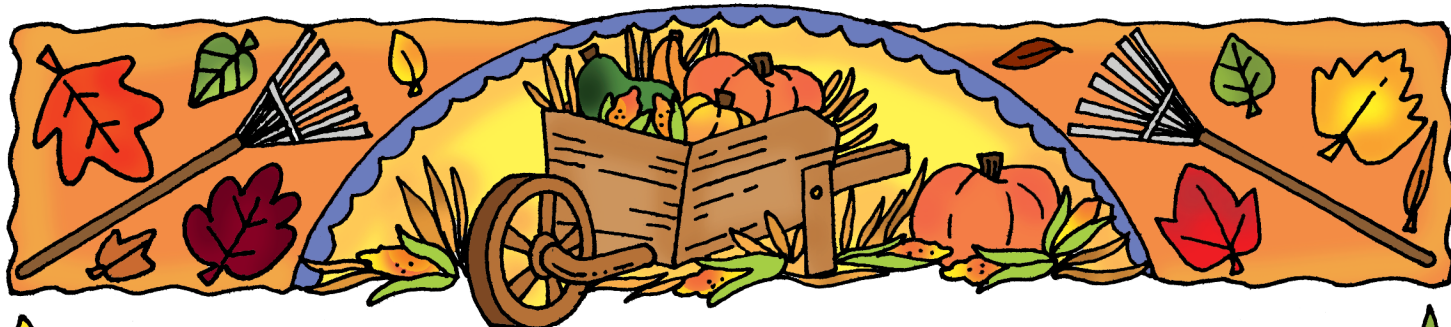




October 5, 2025

Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Do you know that God doesn't give us a cowardly spirit?
Find what the Bible says we are given instead (2 Timothy 1:7).

Look at the letter below each blank.

Then locate it in the alphabet and move to the right (+) or
left (-) according to the number shown.

The first letter has been written in.

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

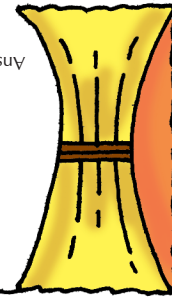
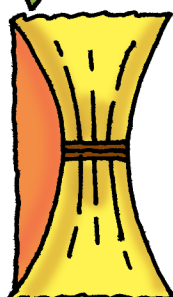
P
 M+3 Q-2 V+1 J-5 N+4

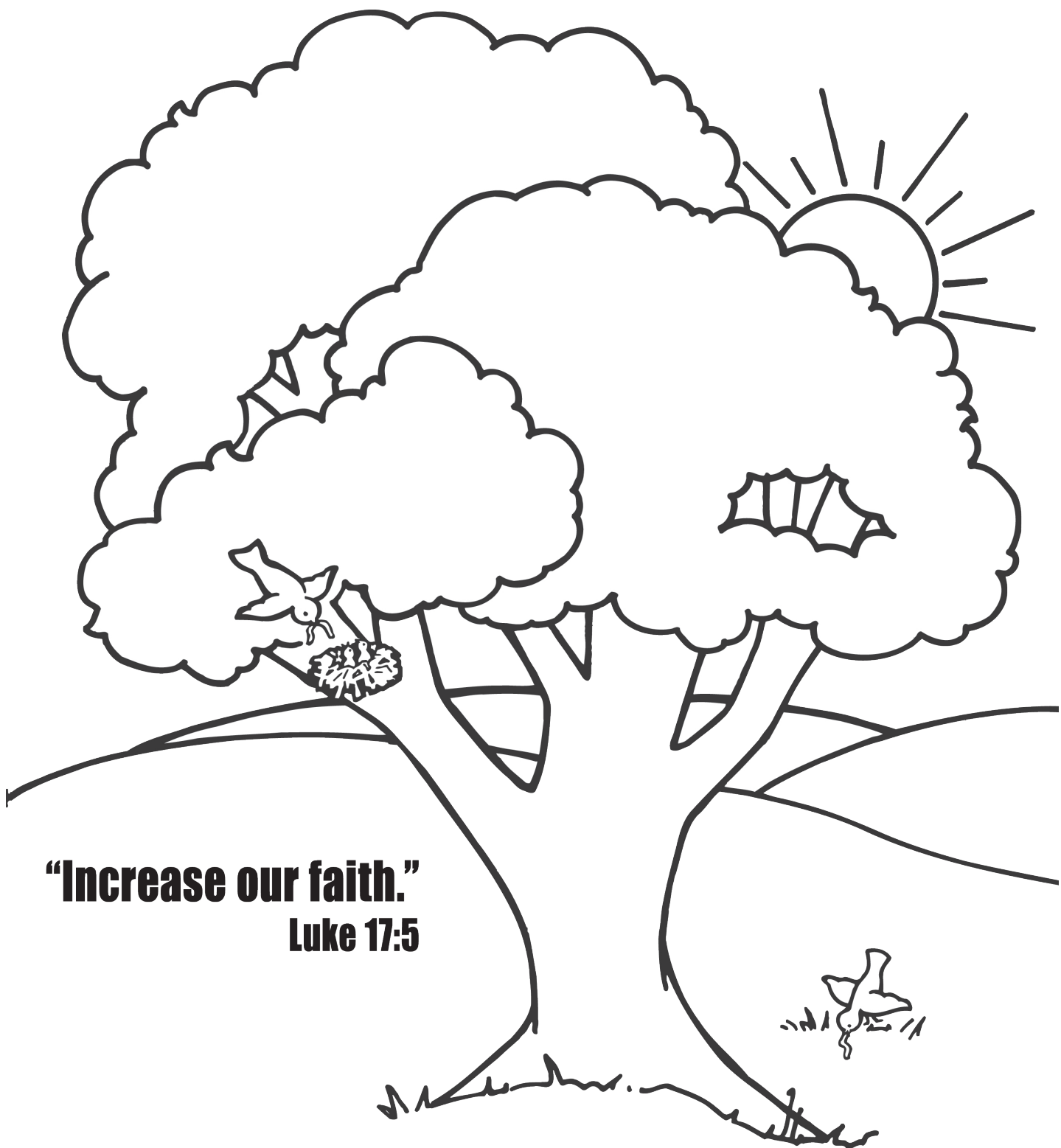
P-4 J+5 W-1 A+4

—

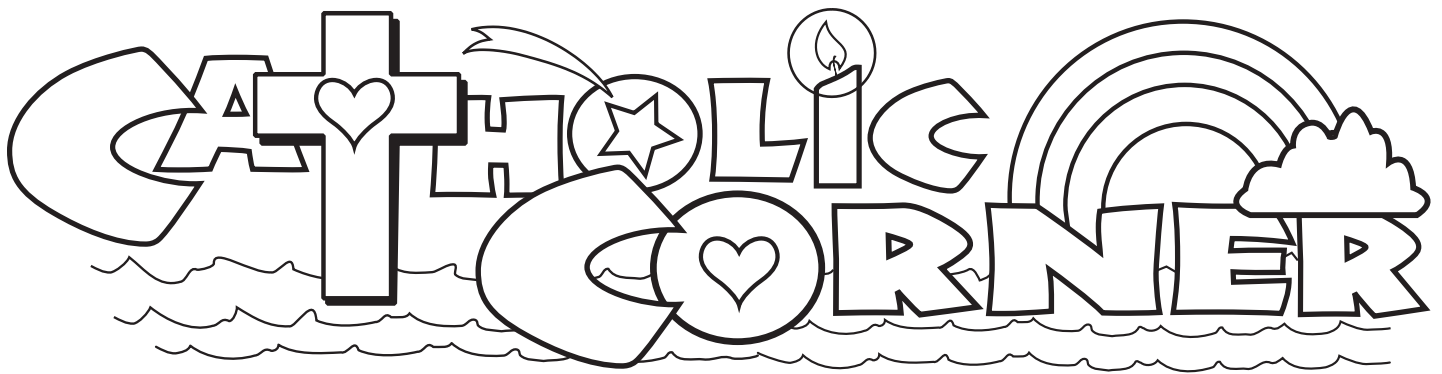
Z-7 C+2 G+5 J-4 — B+1 K+4 V-8 R+2 X-6 M+2 M-1

Answer Key: Power, love, self-control





"Increase our faith."
Luke 17:5

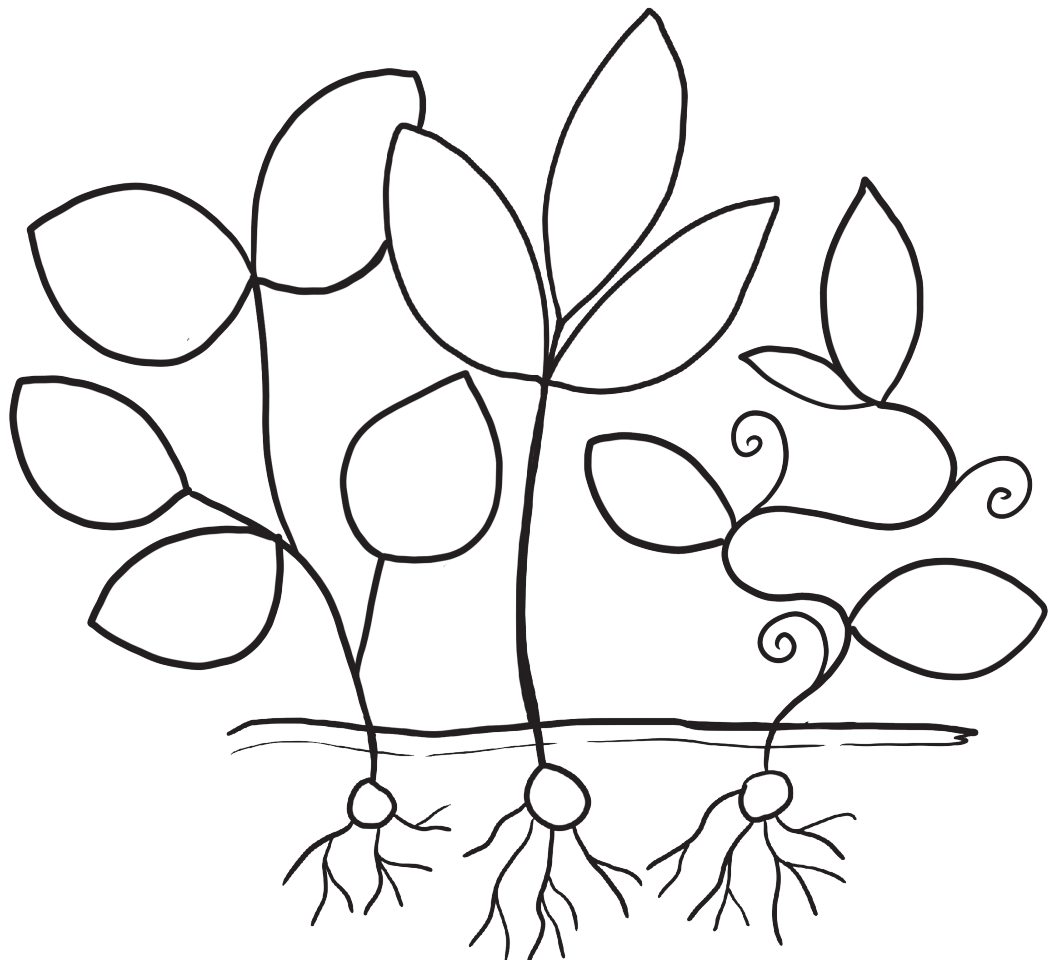


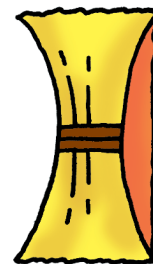
The Mustard Seed

Everything starts small. Human beings start out as just a couple of tiny cells. Giant buildings start out as plans on paper. Massive trees with trunks wider than cars and houses, whose branches reach far into the sky, still start out as a tiny seed. Mustard seeds are about as tiny a seed as you can get—it's almost hard to see when there is just one! When seeds begin to grow, they open up for something totally new to emerge. Every seed grows a little bit differently. Some seeds sprout up very quickly. Other kinds of seeds—like tulip bulbs—need to stay underground all winter before they can really begin to grow in the spring. When mustard plants grow, they don't necessarily grow big and tall like trees, but they sprawl out and take over lots of ground.

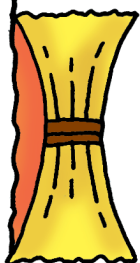
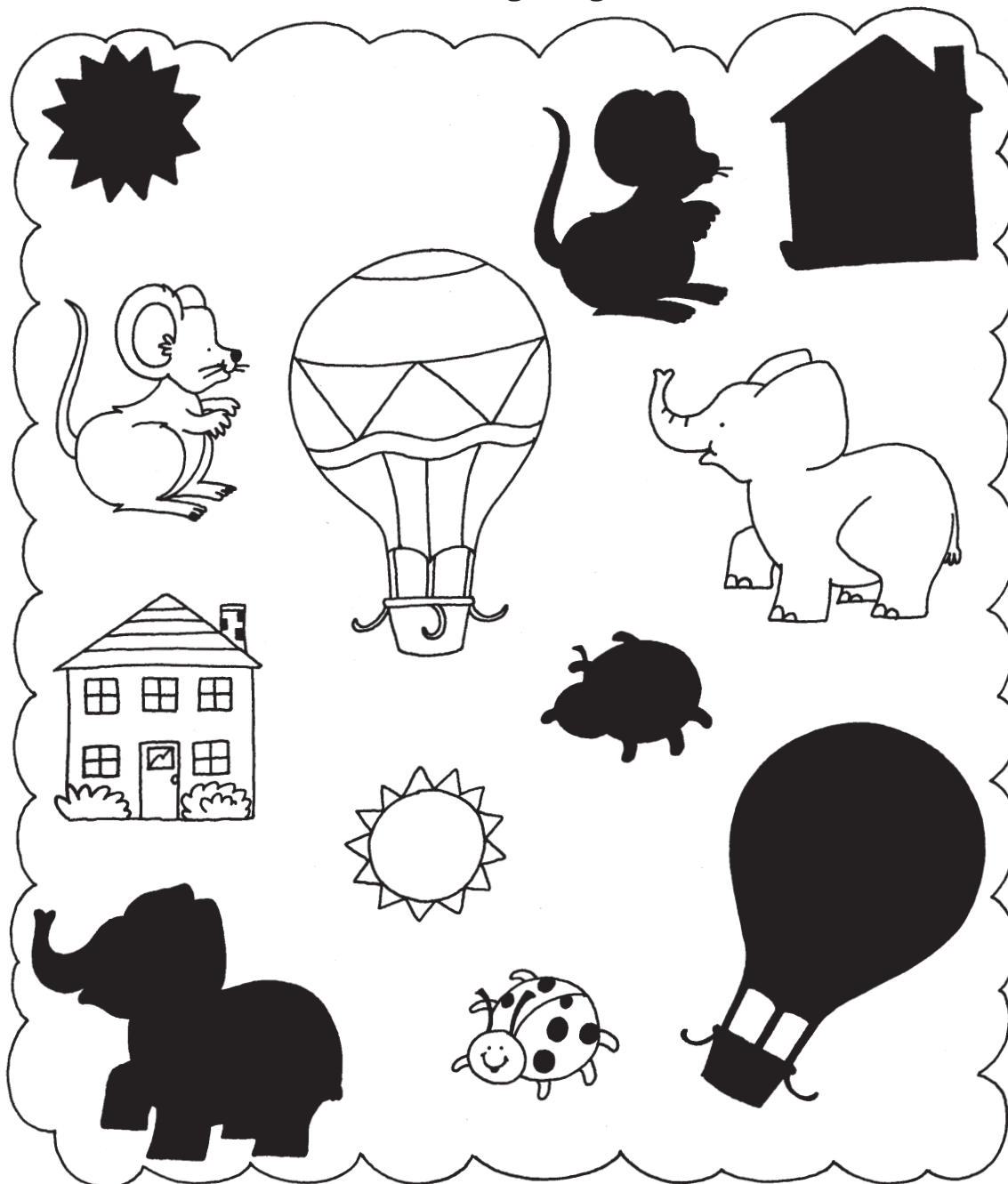
Jesus talks about having faith the size of a mustard seed. It might seem a little odd—why would Jesus want us to have faith that is as tiny as a mustard seed? But it's because really, that's all we need! We see what God is able to do with seeds. They somehow—almost like magic—sprout out of the ground and turn into a million different things. They are the food we eat, the trees we use for paper and building houses, the plants that help clean the air. They are beautiful flowers and grass that give us fresh air and beauty in the world. What could God do with just a tiny seed of faith in our hearts? Much like with plants, we need to tend to our seeds. Our faith needs care to help it grow. But God can make marvelous, life-sustaining gifts grow from seeds. God grows great things in our faith. We can grow gifts of love and care for ourselves, other people, and all of creation. God can make anything grow out of the tiniest little beginning.

What kinds of things do you want God to grow in you? What do you want to do with the tiny seed of faith in you? Write them in the different plants.



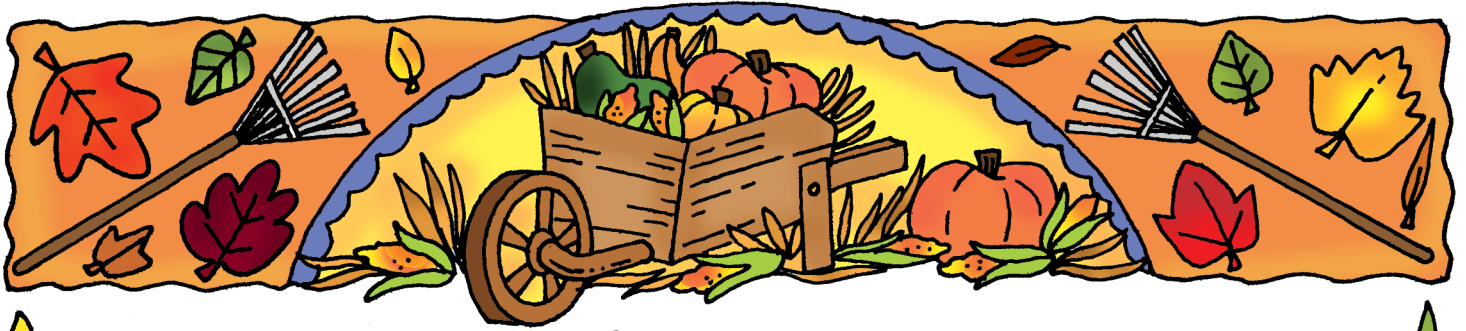


Jesus told his apostles
if they had faith the size of something small (a mustard seed)
they could move something big (a mulberry tree).
Match these small and big things to their shadows.



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October 12, 2025

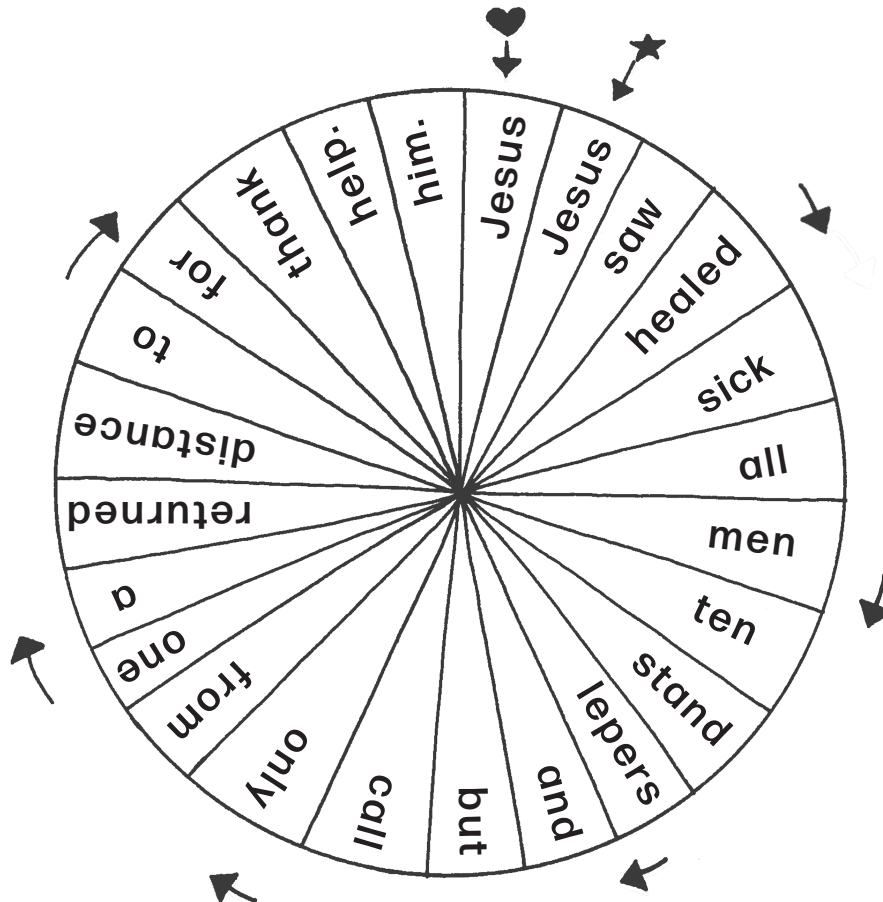
Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Something happened as Jesus was traveling to Jerusalem.

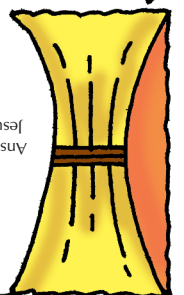
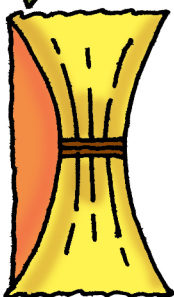
Start at the heart and read that word
and every other one to find what happened first.

Then start at the star and read that word
and every other one to find what happened next.

You can read this story in your Bible at Luke 17:11-19.

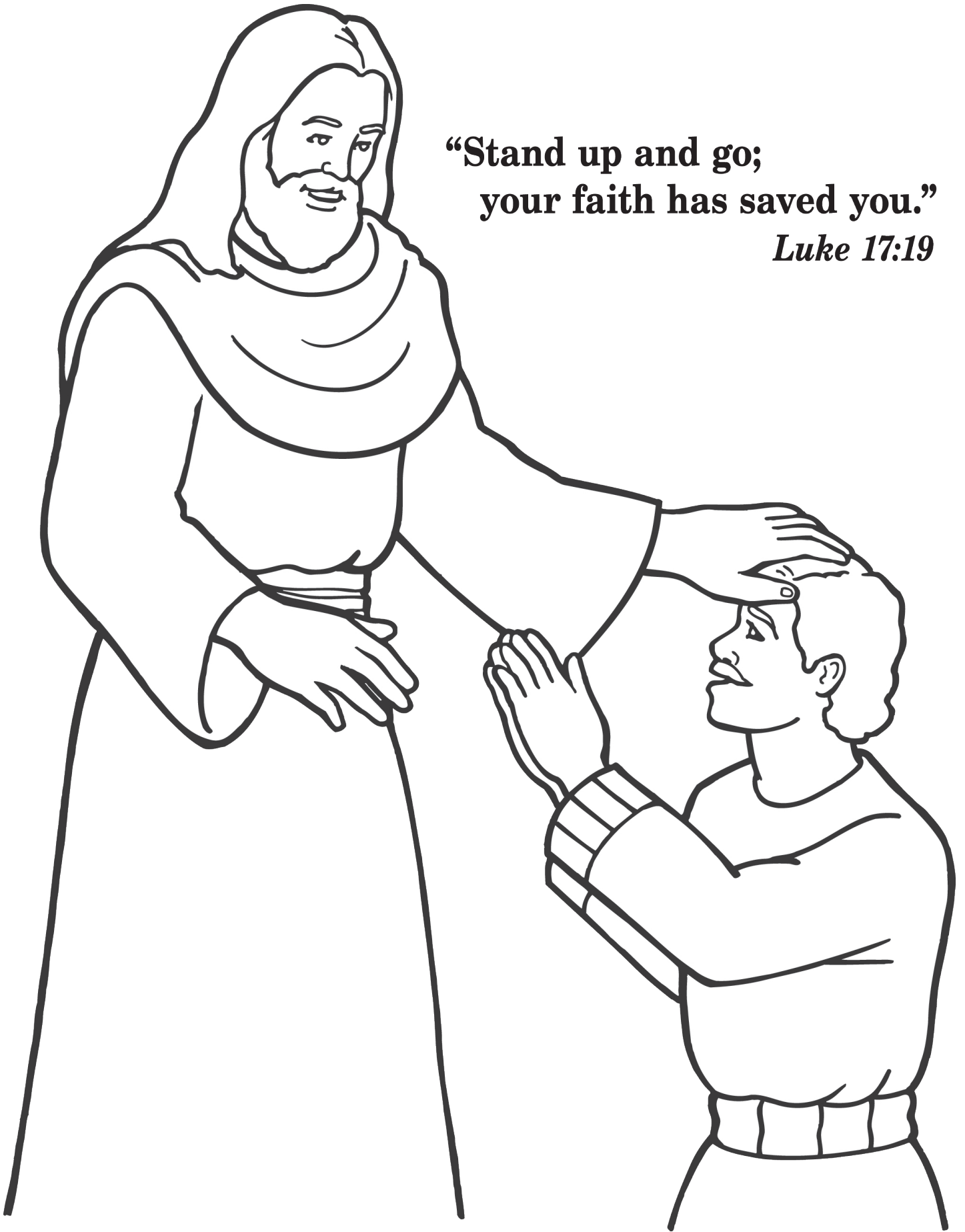


Answer Key: Jesus saw sick men stand and call from a distance for help.
Jesus healed all ten lepers but only one returned to thank him.



**“Stand up and go;
your faith has saved you.”**

Luke 17:19





Welcome the Stranger

Have you ever been the new kid in school or in a swim or ballet class? When was the last time you visited a new place? It can be really tough to be somewhere that is unfamiliar and where you don't know anyone. You don't know the people around you so you don't really know what to expect. Will they be nice? Will they be excited to meet you? Will they help you learn about how things are done there?

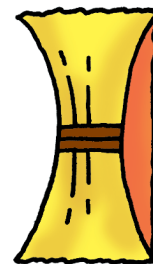
Jesus was traveling through a place called Samaria—which is not where he lived—when he chose to heal ten people with leprosy, and told them to go show themselves to the priests. Out of all ten people with leprosy that Jesus healed, the only one who came back to say thank you was from Samaria. Being from Samaria was tough—they didn't really get along with the Jewish people who lived in Judea. Jesus even calls him a 'foreigner.' This man was already on the outside of society because he was suffering from leprosy. He was also an outsider because he was from Samaria. The disciples might not have thought much of people from Samaria, and may have even been surprised that he was the only one to come back to thank Jesus.

We don't always know what to expect from people who we consider to be different or separate from us, especially if we don't know them well. Out of all ten people, most of them carried on and didn't turn back to Jesus. It doesn't mean they weren't grateful, they just didn't think to turn around and go straight to him. But faith can show up in absolutely anyone! God's grace is not kept away from some people because

they are different, but shared with everyone. Jesus healed ten people who had leprosy and we know at least one of them was considered to be an 'outsider.' Jesus healed all of them—not just the ones who were from the same place he was. God loves everyone and offers healing and grace to everyone, in all of their differences and from all of their different homelands.

How can we look for grace in unexpected places? How can we pay closer attention to people who are new in our life? Can we see them as God does?



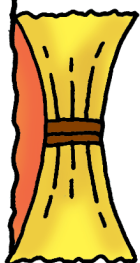
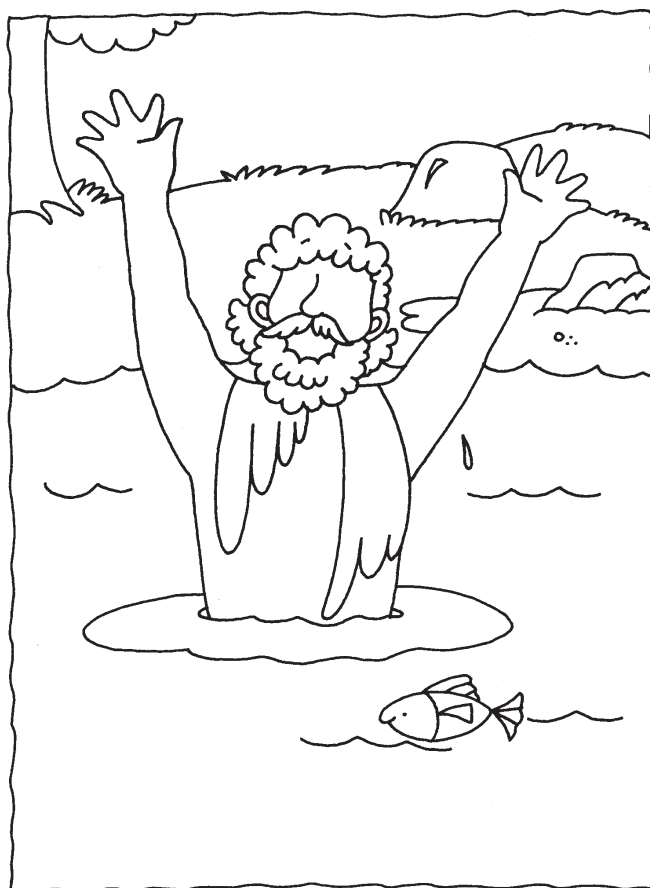
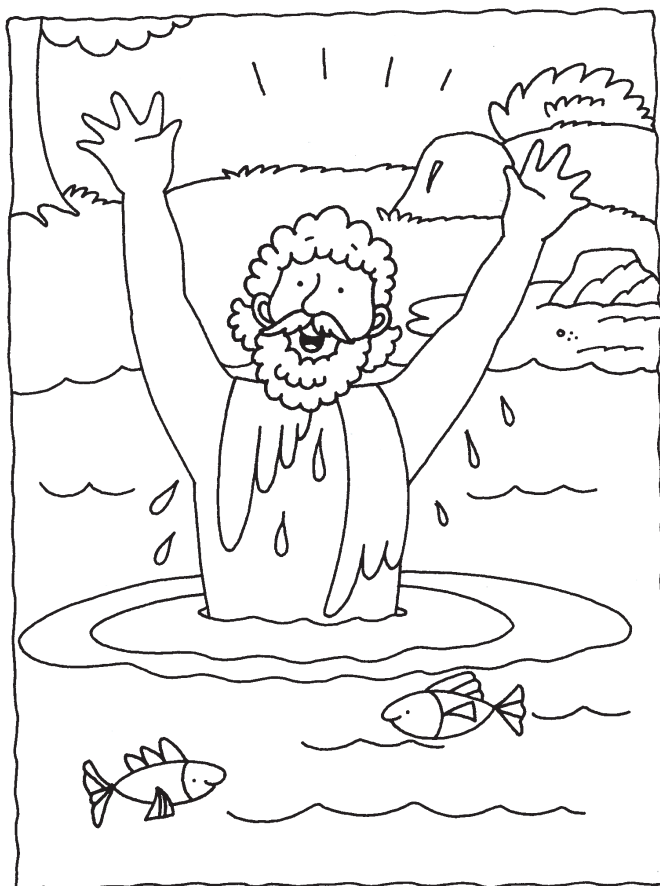


Elisha, a man of God, told Naaman
to dip into the Jordan River seven times.

Naaman did this and God removed
all the sores from his body.

You can read this story in your Bible at 2 Kings 5:14–17.

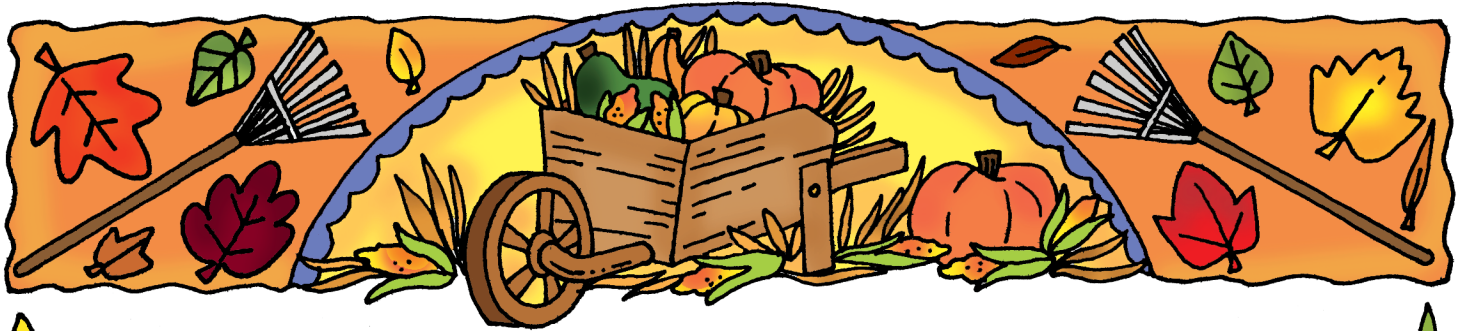
Finish the picture at the right
so it looks like the picture at the left.



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October 19, 2025

Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Paul wrote a letter to young Timothy
and gave him excellent advice (2 Timothy 3:14).

Start at the pencil and cross out the first word.

Then cross out every other word after that.

Read the remaining words in the order they appear
to discover what Paul said. His advice is for you, too!

Paul

by Remain Listen

remember you

to stay what

think have answer

learned change

Timothy

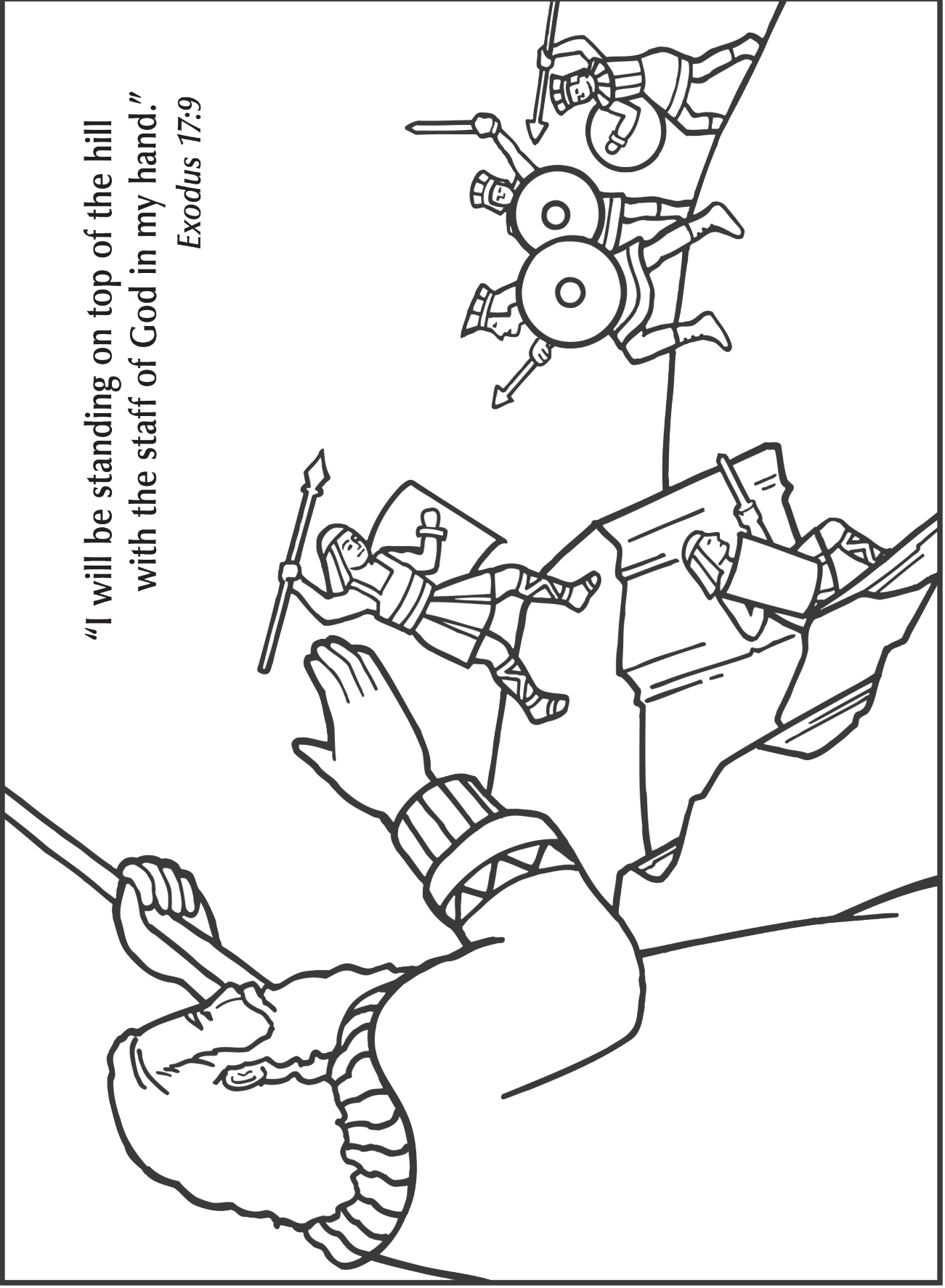
and town believed

faithful yourself

Answer Key: Remain faithful to what you have learned and believed.

"I will be standing on top of the hill
with the staff of God in my hand."

Exodus 17:9





Helping Hands

Have you ever been too tired to walk? Sometimes when you are younger, you get tired pretty easily. Walking all the way to your bed when you're tired might seem like walking a million miles. Moms, dads, and other grown-ups can help carry us that last little way when we're too tired. Everyone gets too tired at some point, even grown-ups! Maybe it's too much to walk, or to talk, or to try and figure out the correct answer on your homework for the fifth time. Human beings simply get tired, and we can't always do everything on our own.

Everyone needs help sometimes! If you look at the first reading, Aaron and Hur went to help Moses. As long as Moses' hands were held up, Israel would win their fight. It was going to take a long time and Moses was getting tired, so Aaron and Hur stepped in and actually helped Moses hold up his own hands! Moses knew he needed help and the people who were close to him were ready to step in and—literally—lend a hand so that he could see his effort through to the end and make sure Israel would win their fight.

God wants us to be persistent. God wants us to stick with it. Good things can take time and it can be very easy to get frustrated and tired and give up. But God doesn't want us to give up on our faith and to give up on following as Jesus asks us. God wants us to keep praying, even if we aren't sure what to do or how our prayers are heard. Sometimes our prayers might be silent or they might be mad or sad or really happy—they all still count as prayer! And God wants to have all of our prayers, no matter what they look like. God wants us to ask for help when we need it—from God or from the people around us. God also wants us to step in and help others when they are tired and need more support, too.

How can you help someone this week? What is something that you could ask God or someone else to help you with? Write it in the space below.

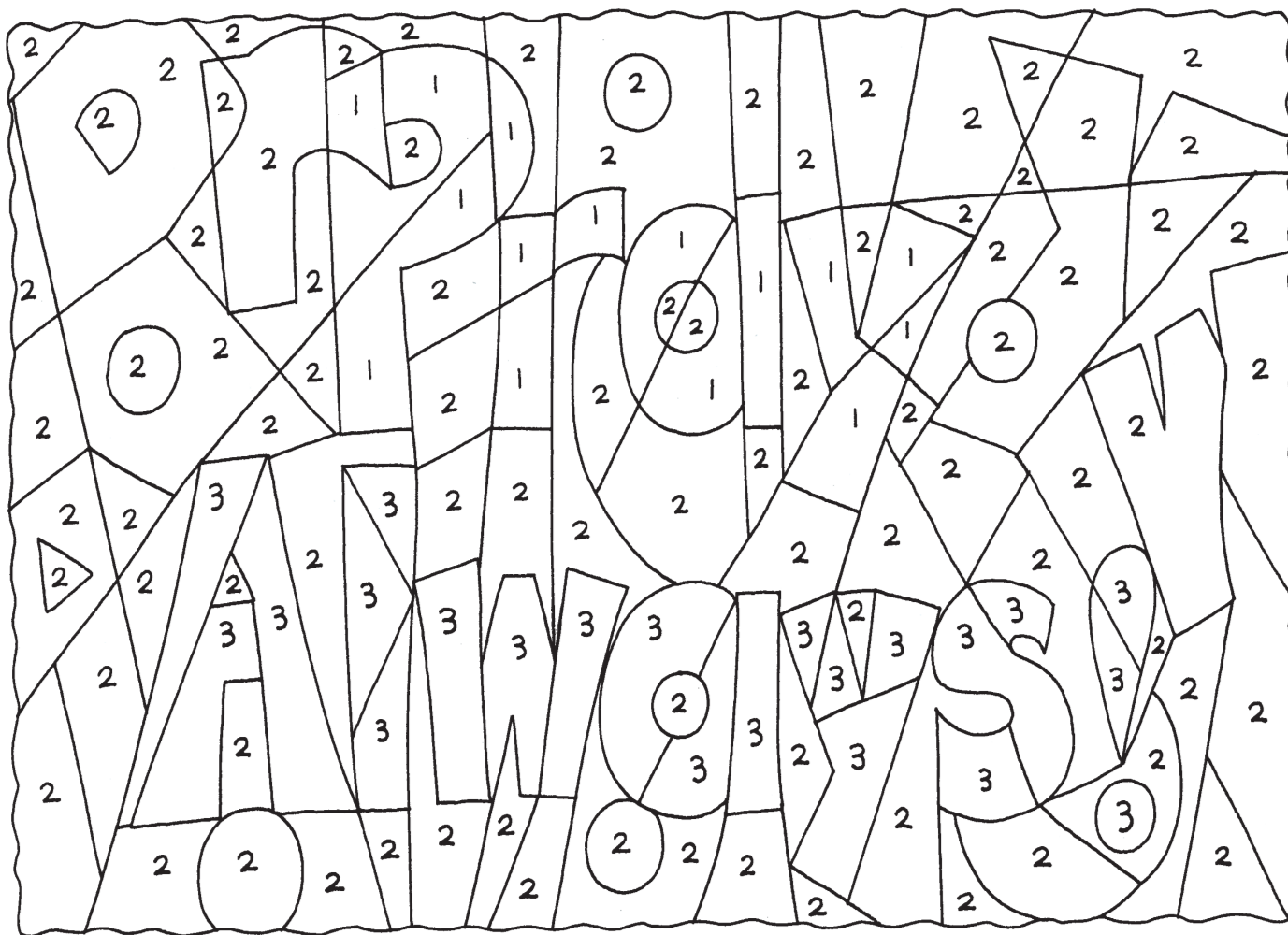




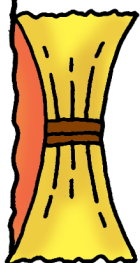
Jesus told a story to his disciples about a widow who came again and again to a judge asking for justice (Luke 18:1-8).

To find the lesson of the story, follow these directions:

1. Color all the spaces with a **1** yellow.
2. Color all the spaces with a **2** orange.
3. Color all the spaces with a **3** green.



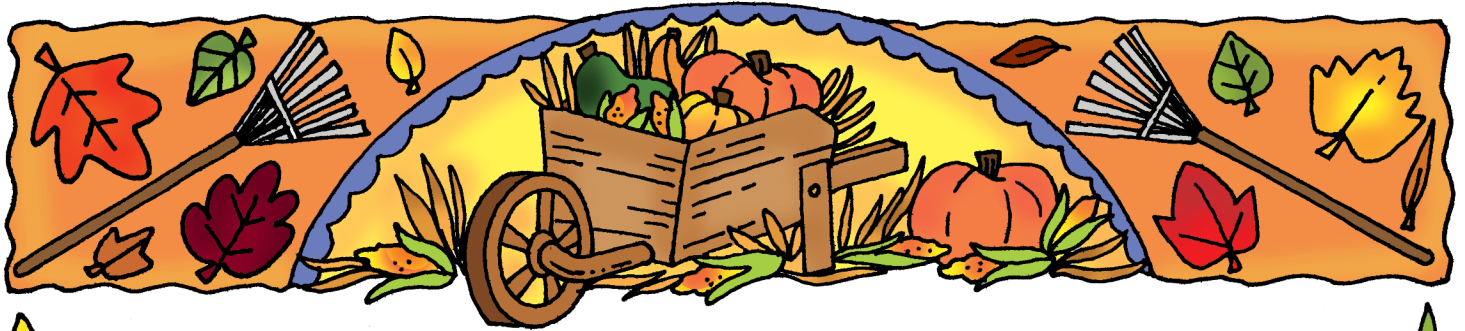
Answer Key: Pray Always!



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October 26, 2025

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jesus told a parable about two people who prayed to God for forgiveness (Luke 18:9–14).

One was proud, while the other was humble.

The lesson of this story is below—but it needs changes.

Replace each incorrect underlined word by writing the correct one (from the word bank) above it.

God wants most Christians to be proud when we lie.

If we are somewhat sorry, God is merciful and won't forgive our goodness.

(Word Bank)

truly

sins

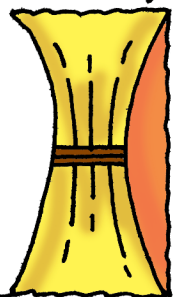
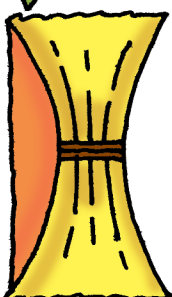
will

all

humble

pray

Answer Key: :key, all, humble, pray, truly, will, sins





The Lord hears the cry of the poor.

Psalm 34:7a



Humble Prayer

Do you talk to God? What do you talk to God about? There are lots of ways to talk to God, and we can tell God anything. We can tell God about our day, things we are excited or grateful for, and especially things that we need help with. Even though there are times like Mass where we pray out loud with lots of people, we can always just take a minute and talk to God inside our hearts and minds. No one has to know—it's just between us and God.

Because we can't hear anyone else's thoughts, we don't ever really know what other people are talking to God about. It can be really easy to look at other people and decide what they must be thinking. If we don't like someone, we can try and guess or assume why they have made mistakes or chosen to be hurtful to other people. It's a really common trap people fall into—

because we see someone's actions, we believe we know everything that is in their heart. But at any time, any person can decide to ask for forgiveness and try again. They might be struggling with forgiving themselves and finding a way to make better choices. Usually that is a decision that starts inside our hearts and minds, just like it did with the tax collector in today's Gospel. We don't get to hear what happens inside someone's heart and we don't get to hear what they talk about with God—and that's ok! We probably wouldn't want everyone to hear what we want to talk to God about either.

The Pharisee and the tax collector both talk to God about themselves. The difference that Jesus points out is that the Pharisee focuses on making himself seem better than other people, while the tax collector is honest with God about needing forgiveness. It's ok to be proud of the good things we do, but our good choices are not meant to make other people feel smaller or less than. And no matter how many good things we do, everyone makes mistakes. We all need to ask God for forgiveness sometimes, and to find ways to keep growing and doing better.

What are some things you'd like to tell God in prayer? You can pray them out loud with your family or you can just say them in your mind right now. What is something you want to thank God for? What is something you need help with?



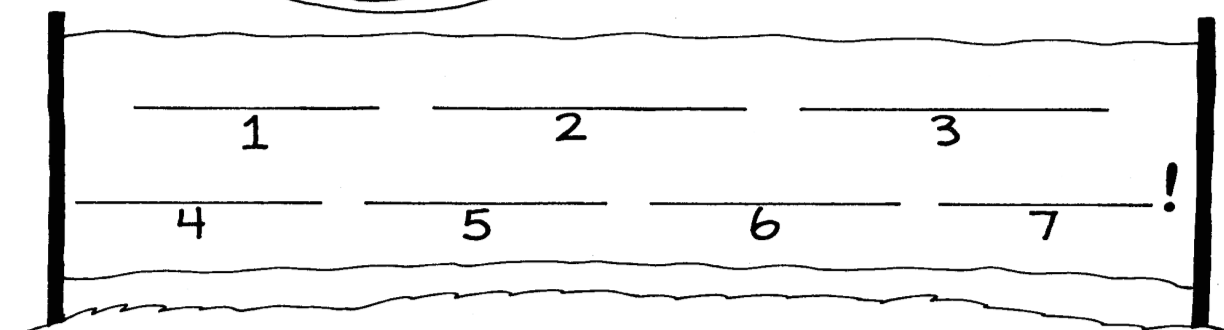
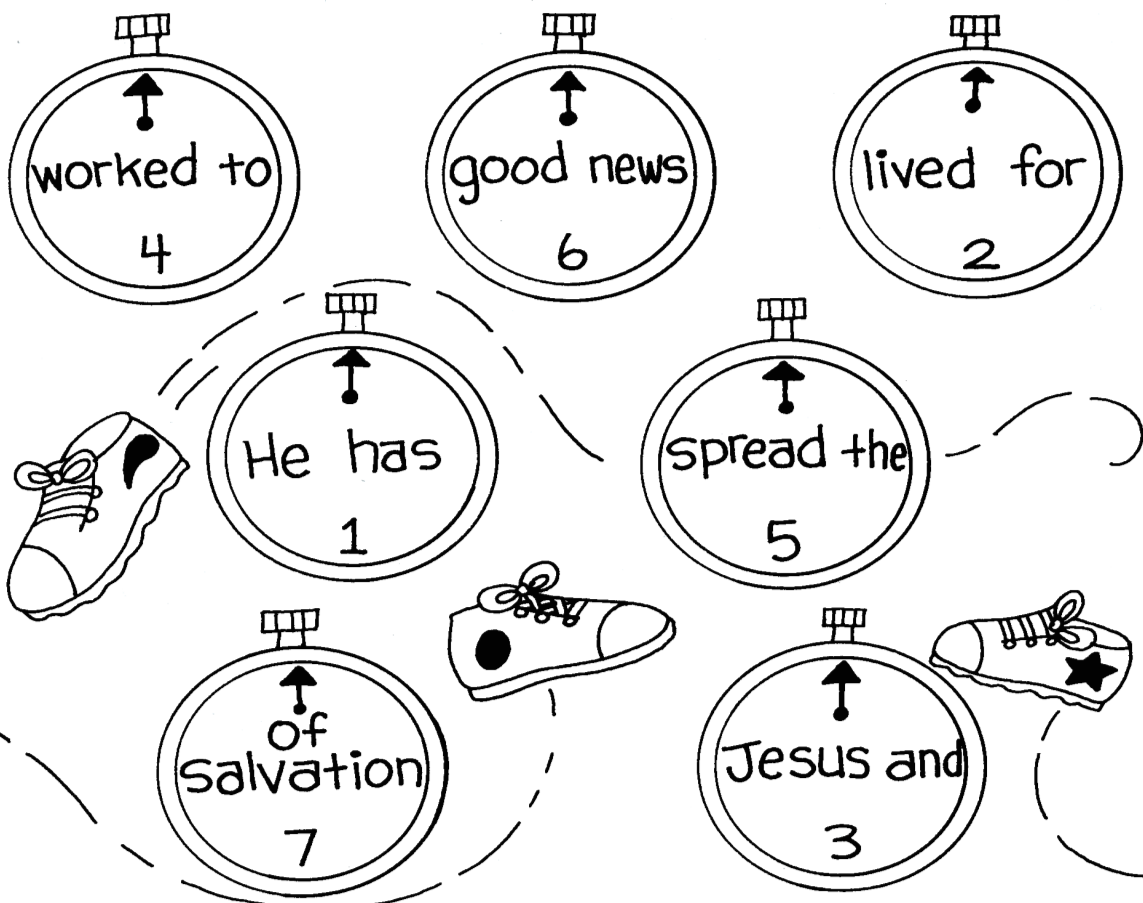


Paul tells Timothy in a letter,

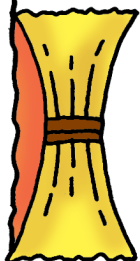
“I have finished the race; I have kept the faith” (2 Timothy 4:7).

He wasn’t talking about running with his legs, though!

Write the words on the stopwatches in correct number order onto the finish line below. This is what Paul meant!



Answer Key: He has lived for Jesus and worked to spread the good news of salvation.



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