

Pentecost Windsack

Lesson 1: God Sends the Holy Spirit

You Need

- Plastic, paper, or foam cup, 1 per student
- Pens or pencils, scissors, glue & tape
- Ribbon or yarn
- Markers & other decorating embellishments (tissue paper, sequins, gems, rickrack, glitter glue, jingle bells)
- Flame & dove patterns (end of activity)
- *Optional:* Labels with "Come, Holy Spirit" or [God says,] "I will pour out My Spirit" (Acts 2:17), or another Bible verse.

Get Ready

- Make a sample to show.
- Make copies of the patterns.
- Set out supplies.



Introduce the Craft

Say Fifty days after Jesus' resurrection, God sent the Holy Spirit to His Church. We call this special day Pentecost. Red is the color of Pentecost. Point to the tongues of fire on your sample. **Red reminds us of the tongues of fire that rested on the disciples when they were filled with the Holy Spirit.**

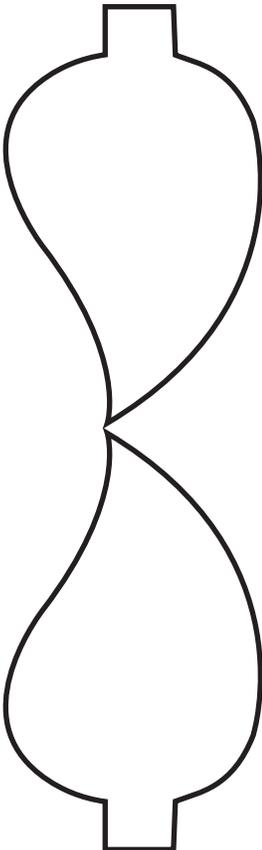
Point to the dove. **The dove is a symbol of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit works through His Word and Baptism to give you faith in Jesus.**

When you get home, hang your windsack by a window or on a covered porch. It can remind you of the Holy Spirit's coming on Pentecost in a mighty rushing wind and of your Baptism when God forgave your sins and made you part of His family.

Do This

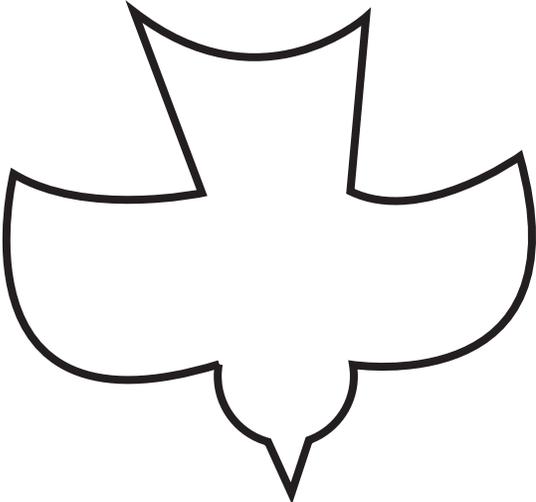
- Turn the cup upside down.
- Cut out the tongues of fire and dove from the pattern page. Color. Glue to the cup.
- Decorate the cup with markers and embellishments.
- Use a pen or pencil to punch two holes in the base of the cup for hanging it.
- Cut a piece of ribbon or yarn for hanging the windsack. Thread each end through a hole. Knot on the inside, and secure with tape.
- Cut strips of colorful tissue paper or ribbon for streamers. Tape these to the inside of the cup at the bottom. *Optional:* Thread jingle bells on several pieces of ribbon.
- *Option:* On the cup, write, "Come, Holy Spirit" or "[God says,] I will pour out My Spirit" (Acts 2:17), or add a label with these words or the Bible Words.

Patterns



Flame

Cut out flames and glue onto cup, overlapping the flames.



Dove

Storytelling Puppets

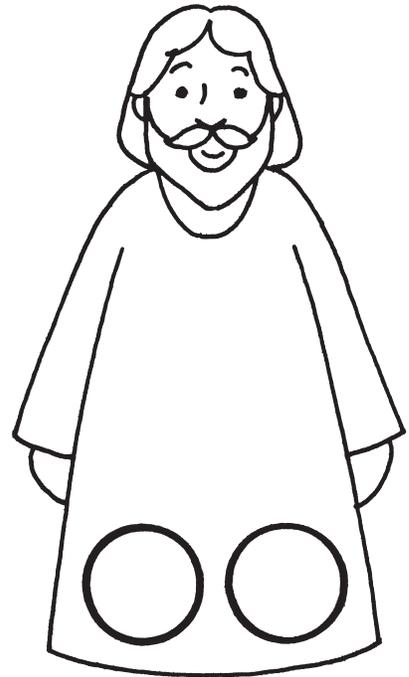
Lesson 2: Peter and John Heal the Lame Man

You Need

- White cardstock or poster board
- Hole punch & scissors
- Craft sticks or disposable drinking cups (paper, foam, or plastic)
- Tape & glue
- Markers, pencils, or crayons
- Decorating supplies (yarn for hair, rickrack, etc.)
- Puppet patterns (end of activity)

Get Ready

- Make copies of the puppet patterns for each student.
- Set out supplies and make a sample set of puppets.



Introduce the Craft

Ask What does “lame” mean? **Being unable to move or walk easily.** Show Peter and John puppet. **What happened when Peter and John healed the lame man?** **He leaped up and walked.** Put two fingers through the holes of the puppet of the lame man, and make it leap, walk, and dance.

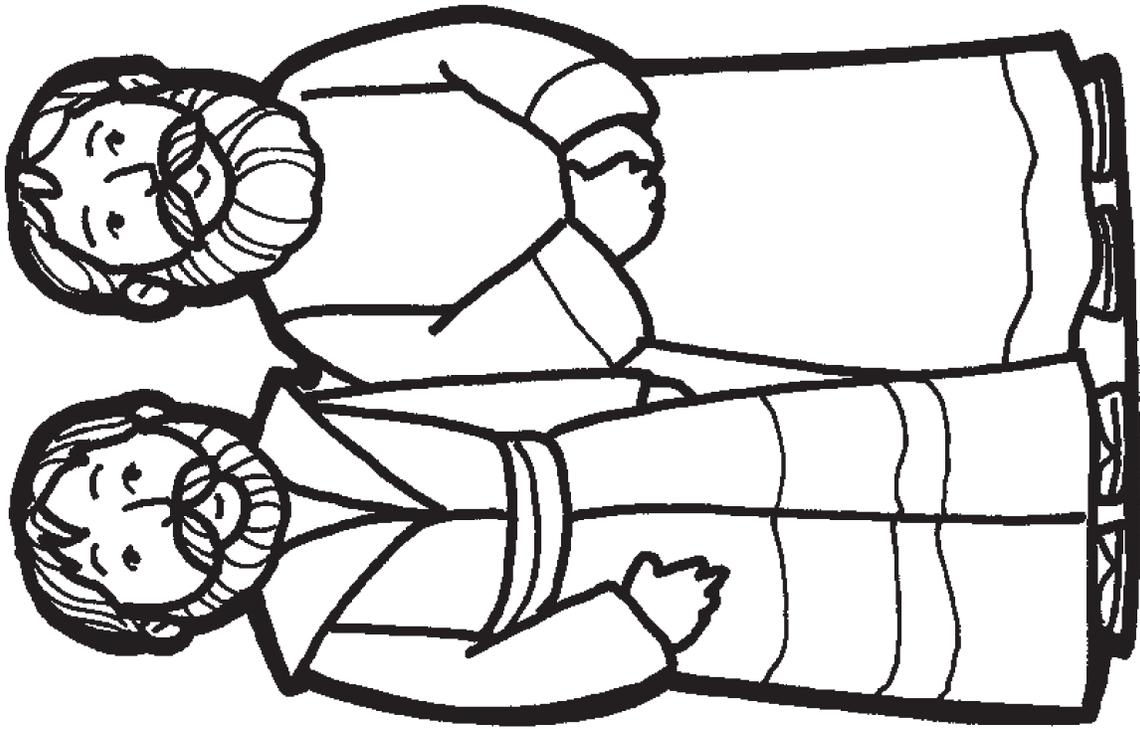
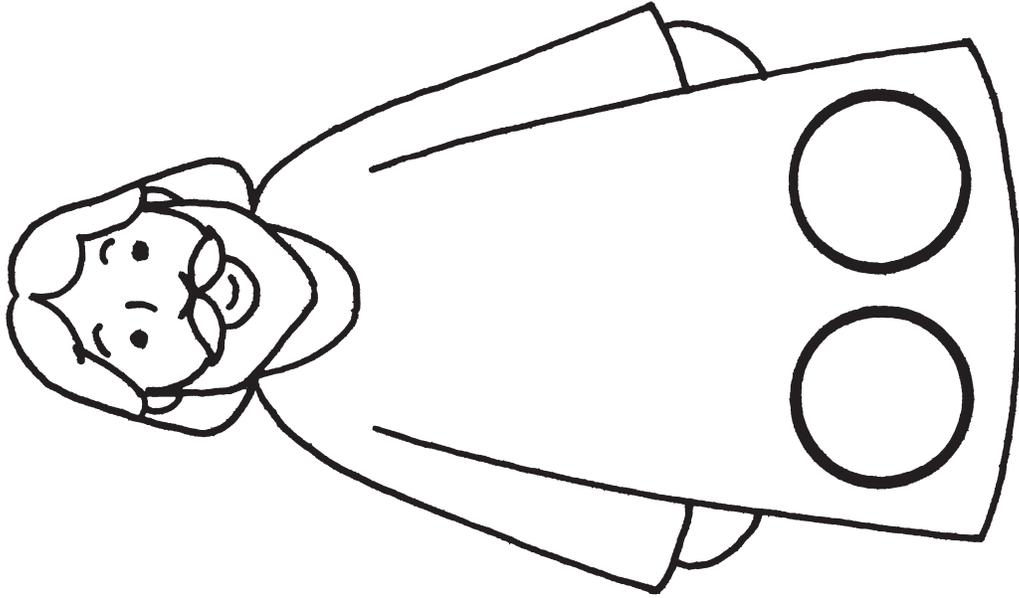
Say Jesus gave Peter and John the power to heal people. Jesus also heals us in another way. **How?** **He died on the cross to pay for our sins and the sins of the world. When Jesus did this, He healed our broken relationship with God. Now, by believing in Jesus as your Savior, you receive forgiveness for your sins, and you will get to go to heaven someday.**

Today, you will make story puppets like these that you can use to retell the story. As you do so, remember that Jesus’ love, death, and resurrection bring healing and joy.

Do This

- Color and decorate the patterns for Peter and John and the lame man. Cut them out.
- Use a paper punch or your scissors to start the holes for the lame man. Finish cutting them out with a scissors.
- Attach the Peter and John figures to an upside-down cup or craft stick.
- To use the puppet of the lame man, insert two fingers through the holes.

Patterns



Witness Letter

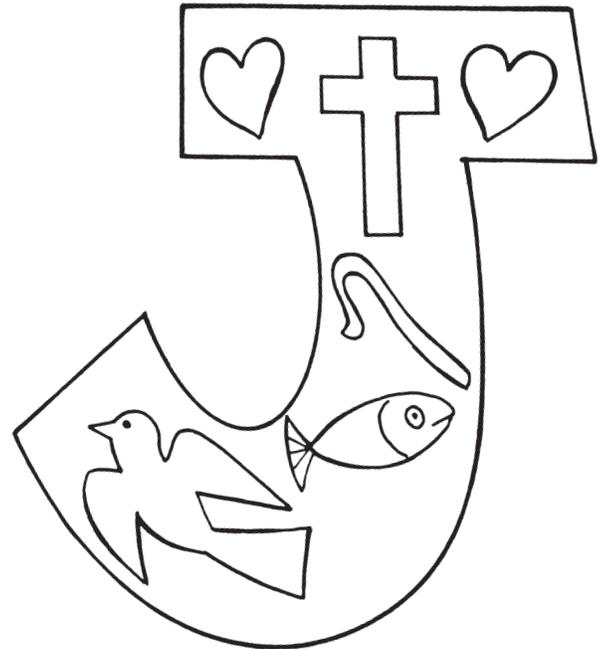
Lesson 3: God's Servant Stephen

You Need

- Colored poster board, construction paper, or fun foam
- Pencil & markers or crayons
- Scissors & glue
- Hole punch
- Yarn or ribbon
- Assorted lightweight objects or stickers
- Letter *J* pattern (end of activity)

Get Ready

- Gather supplies and set them out.
- Make copies of the *J* pattern for each student.
- Make a sample letter.



Introduce the Craft

Say After Jesus went back to heaven, the disciples chose Stephen and six other men to serve people in the church and take care of their needs. Stephen liked to tell others about Jesus too. But some people did not want Stephen to talk about Jesus. They threw stones at him. Stephen prayed for them and asked God to forgive them. Show sample.

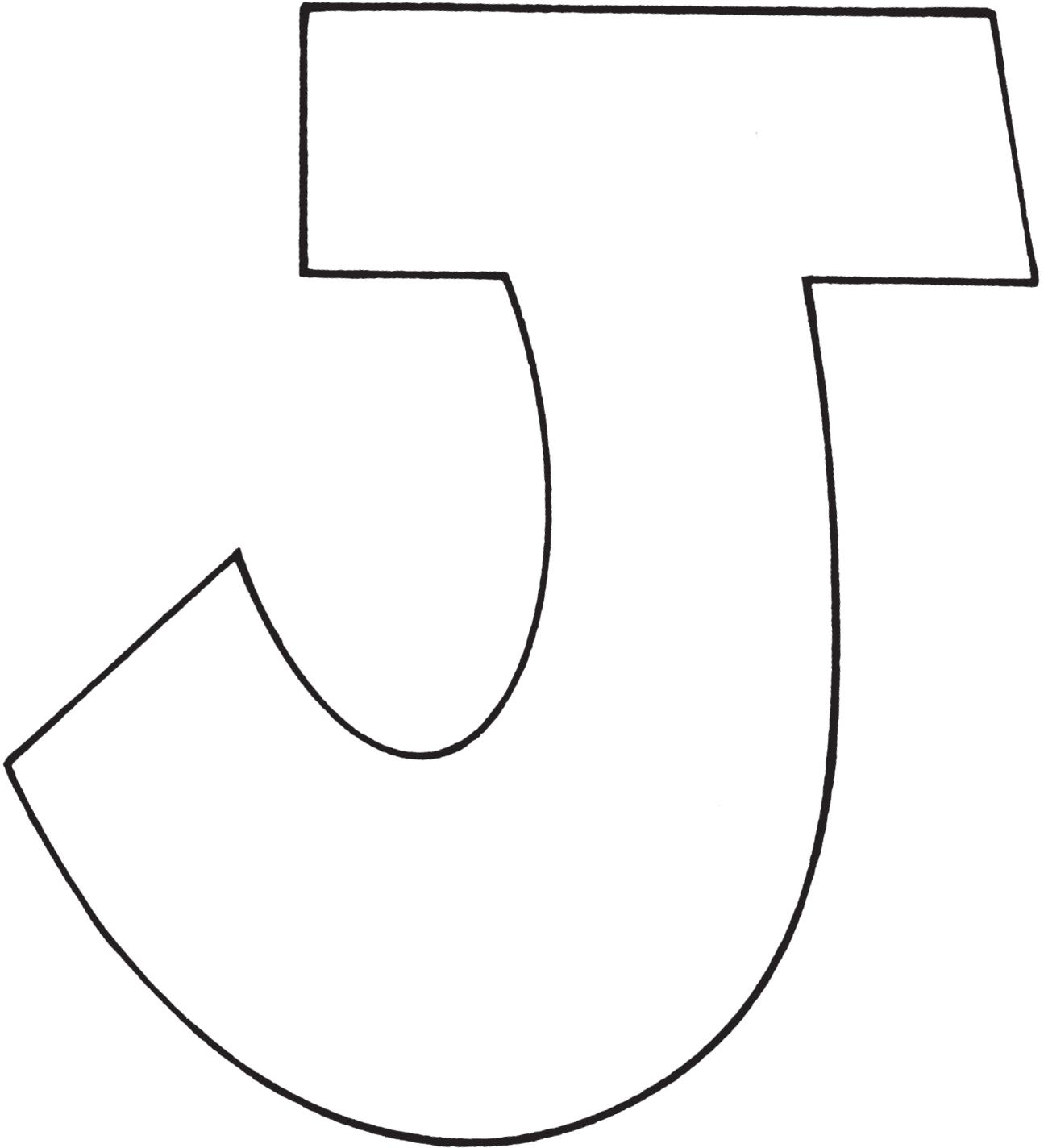
Ask Whose name starts with a *J*? *Jesus*

Say Today you will decorate a big letter *J*. You can write today's Bible Words on one side, or another favorite Bible verse. On the opposite side, you can draw pictures or add items to it that tell of Jesus' life. Stephen showed love for others and told them about Jesus. You can use your letter to tell someone the story of Jesus and His love for people too.

Do This

- Cut out your letter *J* pattern. Trace around it onto poster board, construction paper, or fun foam. Cut it out.
- Punch a hole at the top and thread ribbon or yarn through it for hanging.
- On one side, add drawings, stickers, trim, buttons, paper cutouts, or other embellishments that tell about Jesus' life and love.
- On the other side, write a favorite Bible verse or the Bible Words for today.
- *Option:* Punch holes around the letter and lace with yarn.

Pattern



I-Am-God's-Child Banner

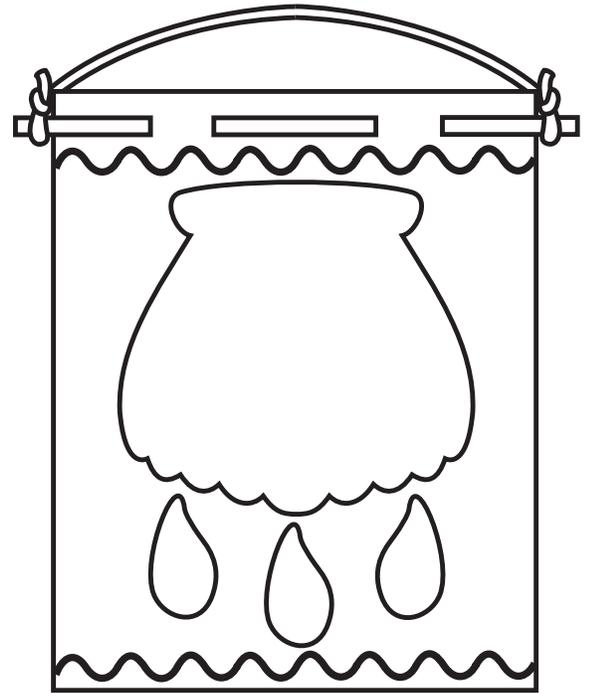
Lesson 4: Philip and the Ethiopian

You Need

- Felt: light blue & white; dark blue for background
- Dowel, 2 inches longer than width of felt
- Yarn
- Craft glue
- Scissors
- Shell & water drops pattern (end of activity)
- *Optional:* Rickrack or decorative ribbon, metallic fabric paint or glitter pens

Get Ready

- Copy the shell and water pattern for each student.
- Gather supplies.
- Make a sample.



Introduce the Craft

Say Philip explained the Scriptures to the Ethiopian. He told him that Isaiah was telling about how the Messiah, Jesus, would come and save us from our sins. Then Philip baptized him. The Ethiopian received a new identity as God's child.

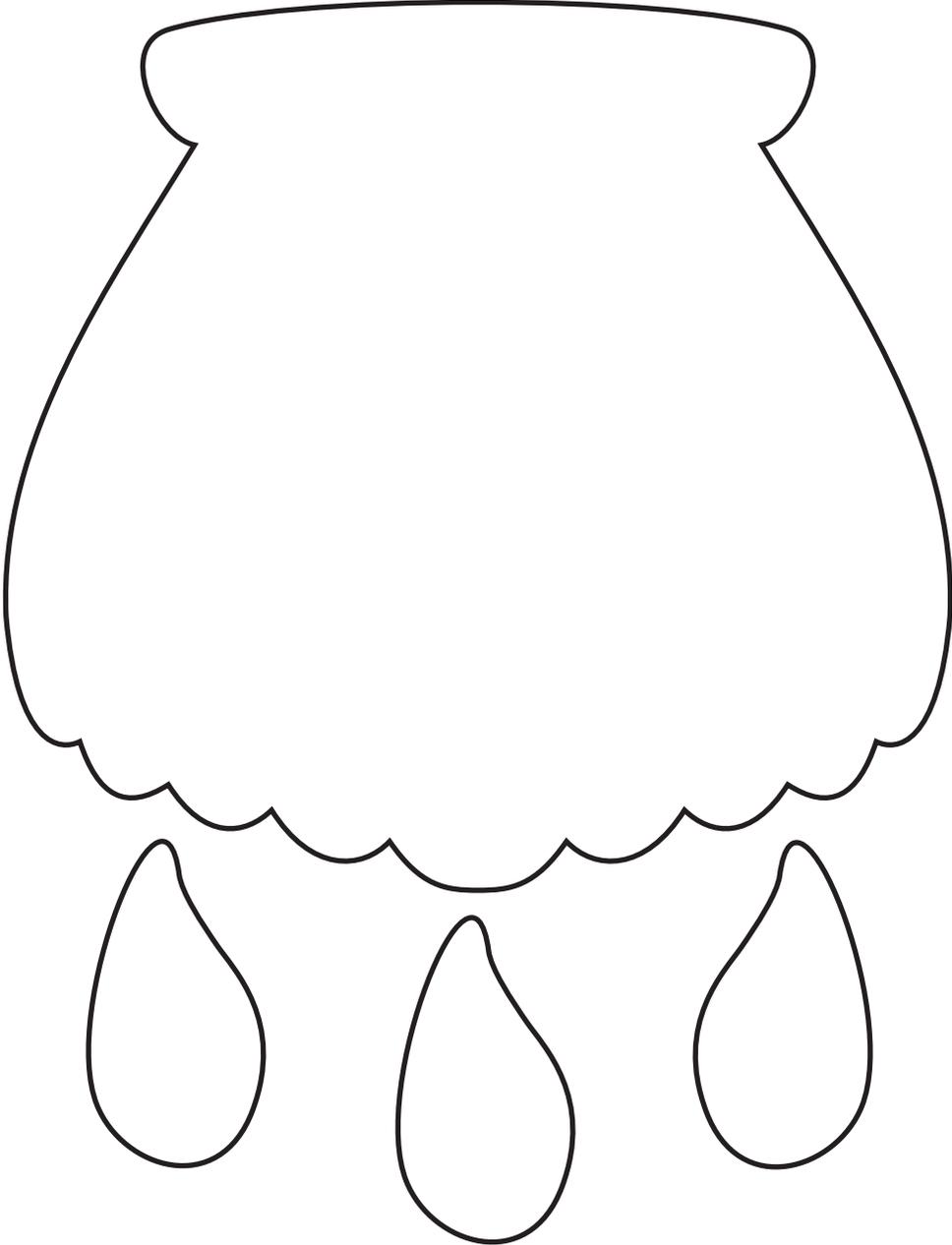
Through Baptism and God's Word, you, too, have a new identity as God's child. Now, instead of being God's enemies because of your sin, you are God's forgiven and dearly loved children through faith in Jesus Christ.

Today you'll make a Baptism banner to hang at home to remind you that you belong to Jesus. Show sample.

Do This

- Cut out the shell and water drop patterns.
- Trace and cut out a shell from white felt. Trace and cut out three drops of water from light blue felt.
- Glue the shapes to a dark blue background.
- About an inch from the top edge of the banner, cut evenly spaced slits, perpendicular to the edge. Slip dowel through the slits. Add yarn or string for a hanger.
- *Option:* Fold over the top of the banner and glue or sew it down, leaving a casing to insert dowel. Cut a length of yarn several inches longer than the width of the banner. Insert the dowel in the casing, and tie the yarn to each end.
- *Optional:* Glue rickrack or decorative ribbon along the top and bottom of the banner, or use a metallic fabric paint pen to dot a border around the sides. Use a gel glitter pen to write your name and Baptism date on the banner.

Patterns



Jesus-Shows-the-Way Flashlight

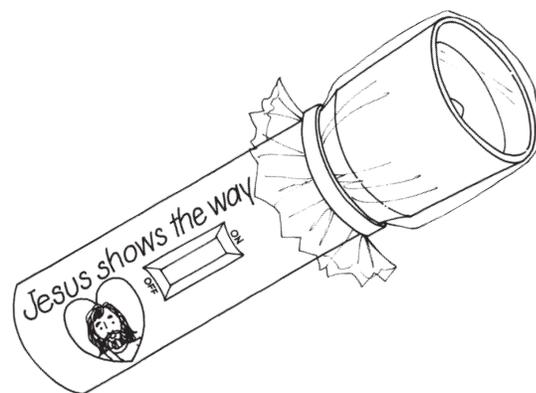
Lesson 5: The Conversion of Paul

You Need

- Small flashlight or key chain flashlight, 2.5 to 4 inches, 1 per student (purchase online in bulk for under \$1 each)
- Battery for flashlight, 1 per student
- Construction paper & scissors
- Jesus sticker, 1 per student
- Colored transparencies or cellophane food wrap & rubber bands
- Acrylic paints or permanent markers

Get Ready

- Cut circles from the cellophane food wrap or transparencies. You will need one for your sample and one per student.
- For younger students, cut hearts or crosses from construction paper, small enough to fit on the end of the flashlight.
- Gather supplies and set them out.
- Make a sample.



Introduce the Craft

Say Close your eyes. Imagine you are walking down the road, when all of a sudden—flash—a blinding light takes away your sight!

Ask How would you feel? **Accept answers.**

Say After Paul lost his sight, he had three days of darkness to consider how he had hurt God's people. Then God sent Ananias to restore Paul's sight. Ananias put his hands on Paul, and the scales fell off his eyes. After Ananias baptized him, Paul set out to share the light of Christ's forgiveness with the world!

Today, you will make a flashlight to remind you that Jesus is the Light of the world, who shows the way to the Father. Jesus loves you so much He died on the cross and rose again to pay for all your sins. He called out to Paul from a bright light. He calls you through Baptism and His Word to be His child!

Do This

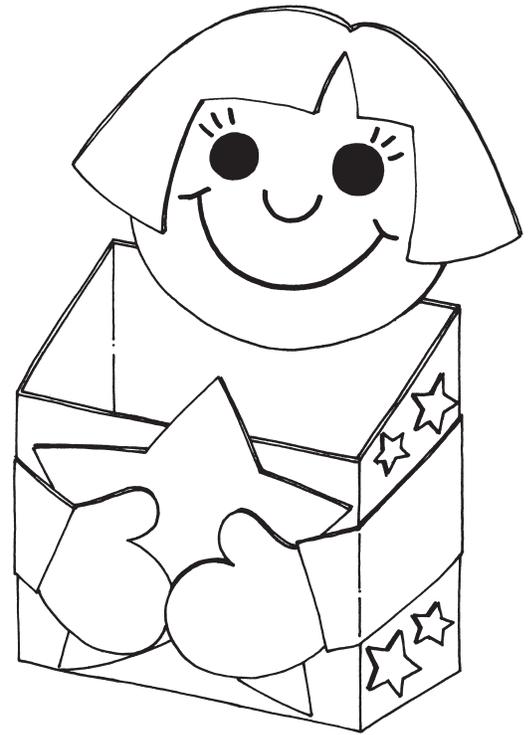
- Write a short Bible verse or phrase along the length of the flashlight to remind you of Jesus' love; for example, "Jesus shows the way" or "Jesus loves me."
- Choose a circle or cut a circle from cellophane wrap or a transparency.
- Use a rubber band to attach the colored circle to the end of the flashlight to give a special effect.
- Cut a tiny heart or cross from dark construction paper or choose one if precut. Glue it to the center of the bulb end of the flashlight.
- Shine the flashlight on the wall. Do you see the heart or cross silhouette?
- When you use your flashlight, remember Jesus is the Light of the world. He shows the way to the Father.

Faith Sharer

Lesson 6: Dorcas

You Need

- Empty cereal box, 1 per student
- Construction paper & scissors
- File folder
- Pencil or pens & markers
- Glue or tape
- Circle, star & hands patterns (end of activity)
- Paper or index cards & Bibles
- *Optional:* Buttons, wiggle eyes, yarn for hair, sequins & other decorations, Christian stickers, craft sticks (for boutique box)
- *Option:* Use a facial tissue boutique (cube-shaped) box. Leave tissues inside, and omit cutting the box. Attach the decorated face to a craft stick, and tape it to the back of the box. Decorate box. Write "[God] cares for you" (1 Peter 5:7) on the front star.



Get Ready

- For younger students, precut cereal boxes and patterns.
- Make copies of the patterns for each student.
- Set out supplies, and make a sample.

Introduce the Craft

Say Dorcas believed in Jesus as her Savior. His love made her happy! She wanted to show her love for Him by helping others. Jesus loves us too and has saved us from our sins. He tells us to “let your light shine before others so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven” (Matthew 5:16). That means we can show others that we love Jesus by the kind things we say and do.

Ask What are some ways you show love?

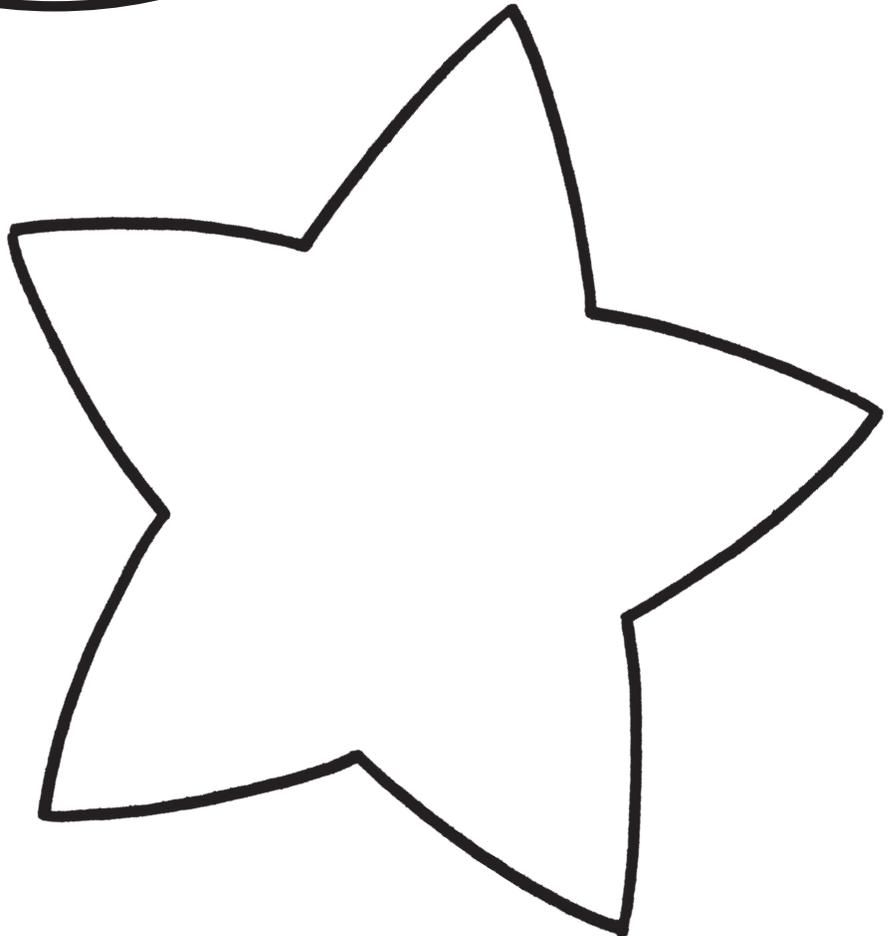
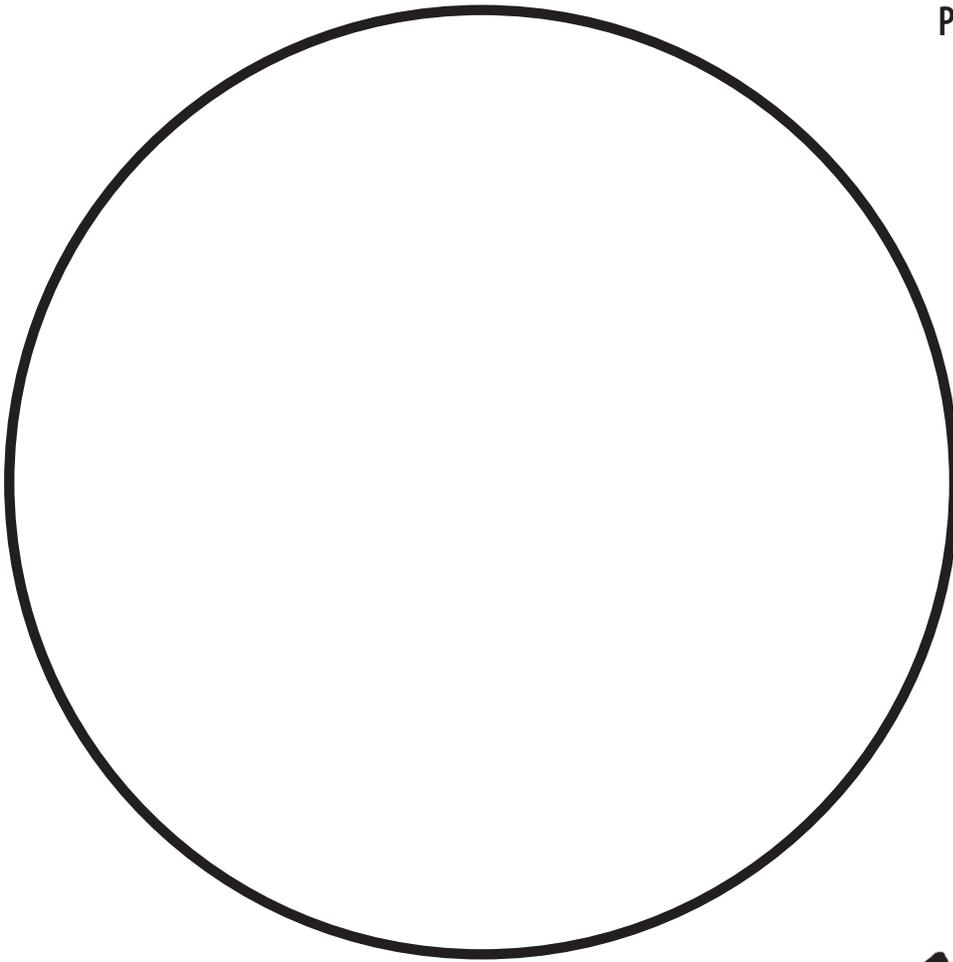
Children can share the light of Christ through words and deeds; they can point others to Jesus, His forgiveness, and eternal life in Him.

Say Today, you will make a Faith Sharer. The star on it can remind you that Jesus is the Light of the world. It can also remind you to let your light shine for Jesus.

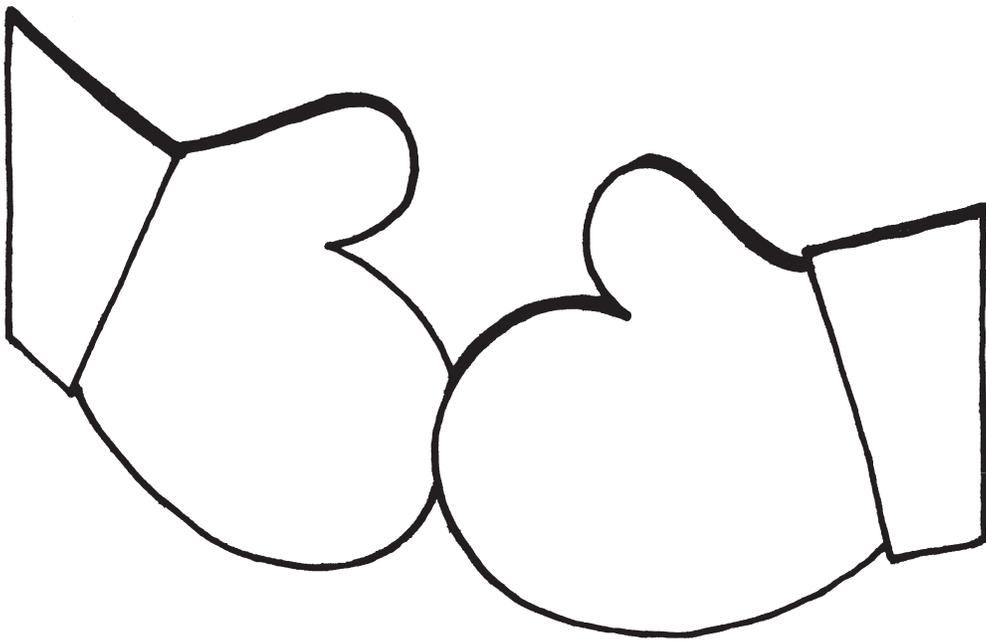
Do This

- Across the back of the cereal box, measure and draw a horizontal line 7 inches from the bottom. Across the front, measure and draw a horizontal line 5 inches from the bottom. On each side, draw a short diagonal line to connect the horizontal lines. Cut along these lines.
- Cover the box with construction paper.
- Cut a 5-inch circle from a file folder or poster board (see pattern). Decorate to look like your face. Add arms and hands made from construction paper and a star.
- Decorate your box (e.g., add stickers, draw crosses, or glue construction-paper stars around the box).
- Fold sheets of paper to make blank greeting cards, or use index cards. On the cards, draw pictures and write Bible verses or words of kindness that tell about God’s love.
- Get permission to place your Faith Sharer where people can take a card and read about God’s love in Jesus: nursing homes, waiting rooms, restaurant lobbies, your table.

Patterns



Pattern



Mystery-of-God's-Love Frame

Lesson 7: Peter and Cornelius

You Need

- Old jigsaw puzzle pieces
- Heavy cardboard & poster board
- Gold, silver, or black spray paint (adult-use only)
- Craft glue & tape
- Scissors
- Markers
- Yarn, cut in short pieces for hanging
- Bibles or labels
- Heart pattern (end of activity)

Get Ready

- Cut frames for younger students.
- Set out supplies.
- Make a sample.
- *Option:* Print the words of John 3:16 on large labels to fit inside the heart.



Introduce the Craft

Say Today, you learned how God helped Peter understand that even though the Jewish people had been God's chosen people for a long time, God wanted all people to know about Jesus and believe in Him.

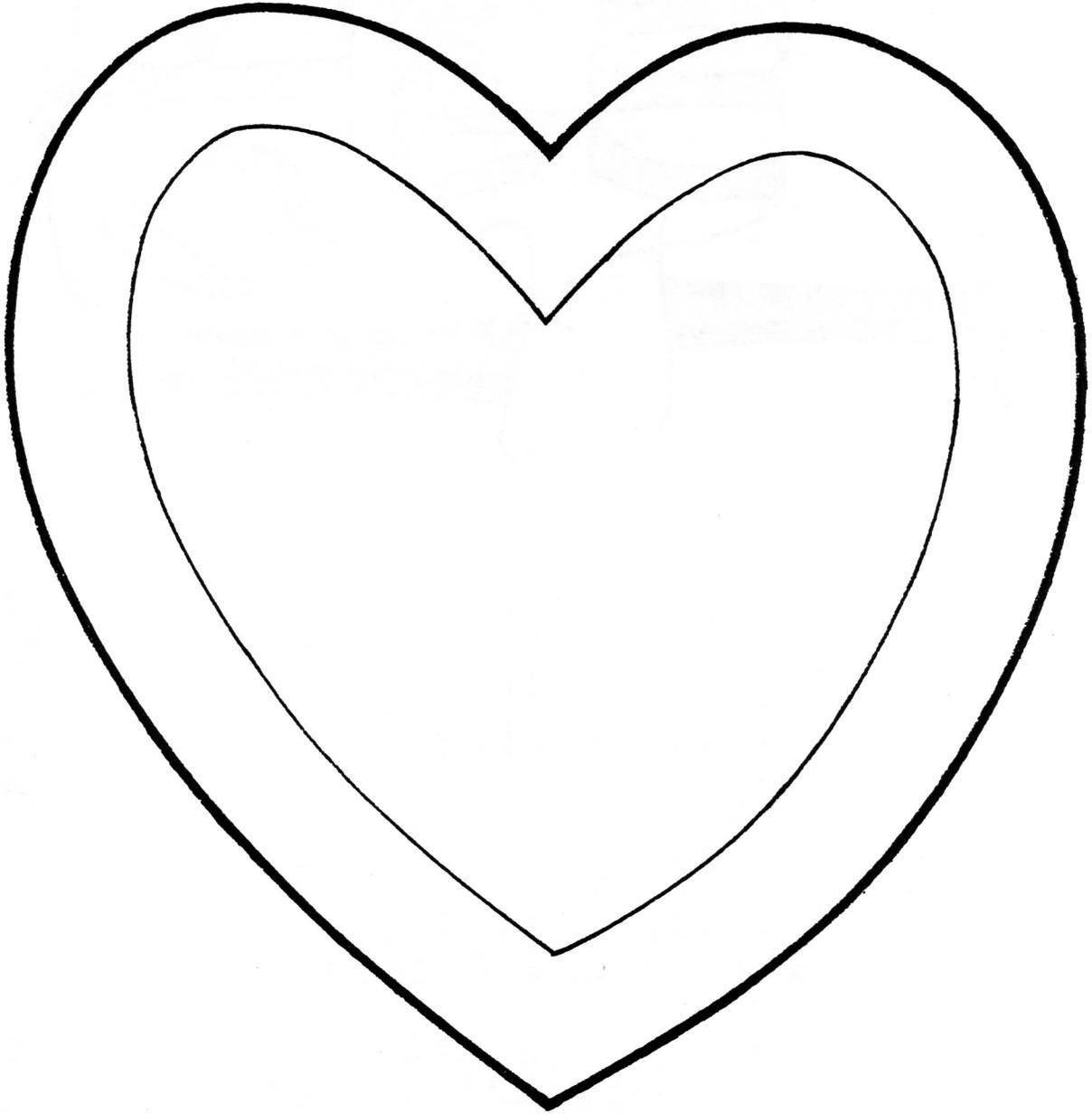
Ask What are some ways Christians might tell others around the world about Jesus? Students may say they can invite people to church to hear about Jesus, tell others about Him, or support foreign missions, and the like.

Say Today, you will make a picture frame with puzzle pieces on it that symbolize the wonderful mystery of God's love for us in Jesus. He loves everyone in the world and wants everyone to hear about Jesus and believe in Him as their Savior from sin.

Do This

- Cut out a heart outline from the cardboard using the pattern.
- Glue puzzle pieces to the frame using the craft glue. Overlap pieces as needed to cover the entire frame.
- Have an adult spray-paint the frame in a well-ventilated area, and let it dry.
- Cut out a solid heart shape from the poster board, the same size as the heart frame.
- Print the words to John 3:16 on the center of the poster board heart in the area that will be uncovered by the frame, or attach a label with the verse on it.
- Decorate the heart around the verse. Glue this heart to the back of the heart frame.
- Attach a small piece of yarn with adhesive tape to serve as a hanger.

Pattern



Enlarge pattern to desired size.

Peter-and-Angel Puppets

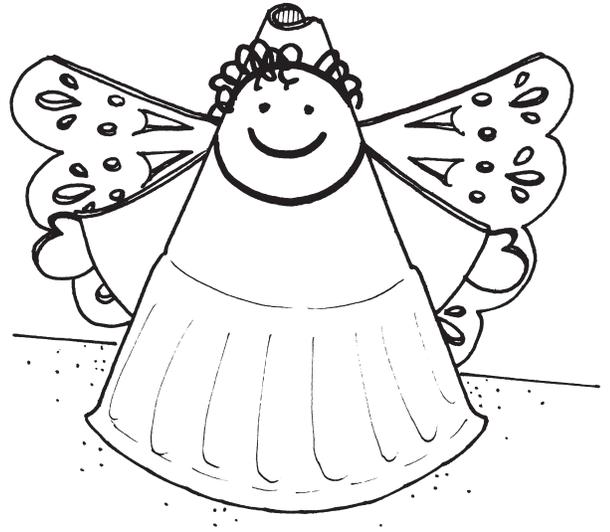
Lesson 8: Peter's Escape from Prison

You Need

- Paper plate, 1 per student
- Scissors
- Markers
- Glue or tape
- Paper doily, 1 per student
- Construction paper
- Embellishments: Yarn or craft hair, buttons, fabric scraps, garland

Get Ready

- Gather supplies.
- Make a sample.



Introduce the Craft

Say Peter was arrested and chained in a prison cell. He could not escape. But God still had important jobs for Peter to do.

Ask What did God do? **God sent an angel to rescue Peter from prison.**

Say After God sent the angel to dramatically rescue Peter from prison, Peter told many people about Jesus. Sin keeps people trapped, much like chains, handcuffs, and jails keep people from being free. We cannot save ourselves from our sin. That's why God sent Jesus to save us!

Today, you will make paper plate puppets of Peter and the angel. Use them to retell the story of God's dramatic rescue: He sent an angel to rescue Peter from jail. He sent Jesus to break the chains of sin and death by dying on the cross for us and rising again. Jesus sets us free from sin, death, and the devil and gives us eternal life.

Do This

- Cut a paper plate in half. Draw a circle face, arms, and other features on each blank half, one to depict the angel and one to depict Peter.
- Glue or tape the sides of each half circle together, adjusting the width of each to fit your hand.
- Add construction paper arms and clothes.
- Cut a half circle from construction paper or a paper doily and glue it behind the angel puppet for wings.
- Use bits of yarn or craft hair for hair on each puppet. Add buttons or other embellishments.
- Use your puppets to retell the story.

God's-Plan-of-Salvation Key Chain

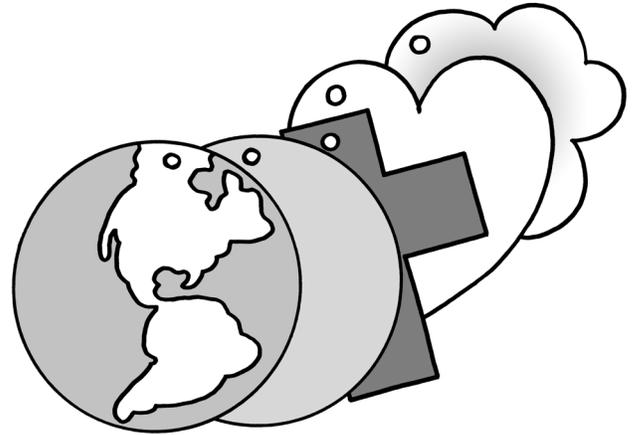
Lesson 9: Paul's First Missionary Journey

You Need

- Thin cardboard or craft foam in many colors
- Pencil
- Scissors
- Craft glue & tape
- Small hole punch
- Ball chain and ball-chain clasp
- Lanyard or carabiner clip
- Plan-of-salvation patterns (end of activity)
- Copies of God's Plan of Salvation (Introduce the Craft) & index cards

Get Ready

- Set out supplies.
- Cut out patterns ahead of time for younger students.
- Trim God's Plan of Salvation copies to fit on index cards.
- Make a sample.



Introduce the Craft

Say God sent Paul and Barnabas to preach about Jesus. Missionaries and pastors share the Good News of Jesus too. People come to faith and are nurtured in it, and the Church grows.

Today you will make circles that tell God's plan of salvation. You can use them to share the Gospel by explaining what each circle means.

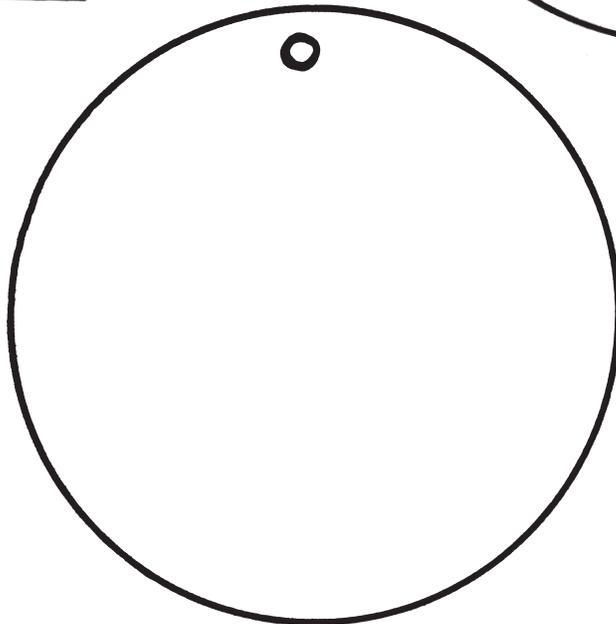
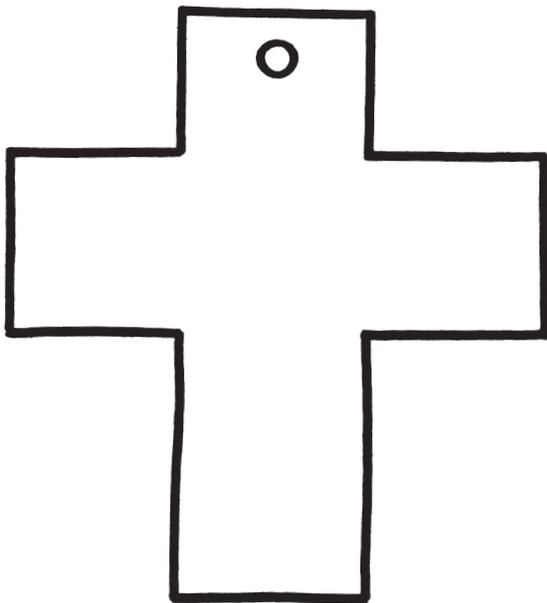
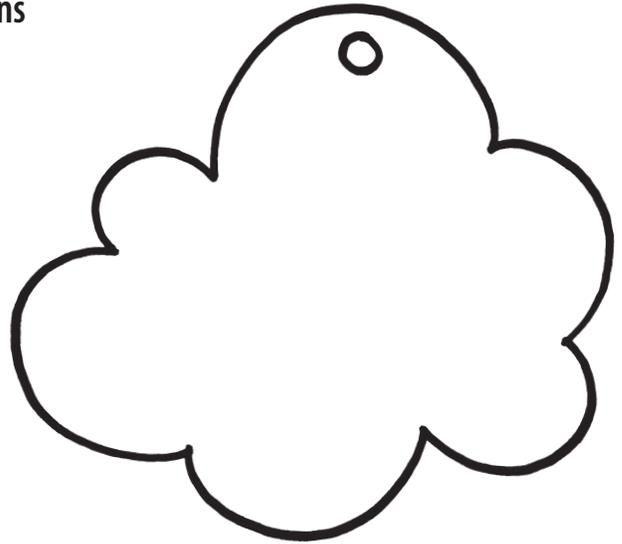
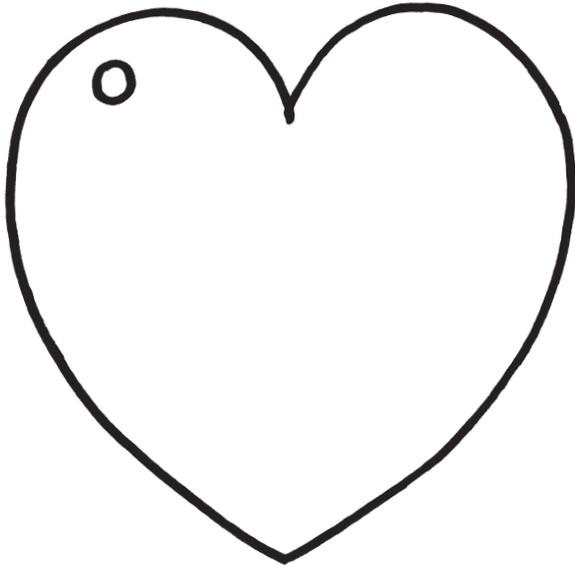
God's Plan of Salvation

- **World:** God created a perfect world for us.
- **Gray:** Adam and Eve sinned. Sin spread to every person. All people sin. We are dead in sin.
- **Cross:** God loved us and sent His only Son, Jesus, to save us from sin. Jesus was without sin, but He died on the cross to pay for our sins.
- **Heart:** Jesus cleanses our hearts from sin. Believers receive new life now and forever.
- **Cloud:** One day believers in Jesus will live in heaven with Him, where there will be no more sin, sadness, sickness, or sorrow.

Do This

- Trace and cut out the five plan-of-salvation patterns (end of activity).
- Trace the world on dark-blue cardboard or foam, and cut out. Trace the land on green. Cut out and glue to the dark-blue circle. Trace another circle on gray cardboard or foam and cut out. Trace the cross on red and cut out. Trace the heart on white and cut out. Trace the cloud on light blue cardboard or foam, and cut out.
- Punch a small hole near the top of each shape.
- String them on the chain in this order from top to bottom: world, gray circle, cross, heart, cloud.
- Thread the chain through the lanyard or carabiner clip and use clasp to connect ends. Hang on a backpack or key ring.
- Tape or glue God's Plan of Salvation to an index card. When others ask what's on your backpack, you can use the card to explain God's plan of salvation to them and invite them to church to hear more about Jesus.

Patterns



Jesus-Is-the-Way Plaque

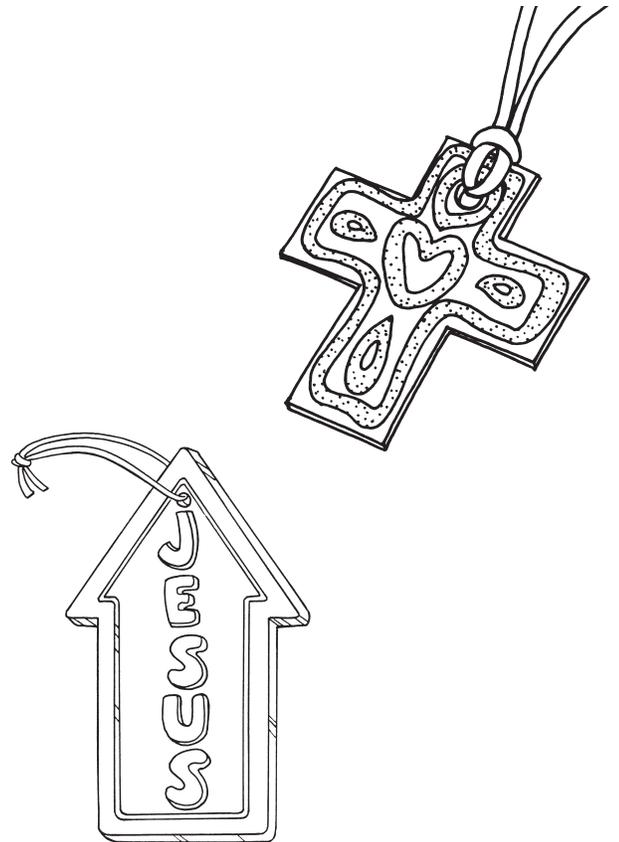
Lesson 10: Paul and Timothy

You Need

- 6 × 6 inch squares of poster board, 2 per student
- Pencil & markers
- Craft glue
- Scissors & hole punch
- Cookie cutters or stencils or patterns with Christian designs (end of activity)
- Metallic gold or acrylic paint
- Paintbrushes & cups of water
- Glitter gel or dimensional paint
- Cord or ribbon for hanging
- *Optional:* Fun foam shapes & letters to spell *Jesus*

Get Ready

- Make copies of the patterns.
- Set out supplies.
- Make a sample.



Introduce the Craft

Say Today, you heard of conflict in the Church at Paul’s time. Some thought believers needed to keep God’s Law to be saved. Others told how Jesus did all the work to save us.

Ask Which side would you take? Discuss.

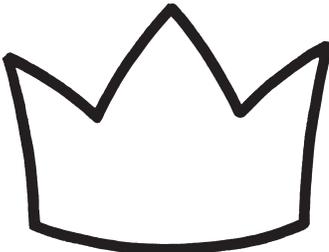
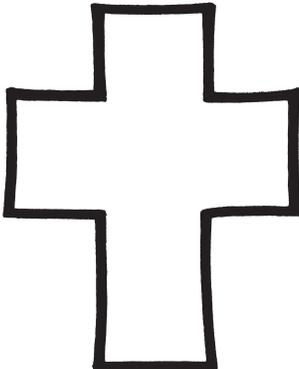
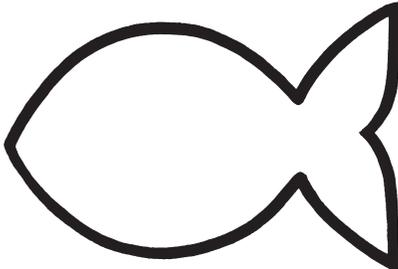
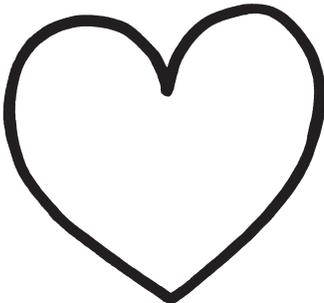
Say The Bible tells us that we are saved by God’s grace alone. There is nothing we can do to earn our way to heaven. Forgiveness, life, and salvation are ours only through the work of Christ Jesus.

Fortunately, the Church agreed that Jesus is the only answer for salvation. Today, you will make a plaque that you can hang in your room at home to remind you that Jesus is your Savior from sin. Jesus won the victory over death and the devil by dying on the cross and rising again. Jesus is “the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through [Him]” (John 14:6).

Do This

- Cut two crosses or large arrows from poster board. Align the pieces, and glue together. Punch a hole in the top through both thicknesses.
- Paint both sides. Let dry.
- Use cookie cutters, stencils, the patterns with this craft, or your own ideas to draw Christian designs on the front of the cross or arrow.
- Outline your designs in glitter gel or dimensional paint. *Option:* Glue foam designs to the cross or foam letters to the arrow.
- Tie and knot a piece of cord through the hole for hanging it on a wall.

Patterns



Lydia Washcloth Puppet

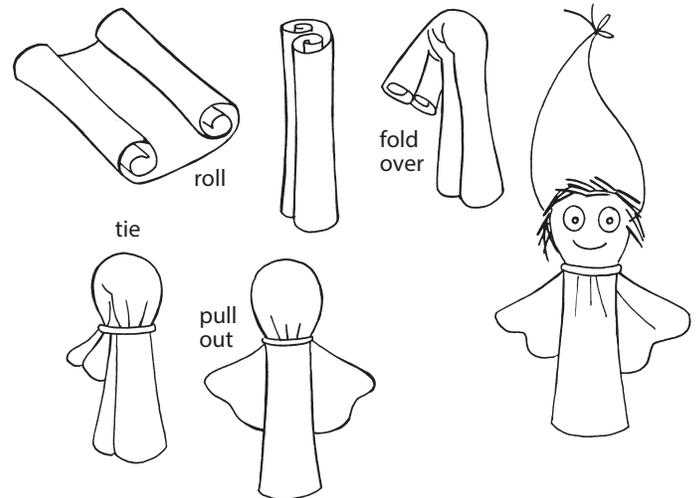
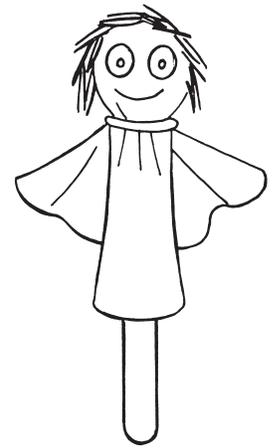
Lesson 11: Lydia

You Need

- Purple or blue washcloths, 1 per student
- Yarn
- Craft stick
- Craft glue
- Wiggle eyes
- *Optional:* Felt or fabric, small buttons or shells

Get Ready

- Gather supplies.
- Make a sample.



Introduce the Craft

Ask What color do we think of in connection with Lydia? **Purple**

Say Lydia was known for her purple dye to make clothes. Her story, however, isn't about wearing fancy clothes. It is about wearing the robe of Christ's righteousness. When Paul told Lydia about salvation in Jesus, the Lord opened Lydia's heart and she came to faith. Paul baptized her in the name of our triune God. By water and the Word, Lydia's sins were washed away, and she was clothed in Christ.

Today, you will make a purple or blue washcloth puppet of Lydia to remind you of Lydia's faith story. Purple is the color of the dye that Lydia used. Blue reminds us of the waters of Baptism, where by water and God's Word, God washed away your sins and you became His child.

Do This

- Cut a 5-inch piece of yarn.
- Place the washcloth flat in front of you. Roll the right and left sides to the center.
- Fold down about $\frac{1}{3}$ of the washcloth, one roll behind the other.
- Tie the yarn around the folded-down top to make a neck.
- Pull out the sides from the folded-over part to make arms.
- Insert and glue a craft stick inside to make a puppet.
- Glue on wiggle eyes.
- *Options:* Omit the craft stick. Instead, fold the washcloth over a 6-inch piece of yarn or cord. Tie it through the top fold for a hanging puppet or ornament. Glue buttons or small shells to the puppet.

God's-Child Necklace

Lesson 12: Paul and Silas in Prison

You Need

- White air-dry clay (e.g., Crayola® Model Magic®)
- Waxed paper
- Sharp nail or wooden stylus
- Small rags
- Scissors
- Yarn, 24 inches
- Acrylic paint & old cloths

Get Ready

- Gather supplies.
- Make a sample.
- *Note:* This craft requires extra time as the clay must dry overnight before it is painted. Make the cross today, then finish it during your next session, or plan to send it home with students along with directions for completing it there.



Introduce the Craft

Ask What if you had to go to jail because of your faith? What would you do? How would you feel? **Accept answers.** What did Paul and Silas do? **They prayed and sang hymns!**

Say God sent an earthquake to set Paul and Silas free. You have been freed, too, from the bondage of sin and death. Christ took the punishment for your sin. He died and rose to give you eternal life. Still, life is not always easy. You still have troubles and sadness. But you can take heart, for the Holy Spirit gives hope, strength, comfort, and peace in Christ.

Today, you'll make a God's-child pendant to remind you that God made you His child in Baptism. He promises to answer your prayers. Even when you have worries, you can trust Him to be with you and care for you.

Do This

- Shape a fist-sized piece of white, air-dry clay into a circle to resemble a small pancake. The circle should be no bigger than ¼-inch thick.
- Set the circle of clay on a piece of waxed paper.
- Use a sharp nail or a wooden stylus to etch Christian symbols into the clay, such as a cross, a baptismal shell, a fish, or a butterfly.
- Use the nail or stylus to make two small holes at the top of the circle.
- Let the clay dry overnight.
- Use a small rag to rub small amounts of acrylic paint over the etched areas of the necklace to highlight the carvings. Let it dry.
- Thread a 24-inch cord through the holes in the circle. Tie to make a necklace.

Storm Stiller

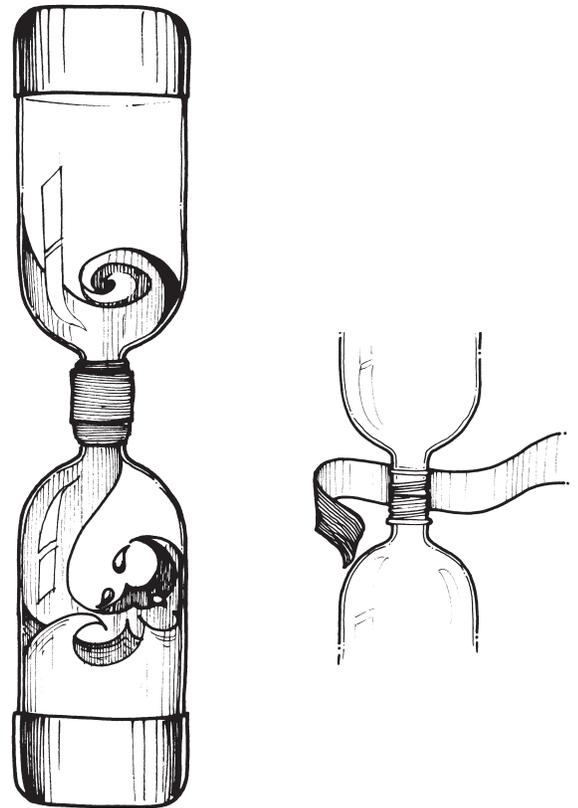
Lesson 13: Paul Sails for Rome

You Need

- Clean 2-liter plastic bottles, 2 each
- Water
- Blue food coloring
- Waterproof glue (adult use only)
- Duct tape
- Glitter, aquarium gravel, pebbles, shells, marbles, twigs & the like

Get Ready

- Gather materials.
- Make a sample.



Introduce the Craft

Say You might think of an adventure as something fun, but amidst the wind, storm, and shipwreck, Paul's journey was not! It was tough, yet all the time Christ protected Paul.

Ask What are some of your troubles? **Accept answers.**

Say Sometimes, we doubt that God cares about our troubles. But He does! Jesus died on the cross for us and forgives our doubts. He gives us hope to get through our troubles. The next time you have a hard day, remember that Jesus protected Paul in the storm. He cares for you too. Think of Christ's hard day of suffering on the cross to give you salvation.

Today, you'll make a storm stiller to remind you that amidst the storms of life, our Lord keeps you afloat, protecting you, saving you, and casting your sin to the depths of the sea.

Do This

- Remove caps from the bottles.
- Fill one bottle half full with water and add a few drops of blue food coloring.
- To add interest, add items such as glitter, aquarium gravel, pebbles, small shells, marbles, or twigs.
- With adult supervision, use waterproof glue to connect the tops of the bottles together.
- Let dry completely.
- Wrap duct tape tightly around the bottle threads three times.
- Quickly turn the bottles over so the water is at the top.
- Swirl to make a whirlpool, tornado, or high waves.