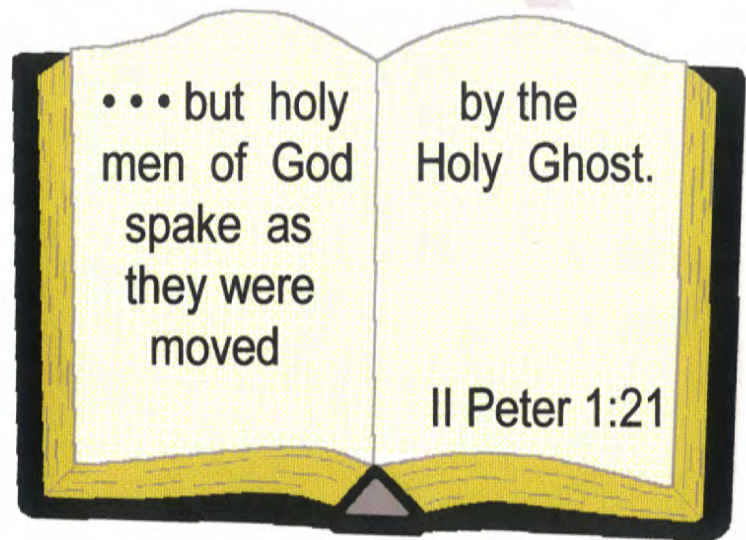


The Bible ... God's Word

Vacation

Bible

School



A series of lessons for: 2 and 3 years old
4 and 5 years — Kindergarten

The Bible ■ ■ ■ God's Word

A series of five lessons
designed for

Vacation Bible School

for

PRESCHOOL

2 & 3 YEARS OLD
4 & 5 YEARS — KINDERGARTEN

Author: Betty Penn

Artwork & Illustrations : Cheryl Harris, Cody Harris, Betty Penn



4311 Peeler Bend Road ♦ Benton, AR 72019 ♦ (501)776-1939

Note to the teacher

Included in this notebook is a five-day series of lessons for two and three years old, and four years old through Kindergarten

- Lesson 1: What Is the Bible?
- Lesson 2: What Is the Old Testament?
- Lesson 3: What Is the New Testament?
- Lesson 4: What Is the Church?
- Lesson 5: Who Was John the Baptist?

After the lessons, there is:

- Suggestions for a Closing Program
- Suggested songs for the week.

The lessons produced in three-ring binder format for convenience in removing pages for copying. The teacher should select the appropriate worksheets for the age level of the class.

Worksheets are reproducible for classroom use only.

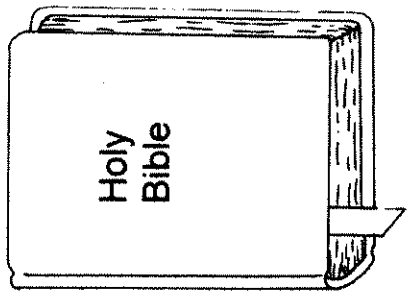
Since the worksheets are black and white rather than color, I suggest you use different colors of copy paper for each worksheet for variety.

May God bless the use of these lessons as they are used to teach young minds the truths of God's Word.

Betty Penn

Betty Penn

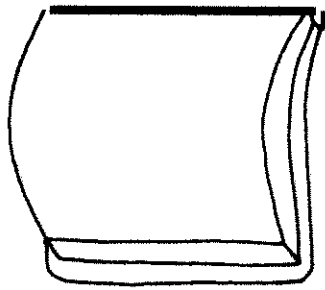
THE BIBLE



GOD'S WORD

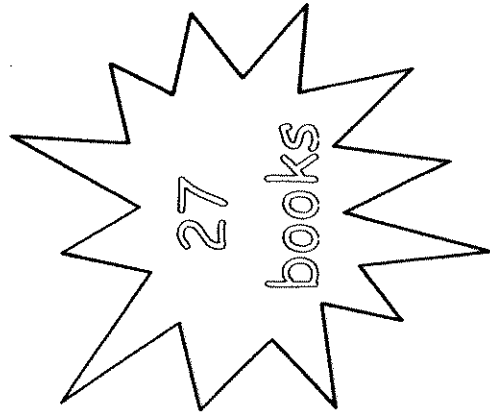
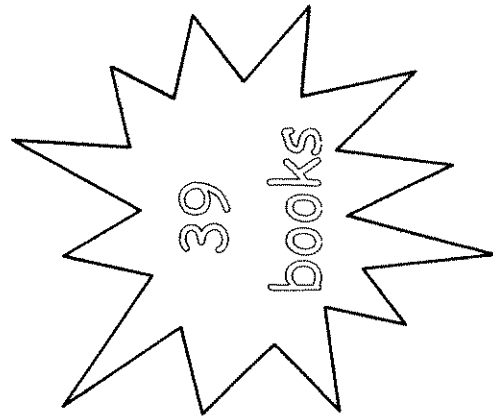
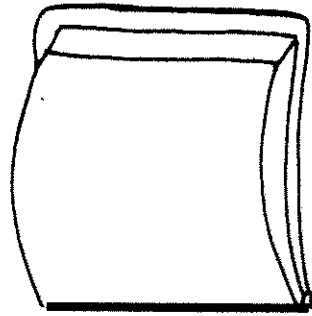
Old

Testament



New

Testament



Program Suggestions

Theme Song:

First child:

The Bible has 66 books.

II Timothy 3:16 "All scripture is given by inspiration of God"

Group sing:

THE B-I-B-L-E Action Songs for Boys and Girls volume 1 #73

Second child:

The Old Testament has 39 books.

II Peter 1:21 "holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost."

Group sing:

JESUS LOVES THE LITTLE ONES Simple Songs for Toddlers # 38

Third child:

The New Testament has 27 books.

II Timothy 2:15, "Study to show thyself approved unto God"

Group sing:

THY WORD HAVE I HID IN MY HEART (Great Hymns Of the Faith p. 177)
(The Broadman Hymnal p. 389)

Fourth child:

Matthew 16:18 "Upon this rock I will build my church"

Group sing:

WALK SOFTLY IN GOD'S HOUSE

Fifth child:

John 1:6 "There was a man sent from God whose name was John."

Group sing:

JESUS LOVES ME THIS I KNOW

SUGGESTED SONGS

The following is a list of suggested songs for Preschool - Kindergarten

God's Word In My Heart Action Songs For Boys and Girls Volume 1 #53

I Was Glad When They Said Broadman #309

and **I Was Glad** Salvation Songs for Children #1 p. 97 (Use as verse and chorus)

Tell Me the Story Of Jesus (chorus) Great Hymns Of the Faith #106

American Baptist Hymnal #169

The Broadman Hymnal #367

The B-I-B-L-E Action Songs for Boys and Girls volume 1 #73

The More We Read the Bible

Thy Word Have I Hid In My Heart Great Hymns Of the Faith # 177

The Broadman Hymnal #389

Walk Softly In God's House

Lesson 1: WHAT IS THE BIBLE?

Scriptures: II Timothy 3:16-17 II Peter 1:21 Revelation 1:11

Aim: To acquaint the young child with the Bible as the Word of God, and instill in them the importance of studying and learning what it teaches.

Memory Verse: II Timothy 3:16 (4 years through Kindergarten)

“All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:”

(2 and 3 years old) *“All scripture is given by inspiration of God”*

A long, long time ago **God** wrote a book, and sent it to us. He used about **forty** different men to write this book. It is called the **Bible**. In fact, this book is made up of many books in one. It is the word of God. It tells us what God wants us to know about Him. It tells us all we need to know about God. It tells us about Jesus, the Son of God. The Bible teaches us how we should live our lives. It teaches us about the church, and how we should act as a church. The Bible teaches us that Jesus started the church when he lived on the earth, and we should believe what Jesus taught the first church to believe. The Bible is the most important book in our lives.

In the Beginning

When God created the earth, and made Adam and Eve to live on the earth, He came into the Garden of Eden every day and talked with them. After there got to be more and more people on the earth, God send angels to tell them what He wanted them to do, or what would happen in their lives. Many years later, God chose prophets to teach the people His will. A prophet was a man to whom God told what would happen in the future, or what He wanted them to tell the people. After several hundred years, God chose certain men and caused them to know exactly what to write down so they could write the Bible for us to have today. The Bible was written by men whom God chose to write down the things that God wants us to know. Some of them, God told what to write. Some of them, the Holy Spirit caused them to know in their minds what they should write. In the Old Testament, the prophets were men that God told what to say to the people. Some of them also wrote down what God told them to tell the people so that we can read it and know things that happened a long, long time ago, and things that will happen in the future..

Over-all view

The **Bible** has **66 books** in it. It is like a book shelf with 66 books that are all bound into one book. It is divided into **two parts**: the **Old Testament**, and the **New Testament**. The Old Testament has **39** books, and the New Testament has **27** books. These books were written on scrolls. A scroll was a piece of parchment, or animal skin, written on by hand with a pen and ink. It was rolled from either side on two sticks. The writer would unroll a portion from one side, write on it, and roll it up

on the other side, forming 'pages'. It was very slow, and took up a lot of space to store the scrolls. The Bible was written in the **Hebrew** and **Greek** languages, because that is the language the people spoke at that time. (They did not speak English like we do.) After men learned to make paper, and print as we print books today, these scrolls were transcribed into our language and printed in the book we call the Bible. We do not have to read many scrolls. All 66 books can be in one book.

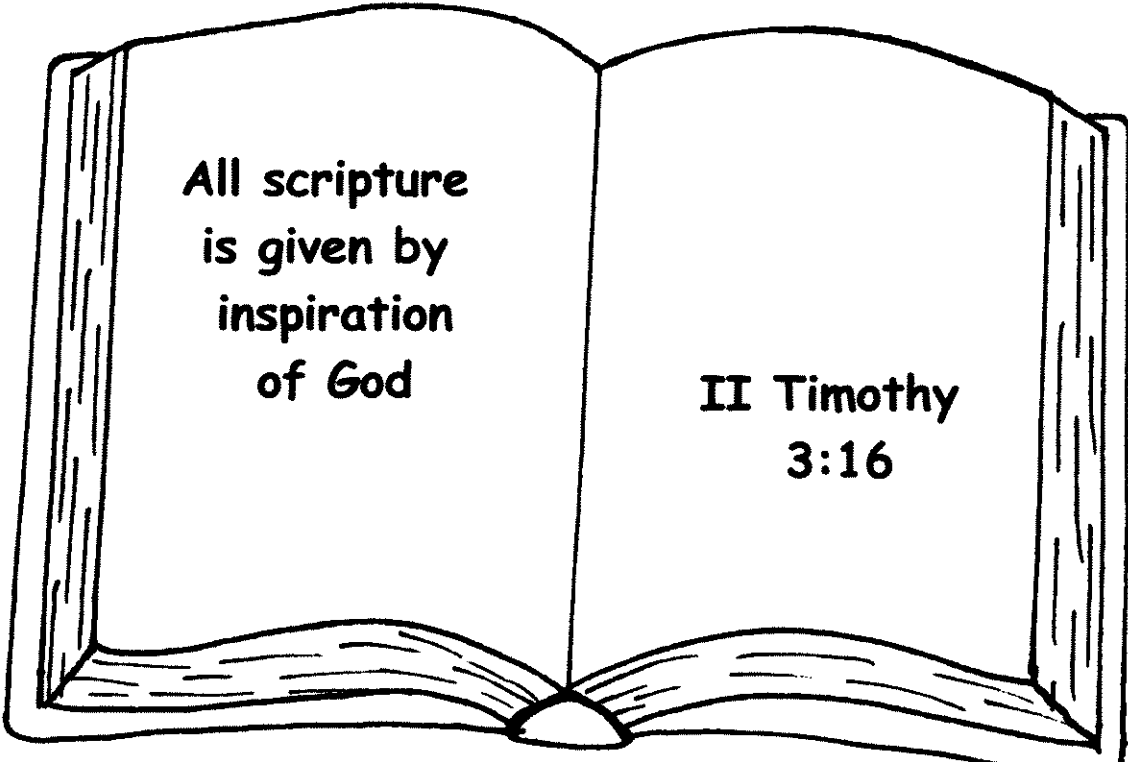
How Did We Get the Bible?

It took many years to write the Bible. **Moses** wrote the **first book** in the Bible. It is called **Genesis**. The book of Genesis tells us all about when God made the earth and the animals. Then it tells us that God made the first man and woman who lived on the earth. Their names were Adam and Eve. Moses did not live when Adam and Eve lived, (he lived about 2500 years later), but God told him all about it so he could write it down. Now, we can know what happened because Moses wrote it down just like God taught him. God used other men to write other books in the Old Testament, but they all wrote exactly what God wanted them to write.

It took about **1,500 years** to write the **Old Testament**. It only took **60 years** to write the **New Testament**. Some of the apostles wrote books that are in the New Testament. Half of the books were written by the **apostle Paul**. These were **letters** that he wrote to the first churches to tell them what they should believe. The apostles heard Jesus teach about the things of God, and they taught the churches what Jesus said. Sometimes they became confused and did not remember what the apostles had taught them, or they did not understand what the apostles said, and they believed things that were wrong. The apostle Paul could not be at every church all the time, so he wrote letters explaining things that the people did not understand. When the people read Paul's letters in their church, they were reading part of the Bible. God caused Paul to know exactly what to write so that it would all be true. We can read the same letters that Paul wrote to these churches and know what God wants us to do.

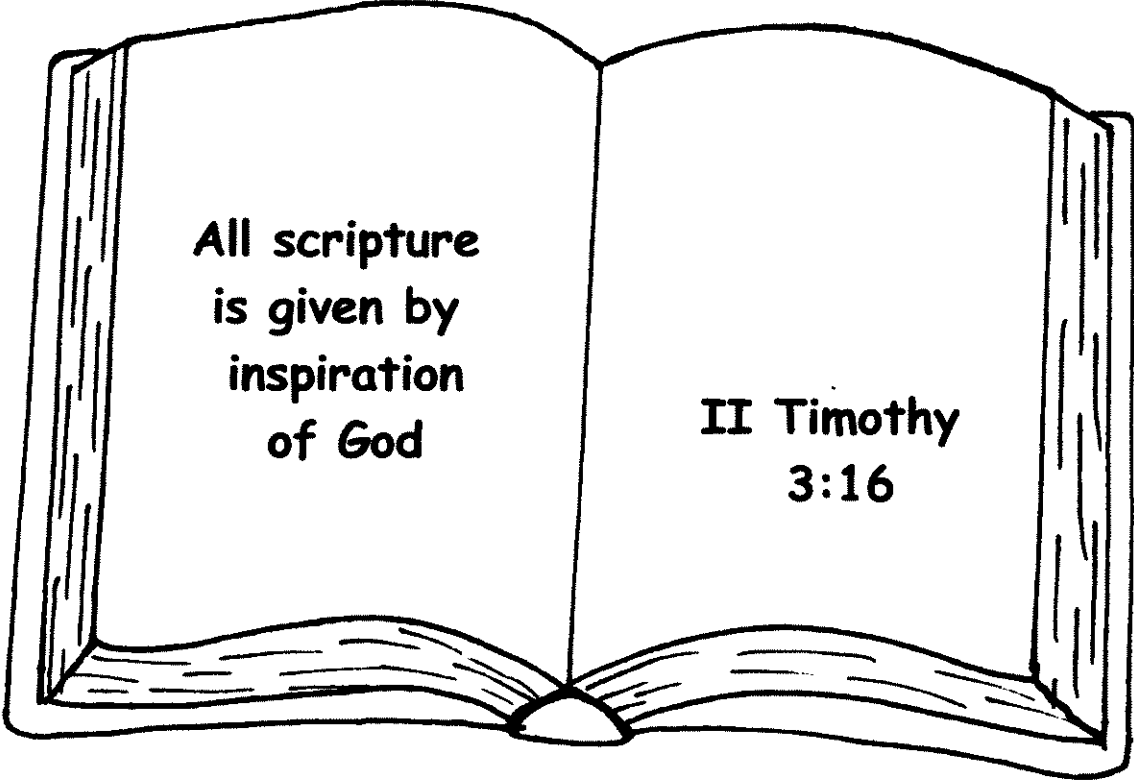
The Bible is the most important book in the world. It should be read more than any other book. We please God when we study His word. God is pleased when you come to church to learn about Him. The Bible tells us about mothers and fathers who loved God and took their children to God's house to worship Him. It tells us about children who were anxious to see Jesus and talk to him. It tells us about children who learned the word of God when they were young. When they grew up they knew how to serve God and how to worship God.

You can know more about God than the people who lived during the Old Testament times, because you have all of His Word in a book that you can read and study. You must decide now to always study the Bible and learn what it teaches.



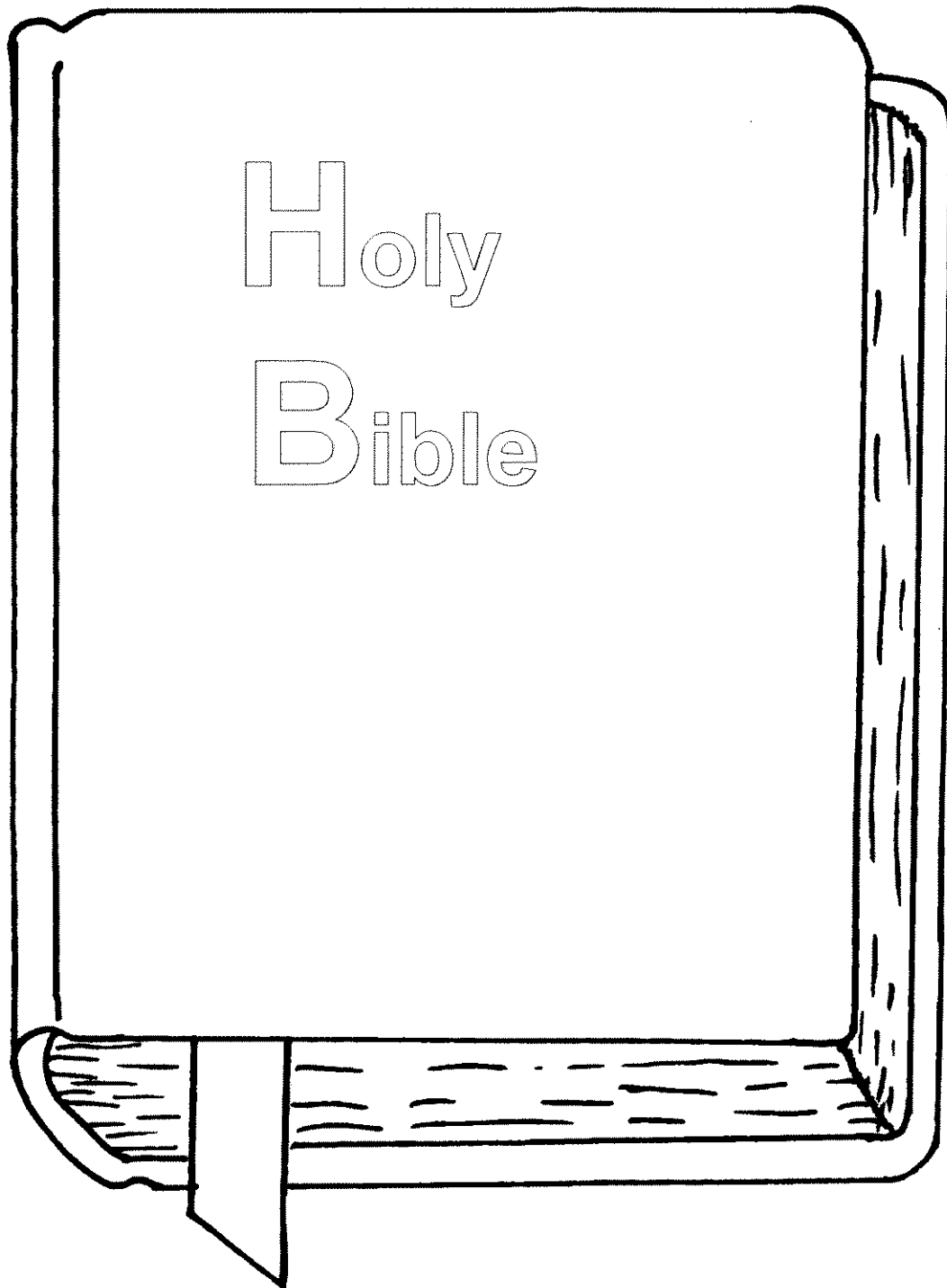
All scripture
is given by
inspiration
of God

II Timothy
3:16



All scripture
is given by
inspiration
of God

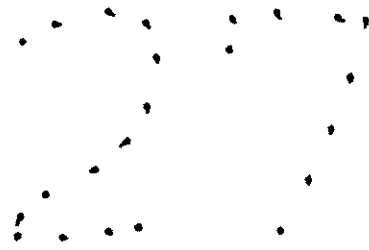
II Timothy
3:16



Connect the dots



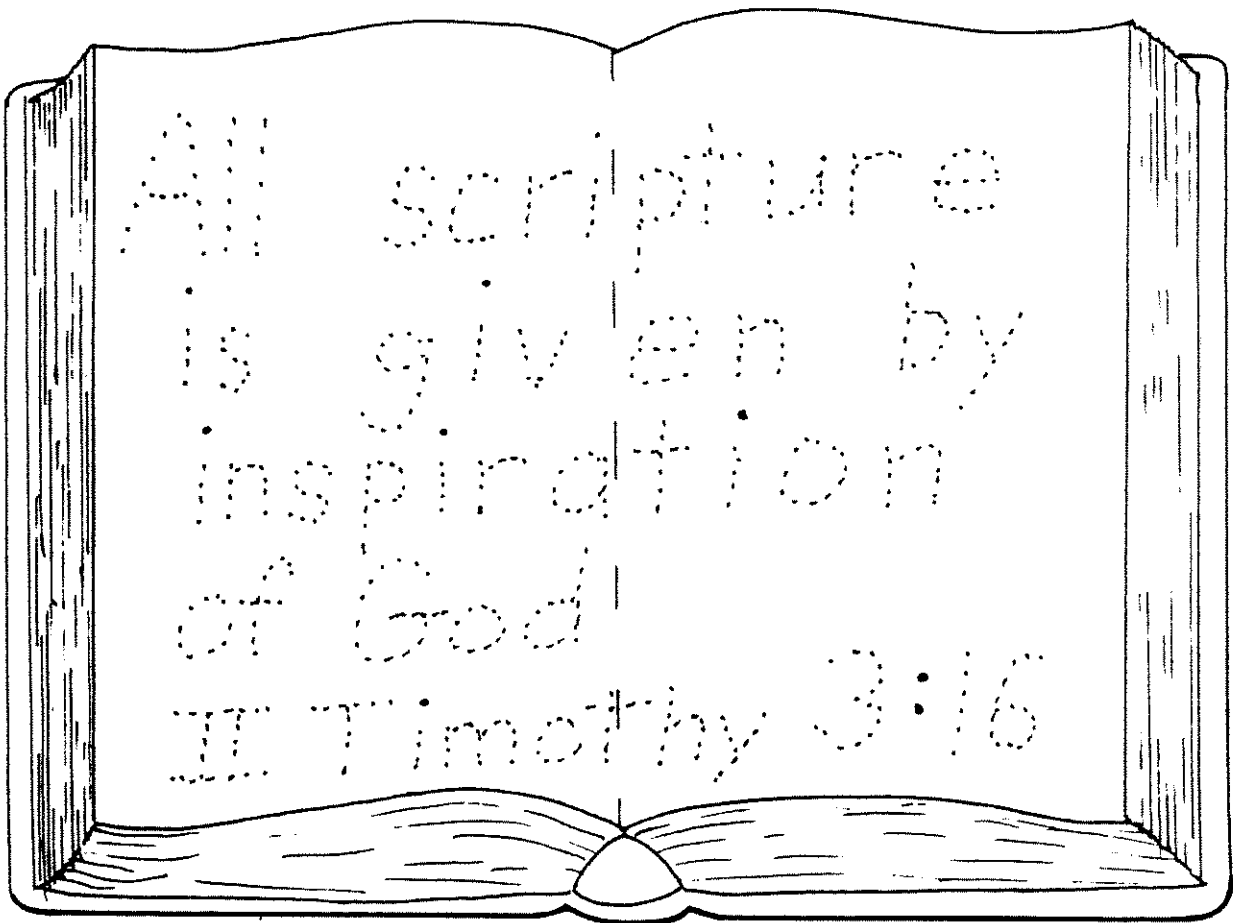
books

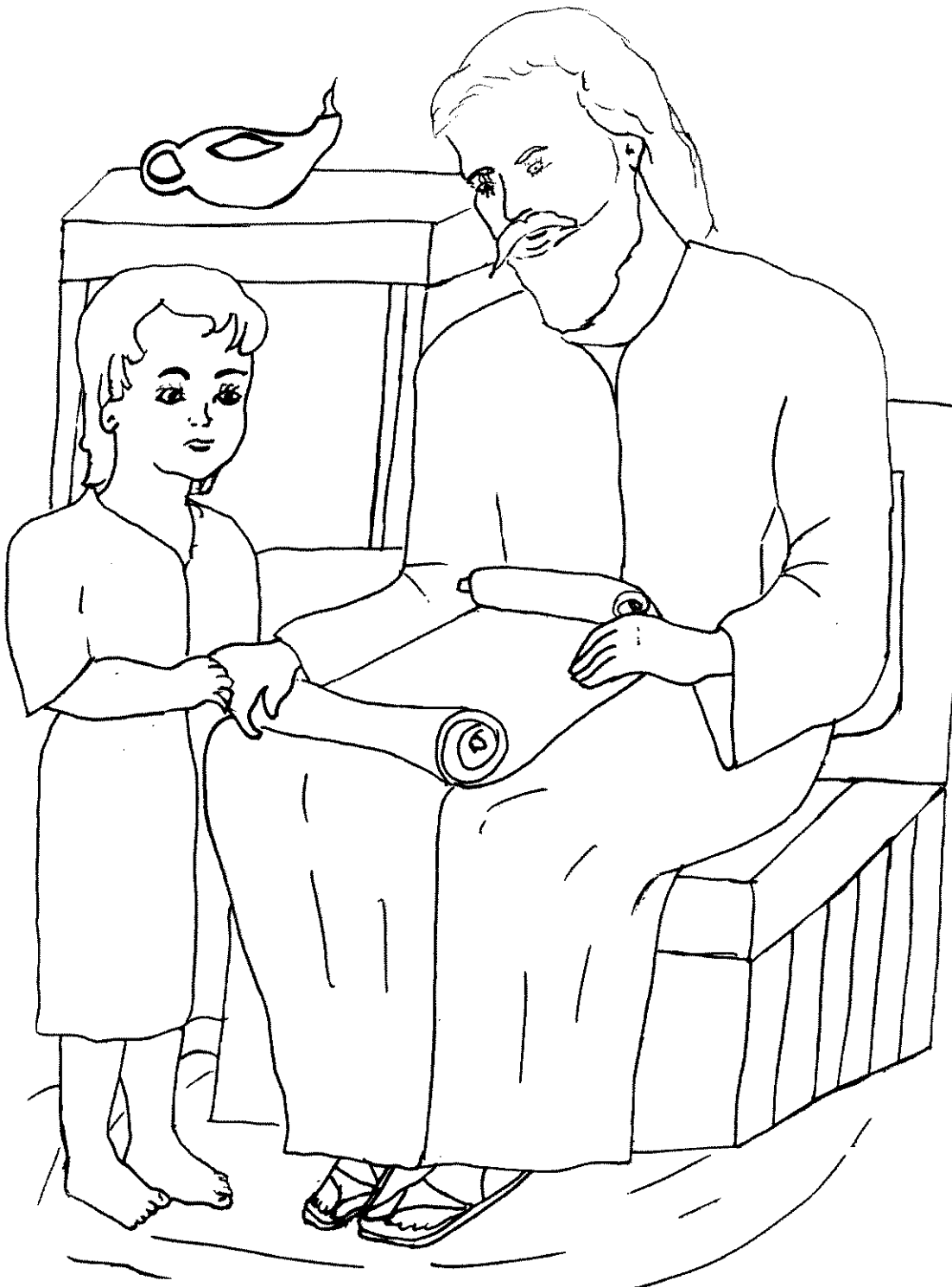


books

Old Testament

New Testament





Many years ago God's Word was written on scrolls.
They told of the prophecies that Jesus would come.



Today we have the complete Word of God - - - the Bible.
It tells us that Jesus did come into the world to live.

↙ Glue straw here ↘

As the people read
from the scrolls,
they unrolled from
one side and rolled
it up on the other.

The Word of God
was written on
scrolls.

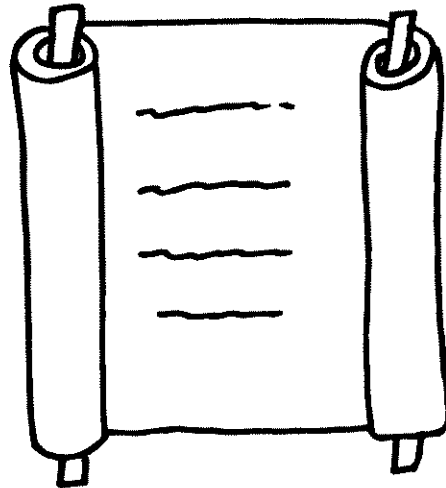
↙ Glue straw here ↘

Cut paper strip for scroll.

Cut paper straws in half or into 4 inch pieces.

Glue one straw to each end.

Roll up from both ends.



For larger scrolls, cut strips of construction paper or printing paper, and glue unsharpened pencils or dowel sticks to each end.

(Do not use sharpened ends for small children.)

Lesson 2: WHAT IS THE OLD TESTAMENT?

Scripture: II Peter 1:21

Aim: To acquaint the child with the Bible as a truly special book, and instill in their minds a desire to learn from it and respect it even when they are young.

Memory Verse: II Peter 1:21

" - - - holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost. "

The Bible is divided into two parts: the **Old Testament**, or covenant, and the **New Testament**, or covenant. The **Bible** is God's Word - - - **all** of it. It was **inspired** by God and written by men. That means that God caused men to know exactly what to write so they would not make any mistakes. About forty different men wrote the Bible. It was not written all at one time. It took about sixteen hundred years. Yet everything written during the last sixty years agrees with what was written by men who lived hundreds of years before. The Old Testament has **39 books** in it. They tell us the history of the first 4,000 years that man lived on the earth. The Old Testament was written in the **Hebrew** language because that is the language that the people spoke. Many, many years after the Old Testament was written, some men who knew the Hebrew language transcribed the Bible into the English language so we can read it today.

The Beginning

The Old Testament tells us about things that happened a long, long, long time ago. The book of **Genesis** is the first book in the Bible. It tells us about the **beginning** of everything. The word genesis means beginning. It tells us about the beginning of the earth. The beginning of day and night. It tells us where the sun came from, and why there are stars and a moon up in the sky at night. It tells us about the first plants and the first animals. It tells us about the first time it rained. It tells us about the first sin, and what God did to forgive that sin. It tells us of the first promise that Jesus would come into the world to live. It tells us how the first people worshiped God.

The book of Genesis tells us about the **first man and woman** that God made. They were called **Adam and Eve**. When God first created man, He taught him how to worship. Adam and Eve sinned; they disobeyed God. Because of their sin, they would someday die. After they died they could not go to be with God in eternity without a Savior. God promised them He would send His Son to die on the cross and pay the price for their sins. To teach them about Jesus, He told them to offer animal sacrifices on an altar. For many, many years this is how the people worshiped God. The **fathers** were the **priests** for their families. They built an **altar** out of rocks stacked up on top of each other. They placed sticks of wood on top of the rocks. Then they placed an **animal** on the wood and burned it as a **sacrifice** to God. When the animal was killed, this taught the people that Jesus would have to die for their sins, as the animal had died in order to be offered as the sacrifice. The blood of the animal did not forgive their sins, but it showed that they had faith in the blood of Jesus that would forgive their sins.

For many years the people did not have a Bible, but God spoke out from heaven and told them what He wanted them to do. When he made Adam and Eve, He came every day to the Garden of Eden where they lived, and talked with them. Later when there were many, many more people living on the earth, He sent angels to tell them what He wanted them to know. Later He chose men to be prophets, and He told the prophets what to tell the people.

Ways of Worship

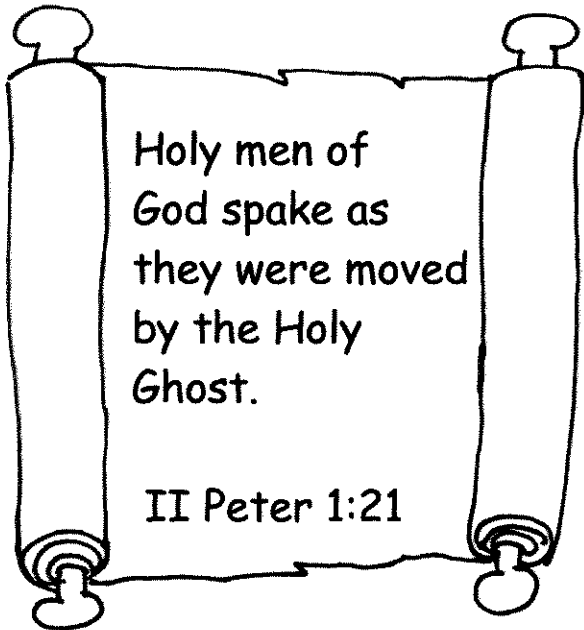
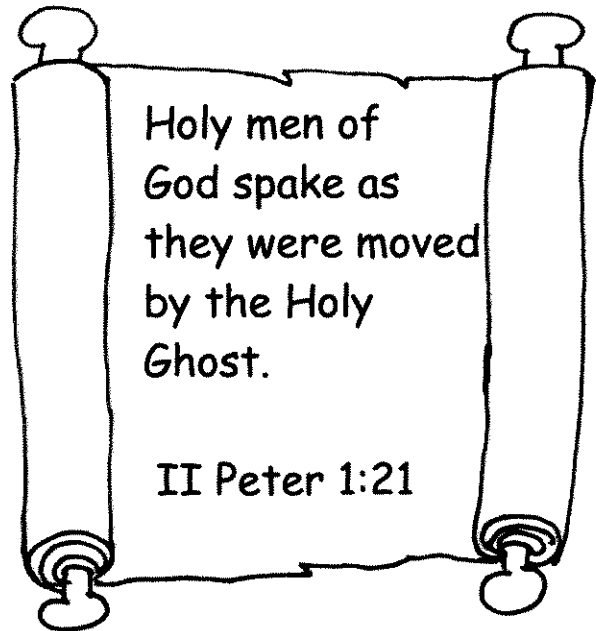
God told Adam how to offer the sacrifices for his family. He taught his sons how to offer sacrifices for their families. After many years the people neglected to worship God at the altar, so God used one man to start a new nation of people that He could teach how to worship Him. This was the nation of Israel. God told them to build a **tabernacle**. They were to come to the tabernacle to offer their sacrifices and ask for God's forgiveness. There were men called **priests** who served God at the tabernacle. The people brought their animals to the priests to be killed and offered on the altar at the tabernacle. Many years later when **Solomon** was king of Israel, God allowed him to build a **temple**. The people still worshiped God by offering sacrifices. They brought their sacrifices to the temple and the priests at the temple offered them to God for the people.

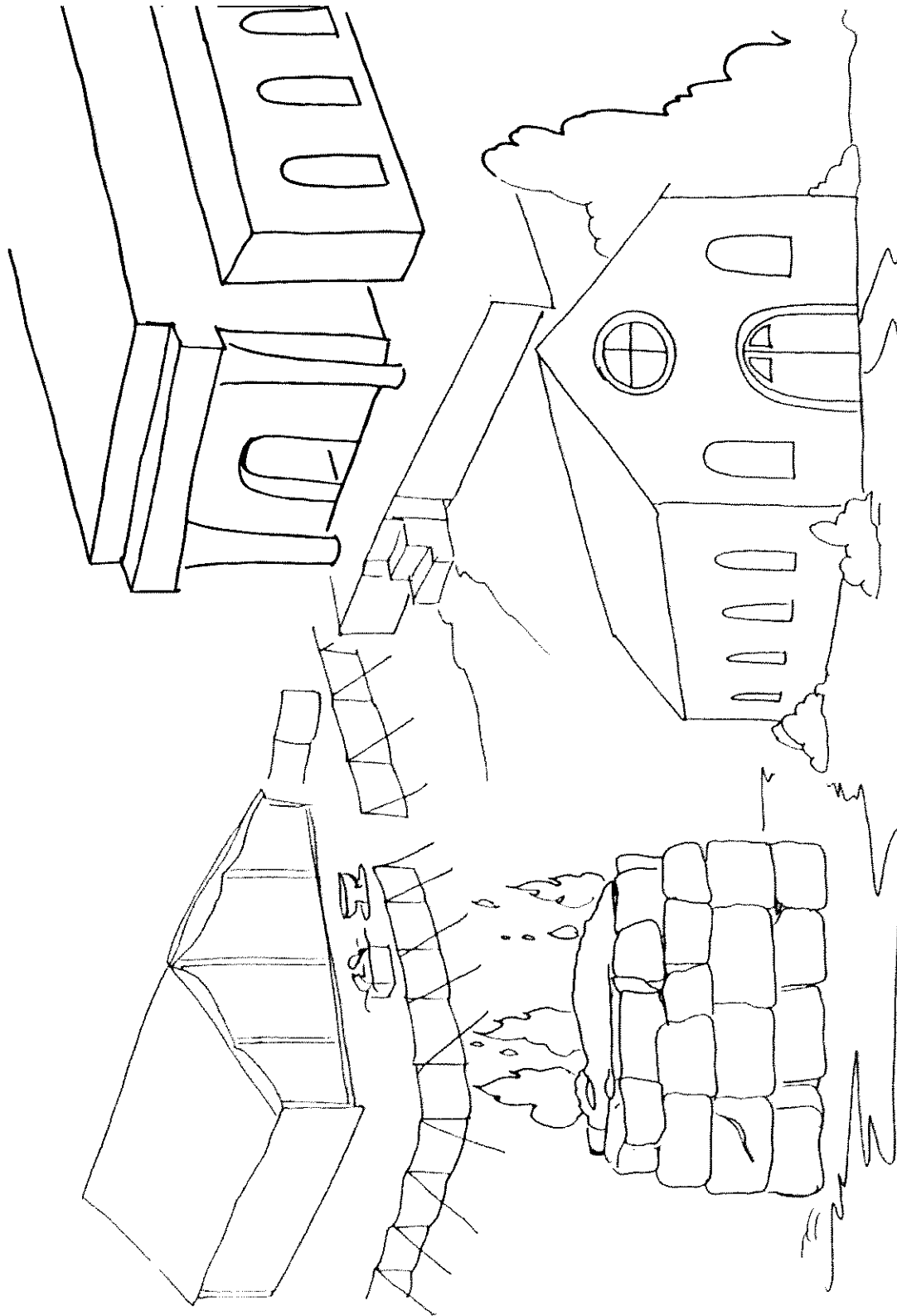
The people in the Old Testament worshiped God differently than we do. They believed in Jesus to forgive their sins just as we believe in Jesus to forgive our sins, but their worship services were different. They **first** worshiped at the **stone altars**, then the **tabernacle**, and then at the **temple**. All of this taught them the same thing --- that Jesus would come into the world to live and die for their sins. The animals pictured the sacrifice that Jesus would make on the cross. We do not offer sacrifices today. God kept His promise, and Jesus came into the world and lived as a man so he could die for our sins. We don't need sacrifices to teach us, because we have the Bible to tell us that Jesus did come and has already died for our sins.

The Church

When **Jesus** lived on the earth, He started His church. The people in the first church taught their children and their friends the truth about God. For 2,000 years, people have been teaching others the truth in order to keep the church alive. As older people die, the younger people grow up, and they keep the church going. It is important for you to learn the truth so you can help keep God's church alive when you grow up. There are many groups of people who call themselves churches that do not teach the **truth** as it is written in the Bible. They teach what they want to believe about the Bible. We need to learn what the Bible really says so that we can always teach the truth. God gave us the truth when he directed the minds of men who wrote the Bible so that they wrote down exactly what He wanted them to write.

Our picture today shows us the three ways that the people worshiped in the Old Testament, and how we worship today.





Draw a red circle around the altar. Draw a blue circle around the tabernacle. Draw a green circle around the temple. Draw an orange circle around the church. Color the picture.

WHAT IS THE OLD TESTAMENT

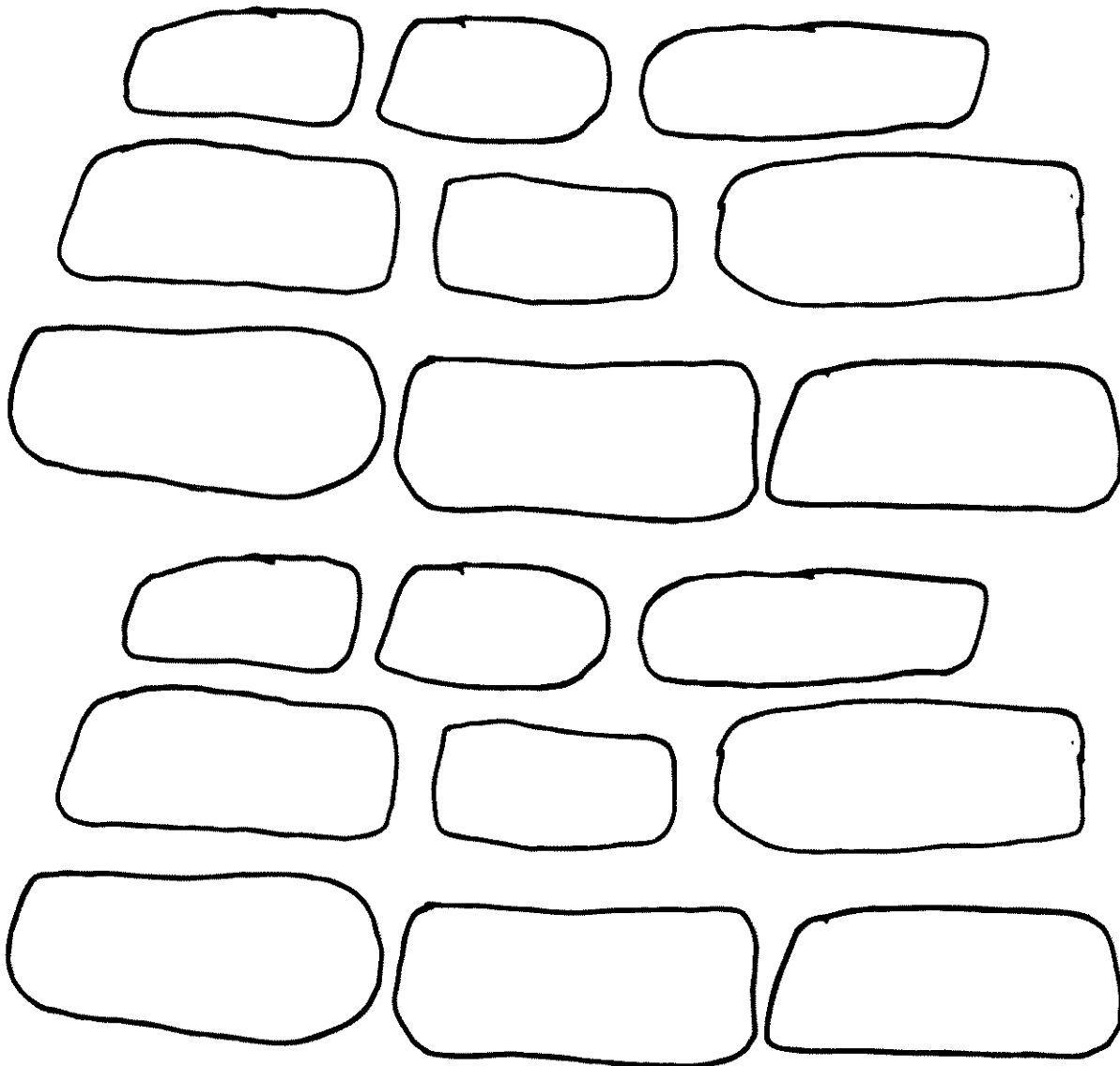
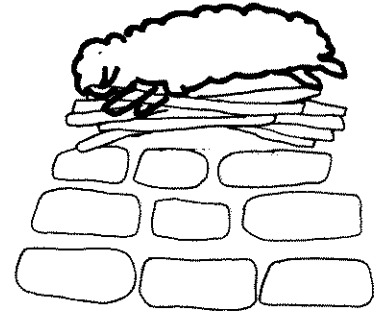
Worksheet 3

Make one set of stones for each student to cut out, stack, and build an altar.

Place sticks on the stones.

Place sheep on the sticks.

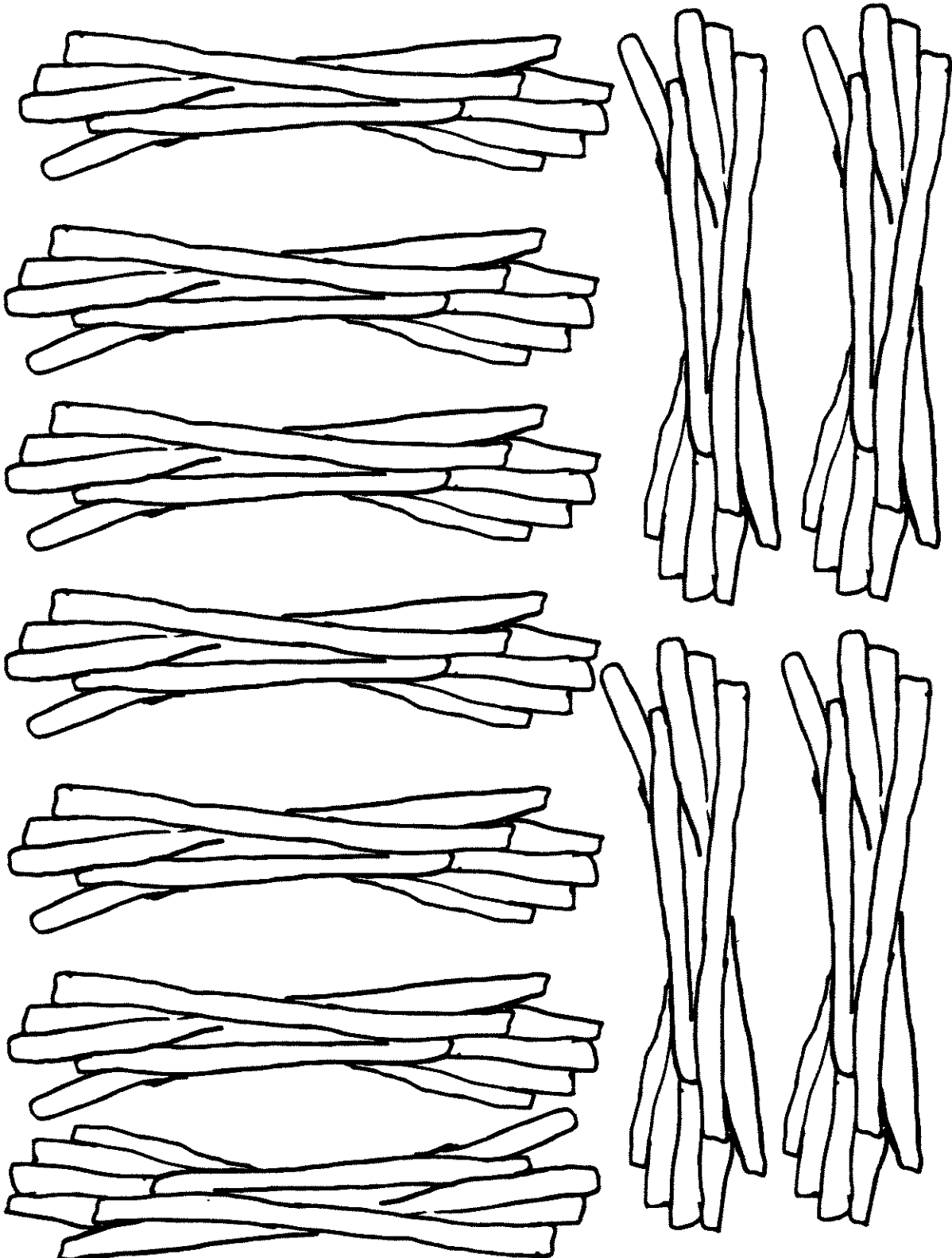
Add orange scraps of paper for fire, or draw flames.

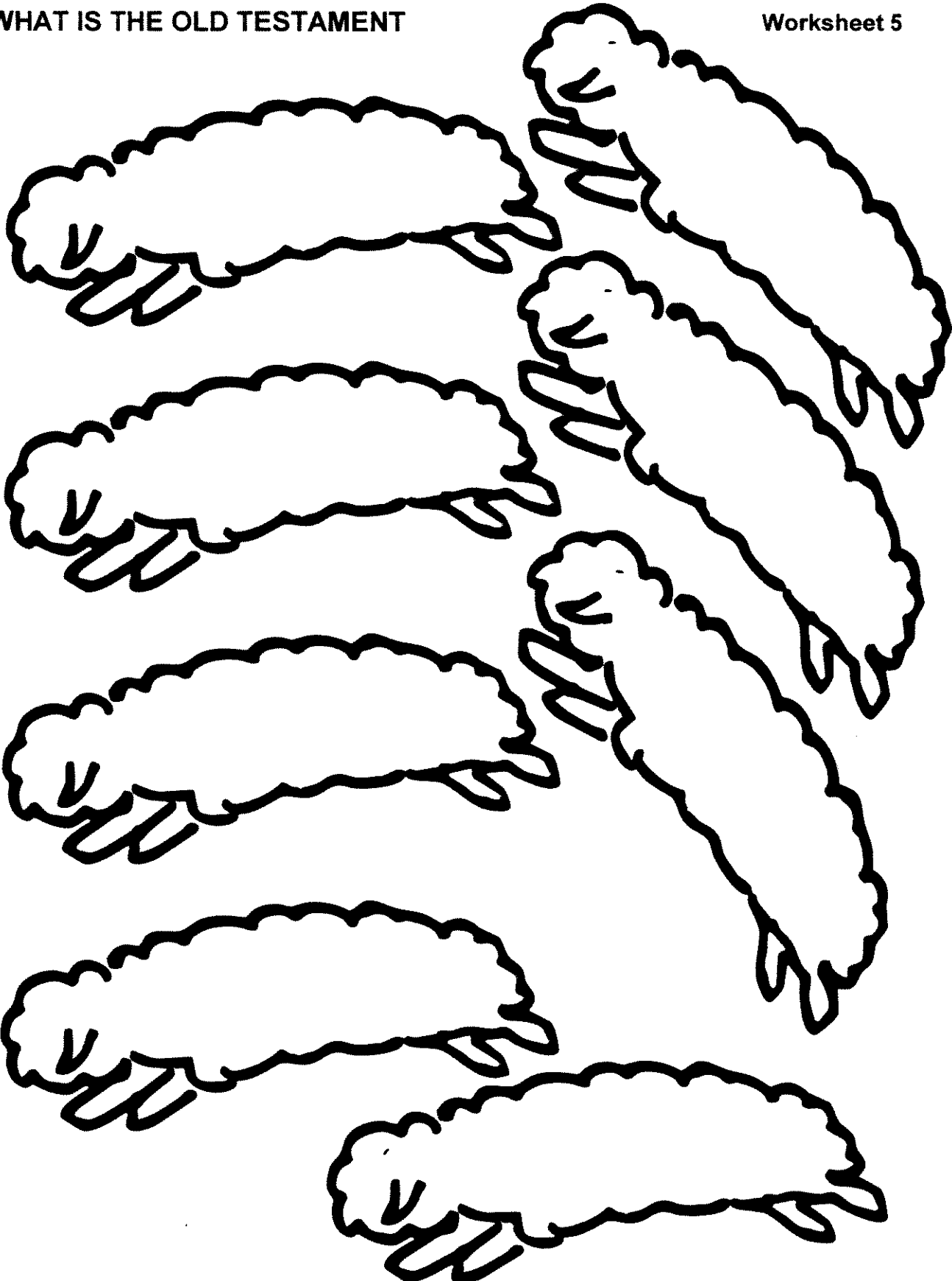


WHAT IS THE OLD TESTAMENT

Worksheet 4

Cut one bundle of sticks from brown construction paper for each altar.

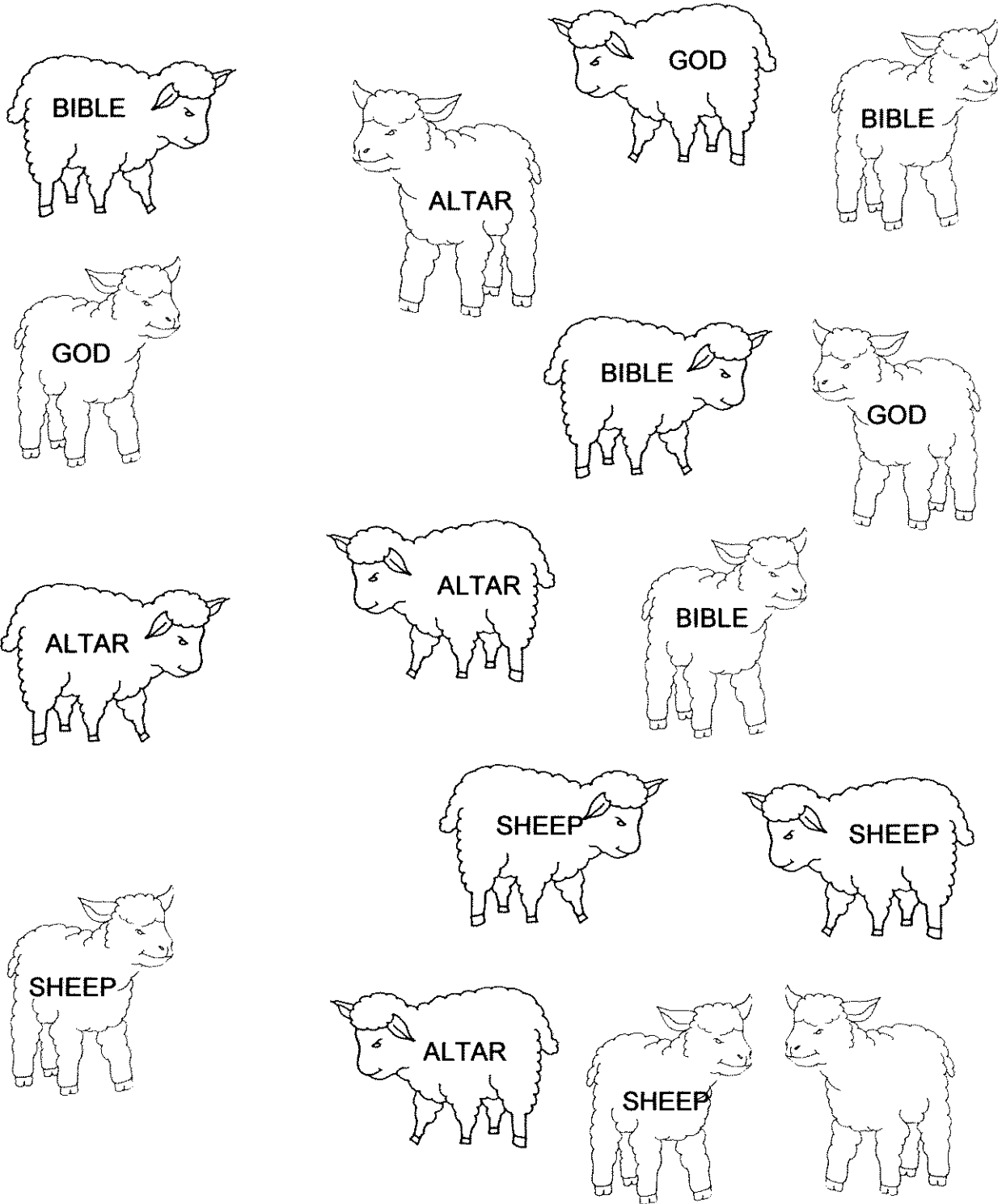




WHAT IS THE OLD TESTAMENT

Kindergarten Worksheet 6

Draw a line from each of these sheep to another sheep with the same word.





Old Testament fathers read to their children from a scroll.

Lesson 3: WHAT IS THE NEW TESTAMENT?

Scripture: II Timothy 3:16-17 John 20:31 21:25

Aim: To impress upon the child the importance of learning and obey the teachings of the New Testament.

Memory Verse: John 20:31

*"But these are written that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, -
- -"*

The **New Testament** is the part of the Bible that tells us the most about **Jesus**. The Old Testament tells about people who lived a long, long time ago, and how they worshiped God. They offered sacrifices to show that they had faith in God to send His Son into the world to pay the price for our sins. We don't offer sacrifices today, because the New Testament teaches us that Jesus has already come into the world. It teaches us that He died on the cross to pay the price for sin, so we don't need sacrifices anymore.

The New Testament tells us about the life of Jesus. He was God's Son. He was perfect. That means He never did anything wrong. He never did one sin. We sin. We do wrong because it is our nature to do wrong. We need someone to forgive us of our sins. We need a Savior. Because He did not ever do anything wrong, He can be our Savior. We need the Bible to teach us about Jesus.

Over-all View

The New Testament does not have as many books as the Old Testament. It only has **27 books**. These books were written in the **Greek** language, because that is the language the people spoke where Jesus lived when he was on the earth. These books were written by **8** different men, but they all tell the same true story. This is because God caused them to know what to write so that there would not be any errors in the Bible. It is the word of God, and it is all true.

The Gospels

Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John are the **first four** books of the New Testament. We call them the gospels because they tell us about the birth, the life, and the death of Jesus. These books were written by **Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John**. They all four wrote about the life of Jesus. He was God's Son. His mother was named Mary. When Jesus grew up to be a man, He told people about his father, God. He taught them to trust in Him for forgiveness of their sins. The first four books of the New Testament tell us the things Jesus did and what He taught the people that is important for us to know. Sometimes He taught the people in the synagogue (like when we go to church). Sometimes He went into their homes to teach them. He always taught them the truth about God, and we have it all written down in our Bible. He did many miracles to prove that He was God's Son, and had the power of God. He taught the people about God's love. He taught them to love each

other. The gospels tell us how He died on the cross for our sins, and how He came back to life again. He went back to heaven where He lives today. The gospels teach us that we can go to heaven to live with Him someday.

History Of the Church

The book of **Acts** teaches us about the **church**. Jesus started the church when He lived on the earth. When people accepted him as their Savior, John the Baptist baptized them. Then Jesus started the church with those people whom John had baptized. There has been a church in the world ever since Jesus started the first church. The Bible tells us how we should act as a church.

Epistles, or Letters

Many of the books in the New Testament were **letters** that the apostle **Paul** wrote to churches telling them what they should believe. Jesus started the first church while He was on the earth. After He was crucified and went back to heaven, the church remained in Jerusalem. As people moved away from Jerusalem, there were other churches started where they moved to. People in other cities heard about the gospel and sent for the apostles to come and teach them, so more churches were started. The apostle Paul went to many towns where there was not a church. He preached to the people, and when they believed in Jesus and were baptized, he organized more churches. He could not be at all of these churches to teach them all of the time, so he wrote letters to them telling them what they should do. We have these letters in our Bible to tell us what to do.

Prophecy

The **last** book in the Bible is the book of **Revelation**, the revealing of things to happen. It tells us things that will happen some day, that only God would know. When John was a very old man, God showed him a vision of many things, and told him to write them down in a book. The things John saw happen are written down in the book of Revelation.

All the things that Jesus did when He lived on the earth are not written down in the Bible. When the people saw Jesus do miracles, they believed that He really was the Son of God. We have the miracles written down in the Bible so that we will know that He really is the Son of God. John said if everything He did had been written down, there would have been so many books the world would not be big enough to hold them all. But we have enough written to teach us all we need to know about Jesus, and about the love of God.

The Bible is God's Word, and we must read it and study it if we are to know about God.

Copy and trim edges. Fold two times so verses are in the middle.

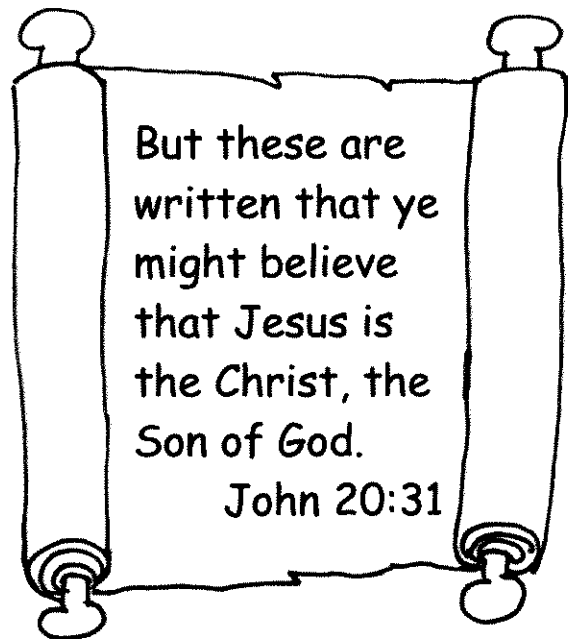
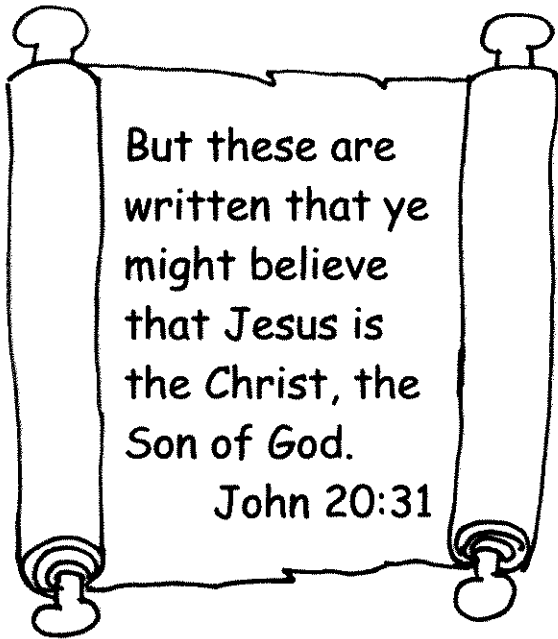
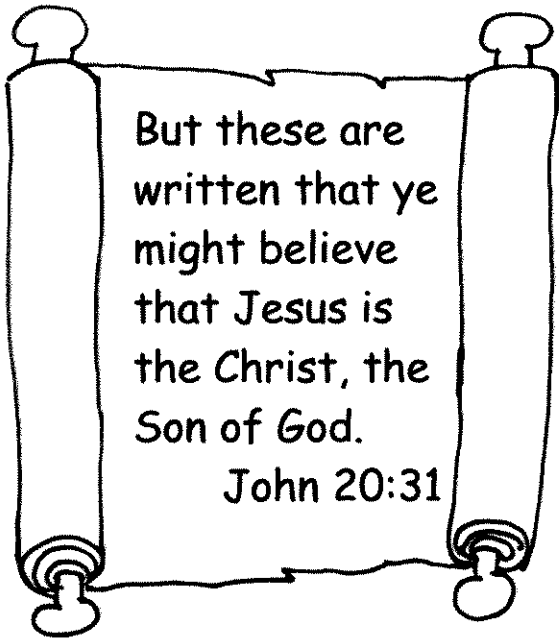
BIBLE
HOLY

All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

II Timothy 3:16-17

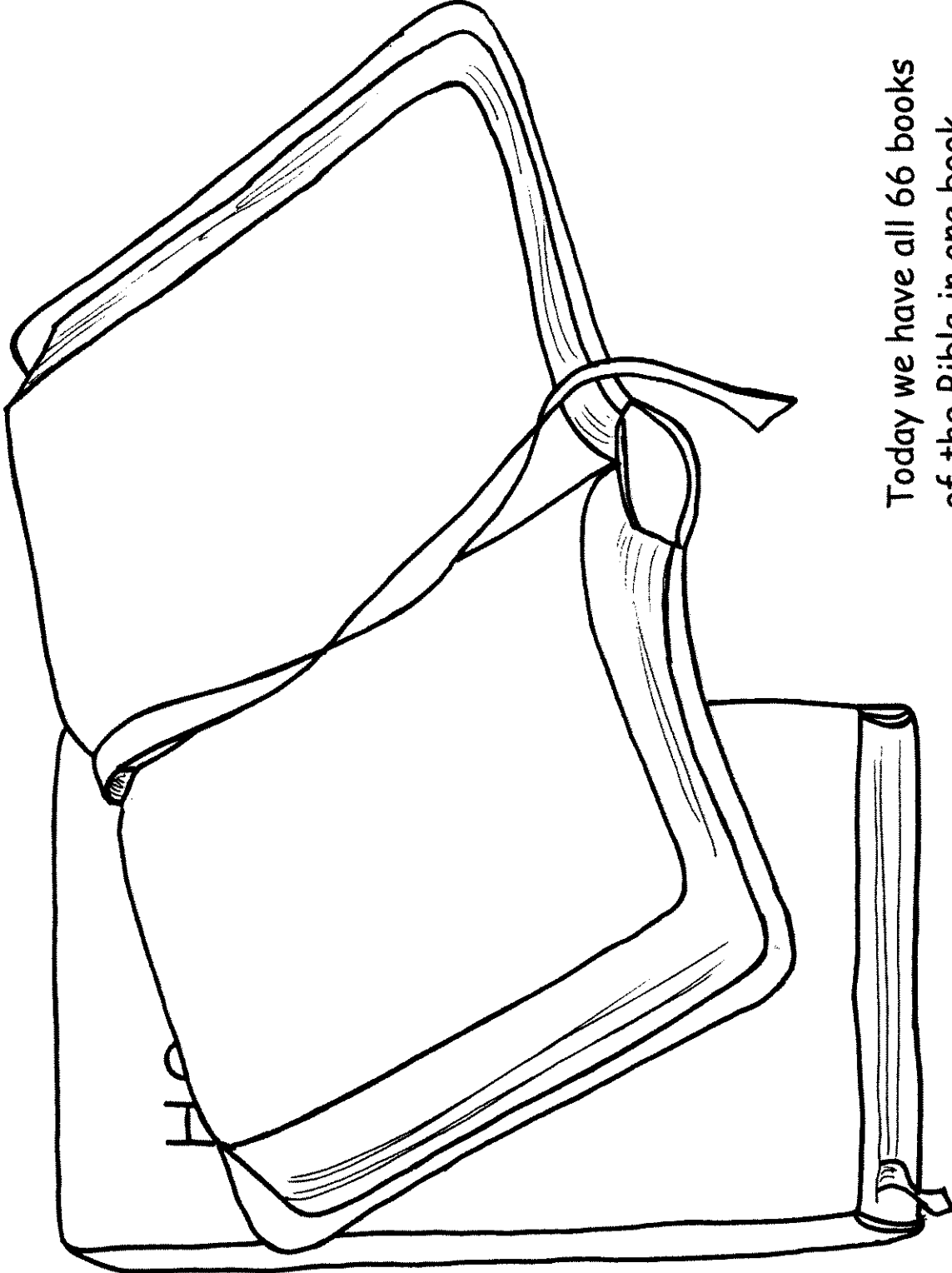
But these are written that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name.

John 20:31





Long, long ago the Bible was written on scrolls. They were copied by the scribes, and kept in the temple and the synagogues.



Today we have all 66 books
of the Bible in one book.

WHAT IS THE NEW TESTAMENT

Kindergarten Worksheet 5

Circle the words in the Word Search.

BIBLE

B I B L E C H O

LOVE

A D L E C L C D

GOD

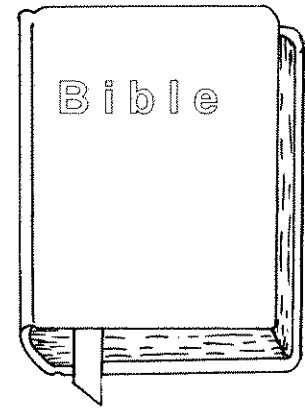
L O V E B G O D

CHURCH

C H U R C H S S

BOOKS

D R O B O O K S



Color the letters in the words below:

B I B L E

L O V E

G O D

C H U R C H

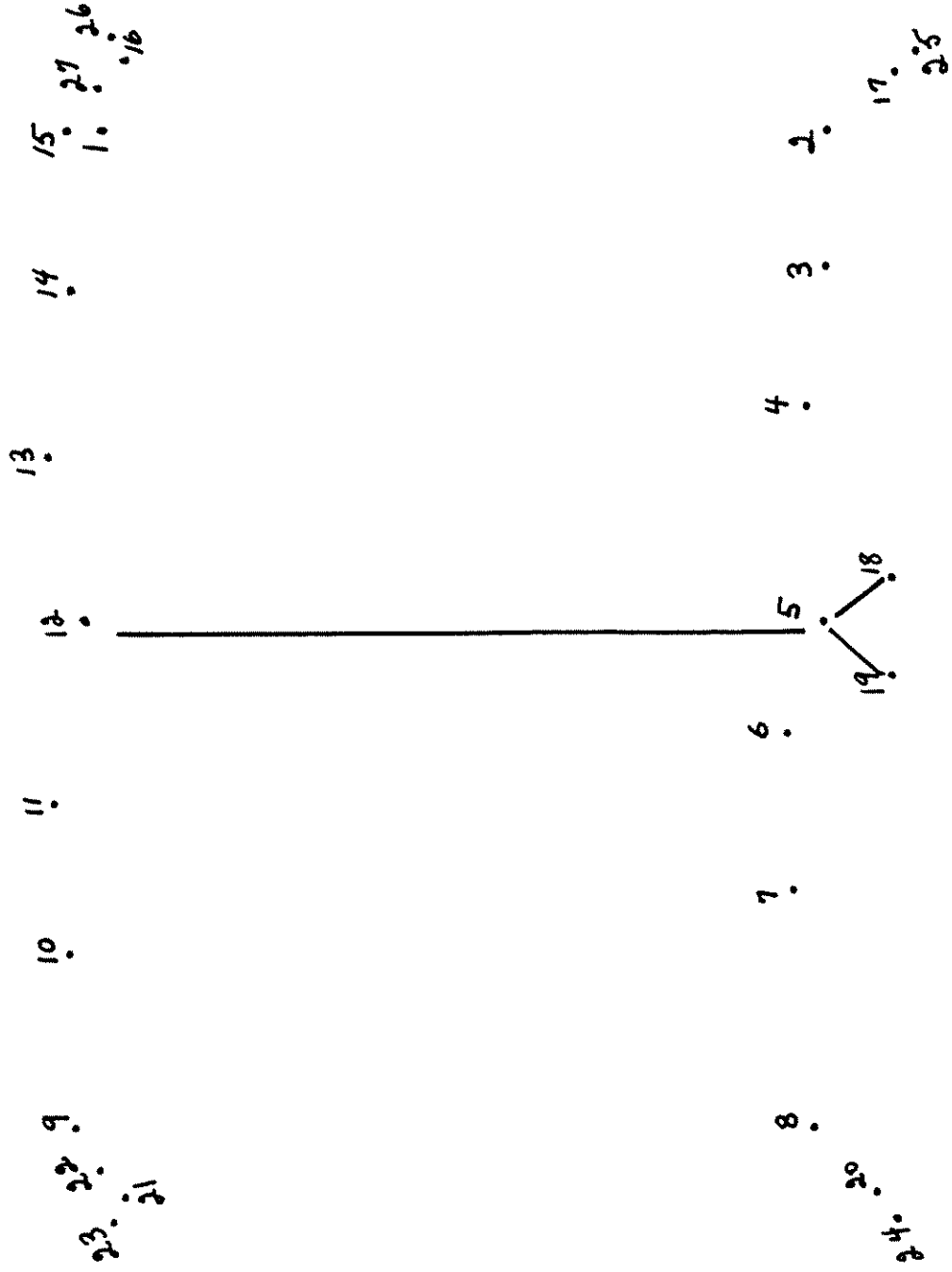
6 6

B O O K S

WHAT IS THE NEW TESTAMENT

Kindergarten Worksheet 6

Connect the dots



Lesson 4: WHAT IS THE CHURCH?

Scriptures: Matthew 4:18-22, 10:2-4, 28:18-20 Acts 1:15, 2:1-4, 41, 47 Hebrews 10:25

Aim: To teach the child that there is a difference between churches. Every group that claims to be a church is not the true church.

Memory Verse: Ephesians 3:21

"Unto Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end."

The first four books of the New Testament tell us about the coming of Jesus into the world. The next book, the book of Acts, tells us about the **church** that **Jesus** started while He was in the world. The Jewish people went to the temple and offered sacrifices when they worshiped. This taught them about the sacrifice Jesus would make when He came. When Jesus died on the cross, He did away with sacrifices. We do not offer sacrifices today because He has already been sacrificed for our sins. When we come to church today, we sing songs of praise to Him. We pray, and we read His word, the Bible. We listen to His word taught, and we listen to a sermon from the word of God by our pastor.

What Is A Church

The church is made up of **people**. It is not the building where the people meet. It church is the people who meet in the church building. They are people who have been **forgiven** of their sins, been **baptized**, and agreed to work together to be a church and **obey** the commands of God. First the people are saved by the blood of Jesus that was shed to pay the price for sin. After the people are saved, they are baptized by being immersed under the water to show the burial of Jesus, and raised up to show His resurrection. After they are baptized, they become members of the Lord's church.

Why do we have a church today? Why do we go to church on Sunday to worship God? Because Jesus started the church when He was on the earth, and we are commanded to faithfully keep the church in existence. **Hebrews 10:25**, "*Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together.*"

The Beginning Of the Church

God sent a man named **John** to **baptize** the people who believed that Jesus was the Messiah, or the Son of God that God had promised to send into the world to be our Savior. Jesus was baptized by John to show that He would die, be buried, and rise again from the grave. When a person is baptized today, they are buried beneath the water and raised up to show the burial and the resurrection of Jesus. After we have faith in Jesus' blood to forgive our sins, we are baptized, buried beneath the water as Jesus was buried, and raised up to walk a new life, a godly life. Then we become a member of the Lord's church. Jesus took the people who were baptized by John and started the first church. John was called 'John the Baptist' because he baptized. We call our church a Baptist

Church because we believe what the Bible teaches about baptism. We believe it is like John baptized, by placing people under the water to show a picture of the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus.

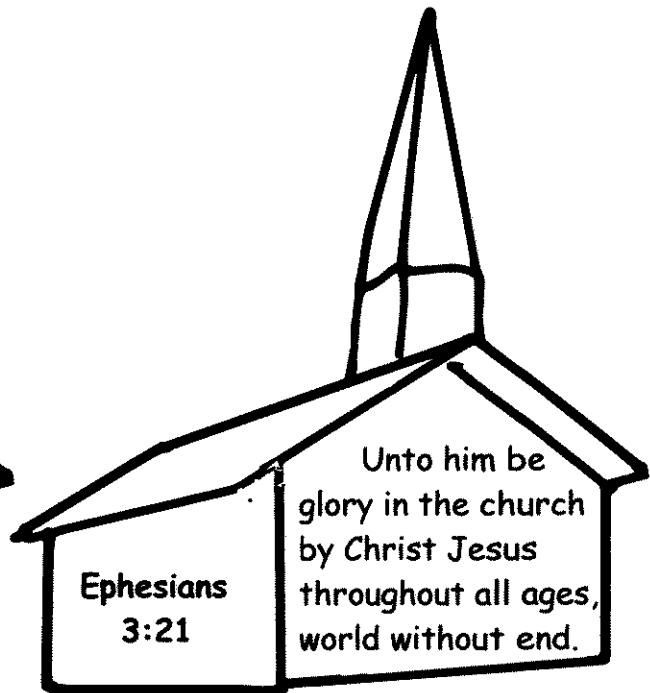
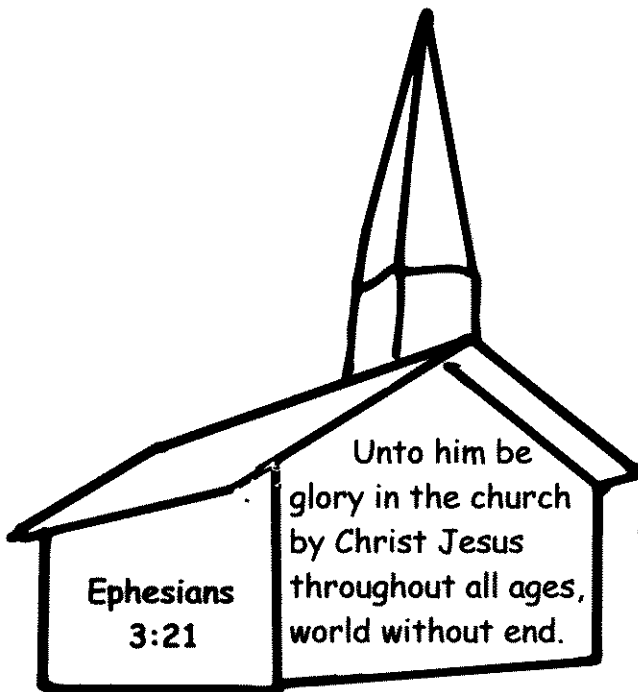
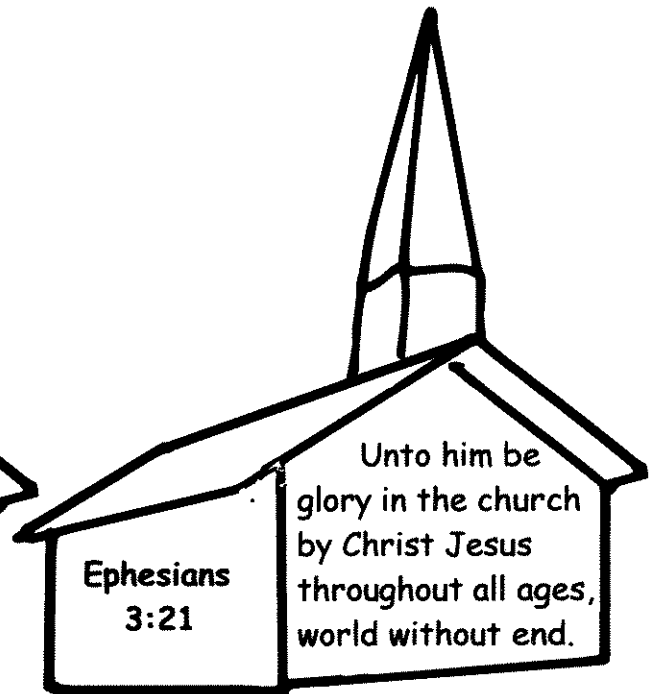
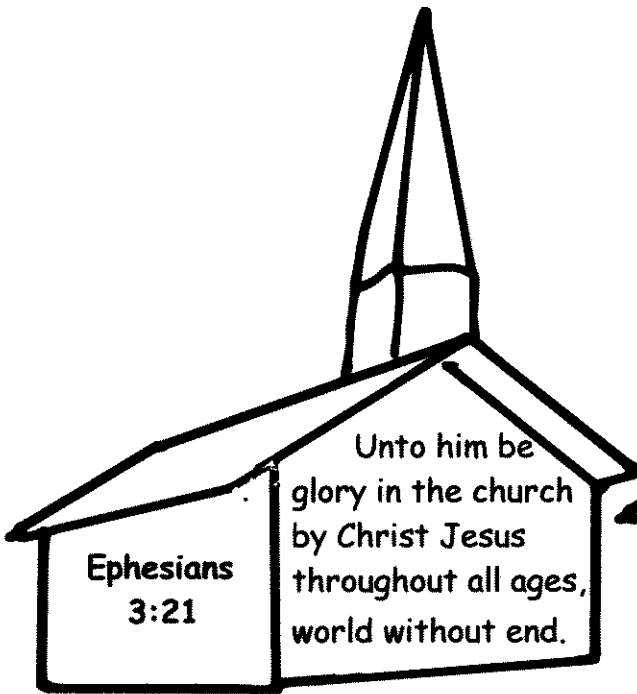
The First Church

The first church did not have a building like we have today. Jesus went to the temple to observe the sacrifices and the feasts that were required by the law. After the crucifixion of Jesus, the Jews continued to go to the temple to pray and to teach, but they no longer offered sacrifices. They continued to go to the synagogues in all the towns where they traveled with Jesus. After Jesus was crucified, the apostles taught and preached in the synagogues and in the temple, but the church did not meet there. The church met in homes, or by the seashore, or wherever they all got together. The building is not the church. It is only the house where the church meets. The church is the people who meet at the church house.

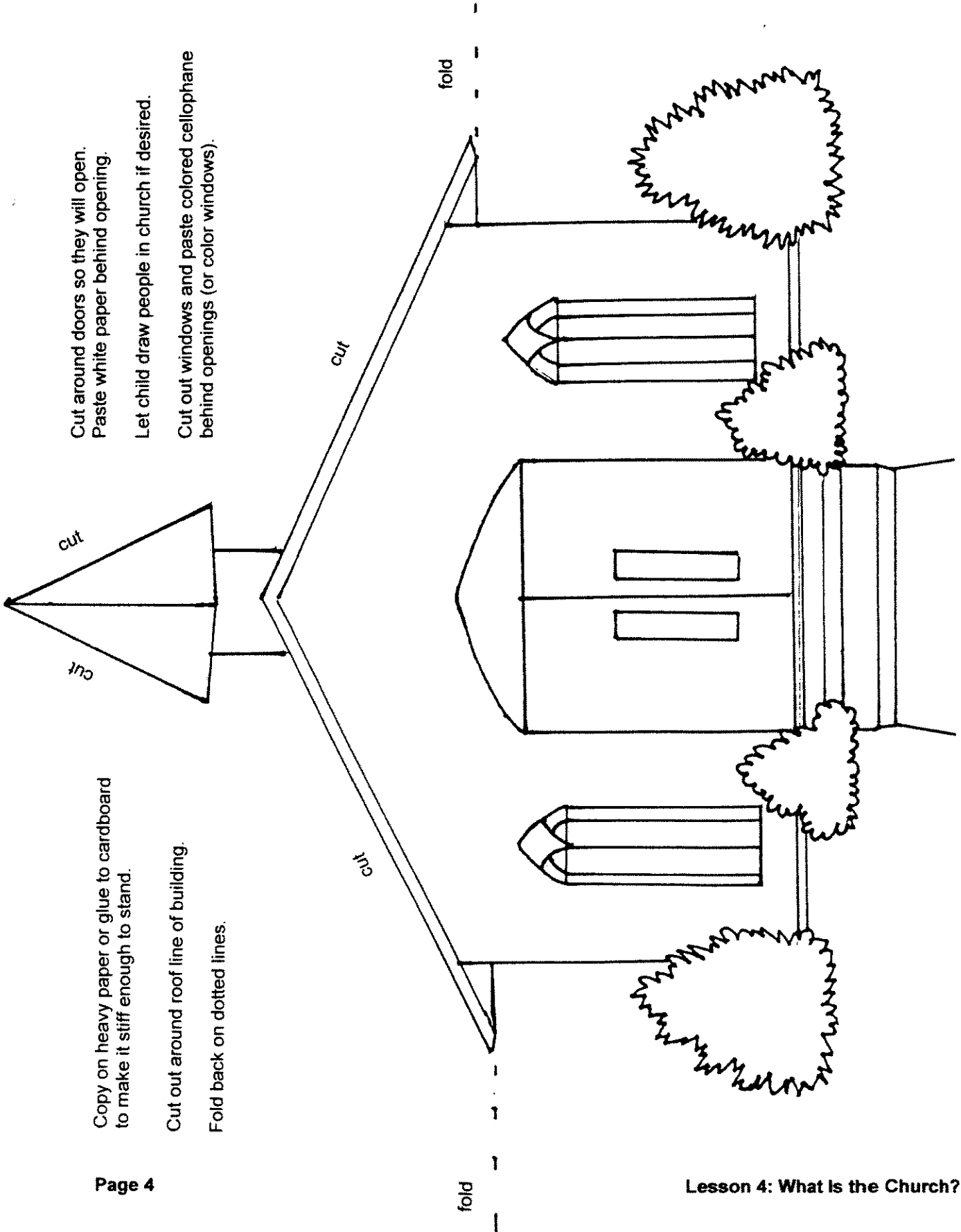
The first church had about **120** members. **Acts 1:15** says, "*the number and names together were about an hundred and twenty*". Before Jesus went back to heaven, He told the church to stay in **Jerusalem** until the Holy Spirit came to dwell with them and guide them. On the day of **Pentecost**, the time when the **Holy Spirit** came to dwell in the church, **Peter** preached a great sermon. People from many different nations were in Jerusalem that day, and heard the message that Peter preached and understood it in their own language. The Holy Spirit gave the church the power to speak languages they had not studied. When the people heard the message of Jesus, and believed what Peter preached, they were baptized. There were about **3,000** members **added** to the church that day.

The early church did not just meet on Sunday. They must have met every day of the week. The Bible says God **added** to the church **daily** those that believed. The Jews worshiped on Saturday, the seventh day of the week because that is what God commanded them to do. God created the earth in six days, and on the seventh day He rested. He told the nation of Israel to do their work in six days, and the seventh day would be a day of rest and worship. The command to worship on the **Sabbath** (Saturday) was done away with when Jesus was crucified. We worship on **Sunday** because that is the first day of the week, and Jesus arose from the grave on the first day of the week. We believe the early church met on the first day of the week. We believe the apostle Paul taught the church to worship on the first day of the week.

God promised that there would always be a true church in the world. Jesus told the church to preach the gospel to all nations, baptize them, and teach them the things of God. He promised, "*I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world*". It is important that we come to church and learn the truth so that we can help keep the true church alive for our children. God wants us to come to church, and sing songs of praise to Him. He wants us to read His Word, and study, and pray. Jesus loved the church so much that He died for it. He is pleased when He sees a church that is teaching and preaching the truth. Some day He will reward us for being faithful to Him.



WHAT IS THE CHURCH



Cut around doors so they will open.
Paste white paper behind opening.

Let child draw people in church if desired.

Cut out windows and paste colored cellophane behind openings (or color windows).

Copy on heavy paper or glue to cardboard to make it stiff enough to stand.

Cut out around roof line of building.

Fold back on dotted lines.

Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Ephesians 3:21

The early church did not have a building. They met in the homes of the people, or by the seashore, anywhere that they could assemble together.



WHAT IS THE CHURCH

Worksheet 4

If desired, color church before assembling.

If you want doors to open, cut them before assembling church.

Color windows, or cut out and paste colored paper or cellophane on inside before assembling church.

1 Fold under and glue to opposite side.

5 Cut out steeple.

6 For ease in glueing, fold here first.

8 Then fold other two sides.

9 Cut slits in roof and glue ends of steeple to inside of roof toward front of building.

1

Copy on heavy paper.

Cut out church

Fold roof on dotted lines, and glue under opposite pieces.

4

glue

glue

Cut slits in roof toward front of building to insert steeple.

3

4

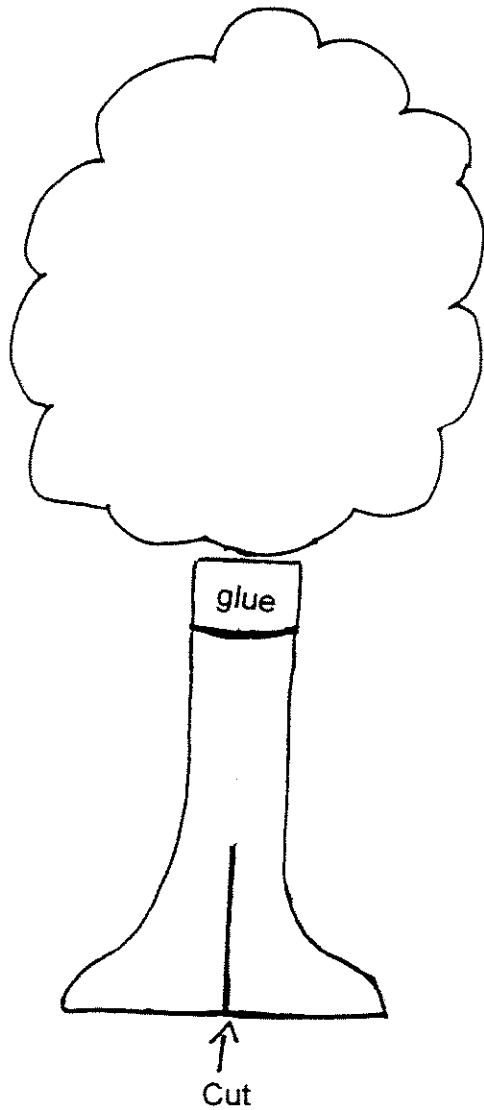
glue

glue

glue along peak of roof

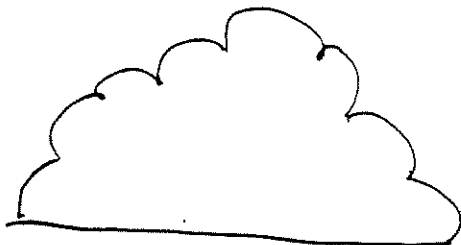
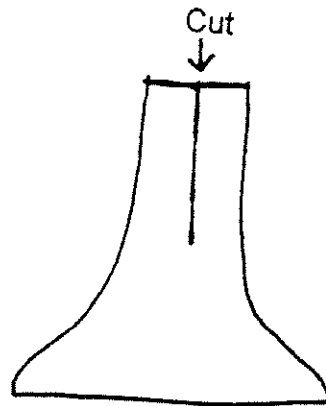
2

glue to side of church front



Cut tree trunks from brown and tops from green construction paper.

Cut on solid line of trunk and put together to make tree stand up.



Cut bushes from green.
Cut green strip, curve, fold in ends, and glue to back of bush to make stand.

WHAT IS THE CHURCH

Worksheet 6

The next 8 pages are patterns to make a large church house from heavyweight paper.

Patterns include church with pews, chenille wire people, trees and bushes.

You may want to make the small building for the day's project, and make a weekly project of the larger building. If you use the larger building for each child, do most of the cutting ahead of time rather than take up class time.

TO ASSEMBLE CHURCH

Copy all pieces on heavy paper, or copy and paste on cardboard before cutting out.

1. Cut out all pieces of church.
2. Cut out windows and doors before assembling.
3. Fold across top of one side piece on solid line. Cut slits in roof for steeple. Paste two side pieces together at the peak of roof. Fold on dotted lines.
4. Fold back tabs on sides of church front and back. Paste to inside on side pieces of church.
5. Fold under tabs at roof line and paste under roof.
6. Fold steeple on all solid lines. Bring edges together and paste tab under side to form steeple. Insert tabs through slits in roof to position steeple and paste to inside.

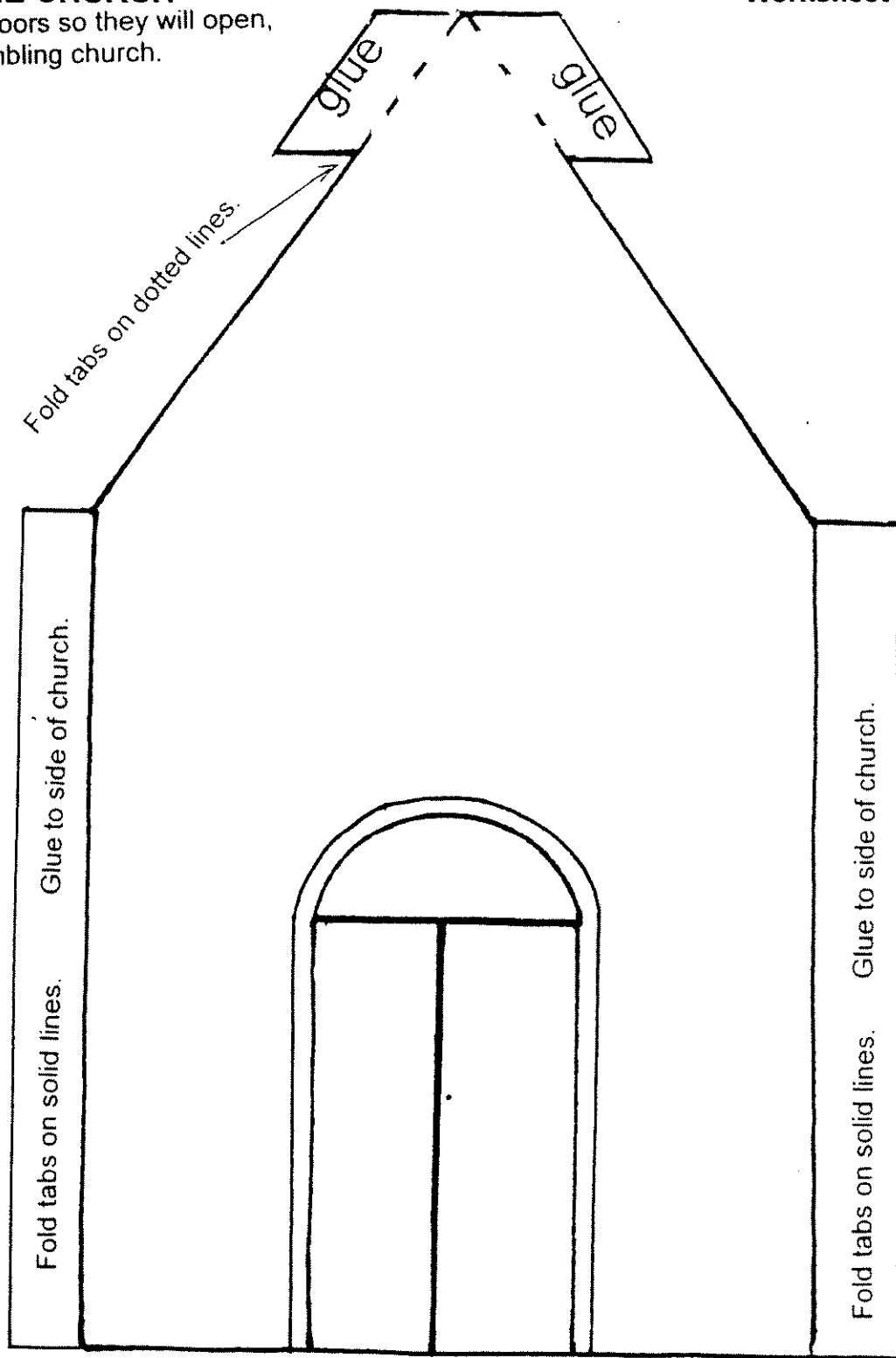
Assemble trees and bushes to stand outside of church.

Assemble pews and place inside church.

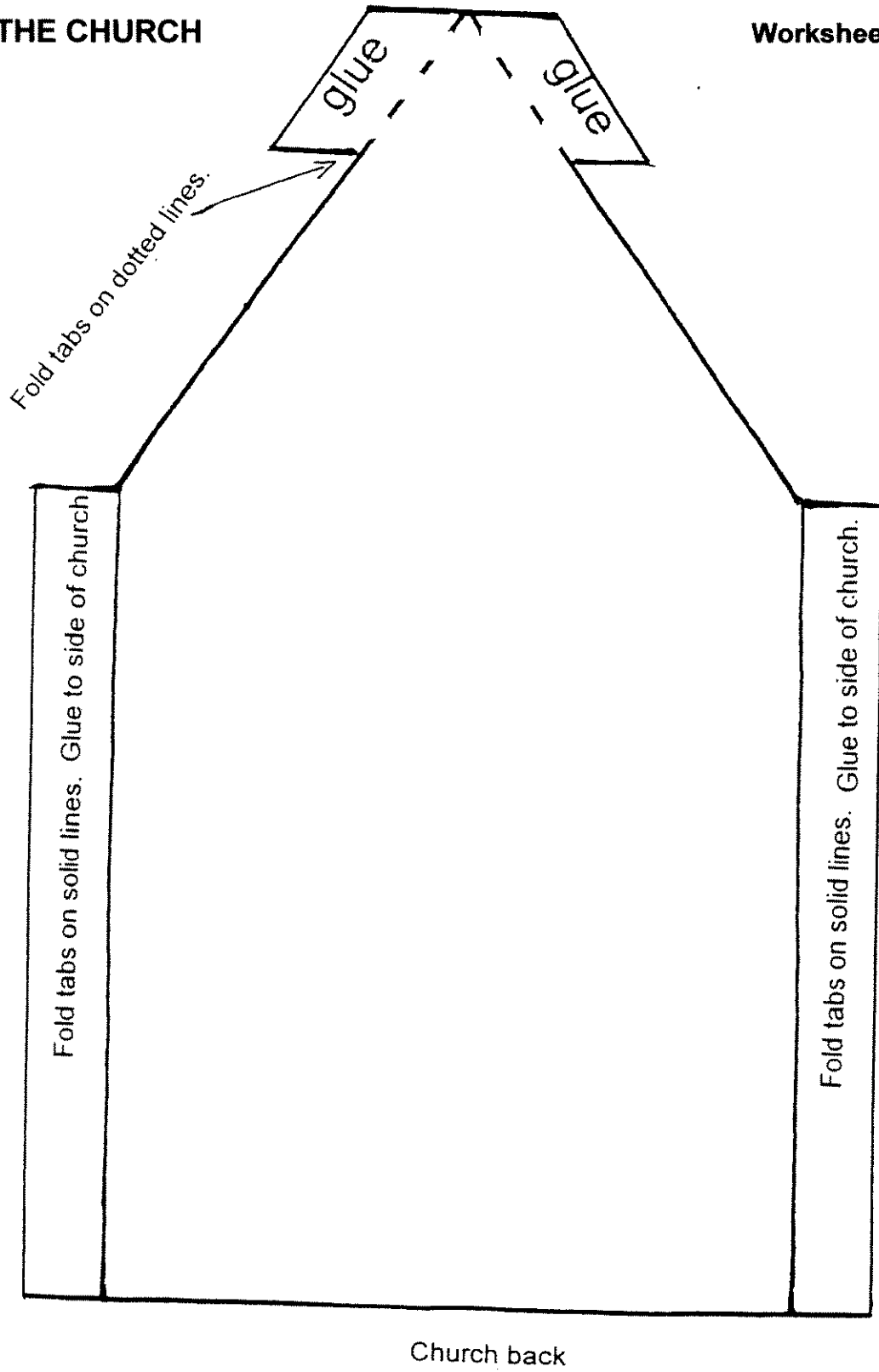
Make chenille wire people to sit on pews.

WHAT IS THE CHURCH

Cut around doors so they will open, before assembling church.



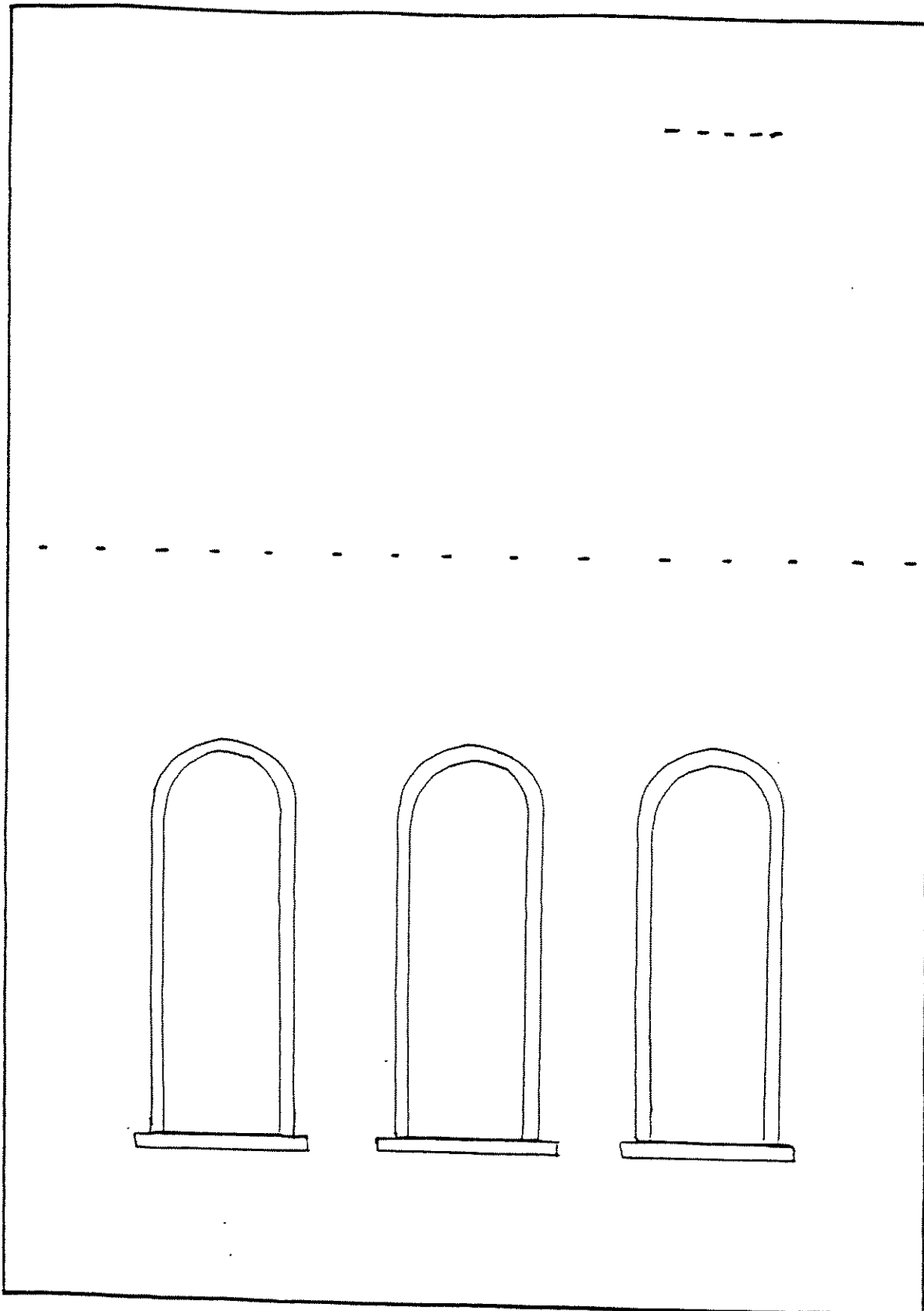
Church front



Cut out windows before assembling church

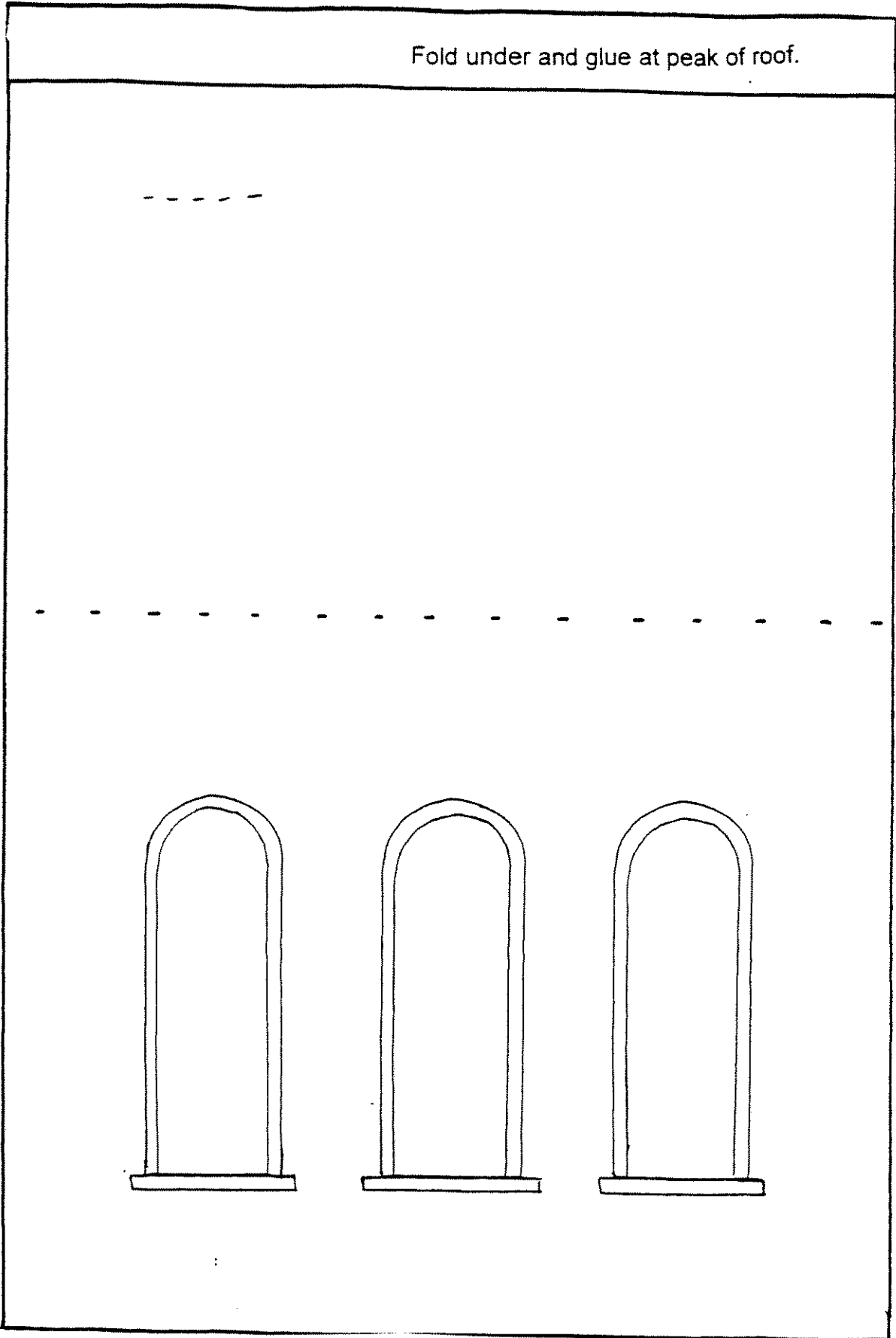
Cut 3 1/2 by 5 inch piece of colored paper or cellophane and paste on inside behind windows.

Worksheet 9



Cut slits in roof toward front of building to insert steeple.

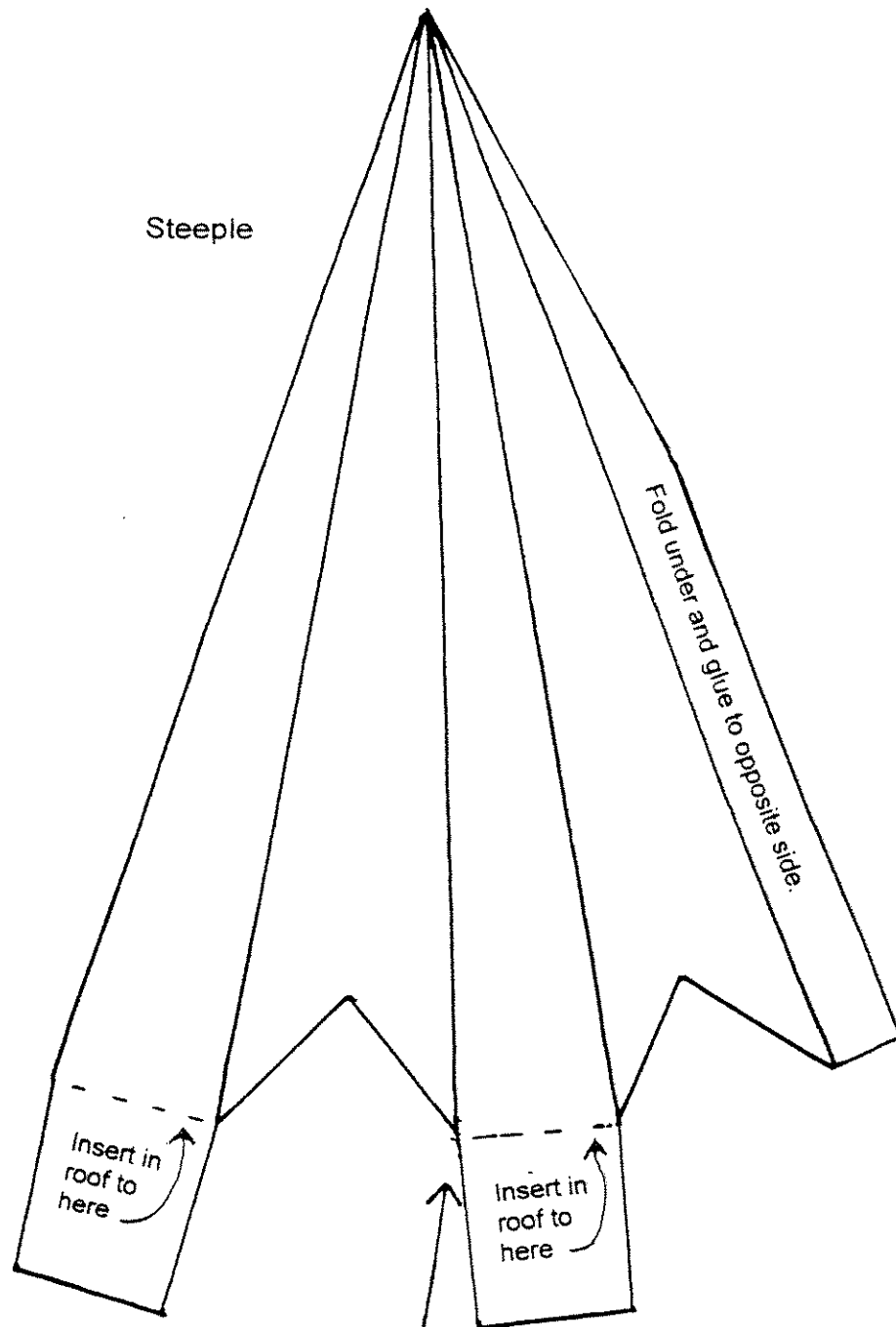
Fold on dotted line



Fold under and glue at peak of roof.

Cut slits in roof toward front of building to insert steeple.

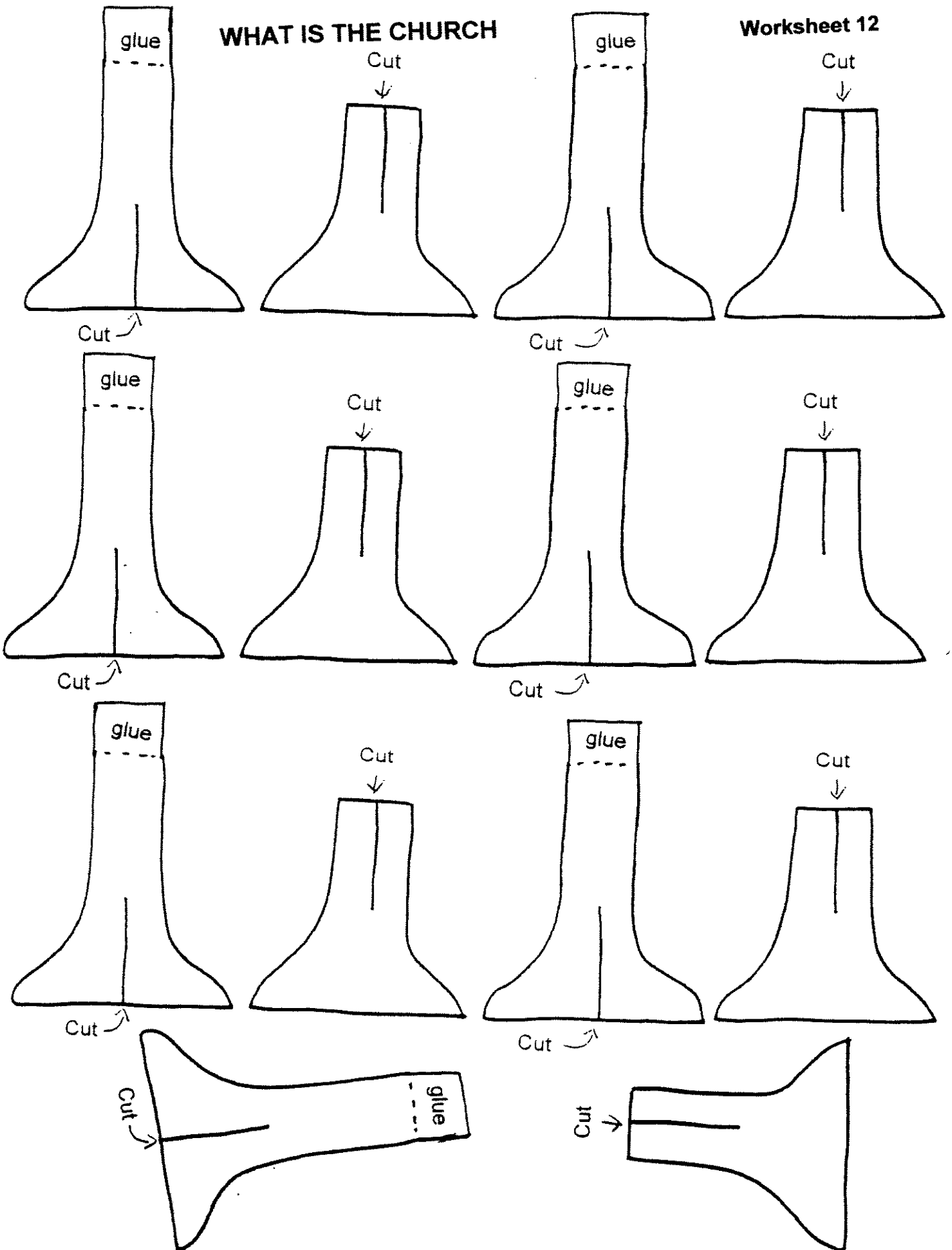
Fold on dotted line



For ease in glueing, fold under tab,
and make second fold here
Paste and then fold on other two lines.

WHAT IS THE CHURCH

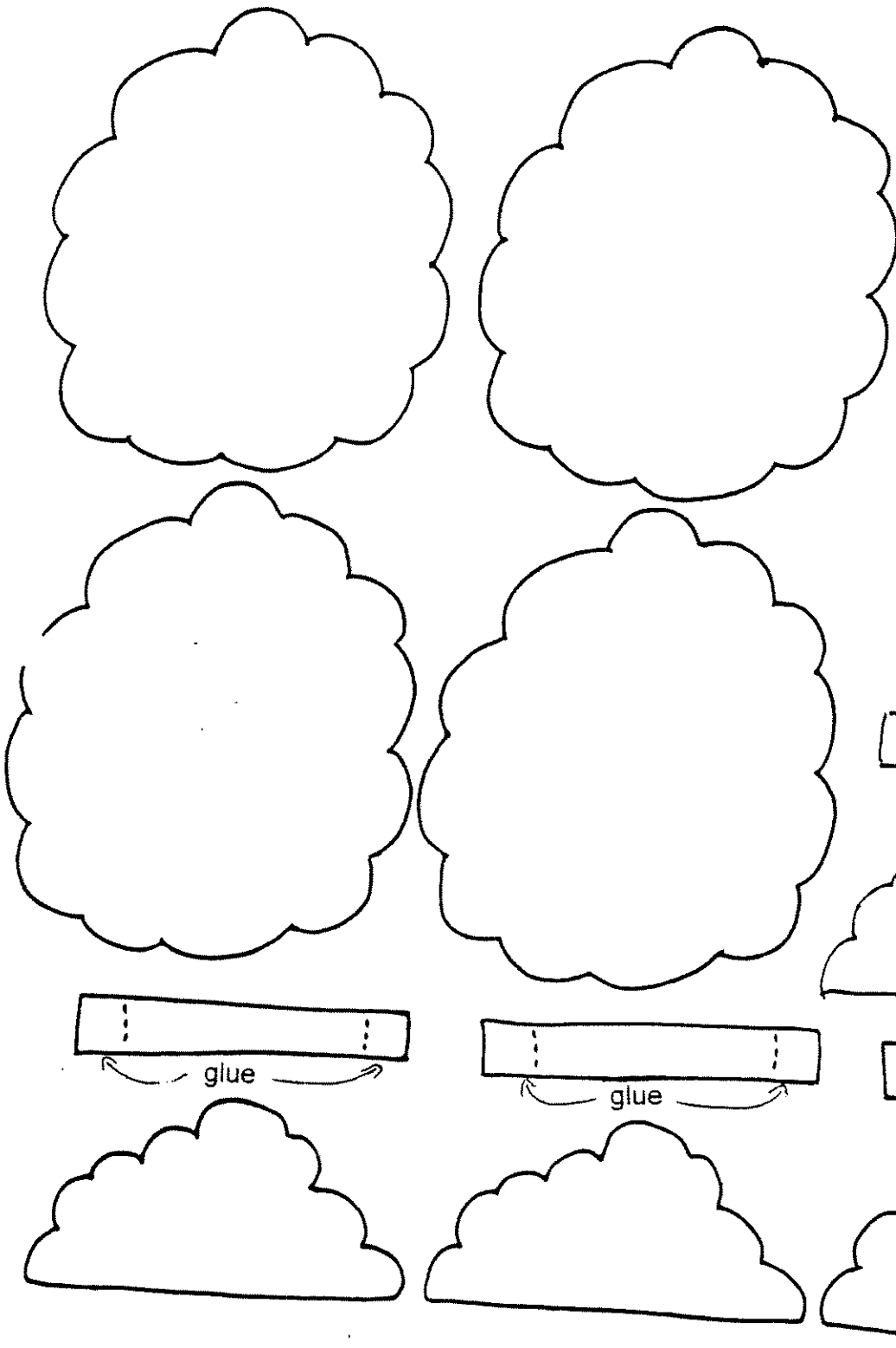
Worksheet 12



Cut tree tops from green construction paper.

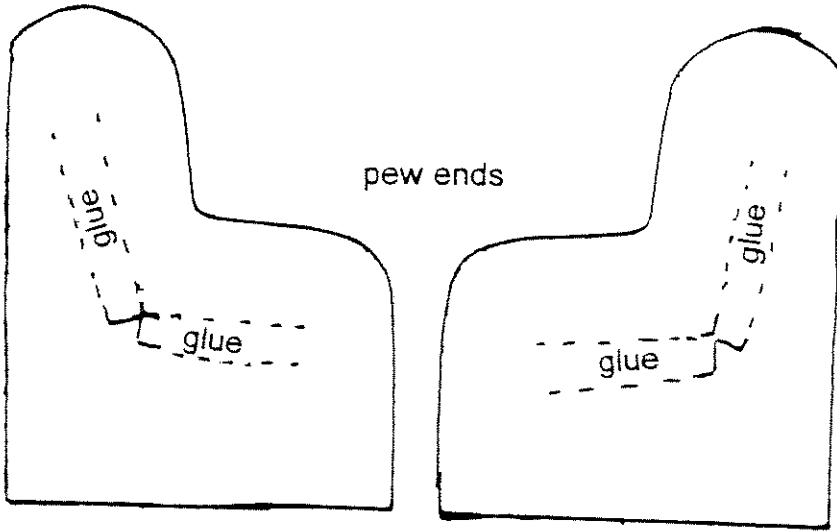
Cut bushes from green construction paper.

Cut green strips, curve, fold in ends, and glue to back of bushes to make them stand.



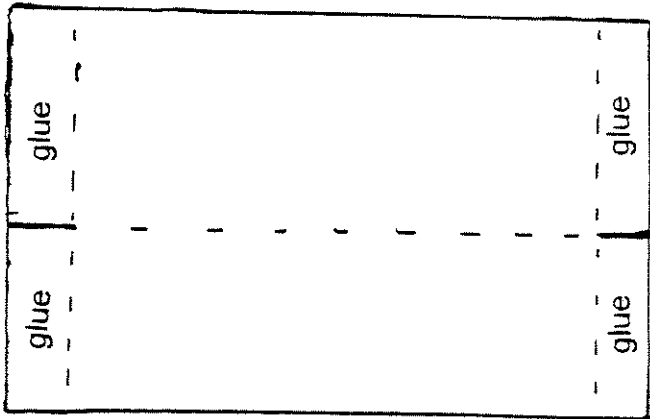
WHAT IS THE CHURCH

Worksheet 14



Cut 2 ends for each pew.

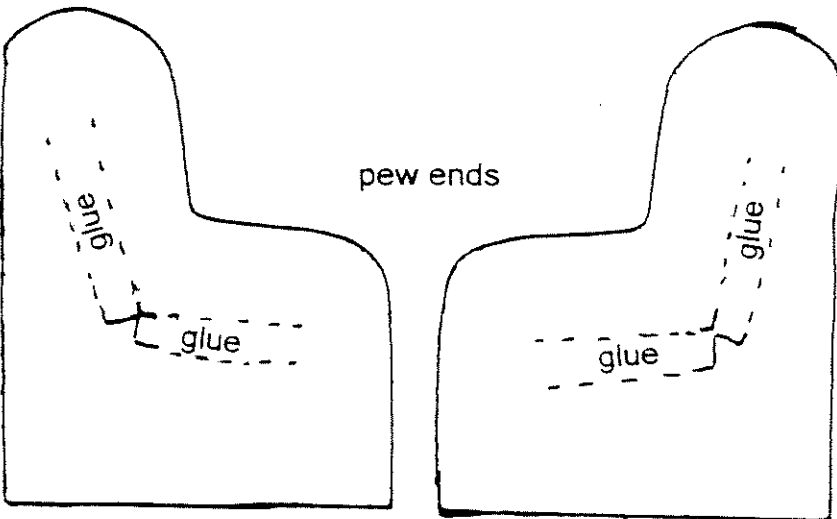
pew seat and back



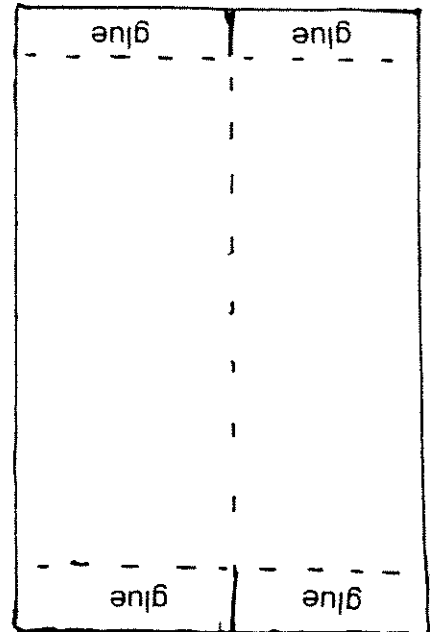
Fold back edges on seat and glue to inside of each pew end along dotted lines.

Make as many as desired for each child.

Add chenille wire people.



pew seat and back



Lesson 5: WHO WAS JOHN THE BAPTIST?

Scriptures: Matthew 3:1-6, 13 Mark 1:1-11 Luke 1:5-25, 57-60, 80
John 1:6-7, 15-28

Aim: To acquaint the child with John the Baptist, and impress the importance of scriptural baptism.

MEMORY VERSE: John 1:6

"There was a man sent from God whose name was John."

A Man Sent

Jesus was the Son of God. He was the most important person ever born into the world. God sent Him into the world for a special reason: to die for the sins of the people. There is another man who was very important, because God chose him before he was born for a special reason. He was not the Son of God, but was chosen to do a very important work for God. His name was John. Jesus said that there was never a greater person born than John except Himself. Of all the other people who have been born for about 6,000 years, John is the greatest. The Bible tells us there was a man sent from God whose name was **John**. He would do something no man had ever done before. He would baptize people. He was sent to prepare the Jewish people for the coming of Jesus into the world. He was named John, and called John the Baptist because he baptized people.

A Prayer Answered

God sent his angel, **Gabriel**, to speak to a man named **Zacharias**. Zacharias was a priest who served God at the temple. The priest went into the temple to burn incense on a special altar while the people waited outside for him to return. When the priests served God at the temple, they wore a special kind of clothing. On the hem of their robes there were pomegranates (a kind of fruit) embroidered in blue, purple, and crimson. In between each pomegranate was a golden bell. When the priest walked about in the temple, the people who waited outside for him could hear the bells tinkling, and they knew he was okay. No one could go into the temple with the priest. He was all alone. As long as the people could hear the bells, they knew that he had not gone into the temple and died before the Lord.

Zacharias' wife was named **Elizabeth**. They were both very old, and had no children. They wanted a son very much. They had prayed for many years for God to give them a son. Now that they were old, they had decided that they would never have a son. One day when Zacharias was burning incense in the temple, God sent the angel, Gabriel, to tell him something. When Zacharias saw the angel, he was afraid. The angel told him not to be afraid because he had good news for him. He said that he and Elizabeth would have the son they had been wanting. Zacharias could not believe this good news. He asked how he would know this would really happen. Maybe he was just dreaming this. Maybe he just thought he saw the angel. Gabriel said he would give Zacharias a sign to prove

to him this was real. He would not be able to speak a word until his son was born. The angel said this child would be filled with the Holy Spirit from the time he was born. He would be a powerful person, and do something no other man had ever done. He would be the first man to baptize people.

Changing the Way of Worship

The Jewish people did not worship like we do. When they went to the temple, they brought animals to offer unto God as a sacrifice. When the animal was killed and its blood was shed, it taught the people that Jesus would die, and His blood would be shed for the payment for their sins. They showed their faith in God to send His Son to die for their sins by bringing the animal as a sacrifice. This kind of worship was going to change. After Jesus died on the cross there would be no need for animal sacrifices any more. The people would change the way they had been taught to worship for hundreds of years. The people believed that God would send His Son someday. Now the time had come, and God needed someone to tell the people that God had kept His promise, and Jesus had been born. Now the people needed to believe that Jesus was the Son of God, and ask him to forgive them of their sins. Then they needed to be baptized to show that they had faith in Him.

When John baptized people, he placed them under the water to show that Jesus would be buried, and then they were brought up out of the water to show that Jesus would come back to life again. No one had ever baptized people before. John was the first, and God sent him for this special purpose. The people of Israel were looking for a king to come and set up his kingdom on the throne of David. David had been a great king, and the people were looking for another great king who would give them everything they wanted. They were anxious for this king to come, because he would free them from their enemies. God knew that they would not accept Jesus as His Son because He would not come as a king. He would first come to die for their sins. Then someday He will come back as our king. God needed someone to come before Jesus and prepare the hearts of the people to accept Jesus as the Son of God, and as their Savior, and to change their way of worship.

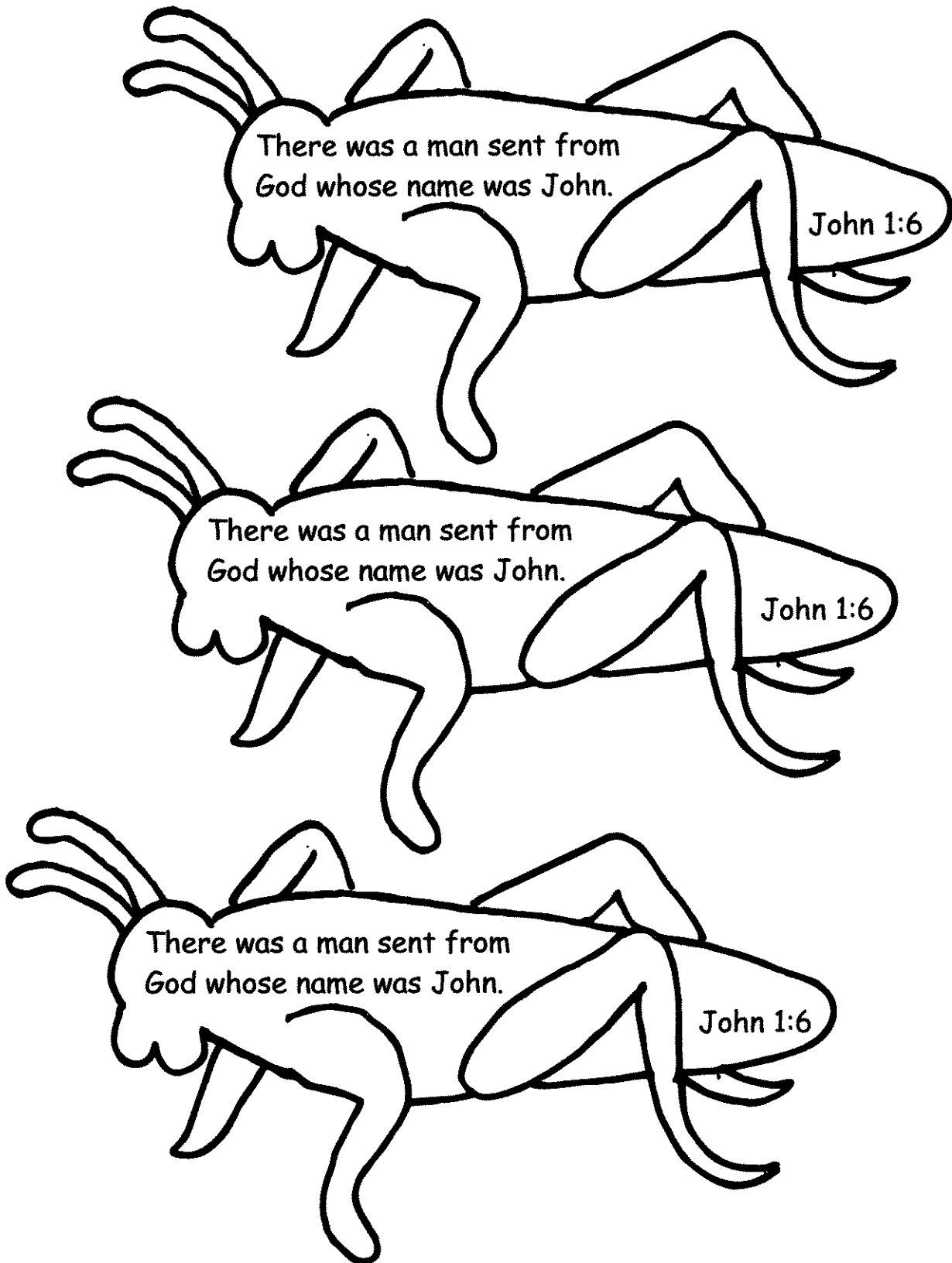
The Promise Came True

The promise that Gabriel made to Zacharias came to pass just like he said it would. When Zacharias stayed in the temple so long, the people began to worry about him. When he finally came out and could not speak, they knew something special had happened. Zacharias finished his service at the temple, and went back to his house. He and Elizabeth waited many months, and finally their son was born. He could not speak a word until the baby was born. The Jewish people did not name their baby boys until they were 8 days old. All of the friends and relatives of Zacharias and Elizabeth were so excited that the baby had been born. When the day came to name him, they all began to call him Zacharias after his father. Elizabeth said, "*Not so; but he shall be called John.*" This is the name that the angel had told Zacharias to give his son. All the people could not understand why they would give him a name like John. No one in the family had ever been named John. They insisted he should be named after his father. Zacharias motioned that he wanted something to write on. He wrote, "*His name is John.*" Immediately he could speak again. He had obeyed God by naming his son John, and now he could speak again. This was the sign that his son really was sent from God to be a special person, and do a special work for God. Zacharias praised God and thanked Him for giving him this son.

John was a plain and simple man. He did not live in a fine house with a soft bed. He slept out in the wilderness area. He did not wear fine clothing. He wore garments made from camel's hair, which was a very plain, rough fabric. He wore a leather strip tied around him for a belt. He did not eat the fine food of kings or wealthy people. He ate locusts and wild honey, the food he could find growing in the wilderness. Many people thought he was a strange man because he was so different. He was not interested in making money and enjoying the fine things money could buy. He came for one reason: to announce to the world that Jesus was the Christ, the Son of God, and baptize those who believed.

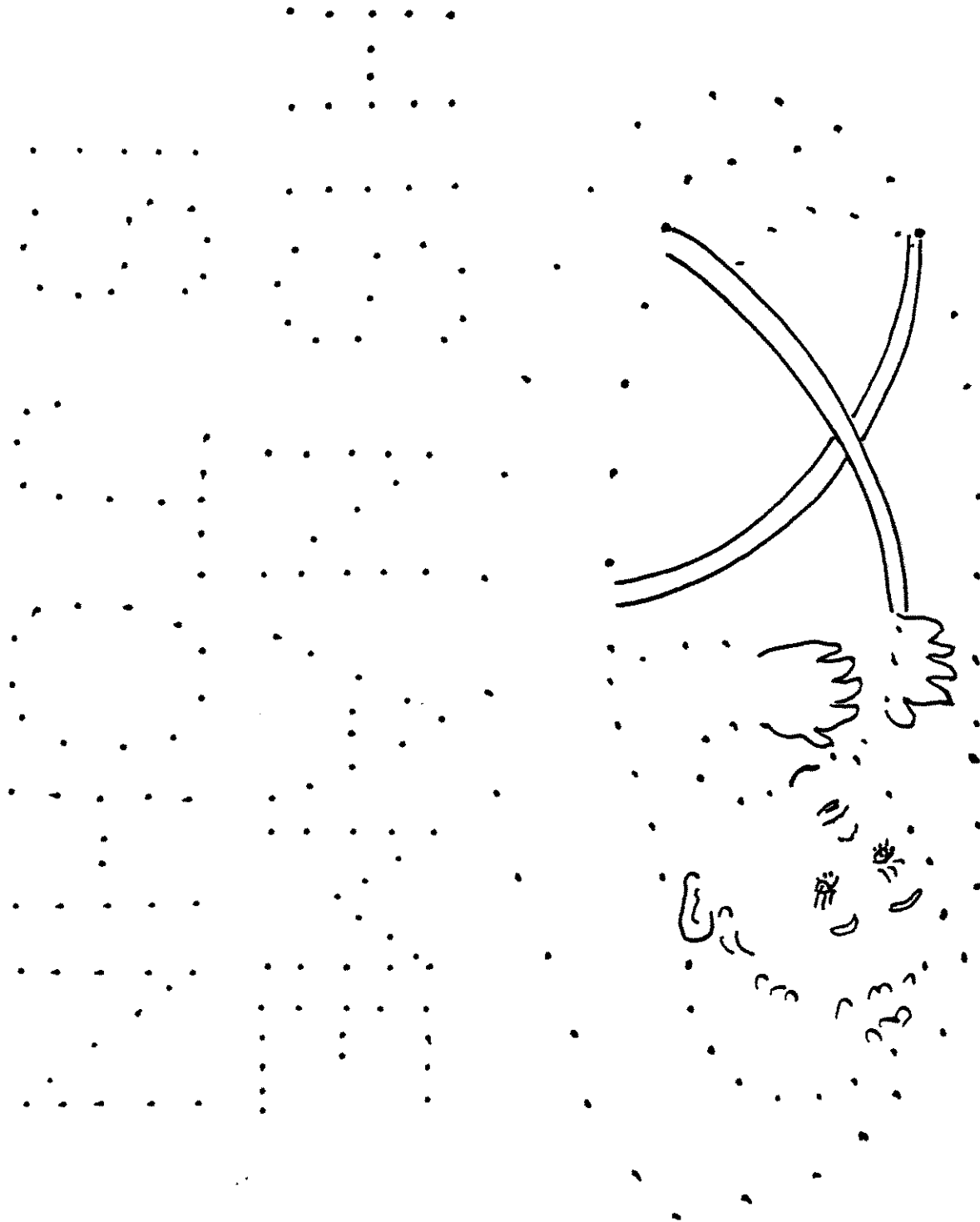
When John was about 30 years old, God told him it was time for him to begin preaching and telling the people that Jesus had come. John baptized those people who believed in Jesus as the Son of God. Jesus was six months younger than John. When John had been baptizing people for about six months, Jesus came to him, and John baptized Jesus to show to the world His death, burial, and resurrection. After we are saved, we should be baptized like Jesus was.

Jesus took the people John baptized and started the first church.



WHO WAS JOHN THE BAPTIST

Connect the dots to finish the picture.





The angel *Gabriel* appeared to *Zacharias* in the temple.
"And the angel said unto him, Fear not, *Zacharias*: for thy prayer is heard; and thy wife *Elisabeth* shall bear thee a son, and thou shalt call his name *John*."



God sent John to baptize.



John baptized Jesus in the Jordan River.