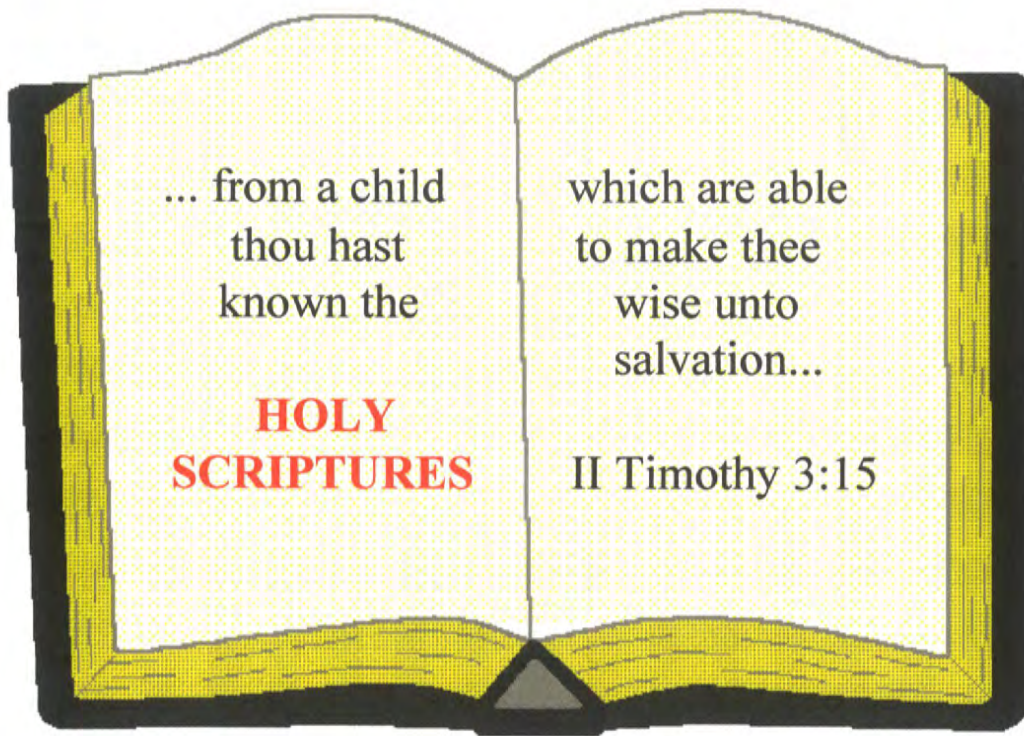


TRAIN UP A CHILD



New Testament Volume III

Preschool Kindergarten

Jesus Goes To Galilee

JESUS GOES TO GALILEE

NEW
TESTAMENT
Volume III
Preschool
Kindergarten

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NEW TESTAMENT

VOLUME III

Jesus Goes To Galilee

Pre-school Kindergarten

AUTHOR: Betty Penn

ARTWORK / ILLUSTRATIONS:

Cheryl Harris, Cody Harris and Betty Penn

Pupil Worksheets are reproducible for classroom use.

May, 2003



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To the Teacher:

Then when He was come into Galilee, the Galileans received Him, having seen all the things that He did at Jerusalem at the feast.” John 4:45

Early in the ministry of Jesus He began calling special ones from among His disciples to be apostles. He chose them for a special purpose: to preach and teach the church after He went back to heaven. He only had about three years to teach them, so it was important that they were in His presence to hear all of His teachings.

When Jesus first went to Jerusalem for the Feast of the Passover after He had been baptized and began His ministry on earth, the Jews did not accept Him as the Son of God. When people began following Him, believing what He preached because of the miracles that He did, the chief priests and elders at the temple began to look for a way to destroy Him, accusing Him of blasphemy. Jesus left Judea and went into Galilee where He spent most of His time.

When He came into Galilee, He went to Nazareth where He was rejected by the elders and rulers at the synagogue. They attempted to kill Him for blasphemy because He claimed to be the Son of God who was prophesied in the scrolls from which He read. He went to Capernaum, and adopted it as “His own city”. He came and went from Capernaum for the remainder of His ministry.

Except for the return to Jerusalem for the second Feast of the Passover when He healed the man by the pool of Bethesda, most of the events in this volume of lessons, Volume III, happened in and around Capernaum. The last five lessons cover what we call “the sermon on the mount”. The next volume covers more teachings and miracles done in Galilee.

Especially for the two and three year old children, you may find some lessons cover more material than you want to present in one lesson. Use your discretion in teaching to the comprehension level of your students, but don’t shortchange the older students for the sake of the younger. Generally, children can learn more than we give them credit for.

I express my appreciation to Cheryl Harris and Cody Harris for contributing art work. May God bless you with understanding as you prepare so you can teach children that they might grasp the truths of the Bible while they are young.

Prayerfully submitted,



Betty Penn

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FISHERS OF MEN

Matthew 4:18-22

Mark 1:16-20

Luke 5:1-11

Jesus grew up in the city of Nazareth, but he could not come and go from there as his hometown, because the people in Nazareth did not accept him as the Son of God. They cast him out of their city, so he went to Capernaum. He chose this as “his own city”. Many of the miracles he did were in or around Capernaum or the Sea of Galilee. We do not know how long Jesus stayed in Capernaum, but he was in Galilee for many weeks. Luke 4:31 tells us he came to Capernaum and taught them on the sabbath days (plural). He healed many people and worked many other miracles. Luke 4:43-44 tells us he traveled to other cities and taught in the synagogues (plural) of Galilee.

Capernaum was one of the cities on the shore of the Sea of Galilee. Peter and Andrew lived in Capernaum. While Jesus was there he spent much time in the home of Peter. Peter, Andrew, James and John were fishermen who fished the Sea of Galilee. Apparently during the time while Jesus was in the area of Capernaum, Peter and Andrew practiced their trade of fishing for a living. The Sea of Galilee was about thirteen miles long and seven and a half miles across. It was filled with many kinds of fish. The men would catch the fish to eat and also to sell to other people so they would have food to eat. They used the money they got from selling fish to buy other things they needed.

The Sea of Galilee is also known as the Sea of Chinnereth, the Sea of Tiberias, or Lake Gennesaret. Chinnereth, Gennesaret, and Tiberias were other towns on the western side of the sea. The mountains were back quite a distance from the seacoast, and the area from the foot of the mountains to the sea was flat, fertile land that produced many walnuts, palms, fig trees, olives, and grapes. The sea was located in the area of Galilee, so we usually call it the Sea of Galilee.

The Sea of Galilee was a busy place and was very important to the people who lived around it. A road around the sea connected many towns and fishing villages. The sea provided a living for many people who lived in the towns around it. It provided a means of transportation by boat to other towns. The foods that grew in the plains surrounding the sea could be brought in to the towns along the seashore. Then they were sent by boat to other towns to be sold. It provided an abundance of fish to be eaten, or sold for money to buy other things. The fishermen would go out in their boats at night and drop their nets in the water. As the boats moved through the water, the fish would get caught or tangled up in the nets. When it was daylight they would pull the nets up into the boats and come in to shore. They would sort out the good fish, and people would be waiting to buy them to take to their homes for food. They would also dry the fish to preserve them to be eaten later.

One day a large crowd of people followed Jesus to hear the word of God taught. He stood by the Lake of Gennesaret, or the Sea of Galilee. He saw two ships, or boats, standing

in the water near the shore. The boats belonged to Peter and Andrew, and their partners, James and John. The fishermen had been out fishing the night before. When it was morning they brought their ships in to the shore, unloaded the fish, and took their nets back out into the water to wash and clean them. They would repair any tears in them so they would be ready to use the next night. The crowd of people got closer and closer to Jesus, wanting to hear every word he said. They crowded him to the edge of the water. He stepped into one of the ships that belonged to Simon Peter. He asked him to push out into the water a little way. Jesus sat in the ship and taught the people as they stood on the shore.

When Jesus finished speaking, he told Peter to take the ship out into the deep water and let down his nets for a great catch of fish. Peter didn't understand why Jesus would tell him to take the ship out in the daytime. They caught the most fish at night, and they had fished all night and did not catch anything the night before. If they could not catch fish at night, surely they could not catch any in the daytime. Peter said, "Master, we have worked all night, and caught nothing, but if you tell me to, I will let down the nets." He did not understand why Jesus told him to go out into the deep water and let down the nets, but he would do it if Jesus said to.

When Peter obeyed Jesus and let down the net, it became so filled with fish that he and Andrew could not handle it by themselves. It was going to break the net. They called to their partners, James and John, who were in the other ship, to come and help them. They filled both of the ships so full of fish that they began to sink. They were all amazed at the amount of fish that they had caught. When Peter saw the miracle that Jesus had done, he realized just how great Jesus was, and how sinful he was. He fell down before Jesus and said, "*Depart from me; for I am a sinful man, O Lord.*" He was overwhelmed by the greatness and power of Jesus, and realized how insignificant he was as a human being. He did not feel worthy to even be in the presence of Jesus. Jesus told him not to be afraid. He had something greater for him to do than catch fish. Jesus told Peter, "*Fear not; from henceforth thou shalt catch men.*" "*And when they had brought their ships to land, they forsook all, and followed him.*"

When they came to shore, Jesus told them to leave their nets and their trade of fishing and follow him. He would make them fishers of men. Instead of fishing as an occupation to earn money, Jesus wanted them to devote all of their time to him and he would teach them what they needed to know to bring people to him. The book of Matthew tells us that Jesus called Peter and Andrew and said to them, "*Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men. And they straightway left their nets and followed him.*" Jesus walked on to the next ship where James and John were with their father, Zebedee, mending their nets; and he called them. "*And they immediately left the ship and their father, and followed him.*" When Jesus called them they did not make excuses. They immediately left their father with the servants to help him, and they went with Jesus.

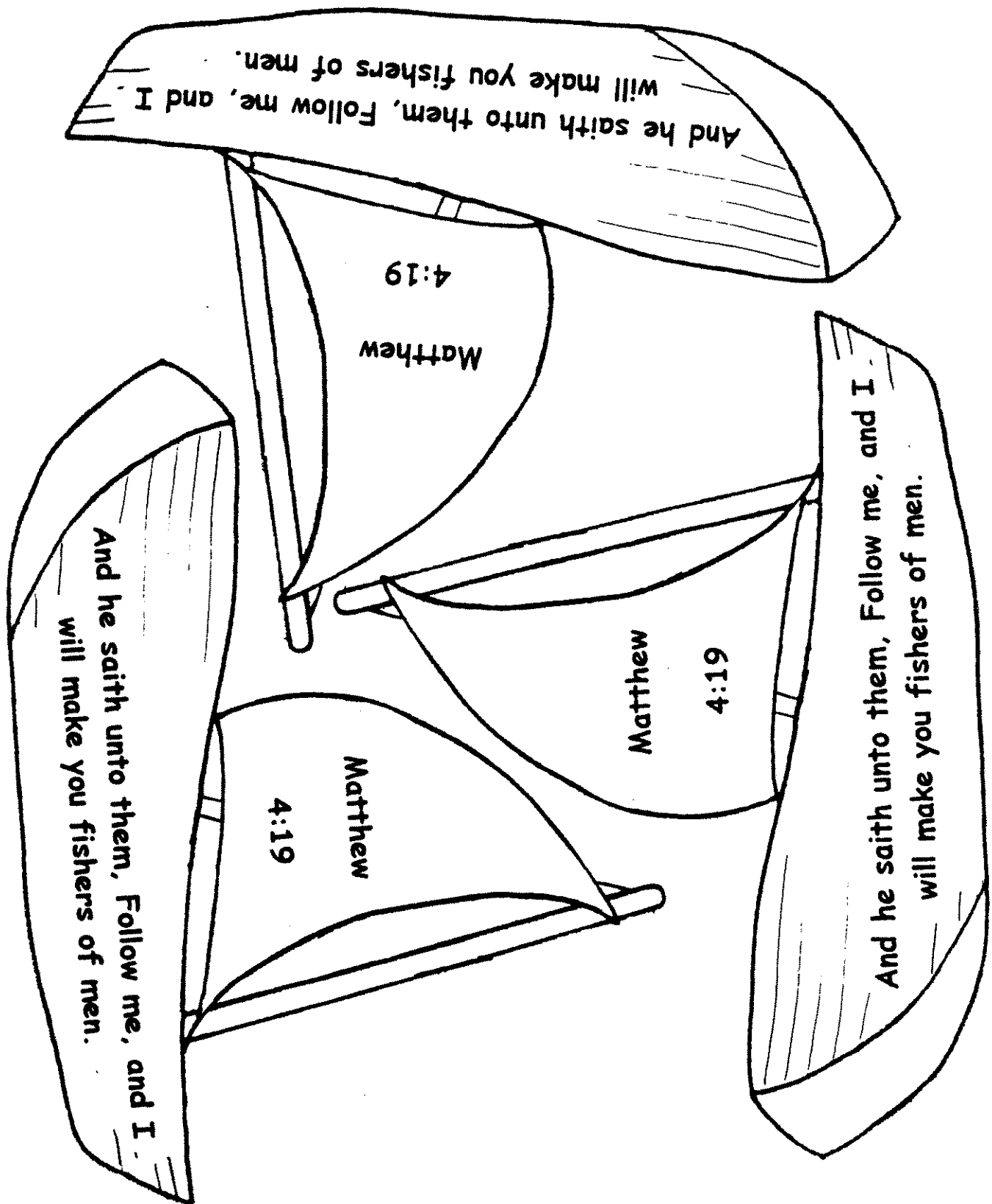
Peter, Andrew, James, and John had followed Jesus for several months, but now Jesus chose them to stay with him and be his disciples, or his followers. They had heard what he

taught, and had seen the miracles that he did, so they were already convinced that he was the Son of God. But they could not be in two places at once. They could not be on the Sea of Galilee fishing and also be with Jesus at the same time. Jesus could not stay at the Sea of Galilee. He had other places to go and other people to teach. Jesus wanted Peter, Andrew, James and John to leave their occupation as fishermen, and become his disciples. He wanted them to stay with him, and learn everything he taught, so that they would be prepared to preach and teach after he was put to death and went back to heaven to live.

Jesus would not always be on the earth. He needed someone to do his work after he was gone. He wanted them to know the truths about God, and how to tell people what they should do in order to be forgiven of their sins, and become children of God. There was no better way to learn than from Jesus himself. They did leave their fishing, and followed Jesus. They saw the miracles that he did, and heard the words that he spoke. Later Jesus chose Peter, Andrew, James, and John to be apostles, or preachers. They were four of the preachers in the first church.

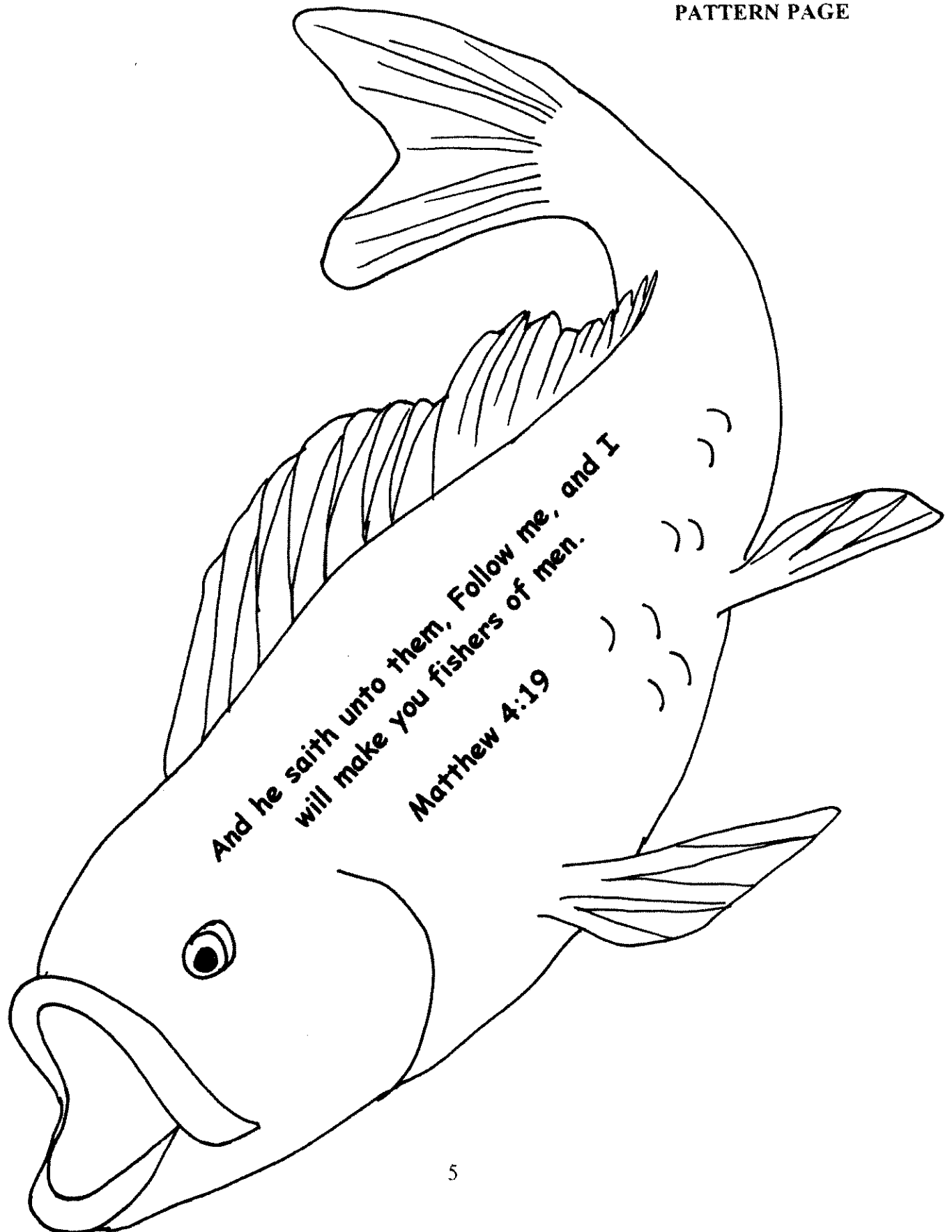
MEMORY VERSE: Matthew 4:19

“And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.”



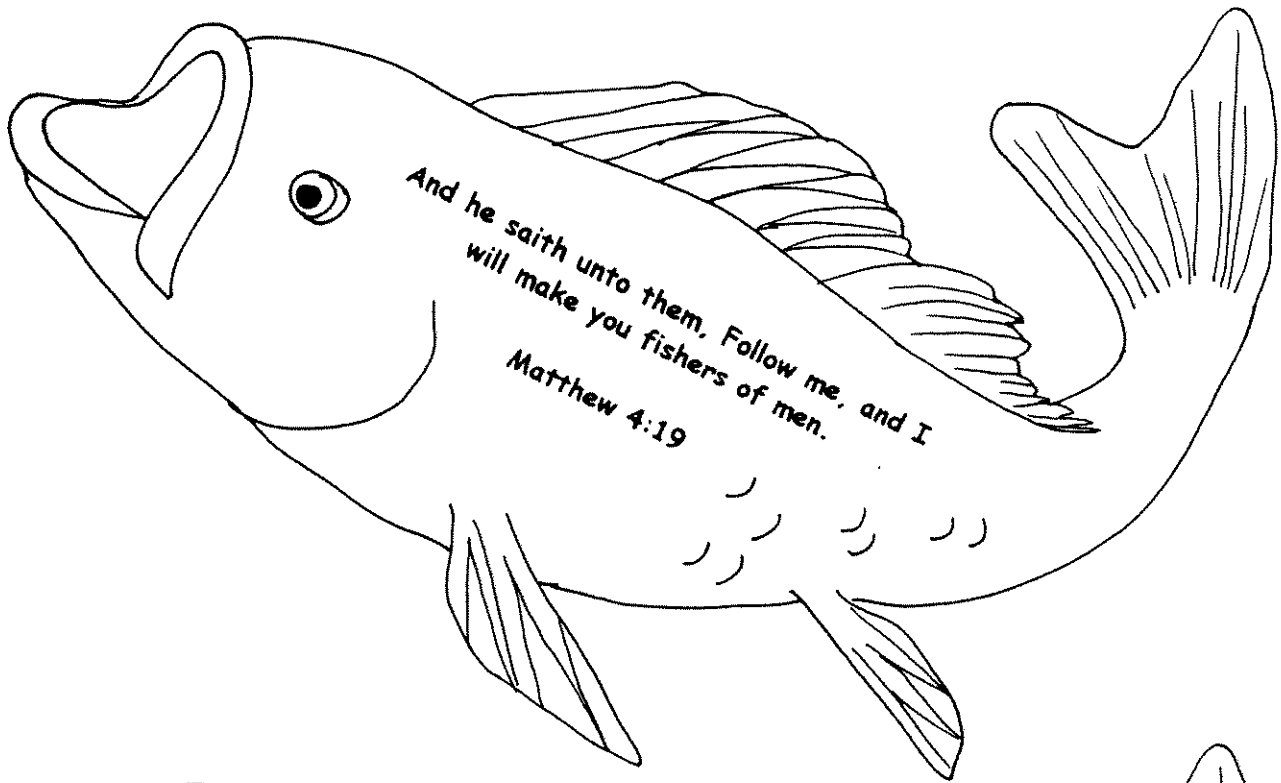
FISHERS OF MEN

**ALTERNATE MEMORY VERSE
PATTERN PAGE**

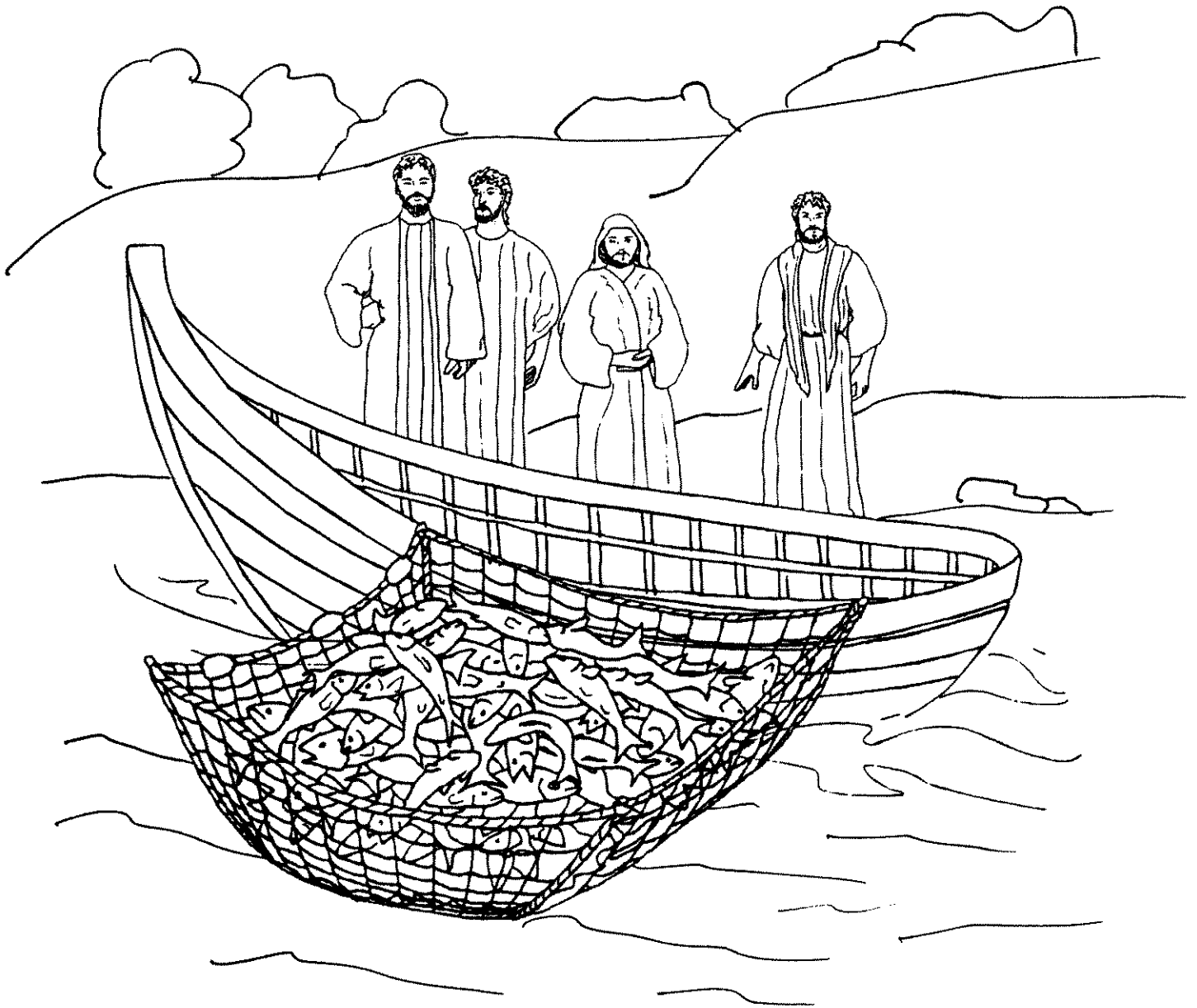


FISHERS OF MEN

ALTERNATE MEMORY VERSE PATTERN PAGE



FISHERS OF MEN



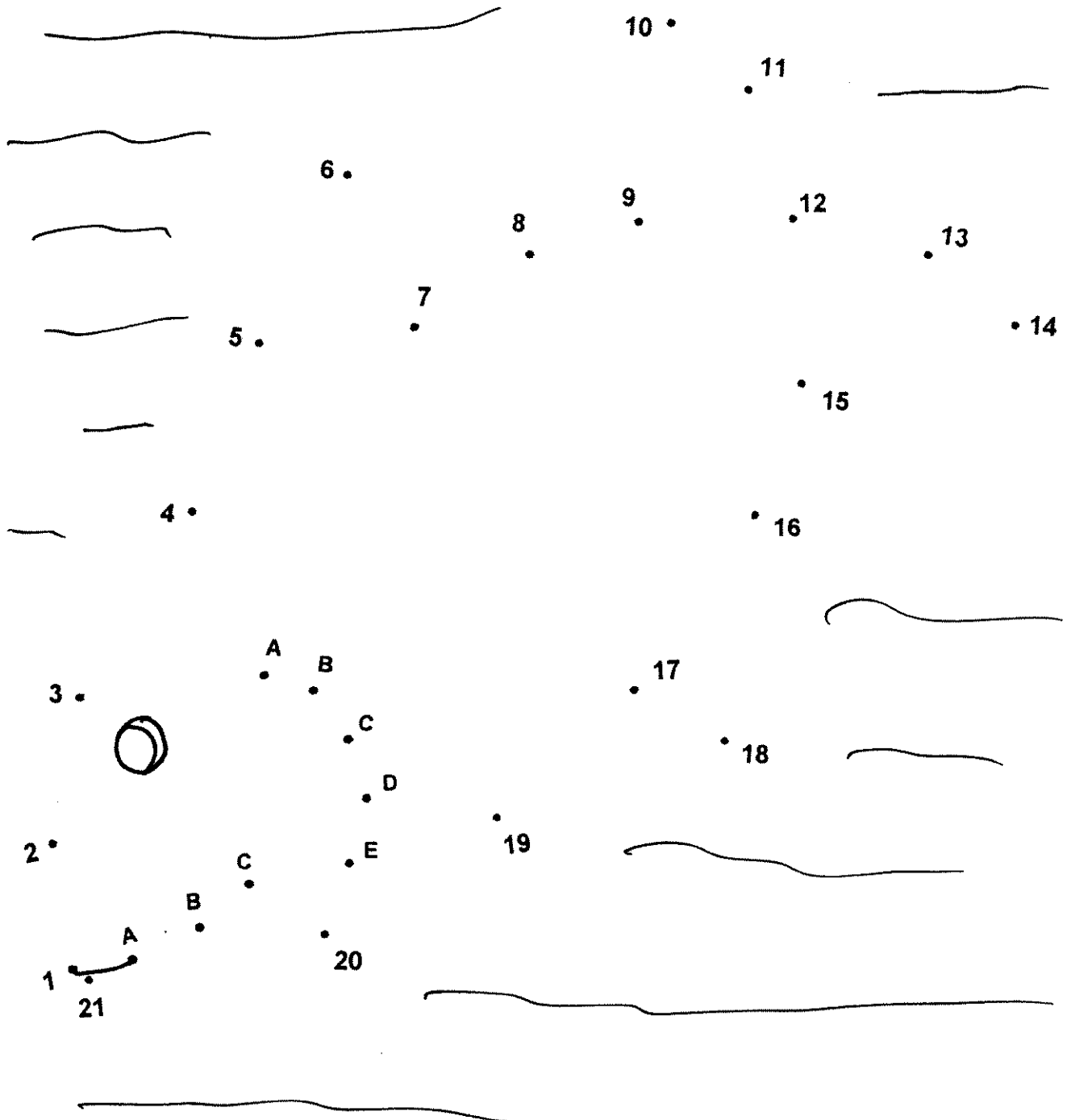
Peter and Andrew, and their partners James and John,
left their occupation of fishing and followed Jesus

FISHERS OF MEN

Follow the numbers to connect the dots.

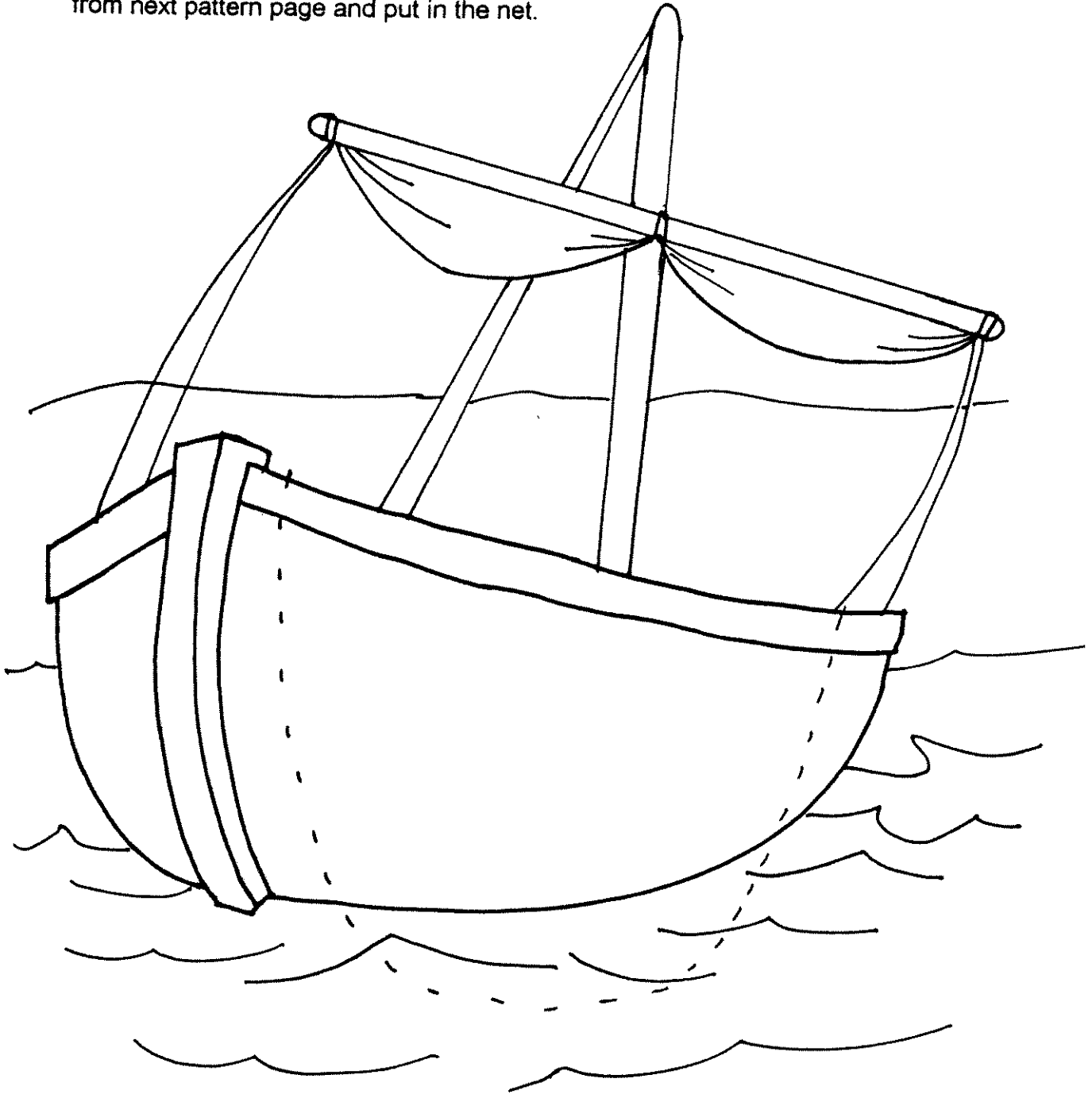
Color the water and the fish.

Follow the letters to connect the dots.



FISHERS OF MEN

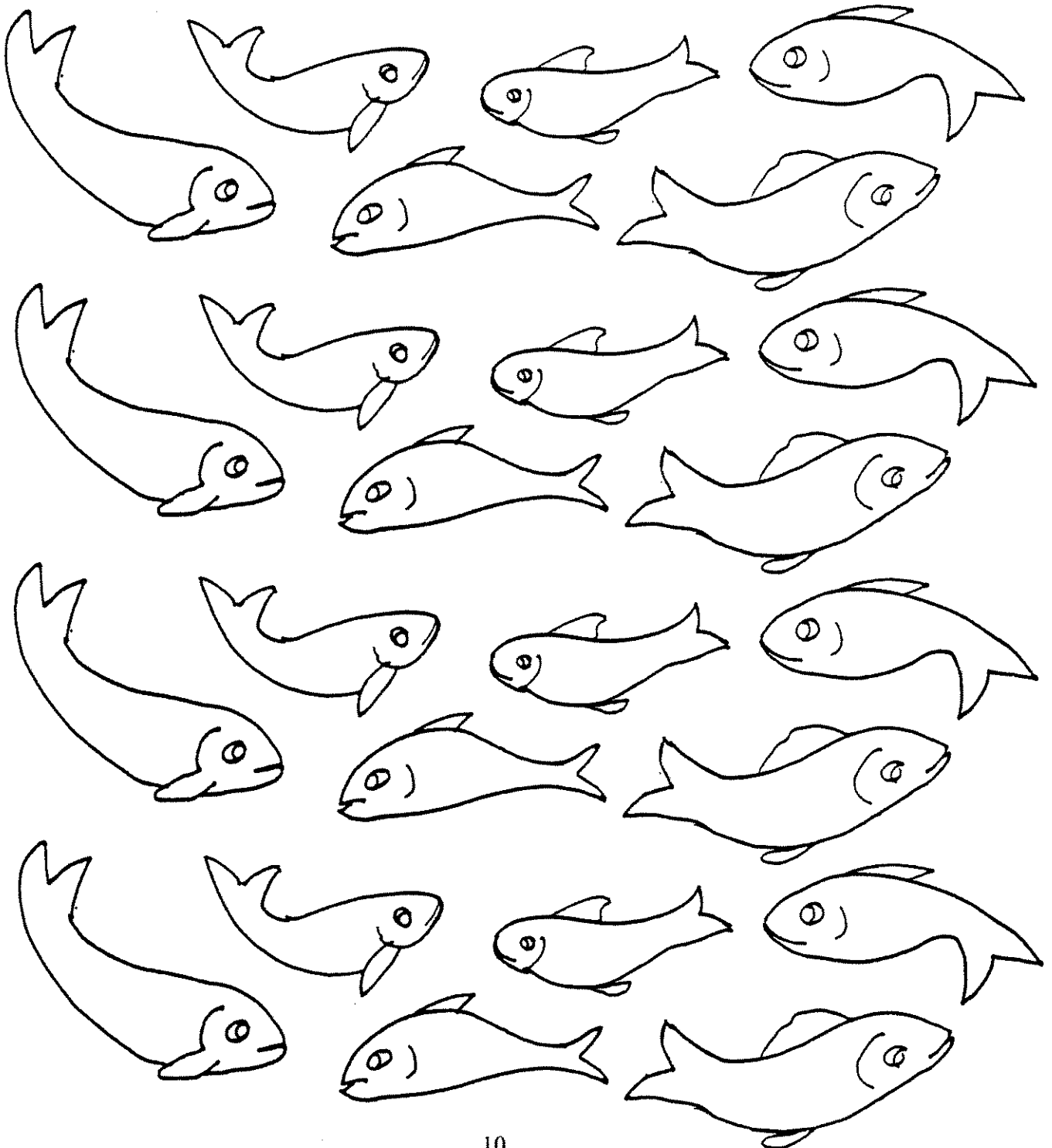
Glue sides and bottom of a piece of net along dotted lines. Cut out several fish from next pattern page and put in the net.



FISHERS OF MEN

FISH PATTERN PAGE

Copy on gray construction paper. Cut out and put in net on previous page.



JESUS CALLS MATTHEW

Matthew 9:9-13

Mark 2:14-17

Luke 3:12-13; 5:27-32; 7:29-34

Matthew was one of the twelve apostles whom Jesus selected while he was on the earth to be preachers after he went back to heaven to live. Matthew wrote the first book in the New Testament, the book of Matthew. In today's lesson we will learn how Jesus called Matthew to be his disciple, or follower. Later he was chosen to be an apostle, or preacher.

Matthew lived at Capernaum, a city on the shores of the Sea of Galilee. Matthew was a publican, or a tax collector. This was his occupation, what he did to make a living. The land of Israel at this time was under the rule of the Roman Empire. Many years before, because the people did not obey God and worship Him as He had commanded them, God allowed them to be taken as captives by other nations. They were taken away from their homes and made to live in other lands. Many of their descendants returned to the land, and those who were living in the land of Canaan during the time that Jesus was born were still not a free nation. They were under the rule of the Roman Empire. They had a king, but he was subject to the Caesar in Rome. They had their laws that God had given to Moses, but they were also under the laws of the Roman Empire.

The Roman Empire made them pay taxes to Rome. A publican was a man whose job was to collect the tax money from the Jews for the Roman government. In order to receive pay for their work, they could add on a certain amount to the amount of the taxes, and keep this for themselves. They were allowed to do this. However, many publicans abused this privilege, and added on too much for themselves. They stole from the people by charging them too much taxes and keeping more than a fair amount for their pay. Not all publicans were dishonest, but because some were, this gave all publicans a bad name. The Jews hated the Roman Empire, they disliked paying taxes, so they hated the publicans. They called them sinners, because many of them did wrong by cheating the people.

Zacchaeus was a dishonest publican until he met Jesus and admitted to being dishonest and wanted to make it right. He was willing to give back all he had taken wrongly, and more, to make up for the sin. Matthew was a publican who collected taxes in Capernaum. The Bible doesn't indicate that Matthew was a dishonest publican, but just being a publican made him disliked by the people. Jesus knew the heart of Matthew, and knew he was a good man. Jesus knew he would make a good disciple.

Jesus walked by where Matthew sat at his table collecting the tax money. Jesus said to Matthew, "*Follow me.*" Matthew did. Matthew immediately left his job of publican and became a disciple of Jesus. To be a disciple, a person must stay with Jesus all the time. To follow Jesus, one had to leave his home, family, and job and travel with Jesus. They had to go everywhere he went, hear everything he taught, and see all the miracles that he did. Matthew could not be in Capernaum collecting taxes and also be with Jesus hearing what he taught. He

left his job and followed Jesus, because he wanted to learn everything he could about Jesus, about God, and about the kingdom of God. Matthew wanted to learn so he could tell others.

Matthew traveled with Jesus the rest of the time that Jesus was on the earth. He heard what Jesus taught. He saw the miracles that Jesus did, proving that he was the Son of God that the Jewish people had been looking for. Later, after Jesus was crucified, Matthew wrote the first book in the New Testament. He wrote from first-hand experience. He had been with Jesus for about three years. The Holy Spirit led Matthew to write down the things he saw and heard, the things that we need to know about Jesus and what he did while he was on the earth.

Matthew was probably a wealthy man, most tax collectors were. Matthew lived in a fine home, and had good food to eat. He made a great feast, or banquet, at his home for Jesus. He invited many of his friends who were also tax collectors because he wanted them to meet Jesus. The disciples of Jesus were also invited. Many of the scribes and Pharisees from the synagogue were not invited to the banquet, but they came to Matthew's house. When something happened, everybody in the town knew about it. Wherever Jesus went, many people followed him. The scribes and Pharisees gathered outside Matthew's home and watched as Jesus and his disciples ate with the other publicans who had been invited to the feast. They did not understand why Jesus would eat and drink with these people. No good Jew would eat and drink with sinners. They considered Jesus to be a prophet, and if he was a prophet he should not be eating and drinking with sinners. Finally they asked Jesus' disciples, "*Why does your Master eat with publicans and sinners?*" Jesus heard what they asked, and he said in Mark 2:17, "*They that are whole have no need of the physician, but they that are sick: I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.*"

Doctors are for sick people. Jesus said if a person is well, he does not need to go to a doctor. It is only the person who is sick who needs to go to a doctor for help. Jesus did not come to try to convince the Pharisees that they were not righteous (sick and needing help). He came to forgive those who knew that they were sinful and in need of a Savior. The Pharisees believed that if they did not break the law, they were not guilty. If they were not guilty of doing anything wrong, they did not need to repent and be forgiven. Jesus said, "*I came to call sinners to repentance.*" It was those who knew they were sinful and needed a Savior who loved and followed Jesus. Many publicans admitted they had done wrong. They heard Jesus' words and repented of their sins. Jesus spent more time with the common people, the sinners, than he did with the leaders of the synagogue. When a person realizes he is sick, he will go to the doctor and get medicine to make him well. When a person realizes he is lost, he will turn to Jesus for forgiveness to make him a child of God.

Jesus said that dishonest publicans were sinful, just like others people who cheat, lie, steal, or kill. But he said he came to seek and to save those which are sinful. Jesus freely invited the publicans to be a part of the kingdom of God. It is through repentance of sins and faith in Jesus as the Savior that one becomes a child of God. Many publicans repented of their sins and became children of God. Many publicans were baptized by John the Baptist.

In Luke 3:7 some came to John to be baptized, and he refused to baptize them. He said he would not baptize them just because they were Jews, but they must first prove that they had repented of their sins. They asked how to prove their repentance, and John told them, "*He that hath two coats, let him impart to him that hath none; and he that hath meat, let him do likewise.*" By the way they acted, the change in their lifestyle, they would prove their hearts had been changed. In verse 12, the publicans came to be baptized, and asked John what they should do to prove they had repented, and he said, "*Exact no more than that which is appointed you.*" Do not charge any more money than they should. If they quit cheating the people out of their money when they came to pay their taxes it would prove that their hearts had been changed. When the soldiers came and asked what they must do to prove that they had repented, John said not to be violent with people when they were enforcing the law, not to accuse anyone falsely, and not to complain about the amount of money they were paid for their work. If a person's heart is changed by the forgiveness of Jesus, he will be willing to change the way he acts. Jesus would not accept the Pharisees just because they were Jews; he accepted those who knew they were sinful and asked for forgiveness.

Matthew was a publican, but he believed in Jesus as the Son of God. He was forgiven by Jesus of his sins, whatever they were. Jesus called him to come and follow him. The Pharisees criticized Jesus because he was friends with Matthew and the other publicans. Another time when Jesus was speaking of the Pharisees, he said they were like children playing in the marketplace. They argue because everyone will not do like they say. One says, "We have piped, and you have not danced. You won't play the game like we made the rules." Another says, "But we played a sad game and you didn't cry." No one can be satisfied. Jesus told the Pharisees, "When John the Baptist came, he did not eat the food you eat, and you said he was strange." Then Jesus said, "When I sit with the people, and eat and drink their food, you say I eat too much and drink too much." When John came and did not eat as other people did, they said he was a strange person. But when Jesus ate with the people, they said that was wrong, too. The Pharisees could never be satisfied.

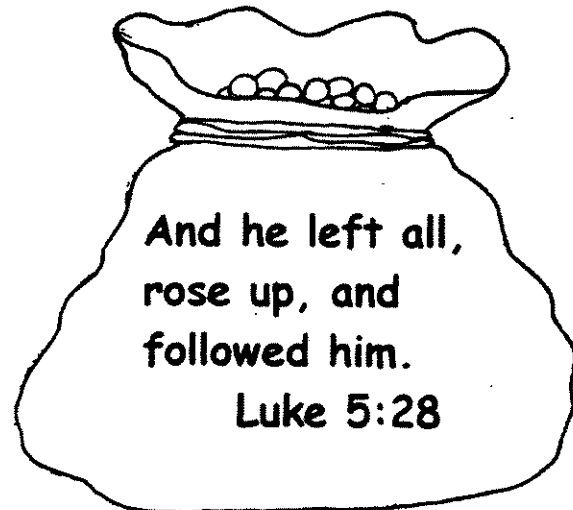
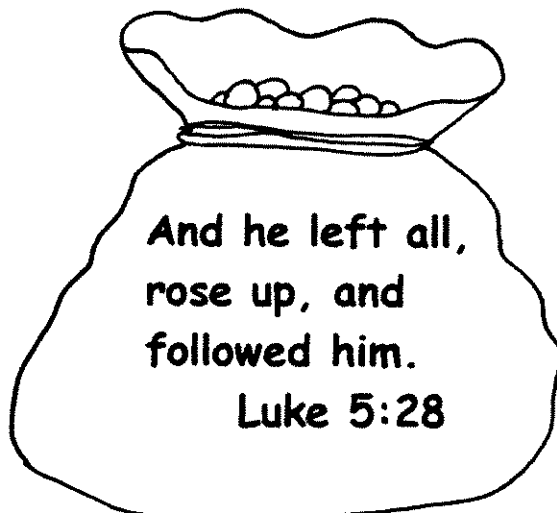
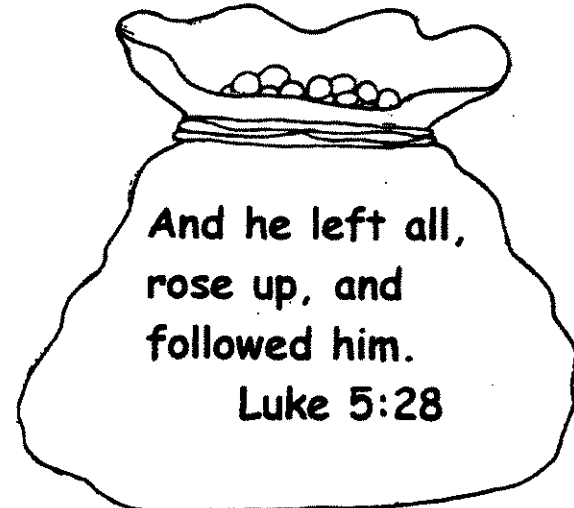
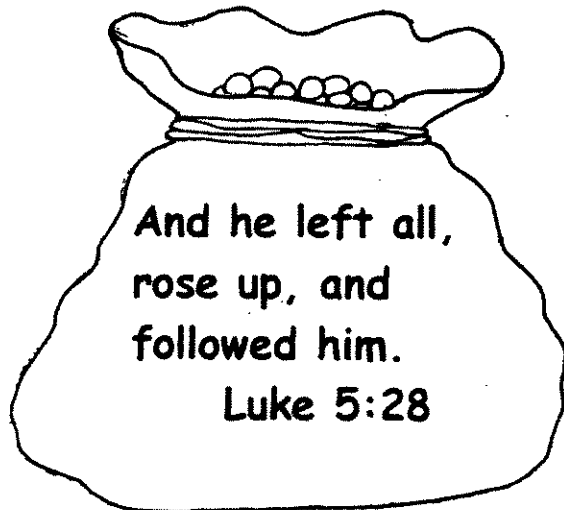
MEMORY VERSE: Luke 5:28

"And he left all, rose up, and followed him."

OR:

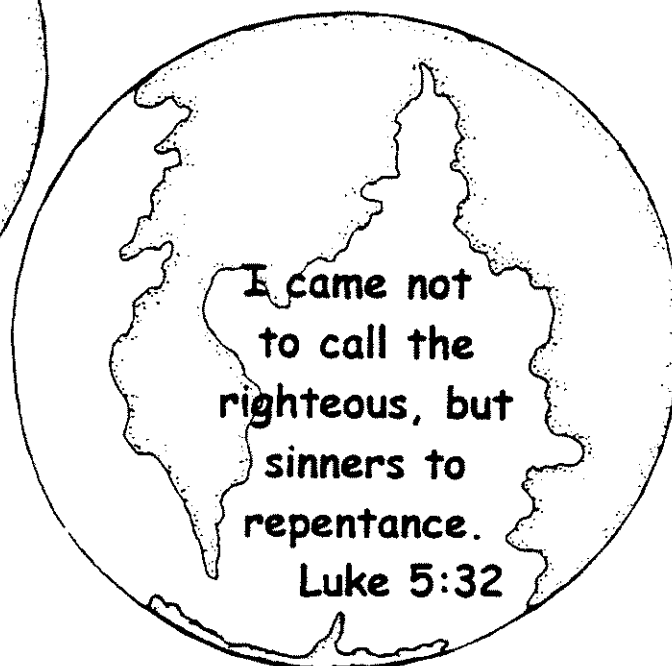
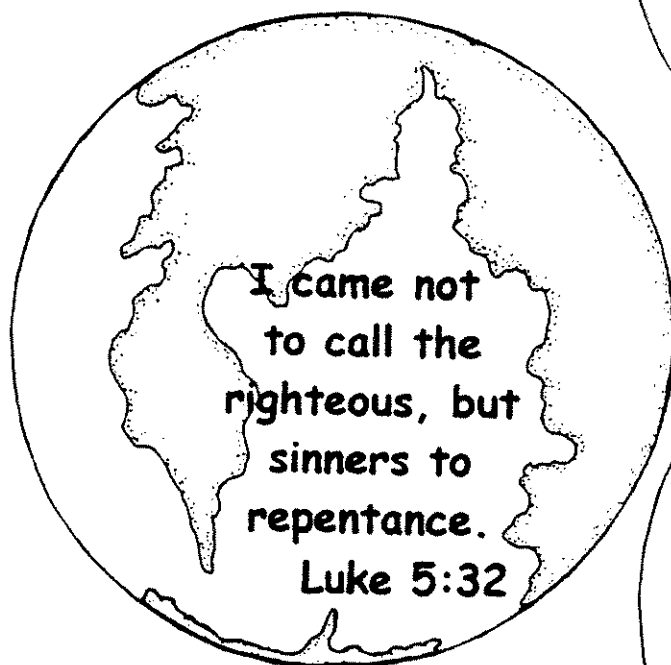
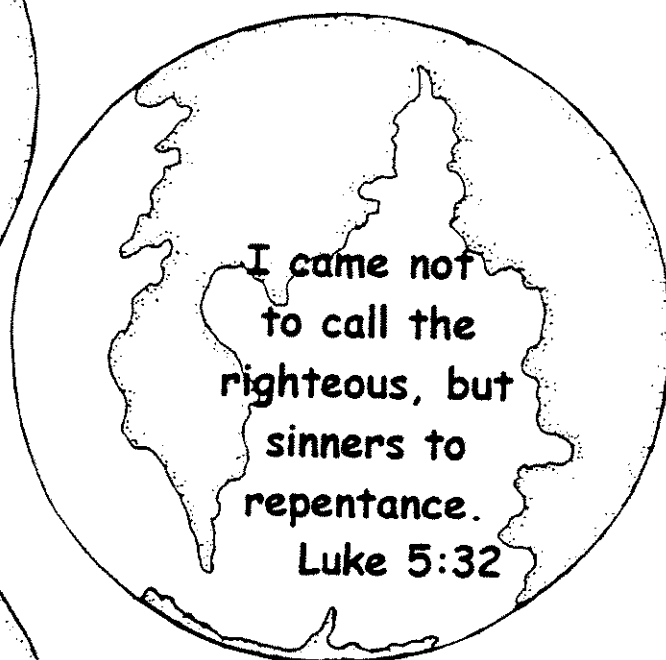
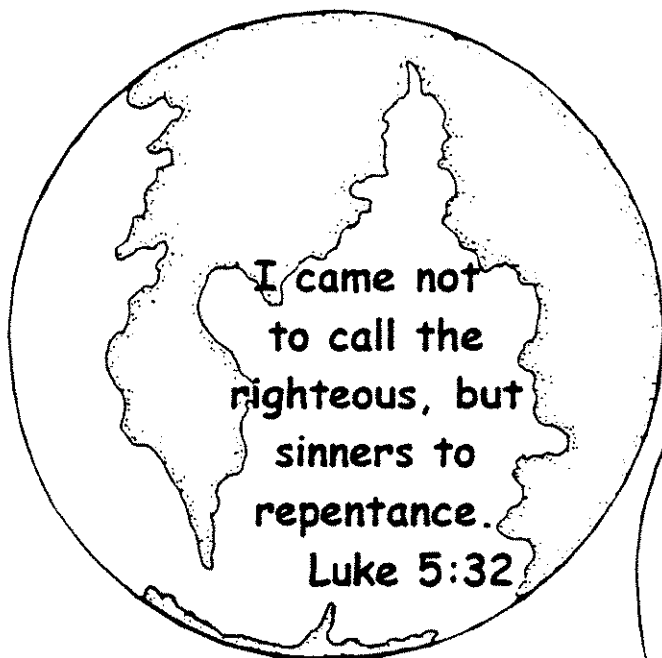
Luke 5:32

"I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance."

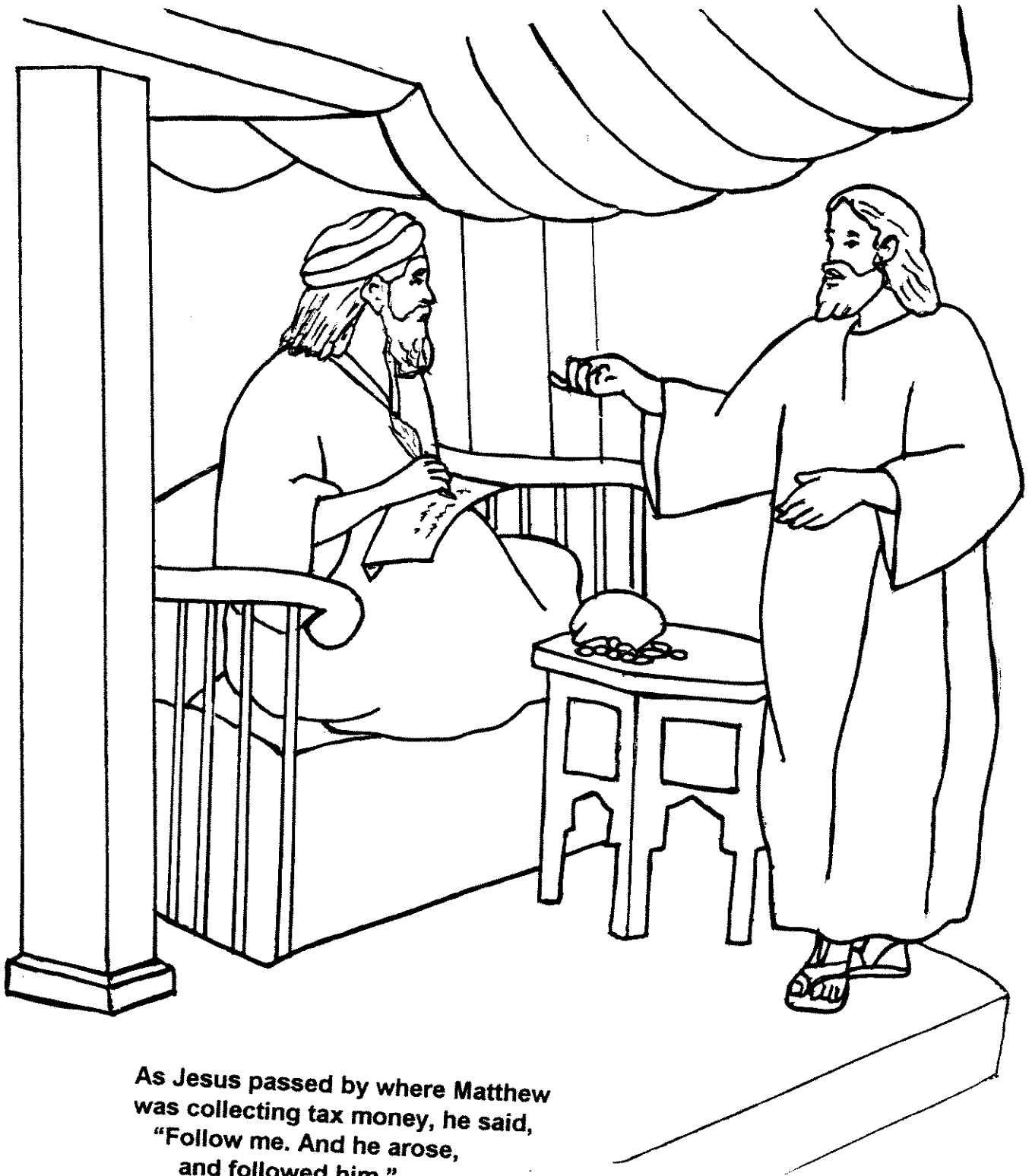


JESUS CALLS MATTHEW

MEMORY VERSE PATTERN PAGE



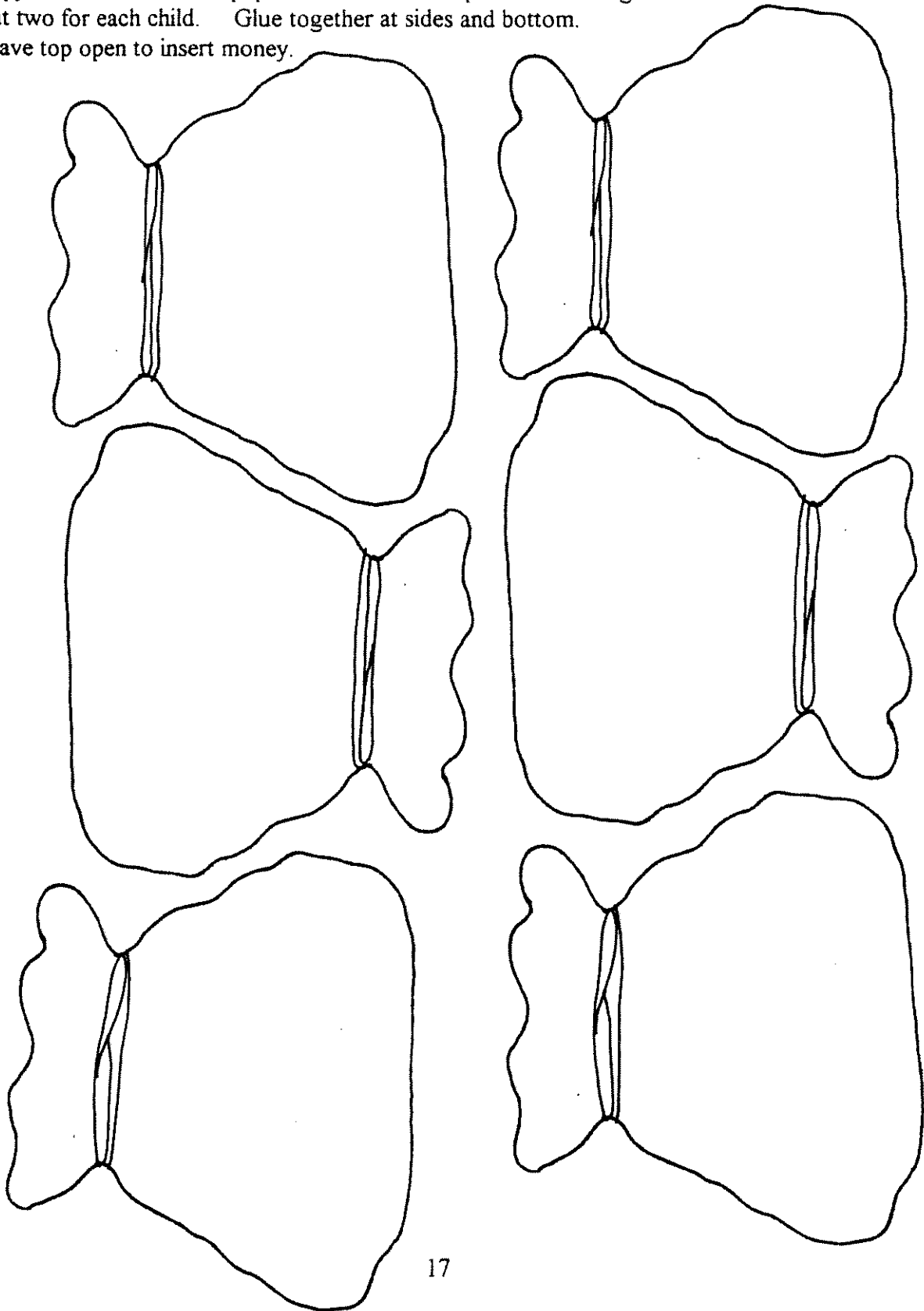
JESUS CALLS MATTHEW



As Jesus passed by where Matthew was collecting tax money, he said, "Follow me. And he arose, and followed him."

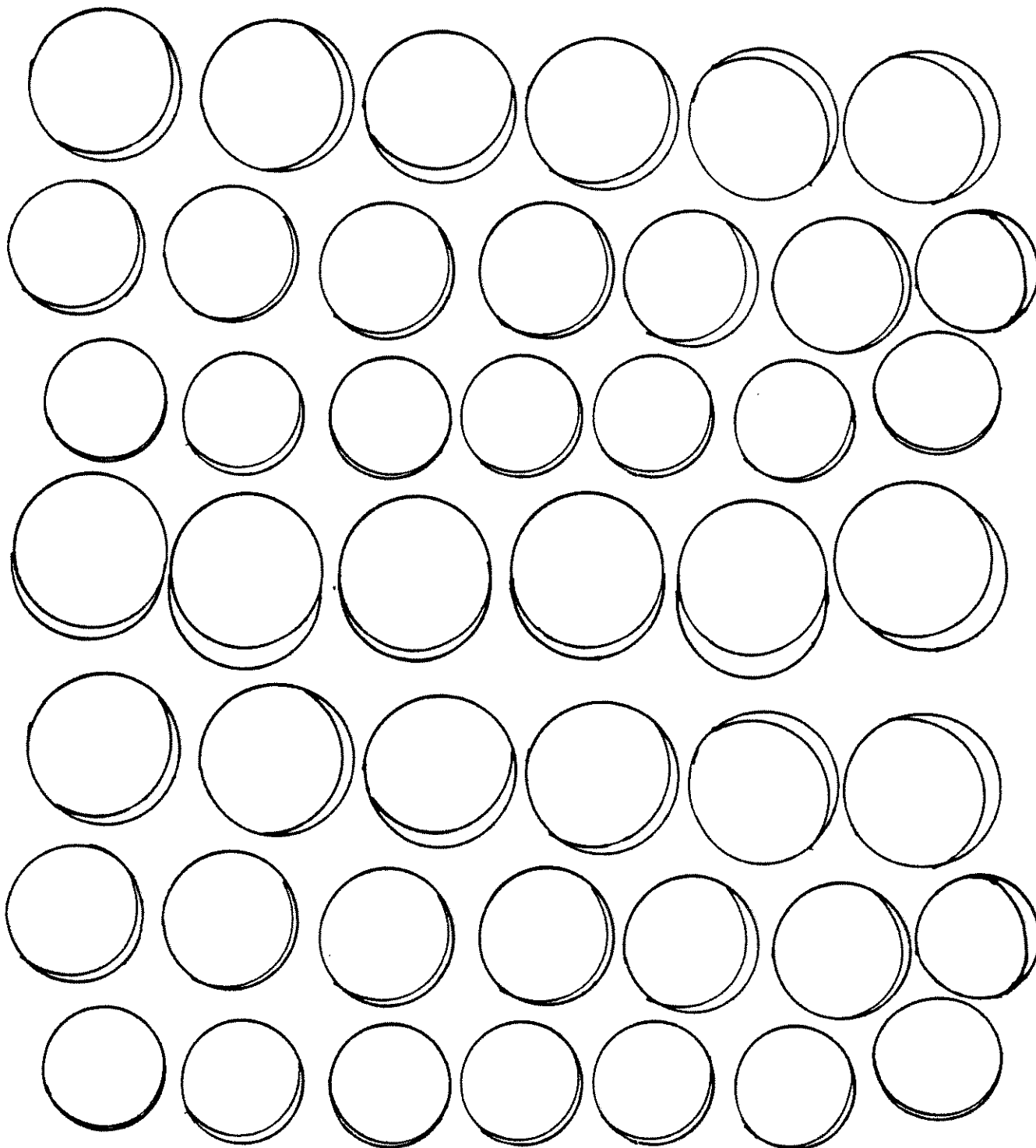
JESUS CALLS MATTHEW

Copy on tan construction paper or cut from burlap or similar rough fabric.
Cut two for each child. Glue together at sides and bottom.
Leave top open to insert money.



JESUS CALLS MATTHEW

Cut several pieces of money from gold or silver colored heavy paper for each child .
Put money in bag from previous pattern page.



HEALING THE MAN WITH AN UNCLEAN SPIRIT

Matthew 4:23-25

Mark 1:21-28

Luke 4:31-37

One day when Jesus was in the area of Galilee, he went into the city of Capernaum. This is where Peter, Andrew, James and John lived. They were fishermen and fished on the Sea of Galilee. They were Jews by birth, and it was their custom to go into the synagogue on the Sabbath day and worship. They went to the synagogue to worship much as we go to the church building to worship. They worshiped on the Sabbath, or the seventh day of the week. The synagogue was built for a gathering place specifically to read from the scrolls and to worship God. The people did not have Bibles to bring with them as we have. The word of God was written on scrolls, large parchments that were rolled up from both directions. When the people gathered at the synagogue, someone took a scroll from its storage place and unrolled it on a table. Someone was appointed to stand and read from the scroll so all the people could hear. Then he would explain what the words in the scroll meant. They chanted the psalms, and they had prayer.

Whatever town Jesus was in, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath to worship. Jesus, along with Peter, Andrew, James, and John were in Capernaum. It was the Sabbath day, so Jesus went into their synagogue. The leaders of the synagogue considered Jesus to be a great man, and a prophet, so he was the one who stood and read from the scrolls and taught the people who had come to worship. Jesus was the Son of God, so he knew exactly what the writing on the scrolls meant. After he read, he explained what the scriptures meant. The people listening were astonished, or surprised, at his doctrine, or what he taught. His teaching was different from the scribes. He seemed to understand everything so clearly. He taught so that everyone there could also understand. He taught as one who had the authority to do so. He knew everything about the scriptures. When he explained them, the people were amazed. They could not understand where he learned so much about the scriptures.

There was a man in the synagogue who had a mental illness. He was possessed with an evil spirit. You will remember from our study of the angels who the evil spirits are. When Lucifer sinned against God and was cast out of heaven, he brought with him one-third of the angels. He became the devil, or Satan, and the angels who came with him became evil spirits. They are the ones who cause all of the sin and bad things that are in the world today. This man was totally controlled by this evil spirit so that he could not live like a normal person.

The other people in the synagogue knew this man, and knew that this evil spirit caused him to be tormented day and night. The evil spirit also knew Jesus. He had been in the beginning with Jesus before the world was created. He knew Jesus before he was born into the world as the Son of God in a human body. When this spirit was cast out of heaven along with the others who followed Satan, he knew that someday he would be punished by Jesus. He knew the power of God was greater than the power of Satan. When he saw Jesus in the synagogue, he was afraid the time had come for him to be destroyed. The evil spirit cried out,

"Let us alone; what have we to do with thee, thou Jesus of Nazareth?" He wanted Jesus to just go away and leave him alone. Then he asked Jesus, *"Are you come to destroy us?"* Then he told Jesus, *"I know who you are. You are the Holy One of God."* The evil spirit knew Jesus was God's Son, and that he would destroy all evil. He wanted to know if now was the time for him to be destroyed. He knew he could not escape the punishment of God, but he didn't want it to happen now. He wanted Jesus to just go away and leave him alone.

Jesus rebuked the spirit. He said, *"Hold thy peace, and come out of him."* The demon was not stronger than the power of Jesus. When Jesus commanded him to come out of the man, he could not disobey. He cried out in pain, and came out of the man. He no longer tormented him. The man was now peaceful and calm. The people were amazed. They asked one another, *"What new doctrine is this? This man has the power and authority to command even the unclean spirits, and they obey him."* They had never seen anything like this before. The scribes who also taught in the synagogue did not have this power, and the Pharisees did not have this power. No one had ever been able to conquer the evil spirits before Jesus.

Jesus and his disciples left the synagogue and went to the home of Simon Peter. Word spread fast about what had happened that day at the synagogue. Mark 1:28 tells us that, *"Immediately his fame spread abroad throughout all the region round about Galilee."* When Jesus got to Peter's house, Peter's wife's mother who also lived there was very, very sick. She had a high fever. Her fever was so high that she might die. Jesus came and took her by the hand, and lifted her up. Immediately the fever was gone. She was well. She was not sick any more. She was able to get up and prepare food for them to eat, and care for them as guests in her home.

At the end of the day, just before it got dark, people began to show up at the door of Peter's house. They had left the synagogue and gone to find all of their friends or family members who were sick, crippled, blind, or possessed with evil spirits. They brought them to Jesus to be healed. The Bible says, *"All the city was gathered at the door."* There may have been hundreds of people there. Jesus healed many, and cast out many devils. When he cast out the devils they also recognized him as the Son of God, as the evil spirit had done in the synagogue. They began to cry out, *"You art Christ the Son of God."* They knew he was the Christ, and that he would someday destroy them.

Jesus spent the night at Peter's house, and before it was daylight, he got up and went out into the mountains to pray. When the disciples got up in the morning, they came looking for him. When they found him, they asked him to come back, because many people had stayed there waiting for him. But Jesus did not go back. He said, *"I must go into other cities. I must preach there also."* Jesus spent many weeks traveling and preaching in the synagogues and his fame spread throughout all Galilee.

MEMORY VERSE: Mark 1:28

"And immediately his fame spread abroad throughout all the region round about Galilee."

HEALING THE MAN WITH THE UNCLEAN SPIRIT

MEMORY VERSE

PATTERN PAGE

Cut out of white paper and paste inside black cover (pattern on next page.)

And immediately his
fame spread abroad
throughout all the
region round about
Galilee.

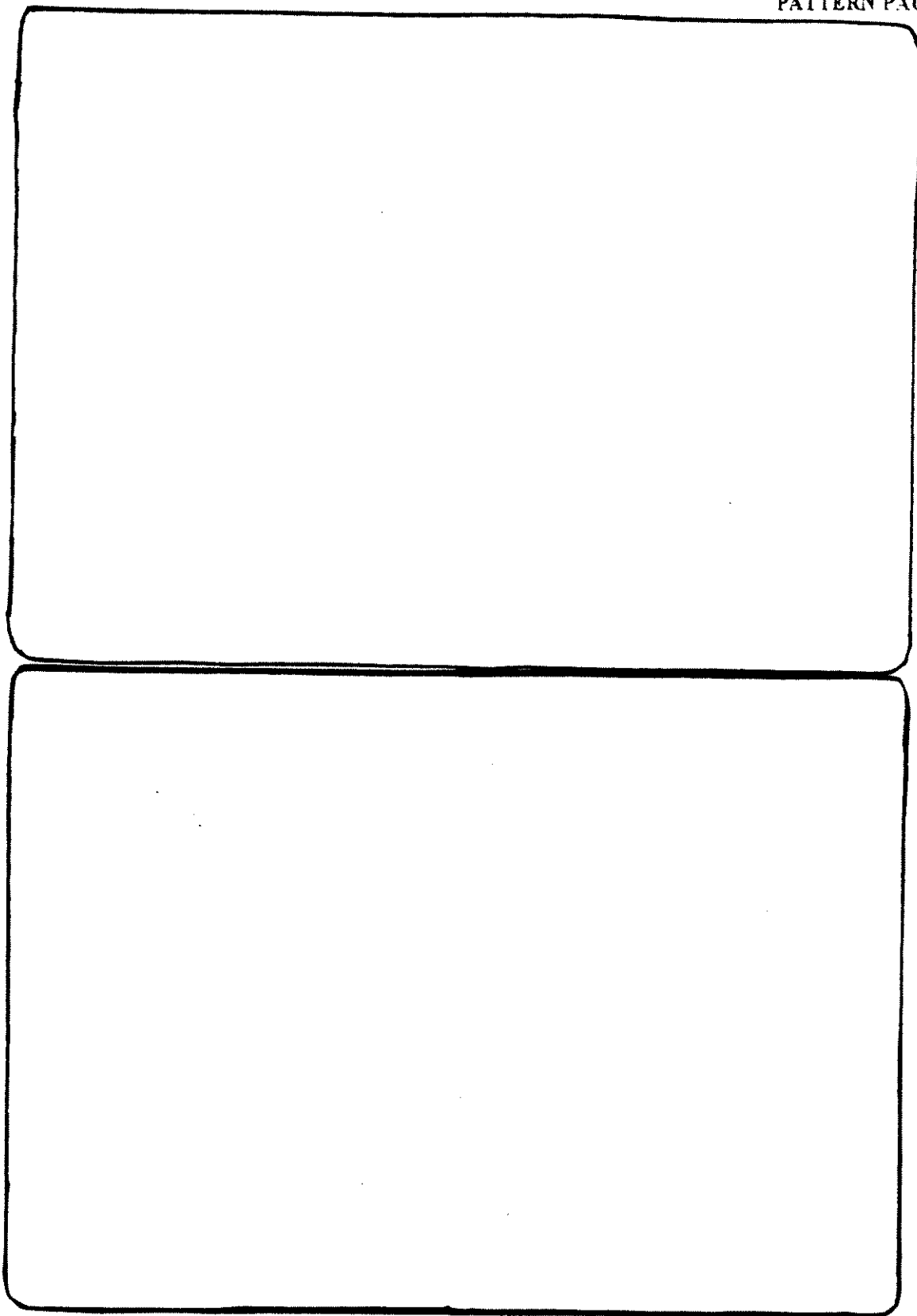
Mark 1:28

And immediately his
fame spread abroad
throughout all the
region round about
Galilee.

Mark 1:28

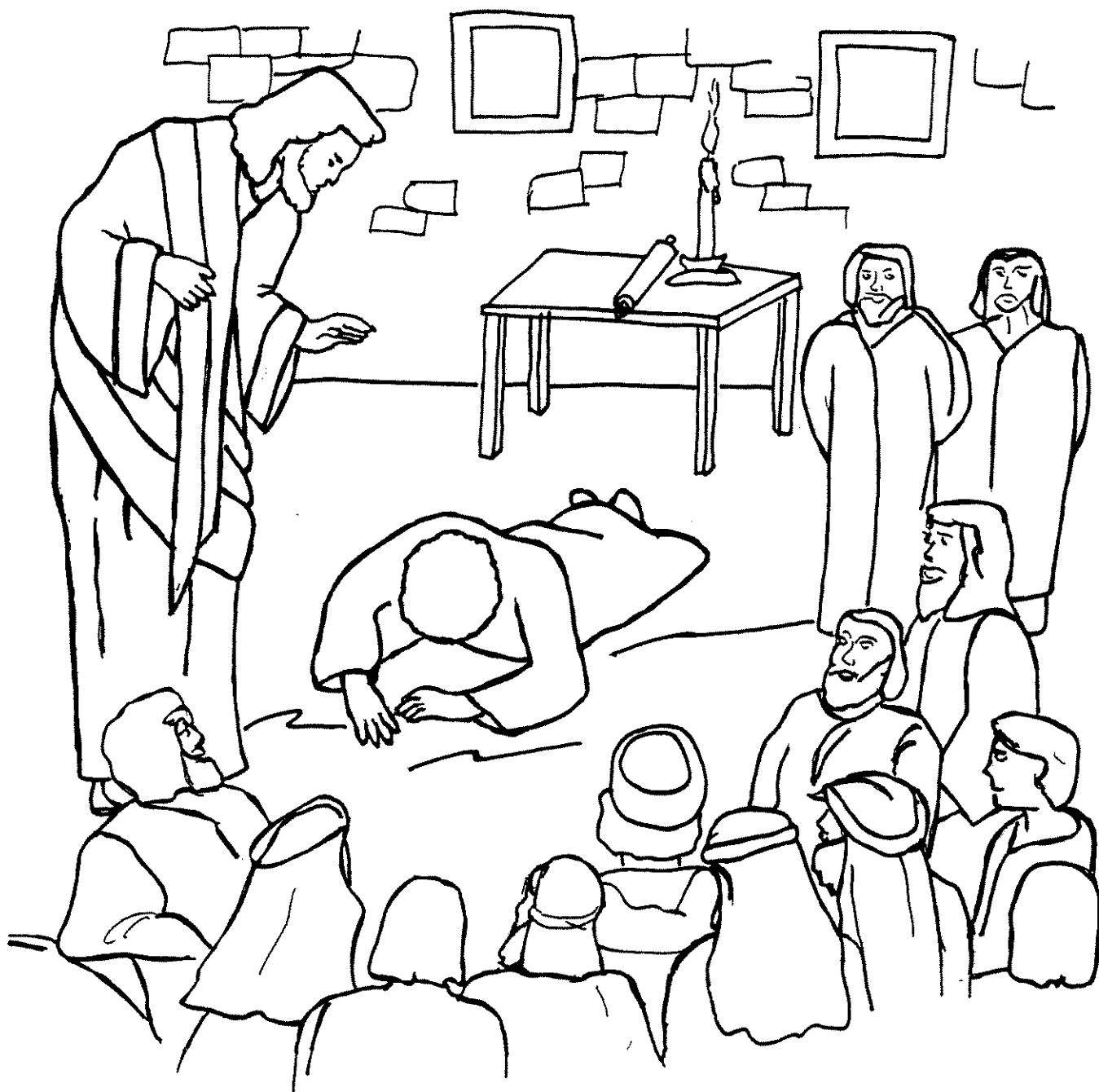
HEALING THE MAN WITH THE UNCLEAN SPIRIT

MEMORY VERSE
PATTERN PAGE



Cut out of black construction paper, fold, and paste white page with scripture verse inside along fold.

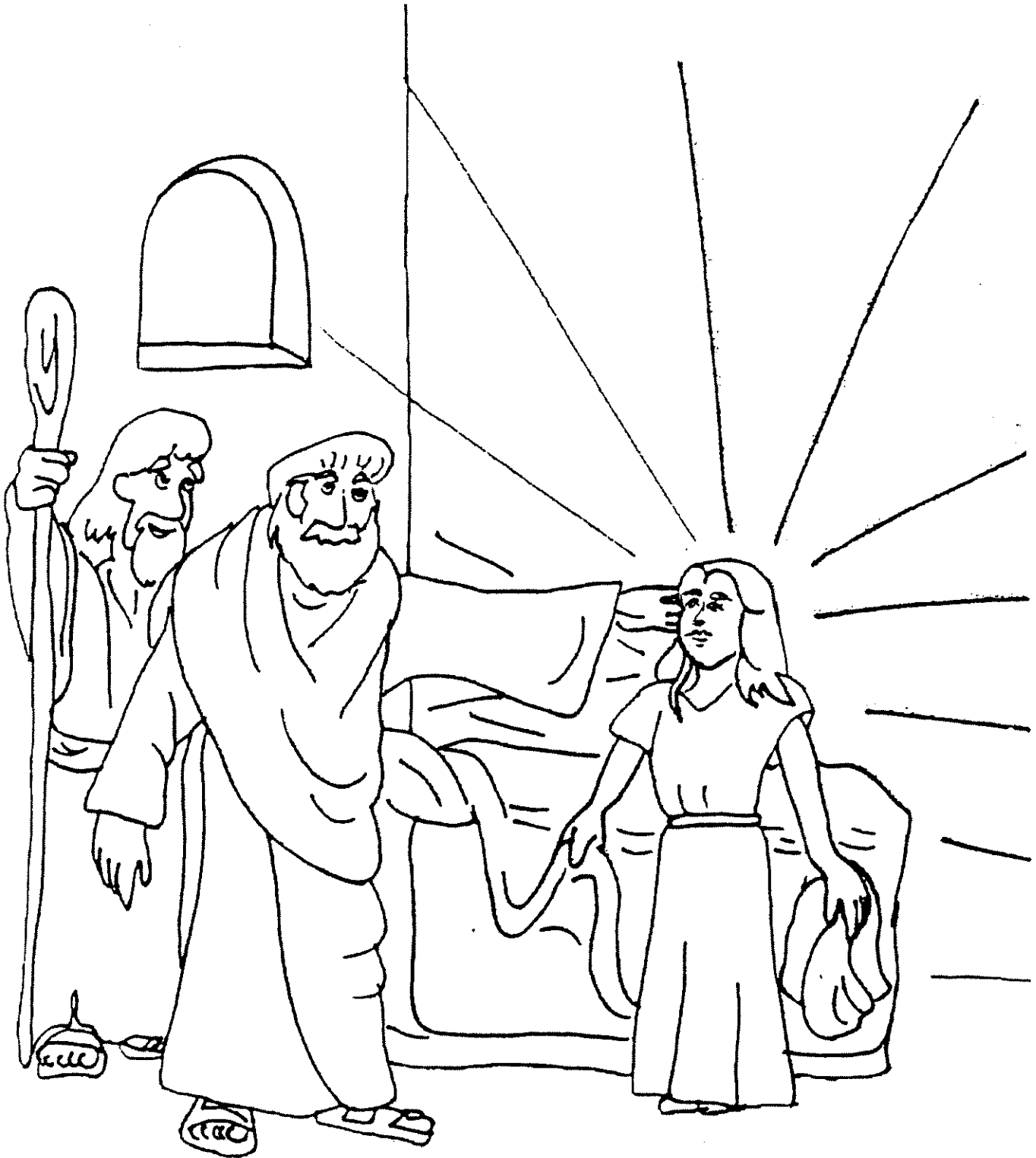
HEALING THE MAN WITH AN UNCLEAN SPIRIT



Jesus healed a man in the synagogue who was possessed with an evil spirit.

+

HEALING THE MAN WITH AN UNCLEAN SPIRIT



After Jesus healed the man with an unclean spirit, he went to the home of Simon Peter and healed Peter's mother-in-law.

JESUS CALLS TWELVE TO BE HIS APOSTLES

Matthew chapter 10 (1-8) Mark 3:13-19 Luke 6:12-16

In the Old Testament we study about prophets. A prophet was a man God chose to tell the people what God wanted them to know. A long time ago people did not have Bibles to read like we do today. Our Bibles tell us about God. Our Bibles tell us about Jesus. Our Bibles tell us what God wants us to do. We have to read our Bibles and study them in order to know what God wants us to do for Him. In the Old Testament days God revealed His will to prophets, and they told the people what God wanted them to do. The things God told the prophets were written down on scrolls and later became part of the Bible that we read today. There were no preachers in the Old Testament days. The men who told the people about God were called prophets.

The prophets told the people that Jesus would be born into the world. When he was born, the prophecy was fulfilled, and we do not need prophets today. Men who are chosen today to tell others about God are called preachers. The first preacher was a man named John. John the Baptist was the last of the prophets and the first of the preachers. We call him John the Baptist because he was chosen by God for a special purpose. He preached that Jesus had been born into the world, and identified him as Jesus, the man from Nazareth. God sent him to baptize those people who repented of their sins and believed the message that John preached.

When John the Baptist began preaching and teaching the people that God had sent His Son, and that it was the man known as Jesus of Nazareth, anyone who accepted the message that John preached, and repented of their sins and was baptized by John became a disciple. When Jesus began preaching, many people followed him. They were called disciples. From the very beginning, Jesus began selecting special followers. His disciples began baptizing by the authority of Jesus, and these people also became disciples. Anyone who was a follower of Jesus was a disciple. Early in his ministry, Jesus selected twelve men from among his disciples to be apostles. An apostle was a preacher. These men had a special purpose as Jesus' followers.

Jesus knew he had come to the earth to die for the sins of the world. He knew he would go back to heaven to live after his crucifixion. He chose the apostles so he could teach them to carry on his work after he was gone. He must have time to teach them personally so they would know what to teach and preach after he went back to heaven. Jesus took the people that John baptized and began his church. The church was to carry on his work after he was gone.

Jesus knew it was time for him to select from among the disciples those who would be apostles, or preachers. The church would need preachers. Other churches would be started in other cities, and they would need preachers. When the time came to make the selection, Jesus went up onto a mountain and prayed all night. He talked to God, his Father, all night.

When it was morning, he came down from the mountain and called his disciples to him. From among them he chose twelve, and called them apostles. Their names are listed in the first three books of the Bible, the books of Matthew, Mark, and Luke. They are also listed in the book of Acts.

Luke 6:14-16 tells us that Jesus chose Simon (whom he also called Peter) and his brother Andrew, James and John, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Thomas (also called Didymus), James the son of Alphaeus, and Simon called Zelotes, Judas the brother of James, and Judas Iscariot, which also was a traitor.

The Bible tells us when Jesus specifically called some of these men to “follow him”, and then it tells us when he chose them to be apostles. As soon as John the Baptist identified Jesus as the *Lamb of God*, two men who were standing with him, Andrew and probably John, began walking behind Jesus. Jesus asked what they wanted, and they asked him where he lived. He told them to come and see. They went to his house and stayed the remainder of the day. John 1:35-39. One of the men, Andrew, brought his brother, Simon, to see Jesus. Jesus changed Simon’s name to Peter. The next day Jesus went into Galilee and found Philip, of Bethsaida, the hometown of Peter and Andrew. He called Philip to “follow” him. Philip went immediately and found his friend, Nathaniel (also called Bartholomew), and he became a follower of Jesus. Sometime later, when they went to Capernaum, Peter and Andrew began fishing again, because this was the way they made their living before they began to follow Jesus. Jesus walked by the shore of the Sea of Galilee and called them to “follow” him. He walked a little farther and called James and John to “follow” him. He was also in Capernaum when he walked by the seat of customs, and called Levi (Matthew) to “follow him”. We don’t know the specific time that the others began to follow Jesus, but Jesus knew each of their hearts, and knew that they would fill the purpose intended for each of them as his apostles.

We know the apostles as: Peter, Andrew, James, John, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Thomas, James, Jude, Simon, and Judas Iscariot. Some of the apostles had other names. When John tells us of Andrew bringing his brother to Jesus, he said Jesus said, “*Thou art Simon the son of Jona: thou shalt be called Cephas.*” Cephas meant rock or stone in the Aramaic language. The Greek name for Cephas was Peter. From then on John referred to him as Peter, or Simon Peter. When Matthew lists the apostles, he says, Simon, who is called Peter. When Peter wrote the book of II Peter, he refers to himself as Simon Peter.

Bartholomew was probably the same Nathanael that Philip brought to see Jesus. He is listed as Bartholomew with the apostles, and his name immediately follows that of Philip. Nathanael is listed by John with many of the other apostles at the Sea of Tiberias when Jesus appeared to them after he had been resurrected. But we usually call him Bartholomew rather than Nathanael.

There are two men named James, one is the son of Alphaeus. The first James was the brother of John, the son of Zebedee. There are two men named Simon, one is called Zelotes,

because he was a member of a strong political party that opposed the Roman government who were called Zealots. The other is Simon Peter, the brother of Andrew, who was a fisherman.

There were also two men named Judas. One, Judas Iscariot, was the traitor who betrayed Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane and allowed the soldiers to come and take him. The other Judas is the same as Lebbeus, or Thaddeus, the brother of James. We usually call him Jude, so he won't be confused with Judas Iscariot.

The apostles were to be different from the other disciples. They had a special purpose. They spent all of their time in the presence of Jesus. They traveled with him and heard what he taught. They saw the miracles he did. There were many things they did not understand. Jesus told them that after he was gone away, they would remember many things that he had taught them. Jesus gave them the power to do the miracles that he had done. They saw him heal people. Jesus said now they would be able to heal people by his power. Jesus did it by the power of God. The apostles would do the same by the power that Jesus gave them, not in their own name, but in the name of Jesus. They saw Jesus raise people from the dead. Jesus said now they could raise the dead in his name. They saw Jesus cast out devils, or evil spirits; now they could cast out evil spirits. They saw Jesus make sick people well, crippled people walk, blind people see, and deaf people hear. Now they could do the same in his name, to prove they were his disciples, and to prove the message they preached about him was true.

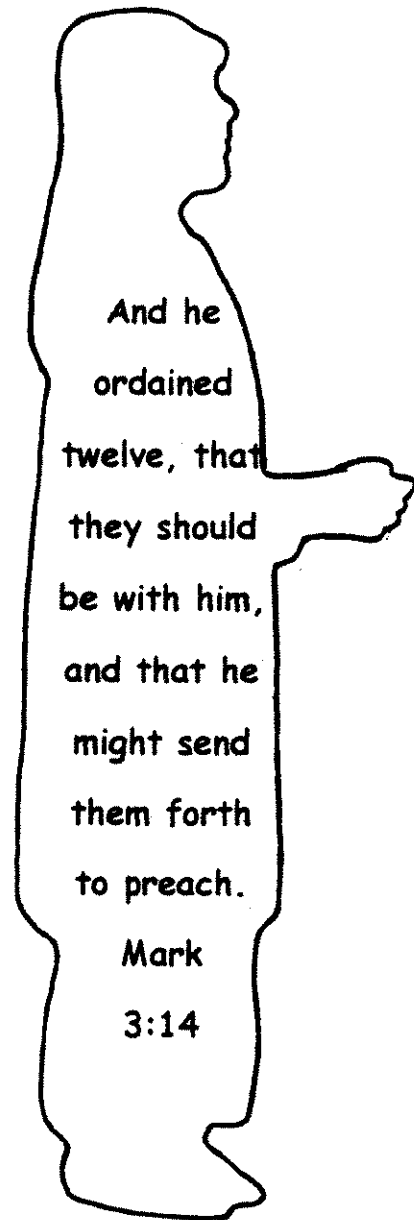
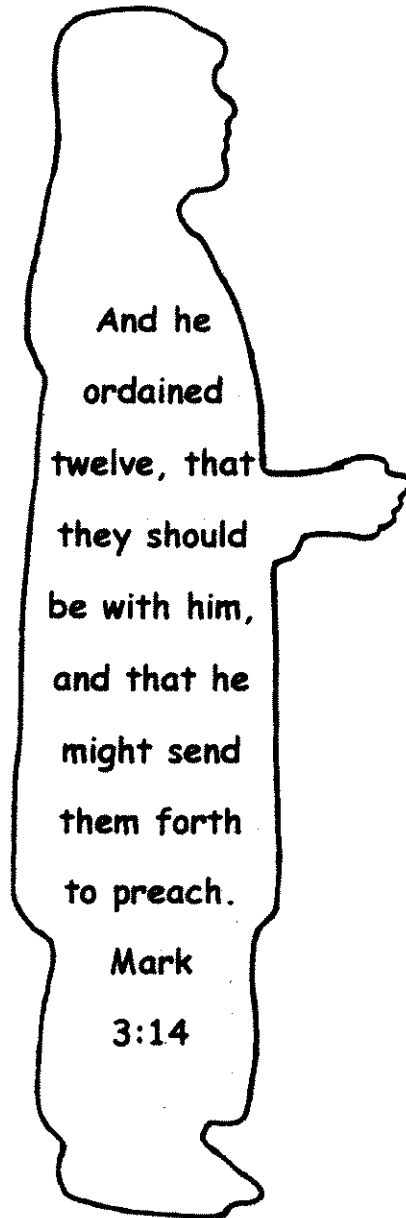
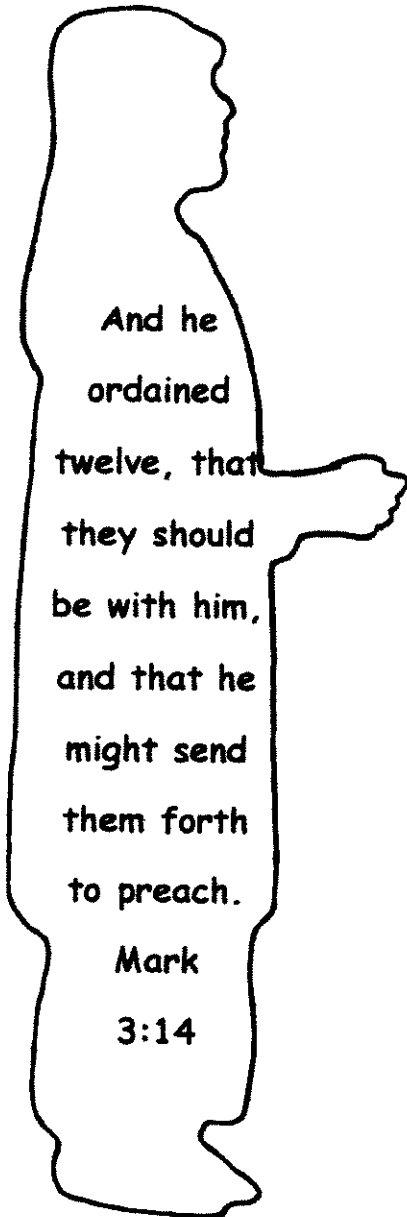
Jesus warned them that their life would not be easy. They were not to take any money with them. They were not to take extra clothes or shoes with them. They were to depend on the people in the towns where they traveled to provide the things they needed. Jesus warned them that they would be persecuted for no other reason than that they preached about him. He said they would be punished for speaking the truth. The Jews said Jesus did miracles by the power of the devil, and they would say the same things about the apostles. Jesus promised them they would be rewarded for being faithful to him. They were to preach the truth no matter where they were. They were to fear God more than men. The other disciples did not have the power to do miracles, only the twelve apostles: Peter and Andrew, James and John, Philip and Bartholomew, Matthew and Thomas, James and Jude, Simon, and Judas Iscariot.

MEMORY VERSE: Mark 3:14

"And he ordained twelve, that they should be with him, and that he might send them forth to preach."

JESUS CALLS TWELVE TO BE HIS APOSTLES

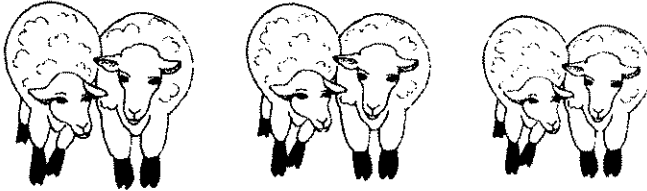
MEMORY VERSE PATTERN PAGE



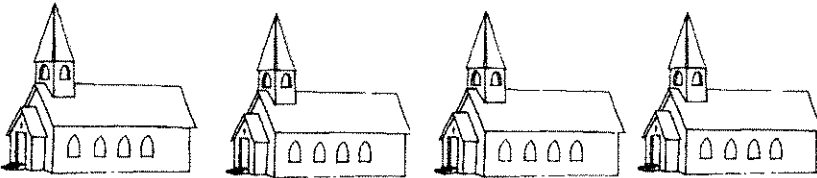
JESUS CALLS TWELVE TO BE HIS APOSTLES

Count the pictures and then follow the dots to write the answer.

How many sheep are there?



How many churches are there?



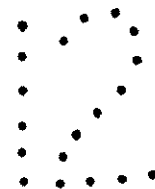
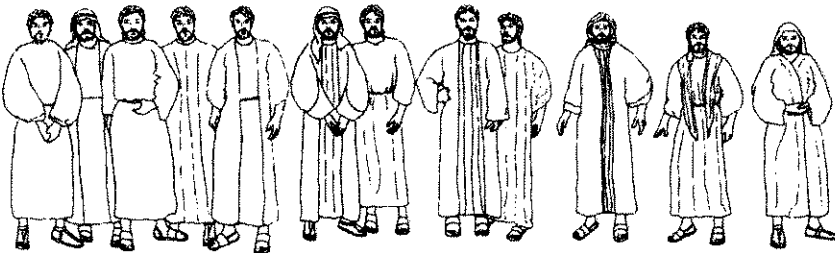
How many crosses are there?



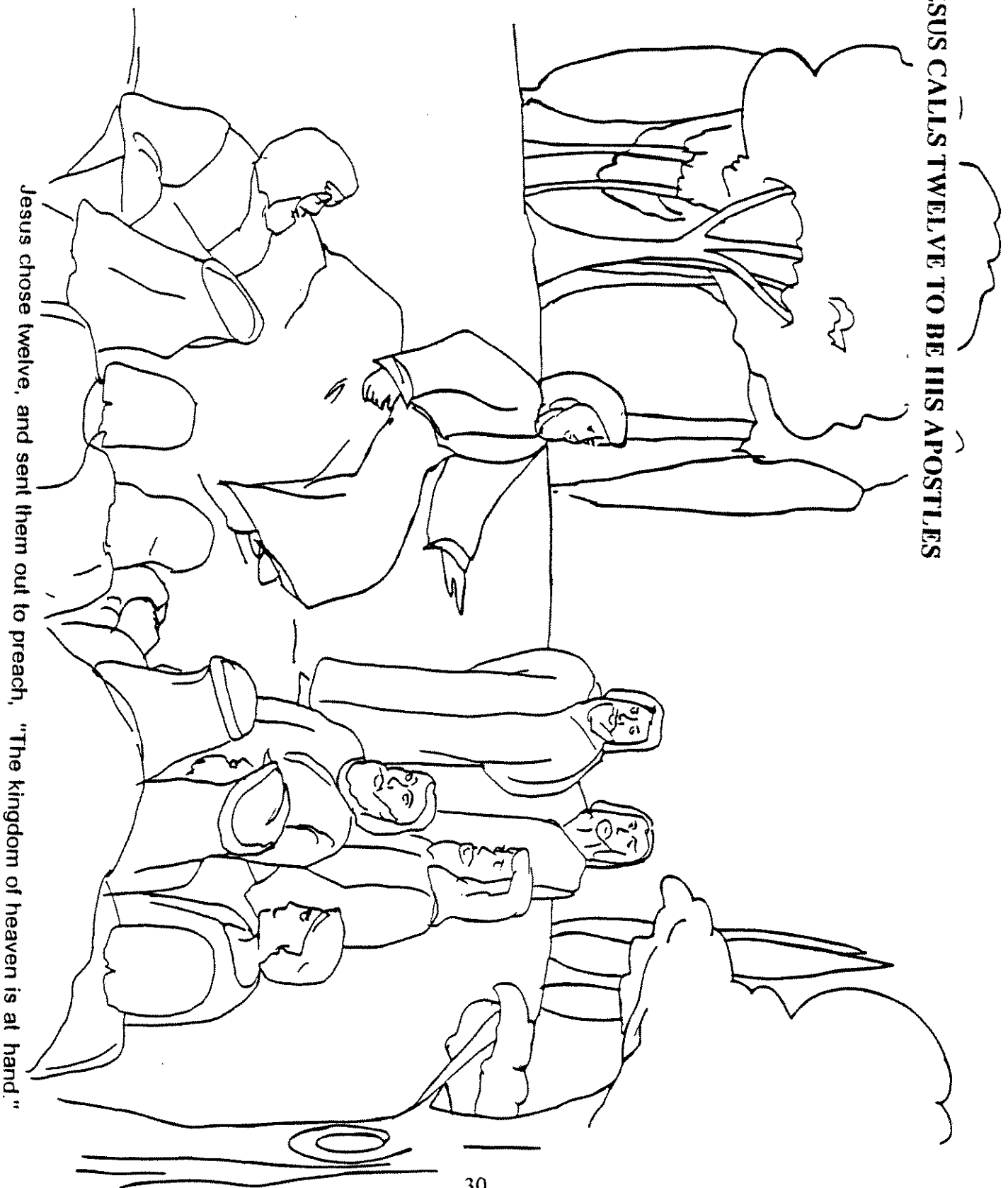
How many Bibles are there?



How many apostles are there?



JESUS CALLS TWELVE TO BE HIS APOSTLES



Jesus chose twelve, and sent them out to preach, "The kingdom of heaven is at hand."

JESUS HEALED A LEPER

Matthew 8:2-4 Mark 1:40-45 Luke 5:12-16

(Leviticus chapters 13 & 14 tell of the laws concerning leprosy.)

Jesus had been preaching throughout the area of Galilee. He had been working miracles and healing many people. There were large crowds of people who followed Jesus everywhere he went. Many came to see the miracles that he did, and many came to be healed of different kinds of sickness and disease. Jesus went up on a mountain and sat down to teach the people. His disciples came to him, and he taught them. Many other people followed Jesus up on the mountain and gathered to hear what he would say. After he preached what we call “the sermon on the mount”, he came down from the mountain, and a great crowd continued to follow him.

In this crowd of people was a man who was a leper. A leper was a person who had a very bad disease called leprosy. It was hard to treat, and many times the person could not be made well. Leprosy caused a lot of pain. The sick person would suffer for a long, long time as the disease got worse, and sometimes they would finally die.

Hundreds of years earlier, when God gave the laws to Moses for the Jewish people to live by, He gave laws concerning every part of their lives. He gave religious laws telling them how they were to worship, and civil laws telling them how to punish criminals. There were laws about how to treat their neighbors, and how to treat the people they worked for, or those who worked for them. God also gave them health laws. There were laws about being clean in order to keep from getting sick. There were laws regarding medication to cure illnesses. One of the most common diseases of the Jewish people was leprosy. There were specific laws concerning leprosy.

Leprosy was a disease of the skin that caused painful sores that were hard to heal. A person with leprosy might have sores on his head, or his face. Many times he would have sores on his hands and arms, or on his feet and legs. It was something the people feared, because they could catch it from being around a person who had it. God gave strict laws in order to prevent a leper from spreading the disease to others.

Under the law, when a person contacted leprosy, he had to go to the priest and show him the sores that had come upon his body. If the priest determined that it was leprosy, he would keep him away from all the other people for seven days. Then he would check him again. If the leprosy had spread, he was isolated from the people. There were areas outside the camp, or the town, where the lepers had to live. They could not stay among the healthy people. If the leprosy healed, the leper would go again and show himself to the priest. If the priest determined that he was well, there were certain sacrifices that he had to make before he could go back and live at his home, among the people. Leviticus 14:8-9, “*And he that is to be cleansed shall wash his clothes, and shave off all his hair, and wash himself in water, that he*

may be clean: and after that he shall come into the camp, and shall tarry abroad out of his tent seven days. But it shall be on the seventh day, that he shall shave all his hair off his head and his beard and his eyebrows, even all his hair he shall shave off: and he shall wash his clothes, also he shall wash his flesh in water, and he shall be clean.” Then on the eighth day he was to offer other sacrifices.

There were laws that forbid them from living in their homes if they contacted leprosy. There were places outside the cities where the lepers all had to go to live in a leper colony. Their families could bring them food, but could not get close to them. When people brought food for the leper they must leave it by the roadside and go away before the leper came to get it. The leper must keep his head uncovered, and wrap a cloth around the lower part of his face to cover his mouth. He must cry out, “unclean, unclean” so that the people traveling the road would know to stay away from him so they would not be exposed to his leprosy.

When Jesus came down from the mountain and went into the nearby city, a man that had leprosy saw him. He knew who Jesus was. He knew he had done many other miracles, and he had faith that Jesus could make him well. Instead of staying in the place outside the city and covering his mouth and crying out, “unclean, unclean”, he came to Jesus and fell down at his feet and worshiped him. He said, “Lord, if you will, you can make me clean.” Jesus had compassion on the man when he saw what faith he had, and said, “*I will; be thou clean.*” He reached out and touched the man. Others would not touch him, but Jesus did. He spoke and the leprosy went away. He said, “*Be thou clean*” and immediately the leprosy left him.

Jesus said, “Don’t say anything to anyone, but go straight to the priest and show him that your leprosy is gone; then make the sacrifices for your cleansing that Moses commanded.” Jesus did not tell him to go home, he was well. He told him not to go tell anyone, not to go show all of his family and friends, but to obey the law. The law required sacrifices and rituals to show that he was clean before he could go back and live among the other people. Jesus knew he was clean, but he told him to obey the law; go to the priest, make the necessary sacrifices, wait the required number of days, and then he could go home. The man was so excited about being well, that he told everybody he saw that Jesus had made him well.

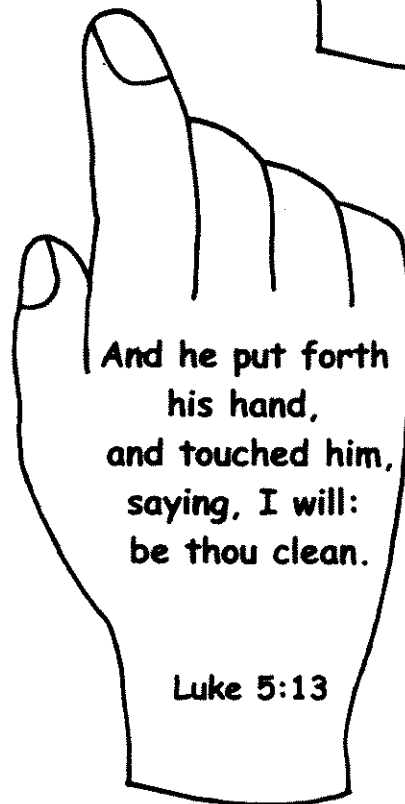
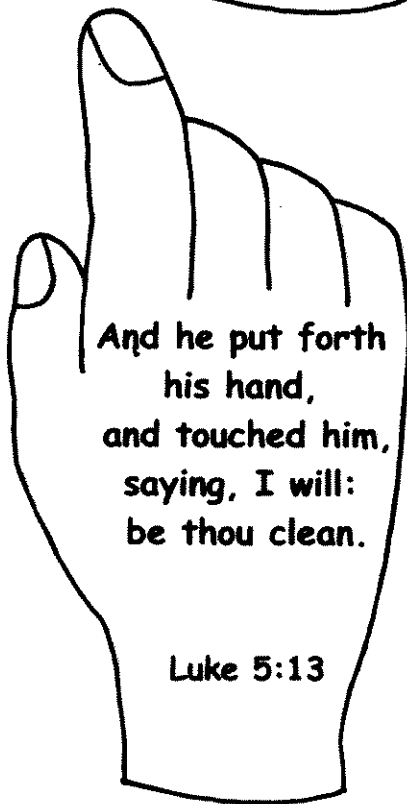
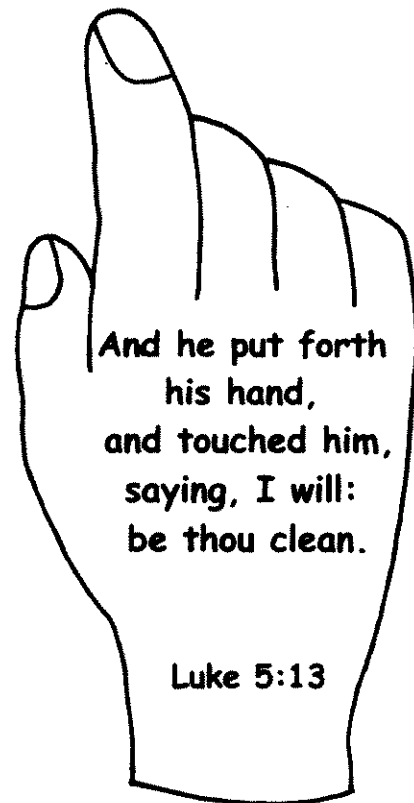
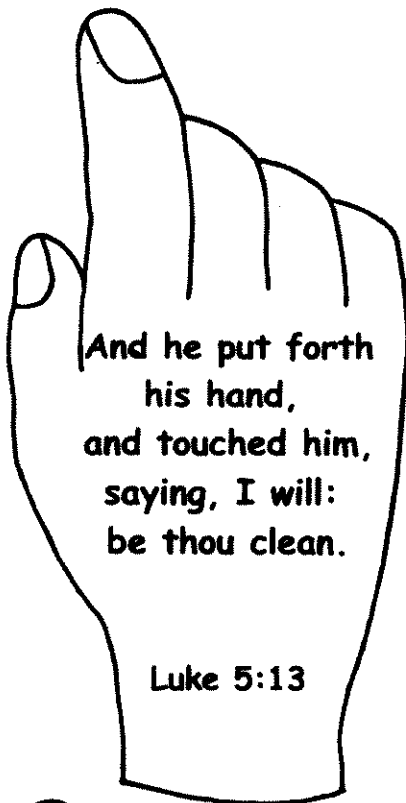
Mark 2:45 tells us, “*But he went out, and began to publish it much, and to blaze abroad the matter, insomuch that Jesus could no more openly enter into the city, but was without in desert places: and they came to him from every quarter.*” The man was so excited and so thankful to be healed that he had to tell everyone he saw. The news spread fast. Everyone that heard it told someone else, and soon there was such a great crowd of people that Jesus had to go away into the wilderness area. Luke 5:15, “*But so much the more went there a fame abroad of him: and great multitudes came together to hear, and to be healed by him of their infirmities. And he withdrew himself into the wilderness, and prayed.*”

MEMORY VERSE” Luke 5:13

“And he put forth his hand, and touched him, saying, I will: be thou clean. And immediately the leprosy departed from him.”

JESUS HEALED A LEPER

MEMORY VERSE PATTERN PAGE





**The man with leprosy said to Jesus,
"If you will, you can make me clean."**

JESUS HEALED A LEPER

WORD SEARCH

Can you find these words in the puzzle?

JESUS

B J E S U S C L D B

HEAL

C V D R H E A L J K

MAN

D R T W J M A N B Q

SICK

C S I C K L J O L B

LEPER

S D L E P E R D V M

BIBLE

M B I B L E L K M N

Write these words (below each letter).

J e s u s

B i b l e

c h u r c h

l e p e r

FOUR MEN BRING A SICK FRIEND TO JESUS

Matthew 9:1-8

Mark 2:1-12

Luke 5:16-26

As Jesus traveled and preached, more and more people heard about him and followed him everywhere he went. Sometimes he had to go away into the wilderness area to be alone and pray. Sometimes he would get into a boat and go across to the other side of the sea to get away from the crowds. When he healed a man of leprosy on one occasion, he told the man not to tell anyone, but to go to the priest and show him that he was well. Then he should make the necessary sacrifices according to the law, and he could return to his home to live. The man went to the priest, but he was so excited that he told everyone he saw on the way. As a result, so many people came to see Jesus that he had to go away into the wilderness for several days. Then he came back to Capernaum.

Many people heard that Jesus had come back to Capernaum, and they came to the house where he was staying. Jesus preached the word of God to them, and by the power of God he healed many who were sick. So many people came that they could not all get in the house. Many stood outside around the door listening to what Jesus had to say. Not only did the neighbors who lived close by come, but people also came from other towns several miles away. Luke tells us that many Pharisees, scribes and lawyers were there who had come from every town in Galilee. Some even from Judea, and as far away as Jerusalem. They had heard of Jesus. They came to see this man who had done such great things. They wanted to hear what he taught the people, and see for themselves the miracles that he did.

There was a man in Capernaum who had palsy. This was a very bad illness. It was a disease of the brain, or spinal cord, or certain nerves that controlled a person's movement. It caused paralysis. The person would not be able to move his arms or legs, to sit up, or to walk. Many illnesses were included as palsy. The brain would not send signals to the body to make it do what it should. The sick man's friends heard that Jesus was in Capernaum and decided to bring their friend to Jesus so that he could be healed. They had faith that Jesus could make him well if they could get him to where Jesus was.

Four men prepared a bed, or a mat, like a stretcher to carry the man. One lifted each corner of the bed and they walked and carried him until they came to the house where Jesus was preaching. They were so enthused when they were bringing their friend, but were disappointed when they got there. There was such a large crowd of people at the house that they could not get in. They tried to get in the door, but the people who were already there wanted to hear every word Jesus said and would not make way for them to bring him into the room. But they would not be discouraged. They would not leave. They must find a way. If they could only get their friend into the room where Jesus was, they were sure Jesus could make him well.

The house was built with a flat roof which was used like another room. There were steps leading up to the roof, and a short wall about three feet high surrounding it. Many times another room would be built on the roof. Sometimes the roof was used as a place to dry foods, or to dry flax (a plant from which they made linen fabric). The roof could be used in the evening for a cool place to rest or even for sleeping. This house apparently had a roof made of clay tiles (material used for pottery), which were held up in place by heavy beams laid crosswise .

As Jesus continued to preach inside, the four men carried their friend on his bed and climbed the steps to the roof. They removed the tiles that covered the roof, making an opening large enough for the bed, or mat, to go through. They tied ropes on the four corners of the mat and let the man down into the room right in front of where Jesus was standing. When Jesus saw the faith that they had and how determined they were to get the sick man to him, he said to the man, "*Son, be of good cheer; thy sins be forgiven thee.*" Jesus' purpose in coming to live on the earth was to forgive sin. He healed people to prove he was the Son of God and had the power of God over sin and over sickness. The scribes and Pharisees were surprised when he said, "*thy sins be forgiven thee*". They thought within themselves, "*Why doth this man thus speak blasphemies? Who can forgive sins but God only?*" Mark 2:7. To blaspheme means to speak evil of God. God only can forgive sins. Jesus was God's Son and had the power of God to forgive sins. The Pharisees did not accept Jesus as God's Son, so they thought he had blasphemed God when he said, "*thy sins be forgiven thee.*"

Jesus knew what the Pharisees were thinking. He asked them, "Why do you think this evil in your hearts? Is it easier to say, your sins are forgiven, or to say, get up and walk?" He told them that he said, "*thy sins be forgiven thee*" so they would know that he had the power of God on earth to forgive sins. Then he said to the man who had palsy, "Get up, pickup your bed, and go home." The man immediately got up, picked up the mat on which he had been lying, and walked out of the house to go to his own home. The Bible says he glorified God. He was thankful to God for making him well.

The man had probably had paralyzed for a long time. His friends carried him and let down through the roof because he could not walk by himself. But when Jesus healed him he not only could walk, he picked up his bed and carried it. The people who were there were all amazed, they were frightened, and they praised God. They said, "*We have seen strange things today*" and, "*We have never seen anything like this before.*" However, the Pharisees still would not accept that Jesus was the Son of God. They continued to watch him everywhere he went, trying to find him doing something wrong.

MEMORY VERSE: Mark 2:11

"I say unto thee, Arise, and take up thy bed, and go thy way into thine house."

FOUR MEN BRING A SICK FRIEND TO JESUS

**MEMORY VERSE
PATTERN PAGE**

Mark 2:11

I say unto thee, Arise, and take up thy
bed, and go thy way into thine house.

Mark 2:11

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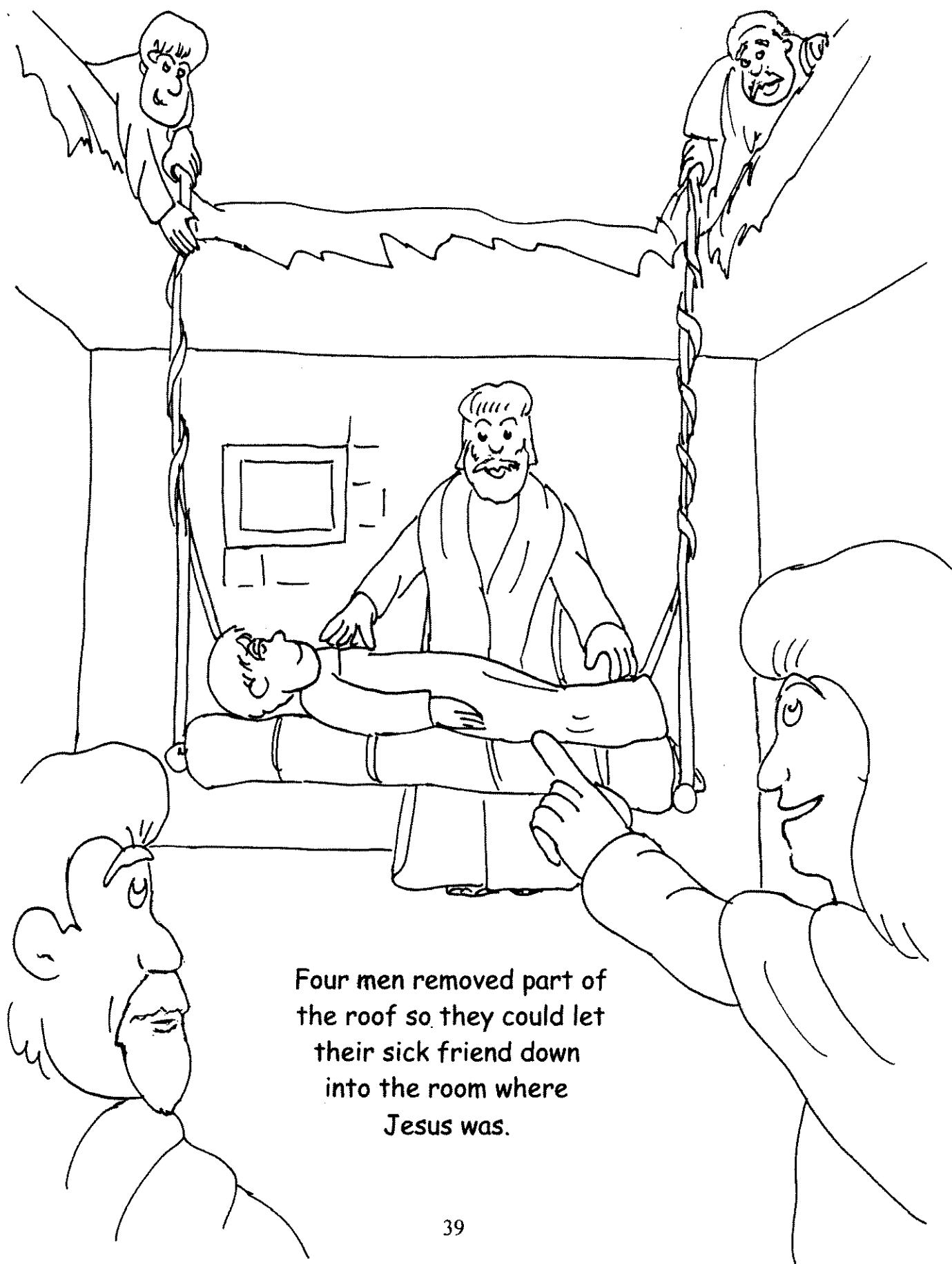
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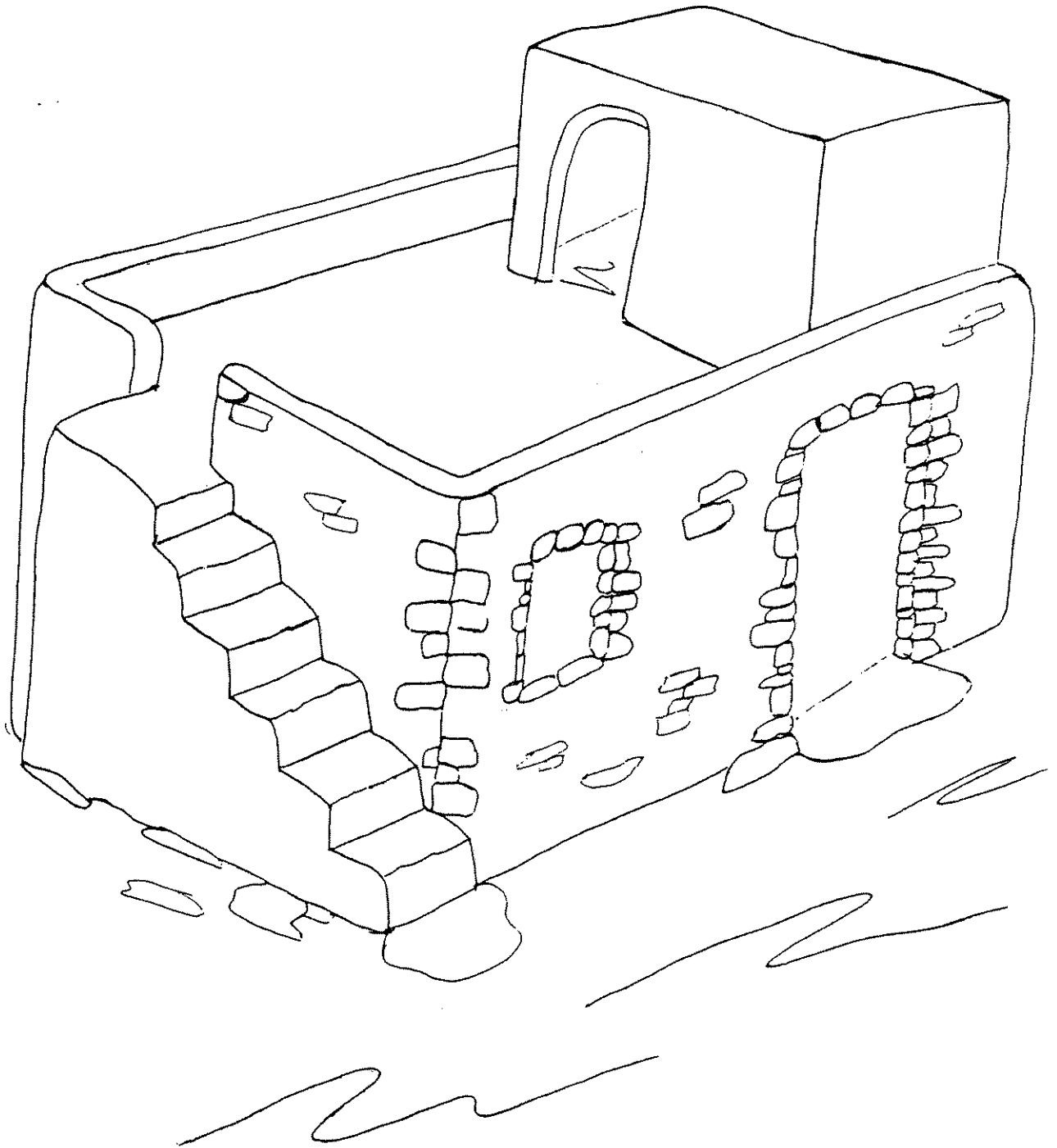
I say unto thee, Arise, and take up thy
bed, and go thy way into thine house.

Mark 2:11



Four men removed part of
the roof so they could let
their sick friend down
into the room where
Jesus was.

FOUR MEN BRING A SICK FRIEND TO JESUS



HEALING AT THE POOL OF BETHESDA

John 5:1-18

When Jesus lived on the earth he spent much of his time in Galilee, on the Sea of Galilee and in the area around the sea. Much of the time he stayed away from Jerusalem because the chief priests were constantly looking for something they could accuse him of doing that was against the Jewish laws, so they could have him put to death. There were three feasts each year in Jerusalem that all the Jewish men were required to attend. So Jesus probably went to Jerusalem at least three times each year.

In today's lesson it was the time of year for a feast of the Jews, and Jesus had gone to Jerusalem. Each time he went there he attracted attention. The Jewish leaders did not like for him to come to Jerusalem. The Jewish religion was based on keeping laws and rules. They had many rules that had been taught to them by their parents and grandparents and great-grandparents. Many of them were traditions of men, not the laws that God gave. Jesus paid no attention to rules or traditions. He obeyed the commands of God, not the rules of man.

Jerusalem is where the temple was located. There was a wall around the city of Jerusalem to protect them from their enemies. In this wall were gates to enter the city. One of these gates was near the temple, by the sheep market, and was called the "sheep gate". This was the gate through which the sheep were brought that were used for the temple worship. Sheep were used for the sacrifices every day, as well as for the special feasts at different times of the year. Near the sheep gate was a pool of water called the pool of Bethesda. Around this pool there were five covered places where people could sit or lie down to rest. It was a large pool, and these five porches were large enough for many people. The people would sit or lie on these porches so they would be close to the water.

Besides those who lived in Jerusalem, there were many people in the city at the time of the feasts. When Jesus was in Jerusalem he stayed around where all the crowds of people were. He came to the pool of Bethesda. The name Bethesda means "house of mercy". It was called this because the people believed the water in the pool could heal them of their sickness and diseases. There are many places where hot or warm water bubbles up out of the ground. Many people go to these places to get in the warm water while it is bubbling so it will massage sore muscles or aching joints. This pool was probably spring-fed, and at certain times the water would rush in with such force it would agitate or stir the water in the pool.

Many sick or crippled people lay on these porches around the pool. Many were blind. Some had crippled legs, and could not walk. Some had no strength in their arms and legs and had to be carried around by others. Many of the people who lay near the pool of Bethesda spent all of their time on a mat which was their bed. They would come to this pool hoping to be healed of their illness. At a certain time of year, something strange would happen in the pool. There would be an unusual movement in the water, a bubbling, or stirring of the water.

The people believed that an angel went down into the pool at a certain time of the year and stirred the water and this gave it some kind of magical power. They believed that the first one, or one who immediately stepped into the water after it was troubled, or began this strange movement, would be healed of whatever disease they had. It probably does not mean that only one person would be healed, but that the one who could get into the water the first thing after it began stirring would receive the massaging effect of the water. After a period of time the water stopped moving and the massaging action was no longer there. Those who got in late would not feel the movement. Because the water would soon stop moving, they believed that because someone had gotten in, they had been healed and caused the movement to stop, and no others would benefit from it. Many of the people had been coming there for a long time, hoping to be the one who would be healed when the waters were troubled.

There was a certain man by the pool who had not been able to walk for 38 years. He had to depend on someone else to move him everywhere he went. He lay by the pool hoping that he might be healed. When Jesus saw him, he knew how long he had been sick. He knew it had been many years that he could not walk. Jesus asked the man, "Would you like to be made well?" The man answered, "*Sir, I have no man, when the water is troubled, to put me into the pool: but while I am coming, another steppeth down before me.*" He could not walk, and by the time he could roll, or scoot, or drag himself, someone else got into the water ahead of him. They believed that only the first person into the water was healed, so the man had no hope.

Jesus simply spoke to the man, "*Rise, take up thy bed, and walk.*" When Jesus told the man to get up, he was immediately made well. Immediately he had a strange feeling throughout his body. His legs were straight. His muscles were strong. He was well. For the first time in 38 years he stood up. He picked up his bed (the mat on which he had been lying), and he started walking toward his home. Jesus disappeared in the crowd.

This happened on the Sabbath day. The Jews had rules that said that no one could do any work on the Sabbath day. They could not carry anything on the Sabbath day. So this man was breaking the Jewish rules by carrying his bed, since it was the Sabbath. As he started toward his home, the Jews told him, "You are breaking the law by carrying your bed on the Sabbath." He told the Jews that the man who made him well told him to pick up his bed and walk. They asked him, "Who is this man that told you to pick up your bed and walk?" Who would dare to tell him to break the laws, to carry his bed on the Sabbath? They were not happy that the man had been healed, they were only concerned that he was breaking the law. The man could not answer the Jews. He did not know who it was that had healed him. He only knew that now he could walk. He was so happy that he could walk, that he did not think to find out who Jesus was. Jesus had just disappeared into the large crowd of people .

Later that day Jesus saw the man at the temple. He said to him, "Now you are well; sin no more, or something worse may happen to you." The man immediately recognized Jesus as the man who made him well. He was so excited that he went straight to the Jews and told them

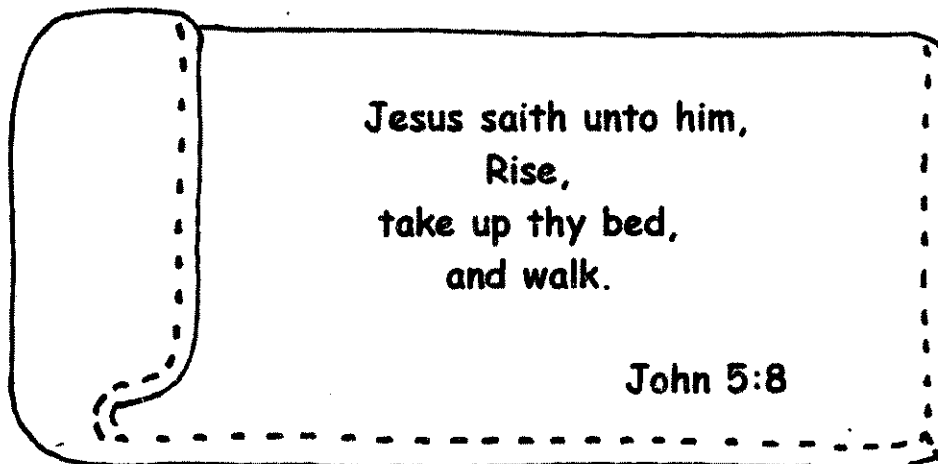
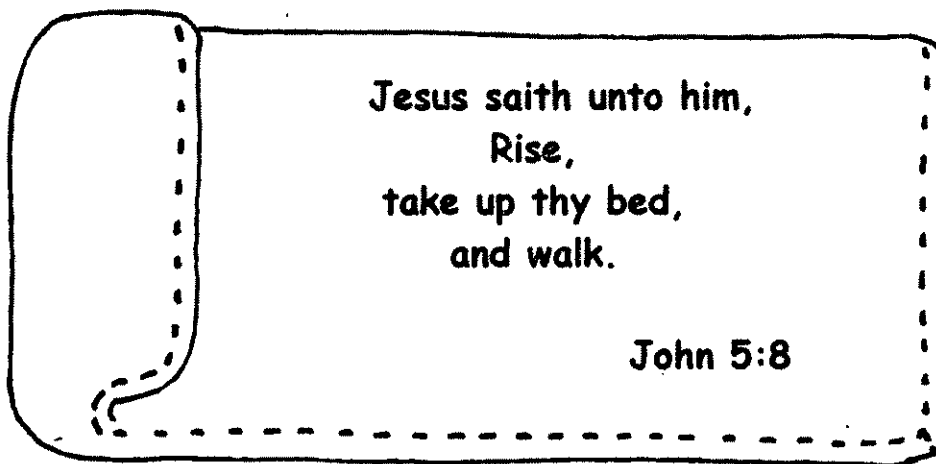
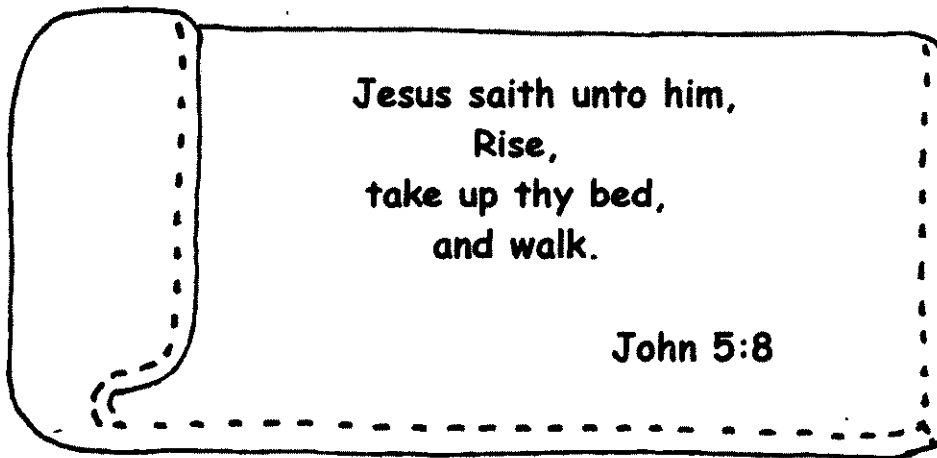
it was Jesus who had healed him. The Jews were angry. Not only had the man carried his bed on the Sabbath, but Jesus had healed him on the Sabbath. They wanted to persecute Jesus and have him killed because he healed on the Sabbath, and they said that was against the law. It was more important to the Jews to keep the laws of the Sabbath than for the man to be made well. When they condemned Jesus for healing on the Sabbath, he said, "My Father works anytime, all the time, and I obey Him." This made the Jews even angrier. Not only had Jesus broken their rules for the Sabbath, but he also claimed to be the Son of God, which made him equal with God. They were more determined to have him killed, because they said he had blasphemed by claiming that God was his Father.

Jesus said God had the power to give life, and He gave that power to Jesus. God gave Jesus the power to do miracles. Jesus told the Jews that when he was crucified to pay the price of sin, he would make himself come back to life again. His crucifixion and resurrection would prove that he was the Son of God.

Jesus told them to study the scriptures. They thought that by keeping the law they would be saved, but the law only taught them about Jesus. If they really tried to understand what the law taught, they would know that he was the Son of God. From this time on the Jews watched for every opportunity to condemn Jesus for something that he did or said, so that they could have him put to death.

MEMORY VERSE: John 5:8

"Jesus said unto him, Rise, take up thy bed, and walk."



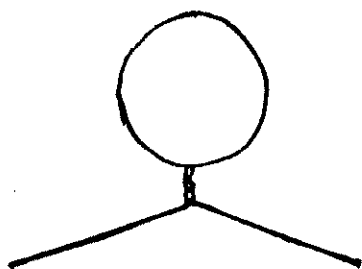
"Jesus said unto him, Rise, take up thy bed, and walk."



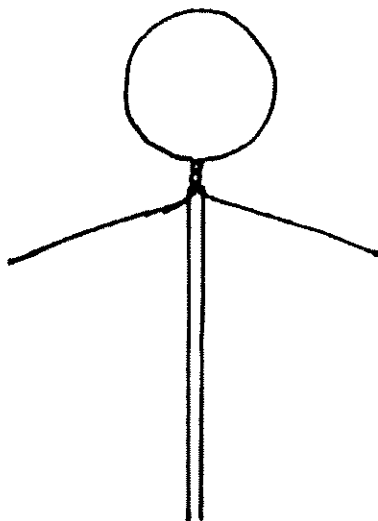
HEALING AT THE POOL OF BETHESDA

Materials needed: 2 chenille wires, felt or other fabric for bed.

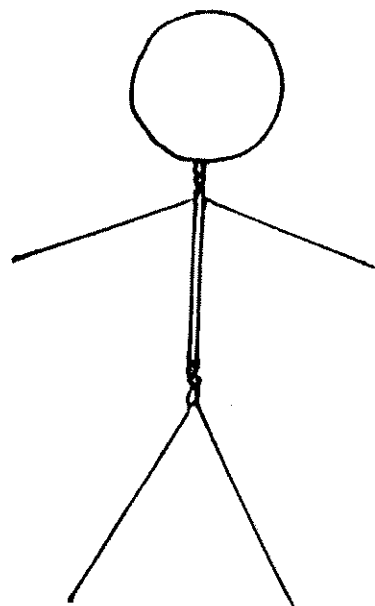
Twist one chenille wire to form head, neck, and arms.



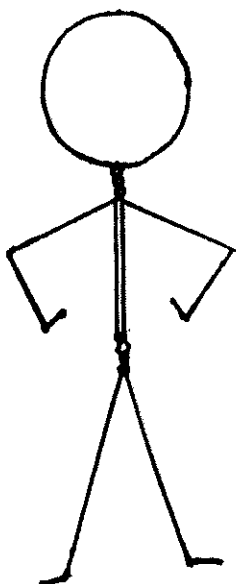
Add second chenille wire at neck to form body and legs.



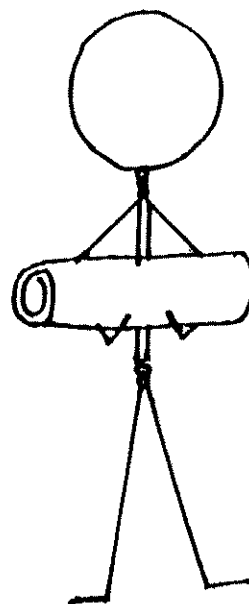
Twist body section to form legs.



Bend arms to form elbows and **hands**
Bend legs to form feet.



Cut small piece of felt, or other fabric, to make bed.
Roll felt and place in arms.



PICKING GRAIN ON THE SABBATH

Matthew 12:1-8

Mark 2:23-28

Luke 6:1-5

The Jewish Sabbath was the seventh day of the week. The people were commanded to do their work on the first six days, and to rest on the Sabbath. This was their day of worship. When Jesus lived on the earth, he kept the laws of the Jewish people. Wherever Jesus was on the Sabbath, he went to the synagogue in that town and taught the people. The Pharisees did not like Jesus. They did not like for the people to follow him and listen to his teachings. They watched everything Jesus did and listened to everything he said, trying to find something that they could accuse him of that was wrong.

When the Bible speaks of a “corn field” it was probably barley or wheat, a grain that the people used for food. When the people traveled, they walked or rode camels or donkeys. They did not have restaurants or even grocery stores to stop and get something to eat. Many times they ate what they found growing by the side of the road. If there was a field of grain that they passed by, and they were hungry, they were allowed to pick some of the grain to eat. They were not stealing it. This was allowed under the laws of the land. On one occasion, Jesus and his disciples were walking by a field of grain, and they were hungry. As they walked through the field, they picked some of the grain, rubbed it between their hands to remove the shucks, or husks, and they ate the kernels as they continued on their journey. There was nothing wrong with this. It was not illegal. This would not have been a problem if it had not been on the Sabbath day, and the Pharisees were watching.

Under the law of Moses, the people could not do any work on the Sabbath. They could not harvest their crops, or gather the grain that grew in their fields on the Sabbath. They could not build a fire to cook their food. They were to prepare their food on the day before the Sabbath so they would have something to eat on the Sabbath without cooking. The Pharisees bragged that they kept the laws exactly as they were written. They watched Jesus closely to try to catch him breaking the law so they could accuse him of doing something wrong and have him put to death.

When Jesus was walking through the corn field, his disciples were with him, and since they were hungry, they picked some of the grain and ate it. The Pharisees saw them. They did not complain about them eating the grain because they knew they were allowed by law to eat it, but they complained because they picked it on the Sabbath. They said, “*Thy disciples do that which is not lawful to do upon the Sabbath day.*” They spoke to Jesus and accused the disciples of doing wrong. They said, “They have done something that is against the law to do on the Sabbath.” Jesus did not start making excuses for the disciples. He answered the Pharisees by asking them a question. He said, “*Have ye not read what David did, when he was an hungered, and they that were with him; how he entered into the house of God, and did eat the shewbread, which was not lawful for him to eat, neither for them which were with him. but only for the priests?*” David had been chosen by God to be the next king of Israel. He later

became a great king, and the people admired and respected him very much. David was running away from King Saul. He and the men who were with him came to the tabernacle. They were hungry, and the priest gave them the shewbread to eat. Shewbread was a certain kind of bread that was baked for the tabernacle.

A certain group from the tribe of Levi (1 Chronicles 9:32) was responsible for baking twelve loaves of bread each week, one to represent each tribe of Israel. It was to be baked during the night before and brought hot to the house of God on the Sabbath (1 Samuel 21:6). It was placed on a special table in the tabernacle. It was replaced each week with fresh bread. The old bread was then eaten by the priests in the tabernacle. It was not for the people to eat, only for the priests, and only as they went about their duties in the tabernacle. (Leviticus 24:5-9). David came to the tabernacle for protection, and he was hungry, and this was the only food, so the priest gave it to him and he ate it. The Jews did not condemn David for eating the shewbread, because he had been their king, and they respected him. But they criticized the disciples of Jesus for eating the grain on the Sabbath because they had to pick it, and they said this was against the law. They liked David and they did not like Jesus, so what David did was okay, but they said what Jesus did was wrong.

Jesus also asked them if they had not read in the law how the priests must offer two lambs on the Sabbath day. They had to build a fire in order to sacrifice these animals. Jesus reminded the Pharisees that the priests were not condemned for building the fire and offering these as a sacrifice because this was a part of their worship on the Sabbath. Jesus said, "*The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath.*" God did not make the Sabbath day a day of rest and worship, and then make man for the day. He made man, then he made the day for them to honor.

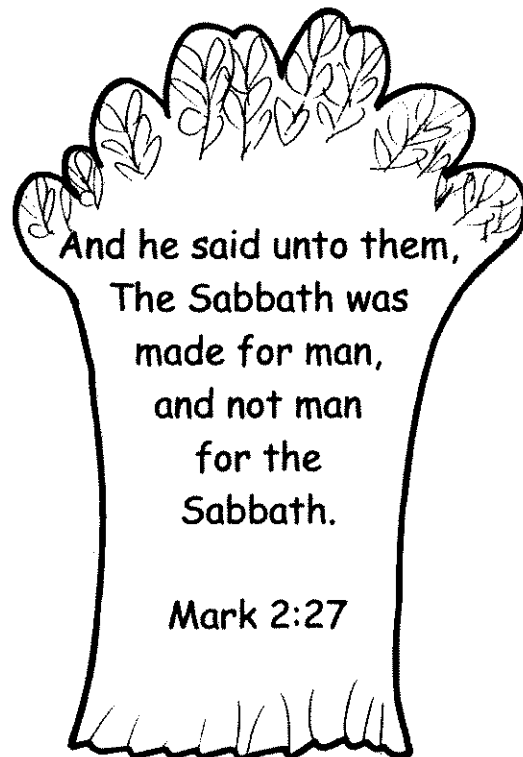
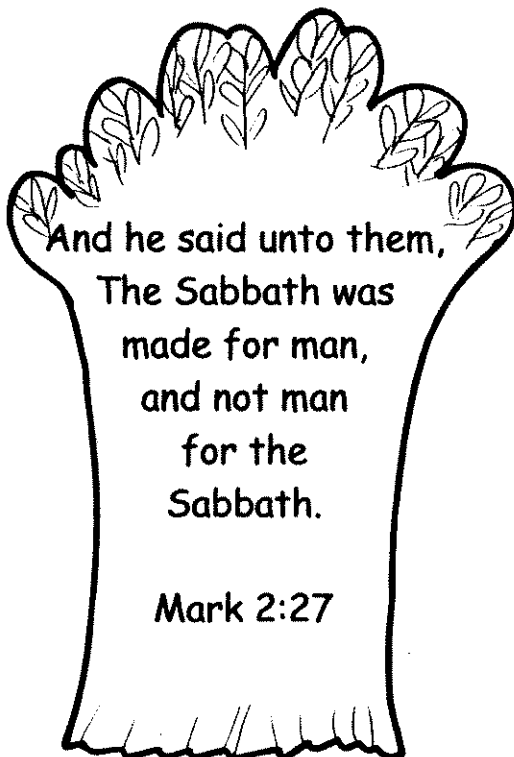
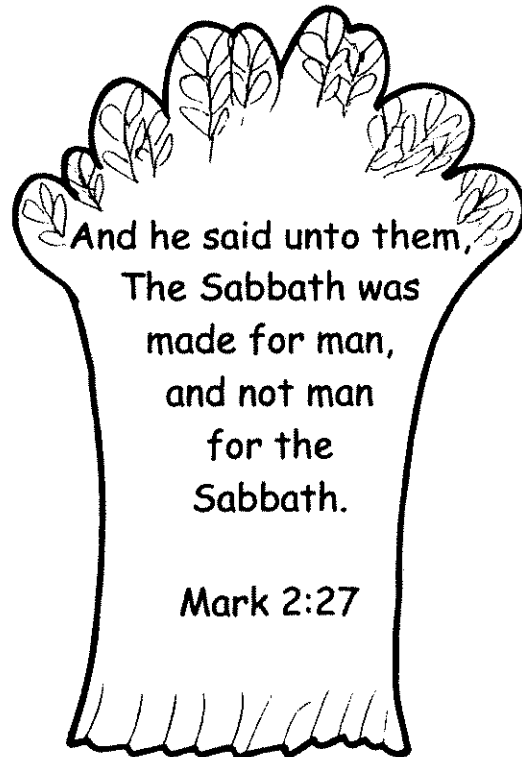
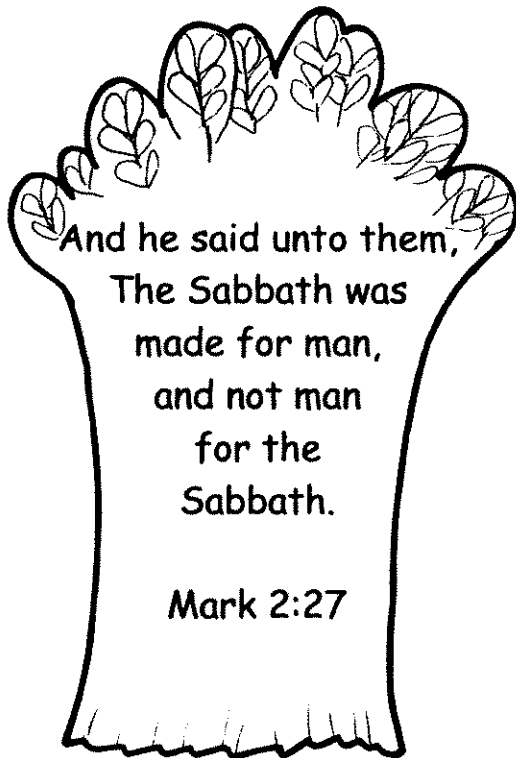
Jesus also said, "*For the Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath day.*" Jesus was "Lord" of the Sabbath. Jesus was greater than the tabernacle. Jesus was greater than the temple. Jesus was greater than the Sabbath. He was ruler of the Sabbath. God made the Sabbath, so Jesus controlled the Sabbath. He could do anything he wanted to do on the Sabbath and it was not against the law.

MEMORY VERSE: Mark 2:27

"And he said unto them, the Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath."

PICKING GRAIN ON THE SABBATH

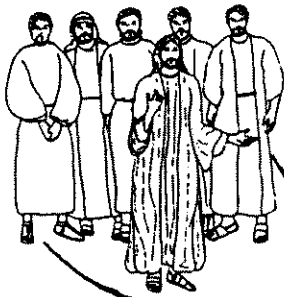
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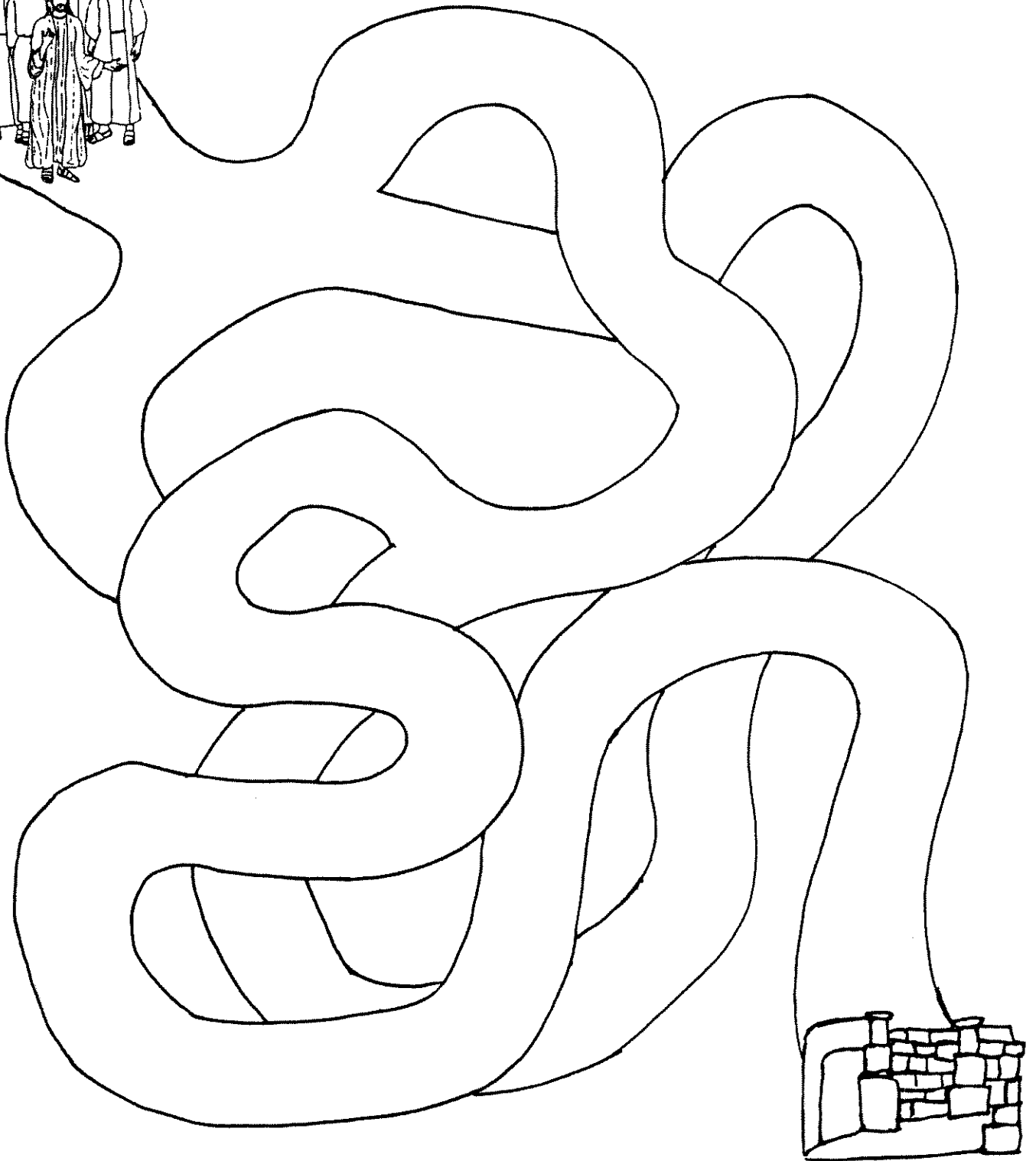
PICKING GRAIN ON THE SABBATH



PICKING GRAIN ON THE SABBATH



Follow the path to take Jesus and the disciples through the grain field to the synagogue.



JESUS HEALS A MAN ON THE SABBATH

Matthew 12:8-16

Mark 3:1-6

Luke 6:5-11 13:10-17

The Pharisees were a group of self-righteous people who were leaders in the Jewish religion. "Self-righteous" meant they believed their own righteousness is what would get them to heaven when they died. They believed in keeping the laws that God gave to Moses for the Jewish nation. They did not believe they had to repent of any sins and be forgiven in order to become a child of God. They thought the only way they did wrong was if they broke a law, and many times they "twisted a law" to make it benefit them. They believed if they were "good" God would love them. They watched Jesus closely trying to catch him breaking a law.

The Jewish Sabbath was the seventh day of the week. They were commanded to do their work on the first six days, and to rest on the Sabbath. This was their day of rest and worship. They attended the synagogue worship on the Sabbath. When Jesus lived on the earth, he kept the laws of the Jewish people. He went to the synagogues on the Sabbath and taught the people. Everywhere Jesus went, he was followed by large crowds of people. In the crowds were many sick people who came so Jesus would heal them. This caused a problem. The Pharisees did not like Jesus. They did not like for the people to follow him and listen to his teachings. They watched everything Jesus did and listened to everything he said, trying to find something that they could accuse him of that was wrong. Many times Jesus was condemned by the Pharisees for healing a person on the Sabbath.

When the disciples of Jesus were condemned for picking grain and eating it on the Sabbath, Jesus told the Pharisees that, "*The Son of man is Lord even of the Sabbath day.*" Mark 2:27-28, "*The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath: Therefore the Son of man is Lord also of the Sabbath.*" Jesus controls the Sabbath. What he chose to do on the Sabbath was not wrong.

On another Sabbath, Jesus went into the synagogue and taught the people. There was a man there who had a withered right hand. He did not have strength in his hand. It was drawn, weak and limp, so that he could not use it for anything. The Pharisees wondered what Jesus was going to do. They watched Jesus to see if he would heal the man on the Sabbath. Jesus knew their thoughts, so he asked the man to stand up in front of them. When they asked if it was lawful to heal on the Sabbath day, Jesus said, "*I will ask you one thing, is it lawful on the Sabbath days to do good, or to do evil? to save life, or to destroy it?*" The Pharisees did not answer. Jesus used the law to show them that what he did was not wrong. He asked them, "Is there any one of you that had a sheep, and it fell into a pit on the Sabbath day, would you not go and get it out?" Under the law, Exodus 23: 4, if a man saw his neighbor's donkey or cow that had wandered away, he was obligated to go and return it to him. Deuteronomy 22:4, if he saw his neighbor's donkey or cow (ox) fall into a ditch or a pit, he was obligated to help him get it out. If it was on the Sabbath day, they would rescue an animal rather than let it lie hurt until the next day.

The Pharisees were more concerned about their animals than they were about people. Jesus asked them, "*How much then is a man better than a sheep? Wherefore it is lawful to do well on the Sabbath days.*" If it is okay to rescue a hurt animal on the Sabbath, it is okay to heal a sick person on the Sabbath. Jesus said it was always lawful to do good on the Sabbath. Even though Jesus was Lord of the Sabbath, and could do with it as he chose, their own law allowed them to do good on the Sabbath. The Pharisees did not have an answer for Jesus.

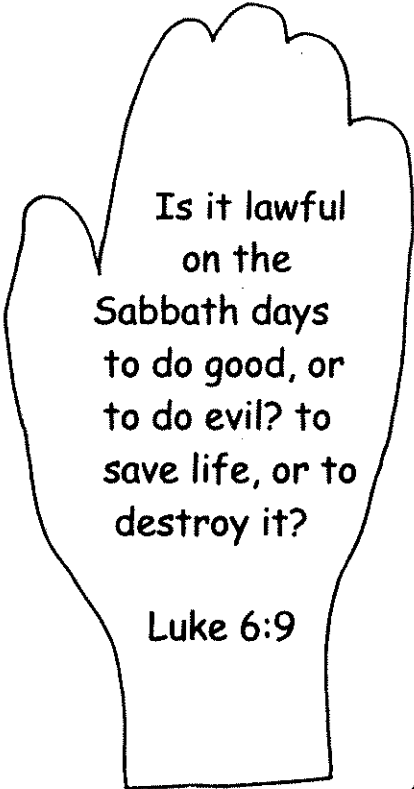
Mark 3:5 tells us when Jesus looked around at the Pharisees he was angry. He was angry because they did not care about this person who had a physical problem that could be helped. They did not want him helped on the Sabbath. "*He saith unto the man, stretch forth thine hand. And he stretched it out: and his hand was restored whole as the other.*" Jesus told the man to hold out his hand and it was made strong and well, just like his other hand. He was immediately made well when he did what Jesus told him to do. This made the Pharisees angry. They would rather have seen the man still with a crippled hand, than for Jesus to have healed him on the Sabbath. They went out and met together to try to find a way to destroy Jesus. Jesus knew what they were planning, so he and his disciples went away to the sea. The crowds followed him even to the sea. They came from Galilee and Judea, from Jerusalem, Idumaea, the other side of the Jordan River and even from Tyre and Sidon.

MEMORY VERSE: Luke 6:9

"Is it lawful on the Sabbath days to do good, or to do evil? to save life, or to destroy it?"

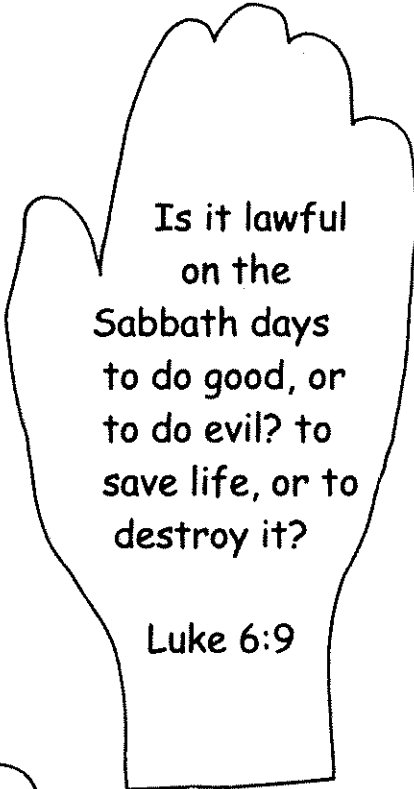
JESUS HEALS A MAN ON THE SABBATH

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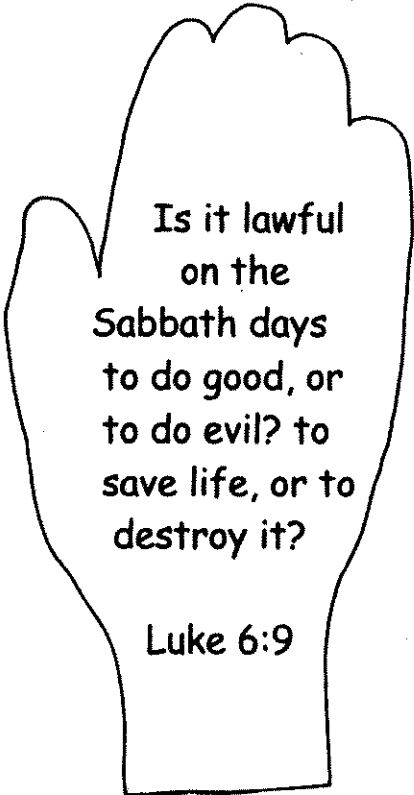
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Luke 6:9



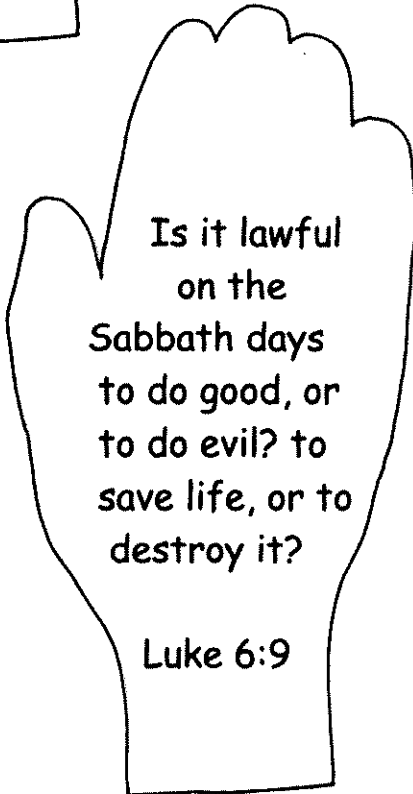
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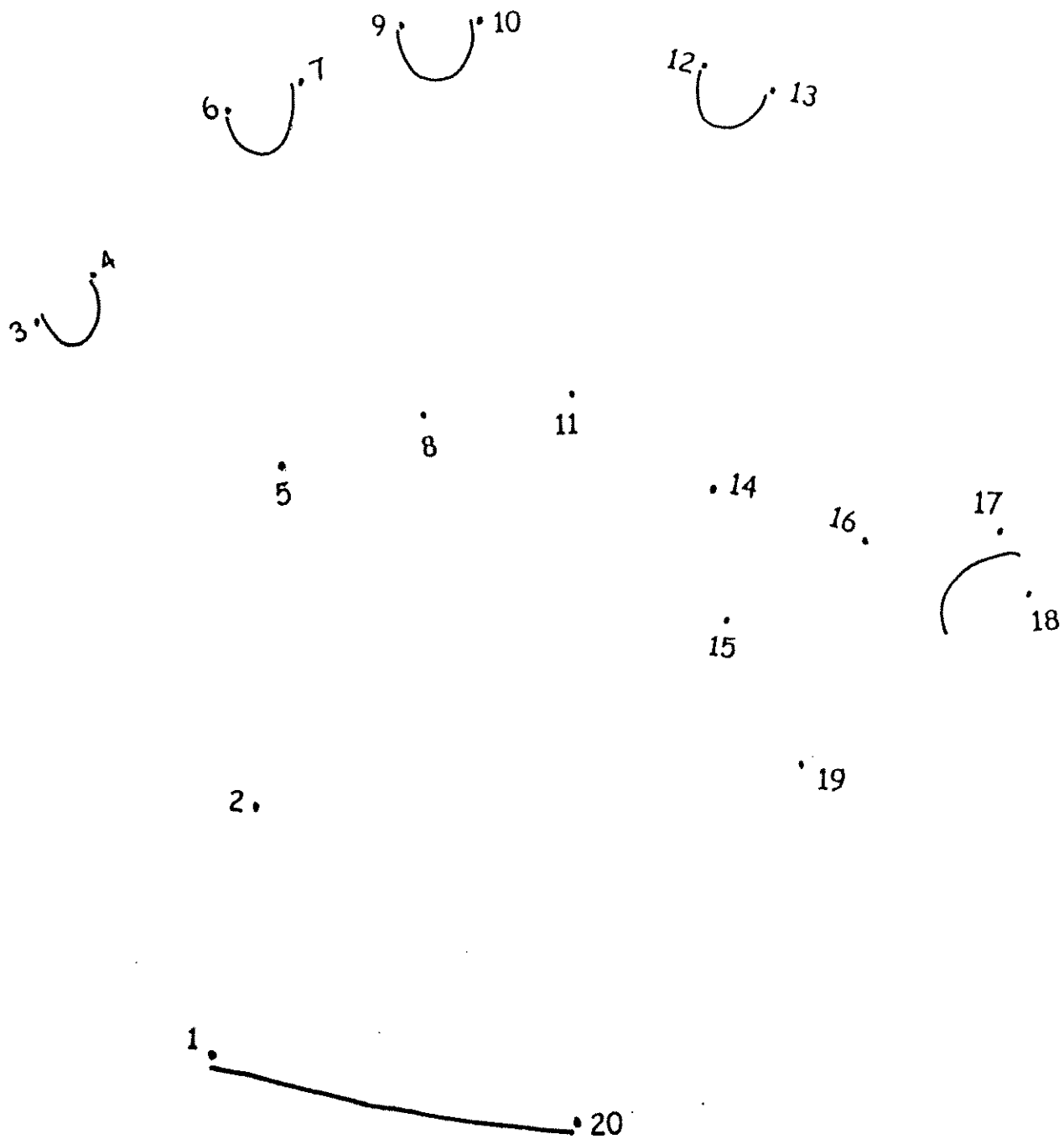
Luke 6:9

JESUS HEALS A MAN ON THE SABBATH



JESUS HEALS A MAN ON THE SABBATH

Follow the numbers and draw a line between the dots to complete the picture.



THE BEATITUDES

Matthew 5:1-12

Luke 6:20-26

When Jesus lived on the earth, he traveled around preaching and teaching the people. When he was in the area of Galilee he taught the people in their synagogues. The synagogue was where they went to worship. He preached and did miracles wherever he was. Many, many people followed him. A person who followed Jesus was called a disciple. When Jesus saw the large number of people that followed him, he went up into a mountain and sat down. His disciples came to him and he taught them how they should live their lives on this earth. He taught them how to act during this life in order to show others that they were christians. After you become a child of God, to be a christian, you must act like Jesus wants you to. We can learn from these lessons how to live our lives. We can learn how to act so that others will know that we are christians. It is easy to love someone who loves us, but Jesus said, "*Love your enemies.*" Jesus said to pray for those who do bad things to you, and do good to those who hate you. This is not as easy to do as just loving those who love us.

Jesus taught the disciples what we call the "Beatitudes". Jesus pronounced blessing upon those who were treated badly in this life because they tried to do what was right. Jesus taught them that just because they did what was right, it would not make everyone like them.

When Jesus taught the Beatitudes, he said, "*Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*" Those humble enough to realize they have a spiritual need are blessed, because they will have a part in the kingdom of God. The proud Pharisee would never feel a need of God's love. He thought he lived a better life than all the other Jews, and especially the gentiles. The Pharisee could never enjoy the blessings of God, because he did not ask God to forgive his sins so he could receive God's blessings. Jesus taught that those who wanted to be first in everything, would be last, and those who felt they were unimportant and were the least in this life would be the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. Matthew 20:30, "*But many that are first shall be last; and the last shall be first.*"

"*Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.*" Those who are sad and troubled receive a strength and comfort from God that is much greater the comfort of man. There is no joy like the joy of being in Jesus Christ. God's grace is enough to help us no matter how much sorrow or unhappiness we might have.

"*Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.*" The person will be happy who is kind, gentle, and patient, and doesn't expect much out of this life. A person who doesn't expect much, is happy with little things. If a person expects too much, he will be unhappy most of the time. But a person who can be happy whether he has a little or a lot, has peace in his heart that comes only from God.

"Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled." Jesus is the *bread of life* and the *water of life*. The person who is hungry and thirsty for righteousness will receive the *bread of life* and the *living water* which is Jesus. Their spiritual hunger and thirst will be satisfied. The scribes and Pharisees thought by keeping the laws of God they became righteous. They did not hunger or thirst after spiritual things, but depended on what they did to bring them eternal life. The humble, not the proud, will do what God wants them to do.

"Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy." Those who have love for other people, and want to be kind to others will receive mercy or kindness from God.

"Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God" The only way to have a pure heart is to have it cleansed by the blood of Jesus. Only those who have had their sins forgiven have had their hearts cleansed by Jesus' blood. When they receive a 'pure heart' they become children of God and will someday see God, but without a 'pure heart' they will not enjoy eternity in the presence of God.

"Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God." When a person has the peace of God in his heart he wants others to have peace. A happy person wants peace, and makes peace with others. If he tries to make peace and keep peace with others, they will see the love of God in his life, and will know he is a child of God.

"Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." Jesus was persecuted while he lived on the earth. He knew that his children would be persecuted after he went back to heaven. The true church has been persecuted for two thousand years. The church was started by Jesus while he was on the earth. The leaders in the Jewish religion persecuted the Christians (those who followed Christ) in the very first church. Those who worshiped idol gods, persecuted the followers of Jesus in the early years of the church. Many times the apostles were put in prison for preaching the truth. They were put to death because they preached the truth.

After Jesus was gone, and after the apostles were gone, false teachers began to teach things that were not true. At first they decided that you could not be saved if you were not baptized. Then they decided babies should be baptized to make sure that they went to heaven if they died as an infant. The true church taught that an infant was covered by the blood of Jesus until he became old enough to know he needed to be saved. The church began to divide into two groups. There was the Baptist Church and the Catholic Church. This is when 'christians' began to persecute 'christians'. The 'heretics' that our history books teach us about were Baptist people. They believed and practiced what we believe and practice today. The Catholic Church became the state church of Rome, so they had the authority of the government to force people to come to their church and have their babies baptized by their priests. When the true church stood for what Jesus taught and would not have their babies baptized, they were

put in prison, and even killed. Those who killed them in the name of religion believed that not baptizing a baby would keep it from going to heaven if it died, so it was better to kill the parents and stop this religion than for the children to not go to heaven. This was Satan's way of trying to get rid of the true church.

In America, we are not killed today because of what we believe. The time may come when the laws may forbid us to worship as we please. Always remember that it is better to please God than to please men. Jesus said you will be blessed and rewarded for pleasing God even when you are persecuted for doing it, because those people who believe and stand for the truth are the ones who will be in the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you (make fun of you), and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake." They made fun of Jesus. They spoke evil of Jesus. They even accused him of doing miracles by the power of Satan. They spoke all manner of evil against Jesus falsely, and even put him to death because he spoke the truth about God. Jesus said blessed are those people who are treated the same way because they believe what he taught.

Jesus said, *"Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you."* Since the beginning of time, Satan has tried to get rid of the truth. Kings and Queens have put the prophets of God to death. The laws have persecuted those who preached the truth. Other religions have put to death those who stood for the truth. But Jesus said that the gates of hell would not prevail against the church. Jesus promised us that if we are faithful in what we believe and what we practice, we will be rewarded greatly in heaven.

MEMORY VERSE: Matthew 5:8

"Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God."

Blessed are the pure
in heart: for they
shall see God.
Matthew 5:8

Blessed are the pure
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THE BEATITUDES

Copy the frame on colored construction paper trimmed to 8 1/2 by 11 size.

Copy the Beatitudes on the following page on parchment colored paper.

Cut out the inside of frame and glue on the parchment to make a frame.

THE BEATITUDES

"Blessed are the poor in spirit:
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are they that mourn:
for they shall be comforted.

"Blessed are the meek"
for they shall inherit the earth.

"Blessed are they which do hunger
and thirst after righteousness:
for they shall be filled.

"Blessed are the merciful:
for they shall obtain mercy.

"Blessed are the pure in heart:
for they shall see God.

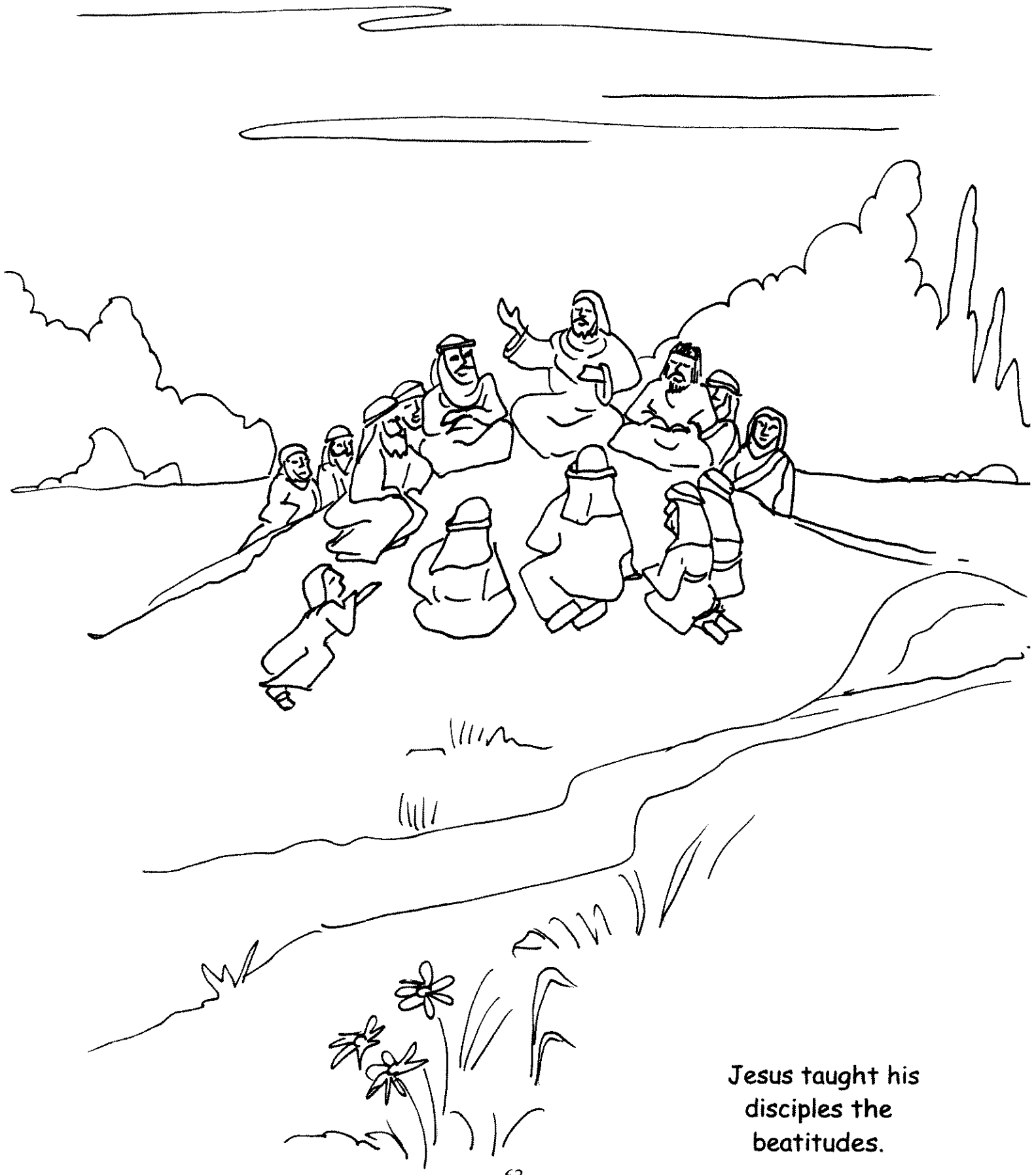
"Blessed are the peacemakers:
for they shall be called the children of God.

"Blessed are they which are persecuted
for righteousness' sake:
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you,
and persecute you and say all manner
of evil against you falsely, for my sake.

"Rejoice, and be exceedingly glad:
for great is your reward in heaven,
for so persecuted they the prophets
which were before you."

Matthew 5:3-12



Jesus taught his
disciples the
beatitudes.

THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT

Matthew chapter 5

When Jesus lived on the earth, he traveled and preached. The synagogues were the places where the Jewish people went on the Sabbath day to worship. Wherever Jesus was he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day. Jesus traveled throughout the area of Galilee teaching in the synagogues. He preached the gospel of the kingdom of God, and healed the people of all kinds of sickness and diseases. People heard about Jesus from many miles away, and they brought sick and crippled people to him to be healed. They traveled for miles and miles. Sometimes they walked for many days to get to where Jesus was.

One day Jesus looked around and saw the great crowd of people who had followed him. He went up on a mountain near Capernaum so all the people could hear what he said. He sat down and the disciples came to him so that he could teach them. The word *disciple* means *learner*. A disciple was a *follower* who learned from Jesus. Jesus' disciples were those who followed him, who stayed with him, in his presence, to hear what he taught so they would know how to live their lives.

Jesus preached a great sermon. What is a *sermon*? When a preacher stands at the pulpit and preaches to us, we call it a *sermon*. When a teacher teaches a lesson in a classroom, she or he does not preach a sermon; they *teach* a lesson. But when a preacher stands at the pulpit, he speaks his thoughts for the purpose of instructing the people, so we call it a *sermon*. Matthew 5:1-2, "*And seeing the multitude, he went up into a mountain: and when he was set, his disciples came unto him: And he opened his mouth, and taught them, saying,*". Jesus sat on the mountain and preached a sermon, so we call it the "Sermon on the Mount". The mountain made a stage so he was higher than the people and he could be seen. As his voice traveled down the mountainside, the people could hear. He taught them the Beatitudes, and he also taught them many more things about how they should live their lives every day.

Jesus used things the people were familiar with to help them understand what he was teaching. He said, "*Ye are the salt of the earth.*" Salt is something our bodies need in order for us to be healthy. Jesus asked, "If the salt has lost its saltiness, how can it become salty again?" It can't. If the salt doesn't taste salty, it is not worth anything. If salt is not salty, we do not get the benefit of it in our food. The church is the *salt* of the earth. If the church does not preach and practice the truth, the world does not get the benefit it needs in order to learn about God.

Jesus said, verse 14, "*Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid.*" In John 8:12, Jesus said, "*I am the light of the world.*" Jesus came as the spiritual light to a world dark in sin. Jesus started his church when was on the earth, and when he went back into heaven he left his church as the **light of the world**. We, as his people, are the light

of the world. There is no other way for the world to see Jesus except in our lives. If houses are built on a hill, the lights of houses can be seen in the darkness from many miles away. If it is up on a hill, there is nothing to hide it. Our lives should shine like the lights of houses up on a hill. Verse 15 says, *"Neither do men light a candle and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house."* We do not light a candle, and then put something over it so the light cannot be seen. We put it out where it will light up the entire room; then we can see in the darkness. Proverbs 4:18-19, *"But the path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day. The way of the wicked is as darkness: they know not at what they stumble."* We are the light of the world to help people avoid stumbling in the darkness of sin. Verse 16 tells us to, *"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven."* Why should we let our lights shine? Not so we can brag about how good we are! We let our lights shine so others will see the good things we do and glorify God.

Jesus also taught the people about righteousness. Righteousness is a big word that means "doing what is right", or "being good". The only way we can do what is right, or be good, is for God to forgive us of the wrong things we do. The Pharisees were people who believed that keeping the law made them good. Jesus tried to explain the purpose of the law. The law did not make something wrong, it just showed the people that it was wrong. Jesus wanted the people to understand that the Pharisees thought they were righteous because they did not break the law, but the only way to be righteous in the sight of God is to admit that we are sinful and ask forgiveness. The Pharisees denied that they did anything wrong. We must admit that we do wrong, and ask God to forgive us. The law says, *"Thou shalt not kill."* The Pharisee said, "I have not killed, so I am not guilty. If I am not guilty, that makes me righteous." But Jesus said if you hate someone badly enough to want to kill them, or wish they were dead, you are guilty. Jesus said not only the things we do, but even our thoughts make us guilty before God.

Jesus also taught what our attitude should be when we come to church. Verse 23. We cannot worship God if we are thinking angry thoughts. If we come to worship and remember that we are angry with someone in the church, we should first go to that person and get our problems straightened out. God forgives. In order to worship Him, we must forgive.

Jesus taught to always tell the truth. Verse 37. Never tell a lie, or twist the truth around to make it sound like something it is not. Always be perfectly honest. The law said, *"do not bear false witness"* or tell a lie about someone else. But Jesus said if we know others believe something that is not true, and we let them believe a lie, we are as guilty as if we told the lie.

Then Jesus talked about other things in the law besides the ten commandments. If someone hit another person and caused their eye to be blind, or knocked out a tooth, or caused a bad scar on their face, or a broken arm, that person had a right, under the law, to do the same

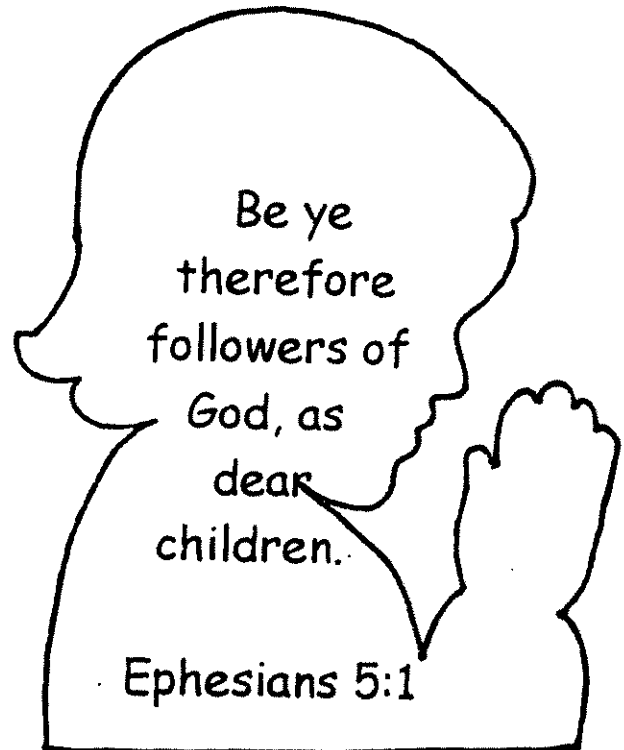
thing to them as their punishment. Jesus said we should be forgiving, not use the law as an excuse to do bad things to someone else. Jesus said if someone hits you on the right cheek, instead of hitting him on his cheek, to turn to him your other cheek. Take his punishment for him. That is what Jesus did for us. He took our punishment when he died for our sins.

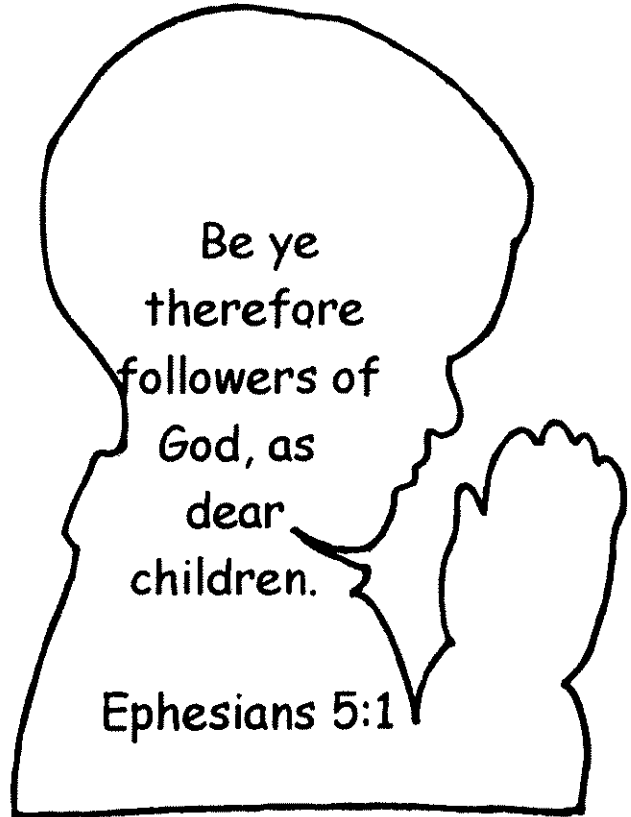
If a person asks for your help, help him. If he asks to borrow something, and you have it to lend, let him have it. Under the Roman law, if a soldier was traveling from one military post to another and had a heavy backpack to carry, he could command someone on the road to carry it for him for one mile. The person he asked to carry the load only had to carry it one mile. Then he could put it down. He didn't have to go any further than one mile. Jesus said if someone asks you to help him, do more than he asks. If by law you must go one mile, do more than is expected. Out of the goodness of your heart, in order to be helpful, go two miles.

Jesus also taught the disciples about love. He said, "You have heard that you should love your neighbor, but it is okay to hate your enemy." But Jesus told them to love their enemies also. *"But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you."* Why should we love our enemies? So that others will see that we are children of God, and have the love of God in our hearts. Does God love those who love Him, and hate those who are evil? Does the sun shine only on good people? Does the rain fall only on good people, or does it fall on bad people too? Jesus said, *"God makes the sun to shine on the evil and on the good; He makes the rain to fall on the just and on the unjust."* Jesus asked them, "If you love them who love you, what reward do you have? Even bad people love those who love them. If you are kind to your friends, what have you done that others have not done? Even bad people are kind to their friends."

MEMORY VERSE: Ephesians 5:1

"Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children."





The disciples of Jesus followed him up onto a mountain where he preached to them.



THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT

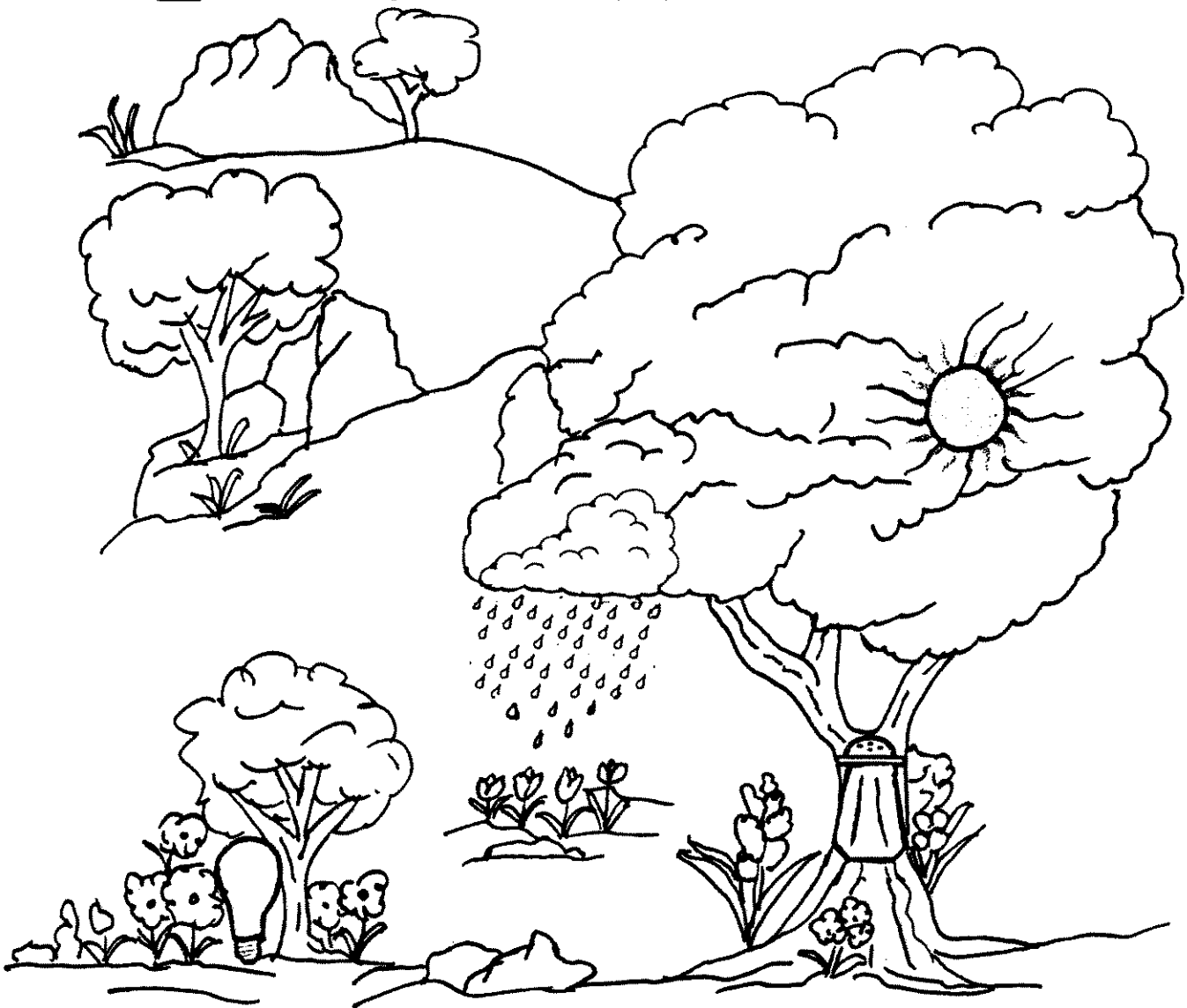
Find the hidden objects in the picture:

Jesus said "Ye are the salt of the earth.

Jesus said, "Ye are the light of the world.

It rains on the good and the bad people.

The sun shines on the good and the bad people.



MORE SERMON ON THE MOUNT

Matthew chapter 6

In Matthew chapter 6 Jesus taught the disciples about giving to the poor, about prayer, and about seeking earthly riches.

He taught his disciples how to give to the poor. According to the law, every man twenty years old or older was required to give a half shekel each year when he came to the temple to worship. Then they were taught to give extra money to help those who did not have any money; people who were sick or crippled and could not work, the people who were poor. This was called alms giving. The tribute money was given to the temple, and their alms was extra money given to the poor. Matthew 6:1, *"Take heed that ye do not your alms before men, to be seen of them: otherwise ye have no reward of your Father which is in heaven."* A hypocrite is a person who wants others to think he is better than he really is. Jesus said the Pharisees were hypocrites who would sound a trumpet in the synagogue or on the streets to get the attention of other people so they would see what they gave to some poor person, and brag on them. They wanted other people to think they were good. Jesus said, *"They have their reward."* This was all the reward they got. God did not reward them. Jesus said when we do alms (give to the poor), do it secretly. *"But when thou doest alms, let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth: That thine alms may be in secret: and thy Father which seeth in secret himself shall reward thee openly."* To not even let one hand know what the other hand gives, would be very secret. Don't hold up your money and wave it around so that others will see what you are giving. Give quietly, and secretly. If we give so others will see what we have done and brag on us, God will not reward us. God who sees in secret will reward us openly for our good deeds. We will not have to call attention to ourselves.

Jesus taught the disciples about prayer. Prayer is when we talk to God, so our prayers should be between us and God. Jesus called the Pharisees hypocrites because they loved to pray standing in the synagogue or on the street corner so everyone would hear them. Jesus said being heard was their reward. *"But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly."* This doesn't mean that we have to go into our bedrooms and go into our closets and shut the door before we can pray. We can pray at anytime, and anywhere we are; but we must shut out everything around us. We must shut out everyone else and everything else from our hearts and minds just like we were closed up in a closet, and talk to God. We should not tell other people, "Be quiet now, because I am going to pray." Just pray within your own heart, and your own mind. Others do not need to know. Find time to go somewhere away from other people and pray. God who sees in secret, will reward us openly. The hypocrite had his reward when others heard him.

Jesus also said, "*When ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking.*" Jesus told the disciples not to beg God over and over again as the heathens, or idol worshipers did. The heathens think if they ask God enough, or beg God enough, God will finally give it to them to get them to hush. Jesus said God knows what we need even before we ask. Maybe we ask God for something we do not need or that is not good for us. God knows, and will answer in the way that is best for us.

Jesus taught us to pray our personal prayers privately, then he gave an example of praying publically, as we do in church. Jesus said to pray after this manner: **Matthew 6:1-13**. We pray to God as our Father who is in heaven. His name is a holy name. The first thing we should want is for Jesus to come back and rule as our king, so that the will of God will be done on earth as it is being done in heaven. Then we ask for things we need; not a lot of things, but only what we need each day in order to live. We should not ask for an a lot of food, but only enough for each day. Jesus explained forgiveness. We should not ask God to forgive us if we have not forgiven others who may have done something wrong to us. Jesus said that if we forgive others, God will forgive us, but if we do not forgive others, God will not forgive us.

Then Jesus taught the disciples about another religious tradition of their day, fasting. To fast meant to go without eating for a certain period of time. Some of the Jews did not understand why the disciples of John and the Pharisees fasted, while the disciples of Jesus did not fast. Jesus told them there was no need to fast as long as he was with them. After Jesus went back into heaven, then his disciples could fast. Moses fasted for forty days when he was on Mt. Sinai. God gave him the strength he needed to survive while he was on the mountain receiving the law. When Elijah killed the false prophets of Baal and had to run away from the evil Queen Jezebel, an angel prepared food for him to eat two times and told him it must last him for forty days while he was traveling to Mount Horeb. When Jesus was tempted in the wilderness he fasted for forty days, and afterward the angels fed him. Some churches today practice forty days of a form of fasting before Easter every year. They think this makes them pure or good in the eyes of God. They do not do without food completely as Moses and Elijah, or as Jesus in the wilderness, but they decide they will do without certain things during this time, and call it fasting. The Bible does not tell us to fast at a certain time each year. The only true form of fasting is when you are so busy doing the work of God that you do not take the time to stop and eat. If you put more importance upon serving God than eating, this is fasting, and only you and God should know about it. If you are so busy serving God that you do not have time to eat, don't tell anyone. God knows. If you are so busy helping others that you do not have time to eat, don't tell anyone. God knows. If you are so busy studying the word of God that you do not stop to eat, don't tell anyone. God knows. When the Pharisees fasted twice a week, they put on a sad face and let everyone know how hard it was for them to fast. Jesus called them hypocrites, and said if you do fast, to wash your face, comb your hair, and put on clean clothes. Don't look like you are suffering. God will not reward us for doing something just so other people will think we are good.

Jesus also taught about money. He said not to want to earn money just to be rich. When Jesus lived on the earth, men would put their money in bags made of woolen material, and the moths would eat holes in the bags and the money would fall out and be lost. They would buy things with their money that rust would destroy. They would hide their money, or buy jewelry, and thieves would break into their houses and steal it from them. Jesus said to spend your time serving God, and you will be laying up treasures in heaven where moths and rust do not destroy and thieves do not break in and steal. Jesus said, "Don't be greedy." You can spend some of your time serving God and some of your time making enough money in order to live, or you can spend all of your time making a lot of money, but you can't do both.


Jesus taught them a lesson from nature. Don't worry about having a lot of food to eat. The birds do not plant seeds, harvest crops and store food in barns. God provides for them, and you are more important to God than the birds. The wild flowers of the fields do not spin thread and weave cloth to make beautiful garments for others to admire. Yet they are more beautifully clothed than King Solomon with all of his riches. The wild flowers grow up and bloom, then they are mowed down and gone. They are not eternal like man. God provides for the birds, and He makes the beautiful flowers to bloom, but man is more important than all these. Don't worry about tomorrow, what you will eat or wear. Unsaved people worry about what they will eat. Unsaved people try to earn a lot of money and buy a lot of things to make them feel secure. Verse 33, "*But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.*" This is not an excuse to be lazy. This is not an excuse for a man to not look for a job to support his family. We should not sit down and expect God to give us everything. Neither should we spend all our time working just to earn more money so we can buy more things. God knows what you need. Spend your time serving God, and He will take care of the rest.

MEMORY VERSE: Matthew 6:33

"But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."

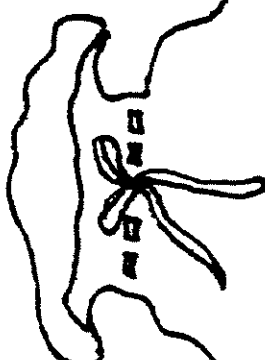
MORE SERMON ON THE MOUNT

MEMORY VERSE PATTERN PAGE



But seek ye first
the kingdom of God,
and His righteousness;
and all these things will
be added unto you.

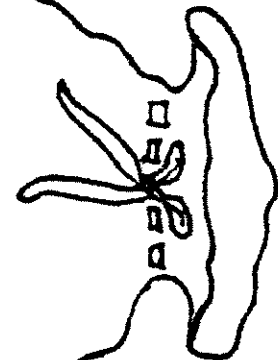
Matthew 6:33



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Matthew 6:33

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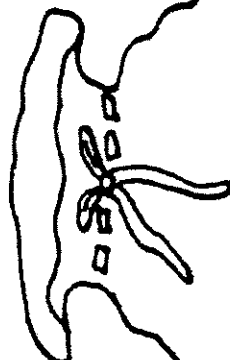


Matthew 6:33

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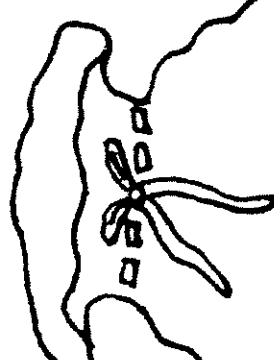


Matthew 6:33



But seek ye first
the kingdom of God,
and His righteousness;
and all these things will
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Matthew 6:33



But seek ye first
the kingdom of God,
and His righteousness;
and all these things will
be added unto you.

Matthew 6:33

Jesus taught his disciples to pray.



Behold the birds: they do not sow, nor reap, nor gather into barns.
Yet God
feeds
them.



Consider the beautiful lilies, how they grow.

MORE SERMON ON THE MOUNT

WORD SEARCH

Find these words in the puzzle:

GOD

R T W G O D L M O V

BIRD

H N C X B I R D K N

LILY

L I L Y C N B X T V

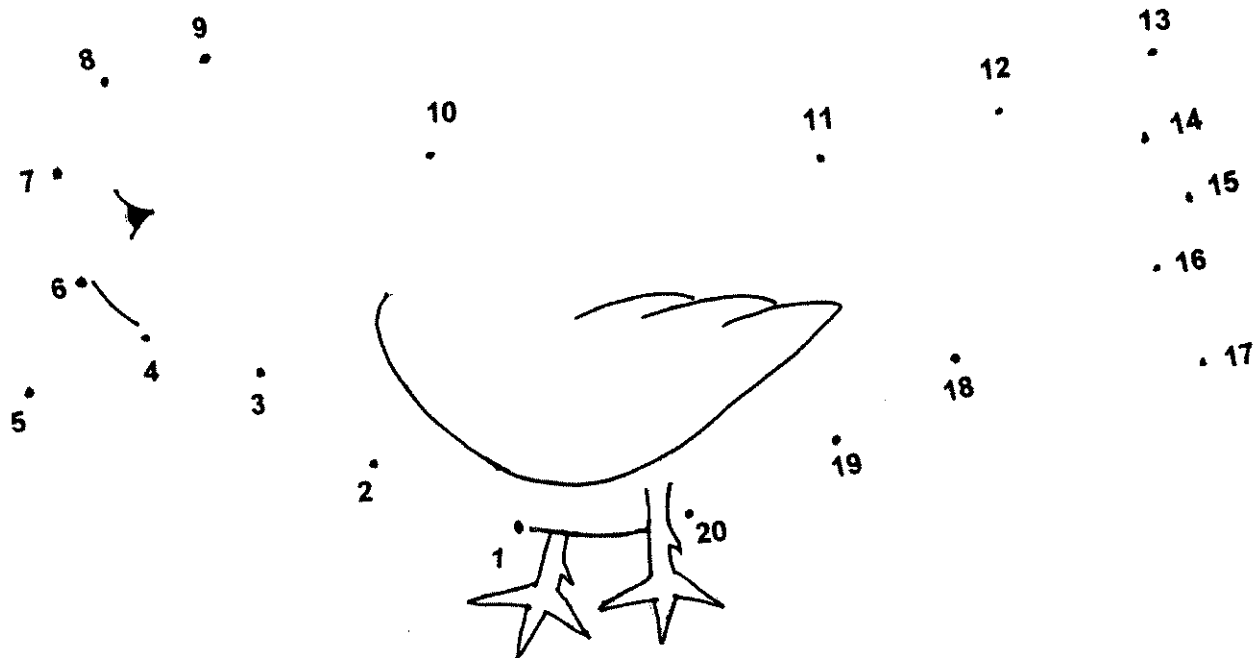
BIBLE

N H G V O B I B L E

PRAY

T W S P R A Y Z X C

Connect the dots:



WOLVES IN SHEEP'S CLOTHING

Matthew chapter 7:1-23

Matthew chapters 5,6,and 7 contain what we call "The Sermon on the mount". Many, many people followed Jesus to see his miracles and hear his teachings. He went up on a mountain and called his disciples to him so he could teach them. Many people followed him to this mountain where he could be seen, and his voice could be heard as it traveled down the mountain side. It seems to have been a small hill in the mountainous area around Capernaum.

Jesus spoke the beatitudes and then taught the people concerning truth and righteousness (right living). He taught them the church is the salt of the earth, and must remain true or it will lose its effectiveness. The church is the light of the world, to illuminate the area with truth in order for others to see properly. Jesus emphasized that they must remain true to what he taught them after he went back into heaven or the truth would be perverted, or changed, and the true church would be destroyed.

In chapter 7 Jesus taught about judging others. How we judge other people is how they have a right to judge us. We should not be critical of their wrongdoing unless we first are sure we do not have the same sins, or greater, in our lives. We should seek the will of God. God knows what we need before we ask, and He will do what is best for us. We are evil by nature, but we do not do bad things for our children. God is righteous by nature. He certainly will not do bad things for us. This does not mean we can ask God for anything we want and He will give it to us. God knows what we need in order to serve Him. God will direct us, or guide us, by His Spirit if we ask. He will lead us by His Spirit if we seek His guidance. He will give us the strength we need to serve Him if we ask.

Jesus taught to walk in the straight and narrow path that leads to God's righteousness rather than enter the wide gate and the broad road that leads to destruction. Evil ways are more attractive to the flesh than the godly ways. Jesus warned the people about following the crowd and doing what is popular. We cannot follow what is popular in the religious world. We cannot believe what is popular. We must seek the will of God and obey His teachings. He said there is a wide gate and a broad road and many people travel it; but it leads to destruction. The way of truth is a small gate, and a narrow road, and only a few find it. The majority of the world believes a false religion. Only a few compared to the number of people in the world believe or even want to know the truth.

Jesus said to beware of false prophets, people who preach things that are not true. They come in sheep's clothing, appearing to be harmless, but inside they are as deadly as hungry wolves. If a flock of sheep saw a wolf coming into their midst, they would be afraid. The wolf by nature would devour the sheep. They would sense danger, and run for shelter and protection. But if a wolf took the skin of a sheep and placed it upon himself so that he smelled like a sheep, his skin looked like a sheep, his face looked like a sheep, he could walk about

among the sheep and they would not be afraid of him. Unless the sheep were very observant they would not know he was a wolf in sheep's clothing. Jesus said, "*Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves.*" Jesus said to be aware (to watch out for) false prophets, men who teach things that are not according to the teachings of Jesus; people who preach things that are not true. They come into the church in sheep's clothing, appearing to be harmless, but inside they are as deadly as hungry wolves. If a man comes into the church and teaches things that are not true, it will hurt the church just as surely as a wolf will hurt the sheep. The only way we know they are false prophets is by what they teach.

Jesus said that not everyone who claims to be a child of God is a child of God. We know by the way they act. They teach things that look good. They preach things that sound good, but they are the things that lead down the wide road that leads to destruction. The narrow road adds nothing except what Jesus taught, and leads to life everlasting. Jesus said, "*Ye shall know them by their fruits.*" Jesus asked the people a question, "Do you gather grapes from a thorn patch? Do you go to a weed patch to look for figs?" Of course not. We go to a grape vine to pick grapes, and a fig tree to look for figs. We know by the fruit it bears what kind of a tree or bush it is. A good tree bring forth good fruit, and a poisonous plant does not bring forth fruit that is good to eat. Luke 6:45, "*A good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is evil: for of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh.*"

Jesus said that not every person who calls him Lord will enter into the kingdom of heaven; only those who do the will of God. Matthew 7:22-23, "*Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? And in thy name have cast out devils? And in thy name done many wonderful works? And then I will profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.*" In the day of judgement many preachers will ask, "Have I not preached in your name? Have I not cast out devils in your name? Have I not done many spectacular miracles in your name?" You will see preachers on TV today who claim to cast out devils in the name of Jesus. They claim to heal people in the name of Jesus. But what they preach and teach is not according to the word of God. They are false prophets, and someday Jesus will tell them they did not preach and teach the truth. He will say, "Depart from me. I never knew you. You worked iniquity. You did sinful acts. You taught error in order to deceive people and keep them from knowing the truth."

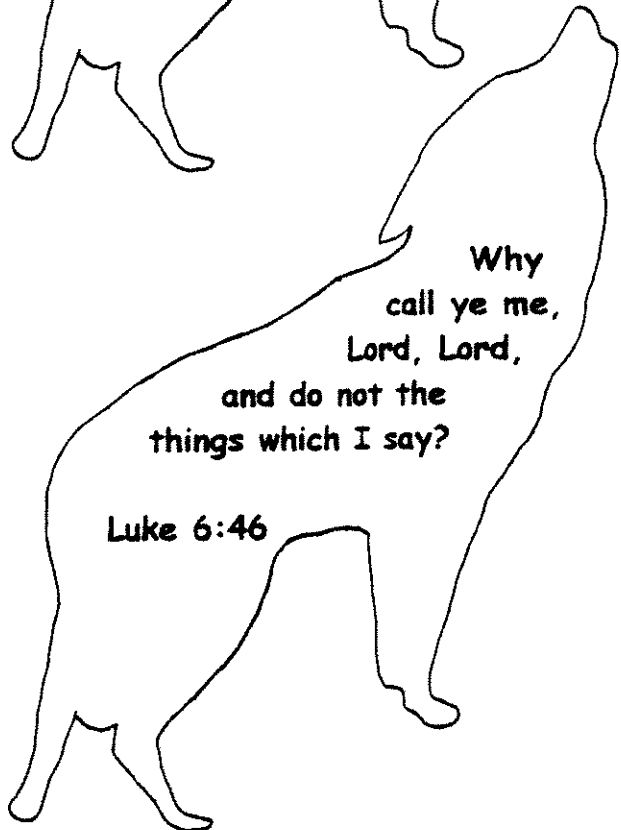
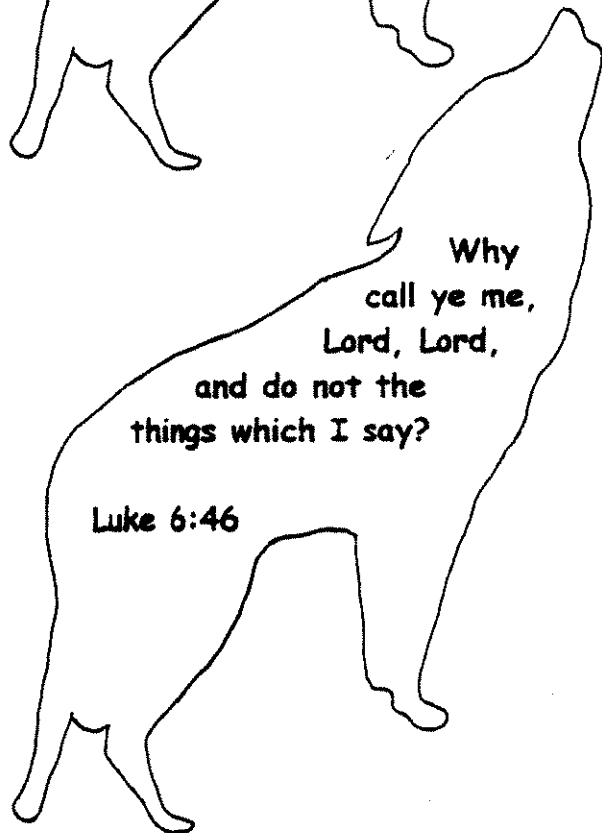
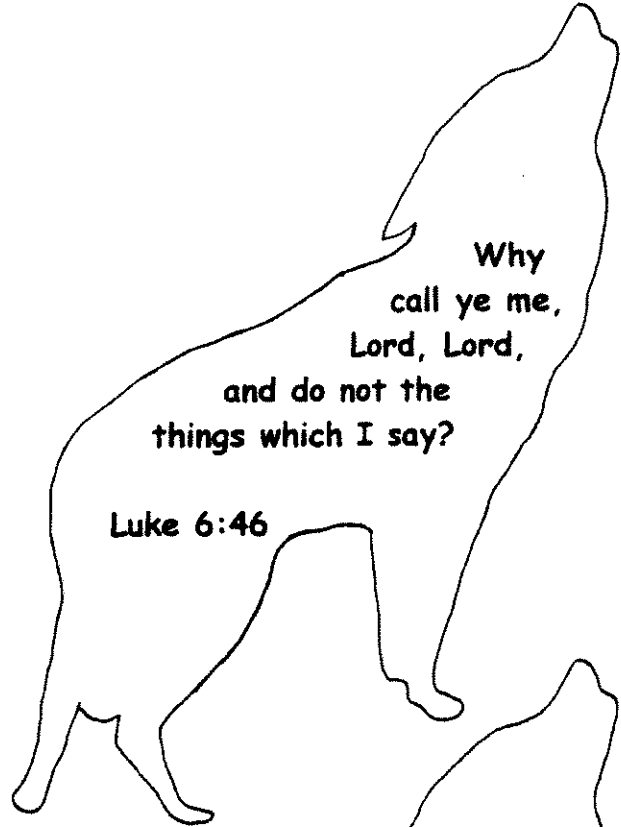
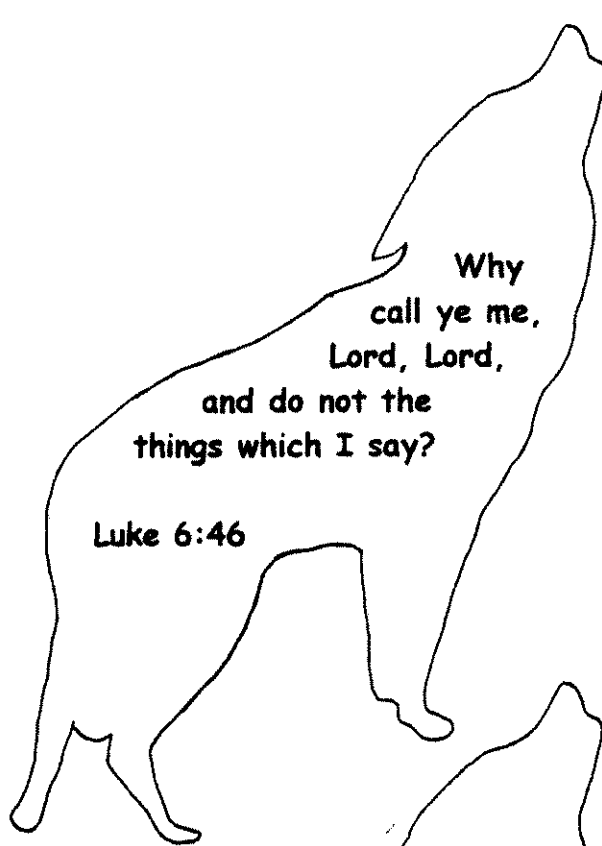
How do we know the truth? How do we know what is right? Jesus said it is by hearing what he said and doing the things he taught. We should not follow the teachings of men. We should follow the teachings of Jesus as it is written in the Bible. The devil causes men to teach things that are wrong. Jesus teaches us what is right.

MEMORY VERSE: Luke 7:46

"And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?"

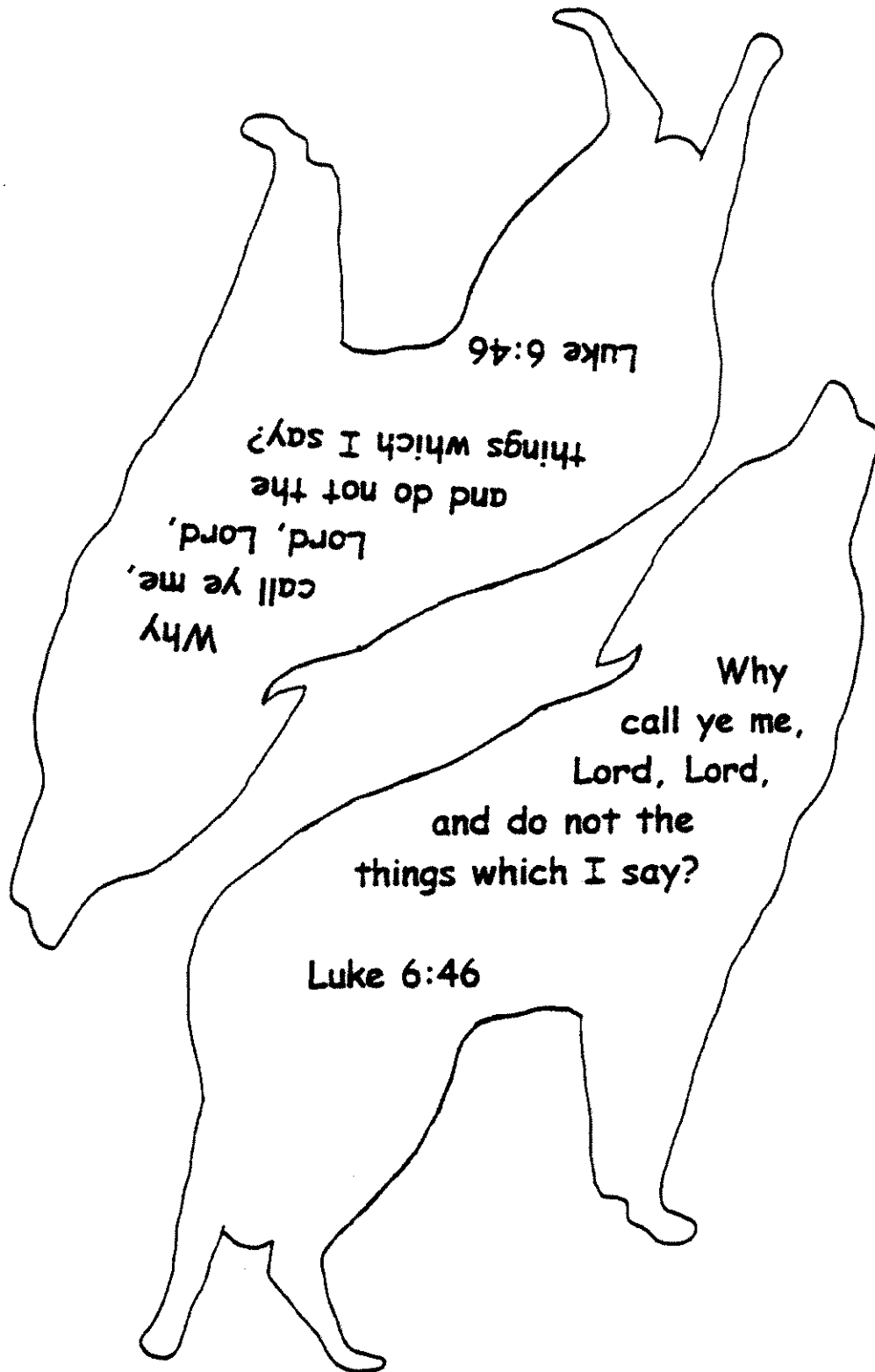
WOLVES IN SHEEP'S CLOTHING

MEMORY VERSE PATTERN PAGE



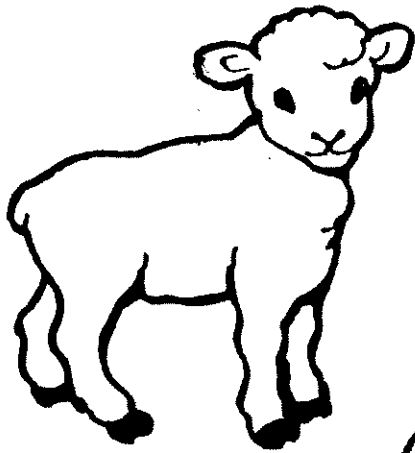
WOLVES IN SHEEP'S CLOTHING

MEMORY VERSE PATTERN PAGE

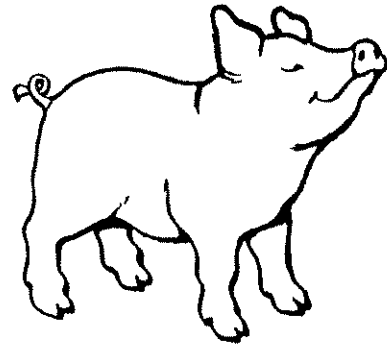


WOLVES IN SHEEP'S CLOTHING

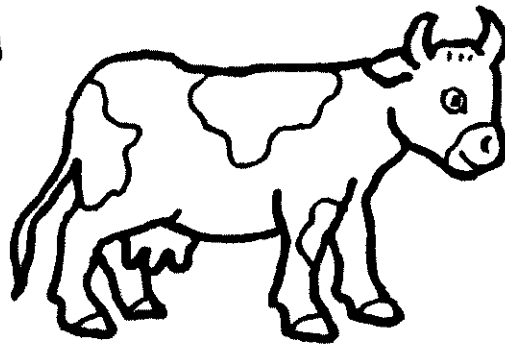
Circle the animal in each group that we studied about today:



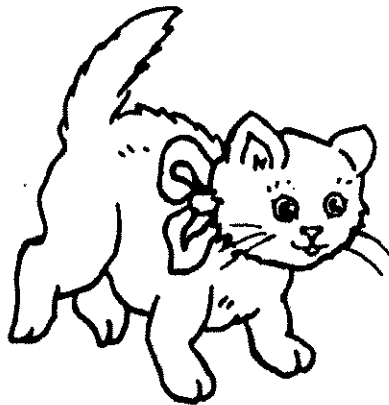
sheep



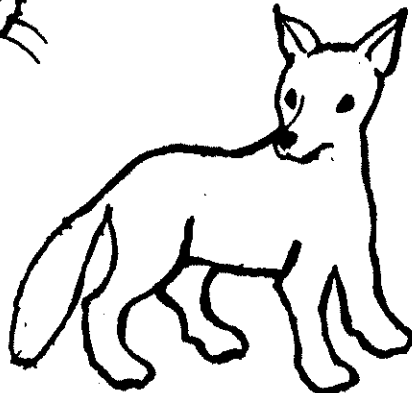
pig



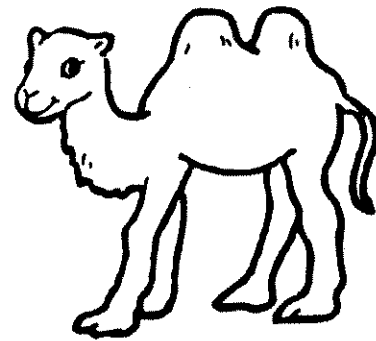
cow



kitten

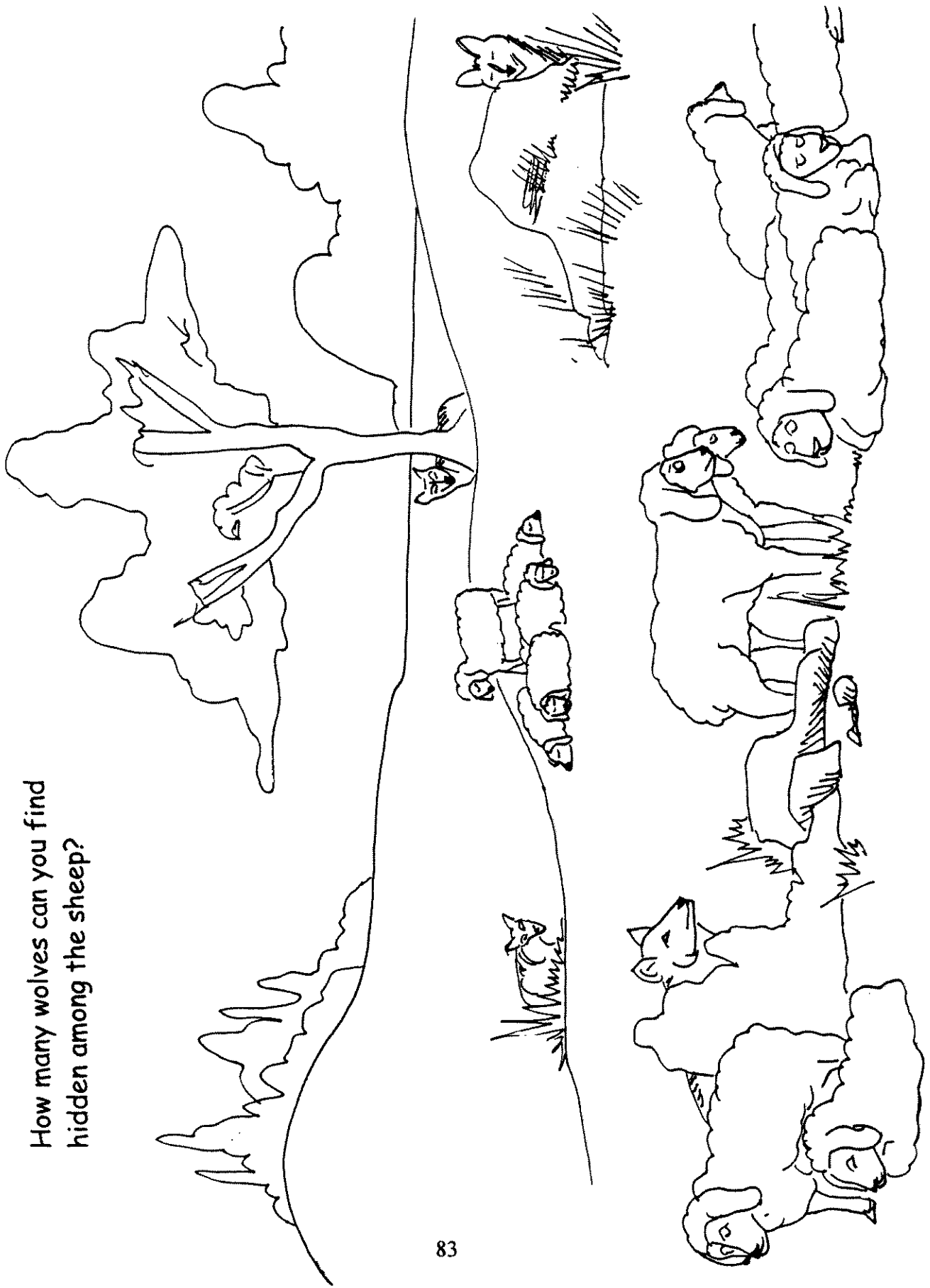


wolf



camel

How many wolves can you find
hidden among the sheep?



THE WISE MAN AND THE FOOLISH MAN

Matthew chapter 7 (7:24-29; Luke 6:46-49)

Many, many people followed Jesus up on a mountain. Jesus taught them the sermon on the mount. He spoke the beatitudes and then taught the people concerning truth and righteousness. He taught them the church is the salt of the earth, and must remain true to what the Bible teaches, or it will not be effective. The church is the light of the world to help others see spiritual things clearly. Keeping the law was not enough. The Pharisees believed they were good, but their goodness was not accepted by God because they did not repent of their sins. Jesus rebuked self-righteousness and taught the people that they must repent, or be sorry for their sins, and ask God for forgiveness. He taught them to show love to others, even those who do not love us. We should not do bad things to others just because they do bad things to us. God sends His love on all. The sun shines on the good and the bad; the rain falls on the good and the bad. Jesus taught the people to forgive others. He taught to give to the poor, and help those who need help and not expect something in return. He taught them how to pray, and about living their daily lives in a way that would please God.

In chapter 7 Jesus taught that we should not criticize others who do wrong unless we admit our sins also. How we judge other people is how they can judge us. We should not say someone has done wrong unless we are sure we have not done the same sins. *"And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye? Or how wilt thou say to thy brother, let me pull out the mote out of thine eye; and, behold, a beam is in thine own eye? Thou hypocrite, first cast out the beam out of thine own eye; and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother's eye."* Jesus said if we tell others to get rid of sins in their lives, and we have greater sins in our own lives, we are hypocrites. If a person has a large chip of wood in his eye, he cannot see clearly to get an eyelash out of someone else's eye. He must first get rid of the large object that is blocking his sight. When we get rid of the sin in our own lives, then we can help others to get rid of sin in their lives.

Before we ask God for something, we must know what His will is. God knows what we need and He will do what is best for us. Verses 9-10: *"What man is there of you, whom if his son ask bread, will he give him a stone? Or is he ask a fish, will he give him a serpent?"* If a man's son asked him for some bread to eat, would the father give him a rock? If he asked for a fish, would he give him a snake? Luke 11:12 says, "If he asks for an egg, will he give him a scorpion?" Then Jesus said in Luke 11:13, *"If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children; how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?"* If we, who are sinful people, do good things for our children, surely God knows how to do good things for us. This does not mean we can ask God for anything we want and He must give it to us. God knows what we need in order to serve Him. God will lead us by His Spirit if we seek His guidance so we can serve Him. He will give us the strength we need to serve Him if we ask.

Jesus taught how to treat others. *"Whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them."* Whatever we would like for people to do for us, that is what we should do for them. We should treat people like we want them to treat us.

Jesus said to avoid the wide path of evil and temptations that leads to destruction, but seek the narrow way of truth that leads to life everlasting. He said to watch out for men who teach a false doctrine, even though they may be in the church. If they do not teach what Jesus taught they are false prophets. We must listen to Jesus and live like He taught us to live.

Jesus taught the people a parable. He said, "If you come to me and listen to what I teach, and do what I say, I will show you who you are like." They were like a man who decided to build a house. He was a wise man, because he dug down deep into the ground and laid the foundation for the house on a rock. When he built his house on the rock, the storms came, and the wind blew hard, and it did not shake his house. When the rains fell and the floods rose up around the house, it did not wash it away from its foundation. It did not wash the foundation out from under the house. The winds could not blow it away. The floods could not wash away the rock it was built on. Jesus said the man was wise because he built his house on a solid rock.

Then Jesus said, "If you hear what I say and do not do what I have taught, you are like a foolish man who decided to build a house." The foolish man thought it was too much work and would take too long to dig down and lay a foundation on a rock. It wouldn't make any difference in the way the house looked. He had a level sandy place, so he just built his house there. The storms came. The rain fell, and the floods washed up around the house. It washed the sand right out from under it. There was nothing solid for it to stand on. When the sand washed out from under it, and the winds blew against it, all of the walls fell down. His house was destroyed. The man had nothing to show for his work. It may have looked just like the other house, but it was not as strong as the other house. But it didn't have the right foundation. It could not stand up against the strong wind that blew against it.

If we build our life on the firm foundation, the rock of Jesus Christ, we will be able to withstand the storms of life that come. But if we do not have a firm foundation, the storms of sin will completely destroy us, and we will have nothing to show for our life. Jesus taught the people how to build their lives on a firm foundation. He said to listen to what he taught, and do like he said. Jesus was not talking about salvation. He had already taught that the way to be saved was to repentance of our sins and be born again as a child of God. After we are born again, we must build our lives on the solid rock, Jesus Christ. If we build our lives on the truth, when the devil tempts us to do wrong, we will know how to do what is right instead of doing what is wrong. We must build our lives on what the Bible teaches.

Jesus said not to do wicked, sinful things, but to live clean godly lives. Love your neighbor as you do yourself. Also love your enemies, and go good to those who do bad things to you. Don't do good things just so others will brag on you. Do good things secretly, and God

will know. He will bless you and reward you for doing good in a way that others will know you have pleased God. Ask for forgiveness, then forgive others for doing things that are wrong. Help those who are in need. Give to those who ask for your help. Pray every day to God. Thank Him for giving good things to you. Ask Him to help you do good things for others. By doing the right things, we will be building our lives on a solid foundation. We will be strong enough to withstand the temptations of Satan..

"Lay not up for yourselves treasures on earth."

"But seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness."

"Enter in at the straight gate."

"Beware of false prophets."

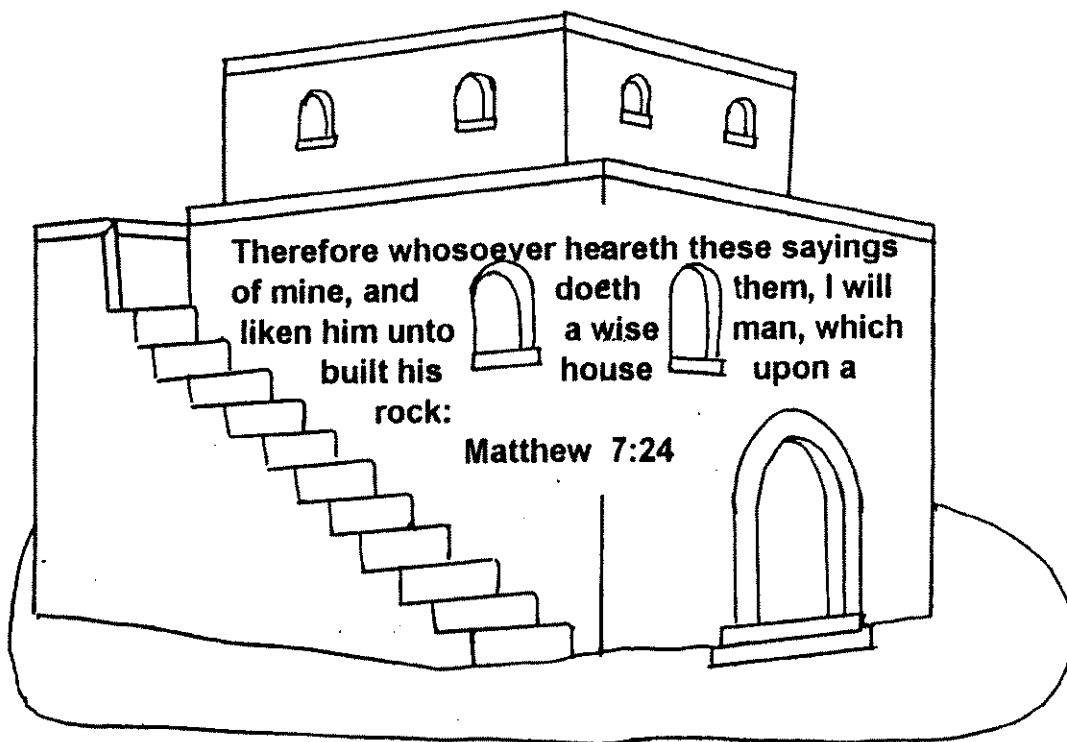
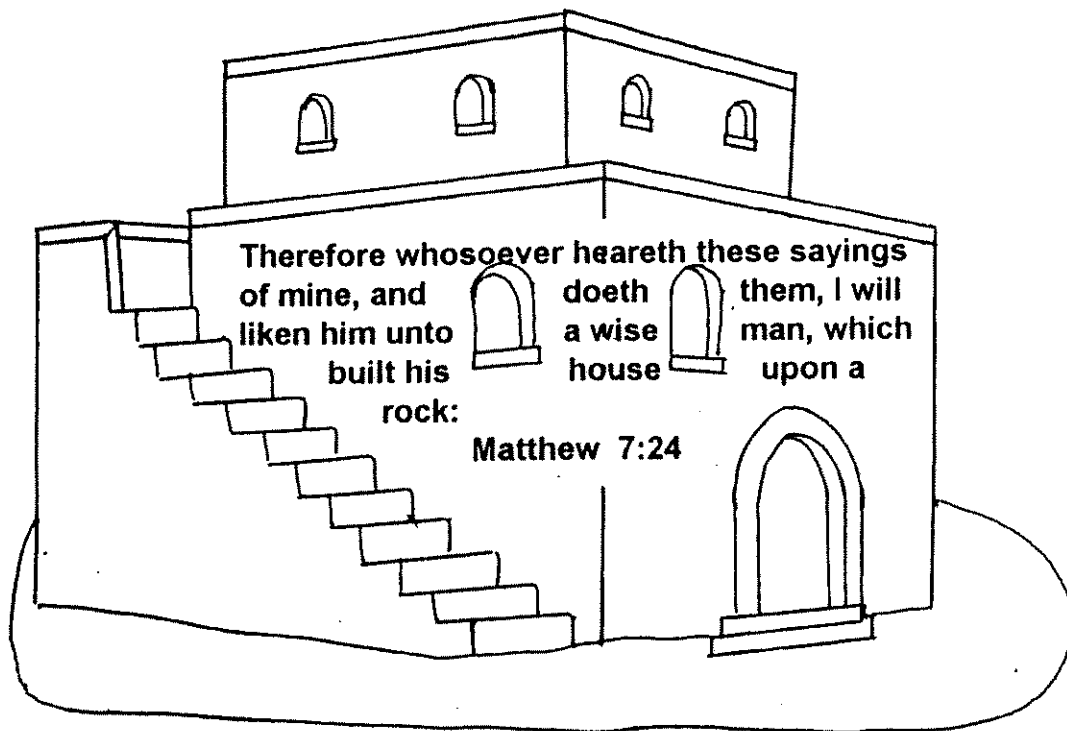
"Whoever hears what I teach, and does it, is like a wise man who built his house on a rock."

MEMORY VERSE: Matthew 7:24

"Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock:"

THE WISE MAN AND THE FOOLISH MAN

MEMORY VERSE
PATTERN PAGE





The man who built his house on the rock was called wise.

The foolish man built his house on the sand.



THE WISE MAN AND THE FOOLISH MAN

Match the shapes

Copy and cut out one set of building stones for each pupil.

Glue them on the following page.

Ask for
forgiveness

Show love
for others

Forgive
others

Be
honest

Study
the Bible

Help
others

Obey
God's Word

Be
thankful

Seek God's leadership

Tell
the
truth

Show mercy

r
e
y
a
r
p

Lay up
treasures in heaven

THE WISE MAN AND THE FOOLISH MAN

Copy the 'solid rock' on gray construction paper.

Cut out one for each child.

Teachings of Jesus

Teachings of Jesus

Teachings of Jesus

Teachings of Jesus

Teachings of Jesus

Teachings of Jesus

Teachings of Jesus

THE WISE MAN AND THE FOOLISH MAN

Lay the foundation stone first.

Build your house on the Rock.

