

Special Plans for Saul

Saul was deep in thought as he hurried along the road to the city of Damascus. He frowned as he thought about the people there who called themselves Christians. He hated them! He was glad that at last he had a plan to get rid of these people.

Before leaving Jerusalem, he had gone to see the high priest. The high priest did not like Jesus either. In fact, he had helped those who put Jesus to death on the cross. He was happy to do what he could so Saul could get rid of the Christians. He gave Saul a letter with orders that would give him permission to bring the Christians back to Jerusalem. There they would

be beaten and put into prison. Some of the Christians would even be put to death. Isn't that awful?

Because Saul hated the Christians so much, the high priest could count on him to carry out his orders. Saul was going to Damascus to find them. But Jesus had other plans for Saul.

As Saul went down that dusty road, a bright light shone right down from heaven all around Saul. It was so bright that Saul could no longer see. The light had blinded him!

Saul was so afraid, he fell to the ground. Suddenly he heard a voice speaking from Heaven. "Saul, Saul, why are you treating Me this way?"

Saul shook with fright. He said quickly, "Who are You, Lord?" Then he heard the voice say, "I am Jesus."

At that very moment Saul believed that Jesus was really God's Son. He asked Jesus, "What do You want me to do?" Jesus told him to go into the city, and someone there would tell him what he should do.

Saul stood up. He opened his eyes but he still could not see. The men with him had to lead him by the hand the rest of the way to Damascus. When he arrived he stayed three days in the home of a man named Judas. There he spent his time praying.

You see, Jesus had special plans for Saul's life. He told a Christian by the

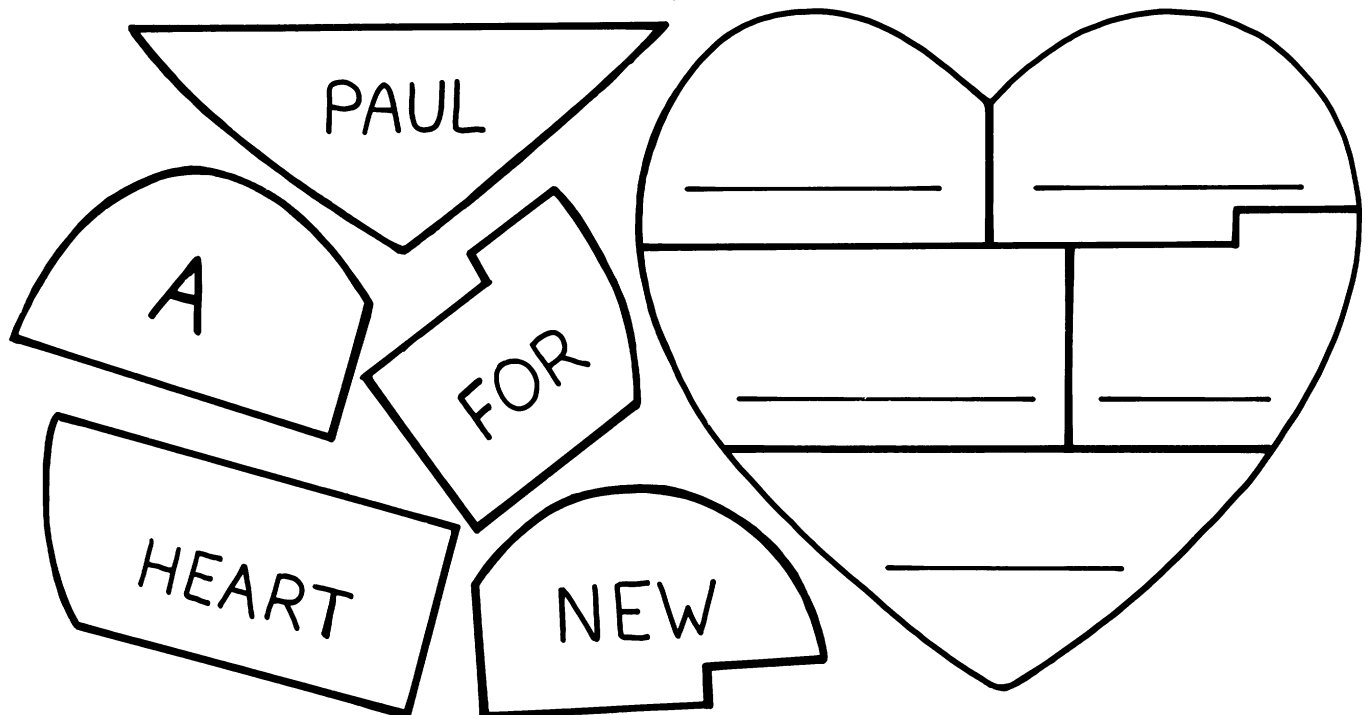
name of Ananias to go to Saul. At first Ananias was afraid. He knew that Saul was an enemy of the Christians. But Jesus told him that He had special plans for Saul's life. He would tell many people about Jesus.

When Ananias came to the house where Saul was, he prayed for him, as God had told him to do. Saul's eyes were healed! He could see again!

Saul was a changed man. No longer did he hate Christians. Now he was a Christian! He spent his time telling other people about Jesus and how they could become Christians too. He later became known as Paul the Apostle, and he worked for God all the rest of his life.

Match the Shapes

Write the words in the matching shapes on the lines in the heart. Find out what Paul received.



Preparing for This Bible Lesson

Parent's Corner

We are beginning a unit on the life of Paul the Apostle, the great missionary-evangelist to the Gentiles. Our Bible story for the first lesson of this unit tells us of the unusual events which surrounded his conversion.

As your child studies the great change which took place in Paul's life, he will learn that salvation for each person is just as real, though possibly not as dramatic. The Bible tells us that at conversion, old things pass away and all things become new. To illustrate this point for your child, let him help you make a collection of old and new items. Some examples might be: an old shoe and a new shoe, an old magazine and a new one, an old toy and a new one.

Arrange the items you selected in a display on a table. Then let your child explain to the rest of the family the significance of the grouping and how a person's life can be changed through salvation.

Time Together for Family Devotions

Verses to help your child understand this Bible lesson.

SUNDAY: Acts 3:19

MONDAY: I Samuel 10:9

TUESDAY: Psalm 51:1,2

WEDNESDAY: Isaiah 1:18

THURSDAY: Matthew 11:28

FRIDAY: John 3:16

SATURDAY: Revelation 22:17



Bible Text

Acts 9:1-22

Memory Verse

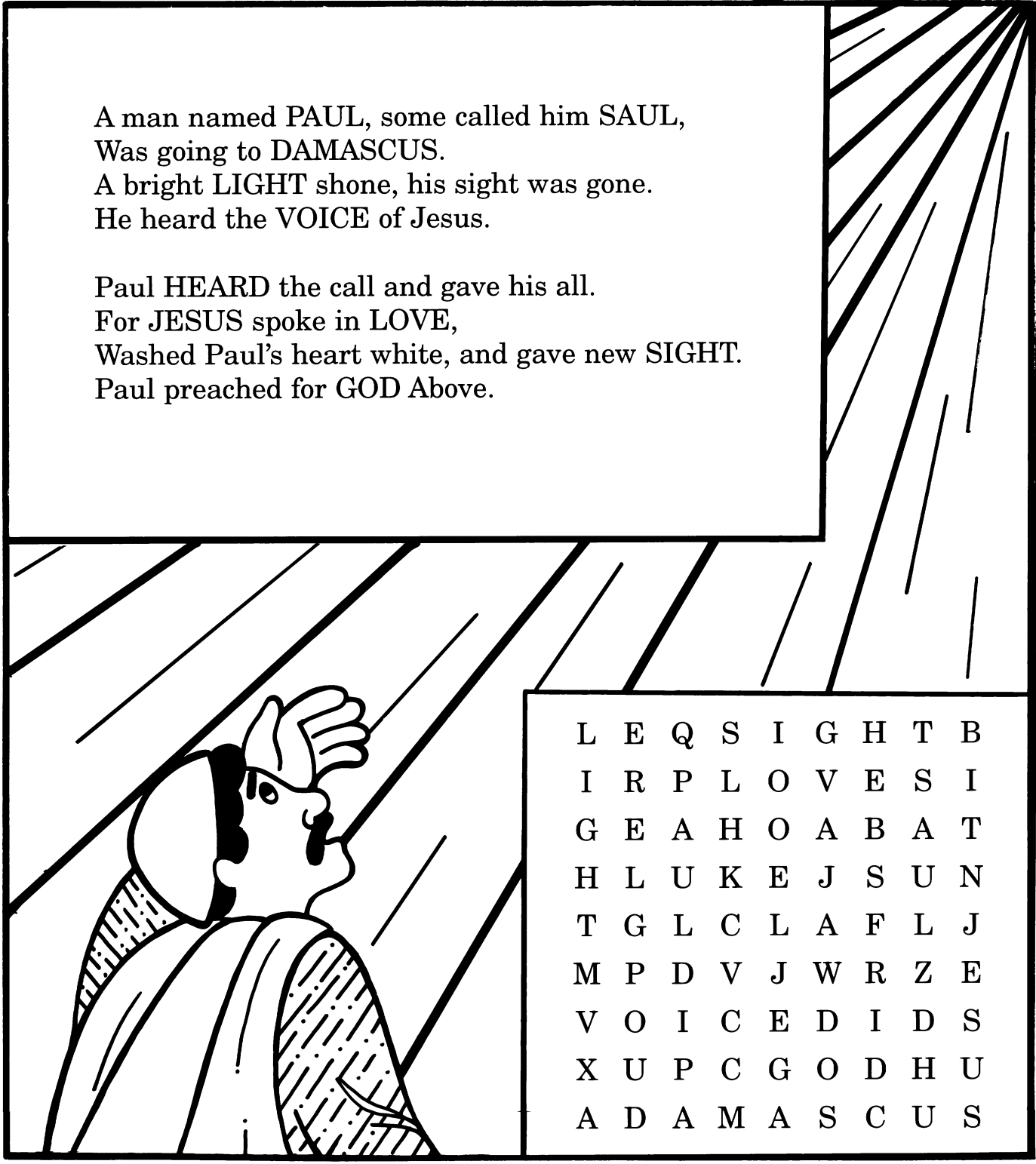
Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out. — Acts 3:19

A Light from Heaven

The poem below is about when Jesus spoke to Paul on the road to Damascus.
Find and circle each word that is written in all capital letters.

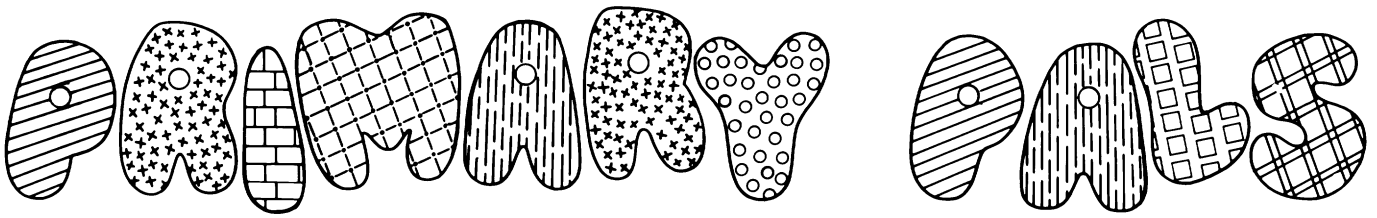
A man named PAUL, some called him SAUL,
Was going to DAMASCUS.
A bright LIGHT shone, his sight was gone.
He heard the VOICE of Jesus.

Paul HEARD the call and gave his all.
For JESUS spoke in LOVE,
Washed Paul's heart white, and gave new SIGHT.
Paul preached for GOD Above.



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

Name: _____



A Song in Prison

Clank! The cell door slammed shut. Tramp, tramp, tramp. The sound of the jailer's boots echoed through the cold, dark prison as he hurried away.

It was quiet now. The only sounds were of a rat scurrying across the dirt floor, and the heavy breathing of the prisoners. They slept if they could, or just sat waiting, waiting, waiting through the long, lonesome night!

Time passed. At midnight, when the prison was darker than ever, the prisoners heard a strange sound. Was that music? Yes! Someone was singing! They'd never heard anything like it before. Happy songs of praise were coming from somewhere. Who

could be singing here in a dark, miserable, prison?

It was Paul and Silas. They were in the middle of the prison, and they couldn't sleep. Their feet were swollen from being locked in stocks. Their backs hurt from the beatings they had received that afternoon. Some very bad men had hurt them and locked them in prison just because they were working for Jesus!

Paul and Silas were not afraid or angry because of the way they had been treated. They loved God. They knew that God loved them, too, and was right there in the cell with them. They were so thankful that Jesus was

their Friend. They prayed, and felt so sure God heard their prayers that they couldn't help but sing!

As Paul and Silas sang, there was a great earthquake. The prison began to shake, and the doors of the prison flew wide open.

The jailer was terribly afraid when he saw the prison doors had opened. He thought for sure the prisoners had all run away and escaped! He was going to kill himself, but as he drew out his sword, Paul cried, "Don't hurt yourself. We are all here."

The jailer quickly got a light and came into the cell. He fell down in front of Paul and Silas. He knew God

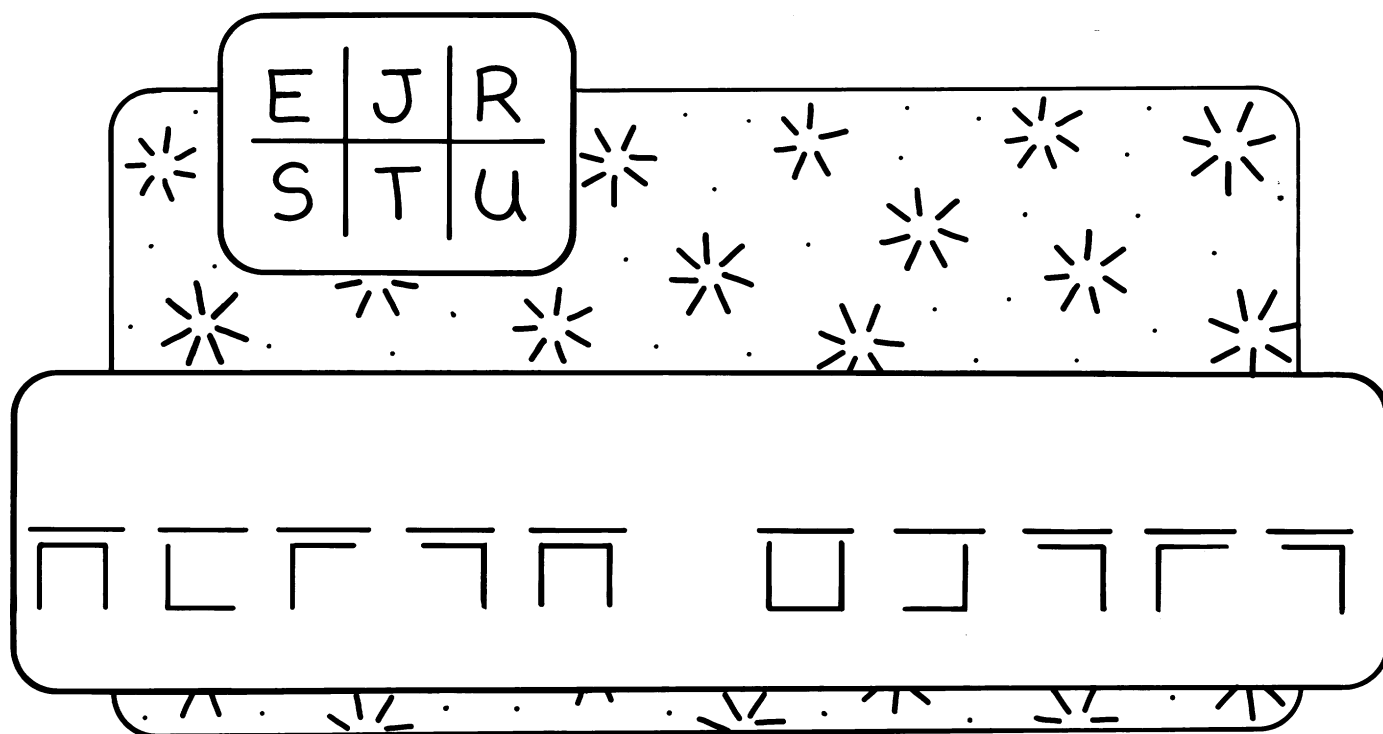
had sent the earthquake to set those good men free. He wanted to know how he could be free from all the sins he had in his heart.

Paul and Silas were happy to tell him about Jesus. The jailer believed what he heard. He gave his heart to Jesus, and then took Paul and Silas to his very own home. There he washed their sore backs and gave them something to eat. After that the jailer and his family and Paul and Silas all rejoiced and praised God together.

Jesus is our Friend too. And it doesn't matter if we are happy or sad, we can always sing because Jesus loves us and is always with us.

Coded Message

Match the shapes and solve the coded message to find one thing we can do to be like Paul and Silas.



Preparing for This Bible Lesson

Parent's Corner

This Bible lesson is the story of Paul and Silas in prison. Your child will learn that because those two men trusted in God, they were able to sing and praise God even under trying circumstances.

Help your child make a poster highlighting the theme for this week. Give him a large piece of brightly colored construction paper. From another sheet of paper, cut out block letters spelling the words, "Trust God." Arrange the letters on the construction paper. Dip an old toothbrush in white tempera paint and rub the toothbrush across a piece of screen held over the construction paper. The white paint will splatter through and around the letters.

After the paint has dried, carefully remove the cutout letters. Encourage your child to mount the poster where he can see it often.

Time Together for Family Devotions

Verses to help your child understand this Bible lesson.

SUNDAY: Psalm 5:11

MONDAY: Psalm 119:165

TUESDAY: Psalm 4:8

WEDNESDAY: John 14:27

THURSDAY: John 16:33

FRIDAY: Acts 16:25

SATURDAY: I Thessalonians 5:8



Bible Text

Acts 16:22-34

Memory Verse

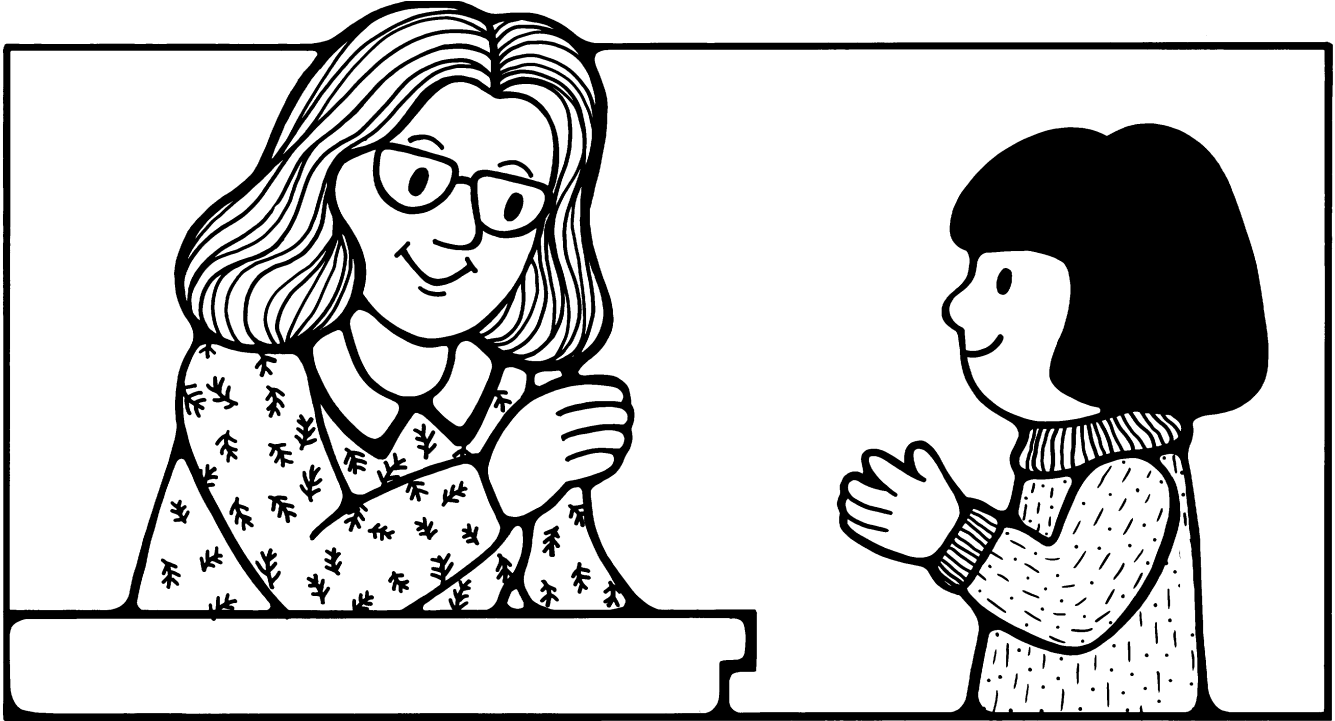
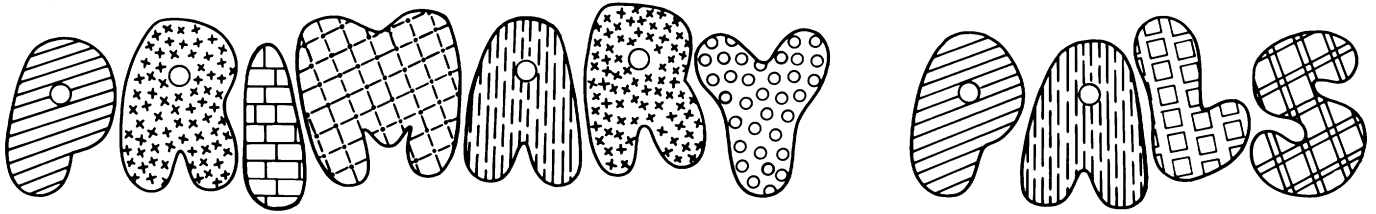
Let all those that put their trust in thee rejoice. — Psalm 5:11

A Song of Praise

What do you think Paul and Silas and the jailer were doing in the prison?
Finish the faces in the picture to show what their feelings were.



Name: _____



Linda's Testimony

"I want to talk to you about the paper you wrote," said Mrs. Nielsen as she looked across her desk at Linda. "Would you please stay a few minutes after class?"

"Sure," Linda replied as she returned to her desk. The rest of the class started collecting their books when the last bell rang. Linda thought of what the teacher had asked them to write about. It was a paper on what they would do if this were the last day of their life.

In her mind, Linda went over what she had written on the paper she had turned in yesterday. "If I had only one

more day to live," she had started out, "I'd spend all day telling lots of people about Jesus. You see," she had continued, "Jesus is my Savior, and I'd want other people to be saved too."

Linda's heart began pounding fast as the last of her friends left the room. She wondered what her teacher would ask her. Silently, she prayed and asked Jesus to please help her say the right things.

"Linda," Mrs. Nielsen said as she sat down beside Linda at the next desk. "Your paper was very different from the others I received. You started out by saying Jesus is your Savior. 'Savior'

is a big word for a third-grader to use. Can you explain what it means?"

Linda was surprised. "Oh, yes, I can!" She said. Then she began to tell her teacher about Jesus. "Jesus came as a Baby and lived on this earth. He did many good things and taught the people about loving God and how to go to Heaven. Jesus is God's Son, and He died on the cross so that our sins could be forgiven. When I prayed He forgave my sins and gave me a clean heart. That's why I call Him 'Savior.'"

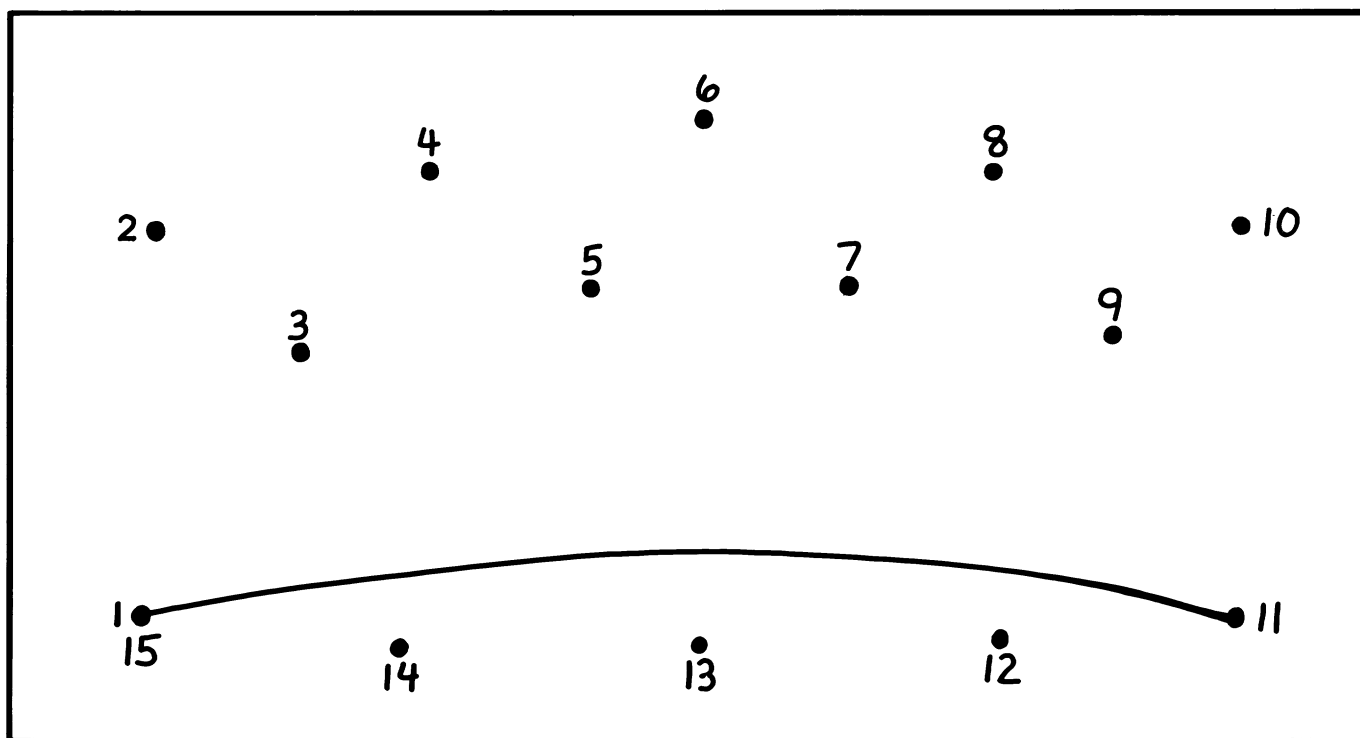
As Linda finished, her teacher smiled and handed her the paper. "When I read this, I wondered if your mommy or daddy had helped you write it. But you answered my

question very well. It sounds like you have been listening as well in Sunday school as you do here in this class." She paused, then added, "You may go now, Linda. Thank you for telling me about your Savior."

Linda's feet felt light as she skipped home, swinging her book bag. She had given a testimony today! Just then something popped into her mind. Last Sunday's lesson in Sunday school had been about how Paul stood before King Agrippa and gave his testimony. Today had been her chance! God had helped Paul, and Linda knew that God had been with her too. How happy she was that she had been able to tell her teacher about Jesus.

Dot-to-Dot

Connect the dots to see what King Agrippa probably wore when Paul told him about Jesus.



Preparing for This Bible Lesson

Parent's Corner

Our third lesson on the life of Paul features his testimony before King Agrippa. Your child will learn that though Paul was a prisoner and was taken before a king, he was not afraid. He saw the situation as yet another opportunity to witness for Jesus.

During your time together with your child this week, focus on the importance of telling others about Jesus. Help your child make custom-designed witnessing post-cards to send to his friends and acquaintances. Provide him with six 4x6-inch unruled cards. On one side of each card, have him divide the card in half with a vertical line. Draw three horizontal lines on the right-hand side for the address. Draw a small square in the upper, right-hand corner and print the word "Stamp" in it. Use the left-hand side of the card for a written greeting.

Let him decorate the front of the cards with designs and a message such as, "Jesus Loves You," "God Cares and So Do I," or some other phrase. Encourage him to send the cards to those he would like to tell about Jesus.

Time Together for Family Devotions

Verses to help your child understand this Bible lesson.

SUNDAY: II Timothy 1:8

MONDAY: Mark 13:9

TUESDAY: Luke 21:12,13

WEDNESDAY: Psalm 27:3

THURSDAY: Psalm 56:4

FRIDAY: Psalm 118:6

SATURDAY: Isaiah 12:2



Bible Text

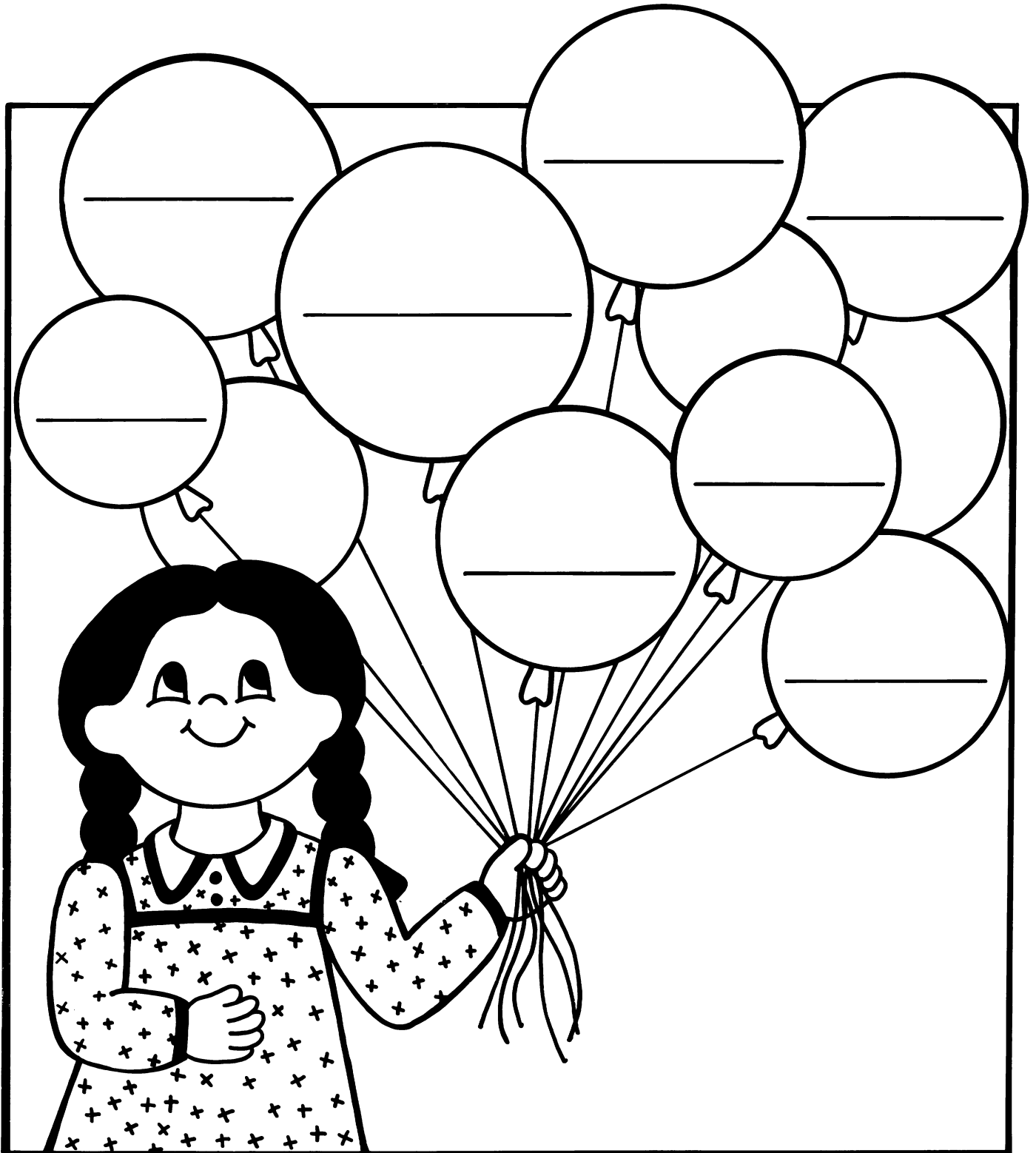
Acts 26:1-32

Memory Verse

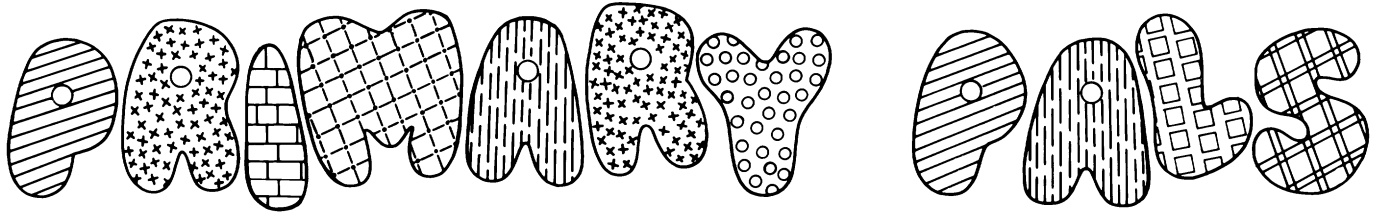
Be not thou therefore ashamed of the testimony
of our Lord. — II Timothy 1:8

Spread the Word

Paul told King Agrippa about Jesus. Who would you like to tell about Jesus?
Write their names on the lines in the balloons below. Color the picture.



Name: _____



Shipwreck!

The wind howled and giant waves splashed over the deck of the ship. The sails blew wildly, ripping from the force of the wind. The boards of the ship creaked and began breaking as the sailors tried to bring it to land.

“Let’s try to make the ship lighter!” the captain shouted. They began throwing everything they could into the sea, hoping that the water wouldn’t come over the side. The sailors were terribly afraid. The ship was about to sink! They thought for sure they were going to die!

Not everyone on the ship was afraid. Paul wasn’t. Paul was one of God’s preachers, and he was not on that ship

by choice. He was a prisoner. Soldiers were taking him to another city across the sea to put him into a jail.

The men on the ship wished with all their hearts that they had listened to Paul. Before they left land, he had told them the ship should stay where it was. But the captain wanted to travel to another place where it would be nice to stay for the winter. So they had set out. And now look at the trouble they were in!

Paul began to pray. He believed God would take care of him. God had always watched over him, no matter what happened.

The sky grew blacker and blacker,

and the ship rocked down into the angry waves. Days and nights went by and the sailors never saw the sun or the stars. Was there any hope?

Then one day, Paul stood before all the other men and told them some good news. God had sent an angel with this message, "Don't be afraid, Paul. God wants you to finish this journey so you can see Caesar. Everyone on this ship will be safe." But Paul told them the ship would be broken to pieces. And that's exactly what happened!

The sailors had been working hard to save the ship. They were tired and hungry. Paul told them that they needed to eat, so they would stay healthy. And they didn't have to worry,

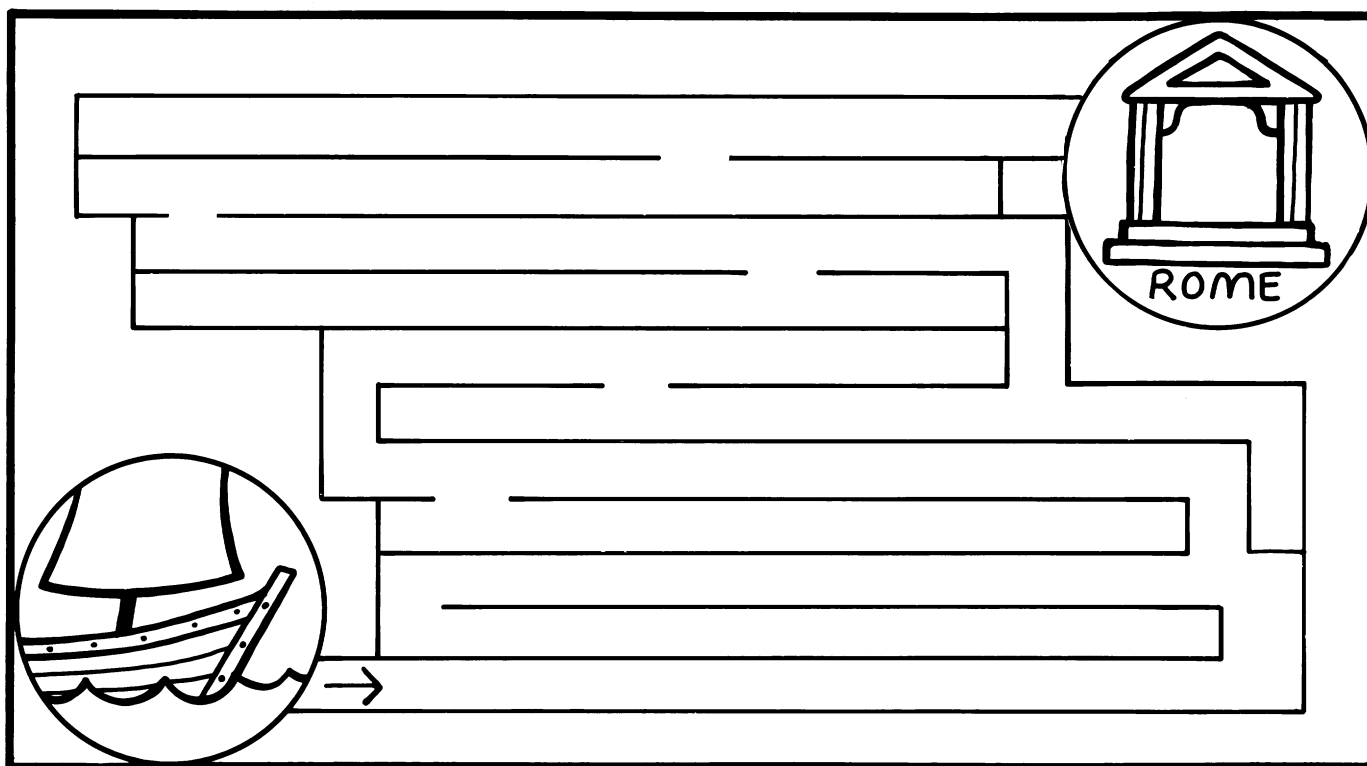
because God had promised to take care of them.

When the ship got near land, it suddenly ran aground and broke into pieces. Paul and some of the men began to swim. A few of the men held on to broken boards from the ship and floated to the shore. They were cold and wet. But when morning came, the sailors found out that not one of the 276 men who were aboard the ship had drowned! The sailors and Paul had landed safely on an island, just as God had promised.

God still takes care of those who love and trust Him. We may never be in a shipwreck, but we know God will be with us wherever we are.

Shipwreck Journey

Follow through the maze and see how God helped Paul and the other people arrive safely in Rome, even though they were in a shipwreck.



Preparing for This Bible Lesson

Parent's Corner

This lesson is about how God protected Paul during his perilous journey to Rome, and how his life was spared when a shipwreck occurred. As you read the Bible text and talk over this lesson with your child, make sure he understands that God cares for us too, and has promised to be our Protector.

Try to imagine what the news media of the day might have said regarding the incident in this lesson. How would the "Rome Daily" have described what took place? After discussing this with your child, help him use your daily paper to make his own headlines and illustrations.

Cut out and discard a front-page picture and headline from your newspaper. Paste a piece of white paper behind the empty space so your child can illustrate the Bible event of Paul's shipwreck. Then have him compose a headline to go with his picture. If your child enjoys writing, he might even like to do a brief reporter's coverage of the event. Help him to be sure to cover the five W's of professional journalism—who, what, where, when, and why.

Time Together for Family Devotions

Verses to help your child understand this Bible lesson.

SUNDAY: I Peter 5:7

MONDAY: Psalm 91:11

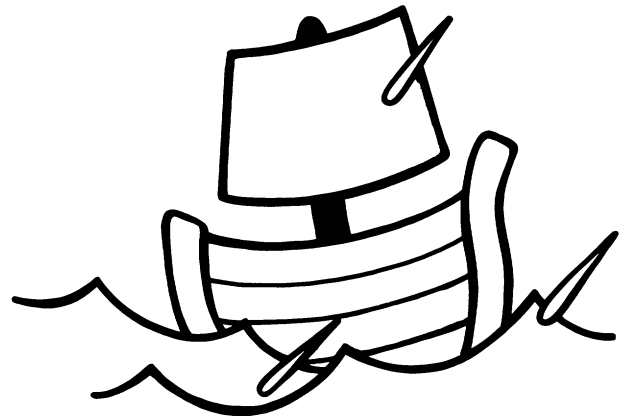
TUESDAY: Isaiah 43:2

WEDNESDAY: Matthew 8:24-26

THURSDAY: Psalm 89:9

FRIDAY: Psalm 107:29

SATURDAY: Psalm 65:7



Bible Text

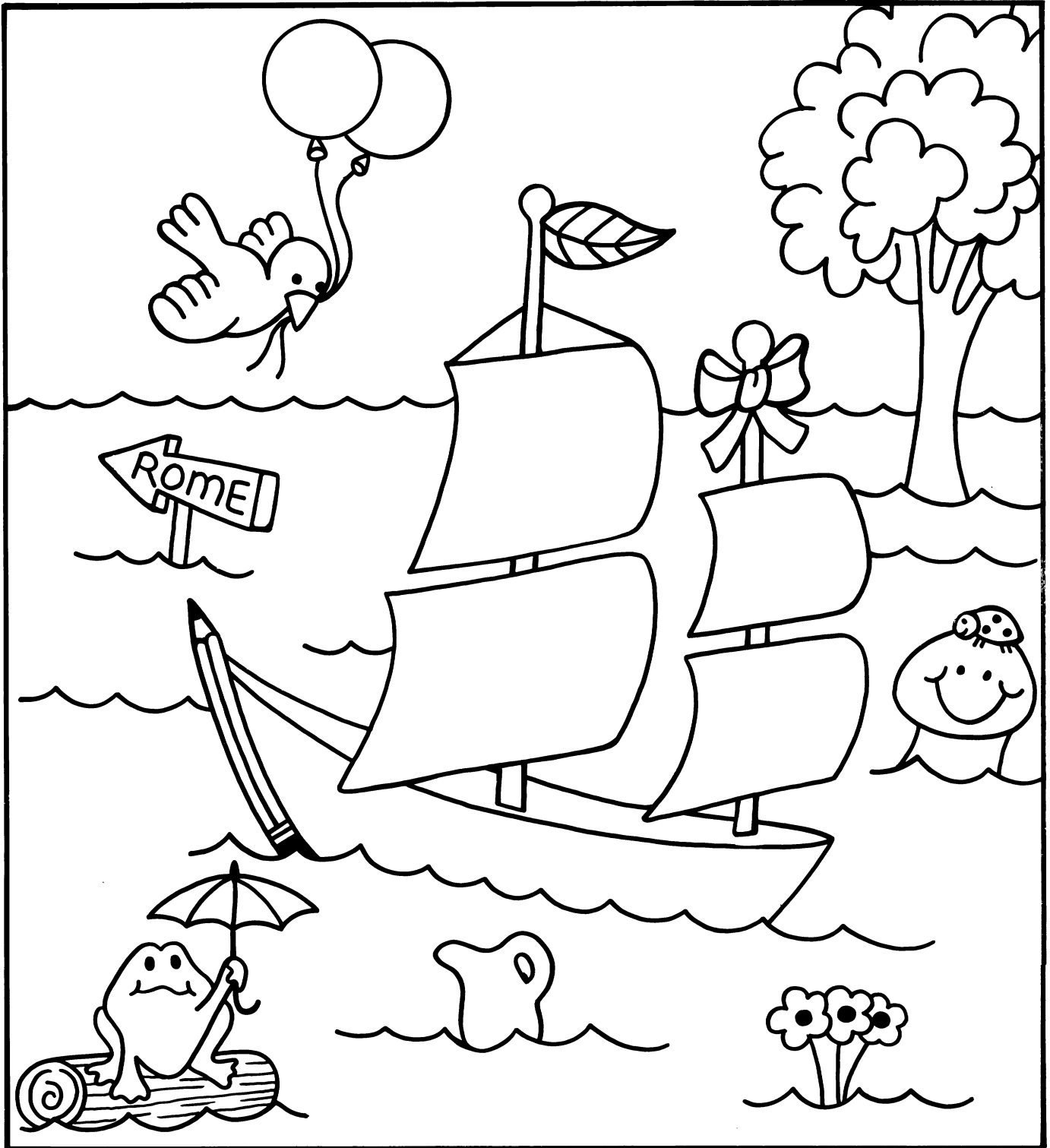
Acts 27:1-44

Memory Verse

Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you. — I Peter 5:7

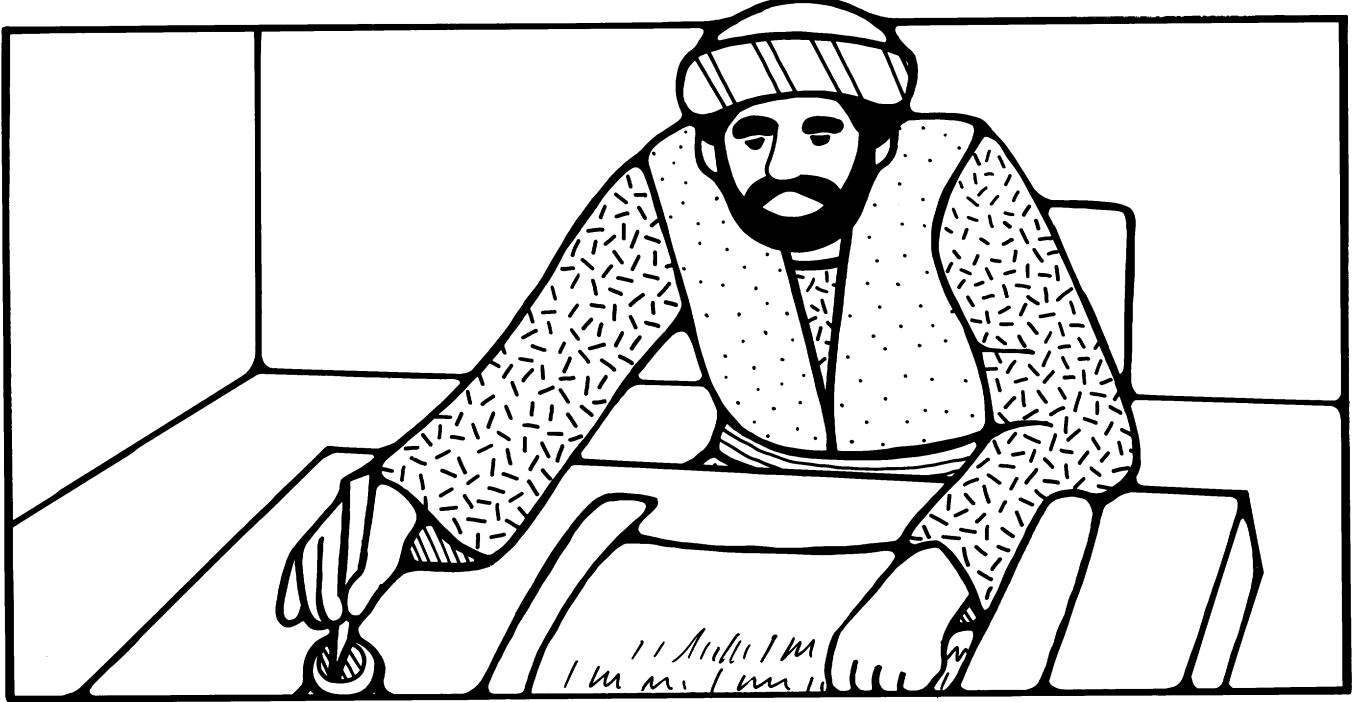
What a Journey!

When Paul was on his long journey to Rome he probably saw many things.
But there are several things in the picture below that he didn't see.
How many things can you find in this picture that are wrong?



Name: _____

PRIMARY PAIRS



Working for Jesus

Maybe you think you are too small or too young to work for Jesus. Oh, no you aren't! Let me tell you about Paul the Apostle and his young friend, Timothy.

Paul loved Timothy like a son, and used to write letters to him. In our Bible, we can read some of the things that Paul wrote.

He encouraged Timothy to read God's Book. When Timothy was a very young boy his mother and grandmother taught him all about Jesus and God's Word. You might say, "I can't read the Bible. There are so many big words in it I don't understand." Maybe so, but, just like Timothy, you can listen carefully when

someone reads the Bible to you. You can ask questions about the things you don't understand. There will be lots of stories you already know, but there will be many new and exciting things for you to learn. And remember, everything in God's Book is true.

Paul told Timothy it was important for him to pray. Prayer is talking to God. It is also listening carefully to the things He will tell you. You can talk to God about anything. Tell Him when you are happy or sad. Thank Him for what He does for you. And if you have been naughty, tell Jesus you are sorry. When you need something, just ask Jesus. Remember, He always does what is best for you.

Telling other people about Jesus was a very important part of Paul's message to Timothy. And at the same time, Timothy was told to be an example for Jesus.

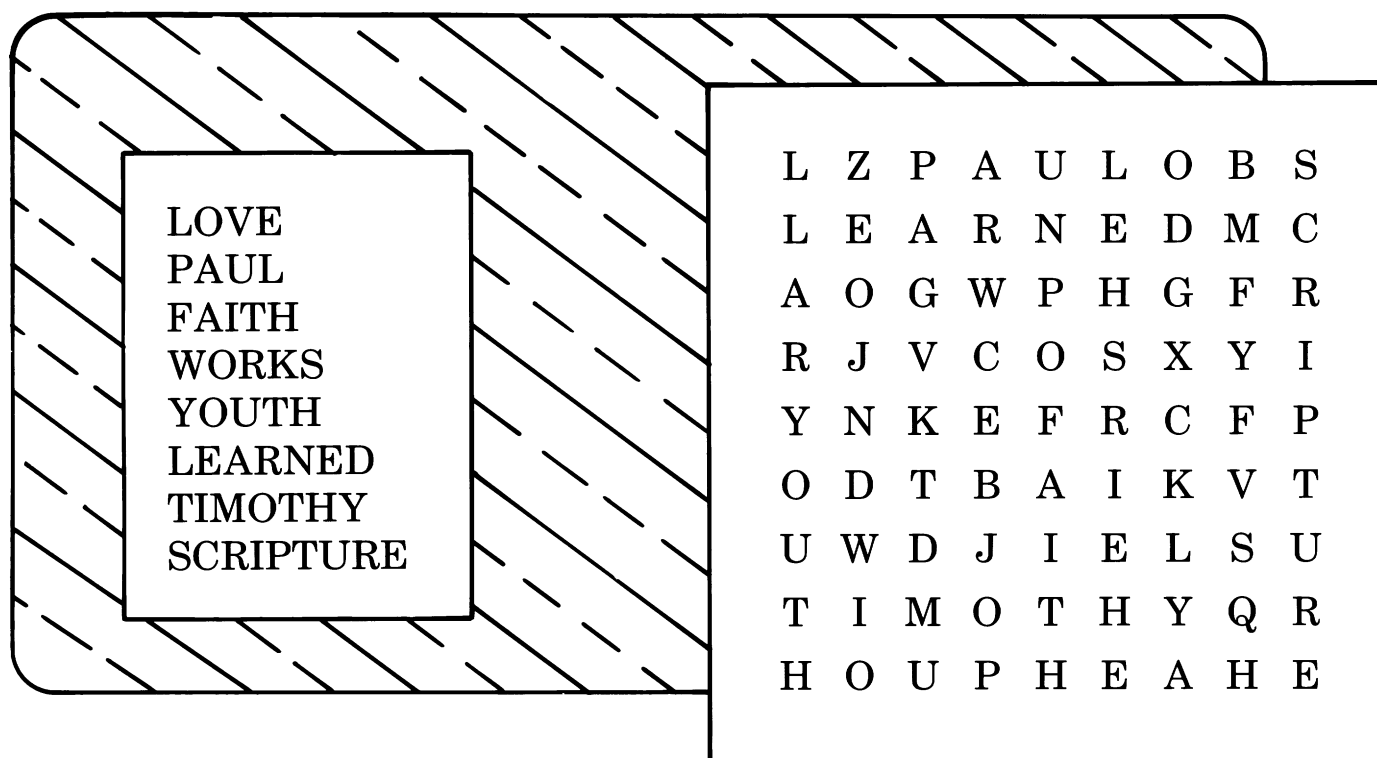
You can tell others about Jesus. Tell your friends at school that Jesus loves them. Invite children to come to Sunday school with you. Share your Bible-story books with someone so they can read them in their own home. In this way they will know that you love Jesus. This is also a part of being a good example for Jesus. What are some other ways you can be a good example? One way is by being happy. Don't grumble! Tell your problems to

Jesus and not to everybody else. Visit your friends if they are sick. Or, if you can't visit, send them a get-well card. Visit with older people. They love to have company, and your cheerful smile can make them happy. Share with others. Help people. Be kind to everyone. There are so many ways to show people you love Jesus.

Paul's message to Timothy is important for us too. Reading the Bible, praying, telling the good news of Jesus, and being an example for Jesus are important things we all must do until Jesus comes. These things will keep us busy and happy if we do them for Jesus.

Hidden Words

Find and circle the words that are hidden in the puzzle below.



Preparing for This Bible Lesson

Parent's Corner

This is our concluding lesson in the unit on Paul the Apostle. The Bible text covers Paul's final encouragement to his young friend and co-worker, Timothy. Your child will learn that even as Paul was nearing the end of his life, he made sure that Timothy understood the importance of working for the Lord.

The necessity of "doing" for Christ is an important lesson for your child to learn too. Study the memory verse with him, as it is the theme of this lesson. Then let him do a little building project in connection with this Bible verse.

Give your child one gumdrop for each word of the memory verse, and a box of toothpicks. Let him construct something, using the candy and toothpicks, which represents part of the unit on Paul: a crown (for King Agrippa), a ship (for the shipwreck), etc.

Time Together for Family Devotions

Verses to help your child understand this Bible lesson.

SUNDAY: James 1:22

MONDAY: Hebrews 10:24

TUESDAY: Galatians 6:2

WEDNESDAY: Micah 6:8

THURSDAY: Galatians 6:10

FRIDAY: I Corinthians 15:58

SATURDAY: Matthew 5:16



Bible Text

I Timothy 4:12-16

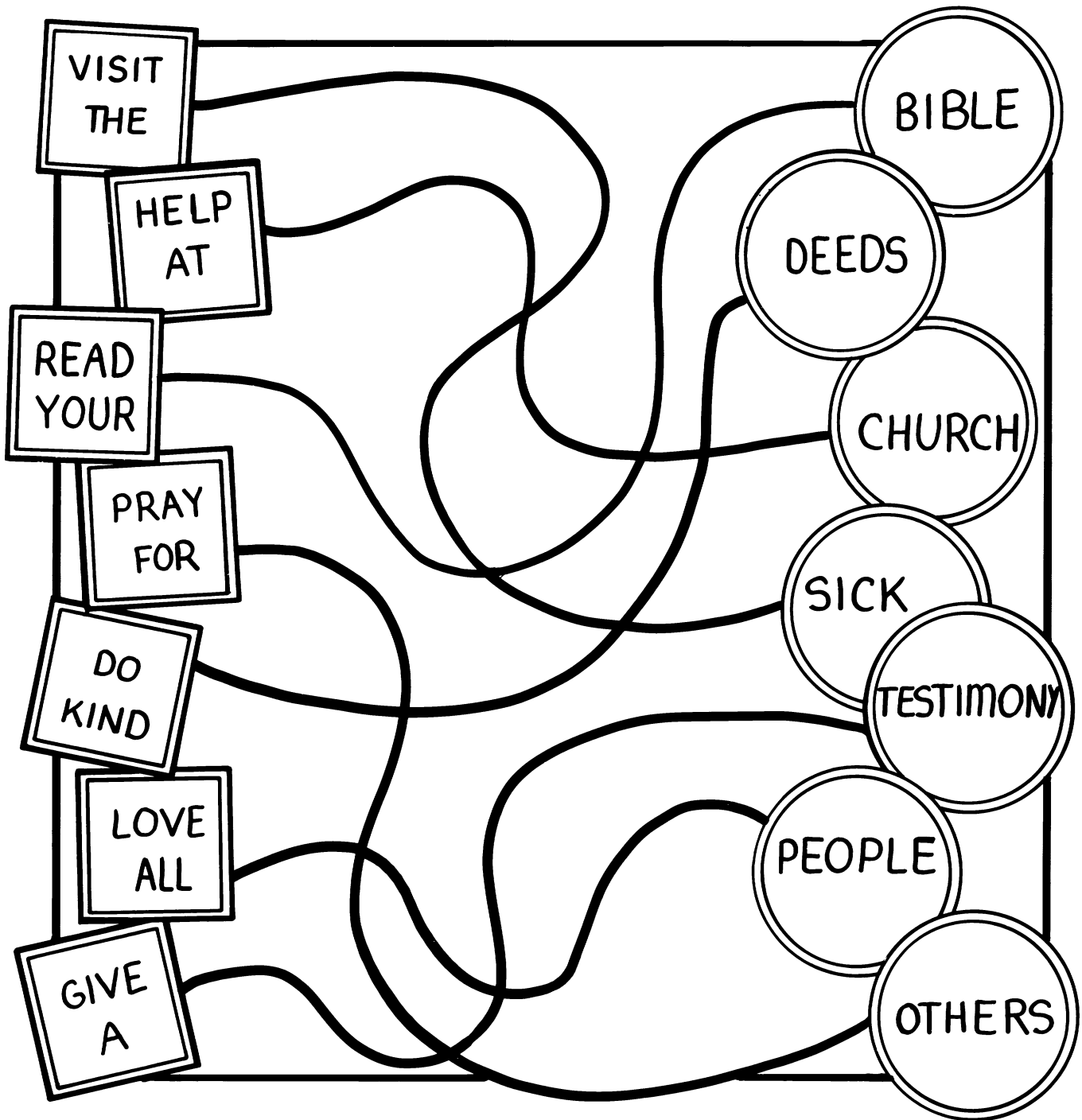
II Timothy 3:14-17; 4:2-8,17,18

Memory Verse

Be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only. — James 1:22

Working for Jesus

Paul told Timothy to work for Jesus. What are some things you can do as you work for Jesus? Use a different colored crayon to find each answer. Start at the squares and follow the curved lines to the correct circles. Color the boxes that tell of your favorite things to do.



Name: _____