

Absalom's Rebellion

2 Samuel 13:30 - 18:33



ABSALOM STOLE THE HEARTS
OF THE MEN OF ISRAEL.



The Story

After King David's great fall into sin, the Lord told him that his family would have many problems. He had many sons and daughters. One of his sons was Absalom. He was a very handsome man, with long, beautiful hair. Absalom was very vain and proud.

The king's sons and daughters did not get along very well. Absalom's brother Amnon sinned against one of their sisters. Absalom took revenge against Amnon and killed him. This made David and his household very sad.

Absalom ran away to another country and stayed there for three years. King David still loved Absalom and let him come back to Jerusalem. They did not see each other for two more years. Finally, Absalom wanted to see his father. David kissed Absalom when he saw him.

Absalom wanted to be king instead of his father. He thought of ways to get the people to follow him. He stood by the

gate of the city and told lies about his father David. More and more people followed him.

David was afraid that Absalom and his army would attack, so David and his followers left Jerusalem and climbed the Mount of Olives. He cried as he went. Absalom took control of Jerusalem. Then David sent his army into battle. He told them not to kill his son. Absalom's army was defeated. He tried to escape on his mule, but his head got caught in the branches of a tree. David's men found Absalom hanging in the tree and killed him. After David found out what happened to his son, he cried. He wished he could have died instead of Absalom.

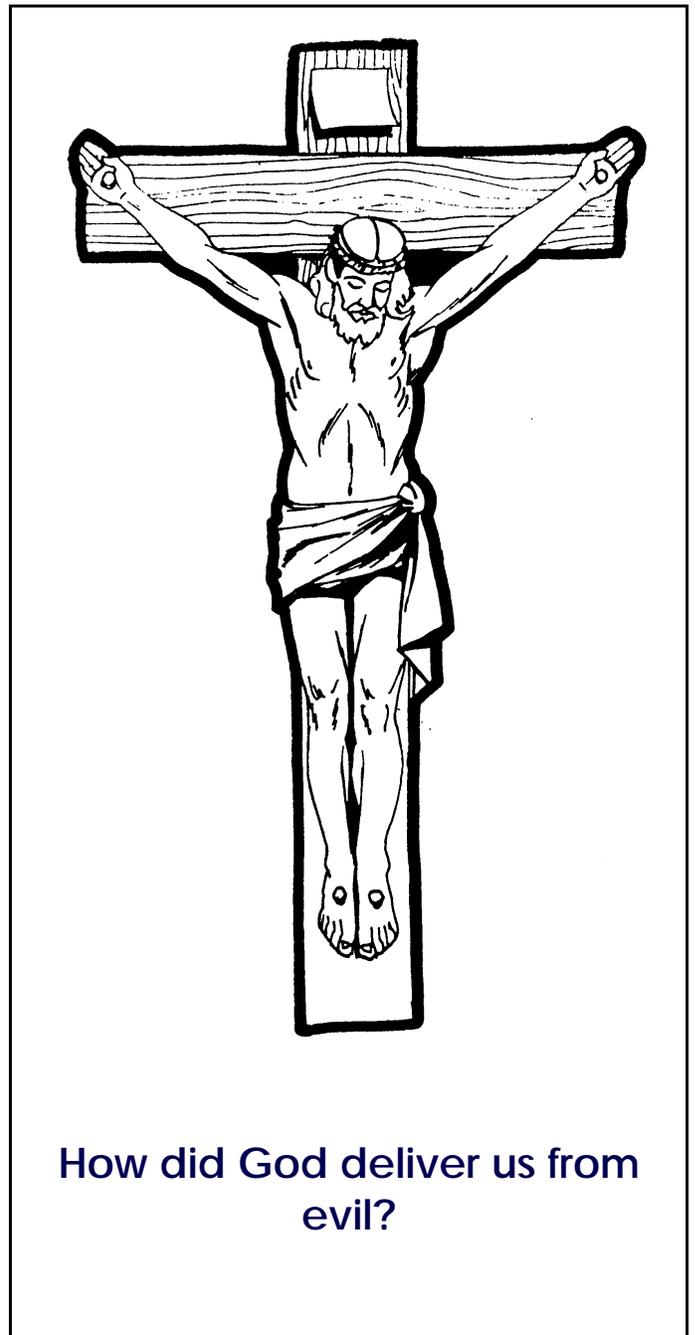
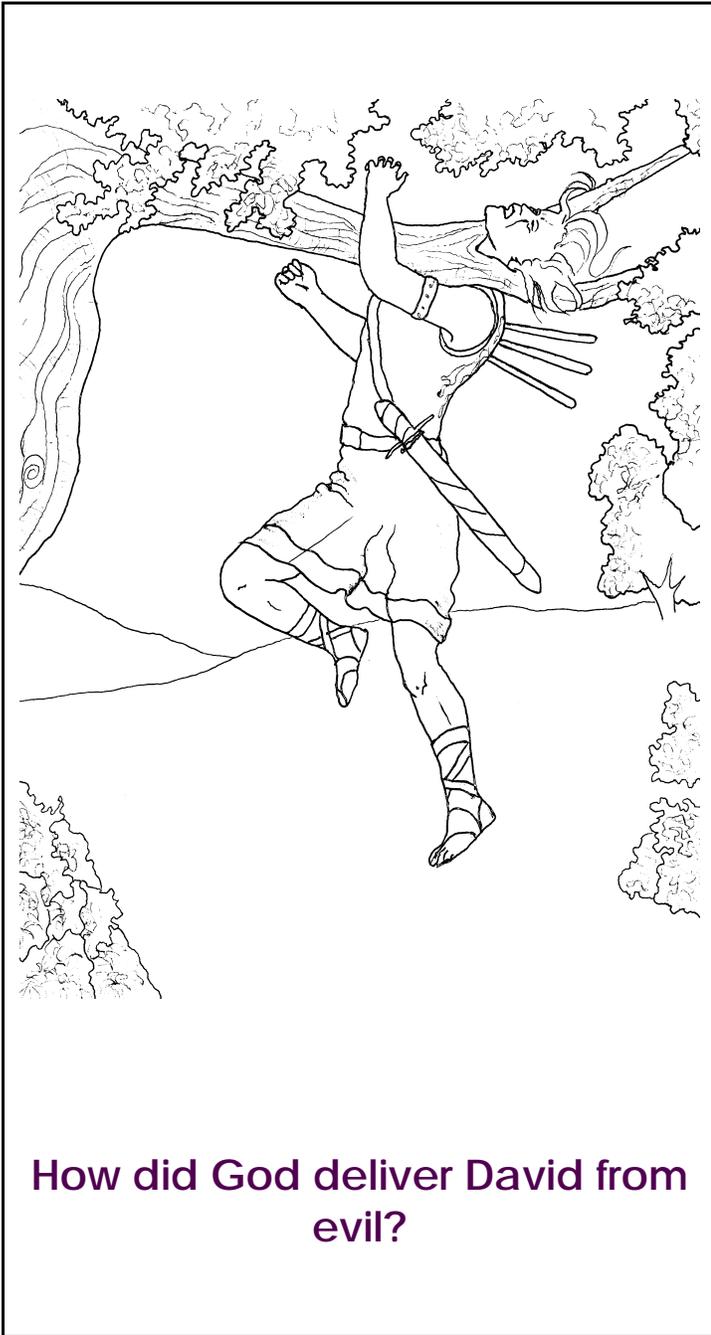
The Lord saved David from his troubles with Absalom!

Absalom rebelled against his father, David, and tried to steal the kingdom from him.

Activity One - Answer the following questions about the story.

1. Who was Absalom's father?
2. What did Absalom look like –What was he like on the outside?
3. What did Absalom tell people at the city gate?
4. Who won the battle between David's and Absalom's armies?
5. What happened to Absalom after the battle?

6. Who saved David from Absalom?



Activity Two - Color the two pictures below and then cut out as puzzle shapes for the children to piece together again.

The Lord will deliver us from all evil.

Passages

Matthew 26:41 - "Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation."

7th petition – Deliver us from evil.

American Sign Language (ASL) movements to accompany petition:

Deliver: The hands mimic the action of bringing something towards the body.

Start movement with arms extended to one side of the body, palms facing up. Complete movement by bringing arms toward the torso.

Us: Hold up middle and index fingers together (the letter U in ASL). Then touch fingers to nearest shoulder and then opposite shoulder.

From: Preparation – 1) extend arms in front of you 2) point index fingers 3) cross at the pads of index fingers

Actual Movement – Pull right index finger towards the body

Evil: Preparation – 1) make a fist 2) raise index fingers into a C-shape (the X in ASL)

Actual Movement – 1) bring up the "C's" to the corners of your mouth 2) make a half-circle with your arms down to your belly button.

Hymn - TLH 428 v. 1

I am trusting Thee, Lord Jesus,
Trusting only Thee;
Trusting Thee for full salvation,
Great and free.

Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father,
Each day we are tempted by the devil, the things in this world, and our own sinful flesh to sin against You. When we do, please help us to repent of our sins. When we are tempted, give us strength. We know that You will deliver us from every evil. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.