

# PRIMARY PAWS

Units 22,23,24



During this summer we will learn why it is best to obey God.

God used people who obeyed Him. We will learn about some of them.

We will find out why we can always trust God.

# Table of Contents

*Note: At times, the lessons are taught out of sequence to coincide with holidays. See the accompanying datesheet for the current lesson schedule, which is also available online at [www.apostolicfaith.org](http://www.apostolicfaith.org).*

Lesson 22a .....	Learning an Important Lesson .....	Genesis 4:1-7
Lesson 22b .....	Jonah's Journey .....	Jonah 1,2,3
Lesson 22c.....	Father's Day .....	Ephesians 6:1-4; Proverbs 1:8
Lesson 22d .....	Washing in Muddy Jordan .....	II Kings 5:1-14
Lesson 23a .....	Gideon Obeys God .....	Judges 6:11-16,36-40; 7:1-23
Lesson 23b .....	A Big Decision.....	Ruth 1:1-18
Lesson 23c.....	Nothing Is Impossible With God .....	Judges 13:1-5,24; 16:18-30
Lesson 23d .....	A Good Choice.....	Esther 2:8-11,15-20;4:4-9,12-17; 7:1-6; 8:1-8
Lesson 24a .....	Noah's Big Boat .....	Genesis 6:8,13-22; 7:11-17,23,24 8:13,14; 9:11-17
Lesson 24b .....	Abraham Trusted God .....	Genesis 12:1-9; 13:14-18
Lesson 24c.....	Two Brave Spies.....	Numbers 13:17-33; 14:1-9,36-38
Lesson 24d .....	The Day the Walls Fell.....	Joshua 6:1-27
Lesson 24e .....	A Witness for Jesus .....	Matthew 3:1-17

## Booklet Instructions

Remove the staples and cover sheet. Then use one lesson sheet each week.

## Primary Pals

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### Apostolic Faith Church

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*Dear Parents,*

*The coming summer months will be filled with exciting Bible lessons for your child—lessons that we trust and pray will challenge and be a real learning experience. We hope you will assist us in reinforcing these Bible truths by working with your child, studying the lessons together, and encouraging him to do the provided activities.*

*Our first unit for this quarter is entitled, "Let's Do It God's Way," and will stress the importance of learning to obey God. By carefully studying the examples of the stories in this unit, the children should be able to see that following our own way will spell disaster if it is contrary to God's commands, but obedience to God brings blessing.*

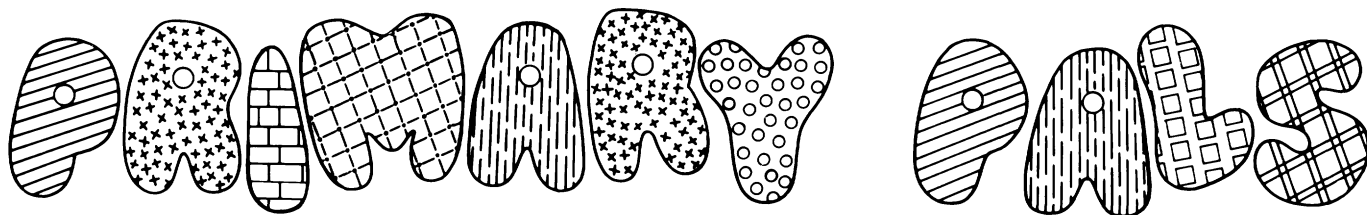
*The next series of lessons is entitled, "People God Used." Each of the four lessons is a complete story in itself, but the characters are tied together by a common theme—they were used by God to accomplish a specific purpose.*

*The last unit is entitled, "Men Who Trusted God." This set of lessons was designed to emphasize the blessings and benefits that come to those who put their trust in God.*

*We are looking forward to studying these Bible stories and concepts with your child, and pray that they will help him grow spiritually in these coming months.*

*Apostolic Faith Teaching Staff*





## Learning an Important Lesson

"Hi, Mom. I'm home," Tricia called.

"Hi, Honey," her mother answered.

"How was your day at school?"

"Not too great," Tricia replied sadly as she took off her jacket. "I didn't get a very good grade on my reading test."

Her mother looked puzzled. "Really? What was the problem? We went over all that material last night and I thought you seemed to know it."

Tricia sighed. "Well, the biggest problem was that I didn't follow the instructions. On the last part of the test, Mrs. Cooper gave five questions. I was supposed to answer each question with a complete sentence.

Instead, I just wrote one word answers so I could finish faster. Mrs. Cooper gave me a zero on that part."

Tricia's Mom hugged her gently. "I'm sorry, Tricia. I know this test was an important part of your grade and you did study hard for it. But do you think you have learned a lesson from this?"

"Yeah ...," Tricia said thoughtfully. "I'm learning that you really do have to follow directions if you want things to come out right. I should have already learned that by now. Remember how mixed up I got on my piano lesson last week just because I didn't follow the instructions?"

Her mother smiled and motioned for Tricia to sit down at the table where she had placed a plate of cookies. “I think you are getting the idea, Tricia. It is an important lesson to learn, because not following directions can hurt us in serving God also.”

“What do you mean?” Tricia asked.

“God’s Word is full of instructions for us,” her mother replied. “When we don’t do what He says, we miss out on the blessings He has promised.”

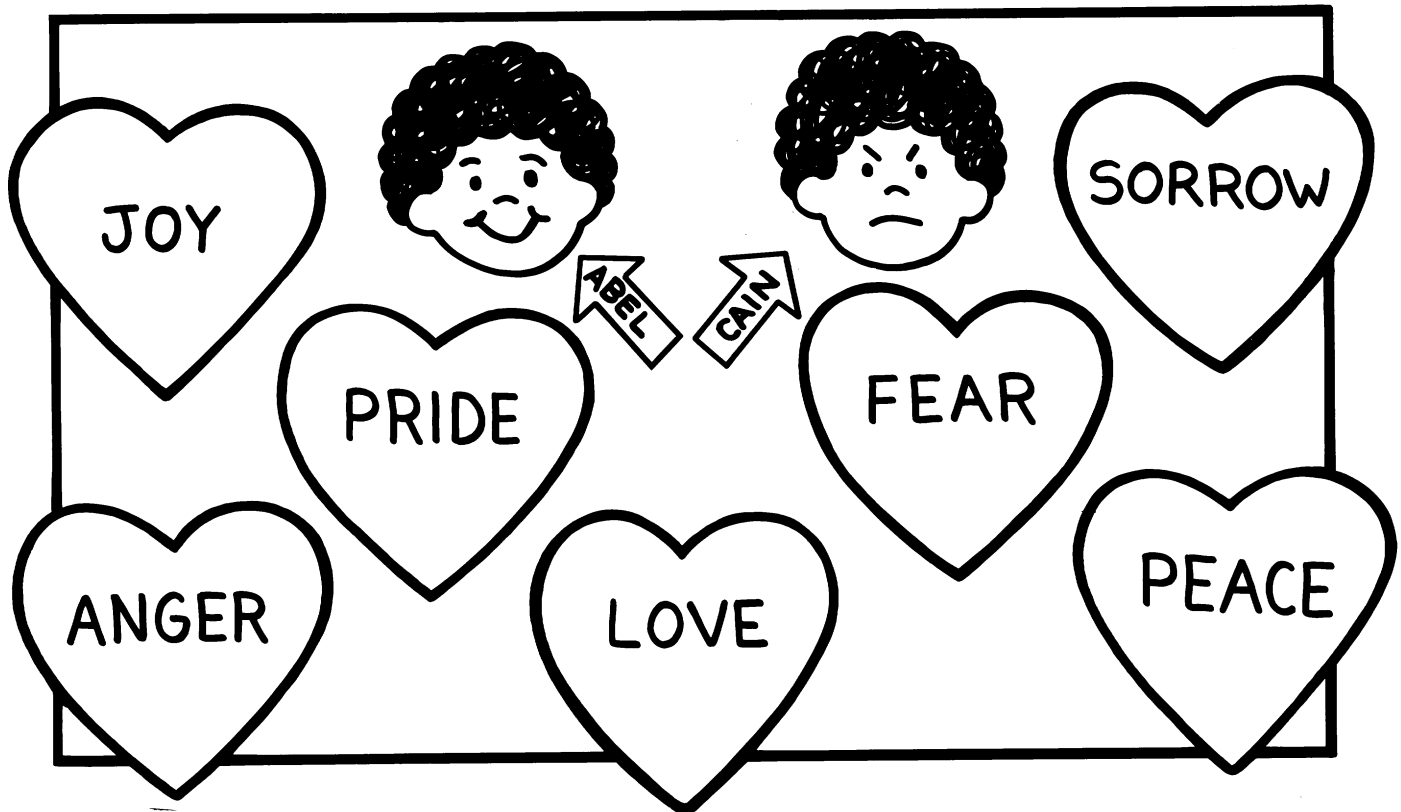
Tricia grinned and said, “Mom, our Sunday school lesson this Sunday was

the perfect example of that! It was about Cain and Abel. They both knew how they should make an offering to God. Abel followed the instructions but Cain didn’t. God accepted the offering that Abel made because he did it the way God wanted it done. Cain’s offering was refused.”

Tricia paused and thought a little more. “I’m really going to pay attention to God’s Word and do what He says. If I do that, God will help me remember to follow other instructions too.”

## What Was in Their Hearts?

Draw a line from Cain and Abel to the different things that were in their hearts.





# PRIMARY PALS



## Jonah's Journey

It was a terrible storm. Men were shaking me and shouting, "Jonah, Jonah, wake up! Pray to your God! This storm must stop or we will all drown! Hurry, Jonah!"

I jumped to my feet and nearly fell as the ship rolled from one side to the other. I ran up onto the deck and saw some men throwing cargo boxes and other things over the side, into the water. Other men were praying to their gods to stop the storm.

I knew all of this was happening because I did not obey God. He had told me to go to Nineveh and preach to the wicked people there. God loved

them and wanted them to be saved and to love Him. But I did not want to go, so I was running away.

I turned to the men who had followed me up onto the deck. "God has found me. If you want the storm to stop, you must throw me into the sea."

"No, Jonah," said the men. "We cannot do that! Just pray to your God."

"It is the only way," I said. "I have disobeyed God."

I knew they did not understand. They did not want to throw me overboard. But, they said if that was the only way to stop the storm, they would have to do it.

I hit the water with a big splash. Almost at once I could feel the storm stop. The waters became calm. Then, suddenly, I was being swallowed by a huge fish! Not eaten, but swallowed! I was still alive! What was happening to me?

There I was, down in the belly of a whale—what an awful place to be! Yuk! What hope was there for me?

I prayed for three whole days! I promised God that I would do what He had asked me to do, if He would just get me out of this awful place!

All at once there was a rumbling sound. With a swoosh I was thrown

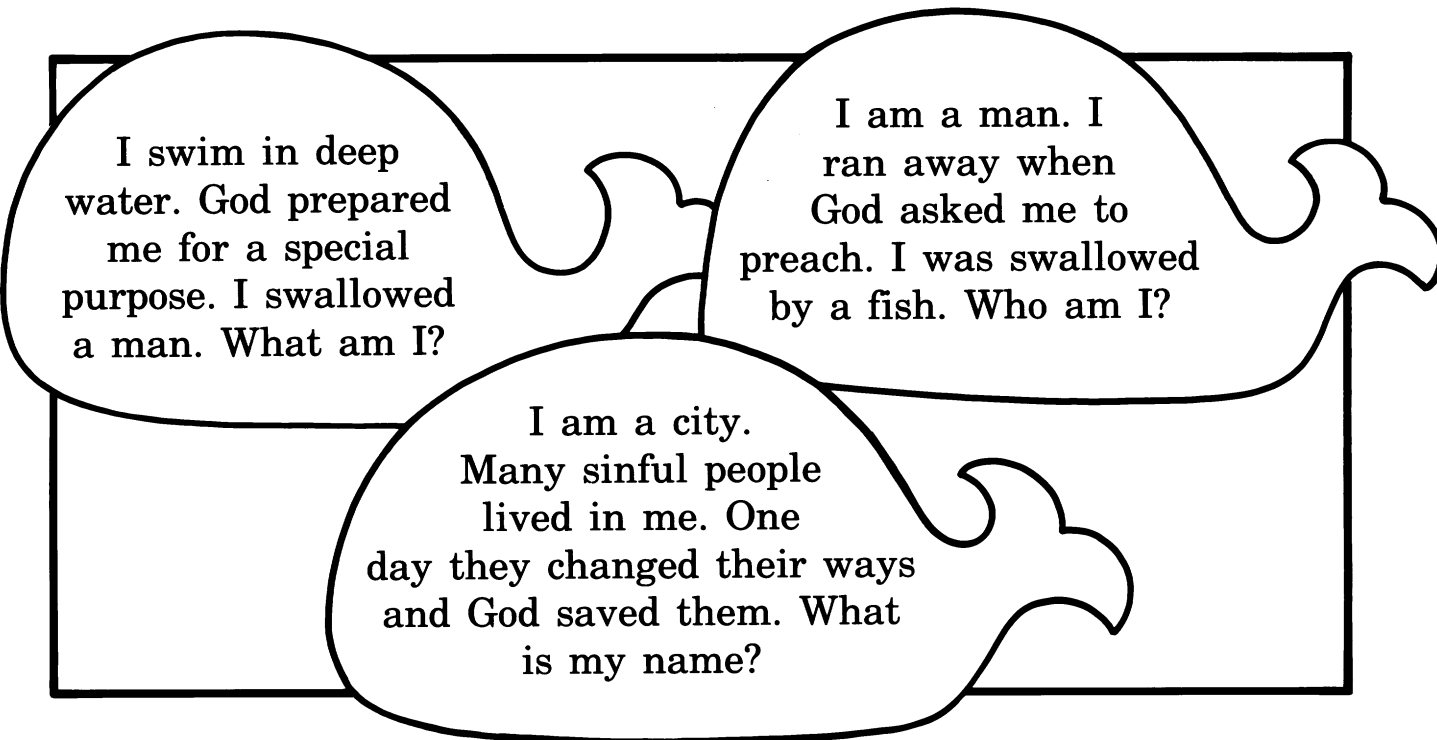
out of the whale's mouth onto a beach!

I scrambled to my feet. I pulled the seaweed out of my hair and rinsed myself off in the water. Before the sun could even dry my clothes, I started out toward Nineveh. When I reached the city my only duty was to tell the people to repent and to stop doing bad things. They must tell God they were sorry or in forty days He would destroy their city.

I saw many people pray that day. In fact, everyone in the whole city prayed. That was why God wanted me to preach in Nineveh. All those people prayed because I finally obeyed God.

## A Whale of a Tale

Read these riddles to someone who didn't hear this story of Jonah. See if they can guess the answers.

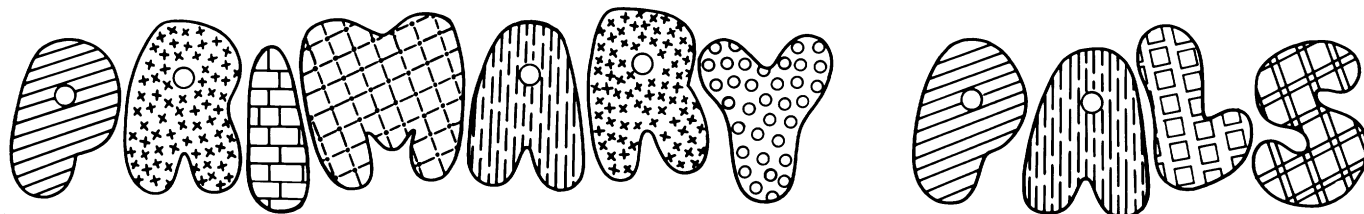


I swim in deep water. God prepared me for a special purpose. I swallowed a man. What am I?

I am a man. I ran away when God asked me to preach. I was swallowed by a fish. Who am I?

I am a city. Many sinful people lived in me. One day they changed their ways and God saved them. What is my name?





## Father's Day

It's Father's Day! Have you been having some special thoughts about your dad? Maybe you have been thinking about what you could do for him or give him on this day.

Did you ever stop to think that fathers come in all sizes, shapes, and colors?

Some are rich, some poor, and some in-between.

Some are happy and fun to be with; others are grumpy.

Some live with their children and some live elsewhere.

Some love Jesus and serve Him; others may never go to church.

Some find little jobs to do together with their kids; others don't.

Some dads are healthy, but some dads are sick and can't do many things.

Some scold or discipline when you've done something you shouldn't. Does that mean they don't love you?

Now, which fathers should be obeyed?

Did you say, "All of them"? You're right.

Jesus wants children to listen to their parents and then do what they are told. That will make parents happy, and it will make Jesus happy too.

The Bible tells us that we should honor our fathers and mothers. What does honor mean? Do you suppose it means to treat your father like a king? Should you make a crown for him to wear? Nooooo? Well, how about bowing to him before you speak? We don't do that in our country but in some countries children do bow to the parents and to teachers.

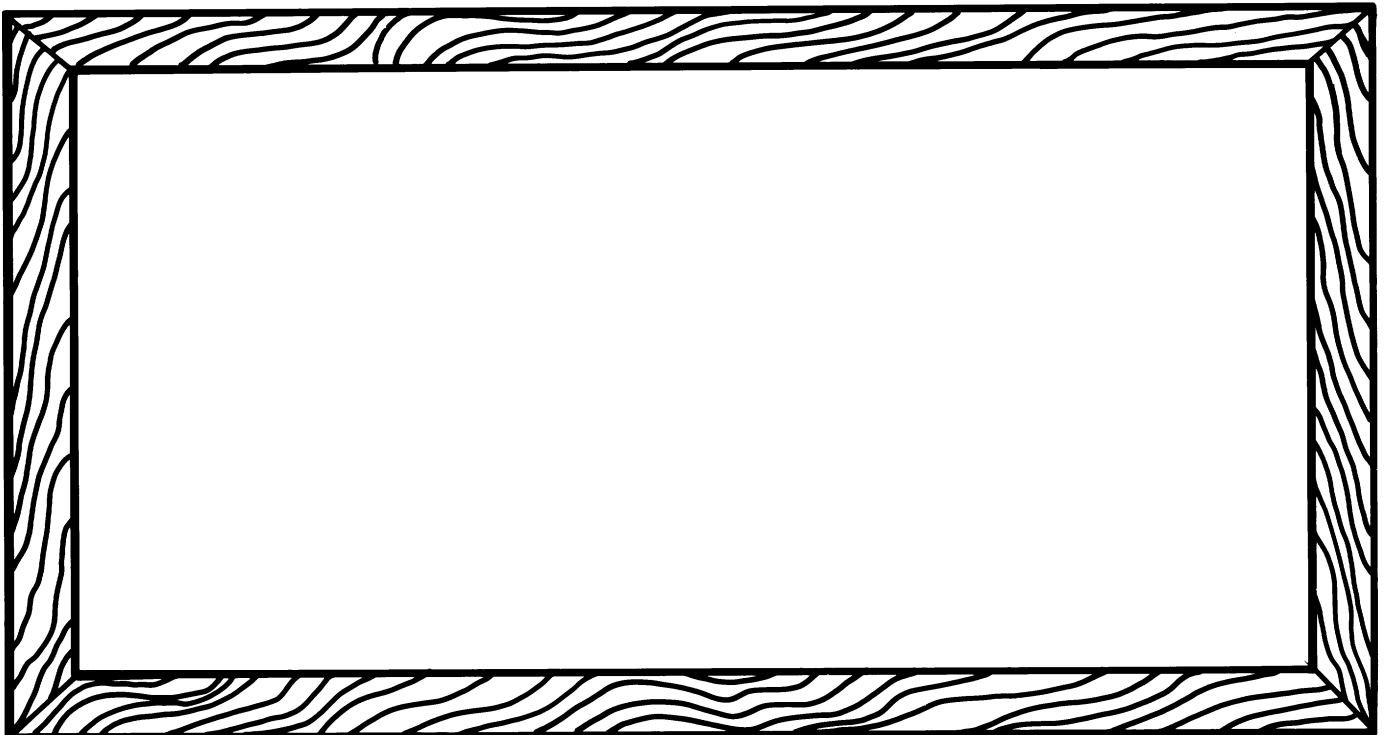
So how do we honor our parents? We've already talked about one way and that is to obey them. Is there a younger brother or sister in your family who sometimes says, "I won't! I

won't!" or, "no, No, NO!" Does that make your parents happy? Speaking in a respectful way is part of honoring another person. You wouldn't call your father "my old man," but some other children might. We feel unhappy when someone speaks against our parents or criticizes them. Why? Because it isn't respectful, it is not honoring our parents.

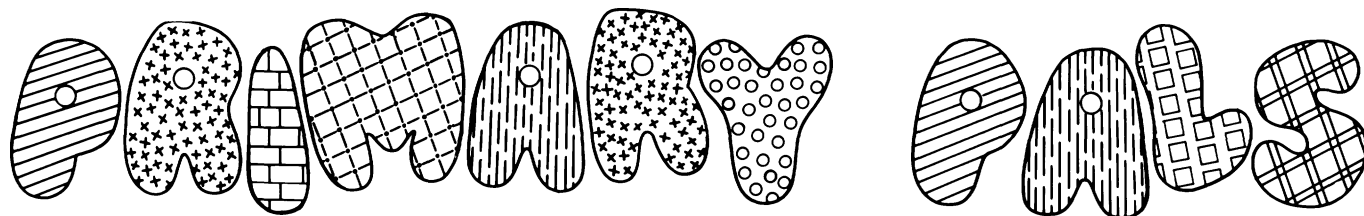
Show your father how much you love him, not just on Father's Day but every day. If you honor your parents, God will honor you. And your parents will be happy too.

## A Special Person

In the picture frame below draw a picture of the person you love and honor today.







## Washing in the Muddy Jordan

Captain Naaman could not believe his ears! Had he heard the servant right? Surely it could not be true that God's helper, Elisha, had sent that message! The servant had said he was to go and wash himself seven times in the Jordan River.

What good could washing in any river do? How could his skin be healed with water? Naaman had bathed many times at his home in the country of Syria. That water had not changed the way his skin looked, not one bit.

The little maid who lived in his house had told his wife about the prophet, Elisha, who lived in Samaria.

Namaan had been sure that Elisha would come out of his house and lay his hands on him and pray loudly to his God to take away the sickness. But instead, only a servant came out of the house! And the servant told him to do this strange thing-go and wash seven times in the Jordan River.

Naaman said he would rather go to the rivers in his own country. There were two beautiful, clean rivers near his home. And he had seen the Jordan River on his way into Samaria to find Elisha. The water was dirty, with mud along the sides, and bugs floating on it. Who would want to wash in that?

Maybe this whole trip was just a waste of time. Maybe he would never find healing for his sickness. He turned around angrily to go home.

Then his own servant spoke. "Master, if the man of God had told you to do some great thing, you would have done it. This is just a simple thing. Shouldn't you do as he said?"

Naaman stopped. He thought about what his servant said. Then he made up his mind. He would do it! He would obey the strange words of Elisha. He would wash seven times in the muddy water of the Jordan River.

Down to the riverbank he went.

Stepping into the water, he felt the mud beneath his feet. He waded out until the river was around his waist. He dipped down under the water. He dipped again and again until, finally, he went under for the seventh time.

His heart was beating hard as he came up from the water. Would his skin be healed? As he wiped the water from his eyes, the first thing he saw was his hand. The white spots of sickness were gone! His skin was perfect, just like that of a little child! "God be praised!" he shouted, joy ringing in every word. "The sickness is gone!"

## Circle the Words

God can use anyone who will obey Him. Circle the words under each name that describe Naaman and the maid.

### NAAMAN

Adult — Child

Slave — Captain

Rich — Poor

Well — Sick

### MAID

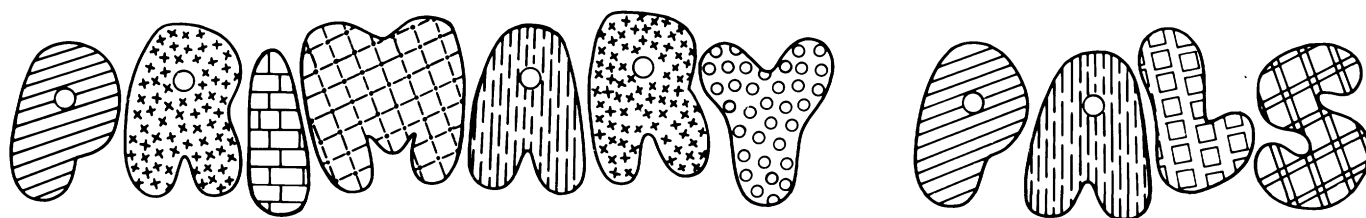
Adult — Child

Slave — Captain

Rich — Poor

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## Gideon Obeys God

Gideon could hardly believe that God wanted him to lead the Children of Israel into battle. He asked God to please show him if this was really true. So God did show him in a very special way.

That night, Gideon laid a piece of woolly sheepskin, called a fleece, on the ground. If the fleece was wet in the morning and the ground was dry, then he would know that God wanted to use him.

Early the next day, Gideon hurried out to where he had laid the fleece. He picked it up. It was full of water! But the ground all around it was dry!

Still, Gideon wanted to be extra sure that God wanted him to be the leader. He asked God not to be angry but to please give him a little more proof. He put the fleece out again that night. This time he wanted the fleece to be dry in the morning and the ground to be wet.

As Gideon went out the next morning he could see that the ground everywhere was wet. Would the fleece be dry? It was! And now he knew for sure that he was to lead the Children of Israel into battle.

There were thirty-two thousand men in Gideon's army. God told him that

was too many. He said, "If there are any people who are afraid, tell them to go home." Twenty-two thousand men went home! Only ten thousand stayed. Then God said, "There are still too many. Take the men down to the water and I will test them."

When they arrived at the water, all of the men bent down to get a drink. Three hundred of them scooped up the water with their hands. The others got down on their knees and drank directly from the water. God told Gideon to use just the three hundred men who had scooped up the water and drank it from their hands.

Could they win a battle with only three hundred men against an army of

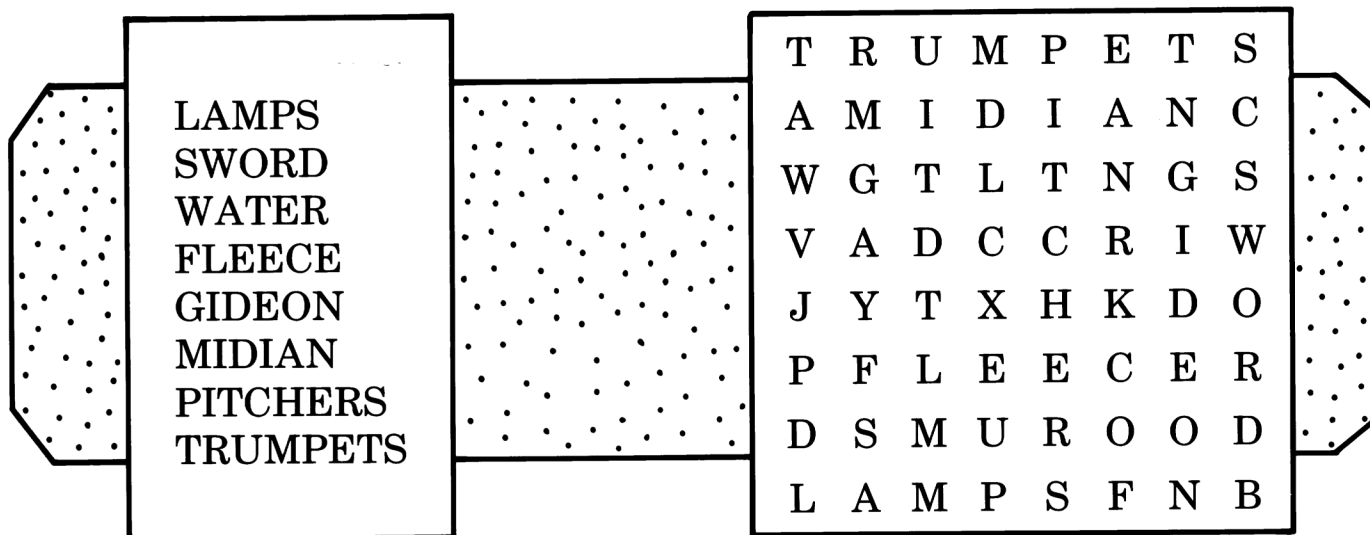
thousands? Gideon knew that God could do anything.

That very night Gideon prepared his army for battle. He obeyed the strange instructions God gave him. Each man was given a trumpet, and a pitcher with a lamp inside. Quietly they surrounded the enemy camp. When Gideon gave the signal, every man blew his trumpet. Then they all broke their pitchers so the lamps inside shone very brightly. All of this scared the enemy so badly they began to fight with each other.

Gideon and the Children of Israel won the battle that night because they obeyed God's plan. Gideon knew he could always trust God.

## Hidden Words

Circle the words hidden in the puzzle below.



# PRIMARY PAWS



## A Big Decision

Julie stared at the soft patch of light on the ceiling above her bed. She couldn't sleep. Julie had a problem!

At the dinner table this evening, Mama had told Daddy that Grandma wanted Julie to spend the summer vacation with her and Grandpa. Julie had never been away from home for that long before, but she loved going to Grandma's. Mama had asked Daddy what he thought. "What does Julie want to do?" he asked. They told her to think about it.

Now she couldn't sleep. She thought about the trip her mother and father were planning to take. It would be fun

to go with them, she thought. But if I stay with Grandma I'll get to go to the camp meeting with her and to the youth camp afterward. She always helps at the youth camp. Grandma says I would have lots of fun.

Julie loved being with Grandma and Grandpa. They told her Bible stories, and showed her where to find those stories in her own Bible. They had even given her the Bible she had just read out of tonight. It was Grandma and Grandpa who had prayed with her when she had asked Jesus to come into her heart. She still remembered that night and how happy she had

been. She loved Jesus so much! She wished she lived near Grandma and Grandpa so she could always go to church and Sunday school.

If she went to her grandparents for the summer she could go to church for that long at least. Grandma had asked Mama and Daddy to stop by on their trip and enjoy part of the camp meeting. I wish they would, she thought. I want them to ask Jesus into their hearts too.

“This is sort of like Ruth in the Bible story,” Julie whispered to herself. “She had to decide whether to go with Naomi or stay with her family.”

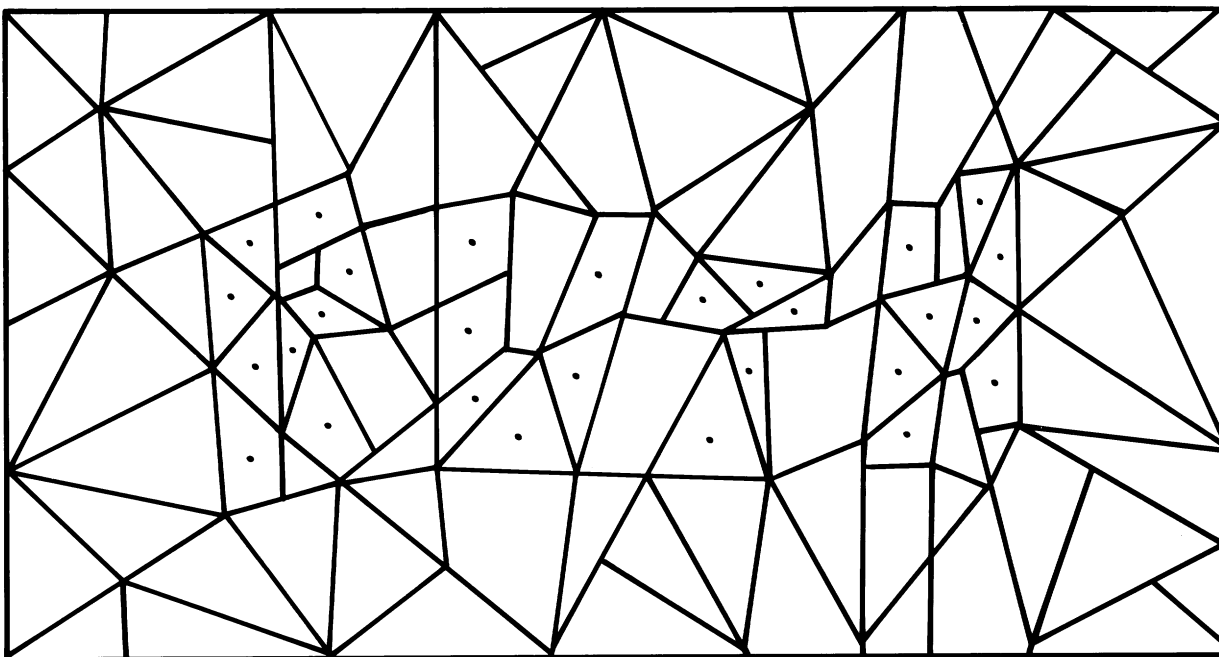
Closing her eyes, Julie continued to think about that Bible story. Ruth’s mother-in-law, Naomi, had lived many

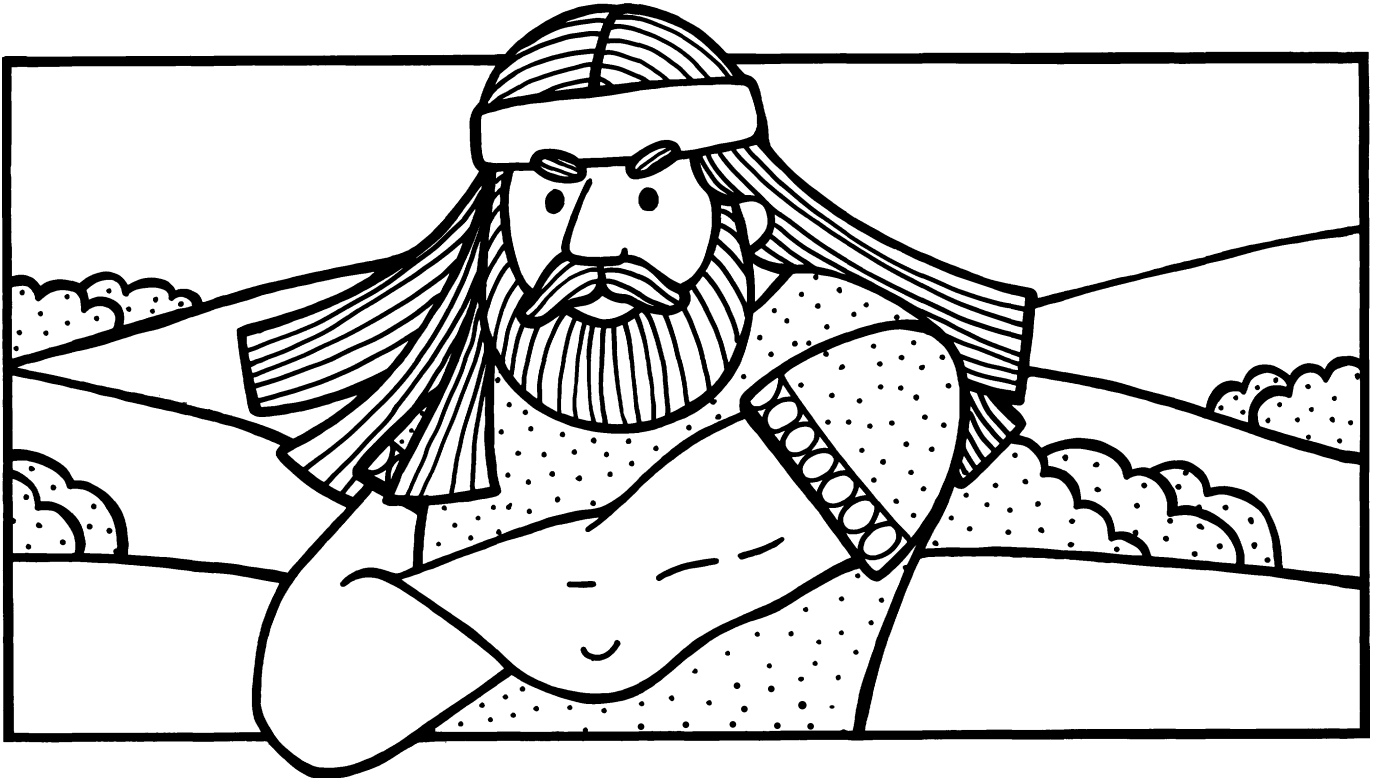
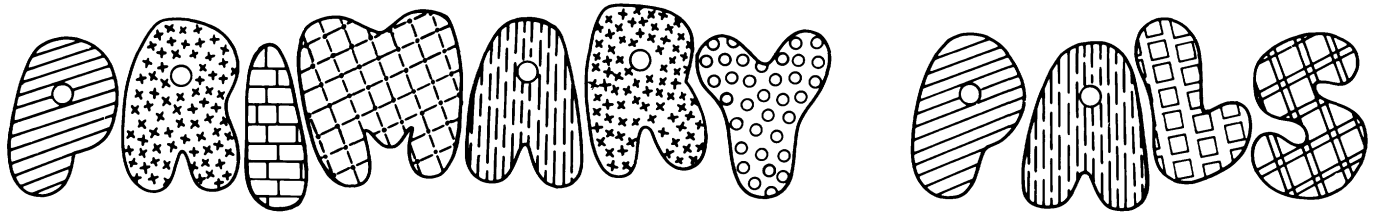
years in the land of Moab. That was where Ruth’s family lived. When Naomi was planning to return to her homeland, Ruth had to decide whether to go with her or not. If she went with Naomi she would be going a long way to another country to live. It might be many years before she saw her family again. Maybe she would never see them again! But Ruth made the decision to go with Naomi because she loved her and she loved Naomi’s God. I’d like to be like Ruth . . .

“Mama! Daddy!” Julie said as she came to the breakfast table the next morning. “I’ve decided what I’m going to do during my vacation. I’m going to go to Grandma and Grandpa’s. Do you want to know why?”

## Color the Dots

Color the spaces that have a dot inside. You will find the name of the lady in our story.





## Nothing Is Impossible With God

Have you ever tried to jump over a really high fence? You found it impossible, didn't you? There are many things in life that are impossible for all of us but there is Someone who can do the impossible. It is God! Sometimes He uses men and women to do impossible things for Him.

Many years ago the people of Israel found that they needed God's help. The Philistines had treated them very badly for forty years. It was impossible for them to free themselves. God sent help in a very unusual way.

There was a man of Israel, named Manoah. He and his wife had no

children. God sent an angel to tell them that He would give them a son. But there were special instructions for the child. He was to have a very special diet and he was never to have his hair cut. When the child grew up, God would work through him to free the Children of Israel. When the baby was born, his parents named him Samson.

As Samson grew older, God's Spirit made him very strong. With his bare hands he killed a lion, and another time he destroyed a thousand enemies with the jawbone of a donkey.

But one day Samson made a very



bad mistake. He told the secret of his great strength to one of the Philistine women. Her name was Delilah. He let her know that if his hair was cut he would lose his strength.

Delilah told Samson's secret to the Philistines, and while Samson was asleep she had them cut off his hair. What a terrible thing to do! Because Samson didn't do the right thing, God's Spirit left him. Samson's strength was gone. The Philistines put him into prison, and put his eyes out. How awful! Don't you think Samson was sorry he had told his secret?

Time went by. One day the Philistines had a great feast. They

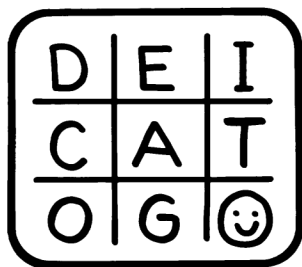
called for Samson because they wanted to make fun of him. But God was ready to use Samson again.

They brought Samson into the great hall where the feast was going on. Samson asked to be led to the two huge pillars which held up the building. He prayed to God for strength to stop the wicked men and women who were very mean to the Children of Israel. Then, with all his might, he pushed over the pillars. With a thunderous crash, the building fell, destroying all the Philistines.

God had helped Samson do the impossible! If we do the right thing, God can use us too.

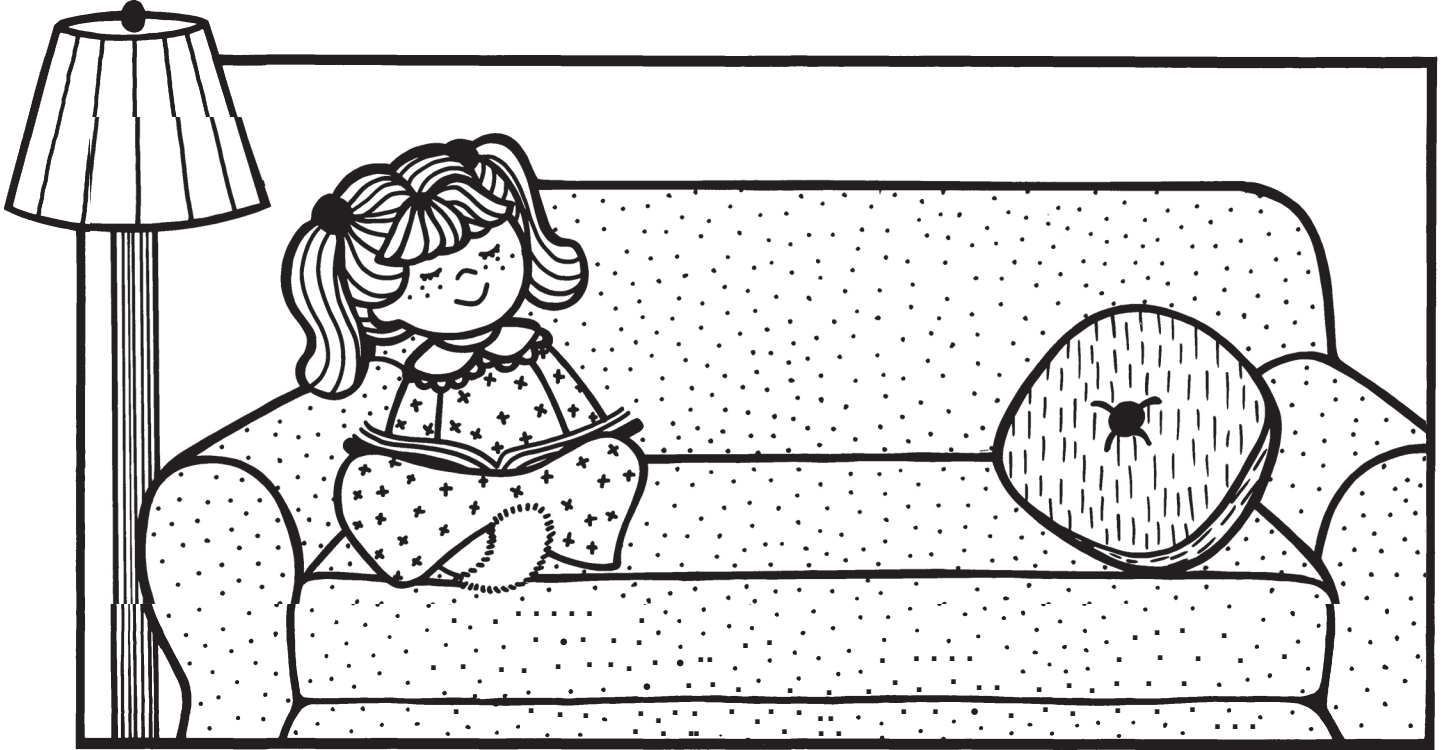
## What Is a Nazarite?

When Samson was born he was to be a Nazarite. To find out what it meant to be a Nazarite, decode the words below.



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## A Good Choice

Lauri curled up in the corner of the couch with the open Bible storybook on her lap. She was going to read one of her favorite Bible stories.

"What story did you choose for tonight, Honey?" asked Lauri's mother.

"I'm going to read about Queen Esther. I think it's so wonderful how she was chosen to be queen. There were probably a lot of other girls who were hoping they would be chosen." Then Lauri asked, "Do you know why I chose this story?"

"No, I don't. But I'm sure you have some special reason," said her mother.

"You're right. For our Sunday school project we are supposed to choose a Bible character and tell how God used that person. We are also supposed to tell why that person was chosen by God. We need to tell if they were brave or loyal or obedient or other things like that. I think I'll tell the story of Esther."

"That would be a good one, Lauri," said her mother.

"Mom, will you help me make a list of some of the things about Esther's life. I will need to tell the reason she was chosen to be queen. I know she was beautiful, but ..." Lauri wrinkled

her nose and sighed. “There were probably lots of beautiful women, so that can’t be the only reason. Why do you think Esther was chosen by the king?”

“Well, the Bible tells us that the king loved Esther more than any of the other women. But more than that, I think it was part of God’s plan. He wanted her to be chosen. She had been brought up to know and to love the God of Israel. God knew He could trust her.”

Lauri nodded her head. “Yes, and after she became queen, a wicked man named Haman tried to have all the Jewish people killed! Esther went to the king about it.”

“That took courage, didn’t it?” her mother went on. “Who told her to go to the king?”

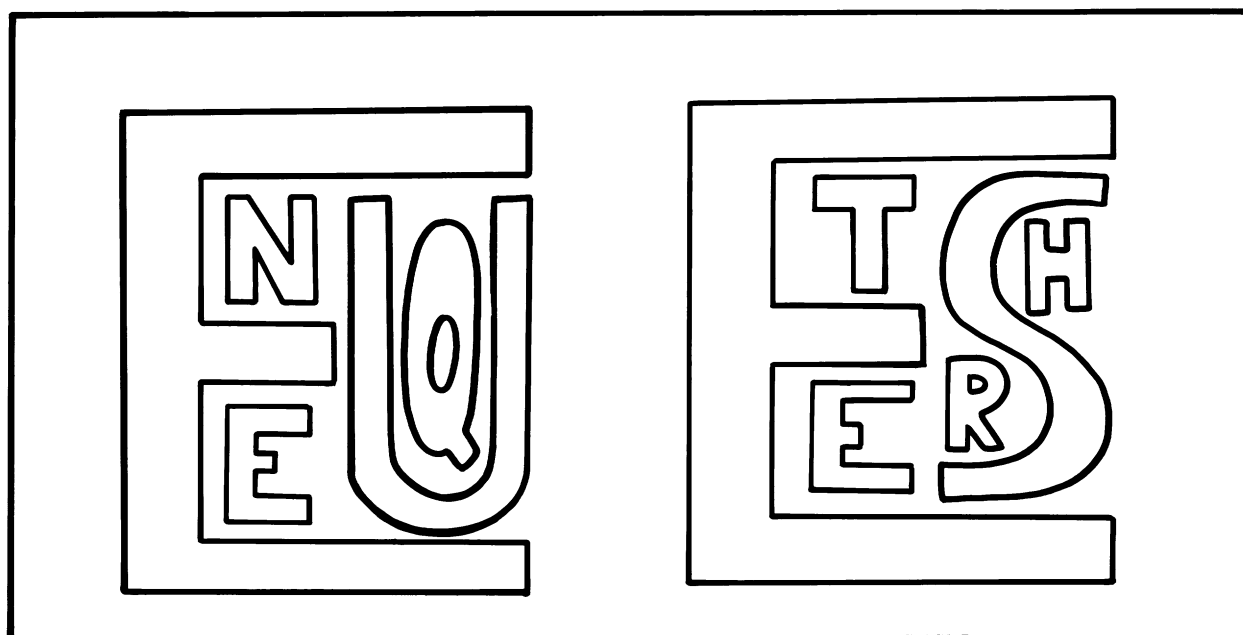
“I know that answer,” Lauri smiled. “Her cousin, Mordecai! And Esther obeyed him, even if she was scared.”

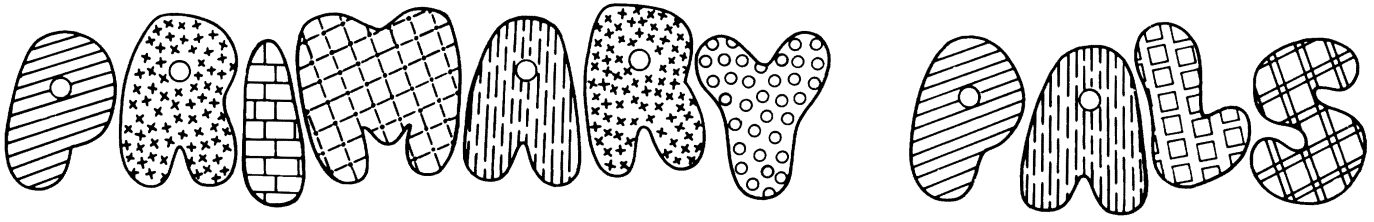
“Yes,” Lauri’s mother replied, “and that was important. So we can see that Esther was faithful to her God and loyal to her own people. She was also courageous and obedient. God still looks for these special qualities in people today. Does this help to answer your question about why Esther was chosen to be queen?”

“Yes,” Lauri answered. “I think both God and the king knew that Esther was special.”

## Scrambled Words

Unscramble these two words to find the name of the lady in today’s lesson.





## Noah's Big Boat

Many, many years ago a man named Noah built a huge boat. Other people have built boats, but that one was very special. God told Noah to build that one. God even told him what size to make it, and what kind of wood to use.

Do you know why God wanted Noah to build that big boat? God knew Noah would need it when the Flood came. Do you know what a flood is? That is when all the ground is covered with water. God was going to send so much rain that the whole earth would be covered with water. He was going to do that because all the people in the

world were being very bad—all the people except Noah and his family. Noah loved God. The other people didn't love God.

No one had ever seen a flood before. They did not believe it would really happen. But Noah believed God. He and his family started right away to build the big boat.

When Noah's boat was finished, God told him to take at least two of every kind of animal into the boat. I wonder what the people thought when they saw all the bears and lions and elephants and monkeys and other animals go into the boat.

When Noah and his family and the animals were all inside the boat, God shut the door. Then He sent rain. It rained and rained all day and all night for forty days and nights! It rained until all the bushes and trees and houses and mountains and people were covered with water.

Noah and all that were in the boat with him were dry. Noah trusted God and knew He would keep them safe.

Finally the rain stopped, but for a long time the water stayed on the earth. Perhaps Noah looked out the window many times and wondered when they would be able to leave the

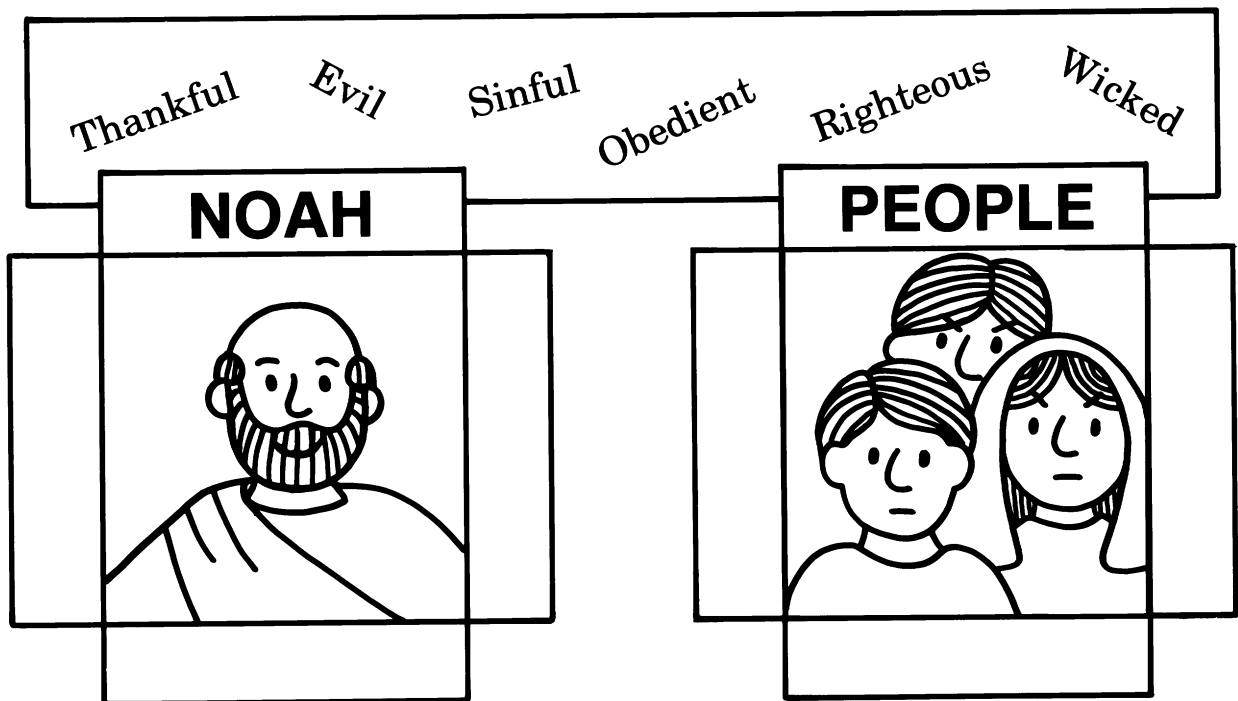
boat. It was many more days before the land was dry again. When it was time for Noah and his family to leave the boat, they were so happy. Noah built an altar so they could pray and thank God for keeping them safe.

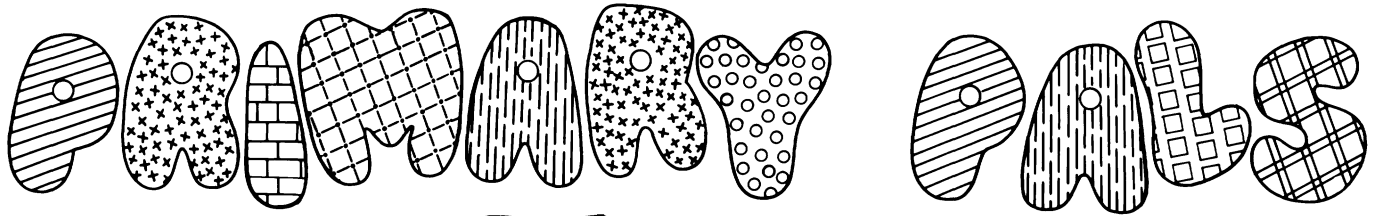
God was happy to hear Noah's prayer. He promised that the whole world would never again be destroyed by a flood. He sent a special sign of His promise. It was a beautiful rainbow!

Now whenever we see a rainbow in the sky we can remember the story of Noah. Noah trusted God and we can trust God too. We know God always keeps His promises. He loves us.

## God's Choice

Choose the words below which describe Noah and the people. Write the correct words in the flaps around the boxes.





## Abraham Trusted God

One day God looked down from Heaven and saw a man named Abram, whose name was later changed to Abraham. He lived in a tent in the land of Ur. Most of the people who lived in that country prayed to idols. They didn't love God. But Abraham loved God. He prayed to God and tried to do God's will.

God could see that Abraham loved Him, even though sinful people lived all around him. Because Abraham was faithful, God chose him to be part of a very important plan. God was going to send Jesus to this earth so that people could be saved from their sins. He

wanted Jesus to be born into a special family. Abraham was chosen to be the father of this special family because he believed and trusted God. He would do whatever God said.

"Take your family and leave this place," God told Abraham. "Go to a land far away that I will show you. I will make your family a great people. All the families of the earth will be blessed because of you."

Abraham obeyed God. He called his whole family together. They helped him gather his sheep and his cattle. They helped him pack his tents and everything else that he owned. Then



they all started on a long journey.

At last they came to the land of Canaan. It was a beautiful land. There were wonderful fields where the sheep and cattle could eat. God spoke to Abraham again. He said He would give all that land to Abraham, and to his children, and to their children.

Abraham and his wife had no children. But God now promised them that they would have a son. God told them to name their son Isaac. God also told Abraham that he would have many, many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. And there would be so many more that they could not even be counted.

Now, Abraham loved God more than ever before. He built an altar and made an offering to God. He was thankful that God trusted him to be part of His wonderful plan.

All the promises that God gave to Abraham came true! The special family that God promised to him, later became known as the Jewish nation. And on the very first Christmas night, near where Abraham had once lived, Jesus was born into that family.

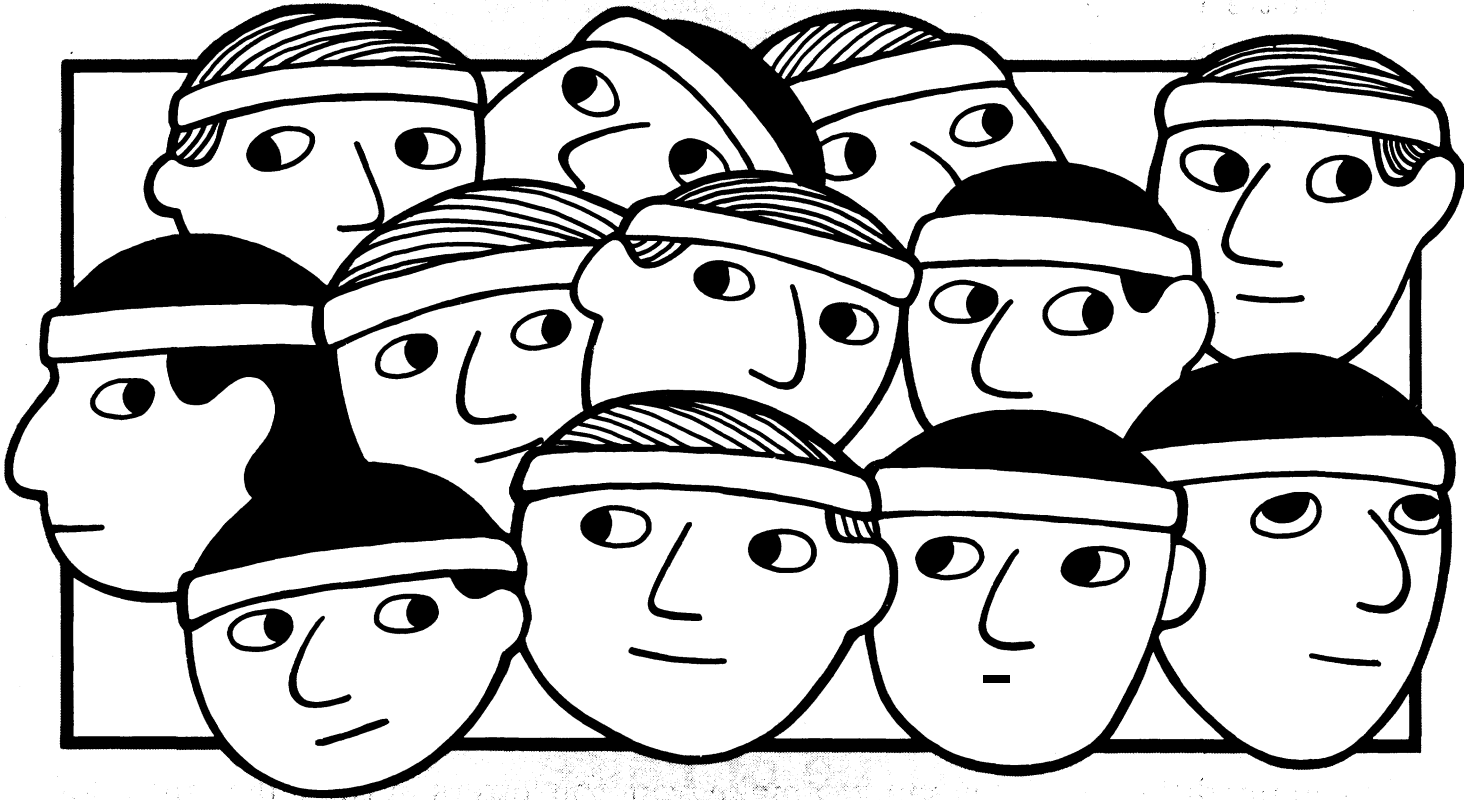
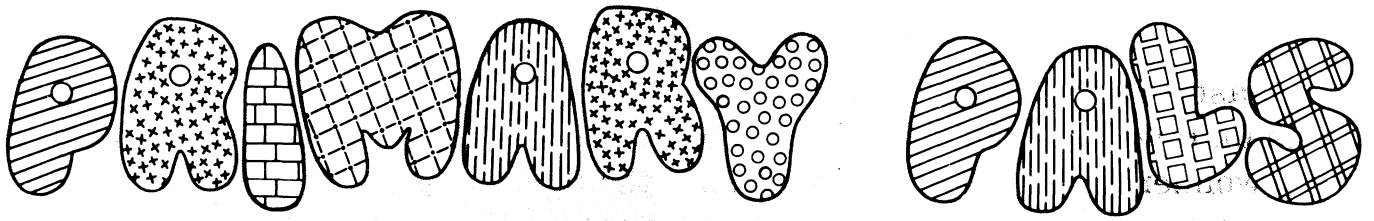
God has a plan for each of us too. But, like Abraham, we must obey God. If we do this, God will know that we love and trust Him. I wonder what special plan God has for you?

## Many Words

How many different words can you make from the letters in the following title? Write them on the lines below. Use extra paper if more space is needed.

ABRAHAM — FATHER OF MANY NATIONS

1. _____	7. _____	13. _____
2. _____	8. _____	14. _____
3. _____	9. _____	15. _____
4. _____	10. _____	16. _____
5. _____	11. _____	17. _____
6. _____	12. _____	18. _____



## Two Brave Spies

How would you like to be a spy? Wouldn't it be exciting to be sent on a secret mission? What if you were sent to a faraway place and told to search through the land? You would have to take notes and then report back to the person who sent you. That person would expect you to tell carefully about everything that you had seen and heard. Do you think you would have a hard time remembering everything?

A spy has to be a very special person. He must be someone who can be trusted, someone who will obey orders and bring back a true report. A

spy must be brave and strong, not afraid and weak.

Many years ago, God gave special instructions to Moses, the leader of the Children of Israel. Moses was to choose twelve spies to go into the land of Canaan and look all around. Their job would be to find out all about the country. Was it a good land or bad? How large were the cities? How many people lived in the land? The spies were also told to bring back some of the fruit that was grown in Canaan. They were to show this fruit to Moses and the people.

Among the twelve spies chose by

Moses, were Joshua and Caleb. Both were men who loved and trusted God. They believed God and obeyed Him.

For forty days the spies searched through the land of Canaan. They must have been excited by what they found. The land was beautiful. It had flowing rivers and lots of trees and good fruit. When it was time to leave, the men cut down one cluster of grapes to take back to Moses. That cluster was so big that it took two strong men to carry it!

The twelve spies told Moses that everything was exactly like God had said it would be. But ten of the spies were afraid. When they looked at the land they saw the high-walled cities and the people of the land who looked

like giants. Those ten spies said, “We cannot take this land! We are not able to do it.” They forgot that God had promised to help them. They forgot that God had said the land would be theirs.

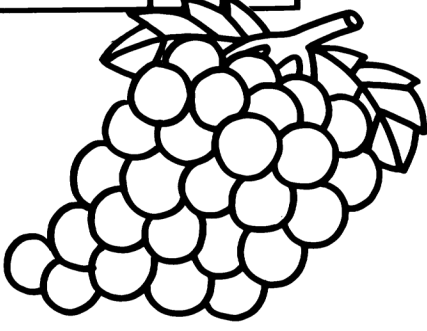
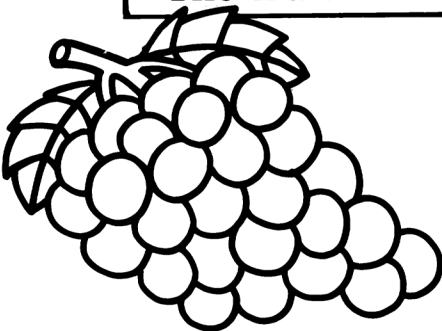
Joshua and Caleb didn’t forget. They trusted God and knew He would give them the land. Caleb told Moses and the people, “We can take this land! God is on our side.” But the people were afraid. They listened to the other ten spies. They didn’t believe Joshua and Caleb. They, too, forgot God’s promise.

Many years later Joshua and Caleb were the only two of those twelve spies who went into the promised land with the Children of Israel.

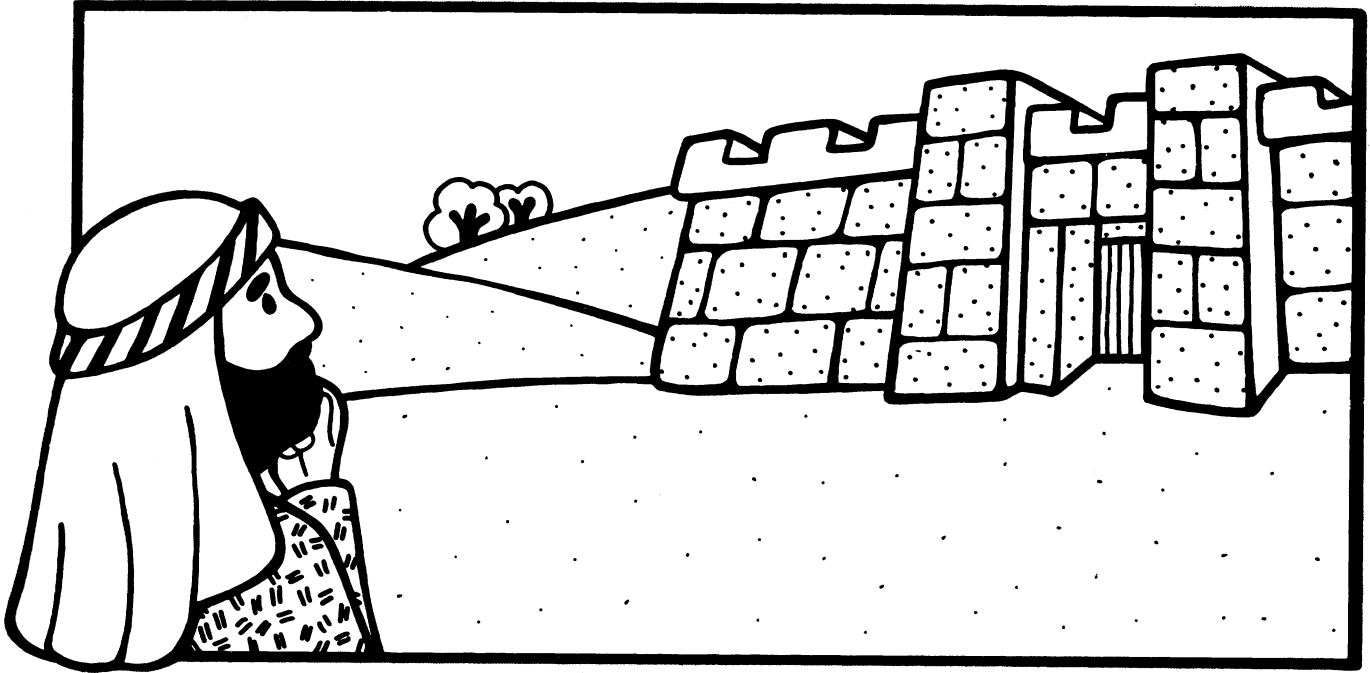
# True or False

What information did the spies bring back about Canaan? Mark the sentences below either true or false.

	T	F
There were only a few people in Canaan.		
The people were strong.		
The people did not live in a city.		
The land was good.		
There were giants in the land.		
The fruit was spoiled.		



# PRIMARY PALS



## The Day the Walls Fell

Moses had been a great leader of God's people. But when Moses died Joshua became the new leader. God had chosen Joshua and promised to always be with him.

God told Joshua that he was to lead the people into the land of Canaan. This was the land that God had promised to His people many years before. Now it was time for them to go and live in the land. Jericho was the first city that the people came to in the land of Canaan. It had to be captured!

Jericho was a strong city that was surrounded by high walls. How was Joshua going to capture that city? He

was glad he didn't have to figure it out all by himself. He trusted God to help him. God gave Joshua a plan. The plan sounded very strange. It wasn't the kind of plan you or I would have thought of.

This is what God told Joshua to do. For six days Joshua was to have the people of Israel march silently around Jericho. The only sound that would be heard each day, was the sound of seven trumpets. The trumpets would be blown by seven priests. On the seventh day they were to march around the city seven times. And on the seventh time everyone was to

shout when they heard the sound of the trumpets.

Joshua didn't argue with God. He didn't say, "This doesn't make sense. I can think of a better plan than that!"

No, he didn't say any of those things. He trusted God. And the people of Israel wanted to do what Joshua told them. They didn't understand, but they knew that if God told them to do something, He would help them to do it.

I wonder what the people of Jericho thought on that first day as they watched the people of Israel march around their city? They probably wondered what was going to happen. No doubt they grew more worried as each day went by.

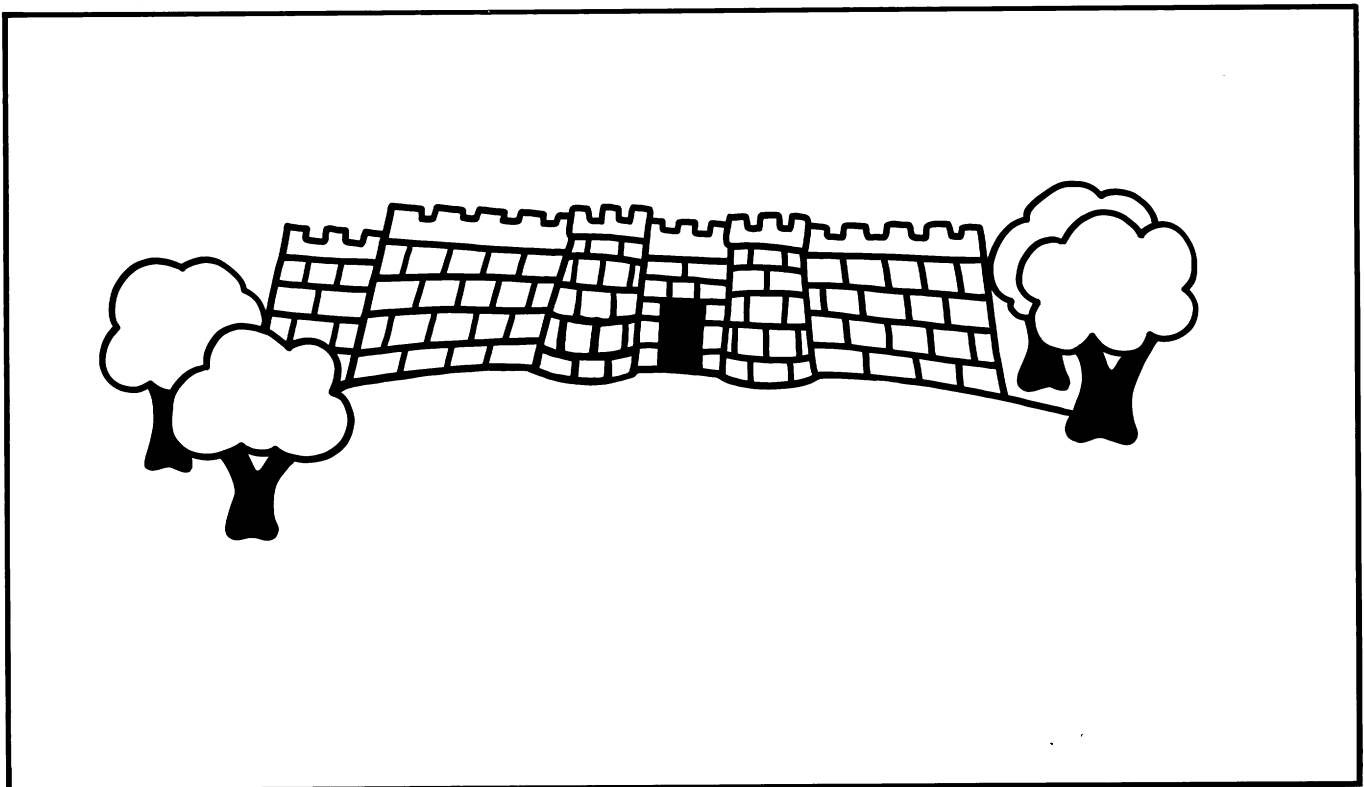
Day after day the people of Israel

marched around Jericho. On the seventh day, the people of Jericho again heard the sound of the seven trumpets. But the people of Israel marched quietly around the city. One time. Two times. Three. Four. Five. Six. Then on the seventh time, when the priests blew their trumpets, Joshua commanded the people to shout! He said, "The Lord has given you the city!" At that moment, giant cracks appeared in those huge walls. Then, with a mighty crash, the walls fell to the ground!

Joshua and the people of Israel took over the city of Jericho. God was able to help them win the battle because Joshua trusted God and did exactly what God had told him to do.

## Where Is the Army?

Draw people marching around the walls of Jericho.



# PRIMARY PAIRS



## A Witness for Jesus

John the Baptist was a special person. To look at him, you might not think so because he did not dress like other people. His clothes were made from camel's hair and leather. His food was locusts (those are very large grasshoppers) and wild honey. He didn't have time to worry about the fancy things of life. He had a very important message to tell everyone—"Get ready because the Savior has come!"

John preached to large crowds of people. Many of them had sin in their hearts. They needed to change. But there were also some people who

already loved God. They didn't like all the sin that was going on around them. They were praying for a Savior to come. They wanted Someone who would make everything better.

Well, the Savior had come. Jesus was the Savior. But the people thought that Jesus was only a carpenter from Nazareth. He was just thirty years old. He lived quietly at home with His family. The people had never seen Jesus do any miracles yet. They had never heard Him preach. How could He, just a carpenter's son, be their Savior? They didn't know that He was really God's Son.

God sent John the Baptist to tell the people all about the Savior. God wanted the people to be ready for His Son.

Hundreds of people went to hear John the Baptist preach. John spoke to them about their sins. He told them they should be sorry that they had done wrong. He told them that very soon the Savior would come.

Many of the people began to see how wrong they had been. They asked God to forgive their sins. Then John baptized them in the river. This was a sign to others that they had given up their sins, and that God had forgiven them.

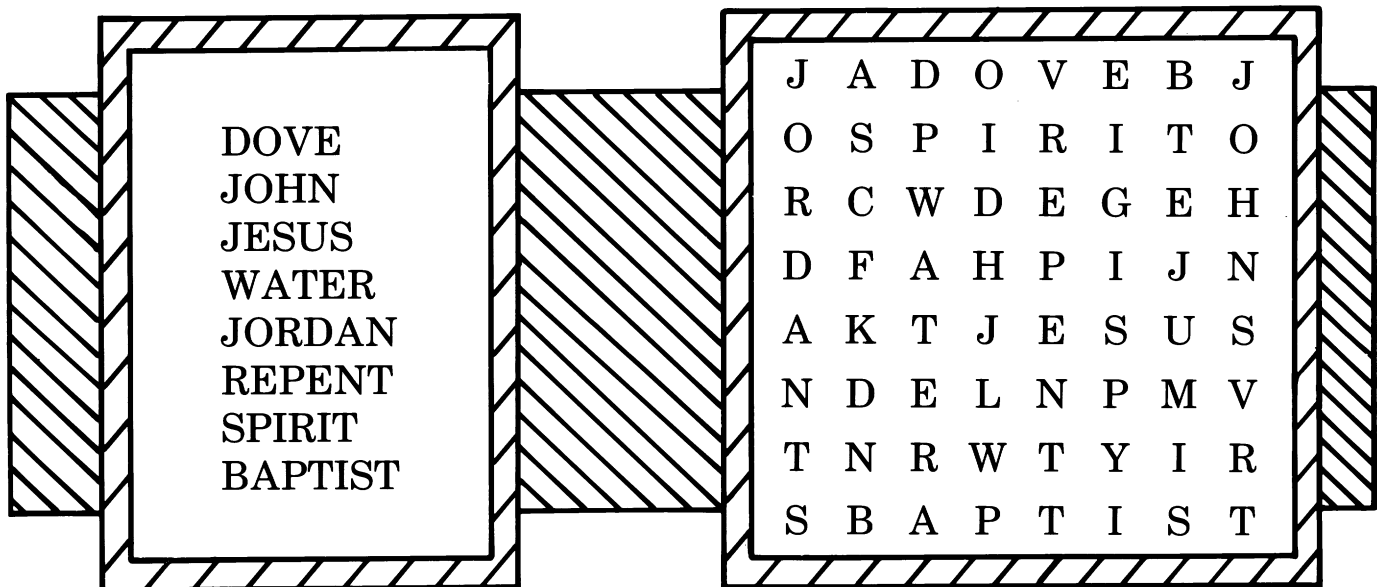
One day, when John was preaching and baptizing at the Jordan River,

Jesus came to be baptized. John knew that there was something very special about Jesus. He said that Jesus should baptize him. But Jesus said John must baptize Him because that was God's plan. So John baptized Jesus.

And as soon as Jesus came up out of the water a wonderful thing happened. The sky was opened and the Spirit of God came down. He appeared like a dove and came to rest on Jesus. Then the people heard a Voice which said, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." That was God's voice. John knew that Jesus was the Savior. He was very happy that God had chosen him to tell the people to get ready.

## Hidden Words

Find and circle the words hidden in the puzzle.





# Preparing for This Bible Lesson

## ***Parent's Corner***

This lesson is about John the Baptist and how he was used of God to tell people about the Savior, thus preparing the way for Jesus' ministry. John performed his appointed task well, and many came to know Jesus because of his efforts.

Explain to your child that John's special job, given by God, was to tell about the Savior who was to come. Liken this to a menu. It prepares the people who are going to eat the meal by telling them what is coming, perhaps even describing how the dish is fixed or the ingredients used.

Let your child prepare the family for their evening meal by making an advertisement or menu for the planned meal. He might cut out pictures of food or write a brief description of each dish. Allow him to present his creation to the family at mealtime.

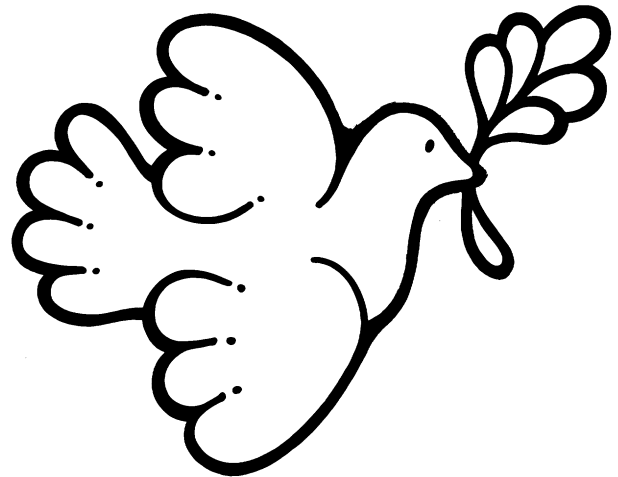
## ***Time Together for Family Devotions***

Verses to help your child understand this Bible lesson.

SUNDAY: Acts 22:15  
MONDAY: Psalm 40:4  
TUESDAY: Isaiah 26:3  
WEDNESDAY: Jeremiah 17:7  
THURSDAY: Psalm 84:12  
FRIDAY: Psalm 32:10  
SATURDAY: Proverbs 30:5

## ***Bible Text***

Matthew 3:1-17

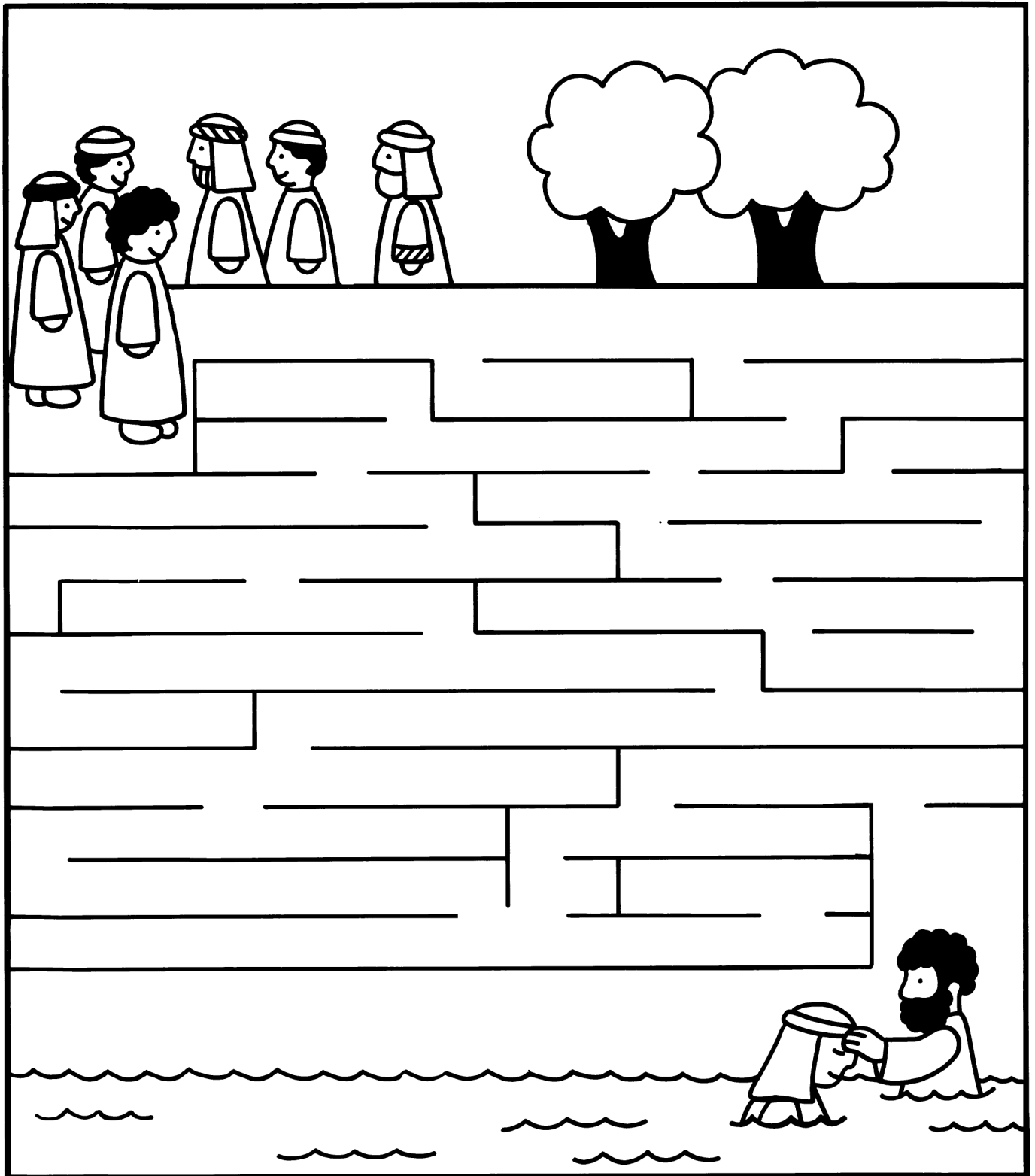


## ***Memory Verse***

Thou shalt be his witness unto all men. — Acts 22:15

# Baptized By John

Help the crowd of people find their way to the Jordan River where John is baptizing people.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Preparing for This Bible Lesson

## ***Parent's Corner***

In this lesson is another dramatic event in Biblical history — the falling of the walls of Jericho. Your child will learn in class that because Joshua trusted and obeyed God, he was able to win the victory in this spectacular way.

As you talk about this with your child, explain that when we trust and obey God, we will have victory over the problems that come our way. Ask your child to list some of the problems he faces. Note each one briefly on a small piece of paper, and tape the paper to a building block.

When you have a number of blocks with problems taped to them, allow your child to build a “wall.” Show how easy it is to knock that wall over. In the same way, our problems are not too big or too difficult for God. If we trust and obey Him, He will give us the victory.

## ***Time Together for Family Devotions***

Verses to help your child understand this Bible lesson.

SUNDAY: Psalm 37:5

MONDAY: Psalm 5:11

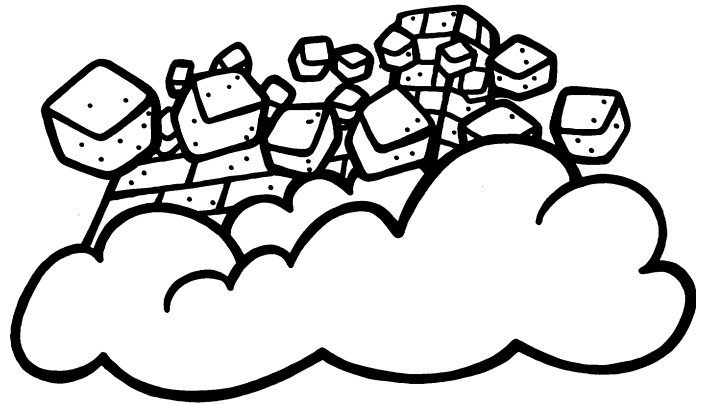
TUESDAY: Psalm 27:1

WEDNESDAY: Isaiah 57:13

THURSDAY: Deuteronomy 20:1

FRIDAY: Joshua 1:9

SATURDAY: Isaiah 41:10



## ***Bible Text***

Joshua 6:1-27

## ***Memory Verse***

Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in him;  
and he shall bring it to pass. — Psalm 37:5

# The Jericho Walls

Complete the story of Israel's victory at Jericho. Use the words in the top box to finish the sentences below.

God

seven

fell

noise

Jericho

seven

shouted

once

1. The name of the city was \_\_\_\_\_ .
2. There were \_\_\_\_\_ priests.
3. For six days the people were not to make any \_\_\_\_\_ .
4. They marched around the city \_\_\_\_\_ a day for six days.
5. On the seventh day they marched around \_\_\_\_\_ times.
6. The priests blew the trumpets and the people \_\_\_\_\_ .
7. The walls of the city \_\_\_\_\_ down flat.
8. \_\_\_\_\_ gave them the victory.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Preparing for This Bible Lesson

## *Parent's Corner*

Joshua and Caleb were the two brave spies who brought back a good report of the promised land. Even though the other ten spies were fearful of the high-walled cities and the giants who inhabited the land, these two men had the courage to say that they knew that with God's help the land could be taken.

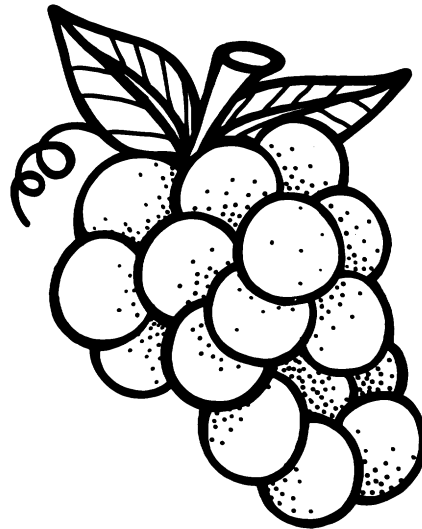
Discuss with your child the fact that sometimes things look difficult or impossible by man's judgment. But God has all power, and we should trust Him.

To reinforce this thought, let your child make a heart puzzle. Draw a large heart shape on a piece of construction paper. Tell your child to mark it into sixteen puzzle pieces. On each piece have him write one word from the memory verse, including the reference. He can cut the puzzle apart on the lines he has drawn, and then reassemble it as he learns the verse.

## *Time Together for Family Devotions*

Verses to help your child understand this Bible lesson.

SUNDAY: Proverbs 3:5  
MONDAY: Psalm 37:3  
TUESDAY: Psalm 115:11  
WEDNESDAY: Isaiah 26:4  
THURSDAY: Psalm 37:5  
FRIDAY: Psalm 118:8  
SATURDAY: Psalm 3:6



## *Bible Text*

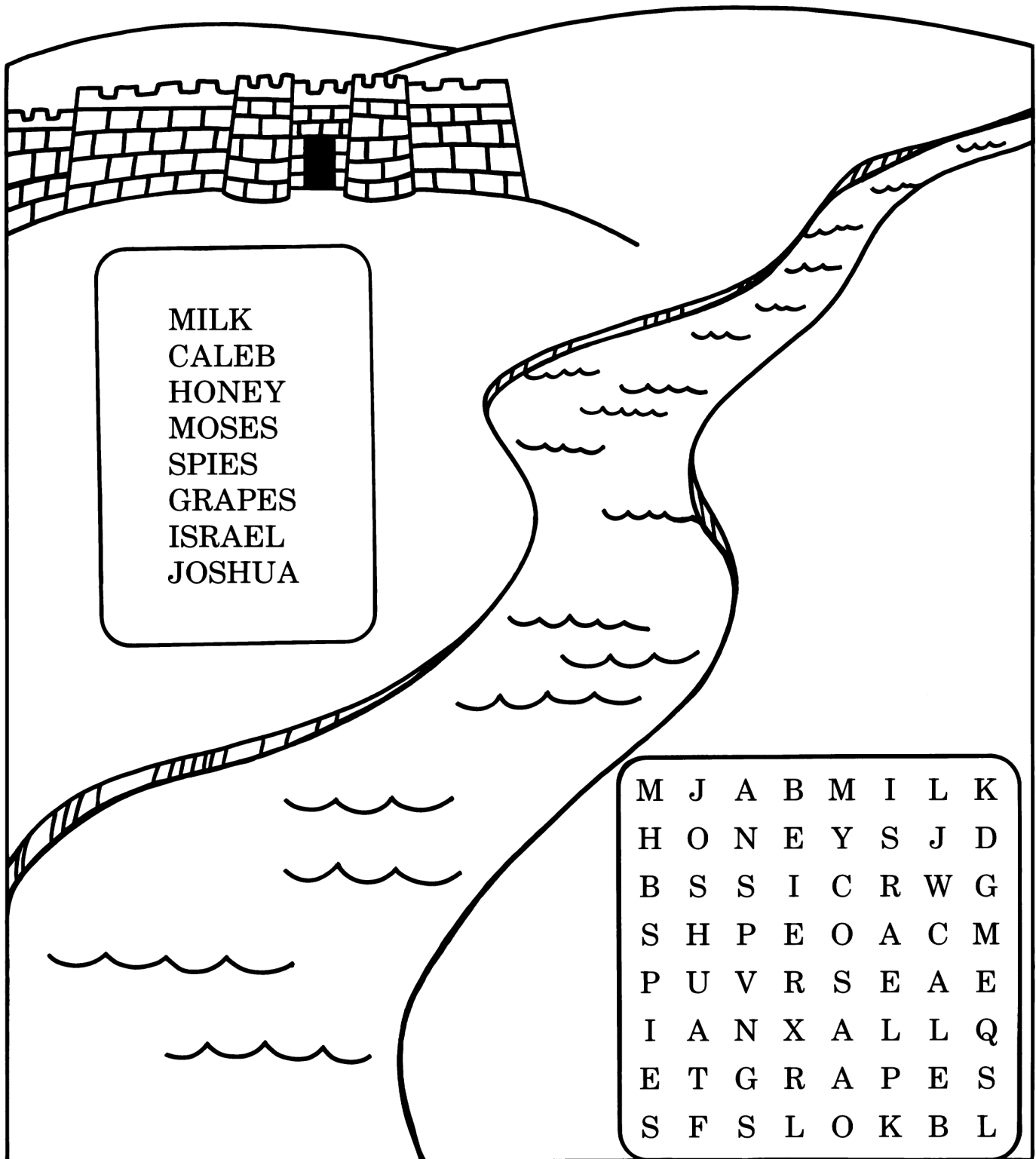
Numbers 13:17-33;  
14:1-9,36-38

## *Memory Verse*

Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto  
thine own understanding. — Proverbs 3:5

# A Spy Story

Find and circle the hidden words in the puzzle. They are all from the story of the spies in Canaan.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Preparing for This Bible Lesson

## *Parent's Corner*

This lesson is about Abraham and how he trusted God and obeyed His commands. Because of this, God made him the father of His chosen people and promised him that his descendants would be as the sand of the sea. Look at a handful of sand with your child. Can he count the grains?

As an activity with your child this week, make a sand painting. Mix clean dry sand with small amounts of liquid poster paints to make a variety of different colors. Spread colored sand on sheets of newspaper to dry. Paint the inside and lip of a shoe box lid with poster paint and let it dry.

Using large block letters, help your child print on the inside of the lid the words, "Abraham Trusted God." Cover one letter with white glue, and sprinkle the glue with one color of sand. Repeat for remaining letters. When the glue has dried, spray the finished picture with varnish or lacquer.

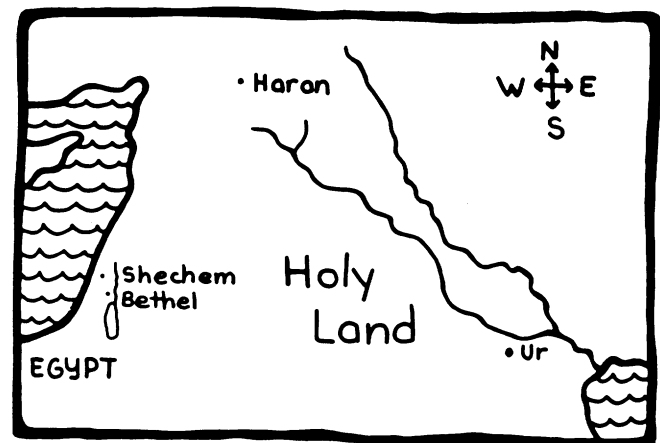
## *Time Together for Family Devotions*

Verses to help your child understand this Bible lesson.

SUNDAY: Psalm 37:3  
MONDAY: II Samuel 22:31  
TUESDAY: Psalm 64:10  
WEDNESDAY: Isaiah 26:4  
THURSDAY: Psalm 18:2  
FRIDAY: Romans 4:20,21  
SATURDAY: Isaiah 57:13

## *Bible Text*

Genesis 12:1-9; 13:14-18



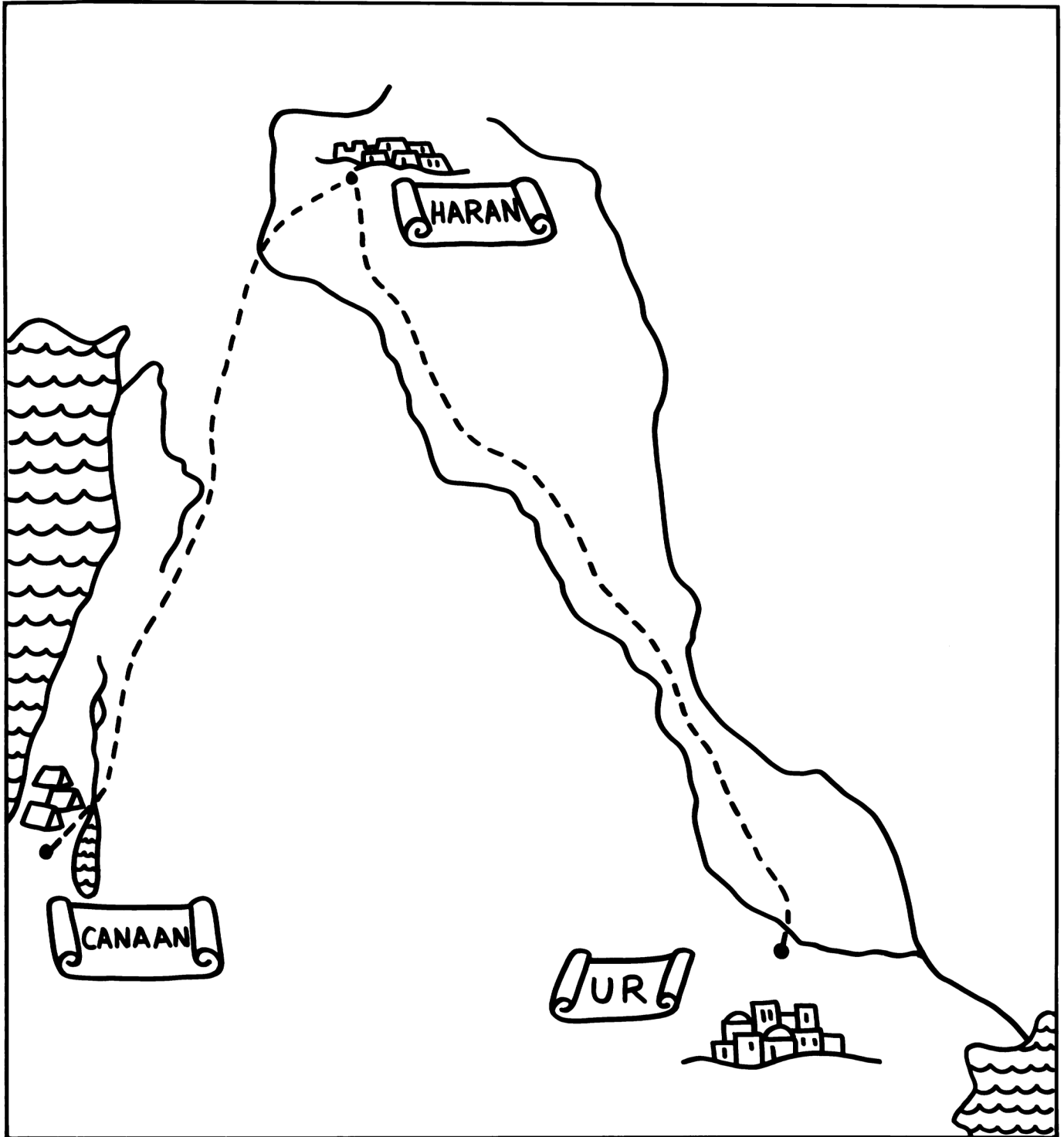
## *Memory Verse*

Trust in the LORD, and do good. — Psalm 37:3



# A Long Journey

This map can help you understand Abraham's journey when God told him to leave his homeland. Use a crayon to mark the way as you follow the route Abraham used.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Preparing for This Bible Lesson

## *Parent's Corner*

Our lesson on Noah's Ark provides an opportunity for a fun game that can be played in pairs or teams, using family members. Give each team or individual a bag containing three unrelated items. For example: a toy boat, a whisk broom, and a picture of an animal; or a paintbrush, the word "sunshine," and a book.

The teams must use the pictures, objects, or words as the basis for making up a story about Noah and what they would do in the ark during all that rain. They may practice telling it before acting it out. Emphasize that they should mention each item at least twice during their storytelling.

The other teams then try to guess the three key words. The children might choose to show the contents of their bags before beginning, instead of making it a guessing game.

## *Time Together for Family Devotions*

Verses to help your child understand this Bible lesson.

SUNDAY: Proverbs 29:25

MONDAY: Psalm 40:4

TUESDAY: Proverbs 14:26

WEDNESDAY: Nahum 1:7

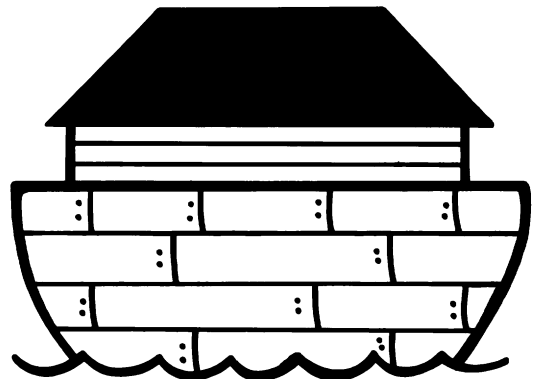
THURSDAY: Hebrews 11:7

FRIDAY: II Chronicles 16:9

SATURDAY: Psalm 46:1-3

## *Bible Text*

Genesis 6:8,13-22;  
7:11-17,23,24; 8:13,14; 9:11-17

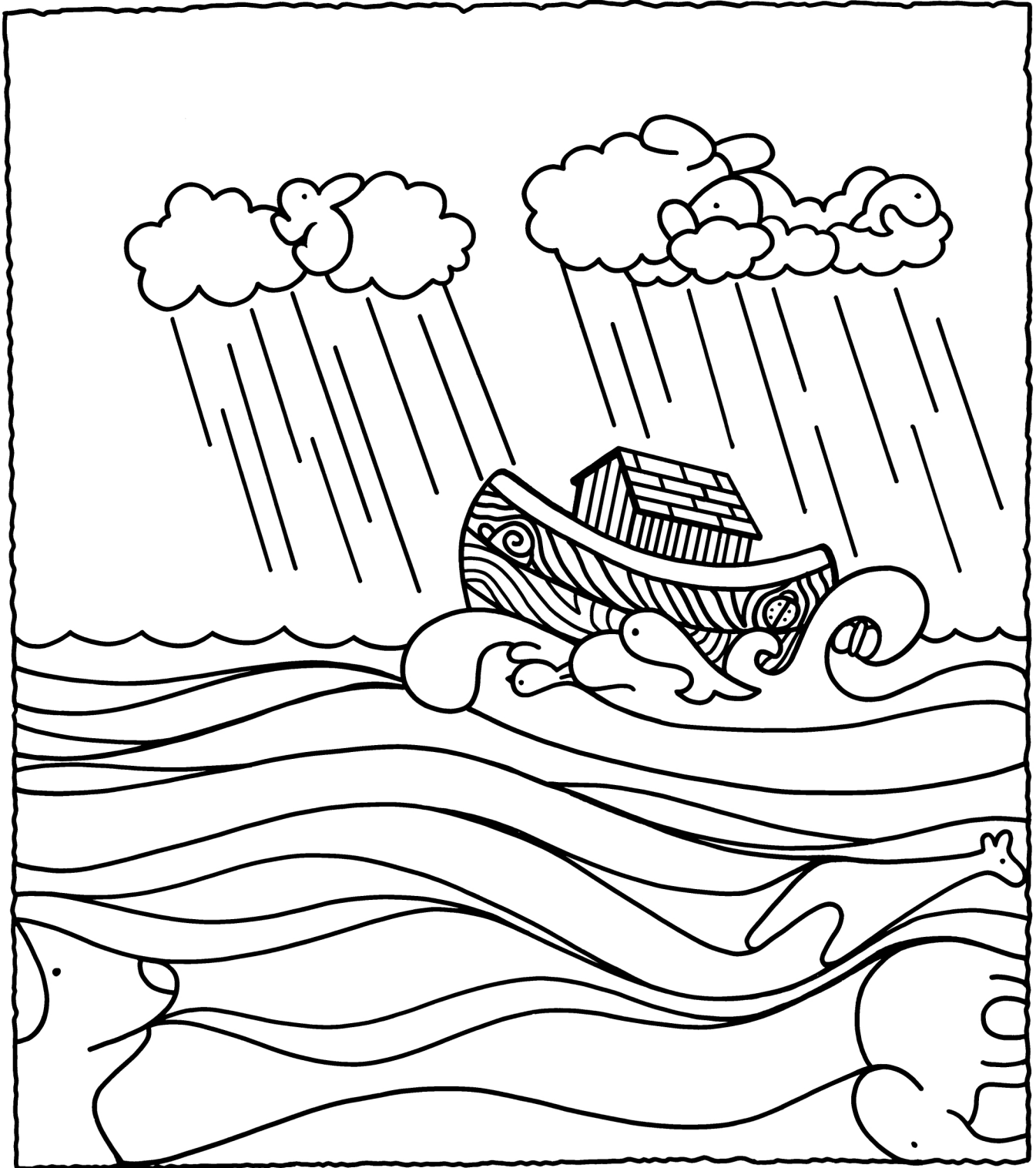


## *Memory Verse*

Whoso putteth his trust in the LORD shall be safe. — Proverbs 29:25

# Here Comes the Rain!

Help Noah to find the rabbit, dog, lamb, fish, snail, bird, whale, ladybug, butterfly, giraffe, and elephant. They are hidden in the picture below.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Preparing for This Bible Lesson

## ***Parent's Corner***

The dramatic story of Esther's courage in risking her life to go before the king on behalf of her people is the subject of this lesson. Your child will learn that Esther's unselfish regard for others made her a person God could use to preserve His people.

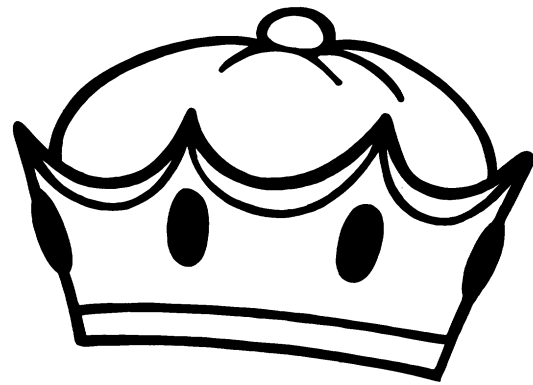
Review the story with your child and then, together, plan a menu that Esther might have used for her banquet for the king. Let your child design a napkin and a place mat for the occasion.

If your child wishes, let him make a matching "crown" for his father or other family member, and let that person use the napkin and place mat at your evening meal. Encourage your child to retell the story as an explanation at the dinner table.

## ***Time Together for Family Devotions***

Verses to help your child understand this Bible lesson.

SUNDAY: Psalm 97:10  
MONDAY: Mark 12:31  
TUESDAY: John 15:13  
WEDNESDAY: Romans 5:7  
THURSDAY: I John 4:21  
FRIDAY: I John 4:18  
SATURDAY: Philippians 2:4



## ***Bible Text***

Esther 2:8-11,15-20; 4:4-9,12-17;  
7:1-6; 8:1-8

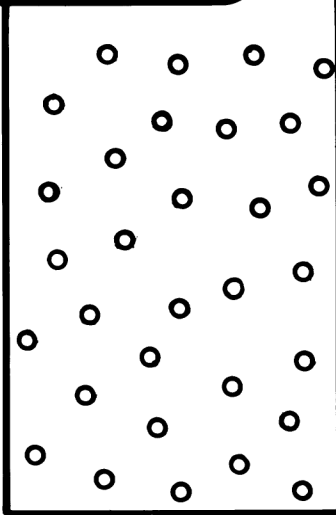
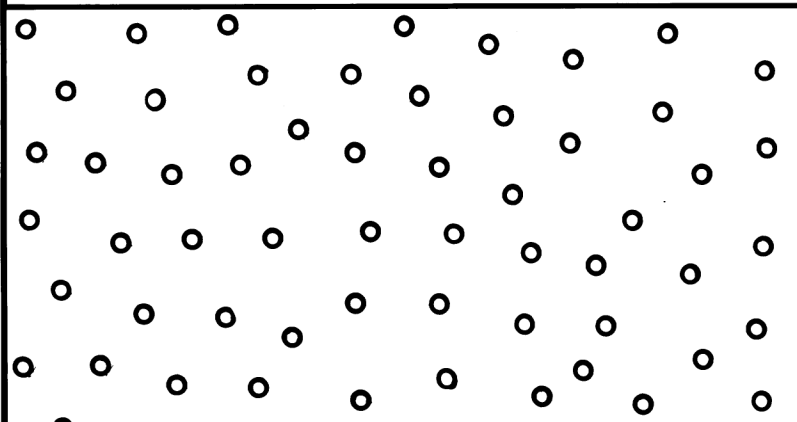
## ***Memory Verse***

Ye that love the LORD, hate evil. — Psalm 97:10

# Twice Hidden

Each word in the list is hidden twice in the puzzle. Find and circle all of them.

JEWS  
KING  
CROWN  
FEAST  
HAMAN  
QUEEN  
ESTHER  
FAVOUR  
SCEPTRE  
MORDECAI



Q	S	C	E	P	T	R	E	A	W	F	J
U	B	H	R	F	E	A	S	T	M	A	E
E	G	Y	A	O	P	D	T	C	O	V	W
E	S	D	N	M	W	U	H	K	R	O	S
N	C	T	B	S	A	N	E	M	D	U	E
H	R	J	H	C	F	N	R	V	E	R	T
K	O	F	G	E	S	C	L	J	C	J	F
I	W	A	R	P	R	H	A	M	A	N	E
N	N	V	W	T	Q	R	Z	K	I	S	A
G	V	O	A	R	J	E	W	S	I	L	S
U	Q	U	E	E	N	Q	N	Z	X	N	T
M	O	R	D	E	C	A	I	P	M	K	G

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Preparing for This Bible Lesson

## ***Parent's Corner***

The story of the amazing strength of Samson is one which captures the imagination of children. Your child will learn how God was able to use Samson to destroy the enemies of His people.

As you review the lesson with your child, explain that God gives strength to His people in this day too. Study the memory verse together. God may not give phenomenal physical strength such as Samson had, but He will give spiritual strength which will make one usable for Him.

Let your child make a paper chain from eight strips of paper to represent the chains that bound Samson. On each strip of paper, have him write one of the words from the memory verse. Then assemble the chain in the proper order.

## ***Time Together for Family Devotions***

Verses to help your child understand this Bible lesson.

SUNDAY: Psalm 29:11

MONDAY: Job 17:9

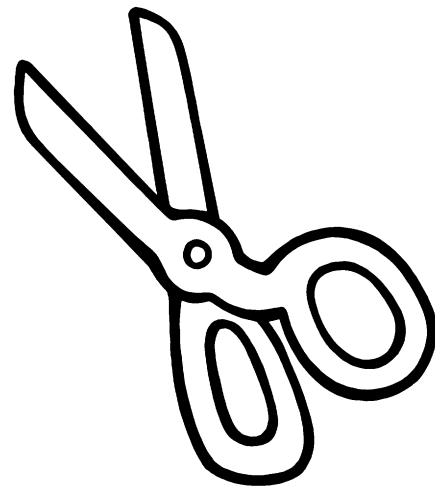
TUESDAY: Psalm 27:1

WEDNESDAY: Psalm 46:1

THURSDAY: Psalm 73:26

FRIDAY: Proverbs 24:5

SATURDAY: Mark 12:30



## ***Bible Text***

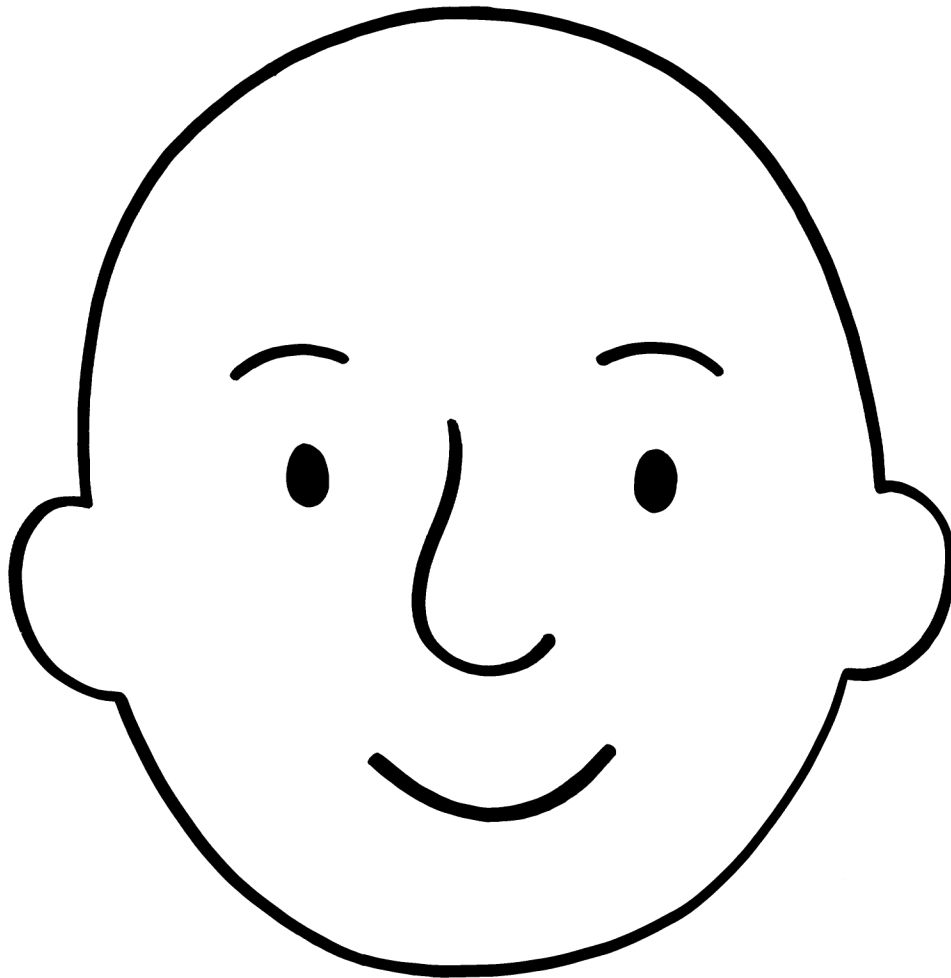
Judges 13:1-5,24; 16:18-30

## ***Memory Verse***

The LORD will give strength unto his people. — Psalm 29:11

# Lots of Hair

When Samson was born, God said he must never cut his hair. Finish the picture to show what you think Samson's hair looked like. Did he have a beard?



Name: \_\_\_\_\_



# Preparing for This Bible Lesson

## ***Parent's Corner***

The beautiful story of Ruth's purpose to leave her homeland and follow the God of her mother-in-law, Naomi, is one of the treasured stories of the Bible. Emphasis in this lesson will be placed on the thought that God could use Ruth because she was willing to follow God even though it meant leaving all that was dear and familiar to her.

As you talk with your child about what it means to follow God, here is a short activity which will help your little one visualize this concept. Have your child remove his shoes so you can outline his feet on a piece of construction paper. Let him color and decorate the outlines of his feet however he wishes.

The feet can be cut out and mounted on a separate piece of paper under the words, "I Will Follow Jesus." Add a sticker or small picture of Jesus if you wish.

## ***Time Together for Family Devotions***

Verses to help your child understand this Bible lesson.

SUNDAY: Psalm 128:1  
MONDAY: Joshua 24:14  
TUESDAY: Matthew 4:19,20  
WEDNESDAY: Luke 9:57  
THURSDAY: John 8:12  
FRIDAY: John 12:26  
SATURDAY: Ephesians 5:1

## ***Bible Text***

Ruth 1:1-18

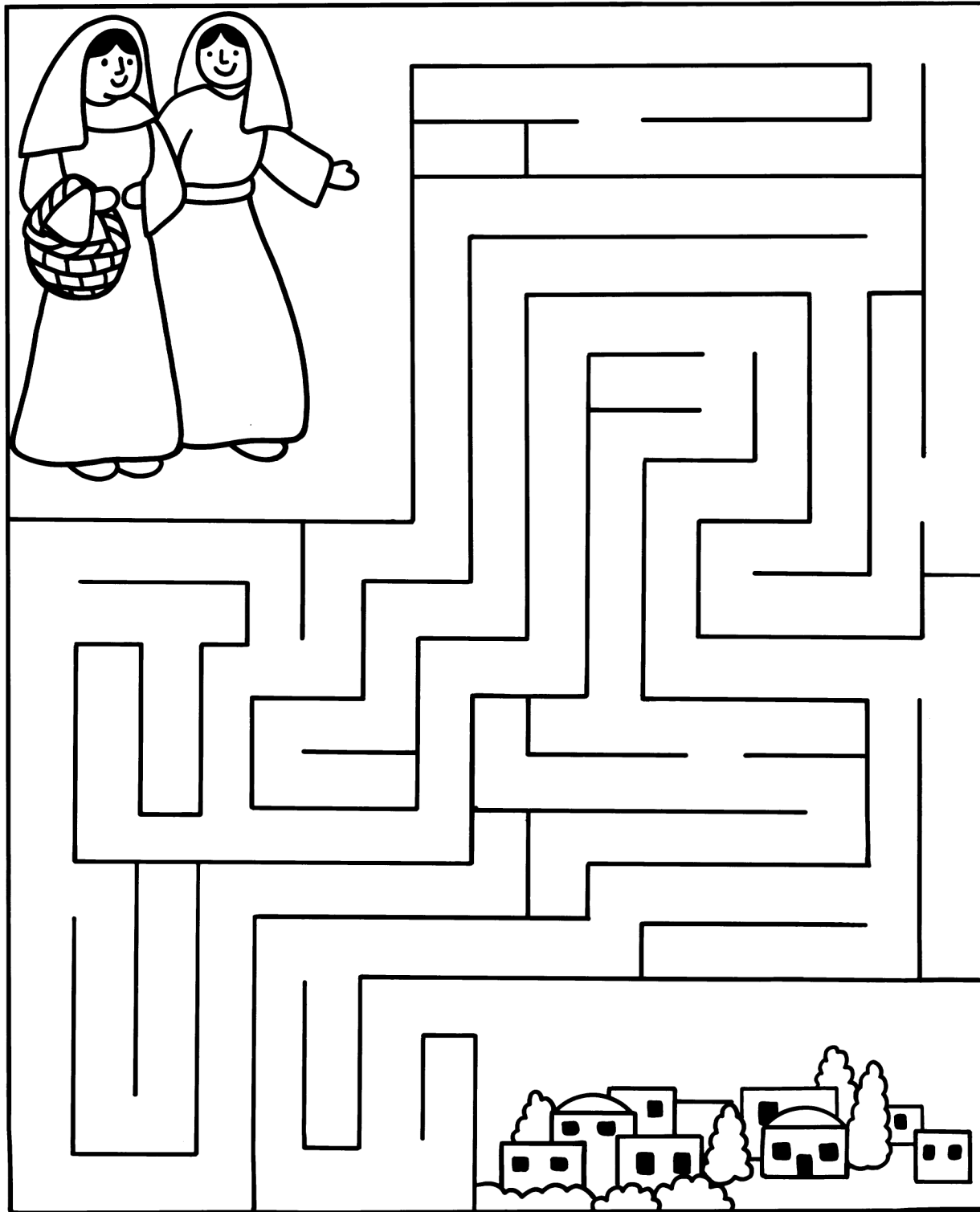


## ***Memory Verse***

Blessed is every one that feareth the Lord; that walketh in his ways.  
— Psalm 128:1

# Willing to Follow

Help Ruth and Naomi find their way through the maze to Bethlehem.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Preparing for This Bible Lesson

## ***Parent's Corner***

We are starting a unit called, "People God Used." We would like your child to realize that God has a place for each of us to fill—that all of us can be used by Him if we are willing.

As you discuss this thought with your child, make a life-sized poster to reinforce it in his mind. You will need a roll of white paper (such as is used to cover tables) or end rolls of newsprint which is often available from local newspaper offices.

Cut a length of paper your child's height plus a few inches. Have him lie on the paper. Trace around him to make an outline of his body. Your child can then color in the hair, features, and clothing to match his own. When completed, have him write the words "Jesus, Use Me" across the top.

## ***Time Together for Family Devotions***

Verses to help your child understand this Bible lesson.

SUNDAY: Psalm 27:14

MONDAY: Psalm 31:24

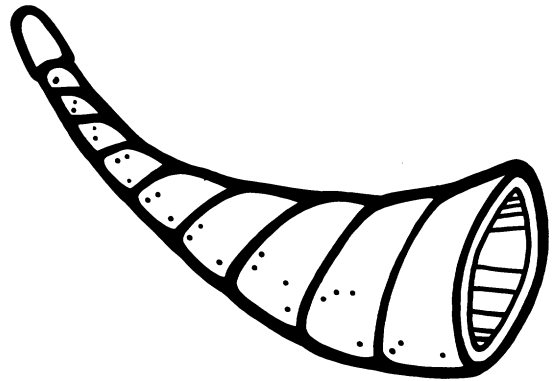
TUESDAY: Deuteronomy 31:6

WEDNESDAY: Psalm 27:3

THURSDAY: Psalm 118:6

FRIDAY: Isaiah 12:2

SATURDAY: Proverbs 3:5



## ***Bible Text***

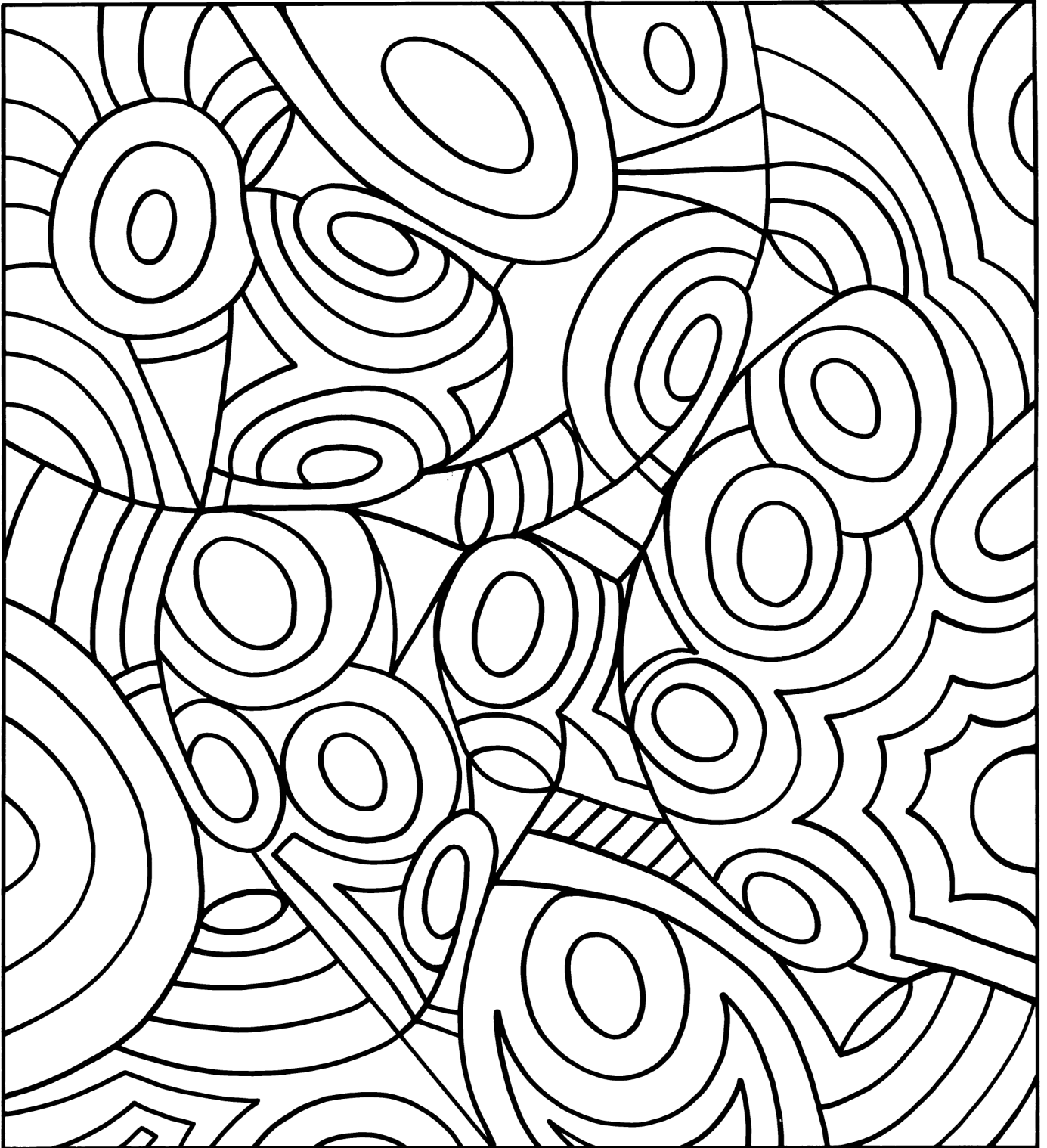
Judges 6:11-16,36-40; 7:1-23

## ***Memory Verse***

Wait on the Lord: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart. — Psalm 27:14

# Find the Trumpets

Find and color the six trumpets that are hidden in the picture below.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Preparing for This Bible Lesson

## ***Parent's Corner***

Our lesson is about Naaman the leper and how he received his healing when he obeyed the instructions of the prophet of God and dipped seven times in the muddy Jordan River. Through this lesson, we want to stress that God's commands must be obeyed, even if they are not understood.

In your time together this week, review the story with your child and then allow him to make a river and a Naaman figure to dramatize the scene at the river. For the river, fold a piece of blue construction paper horizontally so the part that folds up is about an inch below the top of the paper. Help your child to cut waves along the edge that folds up.

A Naaman figure can be traced or cut from a Bible-story coloring book, or a figure could be cut from a catalog. Back the figure with construction paper or cover it with clear adhesive plastic to make it more sturdy. Your child can retell the story and "dip" Naaman under the water by inserting the figure between the two sides of the folded blue paper.

## ***Time Together for Family Devotions***

Verses to help your child understand this Bible lesson.

SUNDAY: John 15:14

MONDAY: Proverbs 3:5

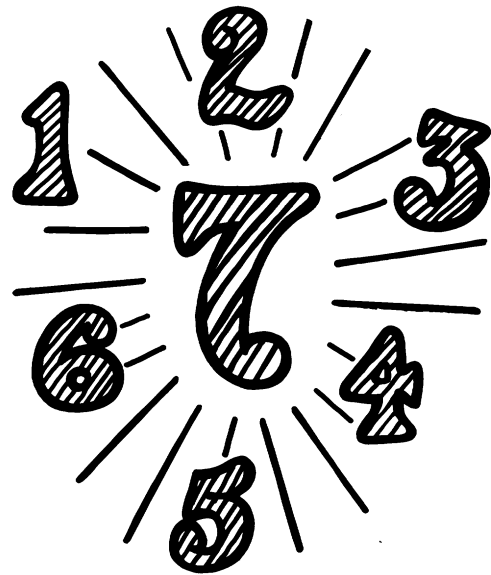
TUESDAY: Isaiah 26:4

WEDNESDAY: Psalm 25:10

THURSDAY: James 1:22

FRIDAY: Proverbs 19:16

SATURDAY: I John 2:3



## ***Bible Text***

II Kings 5:1-14

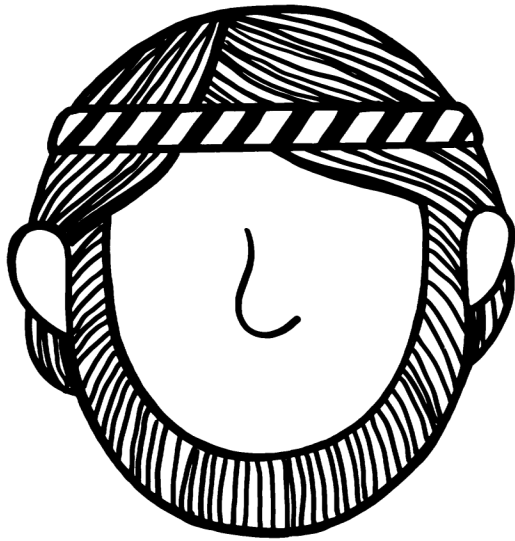
## ***Memory Verse***

Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you. — John 15:14

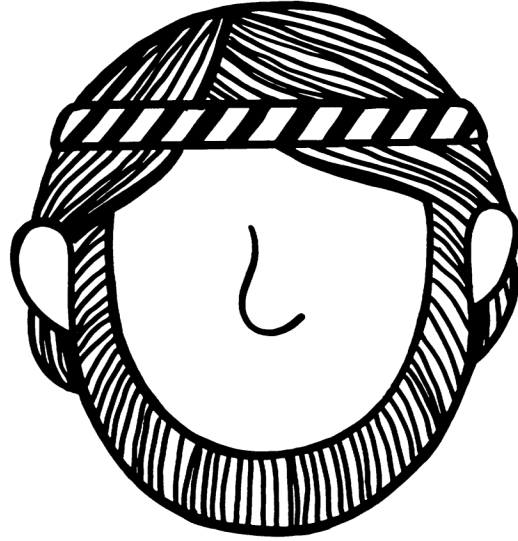
# When He Obeyed

Draw expressions on the faces below to show how Naaman looked when

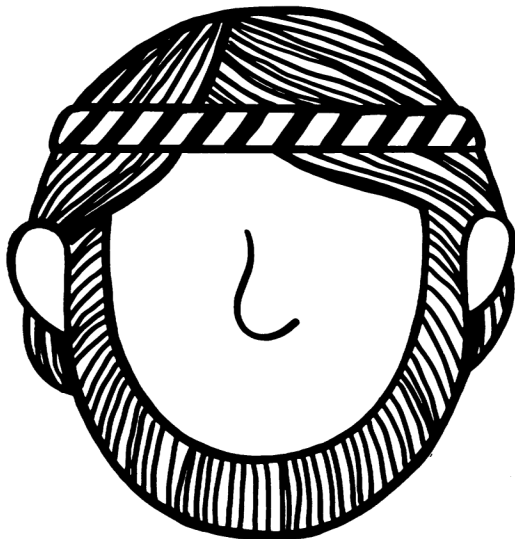
...he found out he had leprosy.



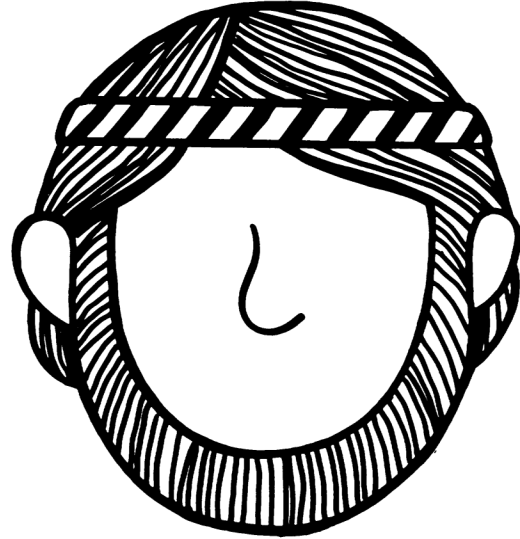
...he was told to go and see Elisha.



...he was told to wash in the Jordan River.



...he obeyed and was healed.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Preparing for This Bible Lesson

## *Parent's Corner*

Father's Day works in well with our unit on obedience because it is vital that children learn the importance of honoring and obeying their parents. During our class time we will help your child recognize that these are commands found in the Bible.

One of the key factors in building a strong and loving relationship between father and child is appreciation. To emphasize this thought to your child, help him put together a booklet for his father called, "My Dad Is Special."

Pages in the book could include a poem for Dad, your child's version of a story Dad tells, a list of reasons why he is special, a picture drawn of Dad, a prayer for Dad, and a special award certificate for him.

## *Time Together for Family Devotions*

Verses to help your child understand this Bible lesson.

SUNDAY: Colossians 3:20  
MONDAY: Genesis 18:19  
TUESDAY: Exodus 20:12  
WEDNESDAY: Proverbs 28:7  
THURSDAY: Deuteronomy 6:2  
FRIDAY: Proverbs 6:20  
SATURDAY: Ephesians 6:1,2

## *Bible Text*

Ephesians 6:1-4  
Proverbs 1:8



## *Memory Verse*

Children, obey your parents in all things. — Colossians 3:20

# Our Heavenly Father

The verses below are from Proverbs 3:11,12. Below each portion of verse are two sentences. Put an X next to the sentence that means the same as the verse.

*My son, despise not the chastening of the LORD;*

- ☐ My child, don't be angry when God tells you to do right.
- ☐ My child, stop listening if God tells you to do right.

*Neither be weary of his correction:*

- ☐ Do not worry if you do wrong.
- ☐ Do not be angry when God tells you that you have done wrong.

*For whom the LORD loveth he correcteth;*

- ☐ God helps people He loves so they can do what is right.
- ☐ God is not nice to the people He loves.

*Even as a father the son in whom he delighteth.*

- ☐ God is like a father who cares for the son he loves.
- ☐ God is like a father who does not care what happens to his son.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_



# Preparing for This Bible Lesson

## ***Parent's Corner***

This lesson is one of the favorites of most children, and it has an important lesson to teach with regard to our theme of obedience. As the teacher goes through the story of Jonah during class time, emphasis will be placed on the fact that when God asks us to do something for Him it is in our best interest to do it!

To reinforce this theme, encourage your child to use his imagination and ingenuity to re-create this favorite Bible story with words, pictures, and letters cut from magazines and newspapers. Provide your child with several old magazines or newspapers, scissors, glue, and a large piece of posterboard.

Begin by reviewing the story from the Bible. Then let your child cut out words, letters, and pictures that will become a part of the story. Help him lay out the words or pictures on the posterboard, piecing words together by cutting out individual letters when necessary. When the story is ready, glue all the words in place on the posterboard, and allow your child to read his story to the whole family.

## ***Time Together for Family Devotions***

Verses to help your child understand this Bible lesson.

SUNDAY: John 14:23

MONDAY: Exodus 20:6

TUESDAY: Isaiah 1:19

WEDNESDAY: Deuteronomy 5:33

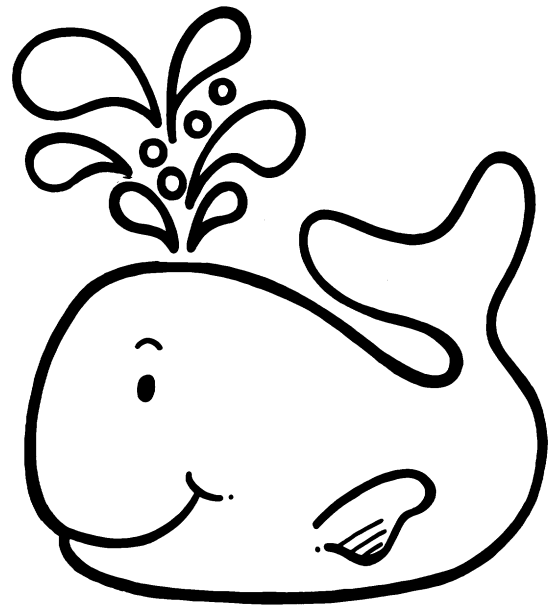
THURSDAY: I Samuel 12:24

FRIDAY: Luke 11:28

SATURDAY: Revelation 22:14

## ***Bible Text***

Jonah 1; 2; 3

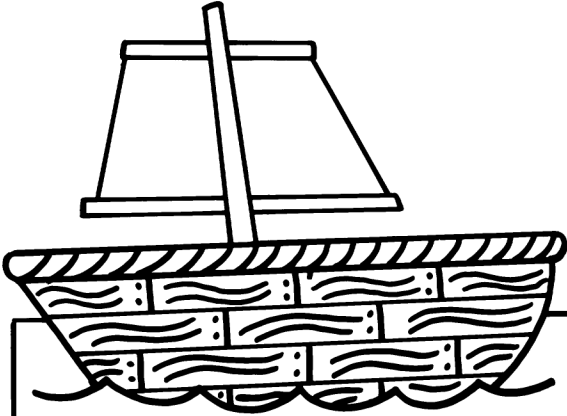


## ***Memory Verse***

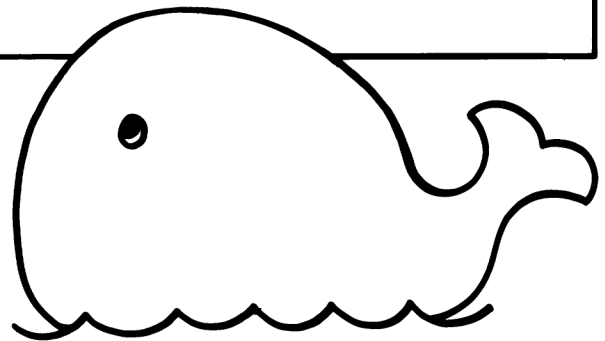
If a man love me, he will keep my words. — John 14:23

# True or False

Read the sentences below and mark them T for true or F for false.



- \_\_\_ God told Jonah to go to Nineveh.
- \_\_\_ Jonah obeyed God right away.
- \_\_\_ Jonah found a boat that was sailing to Nineveh.
- \_\_\_ The storm stopped when Jonah was thrown into the water.
- \_\_\_ Jonah was swallowed by a big fish.
- \_\_\_ Jonah was inside the big fish for a week.
- \_\_\_ Jonah went to Nineveh after the fish spit him up on land.
- \_\_\_ Jonah preached to Nineveh, but God destroyed the whole city because none of the people repented.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Preparing for This Bible Lesson

## ***Parent's Corner***

One of the things a child must learn is the importance of obedience. That is the subject of this lesson which begins our unit entitled, "Let's Do It God's Way."

To illustrate to your child why obedience is important, do a project together in which he must follow your directions exactly in order to achieve the desired results. Guide him through the process of making Very Berry Milk Punch. In a blender, combine 1 cup of milk, an 8-ounce container of vanilla yogurt, 6 strawberries, 2 teaspoons of honey, and 4 ice cubes. Cover and blend until all the ice pieces are gone. Pour into glasses.

As you enjoy your punch together, talk about what would have happened if butter-milk had been used instead of regular milk. What if salt had been added instead of honey? Stress the importance of obedience, because this is God's way.

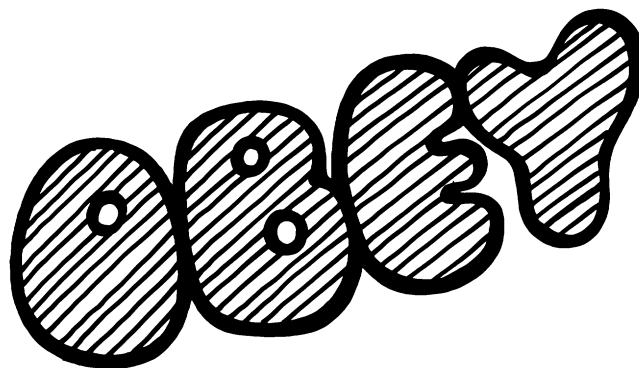
## ***Time Together for Family Devotions***

Verses to help your child understand this Bible lesson.

SUNDAY: Acts 5:29  
MONDAY: Exodus 19:5  
TUESDAY: Matthew 12:50  
WEDNESDAY: John 14:23  
THURSDAY: I Peter 1:22  
FRIDAY: Job 36:11,12  
SATURDAY: Romans 6:16

## ***Bible Text***

Genesis 4:1-7



## ***Memory Verse***

We ought to obey God rather than men. — Acts 5:29

# Two Brothers

Fill in the blank lines with the correct words from the word box. Each word will be used twice.

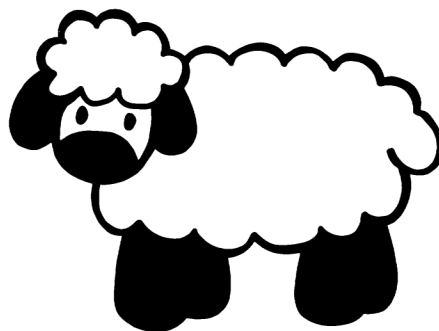
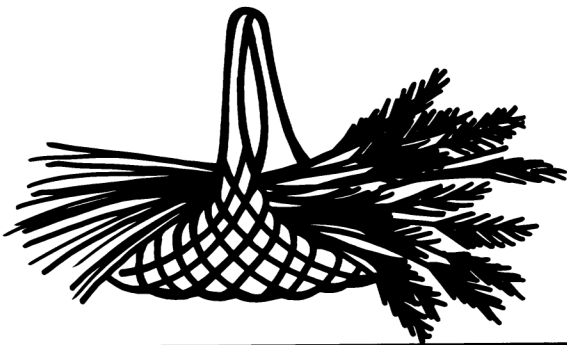
Cain

Abel

Farmer

Shepherd

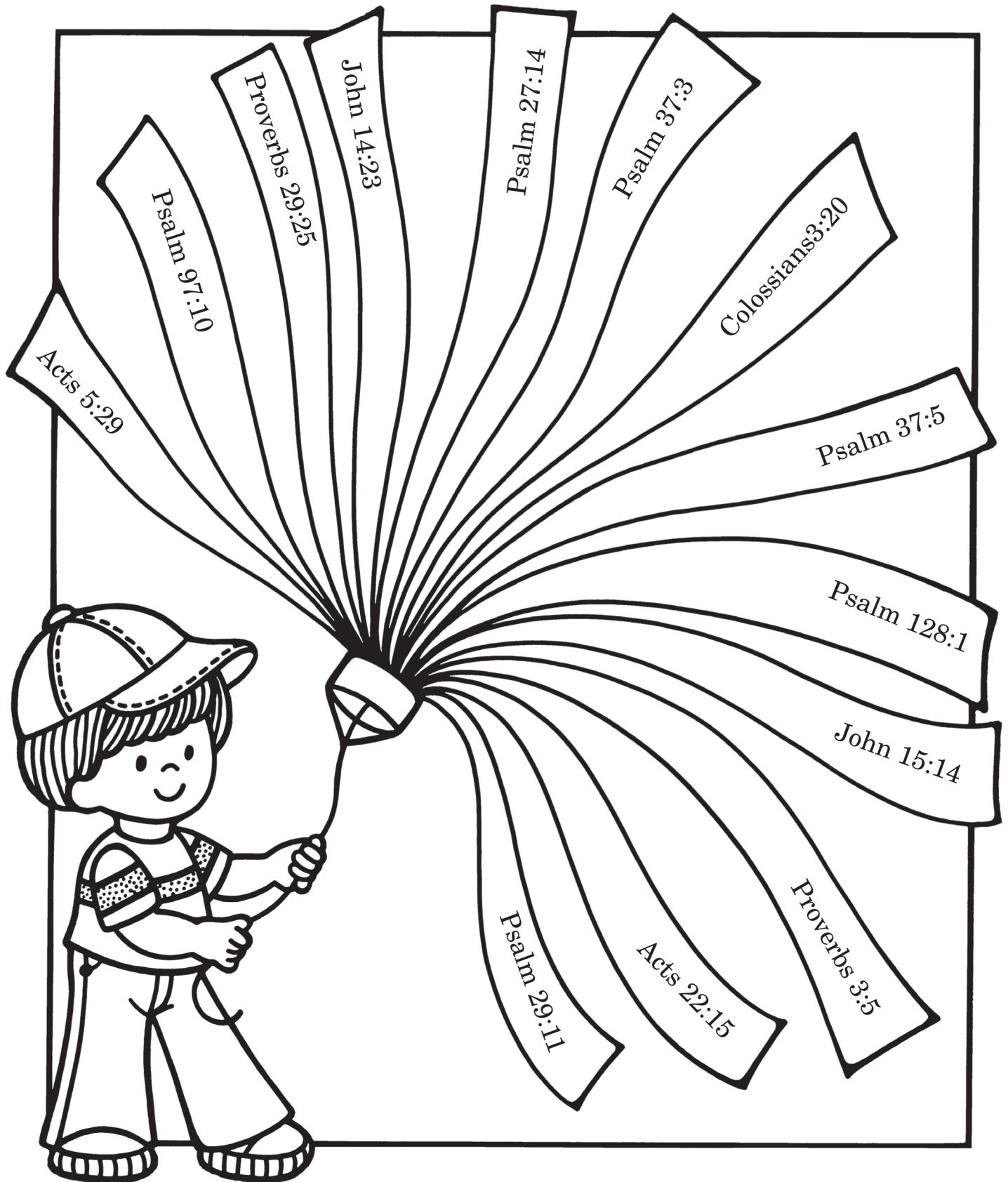
1. \_\_\_\_\_ was the eldest son of Adam and Eve.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ was Cain's brother.
3. Abel was a \_\_\_\_\_ .
4. A \_\_\_\_\_ takes care of sheep.
5. Cain was a \_\_\_\_\_ .
6. A \_\_\_\_\_ grows grain in his field.
7. \_\_\_\_\_ did not love God.
8. \_\_\_\_\_ loved God.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Bible Memory Verses

Color each ribbon of the windsock as you learn the verse.



Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher's Name \_\_\_\_\_

A Bible lesson and activity handout  
for use at home and church.

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