

Children of the Heavenly Father



Name: _____

Level 1

One day some mothers brought their babies and young children to Jesus. They wanted Jesus to hold and touch their little ones and be blessed by Him.

The disciples didn't think Jesus had time to spend with children. They probably thought Jesus would rather preach and heal big people or answer adult questions. So the disciples scolded the mothers and tried to send them away.

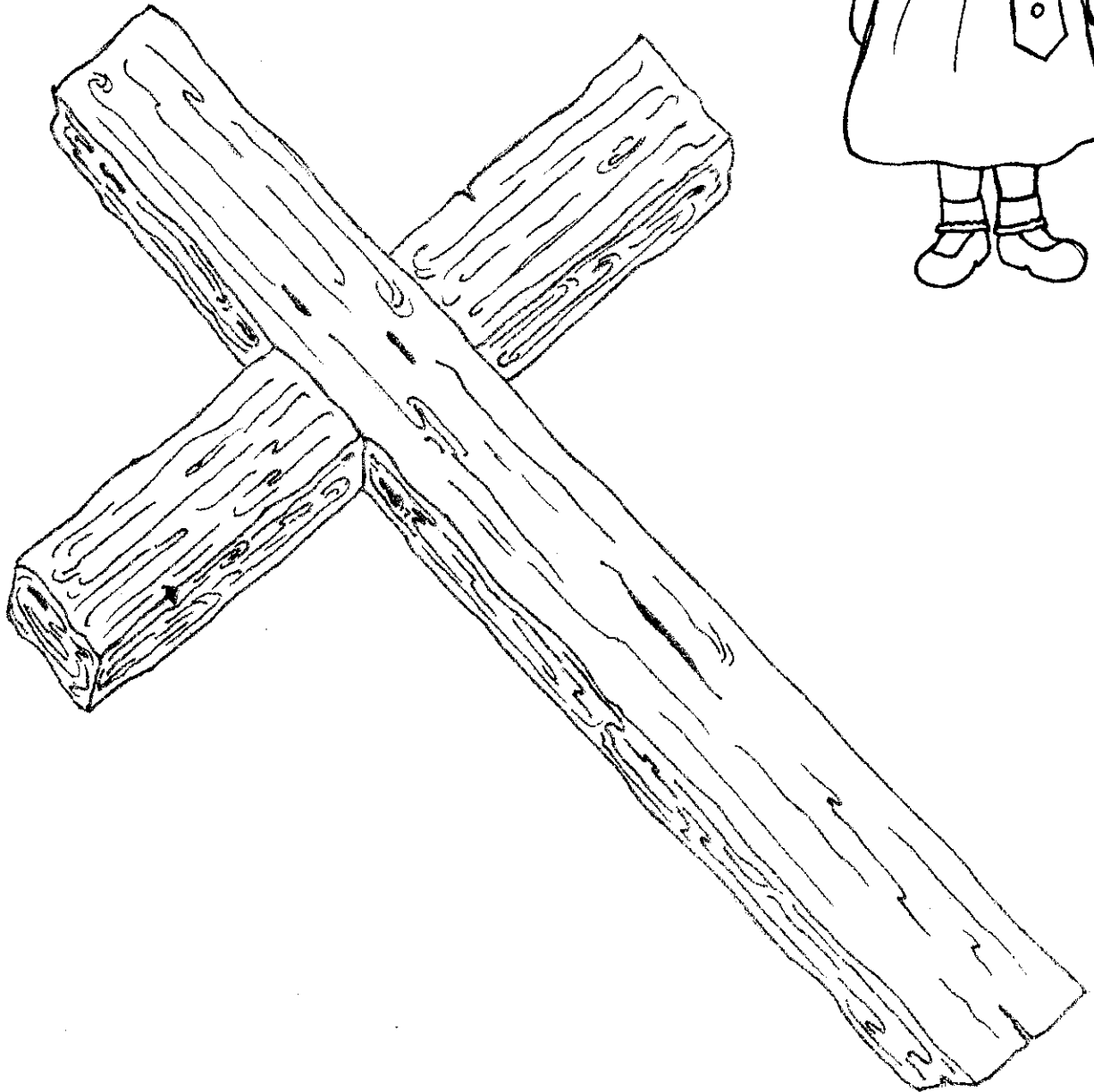
But when Jesus saw what the disciples were doing, He was very unhappy. He said to the disciples, "Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of God. Whoever does not believe like a little child will never enter God's kingdom."

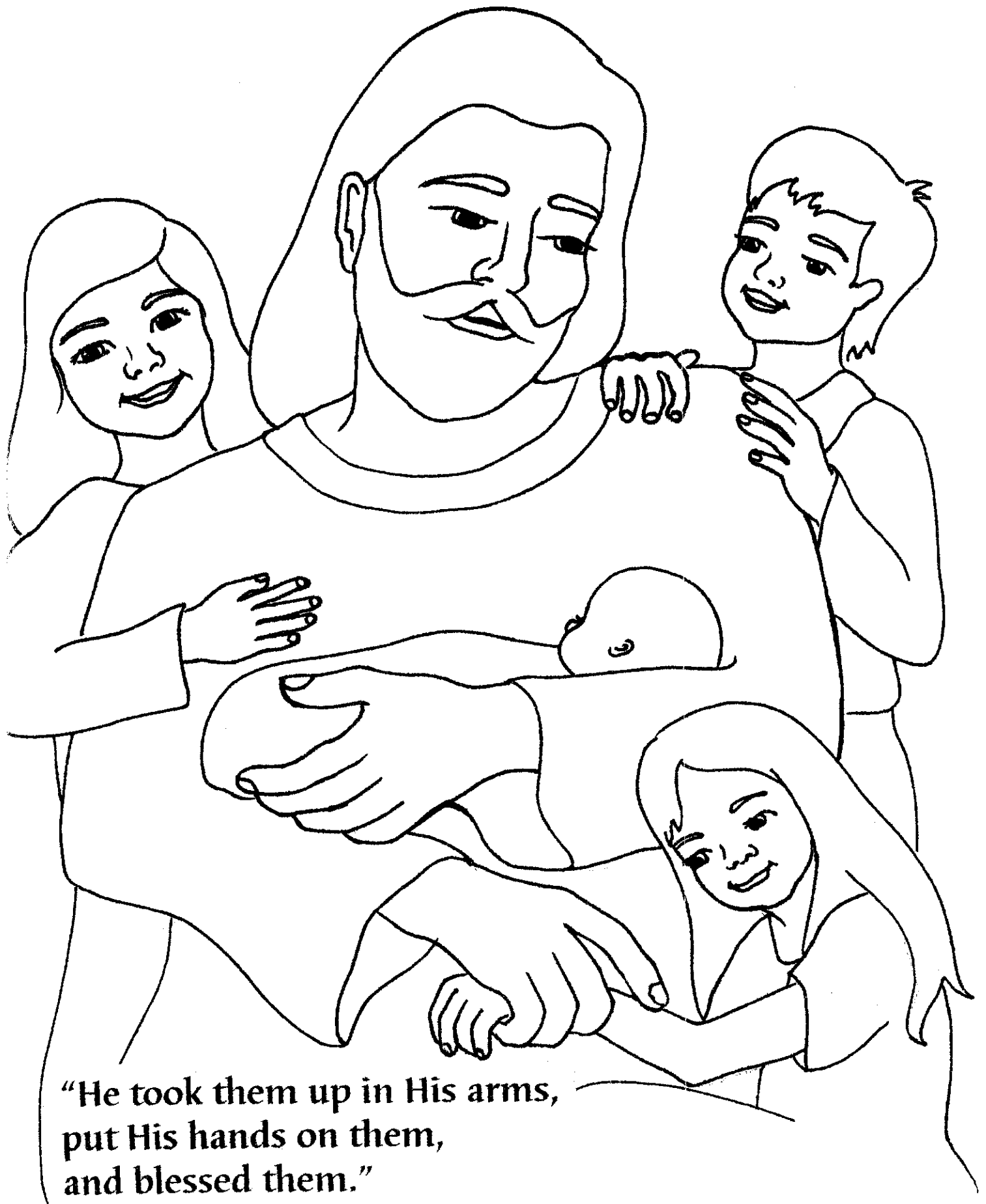
After saying this, Jesus took up the little children and babies into His arms and blessed them.

We learn from the Holy Bible that the Creator God is our Heavenly Father. But who are the children of the Heavenly Father? Our lesson about the children and Jesus answers that question. In the story Jesus tells us that boys and girls, little children, and even tiny babies can be children of God. Young or old, little or big, a sinner becomes God's child when the Holy Spirit creates a simple trust in Jesus as Lord and Savior.

Prayer:

Dear Lord, my sin has angered You. But Jesus is my Savior and He has paid for all my sin. He has made me Your child. Thank You for Your love and for being my Father in Heaven. Amen.





**“He took them up in His arms,
put His hands on them,
and blessed them.”**

- Mark 10:16

He who believes and is baptized will be saved.

Mark 16:16a



Match each face below to the person it belongs with in the picture.



Connect the dots to finish the Bible passage.

Mark 16:16

“He who BELIEVES
and is BAPTIZED
will be SAVED.”

One day while Jesus was teaching God's Word near the Sea of Galilee, a man named Jairus came to Him. Jairus worked in a synagogue (or church) at Capernaum. He made sure that the worship service was orderly and God-pleasing. Jairus fell down at Jesus' feet and begged Him to come home with him to heal his sick young daughter. She was only twelve years old, and was his only little girl. Of course, Jesus was glad to help this man, even as He loves to help us when we call on His name.

Before they reached the house of Jairus, someone from the house met them with very sad news. "Your daughter is dead," the messenger said. "Do not bother the Teacher - any more." When Jesus heard this news, He said to Jairus, "Don't be afraid; just believe and she will be healed."

When they finally arrived at his house, Jesus took Peter, James, John, and the girl's parents into her room. Outside were the people who had come to cry and mourn for the dead girl. Jesus told them all to stop wailing and crying. He said, "She is not dead but asleep." The people laughed at Jesus, because they didn't know what He could do to this dead child. They thought her young life was over.

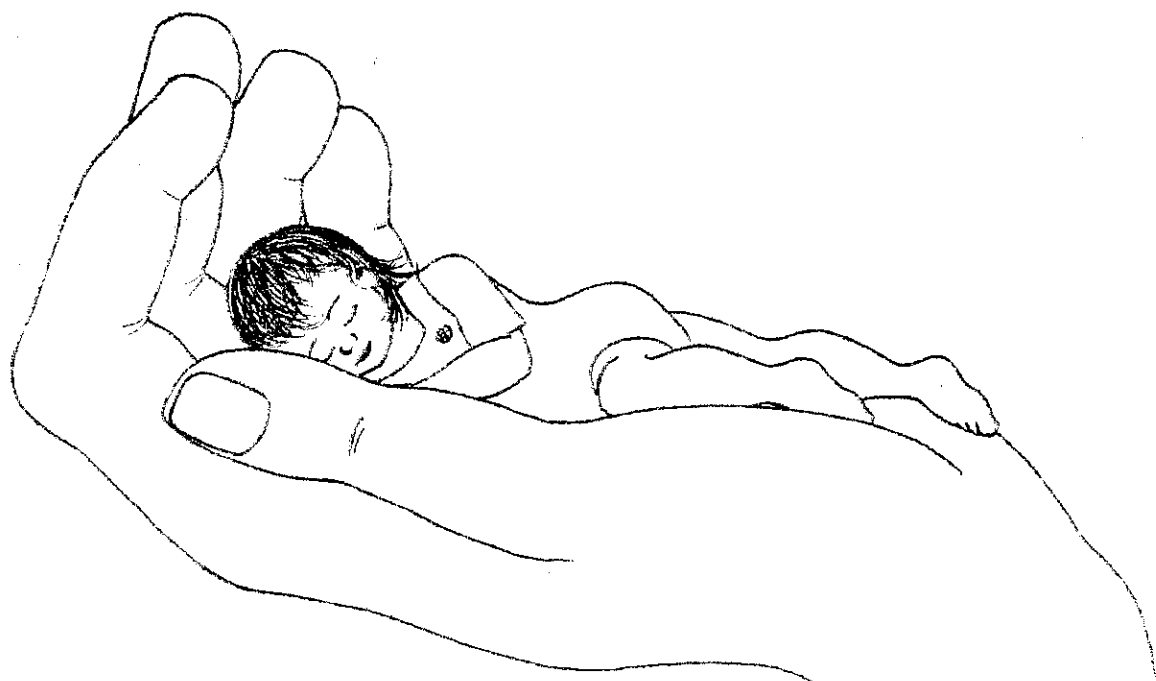
Jesus, the Lord of Life, took the girl's hand and said, "My child,

get up!” Immediately, her soul returned to her and she stood right up. Then Jesus told them to give her some food to eat. Her parents were very surprised at this wonderful miracle.

Sometimes God’s children do not grow up. To be “Children of the Heavenly Father” does not always mean we will live a long life on earth. It does mean that we will have an eternal life in heaven. Our time on earth is in God’s loving hands. There is no need to fear or worry about when you will die, for Jesus calls death a sleep. He will wake us up from death just like your parents awaken you each morning. How happy we will be to see our Heavenly Father. How wonderful it is to be “Children of the Heavenly Father!” God’s Son Jesus has destroyed death and gives us life in heaven where there will be no sickness or dying.

Prayer:

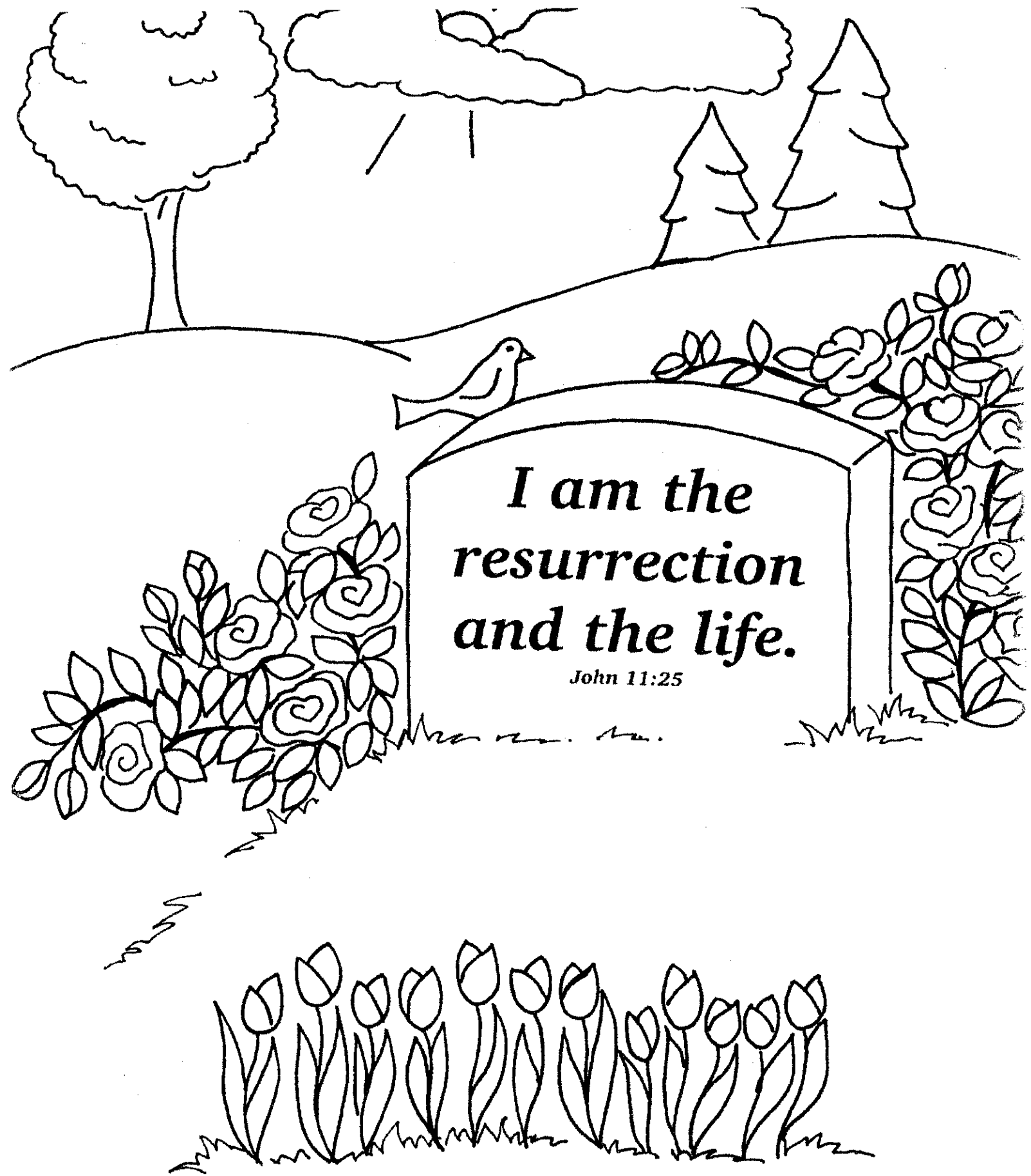
Dear Lord, I trust in You for the forgiveness of all my sins. I also trust in You to wake me up from the dead and give me eternal life. Send Your Holy Spirit to make this trust strong, so that I will be ready to die at any time You choose. Amen.



“Little girl, arise.”

Luke 8:54

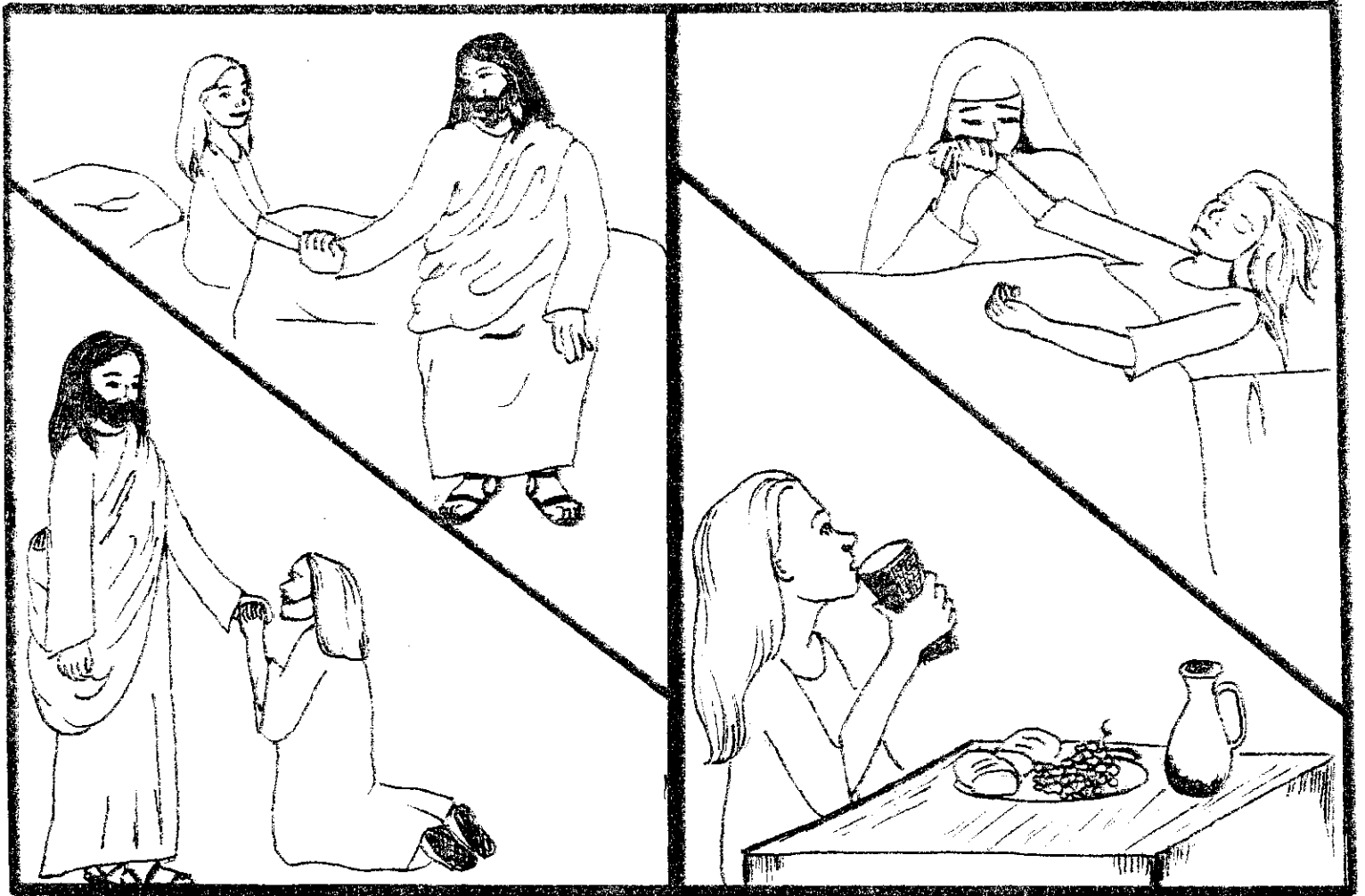




*I am the
resurrection
and the life.*

John 11:25

Draw a line from each number to a picture to put the pictures in the right order.



1

2

3

4

Using the pictures, figure out what the Bible passage says.

John 14:19b

“  cause  live, U will live also.”

A man named Naaman was a great commander in the army of the country called Syria. The Lord had blessed Naaman's work so that the king honored him highly. Although Naaman was a strong commander, his body was weak and he was sick. He had leprosy.

Have you heard what it meant to be a leper? Terrible sores were on your body. As the sickness got worse it could cause you to lose your fingers or toes, or even the nose on your face might rot away. Usually your voice became raspy and people could not understand what you were saying. No one wanted to be near you in case they would get the awful sickness, too. You might have to live with other lepers outside the city.

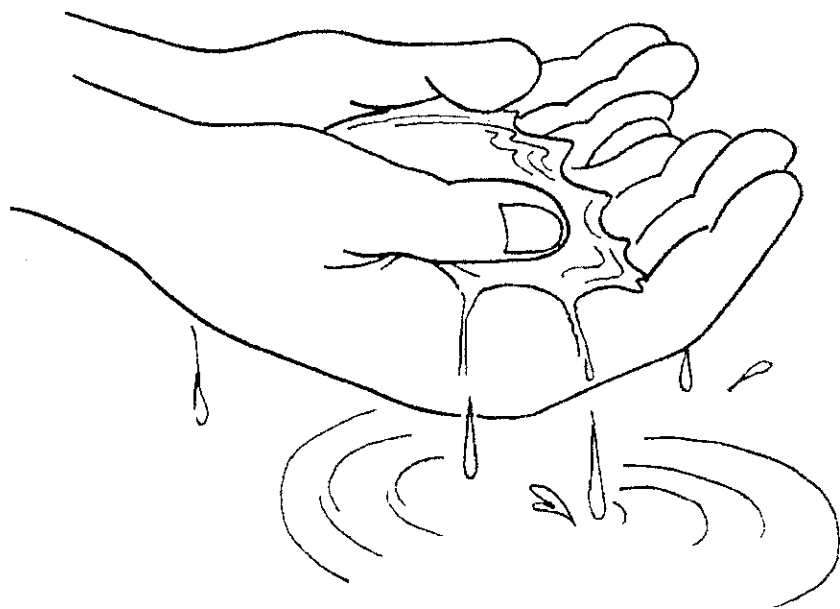
Naaman had a young slave girl from the land of Israel in his house. She cared for the needs of Naaman's wife. One day the slave girl said to her mistress, "If only my master were with the prophet Elisha who lives in Samaria. For he would heal my master of his leprosy." This little girl believed in the Savior God—Jehovah, and she trusted in His power to cure diseases.

When Naaman heard that there was hope of being made well, he received permission from his king to go to the land of Israel. Naaman took a letter from his king to the king of Israel, asking that he be healed of his leprosy. He also took money and clothing to show his thankfulness.

What the little girl knew about Elisha, the very king of Israel did not know. He thought Naaman was setting a trap for him so that

the king of Syria could start a war. The king of Israel was so upset that he tore his clothes. When a king tore his robes, you knew he was very upset. And news of that would travel.

Now Elisha did hear of the king's problem and invited Naaman to come to him. He said, "He shall know that there is a prophet of the true God in Israel."



So Naaman traveled on to Elisha's house. But Elisha did not come out to meet this honorable man from Syria. Instead, he sent out his servant to tell Naaman how he could be healed. The servant told Naaman, "Go and

wash in the Jordan River seven times, and you shall be clean."

At first Naaman was very angry about what he was told to do. He really had wanted Elisha to come out to him, call on the name of the Lord, and wave his hand over him. He thought that would be the best way to be healed. Much more exciting than to wash in a river in this country. Weren't the rivers in his own country much cleaner? Naaman was ready to forget the whole thing and travel back home. He was disappointed and angry.

But Naaman's servants were wise. They convinced Naaman to try this simple thing which Elisha had said would heal him. So Naaman agreed, went down and dipped into the Jordan River seven times. And what do you know happened? Yes! The Savior God—

Jehovah—had healed him of his leprosy. No longer were his fingers and toes ugly and rotting. His skin was soft and smooth like that of a child's. He was no longer a leper!

Naaman went to Elisha and said, "Now I really know that there is no God in all the earth, except in Israel." So Naaman went home to his country happy and healed.

Little children can be members of God's kingdom. Jesus really wants them to come to Him. He will give them an everlasting home when they die. But what can they do in His Kingdom while living on this earth? Like the young slave girl, God uses children to spread the story of His wonderful love in Christ the Savior. Children can be the tools of God to bring others into His family. We also see how God used Elisha as His messenger to Naaman. When you are a child of the Heavenly Father, it makes no difference whether you are young or old. God will send you where He needs you to tell others about the Savior Jesus.



Prayer:

Dear Lord, help us to love others so that we will be glad to share Your Word with them. Then they, too, can become children of the Heavenly Father.

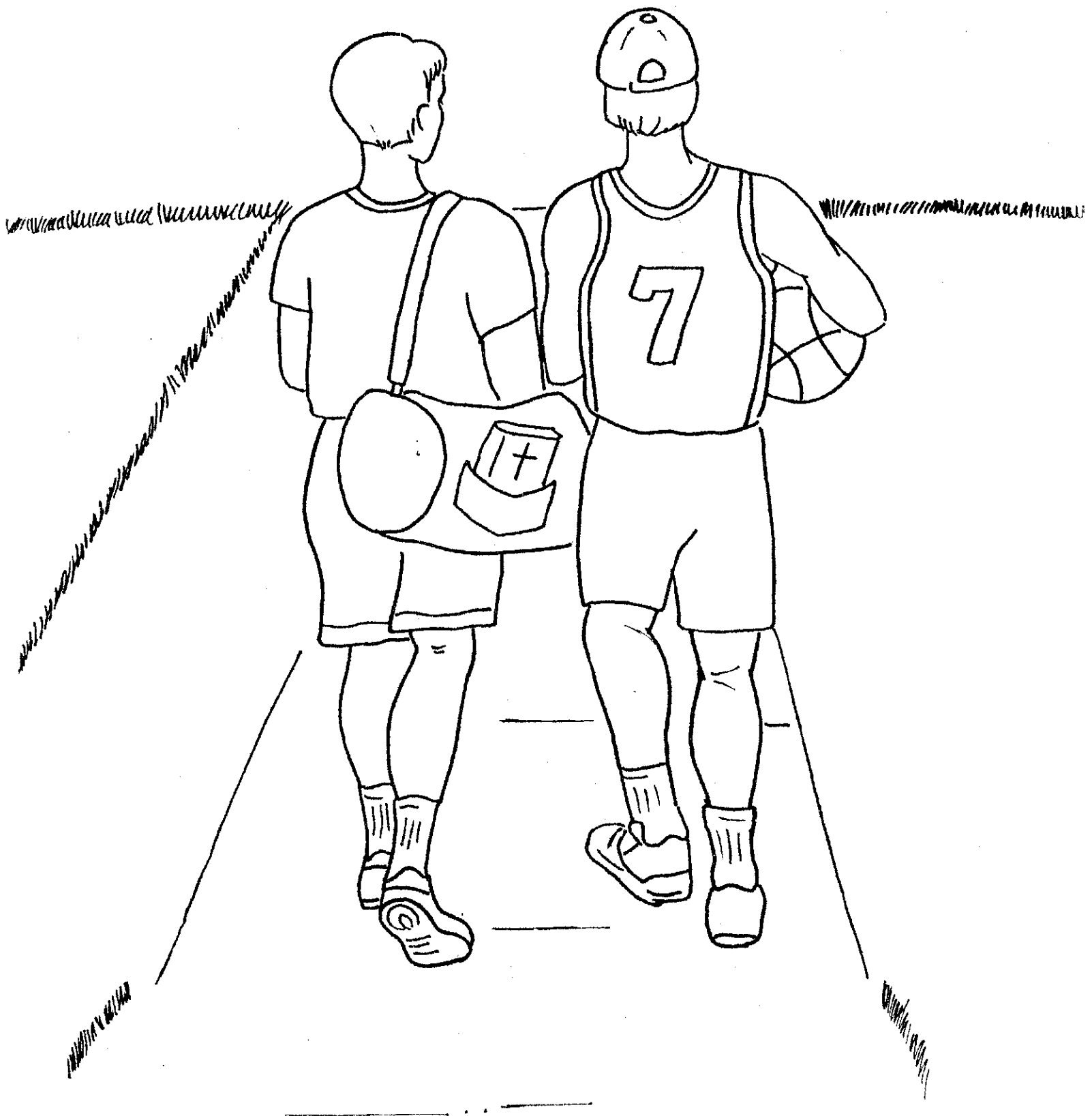
“If only my master were with the prophet who is in Samaria! For he would heal him of his leprosy.”

II Kings 5:3b

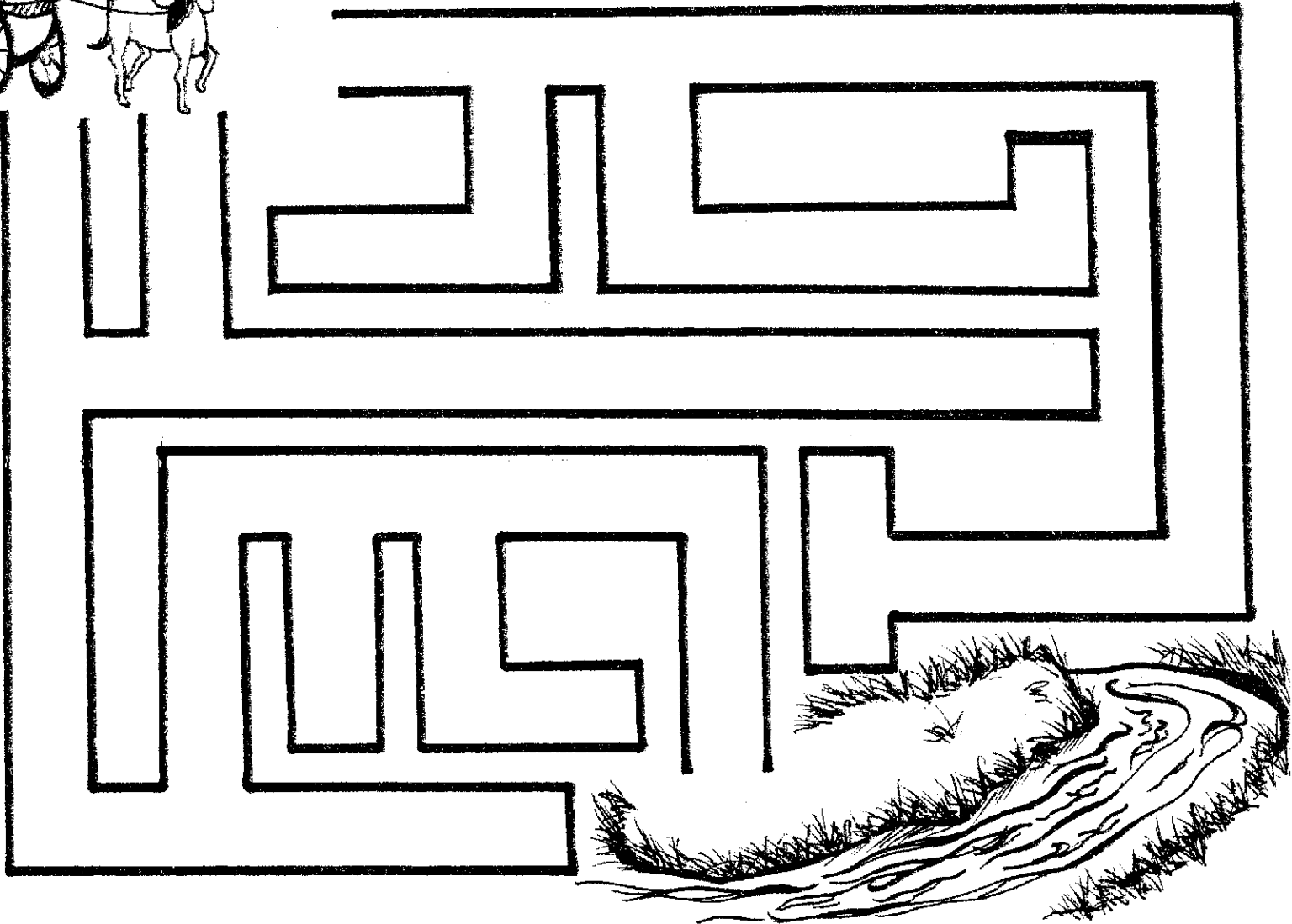


***For I am not ashamed of the
Gospel of Christ...***

Romans 1:16a



Help Naaman through the maze to the Jordan River.



Fill in the blanks using the words in the box and finish the Bible passage.
John 14:19b

world	creature	gospel	all
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“Go into _____ the _____ and preach
the _____ to every _____”

There were many kings which ruled God's People, the Israelites. Do you remember some of their names? Yes, Saul, David, and Solomon were well-known kings when Israel was all one country. After Solomon died, the country was divided into two parts and each part had its own king. The northern part was still called Israel. The southern part was now called Judah. All the men who ruled as kings over Israel were evil and disobeyed God's Word. They were not God's children. Some of the kings of Judah were wicked, while others taught people God's words of salvation.

In the country of Judah a little boy became king when his father was murdered. This boy was only eight years old. His name was Josiah. He was blessed by God to rule for thirty-one years in the palace at Jerusalem

God had commanded that no one should ever worship false gods called "idols." This was a sin against the First Commandment. Josiah's grandfather didn't love the True God who had promised to send the Savior Jesus. He made his own statue of a false god and put it in the Holy Temple (church) for the people to worship. Josiah's grandfather also used witchcraft and asked advice from people who love the devil. This was a terrible sin against the Second Commandment. This king also killed many innocent people, which is a sin against the Fifth Commandment. The Bible also was not being read by the priests or people during his reign as king. We know that the Third Commandment tells us to keep God's Word holy. How could anyone be saved, if they were not taught God's Word? The people became careless about God's House of Worship

and let it fall apart.

When Josiah was king, he did what was right in the eyes of the Lord. The Holy Spirit worked in his heart a love for God and His Word. He ordered repairs to be made on God's house, the Temple. The scrolls of the Bible were found while this work was being done. Now the people could hear the Word of God read to them at church. What Josiah and the people heard was how evil they had all been. They had sadly disobeyed the commandments of the Lord. They were not "Children of the Heavenly Father." Josiah tore his clothes in shame, humbled himself and wept before God that all these sinful deeds were being done.

God saw Josiah's repentance and sorrow over these sins. Just as God forgives our sins because of His Son, Jesus, He also forgave Josiah for Jesus' sake. God promised to take Josiah to heaven before He punished the country for its wickedness. Josiah obeyed God's Word and went to work to encourage God's people to do the same. He took down the idols and destroyed them. Then he put away anyone who used witchcraft and served the evil spirits. The Bible tells us that there wasn't another king like Josiah, who turned to the Lord with all his heart, with all his soul, and with all his might.

Children can be members of God's family and can be used as missionaries to tell the story of Jesus. But God also uses His children as servants to carry out His work. Even though Josiah was only eight when he became king, the Holy Spirit used him for many years to turn the country toward the Lord. Through Josiah, God had made repairs on His house, had the people study His Word, and had many sinful things stopped.

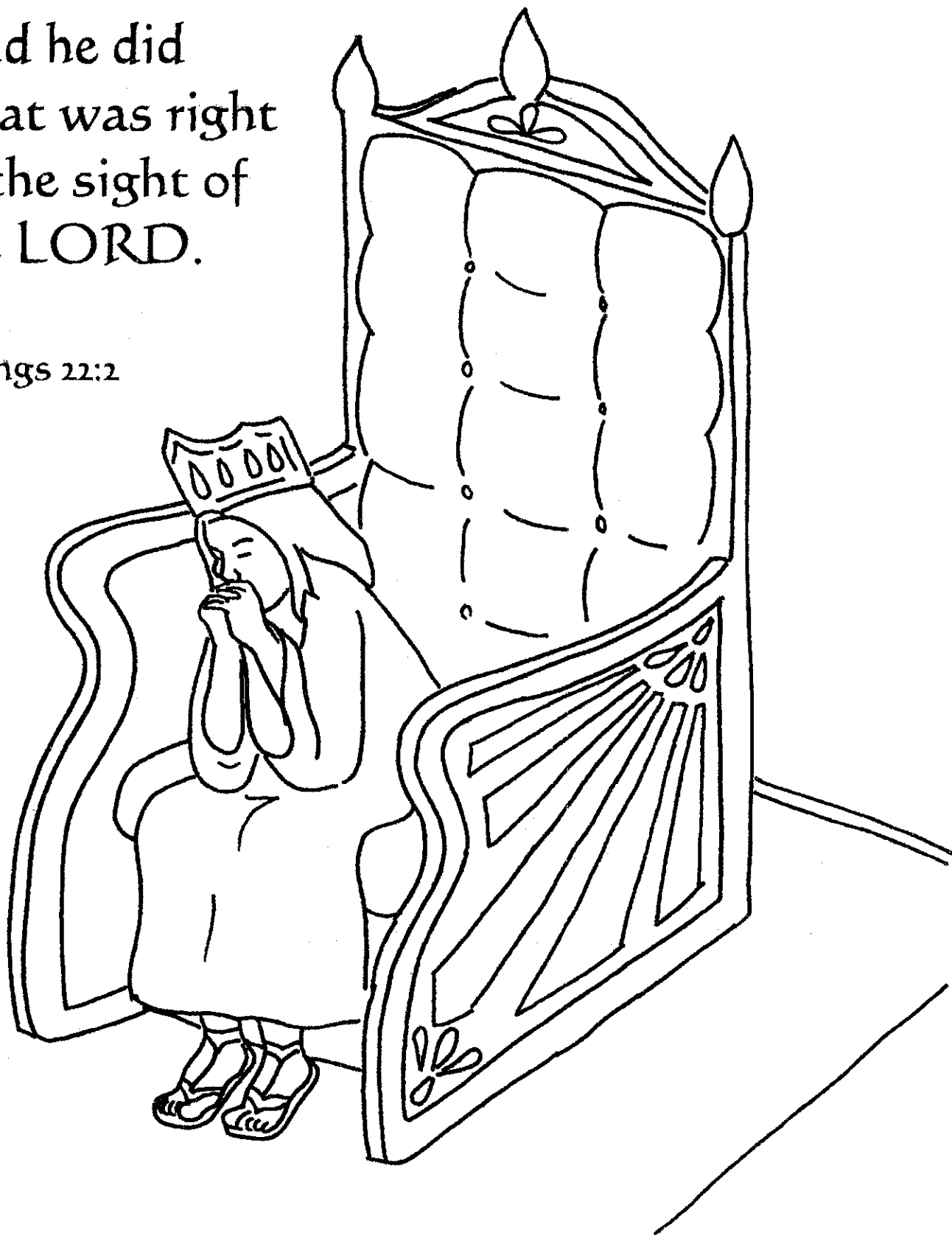
Prayer:

Dear Lord, You have something in mind for me to do in Your Kingdom. Help me to learn and study Your Holy Word now. May the

Holy Spirit lead me to repent of my sins and to trust in Jesus so that I may be a faithful worker for You all the days of my life.
Amen.

And he did
what was right
in the sight of
the LORD.

2 Kings 22:2

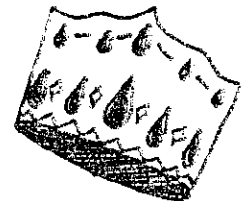
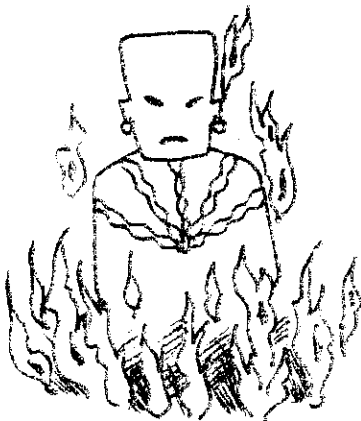
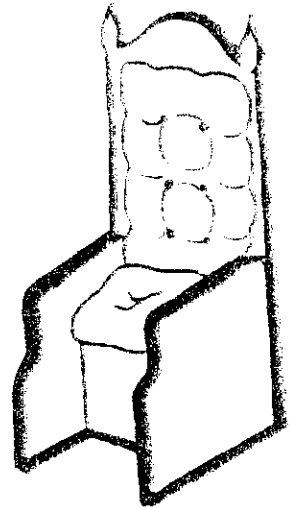
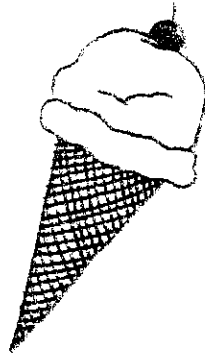
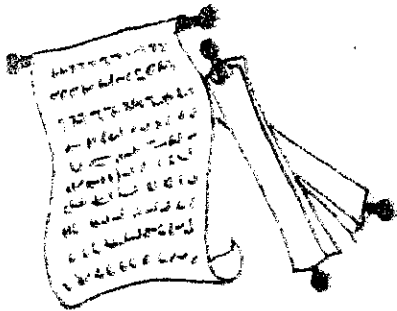




**“Remember now your
Creator in the days of
your youth.”**

- Ecclesiastes 12:1a

Circle and color the pictures having to do with the story of King Josiah.



Connect the dots to finish the Bible passage.

Ecclesiastes 12:1a

“ REMEMBER now your
CREATOR in the days of your
YOUTH.”

A young man named David took care of his father's sheep. He was the youngest boy of eight sons born to a man named Jesse. David's oldest three brothers helped King Saul in the army.

At this time a group of people called the Philistines were causing trouble for God's people, the Israelites. The Philistines had a very tall, strong man in their camp. He was almost ten feet tall and his name was Goliath. Doesn't that sound like a good name for a strong giant? He was so large that it took one man to carry his shield. His chest protector alone weighed more than you do (150 pounds!). His spear was thicker than a baseball bat and much longer. He was a powerful man to have in their army.

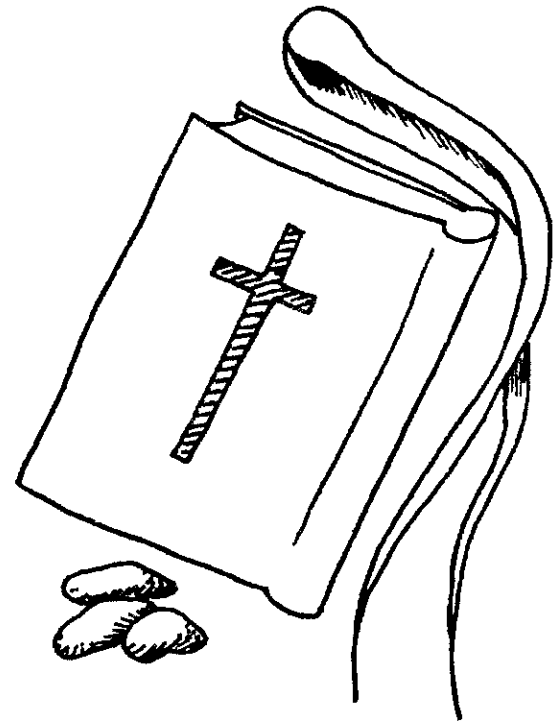
Every day for 40 days Goliath made fun of the Israelites and their God. He challenged the Israelites to send a soldier out to fight him. But no soldiers in the Israelite camp wanted to take him on. They were afraid. They forgot to trust in the Lord for help. The Lord was on their side and had defeated their enemies many times before. But they forgot that when they saw the huge giant with his mighty weapons.

One day David's father sent David to the camp with bread and cheese for his oldest boys. Jesse wanted to find out how his sons were doing and how the battle was coming. While David was at the army camp, he heard the giant call out a challenge to the soldiers. He saw how fearfully the men ran away from Goliath. He was surprised at this. David couldn't understand why no one was willing to fight him,

since David knew God was on Israel's side. He was upset when he heard Goliath's insults. So David said he would fight the giant. How could a mere boy beat a huge soldier? David told King Saul about the times he rescued poor sheep from the mouth of a lion and again from a strong bear. "The Lord who delivered me from the lion and the bear will deliver me from the hand of the Philistine."

So Saul told David, "Go, and the Lord be with you."

Instead of fighting the giant with a sword and protecting himself with armor like Goliath had, David used some unusual weapons. He carried a curved stick called a staff which a shepherd uses to rescue his sheep. In a stream of water David found five smooth stones, which he put into his shepherd's bag hanging over his shoulder. In his other hand he held onto a sling. Carrying these few things, David went to fight Goliath.



Goliath looked down at young David and laughed. It was funny to him to see this boy coming out to meet him with these weapons. The giant got mad at him, too. He said, "Am I a dog, that you come to me with sticks?" David knew what to answer, he said, "I come against you in the name of the Lord Almighty. The Lord will hand you over to me, and I'll strike you down and cut off your head."

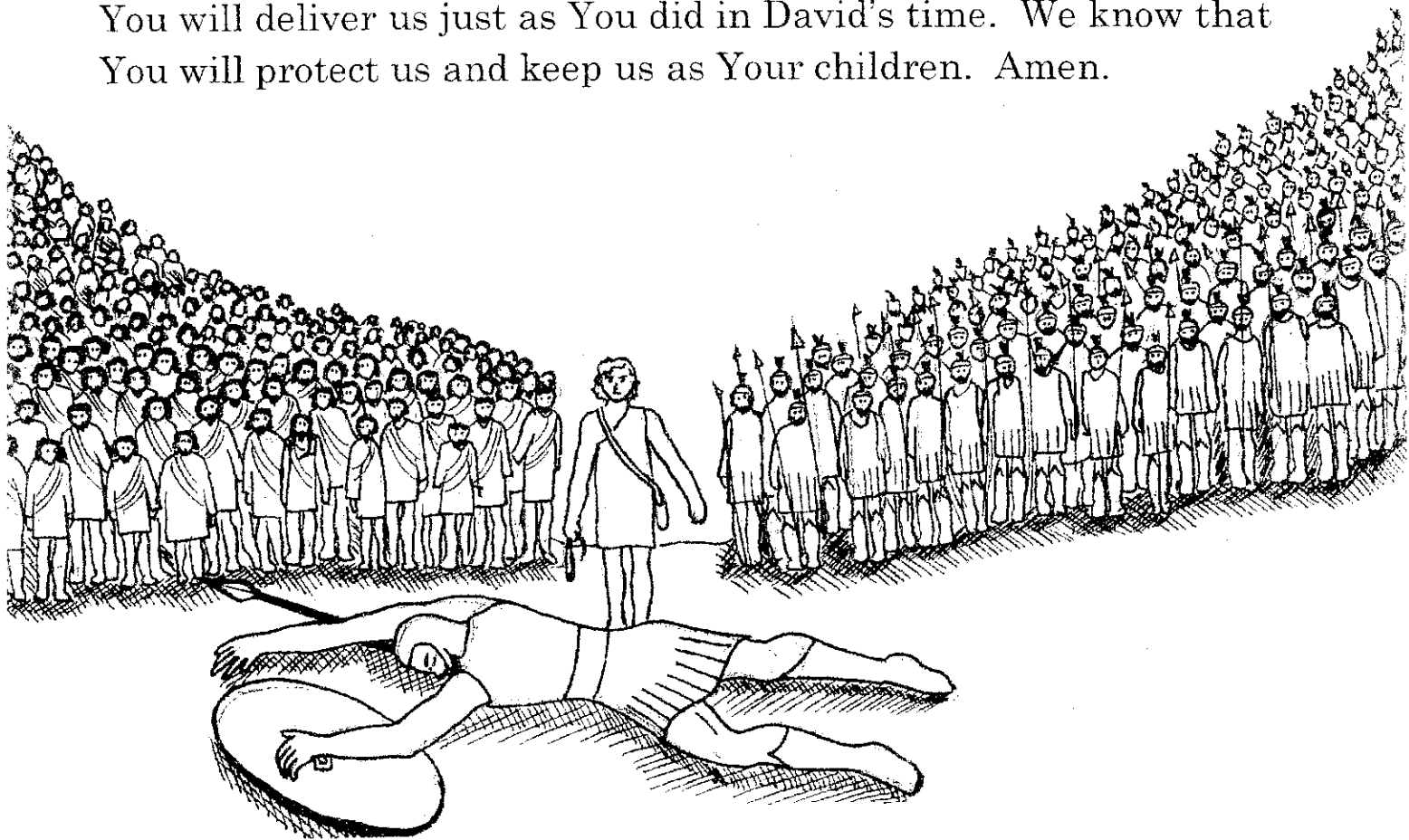
Then Goliath charged at David, and David charged at him. He reached into his bag, put a stone onto his sling and swung it around. The stone struck Goliath in the forehead, it sank in and

Goliath fell face down to the ground. Then with Goliath's sword David cut off the dead man's head. When the Philistines saw that their hero was dead, they turned around and ran.

Just because we are children of the Heavenly Father doesn't mean our life will be free of troubles. Many times during our lives we will face problems, some big ones and some little ones. Children, teenagers, and grown-ups all have trials. David knew how to deal with problems. He prayed to the Lord and trusted in Him to solve the trouble. Our Heavenly Father will not let us down. Just as Goliath, that giant of old, our trials and problems will be conquered with God's help. The Holy Spirit tells us, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

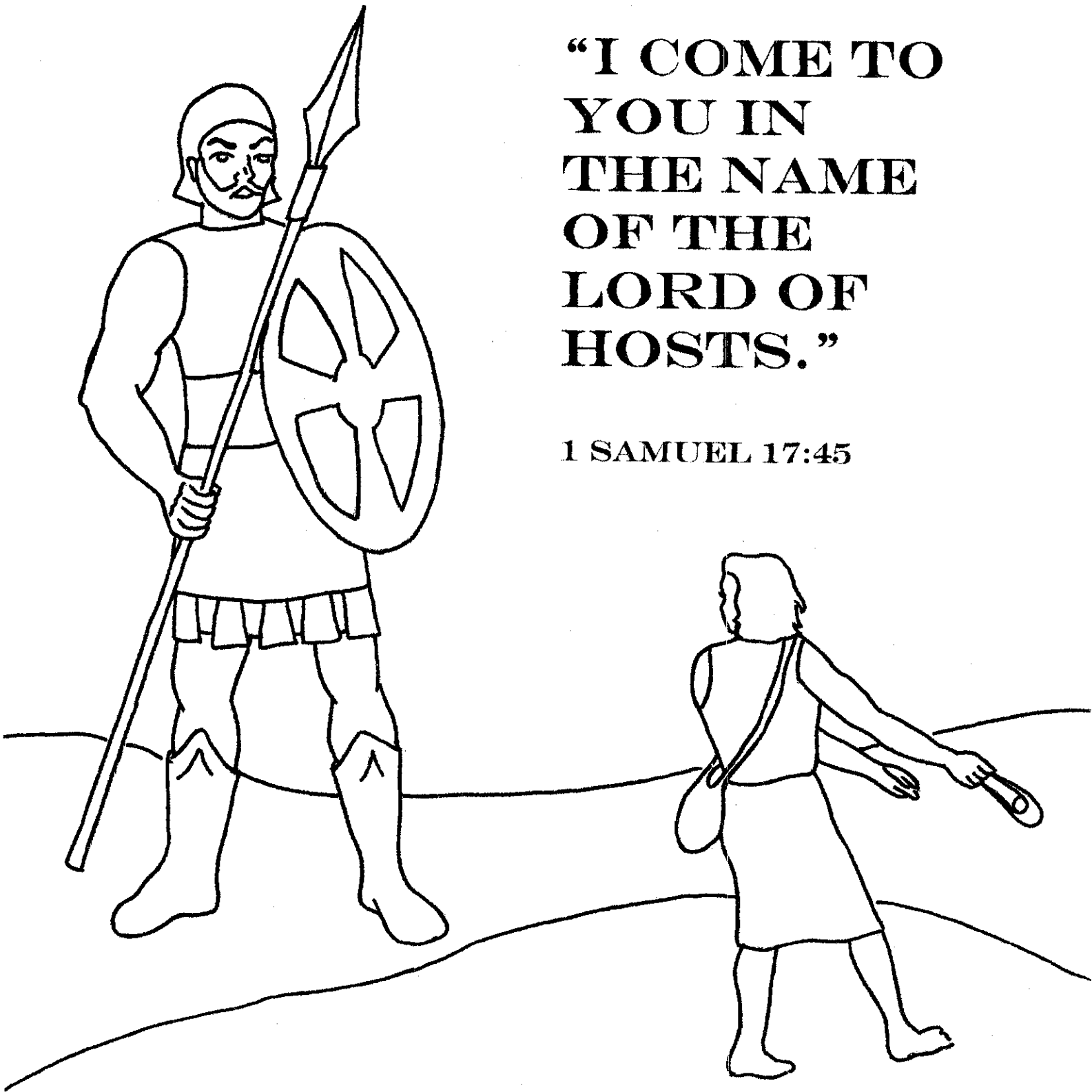
Prayer:

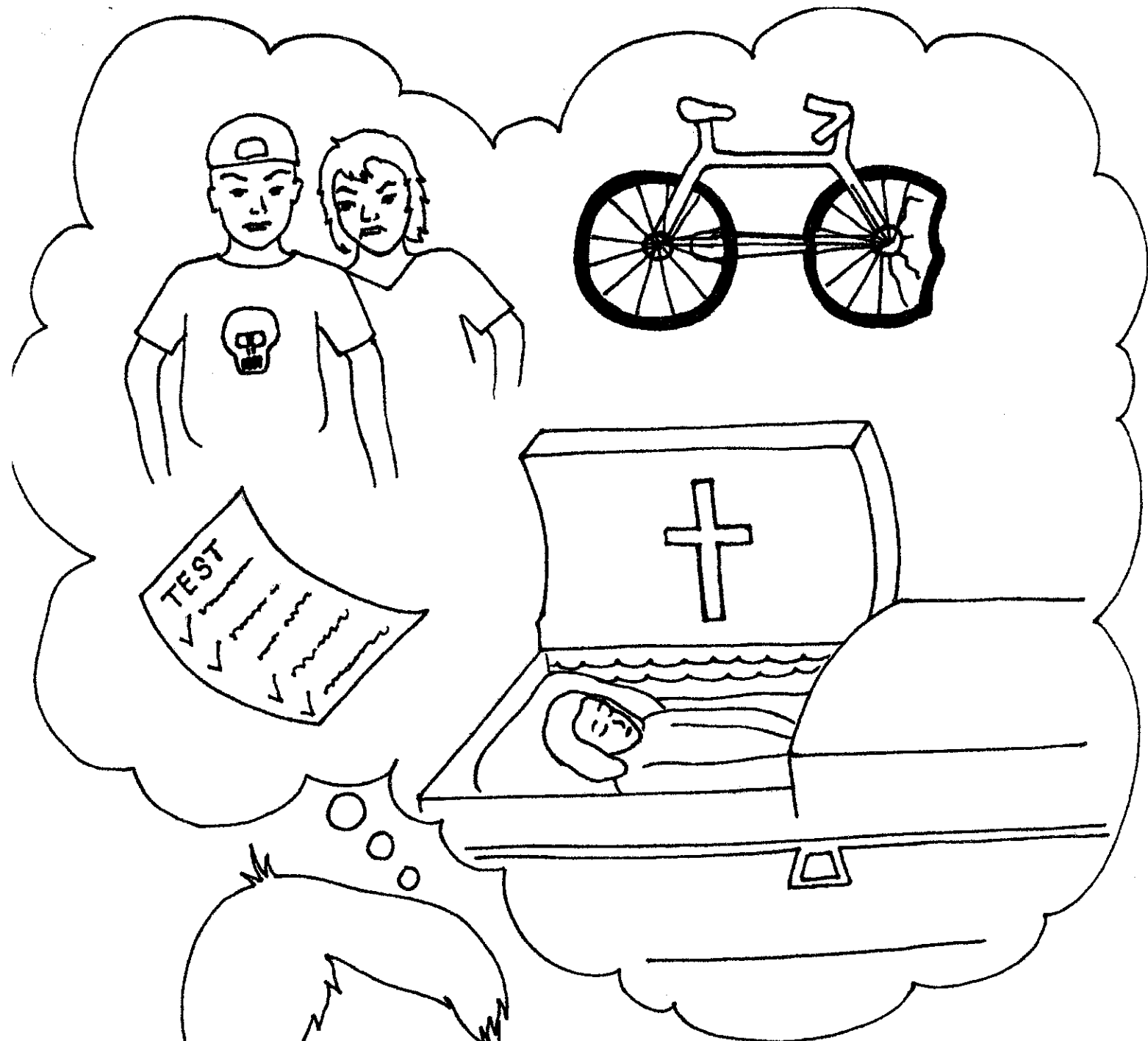
Dear Lord, You have promised to be with us always. Help us to remember to ask You for help when troubles and problems come. You will deliver us just as You did in David's time. We know that You will protect us and keep us as Your children. Amen.



**“I COME TO
YOU IN
THE NAME
OF THE
LORD OF
HOSTS.”**

1 SAMUEL 17:45

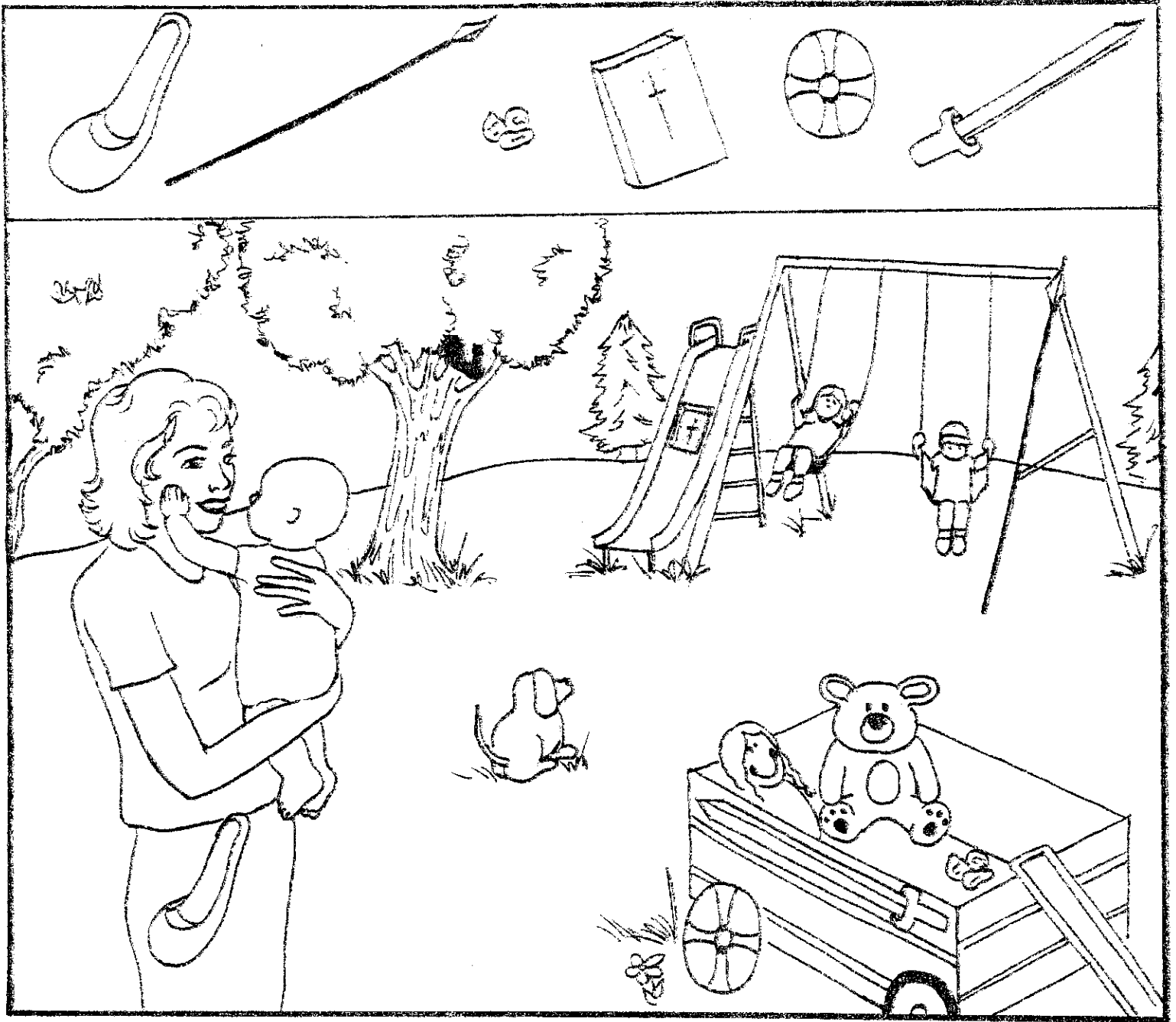




Trust the Lord with
all your heart...

Proverbs 3: 5a

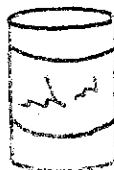
The items in the box are hidden in the picture below. Find each one and circle it. Then color the picture.



Using the pictures, finish this important Bible passage.

Romans 8:31b

"If God is for us, who



against us?"

Memory Verses **Levels I and II**

1. Mark 16:16 "He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned."
2. John 14:19b "Because I live, you will live also."
3. Mark 16:15 And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature."
4. Ecclesiastes 12:1a "Remember now your Creator in the days of your youth."
5. Romans 8:31b "If God is for us, who can be against us?"

Levels III and IV

1. II Timothy 3:15 "And that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus."
2. John 11:25-26 "Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?"
3. Romans 1:16 "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek."
4. Ephesians 2:10 "For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them."
5. Proverbs 3:5 "Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding;"

Children of the Heavenly Father Worship Supplement 2000 #785

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1) Children of the heavenly Father
Safely in His bosom gather.
Nestling bird nor star in heaven
Such a refuge e'er was given. | 3) Neither life nor death shall ever
From the Lord His children sever
Unto them His grace He showeth
And their sorrows all He knoweth |
| 2) God His Own doth tend and nourish
In His holy courts they flourish.
From all evil things He spares them;
In His mighty arms He bears them. | 4) Though He giveth or He taketh
God His children ne'er forsaketh,
His the loving purpose solely
To preserve them pure and holy. |

Hymns for Opening Devotions: TLH #1: 629; #2: 496(v.2-3); #3: 400; #4: 203; #5: 437.

Suggested Prayer

Almighty God, Maker of heaven and earth, we, Your children by faith in Christ Jesus, now call upon You. Bless each of us with the child-like faith described by Jesus, that we may trust in You for the cleansing of our sins and through the power of the Gospel enter into Your kingdom. Use us in Your kingdom to spread the message of the life, death, and resurrection of Your Son. Lead us to see the opportunities around us for preaching the Gospel. Put into us, all the days of our life, Godly repentance and Christian faith so that we may serve You with our words and deeds. In every hour of need, supply every needed blessing and finally give us the victory over death itself with our own resurrection unto eternal life. Make Your Word our constant source of strength and through it develop in us a steadfast trust in You, that we may walk by faith and not by sight. We dare to expect these blessings and to call You our Heavenly Father because of the work of Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Brother and our Savior, in Whose Name we also join to pray... Our Father...