

God's Promise

Many years ago God asked a man named Isaiah, "Whom shall I send? Who will go?"

God wanted Isaiah to be His helper. Isaiah felt unworthy when he thought about how great and holy God is. But he answered, "Here am I; send me."

From that time on, Isaiah gave God's words to the people. He even told four different kings what God wanted them to hear!

When Ahaz was king of Judah, some other kings wanted to have a war with him. God sent Isaiah to tell the people not to worry — He would take care of them.

God also sent the people a wonderful promise. He said that someday a special Baby would be born. The Baby would be called Immanuel. But He would be known by other names also: Wonderful, Mighty God, the Prince of Peace, and many more. He would be a Savior to the people. That means He would save them from their sins and protect them.

Isaiah loved God and was happy to be His messenger. He did as God said, and told the people that someday this special Child would come. He knew God would keep His promise. God's promise was written down, and now we can read it in our Bible.

Many years later, long after Isaiah had died, God's promise did come true. Jesus was born just as Isaiah had said so many years before. And Jesus is known as Wonderful, Mighty God, the Prince of Peace, and many more good names.

Just as He had said, God chose a special young woman to be the mother

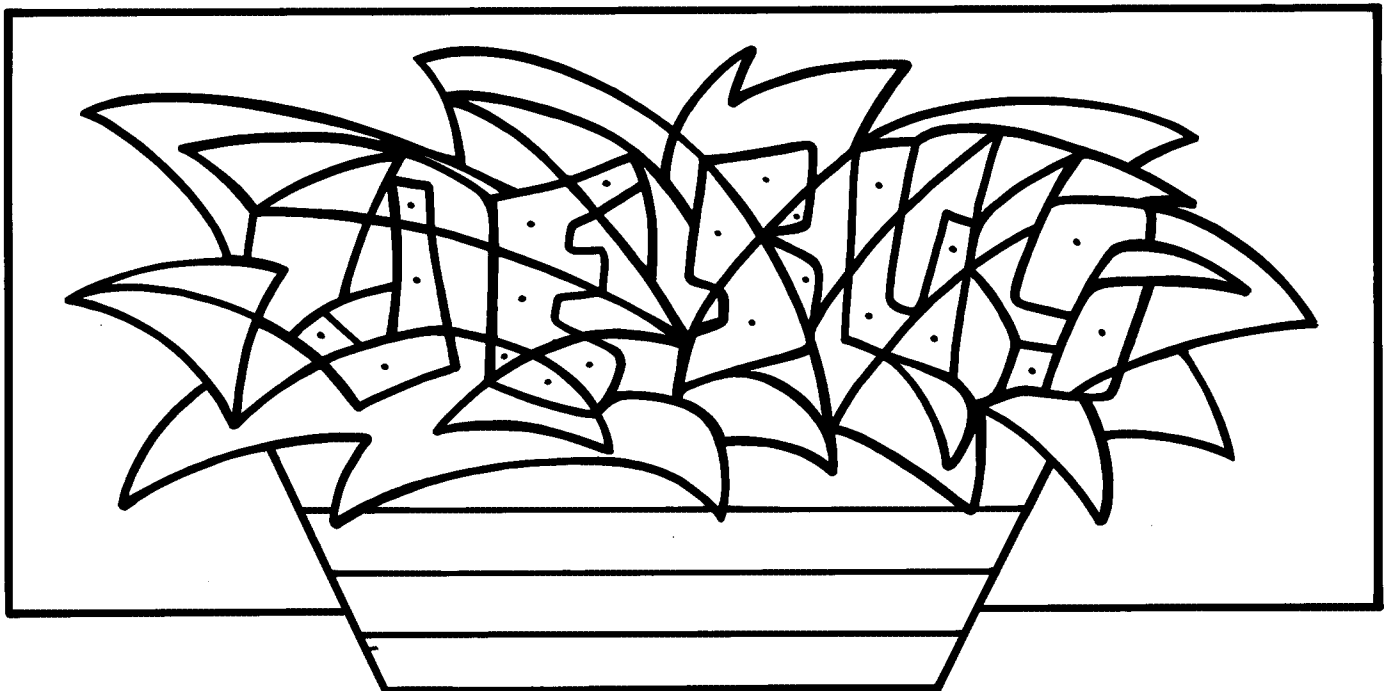
of Jesus. Her name was Mary. She was a part of God's promise.

Every year, at Christmas time, we celebrate Jesus' birthday. It is an important day to us because Jesus is our Savior. And if we love Him, someday we will live with Him in Heaven.

Aren't you glad God keeps His promises?

God's Special Promise

God's promise is hidden in the picture below. Color in each space that has a dot inside.



Preparing for This Bible Lesson

Parent's Corner

As your primary-age child continues his schooling and begins to learn many of the theories and suppositions of man, it is vital that he also learn there are some things that can be absolutely relied upon. With that thought in mind, we begin a five-part series of lessons on God's promises.

To reinforce the basic principle to be taught in this set of lessons, help your child design and create a "Promise Banner." Cut a banner shape from felt, and draw out a simple, bold design featuring the words, "God Keeps His Promises." Using fabric scraps, bits of trim, and glue, fill in the letters and decorate the banner.

Put up the banner where it can be noticed and commented on often throughout the month.

Time Together for Family Devotions

Verses to help your child understand this Bible lesson.

SUNDAY: I Kings 8:56

MONDAY: Isaiah 7:14

TUESDAY: Isaiah 9:6

WEDNESDAY: Micah 5:2

THURSDAY: Romans 4:21

FRIDAY: John 12:46

SATURDAY: John 3:16

Bible Text

Isaiah 7:14; 9:6,7

Matthew 1:21-23

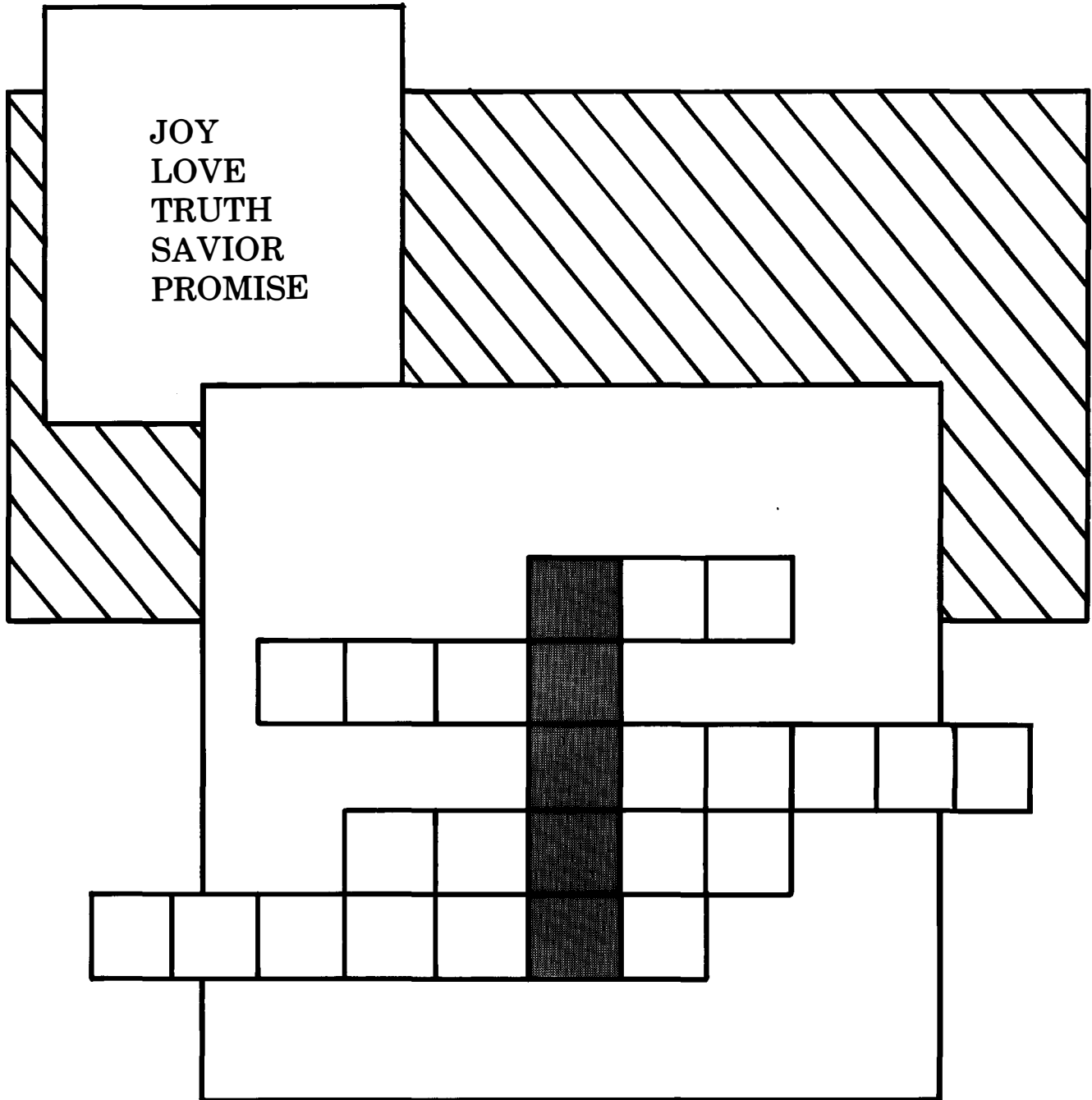


Memory Verse

Blessed be the LORD, . . . there hath not failed one word of all his good promise. — I Kings 8:56

Good Promises

God sent us many things when He sent Jesus. Use the words from the list to fill in the puzzle grid. When you are done, you will find that they are all a part of Jesus.



Name: _____

PRIMARY PAIRS



I Will Be With You

Moses was on a quiet mountainside. Suddenly a bush crackled into flame, but it did not burn up! He was amazed when God spoke to him from the bush, “Go to Pharaoh and tell him to let My people go. I will be with you.”

Pharaoh was the most important man in the whole country. Why should he listen to Moses? But Moses did as God said. What would you have done?

The Jordan River was in front of Joshua. God wanted him to lead His people, the Children of Israel, to the other side of the river. Only when they had crossed the river could they conquer the walled city of Jericho.

God reminded Joshua that He had been with Moses, and He said, “I will be with you also.”

The waters looked deep and wide. But Joshua did as God said. What would you have done?

God told a man named Gideon to lead the army of Israel into battle with just 300 men. They were to fight against a great army of 135,000! God said, “Go and save Israel. I will be with you.”

Why would God want them to fight with so few men in their army? Gideon did not understand, but he did as God said. What would you have done?

Do you know why Moses, Joshua, and Gideon obeyed God? They obeyed because God made a promise to each of them. He said, “I will be with you.” They had faith in God’s words. They knew God would keep His promise.

God was with Moses, and he led the people out of Egypt.

God was with Joshua, and the waters of Jordan parted.

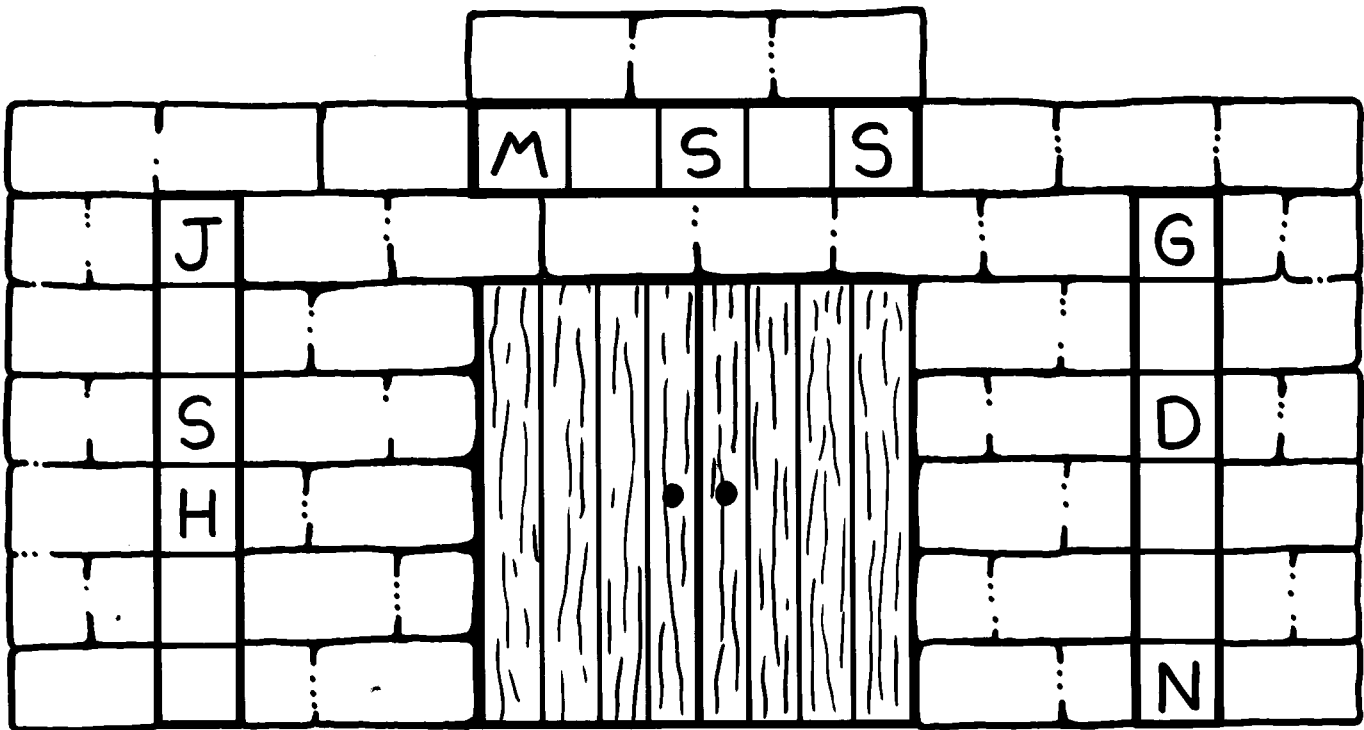
God was with Gideon, and his few men won the battle against the large army.

God has something for each of us to do. And no matter what it is or how difficult it looks, He promises to be with us.

Do you believe that God keeps His promises? Will you obey Him? What will you do?

Missing Vowels

On the wall below, fill in the vowels — A, E, I, O, U — to find the names of three men who worked for God. God promised to be with them.



Preparing for This Bible Lesson

Parent's Corner

Most children are subject to fears, among these the fear of separation or of being alone. It will be a real source of reassurance and comfort to your child to realize that God has promised to be with us. This lesson is about how God was with several notable characters of the Bible, and your child will learn that God will be with him also.

To illustrate that God is with us, even though we can't see Him, write your child an invisible message on a card. Use a clean pin or toothpick to write your message with lemon or grapefruit juice. Dip the pin in the juice after every three or four letters. Use matte (not shiny) paper so the juice soaks in and disappears.

To make the juice visible, help your child press the paper with a warm iron or move it around close to an electric light bulb. Heat makes the message appear. Point out that the words were there, even when your child couldn't see them, and in the same way, God is with us even when we can't see Him with our physical eyes.

Time Together for Family Devotions

Verses to help your child understand this Bible lesson.

SUNDAY: Matthew 28:20

MONDAY: Romans 8:28

TUESDAY: Exodus 19:5

WEDNESDAY: Ephesians 6:8

THURSDAY: Isaiah 1:19

FRIDAY: Psalm 16:11

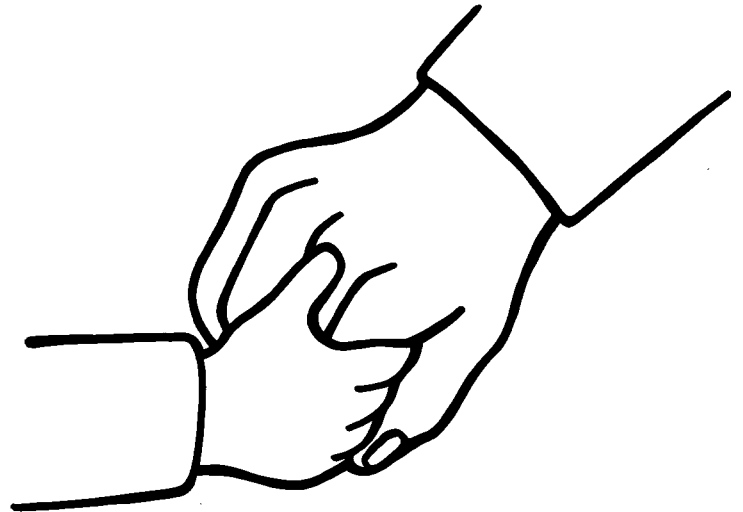
SATURDAY: Psalm 37:3

Bible Text

Exodus 3:10-12

Joshua 3:7

Judges 6:14-16



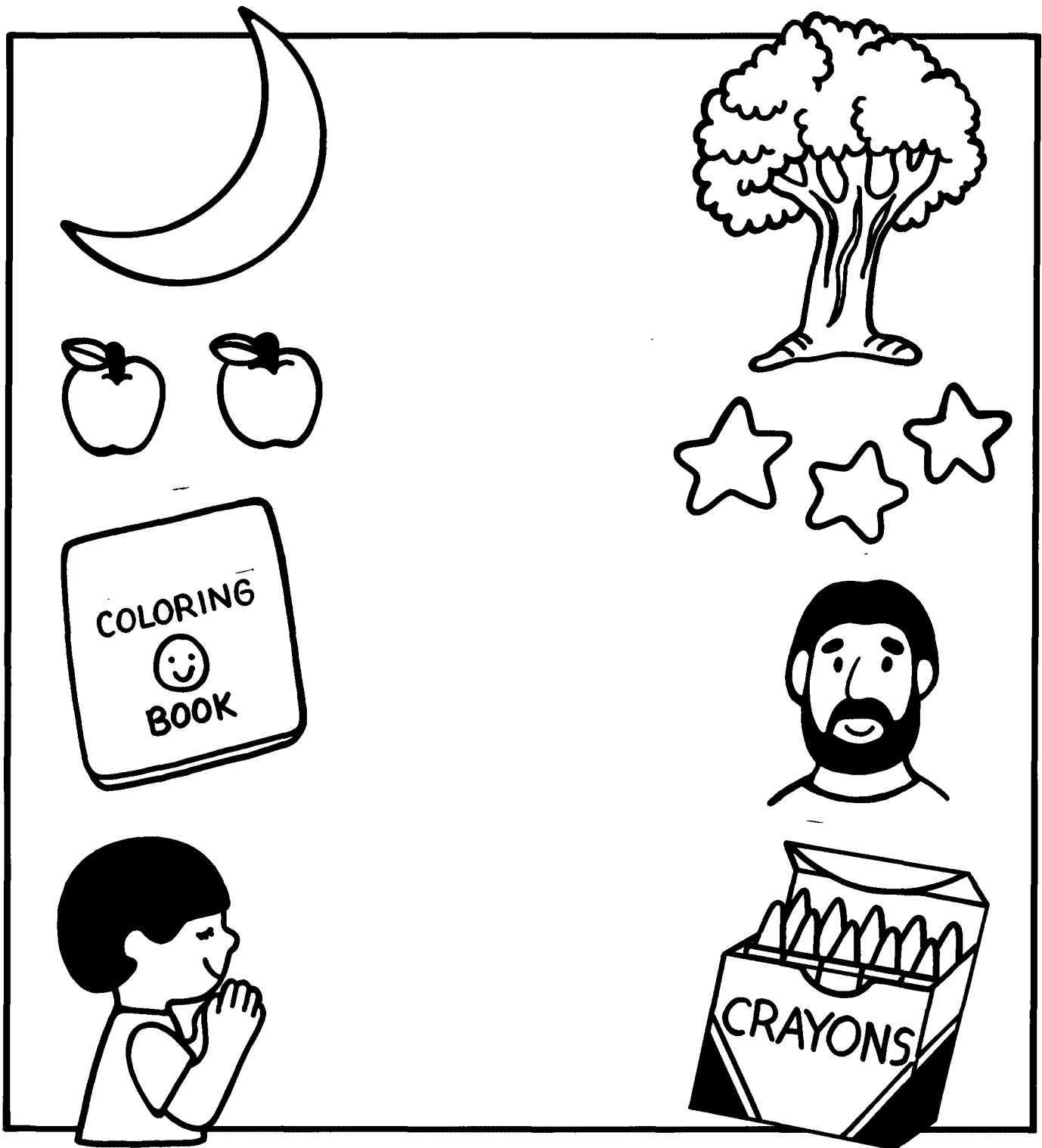
Memory Verse

Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world.

— Matthew 28:20

God Is With Us

Below are some things that work best when they are working together. Draw a line and match up the pairs of things that go together.



Name: _____

PUPPILARY PAIRS



The Best of Care

"Oh, Dad, is he really mine?" Dustin shouted with delight. He bent to scoop the wiggling puppy from the box on the floor. "This is the best birthday present ever!"

His dad grinned. "Yes, Dustin, he's all yours."

Dustin patted the puppy's head. "Dad, we'll have to build a little doghouse for him. And I'll get him his own feeding dish. And I want to get him a leather collar and a leash so I can take him for walks . . ."

"Hey, slow down!" his Dad chuckled. "I can see you're already full of plans for taking care of him. That's great,

because I was just going to tell you that this puppy will be all your responsibility. You will have to see that he is fed every day and that all his needs are taken care of."

"Oh, I will, Dad!" Dustin promised. "I'll take really good care of him."

Each morning, as soon as he was dressed, Dustin took his puppy for a walk. He carefully filled the puppy's dish with food and made sure he had plenty of water. He brushed him and played with him and even taught him some tricks. The puppy never needed to worry about anything.

Why did Dustin take such good care

of his puppy? That's easy to answer. It was because he loved him. Dustin promised to give his puppy food and water and everything he needed. And he kept his promise.

Did you know that God has promised to take care of you? He has promised to give you what you need. You don't have to be worried about whether you will have food to eat, or a place to sleep, or clothes to wear.

Jesus told us to look at the birds and to see how well God takes care of them. The birds never worry about

food because God always makes sure they have something to eat.

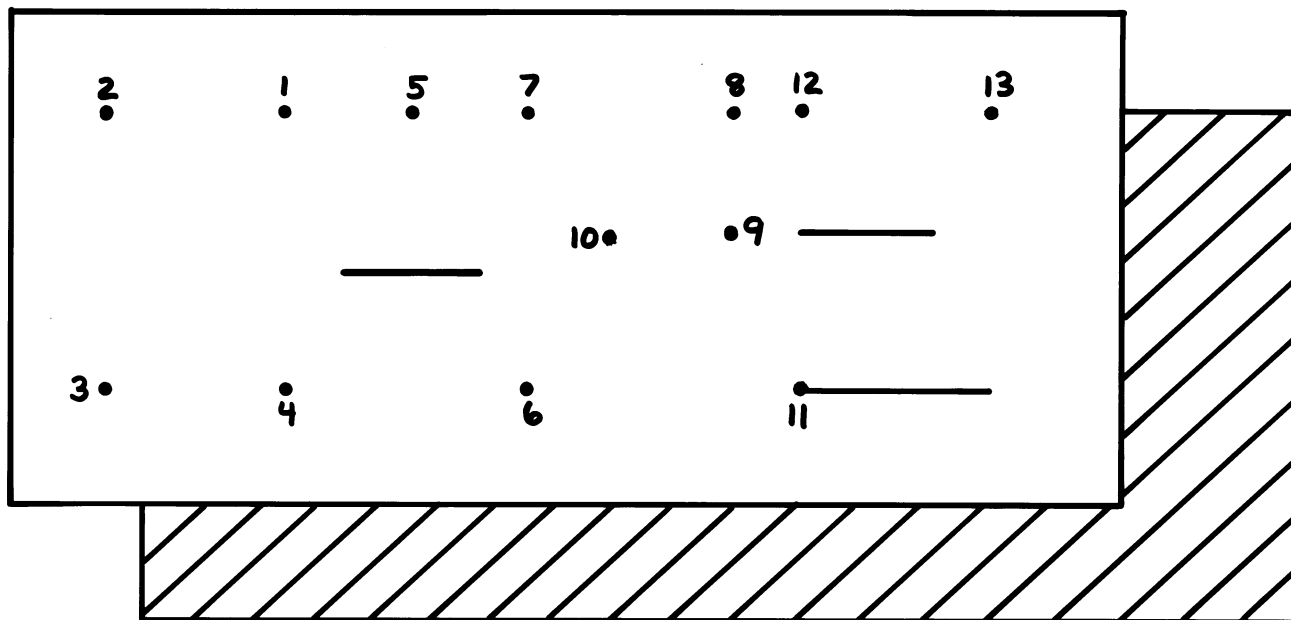
What about the beautiful flowers in the field, the lilies? Jesus told us they just grow where they are planted and never worry about how they do it. Yet they are more beautiful than even King Solomon when he was dressed in his most beautiful robe and crown.

God promised in the Bible that if we would love Him and try to do the things that make Him happy, He would take care of all our needs.

God always keeps His promises.

Dot to Dot

Below is a word which tells what God promises to do for those who seek Him with all their hearts. Connect the dots to see what that word is.



Preparing for This Bible Lesson

Parent's Corner

In this lesson your child will be studying God's promise to take care of our physical needs when we seek Him and make Him most important in our lives. While he perhaps has never thought about this in specific terms, he needs to recognize that whatever we have is the provision of God.

To visualize this thought, provide him with the materials needed to make a collage illustrating some of the gifts God has given us. Title the collage, "God Provides My Needs," placing these words in large, block letters on a sheet of heavy paper or posterboard. Around the words, let him paste pictures cut from magazines or catalogs showing things God gives us.

Time Together for Family Devotions

Verses to help your child understand this Bible lesson.

SUNDAY: Matthew 6:33

MONDAY: Psalm 34:7,8

TUESDAY: John 16:33

WEDNESDAY: II Timothy 1:12

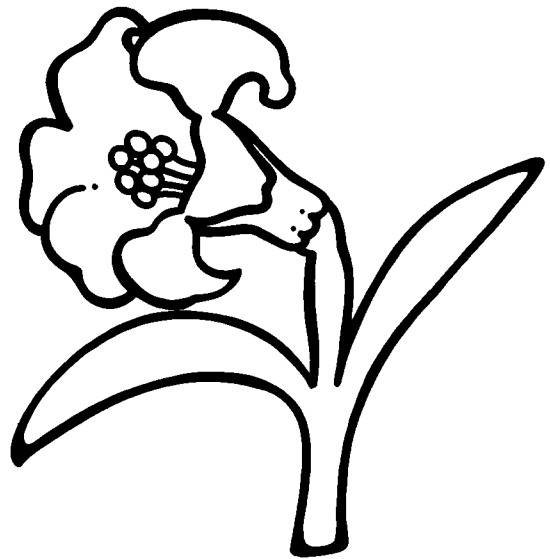
THURSDAY: I Peter 5:7

FRIDAY: Isaiah 41:10

SATURDAY: Psalm 68:19

Bible Text

Matthew 6:25-34

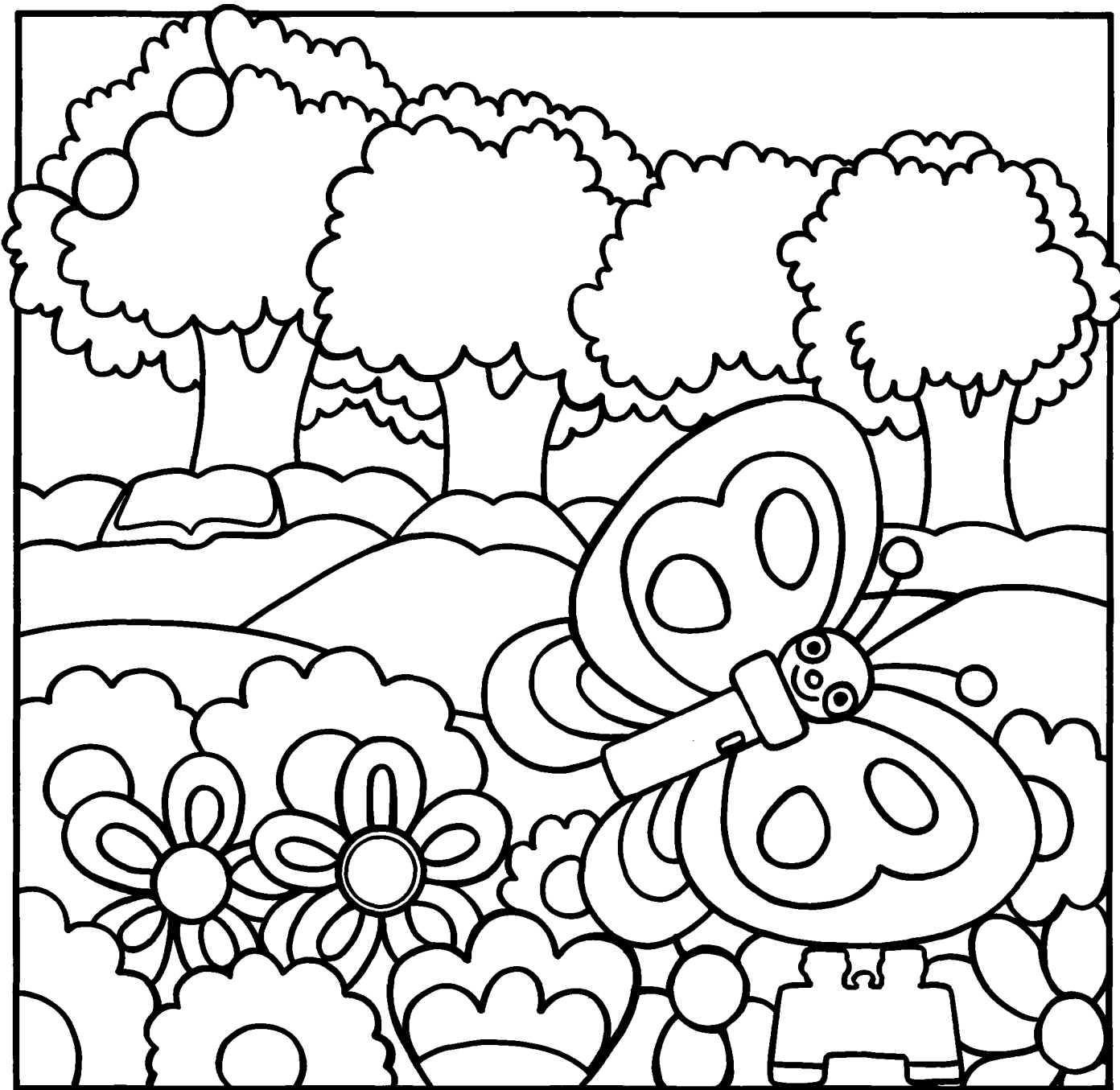


Memory Verse

Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. — Matthew 6:33

God's Care

Hidden in the picture below are some objects that help you when you are looking for things. As you find each object, tell what it might help you to find; for example, a flashlight helps you find your way in the dark. The hidden objects are: flashlight, magnifying glass, glasses, Bible, binoculars.



Name: _____



A Real Winner

“Mom! Mom, I won!” Jeremy shouted as he ran up the front steps.

“Jeremy, that’s great!” his mother said. “You have been practicing so hard for this race.”

“Look! Here’s the mitt I won! Isn’t it super?” The words tumbled out of Jeremy as he waved the mitt in the air.

“Wow, that’s really a nice one!” his mother exclaimed.

“Besides the mitt, my name will be put on an award and hung on the wall at school!” Jeremy went on. “Please, may I go over to Tim’s house and tell him that I won?”

As soon as his mother said yes, he was out the door. He could hardly wait to tell his cousin. He knew Tim would be proud of him.

Tim was eleven years older than Jeremy, but he had always listened when Jeremy shared the important things with him — things like camping, new puppies, and even this race.

“Hey, that’s great,” Tim exclaimed when he had heard the news. “Who came in second place?”

Jeremy answered, “Mary Jo did.” He stopped, then went on. “But she wasn’t happy. In fact, she cried. She

was just a second or so too late. I felt so bad for her. She tried real hard. I used to see her practicing whenever I was running in the park. It's too bad everybody can't win."

They sat quietly for a while then Jeremy asked, "Tim, why is there always just one winner? Everyone works so hard and then just the winner feels good. You'd think they would make different rules so everyone could feel this happy."

"That would be nice, Jer, but that's not the way life is," Tim replied. "Hey,

I know of a race where everybody who crosses the finish line will be a winner. The race to Heaven!"

"Oh, Tim, I'm talking about a race where you run every day to keep in shape," argued Jeremy. "One where you win a prize at the end."

"That's what you do in the race to Heaven," Tim said. "If you want to reach Heaven, you must love Jesus and obey Him all the time. And if you do that, Jesus has promised you a prize at the end — you will live with Him in Heaven forever!"

Hidden Words

Find and circle the hidden words in the puzzle below.

RUN
LIFE
LOVE
RACE
CROWN
GLORY
PRIZE
WATCH
ENDURE
RIGHTEOUS

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

Preparing for This Bible Lesson

Parent's Corner

Children of primary age are very tuned in to rewards, so this lesson will be of great interest to them. We will learn that each one who is saved and in the "race" toward Heaven has been promised a reward if he finishes the race.

Your child will learn that to stay in the race takes effort, but one of the rewards promised is a crown, and to illustrate this, allow your child to make lollipop crowns for each member of your family. Purchase flat lollipops, and draw a simple, crown pattern a little larger than the candy. Let your child use this pattern to draw paper crowns which can be colored and decorated however he wishes. Have him cut them out and tape them to the lollipops. Encourage him to present the lollipops to the family after dinner time, with an explanation of what they represent.

Time Together for Family Devotions

Verses to help your child understand this Bible lesson.

SUNDAY: I Peter 5:4

MONDAY: Matthew 10:42

TUESDAY: Philippians 3:14

WEDNESDAY: Colossians 3:23,24

THURSDAY: I John 2:25

FRIDAY: Revelation 22:14

SATURDAY: Hebrews 11:6

Bible Text

I Corinthians 9:24-26

Hebrews 12:1,2

II Timothy 4:7,8

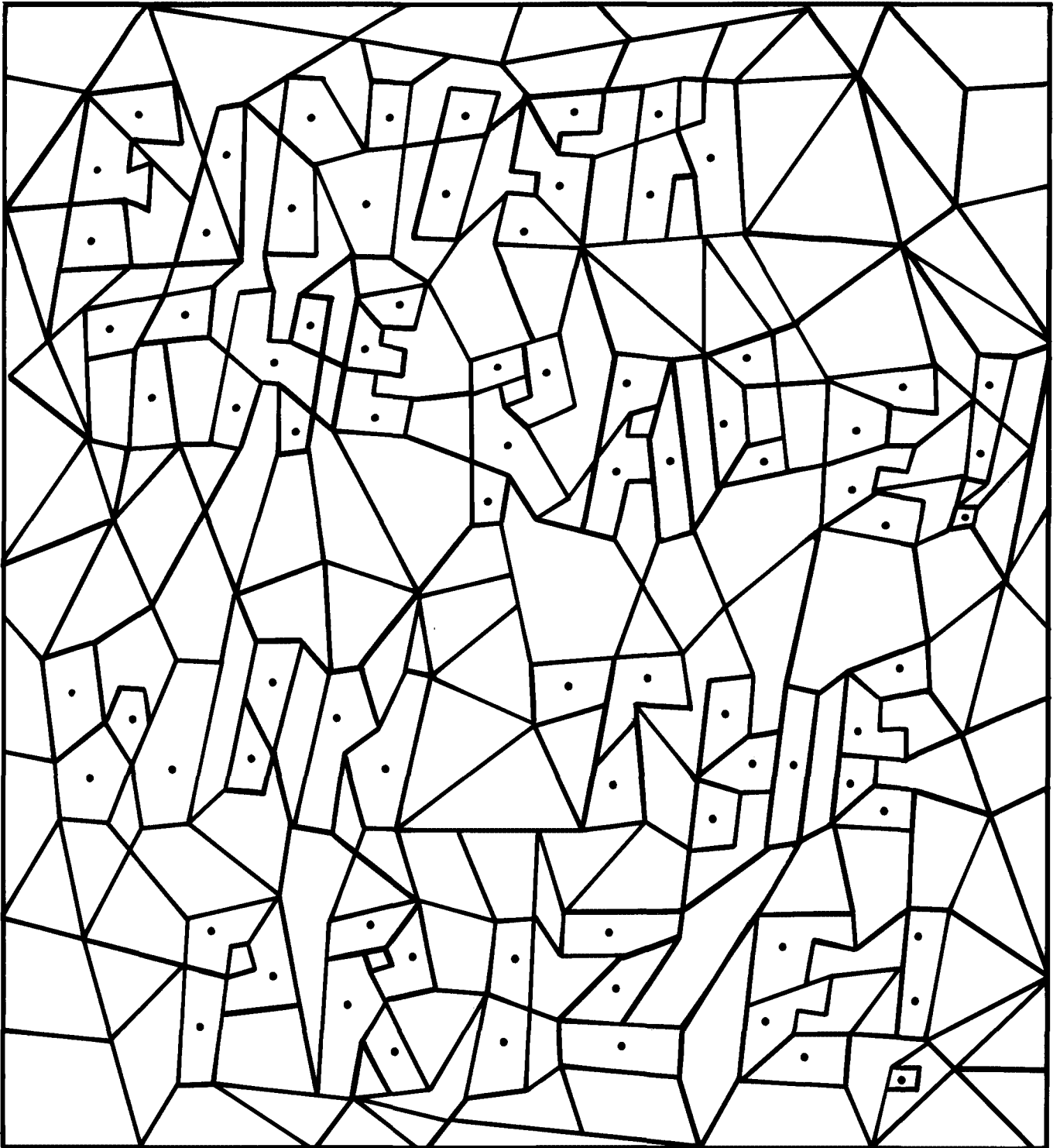


Memory Verse

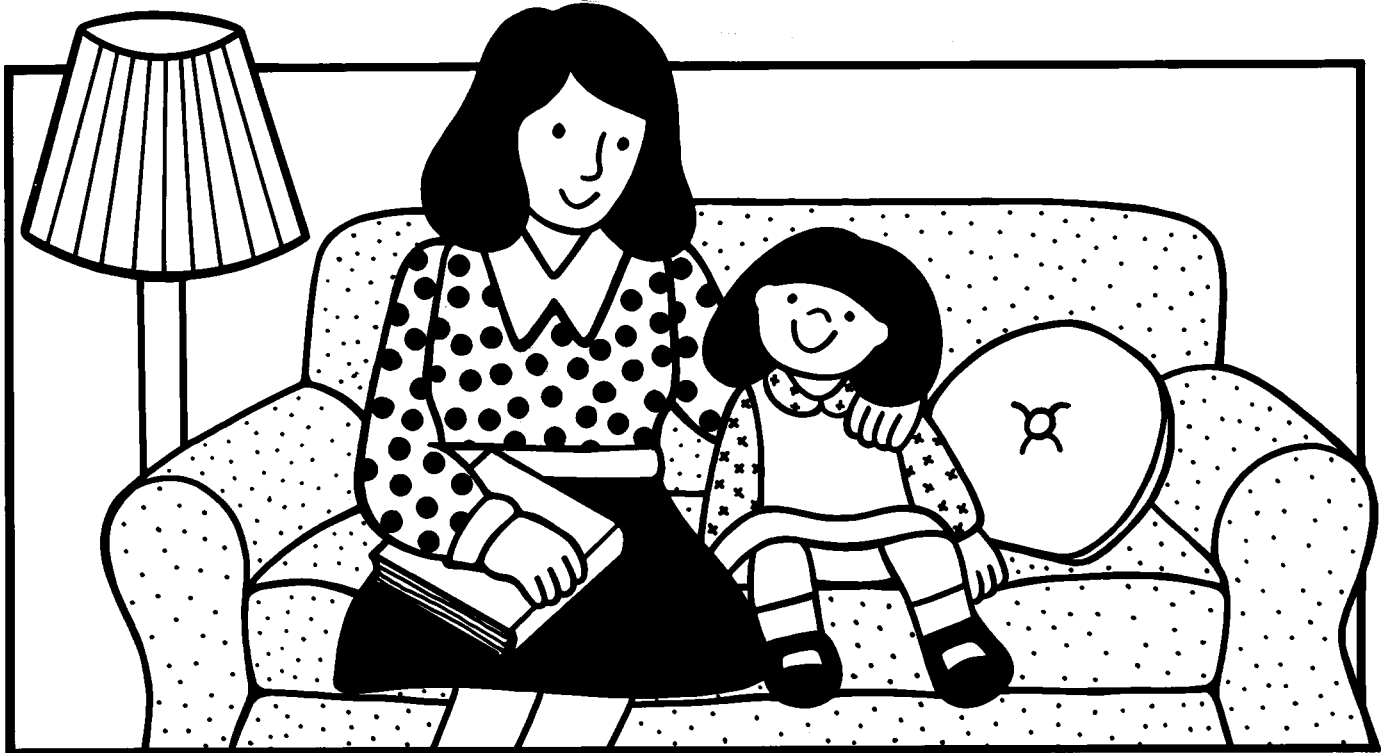
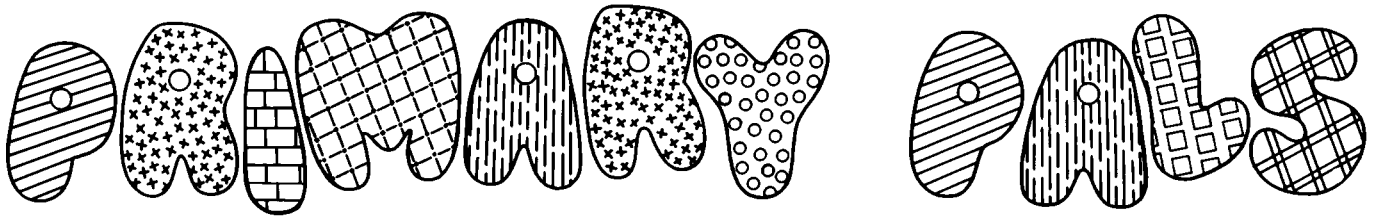
Ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away. — I Peter 5:4

Run the Race

Color the spaces with the dots inside. Find out what Jesus wants you to do.



Name: _____



A Real Princess

“A princess,” Christy whispered to herself. “Oh, how wonderful that would be.”

She was thinking of the story her mother had just read to her. It was about a little princess who was loved by everyone.

“Mommy, I wish Daddy were a king so I could be a princess,” Christy said. “I would wear a crown made of diamonds. My robe would be pure white with lots and lots of lace and ribbon. We could all live in a beautiful palace.”

Her mother gave her a big hug and said, “Christy, you are a princess.”

“Me? A princess? Mommy, how can that be? Are you sure?” Christy asked.

“I am very sure,” her mother replied. “Remember, Jesus is the King. When you told Him you loved Him and you were sorry for your sins, you became His child. He made you a real princess.”

“But what about a palace to live in and . . .” Christy started.

“Wait, I’m not through,” said her mother. “Jesus said He would prepare a place for you — a mansion. There will be many beautiful things for you in Heaven.”

“He promised that someday He will

come back to earth. When He does, He will take you and all the rest of His princesses and princes to Heaven. You will live with Him forever!"

"Did He really promise that, Mommy? When will He come back? When will He take us to Heaven?" Christy wanted to know.

"We don't know the exact time when He is coming back," her mother answered. "The Bible tells us that Jesus said, 'Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth

come.' To *watch* means that we must always obey God's Word. And we must love other people and tell them that Jesus is coming back someday. We need to tell them that they must pray now if they want to be ready to go to Heaven with Jesus.

"And even though we don't know when He will return, we do know that Jesus will come again because He always keeps His promise. We just need to make sure we are ready when He comes."

Jesus Will Return

God has promised us that Jesus will come again. God always keeps His promises. Fill in the missing words from the verse below.

ALL
NOT
LORD
WORD
PROMISE

Blessed be the _____ . . . there hath

_____ failed one _____ of

_____ his good _____.

— I Kings 8:56

Preparing for This Bible Lesson

Parent's Corner

The final promise of God to be studied in this unit is one which has not yet been fulfilled. Still, your child should be assured that it will come to pass just as surely as the other promises in God's Word. This is God's promise that He will come again to this earth, and one of the most important points your child needs to learn in Sunday school is the necessity of being ready for this event.

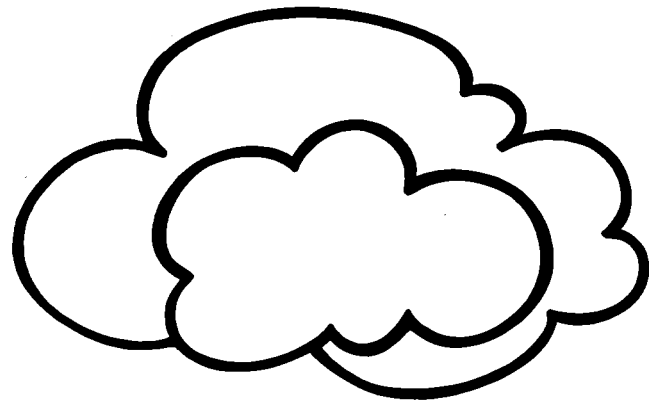
The Bible tells us that Christ's second coming will take place as quickly as a flash of lightning, and this thought is also brought out in our memory verse for this lesson. To visualize this thought, help your child draw several bolts of lightning on a paper or styrofoam tray (the type used by butchers for packing meat). Poke holes at regular intervals around the lines with a thick nail.

Reinforce the end of a length of yellow or orange yarn with a piece of tape, and let your child sew around the design. If he wishes, he could fill in the outline with crayons or marking pens.

Time Together for Family Devotions

Verses to help your child understand this Bible lesson.

SUNDAY: Matthew 24:27
MONDAY: Matthew 26:64
TUESDAY: I Thessalonians 4:17
WEDNESDAY: Luke 21:27
THURSDAY: Colossians 3:4
FRIDAY: I John 3:2
SATURDAY: II Timothy 4:8



Bible Text

John 14:1-3
I Corinthians 15:51-53
Acts 1:9-11; Matthew 24:27-31

Memory Verse

For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. — Matthew 24:27

Are You Ready?

We must have clean hearts if we want to go to Heaven. The people below, all want to go to Heaven but only some of them are ready. Circle the ones who will not go to Heaven when Jesus comes.



Name: _____