

Find the words from  
Hebrews 13:2<sup>CEV</sup>

Be sure to welcome  
strangers into your  
home. By doing this,  
some people have  
welcomed angels as  
guests, without even  
knowing it.

S U R P R I S W E E N T E R T  
A S T R A N G E R S I N G R E  
E U T H S O N L O R S S O M E  
U R R P R I S C E I E N T E R  
B E T W I T H O U T A I N G R  
E E T H N O N M O R S U P R P  
R K I S T E W E L C O M E E N  
T N E T O R T D A I N G O R G  
E O E T H O N O R S U R P P U  
R W I D O I N G S E E N L T E  
E I R T A I N G R A N G E L S  
E N E B T H O N O R S U R P T  
R G I Y O U R S E E N T H I S  
T E R T A I N G R E E T A H O  
N O R S H O M E U R P E V E N  
R I S E E N T E R T A I E N G

Do not be afraid... for the Lord your God will  
personally go ahead of you. He will never fail you nor  
abandon you.

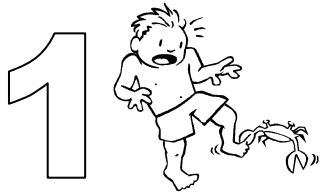
Deuteronomy 31:6<sup>NLT</sup>



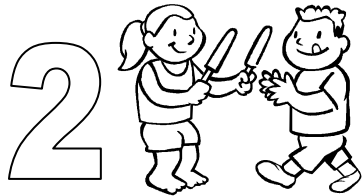
# The Judges

## Sabbath

Some of the people we read about this week didn't think they were special – but everyone is special to God, and there is something that everyone can do for God. Solve the equations and draw a line to the answer to see what each of these people can do for God.



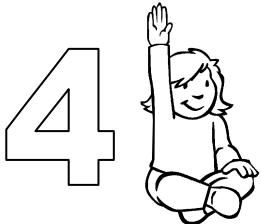
**12-8 this girl  
will set a  
good example**



**25x2-50 this boy  
won't use  
swear words**



**20-18 this girl  
will share with  
the new boy**



**3x3-6 this boy  
will do what is  
right even when  
his friends don't**

Year 1, Quarter 4, Week 3, Level: "Pre/Teen"

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Clipart: "destroying idol of baal" - <http://thebiblerevival.com>

Refer: Judges 6:1-32 NLT; Patriarchs and Prophets p542-548; The Bible Story vol3 p115-120

## Sunday

The job of removing the remaining Canaanites continued even after Joshua died. Do you remember Caleb, Joshua's friend and fellow spy? Caleb was growing old too, but still had the town of Kiriath-sepher to capture, so he promised that the man who captured it, could marry his daughter Acsah. Othniel, his nephew did and when Othniel and Acsah were married, Acsah also asked her father for the gift of a field and a spring and he gladly gave them.

The other tribes were clearing their lands too but instead of completely removing the idol worshipping Canaanites as God had commanded, some tribes made slaves of them.

But under the influence of the Canaanites living among them, many of the Israelites started to worship idols; so God allowed King Cushan-rishathaim of Aram to make the Israelites slaves for eight years. Then God called Othniel to become a judge; to call the people back to worshipping God and to lead them to victory over their enemies.

But forty years later when Othniel died, the people again forgot God. So King Eglon of Moab to make them slaves for eighteen years until they turned back to God. Then Ehud, a left-handed man from Benjamin led the Israelites to victory and for eighty years there was peace.

Not all of the judges were men. Deborah was a prophet of God and a judge. When the people turned to God after twenty years under King Jabin and his army commander Sisera, God sent a message through Deborah to Barak to lead the Israelites to victory. But Barak was afraid and asked Deborah to go with him. She agreed, but said that because of his lack of faith, the honour would not be his."

God gave them a great victory that day but Sisera escaped. He stopped at the camp of Heber the Kennite, where Heber's wife Jael gave him a drink and helped him hide under a blanket. When he fell asleep, she took a hammer and stuck a tent peg through his temple. Then Deborah the prophet composed a song in memory of what God had done and how Jael had stopped Sisera.

What are your favourite things to do? What do you like to do when you have free time?

What are your favourite things to buy? What do you spend any spare money on?

What do you day-dream about? What do you like to imagine?

Who and what do you like to copy? In the way dress, how you do your hair, how you talk, how you act?

Looking at your answers above, what seems to be the most important thing in your life?

Is this something in danger of becoming a god to you? Perhaps you should find a Christian adult who you trust to discuss it with, like your parents, pastor or church teacher, and make a plan to stop that happening.

The Bing dictionary  
says a God is  
"something that  
dominates: something  
that is so important  
that it takes over  
somebody's life"

In ancient times people worshiped many different things including the sun, the earth, animals, volcanos and statues.

Have you ever seen movies or photos of people worshipping other gods? YES / NO

Have you ever seen an idol in real life? YES / NO

Would you ever think of worshipping an idol or the sun or a volcano? YES / NO / MAYBE

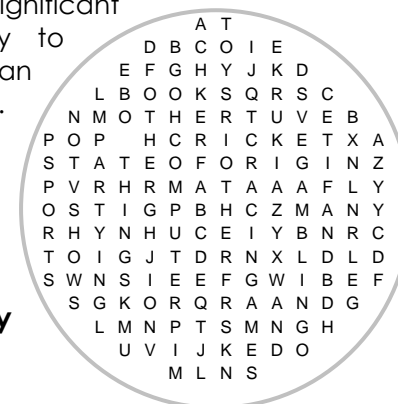


It probably seems silly to you to worship the sun or an idol but to people who didn't remember that God had created the world, the sun which brings light and warmth to earth, must have seemed very powerful, the same would be true of a volcano whose eruption or lava flow could destroy everything in its path. When people become superstitious, it seems to them that more bad things happened when they didn't perform certain rituals or worship activities, and more good things seem to happen when they do. So they come to believe that their gods have power and that they can influence their luck by how they worship their gods.

Although idols are not as common in our society, we can break the first Commandment just as easily today.

People who worship idols will give money, food or other things as sacrifices to their god. They will spend time everyday doing things for their god, perhaps repeating special words. Without realising, people today can be giving a significant amount of their time and money to something which, although it is not an idol-statue has become a god to them.

Find these examples in the grid:  
**AFL, NRL, State of Origin, cricket and other sports, gambling, racing, partying, toys, computer and other games, TV shows, books and many other things.**



## Monday

Forty years later the Israelites forgot God again and then Midianites attacked; stealing and destroying throughout the land for seven years.

One day Gideon was threshing wheat in his winepress so the Midianites would not find him, when someone appeared and said, "The Lord has chosen you to rescue Israel!"

Gideon said "Show me a sign - wait here until I come back." Quickly, he went home to get some meat, bread and broth.



When he returned, the angel of God, for that is who the stranger was, said to him, "Place the meat and the bread on this rock, and pour the broth over it."

Gideon did as he was told, then the angel touched the meat and bread with the tip of his staff and fire flared up from the rock and burned them up. Then the angel disappeared.

That night the Lord said to Gideon, "Pull down the altar to the idol Baal, then build an altar to the Lord here on this hilltop. Take the second bull from your father's herd, and sacrifice it as a burnt offering."

So Gideon took ten servants and did as the Lord had commanded, but he did it at night because he was afraid of what the town's people would do.



The next morning, the people discovered their idol was gone; they soon found out that Gideon was responsible and demanded that he be brought out and stoned to death.

But Joash, Gideon's father said, "Why are you defending Baal? If Baal is really a god, let him come and destroy the one who broke down his altar!"

## Tuesday

Why were the Israelites having troubles? Use the code to find out.

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ⇒ | ♦ | ↖ | ♂ | ↵ | T | Ⓢ | ⚔ | ♀ | ⌚ | ↑ | ≡ | ↕ |
| A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L | M |
| ⊙ | ♂ | * | ⌘ | ↵ | ↓ | ➡ | ↗ | Ⓢ | ↑ | B | * | ▼ |
| N | O | P | Q | R | S | T | U | V | W | X | Y | Z |

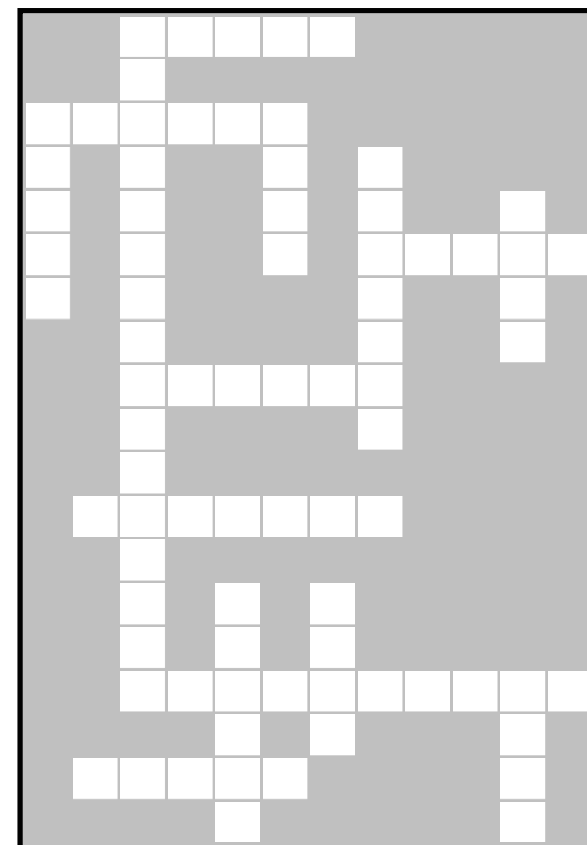
➡ ↵ \* T Ⓢ Ⓢ ➡

Ⓢ Ⓢ Ⓢ ⇒ ⊙ Ⓢ

↑ Ⓢ ↓ ↵ ↵ \* ↵ Ⓢ Ⓢ Ⓢ ↓

Did you notice a pattern in Sunday's story? Every time the Israelites forgot God and started worshipping idols, enemies came and caused trouble for them. But whenever they turned back to God and obeyed Him, they defeated their enemies and then had peace in the land.

Look over Sunday's and Monday's stories again and fit the underlined names into the grid.



## Wednesday

Do you remember where sin and Satan came from?

Ezekiel 28:13-15 is one of the verses that tells us about Lucifer, the beautiful angel who wanted to become like God. Lucifer became Satan and now the whole universe is watching to see who's way is best; Lucifer's or God's.

The Ten Commandments are the rules for living God's way.

Read the first of the Ten Commandments in Exodus 20:3 and write it in your own words.

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The Israelites as God's chosen people were supposed to be demonstrating to the rest of the world what it was like to live God's way. God had warned the Israelites through Moses, that they must not live amongst the idol worshipping Canaanites because the temptation to worship their idols would be too great and it turns out that God was right.

Fill in the missing words and solve the crossword.

Exodus 20:3<sub>NLT</sub> "You must not have any other \_ \_ \_ (7a) \_ \_ \_ (5d) me."

Judges 2:2 "You were to destroy their \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ (9a). But you have \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ (4a) my command.

Judges 2:19<sub>NLT</sub> "When the \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ (8a) \_ \_ \_ \_ (6d), the people returned to their \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ (2a) ways, behaving worse than those who had lived before them. They went after other \_ \_ \_ \_ (7d), \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ (3a) and \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ (1d) them."

