

STUDENT HANDBOOK

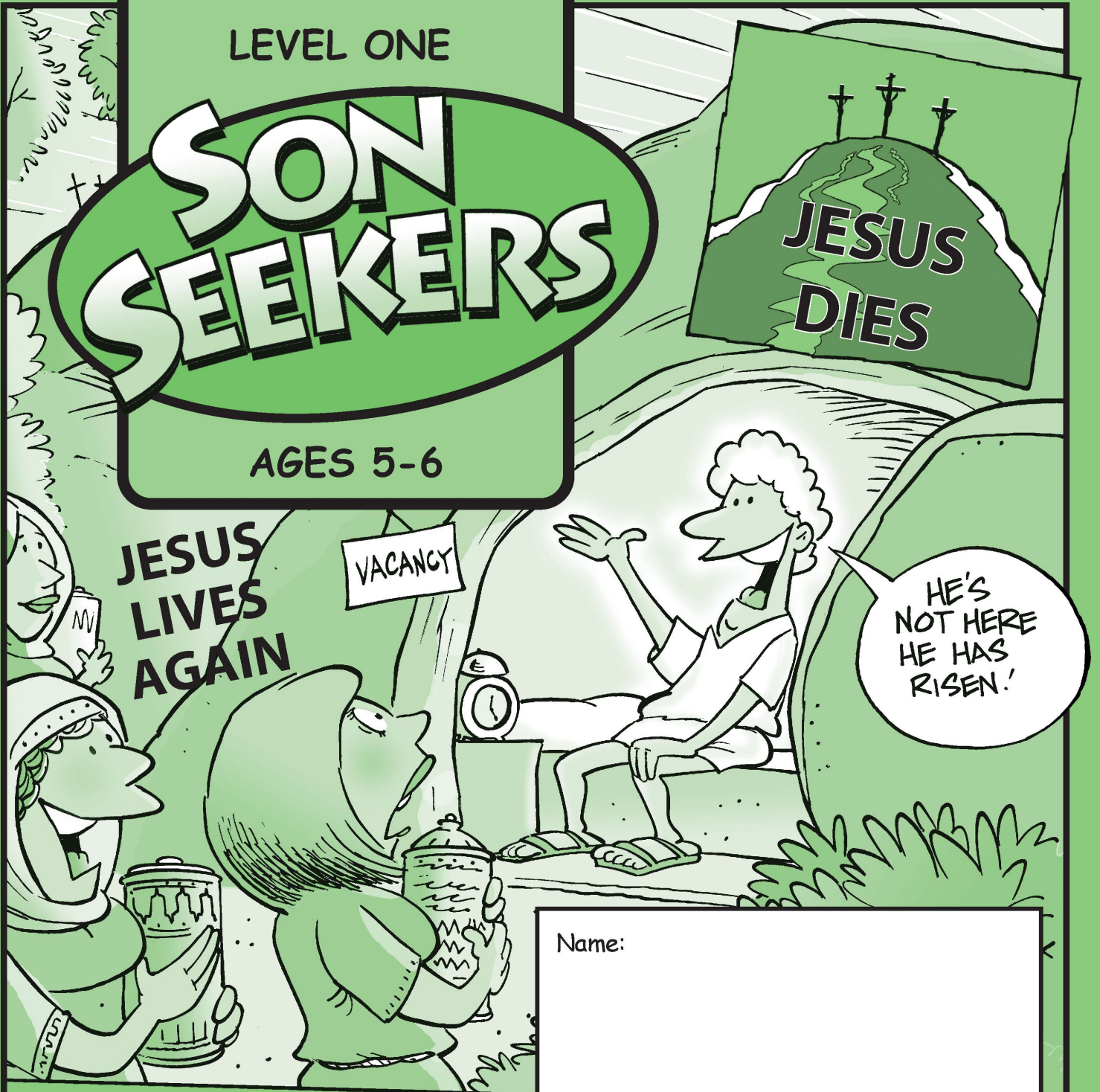
UNIT 8

From Palm Sunday to Paul's Final Journey

LEVEL ONE

SON SEEKERS

AGES 5-6



A man called PAUL



Teacher Resource

Contents

Teaching Sonseekers 1

A teacher's guide 2

Unit 8 (Lessons 113-128):

113. *Palm Sunday*..... 4

114. *The last supper and
Gethsemane* 8

115. *The crucifixion*..... 12

116. *The resurrection* 16

117. *Peter restored* 20

118. *The risen Christ and His
ascension* 24

119. *The day of Pentecost* 28

120. *Peter and John* 32

121. *Peter and the Gentiles*.... 36

122. *Stephen* 40

123. *Philip* 44

124. *Paul's conversion* 48

125. *Paul's first missionary
journey*..... 52

126. *Paul's second and third
missionary journeys* 56

127. *Paul's capture and
imprisonment*..... 60

128. *Paul's final journey* 64

Unit 8 Awards..... 71

Curriculum Outline 72



Teaching Sonseekers ...

Dear Teacher

Teaching young people about God's Word is a great honour and privilege. We note God chose Abraham, a man of faith because he "would teach his children and his household after him, to know the Way of The Lord" (Gen 18:19)

One who undertakes such a task will understand they have accepted a responsibility to become a witness of God's great love and faithfulness. As an example of Christian faith and integrity they have a wonderful opportunity to share their love for God's Word. The tremendous blessing for those who commit themselves to this task is that the Holy Spirit will strengthen and equip you to shine as a light to your class.

Recent trends away from Sunday School structures towards child minding activities have, we believe, been unfortunate as they fail to recognise the impact and effect the message of God's love through Christ has on young people.

Children are the Church's future. As such they are precious and well worth any investment in quality resources and dedicated teachers.

The 'Sonseekers' curriculum offers children Sunday School material that gives them a sound background in Biblical events, people and places. Secondly it offers a pastoral approach for the children to know God is able to help them and change their lives.

Structurally, any program will operate effectively if those teaching are faithful, zealous and committed to a team approach that might include:

- regular prayer and discussion in relation to curriculum issues, student needs and upcoming events and presentations;
- organisation and management of resources;
- training and development needs of teaching staff.

Teaching Sunday School is a rich and rewarding task. May God bless and guide you as you serve in this way.

Yours in Christ

The Sonseekers Team

A teacher's guide to using the Sonseekers materials . . .

Timeline

	<i>Creation</i>
4000BC	<i>Adam and Eve</i>
	<i>The Fall</i>
2500BC	<i>Noah</i>
	<i>The Flood</i>
	<i>Tower of Babel</i>
2000BC	<i>Abraham</i>
1900BC	<i>Isaac</i>
1800BC	<i>Esau and Jacob</i>
1750BC	<i>Joseph</i>
1360BC	<i>Moses</i>
1280BC	<i>Exodus from Egypt</i>
	<i>and Journeys</i>
	<i>Joshua</i>
1240BC	<i>Entry into and</i>
	<i>Conquest of Land</i>
1220BC	<i>Judges</i>
1100BC	<i>Gideon</i>
1070BC	<i>Samson</i>
1063BC	<i>Samuel</i>
1020BC	<i>Saul as King</i>
980BC	<i>David as King</i>
940BC	<i>Solomon as King</i>
900BC	<i>Kingdom Divided</i>
839BC	<i>Elijah Emerges; Mt Carmel</i>
	<i>Jehoshaphat</i>
814BC	<i>Elisha's Ministry</i>
749BC	<i>Jonah</i>
662BC	<i>Hezekiah; Isaiah</i>
576BC	<i>Josiah</i>
540BC	<i>Daniel taken to Babylon</i>
527BC	<i>Exile into Babylon</i>
457BC	<i>Restoration from Babylon</i>
4BC	<i>Birth of Jesus</i>
26AD	<i>Baptism of Jesus</i>
	<i>Call of Disciples</i>
28AD	<i>Feeding of 5000</i>
	<i>Parables</i>
29AD	<i>Miracles; Transfiguration</i>
30AD	<i>Raising of Lazarus</i>
	<i>Parables</i>
	<i>Palm Sunday</i>
	<i>Jesus' Crucifixion and</i>
	<i>Resurrection</i>
	<i>Day of Pentecost</i>
	<i>Peter's Ministry</i>
33AD	<i>Conversion of Paul</i>
45AD	<i>Paul's Missionary Journeys</i>
60AD	<i>Paul as Prisoner to Rome</i>

What are the Sonseekers materials?

The Sonseekers Sunday School materials are a four year course of 128 Bible lessons. The lessons are written with the twin aims of teaching the students an accurate chronology of Biblical events and also drawing from each lesson pastoral points relevant to the age and stage of each child. They are written at four levels to cover from Prep to Year 6 age groups. The 128 lessons are organised into 8 units, each of sixteen lessons. The table below indicates the suitable age group for each level:

Sonseekers Level	Student Age	School Level
Level One	5 - 6	Prep, Year 1
Level Two	7 - 10	Year 2, Year 3, Year 4
Level Three	11 - 12+	Year 5, Year 6

The Sonseekers materials comprise two related elements:

- **Teacher Resource** – including lesson plans & activity masters which can be photocopied;
- **Student Handbooks** – including homework activities.

There is also a Bible timeline showing chronology of major events, with the dates of the current unit's lessons highlighted, included in each Teacher Resource.

What's in my Sonseekers Level One Teacher Resource?

Each Level One Teacher Resource contains sixteen lesson plans for the relevant age of your students. Each lesson plan comprises:

- the key thought or focus for the lesson;
- a suggested way to introduce the lesson;
- a summary of the relevant bible story;
- a memory verse for the lesson, together with a suggested way of teaching that verse;
- an activity which can be used in the lesson;
- a number of extra ideas involving fun, practical activities.

Note: The photocopy masters for each activity are included with the lessons in this Teacher Resource book.

.../cont'd

... teacher's guide ...

How do I best use my Teacher Resource?

The art of serving as an effective Sunday School teacher is linked to the degree of diligence in preparing for each lesson. The Sonseekers materials are only designed to assist the teacher in this process. They do not take away from the teacher his or her responsibility to prayerfully consider the needs of the children in the class and to seek God's revelation and wisdom in presenting each Bible lesson. The following suggestions are then made with regard to using this resource.

Prior to the lesson

- ◆ Prayerfully read the Bible passage for the lesson. The reference is provided in the header on the first page of the lesson plan. All Scripture references are taken from the New King James Version (1983 edition).
- ◆ Read through the lesson plan and decide which activities will be most appropriate for the students in your class. Generally, aim for a variety of activities over a unit.
- ◆ Think about how you will combine the various elements of your lesson. Refer to the suggested teaching approach for ideas if necessary. Link the activity to the story so that the significance of the activity is clear to the students.
- ◆ Prepare all activities thoroughly prior to the lesson. Rehearse any planned activity at home to make sure:
 - that you know how to do it yourself;
 - that you have all the relevant materials in the quantities you will need;
 - that you know the length of time that the children will need for the activity.

During the lesson

- ◆ Review the memory verse from the previous lesson with the children. Also check on the completion of the homework activity page.
- ◆ Revise the previous lesson before going on to a new story. You may like to use the timeline to help you do this.

Palm Sunday

Storyline

Jesus and the disciples walked towards Jerusalem. Jesus sent two disciples to the next village to bring Him a donkey with its foal. He told them that if they were asked what they were doing, to answer, "The Lord has need of them." When they came back with the donkey, they put their clothes on it. Jesus rode on it into Jerusalem. Lots of people, many of them children, gathered along the way and watched as Jesus was passing. They cut branches from trees and put them on the road in front of Him. They called out, "Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!" The children were very excited because they knew that Jesus was their King.

Suggested Teaching Approach

Tell the story using a sand tray. Cut pieces of material and have leaves to lay before Jesus on the donkey as you move them toward Jerusalem. If possible obtain a plastic donkey, but you can make a donkey out of pipe cleaners. Place the donkey's foal behind its mother and speak to the children about Jesus wanting the young foal to be included in the celebrations.

Theme 1

- Discuss how exciting it would be for a king to come and visit with us.
- Talk about how wonderful it would have been to have seen Jesus, our King.
- Discuss how we get excited about Jesus our King eg. sing praises at church.

Theme 2

- Discuss how God used the children in the story to encourage Jesus.
- Discuss how God might use children today - focus on helping mum and dad at home, praying for our family, being a good friend.

Theme One

"Behold your King is coming"

The disciples, recognising the kingship of Jesus by the mighty works He had done, rejoiced and praised God. The Pharisees, however, not recognising Jesus as more than a teacher, were angry and wanted Jesus to restrain the people from praising Him. Jesus replied that if the people did not praise Him, the stones would cry out.

Key Thought

Mighty works are wrought by a mighty God. He is to be praised.

Aim

To encourage the children not to take lightly the mighty works they see or hear of God doing, but rather to recognise God as their King and respond by praising Him.

Memory Verse

"Behold, your King is coming." (John 12:15).

Theme Two

"Showing worth and honour"

True worth and honour should be given to those who rightly deserve it. The children in Jerusalem were excited at the coming of Jesus because they knew He was the King. They expressed this by singing "Hosanna". We, too, can give worth and honour to Jesus.

Key Thought

By accepting Jesus as King, we must also give Him honour and sing of His worth-ship (worship).

Aim

For the children to know Him as King and to learn to glorify Him by our lives.

Memory Verse

"Blessed is the King." (Luke 19:38).

Activity A - Colour and Collage

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Good supply of colourful kindy paper with sticky back, or glue and paper.
- Brown or green leaves.
- Pencils to colour the picture.

Steps

- The children glue paper on Jesus and the donkey, or use the pencils to colour the donkey.
- Glue the leaves on the ground around the donkey.



Activity B - Word Puzzle

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Pens/pencils.

Steps

- The children copy the letters hidden in the palm branches onto the lines below to discover the message.

Answer

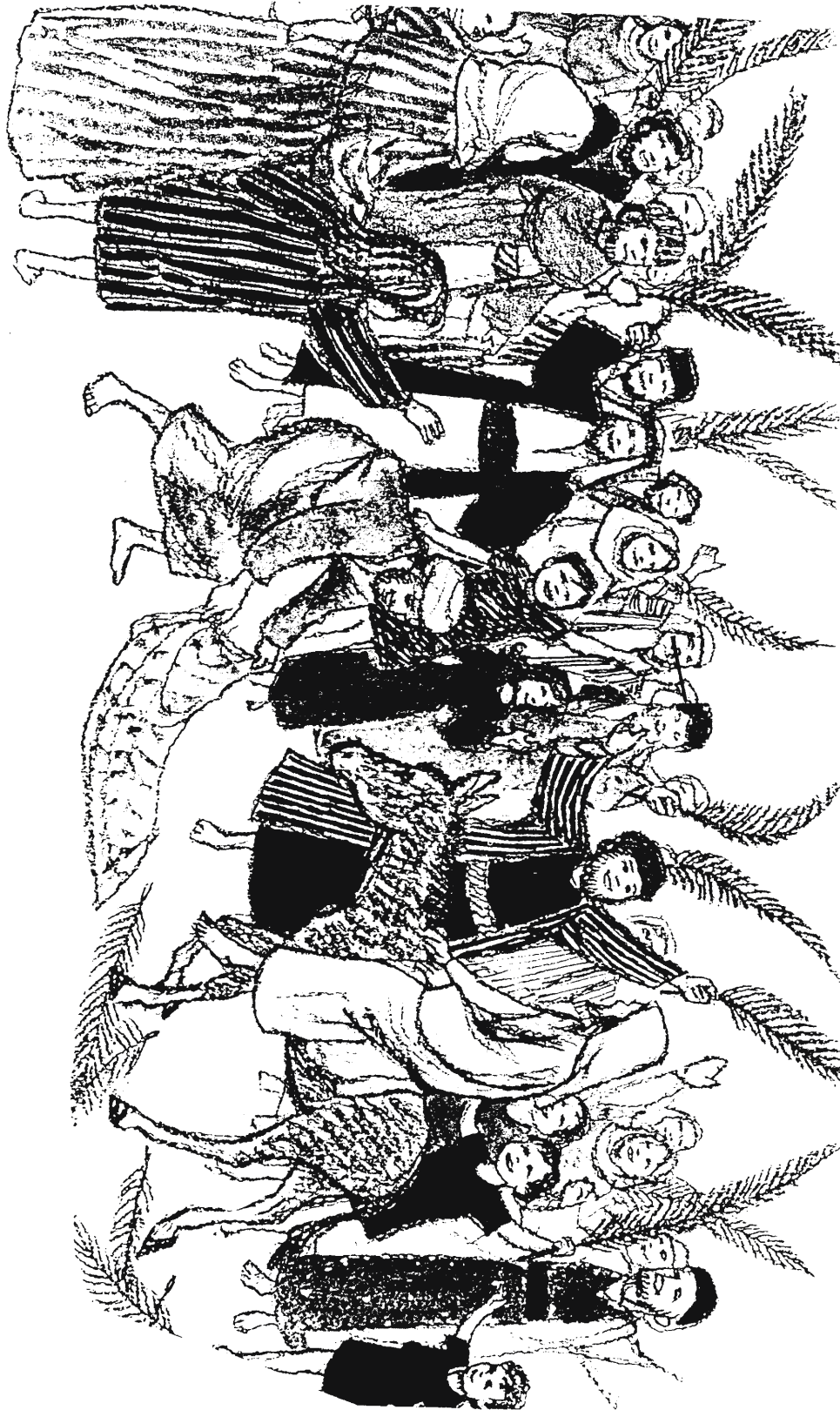
- Blessed is the King.

Write down the letters you find as you follow the palm branches.
You will find out what the people said when they saw Jesus coming.



Palm Sunday

Activity A – Colour and Collage



Palm Sunday

Activity B – Word Puzzle

Write down the letters you find as you follow the palm branches.
You will find out what the people said when they saw Jesus coming.



The last supper and Gethsemane

Matthew 26:1-56;
Mark 14:1-52;
Luke 22:1-62;
John 13:1-2,18-30;
18:1-27

Storyline

Jesus asked His disciples to prepare a special meal for them all called the Passover. Jesus showed kindness to Judas during that meal but Judas still betrayed Him. After the meal Jesus and the disciples went to a garden called Gethsemane where Jesus prayed to His Father but the disciples could not stay awake. The Jewish leaders didn't like Jesus. They wanted to kill Him. Judas said he would help them if they paid him. He let Jesus down by helping these bad men arrest Jesus. After Jesus was arrested, the disciples were scared and ran away. Later someone asked Peter if he was a friend of Jesus. He said he wasn't. This hurt Jesus, but He forgave Peter.

Suggested Teaching Approach

1. Tell the story as simply as possible.
2. So the children will remember the main events, write these on the blackboard as the story unfolds.
3. Discuss with the children the chosen theme/key thought ensuring that they understand the practical application of Jesus' obedience and the Passover..

Theme One

"Communion - The last supper"

When Jesus knew that the time was nearing for Him to die, He had a special meal with His disciples and introduced the communion to them. He wants us to share this communion meal with Him regularly.

Key Thought

Jesus gave Himself for us – we celebrate this at communion.

Aim

To help the children understand that when we celebrate communion we rejoice because Jesus gave Himself for us.

Memory Verse

"Do this in remembrance of Me." (Luke 22:19).

Theme Two

"Jesus was obedient"

Jesus' life was an example for all of us. Jesus always did the Father's will; He only did and said what the Father told Him to do and say. Do we live doing the will of God or are we often self-centred, trying to go our own way?

Key Thought

All through His ministry Jesus knew that He was going to be crucified by those He had come to save. Not once did He seek His own safety and happiness but lived doing the will of the Father who sent Him.

Aim

For the children to realise that a true Christian delights to do the Father's will.

Memory Verse

"I also imitate Christ." (1 Corinthians 11:1).

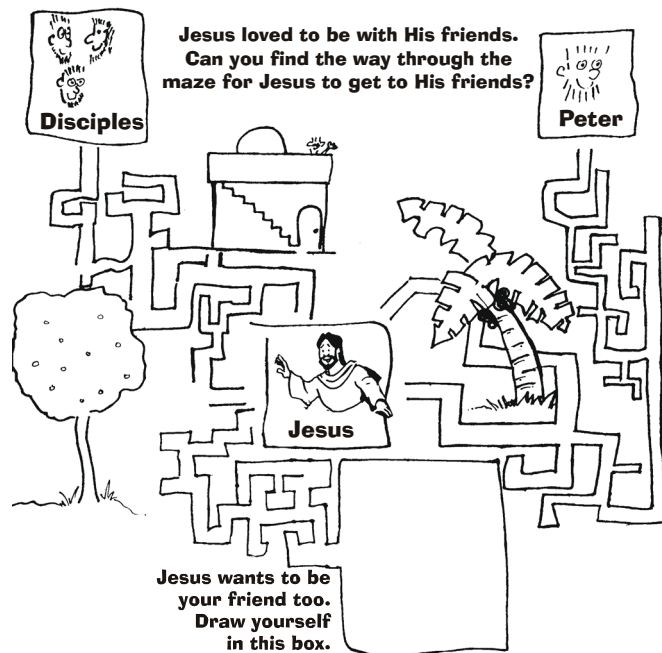
Activity A - Maze

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Pens/pencils.

Steps

- The children draw a picture of themselves in the box provided.
- They then trace the way through the maze for Jesus to meet his friends.
- If time permits they can colour the picture.



Activity B - Help Jake do his jobs

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Colouring pencils.

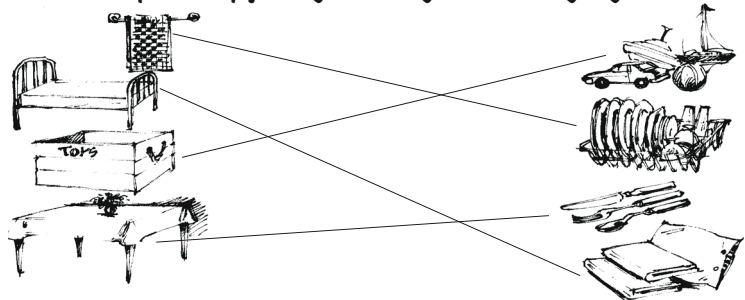
Steps

- The children draw over the dotted words and read out what Jake's chores are.
- They can then draw lines joining the pictures of the chores that belong together, and then draw a picture of themselves doing a chore.

Jake is happy to do his chores. Trace over these words to find out what they are.

1. Put his toys away
2. Set the table
3. Make his bed
4. Dry the dishes

Help Jake by joining the things that belong together.

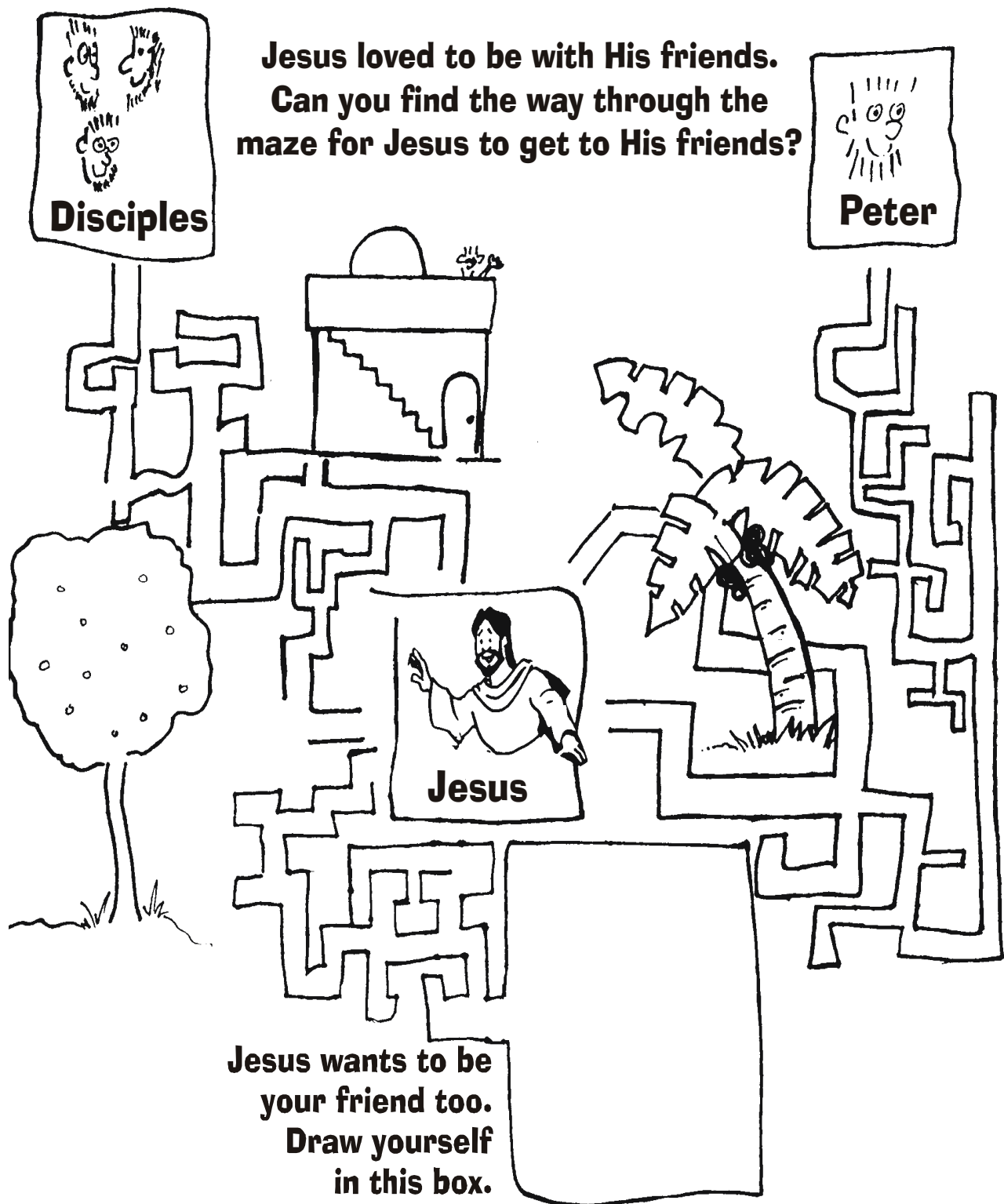


Now draw a picture of yourself doing a chore at home.



The last supper and Gethsemane

Activity A – Maze



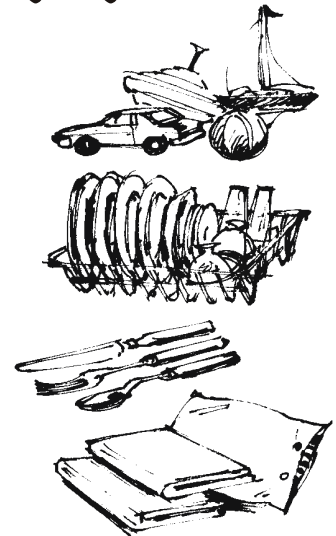
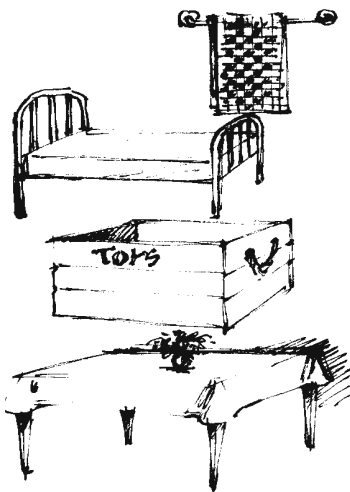
The last supper and Gethsemane

Activity B – Help Jake do His Jobs

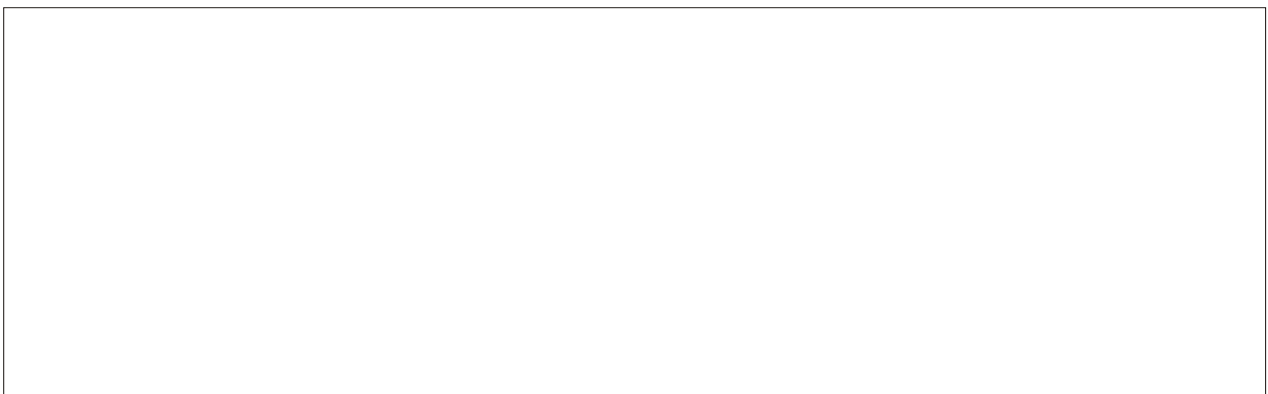
Jake is happy to do his chores. Trace over these words to find out what they are.

1. Put his toys away
2. Set the table
3. Make his bed
4. Dry the dishes

Help Jake by joining the things that belong together.



Now draw a picture of yourself doing a chore at home.



The crucifixion

Storyline

After Jesus was arrested, wicked priests had people tell lies about Him. They wanted Him crucified. They took Him to Pilate, the Roman ruler, where they urged the people to ask for Jesus to be killed. He finally gave them the choice between Barabbas and Jesus. They chose Barabbas. Jesus was crucified between two thieves. He prayed to His Father and died. In all of this He didn't sin. After He died, a man named Joseph wrapped His body in white cloth and put His body in a tomb.

Suggested Teaching Approach

A children's picture Bible or pictures of the crucifixion can be helpful for the children to understand this concept. Help them to understand how hard this was for Jesus. Also explain that He was doing God's will and that this would bring reward for Him and all mankind.

Compare the attitude of the priests (anger, envy) to that of Jesus (obedience).

Discussion: What is sin? Keep discussion very practical, ie. sin is not doing what God wants us to do. Practically this will translate to obeying mum and dad, not getting angry, but sharing and helping. Explain and discuss how Jesus can help us to do these things.

Theme One

"We can overcome sin"

Everybody is born sinful. Our sin separates us from God and affects our lives. God sent Jesus to die so that our sins can be forgiven and taken away from us.

Key Thought

Jesus took the punishment for sin. He was punished instead of us.

Aim

For the children to know Jesus forgives our sins, if we put our trust in Him.

Memory Verse

"Christ died for our sins." (1 Corinthians 15:3).

Theme Two

"God gives us strength to obey"

Jesus did not try to justify or save Himself. His greatest witness was that He suffered in silence, did not become angry with pain and unjust accusations, and most importantly He cried out for God to forgive those who crucified Him.

Key Thought

Such was Jesus' submission to His Father's will that He accepted all that was done to Him without defending Himself.

Aim

For the children to realise that obeying the will of God is not easy, but can be done in His strength.

Memory Verse

"I will strengthen you." (Isaiah 41:10).

Activity A - Join the Numbers

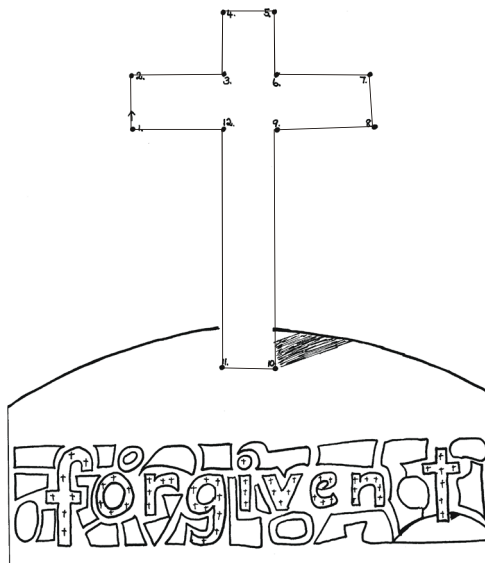
Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Colouring pencils.

Steps

- The children join the dots to reveal the cross, then colour the hidden word, “forgiven”.

Join the dots to discover where Jesus paid for our sins.
Colour all the shapes marked ‘+’ one colour, to see what happened to our sins.



Activity B - Coloured or Alfoil Cross

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child photocopied or mounted on cardboard.
- Colouring pencils.
- Alfoil (optional).
- Coloured card.
- Stanley knife.

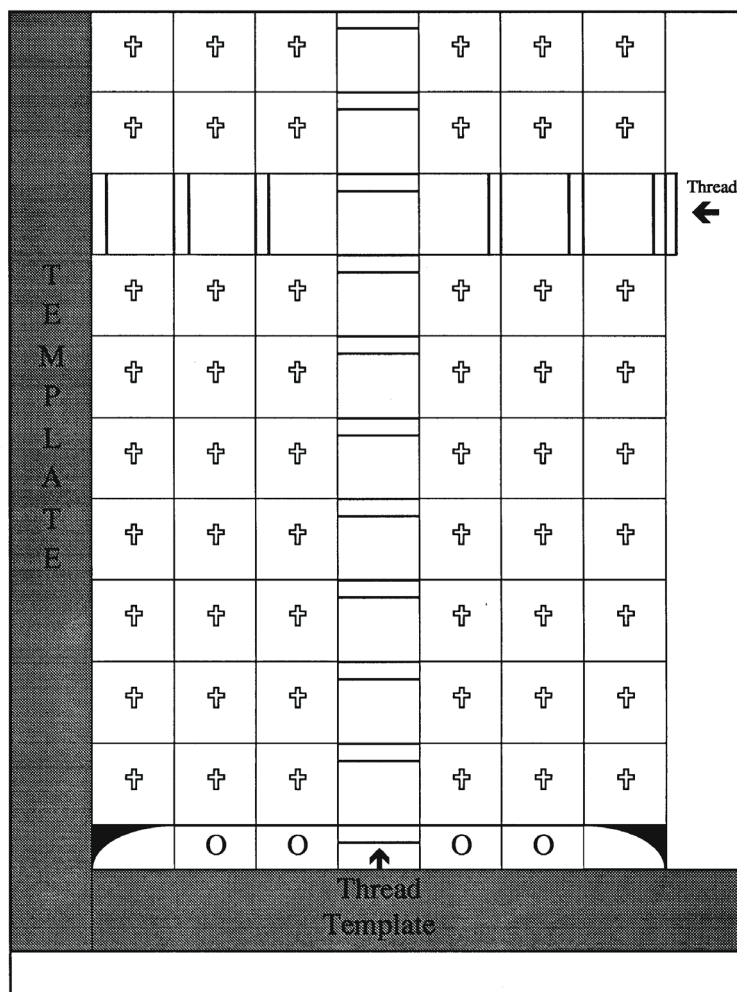
Steps

At Home

- Cut the templates from the edges of the Activity Sheet.
- Using the shaded templates, cut pieces of coloured card or alfoil.
- Using a Stanley knife, slice the marked slits.

In Class

- The children colour the boxes marked with a cross in blue and the ones marked with a ‘0’ in green.
- They then thread the cut pieces of contrasting card or alfoil through the slits, up first, then across.



The crucifixion

Activity A – Join the Numbers

Join the dots to discover where Jesus paid for our sins.
Colour all the shapes marked † one colour, to see what happened to our sins.

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•2.

•3.

•6.

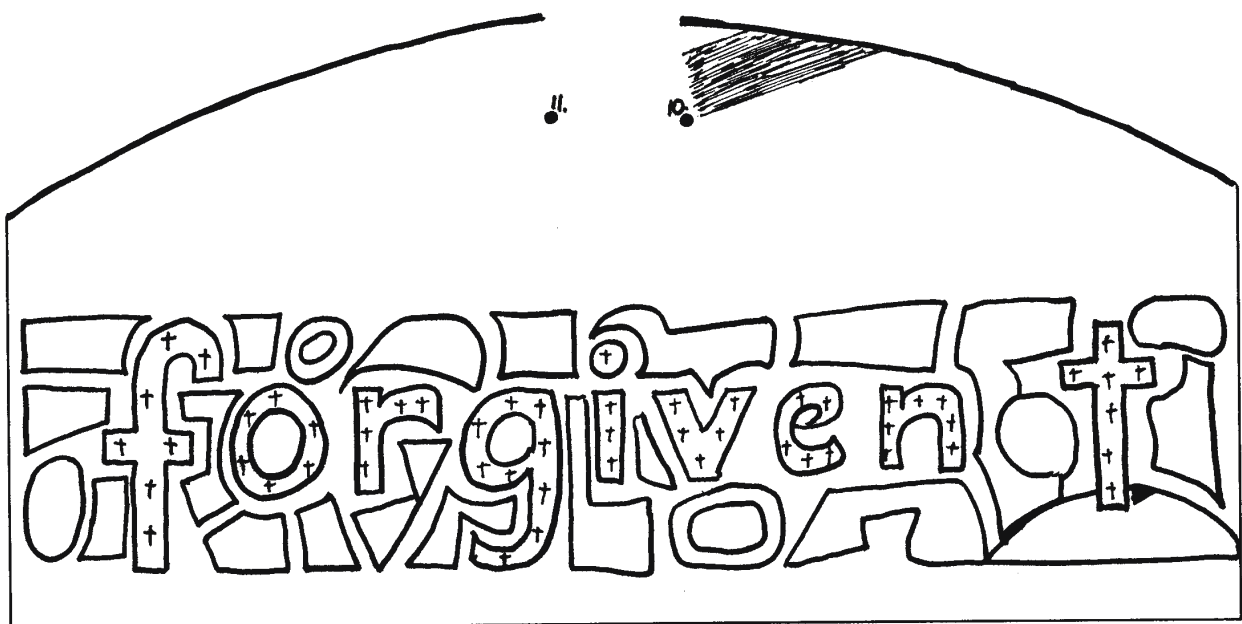
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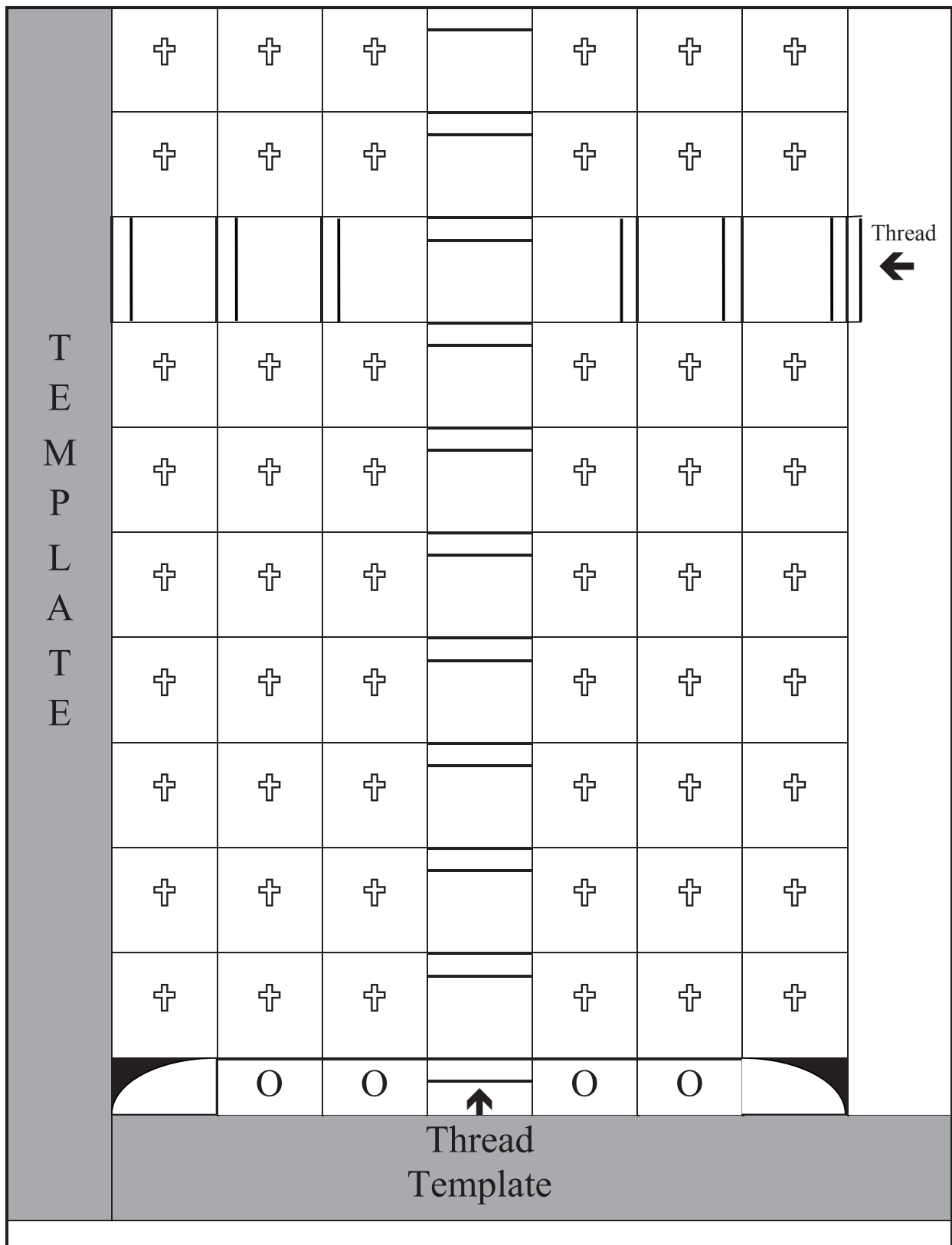
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The crucifixion

Activity B – Coloured or Alfoil Cross



The resurrection

Storyline

Before Jesus died He told the disciples that He would live again. After three days some women, who were friends of Jesus, came to the place where He was buried. They found the tomb empty. There had been a big earthquake and an angel, who had come down from heaven, told them Jesus was alive. They ran to tell the disciples. Peter and John ran to see for themselves and were amazed to see the tomb empty, with just the linen cloths, with which Jesus had been wrapped, lying there.

Suggested Teaching Approach

Discuss with the children what a tomb is, using an empty shoebox. Explain that Jesus was buried in a tomb.

Begin to tell the story of the two women visiting the tomb. Highlight that an angel came and told them the tomb was empty.

Have the children peep inside the shoebox to see what the women found - empty.

Open the tomb and explain that Jesus was alive.

Theme 1

Jesus is alive and with us everyday. Focus on all the different things children do everyday.

Theme 2

We can believe what God says. Talk about some of God's promises to us, eg. if we believe He is real and get to know Him we will live with Him forever; if we obey our parents we will live long, happy lives; if we are scared and we pray to Him, He will be with us and help us.

Theme One

"Jesus is risen"

Jesus died on the cross and was buried in the tomb, but after three days He rose again. Jesus is alive today and we can know Him too.

Key Thought

Jesus' resurrection was forever. He is alive today for us to know Him.

Aim

To help the children understand that although they cannot see Jesus, He is alive and they can know Him and talk to Him everyday.

Memory Verse

"He is risen." (Mark 16:6).

Theme Two

"We can always believe God's word"

Jesus' disciples found it hard to believe that Jesus would rise from the dead. God has made many promises in His word. He wants us to believe Him and His word.

Key Thought

God's word is true and we can depend on it.

Aim

To help the children understand that they can believe in God and the things the Bible tells us.

Memory Verse

"I believe God." (Acts 27:25).

Activity A - Playdough and Finger Puppets

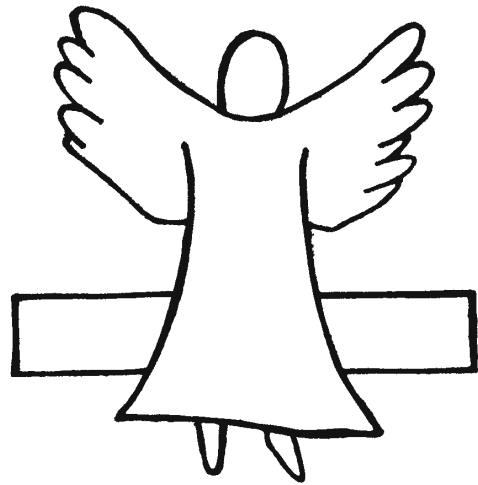
Materials

- Playdough.
- 1 finger puppet from the Activity Sheet per child.
- Scissors.
- Colouring pencils.
- Sticky tape/stapler.

Steps

At Home

- Make playdough. Mix 2 cups of flour with 1 cup of salt. Add 1 tablespoon of cooking oil, 1 cup of water and green food colouring. Knead. Store dough in a plastic bag. This makes enough for six children.
- Cut out one 'angel' per child.



In Class

- Demonstrate how to make a simple tomb and stone out of playdough.
- The children then make their own tomb and stone.
- The children colour the angel finger puppet.
- Use sticky tape or stapler to fasten a finger puppet around each child's finger.
- With the teacher's help, the children can re-tell the story of Mary and some of the disciples coming to Jesus' tomb. The children can use their puppets to say, "Jesus is alive". They can roll the stone away and see the empty tomb.

Activity B - Wall Hanging

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Colouring pencils.
- Cardboard.
- Glue.
- Hole punch.
- String or wool.
- Glitter.

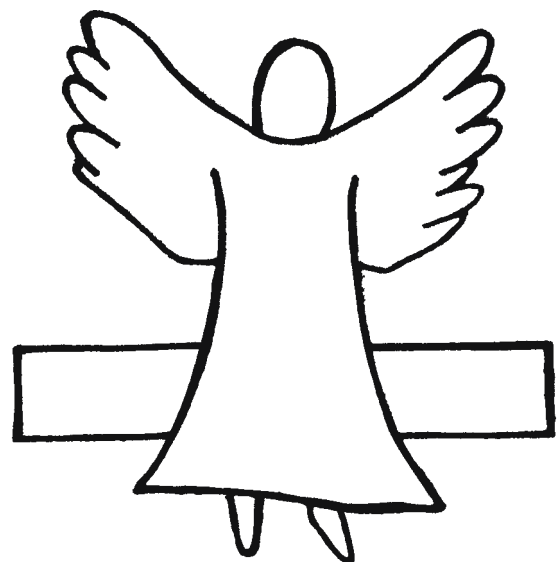
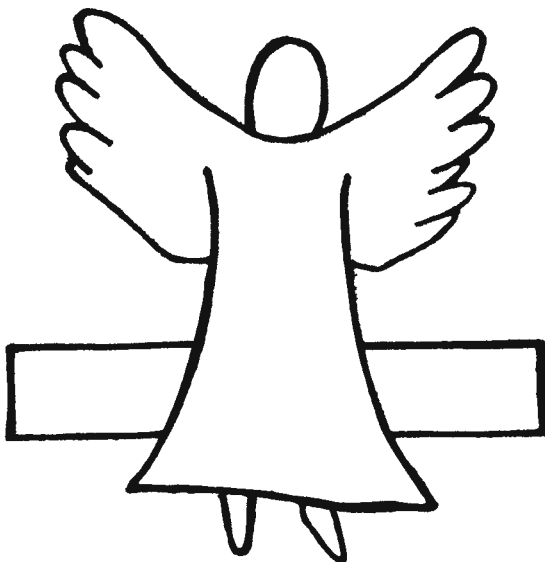
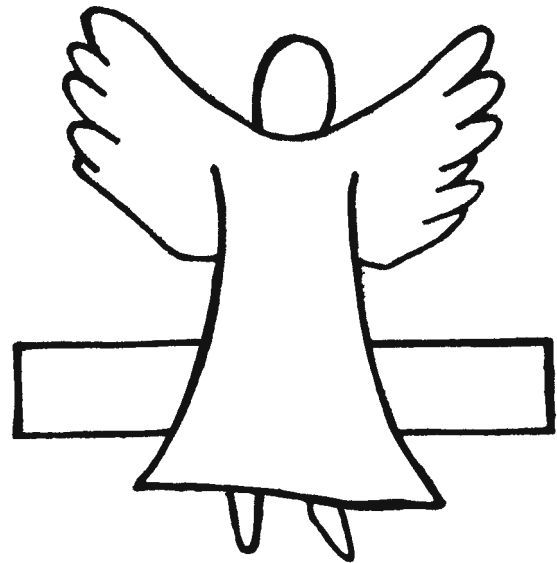
Steps

- The children colour the picture.
- If desired, spread glue over the angel and sprinkle with glitter.
- Glue the picture onto cardboard.
- Punch holes in the top of the picture and thread string or wool through, so the picture may be hung.



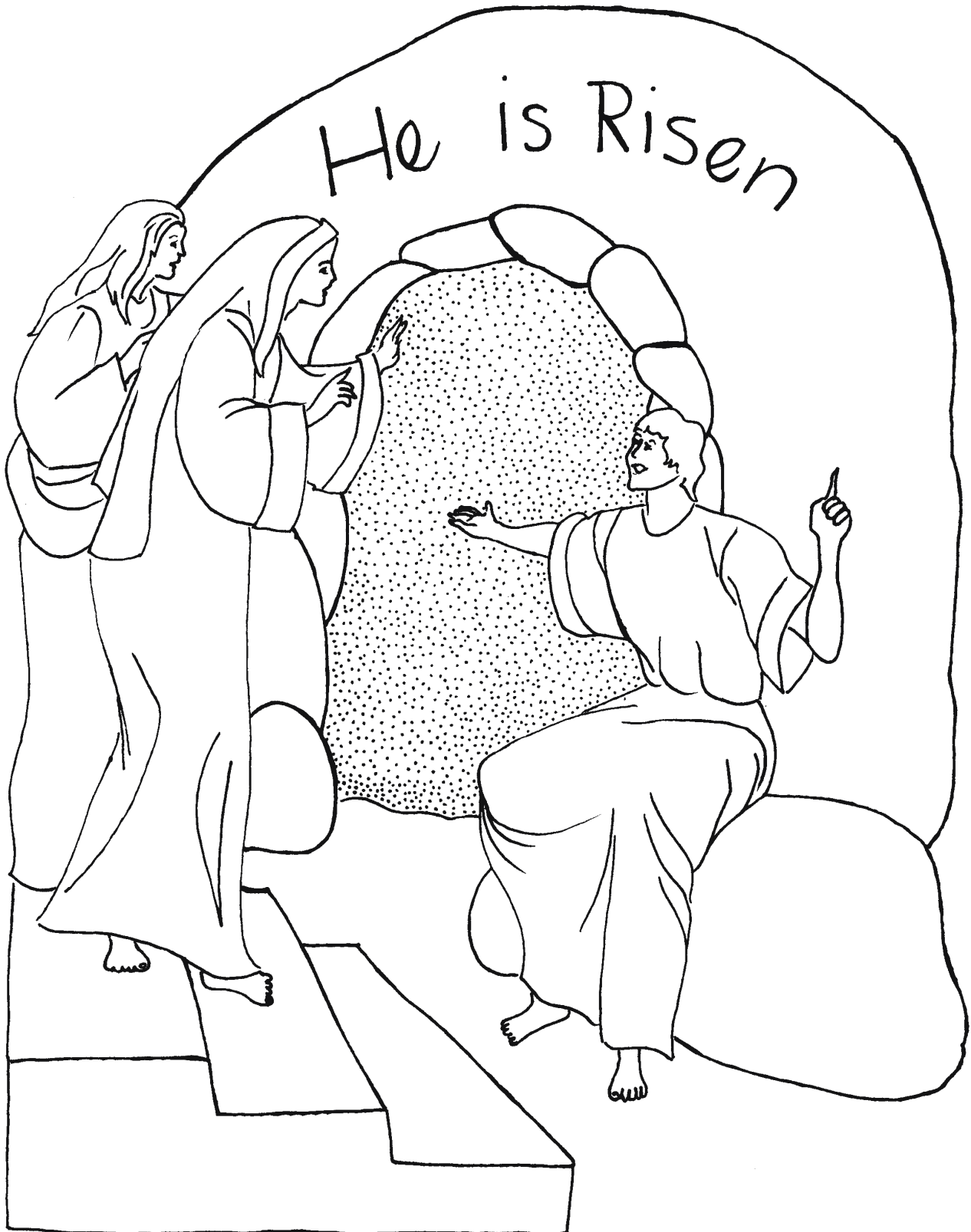
The resurrection

Activity A – Playdough and Finger Puppets



The resurrection

Activity B – Wall Hanging



Peter restored

John 21:1-19

Storyline

After Jesus' resurrection some of the disciples went fishing. They were disappointed as they had caught nothing all night. At dawn, a man on the beach spoke to them. He asked if they had caught any fish. He then told them to throw the net on the right side of the boat. The net was so full of fish they couldn't pull it in. Peter realised the man on the beach was Jesus, so he jumped out of the boat and went to shore. Jesus had bread for them, and was cooking fish on a fire for their breakfast. Jesus spoke to Peter who had denied Him before His death. He asked Peter if he loved Him and gave him the task of caring for the other Christians.

Suggested Teaching Approach

Recount the story.

Hide a small 'net' full of treats somewhere in the room. Use tulle or a piece of onion bag for the net. Blindfold one child. The blindfolded child has to listen to the teacher's instructions to be guided to the net of treats, eg. "Take two steps forward" or "Take one step to the right." When treats have been found, share with class.

Recall story of Jesus helping the disciples when they were discouraged. Discuss how Jesus will help us when we are sad, eg. if we are scared - when we pray to Him we know He is with us and He will keep us safe.

Theme One

"Jesus forgives and restores"

On the night that Jesus was arrested Peter had denied Jesus three times. Despite his best efforts, Peter's flesh had been weak, and in looking to save his life he had denied the Lord. As the two men met on the beach, Jesus readily forgave Peter and restored him to the works of his sonship – loving God and His people.

Key Thought

Jesus forgives us when we make mistakes and then helps us to be restored to the work of our sonship.

Aim

To help the children understand that we find restoration through repentance and fellowship.

Memory Verse

"He shall direct your paths." (Proverbs 3:6).

Theme Two

"Do you love Me?"

Jesus asked Peter three times if he loved Him. He told Peter to show his love by taking care of His people. The Lord does not want us only to be close to Him. He wants us to love others and care for them, being close to our brothers and sisters as we fellowship together.

Key Thought

Jesus wants us to love one another and to draw close to each other.

Aim

For the children to understand that by loving one another, we show Jesus how much we love Him.

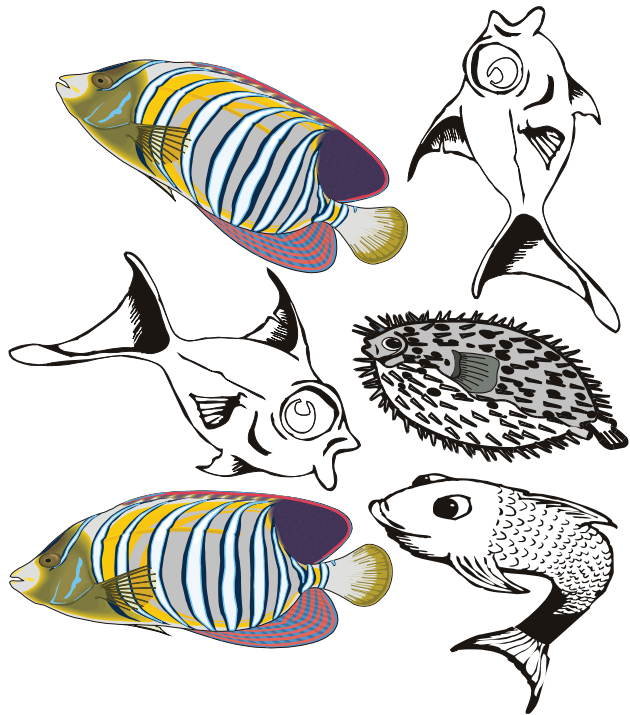
Memory Verse

"Love one another." (John 15:12).

Activity A - Going Fishing

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Scissors.
- Metal paper clips.
- Colouring pencils.
- Empty bowl for the lake.
- Stapler.
- 1 fishing rod per child, consisting of a straw with a piece of string stapled to the end of it and a small magnet tied on the end of the string (these could be assembled at home if time is a problem).



Steps

- The children colour the fish and cut them out. The chosen memory verse could be written on the fish.
- Assemble the rods by stapling a piece of string to the end of a straw, then tying a small magnet to the end of the piece of string.
- Attach one paper clip to the mouth of each fish.
- Place the fish in the bowl (lake) and go fishing.

Activity B - Word Search Picture

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Colouring pencils.

Steps

- The children count the number of times Jesus said, “Do you love me?” and “Feed My sheep.”
- Colour the picture.

Answer

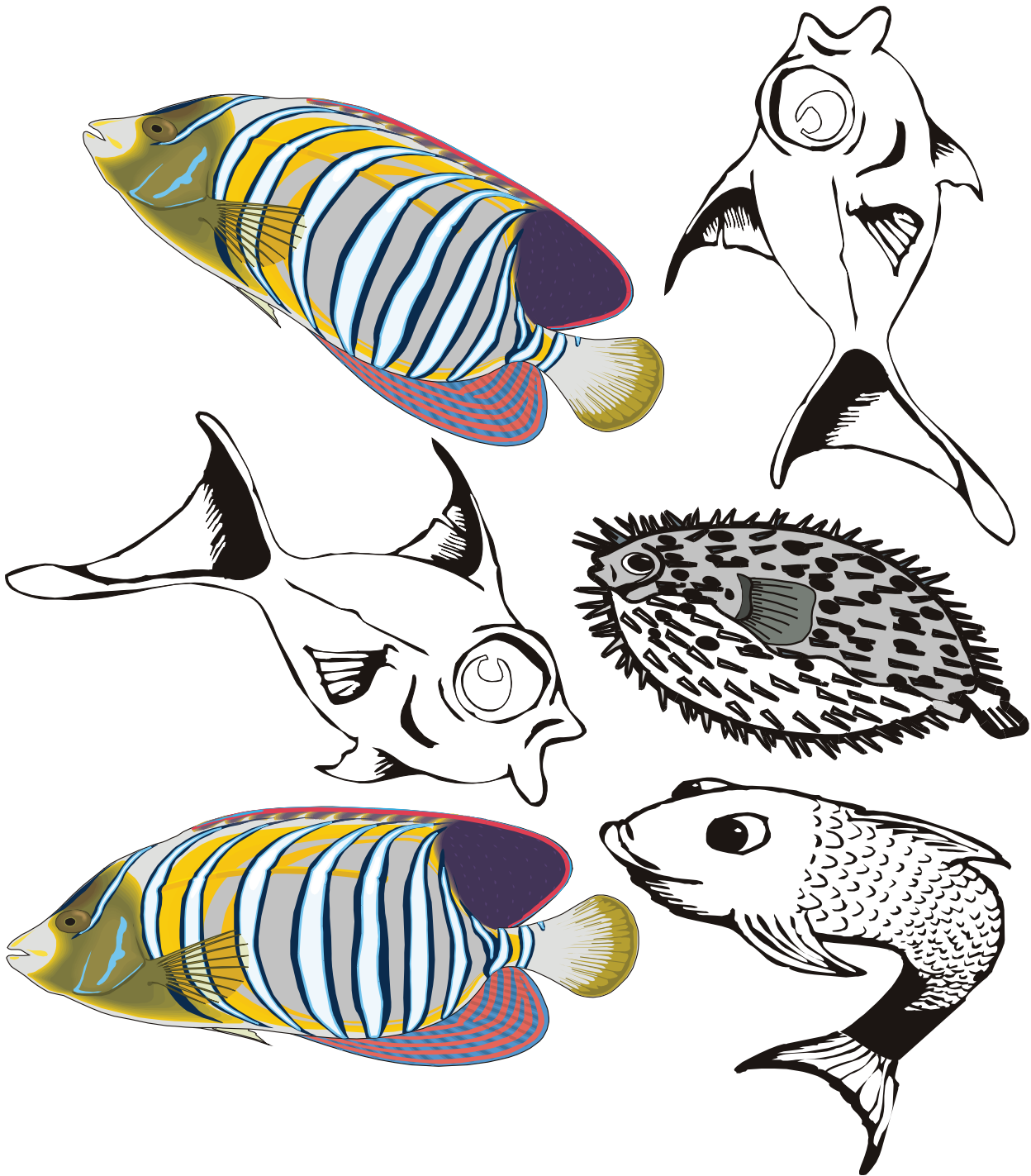
- Three times.



Colour the picture.
How many times can you find Jesus' words to Peter in this picture:
"Do you love me?" _____ "Feed My sheep." _____

Peter restored

Activity A – Going Fishing



Peter restored

Activity B – Word Search Picture



Colour the picture.

How many times can you find Jesus' words to Peter in this picture:

"Do you love me?" _____ "Feed My sheep." _____

The risen Christ and His ascension

Matthew 28:9-10,16-20;
Mark 16:9-20;
Luke 24:13-53;
John 20:11-31;
Acts 1:1-11;
I Corinthians 15:4-6

Storyline

Mary Magdalene was the first to find Jesus' empty tomb and was sad. She sat crying outside the tomb because she thought someone had moved Jesus' body. A man came and asked why she was sad. She didn't recognise that it was Jesus until He called her by her name. Jesus then appeared to two disciples on the road to Emmaus, and also to His disciples as they hid in the upper room. After Jesus rose from the dead, He spent forty days talking, sharing and caring for His disciples. He helped them catch fish, He talked with them about their troubles, He forgave His friend Peter and He told them He had a special gift of the Holy Spirit for them when it was time for Him to go to heaven. At the end of this time, Jesus went to be with His Father in heaven.

Suggested Teaching Approach

Theme 1

- Recount the story focusing on the point that what the Lord said, He did.
- Discuss with the children what it means to believe the word, without doubting.

Theme 2

- Recount the story of Jesus going up to heaven. Ask the children whether we can still know Jesus today, even though He is in heaven.
- Discuss with them that we can know Jesus and have fellowship with Him every day.

Theme One

"Jesus ascended into heaven"

Jesus told His disciples that He would die, and then rise from the dead in three days and then ascend into heaven to the Father. This is what He did. We can believe that what the Lord says, He will do, even before we see it happen.

Key Thought

We can believe that what Jesus says is the truth. We do not need to doubt.

Aim

To impress on the children that what the Lord says He will do, He will do. We can trust God even before we see Him act.

Memory Verse

"He ascended on high." (Ephesians 4:8).

Theme Two

"We can know Jesus"

Even though we can't see Jesus in the flesh we can still know Him as He reveals Himself to us in His word and by the Holy Spirit in us.

Key Thought

Although Jesus does not appear to us in His physical body we can still know Him.

Aim

For the children to realise we don't have to see Jesus to know Him.

Memory Verse

"I am with you always." (Matthew 28:10).

Activity A - Board Game

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child, plus at least one enlarged one, photocopied or mounted on cardboard.
- Colouring pencils.
- Dice.
- Counters.

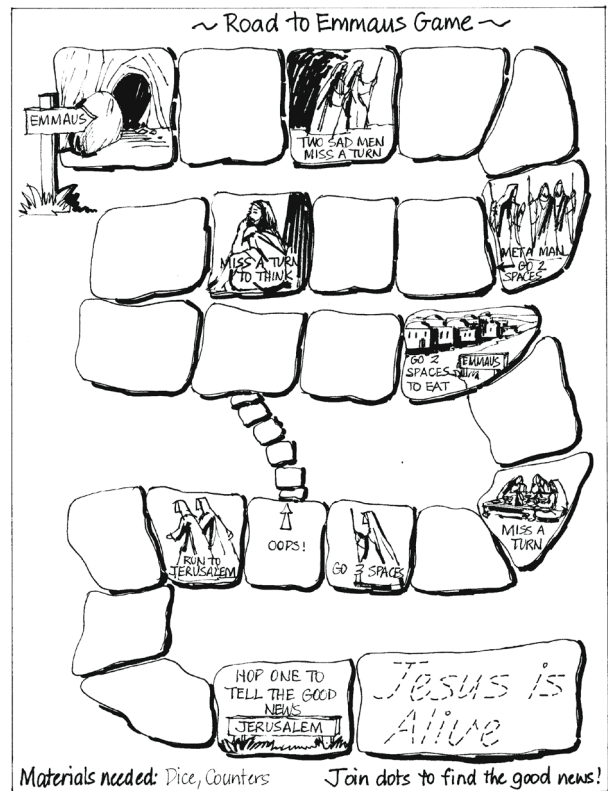
Steps

At Home

- If you have a large class you may wish to play the game in groups, so have enough enlarged copies of the game to do this.
- Colour the enlarged game with bright and appealing colours.

In Class

- Have the children play the game for a specified time, then allow them to colour their own copy to take home.



Activity B - Jesus in the Cloud

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Colouring pencils.
- Scissors.
- Glue.
- Cotton wool.

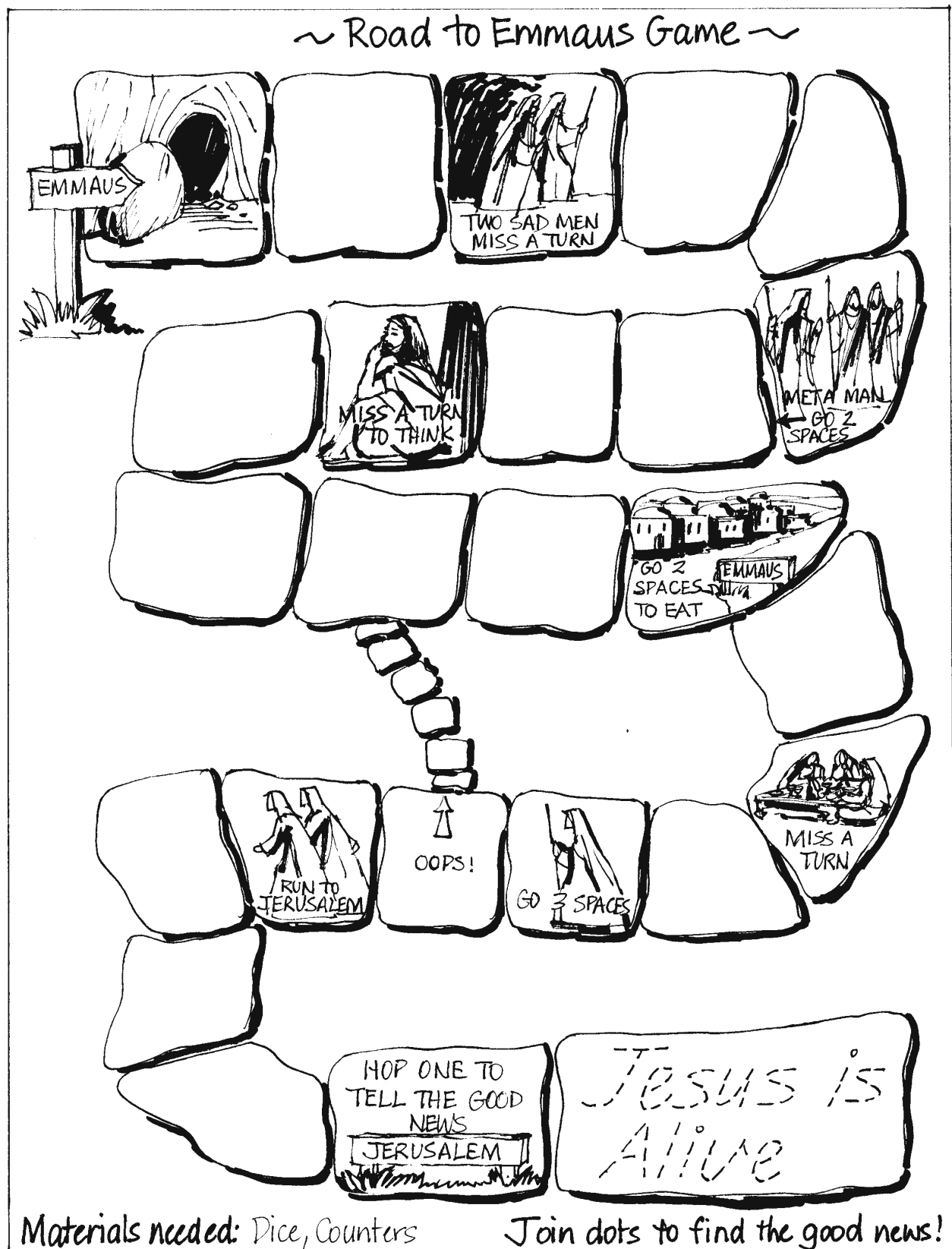
Steps

- The children colour Jesus in the cloud.
- Cut out both clouds around the dotted lines, separating the two parts of cloud “B”.
- Glue both “B” tabs onto the “A” tabs.
- Glue cotton wool on to cloud “B” only.
- Cloud “B” can now be folded back to reveal Jesus.



The risen Christ and His ascension

Activity A – Board Game



The risen Christ and His ascension

Activity B – Jesus in the Cloud



The day of Pentecost

Acts 2

Storyline

Jesus had told His disciples to wait in Jerusalem for the promise of the Holy Spirit. When the day of Pentecost came (the 50th day after the resurrection) they were all waiting on the Lord. Suddenly there came a sound like a mighty wind from heaven. Then tongues of fire appeared which settled on each one. They were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in foreign languages to the amazement of passers by. Jews from every country heard them speaking of the mighty works of God, each in their own language. Peter stood in the power of the Holy Spirit and told the people about Christ. About 3,000 people were convicted, repented and were baptised on that day.

Suggested Teaching Approach

Explain to the children who the Holy Spirit is and the work He does. Tell the children how the Holy Spirit helps us when we pray or when we're not sure what to do. Explain that someone can be filled with the Holy Spirit as others pray with them. God gives us a sign that we are filled by giving us a new prayer language.

Theme One

"The baptism of the Holy Spirit"

After Jesus was raised to the right hand of God, He gave the Holy Spirit to His Church to help them and to give them power. Similarly Jesus wants each one of us to receive His Holy Spirit so that we may know His power and enabling.

Key Thought

God's will can only be done by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Aim

To show the children why Jesus wants us to receive the Holy Spirit, and how having Him living within us is the only way we can learn to be like Him.

Memory Verse

"Be filled with the Spirit." (Ephesians 5:18).

Theme Two

"Power to live as sons of God"

Only weeks after Peter denied Christ, he then stood and declared Him to be both Lord and Christ! What power the Holy Spirit has to transform a man from one who denies Christ to one who stands and declares who He is! This same power can be seen in our lives if we ask for it.

Key Thought

The Holy Spirit has the power to change our lives, and to enable us to live as children of God.

Aim

For the children to understand that the power of the Spirit can be a reality in their lives.

Memory Verse

"Walk in the Spirit." (Galatians 5:25).

Activity A - Cut Out and Colour Picture

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Red and yellow cardboard cut into small squares (3 cm).
- Scissors.
- Glue.
- Colouring pencils/felt pens.

Steps

At Home

- Draw flame shapes on the coloured cardboard squares.

In Class

- The children cut out the flame shapes and glue them on above each person's head to depict the Holy Spirit.
- Colour the people.



Activity B - Memory Verse Flags

Materials

- Rectangles of scrap material/stiff paper or cardboard (about 12 x 25 cm).
- Scissors.
- Straws or skewers (1 per flag).
- Thick tipped felt pens.
- Safety pins, staples or masking tape.

Steps

- Using felt pens, have the children draw pictures from the story around the outside of their flag.
- Write the memory verse in the centre of the flag.
- Attach the flag to the stick/straw.

The day of Pentecost

Activity A – Cut Out and Colour Picture



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Peter and John

Storyline

Peter and John went to the temple to pray. A lame man was outside the temple begging for money and he asked Peter and John for help. Peter said, 'Silver and gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk.'" It was the best gift anyone could give him. He was so excited that he went into the temple walking, leaping and praising God. Peter and John were in trouble from the religious leaders for teaching about Jesus but they refused to stop sharing all the wonderful things they had seen and learned when He was with them. Later, Peter and John went to Samaria and prayed for the new believers to receive the Holy Spirit. Before He returned to heaven, Jesus had told Peter how he would die, and Peter wanted to know about John. Jesus said, in effect, "Mind your own business, you follow me." John, in fact, was the only one of the twelve apostles not to be martyred. In his old age, he was imprisoned on the Isle of Patmos and he had a revelation of the risen and exalted Lord Jesus and God revealed many things to him which are yet to take place.

Suggested Teaching Approach

Theme 1

- Recount the story focusing on God using Peter and John to heal the lame man.
- Discuss how we can pray for others in family/church/Sunday School/prayer times.
- Teacher recounts how God has answered one of his/her prayers. Encourage the children to share about answered prayers.

Theme 2

Talk about being what it means to be a faithful disciple of Jesus Christ. He gives us different things to do for Him, He has a different path for each of us. As we give ourselves to do these things we are growing in our sonship and walking as faithful disciples.

Theme One

"No other name"

Peter and John knew that in themselves they had no way to help the lame man, but they knew Jesus would heal him. Jesus had told the disciples they could ask anything in His name. So they used the name of Jesus to raise the lame man. We, too, can pray for others and see God meet their needs.

Key Thought

We are limited in our power to help others. God's power is greater than ours as we pray for others.

Aim

To teach the children that healing only comes through the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Memory Verse

"Ask the Father in My name." (John 16:23).

Theme Two

"Faithful disciples of Jesus Christ"

The Pharisees and Simon the Sorcerer, on different occasions, attempted to influence Peter and John, to divert them from the way of the Lord. It is our responsibility to search the Scriptures, and to listen to and receive His word in order to learn what is acceptable to God. If we do this, the Holy Spirit will enable us to stand firm and not be influenced by others who have different standards.

Key Thought

The Lord's blessing is upon the one who is both a hearer and a doer of His word.

Aim

To encourage one another to receive His word, allowing it to change our hearts and behaviour, thus saving our souls.

Memory Verse

"Keep My word." (John 14:23).

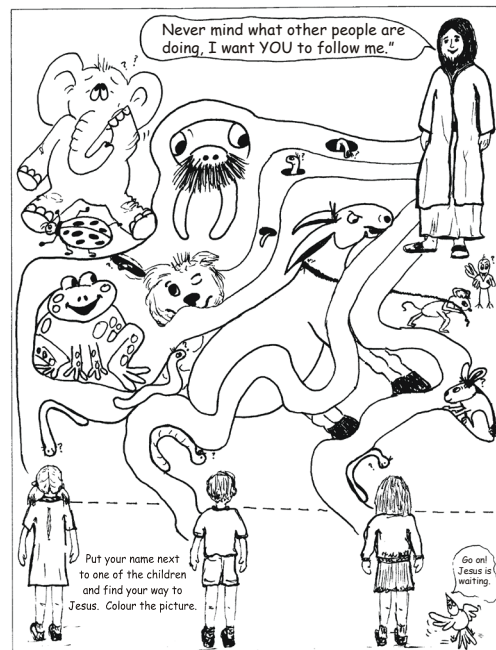
Activity A - Maze

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Pens/pencils/colouring pencils.

Steps

- Tell the children to write their name beside one of the children. They are then to find and mark their way to Jesus through the maze.
- The quicker workers may like to mark the path the other children need to take to go to Jesus.



Activity B - Split-pin Man

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child, photocopied or mounted on cardboard.
- 5 split-pins per child.
- Cardboard.
- Colouring pencils.
- Scissors.

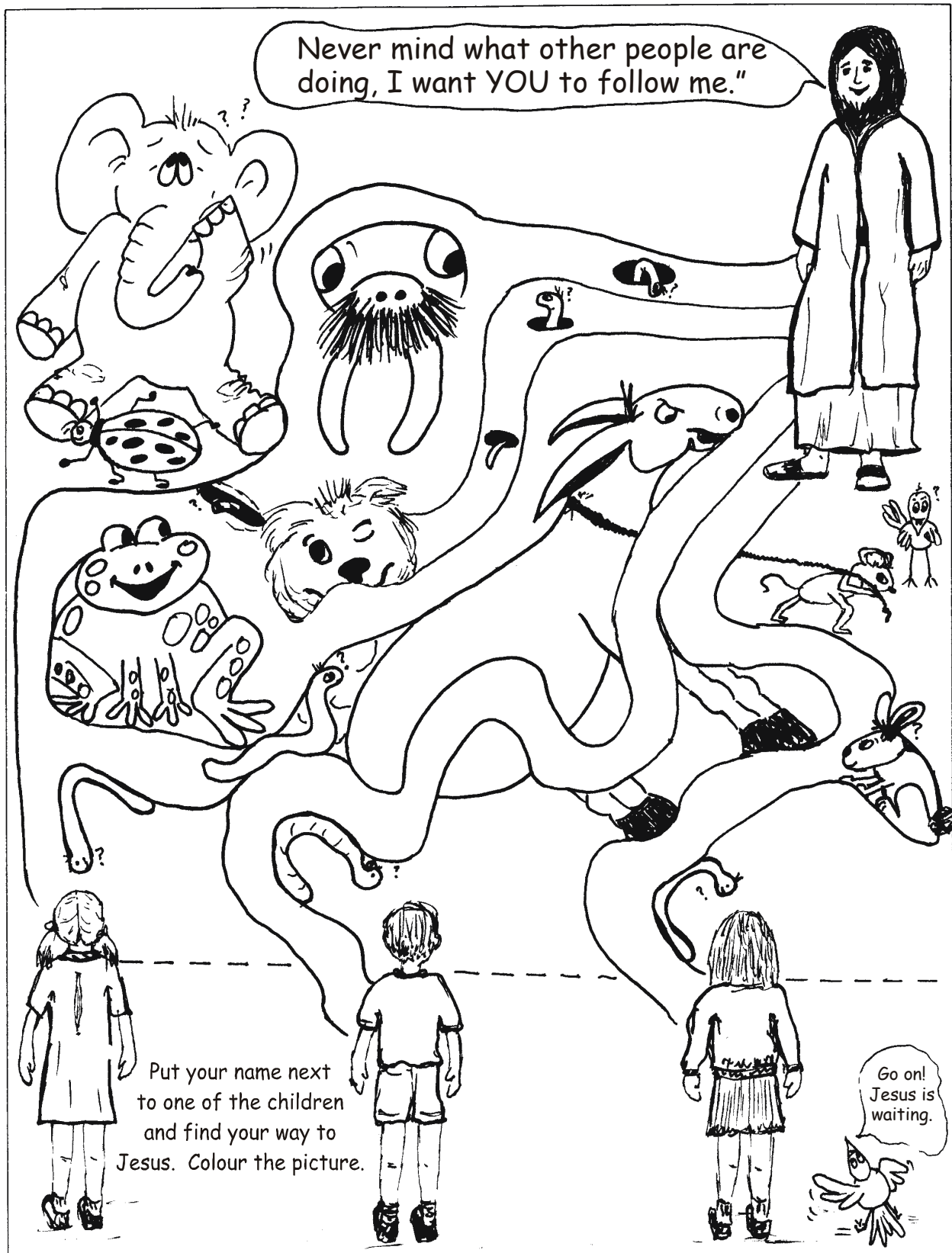
Steps

- The children colour the picture and cut out the pieces.
- Use split-pins to put the man together.



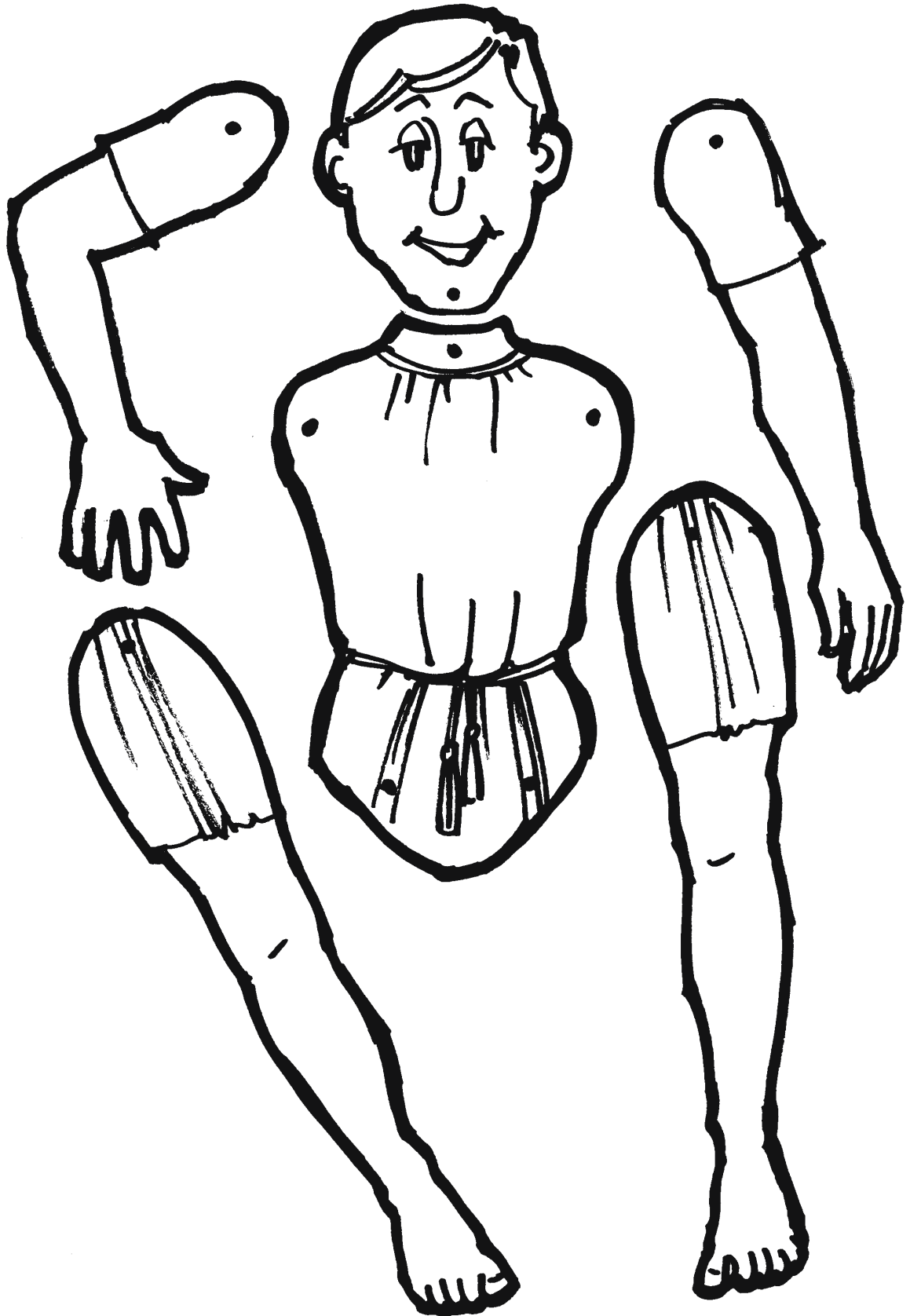
Peter and John

Activity A - Maze



Peter and John

Activity B – Split-pin Man



Peter and the Gentiles

Acts 9:32-43; 10;
11:1-18; 12:1-19

Storyline

Peter visited a town called Lydda and healed a man there. Then he went to Joppa, where one of the disciples had died. Peter prayed and she came back to life. There was another time when Peter was praying and the Lord showed him a vision of a sheet with all kinds of animals inside. He knew then that God loved the Gentiles and Jews equally. He went to Cornelius' house and told the people there that God loved them and had sent Jesus for them. Some years later, King Herod got angry with the Christians and put Peter in prison to kill him. However, the Lord sent an angel and the chains fell off Peter. He left the prison with the angel and went to the house where his friends were praying for him.

Suggested Teaching Approach

Theme 1

The teacher could lead a discussion about God creating each one of us and loving us all the same. Explain that Jesus wants to come and live with every person.

Recount the story of Peter explaining that, although the Jews were God's people, God was showing Peter that He loved everyone the same.

Theme 2

Recount the story, focusing on how God was with Peter all the time.

Discuss how Peter would have felt in prison and how we sometimes feel scared, sad and lonely.

Explain that we can pray to God and He will be with us and help us through our troubles.

Theme One

"God shows no partiality"

God clearly declared to Peter that He shows no partiality. Salvation is for all people, regardless of race or creed. He charges us not to distinguish between people on this basis but rather all have need of salvation and those that respond are all members of God's family.

Key Thought

God shows no distinction between any man according to his race or belief.

Aim

For the children to understand that all people are in need of salvation no matter where they live or what they believe.

Memory Verse

"God shows no partiality." (Acts 10:34).

Theme Two

"God knows when we need help"

Life is not always happy and plain sailing. When things happen that make us feel sad or worried, God knows. He will be with us and help us, just like He helped Peter when he was in prison.

Key Thought

We can know that God will always be with us if we love and trust Him. He wants to look after us.

Aim

For the children to know that God cares about every part of our lives and is always watching over us.

Memory Verse

"God is my helper." (Psalm 54:4).

Activity A - Paper Folding/Colouring

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Colouring pencils/felt pens.

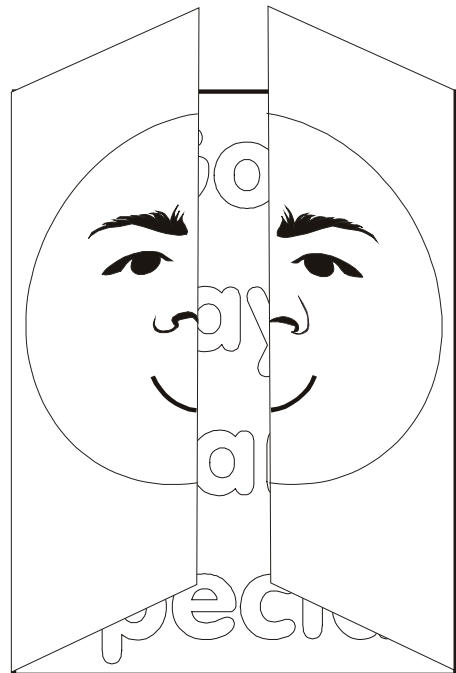
Steps

At Home

- Cut out around the box on the Activity Sheet.
- Fold the sides inwards along the lines.

In Class

- The children draw a picture of a face on the front of the card.
- They then colour the face and the wording.



Activity B - Colour the Correct Pictures

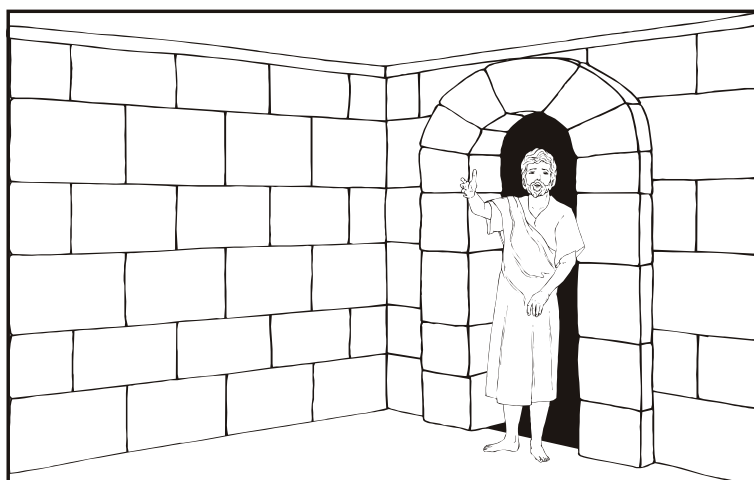
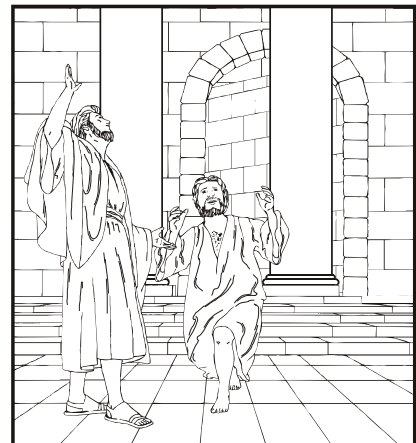
Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Pens/pencils/felt pens.

Steps

- The children colour in the pictures that are correct. message.

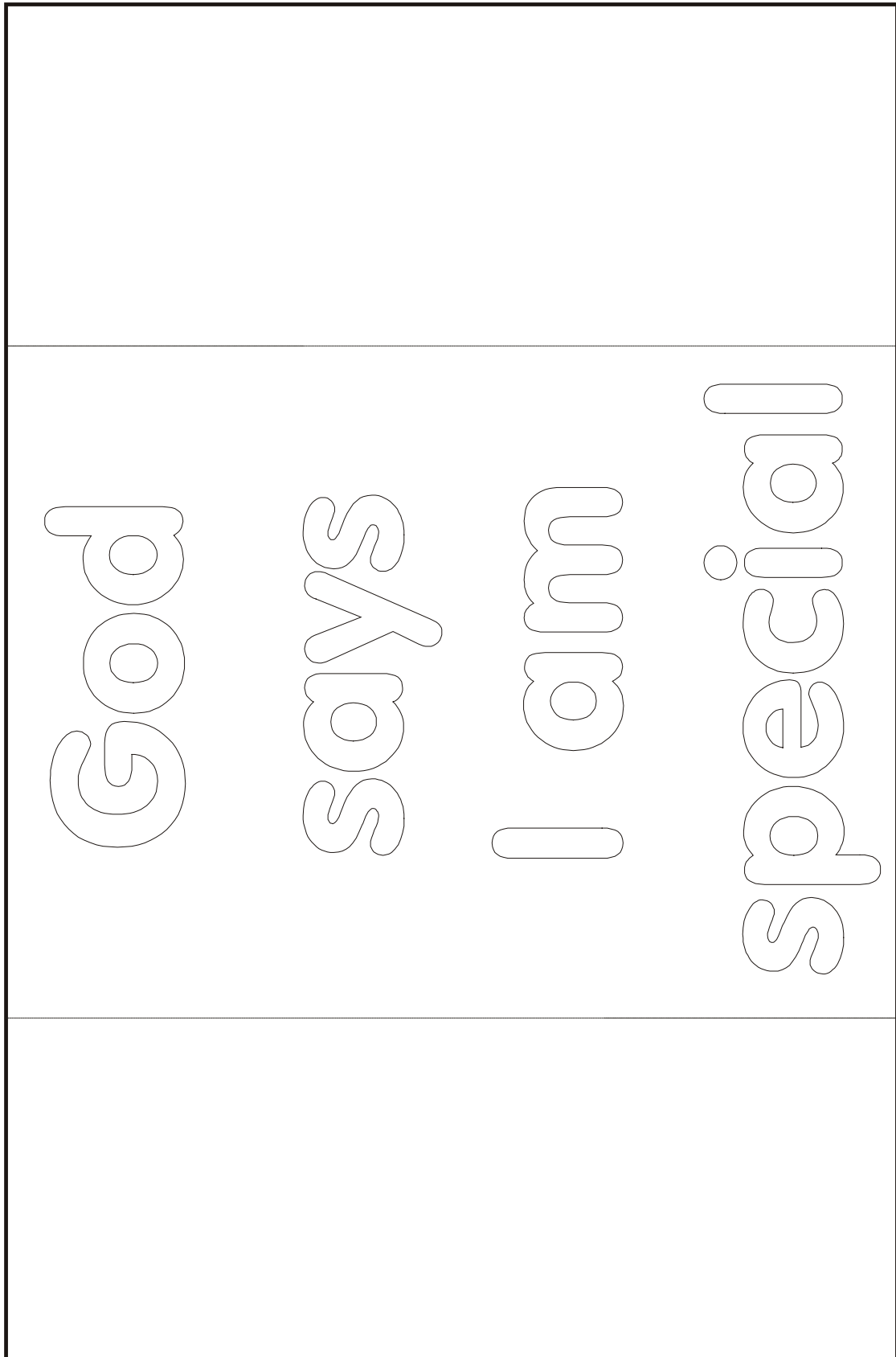
A lame man was healed



Peter was set free from prison by an angel

Peter and the Gentiles

Activity A – Paper Folding/Colouring



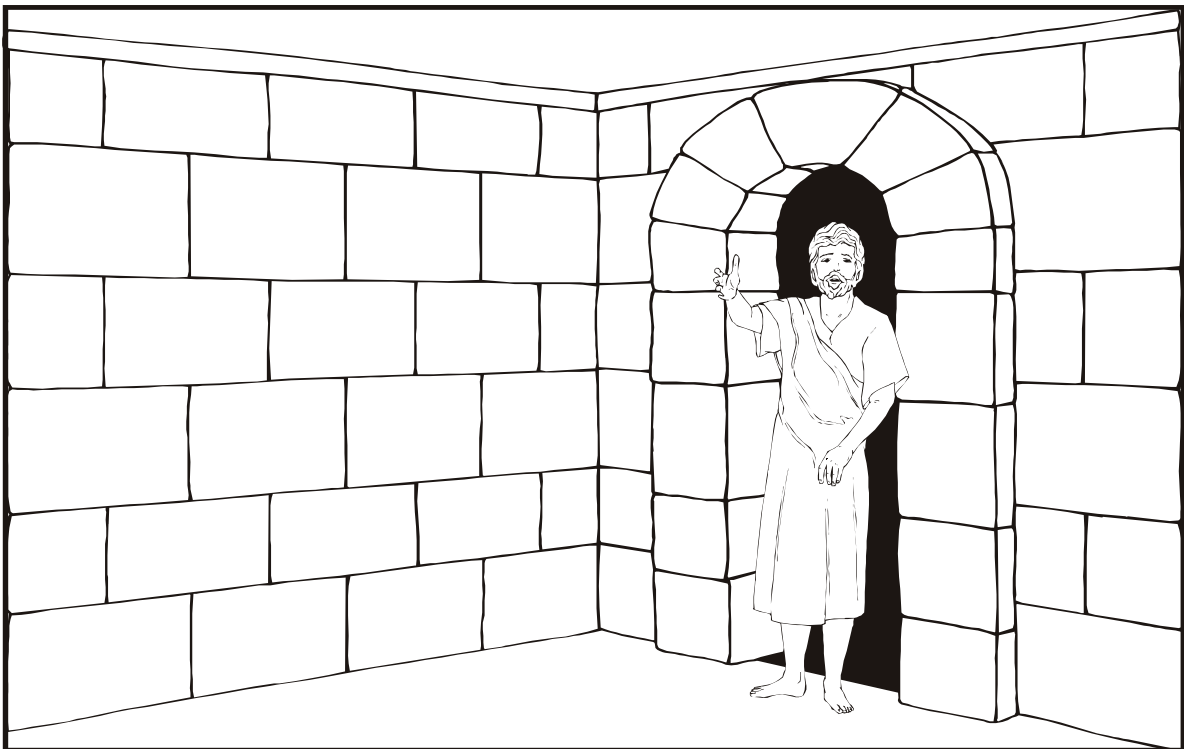
Peter and the Gentiles

Activity B – Colour the Correct Pictures

A lame man was healed



Peter sailed a
boat to Jerusalem



Peter was set free from prison by an angel

Stephen

Acts 6 & 7

Storyline

Stephen was one of seven faithful men chosen to help the apostles so they would be free to minister God's word. One day some wicked people told lies about Stephen because they hated him. He was brought before the council and told them about Jesus. They were angry. Stephen stared up into heaven and he said he could see Jesus standing at God's right hand. They covered their ears and dragged him out of the city and stoned him. Stephen asked the Lord to forgive the ones who were stoning him. Then he died.

Suggested Teaching Approach

Theme 1

Recount Stephen's story, emphasising that Stephen was given power to do the things he had to do.

Lead a group discussion on how we can do the work that God is calling us to do, according to the power that He gives us.

Theme 2

Tell the story with a focus on the strength God gave to Stephen to help him forgive and pray for those who were stoning him.

Lead a simple discussion on forgiveness: eg. parents asking us to forgive brothers and sisters; forgiving a friend at school. Emphasise that we must forgive from the heart and not be angry or hold a grudge any more.

Theme One

"Full of faith and power"

Stephen was chosen to serve as a steward and to minister the word of God but not as an apostle. He did great wonders and signs. God is able to use us as we commit ourselves to whatever task He has called us to, and He will give us the power to do it.

Key Thought

We will be effective in our walk with God's enabling. What we do in our own strength is of no value to God.

Aim

For the students to understand that it is God who calls us and God who gives us the power to complete the tasks He asks us to do.

Memory Verse

"Our sufficiency is from God." (Hebrews 13:5).

Theme Two

"Forgiveness"

Stephen knew God was with him. Even though the people were about to kill him, he was still able to truly care about them, asking God to forgive them. We must not hold unforgiveness in our hearts towards anyone.

Key Thought

When someone has done something to hurt us, God wants us to forgive them.

Aim

For the children to realise that the Lord can give us a real love and a truly forgiving heart.

Memory Verse

"Father, forgive them." (Luke 23:34).

Activity A - Paint Wash Secret Message

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Food colouring – 1 or 2 colours.
- Old bowls/paint containers.
- Paint brushes (if you have them) or kitchen sponges cut into quarters.
- Aprons (or old shirts).

Steps

At Home

- Using a clear white candle, write the word 'Jesus' in the cloud above the face on each Activity Sheet. It should be invisible. (You can check your lettering by looking at a 45o angle under a bright light).

In Class

- Discuss why we don't have to be afraid.
- Explain that we will discover a secret message by painting the cloud.
- Have children paint a wash over the cloud revealing the name. There is no need to dilute the food colouring.
- Discuss that even though we can't see Jesus, we know He is with us.



I don't have to be afraid
because _____ is with me.

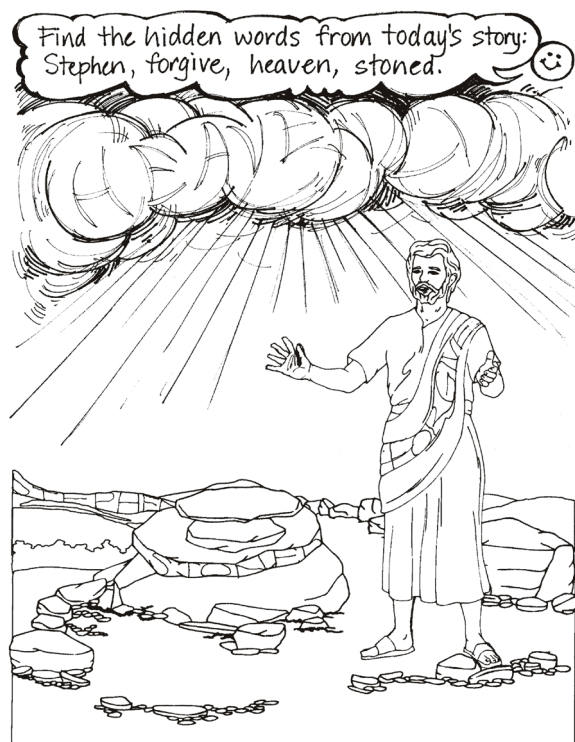
Activity B - Word Search

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Colouring pencils/felt pens.

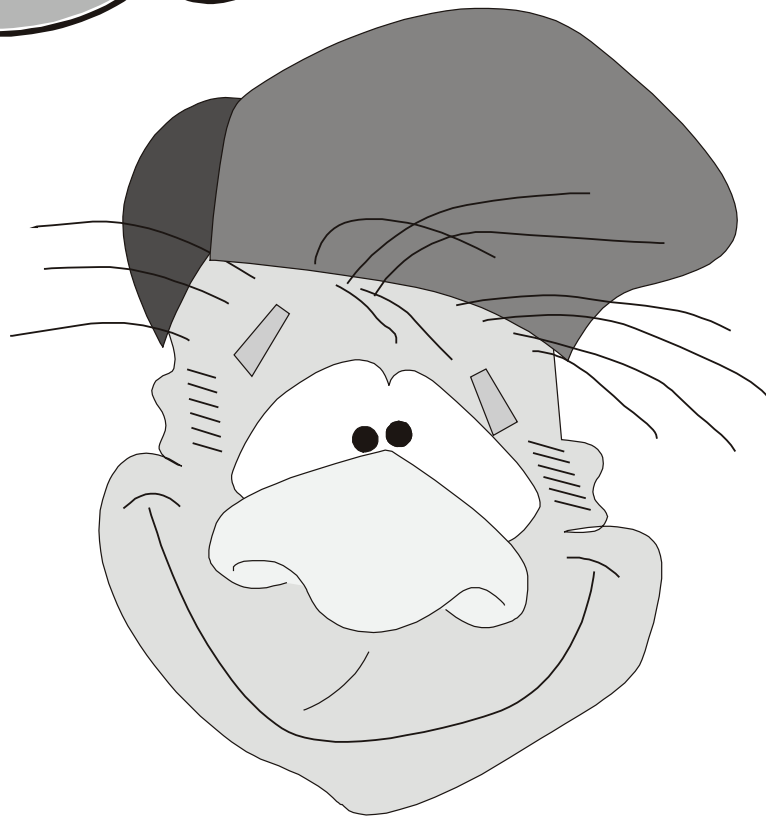
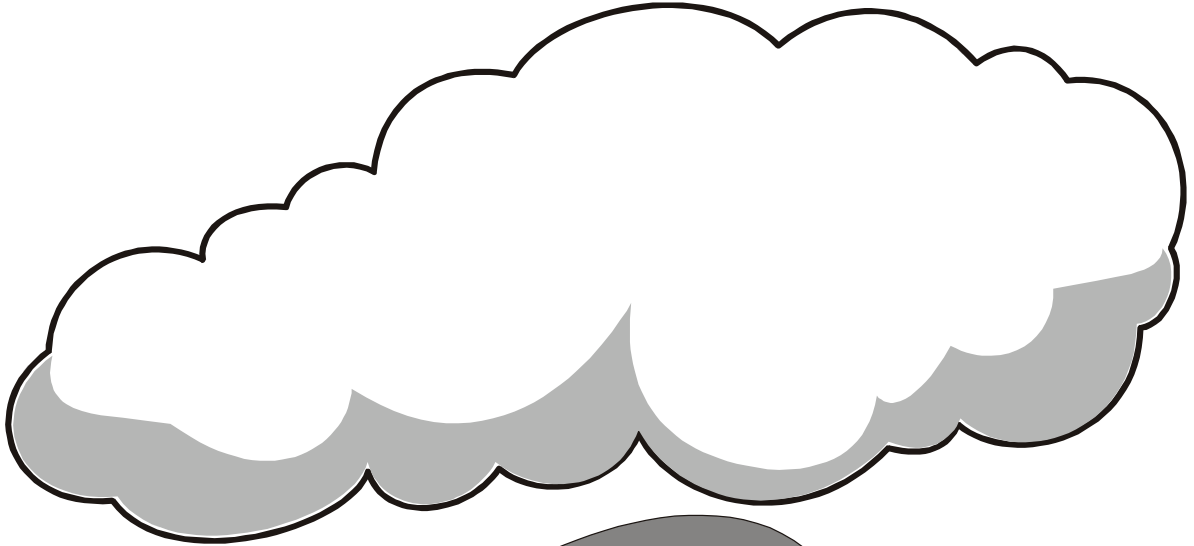
Steps

- Review the story, discussing the meaning of the words 'forgive', 'heaven', 'stoned'.
- Have the children search the worksheet for the key words that are hidden.
- The children can then colour the picture.



Stephen

Activity A – Paint-Wash Secret Message

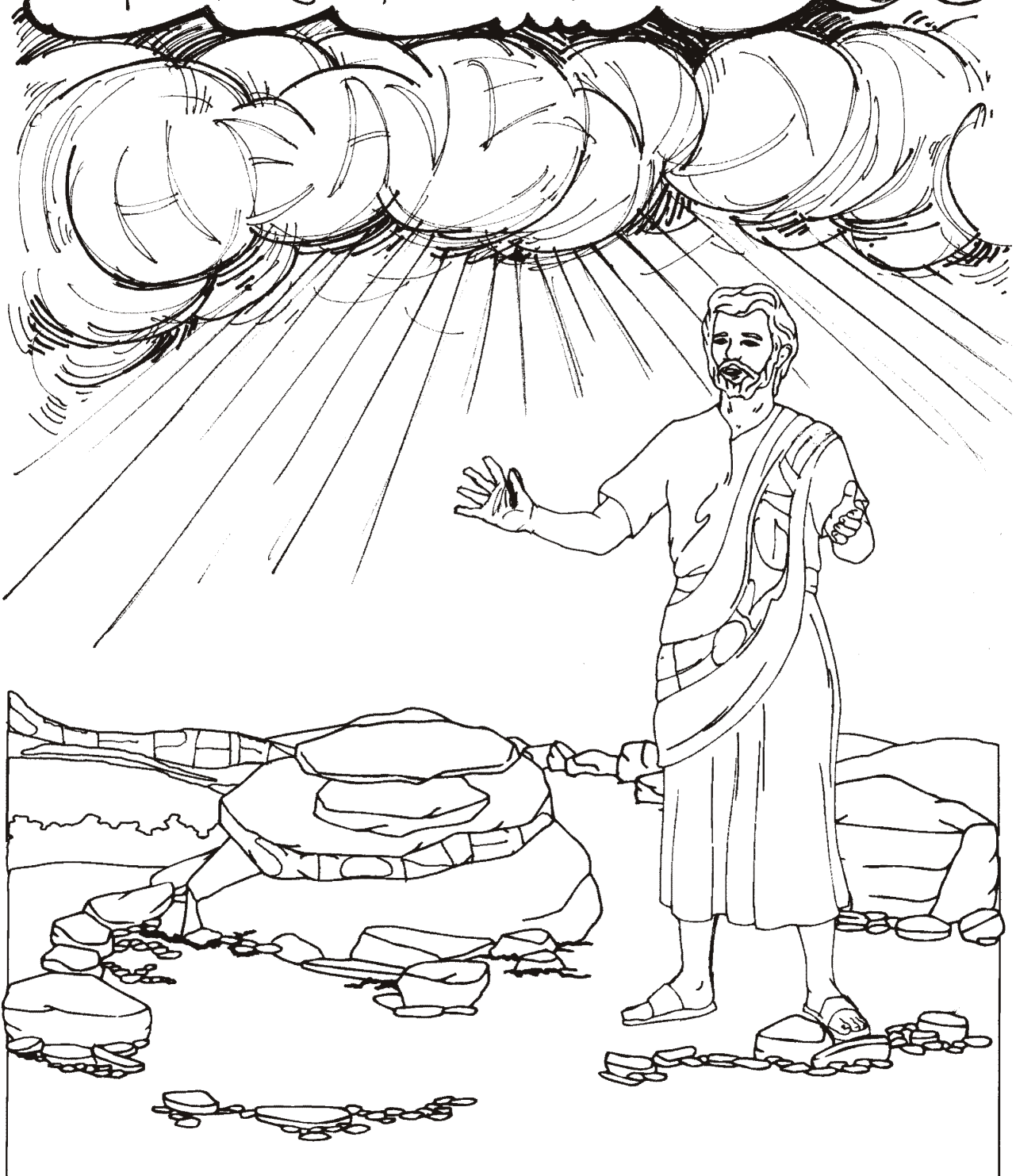


I don't have to be afraid
because _____ is with me.

Stephen

Activity B – Word Search

Find the hidden words from today's story:
Stephen, forgive, heaven, stoned.



Philip

Acts 8:4-13,26-40

Storyline

Philip, like Stephen, was one of the seven men chosen to help the apostles. He went to Samaria and preached Christ to them and did some miracles. Then an angel of the Lord told Philip to travel south to Gaza. On the way, he came across an important Ethiopian (an African man) who was reading the Scriptures. He told Philip he needed someone to help him understand what he was reading. Philip explained the Scriptures and told him about Jesus. The Ethiopian then asked Philip to baptize him. After the baptism, the Spirit of the Lord took Philip and placed him in a town about 30km away.

Suggested Teaching Approach

Incorporate both themes in recounting the story. Emphasise the Ethiopian's willing heart and his response to God's word. Note the importance of having others (Philip) to teach God's word. If possible, use a flannelgraph board or sand tray.

Complete game (Activity B) or commence Activity A (to be completed next week).

Theme One

"Introducing people to Jesus"

Just as the Holy Spirit convicted the heart of the Ethiopian when Philip spoke to him about Jesus, so He is at work today to convict the hearts of people who hear about the Lord. As we pray for our friends, the Holy Spirit will create opportunities for us to share the Lord's love with them.

Key Thought

We are called to be the light of the world. Let us shine as lights so that others may see.

Aim

To exhort the students to be praying and believing for the enabling of the Holy Spirit in speaking to friends about our Lord Jesus.

Memory Verse

"Preach the word!" (2 Timothy 4:2).

Theme Two

"God rewards those who diligently seek Him"

The Ethiopian was genuinely seeking God and God rewarded him with a fuller revelation through Philip. God helps those who genuinely seek Him to find the truth. As we commit our ways to the Lord, He watches over us and guides and blesses our lives. As we seek to know more of Him, He rewards us.

Key Thought

When we seek God with all our hearts, we shall find Him, and He will reward us for it.

Aim

To encourage the children to be diligent in seeking the Lord.

Memory Verse

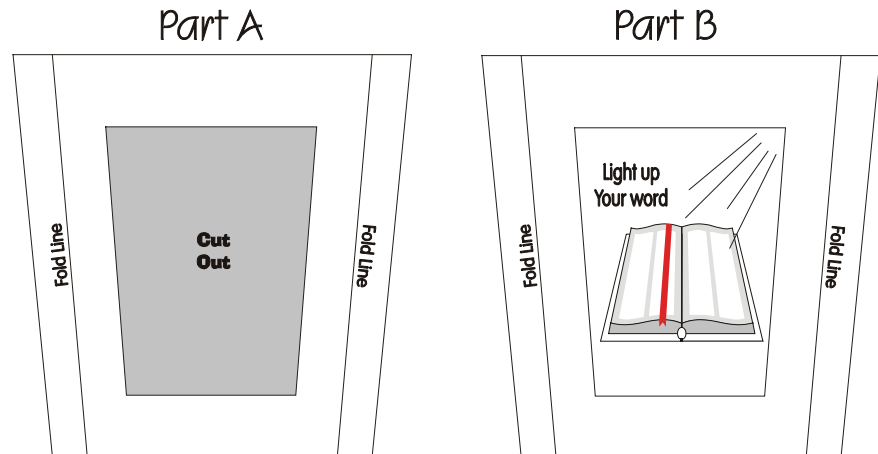
"Seek, and you will find." (Luke 11:9).

Activity A - Lantern Making (Part One)

Teacher please note that this activity continues for two weeks. The aim is for the children to make two sides of the lantern this week, with the teacher keeping them. Then next week, the children make the other two sides and assemble the lantern, to take home.

Materials

- 1 of each of the two Activity Sheets per child (Part A and B), photocopied or mounted onto cardboard.
- Scissors.
- Glue.
- Gold or silver glitter.
- Colouring pencils.
- Yellow or clear cellophane, or even plastic wrap.
- Sticky tape.
- Stapler.



Steps

At Home

- Cut out the marked center of Part A. Save the scraps of cardboard.
- Pre-cut cellophane to fit over this hole, with as much room as possible around the edges, for gluing.

In Class

- The children cut out both pieces of the lantern, along the outside lines. (Save all the scraps of cardboard, to make the handles for the lanterns next week).
- Sticky tape cellophane onto the back of the one with the hole cut out.
- Put a little glue on the light beams in the picture, (Part B) then sprinkle gold or silver glitter on the glue.
- Fold on the fold lines, and staple together along one side only.
- If time permits, colour the book.
- The teacher collects them all to keep for next week.

Activity B - Game - "Guiding the Ethiopian"

Materials

- Soft scarf(s) or handkerchief(s) to use as a blindfold. Make sure it is big enough to go around a child's head.
- Ball(s) of string or wool.

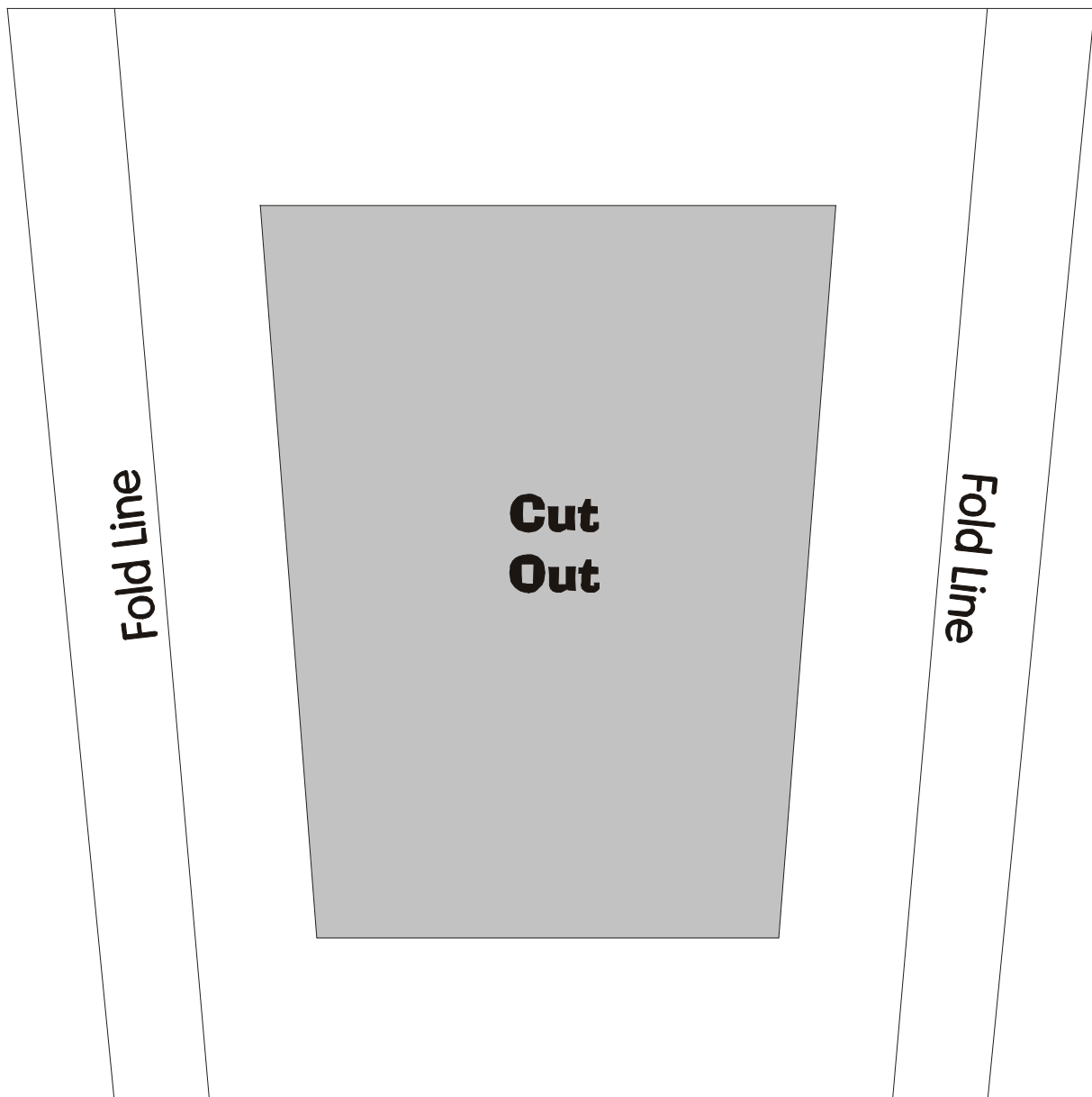
Steps

- Organise the children into pairs, one to be the Ethiopian, one to be Philip. Depending on the amount of space you have, and the number of children in your class, you may decide to have more than one pair working at the same time.
- Blindfold the Ethiopian and attach the string to a starting point. Then have Philip run the string in a course around the room, (or outside is possible). Use chairs, or trees, or playground equipment. A zigzag pattern would serve the purpose for this age group.
- Philip now helps the blindfolded Ethiopian find his way along the path. At the end Philip takes off the blindfold, so the Ethiopian can see fully. The Ethiopian could then find his way back and forth by himself.

Philip

Activity A – Lantern Making

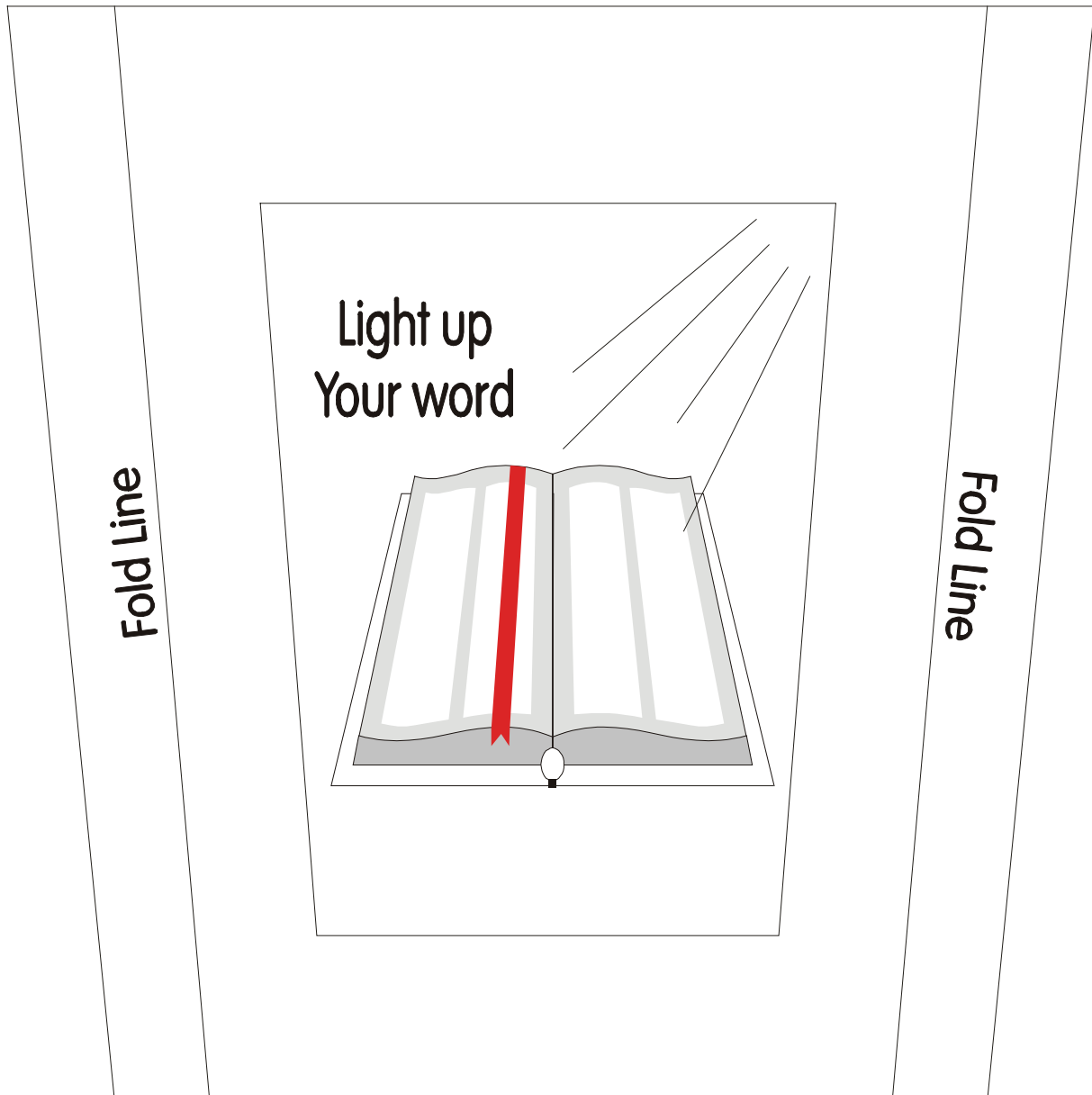
Part A



Philip

Activity A – Lantern Making

Part B



Paul's conversion

Storyline

Saul was being very cruel to the Christians all over the country. He was on his way to Damascus when a light from heaven shone on him and he fell to the ground. Jesus spoke to him and asked him why he was persecuting Him (by hurting God's people he was hurting the Lord). Saul was very sorry and repented. When Saul stood up he couldn't see and had to be led by hand to Damascus where he fasted for three days. The Lord spoke to a disciple called Ananias and told him to go to where Saul was, and to pray for him that he might see again. Afterward, the Jews got very angry with Saul, because he was now a Christian and they tried to kill him. He escaped by being lowered down a wall in a basket. From this time, Saul was known as Paul.

Suggested Teaching Approach

Recount Saul's conversion using a torch to emphasise God's light shining upon Saul. Stress the following points:

- When he saw God's light, Saul saw who Jesus really was.
- God's word became a light to Saul to show him how he was to live.
- God gave us His word to be a light to tell us about God and teach us how to live as Christians.

Explain how Ananias would have felt going to Saul. Use a common example such as having to speak to a bully at school.

If Activity A was commenced last week, complete this activity.

Otherwise, undertake Activity B.

Theme One

"Jesus reveals Himself to us"

Jesus revealed Himself to Saul in order to bring changes to his life. He became a completely new man, willing to lay down his own life in order to do the will of God. The righteousness of God is revealed to us in creation and in the gospel. Jesus is also revealed in His people as they respond in repentance and faith.

Key Thought

Firstly, Jesus reveals Himself to us, and then He is revealed in and through us, His people.

Aim

For the children to understand that God requires a response of faith from our hearts each time He reveals something of Himself to us.

Memory Verse

"Jesus Christ is in you." (2 Corinthians 13:5).

Theme Two

"Trust and obey"

Ananias had every reason to fear the meeting with Saul, but because God told him to go, he trusted and obeyed. Sometimes God may ask us to do something that we are afraid to do, like speaking to someone at school who laughs at us because we are Christians. We must learn to trust God and obey Him.

Key Thought

God is trustworthy, even when we are scared.

Aim

For the children to see that even if they feel scared, they can still trust and obey God.

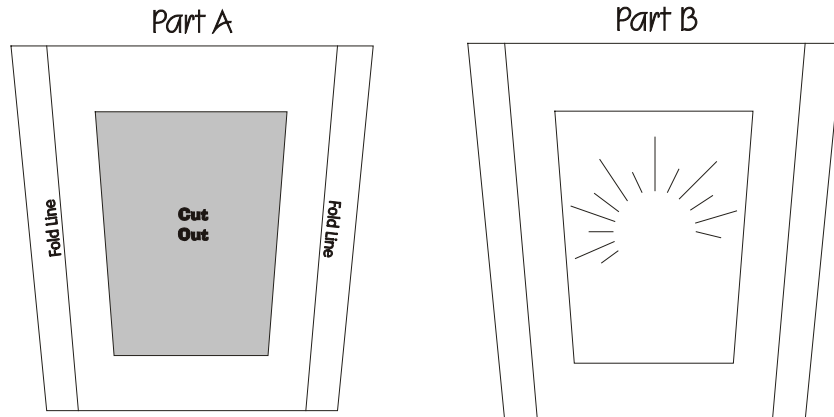
Memory Verse

"I will trust in You." (Psalm 56:3).

Activity A - Lantern Making (Part Two)

Materials

- 1 each of the 2 Activity Sheets per child, photocopied or mounted on cardboard.
- Scissors.
- Glue.
- Gold or silver glitter.
- Colouring pencils.
- Sticky tape.
- Stapler.
- Cellophane or plastic wrap.



Steps

At Home

- Prepare the two lantern sides the same as last week.

In Class

- Have the children draw themselves in the centre of the light beams.
- Cut out the lantern shapes.
- Sticky tape cellophane or plastic wrap over the lantern side with the hole.
- Put a little glue on the light beams and sprinkle glitter on them.
- Fold on the fold lines and staple the whole lantern together.
- With scraps of cardboard, make a handle for each lantern and staple on top.

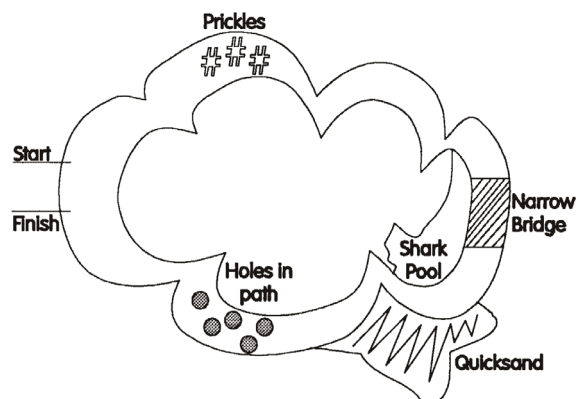
Activity B - Follow the Leader

Materials

- Chalk of different colours.
- Blindfold.

Steps

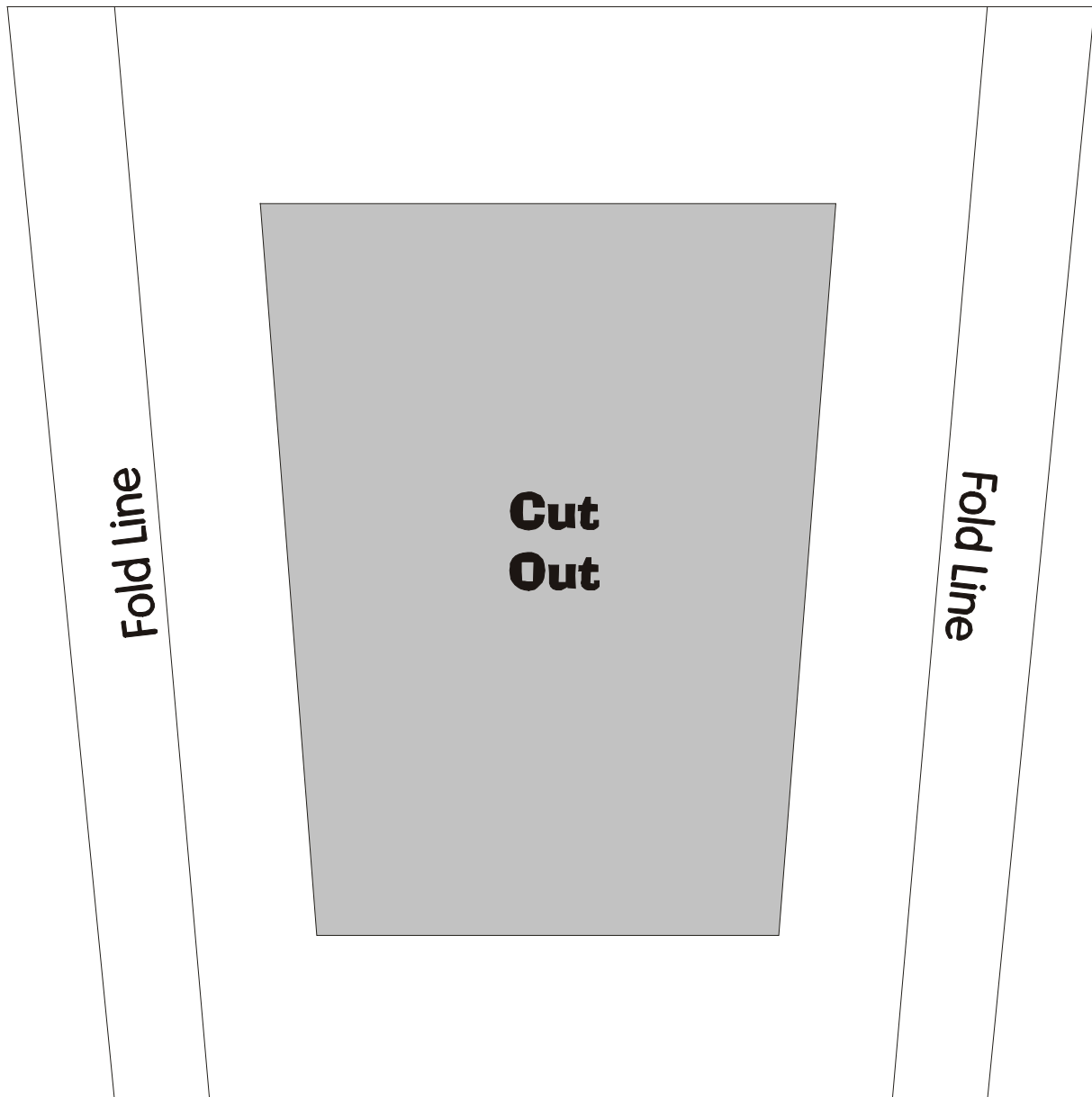
- Take the children outside to a concreted/bitumened area. (If it is raining or not suitable, set up in your room using furniture as danger areas.)
- Draw a narrow path on the ground and add some dangers, explaining them as you draw, eg, prickles, quicksand, sharks:
- Remind the children of the story of Ananias and the reasons that he might have been scared, eg. Saul had been hunting Christians and putting them in jail. Emphasise that he wasn't scared because God was with him.
- Have partners lead a blindfolded person around the course, stressing that God is with us, caring for us, even though we don't see Him.



Paul's conversion

Activity A – Lantern Making (continued)

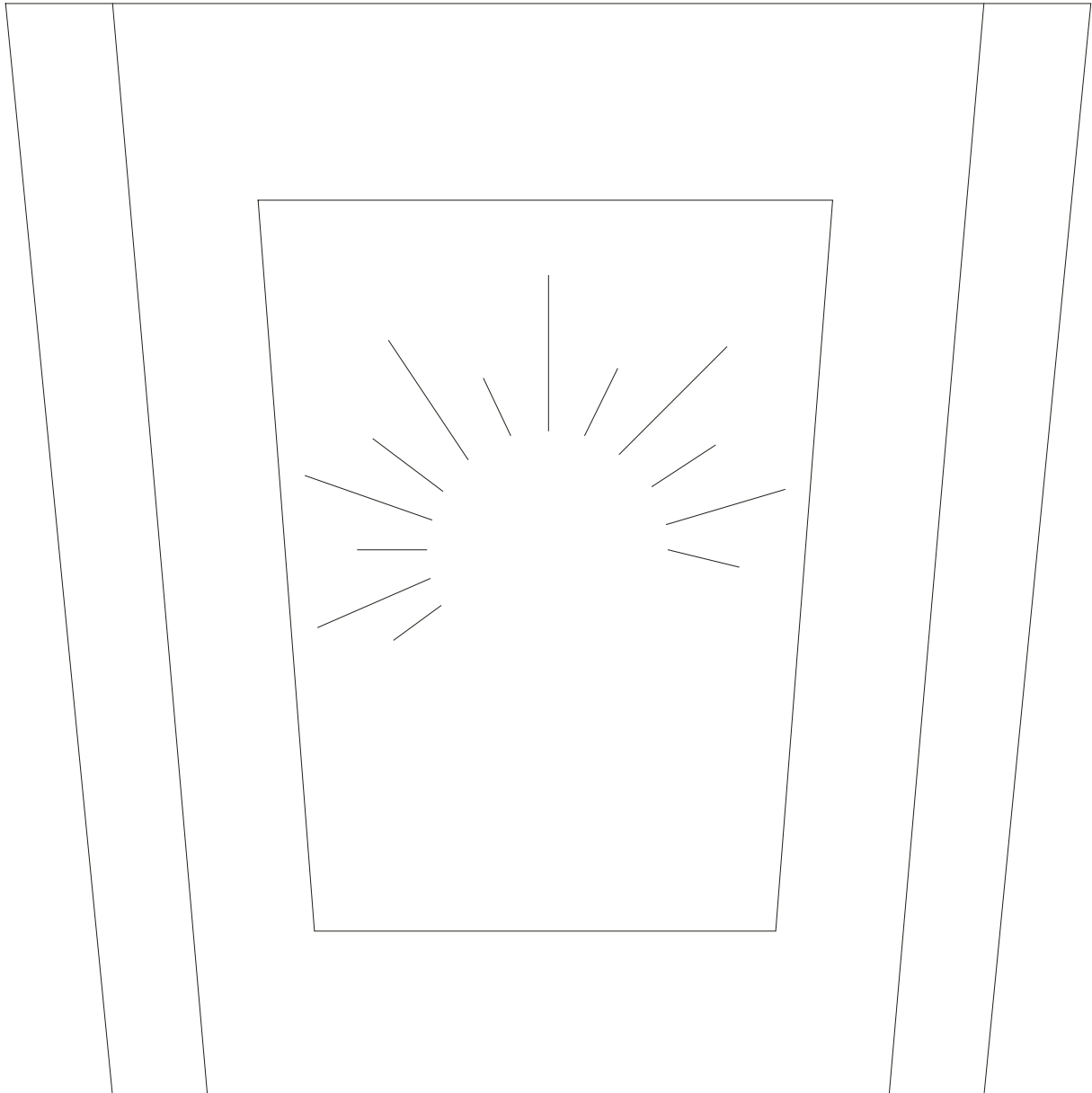
Part A



Paul's conversion

Activity A – Lantern Making (continued)

Part B



Paul's first missionary journey

Acts 13 & 14

Storyline

The Holy Spirit sent Paul and Barnabas on a journey to tell people about Jesus. At Paphos, they told the governor about God's love. An evil man named Elymas began telling lies and saying wicked things about Paul and Barnabas to the governor. God worked a miracle through Paul, and Elymas was made blind. The governor was amazed by God's power, and believed in Him. As Paul and Barnabas continued their journey, many people believed in Jesus Christ and were filled with the Holy Spirit. Some people, however, became very angry when they heard Paul and Barnabas talk about Jesus. At a town named Lystra, some Jews became so angry that they stoned Paul and left him there to die. The disciples who lived in Lystra helped Paul and he quickly recovered and continued on his journey.

Suggested Teaching Approach

Recount the story, focussing on how the believers at Lystra were true friends of Paul. They cared for him and helped him recover so he could continue telling people of God.

Discuss what it means to stand firm as a Christian. God can enable us to stand and share our testimony, even when people treat us unkindly.

Theme One

"Through many tribulations"

Paul's life demonstrated great faith and perseverance as he walked with the Lord. He found God's grace was sufficient in every situation. We, too, can prove that His grace is sufficient for us.

Key Thought

When we're facing difficulties, we can find God's grace to overcome too. Nothing is too hard for the Lord.

Aim

To help the children realise they're able to turn to the Lord at any time for help and support in the trial they're facing.

Memory Verse

"My grace is sufficient for you." (2 Corinthians 12:9).

Theme Two

"The gospel brings division"

As we see from Paul's missionary journeys, the gospel is a light which shows up the darkness in those who hear. Sometimes this brings repentance and salvation in them but it can bring out a very strong opposition to us and the word of God preached.

Key Thought

Our hope is that all may believe in Jesus and be saved, but all may not be willing to believe and will therefore resist all talk of Jesus.

Aim

For the children to understand that making a stand and being a Christian at school will mean that some people will treat us unkindly.

Memory Verse

"The light shines in the darkness." (John 1:5).

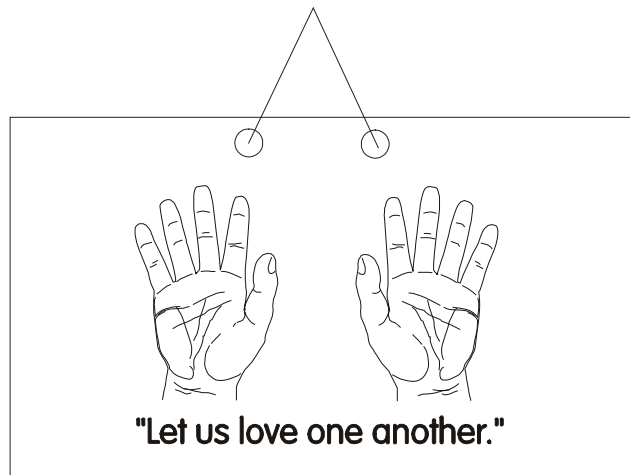
Activity A - Hand Tracing

Materials

- Coloured cardboard (enough for each child to have their hands traced on).
- 1 A4 sized piece of white cardboard per child.
- Scissors.
- Marking pens.
- Wool.

Steps

- Have the children in pairs.
- The children take turns tracing around their 'friends' hands on the coloured cardboard. Discuss how we can't do this activity by ourselves, that we need friends to help us. We have Jesus to help us be good friends.
- Once every child has had their hands traced, they cut around the outline of their hands and glue them onto their white cardboard.
- The memory verse can be written on the card.
- Tie wool at the top so the card can be hung up.



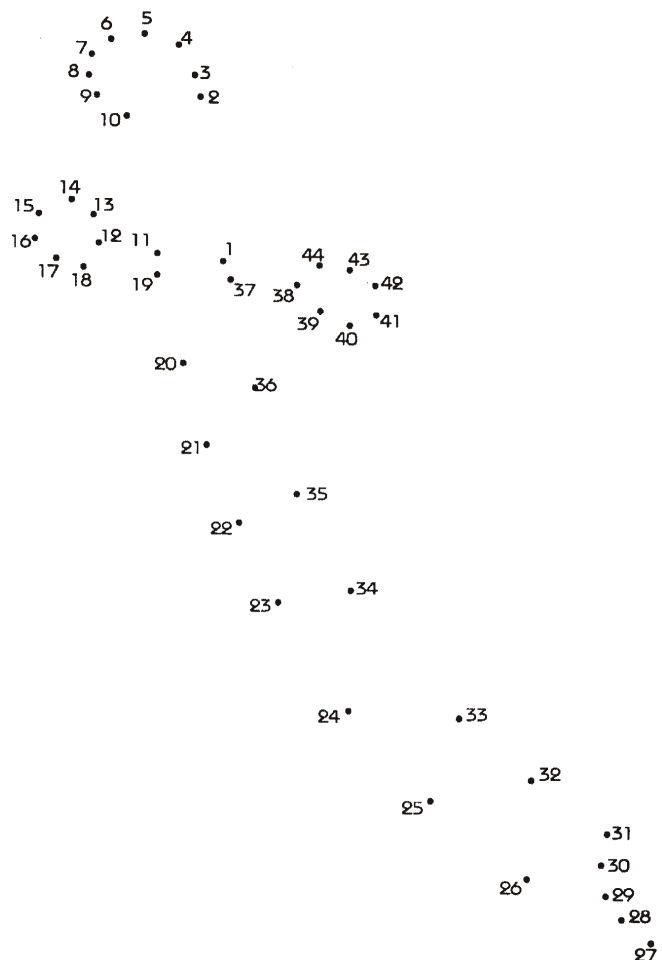
Activity B - Dot to Dot Sword

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child, photocopied or mounted on cardboard.
- Colouring pencils/felt pens.
- Aluminium foil.
- Wood shavings/brown paper.

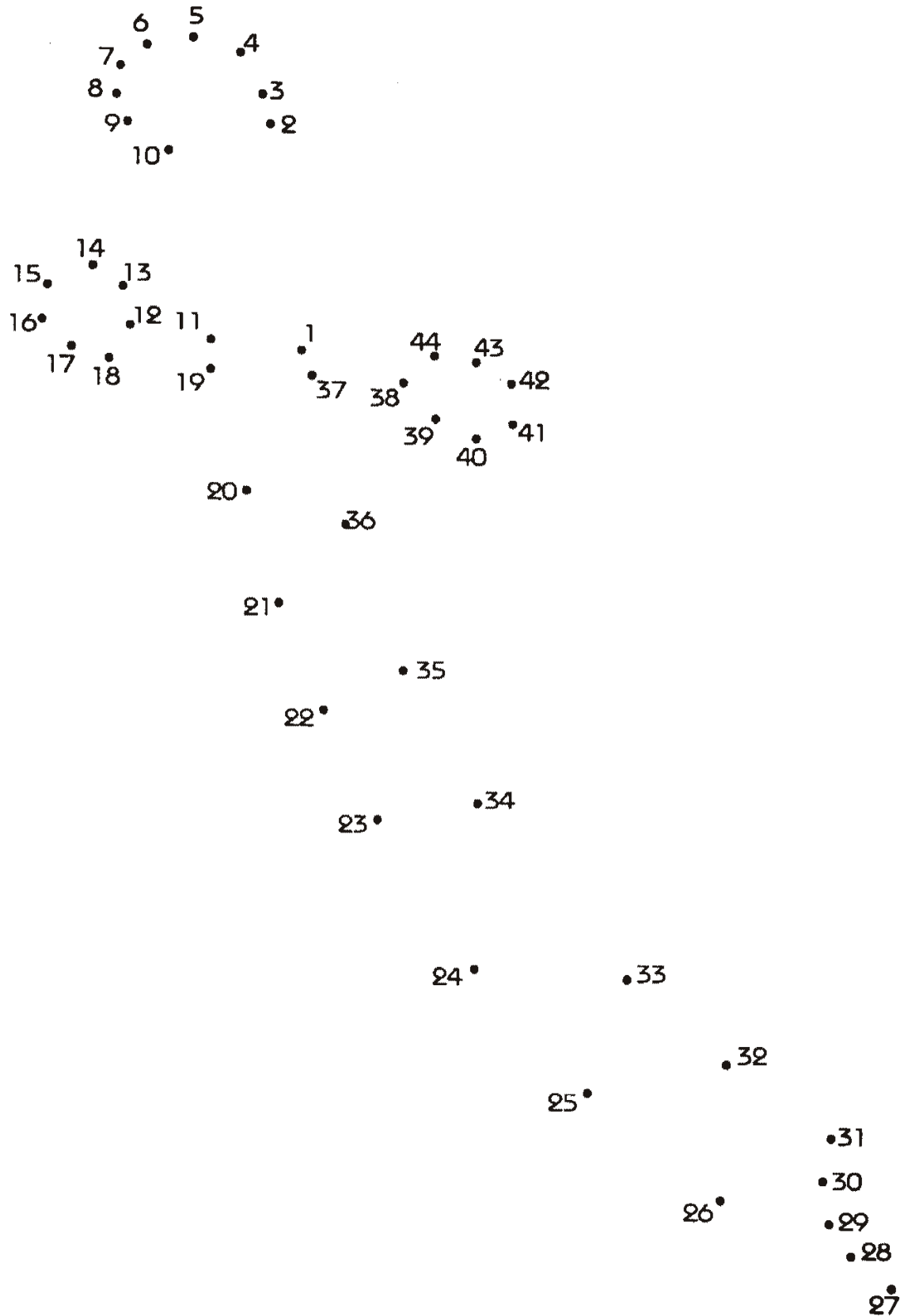
Steps

- The children join the dots together following the numbers 1 to 44 to reveal a sword, then colour it in.
- Cut out the sword.
- Glue on alfoil for the blade and wood shavings or brown paper for the handle.



Paul's first missionary journey

Activity B – Dot to Dot Sword



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Paul's second and third missionary journeys

Acts 15:36 - 21:19

Storyline

Paul and Silas continued their journey, visiting many cities and telling people about God. One night a vision came to Paul. In it, a man from Macedonia asked Paul to come and help the people of that place. Paul and his friends left straight away to tell the people about Jesus. When they got to Macedonia, Paul healed a slave girl. Her owners became very angry, and they had Paul and Silas thrown in prison. In the middle of the night, Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God. Suddenly a great earthquake shook the jail and all the doors opened and the prisoners' chains fell off. The man in charge of the prison was very scared by what had happened. He thought the prisoners had all escaped, but Paul and Silas told him not to be afraid. They told him all about Jesus and he and his family believed God. On Paul's third journey he went to Ephesus. There he prayed for some disciples to be filled with the Holy Spirit and they spoke in tongues and prophesied. Paul stayed there for two years, preaching and doing many miracles, before going back to Jerusalem where he was imprisoned.

Suggested Teaching Approach

Recount the story, focussing on whichever aspect of the story is appropriate to the theme you have selected.

Theme One

"In everything give thanks"

Paul and Silas had right heart attitudes and praised God in prison. God brought good out of their difficulty in the salvation and baptism of the jailer and all his household. We can praise the Lord in all of circumstances. If we have a right heart towards the Lord, He can bring good out of any difficulty.

Key Thought

It is easy to ask God to help us, but we need to remember to thank Him, even when He allows troubles to come into our lives.

Aim

To teach the children the importance of having a good attitude in difficulties. This enables God to bring good out of all things.

Memory Verse

"In everything give thanks." (1 Thessalonians 5:18).

Theme Two

"Trusting God in all circumstances"

Just as God protected Paul and Silas in prison, He will protect us no matter where we are as we turn to Him. He is able to set us free from our enemies.

Key Thought

No one is greater than God. No power or evil that threatens His people is greater than His power to save us.

Aim

To show the students that we need have no fear in our circumstances because God watches over us at all times wherever we are.

Memory Verse

"I will put My trust in Him." (Hebrews 2:13).

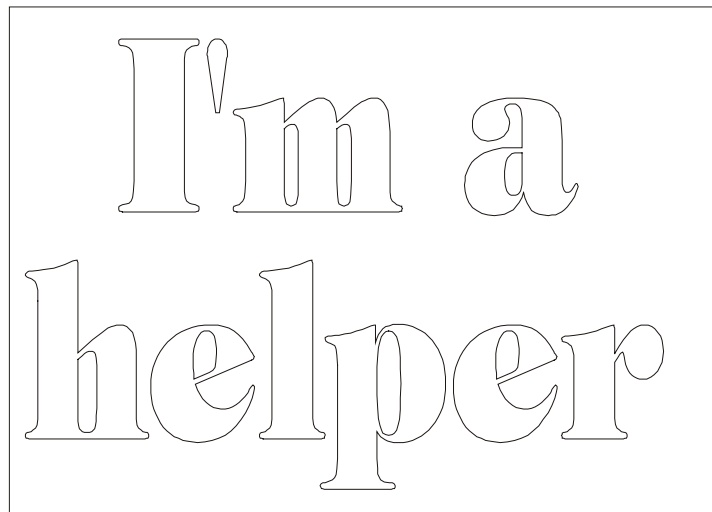
Activity A - Collage

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Magazines/colouring paper/wrapping paper.
- Glue (glue sticks are far less messy for this style of activity).

Steps

- Give the children an Activity Sheet each.
- Have them tear up pieces of coloured paper and glue them inside the letter outlines.



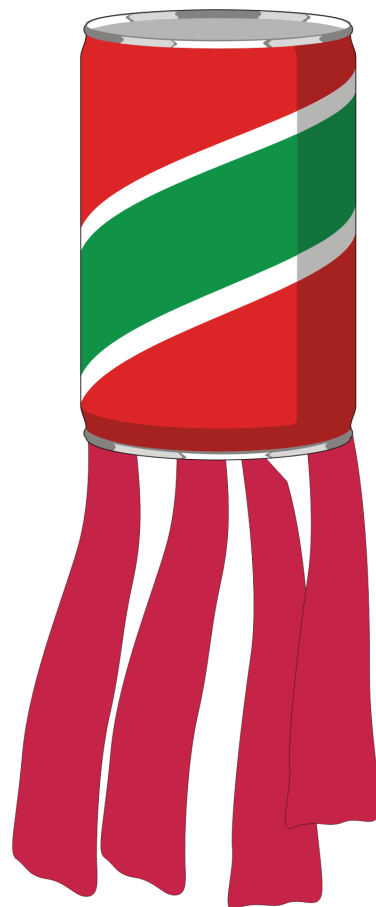
Activity B - Making a Musical Instrument

Materials

- Rice.
- Dry, clean, empty, soft-drink cans (1 per child).
- Masking tape.
- Crepe-paper streamers.

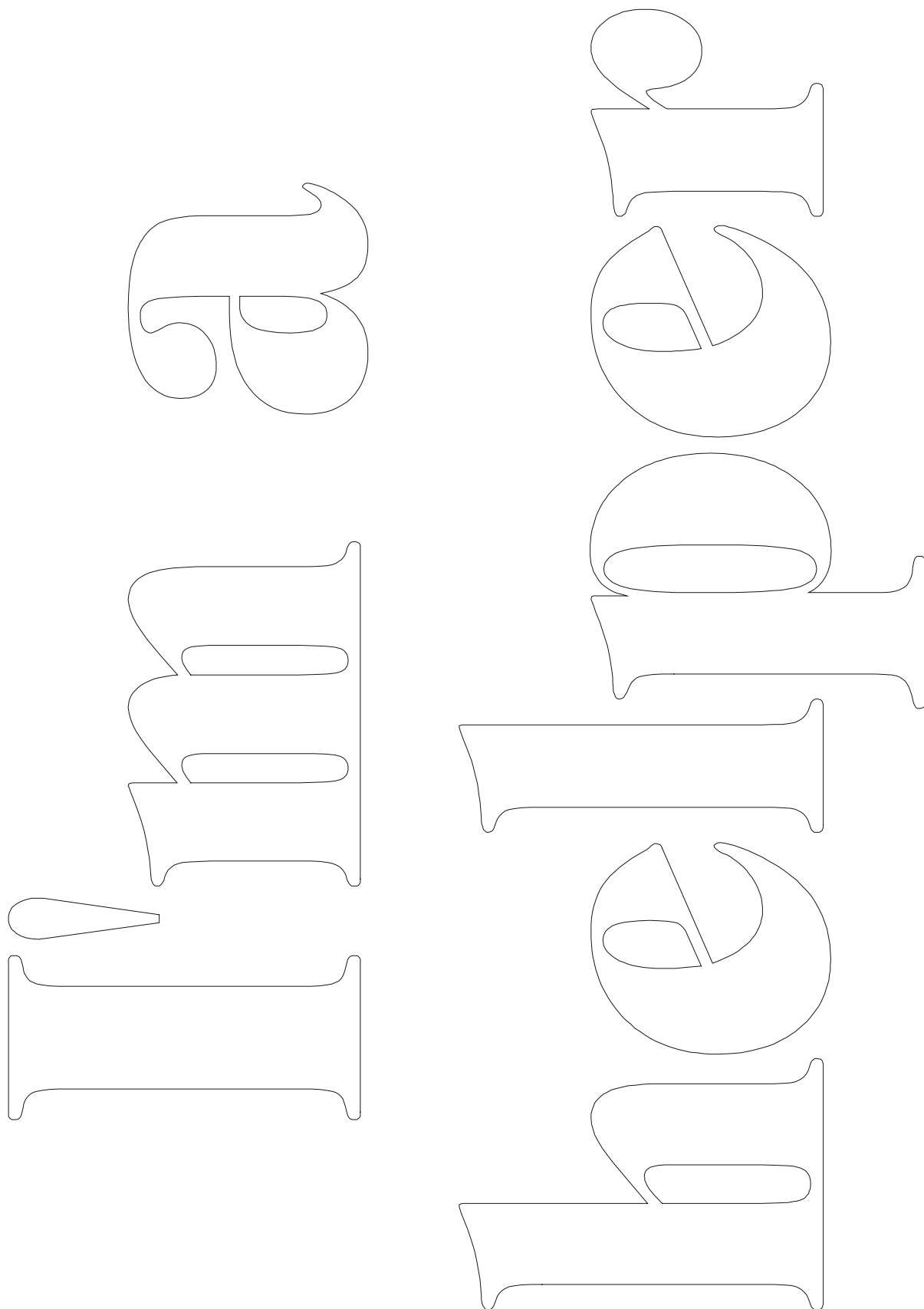
Steps

- Carefully put a couple of spoonfuls of rice in each can.
- Teacher tapes the hole up securely with masking tape.
- The children can tape streamers on the outside of the can.
- Sing a few choruses about praising God and play your shakers.



Paul's second and third missionary journeys

Activity A – Collage



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Paul's capture and imprisonment

Acts 21:26 - 26:32

Storyline

After travelling and preaching for several years, Paul returned to Jerusalem. When he went to the temple, the Jews became very angry. They dragged him out and tried to kill him. Even when he was chained up and on the way to prison, he spoke to the people about Jesus and told how God had changed him. Forty angry Jews plotted to kill Paul, but their plan was uncovered and he was moved to another town. For over two years Paul was kept prisoner, but had many chances to talk to important men and tell them about his belief in God. Although no one could really find him guilty of doing anything wrong, he was kept a prisoner in chains.

Suggested Teaching Approach

Theme 1

Recount the story. Have the children recount all of Paul's adventures, stressing that Paul was serving God.

Discuss how we can serve God.

Theme 2

Recount the story.

Have the children recall all the different groups of people Paul spoke to about Jesus. Emphasise that many times people became angry with him and tried to hurt him.

Stress the point that Paul was never afraid to tell people the truth about God.

Explain that God is with us and will strengthen us in every situation.

Theme One

"We are God's servants"

Paul spent his life, after his conversion, being God's servant. He preached to the people wherever he went. Even when he was imprisoned, he served the Lord, and others were blessed by this. Even though we are young, we can serve God by obeying our parents, praying for others and being a good friend.

Key Thought

A good servant loves and obeys his master. People will know we serve God if we are loving and obedient at all times.

Aim

For the children to see that obeying their parents, praying for others and being a good friend, is serving God.

Memory Verse

"I thank God whom I serve." (2 Timothy 1:3).

Theme Two

"Receiving strength from God"

Paul received strength from God to endure the time in prison and to witness as he had opportunity. When we are faced with trials in our daily life, it is important for us to pray and trust that the Lord is in control and knows every situation. The Lord has promised to give us strength to handle these situations. Although the Lord's strength is always available, it is our responsibility to seek it.

Key Thought

We can ask the Lord for strength. He will encourage us just as He did Paul when he was in prison.

Aim

To teach the children that God can strengthen us when we feel discouraged.

Memory Verse

"God is the strength of my heart." (Psalm 73:26).

Activity A - Cut Out - Paul in Chains

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child, photocopied or mounted on cardboard.
- Stapler.
- Colouring pencils.
- Cardboard.
- Paper.

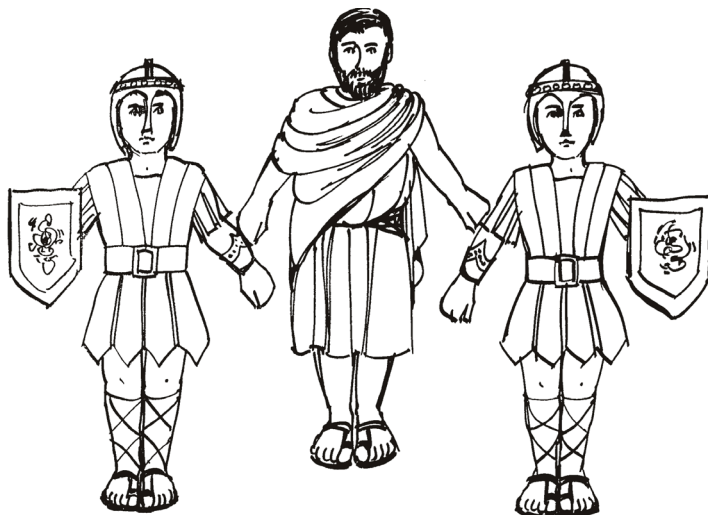
Steps

At Home

- Cut the figures out of the cardboard.
- Cut strips of paper 1cm wide x 7cm long. You will need about 12 per child to make two chains each.

In Class

- The children colour Paul and the soldiers.
- With strips of paper and staples, make two chains.
- Join the three figures together with the chains, ie: soldier, chain, Paul, chain, soldier.



Activity B - Make a Shield

Materials

- Thick cardboard (box).
- Aluminium foil.
- Masking tape.
- Oil-based marking pen.
- Glue stick/PVA glue (if desired).

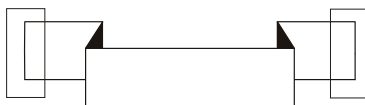
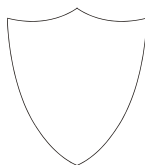
Steps

At Home

- Pre-cut 1 shield per child out of cardboard.
- Pre-cut a 20cm x 5cm strip of cardboard for the handle (1 per child).

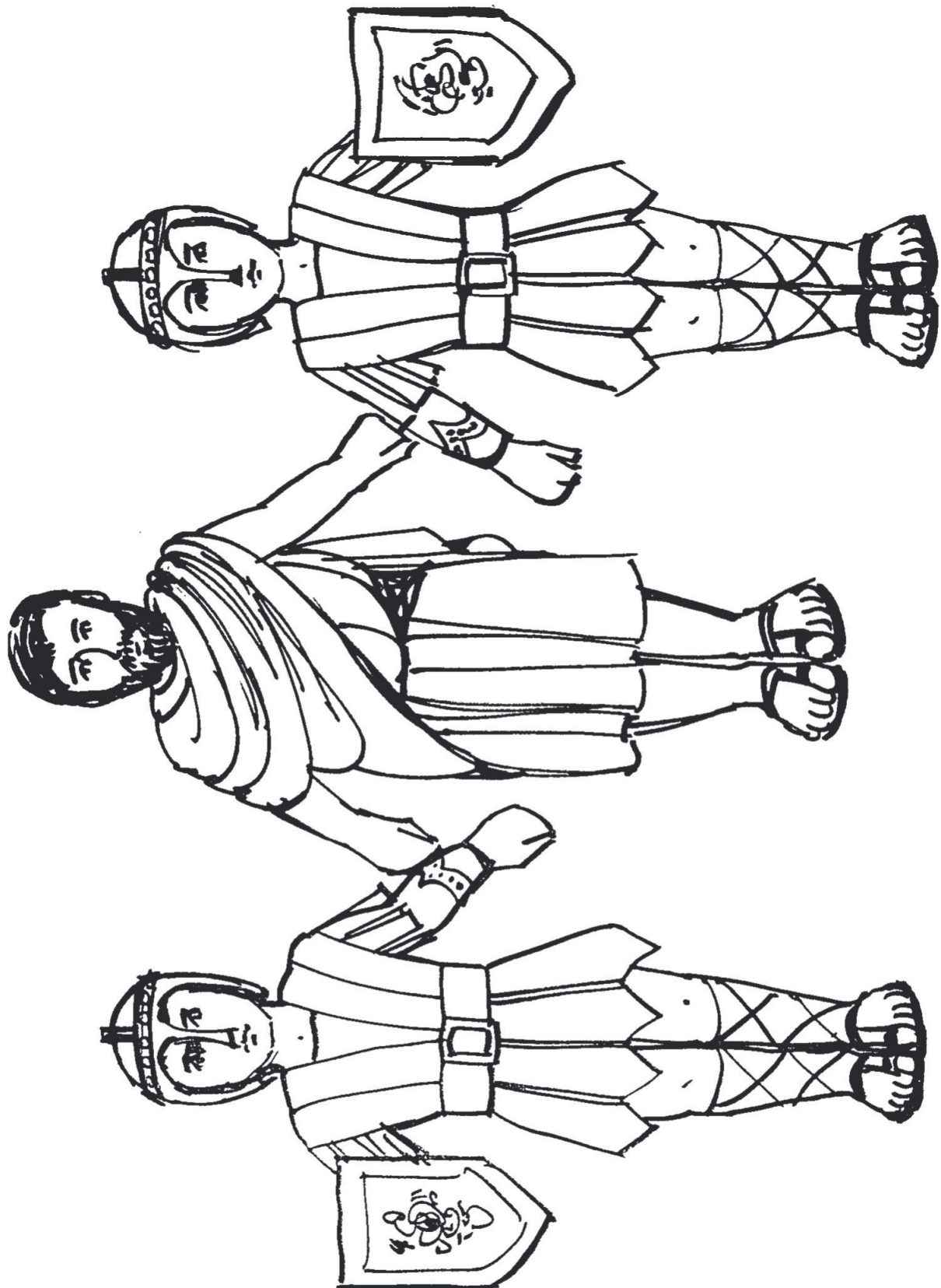
In Class

- Have the children cover their shield with aluminium foil, gluing with PVA if desired.
- Help the children fold the strip of card to form the handle. Tape it in place on the back of the shield.
- Write the memory verse in oil-based marker on the front of the shield.



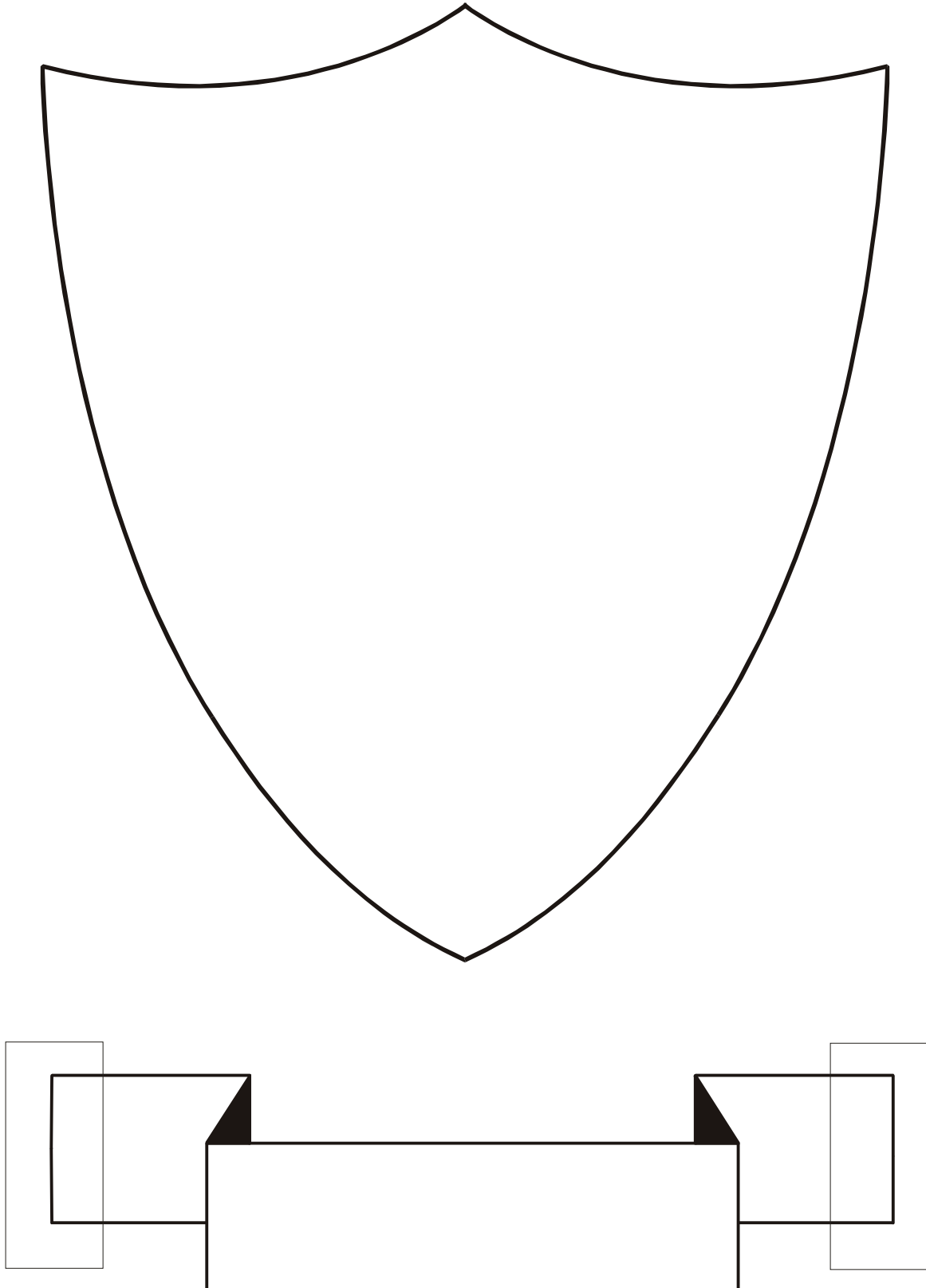
Paul's capture and imprisonment

Activity A – Cut Out – Paul in Chains



Paul's capture and imprisonment

Activity B – Make a Shield



Paul's final journey

Acts 27 & 28

Storyline

Paul had to go on a journey to Rome by boat as a prisoner. A huge storm tossed the boat about in the sea and everyone except Paul thought that they would sink and drown. Paul told them that God would look after them. Finally they found a place to shelter. It was on an island called Malta. Paul told the people about God and prayed for many people who were sick, to be healed. Later, they were able to get another ship and sailed to Rome. Paul lived in his house with a soldier guarding him for over two years. All this time he taught everyone who came to him about the Lord Jesus Christ.

Suggested Teaching Approach

Theme 1

Recount the story, focussing on how Paul trusted God completely that He would keep everyone safe.

Discuss with the children that God is with them, caring for them in the many things that they do in their day. Emphasise that they don't have to fear anything but can trust God to care for them and their families.

Theme 2

Recount the story, focussing on how Paul remained faithful to the call of God right to the end of his life.

Discuss how God wants His plan for our life to come to pass.

Theme One

"God protects and enables His people"

Because Paul trusted the Lord, He looked after him through dangerous and difficult experiences. When we believe in the Lord, we can trust Him to watch over us even in the most difficult circumstances. Although things may not always go right for us, God will help us through our difficult times.

Key Thought

The Lord is always with us, irrespective of the circumstances.

Aim

To have the students understand that God cares for us in every situation in our life.

Memory Verse

"He cares for you." (1 Peter 5:7).

Theme Two

"Faithful to God's call"

Paul remained faithful to the call of God right to the end of his life. He knew that God had a plan for his life and that He would bring it to pass, through many difficult circumstances. The same is true for us. As we walk in obedience to God and His word, we can believe that His plan for our life will come pass, no matter what happens along the way.

Key Thought

As we remain faithful to God's plan for us, He will bring it to pass.

Aim

To help the children understand that the Lord will bring His plan for our life to pass through many difficult circumstances.

Memory Verse

"I have kept the faith." (2 Timothy 4:7).

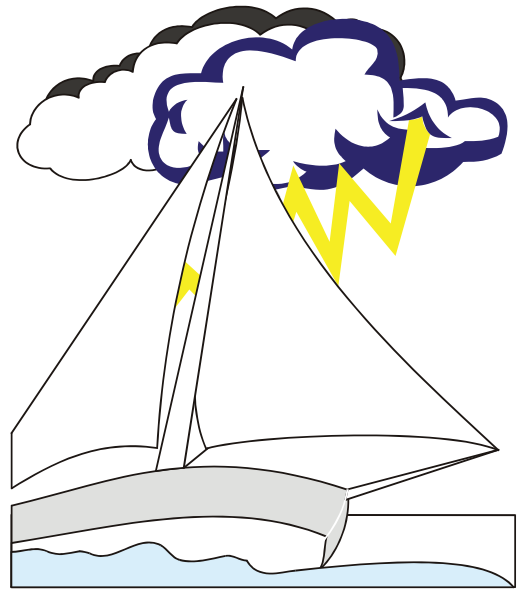
Activity A - Collage

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Material scraps.
- Glue.
- Oil-based marker.
- Colouring pencils/felt pens.

Steps

- Have the children cut up scraps of material to stick on the sail of the boat.
- Write the memory verse on the sails – “Casting all your care upon Him.”
- Colour in the rest of the picture.



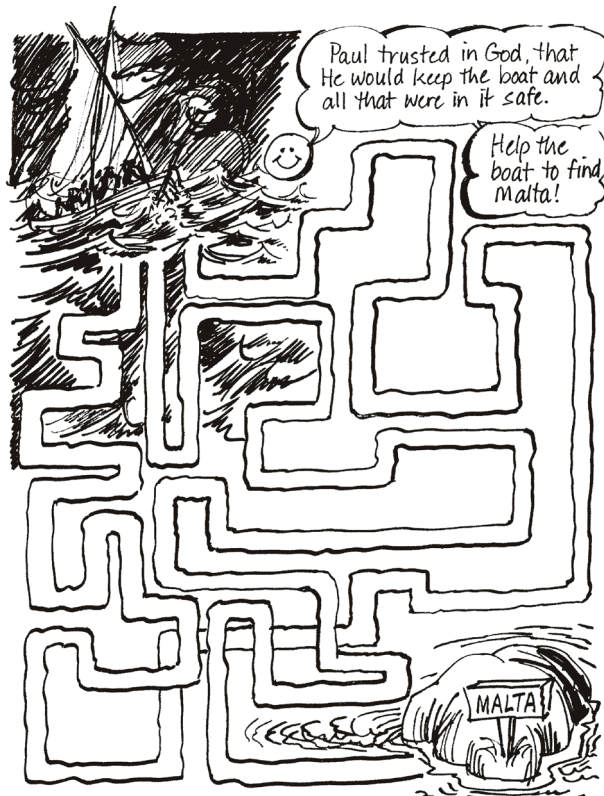
Activity B - Maze

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Pencils.

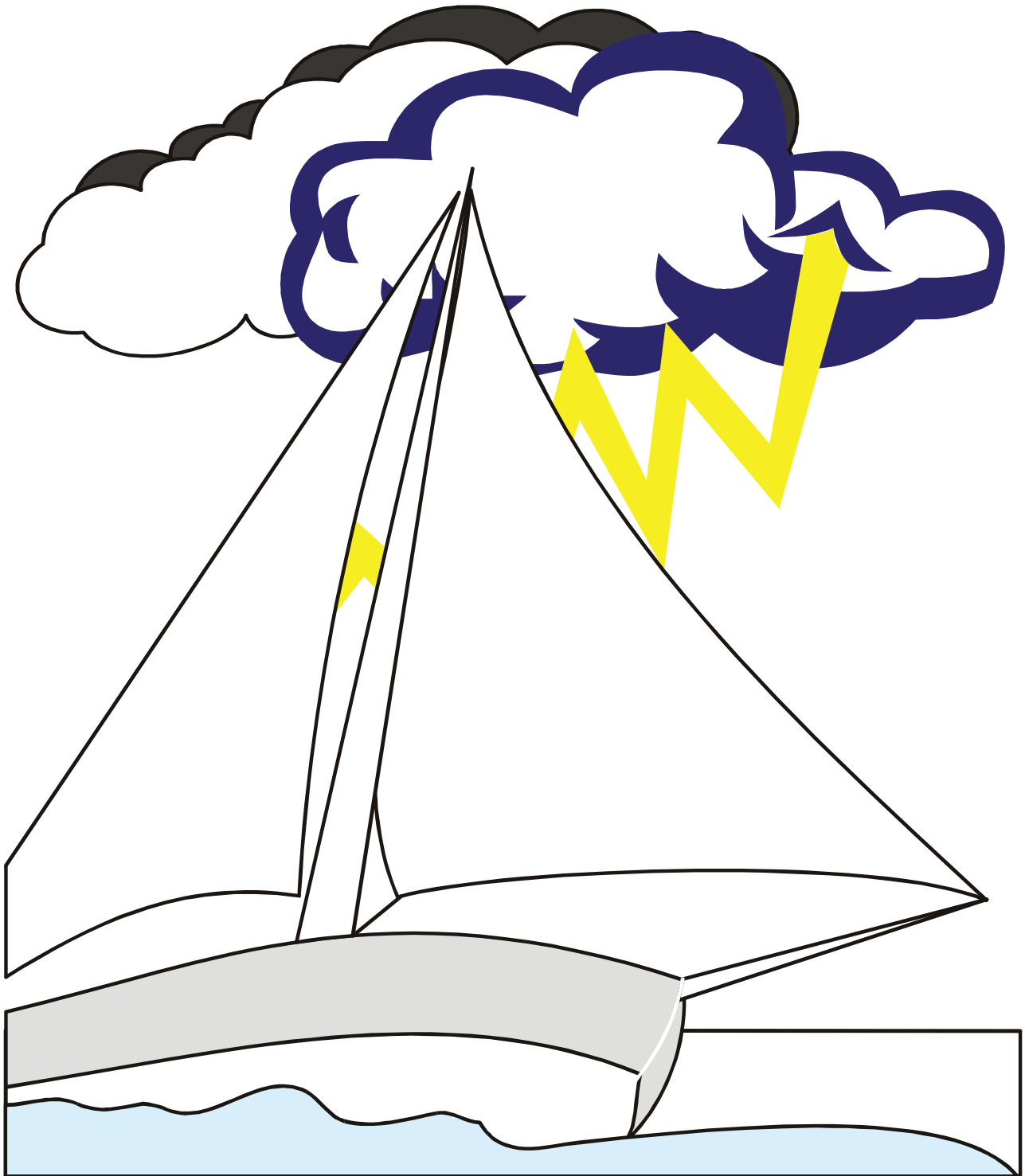
Steps

- The children trace a way through the maze for the boat to go to Malta..



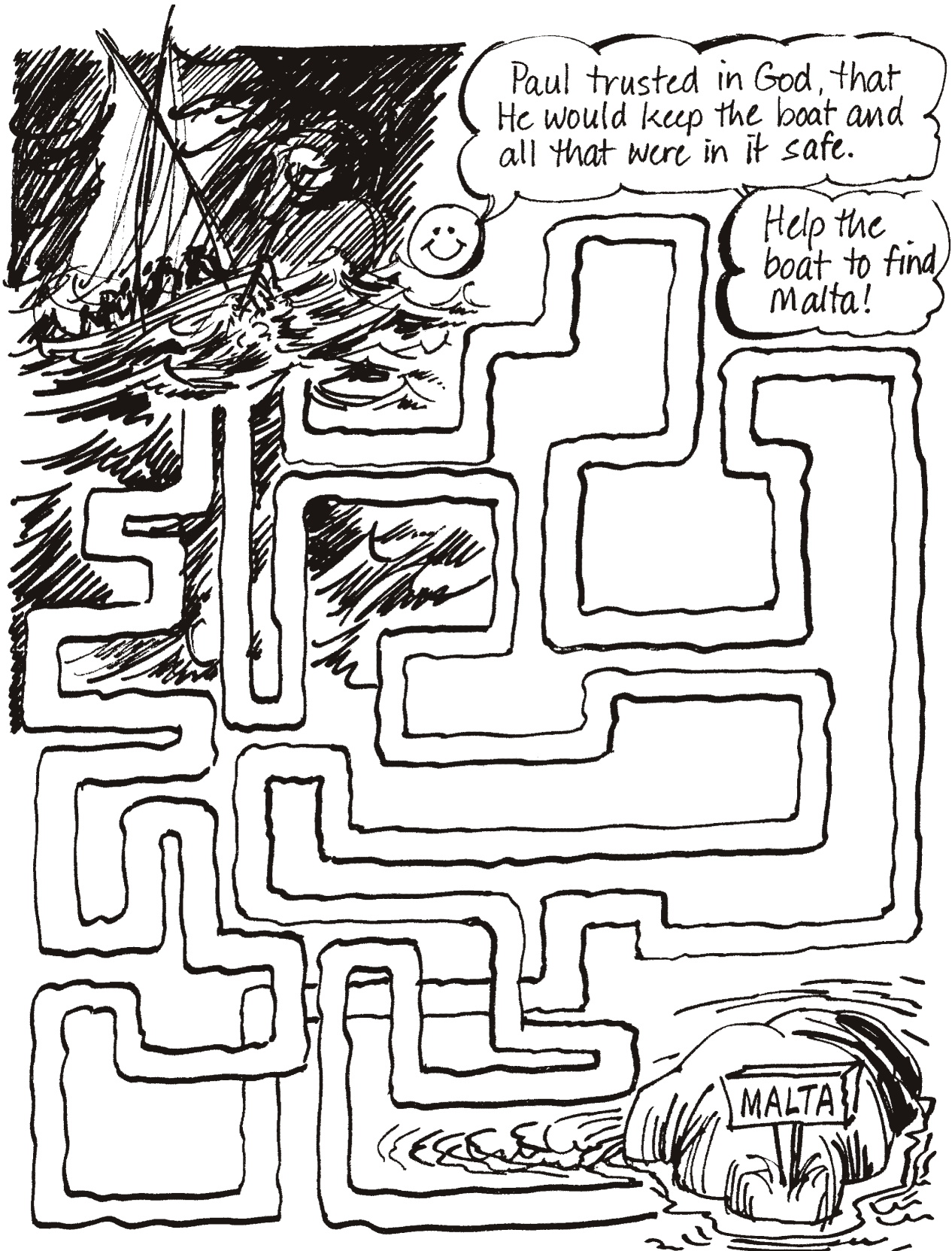
Paul's final journey

Activity A – Collage



Paul's final journey

Activity B – Maze



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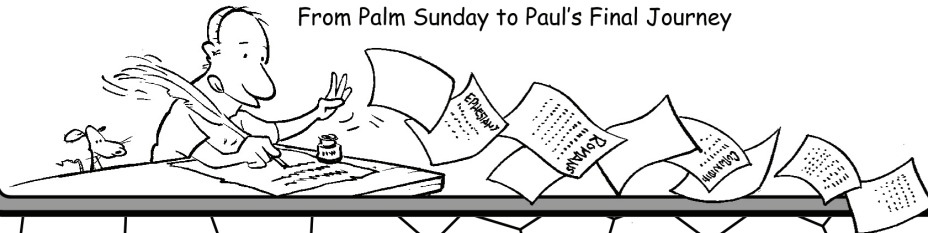


Well Done!

for completing

SonSeekers Unit 8

From Palm Sunday to Paul's Final Journey

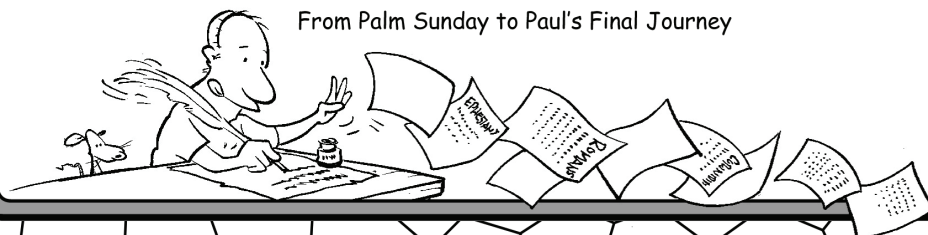


Well Done!

for completing

SonSeekers Unit 8

From Palm Sunday to Paul's Final Journey



Sonseekers Curriculum

Unit One

1. Creation 1
2. Creation 2
3. Adam and Eve
4. The fall
5. Cain and Abel
6. Noah builds an ark
7. The flood, Noah and his sons
8. The tower of Babel
9. Abram called, Abram and Lot
10. The covenant with Abraham
11. Ishmael and Isaac
12. Sodom and Gomorrah
13. The sacrifice of Isaac
14. Rebekah, Isaac's bride
15. Jacob and Esau
16. Jacob's ladder, Leah and Rachel

Unit Five

65. The widow's oil, a boy raised
66. Naaman
67. Famine in Samaria
68. Jonah
69. The captivity of Israel (the northern kingdom)
70. Hezekiah and Sennacherib
71. Isaiah
72. Josiah
73. Jeremiah
74. The captivity of Judah (the southern kingdom)
75. Daniel interprets the king's dream
76. The fiery furnace
77. The writing on the wall
78. Daniel in the lions' den
79. Esther
80. Restoration

Unit Two

17. Jacob becomes Israel
18. Joseph, the favourite son
19. Joseph goes to Egypt
20. Joseph interprets the dreams
21. Joseph's brothers
22. Israel in Egypt
23. Israelite slaves, Moses born
24. Moses flees and returns to Egypt
25. "Let My people go"
26. The first passover, Israel delivered
27. Crossing the Red Sea
28. Manna, water from the rock
29. Sinai and the ten commandments
30. Moses and the tabernacle
31. The golden calf
32. Twelve spies, 40 years of wandering

Unit Six

81. Zacharias, Elizabeth, Mary and John
82. The birth of Jesus
83. Jesus in the temple
84. John the Baptist
85. Jesus baptised and tempted
86. The call of the disciples
87. Water turned to wine
88. The temple cleansed, Nicodemus
89. The woman at the well
90. Healing of the paralysed man
91. The house built on the rock
92. Jesus stills the storm
93. The feeding of the 5000
94. The centurion's servant
95. Forgiveness in Simon's house
96. The sower and the seed

Unit Three

33. Aaron's rod
34. Moses hits the rock
35. The bronze serpent
36. Balaam and his donkey
37. Joshua and Rahab
38. Crossing the Jordan, Jericho
39. The sin of Achan
40. The sun stands still
41. Gideon's fleece
42. Gideon and his army
43. Samson
44. Samson and Delilah
45. Ruth, Naomi and Boaz
46. Hannah
47. Samuel hears God speak
48. Eli, Hophni and Phinehas

Unit Seven

97. Jairus' daughter, a woman touches Jesus
98. Jesus walks on the water
99. Miracles of healing
100. The transfiguration
101. A boy is healed
102. The unmerciful servant
103. A man born blind
104. The good Samaritan
105. Prayer
106. The raising of Lazarus
107. The lost sheep, coin and son
108. Attitudes of a servant
109. The marriage of the king's son
110. The ten lepers
111. The ten virgins
112. The talents

Unit Four

49. Saul chosen
50. Saul and the Amalekites
51. David chosen
52. David and Goliath
53. David and Jonathan
54. David and Saul
55. David crowned
56. David and the ark
57. Absalom
58. Solomon becomes king
59. Solomon's temple
60. Israel divided, Rehoboam and Jeroboam
61. Elijah and the widow
62. Elijah on Mount Carmel
63. Good King Jehoshaphat
64. Elisha and the double portion

Unit Eight

113. Palm Sunday
114. The last supper and Gethsemane
115. The crucifixion
116. The resurrection
117. Peter restored
118. The risen Christ and His ascension
119. The day of Pentecost
120. Peter and John
121. Peter and the Gentiles
122. Stephen
123. Philip
124. Paul's conversion
125. Paul's first missionary journey
126. Paul's second and third missionary journeys
127. Paul's capture and imprisonment
128. Paul's final journey

