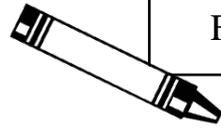


**S**aul blessed David. He asked David to be kind to his family when he became king. David said he would.



Finish the picture.



Saul was resting. What did David cut?

Saul's

ROBE

Trace the letters.  
Color the picture.



Name \_\_\_\_\_

**DAVID AND SAUL**

Old Testament Lesson #88

David was fleeing from King Saul, who wanted to kill him. (See “Points to Consider” for a list of places David had gone to avoid Saul.) The LORD had delivered David every time Saul got close.

This time, when Saul and his 3,000 chosen men hunted David near En Gedi (en-GE-di), they were closer than they knew. David and his men were hiding in the recesses of the very cave in which Saul chose to take a rest.

David’s men were delighted! This was David’s chance to be completely delivered from this madman. David crept up and sliced off a piece of Saul’s outer robe. (This was to show Saul that David could have killed Saul but had chosen to spare him.) But moments later, David repented that he had done even this small thing against the LORD’s anointed king. He told his men he was sorry he had done this and would not allow them to hurt Saul.

As the king departed from the cave, David called out, “My lord the king!” David faced the surprised Saul, bowing to show honor, and asked him why he believed the people who told him that David wanted to harm him. David held up the piece of Saul’s robe, showing that he’d had the opportunity to kill Saul, and asked the LORD to judge between them. He told Saul that Saul had been hunting an innocent man. David compared it to hunting down a dead dog or a flea.

Saul called David “my son” and was reduced to tears by what he had seen and heard. In astonishment, Saul said, “When a man finds his enemy, does he let him get away unharmed?” He blessed David and proclaimed that he knew that David would be king. He asked David to swear that he would not wipe out Saul’s family when he did become king, and David gave his word.

**POINTS TO CONSIDER:**

- The places to which David fled:
  1. his house - 1 Samuel 19:11
  2. Ramah (RAY-ma), and then with Samuel to Naioth (NAY-oth) - 1 Samuel 19:18
  3. to where Jonathan was - most likely Gibeath (GIB-ee-a) 1 Samuel 20:1
  4. Nob to Ahimelech the priest - 1 Samuel 21:1
  5. Gath (the Philistine city) - 1 Samuel 21:10
  6. the cave Adullam (a-DUL-lam) - 1 Samuel 22:1
  7. Mizpah (MIZ-pa) in Moab (MO-ab) - 1 Samuel 22:3
  8. the forest of Hereth (HE-reth) - 1 Samuel 22:5
  9. Keilah (ke-I-la) - 1 Samuel 23:5
  10. the Desert of Ziph (ZIF) - 1 Samuel 23:14
  11. the Desert of Maon (MAY-on) - 1 Samuel 23:24
  12. En Gedi (en-GE-di) - 1 Samuel 23:29

**David and Saul**

- I. King Saul and his soldiers hunted for David and planned to kill him.
  - A. David had escaped from Saul many times.
  - B. Now Saul and David were in the same cave.
- II. David slipped up to Saul and cut a piece of his robe.
  - A. Moments later he regretted that he had behaved this way toward the LORD’s king.
  - B. David apologized to his men and said they could not injure Saul.
- III. Saul left the cave.
  - A. As he walked out, David called to the king and bowed before him.
  - B. David showed Saul the cut fabric and said God would judge between them.
  - C. He said Saul had been hunting an innocent man.
- IV. Saul was surprised by David’s kindness and blessed David.
  - A. Saul asked for protection for his family when David became king.
  - B. David promised that Saul’s family would not be killed.

**ANSWER KEY:**

sorry, not, hurt,  
left, bowed,  
surprised,  
showed, why,  
hunting, killed

