

# FOR FAMILIES TO LEARN AND GROW TOGETHER IN JESUS

This resource is produced by St. Paul's-Muskego KIDS CLUB for parents and children to use together. Portions of the "Dig In" curriculum are used with the permission of Group Publishing, Inc.-Loveland, CO.



# DIG IN @ HOME

## Week of August 9, 2020

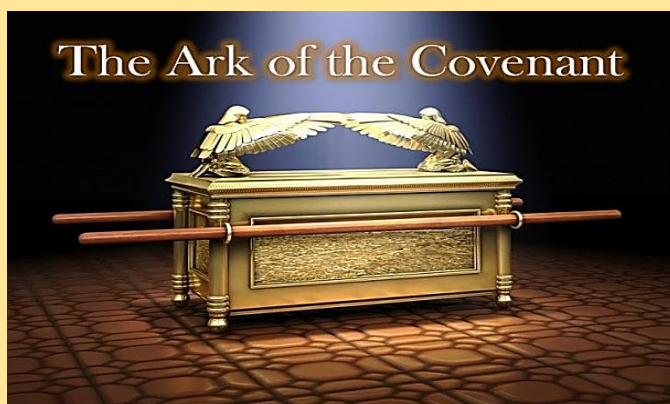
### THE LESSON

The Philistines are a group of savage, heathen people. They pester and fight with the Israelites, God's chosen people, as they live in the Promised Land, Canaan.

After one fight, the Philistines capture the Ark of God (also called the Ark of the Covenant). The Ark is a holy box that represents God's presence and contains several items important to the Israelites (see more details below).

The Philistines put the Ark of God in their temple with an idol, a false god named Dagon or The Fish God. They do this to show that their god is better than the real God. But do you know what happens? The large statue of Dagon keeps falling over. It cannot stand in the presence of the Ark and the true God. Read about it in [1 Samuel 5:1-5](#).

### THE POINT



Above is what some feel the Ark of God or the Ark of the Covenant looked like. For the Israelites, the Ark of the Covenant was one of the most important symbols of faith and God's presence. In addition to being beautifully made, the Ark held the stone tablets on which the Ten Commandments had been written. It also held a pot of manna (see the KIDS CLUB lesson from July 12, 2020), and the rod Aaron carried when he served as priest of the Israelites. The poles on each side of the Ark made it possible to move the Ark when needed. On top are two angels or cherubim.

## An Idol Bows to God's Ark 1 Samuel 5:1-5



God is real.

We believe he's the one true God.



Listen to the lesson here:

[The Ark and Dagon](#)



Dagon was the god of the Philistines. This picture shows that the idol (false god) was a combination of both man and fish. The name "Dagon" is derived from "dag" which means "fish."

# Through the Week

The idol falling before the Ark of God was evidence that God is real and the idol wasn't. This week, find modern-day evidence that God is real.

- Look for God Sightings—evidence that God is real.
- God Sightings might include a sunset, a kind word, an answer to prayer, or a good day.
- Share your God Sightings with each other in the car, at a meal, or at bedtime.

## What's More Important?

Watch the video and play the game [What's More Important?](#) Move left or right to reveal your choice. Then, answer the questions below.

1. Do you think the choices shown in the video were choices people really have to make today? Explain.
2. Have you ever had to make choices like the ones shown in the video? Describe.
3. What do you think or ask yourself when you have to make choices?
4. Why can making choices be difficult sometimes?
5. Tell of a time you made a bad choice. What made it bad?
6. Tell of a time you made a good choice. What made it good?
7. What do the choices we make tell other people about us?
8. How does the idea of choices fit with our lesson today about the Philistines and their false god, Dagon?
9. What question was asked to end the video?
10. How would you answer that final question?

**Y**ou shall have no other gods before Me.

[Let Us Bow Down in Worship](#)



[Praise Him](#)



[You Are The Messiah](#)



**SING UNTO THE LORD  
A NEW SONG**



*Dear Heavenly Father, today I ask that you help me make you first in my heart. I know that without you, I can do nothing. I ask you to take over my life. Get rid of any false Gods and idols that I am tempted to follow. Let your way be my way and use me to bring others to you, the only God. In Jesus' name I pray, Amen.*