

Vicki, Kaylee and Sean belong to a Bible club at church. Leaders Lucy and Matt asked the children what part of the Bible they would most like to learn about this year. "Let's do the Gospel of Mark," suggested Vicki's friend Grace. "Then we can learn all about Jesus." "But first we'll find out about Mark, and why he wrote about Jesus," Lucy told them.



Running away with no clothes on!

Listen to God!

Mark 14:50-52

Jesus is our friend



This young man is thought to be Mark. Can you imagine being so scared about something that you would run away with no clothes on?

Mark (full name – John Mark) later travelled with Paul and Barnabas as they shared good news about Jesus. But Mark ran away again! (Acts 13:13) The Bible doesn't tell us why. Maybe he was ill or homesick, maybe he thought some of the places they went were too scary and dangerous.

Paul was angry at Mark for running away. But Mark overcame his mistakes and fears and later became Paul's friend and helper, as well as a faithful follower of Jesus.

And Mark was probably the first person to write about Jesus' life. He wrote so that others could know his friend and saviour as he did.



Talk to God!



Lord Jesus, we are glad that Mark became your follower and Paul's friend.

Thank you that he wrote all about you so that we can know you and follow you too.



Models by Kaylee



Delbert our dictionary says

Gospel: good news; truth; first four books of the New Testament.

What does Mark 1:1 say Mark is writing?

Imagine you are writing a book about someone's life.

What would you call it?

Who would you write about?

Why would you write about that person?

He's coming, he's coming!

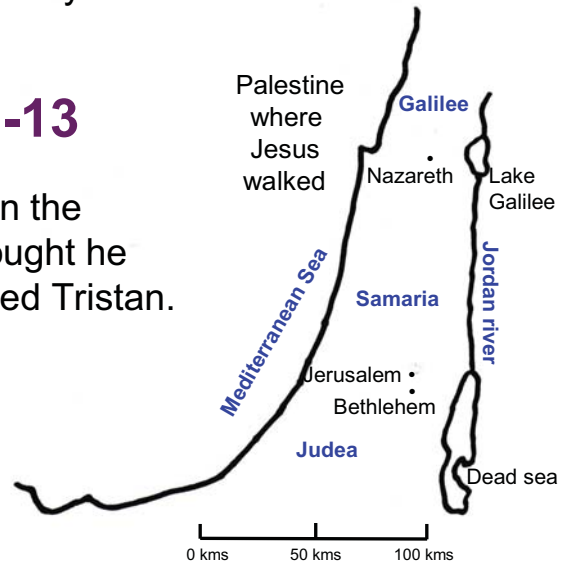
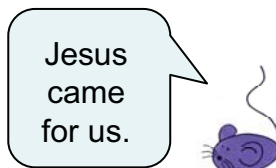
Sean rushed into Bible club bubbling with excitement. "He's coming, he's coming!" he announced proudly to everyone. Sean's favourite football player was coming to visit his school in 2 days. Sean's class had been planning and preparing a welcome for the famous sports star for weeks.

John the Baptist had an announcement that was even more exciting. Hundreds of years before, Isaiah the prophet had written about someone announcing the coming of a very special visitor – the Son of God.



Listen to God! Mark 1:1-13

The children at Bible club tried to imagine what John the Baptist would have been like. "People probably thought he was a bit crazy," said Vicki. "A bit like Sean," laughed Tristan.



Cross out the wrong answers.

John's clothes were made of
camel's hair / bear skins



John ate

yoghurt & peas / grasshoppers & honey /
steak and chips

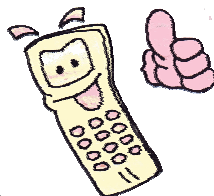
John told people to

turn to God / give him money

John said

Follow me / I'm better than Jesus / I'm not
good enough to even untie Jesus shoes

Talk to God!



Heavenly Father,
you obviously
planned Jesus' coming
for a long, long time.

Thank you for sending him
to earth. We are looking
forward to learning lots
about him from Mark.

Come be my friend!

Alove (pronounced el low vee) shot her hand in the air. "Me, me, choose please," she cried, bouncing up and down, when Lucy asked for a special helper. Alove was new at Bible club. Her family had recently arrived from Somalia. Vicki, Kaylee, Sean and the other children were still getting to know Alove and her brother Deng. But they were quickly getting used to their different ways of saying and doing things, and quickly becoming friends.

Listen to God!

Mark 1:14 -28 (especially 14-20)

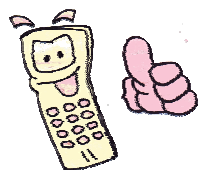
Lucy explained how Jesus didn't choose his friends and disciples because they were handsome, rich or clever. He wanted friends who would learn to know him and trust him. He told these fishermen he would teach them to catch people not fish. This meant he would show them how to help others follow him as they were doing.

Talk to God!

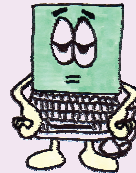
Lord Jesus, thank you that you care about us as you cared about Simon Peter, Andrew, James and John.

Thank you that you want us to be your friends too.

Help us to follow you.

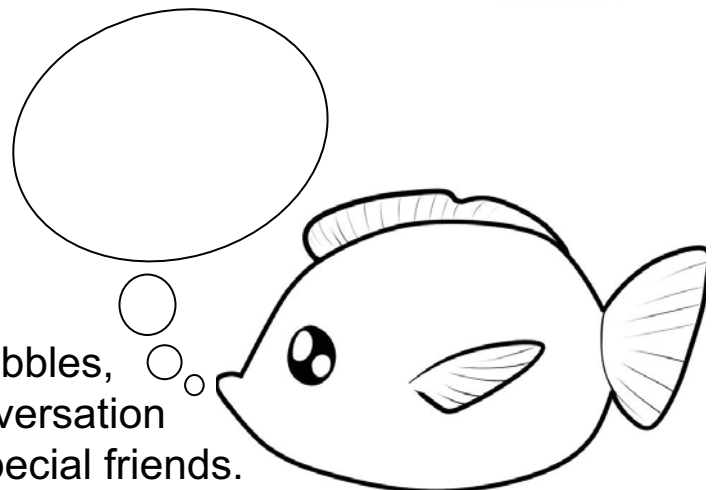
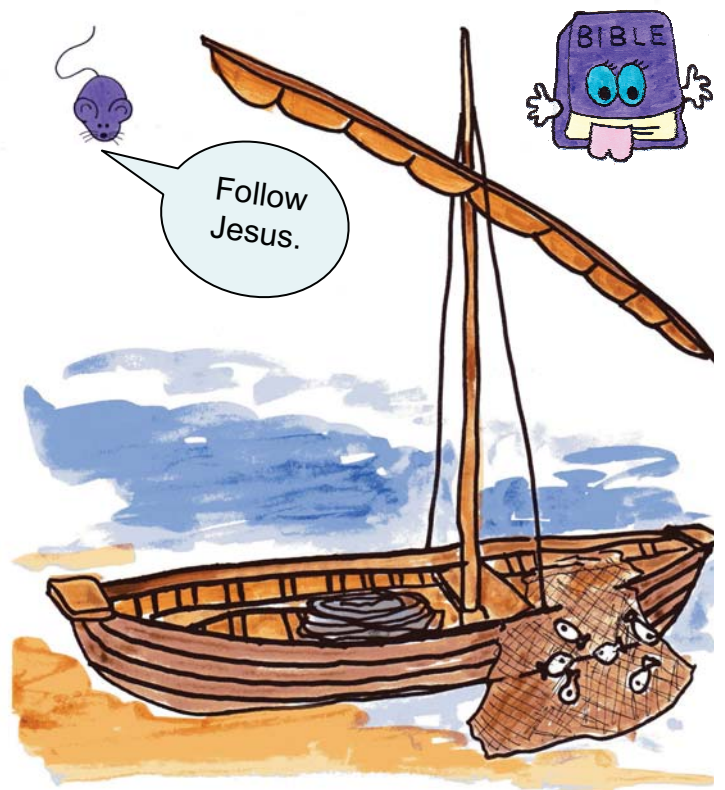


In the bubbles, write a conversation between special friends.



Delbert our dictionary says

Synagogue: the place where Jews pray, worship God and learn about him



"Where's Sean?" Matt asked Vicki and Kaylee. "He's at home sick today. He's got an upset stomach so we're keeping away from him. He's infectious, and we don't want to catch it!" declared Kaylee. "Let's make him a get well card," suggested Becky. "I'll pray for him in our Talking to God time," added Tristan.

Be clean!

Listen to God!

Mark 1:29-45

(especially 40-45)



Models by Kaylee

Matt read the Bible verses and all the children tried to imagine what it would be like to have been one of the people Jesus healed. "When Jesus touched the man with leprosy, he showed just how important and valuable everybody is no matter who they are. Jesus doesn't care if someone is deformed, disabled, unclean or infectious. He loves us all," Matt told them. "Sin makes us spiritually unclean, but Jesus is willing to make us clean from our sin."

Talk to God!

Lord Jesus, thank you that it doesn't matter what we are like or what we have done, you want to forgive our sin and make us clean.



Jesus cleans from sin.



Delbert our dictionary says

Leprosy: an infectious disease that causes loss of feeling and

means sufferers develop sores and deformed hands and feet.

In Bible times, before treatment was known, people with leprosy were called unclean and had to stay away from other people.



The children completed this puzzle. Can you? Complete the letters to find what Jesus said to the man with leprosy and what he says to us.

"I can't walk."



Jesus says, "Be clean."

Come and meet Jesus

“This is my friend Leah,” announced Vicki. Vicki had told Leah all about Bible Club. Leah likes singing and decided to come along after hearing about the music.



Delbert our dictionary says



Son of Man: a special name for Jesus in the New Testament. It describes Jesus as God the Messiah (come to save) as well as a human - the perfect man from heaven.

Listen to God! Mark 2:1-12

Houses were built of stone with flat roofs covered with mud mixed with straw. The men had to “dig” through the roof. They brought their friend to Jesus hoping he would heal him but Jesus had something better in mind. He not only made the man walk, he forgave his sin as well.

Can you answer these questions?
Sean had trouble because he hadn't been listening very well!

1. Why were so many people in the house?
2. How did the men get their friend into the house?
3. What did Jesus first say to the man?
4. What did the man do after Jesus spoke to him?



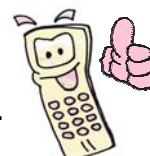
Have you met Jesus?



As Lucy and the children talked about Jesus, Leah learnt more than songs. She learnt that Jesus came to forgive sin, so she asked him to forgive her and she put her trust in him. Vicki couldn't make Leah a Christian, but like the man's friends, she brought Leah to meet Jesus. How can you bring your friends to Jesus?

Talk to God!

Thank you Heavenly Father for our friends. Help us to be good friends to others and help us share about Jesus with them.



Rules, rules, rules!

Delbert our dictionary says

Pharisees: a group of Jewish leaders who had very strict rules about what people should and shouldn't do. They opposed Jesus.



Lucy told the children about when she went to gymnastics as a girl. There was another girl who came along in the middle of term without the right leotard – and she smelt funny! The other girls didn't want to let her join in because they said she was breaking the rules.

Lucy's mum gave her one of Lucy's spare leotards.

Listen to God!

Mark 2: 13-27
(especially 13-17)

Levi (also called Matthew) was employed by the Romans to collect taxes. Nobody liked tax collectors. The Pharisees were horrified that Jesus would make friends with such people! But Jesus spent time with rich and poor, good and bad.

Everyone needs to know him and hear the good news he brings.



Jesus accepts everyone.

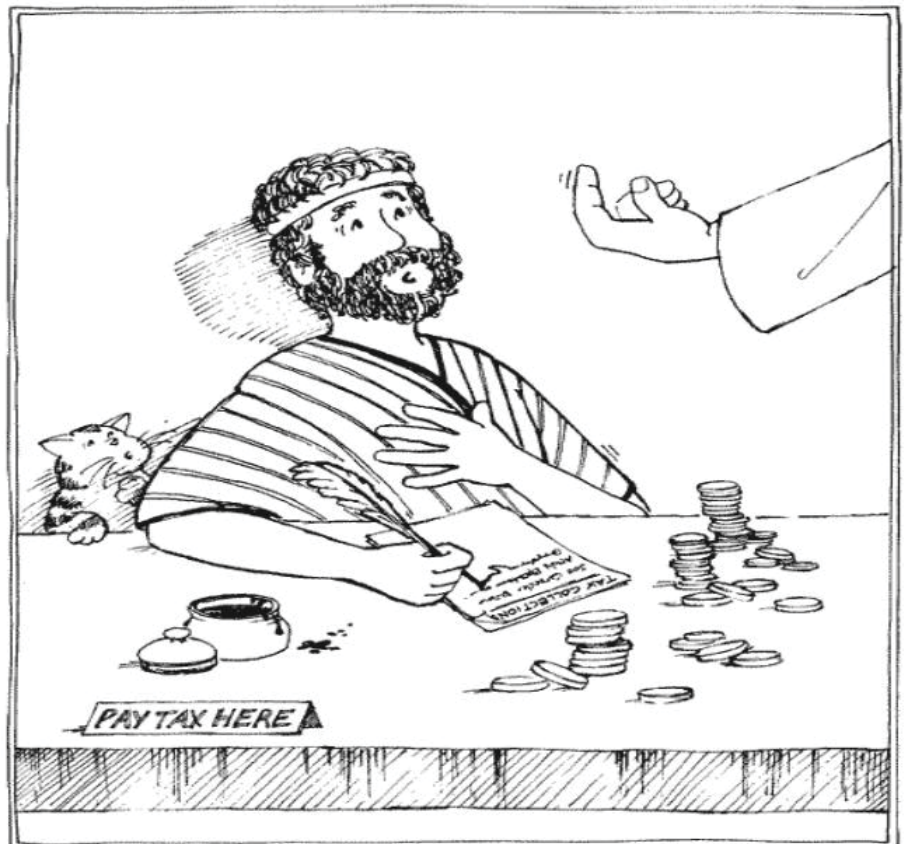


People sometimes go without food to spend time praying and worshipping God, but the Pharisees did it so others would see how "religious" they were. They complained about Jesus' disciples picking wheat to eat because "work" wasn't allowed on the Sabbath. They had rules about everything!

Talk to God!



Thank you Jesus that you are more interested in people than rules. We know that some rules are important, but we know that loving and caring for others is more important.



Colour the picture. How much money do you think Levi had if each coin was worth \$10?

I'm really angry!



Vicki and Kaylee had been to see the Watoto choir. The members of the choir live in an orphanage in Uganda, Africa. One boy told how he had no one to care for him and his brothers, who were only two and four, after their parents were killed in a war. They lived on the streets until rescued by Watoto. It made Vicki and Kaylee feel angry to know many children have no-one to care for them and they decided to sponsor a child.

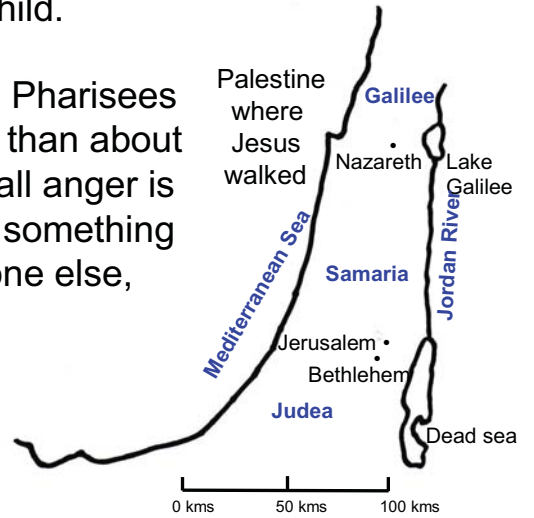
Listen to God!

Mark 3:1-12



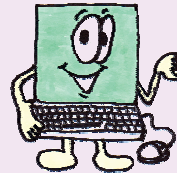
It made Jesus angry that the Pharisees cared more about their rules than about helping people in need. Not all anger is wrong. If it causes us to do something to make life better for someone else, then it is a good thing.

Jesus cares for everyone.



Talk to God!

Thank you Lord Jesus that you always care for, and help people in need. Help me to be like you.



Delbert our dictionary says

Sabbath: seventh day of the week, a day for Jews to rest and worship God.

- harm
- people
- man
- kill
- good
- arm

Fill the gaps from the words in the box.



There was a _____ with a deformed hand.

Jesus asked, "Should we do _____ or _____?"

Jesus healed the man's _____.

The Pharisees wanted to _____ Jesus.

Many _____ came from many places to see Jesus.



What good am I?



I'm important to God.

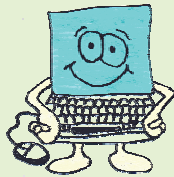
Sean knows many things about his sisters Vicki and Kaylee. He knows almost as much about Tristan and Becky. They have been friends all his life. He doesn't know very much about Deng and Alove. They are new to Bible club. He knows that they all have different personalities, looks and abilities. Lucy often tells the children that they are all important to God no matter what they are like, and God can use them.

Listen to God! Mark 3:13-19

Delbert our dictionary says

Disciple: follower of a person or set of beliefs, followers of Jesus, especially the first twelve.

Apostle: one chosen and sent as a special representative or messenger.



Jesus chose 12 of his disciples (after praying all night) to be apostles, his special helpers. These men were all different – some were impulsive, courageous, ambitious, some doubting, fearful, one even greedy. Some we know nothing about. But Jesus chose to use them. No matter what we are like, or how well people know us, Jesus can use us too.



Unscramble the disciples names. Which ones do you know something about? Tick their names.

etPre _____ plihPi _____

masJe _____ dwreAn _____

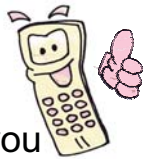
adJus _____ theoBralwom _____

nmoSi _____ smJea _____

hnoJ _____ ttwMaeh _____

deadushaT _____ msahTo _____

Talk to God!



Thank you Heavenly Father that everyone is important to you. Thank you that as we trust and follow you, you will use us to share your love.

The trouble with families

Kyle was upset. Kyle had a younger step brother named Ben. "We have the same dad, but different mums," Kyle explained. "Last time I went to their house, Ben said I wasn't his real brother and he didn't want to play with me. "Did you know that Jesus had step brothers and sisters?" Lucy asked Kyle. "At times they had disagreements. They even said he was crazy! Jesus understands what it's like to have problems with families."



Listen to God!

Mark 3:20-34

(especially 20-21, 31-34)

Jesus is God's son. His father was the Holy Spirit. His human mother was Mary. And while he was on earth, he was part of Mary and Joseph's family. (Some people accused Jesus of being part of Satan's family, but he definitely isn't!)

I am
God's
child.



Jesus cared for his human family, but he said that those who hear about and obey God are his family too. If you have put your trust in him, you are God's child, and Jesus calls you his brother or sister.



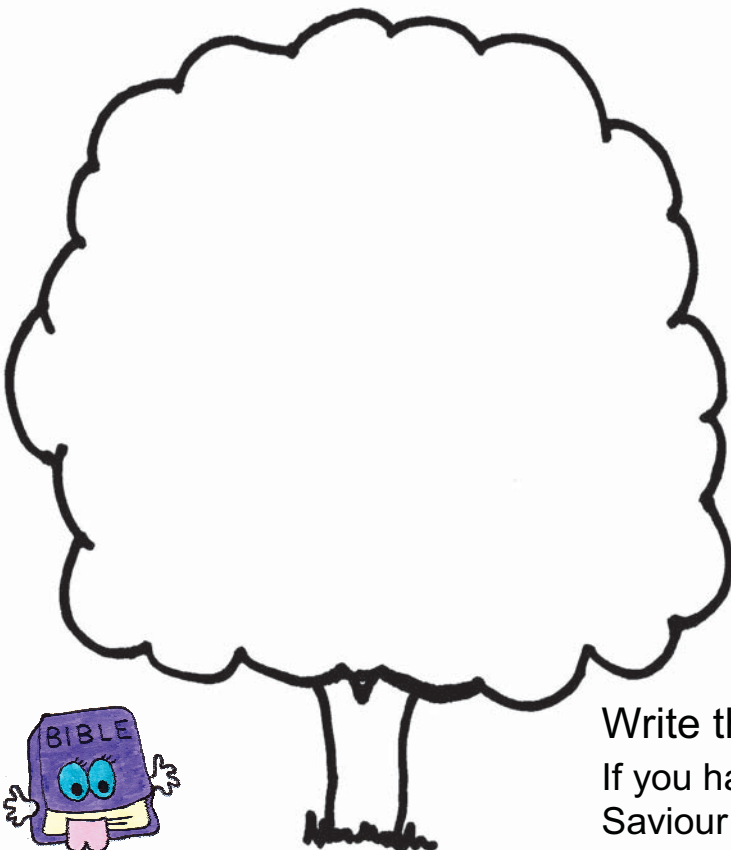
Delbert our dictionary says

Satan: Beelzebub, the devil, God's enemy. God is more powerful than Satan and will eventually destroy him.

Talk to God!

Thank God, your Heavenly Father, for your family.

Tell God about any disagreements or problems you may have had recently and ask him to help you get over them.



Write the names of your family on the tree. If you have put your trust in Jesus as your Saviour and friend, write his name in too.

Uif tupsz pg uif tpxfs, tpjm boe tfet.

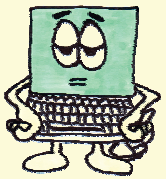


(To read the heading, change each letter for the one that comes before it in the alphabet eg. u is really t)

Matt is a really good storyteller, and the children in Bible club enjoy listening to his stories. Jesus was a good story teller too. He used parables because they were easy for people to listen to and remember, but they also had a deeper secret meaning that only those who really wanted to, could understand.

Listen to God! Mark 4:1-20

When Jesus was on earth, there were no tractors or seed machines. Farmers walked up and down the field throwing seed out by hand. His listeners knew exactly what Jesus was describing, but not what his story meant.

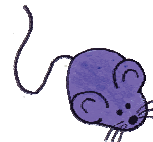
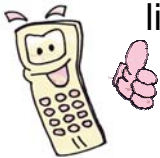


Delbert our dictionary says

Parable: story about everyday things with a spiritual message or truth. An "earthly story with a heavenly meaning".

Talk to God!

Our Father God, we know you want us to be like the good seed. Help us to listen to your words and to grow strong in our understanding and love for you.



Listen to Jesus and grow.

Heading: The story of the sower, soil and seeds



Match the seeds in the story with the meanings by drawing lines between them.



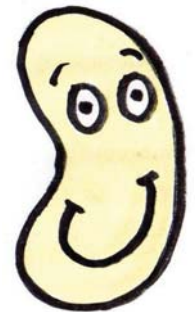
People who hear but let other things get in the way.



People who listen, accept God's Word and grow in understanding.



People who hear but give up easily and don't change.



People with hard hearts who don't listen.

Shine that light!



Listen to God!

Mark:4:21-25

“What are you doing Matt? We can’t see properly.” said Sean in a puzzled voice. While the children were sitting down, Matt had closed the curtains and turned off the lights and then put a huge box over a lamp that was on the table. “This is what it’s like for people if nobody tells them about Jesus,” Matt said. Then he took the box off the lamp and suddenly the children could see everything in the room clearly again.

Shine the light of Jesus.



Talk to God!

Lord Jesus, help us see you clearly and help us to shine your love around to others so that they may have a chance to know you too.

If we live for Jesus, we can be like a light showing others what he is like. Doing wrong things, not loving or caring for others, not telling them about Jesus is like hiding our light under a box.

“Shine a light” on the word search and find the following hidden words:

Jesus said lamp hidden listen put shine hear uncover known bowl covered open understand bed saved stand secret light

Then write down the letters that are left to find a hidden message.



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|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| p | u | t | b | o | w | l | c | h | s | l | i | g | h | t |
| l | l | J | e | s | u | s | o | e | h | e | s | a | i | d |
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Answer: Let your light shine!

How does your garden grow?

Kaylee proudly showed off a photo of the snapdragon she had grown. "You're so clever to grow that," said Grace. "Not really," Kaylee replied. "I don't do much, except plant the seeds in soil that's in a sunny spot and water them. Then I just watch as the tiny plants appear, grow and finally burst into flower."



Listen to God! Mark 4:26-34

Lucy explained that Jesus used these stories about growing seeds to show how individual people grow as his followers and how the whole of God's kingdom grows. As we pray, read the Bible, and are taught and encouraged by others, we grow and God's kingdom grows.

Delbert our dictionary says

God's kingdom: realm over which God rules as king through Jesus. Jesus is the king of everyone who trusts in him. His kingdom is spiritual – it's in our hearts and it lasts forever.



It's God's power that causes a tiny mustard seed to grow into a large plant. And it's God's power that brings people from all over the world to become part of his kingdom.

Help the bird find her nest at the top of the tree.



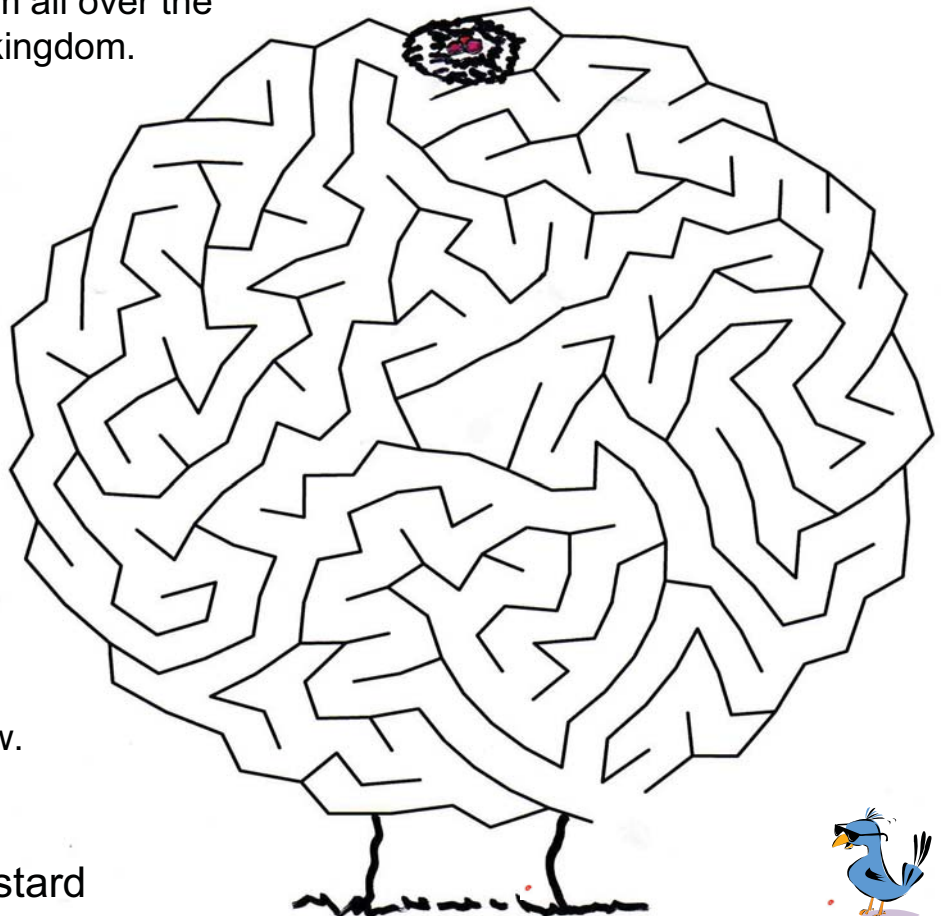
God is at work.

Talk to God!

Lord God, thank you that everyone who trusts in you belongs to your kingdom.

Thank you that Jesus is king.

We pray that your kingdom will grow and grow.



Can you find the five mustard seeds on the page?

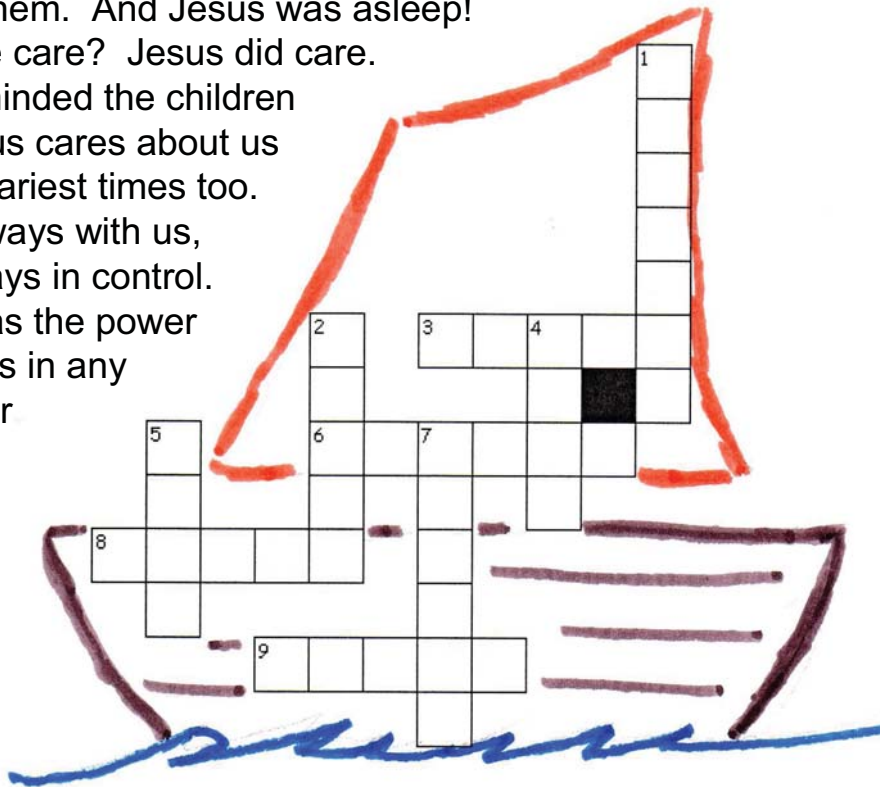
Vicki does **NOT** like storms. A few years ago a severe hail storm damaged the car, the roof of the house and the garden. As Tristan read the Bible verses, she remembered how scared she had been by the hail stones sounding like gunshots on the roof.

I'm scared!



Listen to God! Mark 4:35-41

Some of Jesus' disciples were experienced fishermen. They were used to storms on the sea of Galilee, but this storm scared them. And Jesus was asleep! Didn't he care? Jesus did care. Matt reminded the children that Jesus cares about us in our scariest times too. He is always with us, and always in control. Jesus has the power to help us in any trouble or "storm".



Use the Bible verses to help you complete the crossword



Talk to God!

Think about times when you feel scared. Remember Jesus is there. Ask Jesus to take away your fears and help you.

Down

1. Time of day
2. told the disciples to go across the lake
4. Even the wind and waves Jesus
5. It was caught in the storm
7. Jesus was

Across

3. The disciples thought they would
6. The disciples were
8. nearly sunk the boat
9. Jesus said this to the storm



Jesus is always here.

Free at last!



Mrs Hunt had been a missionary teacher in a small village in Bolivia. She came to tell the children about it. Before they knew about Jesus, some of the people in the village had been made to do horrid things by evil spirits such as cut themselves and drink poison. They were like the man Jesus met in the cemetery. But when Jesus came into their lives, those people changed completely and they were free.



Listen to God!

Mark 5:1-20

Jesus is powerful.

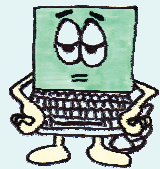
What does 1 John 4:4 tell us?

Talk to God!

Lord Jesus you have power over everything. Please surround us with your angels and protect us from evil.



Models by Kaylee



Delbert our dictionary says

Demons and evil spirits: servants of Satan. Satan and his demons were angels who rebelled against God and are now his enemies.

The following phrases describe the man in the Bible verses.

Write beside each one whether it describes him controlled by Satan or freed by Jesus.

Cutting himself with stones _____

Tied up in chains _____

Sitting quietly, properly clothed _____

Uncontrollable, yelling out, scary _____

Calm, in his right mind _____

Living among graves _____

Alone, scared and scary _____

Telling what Jesus had done _____

Free to go home to his family _____

Just trust me!



“What’s wrong Kaylee? You’re very quiet today,” said Lucy. “I was just thinking about something that happened at school this week,” Kaylee responded. “When I told some other girls that Jesus was my friend, they laughed at me. But I’m glad he’s my friend, and I know I can trust him to be there for me.”



Listen to God!

Mark 5:21-24, 35-43

People laughed at Jesus too. He knows what it feels like. When Jairus was scared that his daughter had died, Jesus said, “Don’t be scared, just trust me.” Then he kindly took the girl by the hand and brought her back to life, showing both his power and love. We can trust Jesus too.

Talk to God!

Our Father in heaven, thank you for sending Jesus to show us your power and love. Thank you that we can always trust in him. Help us to do that, no matter what happens.



Just trust Jesus



- Girl’s father - URIJSA

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- Who can help - JUESS

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5
- Jairus did this - LETKN

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15 12 1 3
- Crowd did this - LODFWLOE

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- People were - RCNYGI

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10 8 7 6
- Then they were - LIHNUGAG

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4 14 18

Unscramble each of the clue words. (They are from the Bible verses.) Copy the letters in the numbered squares to the squares below with the same number to find out what happened.

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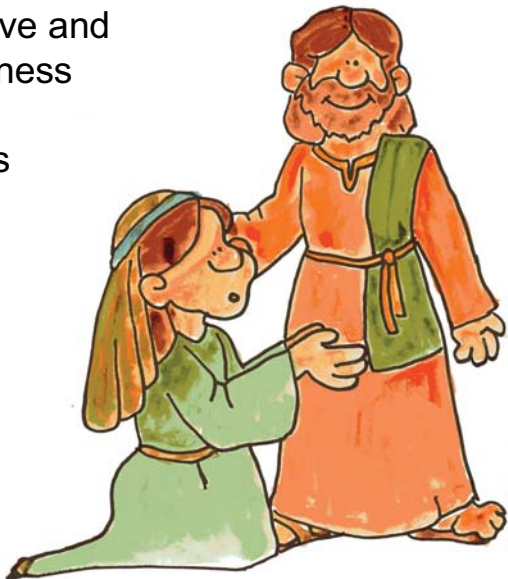
Can I really tell Jesus that?

Listen to God!

Mark 5:25-34

“Quiet!” Lucy’s tone of voice got instant attention from the children who had been crowding around and all talking at once. “I need to tell you some things to help you understand today’s Bible verses,” she added. “When Jesus was on earth, women and girls didn’t have a lot of value except as workers around the house. This woman probably couldn’t do much work. And because of her bleeding, people would think she was dirty and avoid her. So I’m sure she not only felt sick and ashamed, but lonely too – and desperate for help. Although she was really scared, she had the faith to believe that Jesus would heal her. And he did!

We can never do anything, or have anything happen to us that we can’t tell Jesus about, no matter how bad it seems. He will treat us with love and gentleness as he did this lady.”



Delbert our dictionary says

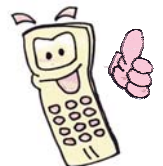
Faith: confidence or trust in someone or something. Christian faith is a secure belief in Jesus Christ as God’s Son and our Saviour.



Jesus knows and loves me

Talk to God!

Lord Jesus, thank you that I can come to you and tell you about my scariest secrets. Thank you that you know everything about me and love me just the same.



Circle true or false.

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|------|-------|
| The woman was bleeding for 12 years | True | False |
| The woman called out to Jesus. | True | False |
| She was healed by touching Jesus. | True | False |
| Jesus knew she had touched him. | True | False |
| Jesus was angry. | True | False |
| Jesus called the woman, “daughter”. | True | False |

Who does he think he is?

Vicki was chosen for the school swimming team but her friend Taylor missed out. Suddenly Taylor didn't want to play with Vicki even though they had been friends for years. Vicki felt hurt and sad. "Taylor thinks I'm being proud, but I think she is jealous," Vicki said.

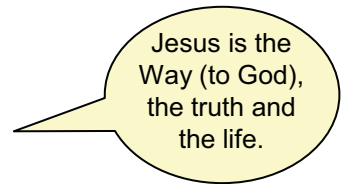
"Jesus knows what that feels like," Lucy told her. "People in his own town, even his family, were upset by his abilities and refused to believe him."

Listen to God!

Mark 6:1-13 (especially 1-6)

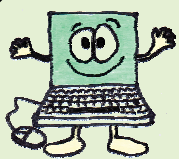
The people thought, "He's just a carpenter. How could he be a prophet, speaking words from God? Who does he think he is?" And because they refused to believe Jesus, they missed out on what he could do for them.

The important thing is **who do we think Jesus is?** Some people think he was a good man. Some only know him as a swear word. Who do you think Jesus is?



Talk to God!

Thank you Lord Jesus that the Bible tells us who you are. You are God's Son, our Saviour and friend, the King of Kings who is holy, righteous, loving and good.



Delbert our dictionary says

Prophet: someone who speaks God's words, speaks as God's representative.

Messiah or Christ: a person anointed (chosen) and promised to be a king who would bring salvation to his people. Jesus was that person.

How did the disciple Peter answer when Jesus said to him, "who do you say I am?" Look up Matthew 16:16 and complete what Peter said.

You are _____



Don't be a fool!

Listen to God!

Mark 6:14-29

"Mum says that she had a Bible Storybook when she was young that had a picture of John the Baptist's head on a plate. It was our uncle's favorite picture in the whole book," Sean said after Matt read these Bible verses. "I think it's a horrible story," said Becky. The other girls all agreed.

Matt sounded very serious. "Have you ever done anything you knew was wrong, just because someone else asked you to?"

Herod was ruler of Galilee. He knew it was wrong to kill John, a prophet of God. But Herod was a weak and foolish man, afraid of what his friends might think or say. During what was probably a wild, drunken party, he had John the Baptist murdered at the request of his wife. She was a wicked woman, happy to use her own daughter to carry out her evil plans.



Talk to God!

Jesus helps us do what's right.



Dear God, we can see how one bad thing can lead to another, and how we can be pressured to do wrong by others. Please help us to say NO and do what is right.



Add in the missing vowels a e o to see what Ephesians 5:17 says,

"D__n't b__ __ f__ __l. Und__rst__nd
wh__t G__d w__nts y__u t__ d__."



When a little becomes a lot

“Hey Lucy, Leah and I are doing the World Vision 40 Hour Famine this year,” said Vicki. “Do you want to sponsor us? We only have to go without food for 8 hours, not 40 like my mum does.”

Listen to God!

Mark 6:30-44

(especially 35-44)

The girls had heard that one in six people in the world go to bed hungry every night and had wondered what they could do about it. It seemed impossible that anything they did would make a difference until they learned that 300,000 people were taking part and every \$40 raised would feed a whole family for a month.

The gospel written by John tells us the food was given by a young boy. It was probably his food for the day and certainly wouldn't have fed more than a few people. When given to Jesus it was able to feed thousands with plenty left over. Jesus can take our little and turn it into something big.



When I can't, God can!

Delbert our dictionary says

Miracle: something God does that a person cannot do, or that cannot happen as part of nature. They show God's love and power.



Talk to God!

Lord Jesus, when problems seem too big for us, please help us to bring them to you. Thank you that you have the power to do what we think is impossible.



How many different words can you make from letters in these words?

15 – good 20 – very good 25 or more - excellent

bread and fish _____



It's not always easy

children. "The first time I had to give a talk in class. I was really nervous," was Kaylee's answer. Kyle remembered being scared when he had to put the rubbish out in the dark. And Deng told them how hard it had been coming to a new country.



**Listen
to God!**

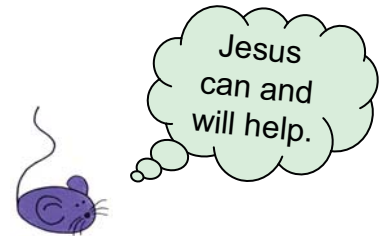
Mark 6:45-56

Jesus had gone to spend time alone with God his Father in prayer, and now his disciples were caught in a storm.

They had just seen Jesus miraculously feed thousands of people, yet had trouble believing he could walk on water and come to their rescue when they needed him.

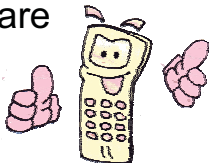
Do you believe he can help you?

Draw the boat, frightened disciples and Jesus in the storm.



Talk to God!

Thank you Lord Jesus that no matter what is happening to us, you know about it and you are willing to help.



What differences are there in your pictures?

Draw disciples with Jesus now in the boat.

Listen to God!

WASH THOSE HANDS?

Mark 7:1-23

(especially 5-7, 14-23)

“When my grandpa was a little boy, the people in his church said you weren’t allowed to watch television. Were they like these Pharisees?”

asked Sean. “Yes, I guess so,” answered Matt and he went on to explain. “The Pharisees had so many rules for outward behaviour, but didn’t care if their thoughts and feelings were unclean. They even paid more attention to washing the outside of cups and bowls than they did the inside because that’s what others saw. Jesus said it’s not what goes into our mouth, but what is in our heart and mind that needs to be clean. He showed how worthless all the outside show of goodness is if there is no love for God and others in our hearts.”

Delbert our dictionary says

Hypocrite: pretending to be something you are not, pretending to believe something that you don’t. In this case pretending to be holy and morally clean.



Talk to God!

Heavenly Father, we know that we will never be clean in your sight by keeping rules. Thank you that when we ask your forgiveness, you make us clean.



God makes us clean inside.



Where does our food go? (verse 19)

What does Jesus say makes us unclean to God? (verse 20)

What are some things that can make people unclean? (verse 21-22)

Write down some good things that can come from a person’s heart.

Crumbs under the table

Grace's mum burst into Bible Club. "Lucy, Lucy, come outside. I need you straight away." Lucy looked up, "I can't come outside. We are in the middle of our prayer time." But Grace's mum persisted. "Our baby has fallen over and his knee is bleeding badly. I need you to help me." Lucy grabbed the first aid kit and ran outside.

Do you have a dog who hangs around at mealtimes waiting for a handout?



Listen to God! Mark 7:24-30

Jesus was visiting a neighbouring country when a woman came and begged him to heal her daughter. At first Jesus gave a strange reply - "I must feed my family before giving food to begging pets." He was saying that his priority was to his disciples and other Jews rather than gentiles (non-Jews) like this woman was. But the woman refused to give up, and because of her persistence and faith, Jesus answered her request and healed her daughter.

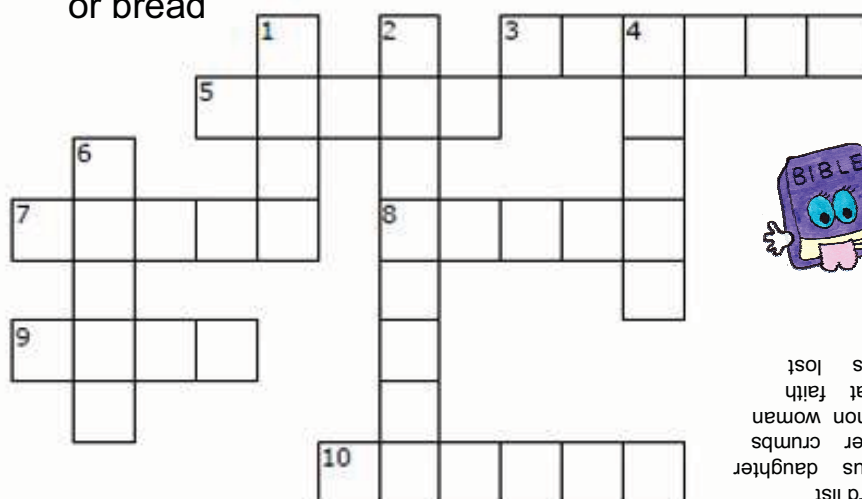
Complete the crossword

Across

3. To feel pain or distress
5. Female adult
7. The Son of God
8. Very large amount
9. Unable to be found
10. Small pieces of cake or bread

Down

1. pets sometimes used as guards
2. female child of parents
4. to have trust in someone
6. an evil spirit



Word list
Jesus daughter
suffer crumbs
demon woman
great faith
dogs lost



Talk to God!

Lord Jesus, help us to come to you when we need help.

Help us to never give up, no matter how hard or big our problems seem.



Did Jesus do that?

“Lucy, you are always doing things a different way. I never know what to expect when I come to Bible club,” complained Becky. “Well, Jesus didn’t always do things the way people expected either,” Lucy told her. “Look at today’s Bible verses and see if you can tell me two unusual things Jesus did that may have even shocked people.”

Listen to God! Mark 7:31-37

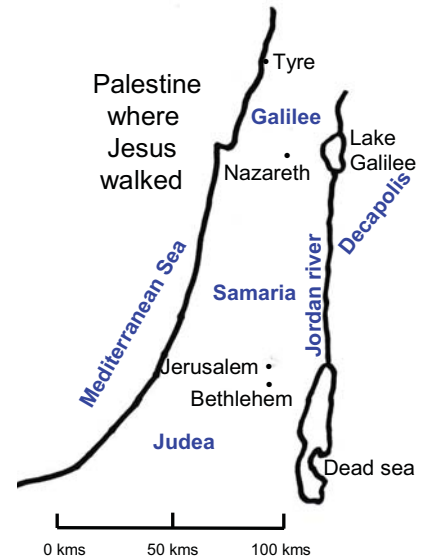
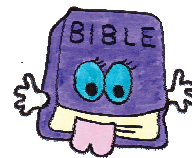
Imagine being the man in today’s story. He may not have known who Jesus was. Who could tell him? He probably couldn’t understand why Jesus poked in his ears and put spit on his tongue! Spitting was an insult!

Like many people today, he could have ignored Jesus or pushed him away. But then this man would have missed being healed. He would have missed being able to hear and talk, perhaps for the first time in his life. He would have missed knowing for himself that Jesus cared for him and works for good in our lives.



Jesus does only good

Colour the bookmark, glue it to some cardboard and use it in your Bible.



Talk to God!

Thank you Lord Jesus that everything you do is good. Thank you that you have power to help and to heal. Thank you for all the good things you do in my life.



Everything he does is good!



Mark 7:37



He cares for everyone

Matt asked Alove to tell the other children what happened when her family came to Australia from Sudan. "My family leave Sudan when our village was bombed. Deng and me was born in the refugee camp in Kenya. There was not much food and we lived in a tent for years and years.

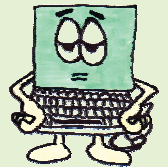
When we got to Australia some people took us to the house, then some people from the church come with food and clothes and blankets and pots and everything," she told them.

Listen to God! Mark 8:1-10

When Jesus had previously fed 1,000s of people, they had been mainly Jews - from his own country. The people in this story were not Jews. They were gentiles, often avoided and sometimes even disliked by Jews. But Jesus loved them and had compassion for them. He gave them what they urgently needed - food, just like the people from the church did for Alove and Deng's family.

Delbert our dictionary says

Compassion: feeling sorry for someone and showing them kindness and love.



Jesus cares for me

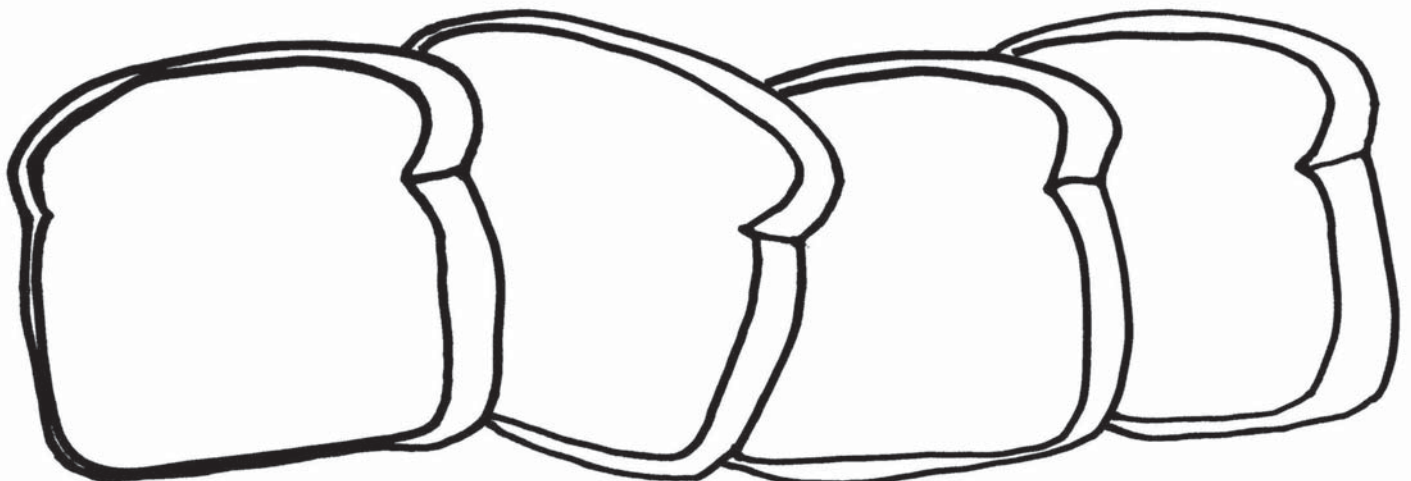


Talk to God!

Lord Jesus, thank you for love and caring for everyone, no matter where we come from, or who we are.



On each slice of bread, write or draw ways Jesus shows he cares for you.



Who are you like?

“You know an awful lot about the Bible Matt. Did you go to church when you were our age?” asked Kaylee.
 “I went to church and Sunday school, but that doesn’t mean I know everything, and it didn’t make me a Christian either. I became a Christian, a follower of Jesus, when I was twelve and realised and believed that Jesus had come to be my saviour,” he replied.



Listen to God! Mark 8:11-21



Jesus knew that even if God sent a special sign from heaven, the Pharisees still wouldn’t believe who he was. Even the disciples had trouble understanding what Jesus told them, but they believed and they kept following him. Who are you like - a Pharisee or a disciple?

Read the puzzle from the inside out, then answer this question
 Who has eternal life?

Jesus saves

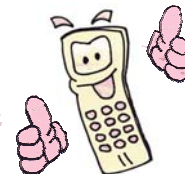


not perish
 that every-
 that he
 so
 God
 For
 the
 his only
 believes in
 eternal life.

but have
 one who
 gave
 loved
 so
 world
 Son
 him will
 John 3: 16

Talk to God!

Heavenly Father, thank you for sending Jesus to save us and give us life.



Thank you that all we need to do is believe in you.

Have you put your trust in Jesus as your saviour?

Can you see clearly?

Listen to God! Mark 8:22-30

“We have been learning fractions at school,” Kaylee told her friends, “but I just wasn’t understanding them until, all of a sudden, I got it!” “Well, I don’t get why the man in today’s Bible story wasn’t completely healed straight away,” said Sean. “Jesus could have healed him instantly.”

“We don’t know why Sean. Maybe Jesus wanted to teach his followers that we won’t always understand everything about him, or anything else, straight away,” Lucy told them. “It’s obvious from his conversation with them later that many people still didn’t understand who he really was.”

Who did some people think Jesus was? (verse 28)

Who did Peter say that Jesus was?

(The snack pack called “Who does he think he is?” will give you the dictionary meaning.)

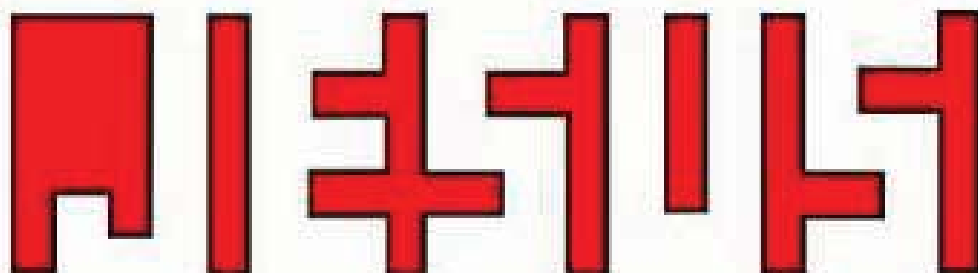
Talk to God!



Thank you Father God for the Bible. As we read it, we see and understand more and more about you and your Son the Lord Jesus.

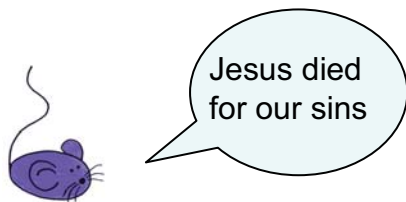


Who do you say Jesus is?



This is what is called an optical illusion. Can you see someone’s name? If you half close your eyes, you should be able to see it clearly.

Vicki is saving up to buy a pet turtle. They are expensive, but she “loves” turtles so much, she happily cleans the manure out of the chicken pen when dad offers to pay. Matt asked the children, “Did you know that there are many people willing to go to prison or even die because of their love for Jesus? And many suffer in other ways too.”



Talk to God!

Lord Jesus we know that everyone has sinned. We have all thought, said and done things which are wrong. Thank you for dying for our sins. Teach us what it means to follow you.



Is it worth it?

Listen to God!



Mark 8:31-9:1

Jesus now told his disciples how he was going to suffer and be killed. He also told them that he would rise from the dead and come back to life again. He did this to take the punishment for our sins so that by trusting in him, we could be forgiven.

Why would Jesus do that for us? Look up 1 John 3:16 and complete the sentence:

We know what real love is

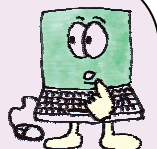
because _____

Jesus also told his disciples that following him, wouldn't always be easy, but it would be worth it. No amount of money, fun, popularity, or achievements in our life on earth can ever be as wonderful as having eternal life for our soul that God's love and forgiveness brings.

Delbert our dictionary says

Take up (carry) your cross:

prisoners carried the cross they would be executed on. They knew they were totally under the control of their rulers. Jesus didn't say his followers must necessarily suffer like that, but that we should let him, who knows what is best for us, be in control.



There's not enough words!

“What is the most brilliant, amazing, dazzling thing you could possibly imagine?” asked Lucy. The girls thought of princesses and fairies and jewels. The boys suggested superheroes and space ships. “God is so brilliant,” explained Lucy, “that it’s impossible to describe him (or for us to look at him) so when he came to earth he had to hide his brilliance in a human body.”



Jesus is awesome



Listen to God! Mark 9:2-13

Jesus gave three of the disciples a glimpse of what he was really like. In their books, Matthew says Jesus’ face shone, and Luke says his clothes were bright like lightning. The great prophets Moses and Elijah appeared too but disappeared when God the Father spoke. Jesus far outshines even the greatest people in knowledge, power and authority.

What does John say about Jesus in Revelation 1:12-16

Hair like _____

Eyes like _____

Feet like _____

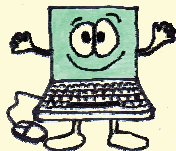
Voice like _____

Face like _____



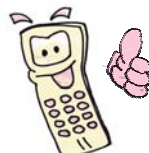
Delbert our dictionary says

Transfiguration: to change in appearance, sometimes in a miraculous way.

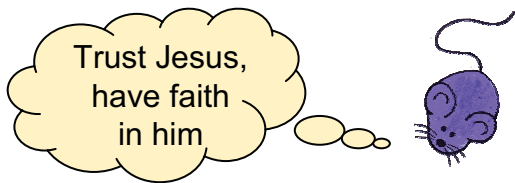


Talk to God!

Lord Jesus, we know there are not enough words to describe what you are really like. You are awesome! Help us to always listen to what you tell us in the Bible.



Colour Jesus as brilliantly as you can.



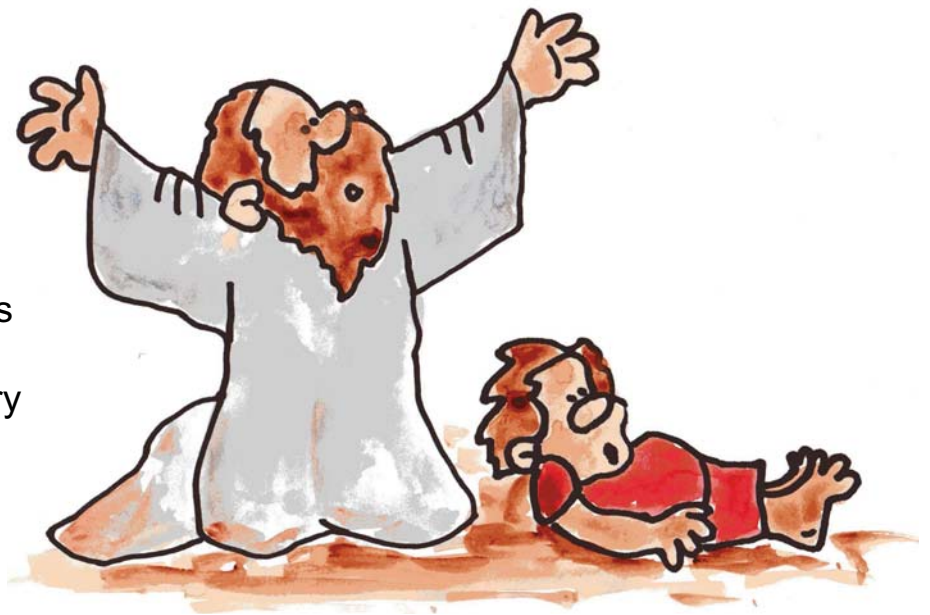
A scary story?

“My big brother is always trying to scare me with stories about monsters,” confessed Grace. “Mum tells me they aren’t real, but he makes them sound so horrible that sometimes I find it hard to believe her and trust what she says.” “You can trust your mum, “ Lucy assured her, “but you can trust Jesus even more.”

Listen to God

Mark 9:14-29

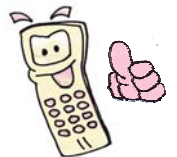
After a wonderful experience on the mountain, Jesus and his disciples met a boy who was being controlled by a very scary evil spirit. The boy’s father couldn’t free his son. The disciples couldn’t either. Only Jesus could.



When you have a problem that seems too hard or too scary, remember to bring it to Jesus and have faith in him. It doesn’t matter how much or how little faith we have. The boy’s father admitted he had hardly any faith. It only matters who our faith is in - JESUS. Jesus has power over every thing, even demons and evil spirits.
(see snack pack called “Free at last”.)

To do: Find 2 large empty plastic drink bottles. Leave the lid on one and take the lid off the other. Lie them on their side and hit each bottle with your fist. The bottles represent us, the lid represents Jesus, our fist represents all our fears. Which bottle crumpled and why?

Talk to God!



Dear Jesus, thank you that I can tell you about anything, no matter how scary. I know I can trust you to protect me. Please help me overcome my fears.

The lid locks air inside. This keeps the bottle from being pushed in. Having Jesus with us keeps us from being "pushed in".



I am the greatest!

“Boys, boys, what’s all the commotion?” Matt asked. Kyle, Deng and Sean were having an argument over which of them was the best soccer player. “Actually, I am better than all of you,” declared Leah.

Listen to God! Mark 9:30-50 (especially 33-37)

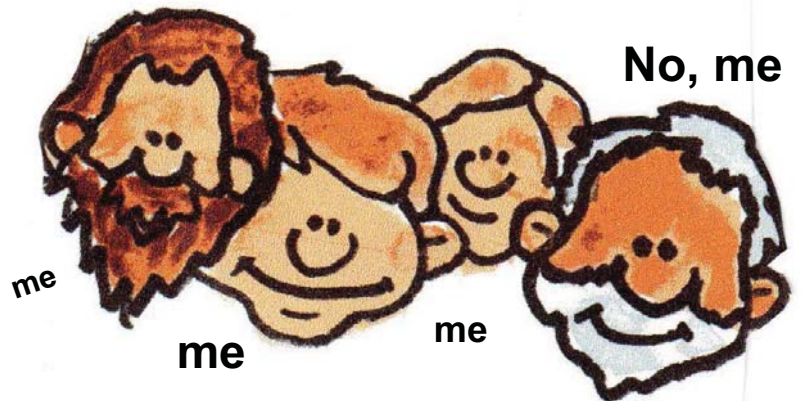
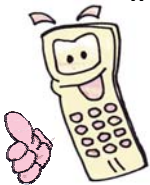
Jesus had just finished telling his disciples that he was going to die, and all they could talk about was which of them was most important. Being good at sport, a popular music star, famous on television, or even a leader of a country is not what makes you great. Jesus said that serving and doing things for others is what really makes us great. There is a song that includes the words, “if you want to be great in God’s kingdom, learn to be a servant of all.” Jesus himself has set us the example to follow.

Be like Jesus



Talk to God!

Heavenly Father, please help us to be less interested in ourselves and more concerned about others and how we can be a help to them.



Can you read what Jesus said about himself in Mark 10:45? A mirror might help. The words are back to front. Some people think what Jesus said was back to front but it wasn't.

Even I . . . came here not
to be served, but to serve
others, and to give my life
a ransom for many.



No matter what!



Listen to God!

Mark 10:1-16

After Leah read the Bible verses, Kaylee told the others about her best friend Taylor. "Her mum and dad have split up," she said, "and now Taylor cries all the time. She has to live at her dad's house one week and her mum's house the next. Taylor says she doesn't know where she belongs anymore."

When God created people, he wanted men and women to be married for life. But it doesn't always work as God planned. There is a lot of hurt when a family breaks up, but we need to remember that God loves and blesses us no matter what happens in our families. And Jesus thinks children are so important that he became angry when his disciples tried to keep children away. Jesus blessed the children and said that grownups should have the same kind of trust and faith that children have.



Jesus blesses me



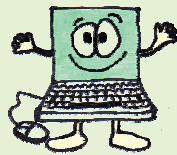
Talk to God!

Thank you Heavenly Father that no matter what our family is like, or what might be happening in it - "Jesus loves me this I know for the Bible tells me so!"



Delbert our dictionary says

Bless: say good words, speak well of, give like a gift – love, favour, honor, happiness, protection.



Are the following statements true or false?

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 After men and women get married, they stay living with their parents. | T | F |
| 2 Husbands and wives are joined together by God. | T | F |
| 3 The disciples told people to bring their children to Jesus. | T | F |
| 4 Jesus became angry with his disciples. | T | F |
| 5 Jesus hugged the children and blessed them. | T | F |

You can't earn it or buy it!

Leah trusted Jesus as her Saviour at Bible club. She wanted her sister Ruby to know him too. Ruby had come a couple of times, but right now didn't seem very interested. "I'd rather go horse riding. I don't do anything really bad, so I think I'll go to heaven," was her excuse.

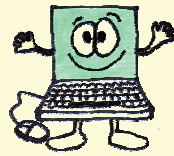
Eternal life is free



Listen to God! Mark 10:17-34 (especially 17-27)

Delbert our dictionary says

God's grace: free, undeserved favour, kindness and love of God.



Jesus knew he was soon going to die on the cross. He also knew that, unlike little children who are happy to be dependant on others, the rich man was more dependant on his money than on God. He wanted to earn eternal life and thought his money would help him. He couldn't accept that no-one is good enough to earn eternal life by what they do. Eternal life comes through trusting in Jesus; and he obviously didn't trust Jesus to care for him if he gave his money away.



Talk to God!

Thank you Lord God that we don't have to earn your favour and love. We just need to trust you.



How does the Bible say we receive eternal life and a home in heaven? Read Ephesians 2:8-9 and fill in the gaps.

This is from the Good News Bible but you should be able to work it out from any Bible.

For it is by God's _____ that you have been _____ through _____.

It is not the result of you own _____,

but God's _____, so no-one can _____ about it.

Listen to God!

Mark 10:35-52

(especially 46-52)

Who is important?



Matt and Lucy were trying to organise a play about Jesus and Bartimaeus. Tristan, Leah and Vicki were arguing over who should play which part, and all telling each other to "be quiet".

The people around Bartimaeus told him to be quiet too. They were in effect saying, "you're not important. You are just a worthless blind beggar. Jesus is too important to bother with you." But Jesus did bother. Bartimaeus was just as important to Jesus as anyone else. He stopped, noticed, listened and healed him. Perhaps Bartimaeus will be sitting beside Jesus in heaven!

Each line of the puzzle has one word hidden in a list of random letters. The blank space is a missing letter that belongs to that word. Can you see the following words?
Fill in the missing letter. Circle the word.

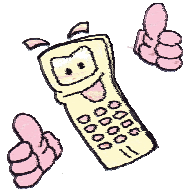
blind mercy cheer healed
begging quiet faith sight

1. v d p b b e _ g i n g l x
2. r l x q u i _ t n u s d a
3. h o a u f a _ t h m v a n
4. x j r w h e _ l e d n z r
5. u w m e r c _ b u n a o v
6. n y b w c h e _ r m r q p
7. o j c j u s _ g h t k v g
8. u n e u b l _ n d b j h k



Talk to God!

Thank you Lord Jesus that everyone is important to you. You don't think some people are better than others, or some people aren't worth bothering about.



Help us to treat other people like you do.

Getting it right!



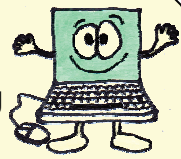
Listen to God!

Mark 11:1-11

The children from Bible club decorated the church with palm branches and then held a procession to celebrate Palm Sunday.

Delbert our dictionary says

Hosanna: from a word meaning "save, we pray", it became a shout of praise or love towards God.



After winning wars or battles, kings returned home to a victory procession like this one, but they rode on a horse or in a fancy chariot. Five hundred years before, a prophet called Zechariah has announced that Israel's king would ride into Jerusalem on a young donkey (colt). Jesus was that king.

The people hoped Jesus would save them from the Romans who were ruling the country, and that he would take over as king. But Jesus is a heavenly king. He came to save from sin and give eternal life and freedom, not free the country from foreign rulers. The crowd was right in recognising Jesus as king, but wrong in their understanding of what kind of king he was. Very soon they would want to kill him!



Talk to God!

Lord Jesus, we praise you today. You are king.

Thank you that you are not a king who has come to fight and have wars, but a king who brings peace and eternal life.



Circle the right words in the story.

Jesus sent two/three disciples to get a horse/donkey colt. They put clothes/a saddle on it. Jesus rode/led it along the road as people spread branches/carpet on the ground and booed/cheered him. The crowd praised God/told Jesus to go away.

“My mum lost the diamond from her engagement ring the other day,” Grace told her friends. “She was very upset so we all prayed that God would show her where it was. Later, when she got into the car, something glittered, and there was her diamond on the floor. God answered our prayer!”

Yes, he can!



God answers our prayers

Listen to God! Mark 11:12-14, 20-26

Why did Jesus curse and kill the fig tree? Because he was angry? To show off? Or just because he could? We don't know exactly, but I'm sure it wasn't any of these reasons. Figs should appear on the fig tree before the leaves grow. This tree had leaves but no figs. It was worthless and Jesus treated it as such. His action also taught the disciples that it really was possible to do amazing things through prayer and faith in God. Does this mean we can ask for anything we like? No, it means that we can trust God to do what seems impossible in answer to our prayers.



Delbert our dictionary says

Curse: here it means to pronounce a judgment on someone or something. NOT a wish for evil, or to swear at someone as we think of a curse today.



Talk to God!

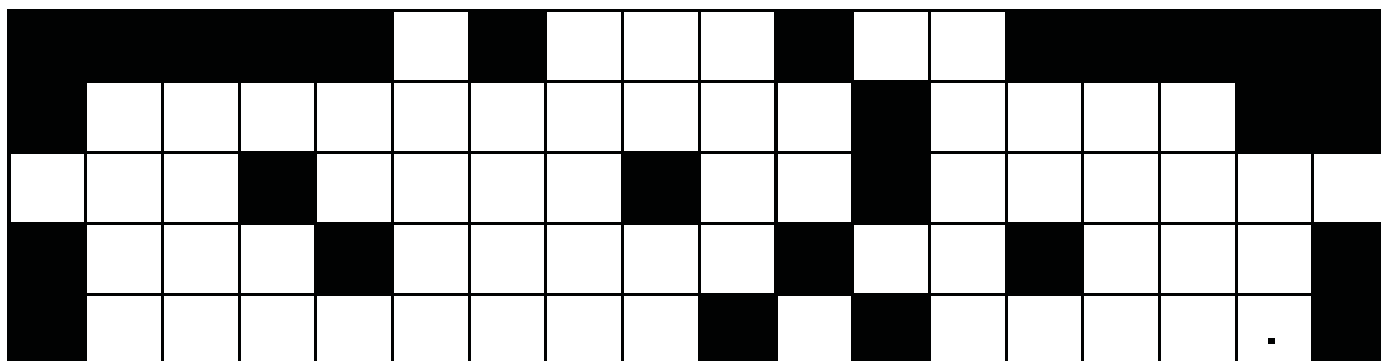
What do you or your family need right now?
Ask God!



Fill in the puzzle using the following jumbled words.

(Philippians 4:13 will help you although the words may not be exactly the same.)

gives everything the I help Christ can the
do with of who me need strength I



Who's in charge?

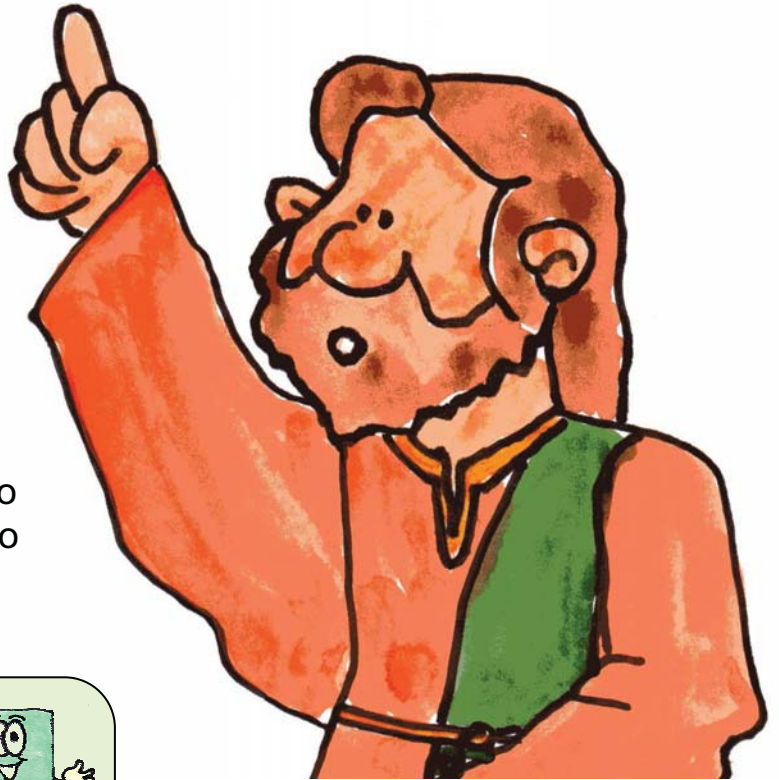
Listen to God!

Mark 11:15-19, 27-33



Kyle and Deng were arguing over which parts they wanted in the Christmas play. "I'm in charge," announced Matt. "I'll decide which parts you have."

The religious rulers thought they were in charge of the temple. They didn't like Jesus clearing out the traders so they asked who gave him authority (permission). They were trying to trap Jesus. If Jesus answered God, they could say he was insulting God. If Jesus said it was his own idea, they could say he had no right to do what he did. But Jesus didn't answer. He didn't need to explain his actions or defend himself to them. Jesus did tell those who really wanted to know - his followers.



Delbert our dictionary says

Authority: the right and power to control or decide - often given by a higher power eg. police have authority from government.



Talk to God!

Lord God, you control everything.

Thank you that you always decide and do what is right and good.



God is in charge of everything



Read John 5:26-27

Where does Jesus authority come from?



What does Jesus have authority to do?



Read John 17:1-2

What else does Jesus have authority to do?



Read Psalm 103:19

What does God have authority over?

Listen to God!



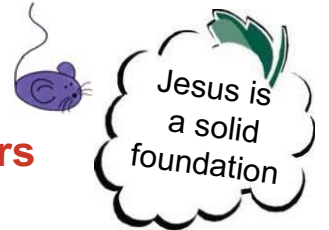
Mark 12:1-12

A story of terrible tenants.

“Jesus doesn’t explain this parable, as he did some of the others,” said Lucy after Becky had read the Bible verses, “but let’s see if we can figure it out”.

Can you fill in the missing words in the story?

Prophets Jesus God Israel Religious leaders



The man who planted the vineyard is _____(1). The vineyard was the nation of _____(2). The tenant farmers were the _____(3) who were supposed to care for Israel. The servants whom God sent were his messengers such as _____(4). They have been mistreated, abused, even killed. The son is _____(5).

Jesus was killed too, but good news is hidden in the end of the story. The rejected stone that’s become the most important of all (the

cornerstone) is also Jesus. God allowed him to die to take the punishment for our sin. Jesus is the solid foundation stone on which we can build our lives.



Talk to God!

Heavenly Father, thank you for sending your own son to be the sacrifice for our sin. Help us to make him the foundation of our lives and trust in him.



Trick questions

"I got this great book of tricky questions for my birthday", Sean told his friends. "Can you answer these?"

Is it rude for a deaf person to talk (sign) with their mouth full of food? What do you do when you see an endangered animal eating an endangered plant? How can you tell when you run out of invisible ink?" Matthew laughed. "That book sound fun, but people asked Jesus tricky questions to try and get him into trouble.



Listen to God!

Mark 12:13-34 (especially 28-34)

God had give his people 10 laws or commandments to follow. The religious leaders including the Pharisees and Sadducees had added over 600 complicated rules and laws. They thought that by keeping them, they would be pleasing God. They even argued over which was more

important. Now they tried to trick Jesus with really silly questions about these rules.

Models by Kaylee



The answer:
Love God
and others



Talk to God!

Our God and Heavenly Father, we know that the most important question is whether we love you and each other. Help us to always remember that.



Below is what Jesus said was the most important rule of all.

Fill in the missing words: yourself heart others strength God

Love _____ with all your _____, soul,
mind and _____ and love _____
as much as you love _____.

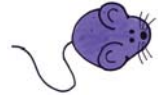
When Lucy gave the children a quiz about parables that Jesus told, Grace tried to answer every question first. "Stop showing off Grace," laughed Lucy, "Give the others a turn."

Stop showing off!

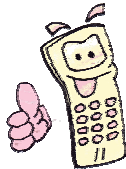
Listen to God!

Mark 12:35-44
(especially 38-44)

Giving is thanking, obeying, trusting God.

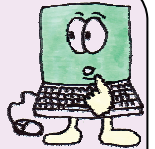


Many important and rich people liked to show off by saying long prayers or giving a lot of money to the temple (church). They hoped others would be impressed and think they were obeying God. Jesus said the one who was really obeying and pleasing God was the poor widow. She gave all that she had because she trusted God to take care of her. But the others who gave a lot still had a lot more money in their pockets.



Delbert our dictionary says

Temple: The special, main place of worship for Jews. It was in Jerusalem and where sacrifices were offered to God.



Talk to God!

Heavenly Father, help us to remember, it's not how much we give, how much we know, or how important we are that matters to you.

What matters is trusting you.

Complete the crossword puzzle

Across 2. what went into the box

4. the widow was

8. what teachers of law did to widows

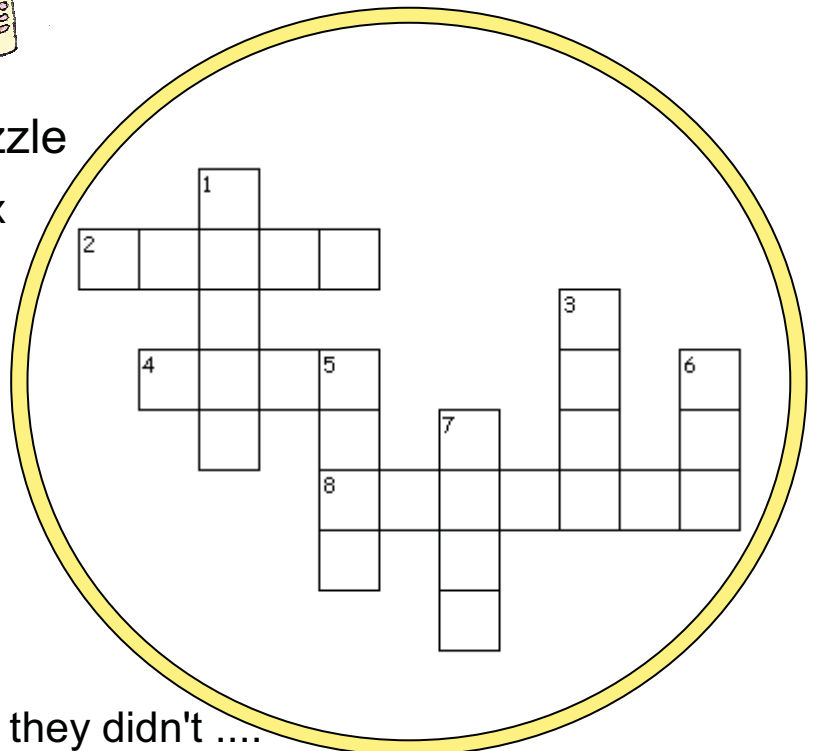
Down 1. she gave 2 coins

3. teachers of law liked the seats

5. people with plenty of money

6. the widow trusted ...

7. rich people gave what they didn't



Choices, choices!

“Lucy, why does God let such bad things happen in the world?” asked Vicki after hearing that a bomb had

killed some children, and injured others, overseas. “It is hard to understand, and I often feel really sad and upset when I hear news like that,” replied Lucy. “But because of his love, God has given people free choice and many people choose to do evil things. The Bible promises us that Jesus will return to rule the world one day, (see next snack pack) but God wants all people to have the opportunity to know his love and choose the life he gives first.”

Listen to God

Mark 13:1-23
(especially 1-10)



Talk to God!

Heavenly Father, thank you that no matter what happens, you promise to be with us and you will help us if we trust in you.



The destruction of the temple that Jesus talked about actually happened 40 years later. If you go to Jerusalem today, you can still see some of the temple's stones. Some of the other events Jesus talked about have happened since, and some are still to happen.

In Hebrews 13:5, God promises, “I will never leave you; I will never abandon you.” Then in verse 6 there is a choice we can make based on this promise. To find it you will have to rewrite the following, using the next letter to the one written here.

Eg: the first word Kds = Let. Note z = a

Kds tr ad ankc sgdm zmc rzx, “sgd Knqc

hr lx gdkodq, H vhkk mns ad zeqzhc.”

Be prepared!



Jesus is coming back

"It's my birthday this week and I'm having a party," Sean told his friends at Bible Club. The whole family was preparing. Sean had made and given invitations to his friends. Dad had bought and hidden his present. Mum was organising party food. Vicki was preparing decorations and games. Kaylee was going to make the cake. Everyone was excited. And Sean knew that on the day everyone would be prepared and ready.

Listen to God!



Jesus told his followers that he would soon be leaving them, but that one day he would return and everyone needed to be prepared and ready. The only way to be prepared is to have trusted in Jesus and be watching for him.

Mark 13:24-37

(especially 26-27, 32-33)



Talk To God!

Lord Jesus, thank you that you are coming to earth again one day. Help us to be ready by trusting in you and living lives that are pleasing to you.



Learn more about Jesus' return by reading the Bible verses and completing the sentences.

Mark 13:32 Only _____ knows when Jesus will return.

1 Thessalonians 4:16-17 Jesus will come with _____
_____.

John 14: 1-4 Jesus said, Don't _____, trust _____.

Jesus is preparing a _____ where we can be with him.

Give or take? Listen to God! Mark 14:1-11

“Our neighbours have just found out that Connor who is only three has muscular dystrophy. He will die from it,” said Kaylee sadly. “We don’t know what we can do to be a help to them.” “Just being friends will be a big help,” Lucy told her.



“Mary, the woman in today’s Bible verses must have felt helpless too. She couldn’t stop Jesus being killed but she did what she could. Jesus said it was a beautiful thing and her story would be told wherever the news about him was told. And see, we are reading about it today.”

Mary willingly gave away something that was very precious and valuable to her, but Judas only thought about what he could get for himself. Who do you think was the happiest?



God loves those who love to give.

Talk to God!



Heavenly Father, help us to always do what we can to help other people.

The perfume was worth about 300 silver coins or a year’s wages. Mary had probably bought it to be used when she died and was buried. Judas was willing to betray Jesus for only 30 pieces of silver.

Some letters have been taken out.
Can you guess them and **give** them back.
They are all vowels. (a e i o u)

Sh_ h_s

d_n_ _ b_a_t_f_l th_ng.

Sh_ d_d wh_t sh_ c__ld.

Listen to God!



Mark 14:12-26 (especially 22-26)

“Why do we have communion at church, Matt?” asked Alove. After Sean read the Bible verses, Matt explained how Jesus met for a last Passover with his disciples. Although there was the sadness of his coming betrayal and death, it was a celebration too. They were remembering what God had done for them in the past and now Jesus gave them something even better to celebrate - his sacrifice to save us from sin and death.

Jesus gave them bread and wine, telling them they were symbols (like pictures) of his body and his blood that he was going to give for us. Luke tells us that Jesus told his disciples to eat bread and drink wine as a special way of remembering him. We have communion (some churches call it the Lord’s Supper or Eucharist) to help us remember how God has provided salvation for all who accept Jesus’ sacrifice.

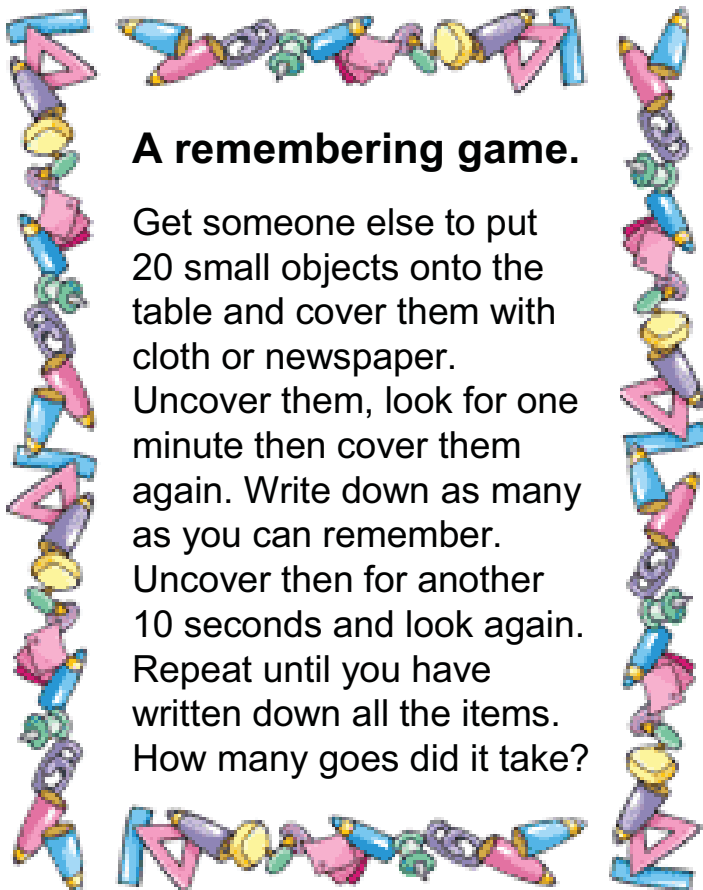
Remembering

Delbert our dictionary says

Passover: A celebration and feast when Jews remember how God rescued them from slavery in Egypt 3,500 years ago.

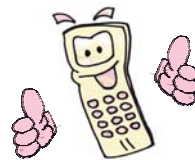


Remember,
Jesus gave his
life for us.



A remembering game.

Get someone else to put 20 small objects onto the table and cover them with cloth or newspaper. Uncover them, look for one minute then cover them again. Write down as many as you can remember. Uncover them for another 10 seconds and look again. Repeat until you have written down all the items. How many goes did it take?



Talk to God!

Thank you Lord Jesus for giving your body and blood as a sacrifice to save us. Help us to always remember.



I will!

“Who will help me eat these chocolates?” asked Matt. All the children replied, “I will, I will.”
“Alright, who will help me pack everything away and sweep the floor?” Lucy asked. Only Becky and Grace said “I will” this time.

Listen to God!

Mark 14:27-42

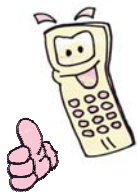
Jesus did what God asked



When Jesus told his disciples that they would soon run away and say they didn't know him, Peter declared, “I will never do that!” But Jesus knew that Peter would. Jesus also knew that he himself would soon be killed in a cruel way. He prayed and talked to Father God about it. He didn't want to go through such terrible suffering but he told God he was willing to. He was willing to die to save us. Jesus said, “I will,” to God his Father.

Talk to God!

Heavenly Father, we know we can talk to you about anything just as Jesus did. Please help us to say, “I will” to what you want.



“I will, I won't”

Circle the correct words using the Bible verses to help you.

- * Jesus said to his disciples, “you **will** **won't** reject me.”
- * The Bible says, “I (God) **will** **won't** kill the shepherd.”
- * The Bible says, “the sheep **will** **won't** be scattered.”
- * Jesus **will** **won't** be raised to life.
- * Peter said, “I **will** **won't** reject you.”
- * Jesus said to his Father, “I **will** **won't** do what you want.”

"I get so confused about Easter," confessed Vicki.

Is it all bad news?

"Thinking about what Jesus suffered and how he died is horrible, but then we have holidays and eggs and other fun things." "Well Easter is about both good and bad news," Lucy told her. "Today we are reading what sounds like bad news, but God knew about everything that was happening to Jesus – he let it happen – and was going to bring something wonderful out of it all."

Listen to God!

Mark 14:43-65



Delbert our dictionary says

Blasphemy: mocking or insulting God; claiming to be God



Easter is a time of good news

Lucy asked the children to see if they could pick out all the people who wanted to harm Jesus.

Can you see them? Fill in who they were.

_____ came with swords and clubs.

_____ betrayed Jesus with a kiss.

_____ tried to find someone who would accuse Jesus of a crime so they could kill him.

_____ told lies about Jesus.

_____ accused Jesus of blasphemy because he admitted he was God's Son.

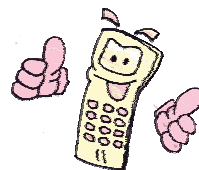
_____ spat at Jesus and punched him.

These people didn't realise that Jesus was about to die so that the very things they were doing and saying about him could be forgiven. That is how much God loves us!



Talk to God!

Lord Jesus you willingly died and took the punishment of sins like these. Thank you



He's not my friend

Matt asked, "Has anyone ever had a friend who one day denied they even knew you?" Kaylee laughed.

Listen to God!

"No, but when Sean tells really bad jokes, I'd like to pretend he wasn't my brother."

Mark 14:66-72



Jesus is the best friend you can have

It was only hours after declaring he would never desert Jesus that Peter denied he even knew him - not once, but three times. Peter loved Jesus. He didn't want to disown him. Was he embarrassed, frightened, ashamed now that his friend was in trouble, do you think? No matter how much we love Jesus, we will all fail him at times by things we do or say. But Jesus will continue to love us no matter what we do. He loves us enough to die in our place.

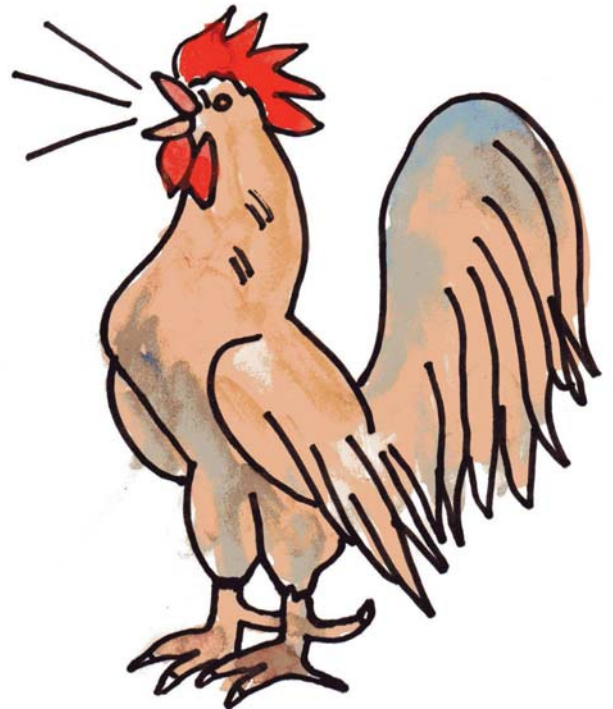


Find the following words in the word search:

**Peter courtyard fire servant
girl saw curse swear deny
Jesus no three rooster
crowed cried**

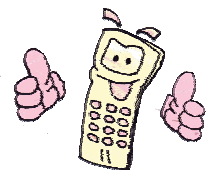
What do the unused letters spell out?

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| J | r | c | f | i | r | e | c | e | s |
| c | o | u | r | t | y | a | r | d | g |
| u | o | r | s | d | s | i | o | e | l |
| e | s | s | d | f | w | o | w | n | r |
| r | t | e | J | h | e | i | e | y | l |
| P | e | t | e | r | a | s | d | f | r |
| s | r | i | s | e | r | v | a | n | t |
| a | n | e | u | n | t | h | r | e | e |
| w | o | d | s | c | r | i | e | d | s |



Talk to God!

Dear Lord Jesus, thank you that it doesn't matter what we do or say, you will always be our friend.



Right or Wrong?

“On my way home from school the other day, I saw some secondary school boys pushing around and bullying a grade one boy,” Becky told her friends. “I didn’t know what to do.”

Listen to God! Mark 15:1-20 (especially 6-15)

The Jewish leaders took Jesus to the Roman Governor Pilate because they wanted Jesus executed. People were executed for crimes such as murder, rebellion against the government or serious theft. Jesus was guilty of none of these things. Pilate knew Jesus was innocent but, without a proper trial, and giving in to the pressure from the crowd, he ordered Jesus be crucified. He knew what was right, but chose to do wrong.



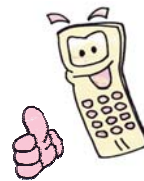
Talk to God!

Father God, we can see what bad things happen when people do the wrong thing.

Help us chose to do what is right.

Delbert our dictionary says

Roman rule: Although the Jews (Israelites) had some control, their land was part of the Roman empire and decisions about executions could only be made by the Roman governor.



Right or wrong?

Cross out which sentences in the story are wrong.

The crowd asked Pilate to set Jesus free.

Pilate knew the chief priests were jealous of Jesus.

The crowd shouted for Jesus to be crucified.

Pilate agreed Jesus was guilty.

Pilate wanted to please the crowd.

Pilate didn't allow Jesus to be beaten and whipped.

Pilate sent Jesus to be crucified.

Jesus never did anything wrong





What a sad day

The children were all very quiet as Matt read how Jesus was nailed to a cross. They felt very sad. But not everyone watching Jesus die felt that way.

Listen to God! Mark 15:21-41

Fill in the spaces to show what different people did.



The soldiers _____ over Jesus clothes.

People passing by said _____ about Jesus.

The chief priests and teachers _____

The two criminals _____

But others were affected differently. The Roman army officer in charge of the crucifixion declared, "This man really was the Son of God". He knew Jesus was not like other criminals he had executed. He knew that Jesus was not an ordinary man.

Jesus Christ
is the
Son of God



Talk to God!

Heavenly Father, we are sad when we think of Jesus death. But we know he came alive again. We know he is your Son. Thank you that Mark's book is the good news about Jesus Christ, the son of God.





What do we do now?

Listen to God!

Mark 15:42-16:1



Vicki said "My pop died when I was seven. I couldn't believe I'd never see him again". "Well, Jesus disciples couldn't believe they *would* see him again," said Matt. They were confused, upset and frightened. What would they do now without Jesus? Why did he have to die and leave them? They didn't fully understand that Jesus had to die to save them. And right now, they couldn't believe that he would come back to life again! Many of them went home to hide, but some stayed.

Joseph didn't run away or hide. Joseph was a Jewish leader, but unlike those who wanted Jesus killed, he secretly believed in Jesus. And when Jesus died, Joseph courageously asked for his body and buried it in a tomb. And some women prepared to care for Jesus' body.



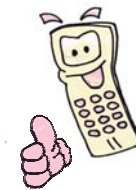
God's plans are perfect



Talk to God!

Thank you Heavenly Father that Jesus' death on the cross was all part of your plan to save us.

Jesus died



for our sins.

Colour this verse in bright colours and remember what it says.

Galatians 1:4

He's not here!

Listen to God!



Mark 16:2-20
(especially 2-8)

Lucy asked the children to imagine how they would have felt if they were the women who went to Jesus' tomb and found it empty.

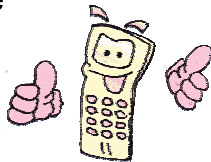


Mark tells us only briefly about Jesus being seen by Mary Magdalene and his disciples. The other gospel writers tell us more. There is a very exciting account in John 20:11-31.



Talk to God!

Father God, we are so glad that Jesus is alive and we can live forever with him.
Hooray!



What if Jesus had not come back to life? We would have no hope of our sins being forgiven and no hope of eternal life because it would mean that God doesn't have power over death. But because Jesus did come back to life, we know that God's promise of John 3:16 is true that **"God loved the people of this world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who has faith in him will have eternal life and never really die"**.

Good news!
Jesus is
alive.

Read 1Corinthians 15:3-7. Can you draw how many people saw Jesus?