

Hello boys and girls

BY ESTHER NAIDOO

Hello boys and girls, I'm so excited that in a few weeks time it will be Spring. With it comes warm and sunny days, which means we get to play outside and enjoy my favourite activity, swimming.

The thing I enjoy most about Spring is that every year mommy helps us plant herbs and vegetables. Last year we planted beans and cherry tomatoes, those are the little ones that mommy uses in salad. I love the process of preparing the soil, planting the seeds, watering it daily and even the task of adding smelly compost to help it grow. The best part of course is when the plant is fully grown and you get to pick the fruit or vegetables.

Mommy always uses this process to remind us that the seed we place in the ground is like our faith in Jesus. When we get saved our faith is sometimes small and we still struggle with fear and trusting God fully.

But as we mature and water our faith with prayer and add nutrients to enrich it with the Word of God in the Bible our faith grows and becomes strong. The fruits that are produced when we grow are both natural, so things we can see and touch, like being able to witness to a friend about Jesus and seeing their lives change as well as spiritual like a heart that is patient and that shows love and compassion to others.

The Bible says in John 15 that Jesus is the true vine, we are the branches and God is the gardener who looks after and prunes us so that we can bear fruit, like grapes in a vineyard if you think of it in the literal sense. It also tells us that we must be in Jesus to bear fruit otherwise we will not grow. Ask your mommy or daddy to read you the full passage. This passage of scripture also has a promise attached to it at the end, that if we remain in Jesus and allow God to cultivate the fruits in our lives that we can ask God for anything according to His will and it will be done. I think that's amazing.

Prayer

Dear God thank You for being the gardener of our lives and souls. Thank You that You look after us and prune us with chastisement so that we can grow and bear fruit. Help us to also look after our faith my watering it with prayer and reading the Bible. Thank You that we know that if we are in Jesus and He is in us that we can ask anything of You and it will be done. We love You with our whole heart.



David and Saul - 1 Samuel 24

Fill in the missing words:

(v1) Now it happened, when Saul had returned from following the _(a)_, that it was told him, saying, "Take note! _(b)_ is in the Wilderness of En Gedi. (v2) Then _(c)_ took _(d)_ chosen men from all _(e)_, and went to seek David and his men on the Rocks of the Wild Goats.

a) _____ b) _____

c) _____ d) _____

e) _____



Word Puzzle

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

CAVE
 COURAGE
 DAVID
 FORGIVING
 ISRAEL
 KILL
 KNIFE
 MEN
 PHILISTINES
 ROBE
 SAUL
 SAVED
 SCARED

Interesting fact: The caves in the desert of En Gedi were used by the people as a place to stay and it also served as a burial place. The caves were large enough to hold 1000's of people.