

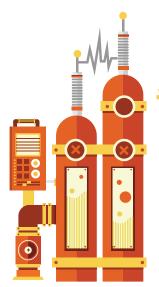


draw it!

What is your favorite thing to do with your friends? Draw a picture of it.



What do you think you could do to keep sin from tearing your group of friends apart? Write a letter to God and tell Him about it.



this week we learned

The Kingdom Divided

BIG IDEA: Sin tears God's people apart, so we should confess and turn away from our sinful desires.

BIBLE BASIS: 1 Kings 11:1-12:24

KEY VERSE: "Why do you fight and argue among yourselves? Isn't it because of your sinful desires? They fight within you." James 4:1 (NIrV)

read it!

1 Kings 11:27-40. Draw a picture of the story or write to God about your favorite part of the story. Tell Him why you liked it.









Write a prayer to God. Tell Him about one of your sins and ask Jesus for forgiveness.





next week's lesson

Elijah vs. the Prophets of Baal

BIG IDEA: The Lord is the one and only God, so we can put Him first in our life.
BIBLE BASIS: 1 Kings 18:16-39
KEY VERSE: "Do not put any other gods in place of me." Exodus 20:3 (NIrV)



GROUP ACTIVITY

This activity can be used in a small group at church or even with your kids at home!

Circle Sit

Say: In this week's story, we saw how Solomon and Rehoboam's sin caused the nation of Israel to be torn in two. The same can happen to us. Our sin has the power to destroy community and tear friendships apart. We're going to play a game right now that will help us picture that and think about ways we can stop that from happening.

Directions: Tell your group to stand shoulder to shoulder in a tight circle facing inward. Next, ask your group to make a quarter turn to the left so that everyone is standing front to back. Have them move in even closer to one another so that they are almost touching. On the count of 3, have them all sit down at once. If done right, they should all be sitting on each other's knees and the whole circle will support itself. If the circle falls, tell your group to get up and keep trying until they're successful. Once successful, allow them to remain seated for about 10 seconds before gently pulling one of the kids out of the circle so that the whole thing collapses. If time permits and your group is interested, you can repeat the game multiple times. When finished, tell them to take a seat in a circle on the floor and ask the following questions:

Question: How does that game remind you of what sin can do to a community or a circle of friends?

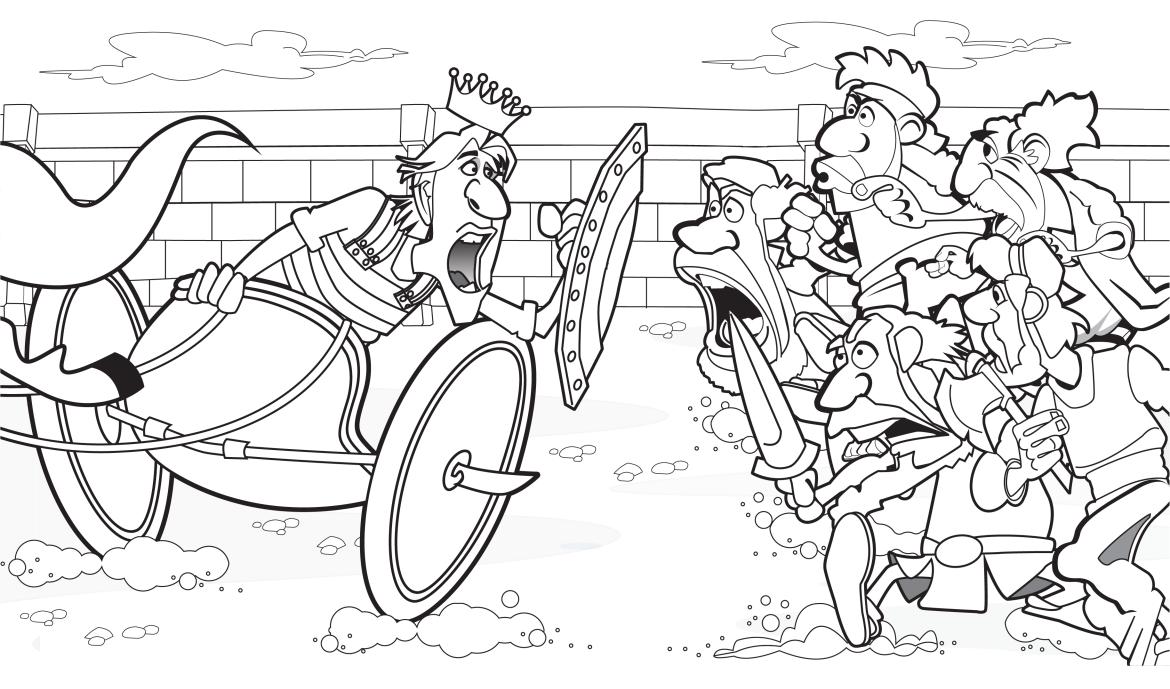
Say: In the game, the circle was kind of like a community or a circle of friends. Everyone supported and helped each other. But I was kind of like sin. When sin comes into a community, it can tear friends apart and knock the whole community down.

Question: Has that kind of thing ever happened to a group of your friends? In other words, has someone ever done something that caused your group of friends to break apart? What happened?

Question: What can you do to stop sin from destroying your community or group of friends?

Question: How can this small group of friends right here help each other follow Jesus more?

WHY DO YOU FIGHT AND ARGUE **AMONG YOURSELVES? ISN'T IT BECAUSE OF YOUR SINFUL DESIRES?** THEY FIGHT WITHIN YOU. JAMES 4:1 (NIRV)



"Why do you fight and argue among yourselves? Isn't it because of your sinful desires? They fight within you." James 4:1 (NIrV)