

Here We Come!

Place a 2" by 4" board on the floor to use as a balance beam. It provides space and height for balanced walking, but isn't dangerous. Let the children take turns walking on the beam, either alone or holding someone's hand. Ask if anyone is willing to take a risk and try it blindfolded. Assure the child that someone will be there to hang onto their hand. Experiment with this element of trust and talk about feelings.

Scripture Words and Worship

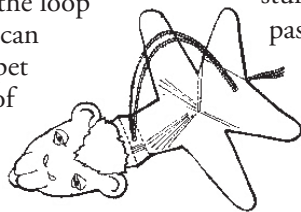
Has someone ever asked you to do a job that seemed challenging or difficult? How did you decide on a response? Sometimes God called people to help with a task that would not be easy. Our scriptures tell us how they answered the request for help. In the case of the prophet Isaiah, when God said, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" Isaiah answered, "Here am I; send me!" Print the words, "Here I am. Send me." on cutouts of hand shapes.

Story Talking

We have opportunities to make choices many times a day. What we have learned helps us decide what to do. Let the children tell you about someone they have had conflict with and how it was resolved. Share ideas and solutions that might help the next time this situation comes up.

Sense-ations

Give each child a copy of the camel to color (page 47). The camel can be cut out ahead of time. Final assembly only requires folding on the dotted lines and cutting on the solid line. To create the hump, lap the left side over to meet the dotted line and glue or staple in place. Punch a hole in the neck and the tail. Run string or yarn down through both holes and tie to close the loop under the camel. Children can operate the camel as a puppet by pulling up on the loop of string and bouncing the camel along a surface.



Moving Music

- "Alice the Camel" (camp song)
- "Lord, I Give You" NS 32 (Use verses 1, 2, and 4 about voice, feet, and hands in service.)

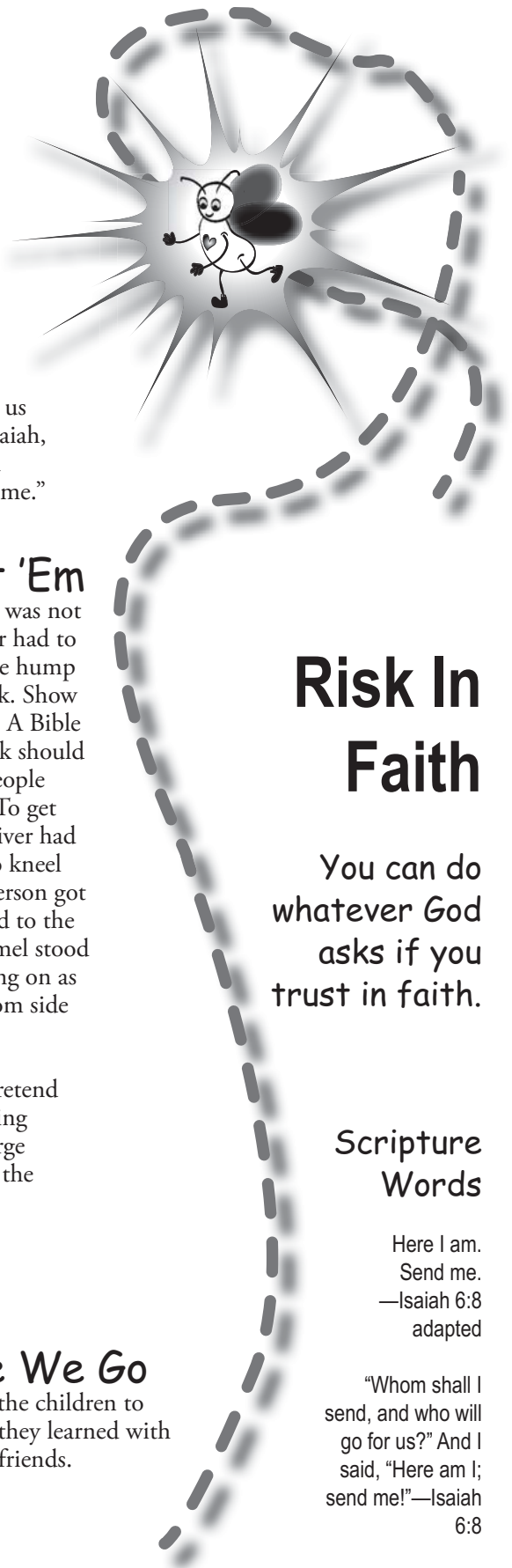
Up and at 'Em

Riding on a camel was not easy. The passenger had to perch on top of the hump on the camel's back. Show pictures of camels. A Bible story coloring book should have pictures of people riding on camels. To get on a camel, the driver had to get the camel to kneel down. Then the person got in the seat strapped to the hump, and the camel stood up. You had to hang on as the seat swayed from side to side.

Let the children pretend to be camels carrying someone. Use a large stuffed animal for the passenger.

There We Go

Encourage the children to share what they learned with family and friends.



Risk In Faith

You can do whatever God asks if you trust in faith.

Scripture Words

Here I am.
Send me.
—Isaiah 6:8
adapted

"Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I; send me!"—Isaiah 6:8

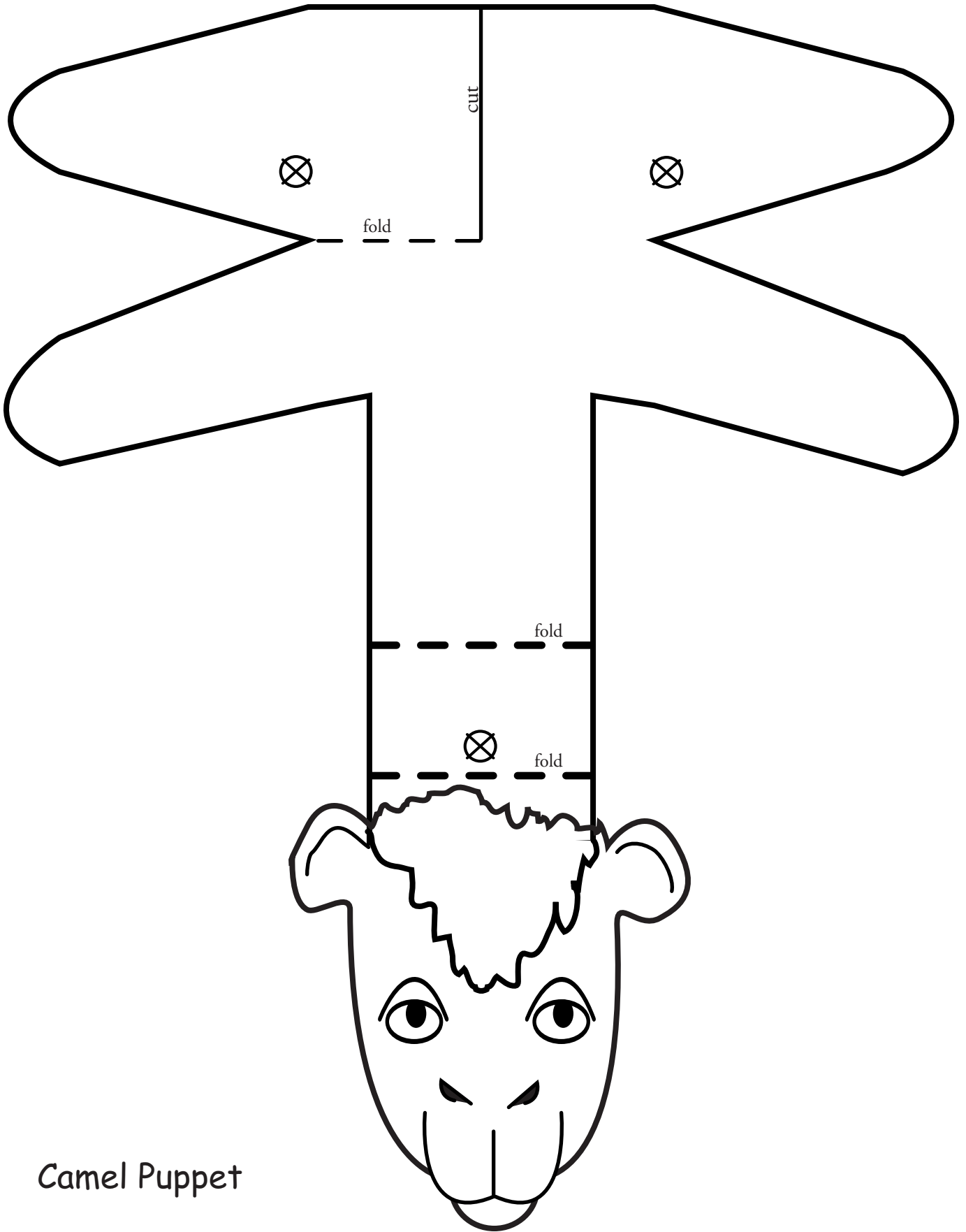
Live and Learn

A story familiar to generations growing up with the Bible can be found in Genesis 37:1–4, 12–28. It has become known as the story of Joseph and the coat of many colors. But in the process of translating from one language to another, sometimes information is limited. Current translations refer to the gift from Israel to Joseph as “a long robe with sleeves.” In the culture of the day, this makes more sense. Sleeves would get in the way of someone working. Therefore those who did the work wore garments with short sleeves or no sleeves. To give Joseph a long-sleeved robe meant he was not expected to work as his brothers did. No wonder they resented him!

- Israel’s family had really grown since they moved into the land of Canaan.
- Israel had many sons and daughters. The daughters helped their mothers with household needs, and the sons helped their fathers with the family business.
- Israel was a shepherd and had flocks of sheep.
- The sheep ate grass for food. Sometimes there wasn’t enough grass around the tents where the family lived.
- His sons would have to move the flocks of sheep to other places, sometimes far from home, to find good grass.
- Young Joseph would help his brothers watch the sheep. But sometimes he would tell on his brothers for doing something they shouldn’t. His brothers didn’t like it when Joseph would do that.
- One day the brothers had taken the sheep far away to the land of Shechem. Israel wondered how they were doing.
- “Joseph, come here. I have a job for you.”
- Joseph came to see what his father wanted.
- “Here I am,” he said.
- “Joseph, I want to send you to find your brothers. See how they are and come back and tell me.”
- “Yes, father,” Joseph said smiling. “I’ll be glad to.”
- Joseph put on his new long-sleeved robe for the trip. He knew it would be a long journey, but he was glad to be able to do this for his father.

The second part of the story explains how Joseph eventually came to be in a position to help his family, even though the actions that caused him to be there were not good ones. Depending on the maturity of your children, you may want to use only the first part of the story.

- Joseph walked and walked until he came to the land of Shechem. He was very tired.
- A stranger passed him and said, “Are you lost?”
- Joseph answered, “I am looking for my brothers. They came here to find grass for the sheep. There are ten of them, all sons of Israel.”
- “They were here, but they left and went down to Dothan. You take that road over there and just keep going.”
- Joseph thanked the man and started out. He walked and walked and finally found his brothers. He could see them with their flocks of sheep grazing on the hill.
- But Joseph’s brothers also saw him. They recognized the special coat their father had given him. The brothers got jealous all over again.
- “Here comes the dreamer,” one of them sneered.
- “He probably wants to tell us how much more Father loves him than us,” another said.
- “What we ought to do is get rid of him. We could throw him in a pit and tell Father the wild animals got him.”
- And that’s what the brothers did. They took Joseph’s special long-sleeved robe away from him and threw him into a pit. They would decide what to do with him later. That should teach him not to brag or tell his father stories about them.
- While the brothers were eating a meal, they saw camels in the distance. “Must be a caravan on it’s way down to Egypt,” one brother said.
- “Hey, why don’t we send Joseph with them? They are taking things to sell to people in Egypt. Maybe somebody can put Joseph to work down there. It would serve him right for not helping us with the work.”
- So the brothers pulled Joseph up out of the pit, sold him to the traders from Midian, and watched as the caravan disappeared in the distance. They would decide what to tell their father later.



Camel Puppet