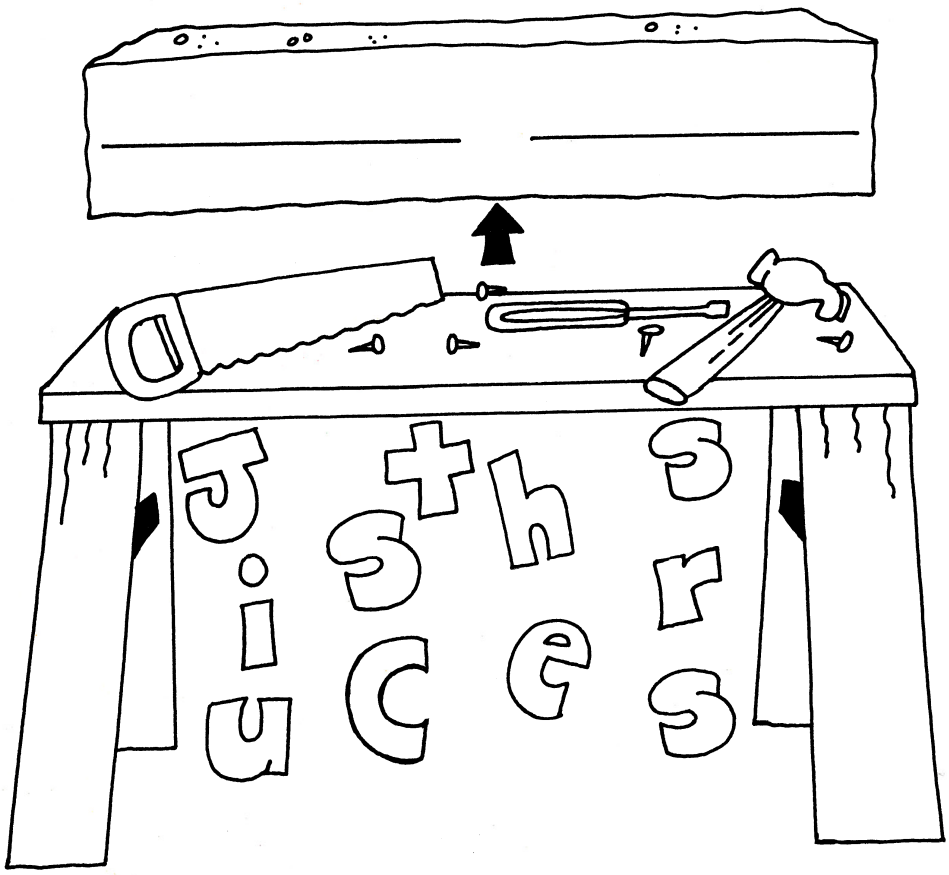
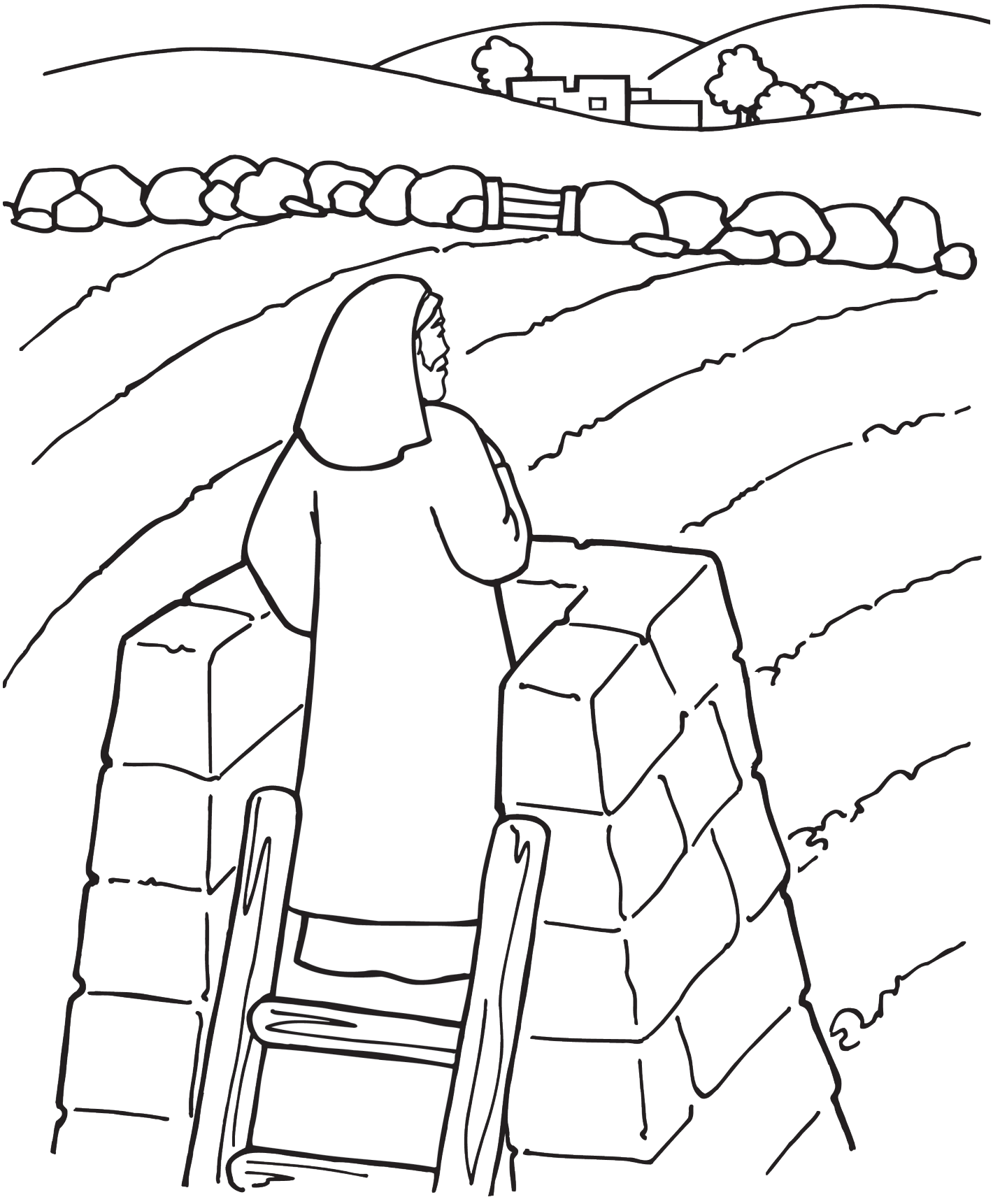
October 4, 2026
Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jesus told a parable about people in a vineyard
who threw out the son of the owner and killed him.
Then Jesus quoted the psalms, saying,
"The stone that the builders rejected has become
the cornerstone" (Matthew 21:42).
The son in the story and the stone represented
the same person, the one who has become our Savior.
Unscramble the letters under the sawhorse
to spell the two-word name on the stone above it.

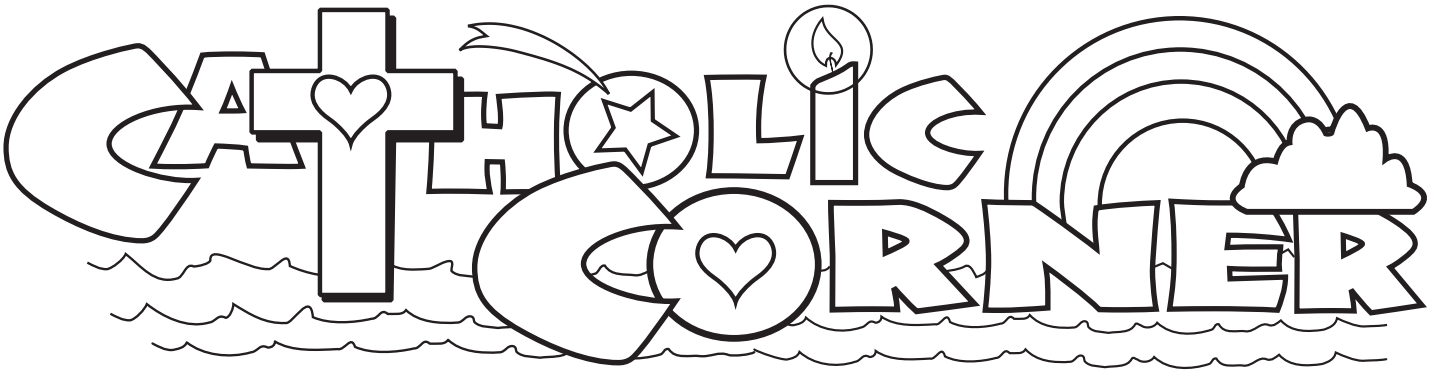


Answer Key: Jesus Christ



He spaded the fertile hillside, planted the choicest vines,
and built a watch tower.

cf. Isaiah 5:1–2

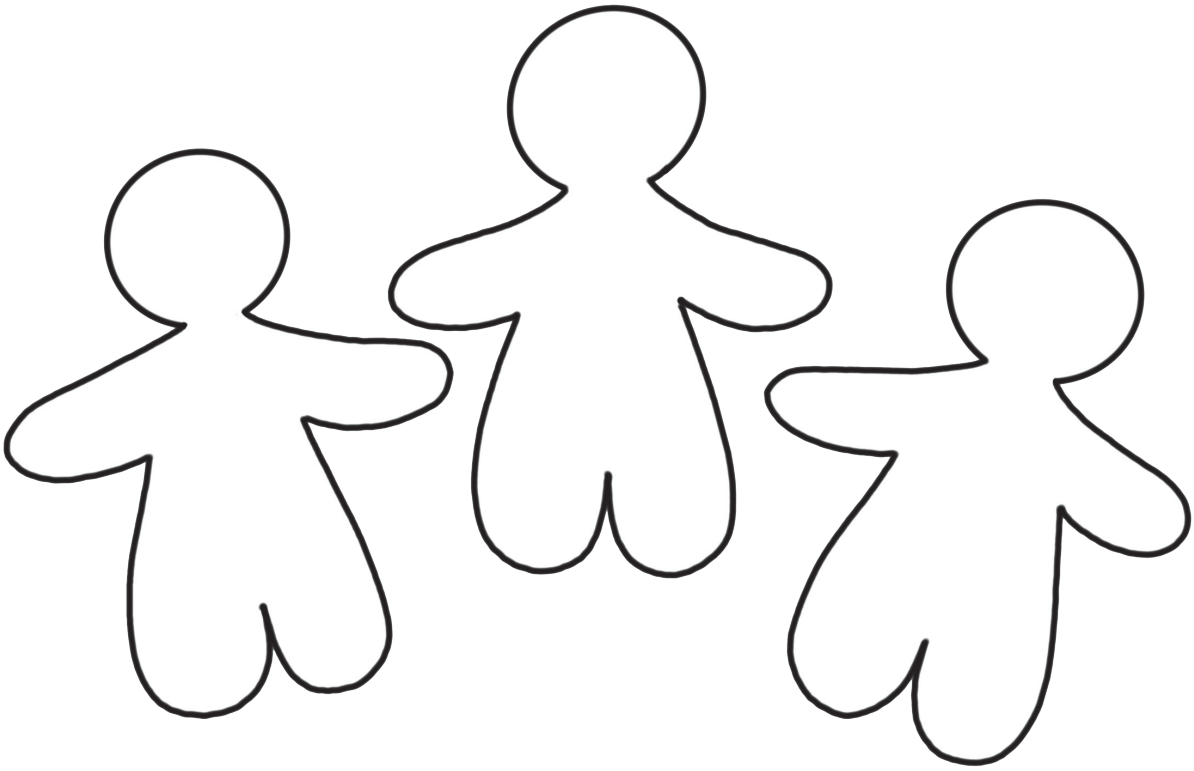


Giving and Receiving

How do you feel when you need to ask for the things you need? Is it something that is hard to do, or maybe you are not always sure who you should ask first? Sometimes it can be hard to ask for the things we need, especially when we need help. Many of us have certain people we know we can talk to when we need something, and other people who we have a harder time going to for help. It happens to everyone, every day! Even if it is just asking your teacher a question in school or asking for help looking for something you dropped or misplaced. Everyone needs help, every day, even if it is just something little. Paul wrote a letter to people living in a place called Phillippi, and in the part we read today, he tries to encourage them to not worry about the things that they need. Because no matter where you lived or what time during history you lived, you are going to need help. So Paul tells them to make all of their needs known to God, because God, above all else, wants to know what it is that we need.

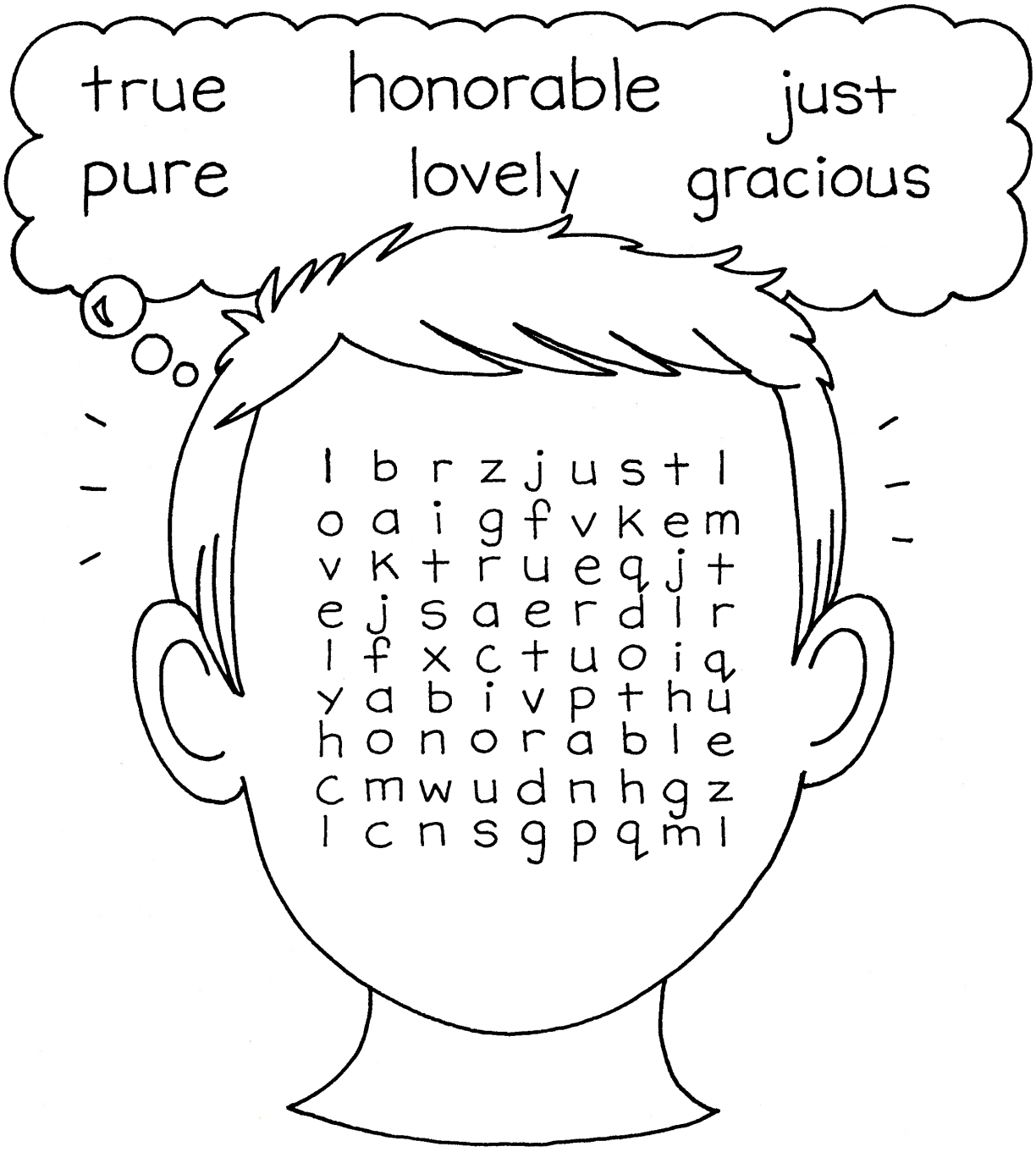
God wants to hear what we need, and God also wants us to hear what the people in our life need. When we ask for help, don't we want the people we ask to hear what we have to say and find a way to help us? Isn't that what we are looking for from God, too? We can be the people who step up to help when others tell us they are in need. We can even offer to help and support others when we notice they need help, in case they are too scared or nervous to ask. It can feel wonderful to help someone out when they need it. It's one of the most beautiful things about who we are as people, that we all need help and get to offer it to each other.

Who are people you think you can ask for help? Are you someone others can come to? Draw their faces (and your own!) on the figures below.



Paul told his Christian brothers and sisters
to think about good things (Philippians 4:8–9).
The words below describe the kind of thoughts we should have.
Look up, down, and across to find and circle them.

true honorable just
pure lovely gracious

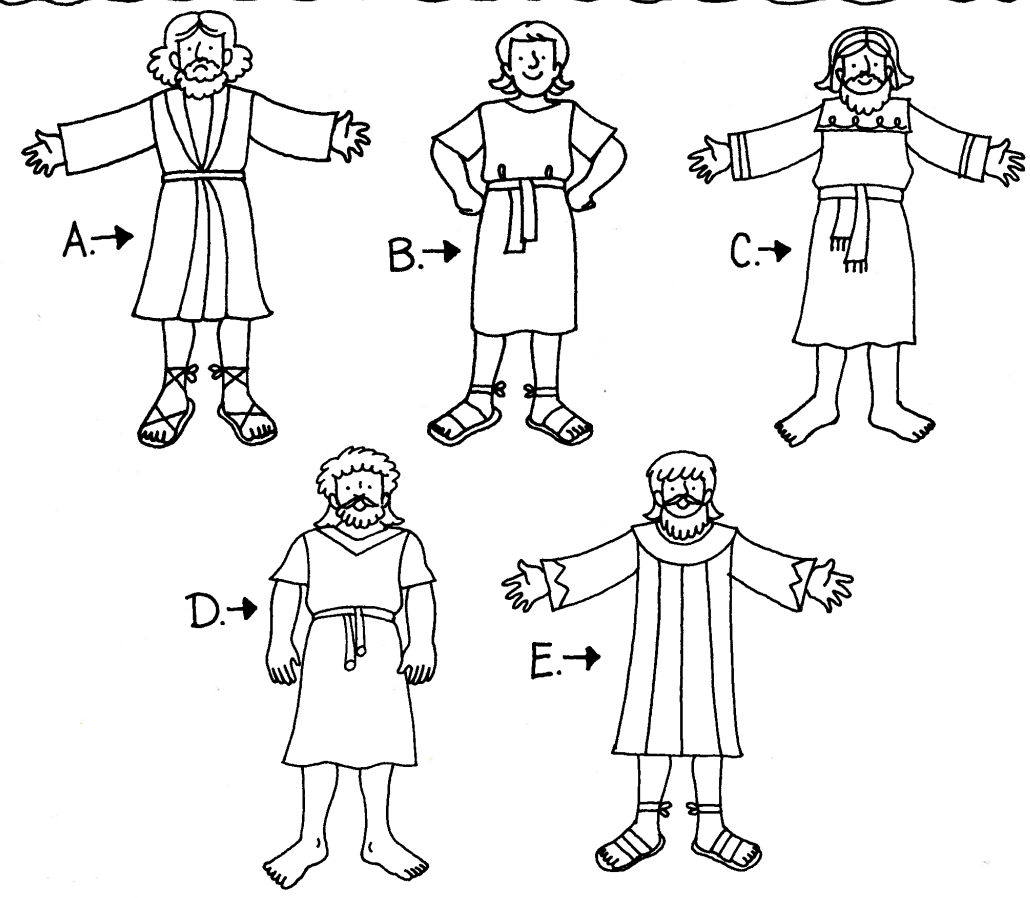


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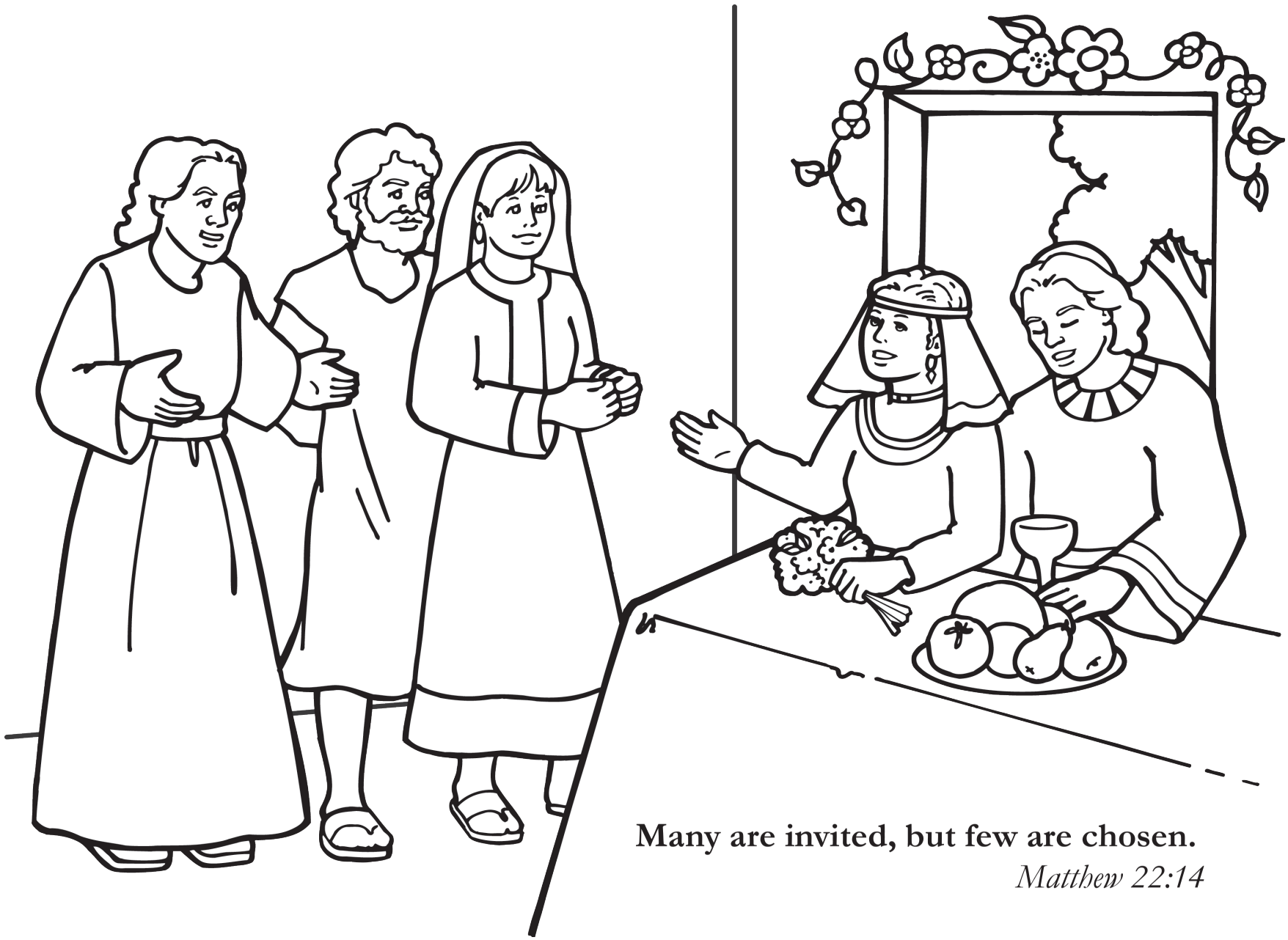
October 11, 2026
Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Everyone is invited into the Kingdom of God
through Jesus Christ.
To explain this idea, Jesus told a story
about a king who gave a feast (see Matthew 22:1–10).
Use the clues to decide which man is the king.
Draw a crown on him.

1. He has a beard. 2. His arms are stretched out.
3. He is smiling. 4. He has sandals on.

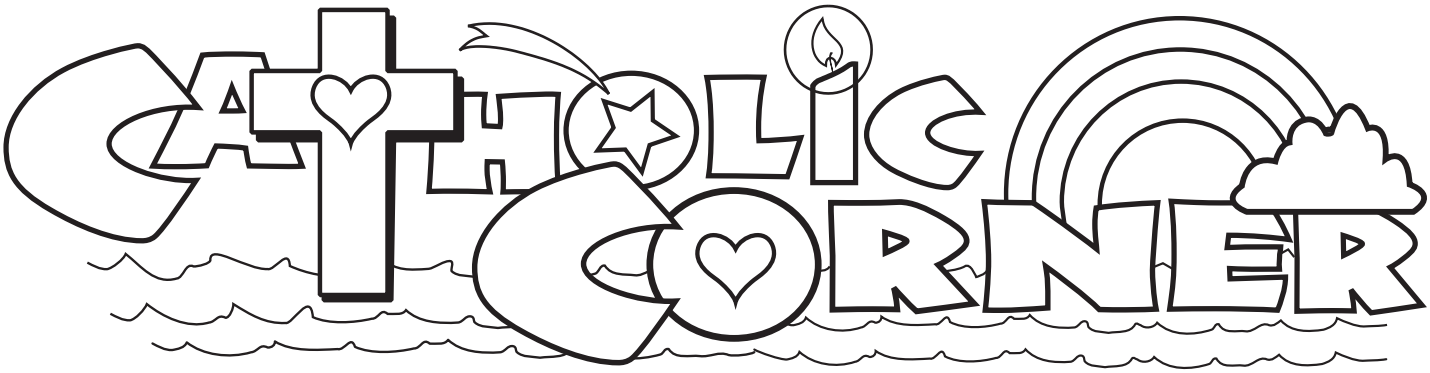


Answer Key: E.



Many are invited, but few are chosen.

Matthew 22:14

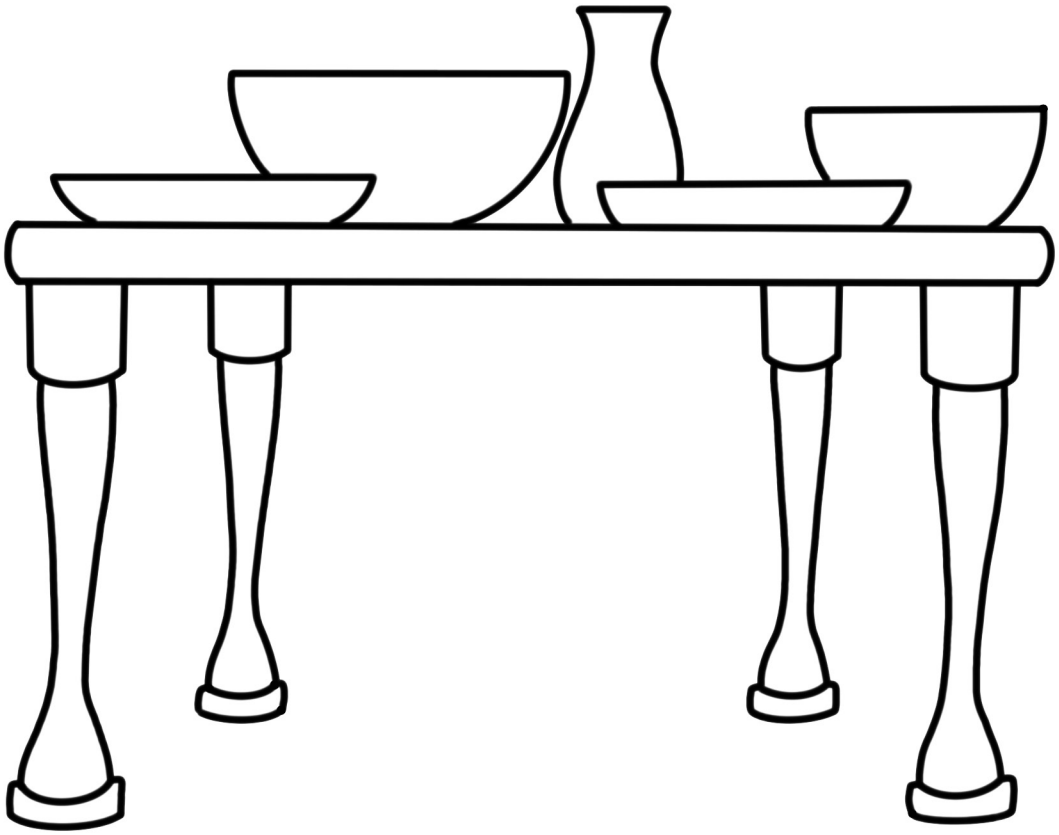


A Feast of Love

What might it look like if God made a meal for you? Close your eyes for a minute and think about it. What would the table look like? Is it round or rectangular? Is it really big with a lot of people, or smaller, with just a few people alongside you? What kind of food is on the table? Is it your very favorite foods? Try to picture the dishes set out on the table, just waiting for you. Can you imagine how it smells? (And does thinking about it even make you a little hungry?) Think about the people who would be there with you. Who is sitting around the table? Are they people you get to see all the time, or people you miss and don't get to see often or even at all? Where does God get to sit at the meal? Are there any other little things that you can imagine about the table and the meal? What other things would make this the most special meal you have ever had? Are there flowers, balloons, or other decorations that make it feel special and exciting?

Every single reading that we have today mentions a feast or being fed well. They were all written at different times, in different places, and for different people. But one of the things that remains the same is that God's love for us is abundant! Abundant means "a lot" or "overflowing." Calling something abundant means that you have way more than you think you need. When you think about a great big feast that God has prepared for you, that is what God's love is like for us. It is overflowing and more than we could really imagine. Even if the meal you imagined was really spectacular, God's love for you is even greater than could ever be put into a meal or a feast.

How special does it feel to think about how much God loves you? If you ever are having a tough time, go back to the image in your mind of the meal that God made for you. Imagine yourself right next to God, with God reminding you how much you are loved. You can draw some of what you imagined here.



It's a good idea to exercise daily to strengthen our bodies.
It's even more important to ask God every day
to fill us with inner strength!
Look inside the jump rope. Darken out all the lowercase letters.
When you're done, you will find what Paul discovered
(Philippians 4:13). It's true for us, too!

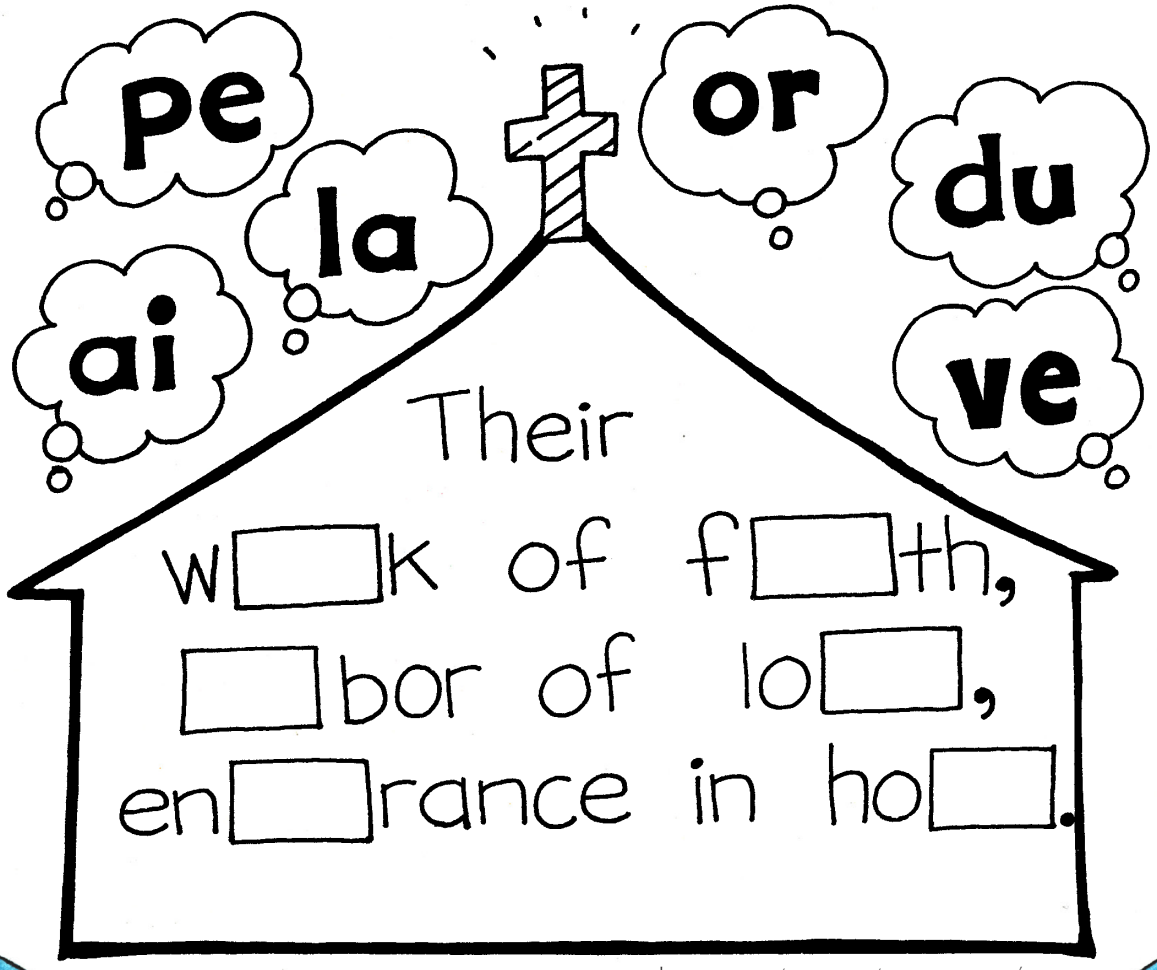


Answer Key: IN HIM WHO

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October 18, 2026
Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

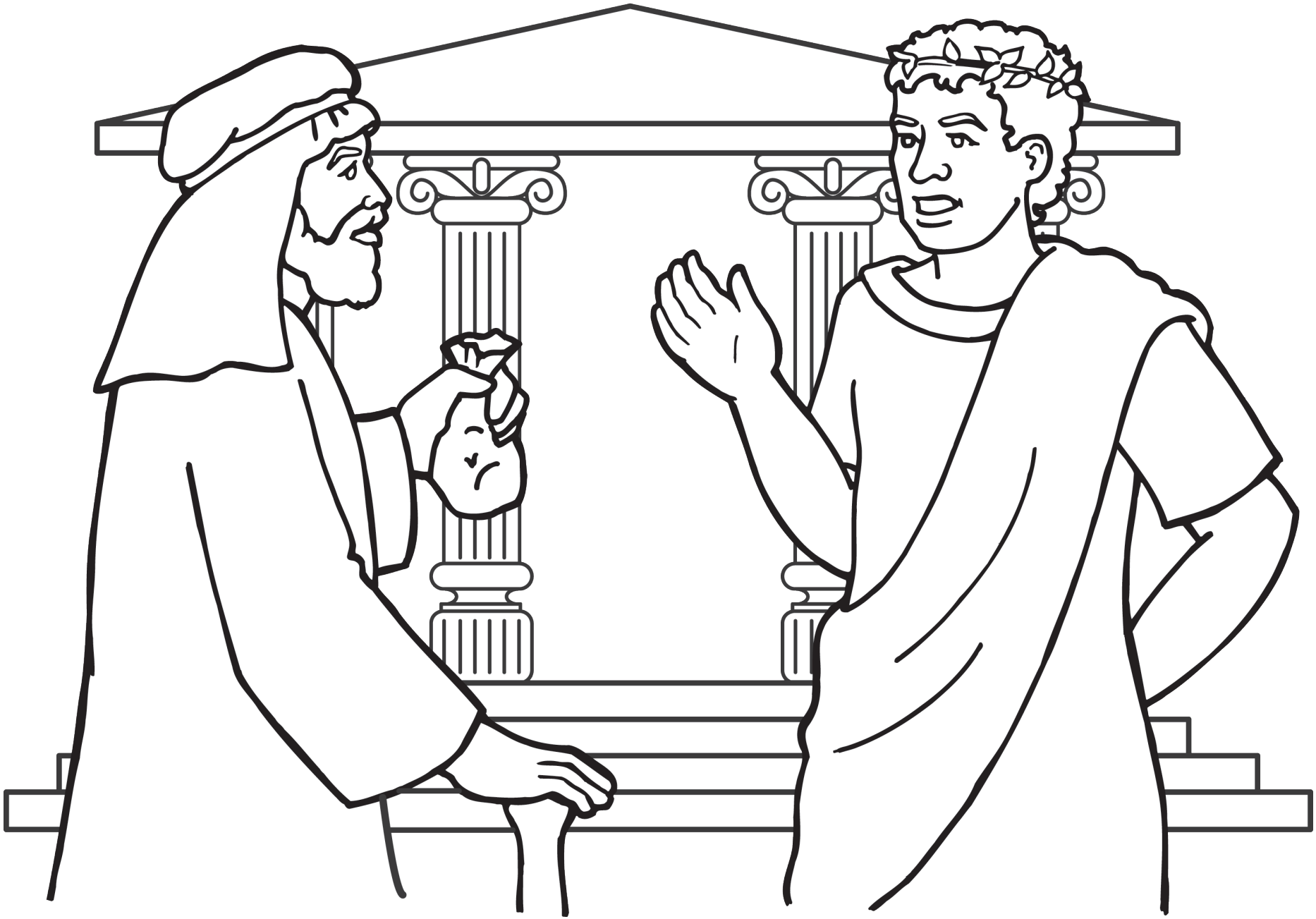
The people of the Thessalonian church were
special to Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy.
Do you know what they especially liked about them?
Use each set of letters in the thought bubbles once
to fill the boxes and reveal the answer.
If you need help, read 1 Thessalonians 1:1–5b in your Bible.

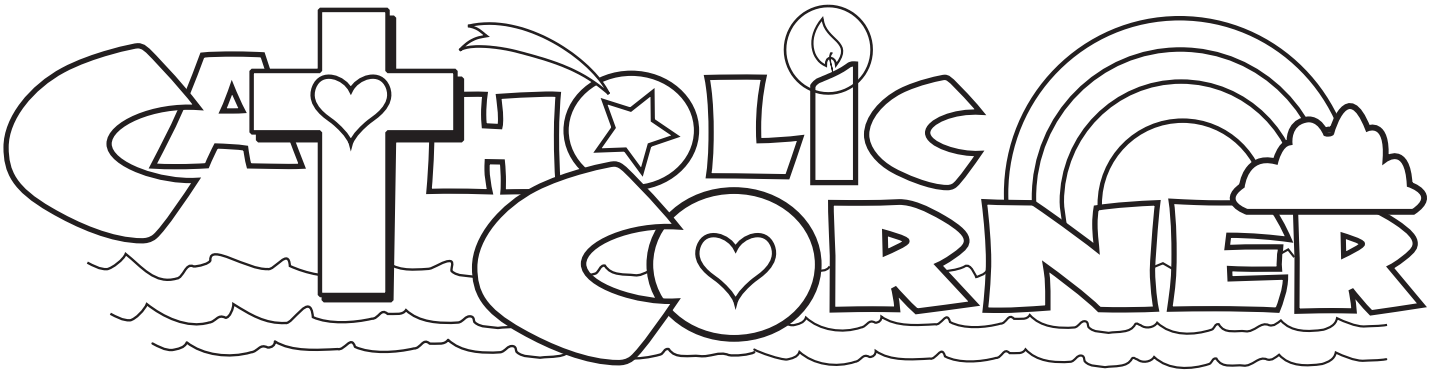


Answer Key: Their work of faith, labor of love, endurance in hope.

“Then repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar”

Matthew 22:21

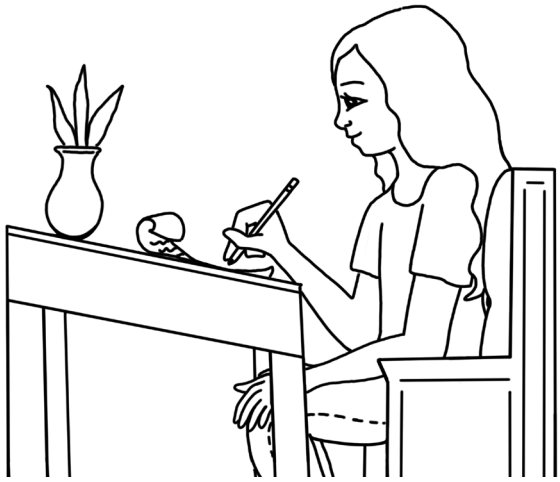




We Give Thanks for You

Did you know that a lot of the time when we hear the second reading at Mass, we are hearing part of a letter? A lot of the time, these letters are from St. Paul, who is writing to different communities of Christians. Today, Paul and his two friends—named Silvanus and Timothy—are writing to the Thessalonians, a group of Christians who lived in a city in Greece called Thessalonica. There is this small little bit in the letter that might be easy to just scoot past, but it is worth listening to closely. They tell the people they are writing to that they give thanks to God for them! Not only do they give thanks for them, but they also pray for them and remember all the good things they have done. What a special thing to hear from friends! As much as we love our family and friends, it can be easy to forget to tell them how much we care.

This is part of what being a Christian and being part of a community means—that you notice the other people around you, give thanks for and appreciate them, and pray for them. It means you make sure they know that you see the good things they do, and tell them what it is that you love and cherish about them. It is good to share this kind of affection and love with others, and it is good for us to be able to hear it from people in our communities. It is one of the ways that we can grow together in love. When tough times come along, the community is able to manage because they know that they love, care for, and support each other. Sharing our love with one another, supporting each other, and holding each other in prayer is a way we as disciples can be a sign of God's love to everyone across the world.



Who are some of the people you want to give thanks for? Write their names below along with some of the things you would want to tell them they do really well, or that you love about them. Pick one person in your life this week to share with; let them know what you appreciate about them. If you can pick someone new each week, just think how many people will feel loved and appreciated! And they may go on to do the same, too, spreading that love and appreciation all around. What a beautiful way to share God's love!

_____

_____

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Psalm 96:1 says: "Sing to the LORD a new song;
sing to the LORD, all the earth."
Use the code to color the picture of the children singing.

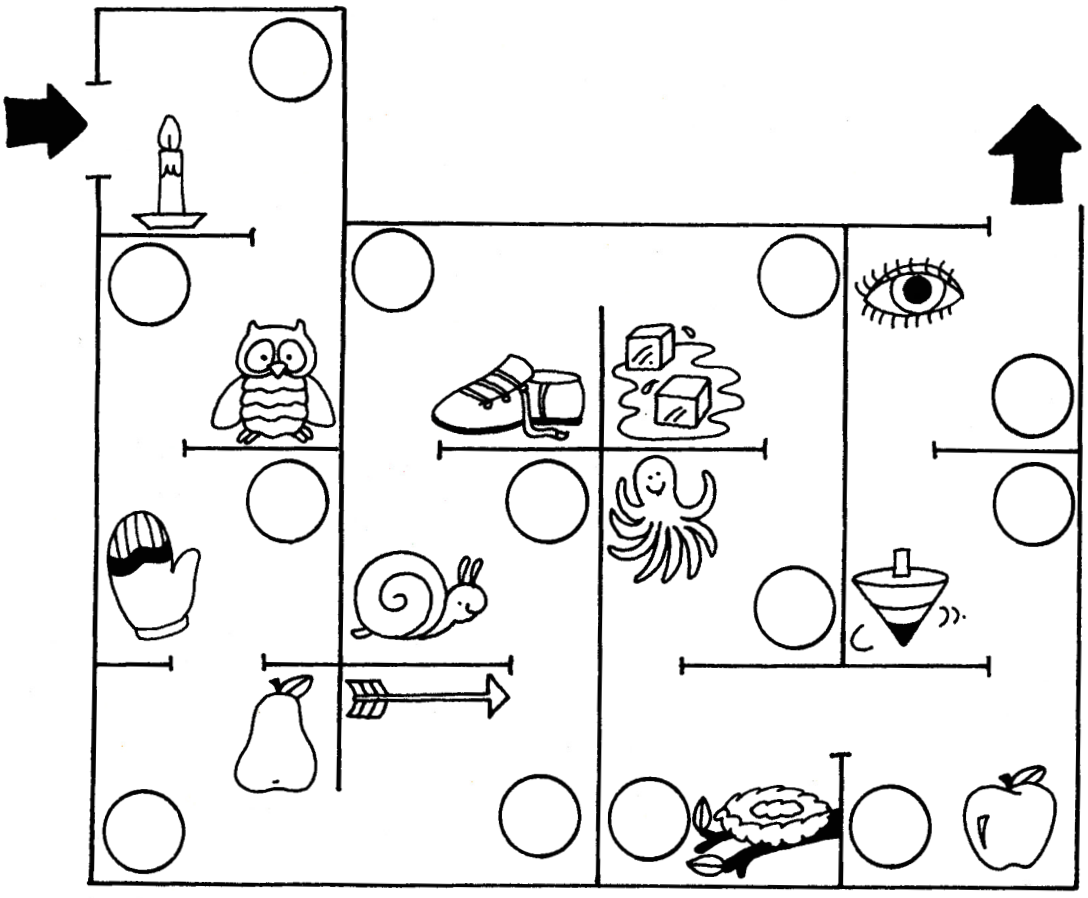
1 = pink	3 = black	5 = green	7 = red
2 = brown	4 = yellow	6 = blue	8 = purple



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October 25, 2026
Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

As you work your way through this maze,
write the first letter of each picture inside the circles.
Then write the letters in order onto the blanks.
They'll spell what God is and
what God wants us to be, too!



Answer Key: compassionate

You turned to God from idols

1 Thessalonians 1:9



Catholic Corner

All Our Neighbors

What kind of neighbors do you have? If you live in a city, you might have a lot of neighbors! Some people live in buildings with lots of smaller places to live inside of them, like apartments. In cities, there are often many of these buildings, and there are houses that are really close together. Some people live in smaller towns where there aren't quite so many big buildings with a lot of people in them, but there are still lots of houses that are close together. In some places, people live very far apart, with lots of land between them. They have neighbors, but they can be much harder to see. People who live in cities or towns probably see their neighbors all the time. What kind of place do you live in? Do you see your neighbors often? Do you know them well?

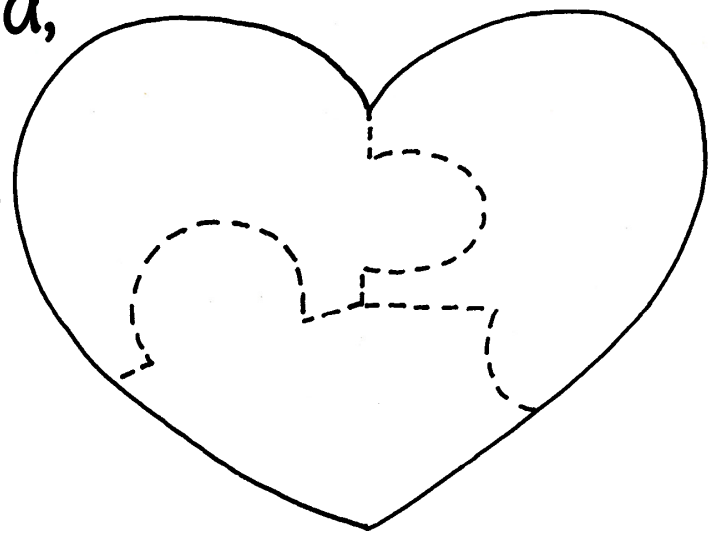
We hear a lot about neighbors and the people who live around us in the readings today. Jesus is very clear that the second most important thing, after loving God with our whole self, is loving our neighbor. But when Jesus says our neighbor, does he just mean the people who live next to us? What if we don't know them well? The first reading helps us understand who the people are that we are asked to love. In Exodus, the people are told to care for those in need—people who are poor or suffering, people who do not have others to care for them, and people who have had to leave their homes and travel to a new place. Even if we do not know them or recognize them, they are still our neighbors. People who seem different or confusing to us are still our neighbors. If someone seems like they don't fit—they are your neighbor too! The people who don't always seem to fit are the people God asks us to love.

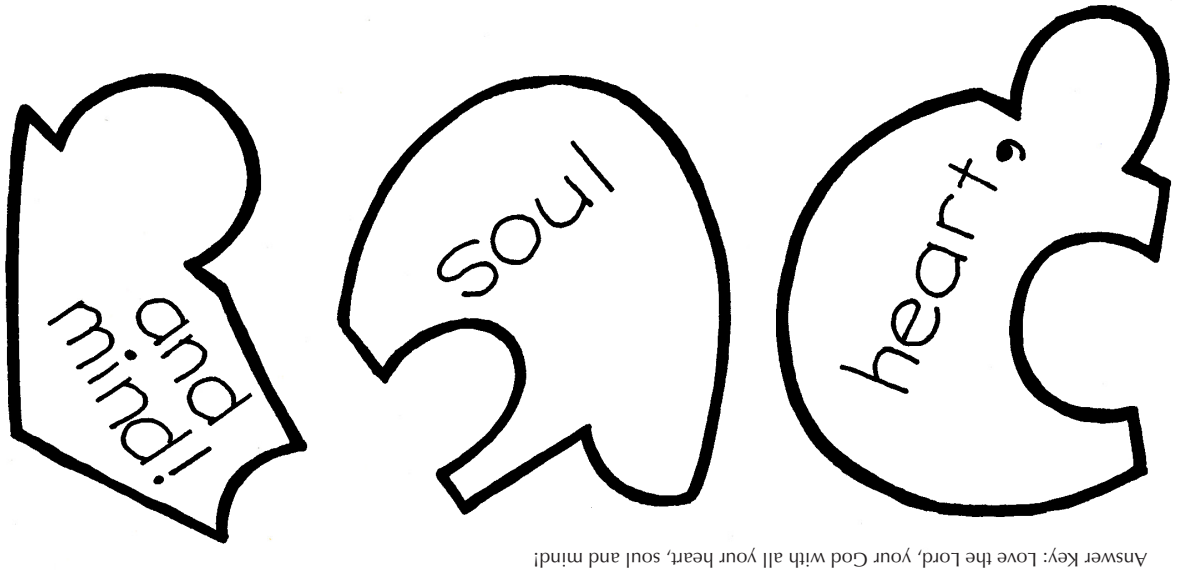
Who are the faces that come to mind when you think of the people around you who most need love? Who are the people that might not fit in who could use love? Who can you help to fit in more in your school or community? Draw their faces in the windows below. You can also ask your family to pray at night for all the neighbors who need love and care.



Jesus said that the first commandment
was the greatest (see Matthew 22:37).
Color and cut out the puzzle pieces at the bottom.
Tape or paste them to match inside the heart shape.
Then read what we should always do!

Love the Lord,
your God,
with all your





Answer Key: Love the Lord, your God with all your heart, soul and mind!

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