

# COME CLEAN

*It happened. You did something wrong, and now you have to face the consequences. The way you react to correction makes a big difference in your relationship with God and other people. Read this story; then write or tell a possible consequence for each of the different ways David might respond to correction.*



PRINCIPAL

**“W**e’re too old for the school’s fall festival,” David said glumly. “Let’s cut out and do something fun.”

“Like what?” Kevin asked.

“Maybe soaping the school’s windows after the festival tonight,” David answered.

“Count me out,” Kevin said.

“Are you sure you want to do this?”

David shrugged his shoulders. “Why not? I’ll find some other guys. Just don’t tell anyone, okay?”

The next morning the school’s principal called David into his office. David felt sick. Why did he think he could get away with it? “Well, young man, I heard that you were bragging about soaping the windows last night,” Mr. Jenkins said.

“It was just a joke, Mr. Jenkins, really,” David attempted to excuse his actions.

“The joke isn’t funny to anyone but you,” Mr. Jenkins replied firmly. “You’ll have time to enjoy your joke as you wash the soap off the windows after school today.”

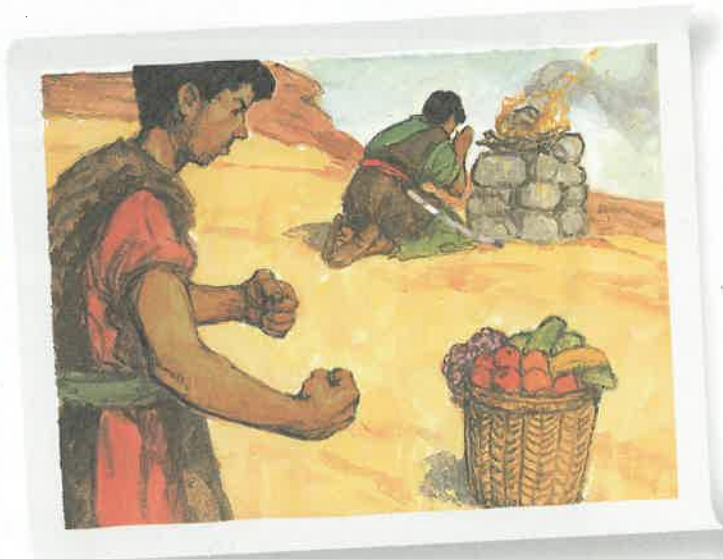
## What might happen if . . .

- David admitted he was wrong, apologized, and washed the windows without complaining.
- David tried to get out of the punishment by blaming the other kids.
- David just didn’t listen to Mr. Jenkins and “forgot” to stay after school.

## KEY VERSE

**“My son, do not despise the LORD’s discipline and do not resent his rebuke, because the LORD disciplines those he loves.” Proverbs 3:11-12**

# ACTIONS AND ATTITUDES



accept his sacrifice? What did God warn Cain about?

## SCRIPTURE SPOTLIGHT Genesis 4:8-12

Now Cain said to his brother Abel, "Let's

go out to the field." While they were in the field, Cain attacked his brother Abel and killed him.

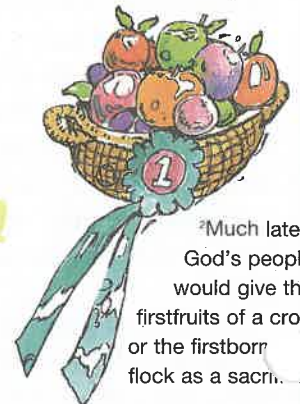
Then the LORD said to Cain, "Where is your brother Abel?"

"I don't know," he replied.

"Am I my brother's keeper?"

**Why do you think God asked Cain where Abel was? What does Cain's response show us about his attitude?**

The LORD said, "What have you done? Listen! Your brother's blood cries out to me from the ground. Now you



<sup>2</sup>Much later, God's people would give the firstfruits of a crop or the firstborn flock as a sacrifice.

**G**od drove Adam and Eve out of the Garden of Eden. Later, they had two sons, Cain and Abel. Cain, the older brother, became a farmer. Abel<sup>1</sup> was a shepherd. They both brought offerings to God. Cain brought some fruits and vegetables to sacrifice to God. But Abel brought the very best of the firstborn of his flocks.<sup>2</sup> God was pleased with Abel's offering.



<sup>1</sup>Abel means "breath" or "temporary." His name befits the shortness of his life.

**Read Genesis 4:5-7. How did Cain react when God didn't**

are under a curse and driven from the ground, which opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand. When you work the ground,<sup>3</sup> it will no longer yield its crops for you. You will be a restless wanderer on the earth."



<sup>3</sup>The ground had already been cursed because of sin (see Gen. 3:17). Now Cain himself was cursed.

**think Cain was sorry for what he did? Why or why not?**

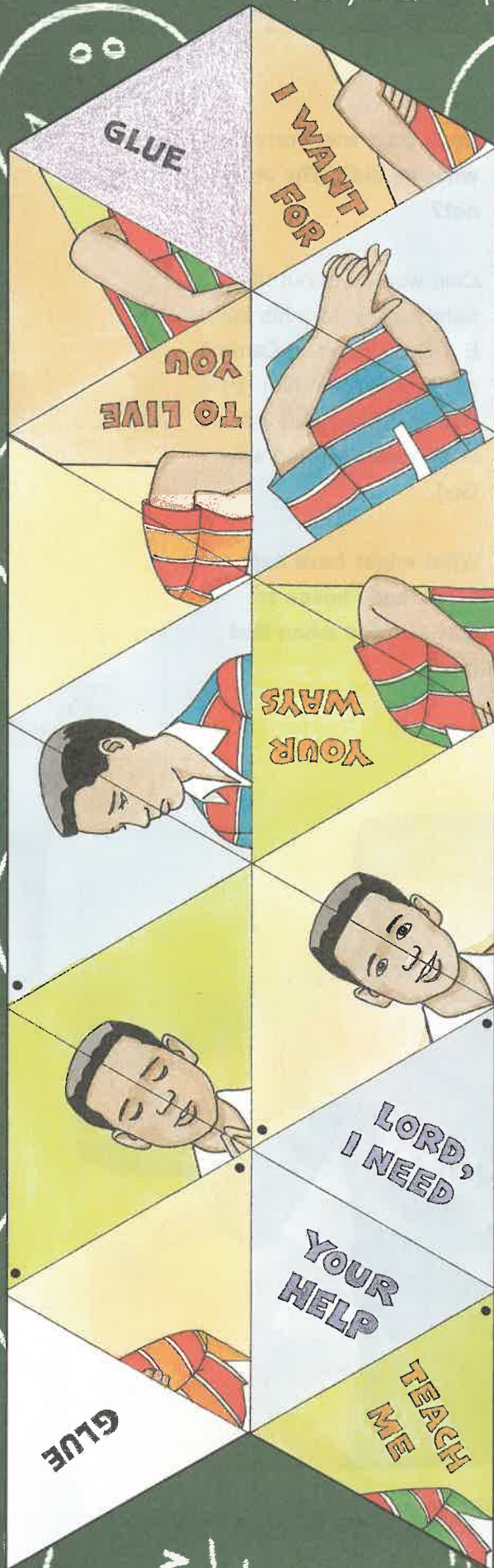
Cain worried about his safety away from his land. But God promised Cain no one would harm him. Then Cain left Eden and the relationship he had with God.

**How did God punish Cain for killing his brother? Look at the picture of Cain below. What kind of attitude does his posture suggest? Do you**

**What might have happened if Cain had chosen to have the right attitude when God corrected him?**

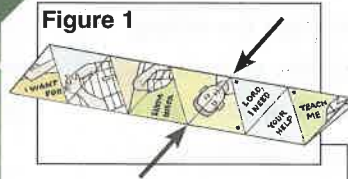


# FLEXIBLE AND CORRECTABLE

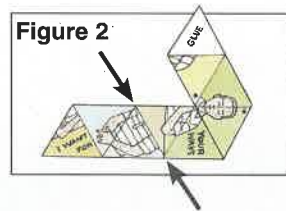


How flexible is your attitude toward correction? Do you stiffen up and refuse to listen, or are you flexible enough to change what's wrong? Make this "hexaflexagon" and use the words on it as a prayer, asking God to help you live for Him.

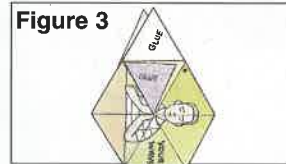
**Figure 1**



**Figure 2**

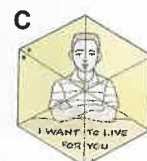
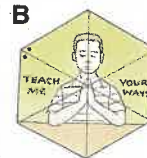
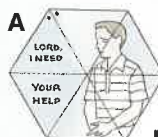


**Figure 3**



## DIRECTIONS

1. Cut out the hexaflexagon. Fold back on the long center line and glue together with a glue stick.
2. Crease all diagonal lines in both directions to make sure they bend easily.
3. Hold the strip so that it matches **Figure 1**. Fold the right side of the strip forward on the line marked by arrows.
4. Fold the left side of the strip backward on the line marked by the arrows in **Figure 2** so the purple triangle is located as seen in **Figure 3**). Glue together the two parts marked "glue," and let it dry completely.



5. With your right thumb, push down on the right-center star guiding the paper to somewhat auto fold once to reveal the second image.
6. With your left thumb push down on the left-center star to reveal a new picture.
7. Repeat Steps 5 and 6 to see all three sides. Figures **A**, **B**, and **C** show the order of the prayer.