



St Helen's
Bishopsgate

Bible time booklet | 3-5's

1 Kings 1-11

God's kingdom

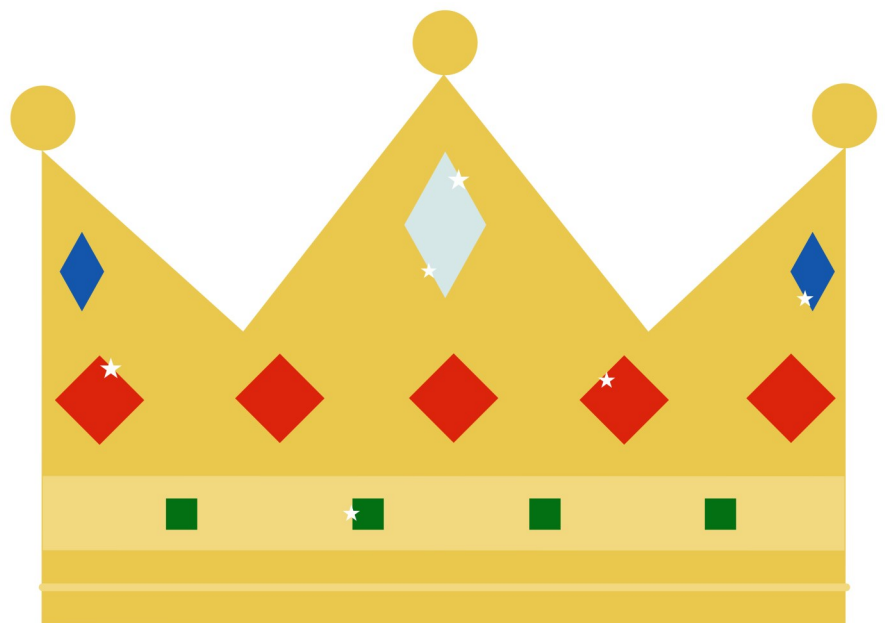


1 Kings 1-11

Ever since the creation of the world, God has been working towards his kingdom. A place where his people live under his rule. Adam and Eve's rebellion threw this off course. But now, in the promised land, God's plan would be back on track. God promised King David that one of his sons would rule a wonderful and safe kingdom, the throne of which would be established forever.

Action rhyme

All action rhymes will be to the tune of 'The wheels on the bus'.



Using the material – a guide for parents

We hope these Bible times will help you:

- To know what we've been teaching in Sunday school - so you can talk to your child about it and pray for them as they hear from the book of 1 Kings about God's wonderful kingdom.
- To give you an opportunity to dig into the passage with your child and clarify, reinforce, or build their understanding.
- To give you an opportunity to help your child think through further how they are responding to what they're hearing in God's word.

We hope that this will enable us to better partner with you as you continue to bring up your children in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

Why not get into the habit of praying with your child, asking for God's help, before you start the study. Then cover as much of the study as you feel able to with the age and attention span of your child. You could go through the study over a meal time or at bedtime.

God's kingdom is ruled by God's king

We're going to learn about God's kingdom. You need three things for a kingdom: 1) A king to rule over the kingdom. 2) A place for the king to rule over. 3) A people to live in the kingdom.

A long time ago there was the kingdom of Israel. God's people, the Israelites, were living in God's place, Israel. There were lots of towns and cities and villages, and rivers and fields. And God's people had a king called Solomon. King Solomon didn't make himself king. King Solomon didn't pass lots of tests to be king. King Solomon didn't pay lots of money to become king. God made Solomon king.

God also made King Solomon very wise. Because King Solomon was wise, he could be a good king over the kingdom. He would know what was good and right and best. He would be good at telling people what to do.

King Solomon was the wisest and best king in the Old Testament. But he wasn't the wisest and best king in the Bible. A long time after Solomon there came another king, King Jesus. God made Jesus king. King Jesus is greater than King Solomon. King Jesus is wiser than King Solomon. King Jesus is better than King Solomon. King Jesus is God's king who rules over God's kingdom. King Jesus rules over us.



Read

Pray and read 1 Kings 4:29



Look

Look at verse 29... What did God give King Solomon?



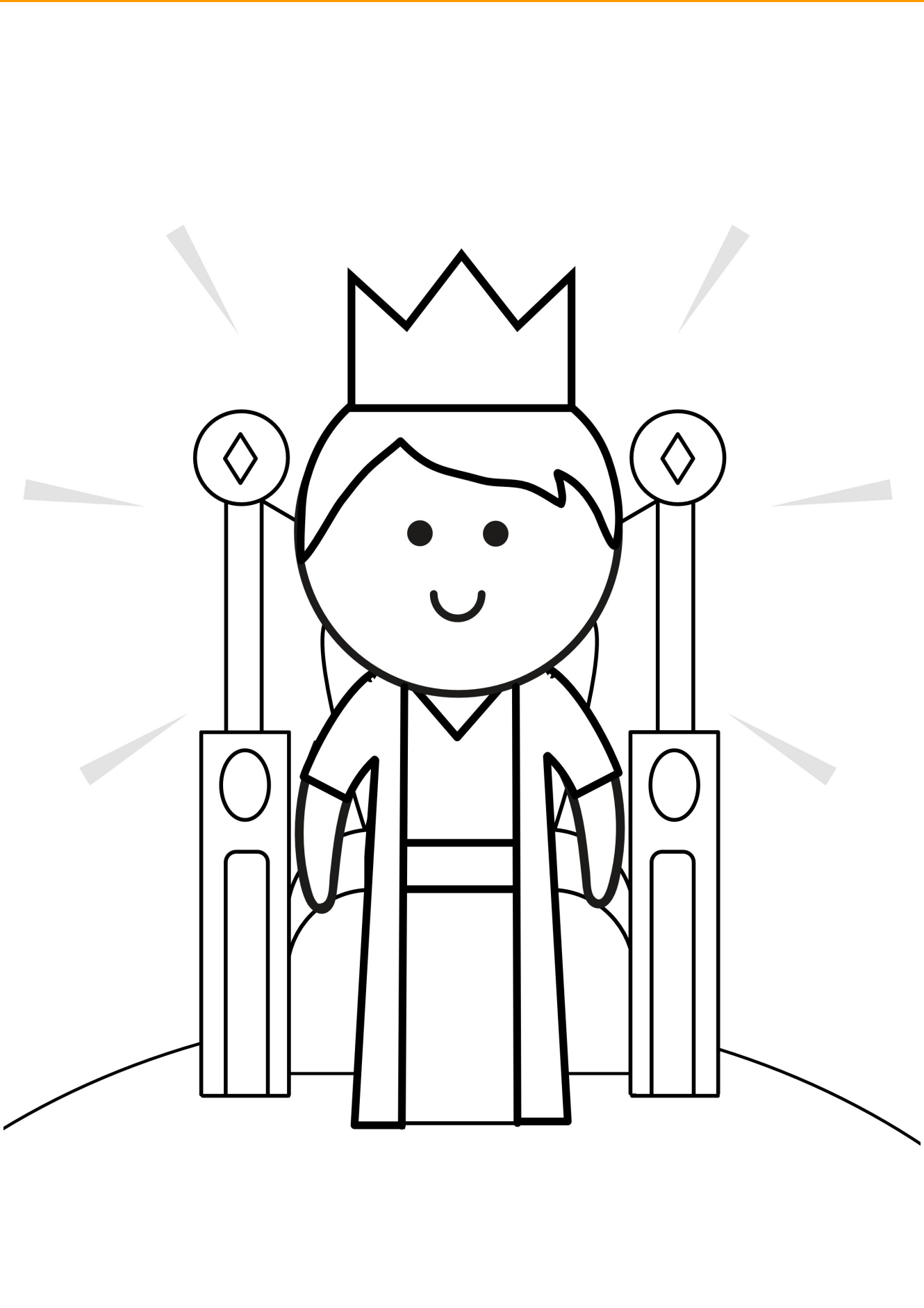
Pray

We **praise** you God that Jesus is king.



Sing

God's kingdom is ruled by God's king,
By God's king,
By God's king,
God's kingdom is ruled by God's king,
God's king is very wise.



God's kingdom is where God lives

In God's kingdom King Solomon built a special building. He got lots of wood and stone and silver and gold. He hired lots of builders. And he built a temple for God to live in. It was huge. And inside, in the most special place, it was covered in gold.

When Solomon had finished building the temple, they had a big party. At the party something strange happened. A big dark cloud came and filled the temple. This was God's way of showing he was with his people. God was coming to live with his people. The people could now come to talk to him, say sorry for their sin, and ask him to forgive them.

We don't have the temple anymore. But we can still talk to God. Jesus came to earth to be with his people. And even though he's not here anymore he gave us his spirit who lives inside of us. With God's spirit inside us we can talk to God wherever we might be: at church, at home, at the park. And when we say sorry for our sin, God hears us, and will forgive us.



Read

Pray and read 1 Kings 8:12-13



Look

Look at verse 13... What did Solomon build for God?



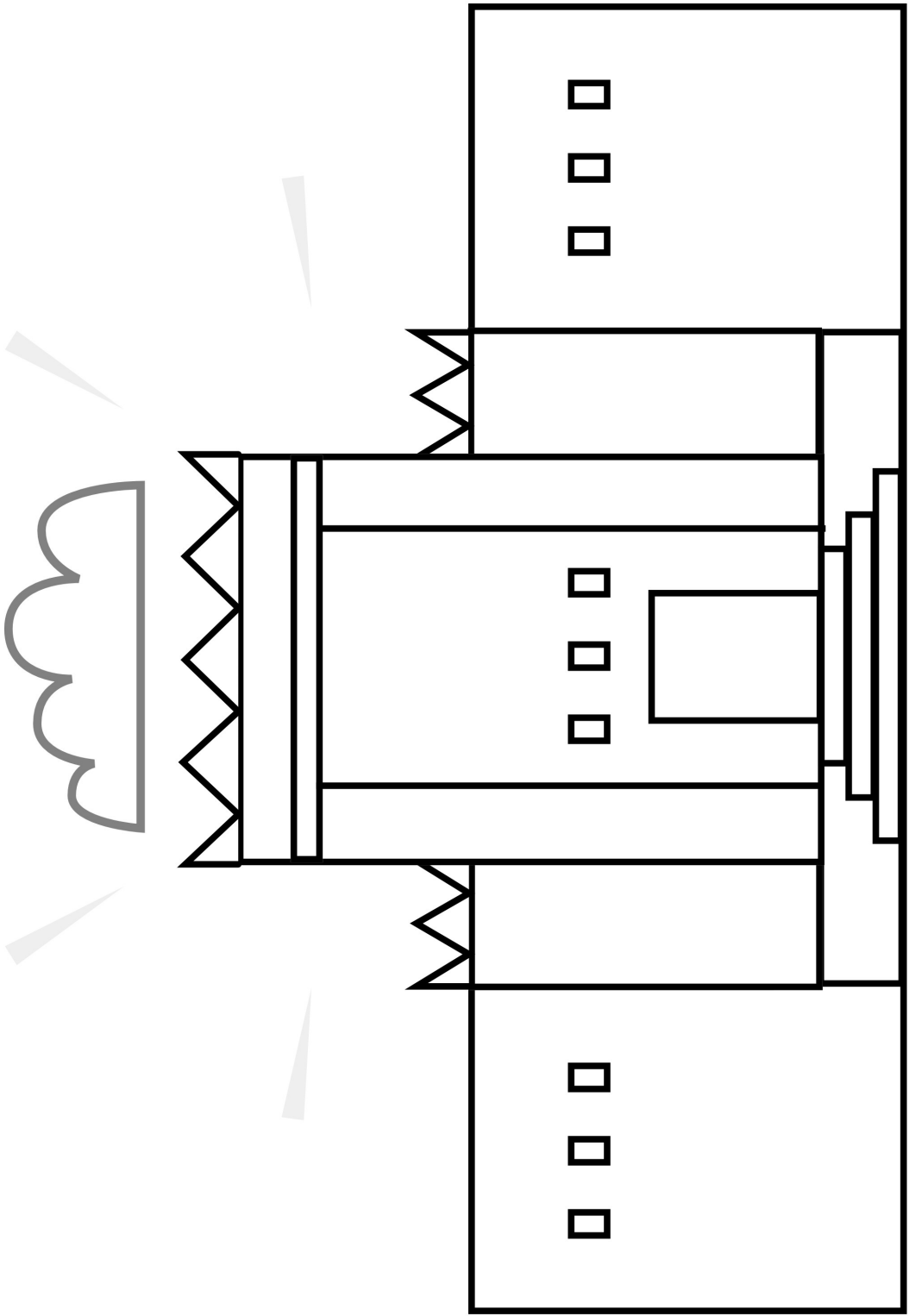
Pray

We are **sorry** God for our sin.



Sing

God's kingdom is where God lives,
Where God lives,
Where God lives,
God's kingdom is where God lives,
And we will live with him.



God's kingdom is the best

King Solomon's kingdom was amazing. King Solomon ruled so well that the kingdom was safe from enemy attack. King Solomon ruled so well that everyone was really wealthy. And in the middle of the kingdom was God's house, the temple. Solomon's kingdom was a wonderful place to live.

One day King Solomon had an important visitor. The Queen of Sheba had come to see how wonderful Solomon's kingdom was. When Solomon showed her around she was amazed. The kingdom was even better than she thought it would be. It was like a birthday party: lots of good food, lots of good friends, lots of good fun. She exclaimed, 'How happy your people must be!' What an amazing place to live.

Sadly though it didn't last. Solomon disobeyed God and so God took the kingdom away from him. All the things that made Solomon's kingdom so good were now gone. But the good news is that there is somewhere even better than Solomon's kingdom – the Kingdom of Heaven. The Kingdom of Heaven is where Jesus rules. It's a real place where we will live. God tells us it's a bit like a party: lots of good food, lots of good friends, lots of good fun. It's a place where we will live with King Jesus for ever. God's kingdom is the best.



Read

Pray and read 1 Kings 10:8



Look

Look at verse 10:8... Were the people in Solomon's kingdom happy or sad?



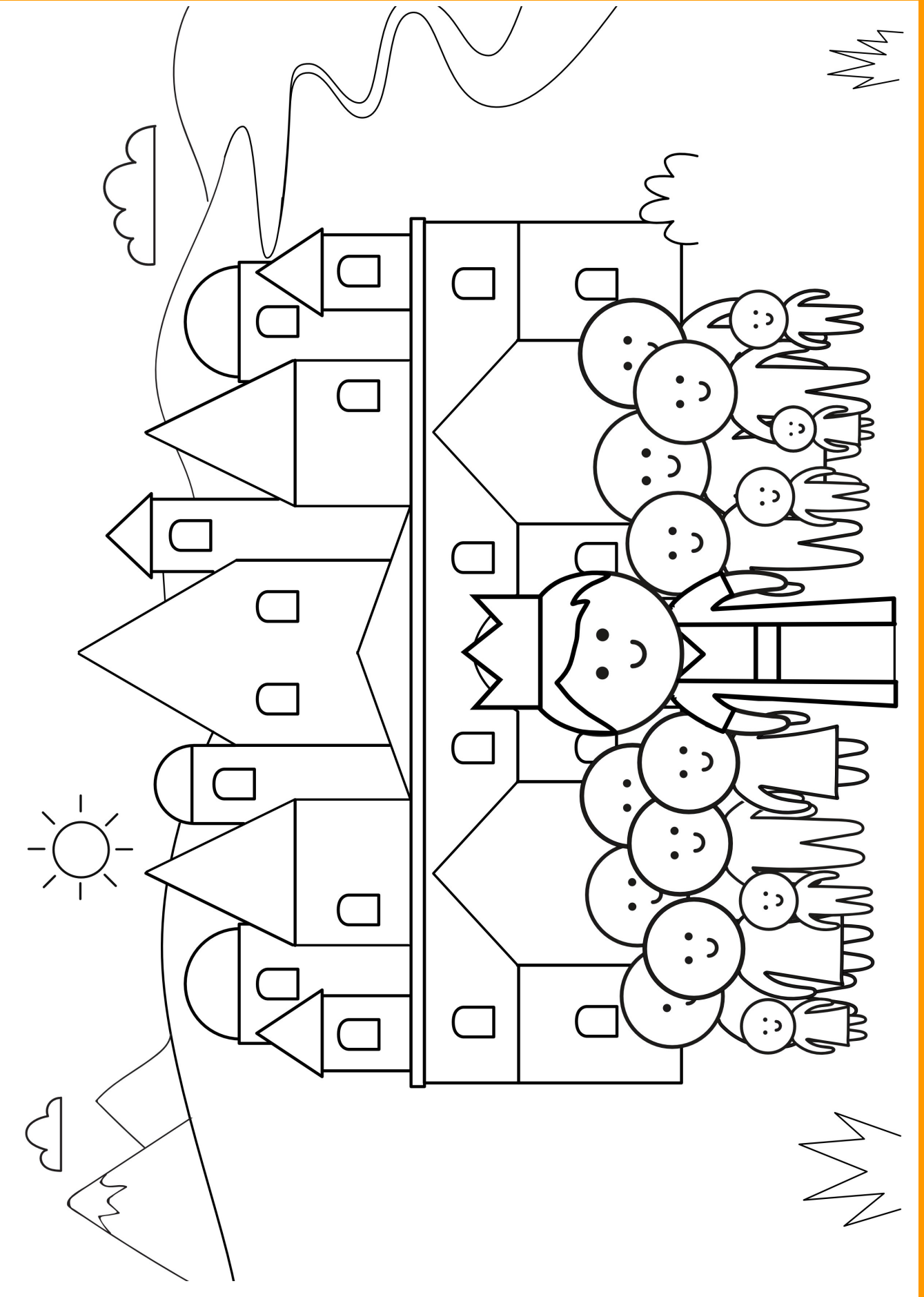
Pray

Thank you, God, that we will live in your amazing kingdom.



Sing

God's kingdom is the very best,
Very best,
Very best,
God's kingdom is the very best,
I can't wait to be there!



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