

Chapter 47

Jesus Enters Jerusalem

**Memory Verse**

Hosanna!...Blessed is the king! John 12:13

**Story to Share**

There were many people in Jerusalem. It was time for them to come to the Passover feast. This is when all the Jews came together to celebrate special things God had done for them. Jesus knew it was time to go to Jerusalem. When he was close to the town, he asked his disciples to go get a donkey that would be waiting for them and bring it back.



When the people heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, they were very excited. They had heard all the amazing things Jesus had done. Some believed he was God's son, some believed he was a great teacher. A big crowd laid their coats on the ground in front of where Jesus would walk on the donkey. Others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. They held palm branches to wave. Many people lined up along the streets to see Jesus.

Soon, Jesus rode into the city on the donkey. The people shouted, "Hosanna! Blessed is the king!" They praised Jesus and waved the palm branches. Then they shouted some more, "Hosanna! Blessed is the king!" It meant they were excited and joyful that he was there. They believed Jesus would save them from all the bad leaders that made their life hard. Jesus was there to help them be close to God.

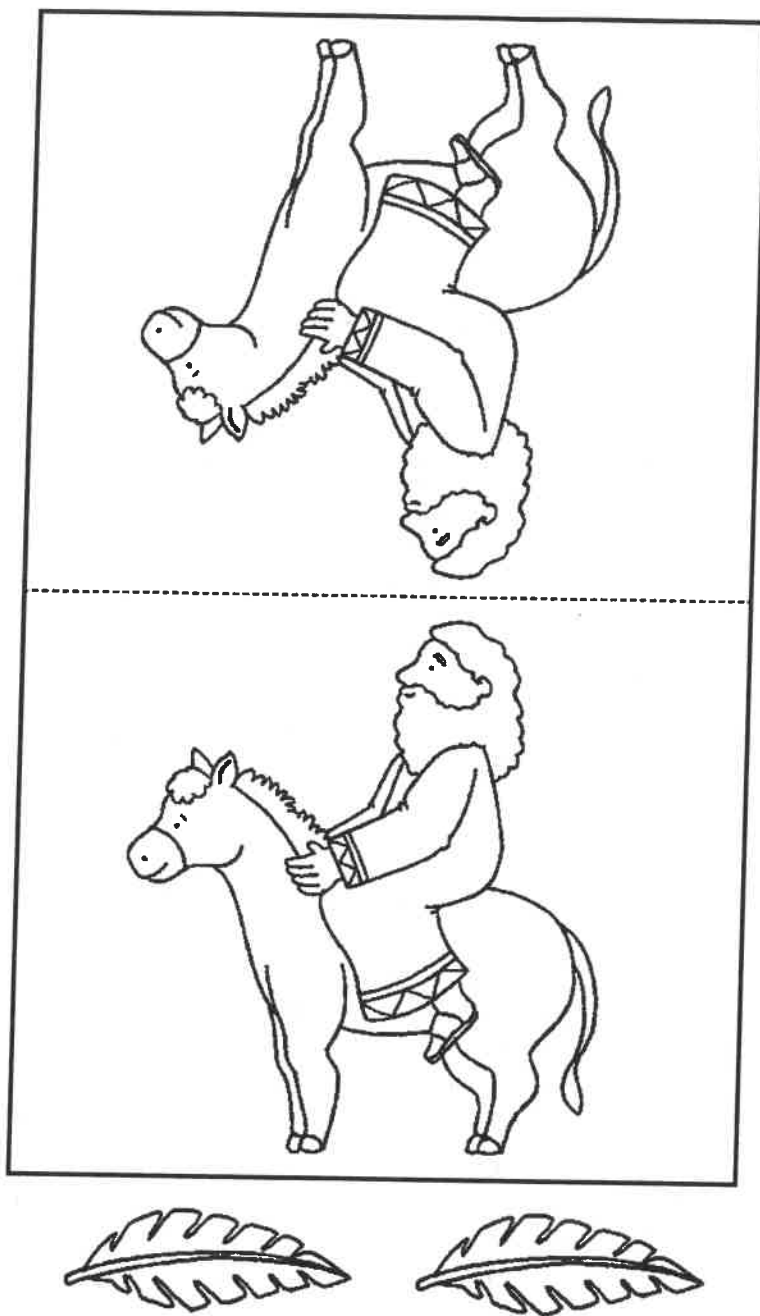
—based on John 12:12-15

**Discussion Questions**

1. What did people wave when Jesus came into town?
2. What did the people shout?
3. Who is the king?
4. What was Jesus riding on?

Read story from
Spark Story Bible
p. 358

Praising Jesus



Materials: •duplicated page •green construction paper

Directions: 1. Before class, cut out and color the picture. Cut a few palm leaves from green paper. 2. Fold the picture in half at the dashed lines. 3. As you tell the story, move the Jesus stand-up along the table. Place some palm leaves on the table close to Jesus. 4. Allow the children to make their own Jesus figure and reenact the story with you.

Another Idea: Attach a length of crepe paper to the front of each donkey. Let the children pull their donkeys around the room. Say, Jesus came to Jerusalem riding on a donkey. The people praised him.



"Hosanna!...Blessed is the king!" John 12:13

Spinning Praiser

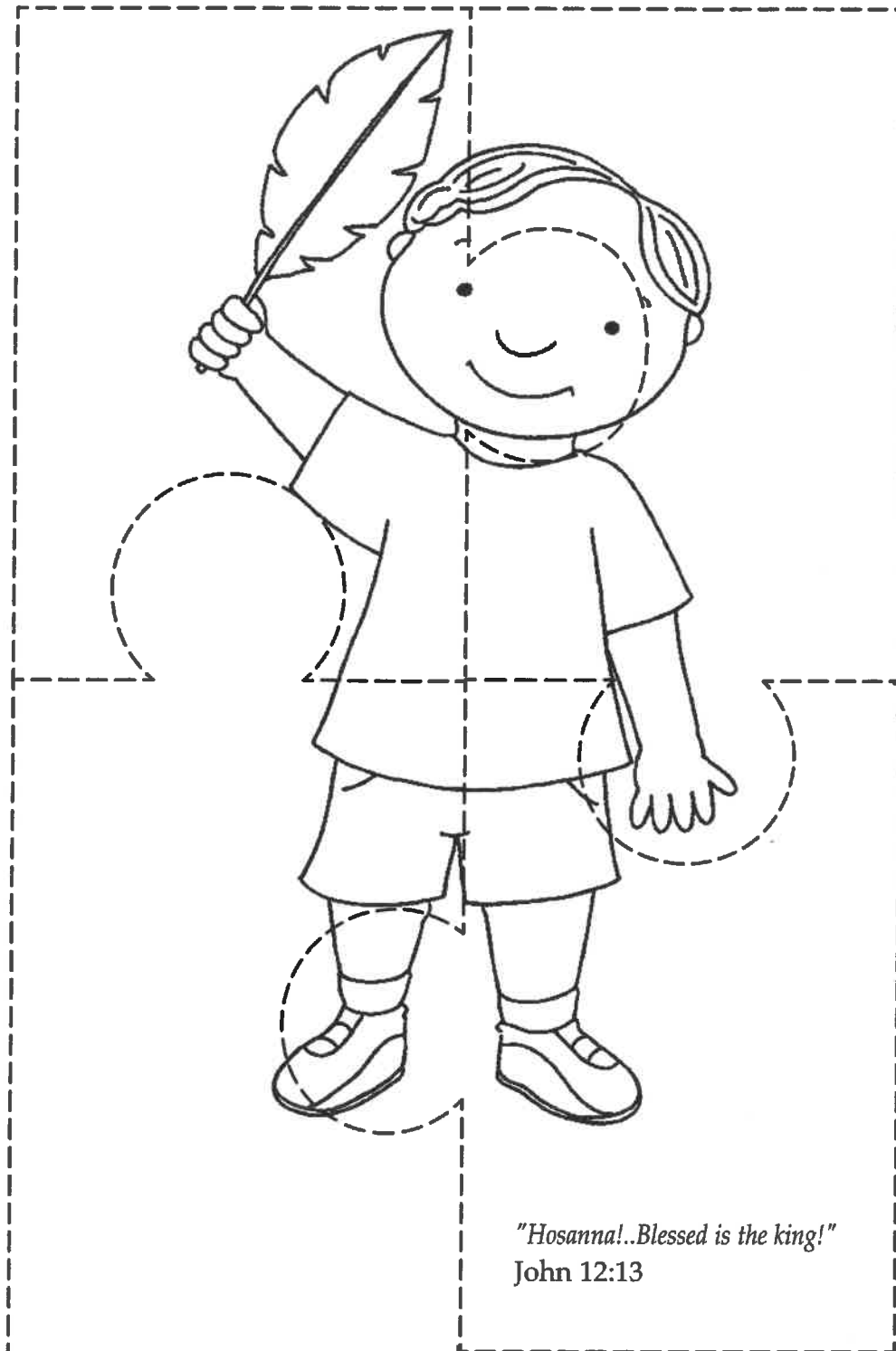
Hosanna!...Blessed is the king!
John 12:13



Materials: •duplicated page •paper towel tubes •green construction paper •tape

Directions: 1. Before class, duplicate and cut out the verse strip from the page for each child. Cut four 1" x 11" strips of green paper for each child. 2. Show how to tape one strip of green paper to four places along the top edge of the tube. Bend each strip back a little, so they point outward. 3. Show how to tape the verse strip around the tube, about halfway up. 4. Show the children how to roll the tube in their hands to make it spin. Say, See how the praiser spins? We can use our spinning praisers to praise Jesus.

Praise Puzzle



Materials: •duplicated page on card stock •crayons •letter envelopes •clear, self-stick plastic

Directions: 1. As the children color the picture, read the Scripture to them. 2. Cover the puzzles with clear, self-stick plastic and cut them apart at the dashed lines. 3. Help the children reassemble their puzzles. 4. Give each child an envelope to carry home the puzzle.

Jesus Enters Jerusalem

Luke 19:28-40



Jesus Clears the Temple Court



Memory Verse

"Have reverence for my sanctuary." Leviticus 19:30



Story to Share

Jesus was visiting Jerusalem. The first place he went was the temple.

As Jesus stood and looked into the temple courtyard he was shocked at what he saw.

There were people everywhere, and not only people who were coming to God's house to worship him. There were people who were selling animals needed for sacrifices.

"No, no," Jesus heard. "I can't sell you that lamb for so little. You must give me more."

"I don't have more to give you," begged the man who needed the sacrifice. "You are already charging more than I have to give."

Everywhere Jesus turned there was another table with cattle and oxen to be sold. He became angry when he realized that the poor people were going away even poorer because of these greedy people. The poor people had come to the temple to worship God; instead they had their money cheated away from them.

"Get out!" yelled Jesus above the noise of the crowd. "Get out of my house!"

What confusion! What noise! Some of the cattle got loose, birds escaped from their cages and flew around the people's heads, and sheep were "baa"-ing frantically as they tried to escape from the confusion.

Jesus ran to each of the moneychanger's tables and turned them over. The clanking of coins spilling was heard with the other noise. "This house belongs to my Father," He said. "It is a place to pray but you have made it into a den of robbers."

Jesus didn't stop until all of the livestock-sellers were out of the temple. Shaking his head, Jesus said, "What disrespect for the house of God!" Looking around at those who had come to worship, he continued, "Have respect for the temple. This will make me and my Father happy."



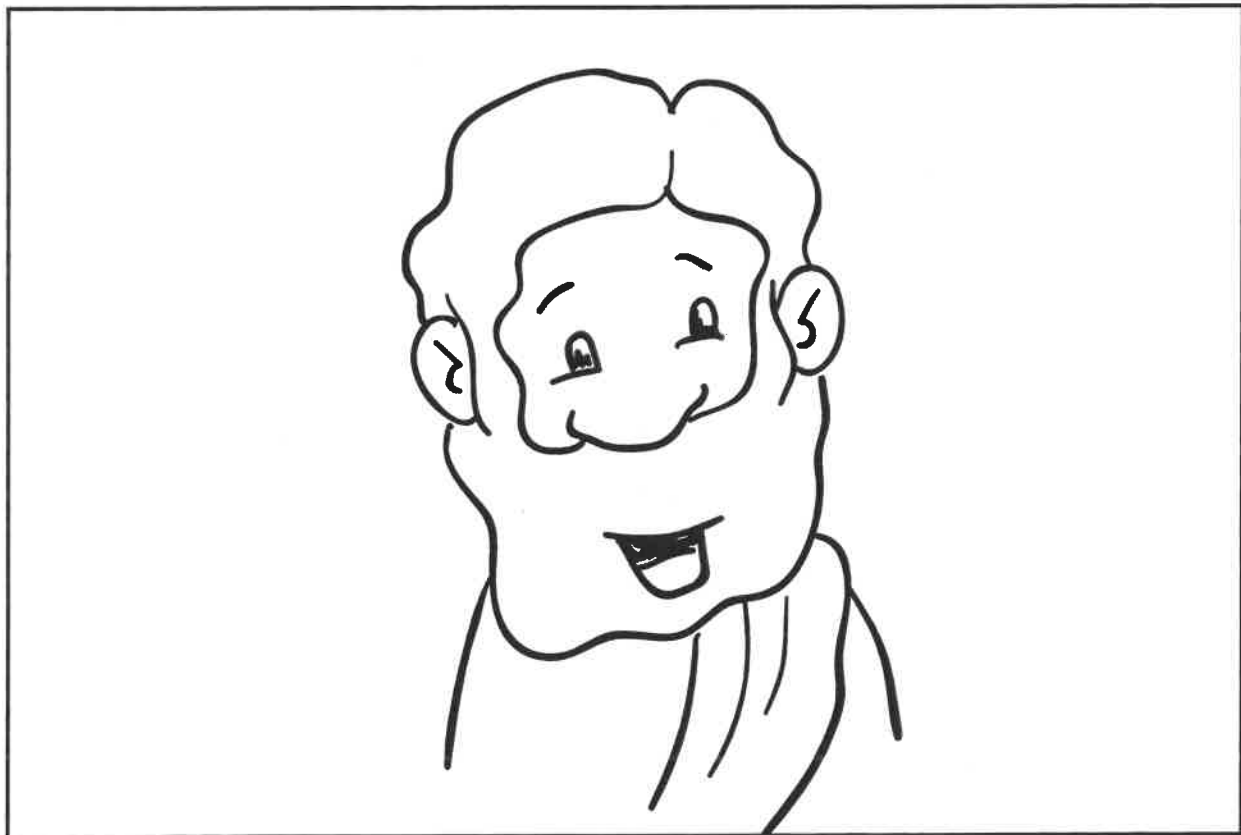
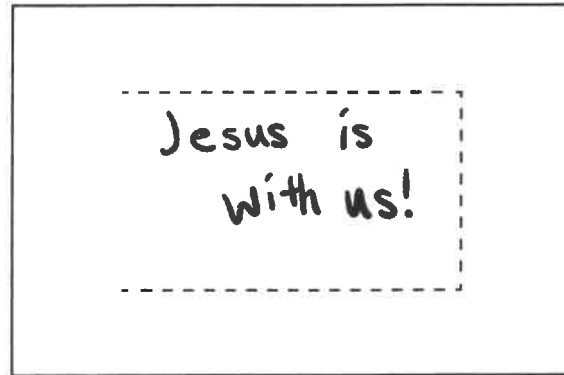
Discussion Questions

1. What is our name for the temple?
2. How should you behave in church?

— based on John 2:13-16

No Bible story
Please read
story from this
sheet

Lift the Flap Story Picture

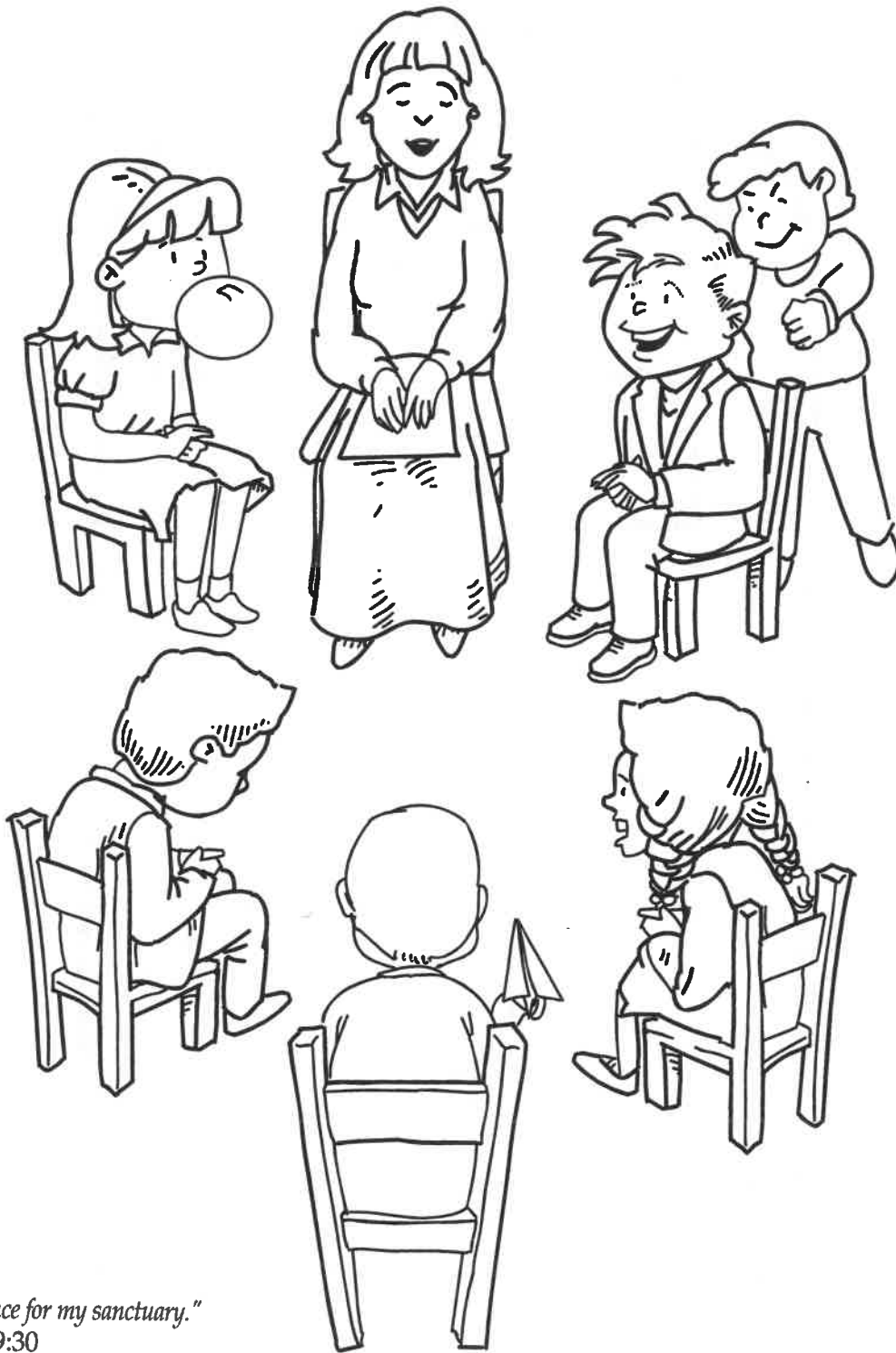


Materials: •duplicated page •construction paper •glue •crayons

Directions: 1. Duplicate a story picture for each child. 2. Cut construction paper sheets in half. Cut a three-sided door in a construction paper half for each child. Print "Jesus is with us" on the door. 3. Give each child a picture to color. Instruct the children to glue the pictures to the uncut half sheets of construction paper. 4. Assist the children in gluing the cut papers to the pictures along the edges. Show the children how to open the doors to see the pictures.

What to Say: Jesus was with the disciples when they worshipped together. Jesus is with us, today, while we worship together, too. We can feel his presence in our hearts.

Respectful Students

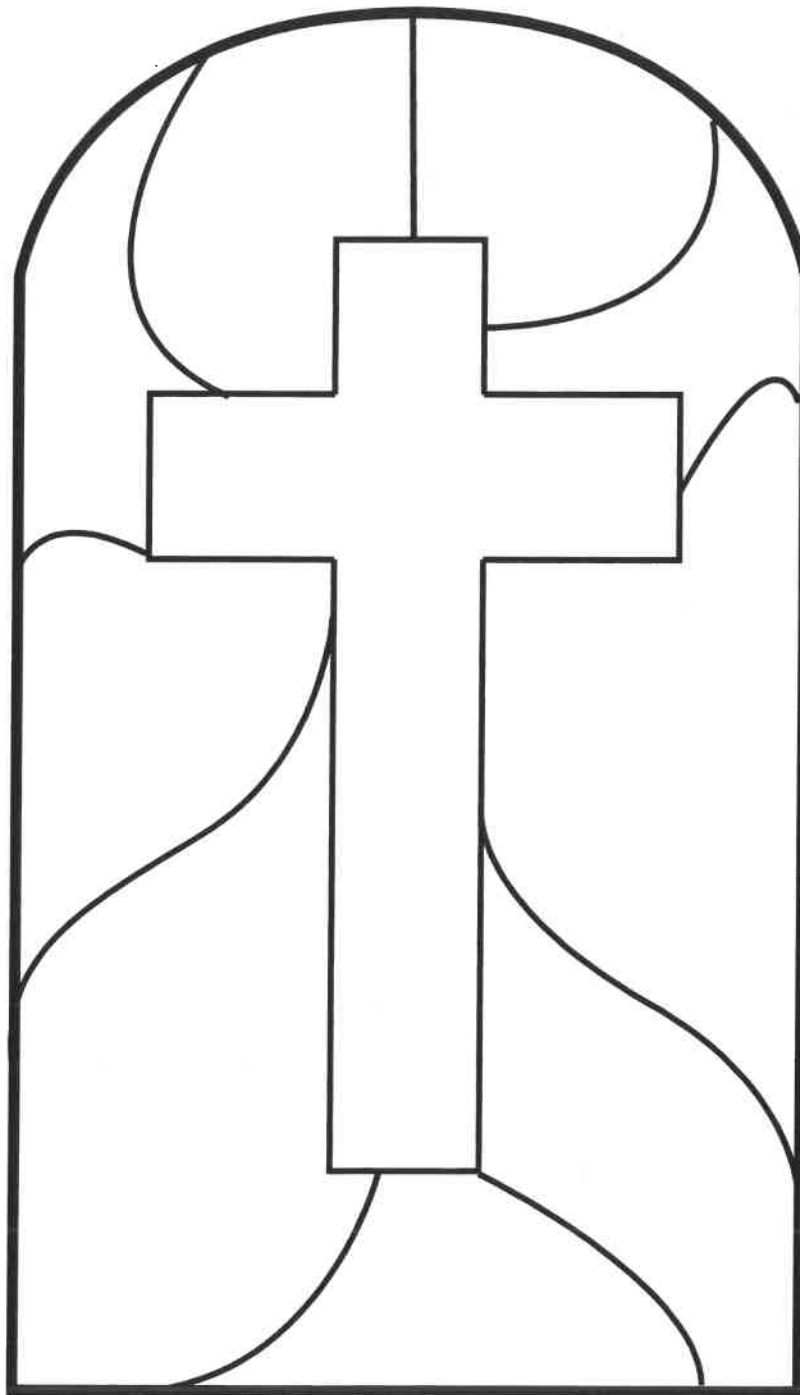


"Have reverence for my sanctuary."
Leviticus 19:30

Materials: •activity sheet •crayons

Directions: 1. Before class, duplicate the activity sheet for each child. 2. Say, Oops, I see some children who aren't respecting God's house. 3. Instruct the students to draw an X on the children misbehaving. 4. Allow them to color the picture.

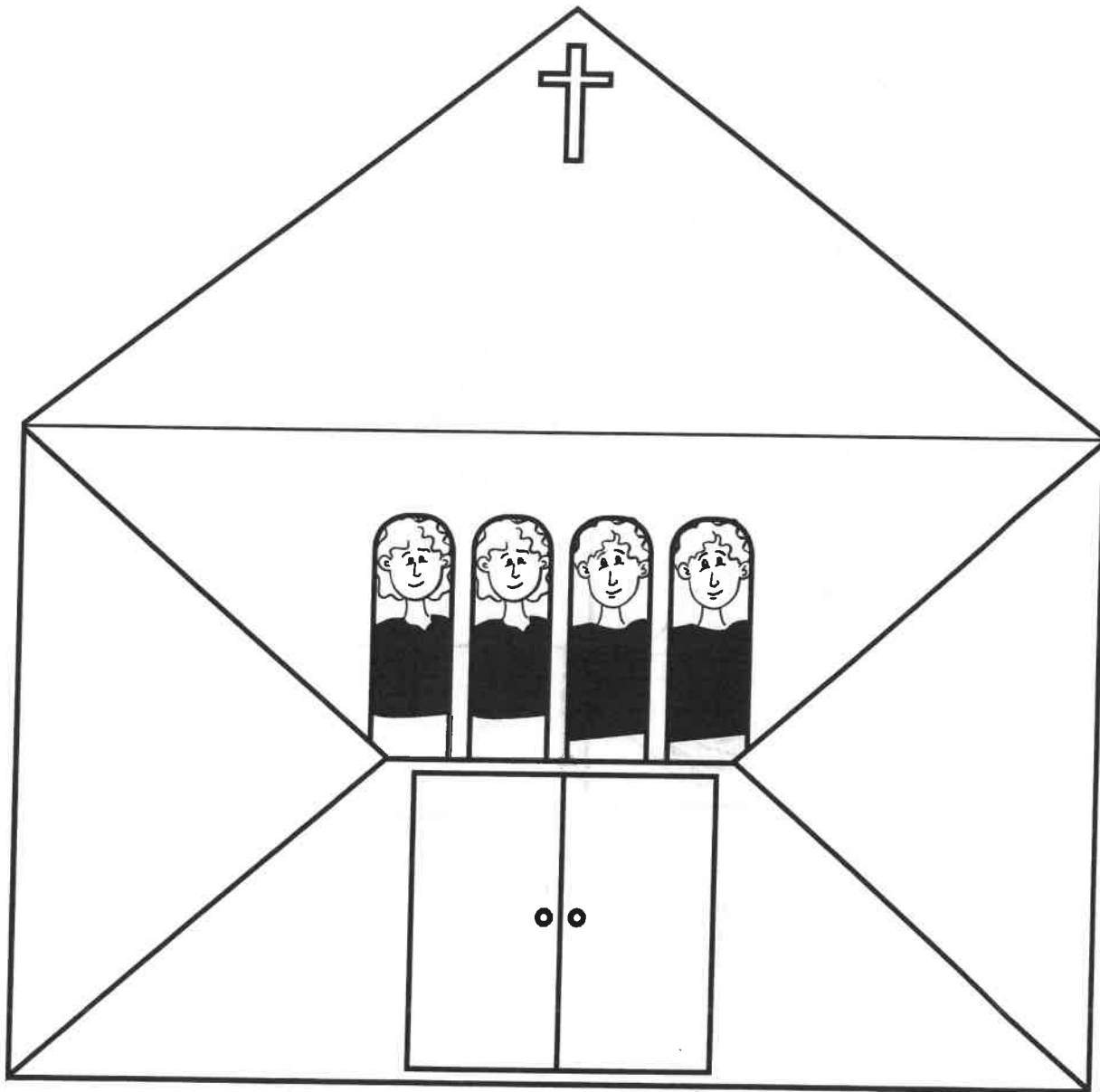
Church Windows



Materials: •church window •crayons •paper towels •cooking oil •needle and thread

Directions: 1. Before class, duplicate a church window for each child. 2. Allow the children to color the window, instructing them to press down hard on the crayons. 3. Show how to dip the paper towel in oil and rub it over the window. The oil will give the window a shiny effect. 4. Insert a thread at the top of each child's sheet for hanging.

Our Church Family



Materials: • Envelops • tongue depressors • markers • construction paper

Directions: 1. Gather one envelop and four tongue depressors per child. 2. Glue the envelop open to a piece of construction paper cut bigger than the envelop. 3. Show the children how to draw a cross on top of the envelop and a door. 4. Have children draw faces and clothes on their tongue depressors and place them in the envelop.

What to say: God wants us to come to church with our family and friends. When we come we need to be respectful.

I Want to Be Good

Oh, I want to be a good friend, a good friend, a good friend,
Oh, I want to be a good friend, good friend in God's house.

I'll zip up my lips

(zipping motion)

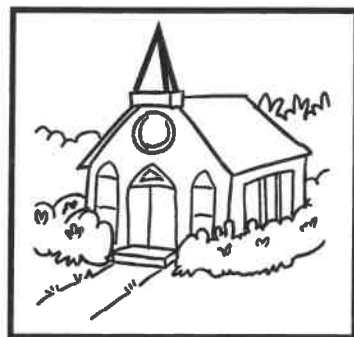
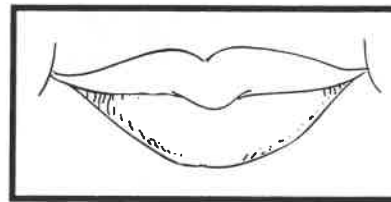
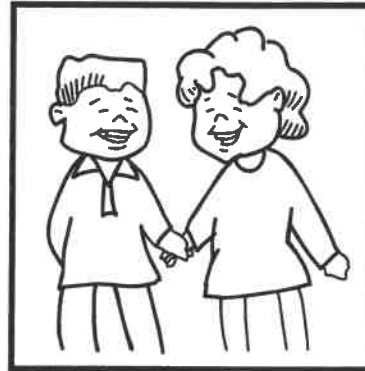
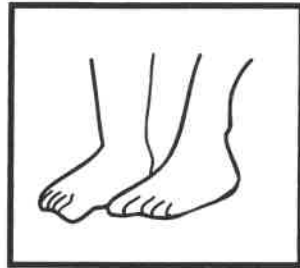
Put my hands on my lap

(lay hands in lap)

And my feet will keep together
so my neighbor can hear.

(put feet together)

(cup hands behind ears)



Materials: •song visuals •colored paper or markers •self-stick hook-and-loop tape •flannel board

Directions: 1. Cut out and color in the visuals for the song or duplicate them on colored paper.
2. Put a piece of hook-and-loop tape on the back of each one so it will adhere to a flannel board.
3. Sing the song to the tune of "The More We Get Together." 4. Allow the children to take turns placing the visuals on the flannel board.

Usage: This song can be sung at the beginning of each lesson to remind the children of the right way to behave in God's house.

Jesus Clears the Temple Court



REMEMBER ME

Lesson 3
March 15

The Bible

Luke 22:7-20

Do this in memory of me.
(Luke 22:19,
Good News Translation)

SUPPLIES

crayons
markers
glue
purple and
brown
tissue
paper

by Elizabeth Parr

Bible story

Jesus and his friends were having a special meal together to celebrate Passover. Passover was a special time of celebration and remembering.

As Jesus and his friends ate together, Jesus held up a cup of grape juice. He thanked God for the juice. He asked his friends to drink from the cup and to remember him.

"Remember me, remember me."

Were words that Jesus said.

"Remember me, remember me."

Come, share the juice and bread.

Jesus also lifted up the bread. He thanked God for the bread. He asked his friends to eat the bread and to remember him.

"Remember me, remember me."

Were words that Jesus said.

"Remember me, remember me."

Come, share the juice and bread.

After they finished eating, Jesus and his friends sang a song together. The disciples knew that Jesus loved them. They would always remember Jesus and his love.

"Remember me, remember me."

Were words that Jesus said.

"Remember me, remember me."

Come, share the juice and bread.

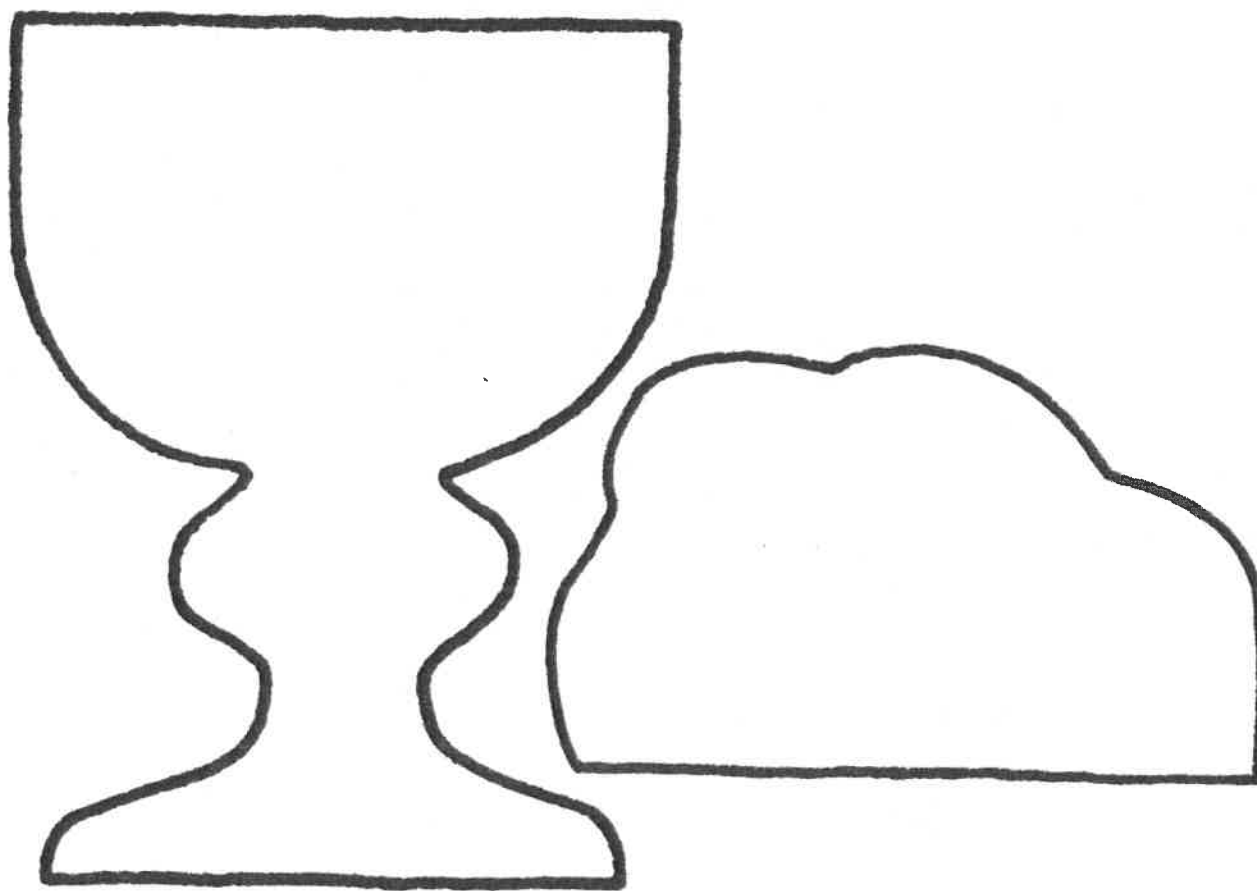
creative fun

Make a copy of the Bible verse poster for each child. Let the children color the words of the verse. Have them glue small pieces of purple tissue paper on the cup and brown tissue paper on the bread.

Spark Story
Bible

P. 364

Do this in
memory
of me.



Luke 22:19, Good News Translation



Jesus' Last Supper

Chapter 37

The Lord's Prayer



Memory Verse

"Pray to your Father." Matthew 6:6



Story to Share

Jesus sat on a hillside so all the people could see him. Many people came to listen to Jesus. Jesus taught people all around him. He told them about heaven. He taught people how to be children of God. He even taught people how to pray.

"Don't be like some," Jesus said. "that pray loud so people will see them praying to God. Pray to God the Father. He knows what you need before you even ask him." You should be in some place quiet so that you can talk to God.

Jesus said a prayer to show the people how to pray. "This is how you pray. Our Father in heaven, great is your name. Please give me what I need today. Forgive me for the wrong things I have done. Help me forgive people who do bad things to me. Help me not do bad things." Then he told the people to forgive others, just as God had forgiven them. That is how Jesus wants us to pray.



Discussion Questions

1. Who taught the people how to pray?
2. Whom should we pray to?
3. What does God know even before we ask him?

Spark Story
Bible

P 246

Beautiful Sights!



"I lift up my eyes to you." Psalm 123:1

Materials: •activity sheet •small wiggly eyes •glue •crayons

Directions: 1. Say, Look at the beautiful flowers! If you look closely at the activity sheet, you can see five animals looking at you. 2. Instruct the students to glue the wiggly eyes to the animals they find and to then color the page.

Usage: It would be helpful to count out the ten eyes and put them in film cases or other small containers for each student. Make sure you have extras for lost eyes!

Hinged Picture



Materials: •this page and page 187, duplicated •tape

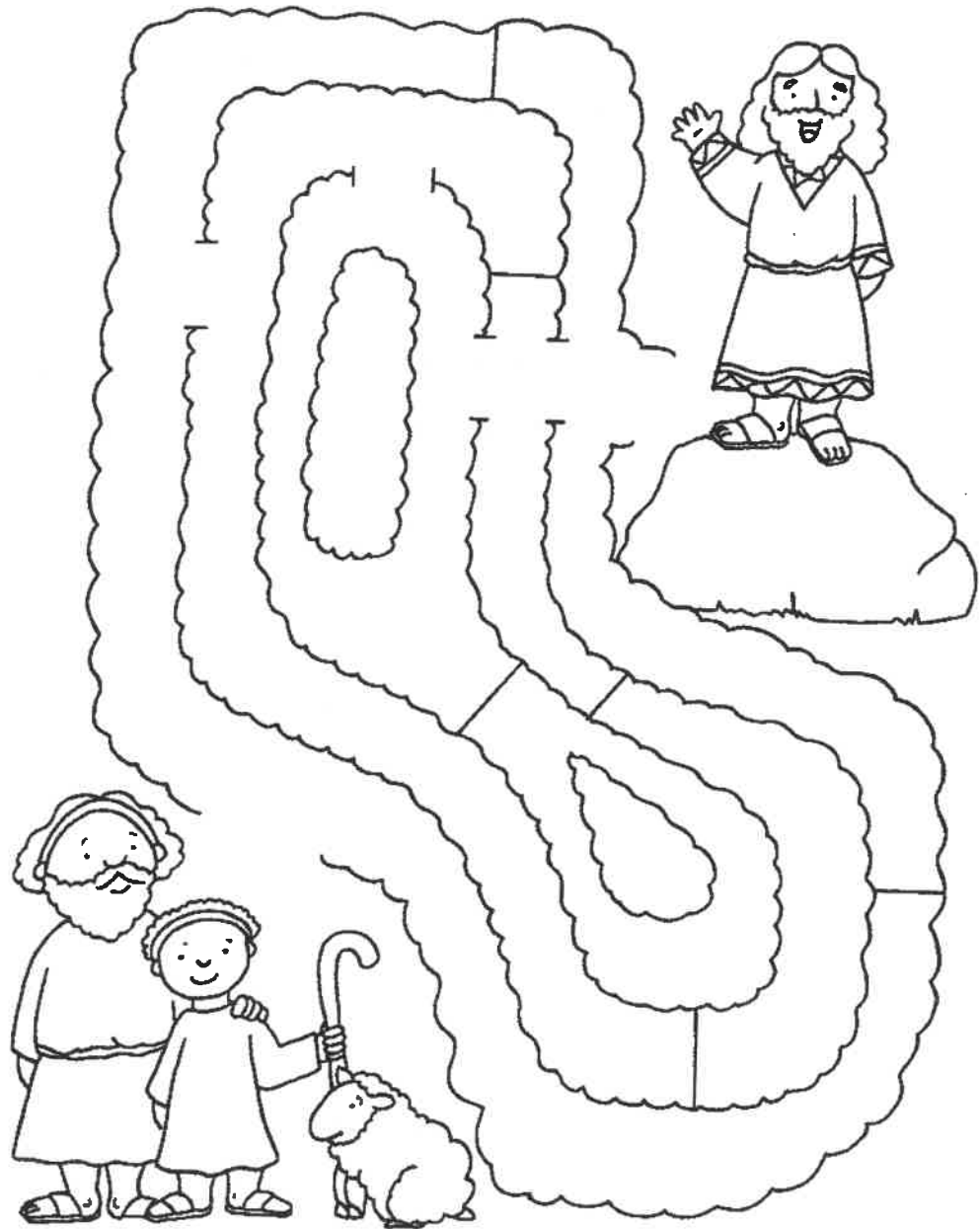
Directions: 1. Color and cut apart the strips on this page. Color and cut out the picture on page 182. 2. Lay the two story sections on top of the full section. Tape on either side so the half-sections open to reveal the one underneath. 3. To tell the story, show the main scene where Jesus is teaching (fold the two flaps to the back). As you tell about the two men praying in different ways, fold the smaller flaps to the front so that they show.

Usage: Play a game in which the children copy what you do. Pray in different ways, such as sitting, standing, holding hands with others, etc. Say, Jesus taught the people how to pray.



Climb the Mountain

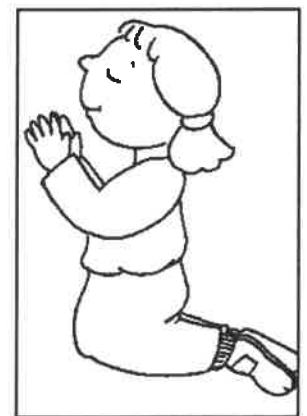
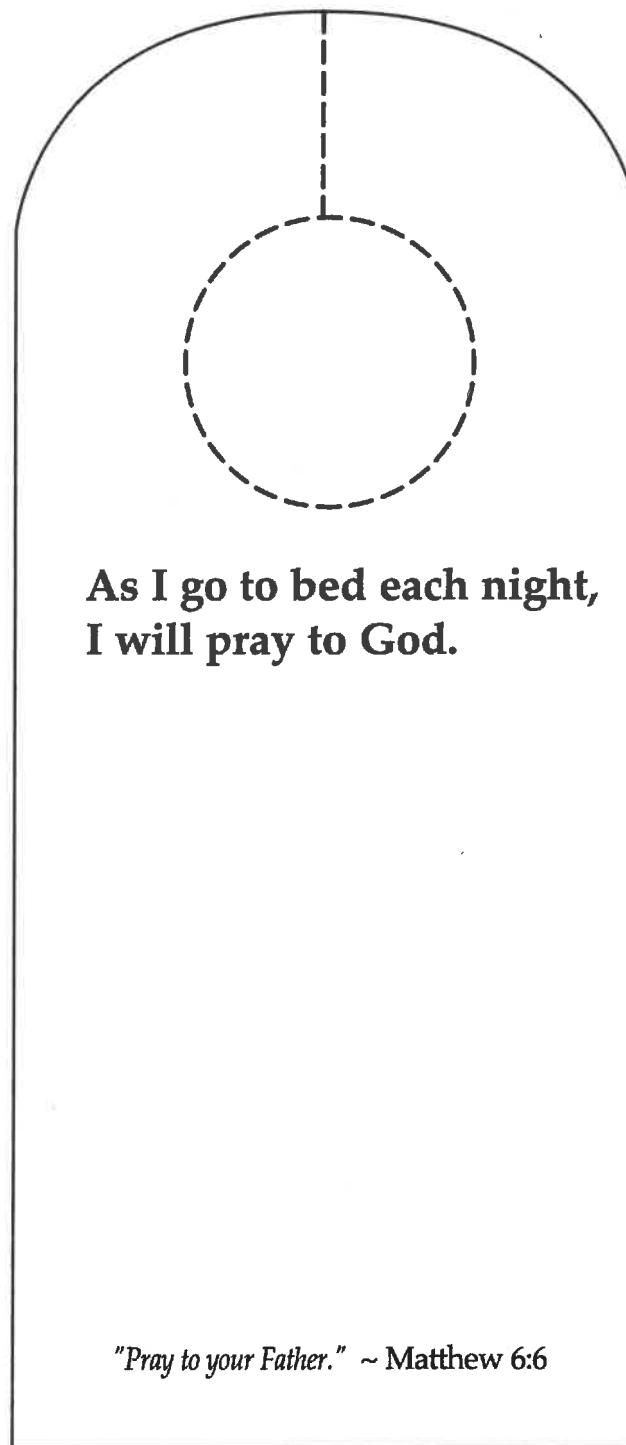
Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
— paraphrased from Matthew 6:9-13



Materials: •duplicated page •crayons

Directions: 1. Say, The people are climbing on the mountain to listen to Jesus. Help the people find Jesus on the mountain. 2. Help the children draw a line through the maze to have the people reach Jesus. 3. While the children color their pictures, read the Lord's Prayer to them. Say, This is the prayer Jesus taught the people to say.

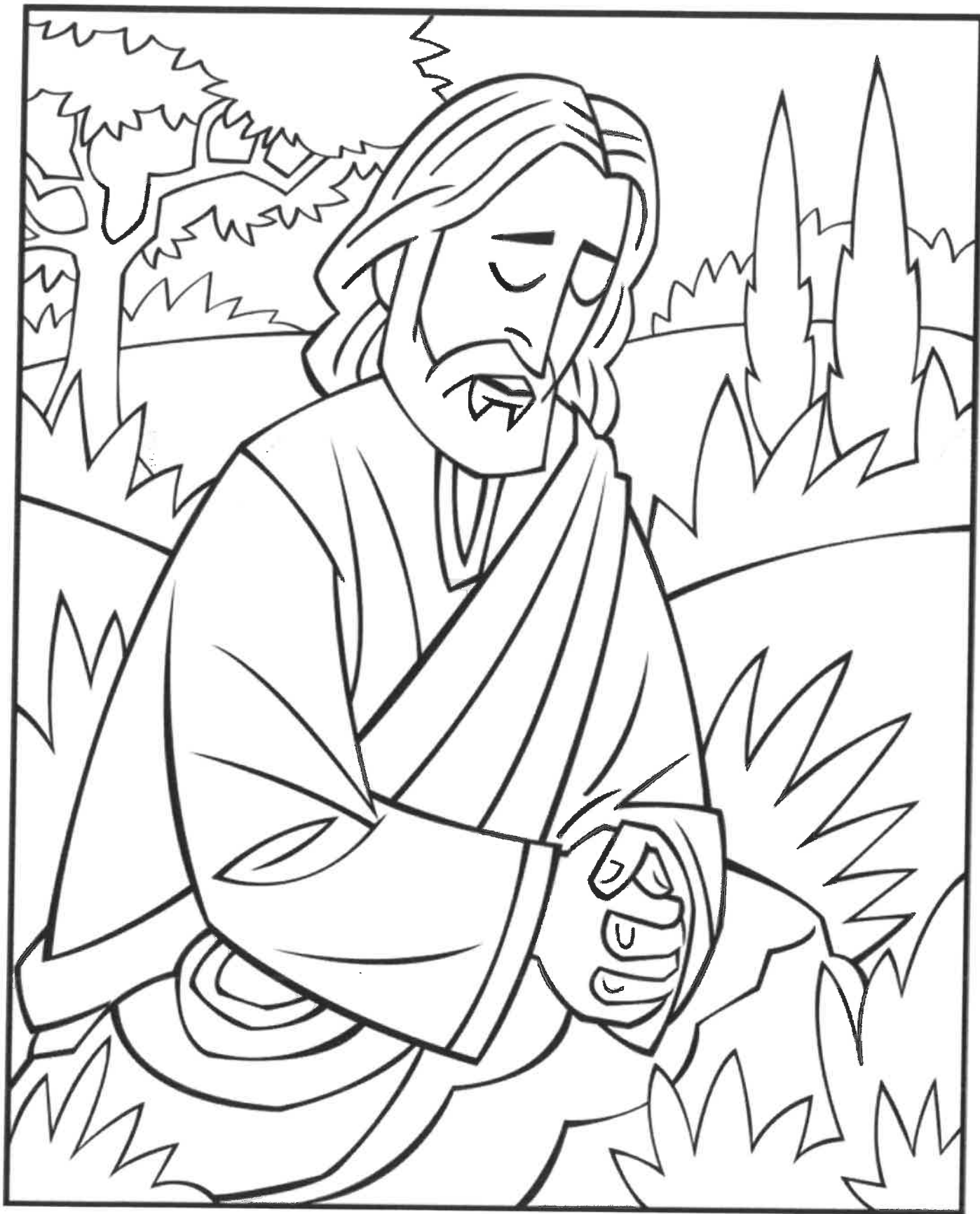
Bedtime Door Hanger



Materials: •duplicated page •glue •crayons

Directions: 1. Before class, cut out a door hanger and a boy or girl for each child. 2. Help the children color the door hanger and glue on a boy or girl. 3. Show how to hang the door hanger on a doorknob.

What to Say: The children are praying before they go to sleep. God likes for us to talk to him.



Jesus Praying in the Garden

A ROOSTER CROWS

Lesson 5
March 29

by Sharilyn Adair

The Bible

Luke 22:54-62

Jesus said,
"I call you friends."

(John 15:15)

Good News Translation, adapted

Supplies
scissors

Spark Story
Bible
p370

Bible story

Peter was scared. Soldiers had arrested his friend Jesus. The soldiers had taken Jesus away to the high priest's house. Peter was afraid that the soldiers would arrest him too if they knew he was a friend of Jesus.

Crowds of people were outside the high priest's house. They were sitting around a bonfire and talking about Jesus and the soldiers. Oh, no! The people around the bonfire saw Peter. A woman pointed at Peter and said, "That man over there is with Jesus."

But Peter said, **"No! I do not know Jesus. He is not my friend!"** (Have children cross arms over chest, stamp one foot, and shake head no.)

Someone else said to Peter, "You are a follower of Jesus."

But Peter said, **"No! I do not know Jesus. He is not my friend!"** (Have children cross arms over chest, stamp one foot, and shake head no.)

Later another person said, "I know that man is a friend of Jesus. He is from the same country that Jesus is from."

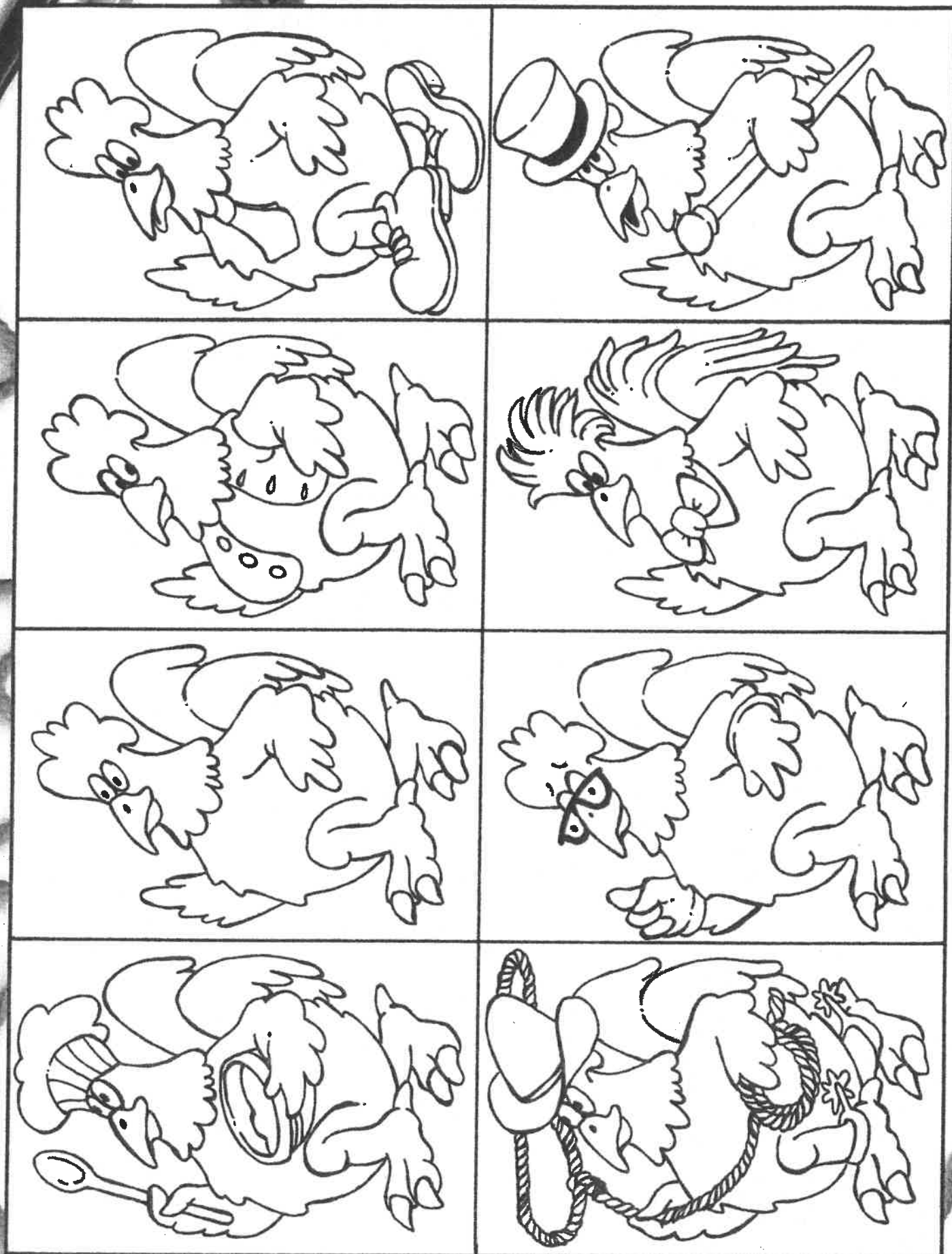
But Peter said, **"No! I do not know Jesus. He is not my friend!"** (Have children cross arms over chest, stamp one foot, and shake head no.)

Just then Peter heard the rooster crow: **Cock-a-doodle-do!**

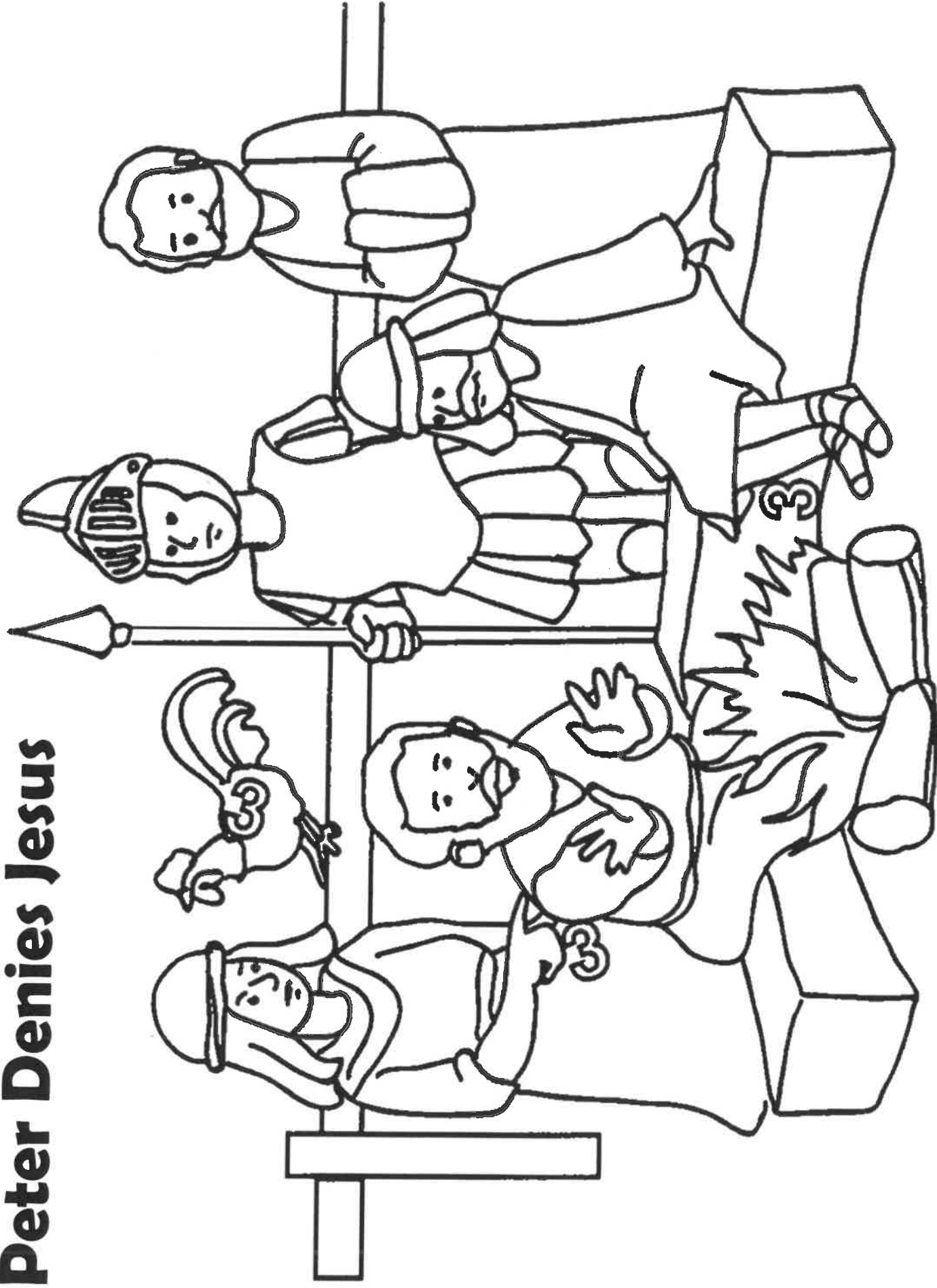
Oh, no! Peter felt terrible. He remembered that Jesus had told him, "Peter, you will say that you do not know me three times before the rooster crows." Peter had promised he would never do that, but now he had broken his promise. Peter knew that Jesus loved him. Jesus was his best friend.

creative fun

Make two copies of the rooster cards for each child, and cut them apart to make matching cards. Give each child a set. Have the children place their cards face down. Let them turn up two cards at a time to find cards that match. Have them place the matched cards to one side. As each child finds a pair of matched cards, have him or her crow: Cock-a-doodle-do!



Peter Denies Jesus



Chapter 48

Jesus Is Crucified



Memory Verse

He forgave us all our sins. Colossians 2:13



Story to Share



When people sinned, God was sad. He knew the only way their sins could be forgiven was for a sinless man to die in place of them. That's why God sent his Son, Jesus, to earth as a tiny baby. He knew Jesus would grow up and be the sinless man who could die for the sins of all people.

Jesus did many wonderful miracles while he was on earth. He taught about his Father, God. He preached love, forgiveness, and joy. He loved everyone, not just the wealthy or beautiful, but also the poor, the disfigured, and even those who hated him.

One day those men who hated Jesus nailed him to a cross. They beat Jesus, spat in his face, put thorns on his head like a crown and then put nails through his hands and feet. How Jesus suffered! But the words he spoke remind us how sinless he was.

"Father, forgive them," Jesus prayed as he hung on the cross.

When Jesus died, they put him in a tomb. His mother, Mary, was sad. His disciples were sad. Those who loved him and believed he was the Son of God were sad. But they didn't know the secret.

Three days later, Jesus rose from the dead. Soldiers had sealed the stone on the tomb so nobody could steal his body – but that didn't keep him inside. Jesus rose from the grave and is alive today!

And now, because Jesus died, we can be forgiven from our sins. Jesus wants us to believe he is the Son of God. He wants us to tell him our sins. Then Jesus is ready to forgive us. He is our Savior.

—based on Matthew 27:32-28:10

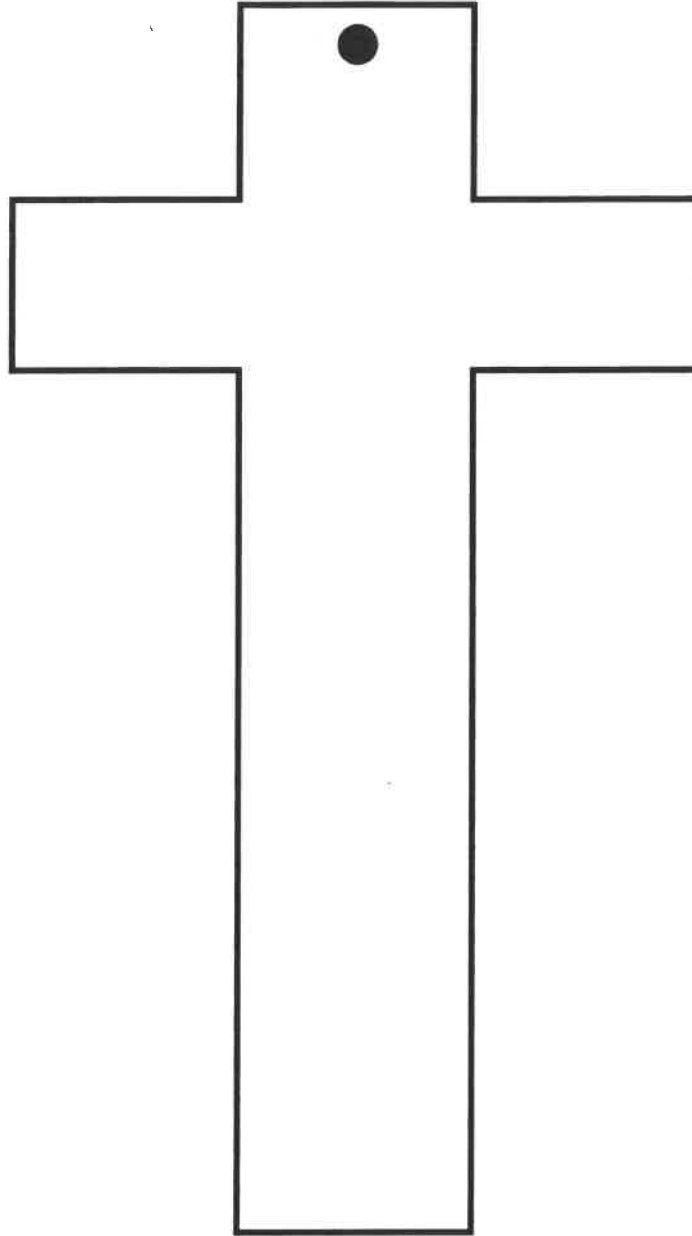


Discussion Questions

1. What did the men do to Jesus that caused him to ask God to forgive the men? (beat him, spit on him, crucified him).
2. What will Jesus forgive you for? (disobeying, selfishness, unloving attitudes)

Spark
Bible
P 376

Cross Sun Catcher

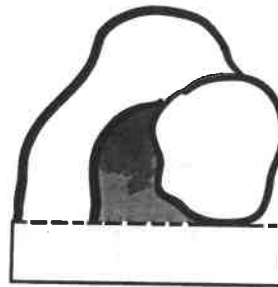


Materials: •duplicated page •self-stick plastic •glitter •heart punch •colored paper •ribbon
•water-based marker

Directions: 1. Trace the cross pattern to cardboard for a template. 2. Allow the children to punch hearts from different colors of paper. 3. Give each child two 4" x 8" pieces of clear plastic. 4. Peel the backing from one piece of each child's plastic and place it on the table, sticky side up. 5. Instruct the children to press the colored hearts on the sticky side of the plastic. Assist the children in sprinkling glitter over the hearts. 6. Go around and peel the paper off each child's second square and press into the first. 7. Using a water-based marker and the cross template, trace a cross on each child's plastic and cut it out. 8. Allow the children to punch holes at the tops of their crosses. Assist the children in tying lengths of ribbon through the crosses for hanging.

What to Say: God gave his Son, Jesus, to die for our sins because he loves us. Jesus was willing to die because he loves us, too. The hearts in your cross will remind you of his love. How can you show your love for God and his Son?

Scene in a Cup



**He forgave
us ALL our
sins.
Colossians 2:13**

Materials: •duplicated page •crayons •8-oz. foam cups •glue •tiny silk flowers

Directions: 1. Duplicate and cut out a cross circle, tomb, and verse for each child. 2. Let the children color the pictures. 3. Assist each child in gluing the circle to the inside bottom of a cup. 4. Show how to fold the tab on the tomb and glue it to the wall of the cup, about halfway in. 5. Have the children glue the verse rectangles on the outsides of the cups. 6. Let the children glue silk flowers near their tombs.

What to Say: Jesus died as a sinless offering for our sins. But not only did he die, he arose from the grave and is living today!

I'm Forgiven Wristlet

I'm forgiven!

I'm forgiven!

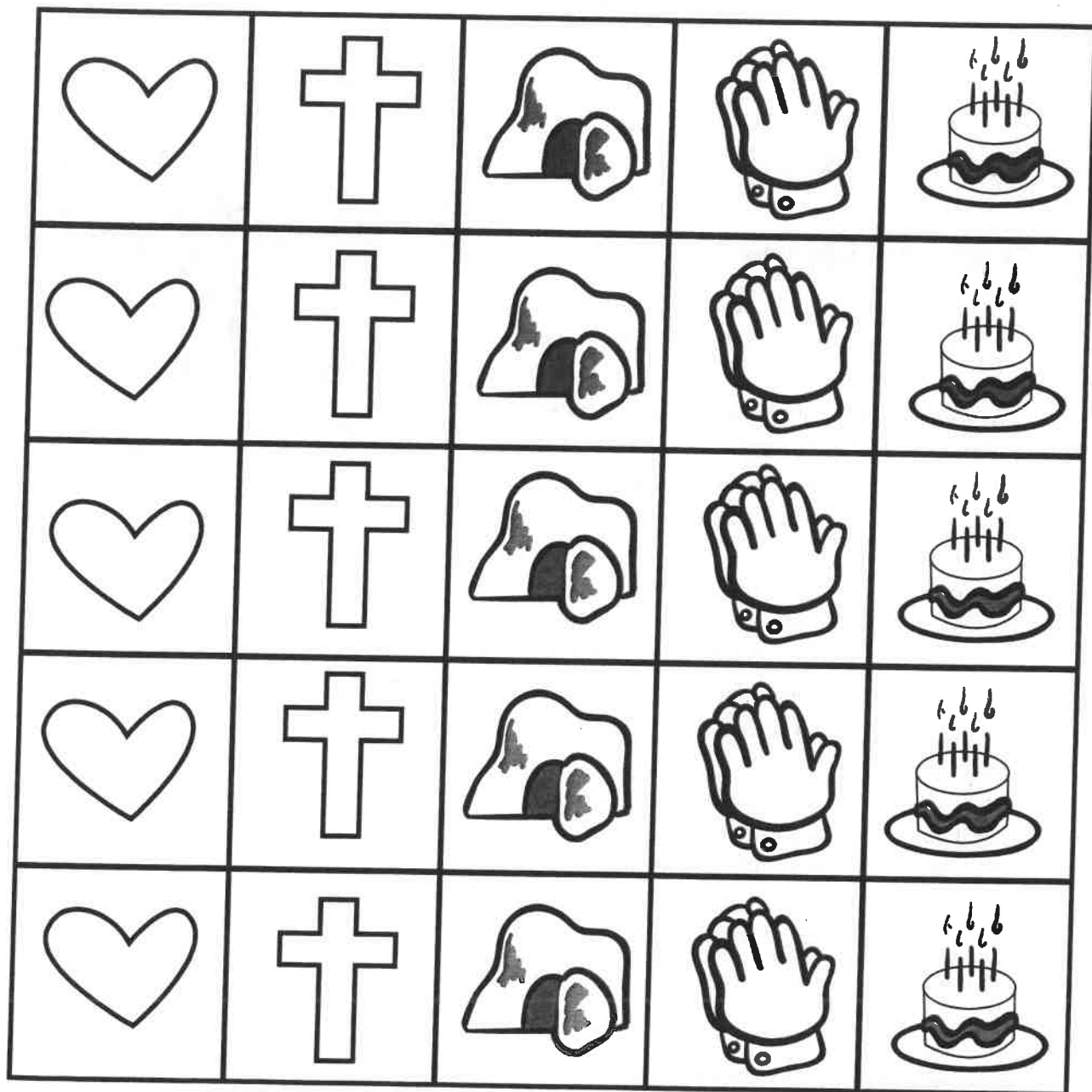
I'm forgiven!

Materials: •duplicated page •crayons •small stickers •clear tape

Directions: 1. Duplicate a wristlet for each child. 2. Allow the children to color their wristlets. 3. Give the children small stickers to decorate their wristlets. 4. Fit the wristlet to each child's wrist, fastening with clear tape. Cut off the excess paper.

What to Say: When you wear your I'm Forgiven Wristlet, you will be reminded that Jesus forgives our sins when we ask him. It will also remind you that Jesus wants us to forgive others.

Sort and Learn

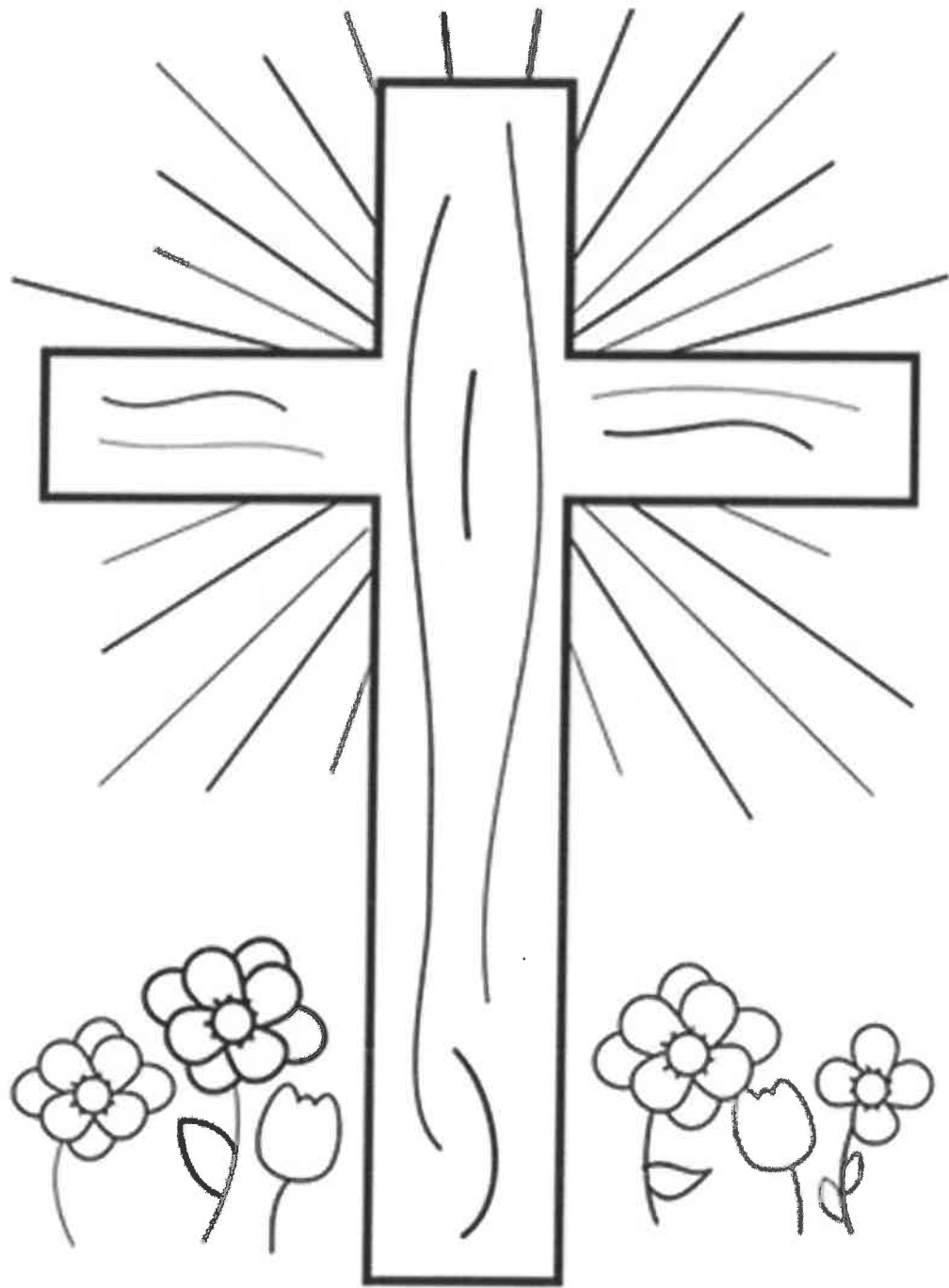


Materials: •duplicated page •crayons •scissors

Directions: 1. Duplicate the grid for each child. 2. Give each child a grid and let the children color the pictures. 3. Assist the children who need help cutting the squares apart.

What to Say: Let's find all of our cut-out hearts and place them in a pile. God sent his Son, Jesus, to earth because he loves us. Let's find our crosses. Jesus died on the cross so our sins could be forgiven. Let's find our tombs. Jesus arose from the dead. He's alive! Let's find our praying hands. We can ask Jesus to forgive our sins. Let's find our party cakes. We can celebrate Jesus's forgiveness.

Jesus' Cross



Chapter 49

Jesus' Resurrection

**Memory Verse**

You are the light of the world. Matthew 5:14

**Story to Share**

The disciples and those who loved Jesus were sad. They had watched as Jesus' body was put in a tomb. Afterward, Jesus' friends went home to cry.

Three days later on Sunday morning, Jesus' mother and some other women walked to the tomb where Jesus was buried. They brought spices to put in the tomb so it would smell good.

Imagine their surprise when they found it empty! Not only did they find an empty tomb, they found an angel there to greet them.

The women stared at the shining angel.

"He is not here, he is alive!" the angel said, pointing to the grave clothes in the tomb.

"Go," the angel said. "Go and tell Jesus' disciples that he has risen."

For a moment, the women could only stare at the angel. Then they turned and began walking back toward town. Faster and faster they walked until they gathered up their skirts and ran. The expensive spices they carried fell to the ground as they ran.

Seeing Peter, the women stopped. At first he couldn't understand what they were trying to tell him. They were so excited that they spoke all at once!

"Stop, slow down," Peter said. "Just one of you speak."

Mary Magdalene clutched at his arm. "It's Jesus," she said. "He's not dead. He's not in the grave. He's alive!"

Peter stared at her. "What?" he asked in astonishment.

"It's true," Mary said with a joyful laugh. "Come and see!"



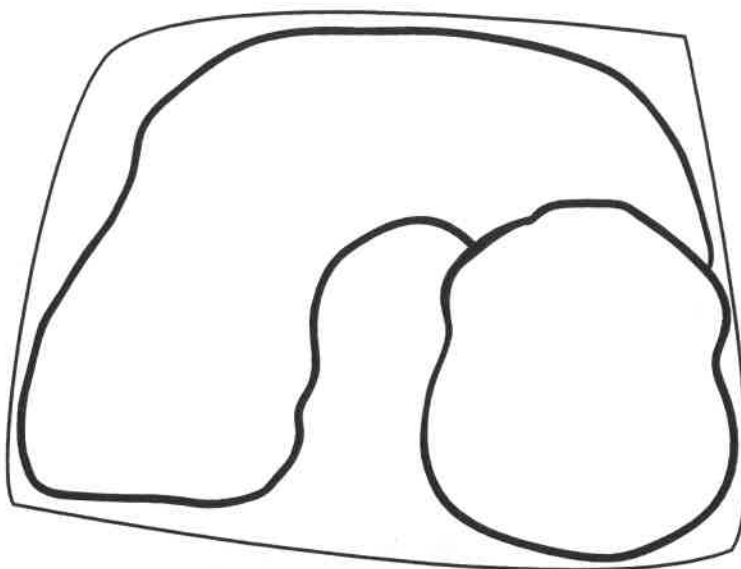
—based on John 20:1-18

**Discussion Questions**

1. What exciting news did Mary tell Peter about Jesus? (He's alive!)
2. What exciting news can you tell your friends about Jesus? (He loves them, he will forgive their sins)

Spark Bible
P 382

Come and See



Materials: •duplicate page 246 and 247 •crayons •masking tape

Directions: 1. Duplicate the tomb, angel, and Mary. 2. Lay the pictures and crayons on a table for early arrivals to color. 3. Make a long line on the floor using masking tape. Make another line two feet from the first, another two feet from the second and another two feet from the third. You will have made three sections. Place the tomb on the wall or floor in the first section, the angel in the second, and Mary in the third. 4. Instruct the children to stand facing the first section. When you say, "Jesus died," the children should jump to the tomb. When you say, "He's not here," the children should jump to the angel. When you say, "Come and see," the children should jump to Mary. 5. Mix up the commands and see how well the students do. End the game with "Come and see." *Continued on next page...*



Continued from previous page...

What to Say: We didn't live when Jesus was on earth and died. We didn't get to see the angel that announced he had risen from the dead. But we can go and tell others it happened. We can invite them to come and worship.

Story Sequence Worksheet



Materials: •duplicated page •construction paper •crayons •stapler •tape •glue

Directions: 1. Duplicate a worksheet for each child. 2. Discuss the pictures, allowing the children to point out the first picture in the story sequence. Draw a number one on the board and instruct the children to print "1" in the correct box. Continue with the other pictures. 3. Allow the children to color the pictures. 4. Staple construction paper together to make books. (Cover the staples with tape to prevent injury.) Help the children cut the pictures apart and glue them in the books. Allow time for the children to "read" their books.

Shining Your Light



Materials: •duplicated page •crayons

Directions: 1. Duplicate a worksheet for each child. 2. Discuss each picture. Ask, "Does it look like the boy [or girl] is shining for Jesus?" 3. Instruct the children to draw "Xs" on those who are not letting their lights shine. 4. Allow the children to color the pictures of the children who are letting their lights shine.

What to Say: When you are mean to others, they don't know you belong to Jesus. But when you are kind and caring, they know you are different—you have Jesus in your heart!