

Week 6 :

Theme : God's call to persevere. God will always welcome us back to him if we have gone astray.

Game : Minefield: Divide your playing area into three sections. One area is designated home base, the biggest area designated the minefield and a third area designated as a safe haven. The game begins with all the players in the home base. One player is "IT" and stands in the mine field. On Go, the children have to run from home base, through the minefield into the safe haven. If tagged by "IT" they remain in the minefield and can also try and tag players on their return to home base.

Get out of this: Children stand in a circle facing inwards, shoulder to shoulder. Everyone must shut their eyes and put both hands forward into the centre of the circle and grasp two other hands at random. They then open their eyes and try and untangle themselves without letting go.

Memory verse : 1 Peter 2:25 (Contemporary English Version) *"You had wandered away like sheep. Now you have returned to the one who is your shepherd and protector."* To learn this verse, you could play a simple version of hide and seek. Divide the children into sheep and shepherds. The sheep wander away and say the first part of the verse. The shepherds find them and gather them up saying the second part of the verse. Repeat several times. Children could swap over.

Introduction: Ask the children if they can recall any New Year's Resolutions they made (maybe the ones discussed in week 5) ? Have they managed to keep them ? If so, has it been easy ? If not, how long did they last and why did the resolution fail ?

Story : In the resources there is an account of Nehemiah's return to Jerusalem in Nehemiah 13: 1 -31 you can use.

Application : Nehemiah was a good leader who motivated the people to follow God. But when he returned to Persia, it wasn't long before people began to get into bad ways again. It can be like that for us. We make resolutions to try to make changes in the way we act and behave so that we are doing the right thing but it isn't easy without support. Coming to Kingsquad is a great way to get support from your other friends at Kingsquad to follow God. It helps us remember to pray to God and get to know him better week by week. Maybe, we could all make a resolution this week to invite another friend to come to Kingsquad next term where they will be welcomed and supported.

Craft : See resources for a Kingsquad Invitation that the children could decorate to give to a friend who doesn't come to Kingsquad.

Prayer : If you have been building a prayer wall with the prayer bricks started in week 1 over the first 5 weeks of the term, you may like to show the wall again. Pray again for some of the things that were put onto the wall or give thanks where God has answered prayer.

Song : *God loves me*, **Lovely Jubbly CD, Doug Horley**

Resources : There is a story, craft and fun sheet in the resources.

Nehemiah carried on governing Judah for some years and then went back to Persia. But Nehemiah did come back to visit Jerusalem some time later.

During that visit he saw some things which made him sad. He saw that one of the rooms in God's holy temple had been given to wicked Tobiah to live in. Nehemiah was very upset. He threw Tobiah's belongings out of the temple and did not allow him to live there any longer.

Nehemiah also saw many people working on the Sabbath day. God had forbidden them to do this. Nehemiah reminded the people of God's law and their promises to keep it. He ordered the merchants, who sold their goods on the Sabbath day, to go away. They did not come back again on God's day to sell.

There was another thing that made Nehemiah sad. Many Jewish people had married people who did not believe in the one true God. Instead they worshipped idols. Again, this was against God's law. The people realised they had been wrong and promised that they would not allow their sons or daughters to marry people who did not believe in the one true God.

Once more, Nehemiah put right some things that were wrong, praying to God for help to do so. Nehemiah continued to work hard for God and for God's people. He was also a very brave man for he kept doing what was right even when some people hated him for that. Above all, Nehemiah was a man of prayer. Again and again he asked God for his help and blessing and God answered his prayers.

Week 6

“You had wandered away like sheep. Now you have returned to the one who is your shepherd and protector.”

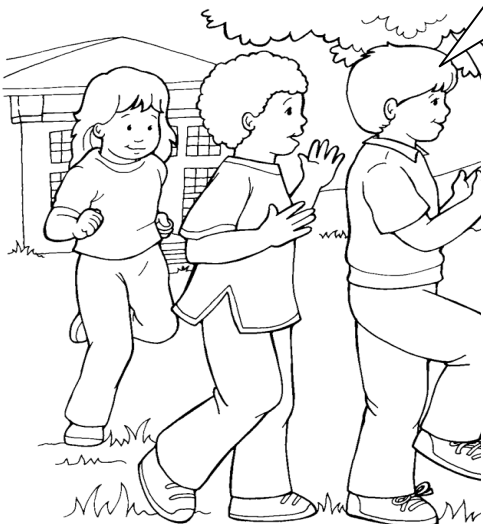
1 Peter 2 : 25

j d n n e h e m i a h e s a p
 t e s m o o r u g f h a p i r
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 j h o j v a h m i g b r e u n
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 x e g m m u k s w o s s x y a
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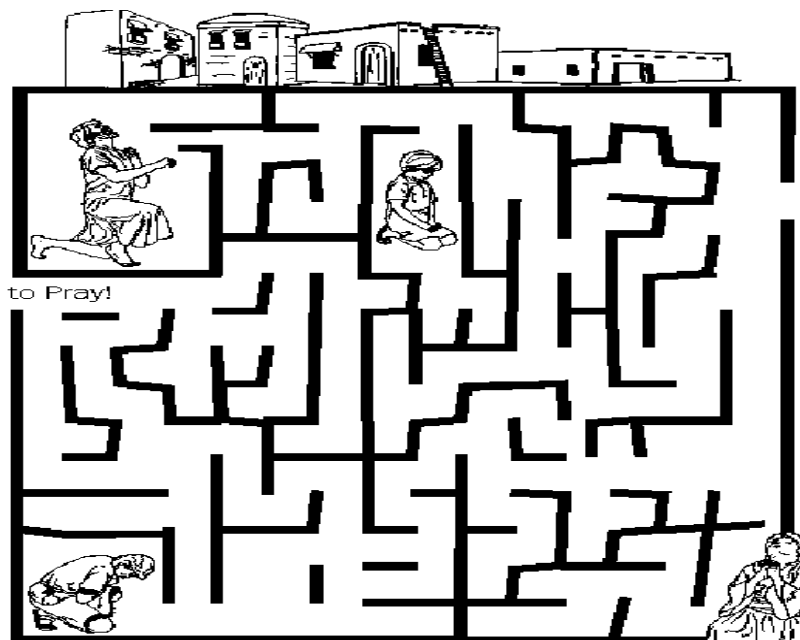
Can you find the following words in the word search above.


blessing	nehemiah
brave	persia
govern	prayer
holy	promises
idols	rooms
jerusalem	sabbath
jewish	temple
judah	tobiah
married	true
merchants	

In what ways does a club like Kingsquad offer support to other children ?
 How does it support you ?
 Why not make a poster to encourage other children to come along ?



We follow Jesus






Come to Kingsquad

We meet on :

Time :

Come along for fun,
games, songs,
stories, crafts,
learning more about God



Come to Kingsquad

We meet :

Time :

Come along for
fun, games, songs,
stories, crafts and
learning more about God.