

# David: A man after God's own heart



Hi Guys, Today we are going to look at a man in the Bible named David. God described David in a very special way, he said David was a man after God's own heart.

How do people describe you?



Throughout his life David was described in many different ways. He was described as a warrior, a shepherd, a musician, a father, a sinner and a poet, but most important was the description God gave as a man after God's own heart.



David is well known as the young man who overcame the giant Goliath with a stone from his sling. He was also a talented musician and songwriter.



After winning his battle with Goliath David was invited to play his harp before King Saul who was calmed by the beautiful music he played. David was skilled in writing songs of praise to God called 'Psalms', they were poems set to music.

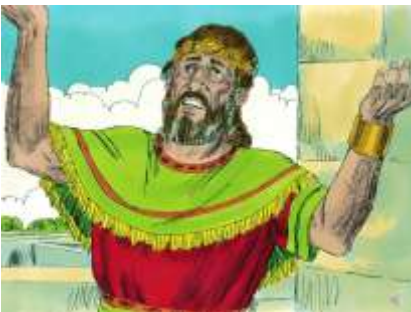
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In his poems, David spoke about God's greatness. In Psalm 8 it says, "O Lord, our God, the majesty and glory of your name fills all the earth and overflows the heavens. You have taught the little children to praise you perfectly. May their example shame and silence your enemies"



When he was young, David cared for his father's sheep. He knew that God would care for his the same way that he cared for the sheep. In Psalm 23 he says, "The Lord is my shepherd, I don't need a thing.



Later on in that psalm David says, "Even when the way goes through Death Valley, I'm not afraid when you walk at my side. Your trusty shepherd's crook makes me feel secure. How cool is it that even in our bad times God is right there with us.



But let's get back to David. In Psalm 51 David wrote a wonderful song asking God for forgiveness. He says, "Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy, erase my wrong doing. Wash me thoroughly of my sin and cleanse me from the bad things I do.

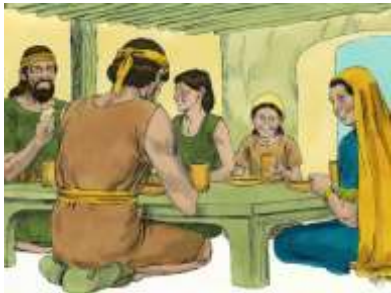


Later in that song he says, "Bring me back from gray exile, put a fresh wind in my sails! Give me a job teaching rebels your ways so the lost can find their way home." He wanted others to know that God was ready to forgive them of their sins too.

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Other psalms are prayers for help or rescue. In Psalm 70 it says, "God! Please hurry to my rescue! God, come quickly to my side! Those who are out to get me – let them fall over themselves." David had a lot of people after him, at one time his own son wanted to remove him from the throne. David's heart made him cry out to God in those times.



David also sang about the importance of obeying, "How can a young person live a clean life? By carefully reading the map of your Word. I'm single-minded in pursuit of you; don't let me miss the road signs you posted, I've put your promises in my heart so I can remember them and not sin.



Open my eyes so I can see what you show me of your miracle-wonders. I'm a stranger in these parts give me clear directions. My soul is starved and hungry, ravenous! Insatiable for your nourishing commands.



Happy are all who perfectly follow the laws of God. Happy are all who search for God and always do his will, rejecting compromise with evil and walking only in His paths



In another passage he wrote, "I love your commandments, more than the finest gold. Every law of God is right, whatever it concerns. I hate every other way.





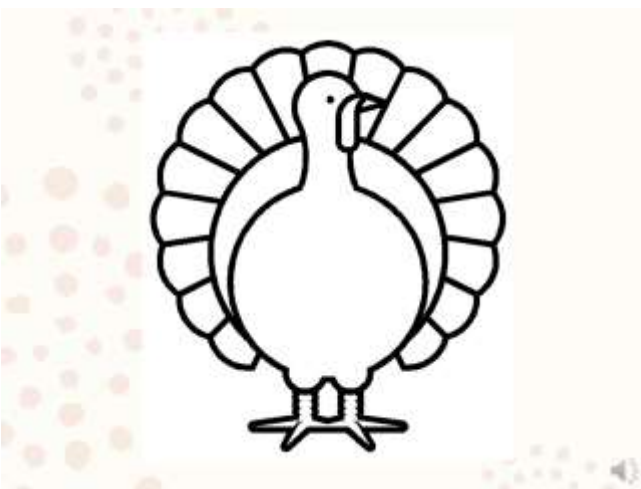
David wrote and sang many songs of praise and thanksgiving to God. “I will be glad and rejoice in you; I will sing the praises of your name, O most high.

What would you say in your song of praise?

Would you tell God how great he is, would you thank him for the comfort he give you, or would you praise him because through Jesus Christ he has made a way for you to go to heaven.



It's Thanksgiving soon and we have the opportunity to talk about what we are thankful for. Praising God for who he is and what he has done for us in one way we can be like David and be known as a person after God's own heart. In the handouts in the lesson is a sheet to download that has a big turkey on it. Print out that picture and see how many of those feathers you can fill up with the things you are thankful for.



Take a minute to print out this turkey and then use the feathers to write down things about God that you are thankful for. Ask a parent or a caregiver to help you. There are also so many things that God gives us that you can praise him for like, a home, clothes, food, fun things to do, you name it, he's given it to us.

I trust during this thanksgiving season you will take time to thank God for all he's done, that's the first step to being like David, a person after God's own heart.

## Digging In Questions

### Choose the best answer

1. David was called, "A man after \_\_\_\_\_ own heart."  
A. Moses's B. God's C. Adam's D. his
2. David killed \_\_\_\_\_ with a slingshot and a pebble.  
A. his Dad B. his brothers C. Goliath D. a stranger
3. David wrote songs called \_\_\_\_\_ in worship to God.  
A. Psalms B. Poems C. Country songs D. Show tunes
4. David wrote songs about the importance of  
A. Brushing his teeth B. Making Friends, C. God's word D. Sleeping
5. David asked God for \_\_\_\_\_ when he was being chased by his enemies.  
A. Help B. Food C. Songs D. Love

### Write your own Psalm:

Name 3 things you like about God:

Name 3 things you are thankful for:

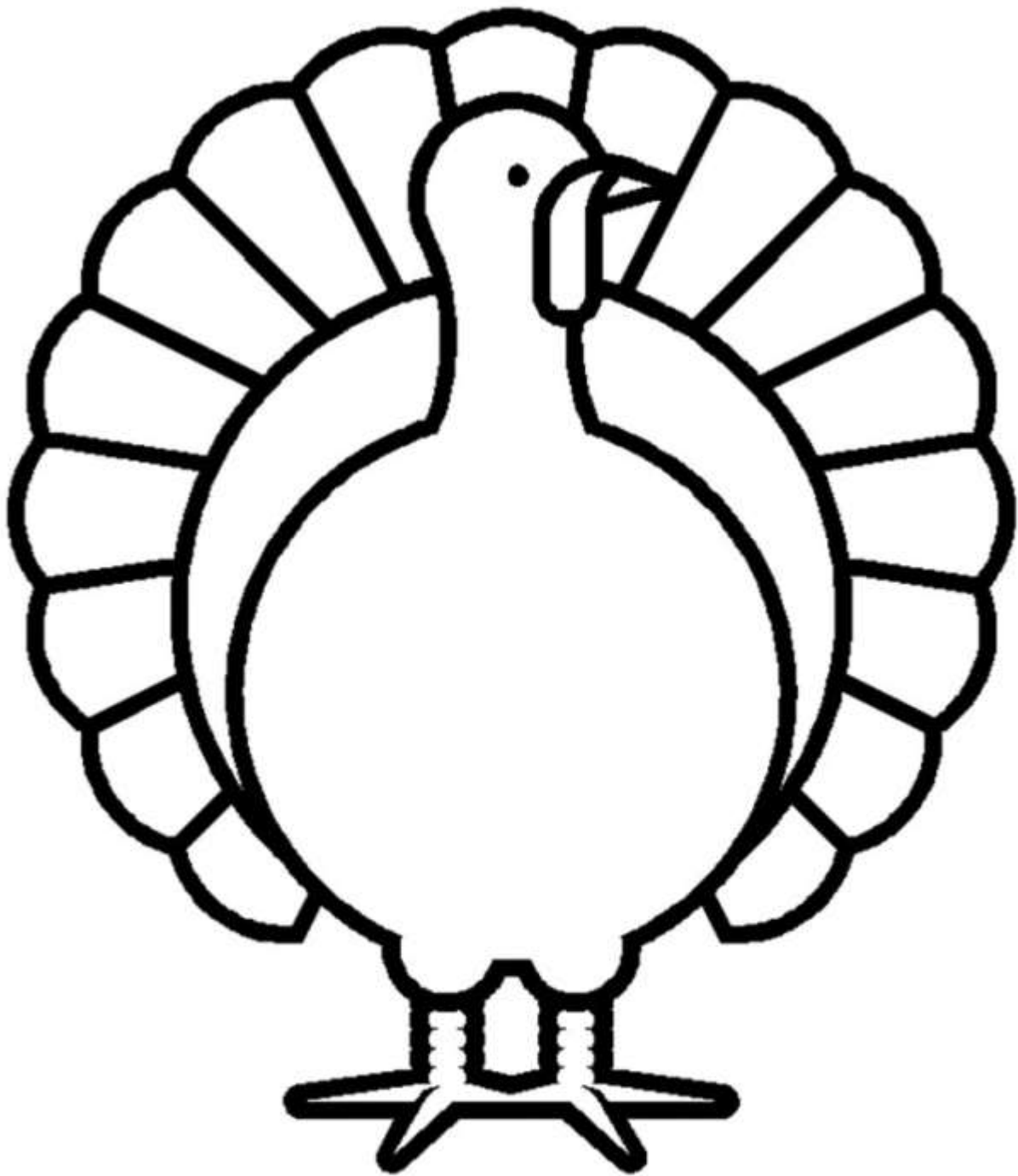
Name 3 things God has done for you:

On the back of your paper write out this psalm.

"God you are (insert the things you like about God.) You are an amazing God and give me more than I deserve. I am thankful for the following gifts you give me (insert the things you are thankful for). And God I really want to thank you for the things you have done for me like, (insert the things God has done for you.) You are a great God. Amen.

Answers to the Questions:

1. B 2. C 3. A 4. C 5. A



Color your Thanksgiving turkey and add to each one of the feathers something that you are thankful for. Then take this list and spend some time thanking God for all he has given you.



Search me, God, and know my heart;  
test me and know my anxious thoughts.  
See if there is any offensive way in me,  
and lead me in the way everlasting.

Psalm 139:23-24