

Kingsquad Notes - Terms 4 & 5 2014 - His Name Begins with J

Dear Kingsquad leaders,

As you may have found on a regular basis, asking children a question often gets the answer "Jesus". In these terms' Kingsquad notes, we look at some of the other answers to the question "Name a Bible character beginning with J."

We have combined Terms 4 & 5 as term 5 is ridiculously short (only five weeks, including two Bank Holiday Mondays). So although the weeks are numbered, they are not written to be done in this order - use them to suit your Kingsquad.

W k	Theme, Bible Story & Reference	Memory Verse
1	Jairus (NT - father whose daughter was raised from the dead) Don't worry - trust Jesus! Luke 8:40-56	<i>"Leave all your worries with him, because he cares for you."</i> 1 Peter 5:7 (GNB)
2	Japheth (OT - Son of Noah) Obeying God's word and seeing His promises Genesis 6:9 - 9:17	<i>"You are all I want, O Lord; I promise to obey your laws."</i> Psalm 119:57 (GNB)
3	James & John (NT - Jesus' disciples) Think of others before ourselves Mark 10:35-45	<i>"If one of you wants to be great, you must be the servant of the rest."</i> Matthew 20:26 (GNB)
4	Jehoshaphat (OT - King of Judah) God gives us another chance when we say sorry 2 Chronicles chapters 17 - 20	<i>"Happy are those whose sins are forgiven."</i> Psalm 32:1 (GNB)
5	Jeremiah (OT - prophet) God wants us to be the best we can be Jeremiah chapters 1 & 18	<i>"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart."</i> Colossians 3:23 (GNB)
6	Job (OT - faithful through trials and suffering) Love God and trust him even when life is hard Job chapters 1 - 42	<i>"The Lord gave and now he has taken away. May his name be praised!"</i> Job 1:21b (GNB)
7	John the Baptist (NT - prophet) Give your life to God; be an example Matthew 3, Mark 1 or John 1	<i>"Turn away from your sins because the kingdom of God is near."</i> Matthew 3:2 (GNB)
8	Jonah (OT - prophet) Serve God; He has a purpose for you Jonah chapters 1 - 3	<i>"I worship the Lord, the God of heaven..."</i> Jonah 1:9 (GNB)
9	Joseph (OT - son of Jacob) Even the bad things God can use for good Genesis chapter 42	<i>"Be fair in your treatment of one another."</i> Jeremiah 7:5b (GNB)
10	Joshua (OT - leader of Israel) Being obedient to God Joshua 2, 3 & 6	<i>"As for me and my family, we will serve the Lord."</i> Joshua 24:15b (GNB)

As the Kingsquads run under the Family Trust name, please could you let us know of any new leaders or leavers so that we can keep our DBS (formerly CRB) records up to date. Also, if you feel in need of extra support due to e.g. lack of leaders or falling numbers, please contact us and we will try to help in any way we can.

Yours in Christ, The Family Trust Team



His name begins with J

Week 1: Jairus (his daughter was raised from the dead)



For your info: So often we try to get God to work in the way we want. Jairus must have been so pleased when Jesus said he would come to his daughter...and then so frustrated when he stopped because someone had touched him. We need to model to the children that they can trust Jesus, even when it seems that events are not going as they would like. *Start your planning by reading Luke 8 v 40-56* **Theme: Don't worry - trust Jesus!**

Activities:

Are you sleeping?: Choose a child to lie in the middle of a circle of children, under a blanket if possible. The children walk round saying, "Are you sleeping? Are you sleeping? You can't catch me." When the child 'wakes up', they have to run away and the child in the centre has to catch someone who is then the next person in the middle.

Ready race: Have the children ever worried about what to wear? Think of different things they do or places they might go, e.g. wedding, beach, building a snowman. Have a bin liner for each team containing one item of clothing or accessory for each situation. One child comes up from each team and then has to go back to find the appropriate item for the situation you describe to them. The first back to you with the correct item wins a point.

Back to back: Pair children off by height. They sit on the floor back to back and link arms. They then try to stand up without unlinking arms. Try with different partners. **Supervise well!**

Exploring the story:

Introduction: Show the children a picture of Mr Jelly and Mr Worry. Ask the children who they are and what they often do (*worry*). Ask them what sort of things worry them and who helps them when they are worried.



In today's story, there are some people who were worried. See if you can tell who they are.

Jairus' daughter and the woman who touched Jesus cloak

Read the story straight from the Bible, **Luke 8 v 40-56**, or 'the Jesus Storybook Bible' has an excellent retelling.

Alternatively, the children could act out the version in resources.

Create: Give the children a piece of A3 paper to make an 8-page origami book. (*See resources for instructions*) Get the children to draw or write events that are happening soon, such as family events, clubs and school lessons. They then hold their books as you think together that Jesus knows what we need and can help us in all these situations. They can keep their booklets with them through the week to remind them that they can trust Jesus.



Worship:

Verse from the Bible: "Leave all your worries with him, because he cares for you." 1 Peter 5:7

Copy the picture (in resources) onto different coloured card for each team. Cut into 10 pieces, hide them around the room. Each team has to find their 10 pieces and recreate the picture.

Response and prayer activity:

(See resources) Children to identify with one of the characters in the story.

Song:

"Don't Worry, Trust Jesus" - RPM 3, Mark Bradford

You could get the children to use their hands as puppets with their thumb as the mouth and lip-sync along (words in resources) or "Faith as small as a mustard seed" - Whoopah Wahey! CD, Doug Horley

Application:

In both cases within the story, faith and trust is shown by someone. Jairus trusted that Jesus could heal his daughter; the woman had faith that if she only touched Jesus' cloak she would be healed. Sometimes things come up and we think that God would not be interested or not able to do something about it (you could give an example from your own experience). The story today tells us that nothing is impossible for God; we need to believe that God hears our prayers and is interested in every area of our lives.

Jairus' Story *(This could involve all the children in the Kingsquad)*

Characters - Narrator / Jairus / Jesus / Sick Woman / disciples / crowd / servant / little girl

- Narrator:** Have you ever been so worried about something that you just didn't know what to do? Here is Jairus, a very worried dad.
- Jairus:** *(pushes through crowd)* Excuse me, Sir. Jesus, please help me. I need your help for my daughter.
- Jesus:** Who are you?
- Jairus:** My name is Jairus. I am a church leader. I have only one daughter, and she is dying. Please come and put your hands on her so that she will be healed and will live. Please come, Jesus.
- Jesus:** All right, I will come with you.
- Jairus:** Thank you so much. Come quickly, please.
- Narrator:** But Jairus' daughter wasn't the only one who needed healing.
- Woman:** That's Him. That's Jesus in the crowd of people. I have been bleeding for twelve long miserable years. I have spent all of my money, and no doctor has been able to heal me. Perhaps if I just quietly touch His robe, Jesus will be able to heal me. I will try.
- Narrator:** She pushed through the crowd, reached out and touched the edge of Jesus' robe.
- Woman:** Oh, I can feel it. The bleeding has stopped. I am healed!
- Jesus:** Wait, who just touched me?
- Disciples:** What do you mean, "Who touched you?" Jesus, there are loads of people crowding round you.
- Jesus:** Somebody touched me because I felt power go out of me.
- Narrator:** Jesus kept looking around at the crowd. Then the woman came forward and fell at His feet.
- Woman:** I am so afraid, but I will tell you the truth. I was so sick and no one could heal me. I thought that if I touched your robe, your power would heal me.
- Jesus:** Dear woman, your faith has healed you. Go in peace. You are free from your suffering.
- Narrator:** Just then one of Jairus' servants came up.
- Servant:** Excuse us, we are looking for Jairus.
- Jairus:** Here I am.
- Servant:** Sir, your daughter has died. Why bother Jesus anymore?
- Jesus:** Do not listen to them. Don't be afraid, Jairus, just believe. We will go to your house.
- Narrator:** As they got near, they could hear people crying and mourning.
- Jesus:** Why are you all sobbing? The child is not dead. She is only sleeping.
- Narrator:** When they heard this, they all started laughing at Jesus.
- Jesus:** Everyone must go outside. Only the child's mother and father will come with me.
- Narrator:** Jesus, the girl's parents, and several of the disciples went into the dead girl's room. Jesus took the girl's hand.
- Jesus:** Little girl, I say to you, get up!
- Narrator:** Right away the girl stood up and walked around. Everyone was amazed.
- Jesus:** Give her something to eat! And don't tell anyone what happened here today.
- Narrator:** Jesus used his power to heal people. Absolutely nothing is too hard for Jesus.

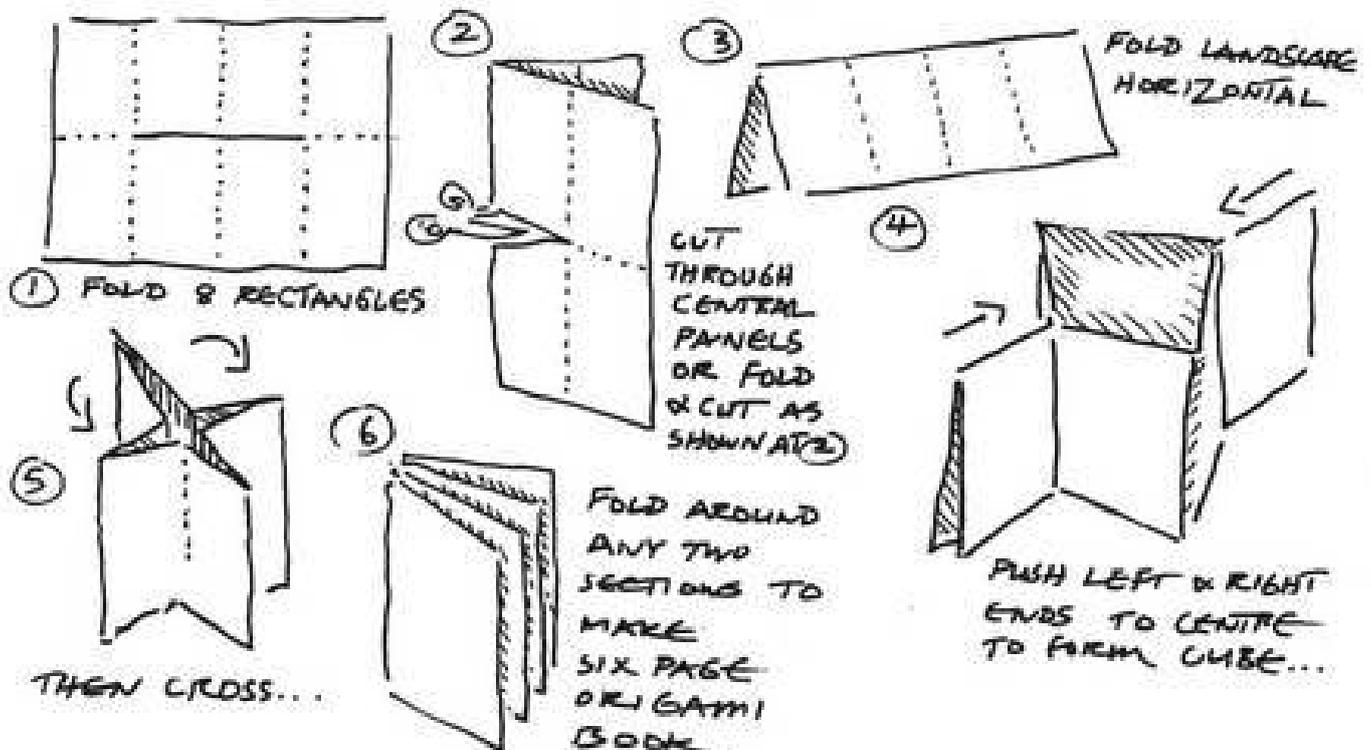
Response and Prayer activity

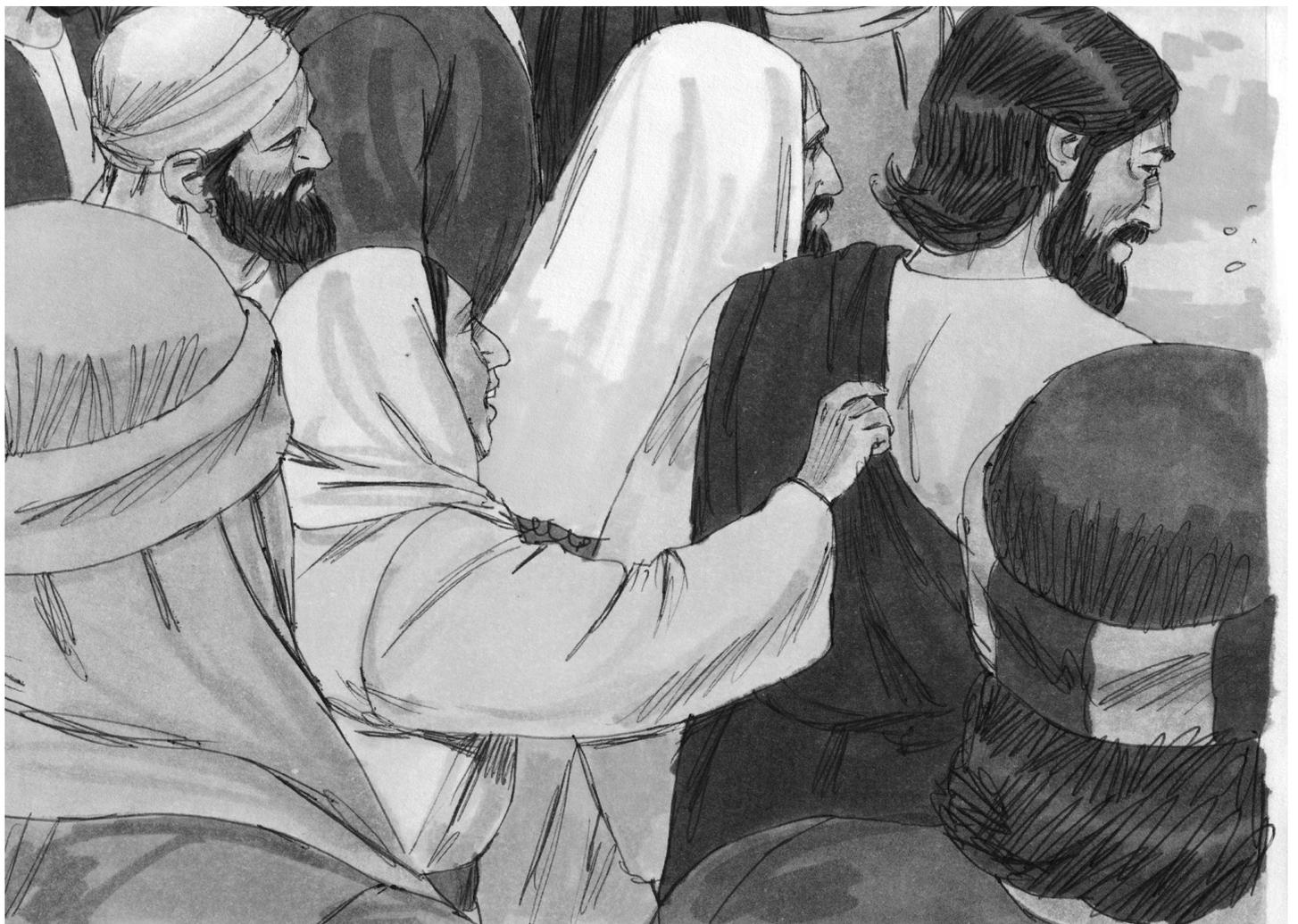
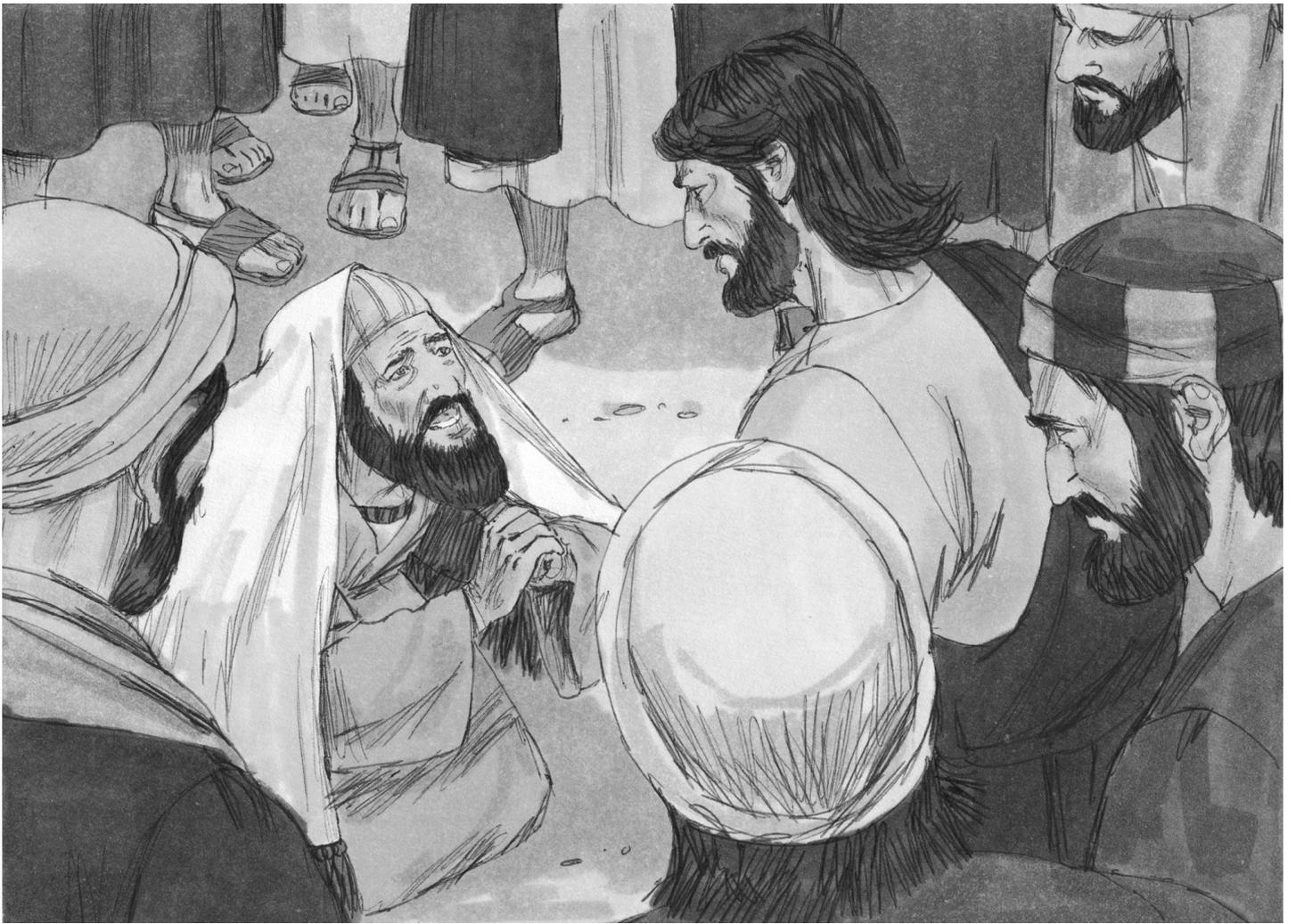
Show the four story pictures in resources. Ask the children to think how they are feeling today and which person in the story is feeling most like them at the moment.

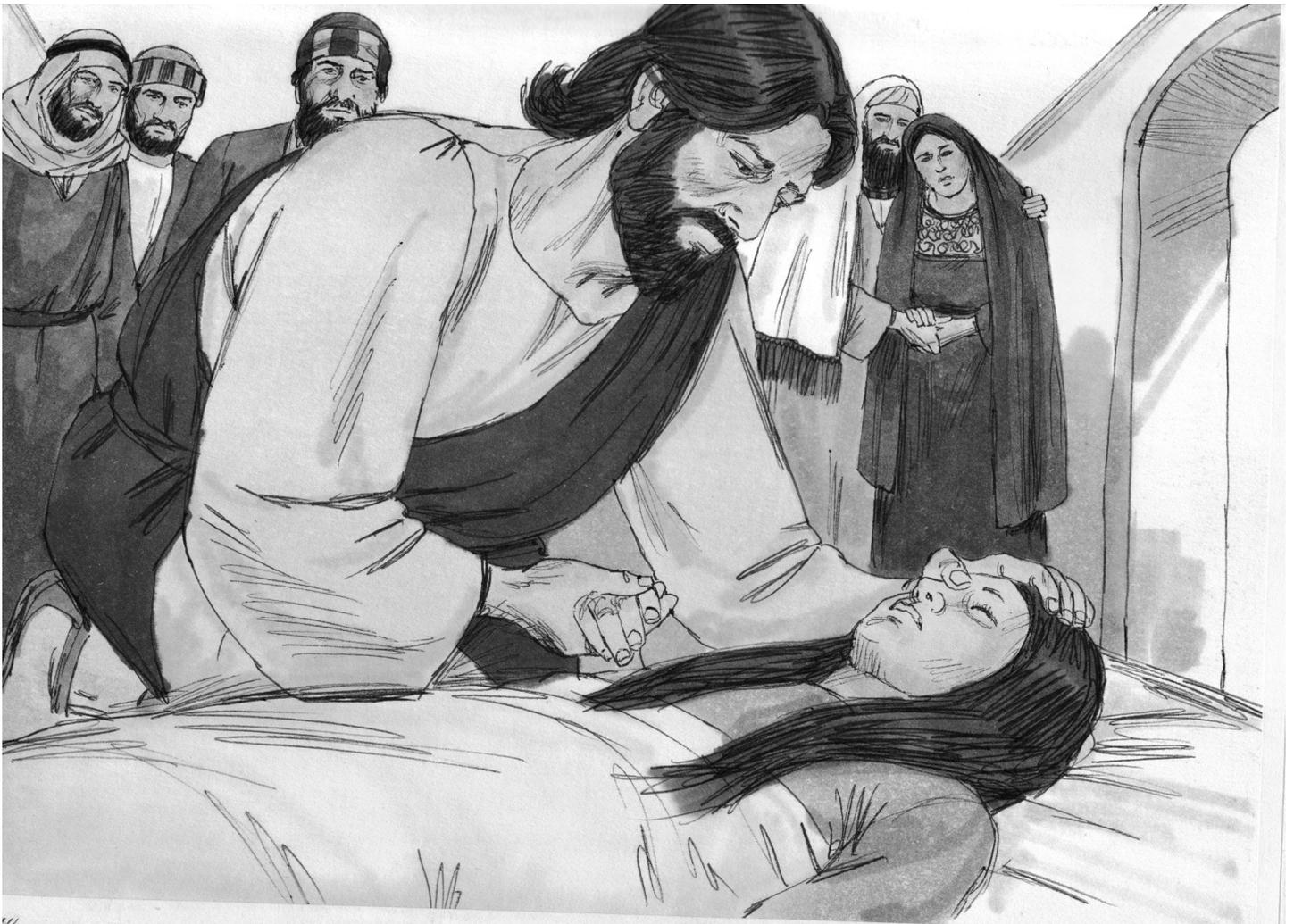
Could it be:

- Jairus - worried about his daughter;
- Jairus - praising God for his miracle;
- The woman - unwell and sad for a long time;
- The woman - healed and happy;
- One of the crowd - watching what Christians were doing, but not feeling part of it;
- One of the people at Jairus' house - not really believing that Jesus can do the impossible;
- One of Jesus' disciples - believing Jesus can do amazing things?

After they have thought about this, ask them if they want to stay as they are, or would they like to change to be like someone else in the story who feels differently. Talk about the changes that Jesus could make and then finish with a simple prayer covering what has been discussed.







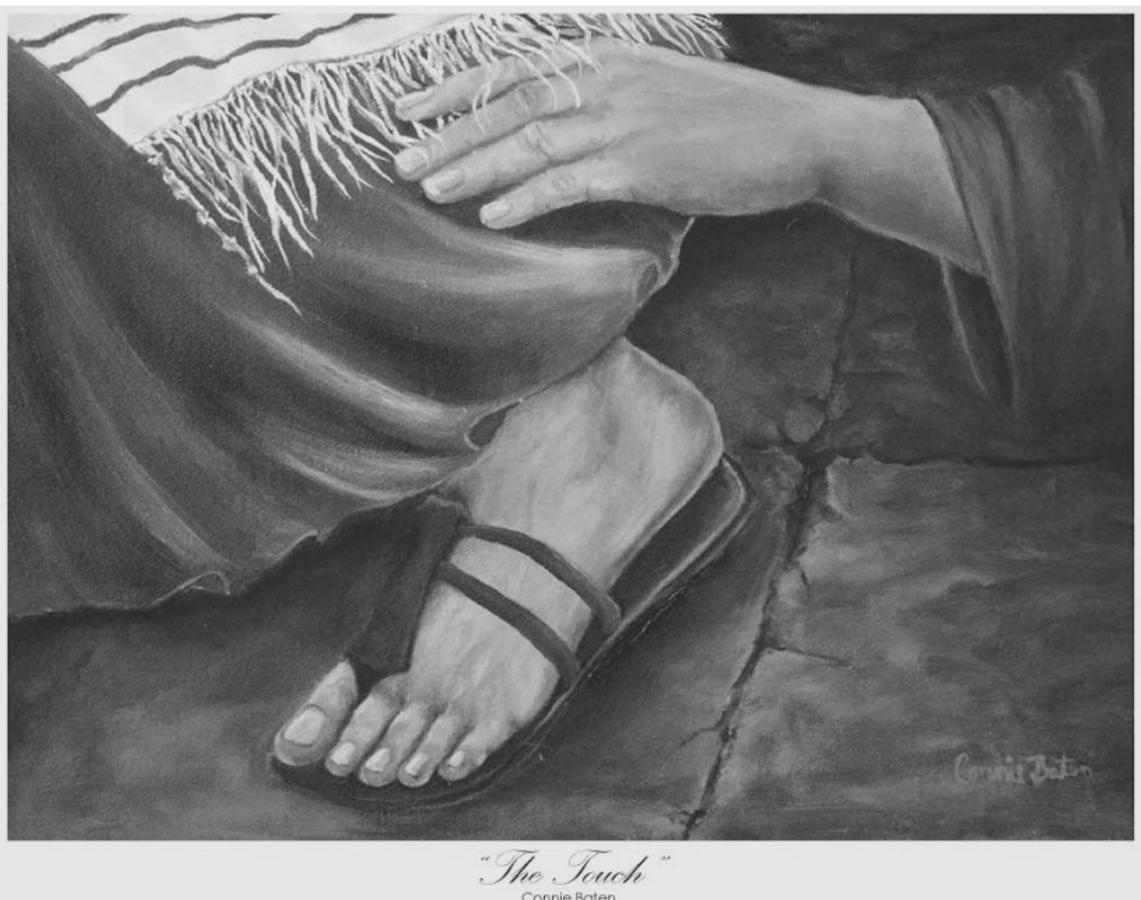
DON'T WORRY, TRUST JESUS

Here's a little song I wrote
You might want to sing it note for note
Don't worry, trust Jesus
In every life you'll have some trouble
But when you worry, you make it double
Don't worry, trust Jesus.
Don't worry, trust Jesus now
Don't worry, trust Jesus. Don't worry, trust Jesus.

Look at the birds, they don't grow crops
But your Father's love for them never stops
Don't worry, trust Jesus
Consider the lilies, they do not spin
But look at the lovely clothes they're in
Don't worry, trust Jesus
Don't worry, trust Jesus now
Don't worry, trust Jesus. Don't worry, trust Jesus

When you worry you want to quit
That won't help you out one bit
Don't worry, trust Jesus
Just look all around and you know it's true
The Father will take care of you
Don't worry, trust Jesus
Don't worry, trust Jesus now
Don't worry, trust Jesus

“Leave all your worries with him,



"The Touch"
Connie Baten

because he cares for you.” 1 Peter 5:7



His name begins with J

Week 2: Japheth (son of Noah)



For your info: In a few Family Trust events we have used a sign that says **< Your way || Yahweh >** Which way we go often has consequences for us and for those around us. Noah was one of those people who, mainly, went **Yahweh >** and we see today one of those people who his choice affected, his son Japheth.

Start your planning by reading Genesis 6v9 - 9v17

Theme: Obeying God and seeing His promises

Activities:

All aboard the ark: Have some small cards with a picture of a male or female of many different animals (similar to snap). Give each child a card, but they need to keep what's on it to themselves. Spread the children out and ask them to act out the movements/mannerisms of that animal. Add noises if easier. The children then need to watch each other and try and spot their 'Mate'. Once they do they can join the ark (a gym mat or area of the room).

Rainbow Promise: Label 7 areas of the room with the colours of the rainbow and have 7 blankets or raincoats. At the words "IT'S RAINING", the children have to run to a colour of their choice and get under the sheet/coat for cover. The leader will pull out of a small bag a piece of coloured card. All the children that ran to that colour are sent to the shelter area (a mat) for permanent protection. Dependant on how many children are at your Kingsquad, you could say no more than 3 or 4 people at a colour at any one time!

Promise of Love: Sit the children in a circle. Name each one a colour of the rainbow: Red, Orange, Yellow, Green, Blue, Indigo & Violet. Have one child in the middle and close the gap in the circle so there are no spaces. The child in the middle is to choose a colour and those with that colour have to get up and sit in a different place but the one in the middle can steal a place. The child left in the middle calls the next colour. If a child is left in the middle, they exit the game and sit in the shelter as per the previous game. THE IDEA IS THAT CHILDREN AREN'T EXCLUDED, BUT ARE TAKEN INTO GOD'S PROTECTION BY PLAYING CORRECTLY AND OBEYING THE ORDERS OF THE GAME!

Exploring the story:

Introduction: Play a game of 'Noah says' (like 'Simon says') Afterwards talk about the fact that Noah DIDN'T say anything. In fact Noah just listened and did EXACTLY what he was toldright down to every detail. He didn't make a fuss; he didn't do it his way. God saw the goodness in Noah. God wanted to save Noah and his family to reward his obedience.

Story - The Diary of Japheth, Son of Noah: Read the story (See resources) based on **Genesis 6v9 - 9v17**.

Craft:

- Make (and colour?) simple finger puppets of the animals in the ark. (see resources)
- Rainbow streamers - You will need: straws / metallic or tissue paper strips / stapler / sellotape. Let the children pick their own colours and tape or staple them to a straw to make a worship streamer. Maybe use them in the worship - to know that we are included in God's Kingdom

Worship:

Verse from the Bible: "You are all I want, O Lord; I promise to obey your laws." Psalm 119:57

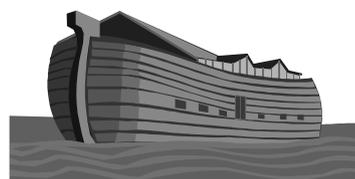
Split into teams. Each team will need to collect all 6 items in order to Obey God and start building the ark. (See resources)

Song: "Yesterday, Today and Forever" Big Ministries - Welcome to the Big Academy CD

Response and prayer activity:

Build an ark - Collect together some clean recycling materials. Ask the children to make a boat/ark from them. Ask the children what the ark was protecting. How does God help and protect us? Because Noah was obedient to God, God protected him and his family. How can we be more obedient to God? Use this as your central prayer focus.

Find some 'water' music to listen to. Ask the children to sit quietly with their eyes closed. Ask them to imagine being one of the people on the ark. How do they feel? Are they worried? Do they feel special that God chose them? What do they think of the Rainbow? Is it beautiful? Will it always remind them that God loves us and will be with us when we are worried?



Application: How many times have you heard the words,

"LISTEN to the instructions before you start" or "Don't argue about it, just trust me and do it"? You may have heard these words from teachers, parents or child-minders, for example. In today's story Noah LISTENED and acted upon God's Word and was glad that he did, both for himself and all those that he loved.

That's how God wants us to be with Him. He knows all about your past, He knows all about your now and He knows all about what will be. So He wants you to trust in Him and obey what He asks. That way we will always have His promise of hope.

STORY**The Diary of Japheth, son of Noah.****FRIDAY 2nd**

Weird day! I've been wondering for days what on EARTH Dad has been doing.

He's been gathering, gopher wood and twine, nails and chisels, hammers and cloth and has become very distracted in his work. I've spoken with my lovely wife, she doesn't seem too concerned and said my dad was just a typical man, just tinkering in the shed...I don't think so somehow. I THINK...something's going on!

TUESDAY 6th

It's still going on.

Every day, Dad's chopping wood, hammering nails and tearing cloth.

What CAN my father be building? We have our home shelters and this project looks mighty big.

THURSDAY 15th

Ok ...that's it. I'm totally frustrated now! What IS going on?

I've decided, I'm going to wait for him to put down his tools and finish work tonight and I'm going to ask him. I need to know if Dad's lost the plot.

FRIDAY 16th

Well I wasn't expecting that...I confronted Dad...and now I think I could be right! He's going bonkers!

'God has spoken to me, Japheth, and He has told me I'm a good man, but He is angry with people because they are all doing wrong and not loving and caring for others or the beautiful world that God has given us.' He told me God had given him clear and precise instructions HOW to build an ark; apparently it's a kind of boat! Who knows?

Dad said he'd 'no reason to question why and was just doing as he'd been asked by God'.

MONDAY 26th

That's it....the boat is nearly finished...just got to fill it with leaves and straw.....apparently!

....Yes, Dad!

WEDNESDAY 28th

You are not going to believe this. My wife, brothers and their wives have all been out herding one male and one female of every animal we can find and loading them onto the ark. Chaos! You should see the fun we've had catching birds! Apparently we can take lots of those and lots more of certain animals that are ok for us to use as food. Mum's been out collecting urns of water and picking fruits and berries by the basket load...the ark is filling up.

Dad explained to us last night, while we were sitting around the camp fire, that God wants to wash the world clean of sin with water and start anew. He wants to get rid of sin and all those that give in to sin and bad. Apparently there's a great flood on the way. If this is the case, I thank God for my hard working obedient father who has built this mighty ark.

I quite like our little bedroom...might sleep there tonight!

SATURDAY 1st

That's it, the place is bursting with animals, food and other provisions and the sky is getting black....bit too busy to write too much tonight. Need to pack.

MONDAY 24th

Wow – it's been raining for weeks...and not just ordinary rain, but droplets so hard and so big and so fast that the rivers and the seas have burst and joined each other...we are now drifting on the water and I think it's been a while since I saw any land. We're just floating amongst mountain tops and tall trees, the water is so high...no one believed us...no one would come aboard and now there's no one but us left.

We're all crammed in here. All the family.....hundreds of animals, big and small. My wife and I are in charge of the insects and I can tell you it's no easy task...thing is they're so very little...and as we've been here a while...we think they're multiplying! In fact must dash, I've just seen an earwig heading toward the elephant quarters...I don't think he'll want to be stood on!

SUNDAY 9th

How much more rain can we take? It's been raining continuously for forty days and all through every night. Now we can see nothing but water. I reckon the highest mountain top is WAY, WAY below us and I have to be honest ...IT STINKS IN HERE!

MONDAY 10th

It's stopped.....it has actually stopped! The rain has ACTUALLY STOPPED! Now I'm wondering how long it will take to dry out.

A few months later...

TUESDAY 16th

Woke up this morning with a start and a jolt and grabbed the nearest thing I could to steady myself (which happened to be the end of my beard which was now down to my belly button). We've been aboard this ark a long time, but today something changed. The boat wasn't swaying.

Dad was shouting and mum was fussing and when I took a look outside I could see that we'd stopped! It didn't take long to realise that we are stuck and straddled across the top of a mountain.

THURSDAY 24th

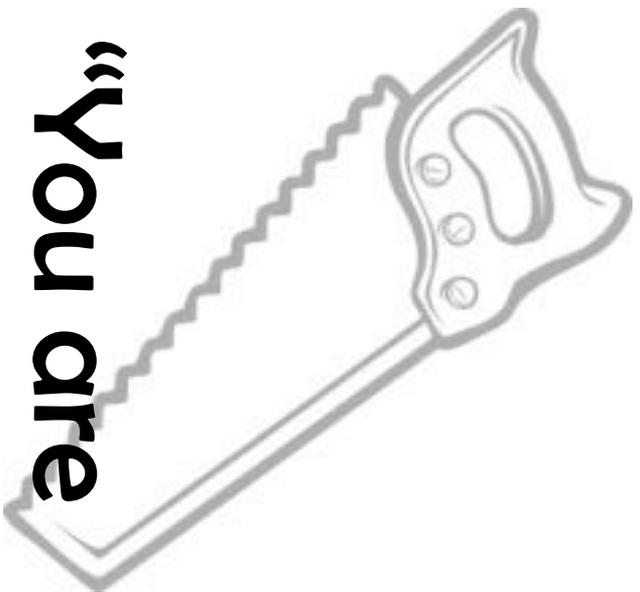
So another few days on the top of this mountain and clearly the water is going down. Dad had the idea a few days ago to release a raven bird and see if it ventured back with any evidence to show dry land, but as yet the raven hasn't returned. He's talking about sending a dove next...I've not seen a living soul...no people and no animals. Is there no one alive, other than us on this ark? Has everyone gone?

SATURDAY 3rd

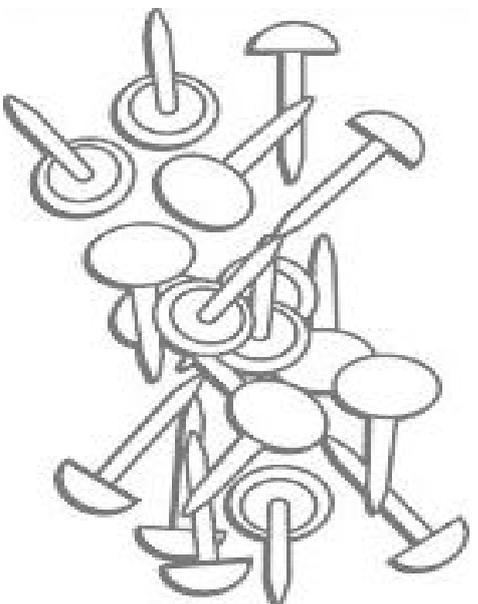
Dad sent out a dove several days ago and it returned with nothing. BUT GREAT NEWS...he sent it back out yesterday and it came back with a fresh olive leaf in its beak!...there is dry land out there.

Many months later...

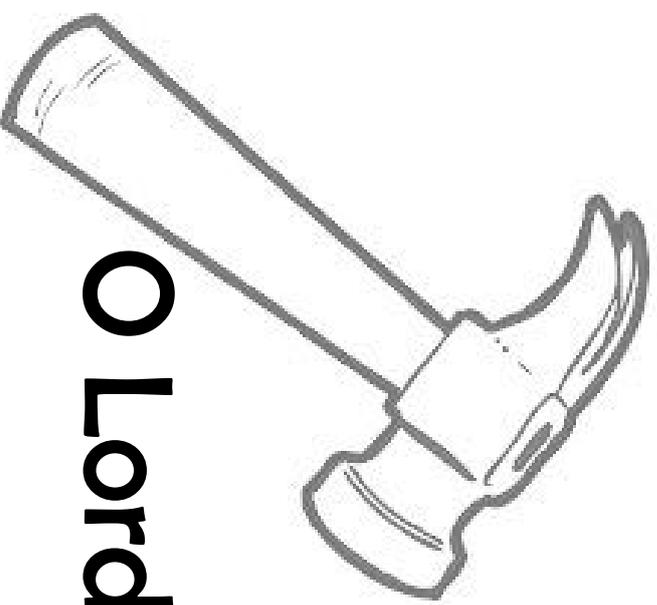
What an adventure that was. The earth has been dry for a while now and we've created new homes and shelters. God's created a chance to start over, but He's made a promise to us. He says He'll never destroy the earth again. He loves us all and showed us the promise he made in a crazy spectacular way. He placed something in the sky called a rainbow. He told us that whenever we see a rainbow it's to remind us of the promise that He'll love us forever.



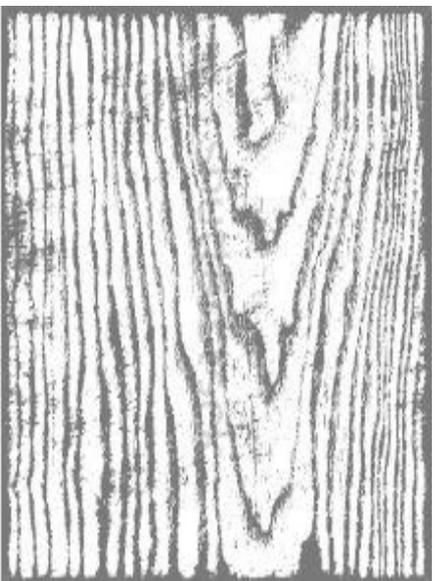
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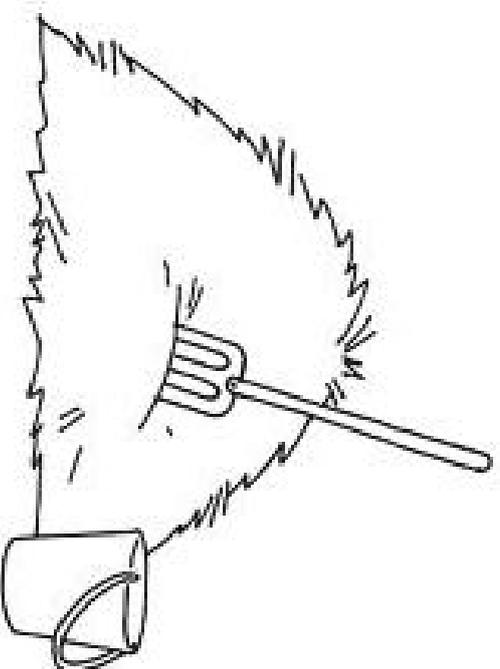
all I want,



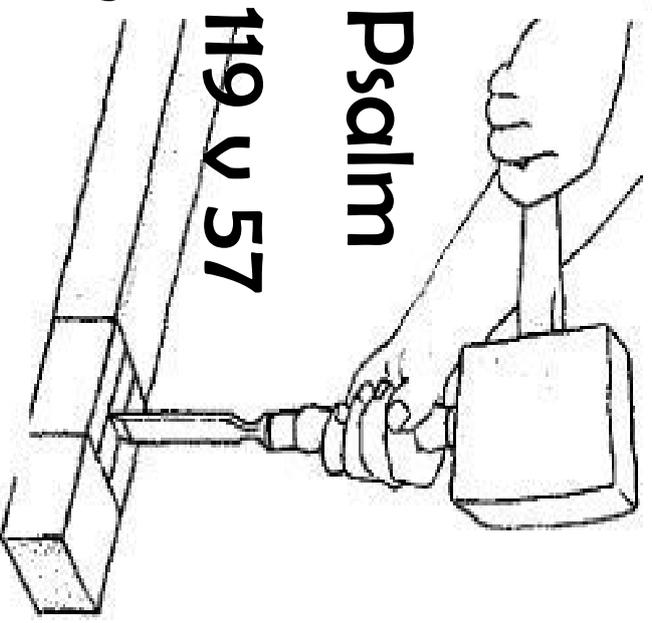
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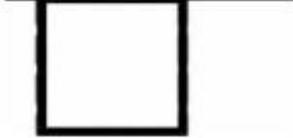
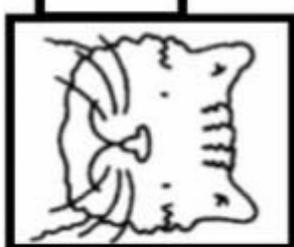
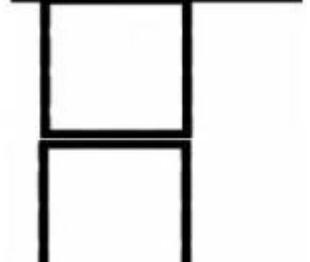
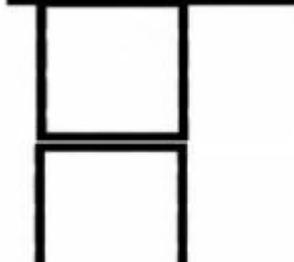
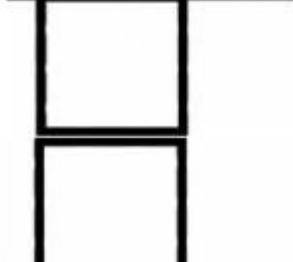
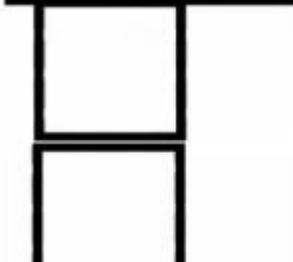
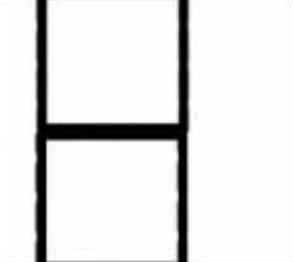
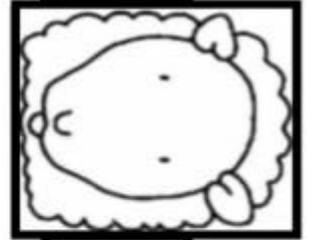
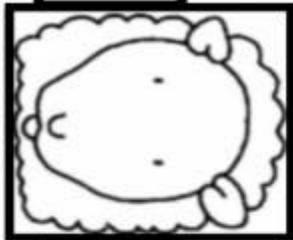
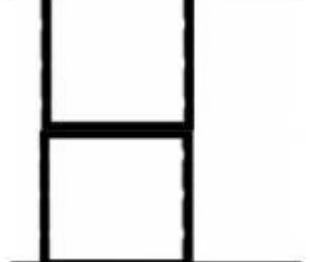
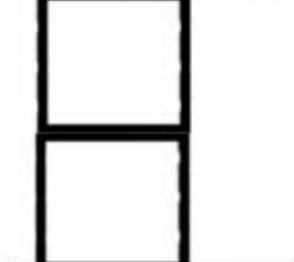
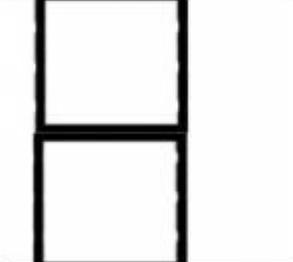
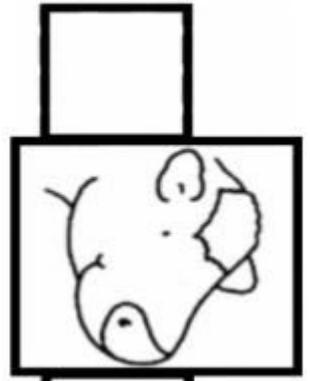
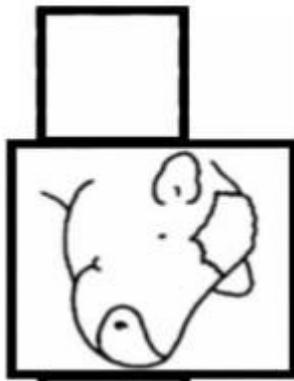
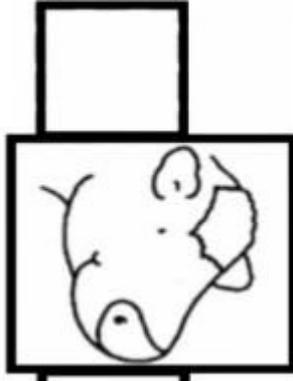
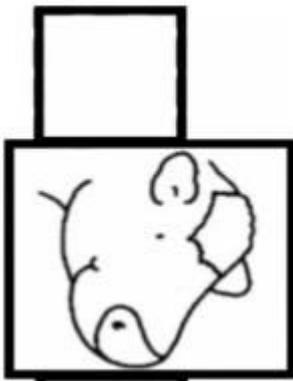


I promise to obey your laws.”



Psalm

119 v 57





His name begins with J

Week 3: James and John (Jesus' disciples)



For your info: Do you like the limelight or are you a background person? Are you able to let others do the things you know you can do well and like doing? Are you willing to take on those less glamorous jobs that still need to be done? I am challenged by the way Jesus helped his disciples to see that He came as a servant and that we can learn from Him and join in His upside-down world. Start planning by reading Mark 10: 35-45 **Theme: Think of others before ourselves**

Activities:

Triangle Tag: Divide children into groups of four. Three of them form a triangle by holding hands and the fourth person is outside of the triangle. One person in the triangle is the target. On 'Go', the fourth person tries to tag the target person. The 'triangle' three must move round to try to protect the target. If tagged, swap the roles around until everyone has been target or tagger.

You have to lose to win: Divide the group into teams. Have piles of objects in the centre. On 'Go', the first team member runs to the centre, grabs one object, takes it back to the team and tags the next player. At no point state how the winner will be decided. Once all the objects have been collected, call an end to the game and have teams count up their objects. The team with the most objects will probably assume that they have won. Then inform them that the team with the least objects is the winning team.

Exploring the story:

As you are about to start an activity, one leader should start arguing with another leader about who should have done a household task such as doing the washing up or tidying a room. The other leader should give a range of reasons for not doing the job, such as being too tired, being the eldest in the family or not being to blame for the mess.

If enough leaders, another one can interrupt the argument and invite them to listen to today's session because it might help; if only two leaders, one of them should suggest they resolve the argument after the session. Explain to everyone that you're going to learn about being servants by following Jesus' example.

Introduction: Prepare a 'Pass the Parcel' with enough sweets in the middle for all the children to share. About 5 layers should be enough; use newspaper for the outer 4 layers and wrapping paper for the middle layer. When the game reaches the last layer and is won, halt the game before the present is unwrapped. Ask the winner how s/he feels. Pleased? Ask the children how they feel towards the winner. Are they a bit envious? Tell the winner that s/he can open the prize at the end.

(At the end, say that we need to think about others before our selves and that the prize is not just for the winner but for everyone - although if enough sweets, the winner could have some extras)

Think back to the argument the leaders had. In today's story, some of Jesus disciples are having an argument.

Read **Mark 10: 35 - 45** from the Bible.

Worship:

Verse from the Bible: "If one of you wants to be great, you must be the servant of the rest." Matthew 20:26

Show the backwards memory verse (see resources) and challenge some of them to say it out loud, then get everyone to say it together.

Song: "Help Me Be Your Eyes, Lord Jesus" -
Fandabidozzie, Doug Horley

Response and prayer activity:

Sit in a circle and ask everyone to think of some way they could serve someone else, either at school or outside (e.g. clearing plates from table; playing with someone who is lonely). Finish with a prayer asking God to help us to serve others just as Jesus did.

Application: James and John, were known as the Thunder Brothers - maybe because they often had lots to say for themselves and weren't shy about giving their opinions. Sometimes they got the other disciples angry because they thought Jesus loved them more and wanted Jesus to give them special treatment. James and John learned that they needed to listen and serve. They also learned that no disciple was more important than another. God had called them all to serve and it was in serving people that they would become great. We need to learn that too. *Think about times when putting others first has given you more pleasure than always wanting to be first.* Jesus acted like a servant, even though it wasn't easy. He did it because he loved us. If we want to follow Jesus, we should also be willing to be servants too. Think about the argument at the beginning. Are the leaders now willing to do the things they argued about?

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"tser eht fo tnarres
eht eb tsum uoy

,taerg eb ot straw
uoy fo eno fI"



His name begins with J

Week 4: Jehoshaphat (OT King of Judah)



For your info: How often do you wish you could rewind a part of your life? "I wish I had never said..." / "Why did I do that?" The word 'forgive' appears in various ways throughout the Bible. In the Lord's prayer we are told to ask for forgiveness as we forgive others. God is always willing to let us have another go when we recognise our sin/ mistakes and apologise. Start your planning by reading 2 Chronicles chapters 17 - 20

Theme: God gives us another chance when we say sorry.

Activities:

Good News / Bad News: Label one side of the room 'Good News' and the other 'Bad News'. Read out the scenarios in resources. The children have to decide whether they are Good or Bad news and run to the appropriate side. Discuss why they may be good or bad news.

Head It-Catch It: Leader in the middle throws a ball to each child in turn standing in a circle. If the leader says "Head it", the child must catch it; if "Catch it", they must head it. If they get it wrong, they go down on one knee, then two knees. If they get it right, they can stand up again.

Number Groups: Call out a number and the children have to get into groups of that number. Any who are not in the right sized group are out. But they can come back in after missing one go.

Wink Wink Resurrection: Sit the children in a circle, pick one to be a detective and send them out of the room. The life giver is then chosen and they have to bring everyone back to life before the detective has worked out who it is. When the children are winked at they jump up and say, "I'm alive!"

Exploring the story:

Introduction: Ask the children if they have rules at home. (Get examples) Ask if they have ever broken these rules. Did their parents give them another chance, even though they did something wrong? How many chances do they think their parents would give them?

In today's story, there is someone who kept getting it wrong, but then had another chance to get it right.

Tell the Good News/Bad News story of King Jehoshaphat (from resources)
(based on 2 Chronicles chapters 17 - 20)



Worship:

Verse from the Bible: "Happy are those whose sins are forgiven." Psalm 32 v 1

Copy happy faces (in resources) onto different coloured card for each team, or get children to draw the faces. Cut out and place at one end of the room. The teams run one at a time to get a face and sort into a sentence that makes sense!

Song:

"Hey Hey" - Fandabidozzie, Doug Horley

Response and prayer activity:

Show a copy of The Lord's Prayer (see resources)
Ask which words are in bold. Say that God forgives us in just the same way that we forgive others. Link to Kingsquad rules. God will always give us another chance if we are truly sorry. Say the prayer together and finish with a Kingsquad AAAMEN.



Application:

Did God keep giving Jehoshaphat more chances even when he did wrong? Yes He did. Although Jehoshaphat messed up, God gave him more chances to get things right, and because Jehoshaphat kept trying to please God, God kept giving him even more chances. God will do the same for us, even when we mess up really badly, if we ask for forgiveness and try our best to do what is right. We should also try our best to forgive anyone who may have done something to us when they say sorry.

(Have two faces back to back, one happy one sad. When you show the happy face, the children say 'Good News'; when you show the sad face, they say, "Bad News")

Good News: Jehoshaphat was King, King of Judah. Jehoshaphat was what you might call a "nice guy". He was good to speak to, could get on with almost anyone and he tried to follow God's rules.

Bad News: But he failed to listen to what God really wanted him to do.

Good News: He was sorry, so God gave him another chance. He wanted to stop the war between Israel and Judah, which had gone on for sixty years.

Bad News: He wanted to do it by getting one of his family to marry one of King Ahab, King of Israel's, family. But God had forbidden his people to marry evil people and you couldn't get much worse than Ahab and his family!

Good News: He was sorry, so God gave him another chance. God sent one of His prophets, Jehu, to tell Jehoshaphat off and warn him not to do it again. But God also told Jehu the prophet to say: "The Lord knows you are trying to follow His will and there is some good in you."

Bad News: The people were worshipping wrong gods.

Good News: They were sorry, so God gave them another chance. Jehoshaphat sent teachers and priests out to destroy the pagan god symbols and teach the people to follow the right God again.

Bad News: Enemies of Judah sent huge armies to attack them and they were really afraid.

Good News: They were sorry, so God gave them another chance. They prayed to God and asked Him to save them all.

Bad News: The armies were getting near to the city. The people of Judah did not want to fight them.

Good News: They were sorry, so God gave them another chance. The king and the people were told they did not have to fight as God would win the battle for them. So they went out to meet the army, singing and praising God. When they began to sing, God sent the attacking armies into a panic and they started to fight among themselves until no army was left.

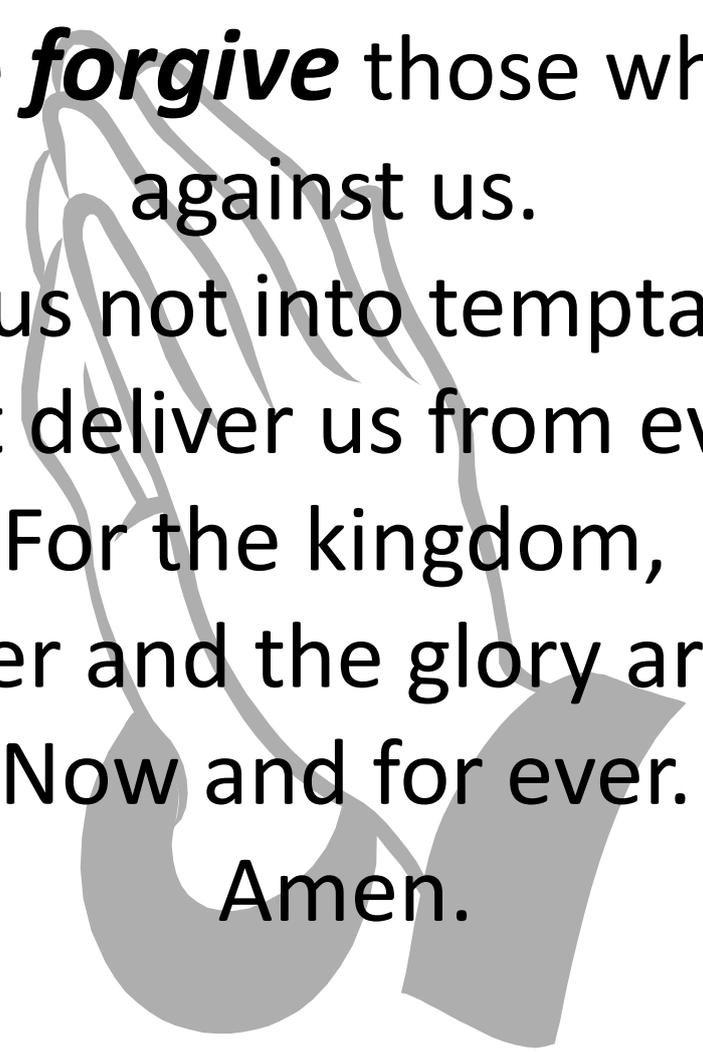
More Good News: And although Jehoshaphat did make more mistakes, God still allowed him to rule over Judah until he was sixty years old.

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name.
Your Kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven
Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins,
as we ***forgive*** those who sin
against us.

Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

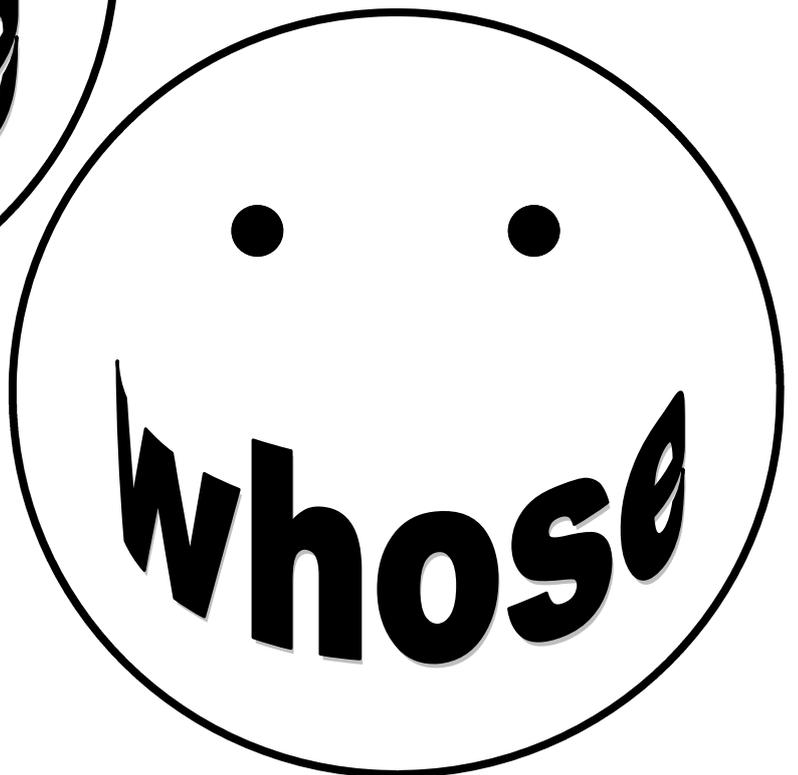
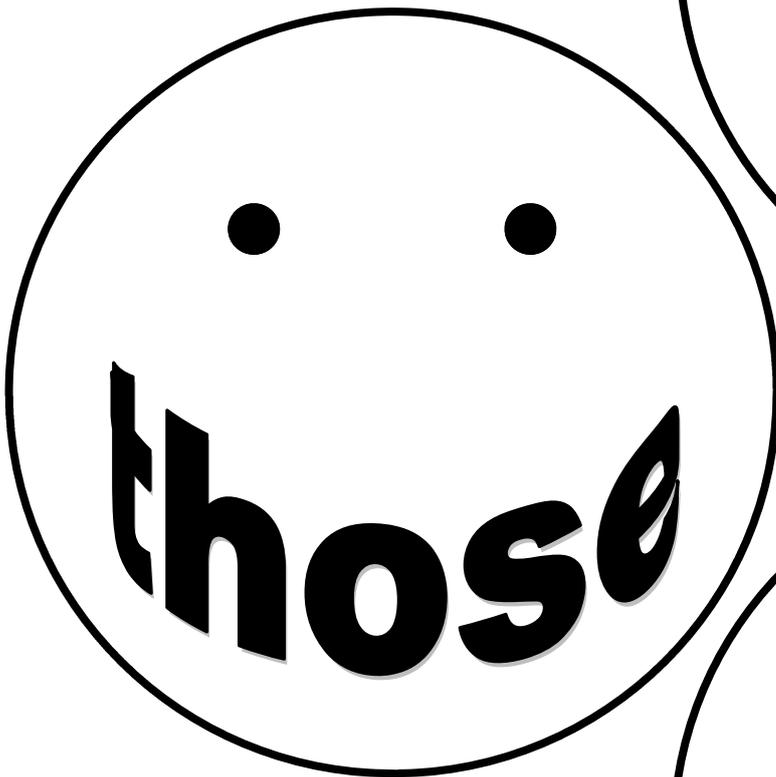
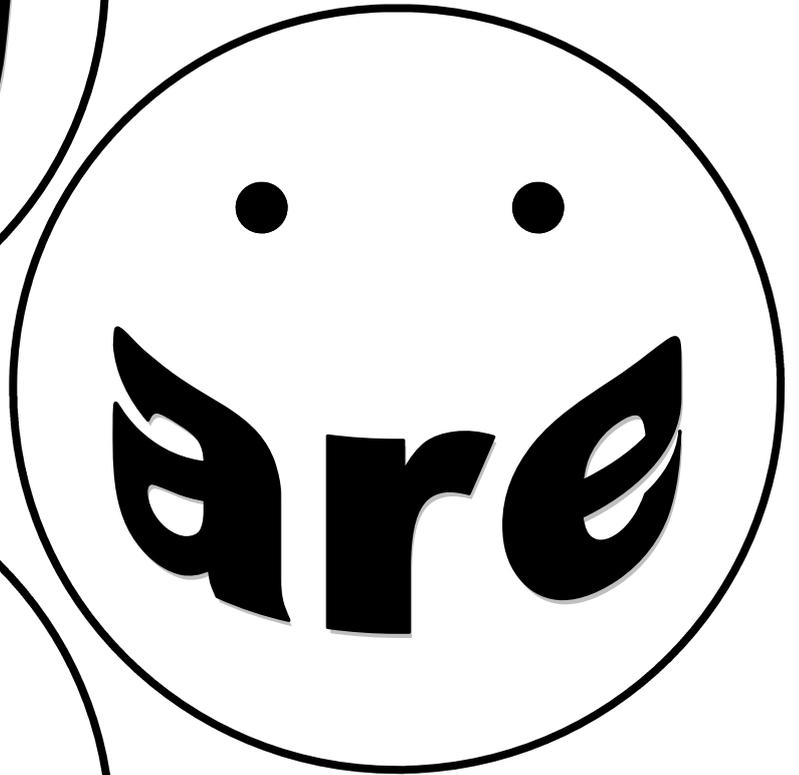
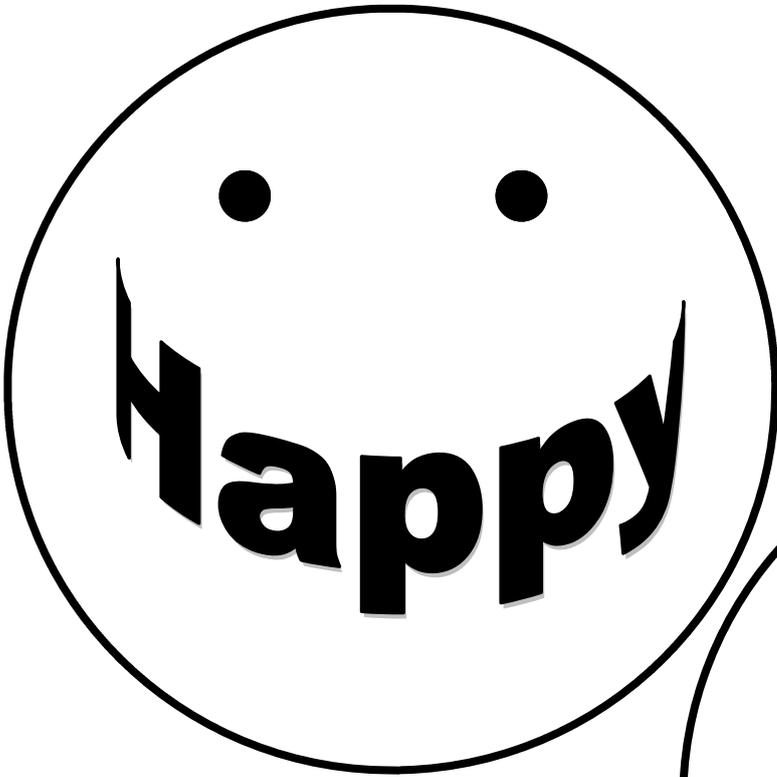
For the kingdom,
the power and the glory are yours.
Now and for ever.
Amen.



Good News / Bad News

- You can have free sweets for a year
- School is closed due to flooding
- Your house is flooded
- There is no water in the local swimming pool
- It is curry for tea tonight
- You have been naughty so you can't play with your friend
- You say sorry, so you can play with your friend
- Jesus came to save us









His name begins with J
Week 5: Jeremiah (OT prophet)



For your info: Jeremiah was known as the crying prophet because he was sad that people didn't follow God's rules. However, God gave him a vision of how, when a pot doesn't turn out well, the potter rolls up the clay and starts again, ready to make a perfect vessel. **Start your planning by reading Jeremiah 1 & 18** **Theme: God wants us to be the best we can be**

Activities:

Game: It: Children run round the room. One child is chosen to be on but when they catch another child, that child then becomes "it" and starts to chase the others.

Game: Jacob, Jacob, Jeremiah: Play in the same way as "Duck, duck, goose". All sit in a circle except one child who taps children on the shoulder, saying "Jacob, Jacob, Jacob", until they shout "Jeremiah". "Jeremiah" then chases the child round the circle until they get back to where he/she was seated.

Game: It's in the bag: Have a selection of different activities in a bag, which children might be good at (e.g. football, cooking, dancing, reading). One by one the children take an activity and have to mime it out. The others then get 3 chances to guess what that activity is.

Game: Fill the mouth: Divide the children into 2 teams. You need 2 large cardboard mouths and rolled up paper balls. 2 children from each team hold the mouth whilst the other children take turns to try and throw the paper balls through the mouth opening. How many balls can they get through in two minutes?

Exploring the Story:

Introduction: What are the children good at? Do they work hard to improve what they can do? Ask the children to show some of their talents. Jeremiah didn't think that he was good at talking to people but God chose him to be a messenger. Even though Jeremiah was only a teenager, he was chosen by God and did the best he could to get the people to follow God.

Story: Use the story in resources, based on **Jeremiah 1 & 18**, which intersperses facts with the games and activities. Jeremiah spoke of someone God was planning to send, to mend the broken world. Who do the children think that person might have been? Yes, Jesus!

CRAFT – Using playdough or clay, make pots and if they don't look good, reshape them.

Application: Use 2 pots to illustrate your message. The first pot is misshapen and unfit for purpose. That's how God saw his people. What did Jeremiah say the people should do? Yes, follow God and be the best they could be. With God's help, they could become perfect, just like the 2nd pot!

Worship:

Learn a verse from the Bible:

"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart." Colossians 3 verse 23 (See resources) Cut the picture into pieces, put the children in teams and ask them to collect the pieces, one by one, and make the puzzle complete.

Song: "Help me be your eyes, Lord Jesus" track 9 "Fandabidozzie" CD by Doug Horley

Prayer: Jeremiah was known as the crying prophet because it upset him to see the people doing bad things and not following God. Place a large man's handkerchief in the centre of the circle. Give each child a tear drop (see resources) and ask them to place it in the handkerchief when they've thought about times when they have not been as good as they could have been. Finish by asking God to help us to be the people he wants us to be.

Reflection: Jeremiah cried because the people wouldn't listen to God. What makes the children upset? You could show them some carefully vetted newspapers with sad stories in. Let them have a time of quiet when they think how they could improve God's world.



The story of Jeremiah (Chapters 1 & 18)

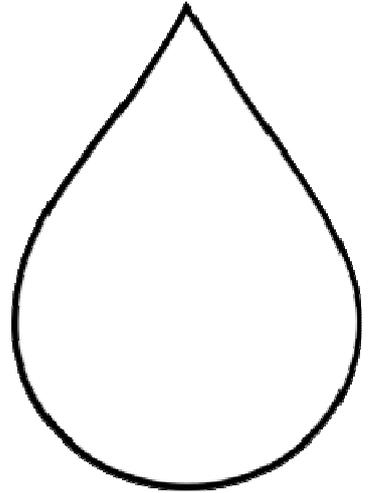
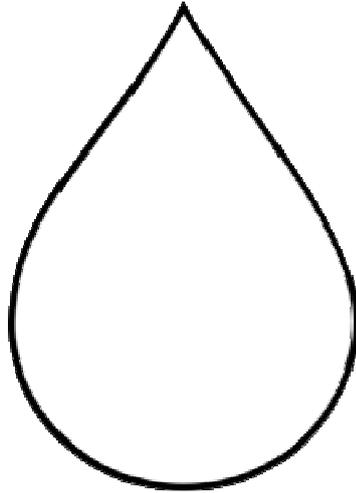
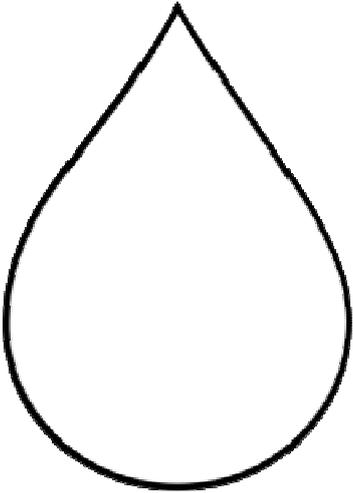
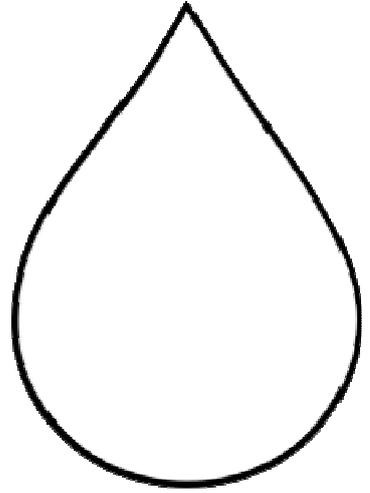
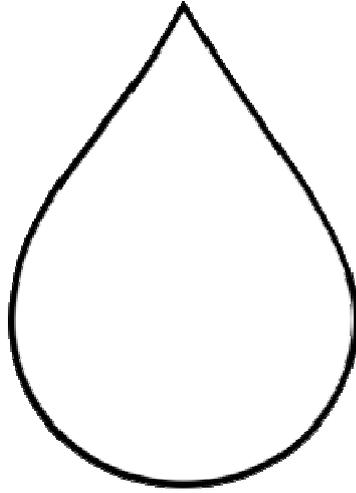
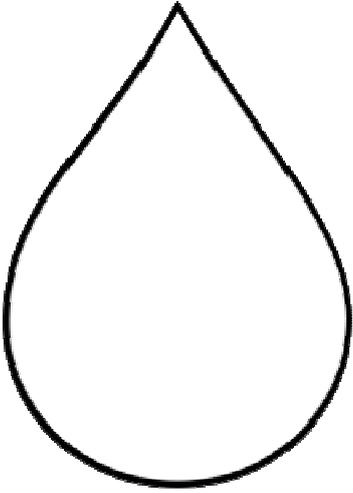
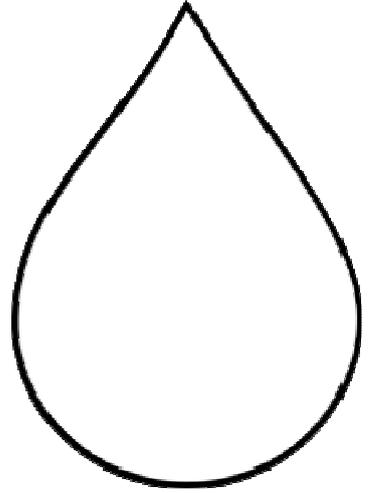
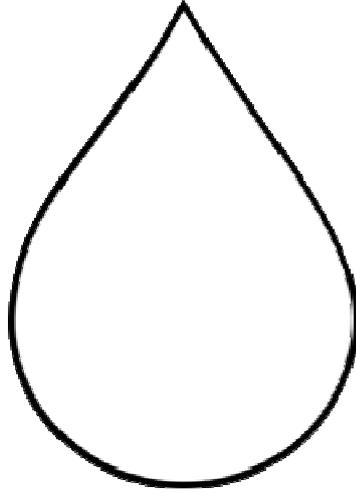
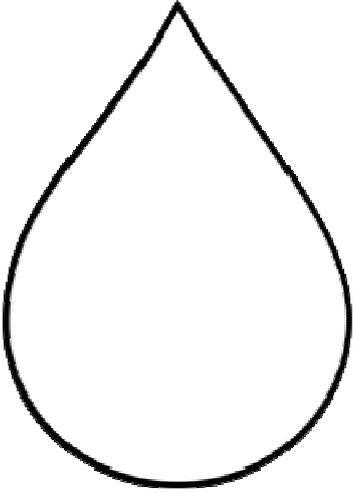
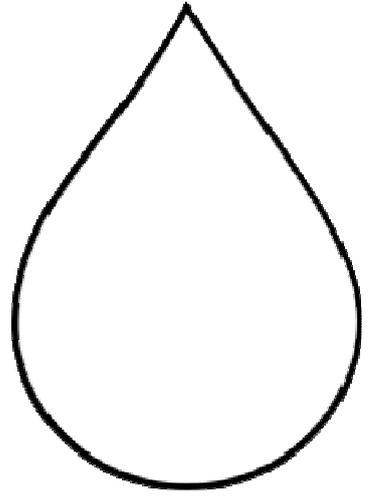
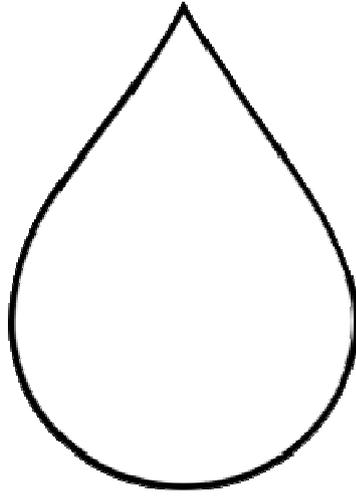
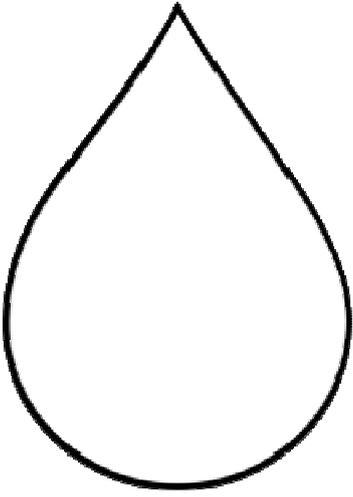
Jeremiah was only a teenager when God said to him “I want you to be my messenger.” **(Play the games “It” and “Jacob, Jacob, Jeremiah”)** Jeremiah was scared; he didn’t think that he would have the right words or that people would listen to him so God told him that he would help. God touched Jeremiah’s mouth and promised to give him the words he needed to say. **(Play “Fill the mouth”)** So Jeremiah became God’s messenger and spoke to many people although they didn’t always listen to his message. He felt sad for the people because they didn’t understand the importance of following God’s rules and Jeremiah was known as the crying prophet. **(Prayer)**

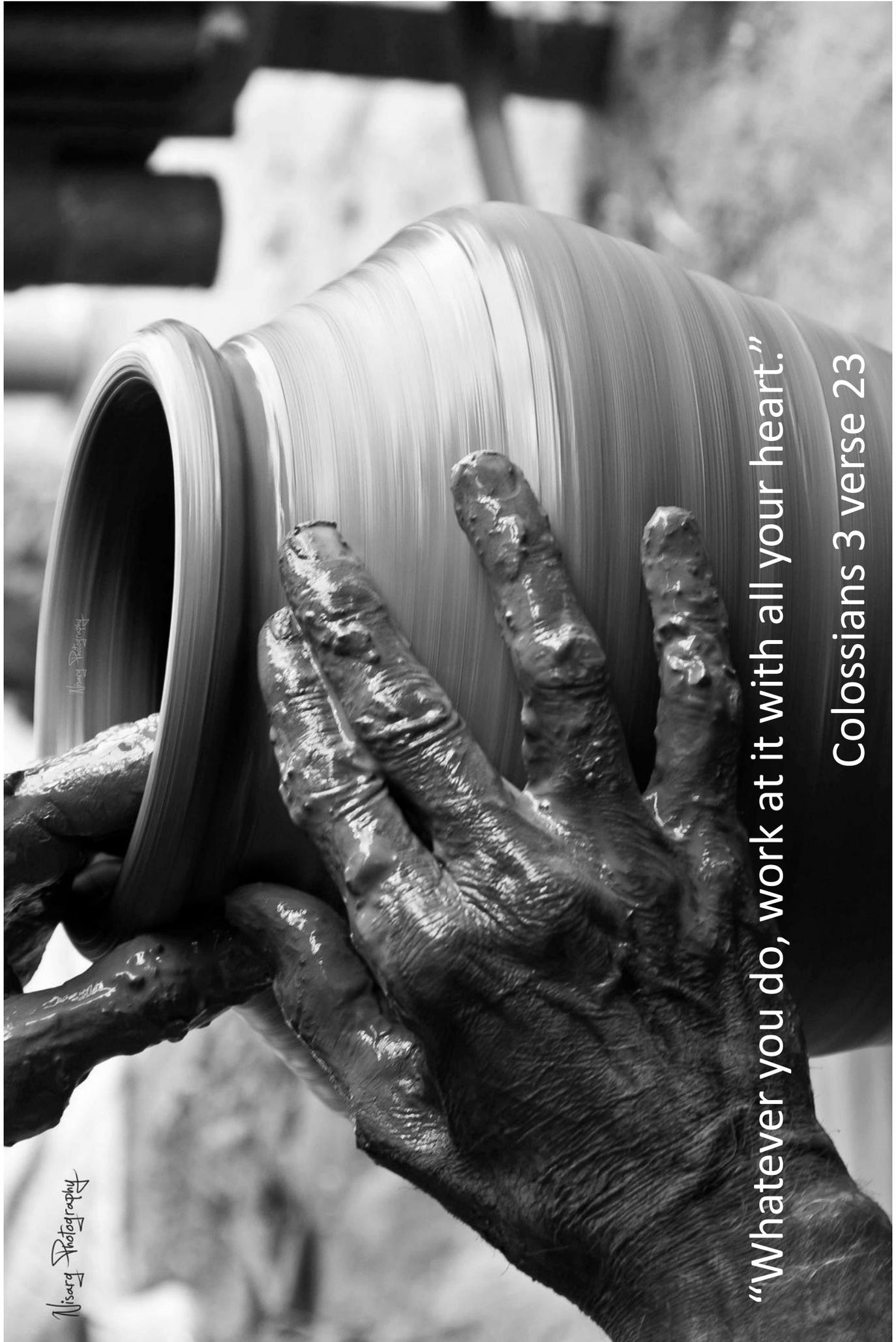
One day Jeremiah was told by God to visit a potter’s house. He watched as the potter made pots out of clay. **(Do craft activity)** If the pot didn’t turn out well, the potter would take the clay, roll it up into a ball and make a new pot. God explained that sometimes the people were like those pots: if they got things wrong, God would have to reshape them. God wanted to make people the best they could be. **(Introduction)**

Jeremiah loved God and wanted people to love him too. He knew that God could help them to do their best. **(Learn verse from the Bible)**

We can show how much we love God by spending time with him **(Reflection)** and by praising him. **(Song)**

Jeremiah spoke of God’s promise, that he would send help **(Application)** and the greatest help would come from God sending his own son, Jesus, to show us how to live.





Nisarg Photography

Nisarg Photography

“Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart.”

Colossians 3 verse 23



His name begins with J

Week 6: Job (OT - faithful through trials and suffering)



For your info: The book of Job is the story of a good man who suffers total disaster. The author shows how Job and his friends react to the calamities he suffers. In traditional religious terms it was believed that God always rewards good and punishes evil, therefore they assume that Job is being punished for some great sin. Job does not lose his faith and realises that God is greater than the way he is presented by religious beliefs of the day. Start your planning by reading a summary of Job 1-42

Theme: Love God and trust him even when life is hard.

Activities:

Game: Target Splat – Make up a large target on card with points showing on each ring and in the centre circle. Give the children wet paper towels and take turns to throw them at the target. Do this in teams with two targets and see how many points each team can score in the space of two minutes.

Game: Monkeys – One volunteer leaves the room and the other children choose a key word to be guessed. It can be any object (chair, bike, donkey) or action (laughing, crying etc). When the volunteer returns they try to discover the key word by asking questions of the other children. The others answer but must use the substituted word, 'monkey', instead of the key word. (Example: Q. How did you get to school today? A. I came on my monkey!) When the word is guessed, choose another volunteer.

Game: Blindfold Tag – Have the children standing in a circle with their hands in front of them, palms facing out to help stop any accidents. You need two volunteers to be blindfolded and stood inside the circle; one is the catcher and must try to find the other person who can 'escape' by moving around too. Both volunteers need to stay inside the circle of children. The other children can 'help' by calling instructions to the catcher.

Exploring the Story:

Introduction: Ask for a volunteer who trusts you. Blindfold them and build the tension by telling them you will put some things in their hands which could be nice or nasty! They have to decide if the item is nice or nasty. You can use items like a soft cuddly toy, a wrapped sweet, a flower, some jelly, a piece of cold spaghetti, one of your old socks!

Story: Job 1-42; read the abbreviated version in resources, there are some picture resources to help illustrate the story too.

Acrostic Poem: The children could work together to write an acrostic poem using

T
R
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Worship:

Learn a verse from the Bible:

"The Lord gave, and now he has taken away. May his name be praised!" - Job 1 v 21b

Hide each word of the verse in balloons. Ask for volunteers to pop the balloons (just like Job's sores!) and put the verse in order.

Song: Hey Hey (I wanna praise you)

(Doug Horley, Fandabidozzie CD)

Prayer: Play a form of 'Chinese Whispers' for your prayer time. Sit the children in a circle and encourage them to whisper to each other in turn, '**Love God and trust him**'. Then together finish with a big Kingsquad amen.

Application: - Can you think of an adult you trust? Why do you trust them? Hopefully it's because you think they know what they are doing and that they care for you. But they don't always tell you why they want you to do things a certain way. Your teachers will often ask you to do a piece of work and we sometimes say, "But **why** do I have to do this?" We just have to trust that they know what's best for us. God was making that point with Job. Sometimes people can't figure out how or why God does something. But they can learn to trust God no matter what happens.

Job trusts his God

(Choose a volunteer to be Job and get them to respond to the words of the story.)

Job was a good man, a **very** good man who worshipped God and was faithful to him.

And God had blessed him.

(Give the pictures from resources to Job as you list all the things he owned.)

Job had 7 sons and 3 daughters, he owned 7,000 sheep, 3,000 camels, 1,000 head of cattle and 500 donkeys, he had a large number of servants and was the **richest man** in the East.

When the day came for the heavenly beings to appear before God, Satan was there also. God said to Satan, “While you have been wandering around the earth, did you notice my servant Job? There is no one as faithful and good as he is. He worships me and is careful not to do anything evil.”

But Satan replied, “You have always protected Job and his family; you bless everything he does. Suppose you take away everything he has — he will curse you to your face!”

God wanted to prove what a faithful man Job was so he gave permission to Satan to make Job suffer the loss of all he had.

(Take away all the picture resources from Job as you read this next bit.)

And Job did suffer. A tribe of raiders from the South stole all his donkeys and killed his servants, lightning struck his sheep and killed them along with the shepherds, a tribe of raiders from the North stole all his camels and killed the servants with them, a terrible storm came and blew down the house where his children were and they were killed also.

Job wept and threw himself on the ground in grief but he did **not** sin and he did **not** blame God. He said, “The Lord gave and now he has taken away. May his name be praised!”

Seeing that Job was still as faithful to God as ever, God gave Satan permission to hurt Job even further.

(Stick wet bits of screwed up tissue on Job’s face as you read about the sores.)

Satan made Job get sick. Nasty sores broke out all over his body and face. They oozed with pus; it hurt so much Job just wanted to die. But still he said nothing against God.

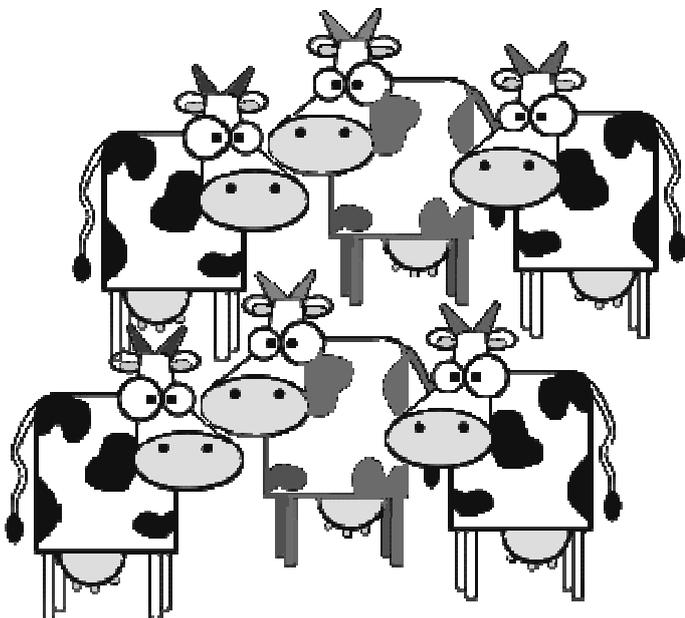
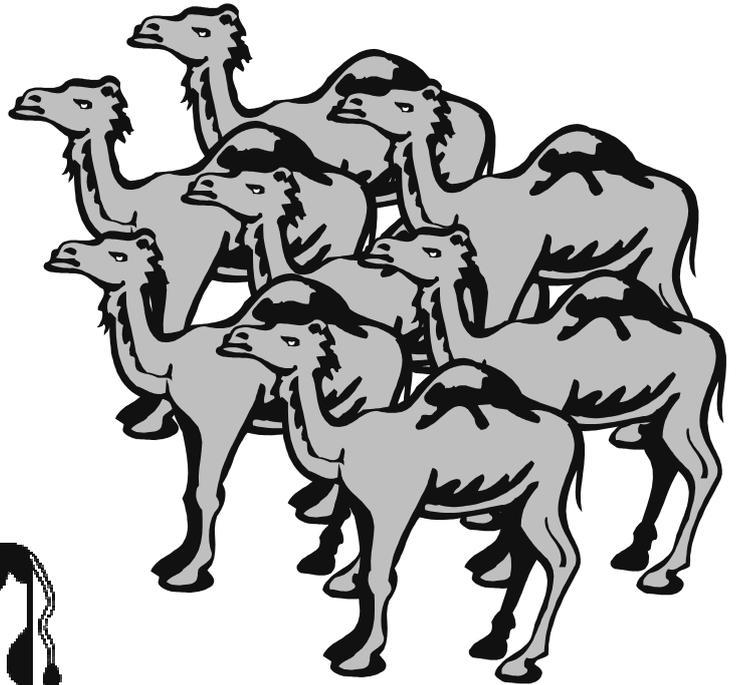
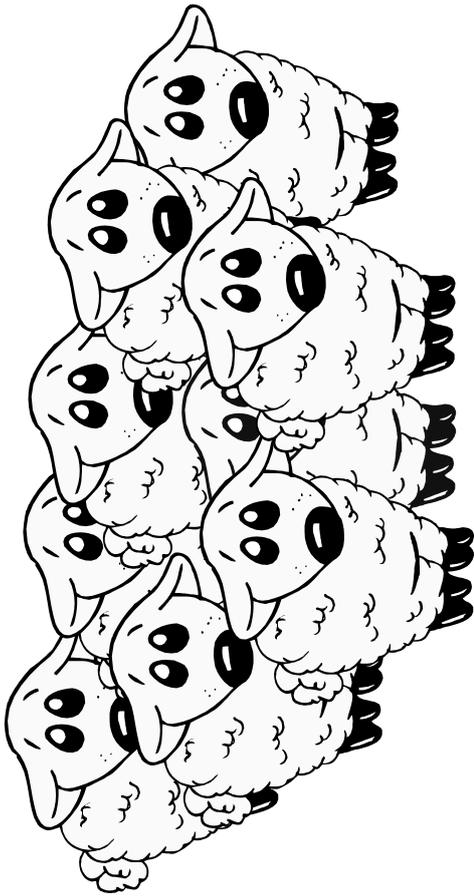
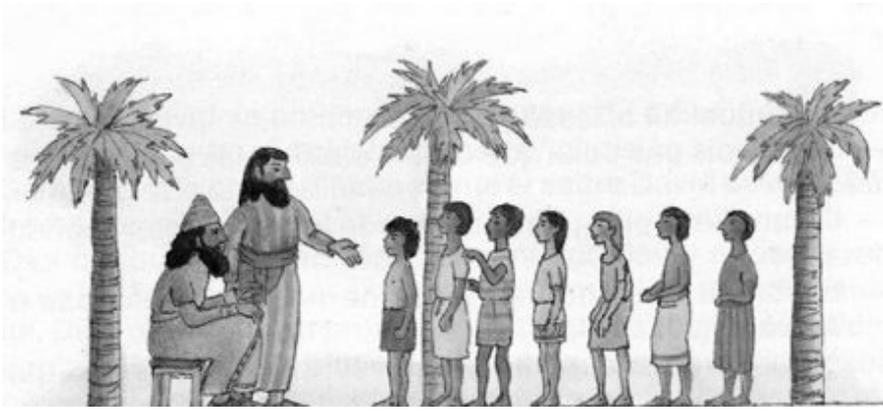
Even when Job’s friends tried to tell him God was punishing him for some great sin he must have committed Job replied, “I have done nothing wrong.”

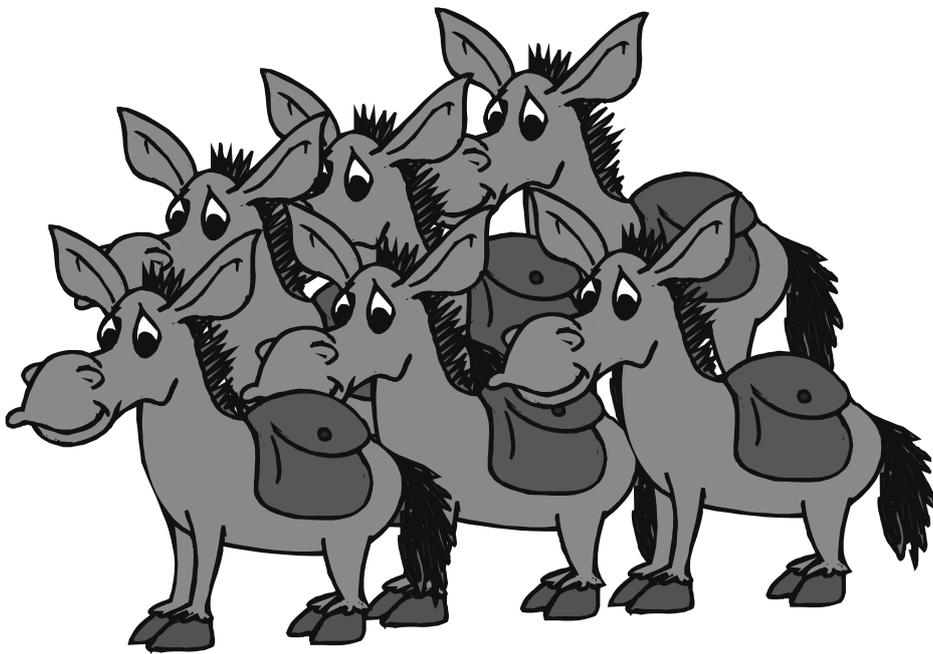
But after arguing with his friends Job even began to argue with God, asking him to explain what he had done wrong to deserve this punishment.

God told Job he was wrong and that he shouldn’t be asking Him to explain why all the bad things had happened. Job realised he didn’t need to understand all that God did, he just needed to trust God in all things.

(Take away the tissue and give back the picture resources as you read.)

Job said sorry to God and God made Job healthy again. He gave Job **10** more children and larger herds of cattle, sheep, donkeys and camels than ever before. In the end, Job was richer than he had ever been and was still faithful to God.







His name begins with J
Week 7: John the Baptist (NT prophet)



For your info: John the Baptist was Jesus' cousin. He prepared people for Jesus' ministry by saying they needed to turn away from their sins and receive God's forgiveness. He preached in the desert of Judea and many people came a long way to confess their sins and to be baptised in the river Jordan. Start your planning by reading the story from **Matthew 3, Mark 1** or **John 1**

Theme: Give your life to God; be an example.

Activities:

Follow the leader: Set out some simple obstacles to move round and have music to play while the children are following. Choose a volunteer to start off then, after a while, send that person to the back of the line and let the next person lead. Encourage the leader to be creative in their movements (waving arms, squatting down, hopping etc). If you have a large group you may want to have more than one line moving around the room so that more people get the chance to lead.

Skittles: Divide the children into two groups and sit them in parallel lines facing each other. Number each of the children in each team. Place a skittle or empty plastic drinks bottle in the centre of the lines and a ball or beanbag in the middle at either end. When you call a number the two children run to the opposite ends of the area and aim the ball/beanbag at the skittle. The one who knocks down the skittle wins a point for their team.

Story-clue Pictionary: Divide your group into teams. One child from each team comes up and is told the first word to draw (no verbal clues). When their team guesses, another child comes up, etc. The first team to get all the clues wins. (Clues: desert / grasshopper / honey / river / dove.) Can anyone guess what today's story is about?

Exploring the Story:

Introduction: Play a game of 'John the Baptist' says; choose a volunteer to lead the group. When the leader says "John the Baptist says..." the group must copy the action being performed. If the leader does not say "John the Baptist says..." but just calls out an action then the group should not copy even though the leader will be doing it. Make the movements as energetic as you like!

Story: The story is found in **Matthew 3, Mark 1 and John 1** but there is also a simple version in resources. You could use this to encourage a little role-play. (see resources)

Locust craft - See resources or: use junk modelling to create your own; use playdough or stuff from your kitchen to create yummy bugs for John to eat.



Worship:

Learn a verse from the Bible:

"Turn away from your sins because the kingdom of God is near." Matthew 3 v 2

Recall the 'John the Baptist says' game. Let the children take turns to perform an action or strike a pose while the others copy them, then say the verse while holding that pose.

Song: Our God is a Great Big God
(Jo & Nigel Hemming – Vineyard Songs – Great Big God CD)

Prayer: Encourage the children to think of ways they can show the love of Jesus in their lives. Sit the children in a circle and roll a ball across the circle from one person to another and as each one catches the ball they can say, "Help me to show your love by.....", a leader can then close the prayer time.



Application: John told the people that they needed to change the way they were living and invited them to be baptised as a way of showing they had changed. Jesus came to be baptised not because he needed to change but because he wanted to lead by example. People today may be baptised or confirmed when they become a Christian as a way of showing that they want to follow Jesus. When someone makes the decision to follow him, God wants them to show that in the way they live.

(Encourage the children to copy the sign language for the word 'faithful' each time it is said. To do this hold your left hand out flat, palm up, and bring your right hand down on to it in a cutting motion. Remind the children that it is not a Karate chop! We delivered this story in our assemblies in term 3, so the group might be more familiar with it.)

John the faithful man!

I'm here to tell you all about a very faithful man,
Who listened to the Lord our God and trusted in His plan.
His name you may have heard before, it was John the Baptist,
I hope you're ready to use the sign the faithful sign we practised!

When John was still a young man he packed up and left his home,
He went to live in the desert and he lived there all alone.

I'm sure you must be thinking that this was rather odd?
But in fact he went because he was a faithful man of God.
John promised God he'd follow Him, go just where he was led,
He knew that God was faithful so he listened to all God said.

Faithfully John gave up all the comforts of his life,
He wasn't even worried that he didn't have a wife!
He only had old animal skins so he wore them for his clothes,
He didn't even have socks to cover his SMELLY...DIRTY toes!

When God told John what he should eat, he still remained so faithful,
He gathered insects from the ground and ate them by the plateful.

After many years of this John still had faith and listened,
Then one day God gave to John a very special mission.
"Go and tell my people all that they are doing wrong"
"And then please show my people how to serve and get along."

He asked if John would stand all day in a river up so high,
John looked to God and thought about the way he should reply?
God said, "I want you to prepare them for the coming of my Son;
This honour I will give to you to say thanks for all you've done."

With faith John went on his way and did all God had said,
He set to work, baptising and the word of this soon spread.

One day he was baptising, in a town near Galilee,
When God's son Jesus came and said, "John, will you baptise me?"
John didn't feel so worthy of this very special task.
But Jesus said, "You love me and this is all I ask."

So Jesus was baptised by this very faithful man
John loved the Lord with all his heart and trusted in His plan.

Crafting The Word Of God

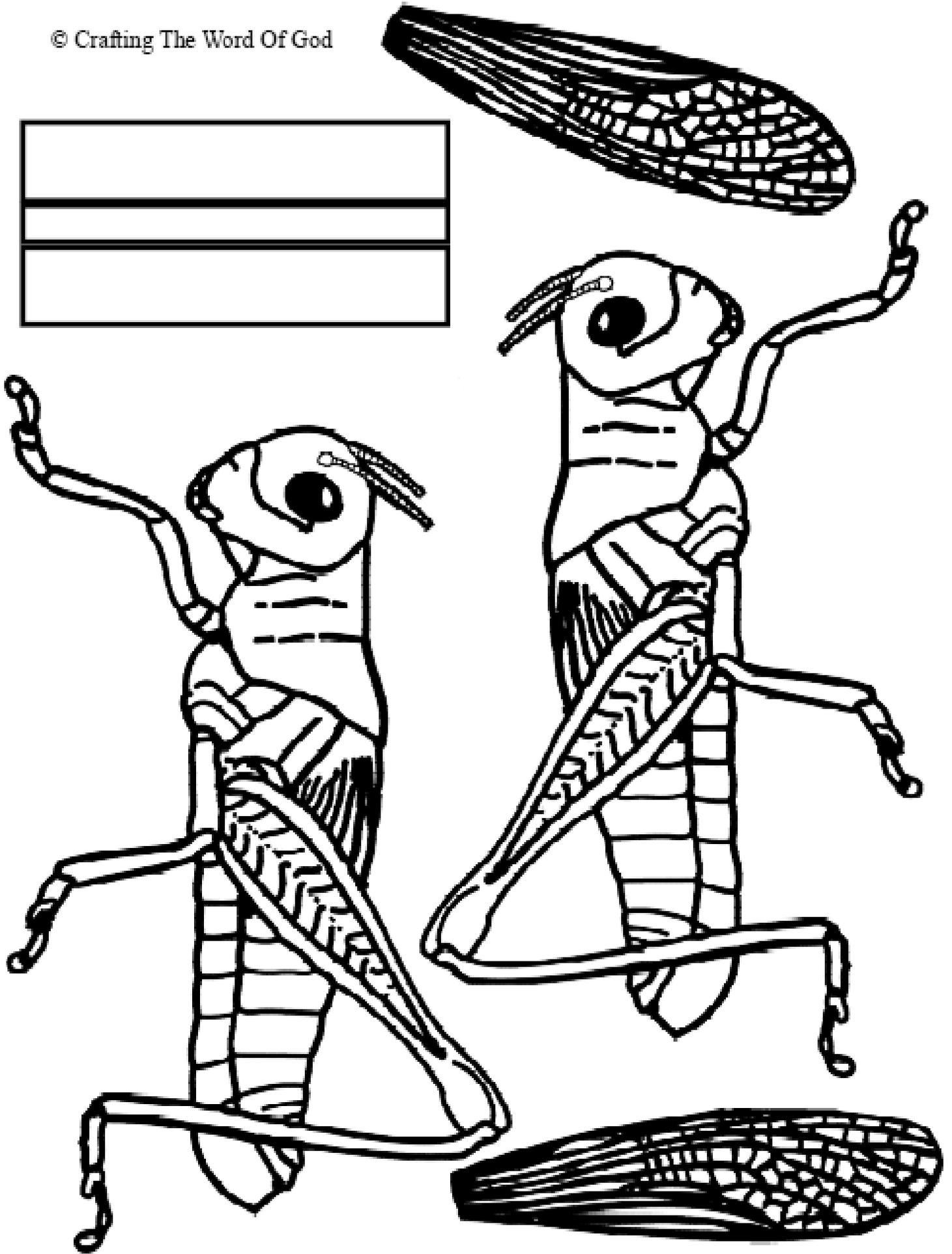


Instructions

Print the template onto a sheet of card

1. Cut out all of the pieces leaving a border of card around each piece.
2. Glue the pieces onto a sheet of black construction paper.
3. Cut out all of the pieces.
4. Glue each wing to the back of the locust pieces.
5. Take the rectangle piece and fold along both solid lines, making two creases.
6. Add glue to one side of the rectangle piece and stick it on one of the locust pieces, right between the thorax and the abdomen.
7. Do the same thing with the other piece of locust, making sure to line up both locust pieces. The legs will now be able to hold up the entire locust.

© Crafting The Word Of God





His name begins with J
Week 8: Jonah (OT prophet)



For your info: Jonah was a prophet in Israel and God sent him to take a message to the people of Nineveh which was the capital of the meanest empire ever: Assyria. The Assyrians bragged about killing Jews and Jonah was a Jew, so he considered the people of Nineveh to be his enemies and not deserving of God's forgiveness and mercy. He also thought he could run away from God! Start your planning by reading **Jonah chapters 1-3** **Theme: Serve God, He has a purpose for you.**

Activities:

Escape!: Similar to 'Sticky Glue', everyone holds on to the volunteer chaser's arms or fingers and can only run away when they hear the 'buzzword' - Jonah! The chaser calls the names of people in the group and can call 'Jonah' at any time. The first person to be tagged becomes the new chaser.

Under the sea: Children sit in a circle and each child is named either SEAHORSE, COD, OCTOPUS or SHRIMP. When their sea creature is called, they run round the outside of the circle. When you say 'tide changing', they change direction; 'wind blowing harder', they run faster; 'wind blowing softer', they run slowly; 'whale coming', they run back to their spaces.

Head It-Catch It: Leader in the middle throws a ball to each child in turn standing in a circle. If the leader says "Head it", the child must catch it; if "Catch it", they must head it. If they get it wrong, they go down on one knee, then two knees. If they get it right, they can stand up again.

Exploring the Story:

Introduction: Play a game of 'Charades'. Split the group into two teams and give a key word to one member of each team to mime to them. The first person to guess the word can come to get the next keyword and mime it. Use words linked to the story, ie. wind, storm, waves, ship, large fish, drowning man. See if anyone can guess what today's story is from the clues.

Story: Jonah chapters 1-3. The story is full of opportunities for dramatic fun. Choose children to play all the parts of the story while you read it. Or you can use the version in resources which can be read correctly the first time and then read again with the incorrect words in place. Get the group into teams and give points to the team with the first hand up and the missing word identified.

Worship:

Learn a verse from the Bible:

***"I worship the Lord, the God of heaven...."* Jonah 1 v 9**

Write the words on fish shapes (see resources) with paper clips attached. Make a fishing rod with a bent paper clip on the end of the string to act as a hook. In turns the children run to the 'sea', catch a fish and return to their group. When all the fish have been caught put them together to make the memory verse. Make two sets and play in teams.

Song: "Help Me Be Your Eyes Lord Jesus"
Doug Horley, Fandabidozzie CD

Prayer: Just as Jonah took God's message to the people of Nineveh; think about one person you could talk to about Kingsquad. Ask God to help you find the right time to talk to that person. Each person could quietly say the name of the person they are going to talk to and a leader could round off the prayer and finish with a big 'Amen'.

Application: - Jonah was given a second chance to serve God and the people of Nineveh were given a second chance too. Do you think everyone deserves a second chance? Should we always serve God and do what he says no matter what? (If you can, give a testimony of a time when you didn't do what God asked straight away.) We have to remember that God wants the best for us and we have to trust that what he tells us to do will be the best thing for us, even if it's something scary or different.

The Story of Jonah's Disobedience

Read the story once with the correct words in place, then read it again, substituting the words in brackets. Ask the children to put their hands up every time they can identify a wrongly placed word.

One day, **God** (*the cod*) spoke to Jonah. "Go to the great **city** (*dung heap*) of Nineveh and warn them they are **doing wrong** (*ding-dong*). I see the bad **things they do** (*toffees they eat*).

But Jonah was **scared** (*brave*) and ran away in the opposite direction. He got on a **ship** (*plane*) that was **sailing to Spain** (*flying to Disneyland*).

Soon the Lord sent a **great storm** (*humungous whale*) and all the sailors were feeling rather **sick and scared!** (*hairy and hungry!*) They started throwing **cargo** (*sweets*) overboard to make the ship **lighter** (*heavier*).

Then the **captain** (*fish*) found Jonah **asleep** (*being sick*). "Get up and **pray to your God**" (*play with your dog*), he said. "Maybe he can **save us** (*shave us*)."

Jonah told the crew it was his fault that God had sent a **storm** (*holiday*). He told them he was running away from **God** (*school*).

The wind and the **waves** (*peanuts*) were becoming much **stronger** (*harder*). Jonah told the men to throw him **overboard** (*a party*). "That will calm the storm", he said.

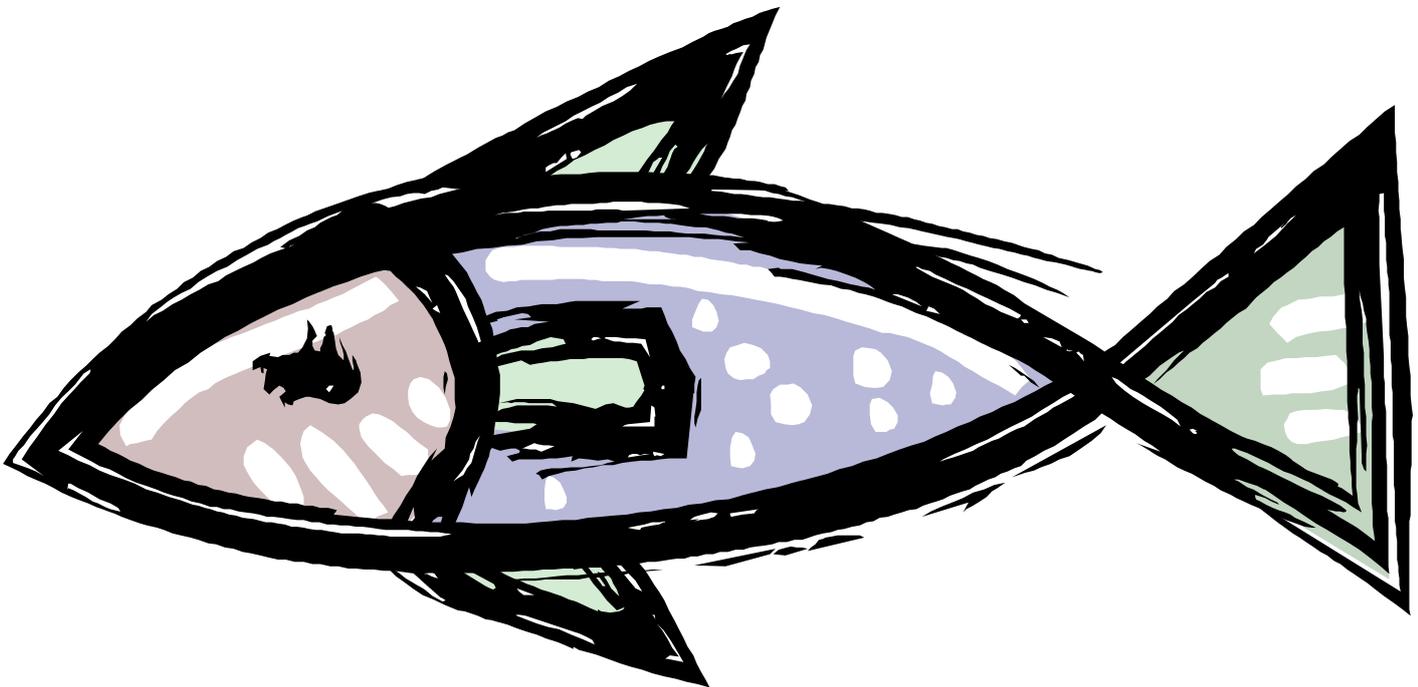
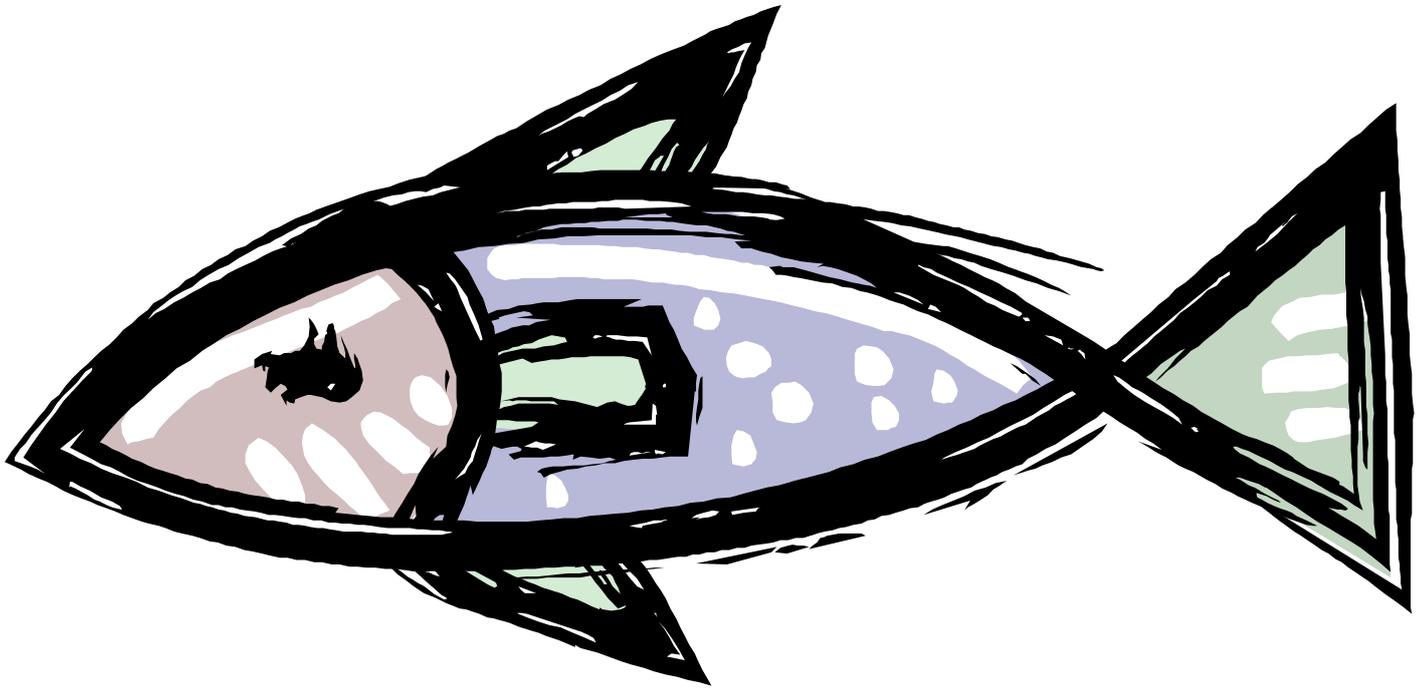
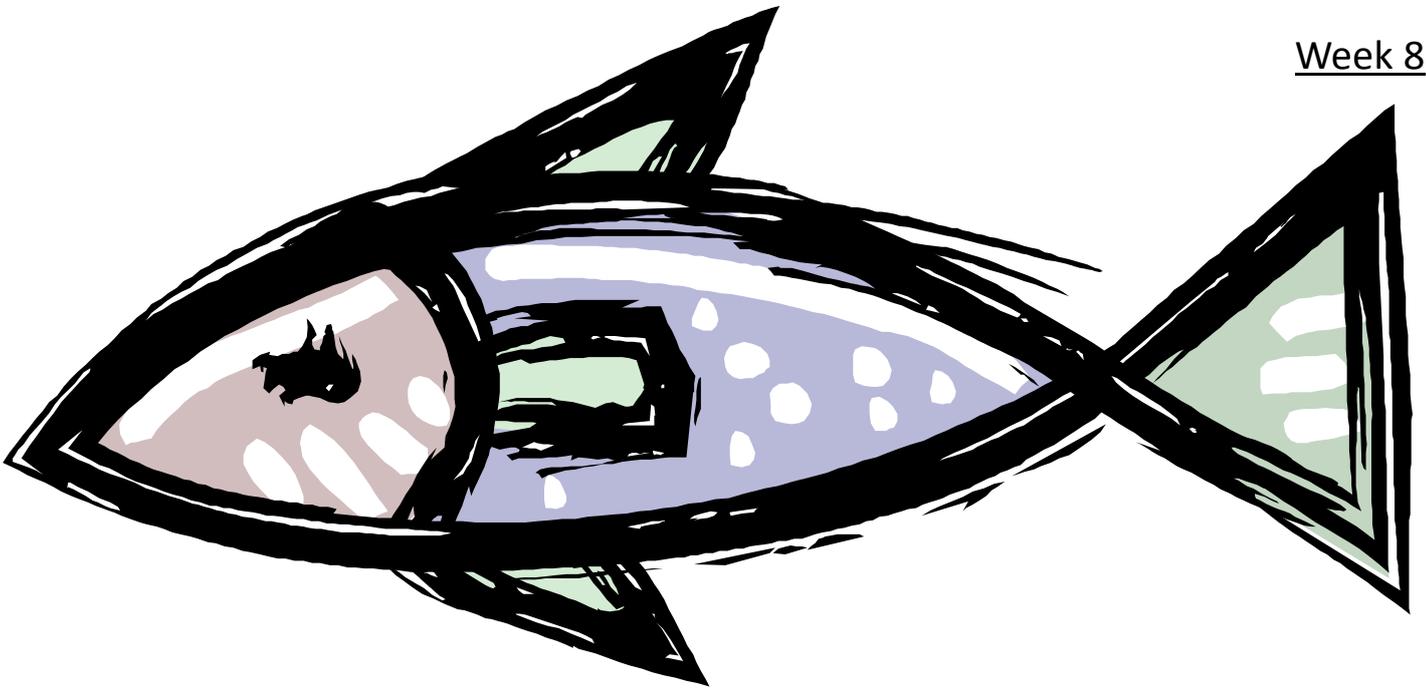
So the **sailors** (*monkeys*) picked Jonah up and with **a great big swing** (*many sad goodbyes*) they threw him into the stormy sea.

God sent a big **fish** (*bird*) to swallow Jonah. He was inside the dark, smelly, stinking fish for **three days and nights!** (*the rest of his life!*)

Jonah prayed to **God** (*the cod*), "Lord, you threw me into the sea where I went down **into the deep** (*to the beach*), tangled by the seaweed, but you saved me! I'm sorry, Lord, I will praise you and **thank you!** (*buy you gifts*)."

After that, the fish spat Jonah out on to **dry land** (*a soft bed*) and God told Jonah again to go to the people of **Nineveh** (*Nirvana*) and tell them to stop doing bad things, otherwise the city would be **destroyed** (*repainted*) in 40 days!

The people of Nineveh believed in God. They were **sorry** (*snoring*) and stopped doing bad things, so God changed his **mind** (*clothes*). He did not punish them or **destroy the city** (*feed them beetroot*).





His name begins with J

Week 9: Joseph (son of Jacob)



For your info: One of the most well known verses in the Bible is Romans 8:28 "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose." (NIV) In today's notes we explore part of Joseph's story, all of which is a classic example of this verse. Start your planning by reading Genesis 42

Theme: Even the bad things God can use for good (God can give you a change of heart)

Activities:

Can we have some food: Like a good old fashioned game of 'What's the time, Mr Wolf?' Instead of a wolf, someone plays Joseph the Ruler. The others creep toward him saying 'We need food, Ruler of Egypt'; at any point he can turn around to catch them out saying the words 'Come to the palace'. Anyone caught moving as he turns is out. The first to reach him and tap him on the shoulder is the next to be Joseph.

All Change: Have 5 coloured areas. The children have to choose an area to start the game. On "ALL CHANGE", they dash to another coloured area. The leader then pulls a colour out of the bag and all those in that colour area are out.

Collecting Grain: (see resources) Stick the picture of the grain sacks onto plastic cups. These are your sacks to collect the grain. Have some seeds/pulses/dried fruit and enough straws for one per child. Divide your children into teams. On the word 'Go', each child in turn has to suck a seed/fruit onto the base of the straw and drop it into the sack. The team with the most seeds/pulses/fruit at the end of an allotted time is the winner.

Exploring the story:

Introduction: – talk about a personal bad experience that you have had that you thought had gone too far and couldn't be put right. But in fact it did get sorted. How did God help you? Did you trust God would help you? Ask the children if they call out to God for help when they've got it wrong.

Use the Powerplay (see resources) to tell the story of **Joseph and his reunion with his brothers** from **Genesis 42**. Use as many or as few action words as you feel the group can manage.

Craft: – Brothers – Concertina a strip of paper so there are 6 sections, cut out a figure to make a people paper chain. Pair up with a friend and stick them together to make the 12 brothers. Decorate.



Worship:

Verse from the Bible: "Be fair in your treatment of one another." Jeremiah 7 v 5b

Hide the brothers (see resources) around the room. Get all 12 brothers together again, reconciled and happy!

Song: "God has got a plan" - Best of Spring Harvest Praise

Response and prayer activity:

Ask the children to cup their hands out in front of them as though asking for food and to close their eyes. Ask the following questions:

Think about a situation right now that you are dealing with that might not be turning out the way you would like.

Ask God to help you.

Have you upset or hurt someone and don't know how to put it right?

Ask God to help you.

Have you seen someone doing something mean and hurtful but don't know how to help?

Ask God to help you.

Application: (See resources for picture) Using a recyclable book, e.g. yellow pages or Thompson directory, fold it in half and secure it with elastic bands top and bottom. In pen draw a picture of a wide person across the edges of the pages. Remove the elastics and see what happens. The wide person becomes very thin.

Explain. *Once all of Joseph's brothers were well fed and successful...even though they'd done something bad in the past...but famine came and they became thin and desperate without food and they needed help. When we don't know or acknowledge God, we may feel thin and weak, we are often lost and sometimes desperate. But when we know Him and rely on Him to help us we are full up and strong. We feel better EVEN in difficult situations.*

Joseph, the missing son of Jacob was now a **Ruler** of **Egypt**. His older **brothers** had sold him as a **slave** to the **Egyptians** many years before and they had told their **father Jacob** that he was dead.

Joseph was in the palace and many people were arriving saying that they had travelled miles and were hungry and needed **food**. **Joseph** was trying to help them. One day a group of men arrived, bent down on their knees and begged the **Ruler Joseph** for some **food**.

“We have travelled for miles to come here to **Egypt** and our bellies are empty as there is famine in our land”, said one man. “Please may we buy some **food** from you to take back to our families?” said another.

Joseph the **Ruler** was shocked. Standing in front of him, begging for **food** were **Joseph’s brothers**. The very **brothers** that had sold him as a **slave**, many years before and who had told his **father Jacob** that he was dead.

He recognised his **brothers**. But his **brothers** didn’t recognise him.

Joseph immediately thought of a plan. He wanted to see if his **brothers** had changed.

“Yes”, said **Joseph Ruler** of **Egypt**. “I will sell you **food**.”

Joseph told his servants to pack the bags attached to the **brothers’** donkeys with plenty of **food**. BUT he also gave a secret instruction to one servant to hide a treasured silver cup from the palace deep in the youngest **brother’s** bag along with some **food**. Then he sent the **brothers** on their travels to return home from **Egypt**.

Joseph’s brothers were overjoyed to be returning home to their **father Jacob** with plenty of **food**, but as they left and were only a short way on their journey they were stopped by the **Ruler’s** Servants.

The **brothers** were shocked to be accused of stealing a precious silver cup and said that it would not be found amongst their bags of **food**, but sure enough it was indeed found in the youngest **brother’s** bag.

They were taken back to the palace and stood in front of **Joseph** the **Ruler**.

“We only had **food** in our bags and we don’t know how it got there”, begged the oldest **brother**.

Joseph the **Ruler** told them that it was found in the youngest **brother’s** bag and he would have to stay behind as punishment to be a **slave**.

“No please”, begged the **brothers**. “If we don’t take him home, our **father Jacob’s** heart will be broken. His favourite son named **Joseph** died many years ago and our youngest **brother** is now his special son. We cannot possibly go without him.”

“I will stay here in **Egypt** instead.” said the oldest **brother** “Let me be your **slave** and let my **brothers** take the **food** back home to our **father Jacob**”

When **Joseph** heard this plea, he knew his **brothers** had changed. He stepped closer and lifted all their faces toward him. “I am your **brother Joseph** and I forgive you. You thought you had done an awful thing to me but **God made a bad situation into a good one and has given you all a change of heart**.

Go and fetch our **father Jacob** and bring him and all your families here to live safely in **Egypt** and with plenty of **food** to eat.”

When the **brothers** returned days later with their wives, their children and their **father Jacob**, there were celebrations. **Joseph** was ALIVE and every one of them CHEERED!

God had made a bad situation into a good one and had given them all a change of heart.

ACTIONS

God made a bad situation into a good one and has given you all a change of heart – Thumbs down, thumbs up, then make a heart shape.

Joseph – shout “He’s Alive!” or Put a coat on action

Ruler - Bow

Brothers – shake hands

Egypt – Egyptian sand dance hands at head and tail

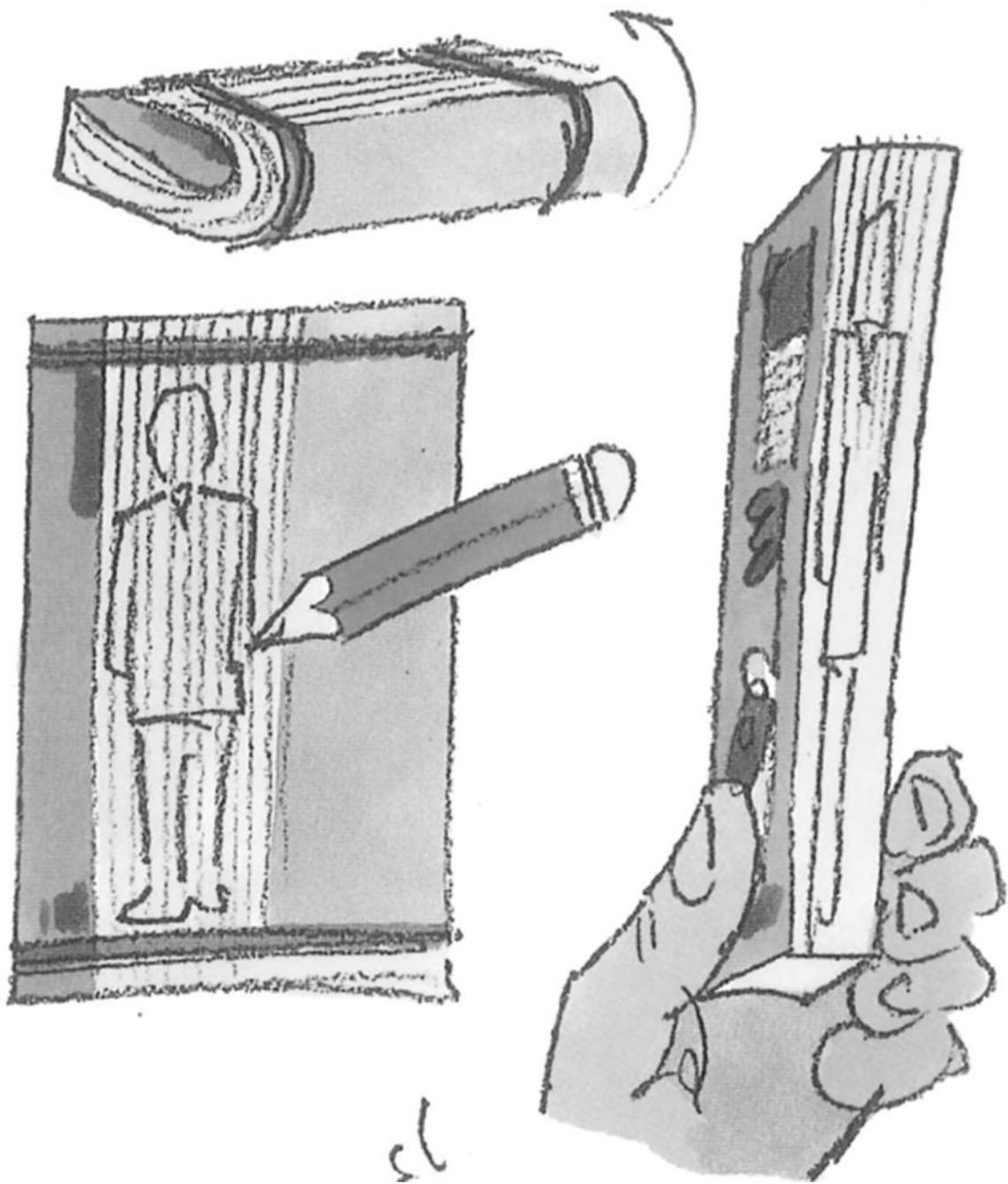
Slave – handcuffs, wrists together

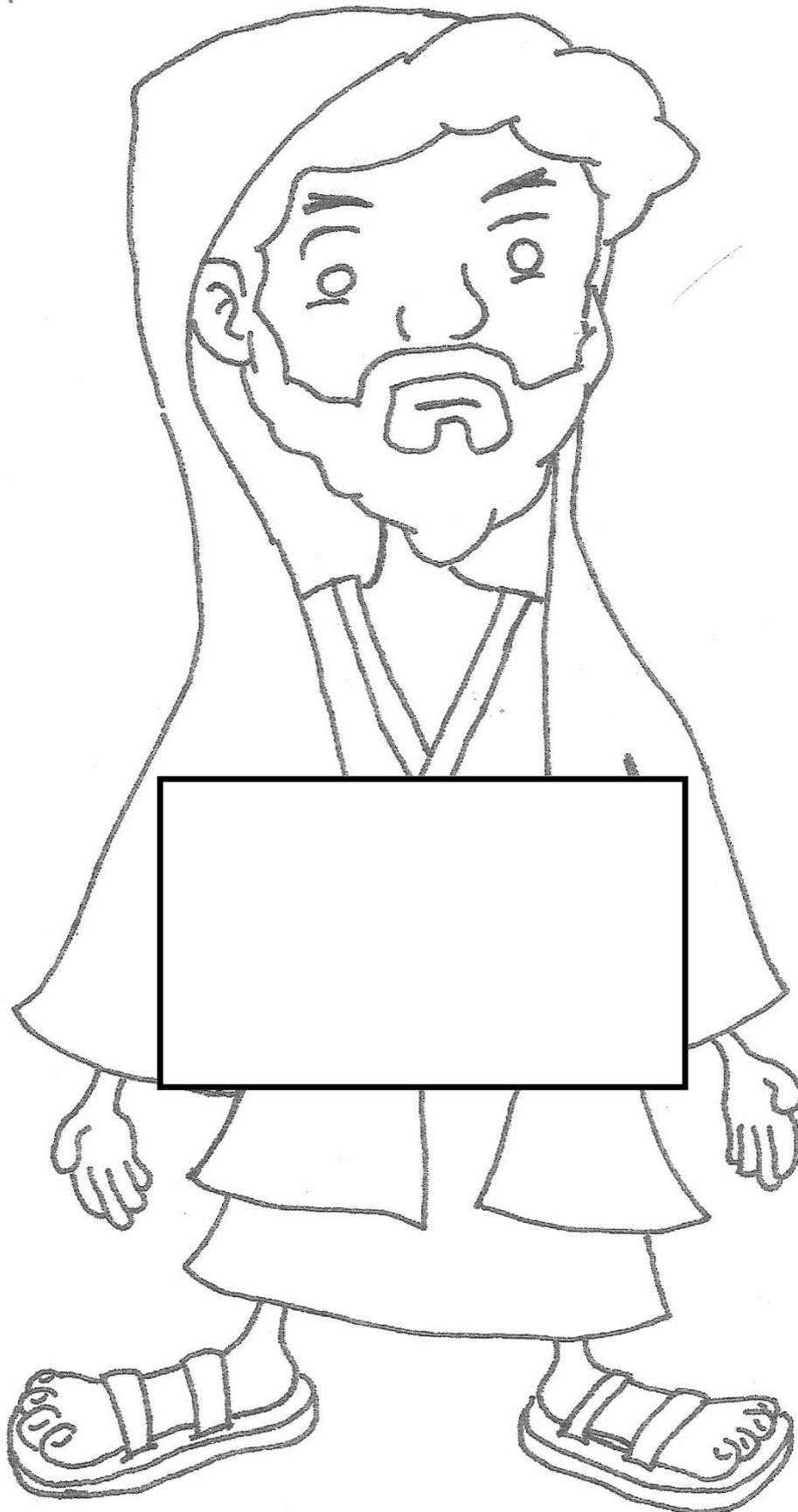
Father Jacob – stroke your beard

Food – munch a burger



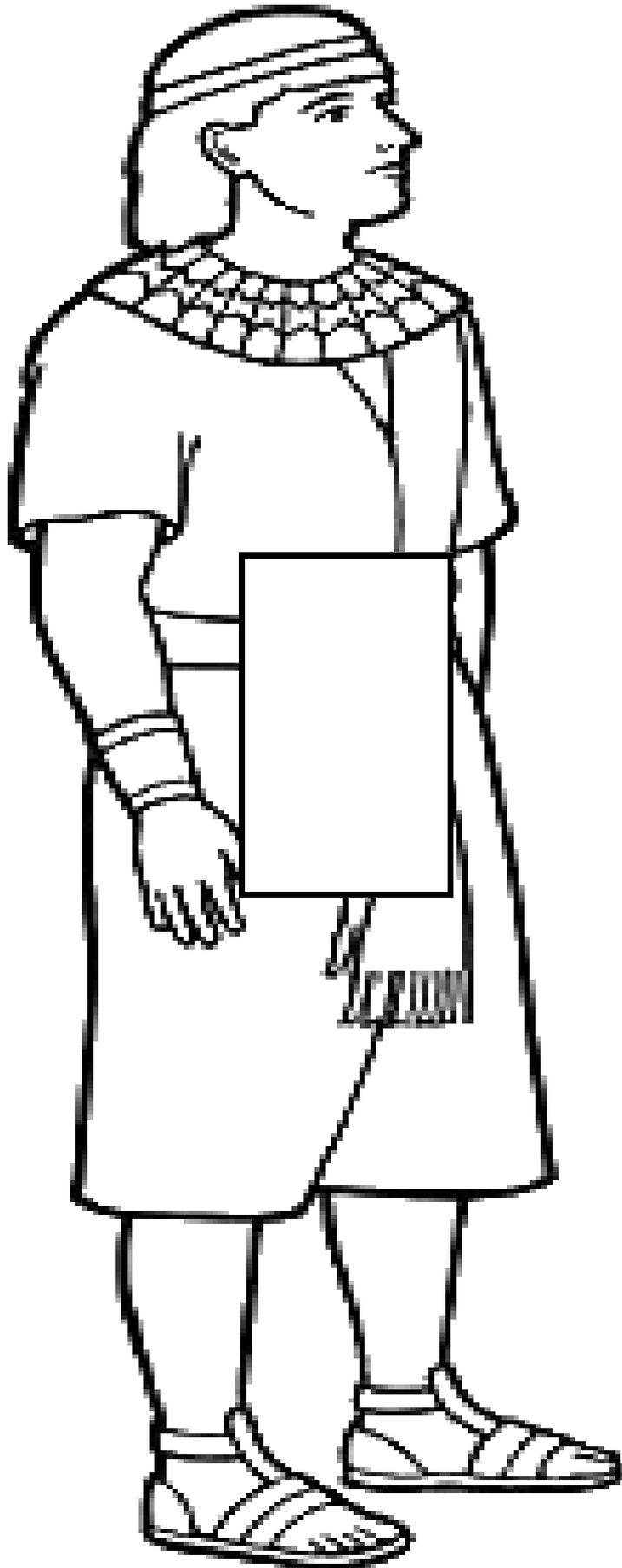
Application





Cut out 11 men and give them each a word from the memory verse ..

Be fair in your treatment of one another.
Jeremiah 7 v



Cut out Joseph and
write in the
number
5b
from the memory
verse.



His name begins with J
Week 10: Joshua (OT leader of Israel)



Joshua led the Israelites after Moses had died. He was totally obedient to God which led to their success in all they did.

Start your planning by reading **Joshua chapters 2, 3 & 6**

Theme: Being obedient to God

Activities:

Game: Skittles: A relay race in 2 teams. One by one the children try to knock down the skittles, using two bean bags each, and score points for each one flattened.

Game: Joshua says: The leader gives the instructions and the children have to follow: "Joshua's coming!" - salute; "Spies" - crawl on tummy; "March" - march on spot; "Platoon" get into groups of 5; "Shout!" - Hurray!

Game: On the bank/ In the river: Put a line of masking tape on the floor. Children all stand on one side of it and that will be "on the bank". When you say "in the river" they jump to the other side of the tape. Say it really fast or confuse them with "In the custard" or "On the elephant". If they jump when they shouldn't, they are out!

Game: Jericho: 2 teams stand in two circles. There is a box of instructions in the centre of each. The children take it in turns to run to the box and then do as the instruction tells them. Each circle represents Jericho so when every child has completed their task, they all sit down and shout "Crash!" Instructions can include "Hop round Jericho", "Crawl round Jericho", "Walk backwards around Jericho" or "Jump around Jericho". The first team to shout "Crash!" is the winner.

CRAFT – Junk modelling – what do they think Jericho looked like?

Exploring the Story:

Introduction: Ask the children if they had to fight a battle against a bigger army what plans would they make?

Story: (STYLE – children act it out) See Resources for story based on **Joshua chapters 2, 3 & 6**

Challenge: Try building a house of cards and remember how Jericho fell because Joshua was obedient to God.

Postcard: Write a postcard home describing the events that led to the fall of Jericho

Application: - Can you imagine telling a soldier to get the priests to walk into a flowing river? What might have happened? Yes, they might have drowned but because God had told Joshua to give the order, the Priests were safe. How about trying to win a battle by just marching round a city and blowing trumpets? It seems a strange plan but Joshua obeyed God and so Jericho was defeated. Whenever people are obedient to God, they do well!

Worship:

Learn a verse from the Bible: "As for me and my family, we will serve the Lord." Joshua 24 verse 15b (see resources for template) In teams, the children throw a dice in turn and have to throw the correct number to collect the corresponding piece of memory verse. They need to throw a 6 to get the main part of the house first: 1 = chimney 2 = roof 3 = window
4 = door 5 = pathway 6 = house

"Song: "As for me and my house" Jim Bailey Children of the Cross CD
Children can have a hoe-down, linking elbows and dancing round the room.

Prayer: Ask the children to choose one of the Ten Commandments they were looking at earlier. As you pass a copy of God's rules round the circle, each child can read out the one they've chosen and ask God to help them to obey that rule.

Reflection: Use the child-friendly version of the Ten Commandments, in resources. How easy do the children find it to obey God's rules? What can they do if they are tempted to break the rules?



Joshua's Story

Characters: Narrator, Joshua, God (*speaking parts*)

Priests, soldiers, Israelites (non-speaking parts)

Narrator: This is Joshua who is a man chosen by God to lead the Israelites. God told Joshua that he should not be afraid as God would be with him, wherever he went. One day, God said:

God: Get the priests to carry the Ark of the Covenant into the centre of the River Jordan.

Joshua: Are you sure, God? I mean, the water level is really high and the river looks ready to flood!

God: Just do as I say, Joshua!

Joshua: OK, God.

Narrator: So Joshua sent the Priests into the middle of the river. (*Priests and Israelites mime*) As they stepped into the water it began to stop flowing. The water piled up in heaps upstream and downstream so the people were able to walk across on dry land.

Joshua: Wow, God! That's an amazing miracle!

God: If you obey what I ask, then you will always be successful. Now we need to conquer Jericho!

Joshua: Their army is much bigger and stronger than ours!

God: Don't worry because I am on your side! Tell the army to march around the city once each day, for six days. The priests must carry the Ark and blow their trumpets but the soldiers must stay silent.

Joshua: Are you sure you don't want us to attack and fight?

God: No, trust me and do as I say!

Joshua: OK, God.

Narrator: So that's exactly what Joshua did. (*Soldiers and priests mime*) The army marched in silence whilst the priests carried the ark and blew their trumpets. On the seventh day, the army marched round the walls of Jericho seven times.

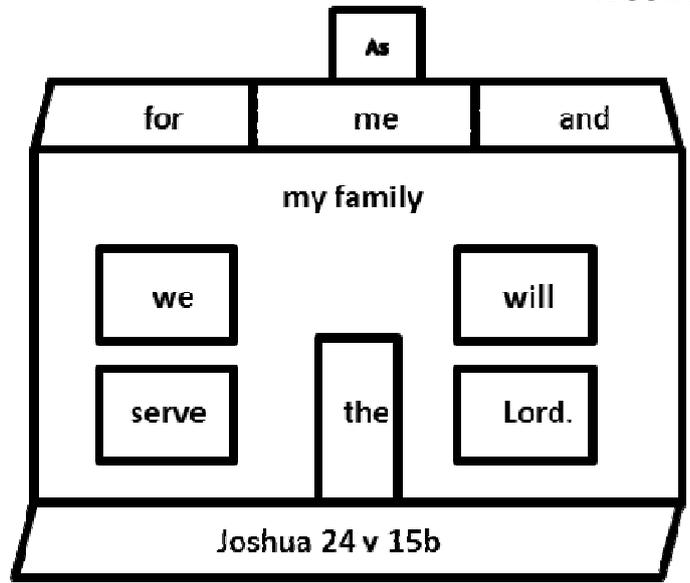
Joshua: God commands that every living thing in Jericho must be destroyed, except Rahab and her family, as she helped our spies. All items made of gold, silver, bronze and iron are to be put in the Lord's treasury. When I give the command, everyone must shout as loudly as possible!

Narrator: So Joshua gave the signal, everyone shouted and the walls of the mighty city fell down. The Israelites conquered Jericho and did exactly as God commanded.

The Ten Commandments

- 1/ Love God more than you love anything else.**
- 2/ Do not make anything in your life more important than God.**
- 3/ Always say God's name with love and respect.**
- 4/ Honour the Lord by resting on the seventh day of the week.**
- 5/ Love and respect your Mum and Dad**
- 6/ Do not murder**
- 7/ Keep your marriage promises**
- 8/ Don't take anything that isn't yours.**
- 9/ Always tell the truth.**
- 10/ Be happy with what you have and don't wish for other people's things.**

The finished
memory verse
looks like this



serve

we

the

Lord.

will

Cut out pieces

As

for

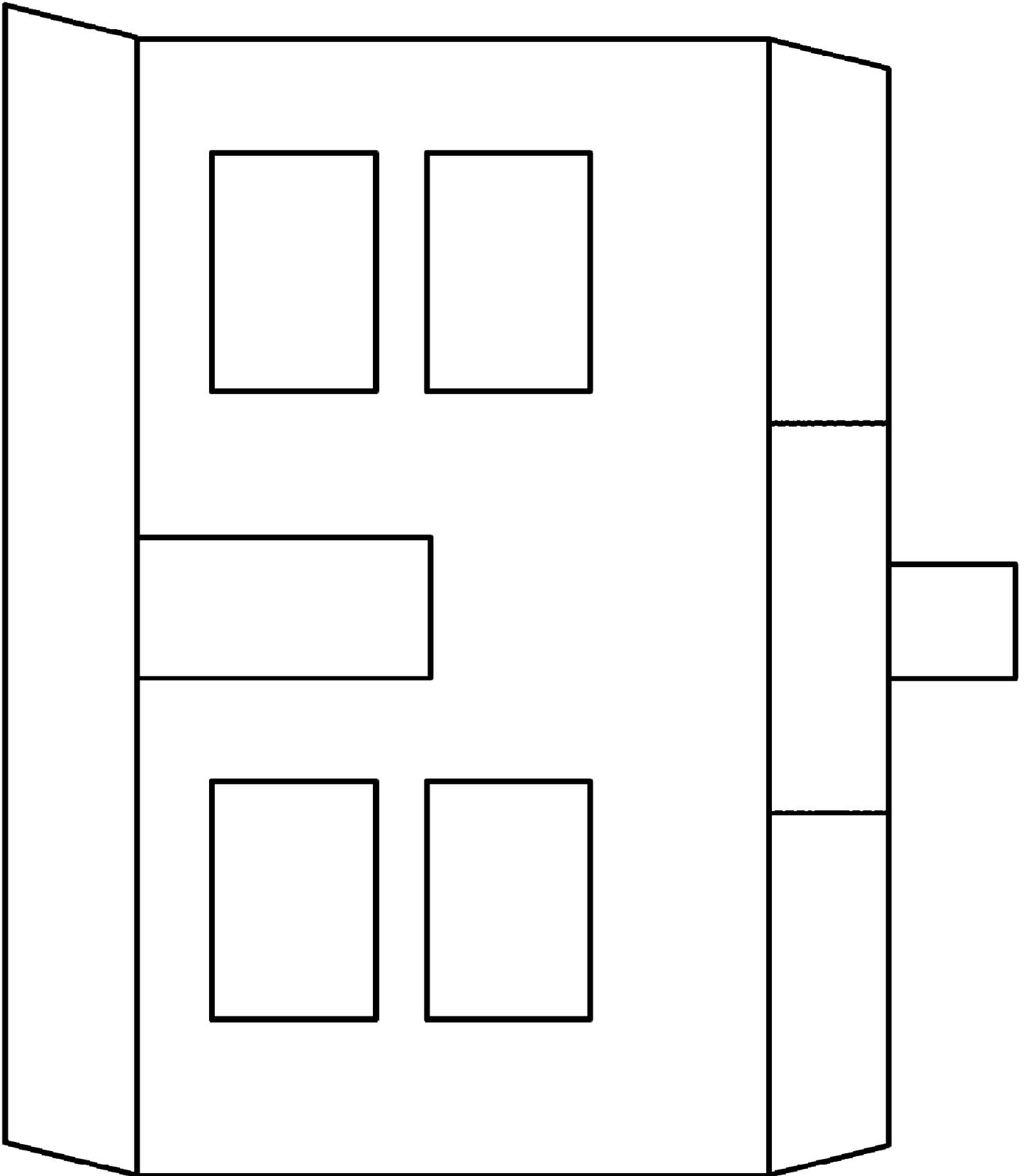
me

and

my family

Joshua 24 v 15b

Cut out pieces



Background - do not cut out

Jairus' Daughter Luke 8 v 40-56

A man named Jairus arrived at the lake where Jesus was; he was an official in the local synagogue. He threw himself at Jesus' feet and begged him to go to his home, because his 12 year old daughter was dying.

As Jesus went along, the people were crowding him from every side. Among them was a woman who had suffered from severe bleeding for 12 years; she had spent all she had on doctors, but no one had been able to cure her. She came up in the crowd behind Jesus and touched the edge of his cloak, and her bleeding stopped at once. Jesus asked, "Who touched me?"

Everyone denied it...but Jesus said, "Someone touched me, for I knew it when power went out of me." The woman saw that she had been found out, so she came trembling and threw herself at Jesus' feet. There in front of everybody, she told him why she had touched him and how she had been healed at once. Jesus said to her, "My daughter, your faith has made you well. Go in peace."

A messenger came from the official's house. "Your daughter has died," he told Jairus; "don't bother the Teacher any longer." But Jesus heard it and said to Jairus, "Don't be afraid; only believe, and she will be well."

When he arrived at the house...everyone there was crying and mourning for the child. Jesus said, "Don't cry; the child is not dead—she is only sleeping!" They all made fun of him, because they knew that she was dead. But Jesus took her by the hand and called out, "Get up, child!" Her life returned, and she got up at once, and Jesus ordered them to give her something to eat. Her parents were astounded, but Jesus commanded them not to tell anyone what had happened.



Get closer to God with Todd

Hi Kingsquadders! My name is Todd and my job is to encourage you about how you feel about God and to discuss with your leaders and friends!

- How would you have reacted if you were Jairus?
- If you are worried about anyone who may be poorly, try to pray for them and let them know you are there for them.

His name begins with J

Week 1

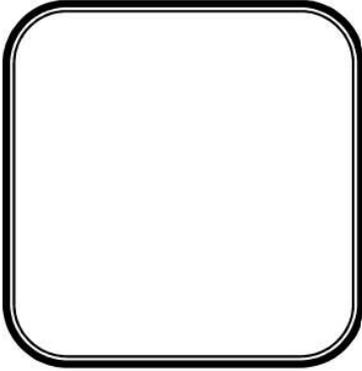
Jairus

Don't worry—trust Jesus!



Name:

Pretend you are a newspaper reporter. Write an article and draw a picture about the events that happened to Jairus' daughter.



'Leave all your worries
with him,
because he cares for you.'
1 Peter 5 v 7



"My little daughter is dying. Please, come and put your hands on her so that she will be _____ and live."

Mark 5:23 (NIV)

HNDAS

6

LVIE

4

2

CLHID

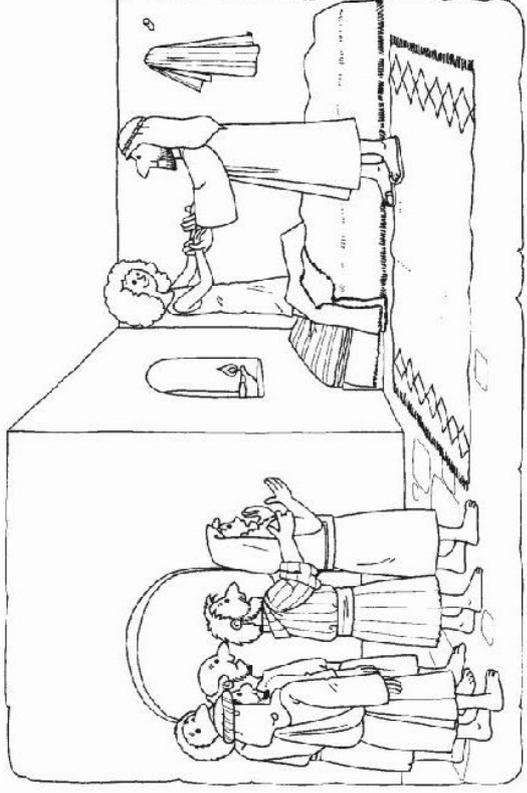
1

DAED

5

3

1 2 3 4 5 6



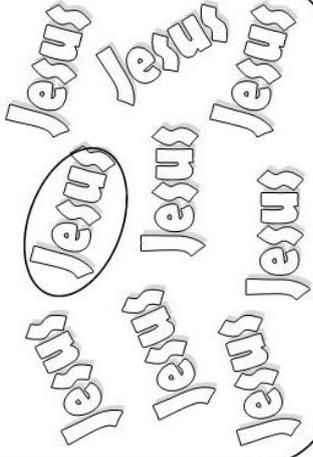
Activity one

In the space below write 8 things that worry you, then put a line through it and circle Jesus in the other box!

Hard homework

Activity two

Jesus is better than all our worries!
You have just given them to Him!



Japheth helped build the ark

Genesis 6v9 - 9v17

Everyone everywhere had forgotten about God and were constantly doing bad things. God's heart was filled with pain when he saw what had happened to the world he loved so much. He needed a plan.

Noah was God's friend and he listened to God, and he talked to God, and he loved being with God. God told Noah that things had gone wrong, that people had filled His world with hate instead of love, that they were destroying themselves and their friends and families. He had a plan.

God called upon Noah to build an ark. "A storm is coming," God told Noah "I promise I will rescue you." The storm was going to wash away everything that had gone wrong and make the world clean again. God's plan was to keep Noah, his family and two types of each animal safe, so Noah trusted God and built an ark. Everyone thought Noah was crazy, there wasn't going to be a storm. Was there?

Noah built his boat in the middle of a desert. His sons Shem, Ham, and Japheth helped him to build it, but everyone else couldn't quite believe it. Noah did, and he trusted God and believed in His plan.

The storm came, and went on for days. 150 days later the ark came to a halt on top of Mount Ararat, Noah wanted to know if the earth was dry enough to leave so he sent out a dove, but nothing happened. He sent the dove out again and it returned that evening. Everyone was safe to return to land. God made this promise to Noah and his family "I promise no matter how bad people decide to live their lives, never again will I send a flood to destroy the earth. If it rains for a long time and you fear I have forgotten this promise, look up at the sky and I will show you a sign that I have not forgotten." As Noah and his family looked up, a beautiful rainbow arched across the sky. "The rainbow will always remind you of my promise."



Get closer to God with Todd

Hi Kingsquadders! My name is Todd and my job is to encourage you about how you feel about God and to discuss with your leaders and friends!

- God made a huge promise to Noah and his family, what do we still see today that reminds us of that promise?
- Can you think of a promise you could make to God?
- How important is a promise when it is made?

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His name begins with J

Week 2

Japheth

Obeying God's word and seeing His promises



Name:

Then James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to Jesus. "Teacher," they said, "there is something we want you to do for us."

"What is it?" Jesus asked them.

They answered, "When you sit on your throne in your glorious Kingdom, we want you to let us sit with you, one at your right and one at your left."

Jesus said to them, "You don't know what you are asking for. Can you drink the cup of suffering that I must drink? Can you be baptized in the way I must be baptized?"

"We can," they answered.

Jesus said to them, "You will indeed drink the cup I must drink and be baptized in the way I must be baptized. But I do not have the right to choose who will sit at my right and my left. It is God who will give these places to those for whom he has prepared them."

When the other ten disciples heard about it, they became angry with James and John. So Jesus called them all together to him and said, "You know that those who are considered rulers of the heathen have power over them, and the leaders have complete authority.

"This, however, is not the way it is among you. If one of you wants to be great, you must be the servant of the rest; and if one of you wants to be first, you must be the slave of all. For even the Son of Man did not come to be served; he came to serve and to give his life to redeem many people."

Get closer to God with Todd

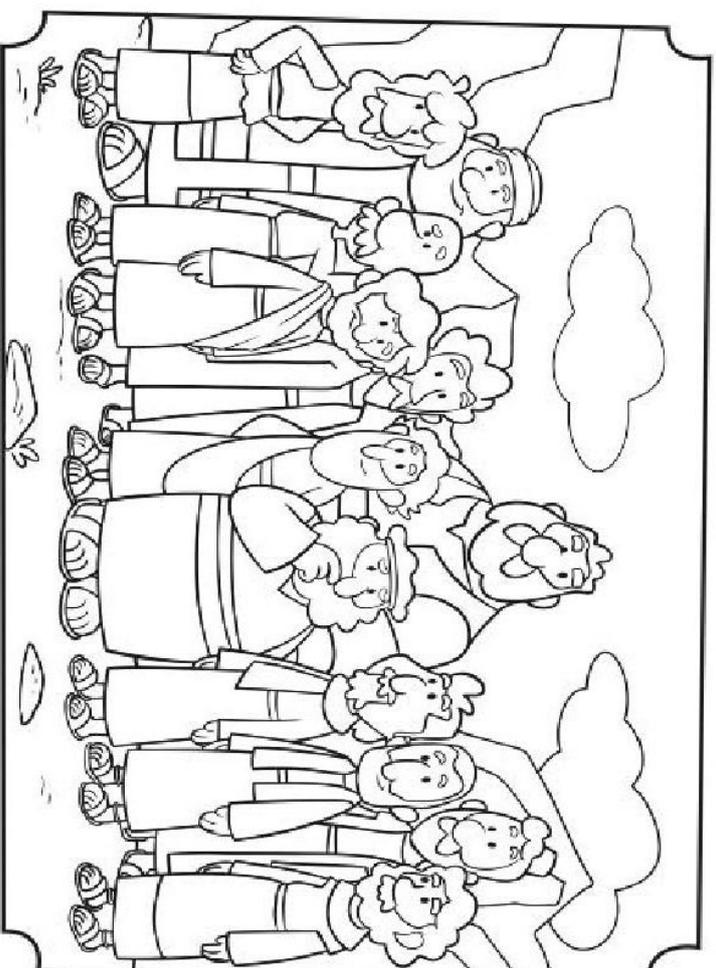
Hi Kingsquadders! My name is Todd and my job is to encourage you about how you feel about God and to discuss with your leaders and friends!

- How do you feel when people put others first before you?
- Should we put ourselves first before others?
- When is it good to put ourselves first?
- What do we need to remember from this story?



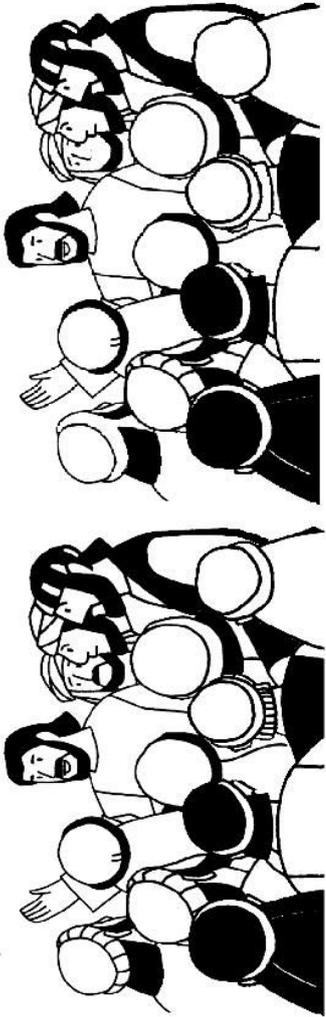
James and John

Think of others before ourselves



Name:

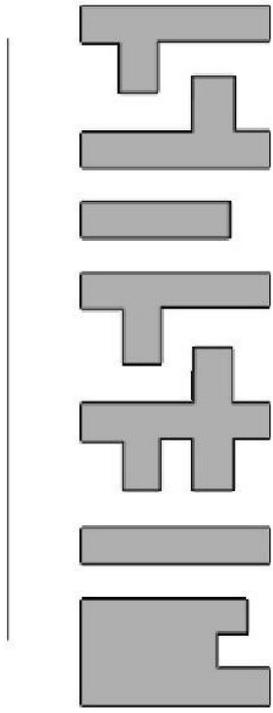
Spot the 5 differences



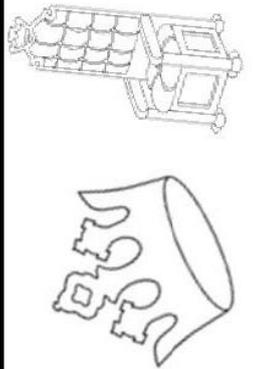
Fill in the missing vowels; a, e, i, o, u

"_f_ _n_ _f_ y_ _ _ w_ nts t_ _
b_ _ gr_ _t, y_ _ _ m_ st b_ _
th_ _ s_ rv_ nt _f_ th_ _ r_ st."
M_ tth_ w 20v26

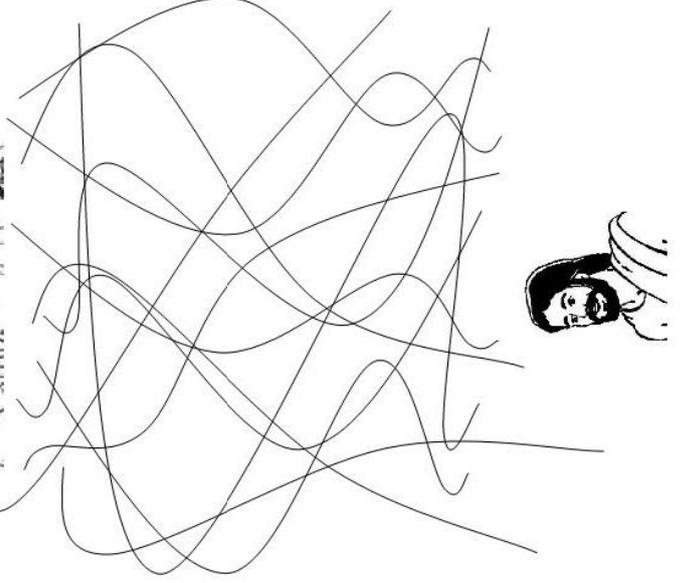
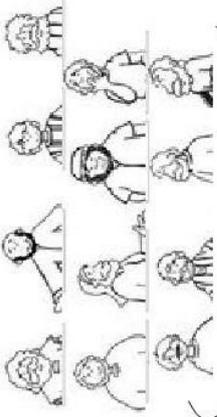
If you stare at this illusion for a while a word will appear.
Write here what word you can see.



Stare at the three dots. Whose face appears when you close your eyes?



Draw over each line in a different colour to help each disciple find Jesus.



Write the names of all the people who you would like to put first before yourself.
Why don't you pray for them as well.

The story of Jehoshaphat 2 Chronicles 17 - 20

Jehoshaphat was King of Judah. He was what you might call a 'nice guy'. He was good to speak to, could get on with almost anyone and he tried to follow God's rules. But he failed to listen to what God really wanted him to do. He was sorry, so God gave him another chance. He wanted to stop the war between Israel and Judah, which had gone on for 60 years. He wanted to do it by getting one of his family to marry one of King Ahab's family.

But God had forbidden his people to marry evil people and you couldn't get much worse than Ahab and his family! He was sorry, so God gave him another chance. God sent one of His prophets, to tell Jehoshaphat off and warn him not to do it again.

But God also told Jehu the prophet to say, "The Lord knows you are trying to follow His will and there is some good in you." The people were worshipping wrong gods. They were sorry, so God gave them another chance. Jehoshaphat sent teachers and priests out to destroy the pagan god symbols and teach the people to follow the right God again. Enemies of Judah sent huge armies to attack them and they were really afraid.

They were sorry, so God gave them another chance. They prayed to God and asked Him to save them all. The armies were getting near to the city. They did not want to fight. They were sorry, so God gave them another chance. The king and the people were told they did not have to fight as God would win the battle for them. So they went out to meet the army, singing and praising God. When they began to sing, God sent the attacking armies into a panic and they started to fight among themselves until no army was left. And although Jehoshaphat did make more mistakes, God still allowed him to rule over Judah until he was sixty years old.

Get closer to God with Todd

Hi Kingsquadders! My name is Todd and my job is to encourage you about how you feel about God and to discuss with your leaders and friends!

- How many times do you think God will give a 'second chance'?
- Do you think Jehoshaphat deserved a second chance?
- Why do you think God wanted Jehoshaphat to continue to rule over Judah?



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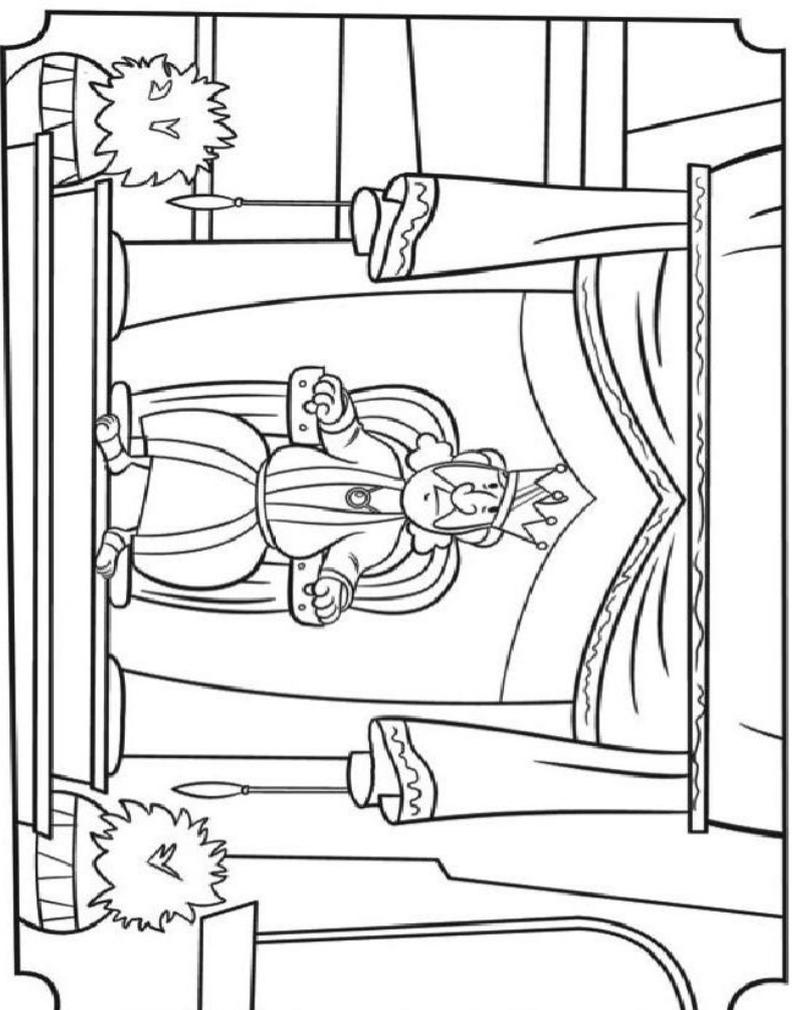
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His name begins with J

Week 4

Jehoshaphat

God gives us another chance



Name:

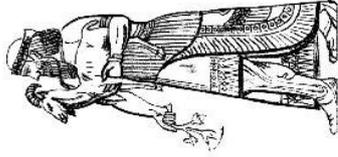
Write your own prayer next to the Lord's prayer

Lord's prayer

Our Father in heaven,
 hallowed be your name.
 Your Kingdom come,
 your will be done,
 on earth as in heaven
 Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
 as we **forgive** those who sin
 against us.
 Lead us not into
 temptation,
 but deliver us from evil.
 For the kingdom,
 the power and the glory are
 yours,
 Now and for ever.
 Amen.

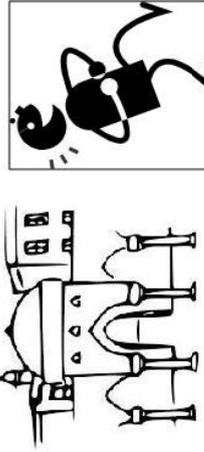
Your prayer

- judah
- jehoshaphat
- chance
- god
- gods
- armies
- sorry
- city
- forgive
- pagan



Using the story from the back of the funsheet,
 create your own storyboard in the three boxes below.

j	u	d	a	h	h	f
e	y	s	r	c	b	o
h	e	u	q	h	m	r
o	j	g	p	a	n	g
s	d	o	g	n	d	i
h	l	d	q	c	h	v
a	i	u	p	e	s	e
p	a	g	a	n	v	c
h	s	i	u	n	b	i
a	r	m	i	e	s	t
t	z	s	o	r	r	y



“Happy are those
 whose sins are
 forgiven.”

Psalm 32 v 1

Draw yourself in a smiley self portrait



Jeremiah was only a teenager when God said to him, "I want you to be my Messenger." Jeremiah was scared; he didn't think that he would have the right words or that people would listen to him so God told him that he would help. God touched Jeremiah's mouth and promised to give him the words he needed to say. So Jeremiah became God's messenger and spoke to many people although they didn't always listen to his message. He felt sad for the people because they didn't understand the importance of following God's rules and Jeremiah was known as the crying prophet.

One day Jeremiah was told by God to visit a potter's house. He watched as the potter made pots out of clay. If the pot didn't turn out well, the potter would take the clay, roll it up into a ball and make a new pot. God explained that sometimes the people were like those pots; if they got things wrong, God would have to reshape them. God wanted to make people the best they could be.

Jeremiah loved God and wanted people to love him too. He knew that God could help them to do their best. We can show how much we love God by spending time with him and by praising him.

Jeremiah spoke of God's promise that he would send help and the greatest help would come from God sending his own son, Jesus, to show us how to live.



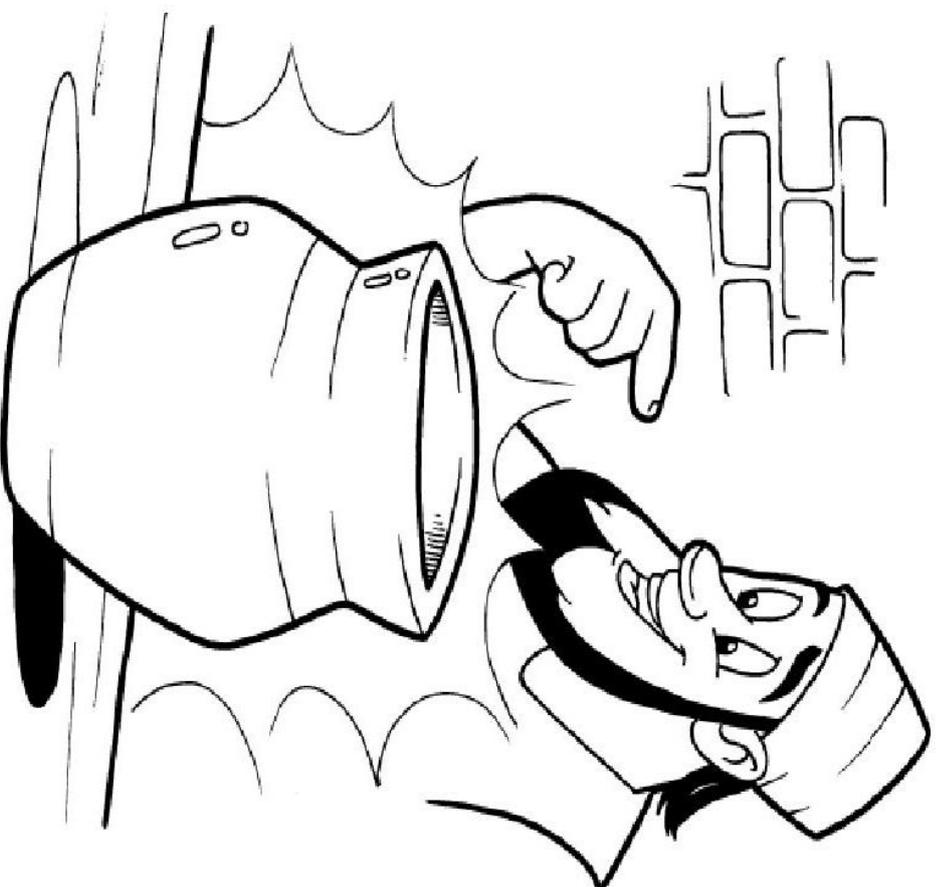
Get closer to God with Todd

Hi Kingsquadders! My name is Todd and my job is to encourage you about how you feel about God and to discuss with your leaders and friends!

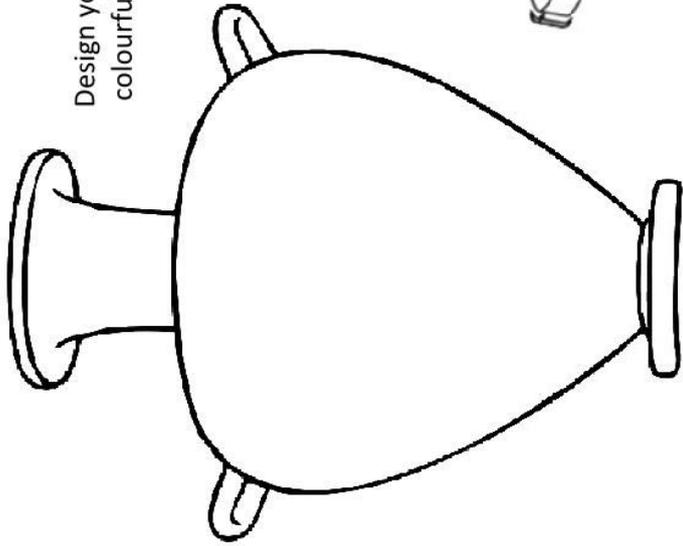
- How many times do you think God can reshape us?
- Why do you think God wants us to be like him?
- What should we do when things go wrong?

Jeremiah

God wants us to be the best we can be



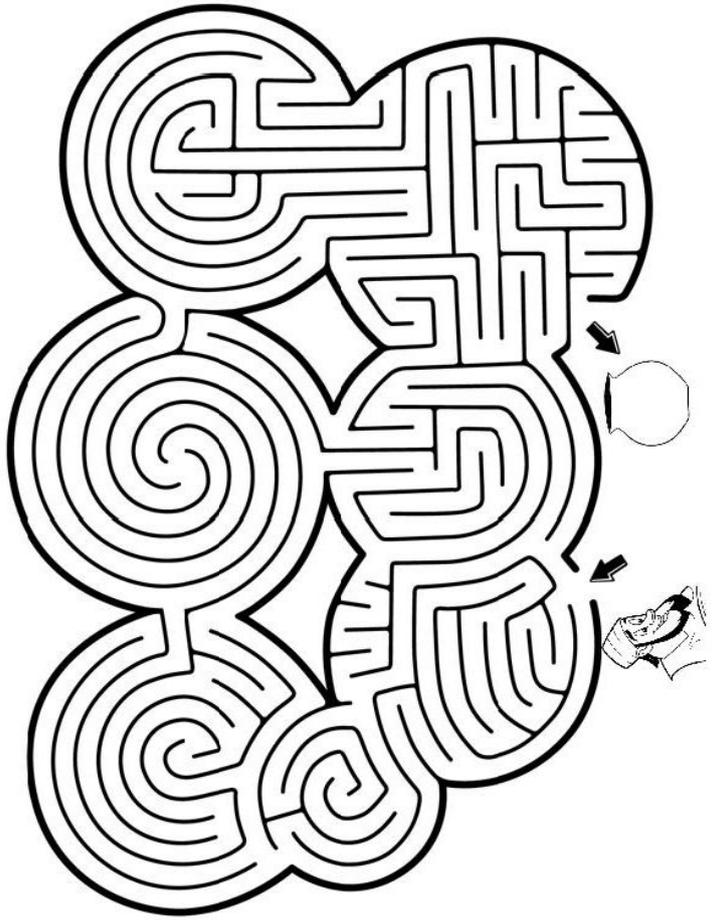
Name:



Design your own clay pot, make it as colourful and as perfect as you can.



Can you help Jeremiah find the clay pot?



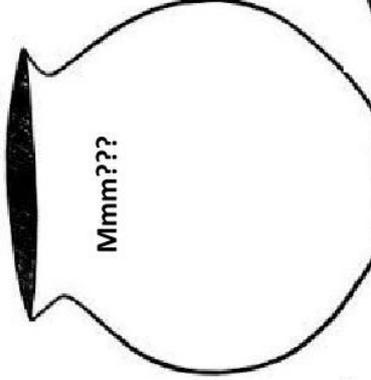
"Whatever you do,

work at it

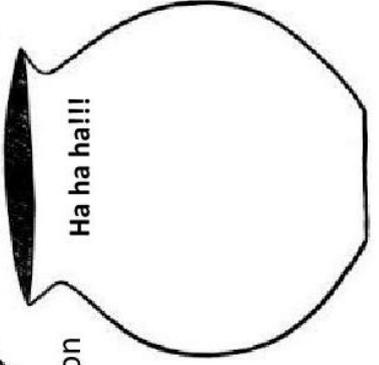
with all your heart."

Colossians 3 verse 23

Write the answers to these questions in the clay pots. What has made you laugh recently? What has made you say wow? If you could ask God a question what would it be?

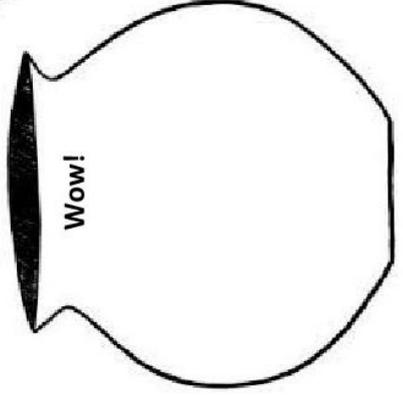


Think of something that makes you happy and laugh.



Think of a question about God.

Think of what God has given you.



The Story of Job Job 1-42

Job was a good man who worshipped God and was faithful to him. God had blessed him with 7 sons and 3 daughters, 7,000 sheep, 3,000 camels, 1,000 head of cattle and 500 donkeys. He had many servants and was the richest man in the East.

When the day came for the heavenly beings to appear before God, Satan was there also. God said to Satan, "While you have been wandering around the earth, did you notice my servant Job? There is no one as faithful and good as he is. He worships me and is careful not to do anything evil." But Satan replied, "You have always protected Job and his family; you bless everything he does. Suppose you take away everything he has — he will curse you to your face!" God wanted to prove what a faithful man Job was, so he gave permission to Satan to make Job suffer the loss of all he had. And Job did suffer.

A tribe from the South stole all his donkeys and killed his servants; lightning struck his sheep and killed them along with the shepherds; a tribe of raiders from the North stole all his camels and killed the servants with them; a terrible storm came and blew down the house where his children were and they were killed also. Job wept and threw himself on the ground in grief but he did not sin and he did not blame God.

He said, "The Lord gave and now he has taken away. May his name be praised!" Seeing that Job was still as faithful to God as ever, God gave Satan permission to hurt Job even further. Satan made Job get sick. Nasty sores all over his body and face. They oozed with pus; it hurt so much Job just wanted to die. But still he said nothing against God. Even when Job's friends tried to tell him God was punishing him, Job replied, "I have done nothing wrong." But after arguing with his friends Job even began to argue with God, asking him to explain what he had done wrong to deserve this punishment. God told Job he was wrong and that he shouldn't be asking Him to explain why all the bad things had happened. Job realised he didn't need to understand all that God did, he just needed to trust God in all things.

Job said sorry to God and he became healthy again. Job had 10 more children, larger herds of cattle, sheep, donkeys and camels than ever before. In the end, Job was richer than he had ever been and was still faithful to God.

Get closer to God with Todd

Hi Kingsquadders! My name is Todd and my job is to encourage you about how you feel about God and to discuss with your leaders and friends!

- If you lost as much as Job, would you still have faith in God?
- Do you think it's hard not to blame God when things go wrong?



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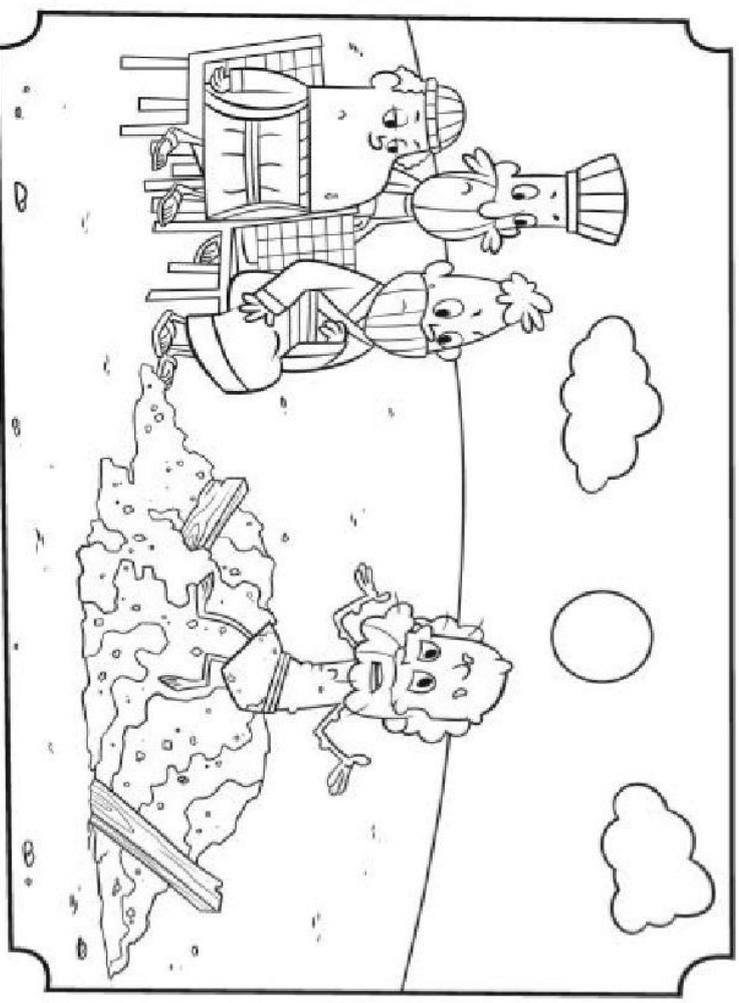
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His name begins with J

Week 6

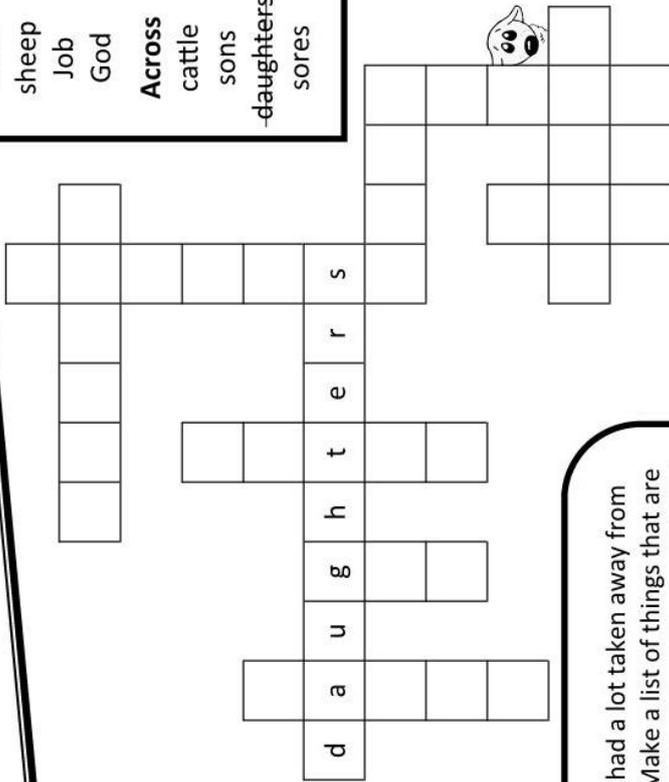
Job

Love God and trust him even when life is hard



Name:

How many sheep can you find hidden amongst the activities?

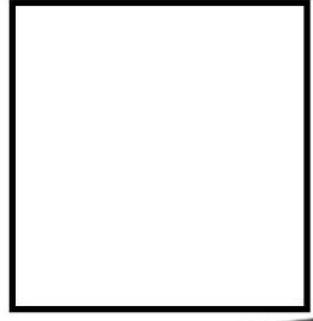
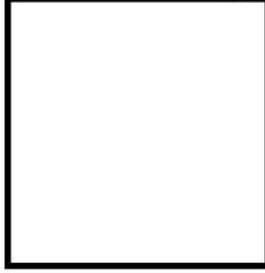
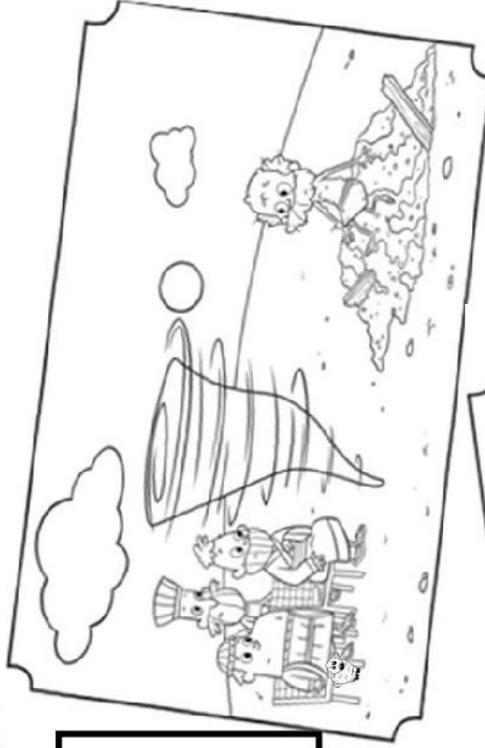
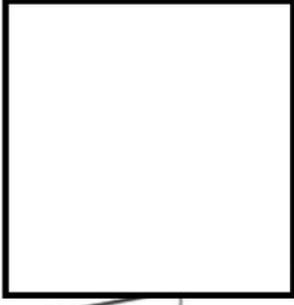
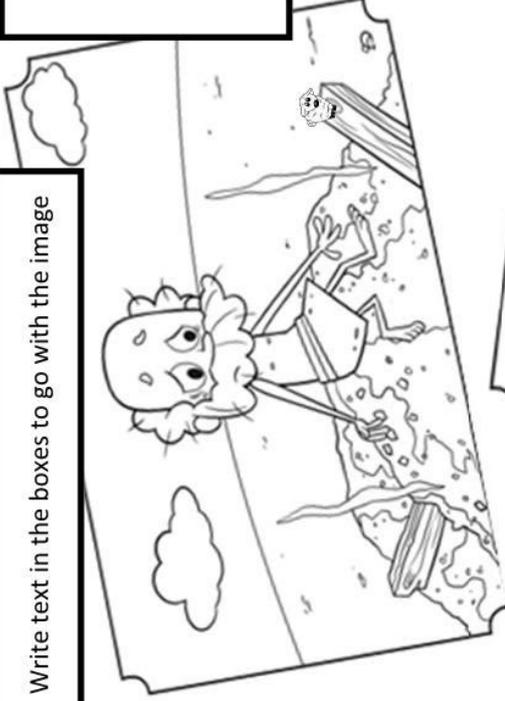


- Down**
- illness
 - faith
 - satan
 - sheep
 - Job
 - God
- Across**
- cattle
 - sons
 - daughters
 - sores

Job had a lot taken away from him. Make a list of things that are so very important to you, ask God to protect them.

“The Lord gave, and now he has taken away. May his name be praised!”
- Job 1 v 21b

Write text in the boxes to go with the image



John the faithful man! Found in Matthew 3, Mark 1 and John

I'm here to tell you all about a very **faithful** man,
Who listened to the Lord our God and trusted in His plan.
His name you may have heard before, it was John the Baptist,
I hope you're ready to use the sign the **faithful** sign we practised!
When John was still a young man he packed up and left his home,
He went to live in the desert and he lived there all alone.

John promised God he'd follow Him, go just where he was led,
He knew that God was **faithful** so he listened to all God said.

Faithfully John gave up all the comforts of his life,
He wasn't even worried that he didn't have a wife!
He only had old animal skins so he wore them for his clothes,
He didn't even have socks to cover his **SMELLY... DIRTY** toes!

When God told John what he should eat, he still remained so **faithful**,
He gathered insects from the ground and ate them by the plentiful.

After many years of this John still had **faith** and listened,
Then one day God gave to John a very special mission.
God said, "Go and tell my people all that they are doing wrong,
And then please show my people how to serve and get along"

"I want you to prepare them for the coming of my Son
This honour I will give to you to say thanks for all you've done"
With **faith** John went on his way and did all God had said,
He set to work, baptising and the word of this soon spread.

One day he was baptising, in a town near Galilee,
When God's son Jesus came and said, "John, will you Baptise me?"
John didn't feel so worthy of this very special task
But Jesus said "You love me and this is all I ask".
So Jesus was baptised by this very **faithful** man
John loved the Lord with all his heart and trusted in His plan.

Get closer to God with Todd

Hi Kingsquadders! My name is Todd and my job is to
encourage you about how you feel about God and to discuss with
your leaders and friends!

- What does it mean to be a good example?
- How hard is it to be an example?
- Are there times when you haven't been a good example to others?

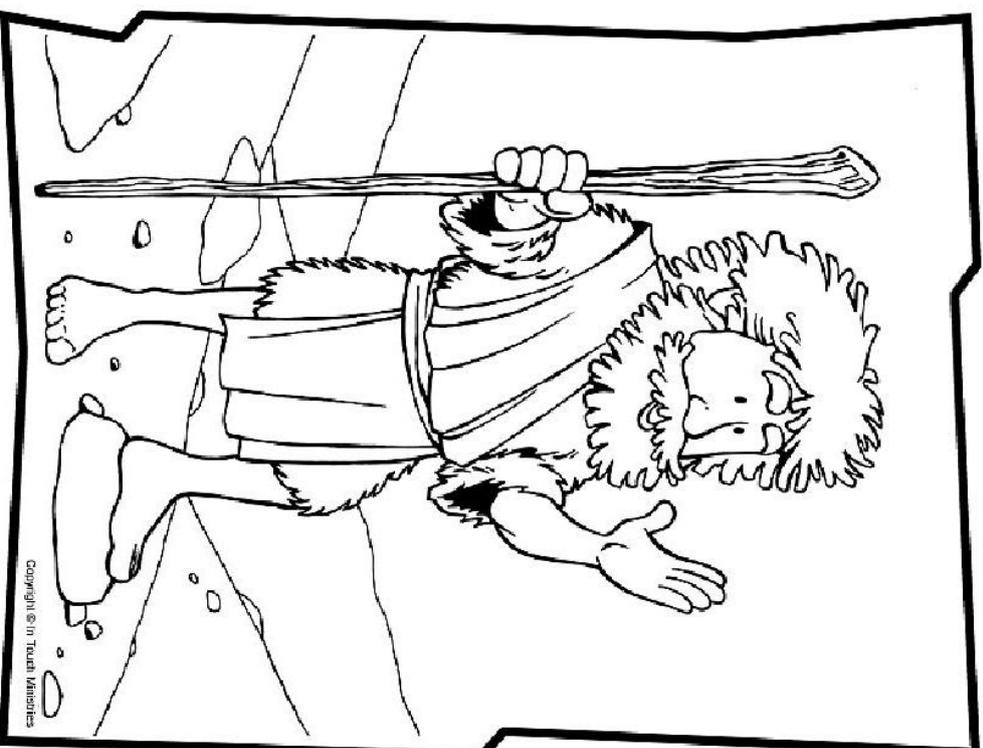


His name begins with J

Week 7

John the Baptist

Give your life to God; be an example



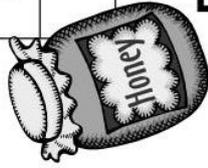
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Name:

“Turn away from your sins because the kingdom of God is near.”

Matthew 3 v 2

God is always there for us even when we do things wrong. Take a moment this week to ask God to help you be a good example to your friends!



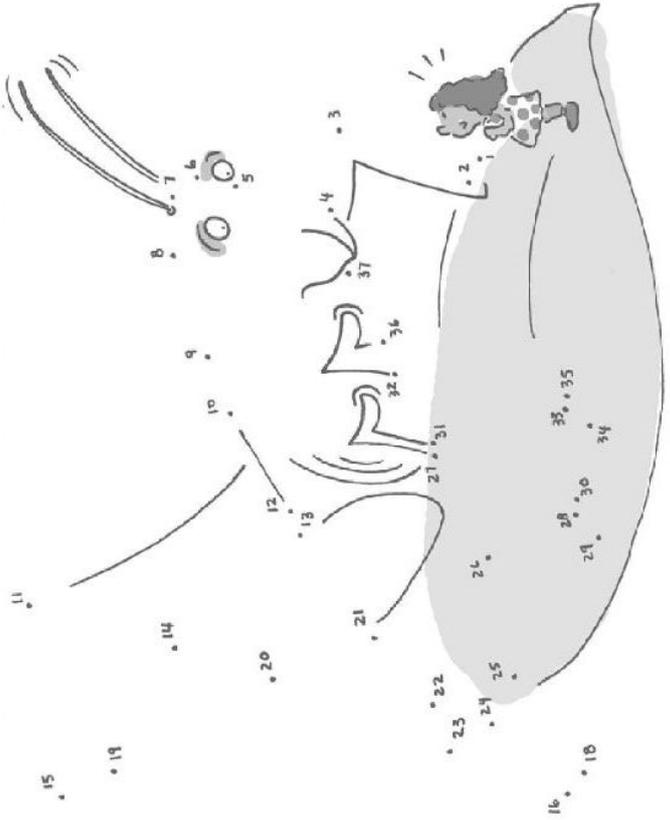
John
locusts
baptise
river
Jesus
dove
honey

d	r	i	v	e	r	i
h	c	k	u	v	e	o
c	j	e	s	u	s	c
d	o	v	e	d	i	u
p	h	r	a	b	t	s
x	n	g	r	o	p	t
h	o	n	e	y	a	s
l	m	r	t	b	b	a

Circle the ways in which we should live

- Being kind to one another
- Saying mean things
- Trusting each other
- Forgetting what's important
- Making a new friend
- Leaving people out
- Sharing with one another
- Snatching
- Stealing a friend's toy
- Ignoring one another

Complete this dot to dot to reveal John's yummy dinner!



The Story of Jonah's Disobedience Jonah chapters 1-3

Read the story once with the correct words in place, then read it again, substituting the words in brackets. See if an adult or brother/sister can spot a wrongly placed word.

One day, God (the cod) spoke to Jonah. "Go to the great city (dung heap) of Nineveh and warn them they are doing wrong (ding-dong). I see the bad things they do (toffees they eat). But Jonah was scared (brave) and ran away in the opposite direction. He got on a ship (plane) that was sailing to Spain (flying to Disneyland).

Soon the Lord sent a great storm (humungous whale) and all the sailors were feeling rather sick and scared! (hair and hungry!) They started throwing cargo (sweets) overboard to make the ship lighter (heavier). Then the captain (fish) found Jonah asleep (being sick). "Get up and pray to your God" (play with your dog), he said.

"Maybe he can save us (shave us)," Jonah told the crew it was his fault that God had sent a storm (holiday). He told them he was running away from God (school).

The wind and the waves (peanuts) were becoming much stronger (harder). Jonah told the men to throw him overboard (a party). "That will calm the storm", he said.

So the sailors (monkeys) picked Jonah up and with a great big swing (many sad goodbyes) they threw him into the stormy sea.

God sent a big fish (bird) to swallow Jonah. He was inside the dark, smelly, stinking fish for three days and nights! (the rest of his life!)

Jonah prayed to God (the cod), "Lord, you threw me into the sea where I went down into the deep (to the beach), tangled by the seaweed, but you saved me! I'm sorry, Lord, I will praise you and thank you! (buy you gifts!)"

After that, the fish spat Jonah out on to dry land (a soft bed) and God told Jonah again to go to the people of Nineveh (Mirvana) and tell them to stop doing bad things, otherwise the city would be destroyed (repainted) in 40 days! The people of Nineveh believed in God. They were sorry (snoring) and stopped doing bad things, so God changed his mind (clothes). He did not punish them or destroy the city (feed them beetroot).

Get closer to God with Todd

Hi Kingsquadders! My name is Todd and my job is to encourage you about how you feel about God and to discuss with your leaders and friends!

- How hard is it to obey your parents, and friends on a regular basis?
- What do you think it would have been like to be in Jonah's shoes?



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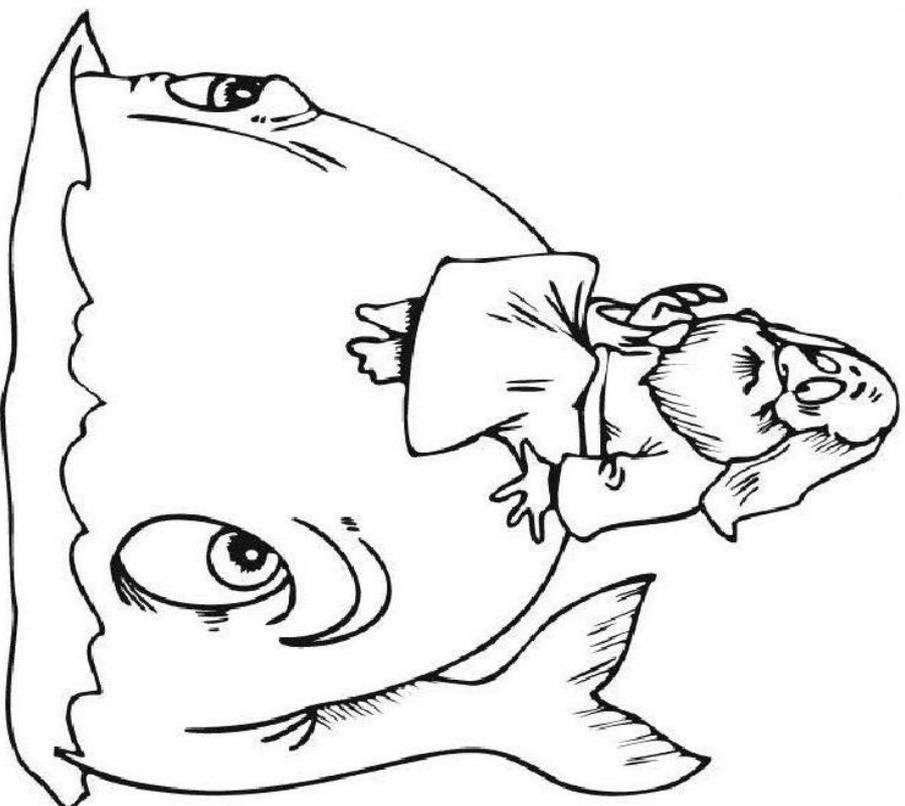
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His name begins with J

Week 8

Jonah

Serve God, He has a purpose for you

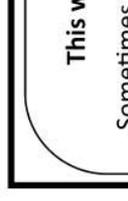


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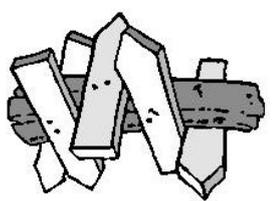
Name:



"I worship the Lord, the God of heaven...."



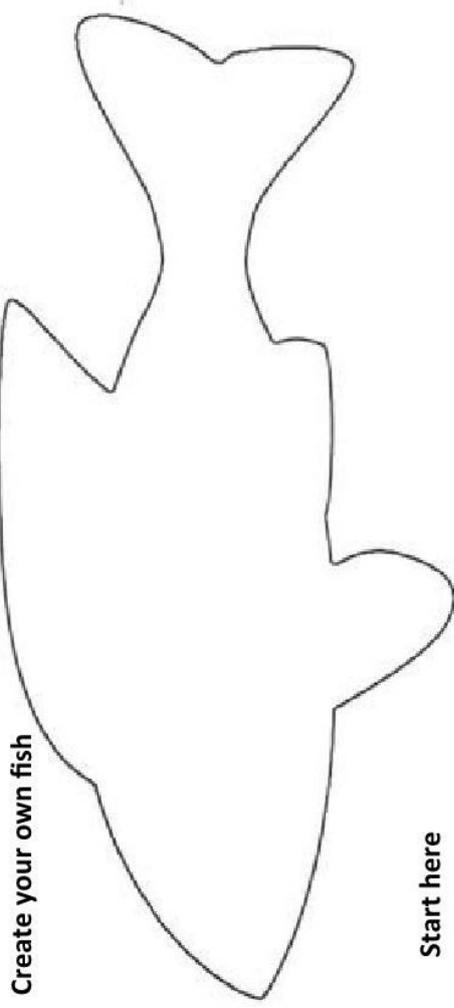
This way or....that way?
 Sometimes we find it hard to follow God and do the right thing, and try to ignore what is good. Can you think of a time when you deliberately disobeyed someone?



How do you think that made them feel?
 What should you have done?
 How can we make it better?

Write a prayer below asking God to help you to obey others and to do the right thing.

Jonah 1 v 9



Create your own fish

Draw a line to match the names of the fish to the picture



Kissing gourami

Lion fish



Three toothed puffer fish

Blowfish



Anemonefish

Squirrelfish



Start here

“We have travelled for miles to come here to Egypt and our bellies are empty as there is famine in our land,” said one man. “Please may we buy some food from you to take back to our families?” Joseph the Ruler was shocked. Standing in front of him, begging for food were Joseph’s brothers. The very brothers that had sold him as a slave, and who had told his father Jacob that he was dead. He recognised his brothers. But his brothers didn’t recognise him. Joseph thought of a plan; he wanted to see if his brothers had changed. “Yes”, said Joseph Ruler of Egypt. “I will sell you food.” Joseph told his servants to pack the bags attached to the brothers’ donkeys with plenty of food. But he also gave a secret instruction to one servant to hide a treasured silver cup from the palace deep in the youngest brother’s bag along with some food.

Then he sent the brothers on their travels to return home from Egypt. Joseph’s brothers were overjoyed to be returning home to their father Jacob with plenty of food, but as they left and were only a short way on their journey they were stopped by the Ruler’s Servants. The brothers were shocked to be accused of stealing a precious silver cup and said that it would not be found amongst their bags of food, but sure enough it was indeed found in the youngest brother’s bag. They were taken back to the palace and stood in front of Joseph the Ruler. “We only had food in our bags and we don’t know how it got there”, begged the oldest brother. Joseph the Ruler told them that it was found in the youngest brother’s bag and he would have to stay behind as punishment to be a slave. “No please”, begged the brothers. “If we don’t take him home, our father Jacob’s heart will be broken. His favourite son named Joseph died many years ago and our youngest brother is now his special son. We cannot possibly go without him.”

“I will stay.” said the oldest brother “Let me be your slave and let my brothers take the food back home to our father.” When Joseph heard this plea, he knew his brothers had changed. “I am your brother Joseph and I forgive you. You thought you had done an awful thing to me but God made a bad situation into a good one and has given you all a change of heart. Go and fetch our father Jacob and bring him and all your families here to live safely in Egypt and with plenty of food to eat.” When the brothers returned days later there were celebrations. Joseph was ALIVE!

God had made a bad situation into a good one and had given them all a change of heart.

Get closer to God with Todd

Hi Kingsquadders! My name is Todd and my job is to encourage you about how you feel about God and to discuss with your leaders and friends!

- If you were Joseph would you have forgiven your brothers?
- Why did Joseph forgive his brothers?
- Does God do the same?

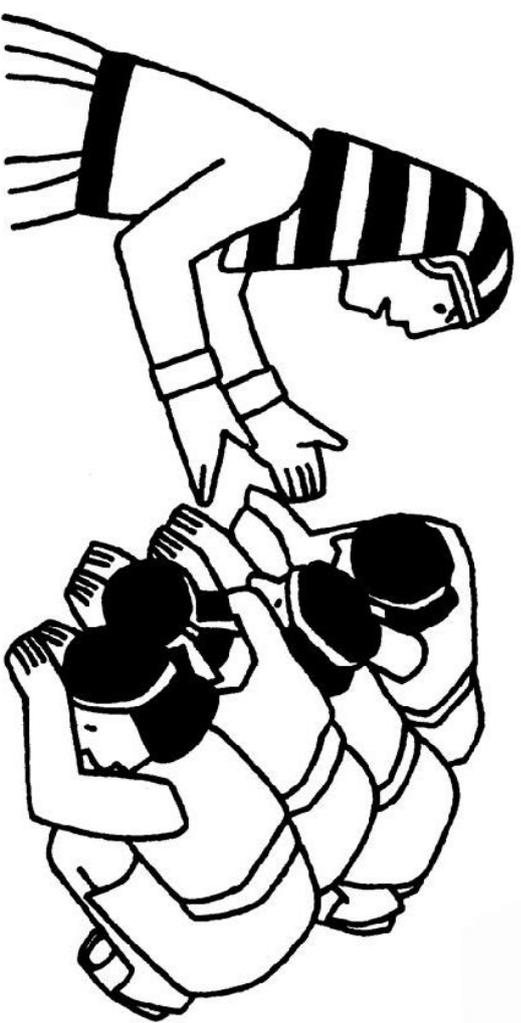


His name begins with J

Week 9

Joseph

God can give you a change of heart

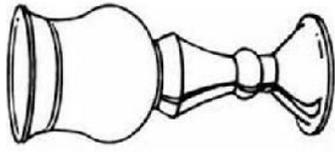


Name:

Unscramble the words

osJehp
 hotrsBer
 Whate
 Slierv Cpu
 enivorgF
 rTust
 leHp
 raifF

J _ _ _ _
 B _ _ _ _
 W _ _ _ _
 S _ _ _ _ C _ _
 F _ _ _ _
 T _ _ _ _
 H _ _ _ _
 F _ _ _ _



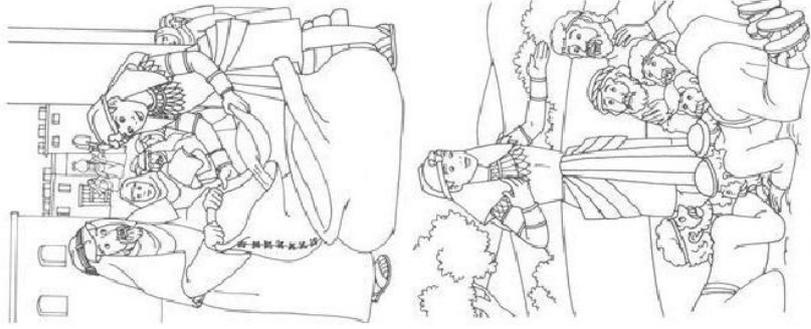
The silver cup is hidden inside one of these bags,
 can you work out the riddle to find the cup?

I am not as big as the biggest one, but I am not as small as the smallest.
 Which am I? Put a circle around the correct bag of wheat.



“Be fair in your treatment of one
 another.” Jeremiah 7 v 5b

Draw a picture of you and your brothers and sisters.
 If you don't have any, then why not draw your friends or family!



Reflection

Think about a situation right
 now that you are dealing with
 that might not be turning out the
 way you would like.

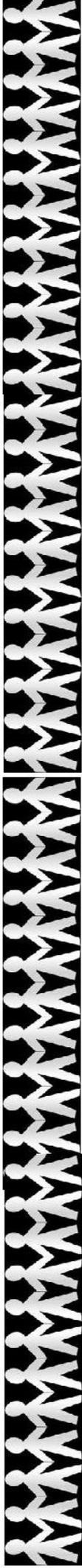
Ask God to help you.

Have you upset or hurt someone
 and don't know how to put it
 right?

Ask God to help you.

Have you seen someone doing
 something mean and hurtful
 but don't know how to help?

Ask God to help you.



This is Joshua's Story

Joshua chapters 2, 3 & 6

This is Joshua who is a man chosen by God to lead the Israelites. God told Joshua that he should not be afraid as God would be with him, wherever he went. One day, God said...

God: Get the priests to carry the Ark of the Covenant into the centre of the River Jordan.
Joshua: Are you sure, God? I mean, the water level is really high and the river looks ready to flood!

God: Just do as I say, Joshua!

Joshua: OK, God.

So Joshua sent the Priests into the middle of the river. As they stepped into the water it began to stop flowing. The water piled up in heaps upstream and downstream so the people were able to walk across on dry land.

Joshua: Wow, God! That's an amazing miracle!

God: If you obey what I ask, then you will always be successful. Now we need to conquer Jericho!

Joshua: Their army is much bigger and stronger than ours!

God: Don't worry because I am on your side! Tell the army to march around the city once each day, for six days. The priests must carry the Ark and blow their trumpets but the soldiers must stay silent.

Joshua: Are you sure you don't want us to attack and fight?

God: No, trust me and do as I say!

Joshua: OK, God.

So that's exactly what Joshua did. The army marched in silence whilst the priests carried the ark and blew their trumpets. On the seventh day, the army marched round the walls of Jericho seven times.

Joshua: God commands that every living thing in Jericho must be destroyed, except Rahab and her family, as she helped our spies. All items made of gold, silver, bronze and iron are to be put in the Lord's treasury. When I give the command, everyone must shout as loudly as possible!

So Joshua gave the signal, everyone shouted and the walls of the mighty city fell down. The Israelites conquered Jericho and did exactly as God commanded.

Get closer to God with Todd

Hi Kingsquadders! My name is Todd and my job is to encourage you about how you feel about God and to discuss with your leaders and friends!

- How hard is it to do as you are told?
- Sometimes we don't feel like doing as we are told, or think that we know best. Get together with some friends and talk about how important it is to be obedient.



Produced by **The Family Trust**

www.familytrust.org.uk

His name begins with J

Week 10

Joshua

Being obedient to God



The Walls of Jericho

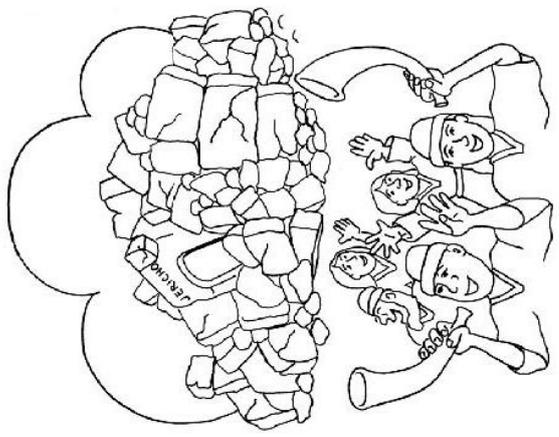
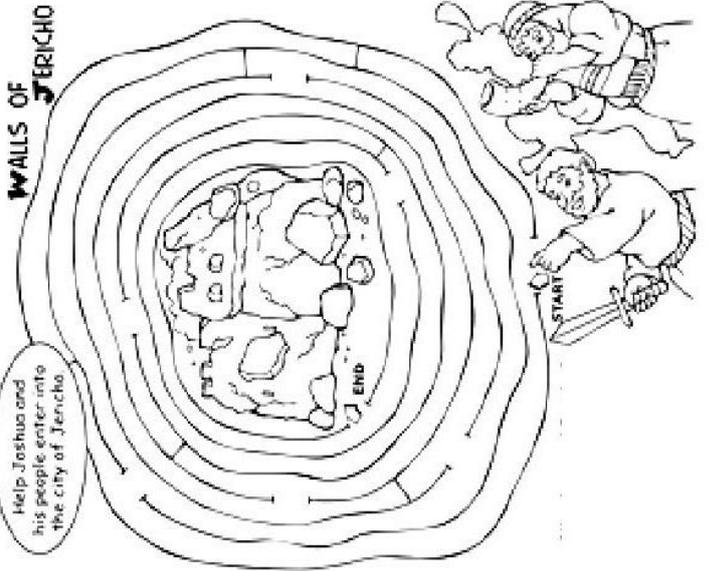
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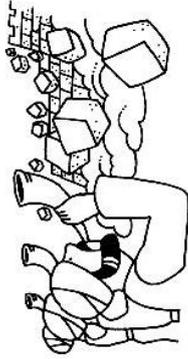
*“As for me
and my
family, we will
serve the
Lord.”
Joshua
24 verse 15b*

www.bibles4all.com

Help Joshua and his people enter into the city of Jericho



God told Joshua to march his army around the city. To find out what happened, circle every other letter beginning at the start. Copy the letters onto the spaces below. The first two circled letters have been done for you.



START

A t

X O B U R N F D E O Z F L
S W E M H V T Y T J A

H D O V U Y T K S O
Q S T D X N R A I S

L D L Z E O F T
S H L M L U A S

T G H C E P T S R N U
J T W E K P I M X U

The Ten Commandments

1. Do not have other gods besides me
2. Do not make an idol to worship
3. Do not misuse the name of the lord your god
4. Keep the Sabbath day holy
5. Honour your father and mother
6. Do not murder
7. Keep your marriage promises
8. Do not steal
9. Do not lie
10. Do not want things that belong to someone else

Write down some rules that you have to obey