

BWG3: A snack for the journey

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Israel's first king (1 Samuel 8-10)

Play a game of "follow my leader", this time taking more time and using more space if possible. Ask your child: Who did God's people want to lead them? (A HUMAN KING) God told them that this wasn't a good idea. Did they listen to God? (NO—even though God is the King in charge of all kings!)

A good heart (1 Samuel 15-16)

Prompt or point out choices that you make together. Try and make some of these fun and a bit different. Eg: Which silly hat shall we wear on our walk today? Shall we walk backwards or forwards to the car? Tell your child what great choices they have made and then ask: Who did God choose to be Israel's new king? (DAVID) Did God choose him because he had a good heart or because he was big and strong? (HE HAD A GOOD HEART—he loved and obeyed God.)

David and Goliath (1 Samuel 17)

Do some actions together on your travels. When you say **Not strong**, dangle your arms by your side. When you say **Strong**, raise your arms to look strong. *Don't do this pose too* enthusiastically as you want to save something for the next action! When you say **Strongest**, show the strength pose again, but clench your fists tighter, raise them higher and pull a strong face! Have fun calling out the different prompts and seeing how quickly your child can do each action. Ask: **Who wasn't very strong in our true story from the Bible?** (DAVID) **Who was the very strong man?** (GOLIATH) **Who was even stronger than Goliath—strongest of all?** (GOD!)

Best friends (1 Samuel 18-20)

Refer to a friend that your child has spent time with or whose house you have walked past. Enjoy thinking of that friend together. Alternatively, send a thank-you note to a special friend who helps you love Jesus. Ask your child: **Did God** give David a special friend? (YES! Jonathan) Did God keep David safe while he was waiting to be king? (YES!)

King David (2 Samuel 1-2; 1 Kings 2)

Make a promise of a treat to your child (or remind them of the promise you made them during the appetiser) and explain how long they have to wait. Ask your child: What was David waiting for? (TO BECOME KING) Did God keep His promise to make David king? (YES!)

The Lord is my shepherd (Psalm 23)

Enjoy a good sing together. As well as nursery rhymes, try and sing some songs about God that your child knows, or even teach them one! Sing Baa-baa black sheep. Ask your child: Who was the shepherd in the song we read from the Bible? (GOD) Is He a good shepherd? (YES!)

The wise king (1 Kings 3-10)

Give your child the opportunity to ask for something. Make sure you limit the scope appropriately. You may want to ask what they would like to do today and then give them two or three options. Praise them about what they have asked for. Then ask your child: What did King Solomon want God to do for him in our true story from the Bible? Do prompt them by starting the answer off: He wanted God to make him... (WISE) Did God give Solomon wisdom? (YES)

God watches over Elijah (1 Kings 16-17)

Notice the weather together. If it is raining, make a point of "experiencing" it and if it is dry, make a point of not needing any boots or umbrellas. Point out people's weather accessories (sunhats, umbrellas, rain covers on buggies, winter scarves). Ask your child: Did they need any rain clothes or umbrellas in our true story from the Bible? (NO!) Who stopped the rain falling? (GOD. Yes, God did because He was angry with the king for disobeying Him and worshipping pretend gods.)

Elijah helps a widow (1 Kings 17 v 8-16)

Identify a couple of things in your cupboards/ fridge that you have run out of/are about to run out of. Make a list together; then go and get these items. Alternatively share out a snack together on your travels as above. Ask your child: Did the lady Elijah went to stay with have lots and lots of food or just enough for one more meal? (JUST ENOUGH FOR ONE MORE MEAL.) Did the lady decide to share her little bit of food with Elijah? (YES) Did she ever run out of food? (NO—God made sure it never ran out!)

Fire from heaven (1 Kings 18)

Set some challenges for your child. If there is someone equally matched with them, this can be as a contest—but you could just set them different things to see if they can do them. Eg: Can you run to that tree and back? etc. Ask your child: Could the pretend god send rain or fire in our true story from the Bible? (NO!) Could God, the one real God, send rain or fire in our true story from the Bible? (YES!)

Chariot of fire (1 Kings 19; 2 Kings 2)

Point out the "tools" you use for a particular job. This might be changing a nappy/diaper, preparing a bottle of milk for a baby, some tools you have in your car, or simply the things we always take when we go out like snacks and water etc. And/or look out for people using tools or shops selling tools. You may even have something you could buy together and think about the job you need it for. Ask your child: **Did God give Elisha what he needed to keep serving Him?** (YES)

Jar of oil (2 Kings 4 v 1-7)

Point out something you can see lots and lots of, or ask your child if they can see lots and lots of anything. Ask: Did the woman start off with lots and lots of oil or just a very little bit in our true story from the Bible? (JUST A VERY LITTLE BIT) Who turned the little bit of oil into lots and lots? (GOD! God made sure the woman had what she needed.)

Elisha's room (2 Kings 4 v 8-17)

Enjoy a good gift together. This might be some yummy food; or playing a game your child has been given; or it might be the clothes you or your child is wearing. Explain to your child that it is God who makes sure we have what we need. Thank God together for what you have been enjoying. Ask your child: What did God make sure that Elisha had in our true story from the Bible? (A ROOM FOR HIM TO STAY IN) What did God give to Elisha's friends? (A BABY)

Naaman is healed (2 Kings 5 v 1-15)

Give your child a silly instruction such as: **Put** your sock on your head. Point out how silly you are being. Ask your child: **Did Naaman think** it was silly to do what God said in our true story from the Bible? (YES) Is it ever silly to do what God says? (NO! Because what God says is never silly.)

Boy king Josiah (2 Kings 22-23)

Try and spot a little boy who might be about eight years old. Remind your child: In our true story from the Bible Josiah became king when he was only eight years old! Ask your child: Was Josiah a good king? (YES) Did he want God's people to love God and do what He said? (YES)



The brave queen (Esther 1-10)

Point out something brave your child does. Suggestions: climbing to the top of the climbing frame; walking past a barking dog (or something else that frightens them—for my son it would be a balloon!); being calm when they hurt themselves; going to a new place where they feel shy... If none of these apply, try and walk past somewhere that will prompt a "bravery memory". Ask your child: Who was brave in our true story from the Bible? (QUEEN ESTHER) Did God use her to keep His people safe? (YES!)

Fiery furnace (Daniel 3)

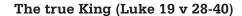
Point to things of which there are lots and lots and things of which there is only one. Eg: **Oh** look, there are lots of clouds, but only one sun. There are lots of swings, but only one slide. Lots of children, but only one (insert your child's name). Ask your child: **Did the three men want to pretend the statue was God?** (NO! They knew that God is the only real God!)

Daniel and the lions (Daniel 6)

Towards the end of a trip or activity ask your child: Can you remember all the people we have talked to? Remember together. We have talked to lots of people! It's great to talk to lots of people, but who should we pray to? (ONLY GOD!) Did Daniel pray to the king or only to God in our true story from the Bible? (ONLY TO GOD!) Did God keep Daniel safe? (YES!)

Jonah and the big fish (Jonah 1-3)

Play a game in which you tell your child where to go. Eg: Go to that tree; go to the slide; go to the gate... Praise your child. Ask them: In our true story from the Bible, did Jonah go to Nineveh when God told him to go? (NO. He ran away.) Did Jonah say sorry to God? (YES) Did Jonah go and tell the people that they needed to say sorry and stop disobeying God? (YES!)



Spot people riding on different things. Look out for bikes and scooters, skateboards etc. If appropriate, you could take your child's rideon with you. Ask your child: What did Jesus ride on in our true story from the Bible? (A DONKEY) Yes, a donkey—this showed people that Jesus was God's promised King. If you can find some branches (don't cut or break off anything unless it is from your own garden), have some fun being excited about King Jesus together. Alternatively gather some leaves to make a branch picture back at home.

A poor widow's gift (Mark 12 v 41-44)

Buy some chocolate money** or some pretend money while you are out. Alternatively as you pay for things, set aside some small change for your child to look at and handle. Ask your child: How many coins did the poor woman give to God in our true story from the Bible—lots and lots or just two? (JUST TWO) Was God happy with her gift? (YES! She loved God so much she gave Him everything she had.)

** Save any wrappers for the **Make it and munch it**. See page 88.

Washing the disciples' feet (John 13 v 3-30)

If possible, let your child get their feet dirty! This may just be on the grass or in the sandpit. Only take shoes off if it is safe! Brush your children's feet off or use a baby wipe to clean them. Alternatively point out some things that need washing! Ask your child: What did King Jesus wash in our true story from the Bible? (HIS FRIENDS' FEET) What do we all need King Jesus to wash? (OUR DIRTY HEARTS—our hearts that don't want to love God. Our hearts that are full of sin.)



The lame man (Acts 3 v 1-10)

Try and spot four different ways that people are using their legs. You may see people cycling, jogging, standing and waiting, playing a sport, walking, climbing... Alternatively you could set some more challenges for you and your child to do. Ask your child: Could the man do those things at the beginning of our true story from the Bible? (NO) Could he do them at the end of our true story from the Bible? (YES!) Who made him better? (KING JESUS)

A changed man (Acts 9 v 1-19)

Make a change to yourself and see if your child can spot what is different about you. This could vary from putting on an extra layer to putting on a wig and silly glasses! Ask your child: Can you remember how Saul changed when he met King Jesus? Give your child a chance to remember and then give the following prompts as necessary. At first Saul was very angry about King Jesus—was he still angry after he had met Jesus? (NO! He loved Jesus.) At first he was called Saul. Did God change his name? (YES. He changed it to Paul.)

Paul's journeys (Acts 9 v 20-31)

Tell your child where you are going and ask them if it is a quick journey or a very long one. Get some things ready for it. While you are out and about, you may spot a car that is well packed up and you could try and guess together where they are going. If you pass a travel agent's, you could talk about the journeys in the window. Ask your child: Who went on lots of journeys in our true story from the Bible? (PAUL) Who did he tell people about? (JESUS)

Earthquake in prison (Acts 16 v 24-34)

Point out anything to do with keys and locks. You could count the keys on your key ring, play a hide-the-keys game, and spot different types of lock as you are out and about. Ask your child: Who was in prison in our true story from the Bible? (PAUL—because he loved Jesus!) Did God look after him while he was in prison? (YES. And the prison guard found out about Jesus too!)

Jesus is coming (Revelation 1, 21, 22)

Can you hear anyone crying? Or has something sad happened today? Ask your child: Will there be any crying, sadness or pain in the brand new place King Jesus is going to make? (NO!) Wow—it will be amazing when King Jesus comes back!

