

## Thank You, God!

“Now I’d like to go around the class and have each one of you tell me one thing that you are thankful for,” Justin’s Sunday school teacher said. “Katrina, will you start?”

Katrina said, “I’m thankful for the sunshine because it is so nice and warm when I go out to play.”

Lance was next. “I’m thankful for good food, especially hamburgers.” Everybody laughed because they already knew that Lance’s favorite food was hamburgers.

“I’m thankful for my mommy and daddy,” Suzie said next.

“I’m thankful that God made the

pretty flowers and trees,” said Margie.

Then it was Justin’s turn. “I’m thankful for my cowboy boots.” He stopped, and then went on. “Could I tell you all why I’m thankful?”

His teacher nodded. “Of course, Justin. We’d love to hear.”

Justin explained. “I’ve wanted cowboy boots for a long, long time. I even told Mom I would give her my allowance for two whole months if she would get me some. But she said they just cost too much money. Daddy hasn’t been able to work since he hurt his back, and we have to use our money for food and stuff like that.”

“Mom told me to pray about it, so I did. Every night I asked God to help me find a way to get some cowboy boots. And He heard! You know what? Last week Mrs. Jensen, who lives next door to us, brought over a sack of things that had belonged to her grandson. She thought maybe we could use them. And right at the bottom of the sack were . . . these!” Justin stuck his feet out from under his chair so everyone could see the shiny brown boots.

Justin’s teacher smiled. “Justin, thank you so much for sharing this with us. We are so happy to hear how God answered your prayer. Isn’t He good to us?”

Justin nodded soberly. “I just wish there was something I could do to show God that I love Him.”

“Very well,” said his teacher. “Could you please put these Bible-story books back on the shelf?” Justin got up and put the books back. “Now, please pass these attendance charts out to everyone in the class.” Again, Justin did as he was told.

“Do you know what you just did, Justin?” she asked as he took his seat. “By being a helper to me, you were saying thank you to God. Whenever you help other people, you are helping God. It is a good thing to be thankful to God. And being a willing helper is one of the very best ways to say thank you!”

## Positive Words

One way to give thanks to God is to be positive! Finish each of the sentences below in a good way.



I like the way \_\_\_\_\_.



When I grow up I \_\_\_\_\_.



I would like to \_\_\_\_\_.

Thank you for \_\_\_\_\_.

I will help you \_\_\_\_\_.



# Preparing for This Bible Lesson

## *Parent's Corner*

"Giving thanks to God," has been chosen as the theme for the next unit of lessons. The unit opens with a general lesson on the importance of being thankful.

This week, help your child make a scratch picture showing something for which he is thankful. Using one or more bright colors, have him color an entire sheet of paper. Then have him color over this with a black crayon.

Take a sharply pointed instrument and scratch a picture, removing the top layer of black to reveal the bright colors underneath. Be sure to have him scratch a title on his work.

## *Time Together for Family Devotions*

Verses to help your child understand this Bible lesson.

**Sunday:** Psalm 92:1

**Monday:** Hebrews 13:15

**Tuesday:** Psalm 35:18

**Wednesday:** I Chronicles 16:8

**Thursday:** I Peter 2:9

**Friday:** Ephesians 5:19

**Saturday:** Philippians 4:4

## *Bible Text*

Psalm 92:1-5

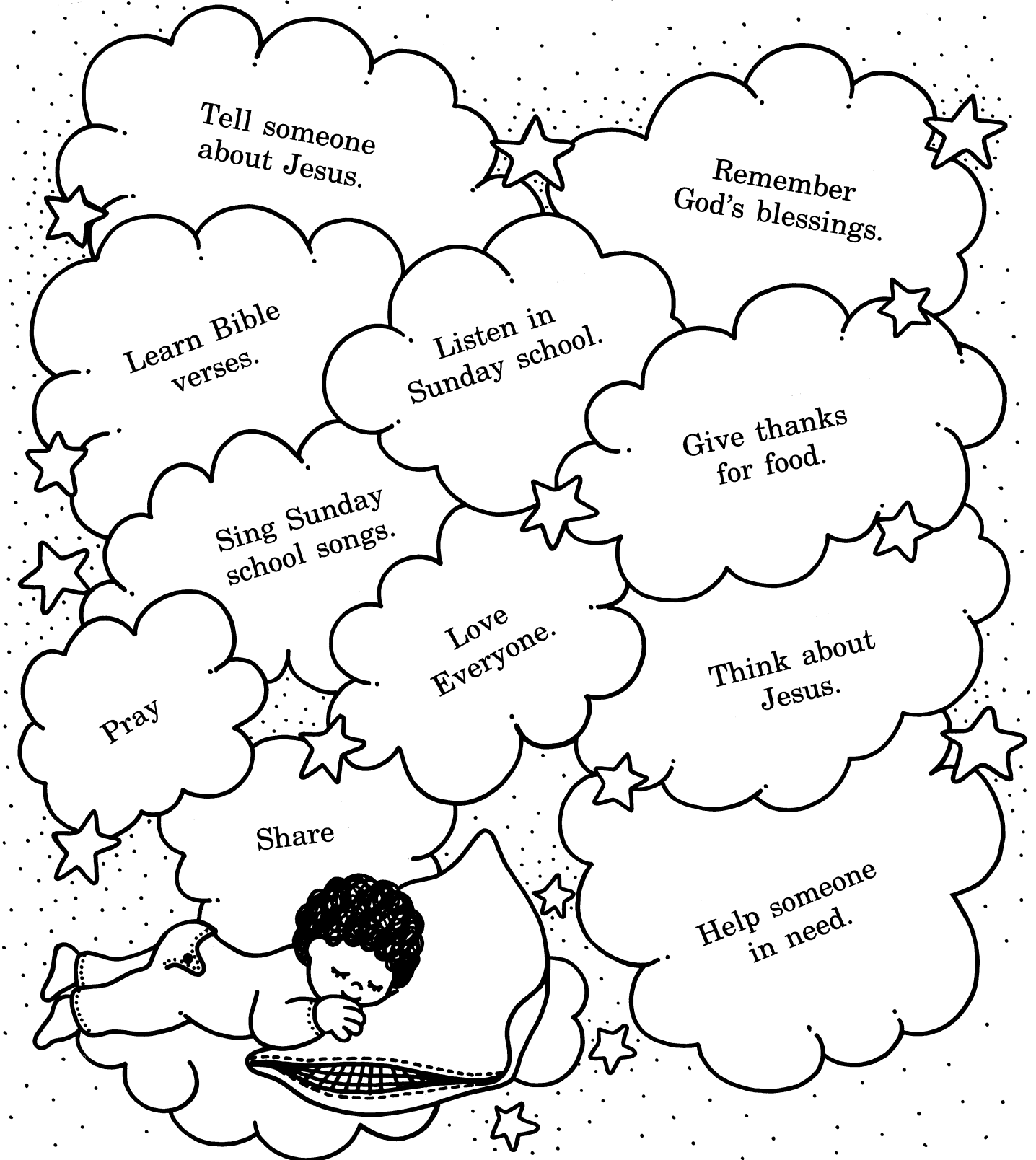
THANK  
YOU  
JESUS!

## *Memory Verse*

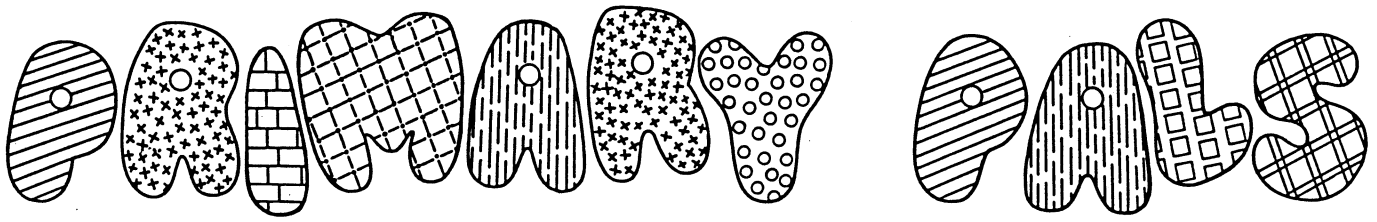
It is a good thing to give thanks unto the LORD. — Psalm 92:1

# Just Say Thanks!

Color the clouds that tell of some of your favorite ways to thank and praise the Lord.



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



## An Added Blessing

It was going to be another sad day for the ten men. Nothing to look forward to. No place to go. All of their families and friends lived inside the village. The ten men got very lonesome for the people they loved.

These ten men had a very bad disease called leprosy. Any person that had leprosy could not live inside the cities or villages. They had to live apart so that other people would not become sick with leprosy. The people who lived in the cities would stay away from them and go another way when they saw them coming. This made the ten men very sad.

One day they were standing together and they saw Jesus entering their village. They had heard about Jesus and what He had done for other people who were sick. They wanted Jesus to do the same for them. Would He make them well? Should they ask Him? It was worth a try.

They all called out, "Jesus, have mercy on us. Jesus, have mercy on us." They wanted Jesus to hear them. They wanted Jesus to make them well.

Jesus saw them and heard their cries. He called out to them and told them to go and show themselves to the

priests. The priests were the ones who could tell them the disease was gone and they could go back to their families.

They hurried to get to the priests as fast as they could. As they went, one of the men looked at his skin, and he could hardly believe what he saw. The leprosy was gone! They all looked at their skin. They were healed! They were so happy. Now they would be able to live with their families.

Nine of the men ran on into the village. They wanted to tell everyone! But one of the men was so thankful that he ran back to Jesus. He fell down at Jesus' feet and said, "Thank You,

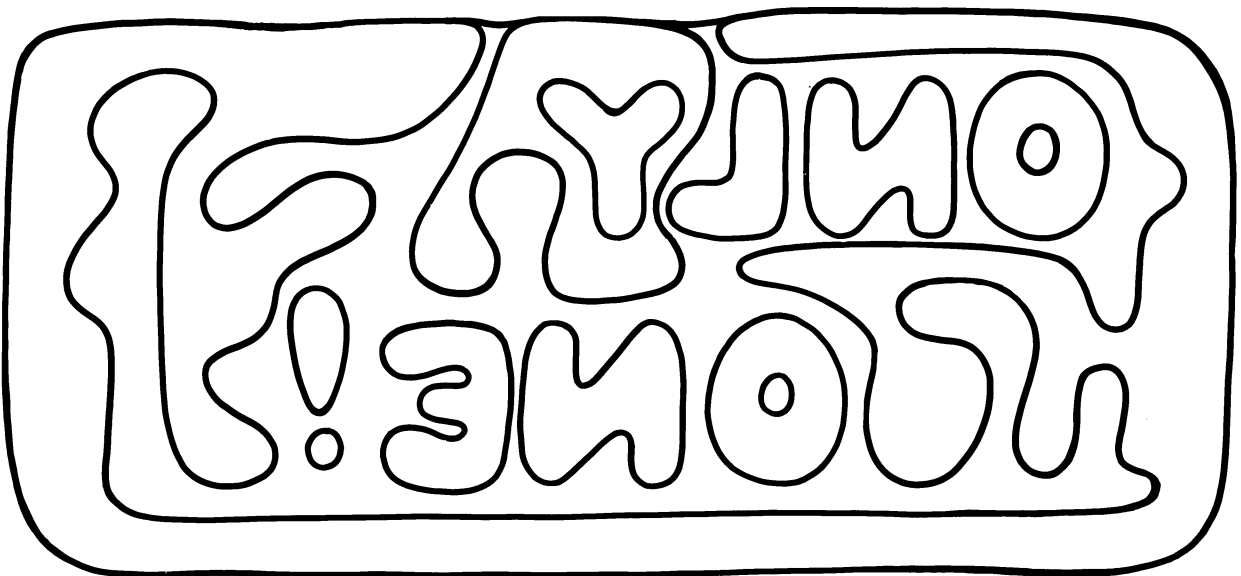
Jesus." Jesus was so happy that the man had come back to thank Him. He asked the man where the other nine men were. Jesus was sad because they didn't say thank you.

The one man that did thank Jesus was extra happy. Jesus gave him the greatest blessing of all—He took the sin out of his heart. Oh, he was so glad that he had come back to thank Jesus.

Did you know that Jesus wants us to thank Him too? When we have a need and ask Jesus to help us, He is always there. He likes for us to thank Him when He helps us. When we pray, Jesus wants us to thank Him for all the many blessings He gives us.

## How Many?

Jesus healed ten men. How many of them said thank you? Color the backward letters below, then hold this page up to a mirror and read the answer.



# Preparing for This Bible Lesson

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

This Bible story is a specific example of one man who was thankful. One leper, from among ten who were healed, came back to thank the Lord. Your child will learn that the one leper received a special blessing from God because he was truly thankful, and expressed his gratitude.

Spend some time with your child this week to help him learn his memory verse for this lesson. Talk about ways we can make a "joyful noise" unto the Lord.

There are many good tapes and records of religious music for children. Choose a song from one of these to learn together, and at the end of the week let your child sing it for the whole family.

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

Verses to help your child understand this Bible lesson.

**Sunday:** Psalm 95:2

**Monday:** Psalm 147:3

**Tuesday:** Acts 2:47

**Wednesday:** I Thessalonians 5:18

**Thursday:** II Corinthians 2:14

**Friday:** Psalm 67:3

**Saturday:** Psalm 29:2



## ***Bible Text***

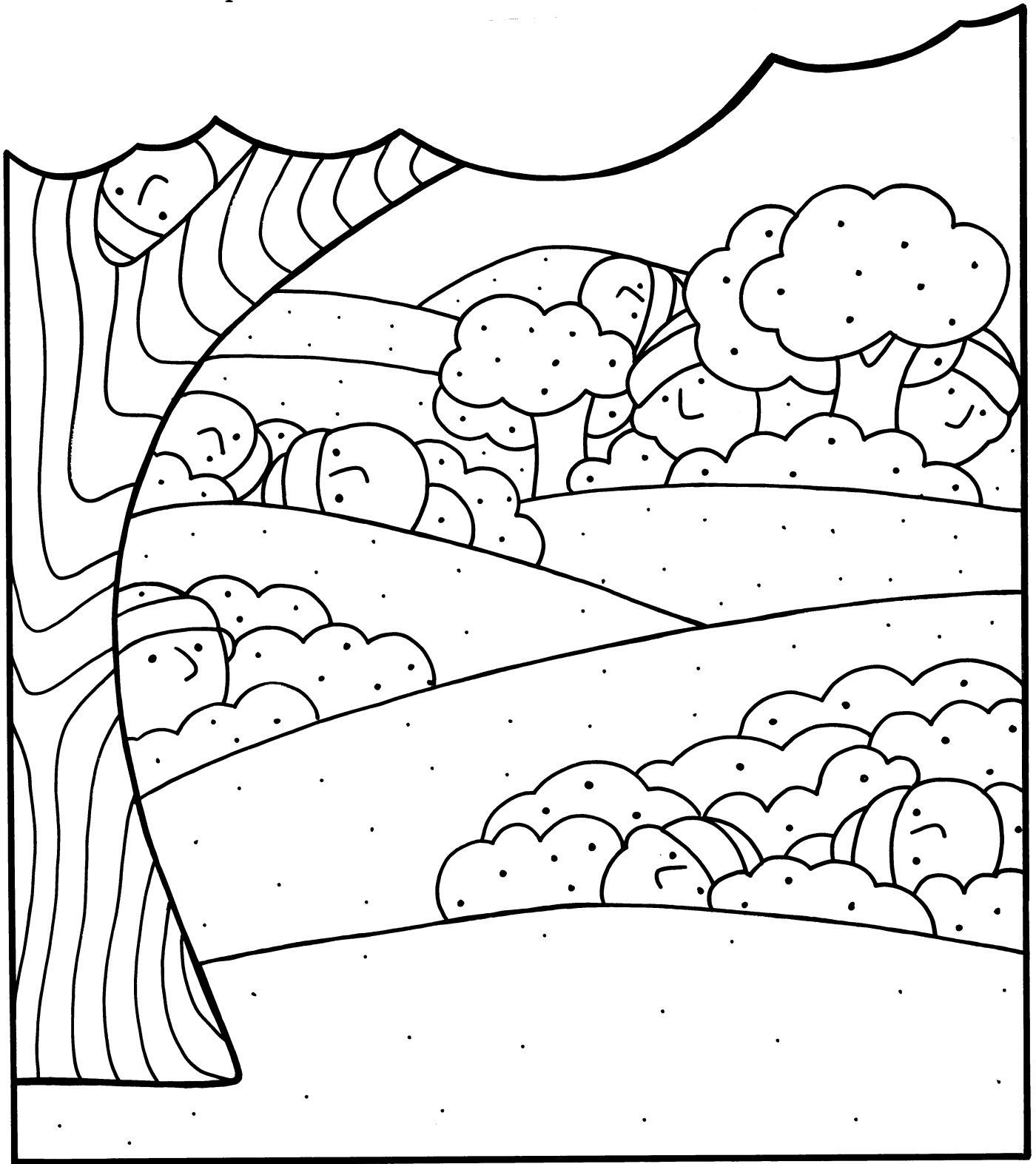
Luke 17:11-19

## ***Memory Verse***

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms. — Psalm 95:2

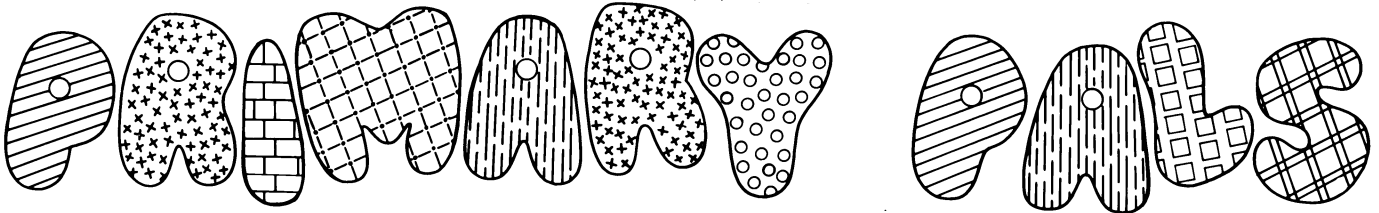
# Say Thank You!

One man returned to thank Jesus. Where were the other nine men? Can you find them in the picture below?



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





## A Chance to Witness

Jennifer stared down at the blank piece of paper in front of her. Should she do it? What if everyone in the class made fun of her?

Mrs. Morrow had told them to write about, “What I Am Thankful For,” and then draw a picture of what they had written about.

The first thought that had popped into Jennifer’s mind was that she was thankful for Jesus. She was! Jesus had done so much for her and she really loved Him.

All of her friends had decided to write about their mommies, or their homes, or their pets. It might be

embarrassing to write about Jesus. If the teacher was the only one to read it, that wouldn’t be so bad. But Mrs. Morrow had said that all the papers were going to be put up on a Thanksgiving bulletin board. That meant all the kids in the class would see what she had written!

Let’s see. What else could she write about? Maybe about her mom and dad like some of the others were doing? She was thankful for them, but . . . after all, Jesus was the One who had given her a good mom and dad. Should she write about her pet kitten, Somecat? She was thankful her

prayer had been answered and she had received a kitty for her birthday last June. Or maybe she should write about food—all her favorites like strawberries and peaches and corn on the cob. Jesus made all these delicious things to enjoy.

But somehow Jennifer couldn't get started writing. Nothing seemed to be just right. She kept thinking, But it's Jesus who gave me all the good things I'm thankful for. I really should write about Him.

Maybe if she tried drawing a picture first that would help. She tried drawing her mom and dad, but they looked funny. The kitten she worked on next looked more like a dog. She erased her strawberries and peaches too. By that time her paper was all

smudgy. She threw it away and reached for her notebook to get another sheet.

Then her eyes fell on her lesson leaflet for next Sunday. Just this morning, she had read the story about the woman who met Jesus at the well. That woman hadn't been afraid to tell others about Jesus! She had run right into the city and told everyone she met about Him. She was a witness for Christ because she was so thankful.

All of a sudden Jennifer knew what she was going to do. This was her chance to be a witness! She could tell all the kids in her class about Jesus. Her paper might be a little different from all the others, but it was one way she could say thank you for all the blessings Jesus had given her.

## Hidden Words

Find and circle the hidden words in the puzzle below.

WELL  
 DRINK  
 JESUS  
 WATER  
 WOMAN  
 LIVING  
 THIRST  
 BELIEVE  
 SAMARIA  
 WORSHIP

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

# Preparing for This Bible Lesson

## *Parent's Corner*

Our lesson is about the woman who met Jesus beside a well and then ran to tell the people of her city about Him. Your child will learn that being a witness for Christ is one way we can show our gratitude to Him.

As an activity together this week, help your child compose a picture letter to give to a friend telling him about Jesus or inviting him to Sunday school. Help him print simple sentences, drawing in pictures to represent words whenever it seems appropriate.

If you have a Bible bookstore in your city, it is a good source of stickers which could possibly be worked into the letter. For example, a sticker of Jesus could be used each time His name would occur in the letter.

## *Time Together for Family Devotions*

Verses to help your child understand this Bible lesson.

**Sunday:** Psalm 26:7

**Monday:** Philippians 2:11

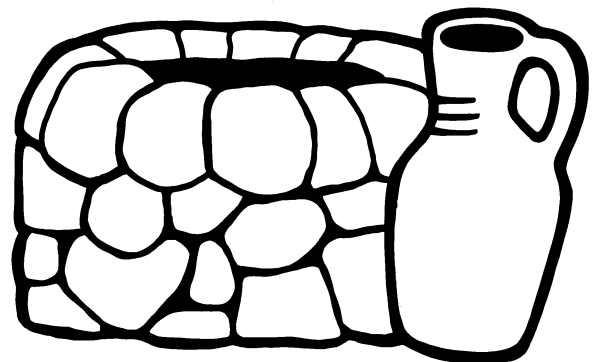
**Tuesday:** I Chronicles 16:8

**Wednesday:** I Chronicles 16:9

**Thursday:** Mark 5:19

**Friday:** Isaiah 43:10

**Saturday:** Matthew 10:32



## *Bible Text*

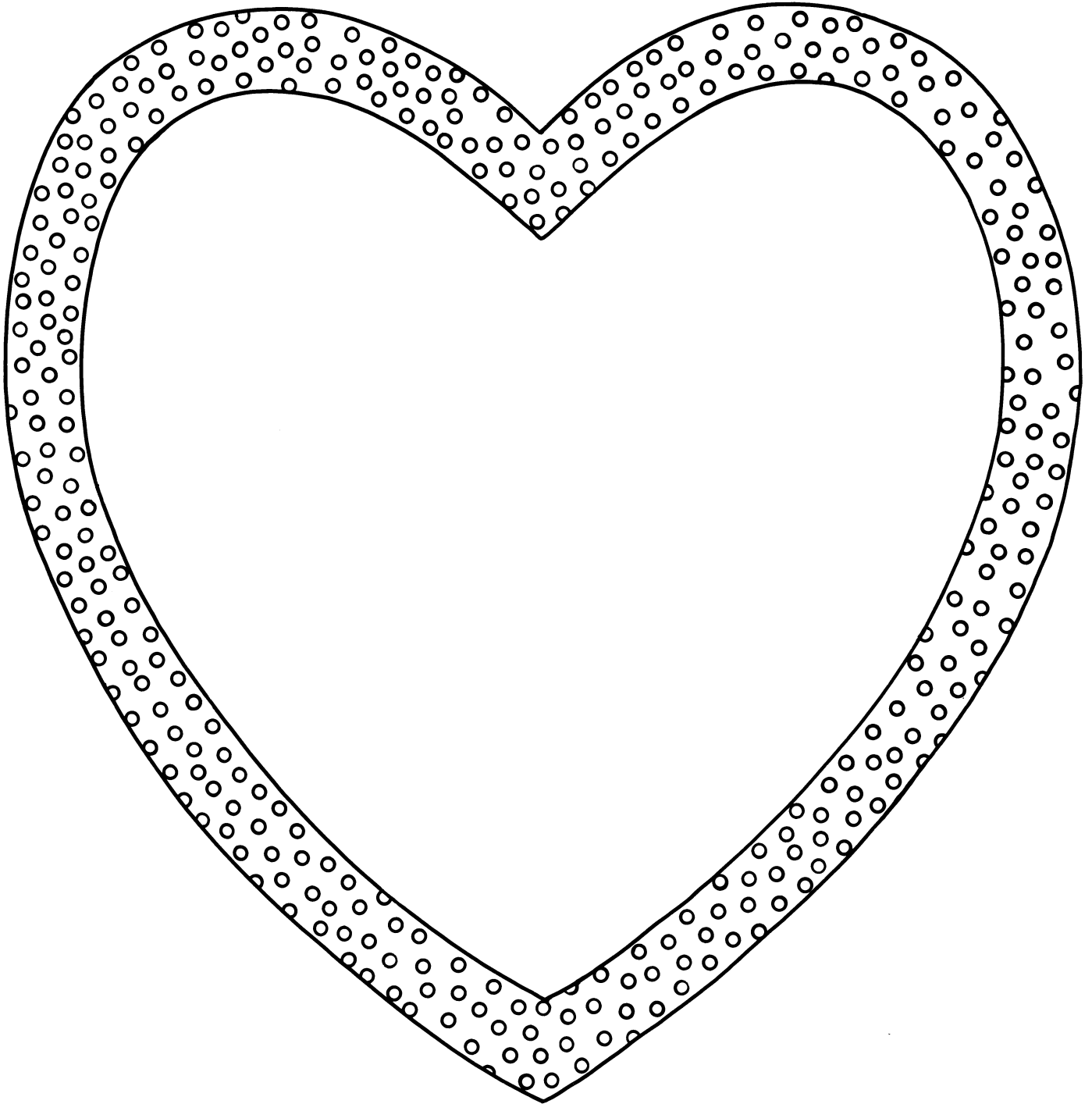
John 4:1-30,39-42

## *Memory Verse*

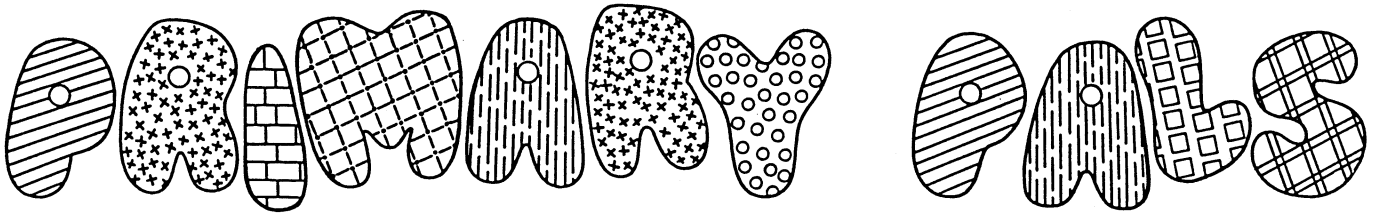
I may publish with the voice of thanksgiving, and tell of all thy wondrous works. — Psalm 26:7

# Telling About Jesus

In the heart frame below draw a picture of the person who told you about Jesus.



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



## An Exciting Letter

Dear Cousin James,

I have some exciting news to tell you! Do you remember the last time I came to your home in Ramah, when we talked about the Man named Jesus? Well, James, I have seen Him! I have heard Him speak! And it is true, He does work miracles! I have seen it with my own eyes.

Last week, word came that Jesus was traveling our way. You can imagine the excitement, for we had all heard so much about this Man. Why, just a short time ago the Widow Esther's son heard Him speak, and with his own eyes saw a lame man

healed! So when we heard that Jesus was coming, nearly everyone wanted to go hear Him.

Even my father left his leather shop, and early one morning we started out. It was late in the afternoon when we found Him, and already a great many people were there. We had to work our way through the crowd in order to get close enough to hear.

James, I wish you could have heard Him. He spoke as One who knew everything! When He began to teach, the crowd was silent. Everyone listened.

Time went by so quickly that it still

seems hard for me to believe. He rested for a while in the hours of darkness, but early in the morning He began teaching again. We were there for three days! We just could not leave. Every thought of home and what was going on in our city just disappeared. We thought of nothing but Him.

We had not gone prepared to stay so long, and there was little food among us. On the third day someone brought Jesus seven loaves and a few fishes, but of course that was not enough to feed so many. Everyone was hungry.

It was then I saw the miracle. Jesus bowed His head, and He prayed aloud to His Father in Heaven, thanking Him for this food. Then His disciples passed the loaves and fishes among the people nearby, and went back to Jesus. More was given out.

In the end, the entire group was fed. And afterward seven baskets of pieces were gathered together! Truly, this could only have been done by the power of God.

Looking back, I think that what remains most clearly in my mind is Jesus bowing His head over that food. He had power, James, power to make that little bit of food feed so many. Yet He prayed and thanked His heavenly Father for it!

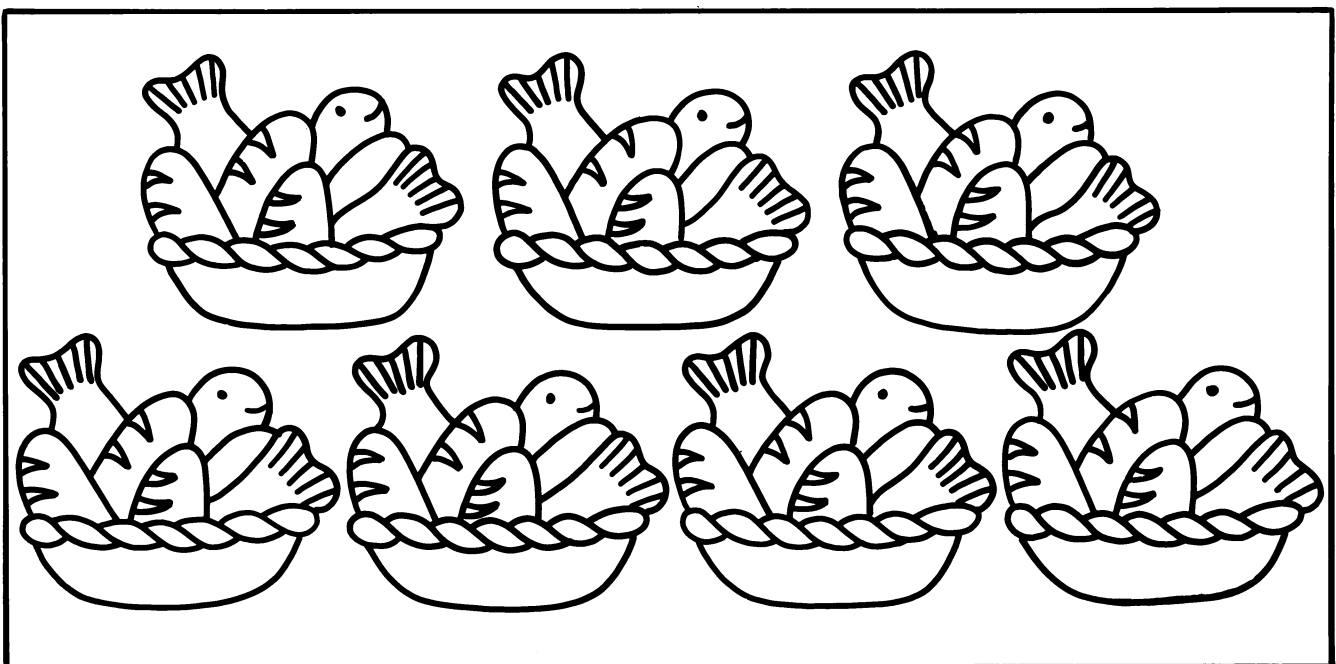
I will never again eat a meal without following His example.

There is much more I could write, but I hope that you will soon be able to visit us here in Bethsaida. We have much to talk about.

Your Cousin,  
Andrew

## Color the Baskets

Color the seven baskets that were left over after Jesus fed the 4000 people.



# Preparing for This Bible Lesson

## *Parent's Corner*

Being thankful for the food that God provides is one aspect of gratitude. This Bible story tells how Jesus gave thanks for seven loaves and a few fishes, and then used this little amount of food to feed 4000 people.

This would be a good week to learn a new table grace with your child. Practice it together and surprise the rest of the family one night this week by having him say it at mealtime.

You might also like to prepare a special snack together during the week, making seven muffins or seven small loaves of bread to represent the food with which Jesus fed the multitude. Cut small "fish" out of lunchmeat slices to go with the bread.

## *Time Together for Family Devotions*

Verses to help your child understand this Bible lesson.

**Sunday:** Matthew 15:36

**Monday:** Luke 24:30

**Tuesday:** Psalm 50:14

**Wednesday:** Ephesians 5:20

**Thursday:** Colossians 3:17

**Friday:** I Thessalonians 5:18

**Saturday:** Psalm 145:4



## *Bible Text*

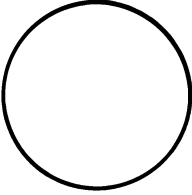
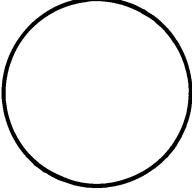
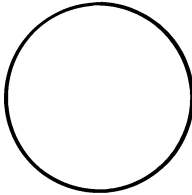
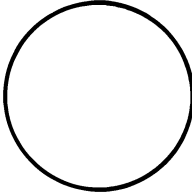
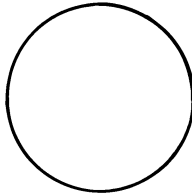
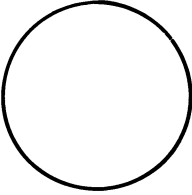
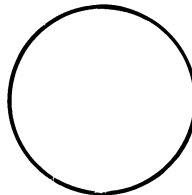
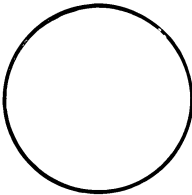
Mark 8:1-9

## *Memory Verse*

He took the seven loaves and the fishes, and gave thanks.  
— Matthew 15:36

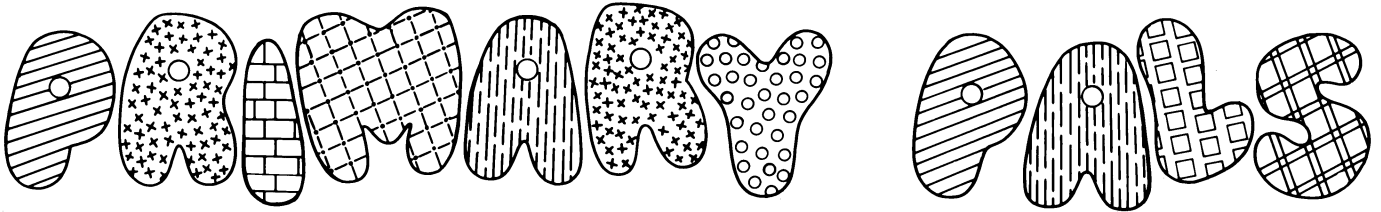
# I Am Thankful

Remember to give thanks. Each day this week write, in the box below, something you thank Jesus for. Then draw a smiley face in the circle.

 <p><b>SUNDAY</b> I thank Jesus for</p> <hr/>	 <p><b>MONDAY</b> I thank Jesus for</p> <hr/>
 <p><b>TUESDAY</b> I thank Jesus for</p> <hr/>	 <p><b>WEDNESDAY</b> I thank Jesus for</p> <hr/>
 <p><b>THURSDAY</b> I thank Jesus for</p> <hr/>	 <p><b>FRIDAY</b> I thank Jesus for</p> <hr/>
 <p><b>SATURDAY</b> I thank Jesus for</p> <hr/>	 <p><b>SUNDAY</b> I thank Jesus for</p> <hr/>

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





## A Life of Victory

“It’s always so much fun to visit Uncle Al,” Andy said as he and his dad got into the car.

His father smiled as he started the car. “I enjoy it too. Tell me, Andy, what is it you especially like about Uncle Al?”

Andy thought for a minute. “Well, he’s such a neat guy, Dad. He has great stories to tell, and his stories always make me feel happy.”

Andy’s dad raised his eyebrows. “Oh? Now it seems to me that many of Al’s stories have to do with some very hard times. There’s the one about when his boat capsized and he nearly

drowned. There’s the story about how his army buddies made fun of him because he wouldn’t do all the wrong things they did. Then he tells about the time his wife died and he had to raise three little children by himself. Are those happy stories?”

“No . . .” Andy answered, “not exactly. I guess they make me feel happy because Uncle Al’s stories always have a happy ending.”

His father smiled. “I think you’re right, Andy. Uncle Al found out that even though there are hard places in life, there is victory when you have your trust in God.”

Andy nodded. "When you hear Uncle Al tell it, it never sounds so bad because he lets you know how God helped him."

"That's it exactly," Andy's dad agreed. "You know, in these last fifteen years or so that I've known Al, he has always made me think a little of the Apostle Paul."

"Paul?" Andy looked puzzled. "But he doesn't look anything like the picture of Paul in our Bible storybook. And he never got put in jail or went on any big missionary trips, or anything like that."

"Oh, I don't mean how he looks," his dad replied. "And I don't mean the actual things that happened to him

during his life. I mean his spirit, the way he reacted to the things that happened to him. Remember how Paul wrote to Timothy when he looked back at his life? In spite of all the hard places he had gone through, he was thankful to God for a life of victory."

"That sure does sound like Uncle Al," Andy agreed. "You know, Dad, Uncle Al is pretty old. And now he's sick too, and he looks kind of weak. Someday, before too long, he'll probably go up to Heaven. That makes me feel a little sad because I will really miss him. But I just had a happy thought. Won't the Apostle Paul and Uncle Al have a good time getting to know each other up in Heaven?"

## Decode the Message

Use the code to find out who wrote the letter in our lesson.

A	E	H
I	L	M
O	P	R

T	U
W	Y

□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□
□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□

# Preparing for This Bible Lesson

## *Parent's Corner*

Our final lesson of this unit will be on the Apostle Paul, and stresses the theme of victory. Your child will learn that Paul's testimony to his young friend, Timothy, was full of thanksgiving.

Read the Bible text together and talk about what it feels like to be victorious. As a climax to this unit of study, plan a Victory Celebration with your child. Let him decorate paper napkins with the word "victory" or appropriate symbols such as a trophy or crown.

Noisemakers and paper hats could also add to the festivity of the occasion. Plan a special menu and have your child explain to the rest of the family what the Victory Celebration is all about, stressing that we can all be winners, just like Paul was.

## *Time Together for Family Devotions*

Verses to help your child understand this Bible lesson.

**Sunday:** I Corinthians 15:57

**Monday:** I John 5:4

**Tuesday:** Romans 8:35-37

**Wednesday:** Revelation 3:21

**Thursday:** Deuteronomy 3:22

**Friday:** Proverbs 30:5

**Saturday:** Revelation 21:7



## *Bible Text*

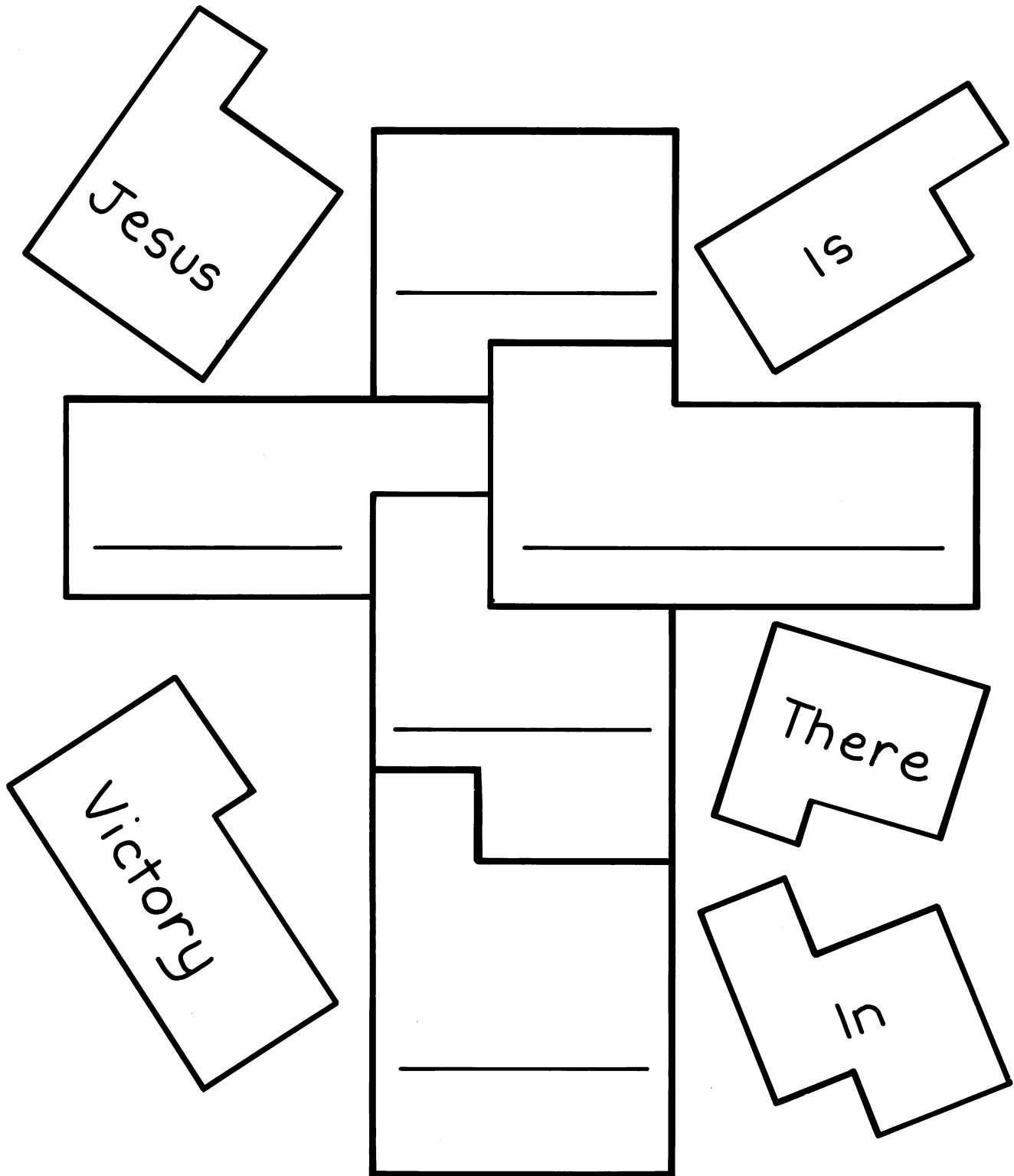
I Timothy 1:12-18

## *Memory Verse*

Thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. — I Corinthians 15:57

# Be a Winner

Match the small shapes to the ones on the cross. Write the words on the correct lines to find out what Jesus gives.



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