

Here are some questions that will test your knowledge of the Ascension story!

Finish each sentence by circling the letter next to the choice that you think is correct.

You can find the answers in your Bible at Acts 1:1—11.

The disciples asked Jesus if he was going to restore the kingdom of Israel. Jesus told them...

- a. they weren't to know.
- b. it would happen soon.
- c. to wait two years.

Jesus told the disciples they would receive power when...

- a.they traveled to a certain city.
- b. they ate lunch.
- c. the Holy Spirit gave it to them.

As the disciples watched...

- a. Jesus walked away.
- b. Jesus was taken up into a cloud.
- c. Jesus got onto a ship and sailed away.

Two men in white told the disciples Jesus would return from heaven...

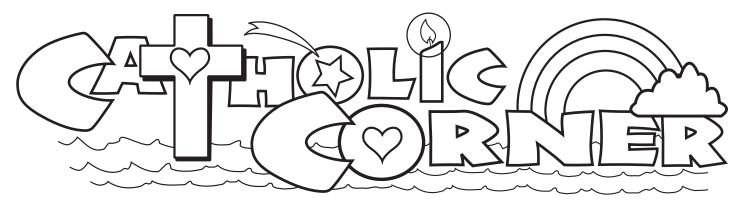
- a. in the same way he just left.
- b. in the Fall.
- C. when it was dark.

Answer key: top left - A, top right - C, bottom left - B, bottom right - A



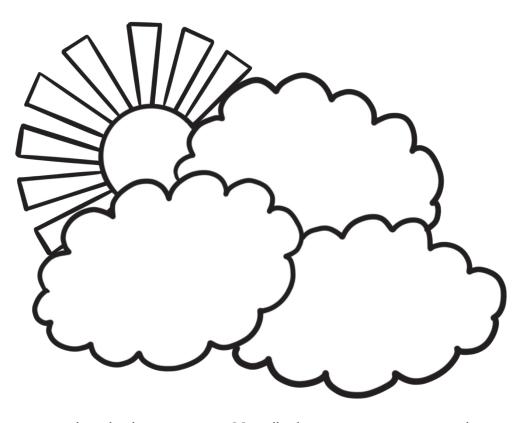
... as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him from their sight.

Acts 1:9



Witness for the Lord

Today we celebrate the feast of the Ascension! We read the gospel today to remember Jesus ascending into heaven and also to hear the words and commissioning that he gave to his disciples (commissioning is like giving someone a job to do). Jesus tells his disciples: "You will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." Jesus' disciples had been learning from Jesus for a long time. Even though Jesus was resurrected from the dead, he was not going to simply go back to the same kind of work and ministry he had always been doing. Now it was time for the disciples to take what they had learned



from being with Jesus in his ministry and go be his witnesses. He tells them to go not just nearby, to places like Judea and Samaria, but to the ends of the earth! He wants them to be witnesses everywhere so that everyone can hear about Jesus' life and learn how much they are loved by God and how God is asking them to love.

To be a witness means you have seen something or that you know and understand it personally. It's more than just knowing a lot about something—it means that you either experienced it or you have a very personal understanding of it. We are called to be witnesses to Jesus today. Even though we were not there when Jesus was on earth, and we didn't see his miracles, hear him tell parables, or watch him ascend to heaven, we have had the stories and scripture passed down to us. We also know Jesus' love through our church and our faith community. We get to experience God's love in the world, but especially through the sacraments and through the love of our families and community. So even though we didn't see Jesus do everything in person, we still know how powerful God's love is. We can still share about how Jesus' life and the love of God mean so much for us even today. We can share about how we meet God in the sacraments and in lots of different ways every day. We can share about how Jesus' life shows us how to love others, and not just our family and friends, but every person that is made in God's image.

What are stories of love that you would want to share with other people? What are ways you have learned about God's love? Write them down in the clouds above.

The angel told the disciples
that Jesus would come back,
bringing eternal life to all who trust in him.

Count the number of times you see the words "coming back." Write the number on the sun.



Answer key: 15



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When the Holy Spirit filled the disciples they were able to do something that would help them to spread the good news of Jesus!

To find out what that was, use the grid to put the words in the right order and decode the message.

B-2 A-4 A-3 B-4 A-2 B-1 A-1 B-3

	<u> </u>	2	<u> </u>	<u></u>
	DIFFERENT	SPEAK	ABLE	WERE
D	IN	THEY	LANGUAGES	TO

Write the answer here:

Answer key: They were able to speak in different languages.

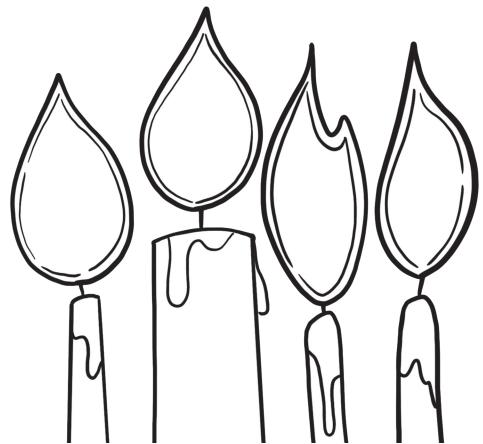




Come, Holy Spirit

Pentecost is the day we remember when the Holy Spirit came to be with the apostles. Last week we heard the story of when Jesus ascended into heaven after he was resurrected from the dead. We also learned about how Jesus called his disciples—and calls us!—to be witnesses for God in the world. Jesus also knows that being a witness isn't always easy—it can be really hard! People aren't always kind and it can also be hard for us to always be loving, just, and kind the way that God calls us to be. So Jesus sends the Holy Spirit to be with us, to help us. Paul's letter today reminds us that the Holy Spirit is here not just to help, but to be a witness with us! He writes in his letter to the Romans that "the Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God." The Holy Spirit is also a witness, and by being so close with us, the Spirit lets us know God's love up close.

There are lots of images we use to describe and understand how the Holy Spirit works. We hear in the first reading about the story of Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit came to the apostles. We hear about how the Holy Spirit came as tongues of fire! It wasn't fire the way we think of it—it didn't cause the apostles to burn up. But the image of fire helps us imagine how the Holy Spirit works within us—like a fire that keeps us warm, and keeps us burning with God's love. We can't really see the Holy Spirit working in our lives, so images like fire help us understand what the Holy Spirit does. Jesus also uses the word 'Advocate' to describe

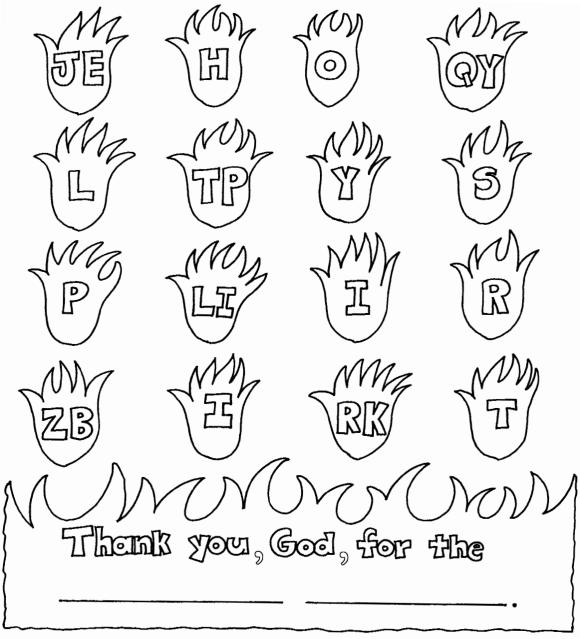


the Holy Spirit. Advocate means to help or to speak on someone else's behalf. Paul also writes in another letter to the Corinthians about how we all receive different gifts from the Holy Spirit. Some people receive a special talent for music or art, others have a gift for comforting people when they are sad, for being leaders in their community, or for standing up for people who are being treated badly. And those are just a few of the many gifts the Spirit gives! The Holy Spirit is with each of us, but also helps us in different ways because we are all different people.

What are some special gifts that you have? How do your gifts help you remember God loves you? What are some ways you can use your gifts to share God's love with other people? Write them in the flames shown here.

God has sent us a helper to help us do right and make good choices. Color all the flames with two letters.

The letters that are left will spell the helper's name. Write it onto the blanks in the fire at the bottom.

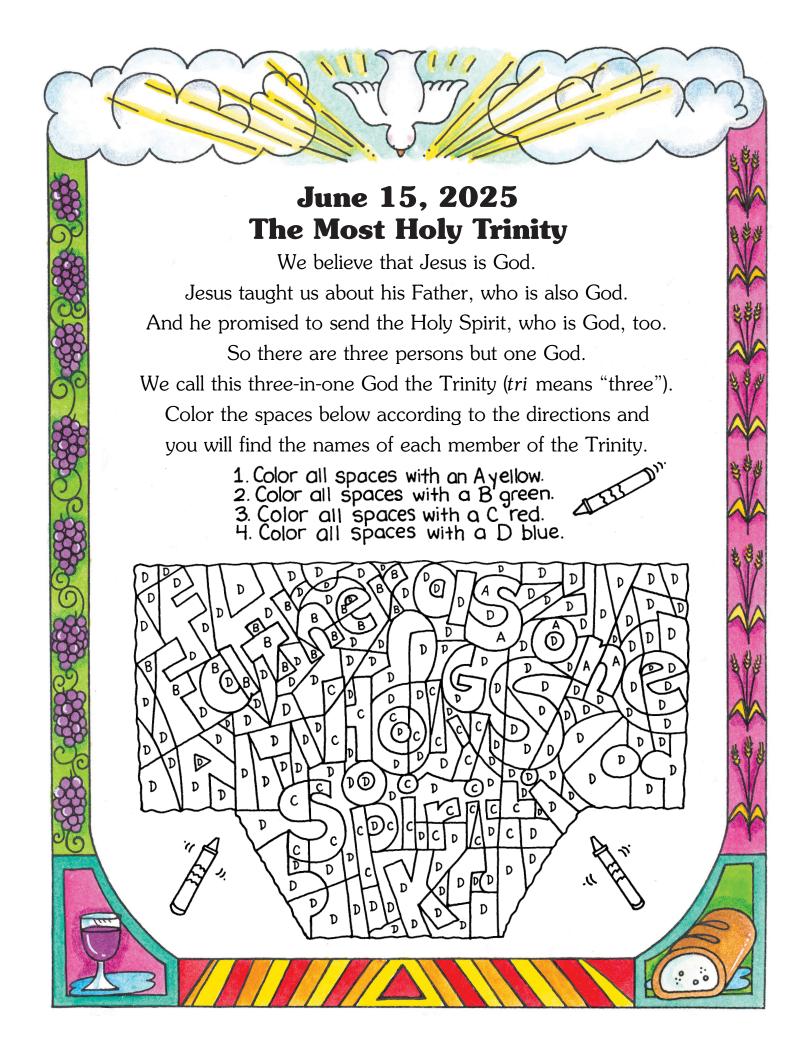


Answer key: Holy Spirit



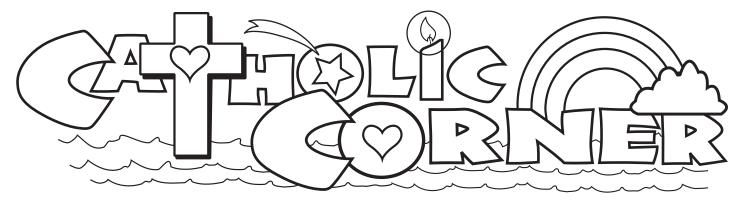
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"He fixed fast the foundations of the earth." Proverbs 8:29

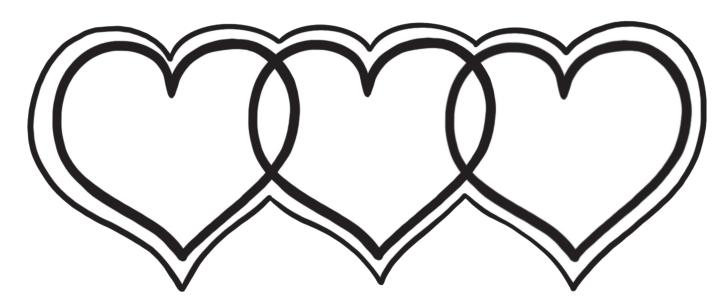


Three-in-One

We have heard a lot about the Holy Spirit in the last few weeks! We have heard about how the Holy Spirit came to be with the apostles after the Ascension. We heard different things about the Holy Spirit—that it came as tongues of fire, that Jesus called the Holy Spirit the 'Advocate', and that the Holy Spirit gives us gifts. But did you also know that the Holy Spirit is part of what is called the Holy Trinity? We believe in God and believe that Jesus was the Son of God, and we also believe that Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to be with us. But we also believe that God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit are all the same God! That's why we often refer to God as the Holy Trinity. Trinity refers to the number three and we believe that there are three persons in one God.

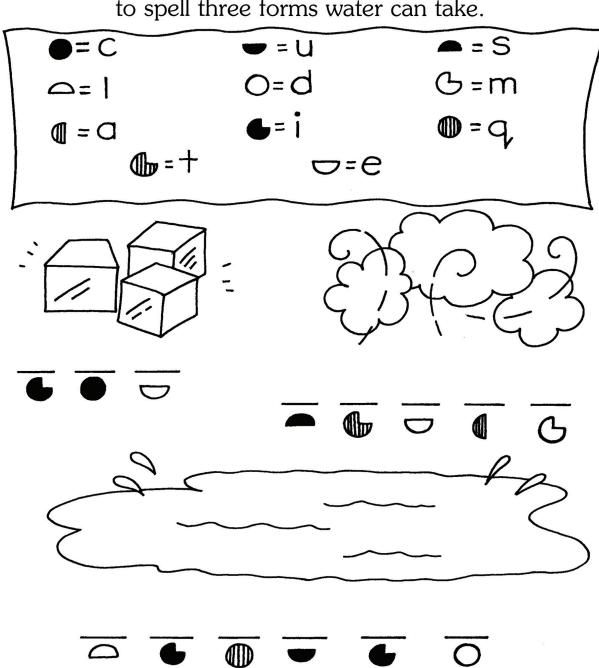
Trying to understand how the Holy Trinity works can be tricky. How can Jesus and God be the same if Jesus is God's Son? How can the Holy Spirit be the same as God and Jesus? People have spent a lot of time trying to find the best way to explain it—they've been doing it for hundreds of years! One way to think about it is like water—water can be a liquid, it can freeze solid into ice, or it can evaporate into the air as steam, but no matter the form, it is always made of the same thing. What is really important to remember about the trinity is that it isn't just three parts of God squished together to make one God. All three persons—God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit—are unique and also are in relationship with one another. Why does that matter? Because knowing the three persons of God are in relationship with each other tells us a lot about who God is. God is relational—meaning God wants to be with us. It's part of why God came to be with us in Jesus Christ—so that Jesus could be close with us and just like us.

When we do the things God asks us and love one another, God is asking us to be like Him by being in a loving relationship with other people. Sometimes that means being a good friend. It can mean caring for the poor. It also means spending time at Mass on Sundays to be with God and our faith community. There are a lot of ways to be in relationship with other people. Who are people you are in a loving relationship with? Are they family or friends? How do you show them love? Write about them or draw pictures of them in the hearts below.



Together they are called the Trinity.

To help you understand this idea, use the code to spell three forms water can take.



Answer key: ice, steam, liquid



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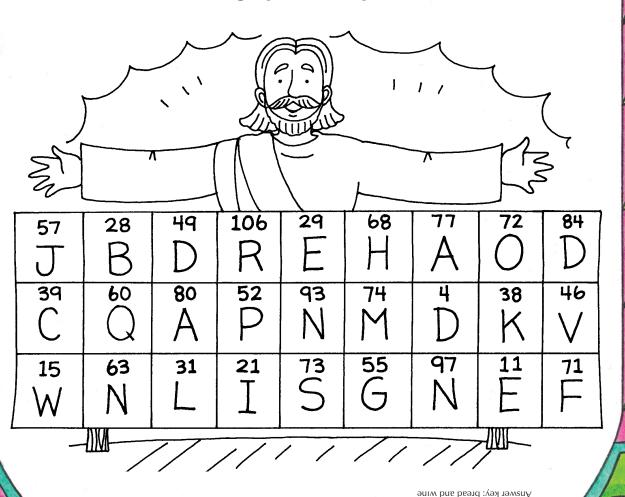


Before his death, Jesus ate a last supper with his disciples.

During the meal he changed two things into his body and blood, which he said would be sacrificed for us.

To find what they were, darken each tablecloth square that shows any number greater than 30 but less than 75.

The remaining squares will spell the answer.



"Do this in remembrance of me."





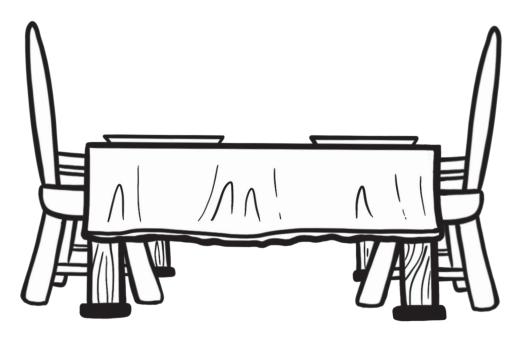
The Lord's Supper

Do you have a special meal that you have with your family on Christmas or Easter? Are there special foods you make on someone's birthday? Are there other traditions that your family has around meals? Some families have a special family recipe for cookies on Christmas. Some families make black eyed peas on New Year's Day for good luck in the New Year. Families will make a king cake on Epiphany to celebrate the visit of the Three Wise Men. A lot of families and a lot of cultures use food to bring people together to celebrate special days. Having special food on special occasions might look different depending on your family or where you live in the world, but it's something families have been doing for thousands of years—even way before Jesus' time!

Today we celebrate the feast of the Body and Blood of Christ. In the first reading, the king of Salem brought out bread and wine when he blessed Abram. We hear Paul telling the story of the Last Supper to the Corinthians in our second reading. In the gospel reading, we don't hear about Jesus at the Last Supper sharing his Body and Blood, but about the time he multiplied fishes and loaves to feed thousands of people. Jesus loved them and wanted them to know that they would be loved and cared for—so he made sure there was food for everyone to eat.

The Holy Body and Blood of Christ that we celebrate every week at Mass and that we receive in the Eucharist is one of the most special ways God shares his love with us. Through the bread and the wine that become the Body and Blood, we remember that every Sunday at Mass is a special occasion. God wants us to know how special we are and that being with us is a special occasion. It might not always seem as special as cake on your birthday, but anytime we can be close with God is a special occasion. When we receive the Eucharist, we remember that we are loved and that God always wants to be close to us.

If you were to make a special meal for people you love, what would you make? Draw it on the table below.

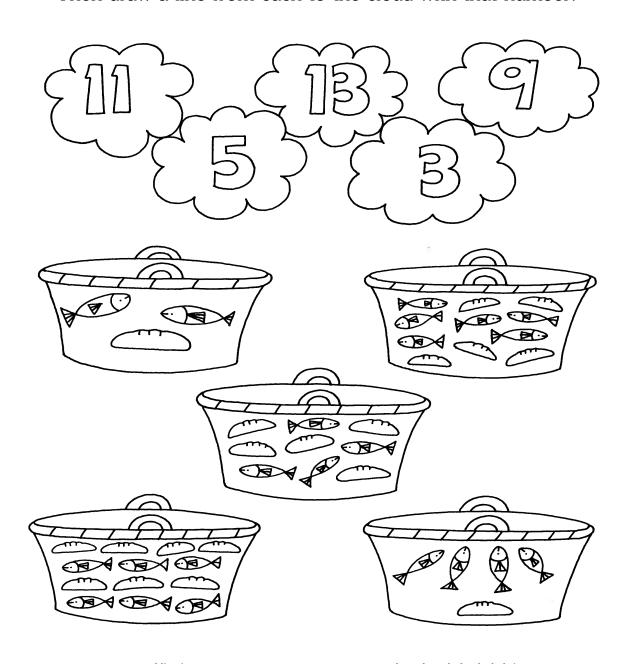


When Jesus saw that people were hungry,
he multiplied five loaves of bread and two fishes.

This was so much food that his disciples were able to feed thousands
of people and still collect twelve baskets of leftovers!

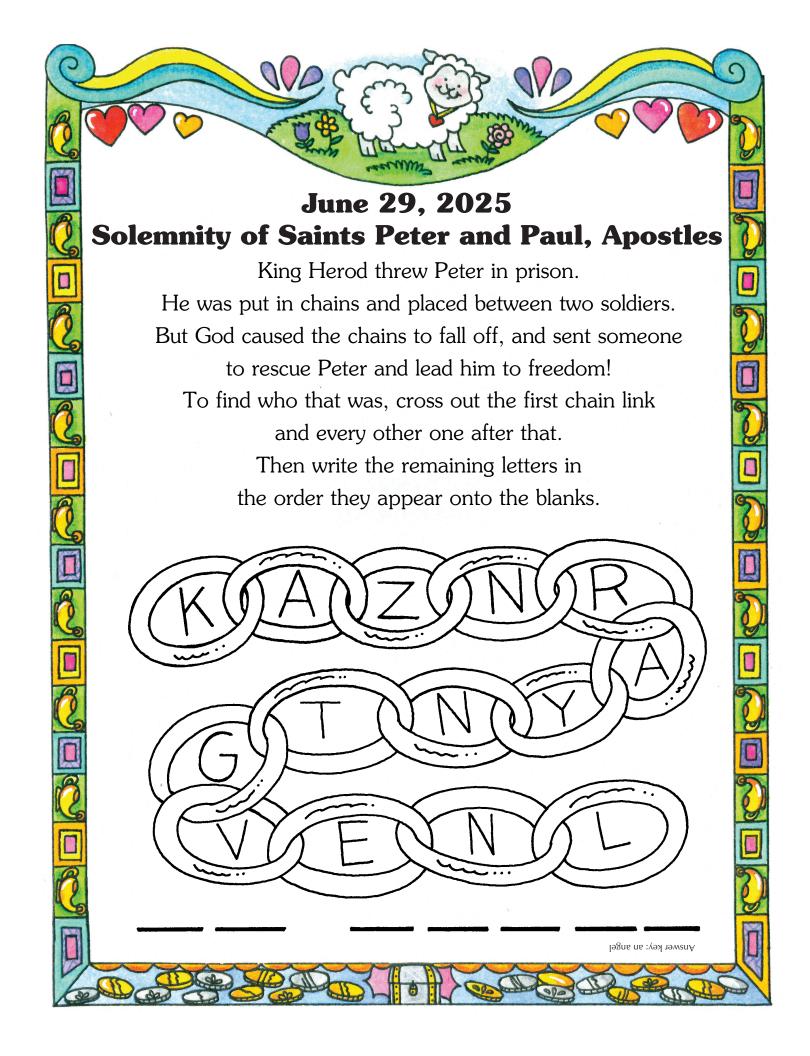
Count the number of loaves and fishes in the baskets.

Then draw a line from each to the cloud with that number.





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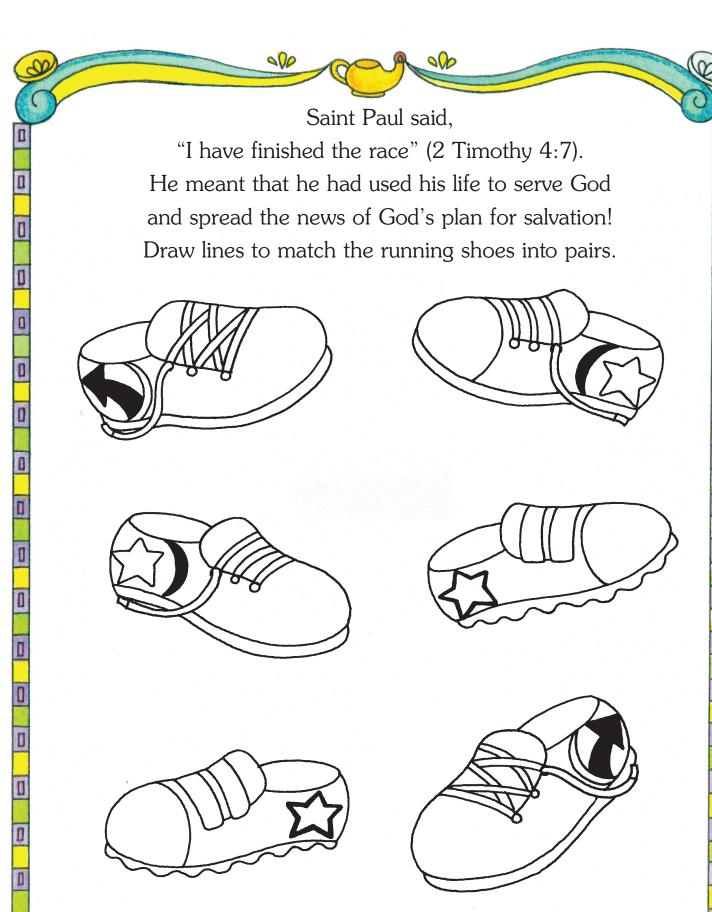
What's in a Name?

Do you know why your name was picked when you were born? When a child is born, parents often spend a lot of time thinking about a name that they like or that is important to them. Sometimes the name given is in honor of someone else. Naming is an important practice in a lot of families and cultures. It helps signify who we are and, especially with last names, helps us know who we belong to. Names also usually have a meaning behind the word. We hear today that Peter means 'rock.' If you listen to different bible stories, there are a lot of times when we learn what a name means. At baptism, parents are asked what they have named their child, so they can be called by name aloud in front of the whole community.

At different points in the Bible, we hear about when people are named, but we also hear about when new names are given. Abram and Sarai in the book of Genesis are given the new names of Abraham and Sarah. Paul was known as Saul before he encountered God on the road to Damascus. Peter was known as Simon before Jesus gave him the name Peter—which means 'rock'—like we hear in today's gospel. They aren't babies getting a name for the first time, but they are getting names that help signify that they are beginning a new kind of life—a life that has been changed by encountering God! Changing names helps us recognize how much being close to God can change our life. We don't have to change our own name as we grow closer to God—changing names is clearly a big deal! But we can listen to the stories of Peter and Paul and remember that God changed their life so much that they were given new names to represent how different and special their lives would be.

Ask your family how they came to choose your name. You can also ask them if your name has a special meaning. If they aren't sure, you can also ask for help to look up the meaning of your name.

• Carlos	Joey zi Aid	Anh den Ir	Jabari mani	•
• Jimin	Kim	Maria	Diego	•
peter	Maddy	Kiyoshi	Daniel	•





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