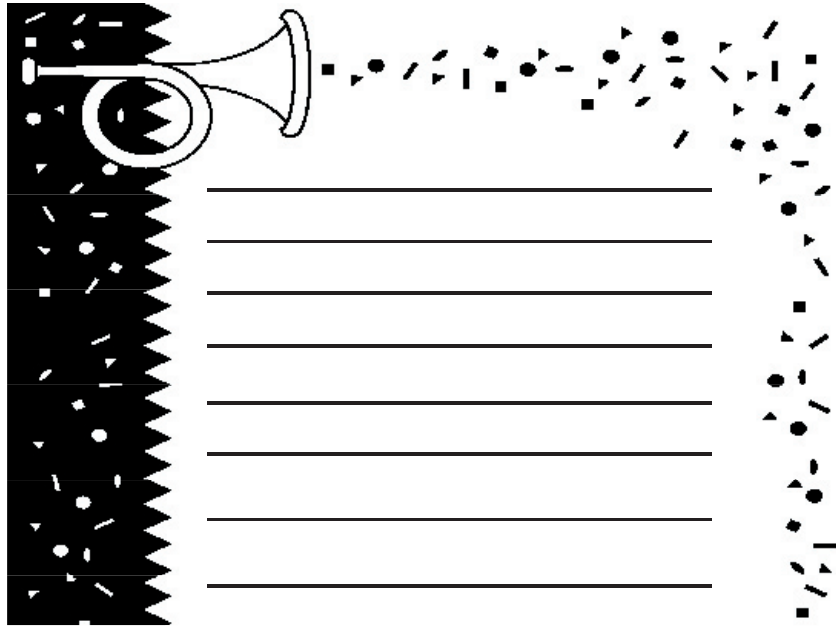


David tells us what to do in Psalm 66:1-6. Write verse 1 on the lines below.



What about you? Is Jesus helping you be happy with the things God has given you? Why don't you tell Him what you are thankful for by listing some of them here.



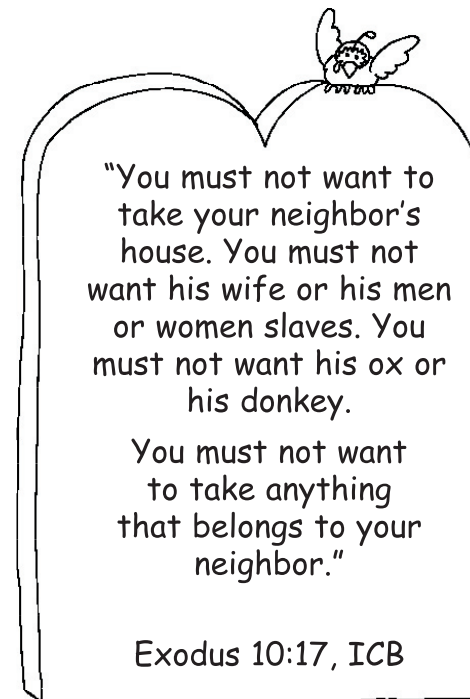
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GOD WANTS TO BE MY VERY BEST FRIEND

Lesson 10

God Wants Me To Be Happy With The Things He Has Given Me



"You must not want to take your neighbor's house. You must not want his wife or his men or women slaves. You must not want his ox or his donkey.

You must not want to take anything that belongs to your neighbor."

Exodus 10:17, ICB

Sally was unhappy. She had been happy earlier that morning when she went to visit her friend Pam, but now she was miserable.



What is the matter, Sally? You look like a thundercloud!



*I want an Amanda Jane doll.
Pam has one and it is so nice.*

*You have several dolls and I have
never seen you play with any of
them. I thought you didn't like
dolls.*



*But none of them are
Amanda Janes! I want
an Amanda Jane!*



*Your dad and I are having a hard time right now
with money. We have money to buy food and take
care of the most important things, but we do not have
enough money to buy you an Amanda Jane doll.*



It is not wrong to see something nice and think it would be fun to have. It is wrong to long for it and think about it so much that you feel you just HAVE to have it, no matter what. It makes you unhappy, and if you eventually sin in order to get it, it also makes the owner of that item unhappy.

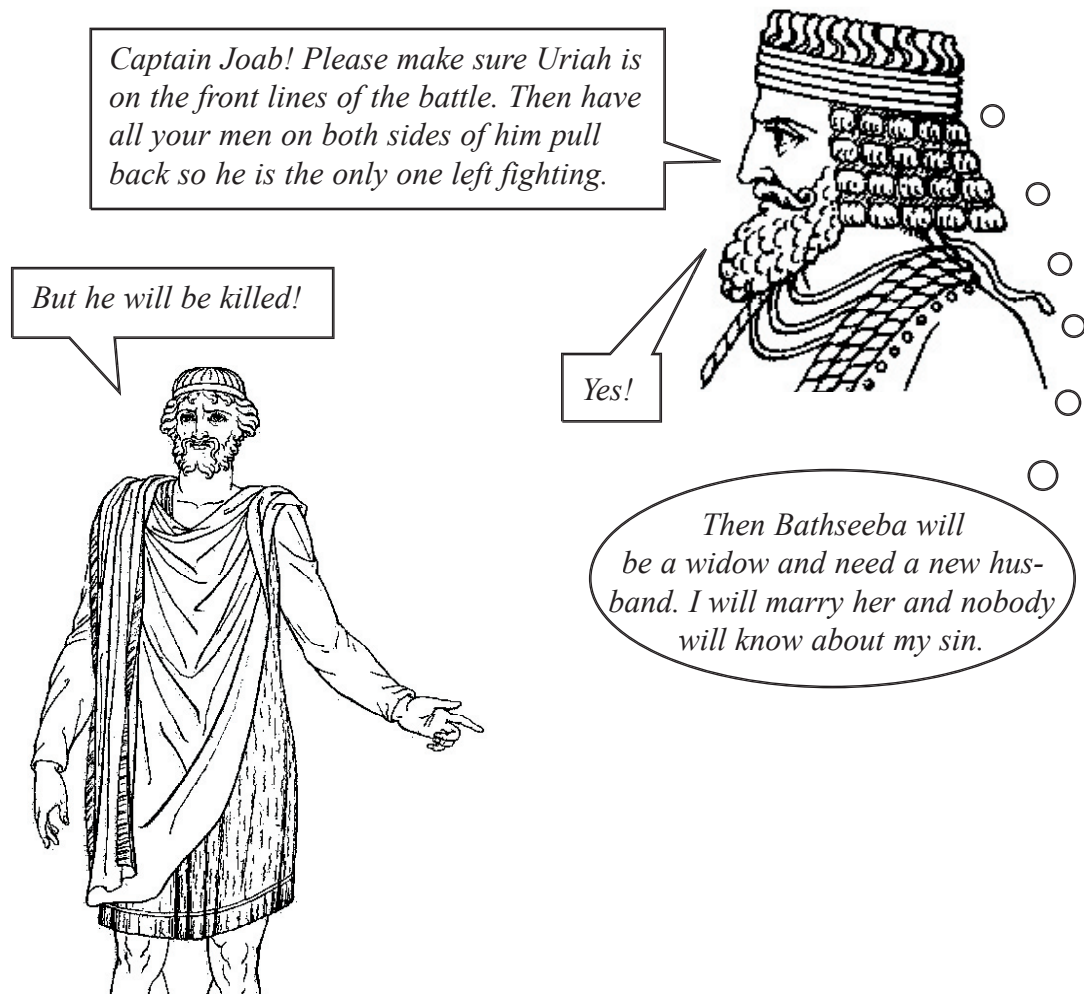
God does not want us to be unhappy. All of His rules are to help us live happy lives and get along well with others.

Paul was a man who understood this. He became a friend of God and travelled telling others about Jesus. Sometimes when he was travelling he had plenty and was treated well. Other times he had nothing, and people were mean to him. Paul wrote many of the books in the New Testament. One of the books is named Philippians.



Read Philippians 4:11-13. On the lines below write verse 13 where Paul gives the secret for being happy.

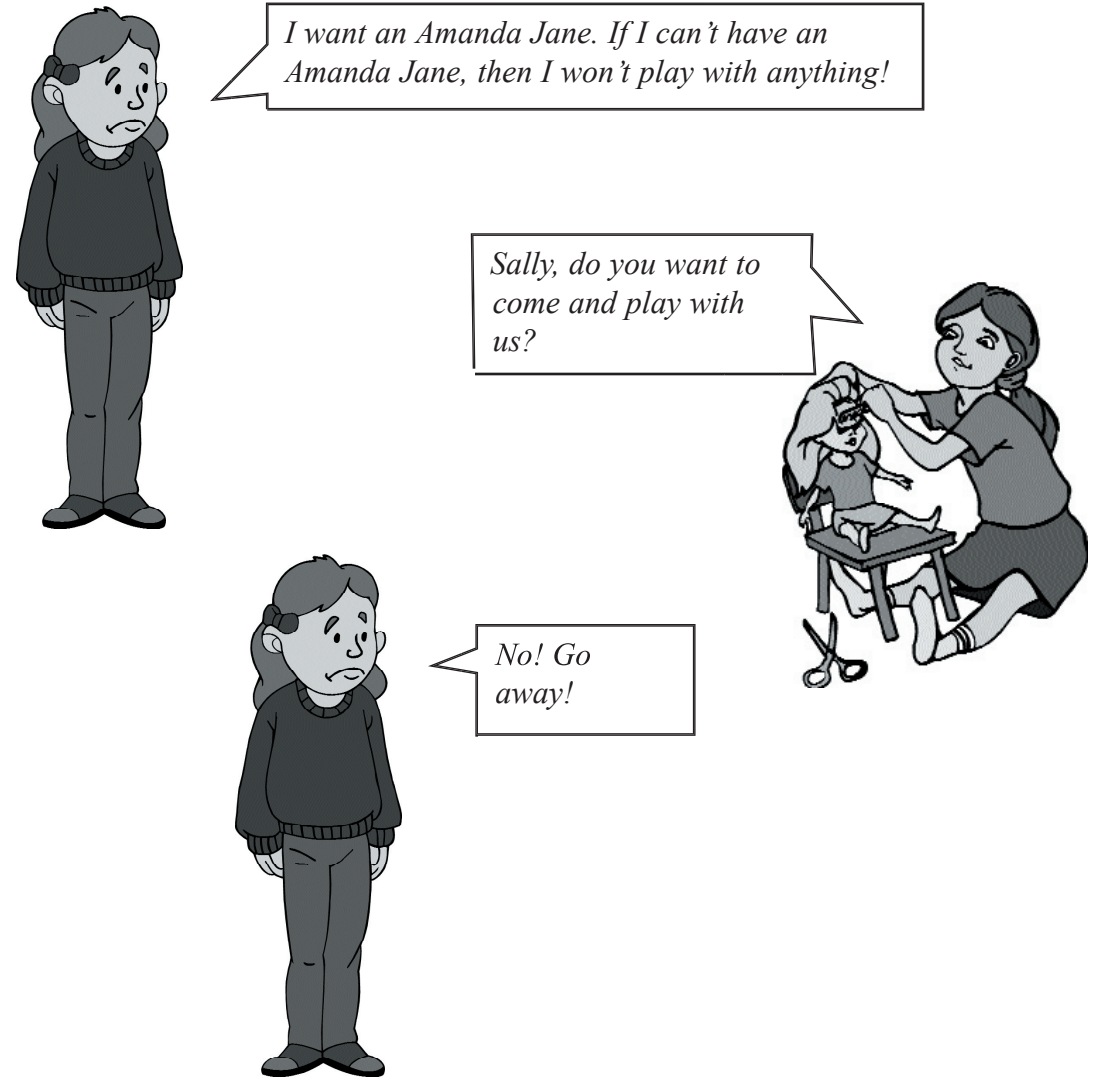
When Paul wrote this letter to the people in Philippi, he was in prison for preaching about Jesus. Even in a prison cell, he was content with what he had. We do not usually have to live in horrible conditions like Paul's prison cell. But God asks us to be content with whatever He has given us. We can choose to be thankful and tell Him how much we appreciate what we already have!



Uriah was killed just as David planned. But David's sin did not stay a secret, and God did punish him. David had a tender heart and loved God and was very sorry for his sin. When he repented, God forgave him. It was clear to David and to everyone else that his life would have been much easier and happier if he had followed God's rules.



Sally did not say anything else because Mother's voice had that final tone, but Sally was angry.

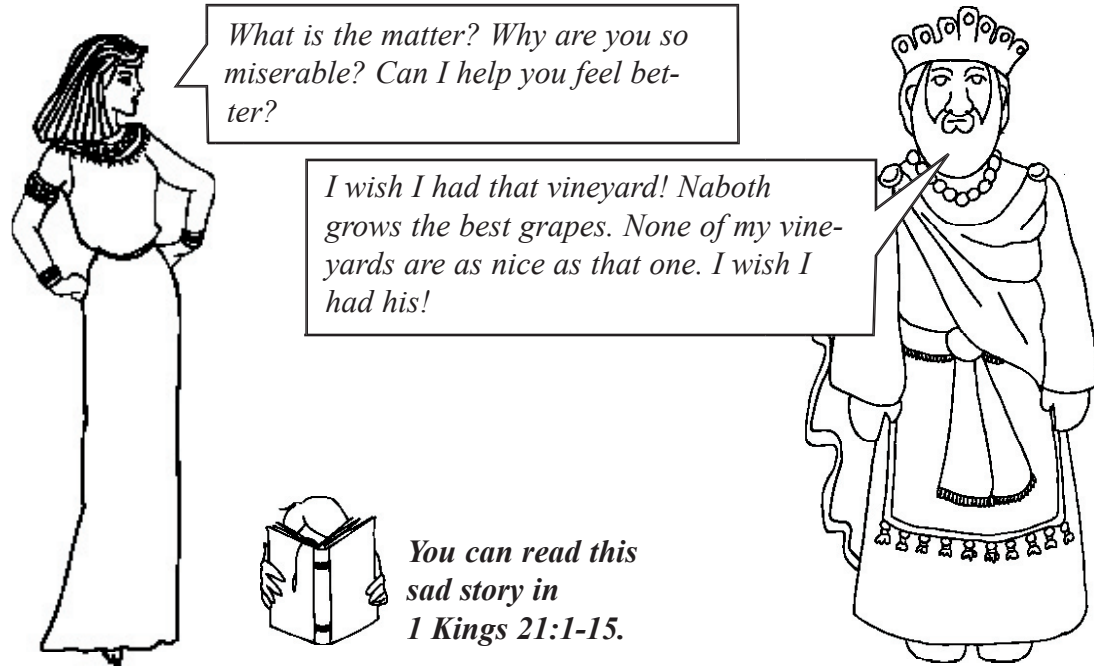


What will the rest of Sally's day be like? Will she have any fun? Circle the answer below that you think is correct.

YES

NO

In the Bible you can read the story of someone who had the same problem as Sally.



What happened to Naboth?

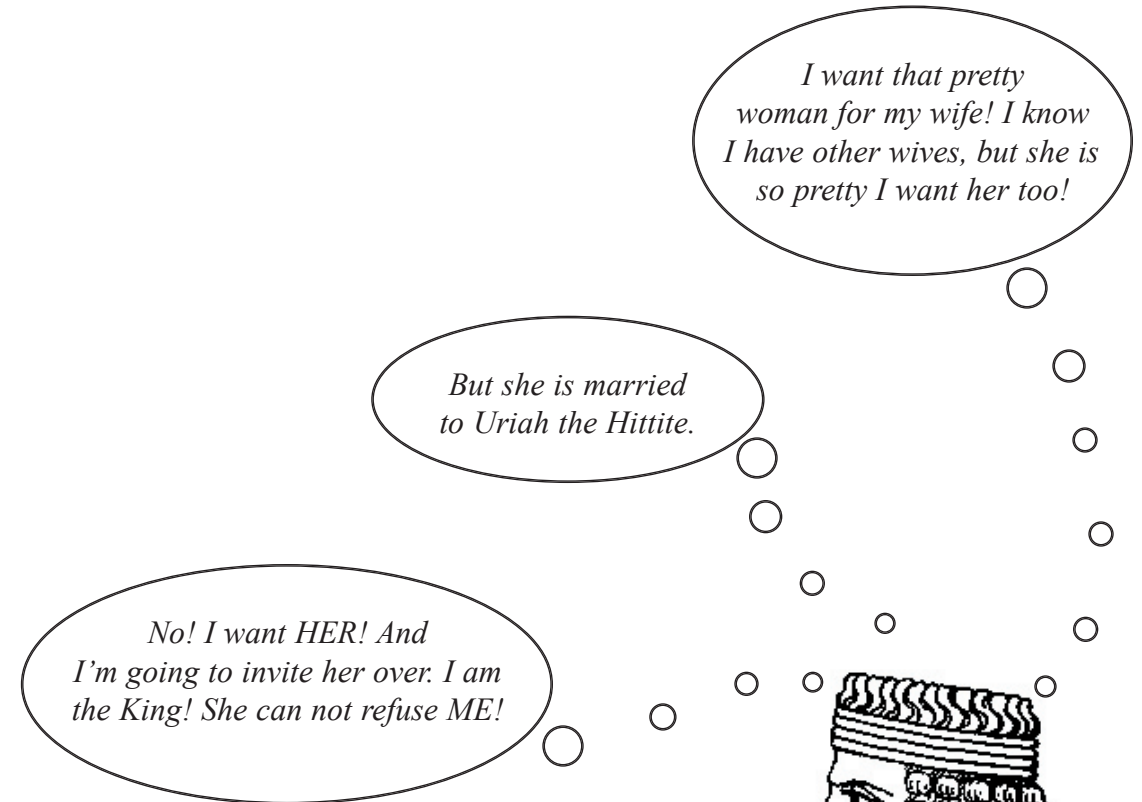


Whose fault was it? Circle all the correct answers.

- 1. King Ahab
- 2. The men who lied
- 3. Queen Jezebel
- 4. Naboth

If Ahab had been content with his own vineyards, Naboth would not have been killed.

There is another sad story in the Bible about a man who had the same problem as Sally and King Ahab. His name was King David. (Perhaps you remember this story about David from the lesson on Solomon in the Old Testament.) This story is found in 2 Samuel 11:1-17.



Later, Bathsheba sent King David a message that she was going to have a baby. King David was very upset! Now Uriah, who was out fighting in King David's army, would find out that his wife had been stolen by the very king he was fighting for.

