapestry idea 2, everyone will hang the ribbon from the pole. For photo examples see page 33.

Tapestry Idea A

1. Strips of ribbon
2. Markers (one for each person)
3. Plastic garden fence (size will vary depending on how much fencing you will need)

Tapestry Idea B

4. Ribbon
5. Markers (one for each person)
6. Plastic Fencing - pole or tree (you may need more than one if you have a larger group)

Part II - Clinking Talents

1. Large plastic coins (you can also use pennies, decorative shiny rocks, or anything that can be seen and counted like money)
2. 3 Clear cups or containers (make sure your containers are big enough to hold your coins. Children will be dropping the coins in the cups during the story)
3. Ahead of time: count out 15 coins. Place the three containers evenly spaced on a table. Lay 10 coins behind one container, 4 coins behind the second container and 1 behind the third container.
4. Coin bag (fill the bag with extra coins so they can be heard jingling)

Part III Treasure Drawings

1. Markers, pencils, crayons or colored pencils (enough for each person to have one)
2. Paper
3. Large Bold Permanent Marker
4. Large posterboard and easel OR "Elmer's Tri-fold foam board display"

Note: you can find the tri-fold displays in hobby stores. This was the best option when the activity was practiced as it was able to free-stand and was visible to the entire group. If you are using posterboard instead, you can hang your posterboard on a wall, use an easel, or have a volunteer hold it.



Optional Extra Activities

The following activities are ideas that can be used to promote children's ministries within your church, and also be used to involve the children, families and congregation to participate together.

Child Focused Potluck. Invite the church family to the Let's Eat Potluck with child-friendly activities at each table. (See "Let's Eat" on page 9 for ideas)

Outreach at the park or another public place. Provide music for children, story time and games. Children can color and deliver the flyer invitations the week before.

Visit a retirement center and maybe even begin an Adopt a Grandparent program with regular visits.

Children's Sabbath can also include plans for additional service projects on Sunday, giving children something more to look forward to doing together for others, such as helping someone with yard work or baking cookies and delivering them with a handmade note. Children involved in these activities not only is fun for them and instills in them a passion to serve, but also brings joy to the hearts of those they are serving.

Invite the whole church to work together on a Pathfinder Nature or Outreach Honor or Adventurer Nature Award.

Scan Me:
PATHFINDER HONORS



For Pathfinder Honors go to en.wikibooks.org/wiki/Adventist_Youth_Honors_Answer_Book

Scan Me:
ADVENTURER AWARDS



For Adventurer Awards go to en.wikibooks.org/wiki/Adventist_Adventurer_Awards



Let's Eat

Activities to involve the children and families during or after the Children's Sabbath potluck meal.

Kids Decoration

Decorate the potluck room with balloons. Play music with children's songs during potluck.

Line tables with rolls of Kraft paper. Provide cups with crayons on tables for guests to draw and doodle.

Craft

God Treasures Eagles

Supplies

1. 8.5x11 Bright colored paper (2 per child plus extra for accessories)
2. Stapler (1 per 2 kids)
3. Staples
4. Kite string
5. Scissors
6. Glue sticks
7. Markers
8. Wet Wipes

Ahead of Time: Set up the table with plastic table covering, tins with markers, paper plates as individual art stations per child. Fill shallow containers with large tail feather shapes, medium tail feather shapes, orange beak shape (triangle), small round white circles (templates are on page 32). Cut kite string 48 - 60" length.

Instructions

1. Lay paper landscape and fold in half.
2. Place the folded edge toward you. Measure the center and mark a dot.
3. Then measure the center from the center mark to the left edge. Mark a dot.
4. With the paper still laying with the folded edge toward you take the top left corner down to the first center dot. Pick up and hold.
5. While holding take the other edge and fold the tip down to the first dot and staple both points.
6. Staple at the center dot.
7. Thread kite string through the single center staple and make a knot.
8. Staple tail feathers to the end and glue the white circles for the eyes.
9. Edge the eye with black marker and mark a center dot for the eye.

Sharing tip: If you have time kids can make two and share one with their friends.

Fly your Eagle kit high in the sky! God made amazing birds for you to enjoy just because He loves you and treasures you!

Plan this Service

as an opportunity to reach out to the community to showcase children and their ministry. To get the ball rolling for your

Children's Sabbath program, work with your pastor to develop a vision for Children's Sabbath and assemble a team to follow through on the organization and planning. Meet together as often as necessary; this lowers confusion among your leaders and keeps misunderstandings at a minimum. To get the children involved in the preparation and outreach, share with them the logo and the theme; talk about its meaning; encourage children to pray every day and to investigate how God is calling them to work for Him. Guide them in seeking God through the verses in the Bible. Normally the children's coordinator organizes Children's Sabbath. If your church has not appointed a children's coordinator, ask the pastor to appoint someone to act as coordinator for this important day.

To make the most of Children's Sabbath, make sure your pastor is on board and is filled in with all the details of this special Sabbath.

Plan ahead to advertise in your church and community.

Present the program during the worship service.

Prepare a special potluck to honor the children.

Plan an outreach using Real Magazine.

Visit adventsource.com to purchase witnessing tools children can use to share their faith.

Planning Timeline

Right Away

- Download materials from childmin.com
- Establish a Children's Sabbath prayer support group.
- Form a planning team, involving the Pathfinder and Adventurer Club directors as well as the children's Sabbath School division and VBS leaders.
- Determine the specifics of your afternoon outreach activity—the venue you choose, the sponsors and adults who will accompany the children, etc.
- If your church has children who are preparing for baptism, work with their families and the pastor to plan a baptism as part of the Children's Sabbath service.

Six Weeks Before

- Ask the church communications leader to advertise your program in the church bulletin, in local newspapers, and on local radio stations— sample inserts and announcements available for download: childmin.org
- Send "CALLED to be Different!" postcards as invitations to inactive (or former) members. Hand out postcards in church, encouraging members to invite their neighbors, friends, and relatives.
- Ask the church's hospitality team to plan a potluck or special meal for guests after the Children's Sabbath service. (see Potluck ideas on page 9)
- Plan for someone to take pictures at your Children's Sabbath program.

Three Weeks Before

- Post "CALLED to be Different!" posters around your church and school.
- Put a bulletin announcement in your church bulletin each remaining week.
- Enlist several children to help with a creative announcement during church.
- Start practicing the entire program in the church. (Avoid keeping kids out late on Friday night.)
- Firm up final details about your outreach event.

Children's Sabbath Day

- Pray with your team and with your children before the program.
- Present the program during the worship hour.
- Provide a potluck to honor the children and their families and guests.
- Organize and implement the Children's Sabbath afternoon outreach.
- Thank your team and the children for a great Children's Sabbath!

October 1, 2022

Dear Pastor & Partner in Ministry,

WHAT IS CHILDREN'S SABBATH? Children's Sabbath is a day set aside by churches all over the world for the purpose of highlighting and affirming the gift *and* gifts of children in our midst. It is a day set aside to celebrate children as active participants in the life of the church. Children can serve as worship leaders throughout the service, including preaching, singing, reading Scripture and making announcements. This special day provides a great opportunity to invite friends and neighbors to bring their children. The more you put into planning and promoting this special day, the more impact it will have on your church family and community connections. The NAD Children's Ministry Department is excited and is looking forward to celebrating this very special Sabbath. This year, October 1, 2022 is Children's Sabbath throughout the North American Division. We have been celebrating this special day for over twelve years. This is a Sabbath when the children of our church will have the opportunity to share the gospel in their own words using their own unique talents. Perhaps this may be the day when a future teacher, a church leader, and yes, even a preacher may be introduced to their calling for the very first time. This is also the perfect opportunity for your children's ministry leaders to partner with you and guide the children as they share from the pulpit the depth of their love for Jesus!

As an additional resource we have included a sermon outline (see page 28) that has been prepared especially for this occasion. You can add your content or use as it is. This can be presented by a child, teen, or young person with your mentoring. The NAD Children's Ministries supports and prays for you in your ministry with the children of your church! Children's Sabbath 2022 will reinforce to your children we are all part of God's great big family! This day will be an encouraging reminder that because Jesus loves us, we are able to love one another freely and unconditionally! And that He has CALLED us all to make a difference for Him. Thank you for your partnership with Children's Ministries!

**North American Division
Children's Ministries**

1. Welcome

This is a wonderful opportunity for the pastor to introduce the children's ministry leaders in your church; public recognition and support are a positive acknowledgement of the dedication of your team. This is also a time to encourage the involvement children have within the service, and celebrate their leadership as valued members of the church.

2. Scripture Reading

Assign several children to practice the motions to the verse ahead of time. Practice with the group coming on to the stage together to demonstrate to the congregation. Remind your group to give the audience lots of smiles! Instruct the children perform it first, then invite have the audience to join on the second time.

3. Opening Skit

Treasure Testimonies - The skit provided is appropriate for the sanctuary and introduces the theme of the program. There are two main characters and as many "treasure" characters you want to include. Keep in mind that whatever you do, the important thing is to have children at the forefront of the entire Sabbath service.

4. Skit Summary

The summary focuses on how important children are to the church family. And that they are the most precious of treasures of the church family. Every person was made by God in their own special way. We have unique traits, talents, and personalities.

5. Praise Music

Treasured by God (Original Jasper Canyon VBS 2022 music. For audio files: www.adventistvbs.org)

6. Sermon

The sermon is broken up into two sections, each with a song, story, and activity. Each section is designed to engage the whole family and connect with many different ages. Children present each portion of the sermon. Choose each of the presenters ahead of time and have the pastor, elders, and parents work with them as they practice. It is a fantastic opportunity to connect leaders with kids!

Sermon Part 1: Formed by God

Praise music: Special (Original Jasper Canyon VBS 2022 music. For audio files: www.adventistvbs.org)
Prayer Activity: Tapestries

Sermon Part 2: Clinking Talents

Praise Music: Good Gifts (Original Jasper Canyon VBS 2022 music. For audio files: www.adventistvbs.org)
Closing Activity: Treasure Drawings

8. Closing

Sums up the sermon portion with an invitation to 'SayYESToJesus'

9. Prayer

10. Call to Commitment

Pastors are encouraged to give the church opportunity to respond with either a general call to a commitment to be faithful to God's call or a more specific call to baptism as a greater sign of commitment. No script is provided for this section as each pastor will be led by the Holy Spirit on what to say.

Closing Praise Music: Coming Back Again (Original Jasper Canyon VBS 2022 music. For audio files: www.adventistvbs.org)

11. Invitation to Lunch

Optional: Invitation to "Let's Eat" Children's Sabbath Potluck.

Assign several children to extend the invitation to join them for lunch.



Order of Service

Welcome

Praise Songs

Jasper Canyon VBS 2022 (adventistvbs.org Jasper Canyon VBS Music DVD/CD Product #039763)

Special Music

Local church option

Scripture Reading

Psalms 139:13-14 NIV

For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.

Assigned group learn and practice the motions.

Offering

Child 1: VBS 2022 and Children's Sabbath partner to collect money to build an ADRA Water Kiosk. The ADRA Water Kiosk is a comprehensive system of pumping, filtration, treatment, distribution, and vending that provides clean, consistent water. For communities whose main source of water has long been a shallow, seasonal, and heavily polluted river, water kiosks are lifesaving.

Detailed outline

Child 2: Each ADRA Water Kiosk is constructed from repurposed shipping containers. Through the use of Wi-Fi hotspots, television monitors, and relevant messaging, ADRA Water Kiosks are equipped to provide water as well as information for sanitary and healthy living in rural, urban, and peri-urban communities.

ADRA VBS mission video (Adventsource.org product #039759)

Child 3: Please help us help children get clean water to drink and bathe in.

Opening Skit

Treasured Testimonies

Select two main characters and as many "treasure" characters you want to include.

Characters

1. Treasure Hunter (TH)
2. Apprentice (AP)
3. Treasures (children with signs)

Skit Summary

Praise Music

Treasured by God

(Original Jasper Canyon VBS 2022 music. For audio files: www.adventistvbs.org)



Sermon

The sermon is broken up into two sections, each with a song, story, and activity. Each section is designed to engage the whole family and connect with many different ages. Children present each portion of the sermon. Choose each of the presenters ahead of time and have the pastor, elders, and parents work with them as they practice. It is a fantastic opportunity to connect leaders with kids!

Sermon Part 1: Formed by God (Genesis 1:1-2)

Praise Music

Special
(Original Jasper Canyon VBS 2022 music. For audio files: www.adventistvbs.org)



Prayer Activity

Tapestries

Prepare ahead of time the plastic fencing pulled tight on a frame that is safe for children to work on. Children will collect ribbons and weaver or tie to the fence. Practice ahead of time. You can assign a group of children to do the weaving while the program is going on. When finished it will be a beautiful work of art.

Sermon Part 2: Clinking Talents (Matthew 25:14-30)

Praise Music

Good Gifts
(Original Jasper Canyon VBS 2022 music. For audio files: www.adventistvbs.org)

Closing Activity

Treasure Drawings

This is a draw-along activity. Your speaker will have a large poster board up front and a large bold permanent marker so that lines can be seen clearly as they are drawn. Hand out supplies to audience and encourage participation.

Closing

Summary and invitation to 'SayYESToJesus'

Call to Commitment

Closing Prayer

Invitation to Eat

Optional: Invitation to "Let's Eat" Children's Sabbath Potluck

Assign several children to extend the invitation to join their family for lunch.



Service

Welcome

Good morning everyone! Welcome to children's Sabbath. We are so glad that you are here. Our service will involve seeing, hearing and doing together as a family. We pray that you will be richly blessed while our children share their talents and message with you. Today, We are focusing on just how much each of us is treasured by God. Lets greet one another by turning to our neighbors and saying "YOU ARE GOD's TREASURE". Great job! As we think about this promise, let us always remember to see our value in Christ. There are many things in this world that can tell us that we are not valued. But when we say yes to Jesus, we can always be reminded that we ARE loved, by an amazing and wonderful creator God who made us to be just the person we were made to be.



Scripture

Our Bible verse today is a reminder and a praise of how precious we are to God. Please stand and do the motions with us as we look at Psalm 139:13 together. *(choose several children to practice the motions and verse ahead of time. They can all come onstage together to demonstrate to the congregation. Instruct the children to do it first, then turn to the group do it a few times)*

For you created my inmost being *(hold hands to heart)*

you knit me together in my mother's womb. *(Crisscross fingers together)*

I praise you *(hold hands up in the air and wave both hands)*

because I am fearfully *(hold out left hand)*


and wonderfully made *(hold out right hand)*

your works are wonderful *(point up to heaven)*

I know that full well. *(Point to head)* -Psalm 139:13-14

TREASURED TESTIMONIES *Opening Skit*

SET-UP: Choose 5-10 children to participate in the skit. Have your volunteers write their names on one side of the posters in paint or permanent marker (For supply list see page 6). On the other side, have the children write something that God made special about them. If they are not yet able to write, a parent can help them set up their poster. Have each child practice holding up their name, introducing themselves, flipping the poster over and saying "God made me special because..." This skit can be done with an unlimited number of children and with any age! Keep in mind your time frame and not how long it takes each child to show their poster when you practice the skit.



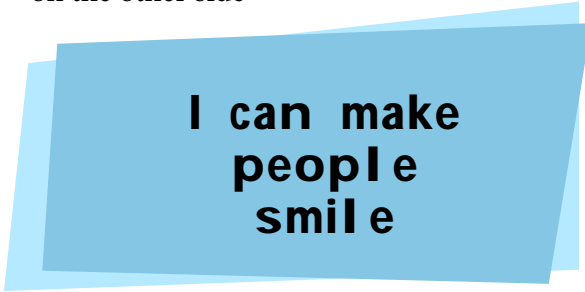
Note: some examples of posters and what children say might be like:

on one side



SARAH

on the other side



I can make
people
smile

My name is Sarah. (*flip poster*)

God made me special because I love to make people smile and help spread joy



TIDUS




I love to
sing

My name is Tidus. (*flip poster*)

God made me special because I can sing lots of praise songs for Jesus



ANDREA




I like
to help
others

My name is Andrea (*flip poster*)

God made me special because I like to find ways to help others.



DANIEL



I am
creative

My name is Daniel (*flip poster*)

God made me special because I'm very creative. I like to paint, draw, and write stories.

CHARACTER COSTUMES

The TREASURE HUNTER's costume will be khakis, a vest, magnifying glasses or binoculars, canteen, and a field hat. If you have the supplies, you can carry a pickaxe or shovel with you. You can smudge some brown makeup on your face to look like "dirt" The APPRENTICE will wear a simpler costume such as a hat and vest.

SKIT

(Treasure Hunter and Apprentice come onstage together)

TH – *(Takes a deep breath)* Ah it's a beautiful day for a treasure hunt, wouldn't you say?!

AP – *(eagerly)* Yes! I can't wait to see what kind of gems we will find! Do you think we'll find some diamonds?

TH – Hmm... we aren't looking for diamonds today...

AP – Do you think we will find some Gold?

TH – well first we need to...

AP – Do you think we'll find some Rubies?

TH – rubies are nice but we're going to...

AP – or what about Emeralds? Topaz? Opals? Turquoise? Pearls? Jade? *(gasp)* what if we find some ultra-rare cubic zirconian marmalade?!

TH – umm... I don't think marmalade is a gem, although it is pretty tasty. We're actually not looking for a precious stone on this treasure hunt

AP – We're not?

TH – Nope. There is legend of a treasure that is more precious than Gold, Rubies, or Sapphires I've been digging for years, searching, and searching. All my research has shown me that this precious treasure will be here, in this exact location.

AP – *(looks around)* This spot? *(points to the floor)*

TH – Yes, this spot

AP – Right here?

TH – Right here!

AP – *(grabs shovel from TH)* Well lets get digging then!

TH – Wait wait wait wait wait... we're not ready yet. We have to survey the land first. The treasure won't just be out in the open. We have to decide when we will use our equipment! We need to look at all the different kinds of soil, how the land is shaped and that will help us know where to dig. *(Looks around in binoculars)*

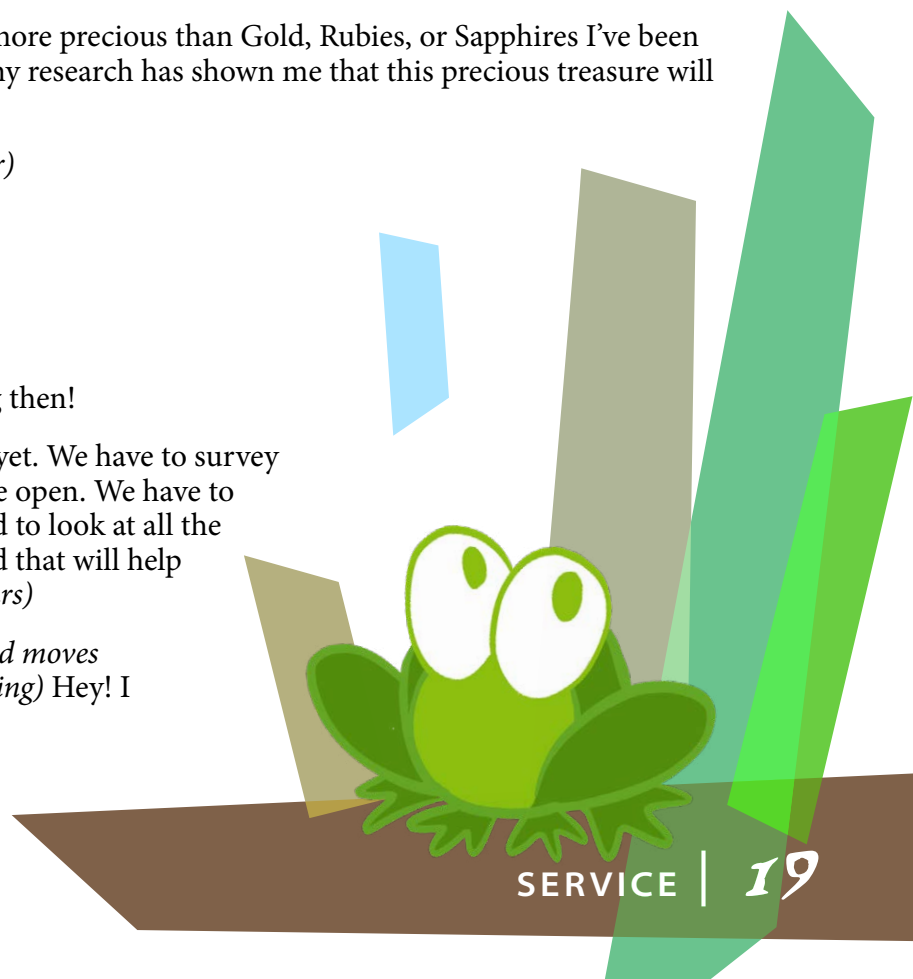
AP – oh ok... *(begins looking around the stage and moves towards the side where your children will be standing)* Hey! I think I found something!

TH – shhhh I'm concentrating we have to survey

CHARACTERS

Treasure Hunter (**TH**)

Apprentice (**AP**)



AP – But...

TH – SHHHHHH (*continues to look through the binoculars*) I need to focus...

AP – but I really think I've found something! (*brings one child to the center of the stage next to TH. TH does not notice the child and continues to look through the binoculars*) Look! Is this the...

TH – Not now not now... I think I might be on the verge of discovery... (*have the child tap TH on the shoulder*) The treasure is so close I can almost feel it!!

AP – AHHEM!!! (*pulls the binoculars away from TH*)

TH – (*notices child*) Oh! There's one right now!!! Wow! (*looks at child's ear with magnifying glass*) Magnificent This is the greatest treasure in the world! (*puts away magnifying glass and addresses child*) What's your name?

CH – My name is _____

TH – Pleased to meet you _____ And I see that you have some details about your precious value. Tell me more about it!

CH – (*turns poster over*) Well I'm a treasure because God made me special! I'm special because I love to sing! God gave me a wonderful voice to praise him with! (*this can be any other example. The line will be based on what your child has written on their poster you can choose what will be said ahead of time and have your child practice*)

TH – that's very precious indeed! (*child can walk offstage*) Now I have heard that each treasure here is unique in its own way. I wonder how many more treasures we will find. Do you see anything?

AP – Hmmm.... (*Takes binoculars and looks around concentrating then gasps in excitement*) Look look! I see it! I see the treasures!!! Wow! I think we may have hit the jackpot lets get digging! (*Runs offstage*)

TH – Wait you forgot your shovel! (*To audience*) well... I better go help my assistant. In the meantime, why don't you stick around here. I think you'll be amazed to see that you have some beautiful, precious treasures in this very church. (*Takes shovel and walks offstage*)

Play "**Treasured By God**" softly in the background. Have a single microphone ready for children to use. Have each child with a poster walk onstage one by one. Hold up their name and talk about what they put on their poster (*brief one sentence statements. See the examples in the set-up*)

SKIT SUMMARY

In our skit, we saw two treasure hunters in search of the greatest of treasures. They found out that it wasn't rubies, diamonds or pearls that were of the most value. As we saw from all the children that shared with us, the most precious of treasures are right amongst us. every person was made by God in their own special way. We have unique traits, talents, and personalities. Today for children's sabbath we are going to learn that God created each of us to be valued and loved for who he made us to be and that he is coming again someday to bring his treasures home.

Song 1: "TREASURED BY GOD"



Part I:

FORMED BY GOD

SET-UP: To prepare ahead of time, you will need children to hold up your props (For supply list see page 6) as the story is being told. Each child will hold a prop and say the portion highlighted in yellow. Have an adult read the story and the children practice ahead of time.

Did you know, the very first book of the bible, Genesis, starts with our own beginning. A long, long time ago, there was nothing. No trees... no people... no animals, not even sound or smell! Everything was completely empty. That was what it was like before God made our world. Genesis 1:1-2 tells us "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep." But God was about to do something amazing! He was going to create everything on this earth in six days.

1 (Child with Yellow posterboard comes out and holds it up) **God spoke and said,** "let there be light" and there was! God saw that the light was good. So, he divided the light from the darkness. God named the light 'day' and the darkness 'night'. There was evening and morning. This was the first day of creation! (Child with yellow posterboard walks offstage)

2 (Child with cloud walks onstage) God wasn't finished yet! After he created light on the first day, **God spoke and said,** "let there be something to divide the water in two!" So, God made the air to divide the water in two. Some of the water was above the air and some of the water was below it. God named the air "sky". Evening and morning came again. This was the second day of creation (child with cloud walks offstage)

3 (child with rock walks onstage and child with cup of water walks onstage) But God wasn't finished yet! After he created the air and sky on the second day, he spoke again. **God spoke and said,** (child with water cup says) "let the water be gathered" (child with rock says) "And dry land appear" and it happened! God named the dry land "earth" he named the water gathered together "seas" Then evening and morning came. This was the third day of creation (children with rock and water walk offstage)

4 (Children with sun, moon and stars walk onstage) But God still wasn't finished! After he created the sea and land on day three, **God spoke and said,** (child with sun) "let there be a brighter light for the day" (child with moon) "and a smaller light for the night." (Child with stars) "and let there be stars in the sky." So God made the sun, moon and stars. He put them there to separate light from darkness and to help us tell the time, days, and years. The evening passed; the morning came. This was the fourth day of creation (children with sun, moon and stars walk offstage)

5 (child with bird toy and child with fish toy come onstage) On the next day, **God spoke and said** (child with fish) "let the water be filled with living things" and there were all the sea animals! He created everything that moves in the sea from the biggest whale to the tiniest shrimp! But he wasn't done yet. **He spoke again and said** (child with bird) "let the birds fly above the earth" and suddenly, there were pigeons and eagles and blue jays, and cardinals, and hawks and every kind of bird you can think of! God blessed them and said, "have many young ones and grow in number. Fill the water of the seas and let the birds grow in number on the earth". The evening passed, and the morning came. This was the fifth day of creation.

(Children with animal toys or dressed in animal masks or costumes come onstage choose one child ahead of time to say the highlighted part of the story) On the next day, God spoke to create one more time. **God spoke and said** (choose one child to speak) "let the earth be filled with animals" (children hold up animals, or if they are wearing costumes or masks, they can act like the animals) and then there they were! All the fluffy gentle animals like the dogs and cats and sheep were there. And all the great big beasts like the lions and elephants and giraffes were there. God made all the tame animals, wild animals and even the animals that crawl on the sixth day (children with animal toys walk offstage)

6 But on this day, something changed. (*Pull out playdough*) after God spoke and created all the animals, God took his own two hands and began to shape something from the ground. (*Form a person*) he made a human being. God said, “let us make human beings in our image and likeness. He took the dust of the ground and formed a man. (*Hold up playdough person*)

And then God did something else that was different. He took a breath, and breathed life into this human being. Now if I try to breathe on this playdough person, do you think it will come to life? Let's see (*blow on playdough person*) is this playdough person moving? Thinking? Or breathing now? Not at all. That is because God's breath is special. It was his gift to us. The bible tells us that when God breathed into us, (*take a deep breath in and out*) man became a living soul. God named this very first human being “Adam” Later, he formed a second human, a woman from the Rib of Adam. Her name was Eve.

7 On the seventh day, God took a step back. He saw that what he had made was very good! The Bible tells us that on the seventh day God rested and blessed the day, making it holy. God was not resting because he was tired. On this day, God rested because he was completely finished with his work. He wanted to appreciate his creation and spend time with Adam and Eve. He was setting an example for us. God didn't make us to constantly work and worry. He knew that we were his precious creation, and we would need a day to renew and strengthen our hearts. God treasures us, and he treasures spending time with us. That's the reason we are worshipping together today! Sabbath is a special holy time God set aside so we could appreciate his creation, connect with him, and celebrate how special he made us.

Song 2: “SPECIAL”

Prayer Activity: TAPESTRIES

SET UP: Secure the plastic fencing (or pole) somewhere visible in your worship area (For supply list see page 7). If you are using the plastic fence, make sure that you stretch the fencing tightly. If you are using the pole, hang the pole low enough so that your younger children can reach it, or place more than one pole at different heights. Cut your ribbons into long strips. (12-16 inches) cut one ribbon for each person (See page 33 for example pictures).

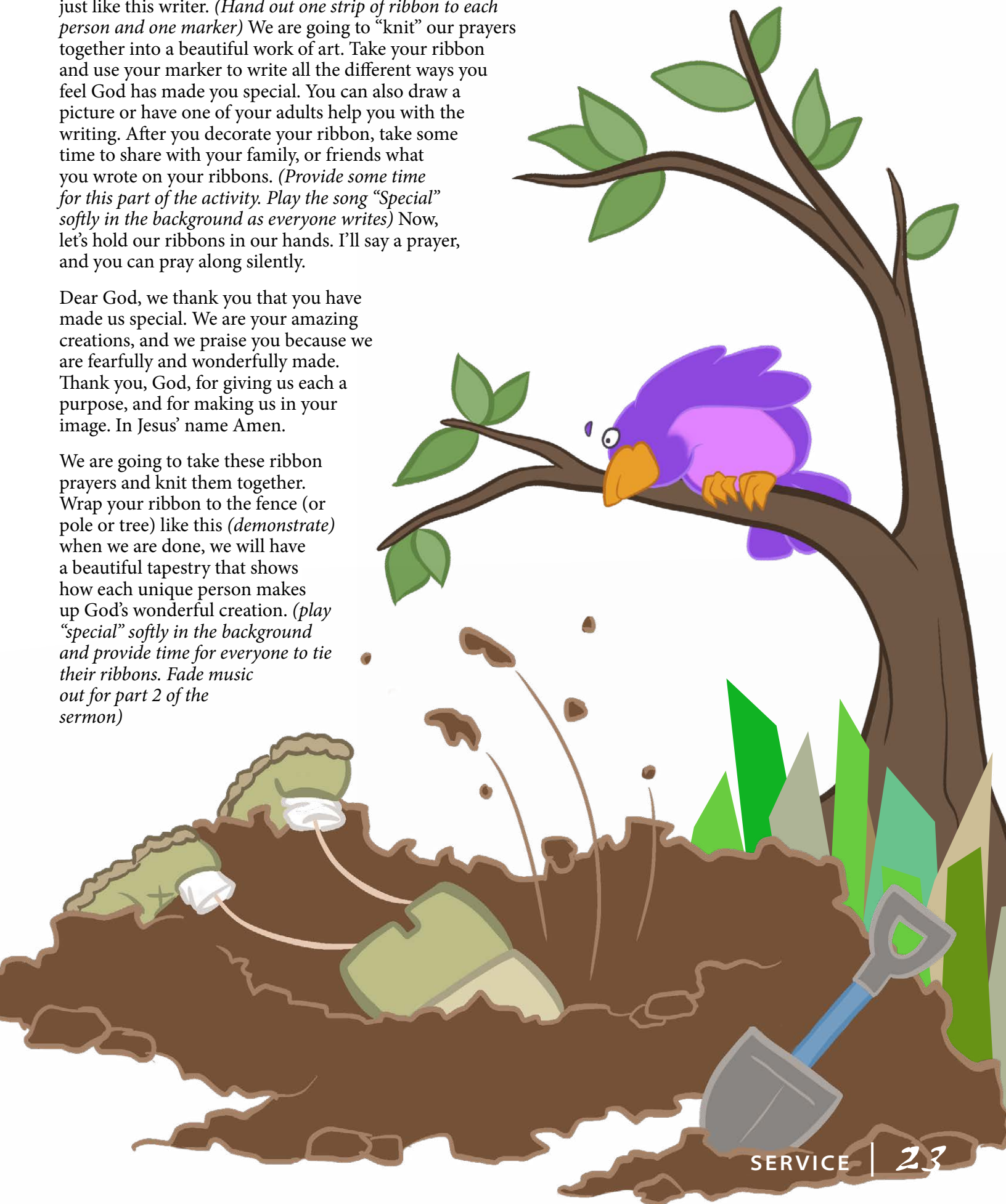
God forms each one of us lovingly and carefully. We're not just an accident-of-nature. We were made in God's image. That means we reflect who God is. We have the ability to think, love and worship. There's purpose, planning, and design to who we are. The writer in psalms 139:13-14 expressed his gratitude to God for making us in this way. The verses say,

For you created my inmost being;
you knit me together in my mother's womb
I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made
your works are wonderful, I know that full well.

Today we will have the chance to express our Gratitude to God just like this writer. *(Hand out one strip of ribbon to each person and one marker)* We are going to “knit” our prayers together into a beautiful work of art. Take your ribbon and use your marker to write all the different ways you feel God has made you special. You can also draw a picture or have one of your adults help you with the writing. After you decorate your ribbon, take some time to share with your family, or friends what you wrote on your ribbons. *(Provide some time for this part of the activity. Play the song “Special” softly in the background as everyone writes)* Now, let’s hold our ribbons in our hands. I’ll say a prayer, and you can pray along silently.

Dear God, we thank you that you have made us special. We are your amazing creations, and we praise you because we are fearfully and wonderfully made. Thank you, God, for giving us each a purpose, and for making us in your image. In Jesus’ name Amen.

We are going to take these ribbon prayers and knit them together. Wrap your ribbon to the fence (or pole or tree) like this *(demonstrate)* when we are done, we will have a beautiful tapestry that shows how each unique person makes up God’s wonderful creation. *(play “special” softly in the background and provide time for everyone to tie their ribbons. Fade music out for part 2 of the sermon)*





Part II: CLINKING TALENTS

SET UP: Count out 15 coins (for supply list see page 7). Place the three containers evenly spaced on a table. Lay 10 coins behind one container, 4 coins behind the second container and 1 behind the third container.

Choose 3 volunteers to be your container holders. They will be helping to count the coins while holding the containers during the story

Choose 3 children to be the speakers for this portion of the sermon. Give them their sections ahead of time and have them practice

CHILD SPEAKER 1:

God made each one of us by his own hand. Each of us is designed to bring God glory in a way that no one else can. He has given us good gifts and blessed us with special talents.

Jesus told a story about talents in Matthew 25:14-30. Often his stories had more than one meaning. In this story, a “talent” is a super large amount of money (hold up coin bag and jingle) Today a talent might be worth a MILLION dollars! A talent in this story can also mean our gifts and abilities

Jesus’ story begins like this. A rich man decided to go on a loooooong trip, so he called his servants and asked them to take care of his house, his stuff, and his money. The man in this story trusted his servants and believed that they would take care of his special and valuable things.

The man decided to give one servant five talents of money (have volunteer 1 hold out container) lets count them together (drop coins in container) 1...2...3...4...5. to another he gave two talents (have volunteer 2 hold out container) lets count them together (drop coins in container) 1... 2. and to the last servant he gave one talent. (Drop coin in container held by volunteer 3) He gave each servant an amount that was according to their ability.

Our abilities are our special gifts that God gave to each of us. Some of us are good at memorizing, some

of us are better at certain sports, and some of us are better at knowing how to help others. Some can solve problems better and some are more generous. Our ability is something special we have that's different than anyone else.

CHILD SPEAKER 2:

The story continues with the rich man leaving on his trip. While he was away, the servants each did something with the money that they received. The one with the five talents went right away and used his money and got five more! Lets count them together. (Have the volunteer hold the container and drop 10 coins, one at a time in the container) 1... 2...3...4...5...6...7...8...9...10 talents!

The one with the two talents also used his money wisely and gained two more talents. Let's count them together (have volunteer 2 hold the container and drop 4 coins one at a time in the container) 1...2...3...4 talents!

But the one with one talent took his talent and buried it in the ground (volunteer 3 hides the talent somewhere onstage)

After a nice long trip, the rich man came back and wanted to know what his servants did with his money. The first man with the five talents said, "You trusted me with five talents, and I made five more!" (volunteer 1 holds up container and jingles the coins)

His master smiled and replied, "Great job, good and faithful servant!" You are trustworthy with a few things so I will put you in charge of lots of things. Come celebrate with me! (Volunteer 1 walks offstage to the right)

Then the man with the two talents came and said, "You trusted me with two talents, and I made two more!" (volunteer 2 holds up container and jingles coins) His master smiled and replied, "Great job, good and faithful servant!" You are trustworthy with a few things so I will put you in charge of lots of things. Come celebrate with me! (Volunteer 2 walks offstage to the right)



Then the man who received the one talent came and told his master, "I know you work hard for your money, so I was afraid to lose any of it. I decided to bury it and keep it safe. Here is your one talent back." (*Volunteer 3 gets hidden coin and gives it to speaker*)

The rich man was not impressed and said, You lazy servant! At the very least you could've taken the money to the bank, and you would've at least collected some interest from it. He immediately took the talent away from the man and gave it to the first man who used his money to make more. (*Volunteer walks offstage to the left*)

Child Speaker 3

The point Jesus is making is that if you use your special gifts and abilities then God will give you more chances to keep on using them. He will trust you with so much more, and help you grow your talents. But if you choose not to put your talents to practice, you might not have the chance to use them at all.

God considers you very valuable and trusts you to do something for him using your gifts and abilities. Maybe you're not sure what your special abilities are yet. Ask your grownups what they think your gifts are. Listen and watch when others compliment you or notice something good about what you're doing. To you it might be something small but to God it's a special and very valuable gift that only you can give. If you keep using it God will continue to make it even bigger and better.

Song: 'GOOD GIFTS'

Part III: CLOSING ACTIVITY - TREASURE DRAWINGS

Scan Me:
TREASURE DRAWING
VIDEO TUTORIAL



For Video tutorial go
to [www.youtube.com/
watch?v=JexuVXIEzTY](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JexuVXIEzTY)

NOTE: *this is a draw-along activity. Your speaker will have a large poster board up front and a large bold permanent marker (see page 7 for supply list) so that lines can be seen clearly as they are drawn. When tested, it was best to use a TRI-FOLD foam board display (sold in hobby stores and usually used for school projects). You can also use an easel, or hang your poster on a wall, or have a volunteer hold the poster while the speaker draws. For Further Details, See the online video or instructions and photos on next page.*

Today we have learned so many amazing lessons about our value. We learned that God made us by his own hands, breathed life into us, and made us in his image. We learned that God wove us together and made us wonderfully unique. And we learned that God has given each of us special talents and gifts. We are his amazing treasures!

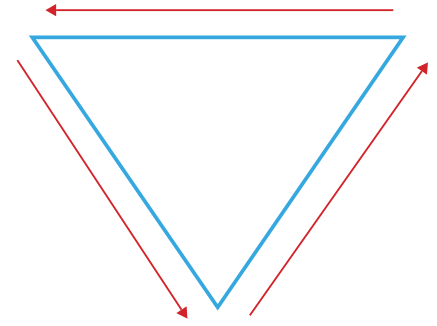
The Bible tells us that we are so treasured by God, that he is going to come to take us to be with him someday. Jesus made a promise in John 14:1-3 saying

Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.

God promises He is going to come again, and that we will be able to be with Him. But how is this going to happen? The Bible tells us, step by step, and these exciting events can be found the books of Revelation and Thessalonians. We're going to draw a picture together to help us remember how God will come.

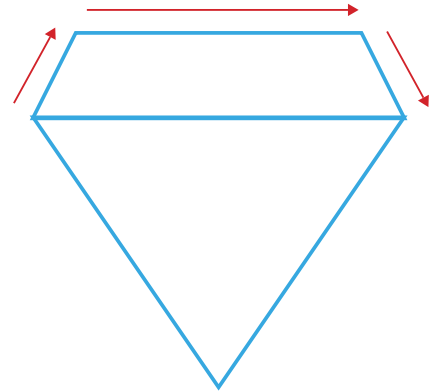
STEP 1: Draw a triangle (*follow red arrows in image 1*)

We'll start by drawing a triangle. This triangle represents GOD. The bible tells us that God is named in three ways. God the FATHER God the SON and God the HOLY SPIRIT. Like a triangle has three points and one image, God is three but also one. We call this the trinity.



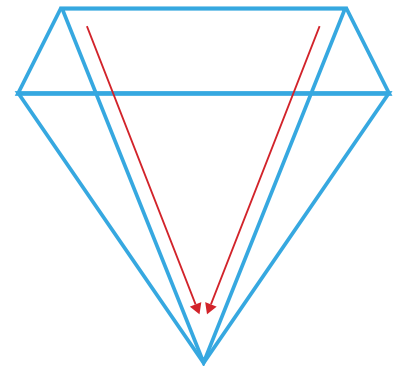
STEP 2 – Add a trapezoid on top of the triangle (*follow red arrows in image 2*)

in Revelation 1:7, The Bible tells us that God is coming with the clouds and every Eye will see him” He will be visible to everyone everywhere, all over the world! Let’s draw a trapezoid on the top of our triangle. That’s at the highest most visible point of the drawing. This will help us remember that when God comes, everyone will see him



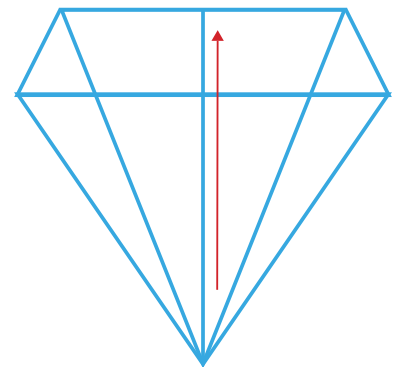
STEP 3 – Draw two lines down to the point at the bottom of the diamond (*follow red arrows in image 3*)

Now let’s draw some lines going down. The Bible tells us in 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17 that God himself will descend... or go down... from heaven with a cry of command, and with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of a trumpet!!!! Everyone will see him! And everyone will hear him! Everyone is going to know when he comes down from heaven. It is not done in secret.



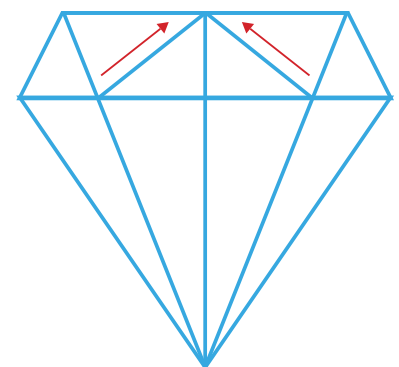
STEP 4 – Draw one line in the center from the bottom point of the diamond to the top (*follow red arrows in image 4*)

Now, let’s draw a line going up. This same verse also tells us that we will go up to meet him after this trumpet sound. Imagine how exciting it will be to FLY up to meet God! It says we will all be caught up together. The line we draw up in our picture reminds us how amazing it will be to meet God in the heavens.



STEP 5 – Draw two additional lines up to the center point (*follow red arrows in image 5*)

And did you know that there are two groups who will meet Him? Let’s draw two more lines to the center of our drawing. These two lines represent these two groups. The Bible tells us in the same verses that the dead in Christ will rise first. Those are the people who are no longer living. Those who are still alive in Christ will follow closely behind. And the best part is how the verse ends. It says that we will ALWAYS be with the lord. Wow... amazing! God himself values us so much that he wants to always be with us, and we can look forward to the day when He will take us, his treasures home.



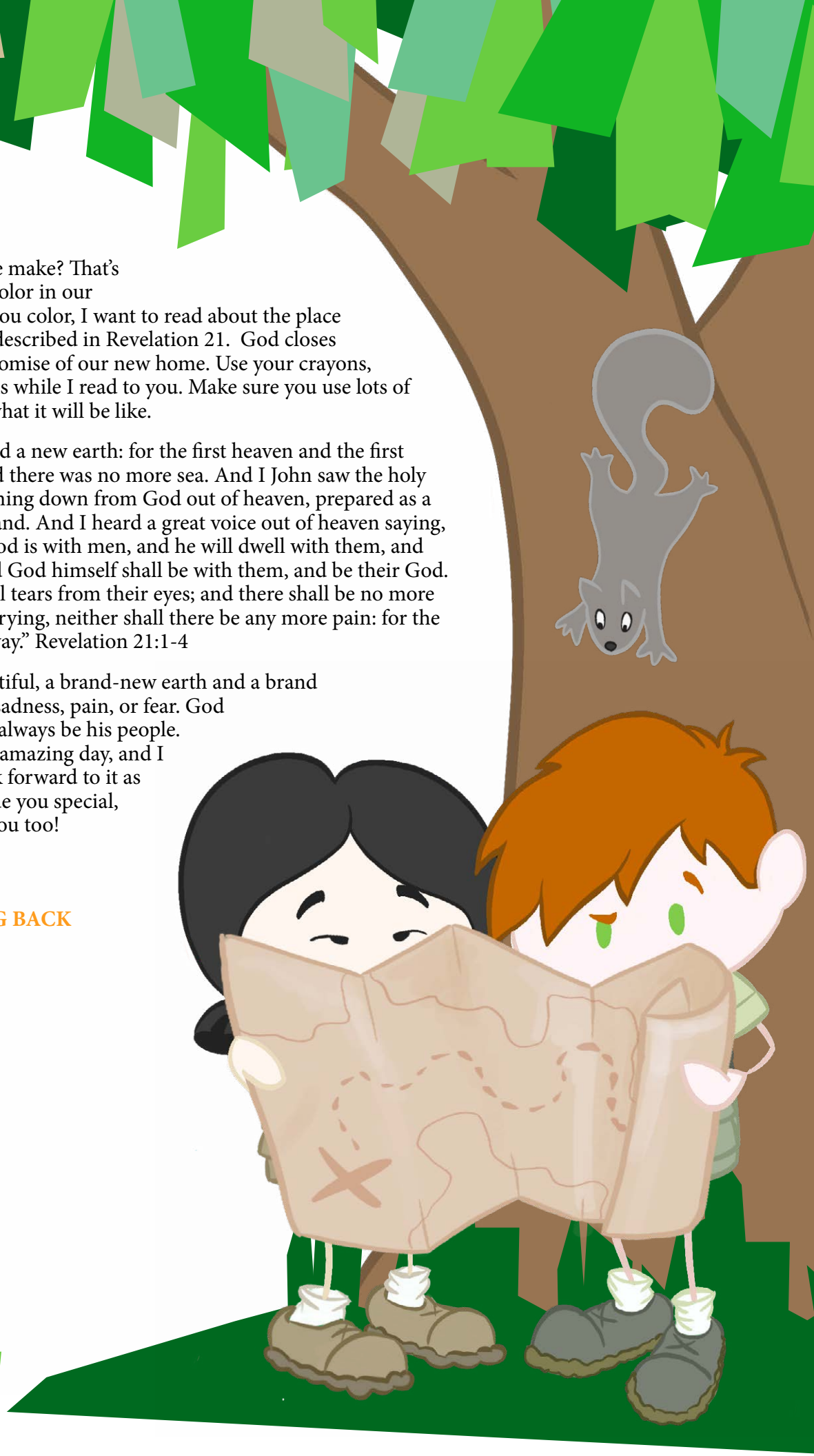
STEP 6 – Color drawing

What kind of picture did we make? That's right, it's a diamond!! Lets color in our diamonds together. While you color, I want to read about the place God is taking us to. This is described in Revelation 21. God closes his book with a beautiful promise of our new home. Use your crayons, markers, and colored pencils while I read to you. Make sure you use lots of bright colors and imagine what it will be like.

“And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. And I John saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God. And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.” Revelation 21:1-4

Our new home will be beautiful, a brand-new earth and a brand new heaven, with no more sadness, pain, or fear. God will be with us, and we will always be his people. I'm looking forward to that amazing day, and I hope and pray that you look forward to it as well. God loves you, he made you special, and he is coming back for you too!

Song: 'COMING BACK AGAIN'






OPTIONAL *Pastor's Sermon Outline*

Hi Pastor!

Thank you for showing your church family the importance of involving children in the church service, and giving your kids the opportunity to lead! The following materials are suggestions and options you might include as a short homily in follow-up to their program. We know that every pastor has different methods within their preaching, so we suggest that you adapt the materials as needed or prepare a sermon that aligns with the theme of "God's treasures". These materials are best used at the end of the full program, and will help provide further application of its theological points.

Suggested Sermon Outline

1. Affirmation to children and helpers: include statement of thanks and acknowledgment of children's leadership as well as gratitude to the leaders and volunteers who assisted with the program.
 2. Transitional statement: tie the program's key theme of being God's treasure to your sermon with a thought that ties the two together.
 3. Key scripture passage: Build your sermon on a central scripture
 4. Object lesson/Illustration: choose a visual for your sermon
 5. Explanation of passage: Connect your visual to the scripture passage
 6. Closing and appeal: Summarize your key points and provide an appeal
- 



Sample Sermon Concept


(affirmation to children and helpers) It is so wonderful to have our children bless us as leaders, presenters, preachers, and teachers! We thank all who worked to help prepare *(if possible mention names)* There were many hands involved in putting this program together and we have been uplifted on this wonderful sabbath day.

(transitional statement) Our theme throughout this program has been that we are treasured by God. And what an important message that is to remember, especially when there are so many things that try to make us forget it. There are many challenges that we face each day. But we have the reassurance of God's promises, and the knowledge that Jesus is going to come again to take his treasures home.

That is the ultimate treasure. Many other treasures will fade. If I have an expensive car, eventually it will lose its value. If I have money, it may be spent. If I have gold or silver, it might be lost, or lose its shine. But Jesus, and this message of hope will do no such thing.

(Key Passage 2 Corinthians 4 - treasure in earthen vessels) The Bible tells us of this in 1 Corinthians chapter 4:7-10. But we have this treasure in earthen containers, so that the extraordinary greatness of the power will be of God and not from ourselves; we are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not despairing; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying around in the body the dying of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our body.

Illustration: Geode



Take a look at this rock. When looking at it on the outside, it may not seem like much. If I were walking on a road I might pass it by without giving it a second glance. But this rock is special. It carries something on the inside of it. Lets put some pressure on this rock and see what's there *(open geode)* When the geode is broken open, we see the beautiful gem inside!



Explanation of Passage

This is similar to what the writer meant when he talked about earthen vessels holding a treasure. Though we may look ordinary on the outside, what we carry on the inside is of much value. no matter what we go through or the circumstances we have, we carry something with us that can not be destroyed. We might be afflicted but not crushed. We might be perplexed but we won't despair. We might be struck down but we won't be destroyed, because we carry Christ with us.

Jesus took the penalty for our sins, he died on the cross for us. He rose again, he is coming to take us home.

Appeal

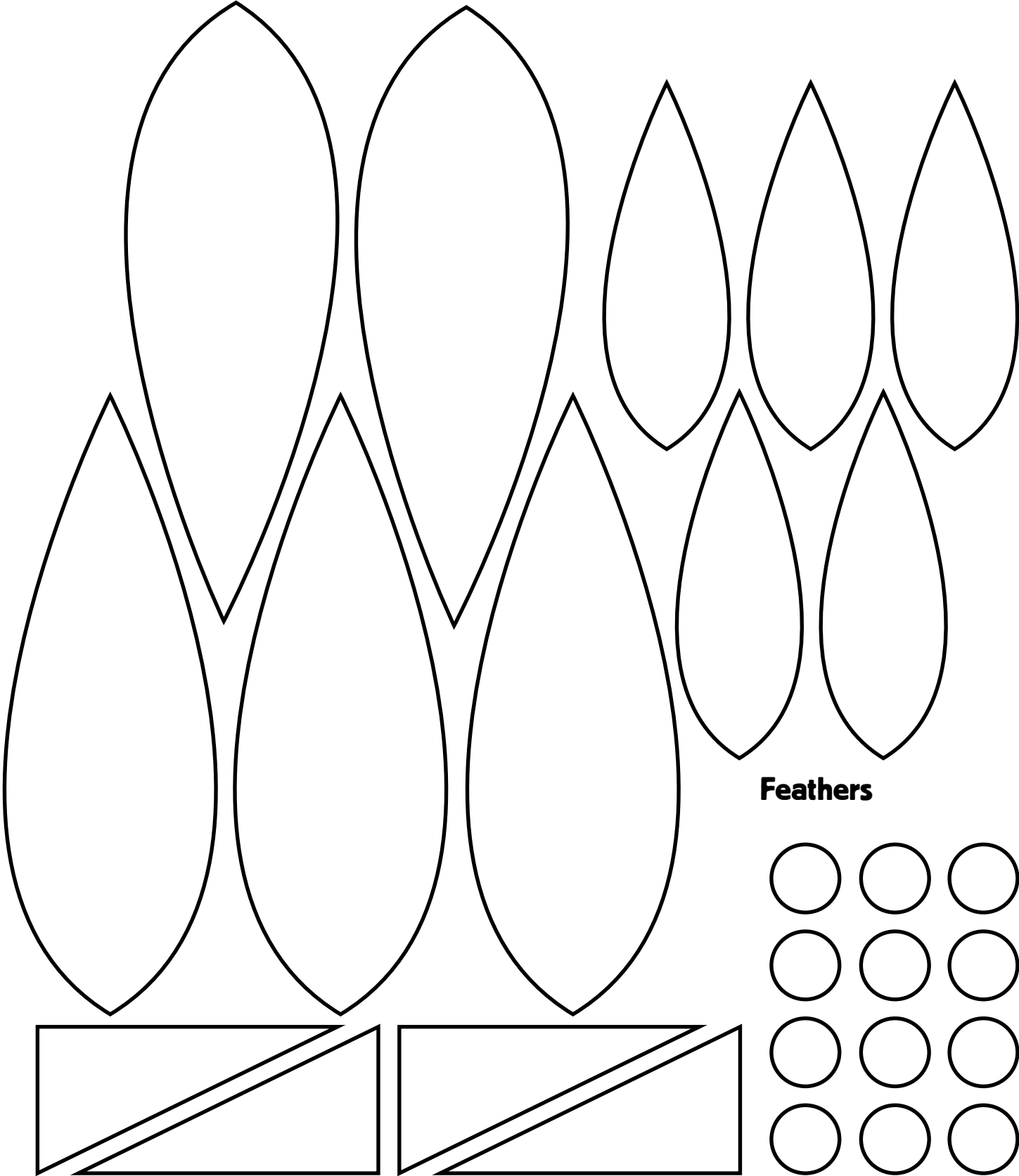
Verse 16 tells us, Therefore we do not lose heart, For our momentary, light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory far beyond all comparison, 18 while we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen; for the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal.

If there is anyone who might be hearing the call to place their eternal hope in Christ, I invite you to pray with me....

(prayer)



Craft: GOD TREASURES EAGLES



Feathers

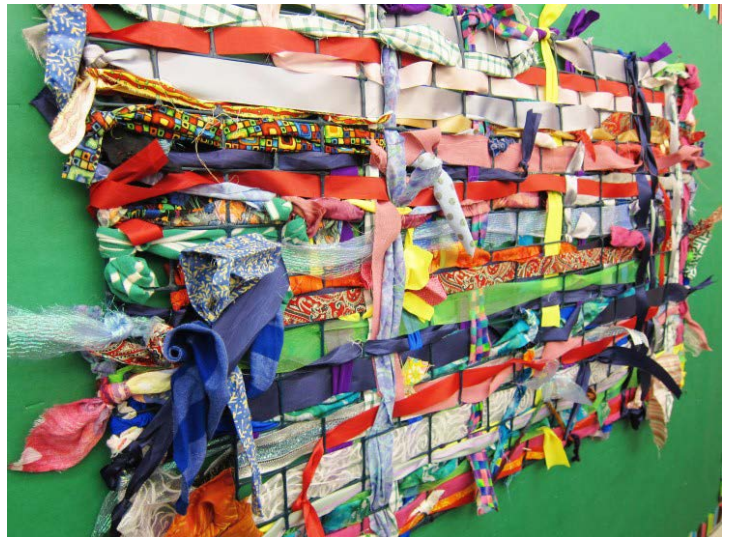
Beaks

Eyes

Prayer Activity: TAPESTRIES



COLLABORATIVE WEAVING
on a garden fence!

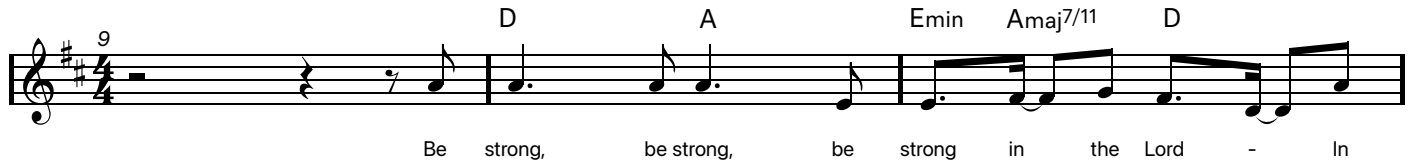


BE STRONG/ALL HAIL THE POWER

Words and Music by Roy Rantung,
Hymn by Edward Perronet

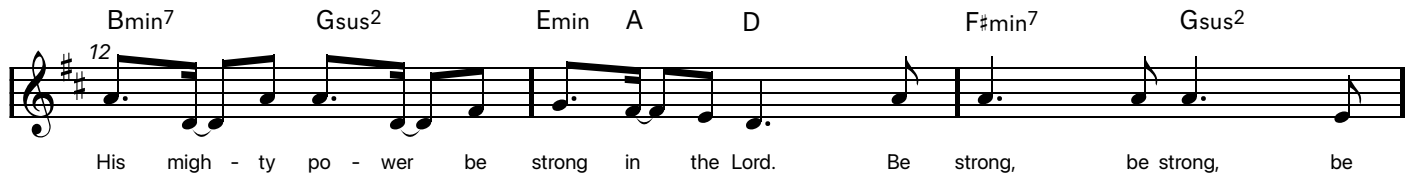
Arr: Werner Carrasco

9



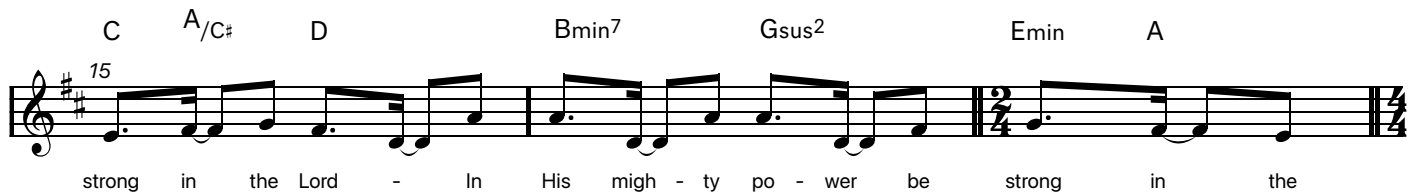
Be strong, be strong, be strong in the Lord - In

12



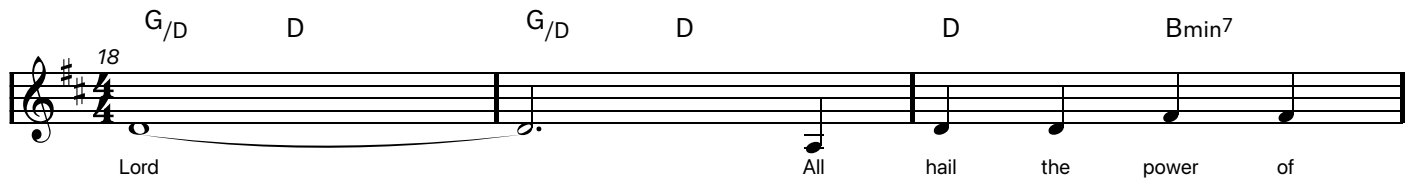
His might - ty po - wer be strong in the Lord. Be strong, be strong, be

15




strong in the Lord - In His might - ty po - wer be strong in the

18



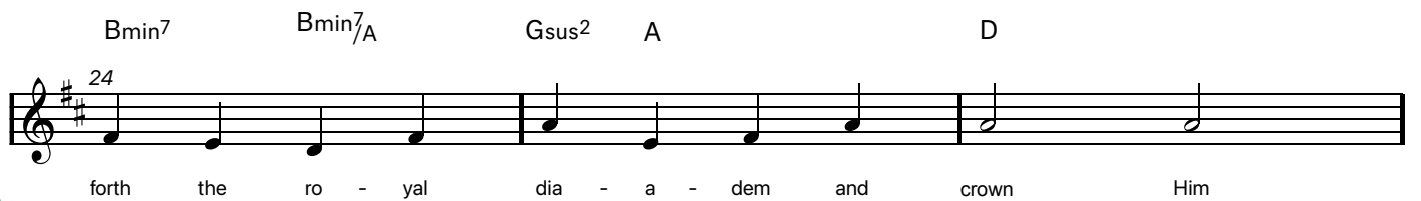
Lord All hail the power of

21



Je - sus name, Let an - gels pros - trate fall, Bring

24



forth the ro - yal dia - a - dem and crown Him

COMING BACK AGAIN

Music and Lyrics:
Werner Carrasco


Arr: Werner Carrasco

C F



16 A dis-tant thun - der sounds like our li - be - ra - tion, It's the

C F Emin F




19 pro - mised Co - ming bring - ing hope to the na - tions, A brave New World to re -

Emin F Dsus2



22 place the old I can - not wait Oh Yeah, A

C F C



25 spe - cial mo - ment will be here and for e - ver, The great - est ho - ur and the great -

F Emin F Emin F



28 est en - dea vor, My friend is co - ming to make all things new, I can - not

Dsus2 G G/F



31 wait I can - not wait - Co - ming back a - gain,

GOOD GIFTS

Lyrics and Music:
CHARMAINE WELLS

Arr: Werner Carrasco

D D

4
If you can sing, then I can shout, If you can

Emin A D

8
write, then I can tell a sto - ry, You can run and jump so

G Emin A

11
high, Then I can make some wings and we can touch the sky, 'Cause e - very

G D A Bmin G D Asus4

14
good and per - fect spe - cial gift comes straight from God a - bove,

A G D Bmin A G

17
And we can all do great things with His Love, Our

Emin A Emin A D Emin A D

20
good, good Fa - ther makes us good, good gifts, He makes us good, good gifts,

CHORUS

NOTHING CAN SEPARATE ME FROM YOU

Lyrics and Music: ROY RANTUNG

Arr: Werner Carrasco

E A E

13 When I am lost you find me, I know I'm not a -

Detailed description: This block contains the first line of music, measures 13 to 15. The key signature has three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and the time signature is 4/4. The melody starts on a quarter rest, followed by quarter notes G4, A4, B4, and C5. Chords E, A, and E are indicated above the staff.

B E A

16 lone, When I am hurt you heal me,

Detailed description: This block contains the second line of music, measures 16 to 18. The melody continues with quarter notes D5, E5, F#5, and G5. Chords B, E, and A are indicated above the staff.

F#min7 B E F#min7

19 You have called me your own, And for e - ver I will be in - side your

Detailed description: This block contains the third line of music, measures 19 to 21. The melody features eighth notes and quarter notes. Chords F#min7, B, E, and F#min7 are indicated above the staff.

Bsus4 B F#min7 Bsus4 B

22 heart, We will ne - ver, e - ver, e - ver be a - part

Detailed description: This block contains the fourth line of music, measures 22 to 24. The melody includes quarter notes and eighth notes. Chords Bsus4, B, F#min7, Bsus4, and B are indicated above the staff.

CHORUS

E B E C#min7

25 Je - sus, my Lord and Friend, Je - sus. your

Detailed description: This block contains the first line of the chorus, measures 25 to 27. The melody starts with a half note G4. Chords E, B, E, and C#min7 are indicated above the staff.

D B E B C#min7

28 Love will ne - ver end, Je - sus so faith - ful and true,

Detailed description: This block contains the second line of the chorus, measures 28 to 30. The melody continues with quarter notes. Chords D, B, E, B, and C#min7 are indicated above the staff.

SPECIAL

Charmaine Wells

Arr: Werner Carrasco

D

See the trees in all their splen - dor,

Bmin7

See the birds in all their beau - ty, God

G

made them spec - cial, yes, He made them all one of a

D

kind. See

D

the re - flec - tion in the mi - rror,

Bmin7

Feel the rhy - thm of your heart - beat, God

TREASURED BY GOD (Theme Song)

Roy Rantung

Arr: Werner Carrasco

A E F#min7 D
Go - ing on a great ad - ven - ture fo - llo - wing Je - sus the

Esus4 E A E F#min7
Way, Dig - ging deep down in His Word, an - cient

D E A CHORUS
truths still true - to - day, We will

F#min7 D A
sing, we will praise our God for all our days

Esus4 E A D
we are fear - fu - lly won - der - fully

Esus4 E F#min7
made, We will rise, we will



#Say **YES** to Jesus



North American Division
Children's Ministries