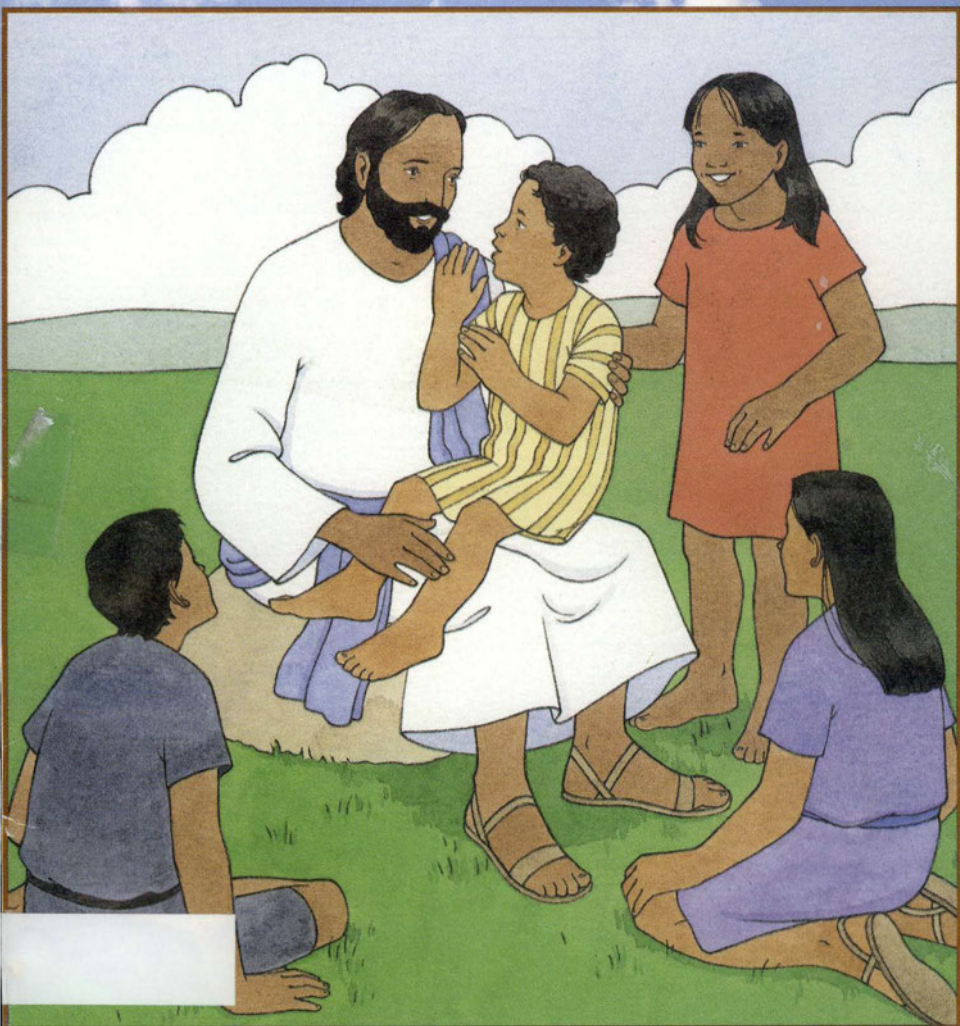


The Story of Jesus

This is the true story of Jesus Christ as told by Matthew, Mark, Luke and John in the Bible.

(Mary) will give birth to a son. And he will be called Immanuel. The name Immanuel means "God with us."

—Matthew 1:23



The Story of Jesus

English Edition

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This image shows a single page of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page, leaving small margins at the top and bottom. There are no vertical margin lines, and the page is completely blank except for the lines themselves.

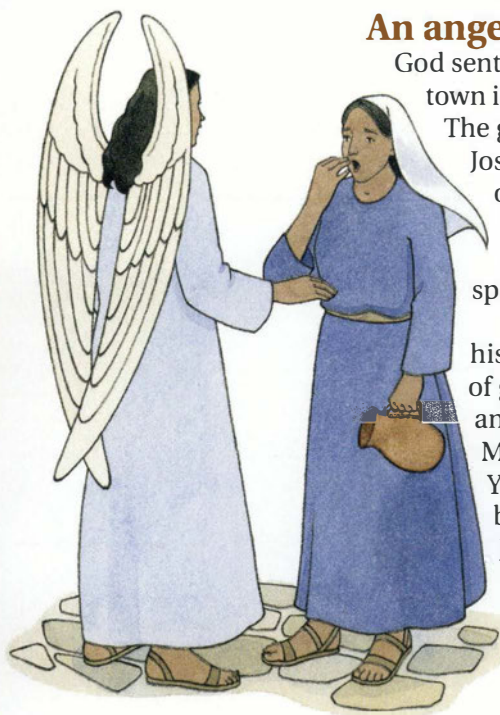
An angel visits Mary

God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee. He was sent to a virgin. The girl was engaged to a man named Joseph. He came from the family line of David. The virgin's name was Mary. The angel greeted her and said, "The Lord has given you special favor. He is with you."

Mary was very upset because of his words. She wondered what kind of greeting this could be. But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary. God is very pleased with you. You will become pregnant and give birth to a son. You must name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High God."

"I serve the Lord," Mary answered. "May it happen to me just as you said it would."

—Luke 1:26–32,38



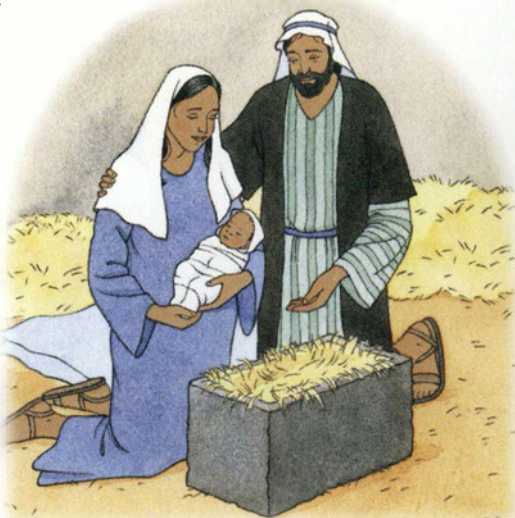
Jesus is born

In those days, Caesar Augustus made a law. It required that a list be made of everyone in the whole Roman world. All went to their own towns to be listed.

So Joseph went also. He went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea. That is where Bethlehem, the town of David, was. Joseph went there because he belonged to the family line of David. He went there with Mary to be listed. Mary was engaged to him. She was expecting a baby.

While Joseph and Mary were there, the time came for the child to be born. She gave birth to her first baby. It was a boy. She wrapped him in large strips of cloth. Then she placed him in a manger. There was no room for them in the inn.

—Luke 2:1,3–7



Simeon meets Jesus, the promised one

When the child was eight days old... he was named Jesus.

In Jerusalem there was a man named Simeon. He was a good and godly man. He was waiting for God's promise to Israel to happen. The Holy Spirit was with him. The Spirit had told Simeon that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Christ. The Spirit led him into the temple courtyard.

Then Jesus' parents brought the child in. They came to do for him what the Law required.

Simeon took Jesus in his arms and praised God. He said,
"Lord, you are the King over all.

Now let me, your servant, go in peace.

That is what you promised.

My eyes have seen your salvation.

You have prepared it in the sight of all people.

It is a light to be given to those who aren't Jews.

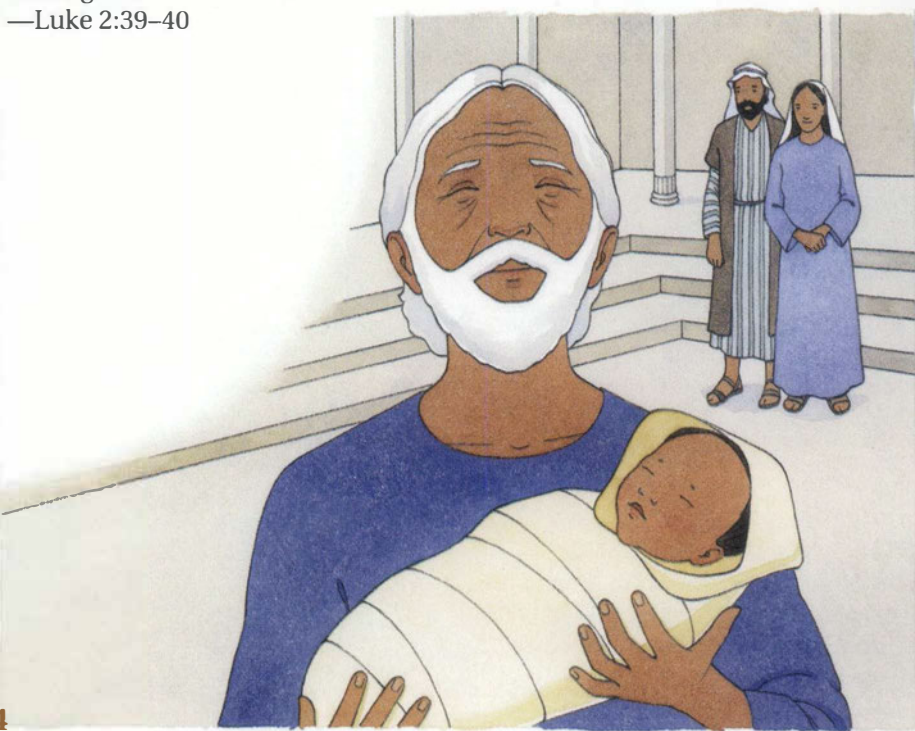
It will bring glory to your people Israel."

—Luke 2:21,25–32

Jesus grows up

Joseph and Mary did everything the Law of the Lord required. Then they returned to Galilee. They went to their own town of Nazareth. And the child grew and became strong. He was very wise. He was blessed by God's grace.

—Luke 2:39–40



Jesus goes to the temple

Every year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for the Passover Feast. When he was 12 years old, they went up to the Feast as usual.

After the Feast was over, his parents left to go back home. The boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. But they were not aware of it. They thought he was somewhere in their group. So they traveled on for a day.

Then they began to look for him among their relatives and friends. They did not find him. So they went back to Jerusalem to look for him. After three days they found him in the temple courtyard. He was sitting with the teachers.

He was listening to them and asking them questions. Everyone who heard him was amazed at how much he understood. They also were amazed at his answers.

Then he went back to Nazareth with them, and he obeyed them. But his mother kept all these things like a secret treasure in her heart. Jesus became wiser and stronger. He also became more and more pleasing to God and to people.

—Luke 2:41–47, 51–52

Jesus was about 30 years old when he began his special work for God and others.

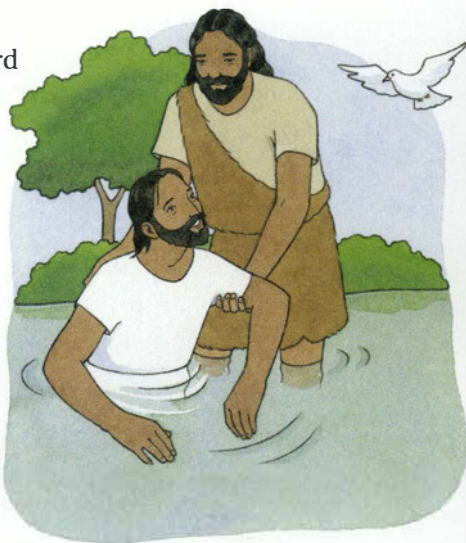
—Luke 3:23

Jesus is baptized

One day John saw Jesus coming toward him. John said, "Look! The Lamb of God! He takes away the sin of the world!"

Then John told them, "I saw the Holy Spirit come down from heaven like a dove. The Spirit remained on Jesus. I would not have known him. But the One who sent me to baptize with water told me, 'You will see the Spirit come down and remain on someone. He is the One who will baptize with the Holy Spirit.' I have seen it happen. I give witness that this is the Son of God."

—John 1:29, 32–34

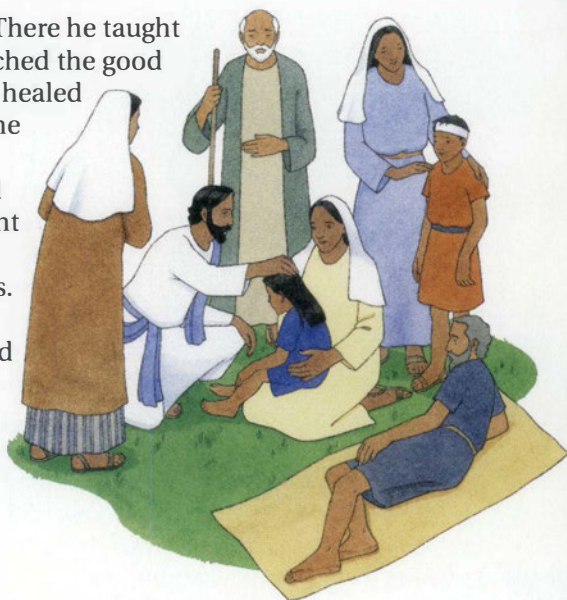


Jesus heals the sick

Jesus went all over Galilee. There he taught in the synagogues. He preached the good news of God's kingdom. He healed every illness and sickness the people had.

News about him spread all over Syria. People brought to him all who were ill with different kinds of sicknesses. Some were suffering great pain. Others were controlled by demons. Some were shaking wildly. Others couldn't move at all. And Jesus healed all of them.

—Matthew 4:23–24



Jesus heals a man who could not walk

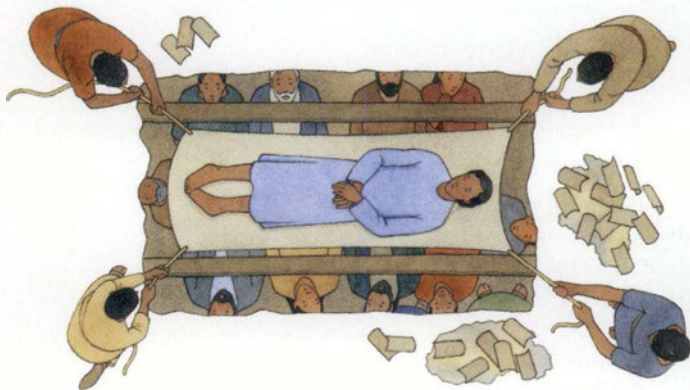
Jesus entered Capernaum again. The people heard that he had come home. So many people gathered that there was no room left. There was not even room outside the door. And Jesus preached the word to them.

Four of those who came were carrying a man who could not walk. But they could not get him close to Jesus because of the crowd. So they made a hole in the roof above Jesus. Then they lowered the man through it on a mat.

Jesus saw their faith. So he said to the man, "Son, your sins are forgiven. 'I tell you,' he said, 'get up. Take your mat and go home.'"

The man got up and took his mat. Then he walked away while everyone watched. All the people were amazed. They praised God and said, "We have never seen anything like this!"

—Mark 2:1–5, 10–12





Jesus feeds a crowd

They (the apostles and Jesus) went off by themselves to a town called Bethsaida. But the crowds learned about it and followed Jesus. He welcomed them and spoke to them about God's kingdom. He also healed those who needed to be healed.

Late in the afternoon the Twelve came to him. They said, "Send the

crowd away. They can go to the nearby villages and countryside. There they can find food and a place to stay. There is nothing here."

Jesus replied, "You give them something to eat."

The disciples answered, "We have only five loaves of bread and two fish. We would have to go and buy food for all this crowd." About 5,000 men were there.

But Jesus said to his disciples, "Have them sit down in groups of about 50 each." The disciples did so, and everyone sat down.

Jesus took the five loaves and the two fish. He looked up to heaven and gave thanks. He broke them into pieces. Then he gave them to the disciples to set in front of the people. All of them ate and were satisfied. The disciples picked up 12 baskets of leftover pieces.

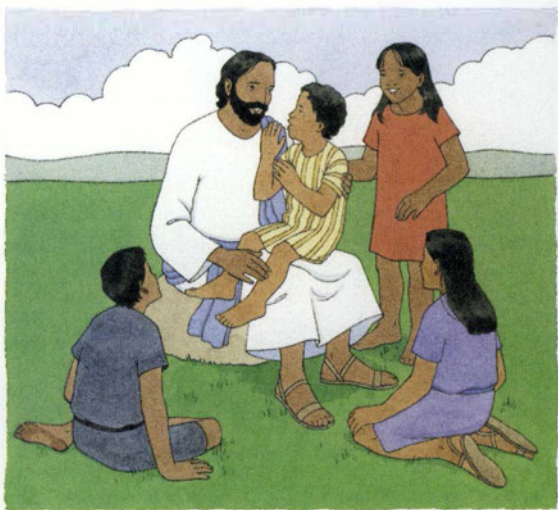
—Luke 9:10–17

Jesus loves children

Some people brought little children to Jesus. They wanted him to place his hands on the children and pray for them. But the disciples told the people to stop.

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me. Don't keep them away. The kingdom of heaven belongs to people like them." Jesus placed his hands on them. Then he went on from there.

—Matthew 19:13–15





Jesus tells a story

Jesus said, "Suppose one of you has 100 sheep and loses one of them. Won't he leave the 99 in the open country? Won't he go and look for the one lost sheep until he finds it? When he finds it, he will joyfully put it on his shoulders and go home. Then he will call his friends and neighbors together. He will say, 'Be joyful with me. I have found my lost sheep.'

"I tell you, it will be the same in heaven. There will be great joy when one sinner turns away from sin. Yes, there will be more joy than for 99 godly people who do not need to turn away from their sins."

—Luke 15:4-7

Who is Jesus?

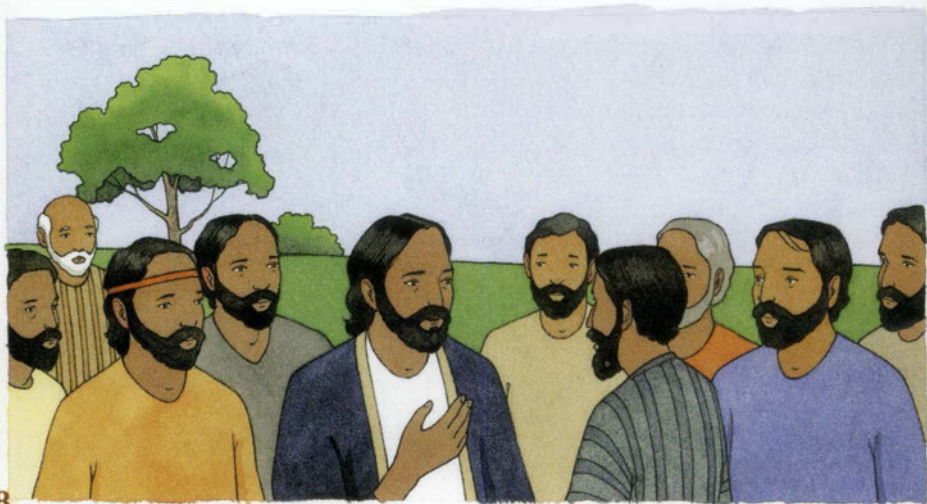
One day Jesus was praying alone. Only his disciples were with him. He asked them, "Who do the crowds say I am?"

They replied, "Some say John the Baptist. Others say Elijah. Still others say that one of the prophets of long ago has come back to life."

"But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?"

Peter answered, "The Christ of God."

—Luke 9:18-20



Jesus teaches the people

Love your enemies

“But here is what I tell you who hear me. Love your enemies. Do good to those who hate you. Bless those who call down curses on you. And pray for those who treat you badly.”

—Luke 6:27–28

Forgive

“Forgive, and you will be forgiven. Give, and it will be given to you.”

—Luke 6:37c–38a

A tree and its fruit

“A good tree doesn’t bear bad fruit. And a bad tree doesn’t bear good fruit. You can tell each tree by the kind of fruit it bears. People do not pick figs from thorns. And they don’t pick grapes from bushes.

“A good man says good things. These come from the good that is put away in his heart. An evil person says evil things. These come from the evil that is put away in his heart. Their mouths say everything that is in their hearts.”

—Luke 6:43–45

Ask, search, knock

Then Jesus said to them, “Suppose someone has a friend. He goes to him at midnight. He says, ‘Friend, lend me three loaves of bread. A friend of mine on a journey has come to stay with me. I have nothing for him to eat.’

“Then the one inside answers, ‘Don’t bother me. The door is already locked. My children are with me in bed. I can’t get up and give you anything.’

“I tell you, that person will not get up. And he won’t give the man bread just because he is his friend. But because the man keeps on asking, he will get up. He will give him as much as he needs.

“So here is what I say to you. Ask, and it will be given to you. Search, and you will find. Knock, and the door will be opened to you. Everyone who asks will receive. He who searches will find. And the door will be opened to the one who knocks.”

—Luke 11:5–10

Don’t worry. Put God’s kingdom first.

“Don’t spend time thinking about what you will eat or drink. Don’t worry about it. People who are ungodly run after all of those things. Your Father knows that you need them.

“But put God’s kingdom first. Then those other things will also be given to you.”

—Luke 12:29–31

Judas agrees to hand Jesus over

The Feast of Unleavened Bread, called the Passover, was near. The chief priests and the teachers of the law were looking for a way to get rid of Jesus. They were afraid of the people.

Then Satan entered Judas, who was called Iscariot. Judas was one of the Twelve. He went to the chief priests and the officers of the temple guard. He talked with them about how he could hand Jesus over to them. They were delighted and agreed to give him money.

Judas accepted their offer. He watched for the right time to hand Jesus over to them. He wanted to do it when no crowd was around.

—Luke 22:1-6



Jesus goes before Pilate

It was early in the morning. All the chief priests and the elders of the people decided to put Jesus to death. They tied him up and led him away. Then they handed him over to Pilate, who was the governor.

Jesus was standing in front of the governor (Pilate). The governor asked him, "Are you the king of the Jews?"

"Yes. It is just as you say," Jesus replied.

But when the chief priests and the elders brought charges against him, he did not answer. Then Pilate asked him, "Don't you hear the charges they are bringing against you?"

But Jesus made no reply, not even to a single charge. The governor was really amazed.

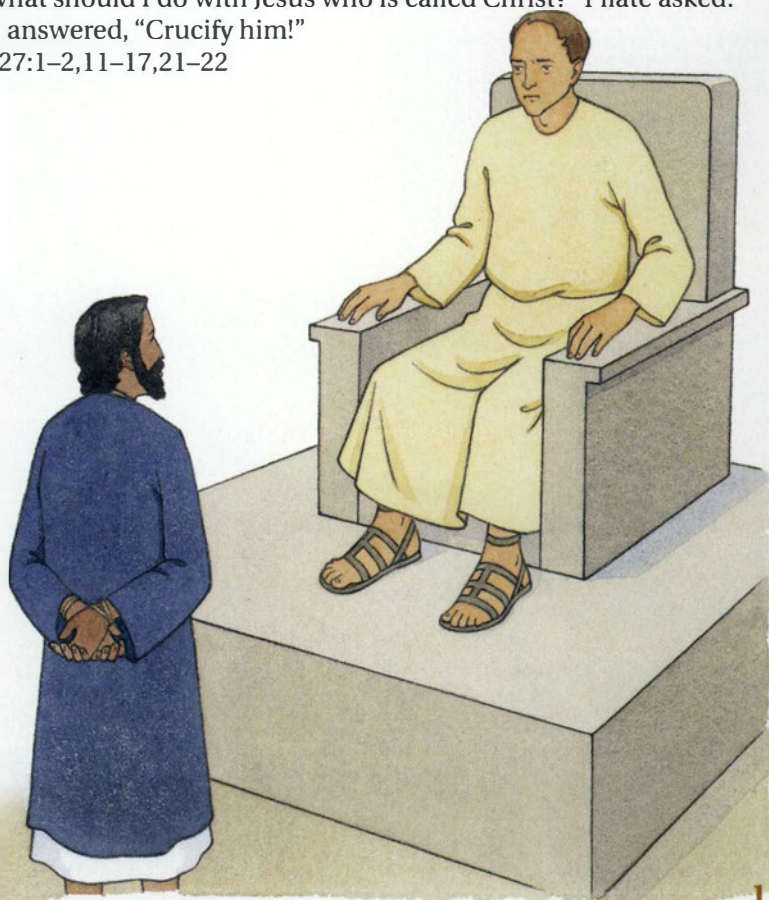
It was the governor's practice at the Passover Feast to let one prisoner go free. The people could choose the one they wanted. At that time they had a well-known prisoner named Barabbas. So when the crowd gathered, Pilate asked them, "Which one do you want me to set free? Barabbas? Or Jesus who is called Christ?"

"Barabbas," they answered.

"Then what should I do with Jesus who is called Christ?" Pilate asked.

They all answered, "Crucify him!"

—Matthew 27:1–2, 11–17, 21–22



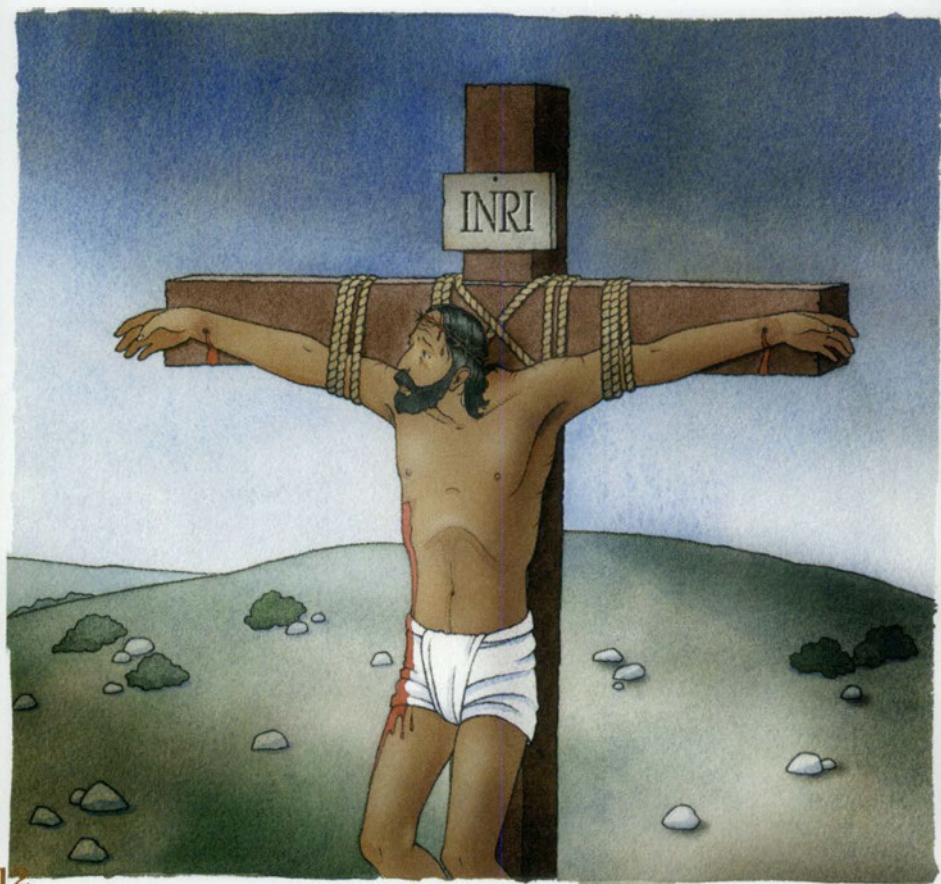
Jesus is crucified

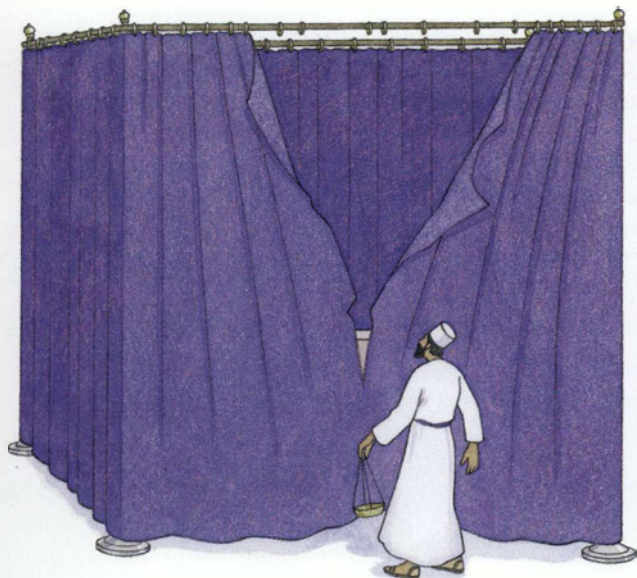
Finally, Pilate handed over Jesus to them (the Jews) to be nailed to a cross.

So the soldiers took charge of Jesus. He had to carry his own cross. He went out to a place called The Skull. In the Aramaic language it was called Golgotha. There they nailed Jesus to the cross. Two other men were crucified with him. One was on each side of him. Jesus was in the middle.

Pilate had a notice prepared. It was fastened to the cross. It read, JESUS OF NAZARETH, THE KING OF THE JEWS. Many of the Jews read the sign. The place where Jesus was crucified was near the city. The sign was written in the Aramaic, Latin and Greek languages.

—John 19:16–20





Temple curtain tears

It was now about noon. The whole land was covered with darkness until three o'clock. The sun had stopped shining. The temple curtain was torn in two. Jesus called in a loud voice, "Father, into your hands I commit my very life." After he said this, he took his last breath.

—Luke 23:44-46

Jesus was our sacrifice

The blood of Christ set you free from an empty way of life. That way of life was handed down to you by your own people long ago. You know that you were not bought with things that can pass away, like silver or gold. Instead, you were bought by the priceless blood of Christ. He is a perfect lamb. He doesn't have any flaws at all. He was chosen before God created the world. But he came into the world in these last days for you.

—1 Peter 1:18-20

Jesus is buried

Later Joseph asked Pilate for Jesus' body. Joseph was from the town of Arimathea. He was a follower of Jesus. But he followed Jesus secretly because he was afraid of the Jews. After Pilate gave him permission, Joseph came and took the body away.

Nicodemus went with Joseph. He was the man who had earlier visited Jesus at night. Nicodemus brought some mixed spices, about 75 pounds. The two men took Jesus' body. They wrapped it in strips of linen cloth, along with the spices. That was the way the Jews buried people's bodies.

At the place where Jesus was crucified, there was a garden. A new tomb was there. No one had ever been put in it before. That day was the Jewish Preparation Day, and the tomb was nearby. So they placed Jesus there.

—John 19:38-42

Jesus is alive!

It was very early in the morning on the first day of the week. The women took the spices they had prepared. Then they went to the tomb. They found the stone rolled away from it. When they entered the tomb, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. They were wondering about this.

Suddenly two men in clothes as bright as lightning stood beside them. The women were terrified. They bowed down with their faces to the ground.

Then the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? Jesus is not here! He has risen! Remember how he told you he would rise. It was while he was still with you in Galilee. He said, 'The Son of Man must be handed over to sinful people. He must be nailed to a cross. On the third day he will rise from the dead.' "



Then the women remembered Jesus' words.

They came back from the tomb. They told all these things to the Eleven and to all the others. Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the others with them were the ones who told the apostles.

—Luke 24:1–10

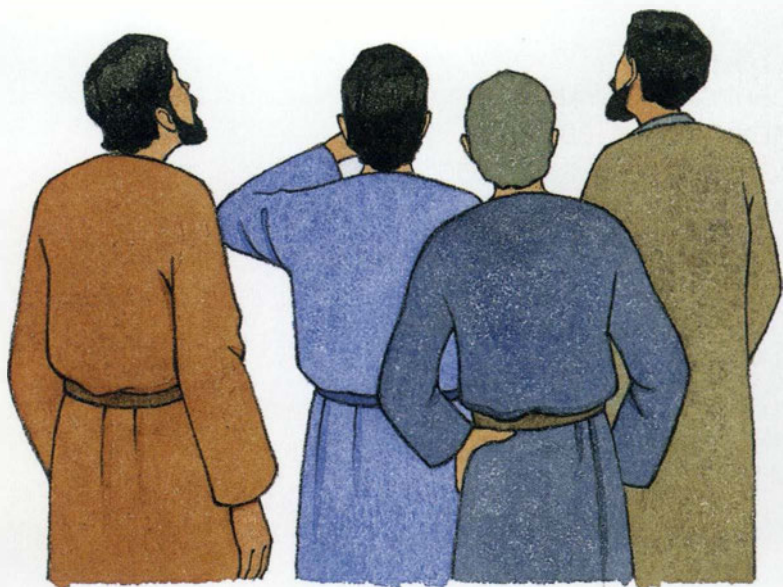
Jesus returns to heaven

He (Jesus) said to them (the apostles), "You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you. Then you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem. You will be my witnesses in all Judea and Samaria. And you will be my witnesses from one end of the earth to the other."

After Jesus said this, he was taken up to heaven. They watched until a cloud hid him from their sight.

While he was going up, they kept on looking at the sky. Suddenly two men dressed in white clothing stood beside them. "Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand here looking at the sky? Jesus has been taken away from you into heaven. But he will come back in the same way you saw him go."

—Acts 1:8–11

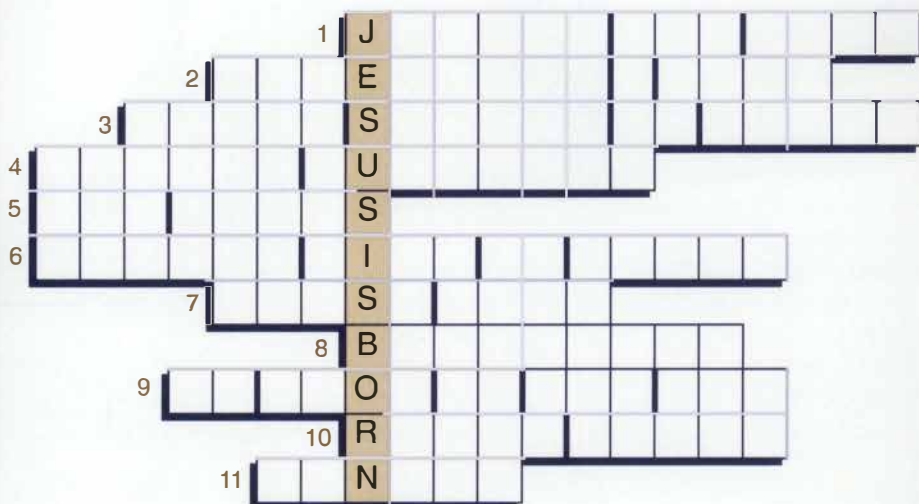


Jesus also did many other things. What if every one of them were written down? I suppose that even the whole world would not have room for the books that would be written.

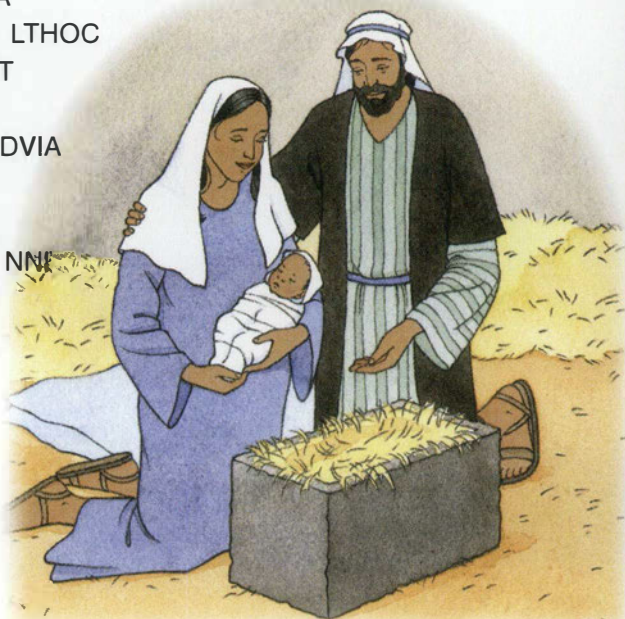
—John 21:25

Jesus is born

Important elements of the story of Jesus' birth are listed below. (You can find this story on page 3.) Unscramble the words to fill in the boxes that go from left to right.



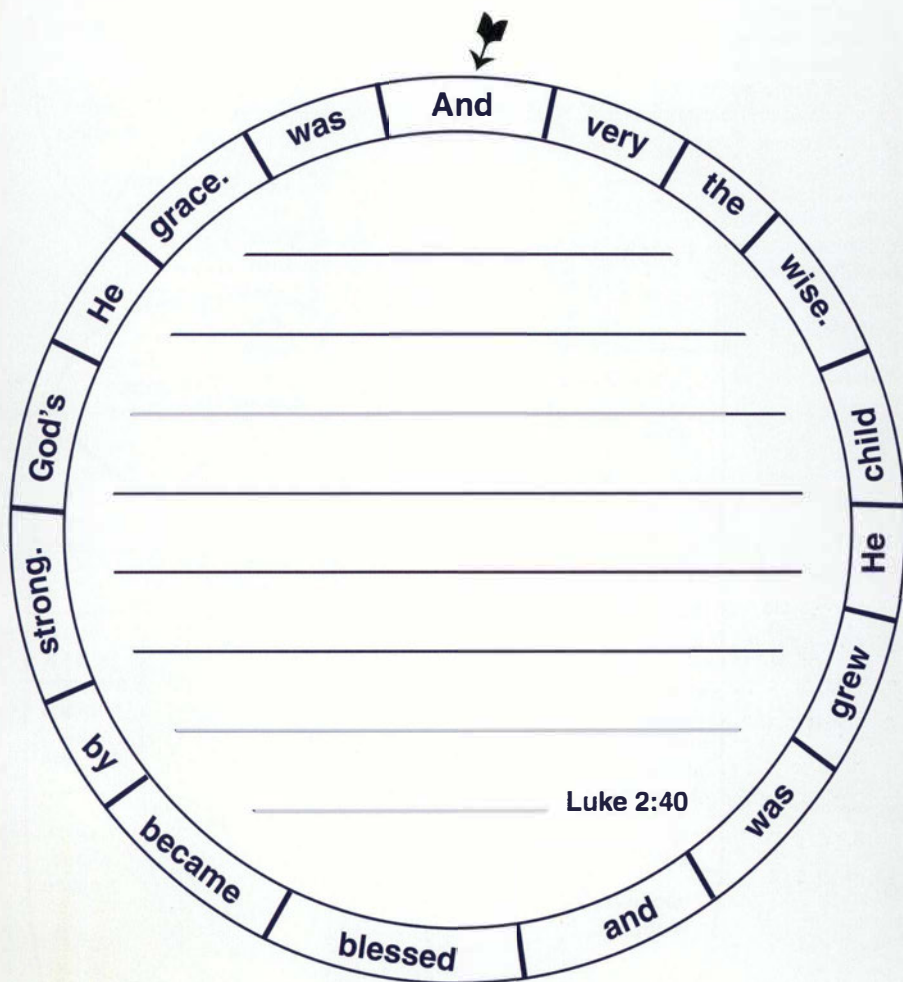
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7. TSIRF BBYA
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Jesus grows up

Jesus was a child just like you. What can you discover about Jesus from the Scripture below?

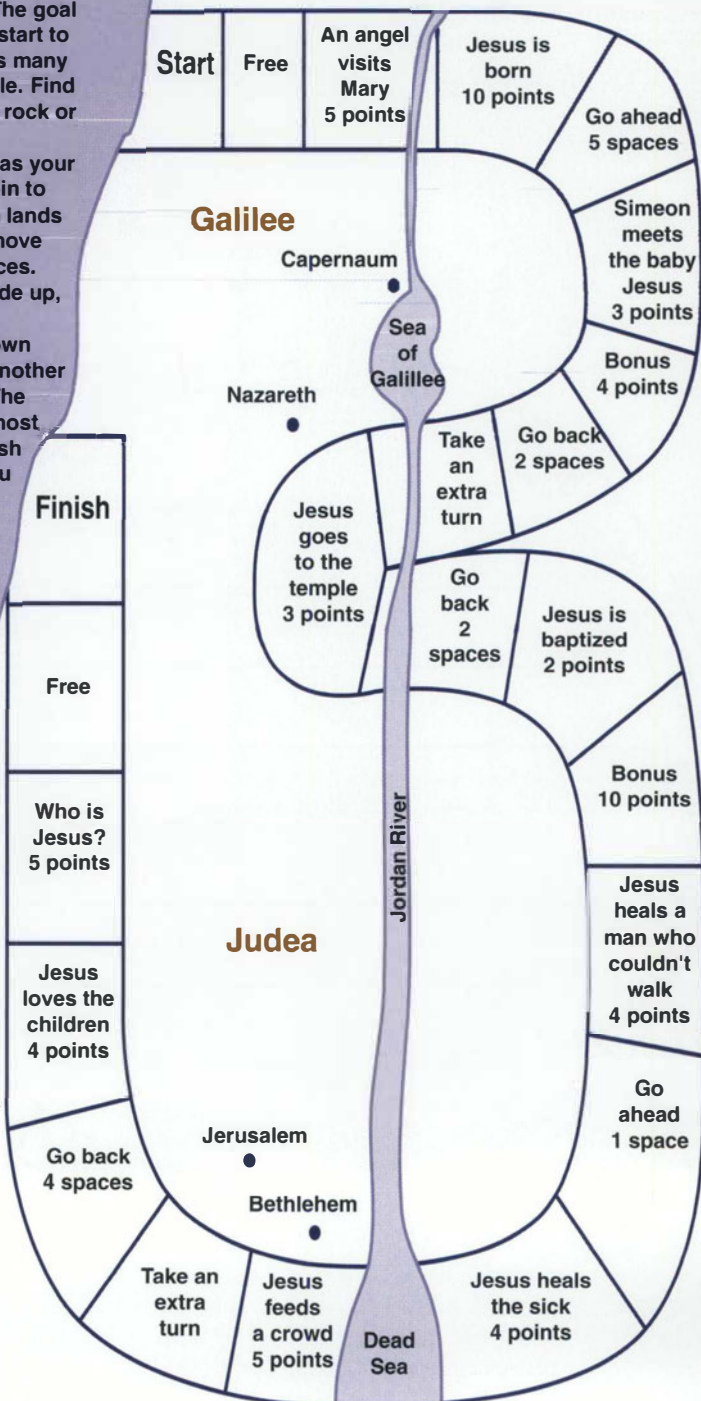
Start at the arrow and write every other word in the middle of the circle.



Travel with Jesus

This game shows some of the events in the story of Jesus. The goal is to move from start to finish, gaining as many points as possible. Find a small object (a rock or a paper clip, for example) to use as your marker. Flip a coin to move. If the coin lands heads side up, move ahead three spaces. If it lands tails side up, move ahead two spaces. Write down your points on another piece of paper. The player with the most points at the finish is the winner. You can play with friends, or you can play by yourself and try to beat your own score.

Mediterranean Sea



Who is he?

The words of Luke 9:18–20 are mixed up in this dot-to-dot game. Connect the groups of words by drawing a line from one start to another in the correct order. If you need help, check the verse on page eight. Fill in the blanks at the bottom of the page by using the bold letters in the same order as the verses. For example, the first two blanks should be **t** and **h** from the bold letters at the start of the verses.

One day Jesus was praying alone. Only his disciples were with him. He asked them,

*"Others **s**ay Elijah."*



They replied,



Start "Who do
the
crowds
say I am?"



Finish
"But what about you?"
he asked, "Who **d**o you
say I am?"



"Still others say
that one **o**f the
prophets of long
ago has come
back to life."



"Some say John
the Baptist."

"Who do you say I am?"

Peter answered,

" _____
_____ "



Jesus is alive!

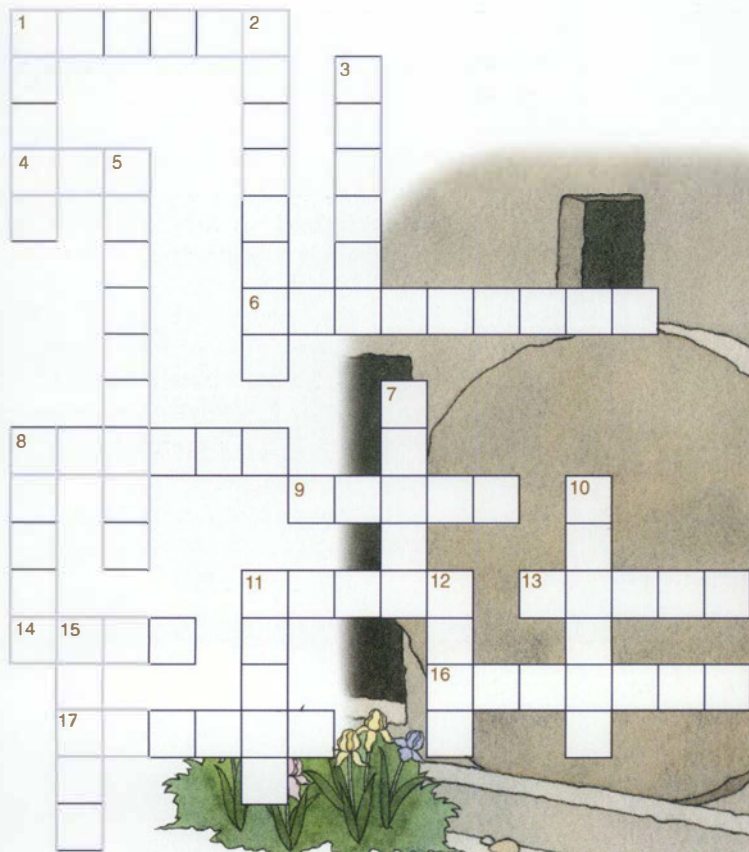
See how well you know the story of Jesus rising from the dead from Luke 24:1-16b. Write the missing words in the puzzle spaces shown in parentheses. If you need help, you can read the story on page 14. The answers are given upside-down at the bottom of the page.

It was very (15 down) in the (16 across) on the (11 across) day of the week. The (13 across) took the (1 across) they had prepared. Then they went to the (12 down).

They found the (1 down) (17 across) away from it. When they entered the tomb, they did not find the body of the Lord (7 down). They were wondering about this.

(2 down) two in clothes as (8 across) as (6 across) stood beside them. The women were (5 down). They (8 down) down with their (11 down) to the (10 down).

Then the men said to them, "Why do you look for the (3 down) among the (14 across)? Jesus is (4 across) here! He has (9 across)!"



Jesus loves me

How exciting it would have been to be alive on earth when Jesus walked on our planet. Perhaps Jesus would have touched you. Or you would have listened to his stories and seen him heal the sick. But the excitement didn't end long ago. Jesus wants you to know he loves you right now. He wants to meet you in your heart, soul and mind. Are you ready to answer him the same as Peter by saying, "Jesus, you are the Christ"?



Complete this prayer by filling in the blanks with information about yourself and with what you learned about Jesus.

Jesus, it was easy to tell you were a special baby. The angel had to tell your mother about your birth. And then Simeon waited all his life to see you.

I was born _____ years ago. I live with _____.
But I also want to be your child. I read how you put your hands on the children and told them to come to you. When I think about that, I _____.

God loved the world so much that he gave his one and only Son. Anyone who believes in him will not die but will have eternal life. —John 3:16

When you fed the 5,000 people with just two loaves of bread, healed the sick people and then died for all of us it made me realize _____.



But I know I have a problem. I have done many things that you would not like. Sometimes I want everything for myself instead of caring about you and others. Sometimes I say unkind things about others to make myself look important. And, sometimes _____.

I am sorry. The Bible tells me, *Everyone has sinned. No one measures up to God's glory.* (Romans 3:23)
The next verse says, *The free gift of God's grace makes all of us right with him. Christ Jesus paid the price to set us free.* (Romans 3:24)

Thank you, Jesus, for making me free from sin. I can not do it by myself.

The first thing I want to study in the Bible is _____.

It is God's word. It is at work in you who believe. —1 Thessalonians 2:13

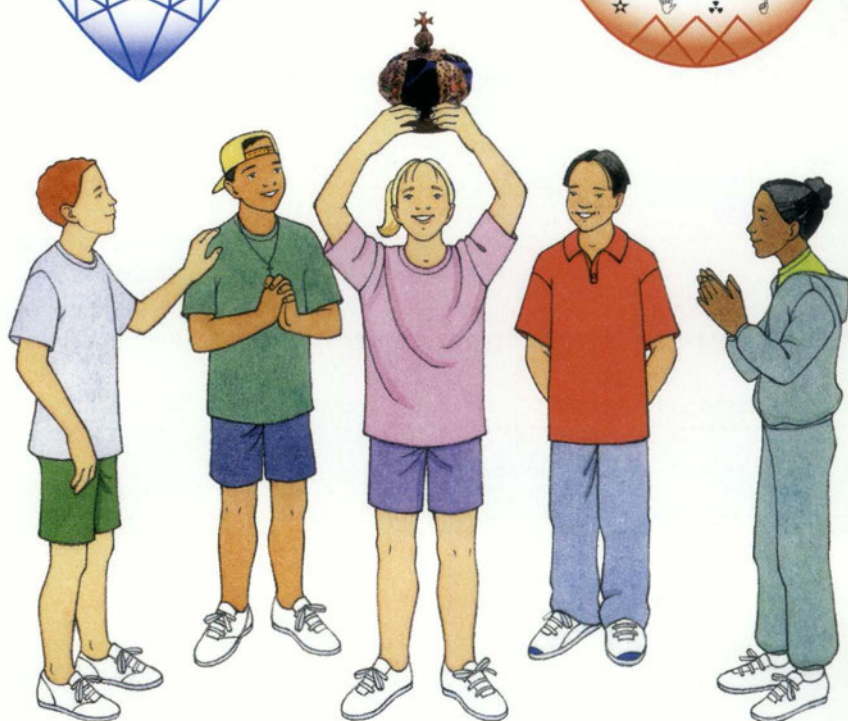
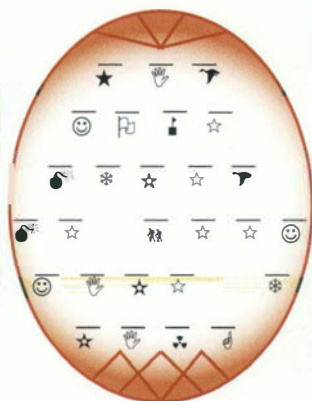
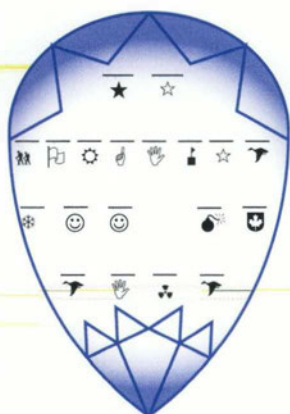
Thank you, Jesus, that you care about me at all times. I am not alone when you are with me. I love you. Jesus, you are my _____.



Gems

Use the code to read the gems from Psalm 103:3–4.

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



My thoughts about Jesus

This image shows a single page of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There is no handwriting or other markings on the paper.

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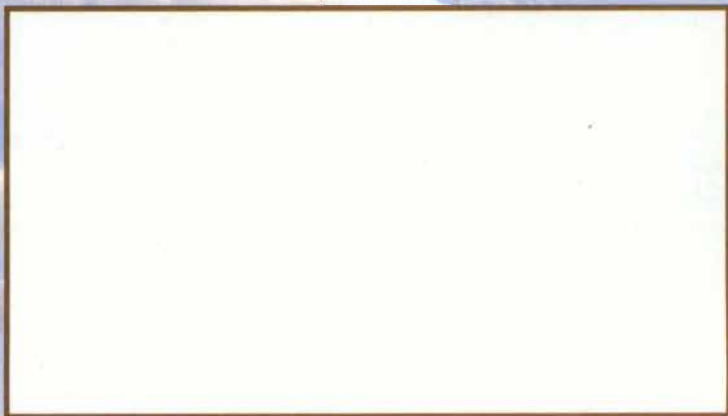
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