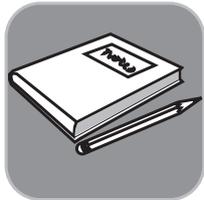


# WEEK 1

## *God Sees Everything*

**Preparation:**  
Read 1 Samuel 16:1-23 using the Bible study notes to help you.

**Lesson Aim:**  
To teach that God sees the heart and nothing can be hidden from him.



happening, e.g. serious illness, is not necessarily punishment for sin, neither are evil spirits always a visitation from God, e.g. ouija boards, etc.

- 16:1 Bethlehem was a major city of Judah and was 5 miles south of Jerusalem.
- 16:2 The route from Ramah (Samuel's home) to Bethlehem passed through Gibeah (Saul's court), so Samuel was right to be afraid.
- 16:4 Samuel was Judge, as well as Prophet and Priest (1 Samuel 7:15-16) and was the recognised mouthpiece of God (1 Samuel 3:21), so the reaction to his visit was a natural one.
- 16:6-7 The difference between the way God judges and man judges is brought out clearly.
- 16:12 David's outward appearance is not inferior to Saul's but God did not choose him for these qualities.
- 16:13 The fact of David being God's choice is confirmed by God's Spirit coming upon him.

The proper place for David, as Saul's successor, is the royal court and vv.14-23 demonstrate the way God orders events to get David from the sheepfold at Bethlehem to the court at Gibeah.

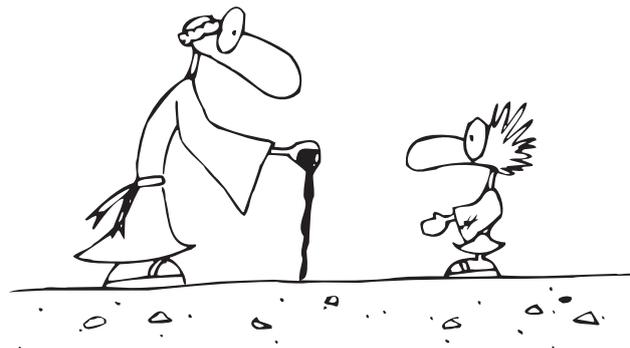
- 16:14 Saul's mental disturbance is seen as a punishment from God. Discuss with the older groups the fact of God's sovereignty. If God is in control of everything he is also in control of Satan and the evil spirits. God allows bad things to happen to us: a) in order to teach us, and b) in order to punish us for sin. The children need to realise that behaviour has consequences, but something bad

The aim of the introduction to this lesson is to look at how we make choices. Provide several empty boxes/tubes of chocolates, e.g. Smarties, Milk Tray. Fill the boxes with small stones or similar so that, when shaken, the boxes sound as though they contain chocolates. Leave chocolates in the smallest box. Ask the children to choose a box. Why have they chosen that box? Open the boxes to see the contents. Point out that their choice was dependent on the packaging, whereas the important thing was the contents. (If you do not want to use chocolates, wrap up different containers in fancy paper, placing something precious in the most unlikely one.) In today's true story from the Bible we will see how God chose someone. Ask them to listen carefully so that they can tell you who was chosen and why.

Lesson Plan



After the story go over the answers to the questions and teach the memory verse.



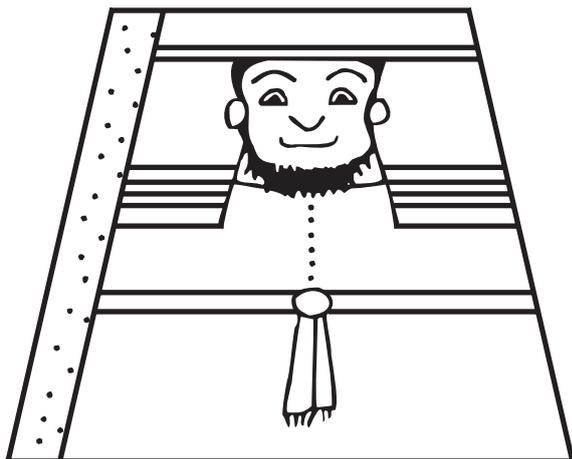
Models are effective, either finger puppets or yoghurt pot people. You need Samuel, Jesse, David, seven brothers and Saul.

Visual aids

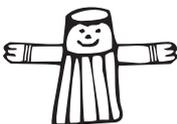


**Finger puppets**

- Using the templates (see below), cut out a body and arms. Draw on a face, head-dress, clothes and hands and colour appropriately. The arms and hands should be coloured on both sides.

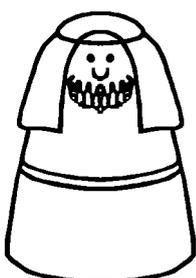
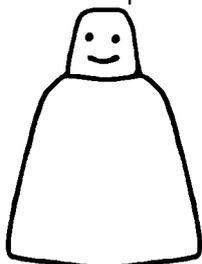


- Roll the body into a tube and glue the back together along the dotted area.
- Glue the arms onto the back of the body (see diagram).



**Yoghurt pot people**

You need yoghurt pots or plastic drinking cups, egg cartons, scraps of material, wool, rubber bands, cotton wool, sellotape, glue, pens. Cut the head from an egg carton and sellotape onto a yoghurt pot or plastic cup. Draw on a face. Dress with a piece of material secured round the middle with wool or a rubber band. Tuck the bottom edge of the material inside the bottom of the pot. Attach the head-dress in similar fashion to the robe. Glue on cotton wool as a beard if required.



**3-5s**

Photocopy page 9 for each child. Prior to the lesson cut along the thick black lines

Activities



around each face to make flaps. Fold back the flaps along dotted lines. Put glue around the edges of an A4 sheet of plain paper and glue it to the back of page 9. Open the flaps and put a tick behind David's face and crosses behind the other 7 faces. (David is the third from the left in the bottom row.) The children colour the 8 sons. Then ask the children the question at the top of the activity and get them to lift the flaps to see which son God chose.

**5-7s**

Photocopy pages 10 and 11 for each child. Prior to the lesson cut along the dotted lines on page 11 and fold back along the solid lines. The children colour both pictures then put glue around the edges of page 10 and stick it behind page 11. David can be opened to show what God sees.

**7-9s**

This activity will take 7 weeks to complete. The children make a heart shaped box with their memory verse on the lid. The boxes stay at Sunday School until the end of the series. Each week the children will concentrate on a different characteristic of David that made him a man after God's own heart. Details of each characteristic will be placed inside their heart boxes to remind the children what God looks for. The boxes can be decorated when time permits.

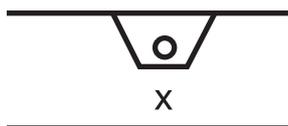
Photocopy pages 12, 13 and 14 on card and page 15 on paper for each child. Each child also requires 2 split pin paper fasteners and 1 small rubber band. Prior to the lesson cut out the jigsaw pieces for the box lids and place in an envelope for each child. The cutting out of the box pieces can be done before the lesson or by the children, depending on the time available.

**Instructions**

- Cut out the base and base lining from page 13.
- Cut out the sides from page 14. Score and fold along the dotted lines, remembering to fold towards you unless otherwise indicated. Cut slits where indicated. Glue side A to the top of the base, starting at the pointed end and moulding the side to fit as you go. This side should stretch from the point of the indentation at the top of the heart.
- Glue side B to the base and to side A, starting at the pointed end and moulding the side to fit. The end flaps are glued inside side A.
- Glue the base lining on top of the base inside the box to secure the sides in position.
- Cut out the top, hinge and fastening flap from page 12. Score and fold along the dotted lines.

Insert a split pin paper fastener through X on the flap and open out to secure in position. Glue the hinge and the flap to opposite sides of the heart on the underside of the top. **NB** the top is slightly bigger than the box to give an overlap, so the hinge and the flap need to be glued approximately 0.25 cm in from the edge.

- Glue the hinge to the inside of the box side.
- Allow the flap to sit on the outside of the box side. Mark the position for the second split pin paper fastener underneath the flap (see diagram).



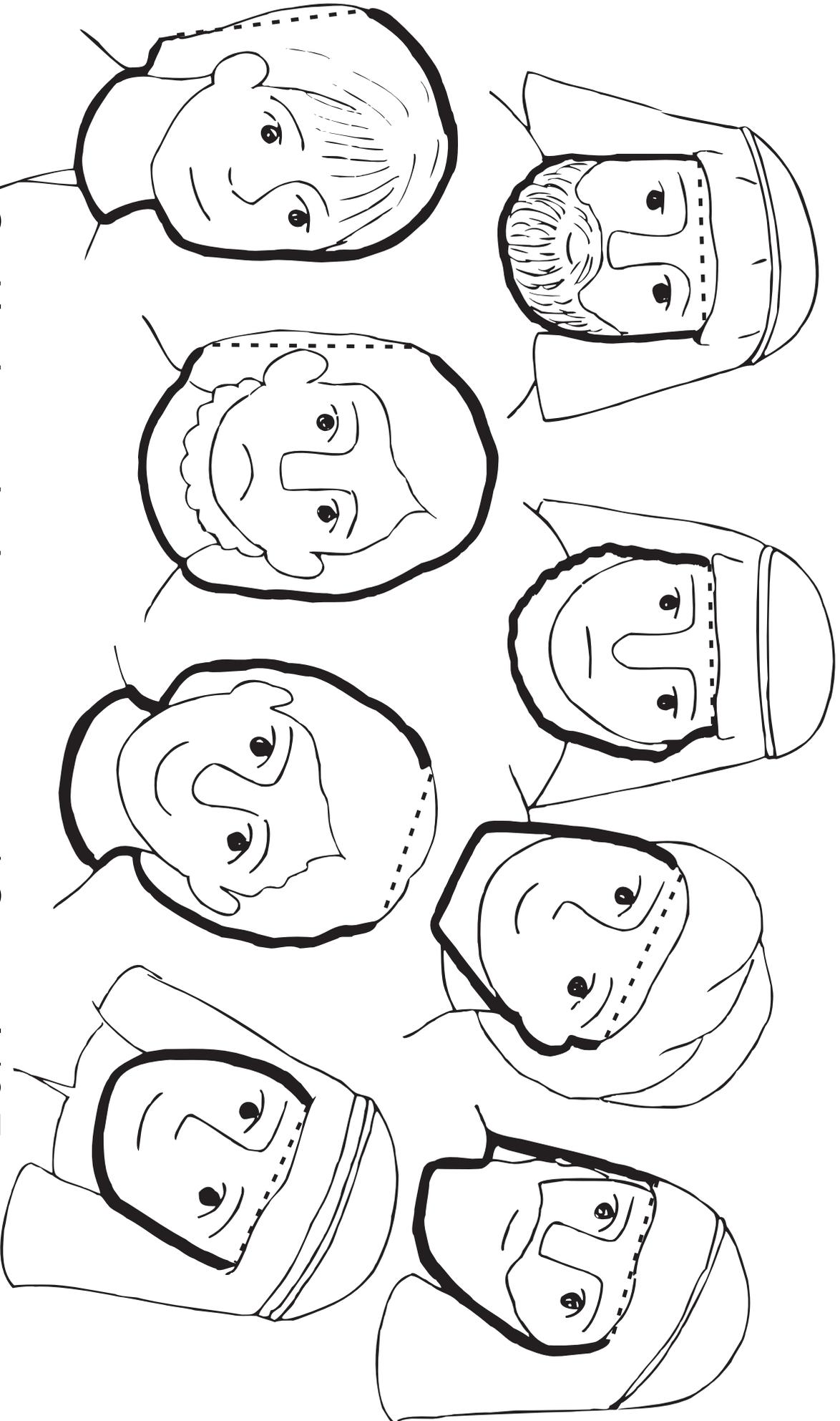
Insert the second split pin paper fastener from the outside and open the ends to secure it in position. A small rubber band can be wound round the bottom split pin and clipped over the top one to secure the box lid closed.

- Arrange the jigsaw pieces on the box lid to give the memory verse and glue in position.

It is helpful to make one beforehand to show the children.

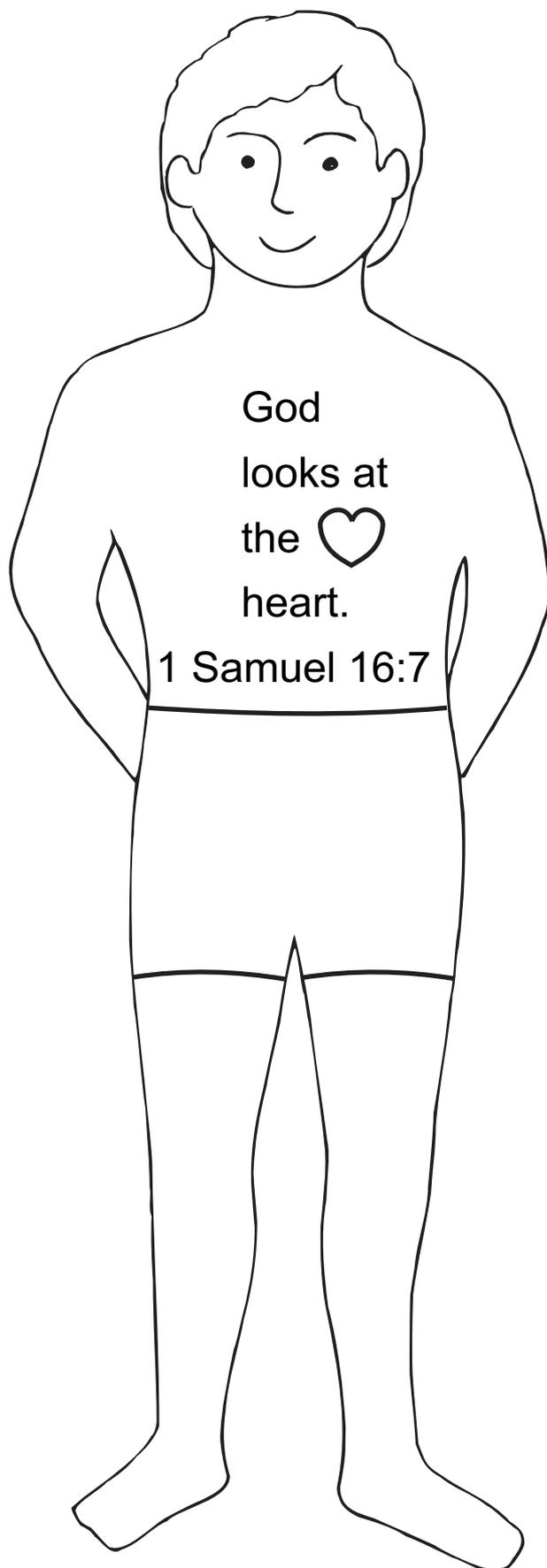


Which one did God choose to be the new king?

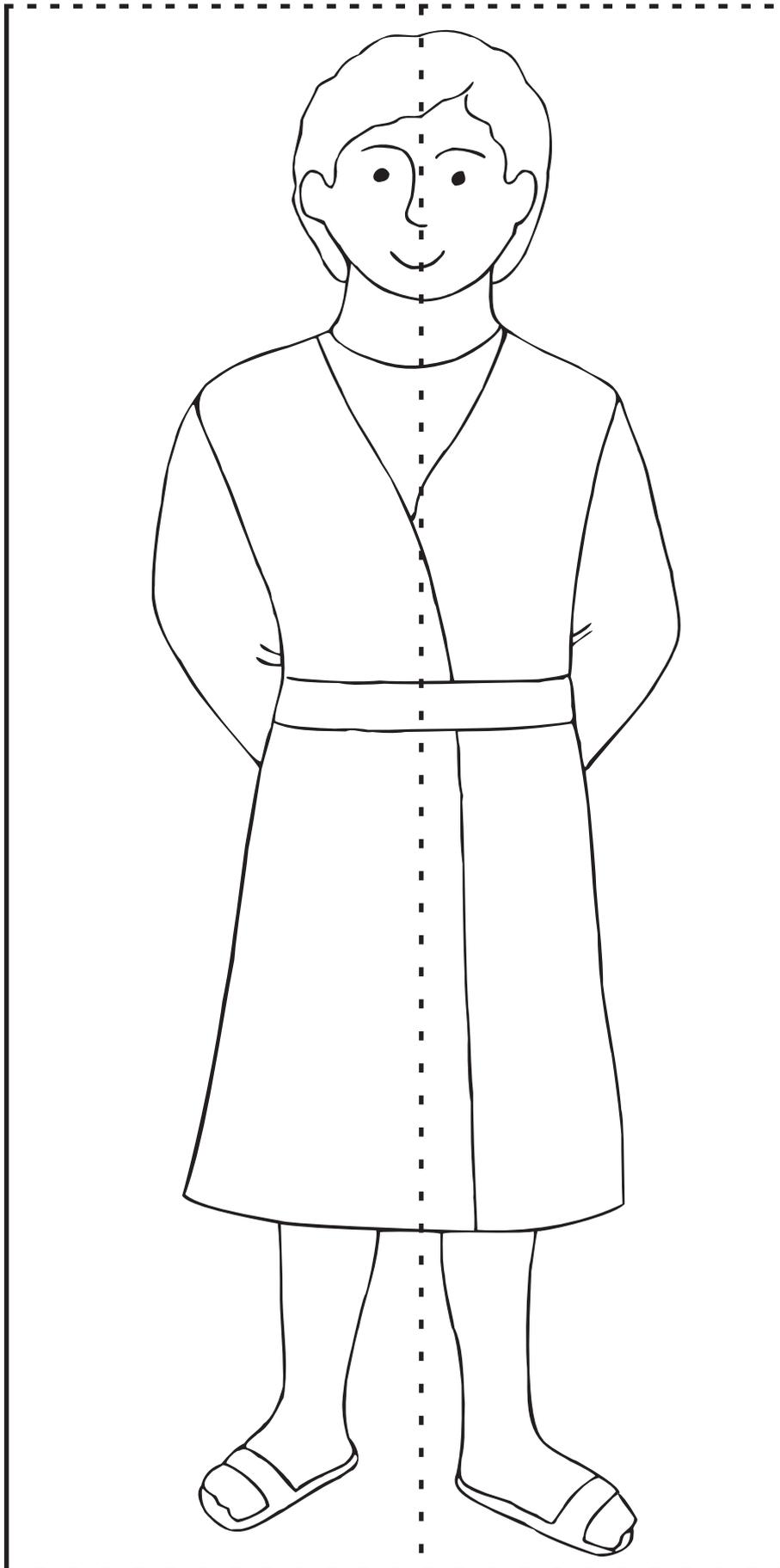


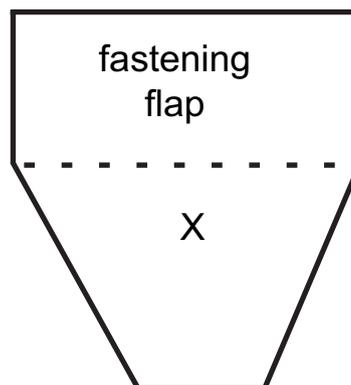
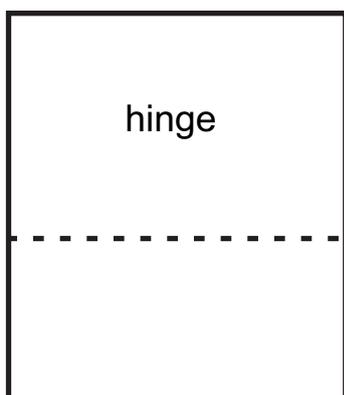
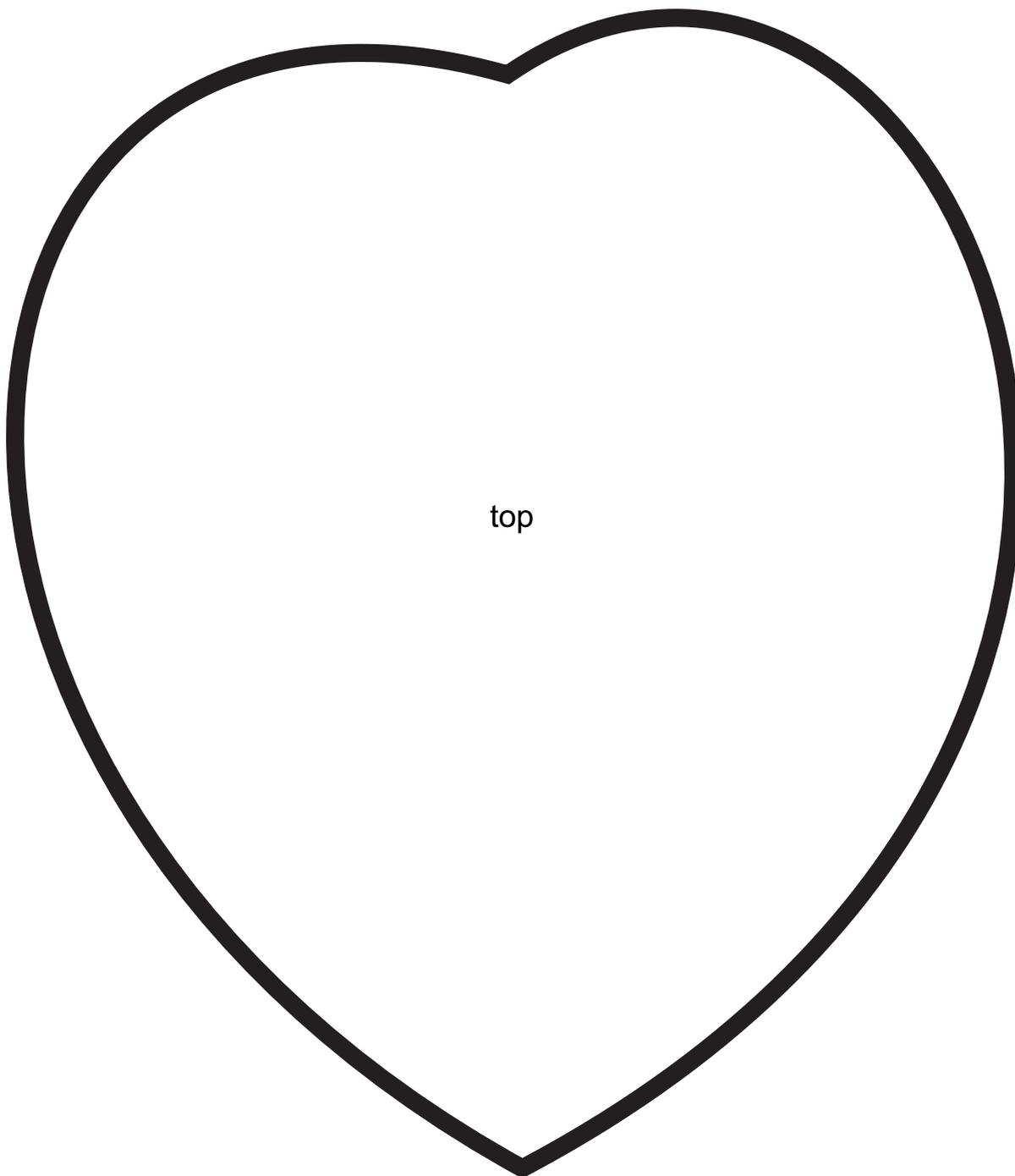
God looks at the heart.

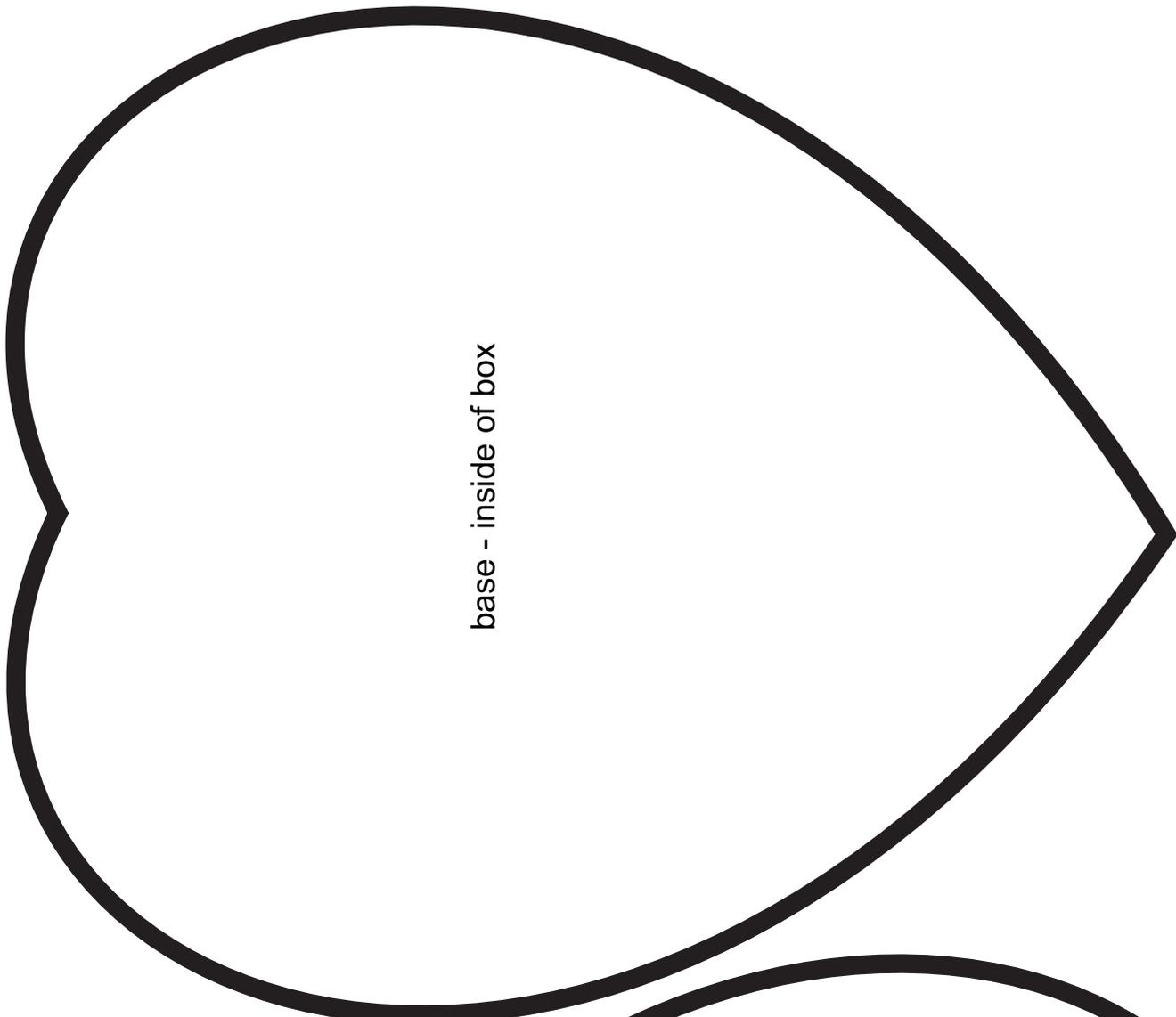
1 Samuel 16:7



Man looks at the outward appearance,

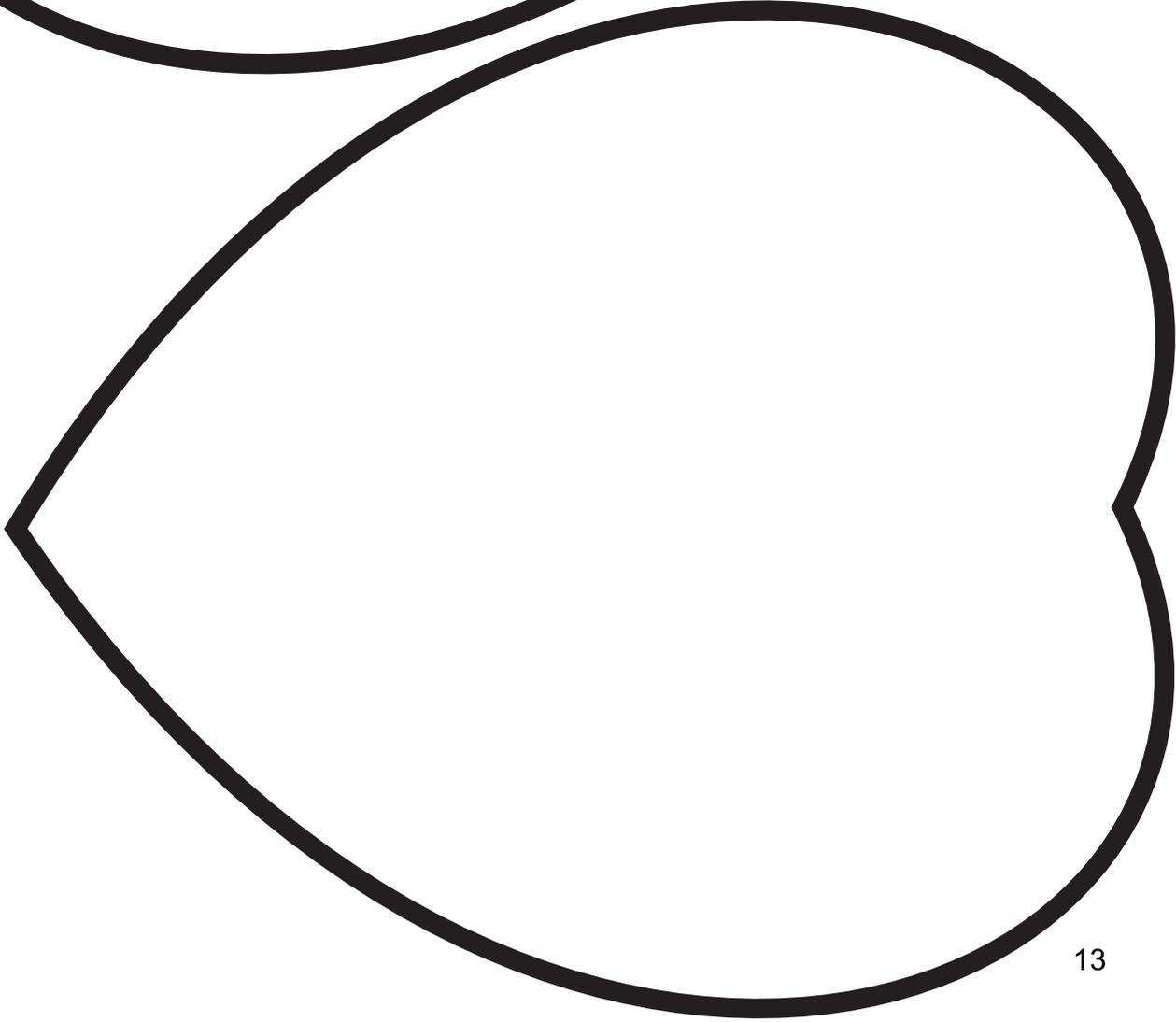


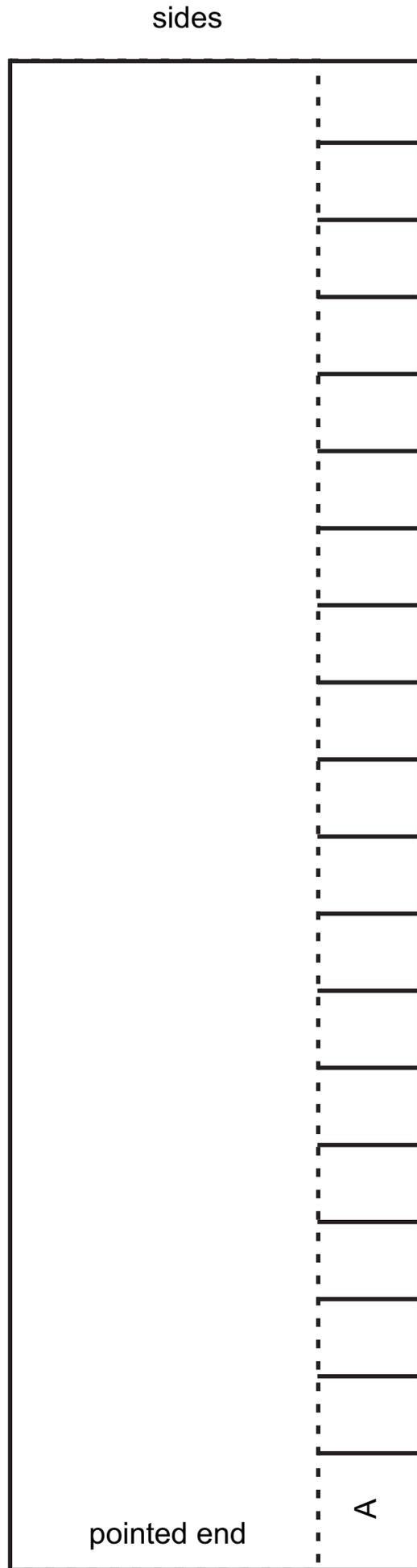
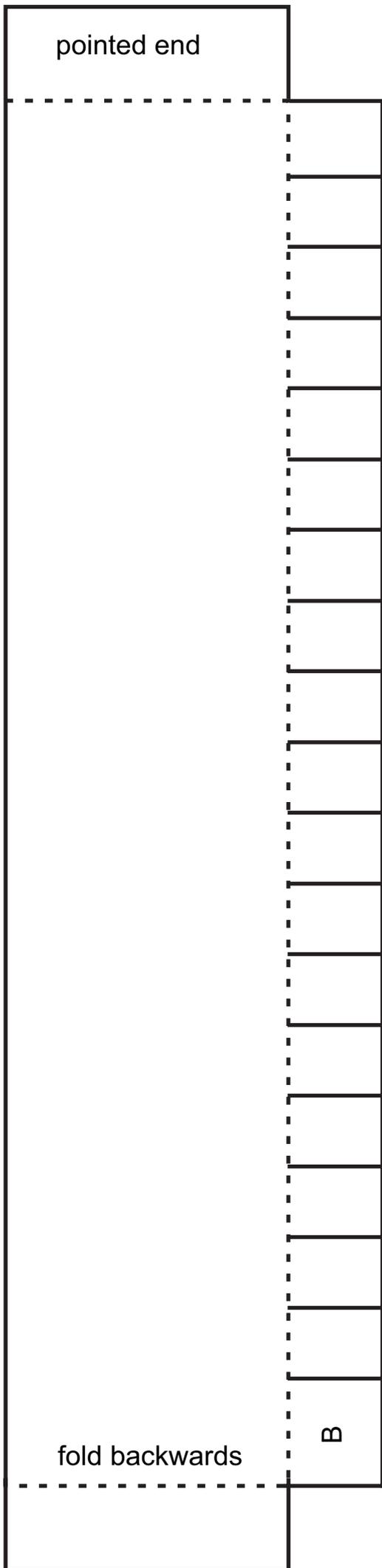


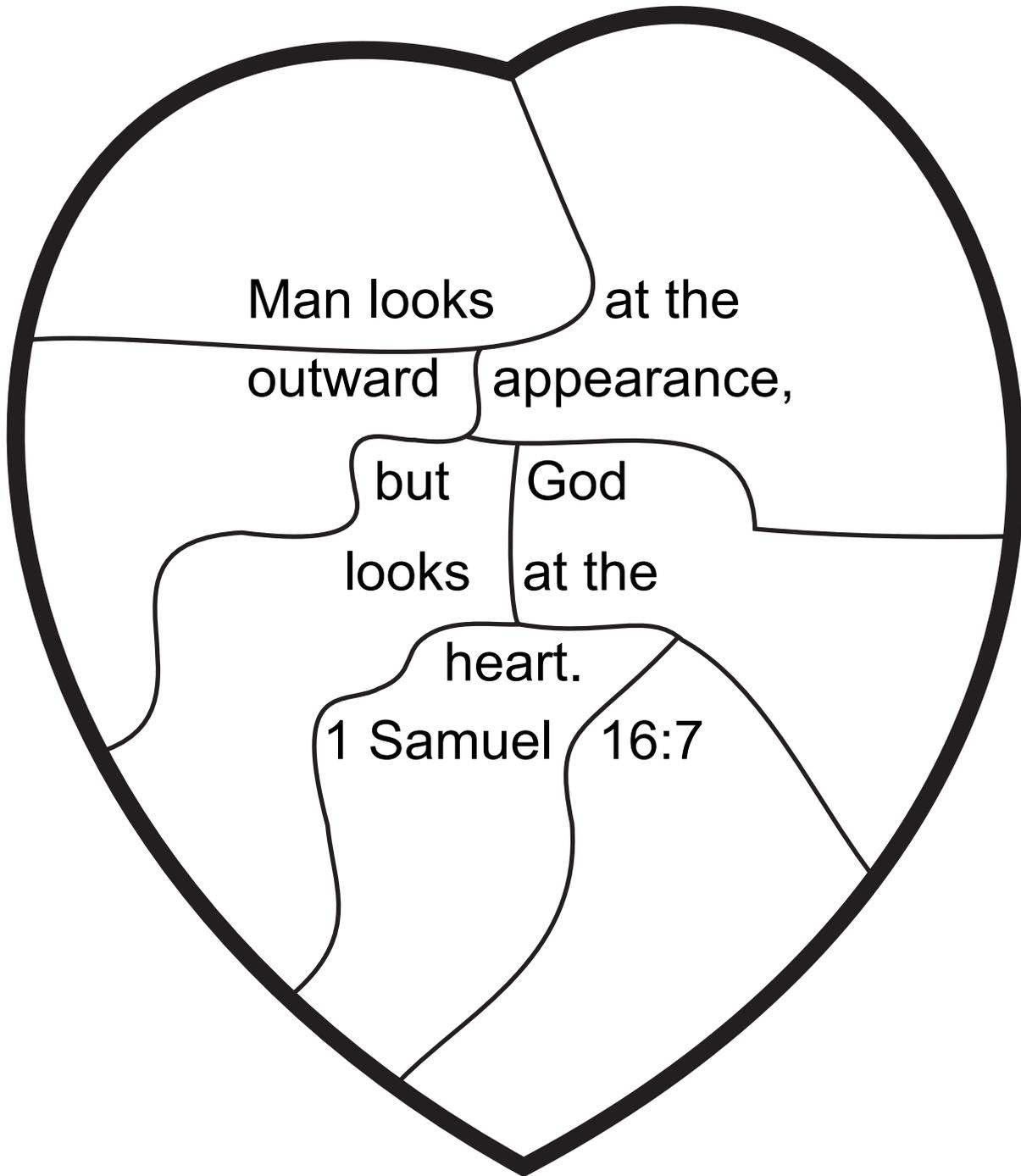


base - inside of box

base lining







puzzle for box lid