

## More Sundays – June 14 – July 26 – “Huh, was that in the Bible?” Stories

Date	Topic	Bible	Response	Midweek (before Sun)	Outreach
June 14	Bezaliel and Ohiliab - The Creative God and You Exodus 31	When God wanted to move into the middle of camp, he wanted a place to live. And boy did he have some creative ideas of what it wanted to look like. He had colours and designs all planned, fabric he wanted made, decorations he wanted created... colours and smells and all sorts. And he called everyone who wanted to, to participate. He even picked a few by name. God didn't just invent all things arty and crafty. He loves it. And has purpose for it. And you. No matter how good you think you are at it, doesn't matter. What matters is that you are willing.	Catching for what he wants us to create and blessing and release for our creative hearts to be powerful.	Favourite man-made creation that makes you think about God... poem, painting, cathedral, tapestry, picture?	Create something this week... anything... fabric, knitting, poems, painting, sculpture. Ask God what it is for... for you to draw near to him, to encourage someone else, as a message to the congregation?
June 21	The Birth of Sampson - God's plans for our birth Judges 13	God has plans for our lives before our parents even meet each other. God knows us. Our births are not a surprise to him. Before we are even growing in our mummy's tummy, God loves us, knows us and has plans, purposes and dreams for our lives.	Long chunk of time for parents to share their child/children's conception stories. Not the gross bits. But the bits of what God said, and how they felt about it. What they knew and what they didn't. Who God was in it all. And if they weren't Christians, then they can share looking back how they can see God in it. They can share how they think now about that time. And what they feel God has been saying and is saying about their children. If they have had prophetic words said over the kids when babies or now, they can share them with their children.	Heads up for parents about the response time.... May need short video...	"I'm glad you were born" campaign. Who has made a difference in your life and make them a little sign that says I'm glad you were born because.... Or text someone... or send a short video. OR pick a pregnant person you know and pray for the baby and give them words and pictures that God gave to you about the baby.

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June 28	Sibling Rivalry - Rachel and Leah (Genesis 29-30:22 OR Miriam, Moses and Aaron (Exodus 12)	<p>Having siblings can be hard. We can feel compared to them, we can compare ourselves to them. We can get jealous of what they have or what they can do. People in the Bible had that problem too. (Depending what story you pick you might want to go in one of two directions)</p> <p>A) In the Rachel and Leah story, they were stuck next to each other. Wanting to be loved and valued and seen for what they can do. God didn't compare though. He didn't love one more than another. He heard them, he gave them gifts, he saw them as unique and different and saw what their hearts needed and desired. God never compares us to other people... only values us for us.</p> <p>B) In the Miriam story, God called the siblings in to tell them off. Not for fighting. He didn't say "Get along". He said, "this person that you are picking on is my friend. Who are you to say bad things about my friend?" Sometimes we feel like we can see our brothers and sisters as our brothers and sisters first. How would we treat them if we saw them as God's super special friend? On the flip side, it's good to know that God feels that way about us. He's got our back. He is on our side. He wants the best for us.</p>	<p>B) Catch God's love for us... thank him for his love... put down any competition with siblings...</p> <p>C) Ask forgiveness from God when heart wrong about family... ask him to give us the love he has for them, see them as he sees them. Maybe draw a picture of them as God sees them?</p>	Draw a picture of your family... send it in?	If parents have siblings, do something to make them feel loved...
July 5	The Ark vs Dagon – God's Power doesn't need us 1 Samuel 5-6	In this story, people who didn't know God thought they could steal him. To kidnap him and take them away from the Israelites. They didn't understand how awesome God is. That he doesn't need people to act, that no one can control him or own him. He didn't wait for people to come and help. He didn't wait for people to pray. He acted and turned the whole situation around. He is truly awesome.	Thanking and praising God for how awesome he is... Maybe a song? Using things kids have created in the week put to music to worship to?	Get assigned?/pick an attribute of God and create something...a poem, a song, a verse, a drawing... send it in... we'll use it for our response...	Notice where God is.

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July 12	Lost Prophets and Neb's Dream – God knows even our thoughts in our sleep Daniel 2	We can feel not in control when we sleep. Can't control dreams or nightmares. But God is there. He sees all our dreams and understands them. Sometimes he sends us dreams and sometimes it's just our brains making them up. Where do you want God to be when you sleep?	Has God ever given you a dream from him? Maybe stories from congregation members who had dreams from God and interpretations....	Send in stories of God in dreams and the night (could do follow up from anyone using Comfort in the Darkness book)	Night-walk around block praying for people's dreams
July 19	Money and Fish – God's provision can come in weird ways Matthew 17:24-27	People can stress about money. Having enough for their needs, paying the right people. When Jesus walked on earth, they had money concerns too. They had to pay taxes like us. Even more taxes sometimes! When people came to collect taxes from Jesus, he showed them that for God, money isn't a concern.	Think of one money worry or need your family or someone you know has.... Let's ask the God of creative provision to meet that need! (Maybe Pete tell a story of God filling that need for him...)		
July 16	How to get a job – Casting lots and God's guidance - Acts 1:12-26	Sometimes we just don't know what to do, and we need God's guidance. God guided people in so many different ways in the bible. Can you remember some of the ways? With prophets, clouds, judges, happenstance, and angels. Some subtle. Some enormous. God was always guiding. In this story, people did their best to get close to the right next step, and then came up with a way to bring it to God. By rolling a dice. How do you know you are being guided by God?	What do you need guidance for... where are you not sure what to do? Bring it to God... ask him to guide you and then look out! Or share stories with each other of times you have been guided....or I could make a board game/set of cards to keep discussion going throughout the week		Praying for our nations leaders and the big decisions they are making.