WEEK
FOUR
SEPTEMBER

SMALL GROUP
2/3

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO PLAY

an activity that encourages preschoolers to follow guidelines while having fun and learning new concepts

BIBLE STORY

God is with me
so I can be strong.

ESTHER
ESTHER 2:2–8:17

MEMORY VERSE

"We have the Lord
our God to help us."

2 CHRONICLES 32:8, NLT

KEY QUESTION

Who is always with you?

BOTTOM LINE

God is always with me.

BASIC TRUTH

God loves me.

2. MATCH

WHAT YOU NEED: "Match" Activity Page, cardstock, and scissors

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Match" on cardstock and cut on dotted lines, two sets per activity.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Place each card face down on the floor or table. Ask one child to go first by choosing two cards and seeing if they match. Remove both cards and set them aside if they match. Allow another child to have a turn. Repeat until all of the matches have been made and every child has had a turn. If all matches are made before everyone has gone, shuffle and lay them out again.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Let's work together to make matches. (*Point to the cards.*) These are pictures of things that we have for dinner! There are two of each picture. When it's your turn, you can choose two cards (*demonstrate*) and see if they are a match!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: (*Choose a child to be first.*) "Choose any two cards you like. (*Do activity*) Great job! Do you see a match?" (*Continue and finish activity.*)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Great job! We found all of the matches! The pictures are of things that we can eat for dinner. In today's Bible story, we'll hear about a queen who invited someone to dinner!"

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by pretending to eat dinner as you walk to the story area.

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MADE TO CREATE

an activity that allows preschoolers to review the Bible story, bottom line, or memory verse by creating a craft to take home

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4. CROWNED AND LOVED

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Crowned and Loved" and "Crown Labels" Activity Pages; cardstock; Avery® #5160 labels or equivalent; crayons or markers; heart stickers; and a pen

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Crowned and Loved" on cardstock, one per child. Write child's name on their paper. Copy "Crown Labels" on label paper, one per child.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to color their paper then add the crown label to Esther's head and add a heart sticker.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bible story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Today, we heard a great story about a strong girl named Esther. Let's make a picture of Esther to help us remember that God is always with us and always loves us."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Color the picture of Esther. (*Pause.*) Esther was picked to marry the king because she was very beautiful. She was going to be the queen. Put your crown sticker on Esther's head. (*Pause.*) But one day, one of the king's workers decided to do something very mean to Esther's family. He told the king he should get rid of God's people. Esther loved God, and this made her very upset! Esther knew she could not let this happen, so she had to go to the king; but that was scary! Esther knew that God was with her and that He would make her strong. Put the heart sticker on Esther. (*Pause.*) Esther asked the king to save her family, and the king said yes! He would save God's people! Esther's friends and family were safe."

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Esther knew that God was always with her and made her strong. And God can make you strong, too, because He is always with you. **Who is always with you? God is always with me.**"

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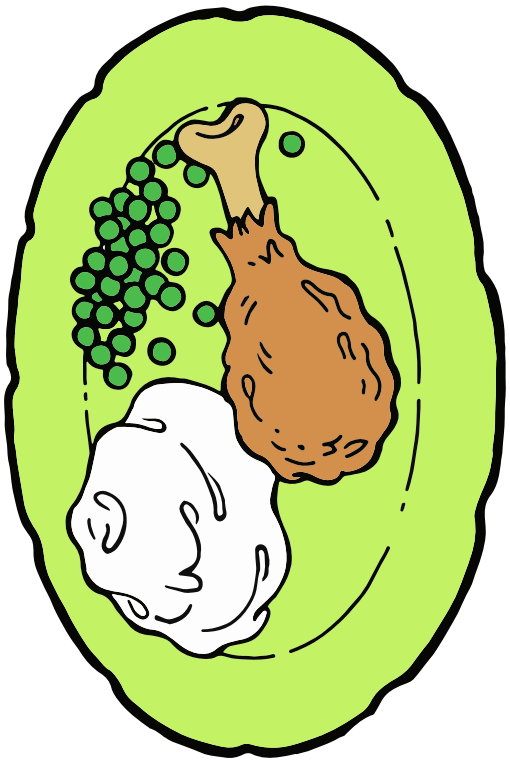

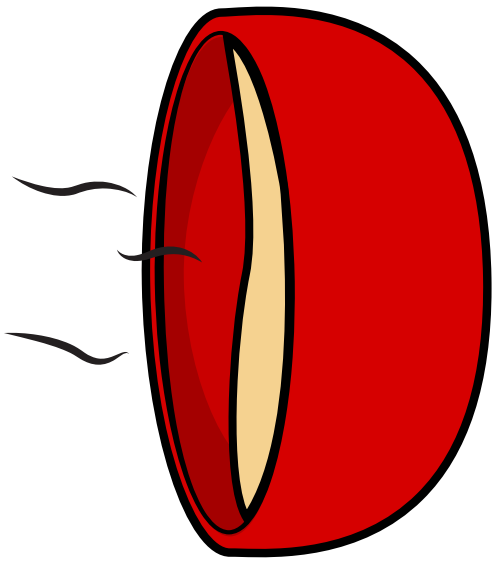

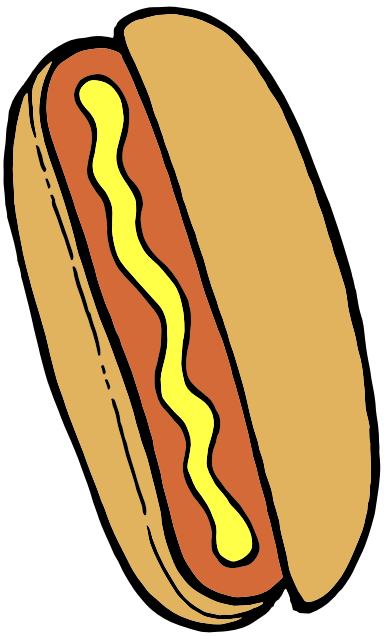

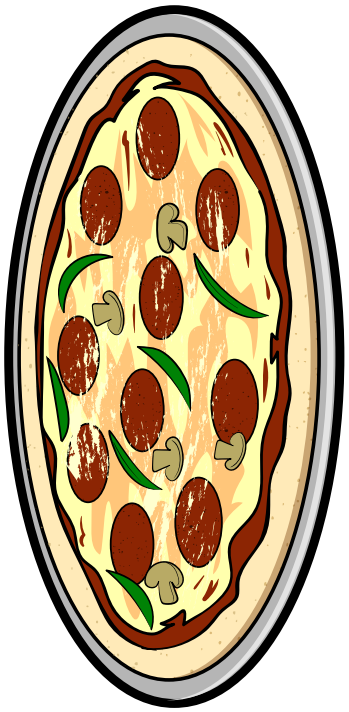

Match • Color • *Match* • September Week 4
Copy on cardstock and cut on dotted lines. Two sets per activity.
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God is always with me.

Esther • *Esther 2:2:8-17*

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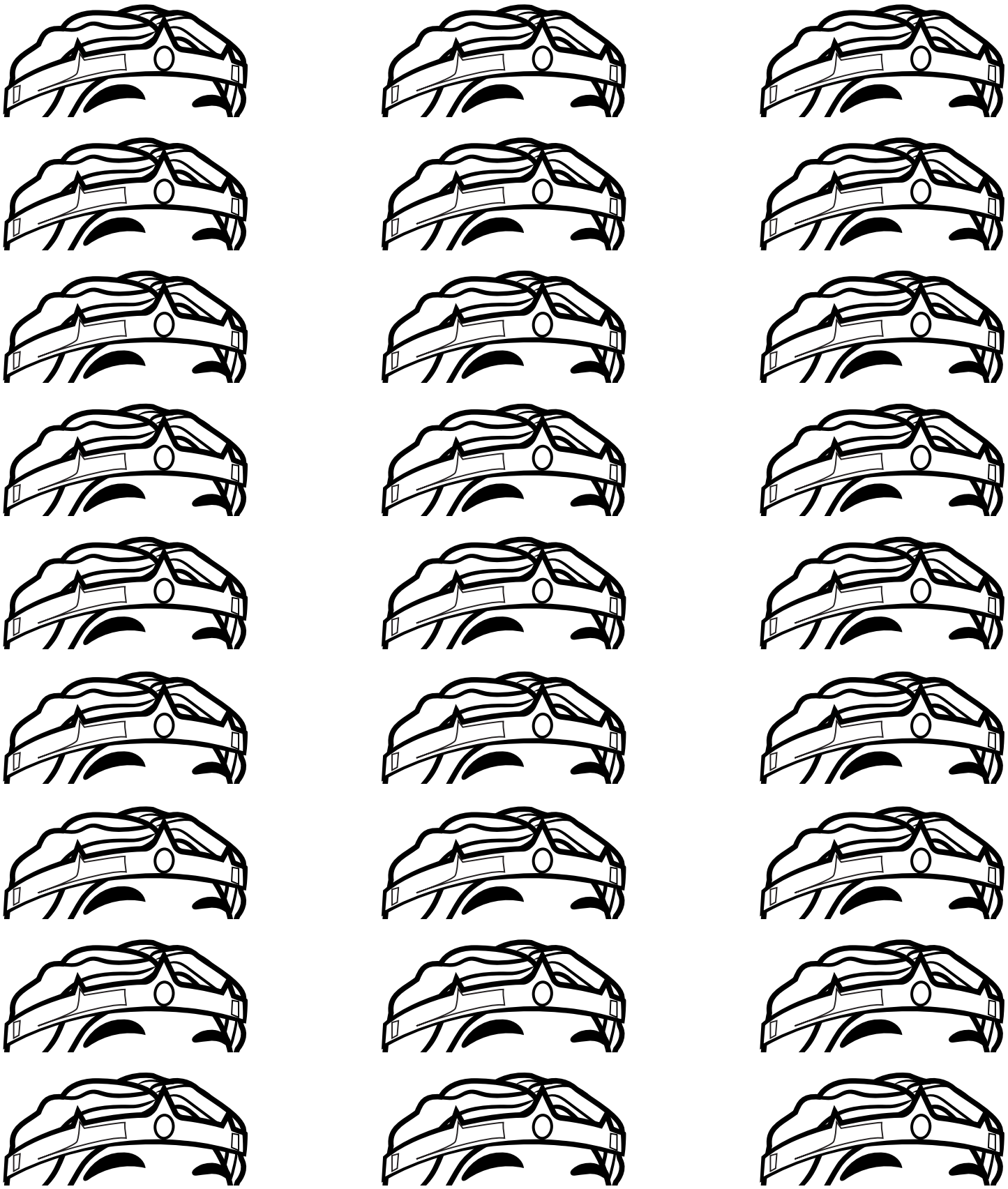

Crown Label • B&W • *Crowned and Loved* • September Week 4
Copy on Avery® #5160. One per child.
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