

# God Speaks Into Being

"Well, Billy," said Daddy as he looked over at his son who was sitting beside him in the car, "you have been very quiet ever since we left the chapel. What is on your mind?"

Billy grinned at his daddy but he was thoughtful when he answered. "I'm going to learn to talk just a little bit, but when I speak, I want it to really count!"

"Oh," said Daddy as he smiled back at Billy. "Did your Sunday school teacher tell you that you needed to talk less and think more?"

"No," replied Billy, "but it was in Sunday school when I decided to not talk so much anymore. You see, Daddy, that's the way God is. He doesn't talk very much at all but what He does say really counts. Wouldn't it be something to say, 'Earth, where are you?' and P—O—O—F! there was a round earth like one of my rubber balls I play hide-and-seek with. In the beginning, God just spoke Words and everything obeyed Him. He just said what He needed and there it was!"

"So, you are going to do like that also?" asked Daddy. "Well, it is alright to be like God but you can never expect to have power like God has. Like you said, when God speaks even the wind, oceans—all nature—obey His voice. The sun and moon are still where God told them to be thousands of years ago when He spoke everything into being. Someday God will speak again to the

earth, sun, and moon, and everything will come to an end."

"I know," said Billy. "I want to learn more about what God's voice sounds like so I will be God's friend and go to heaven with Him someday."

"Yes, Billy, me too. Me too," replied Daddy thoughtfully. "Perhaps I ought to do like you plan to do—talk less but really make each word count. God the Father and Jesus the Son certainly set that kind of an example before us. Jesus always spoke only the right words at the right time, and that pleased God, His Father."

"Well, Daddy, you're my father," said Billy slowly, "and since I'm your son, we could follow God the Father, and Jesus the Son, and talk just like they do."

"You mean, don't talk much like they don't talk much," said Daddy. "We could make it a game and keep score on each other for a while, but you know when the father gives a command, the son must obey. Jesus said He did only the will of His Father who was up in heaven. God spoke the earth into being, but someday soon He will tell Jesus to come and end time on earth. Everything will be destroyed by fire."

"That's why I want to know God's voice right now," said Billy. "Then, when He speaks the day Jesus comes, I will be ready to go to heaven with Him."

When Daddy and Billy came home from church that day, they felt the warm bond of love that only God can speak into being.

Connie Sorrell



Primary Sunday School

July 2, 2017. V67, Q3, W1

## I Am With You Always

Lesson text: Acts 1:4-14

After Jesus rose from the dead, he stayed with his followers forty days and preached to them. At the end of this time, they went to Mount Olives, near Jerusalem. The people asked him if he was going to build an earthly kingdom, because they wanted Him to deliver them from the Romans.

Instead, He told them that they would receive power through the Holy Spirit, to help them preach for Him "unto the uttermost part of the earth."

However, before they could preach the gospel to the world, Jesus told them to wait for a very special gift. He instructed them not to leave Jerusalem until they had waited on and received the Holy Spirit, which He would send.

After he told them this, he started ascending, or rising, into the sky. The people's eyes were fastened on Jesus, as he went up and up into the sky toward Heaven.

Two men, clothed in white, appeared after Jesus ascended and told the people, "Why do you stand gazing up into heaven? Jesus, who has gone to heaven, will come back the same way."

### Memory Verse

Lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Matthew 28:20

### Questions

1. What did the people want Jesus to do, and what did He tell them would instead happen?
2. How much of the Earth did Jesus want the gospel spread to?
3. Will Jesus come back one day?
4. How can you share the gospel? Does the way you treat others lead them to Jesus?

Then the disciples returned to Jerusalem, as Jesus had said. They went up into a room and prayed together as they waited for the Holy Spirit.

Jesus told the disciples to spread the gospel to all the world. He still wants us to spread His word today, because He loves every single person and wants all of us to live with Him in Heaven.

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## Together, Both are Right

Jason and Thomas went to the shop where their daddy was busy making a doghouse for Fido. The two brothers had a question they wanted to ask him. "Hi, boys," he said. "I could use some help here with the building of this doghouse. Jason, would you please hold the wood still while Thomas and I mark it and then saw off the extra piece?"

Jason obeyed Daddy while Thomas popped the chalk line that Daddy stretched across the wood for a cutting mark.

"Now, boys, how was that?" Daddy asked with a smile as he turned off the saw.

"Very good!" said Jason. "Now, Daddy, we have an important question we want to ask you. Who made our house? Did you and some men build our house? Thomas says that God made everything we see, so God made our house, but I thought you said that you and some men built our house." Daddy looked up into the face of each boy before he answered. "Together, both of your answers are right," he replied. "In the beginning, on day number three, God created grass, plants, and trees. Then on day number six, God made a man called Adam. God made Adam the ruler over all the plants, trees, and animals. Then as time passed, Adam and his children began to use the wood from the trees that God made to build boats, carts, and houses."

"See," said Thomas, "God made the trees that make wood so He made the

house—and He even made the men who built the house!"

"But God didn't come down here to our yard and put wood and nails together to build our house," insisted Jason. "Daddy built the house!"

"Boys," said Daddy, "notice how you are using two different verbs. Jason says that Daddy built the house and Thomas says that God made the house. All the materials in the house come from the earth that God made so God made the things in the house but it was men who made God's materials useful in becoming a house. Some men and I took wood from trees and we sawed and hammered that wood until it became a useful frame for our house. God gave me and you the power to think and to carefully use the many plants, trees and flowers, and all the animals, as we can best supply our needs. We must take good care of the earth. Never, never throw paper and candy wrappers or any litter on the ground or in water. It makes the earth ugly and we are not taking care of the earth as God wants us to. Also, never, never, start a fire with a match. Fire can really destroy the beautiful earth that God made."

"We don't want to destroy the earth," said Jason who was understanding now what Daddy was saying. We want to help you build things with the wood from the trees that God made."

"Good!" said Daddy. "I could use some more of your help with this doghouse. Together, we can get it finished before tonight." Connie Sorrell



Primary Sunday School

July 9, 2017. V67, Q3, W2

## Power at Pentecost

Lesson text: Acts 2:1-41, Joel 2:32, Luke 2:21

The day of Pentecost was a very special day.

Jesus had told the disciples to wait in Jerusalem for the Holy Spirit. They waited and prayed in an upper room. Suddenly, a sound from heaven like a rushing mighty wind filled the house where they waited.

Then they saw cloven, or divided, tongues like fire and these tongues sat on each disciple! The disciples were filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to preach in different languages.

People who spoke other languages listened to the disciples. They were amazed! They said, "How do we hear every man in our own tongue, wherein we were born? We do hear them speak in our tongues the wonderful works of God."

However, many doubted. But Peter stood, lifted his voice to the people and told them that a prophecy was beginning to be fulfilled. He quoted Joel 2:32, saying "And it shall come to pass...I will pour out of my spirit upon all flesh....That whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

### Memory Verse

That whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved. Acts 2:21

### Questions

1. What did Jesus tell the disciples He would send?
2. When the Holy Spirit came to the disciples, what did it sound like?
3. Why were the disciples able to speak in foreign languages?
4. What gives each one of us power, bravery and understanding through God?

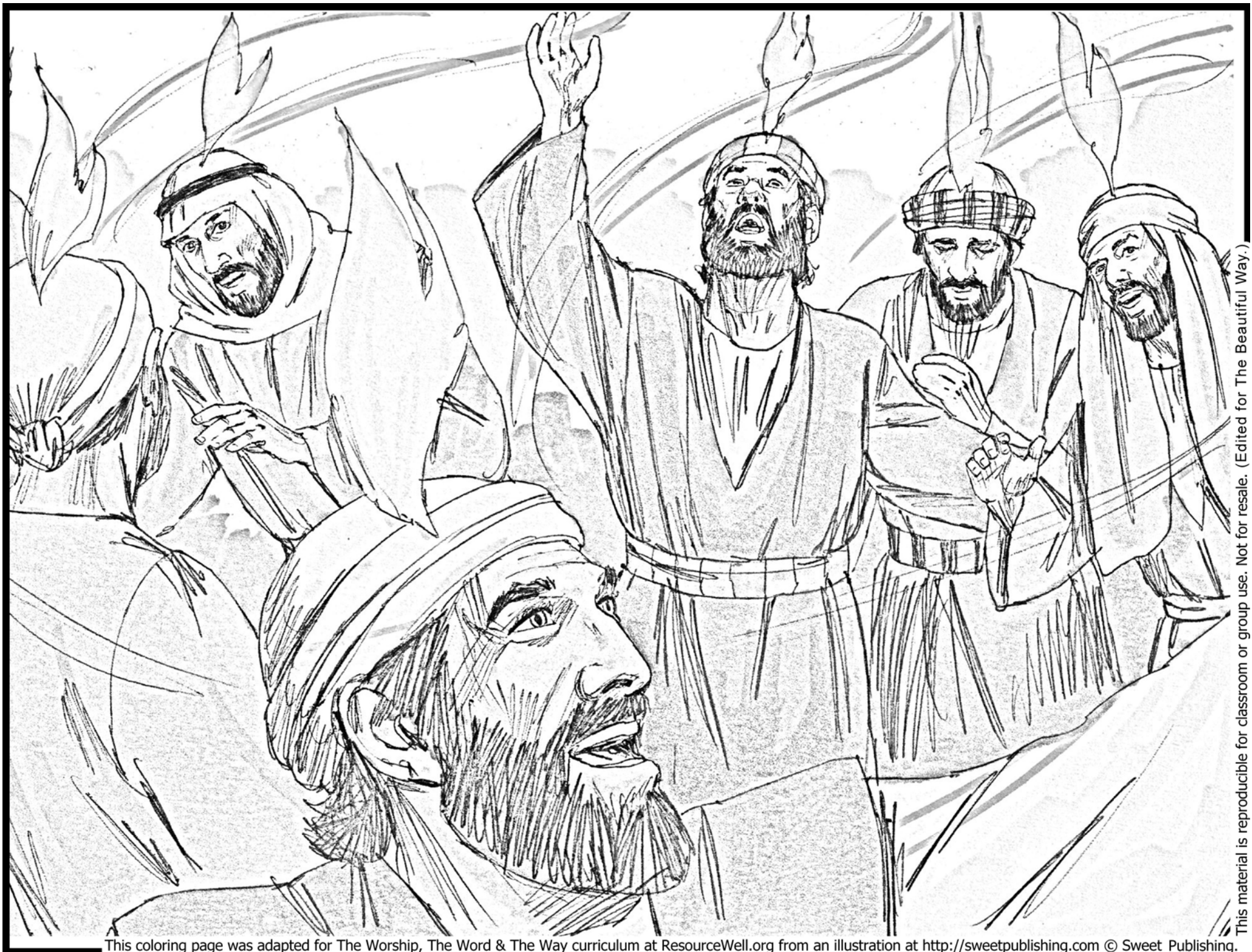
He told the people to repent and be baptized in the name of Jesus, and they too would receive the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit wants to live in us. It gives us power over all our bad thoughts and actions, makes us brave, and also helps us understand God's word. Let us repent, be baptized and ask the Lord to fill our hearts with His spirit.

When we call on the Lord, He always listens.

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## Lesson in the Milk Barn

Terry watched Grandpa in the milk barn as he put milkers on the cow. The black-and-white cow stood patiently giving her milk as she ate feed and looked around at Terry and Grandpa.

"Grandpa," Terry asked, "why do we get milk from cows and not from horses?"

Grandpa smiled. "Each animal has its proper place, Terry," he replied. "Why do chickens lay eggs and not pigs?"

Terry laughed at that thought. "I know," he said, "because a fat pig would squash the egg as soon as it was laid!"

Grandpa laughed with Terry and then he let one line of cows out of the milk barn and let in another line of cows before he said any more.

"When we look at each animal and its place on the earth, we realize how great and wise God must be!" Grandpa told Terry. "God made each animal complete the very first day He made them."

"God made Adam, the very first man, that day also, didn't he, Grandpa?" asked Terry. "I would like to have been Adam so I could have named every animal!"

"That was a big job for Adam!" Grandpa let Terry know. "After a while he realized he needed help, so God made Eve, a woman, and gave her to Adam as a helper. Adam and Eve were husband and wife forever and ever then, like God planned them to be."

"They didn't have divorces back in those

days, did they, Grandpa?" Terry asked very seriously.

"No, oh, no," Grandpa replied as he shook his head. "God planned for a husband and wife to stay married just like He planned for a chicken to lay eggs instead of a pig. In the beginning, God planned marriages to last, and He wants it to stay that way. When husbands and wives disobey God's plans, they are unhappy and get into heartaches and troubles. Remember, Terry, that God planned for you to have only one living wife at a time—only one."

"Ah, Grandpa, I'm not going to get married," grinned Terry.

"Don't worry about those things now," Grandpa said as he squeezed Terry's shoulder. "You just live faithfully for God. Someday He will give you a wife just like He did Adam. Marriage is a wonderful thing when lived by the Bible."

Terry was quiet for a while as he thought about what Grandpa said. Then he had to ask another question.

"Grandpa, if you were any animal, what one would you want to be?"

Again, Grandpa smiled and then he let in a new line of cows to be milked before he said, "I believe I want to stay a human being, Terry. That's what I was made in the very beginning, and the plan of God is perfect. Animals don't change from what they were made to do, and we shouldn't either. We will be the happiest if we always obey God and stay in His plan for our lives."

Connie Sorrell

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Primary Sunday School

July 16, 2017. V67, Q3, W3

## Peter at Pentecost

Lesson text: Acts 2:4-47, Psalm 16

On the Day of Pentecost, the disciples were given the gift of tongues. There were a lot of people observing a religious celebration in Jerusalem this day, called The Feast of Weeks. The people spoke different languages, but when the disciples started preaching, everyone could understand!

Many were amazed, but some mocked the disciples and said they were drunk.

Peter lifted his voice and said, "We are not drunk. Joel 2:28 says 'In the last days, says God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh.... And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'"

The Holy Spirit filled him with boldness. He continued, "Jesus Christ, approved of God,

who performed miracles and wonders and signs, was delivered to the counsel and by your wicked hands he was crucified. But God raised him, and he conquered death.

We are witnesses to His resurrection. And now, He has sent the Holy Spirit, as He promised. This is what you now see and hear. As David said, the Lord promised that he would raise Christ from the dead to sit on His throne. That Christ is Jesus, whom you crucified."

The people were pricked in their hearts, and asked "What shall we do?"

Peter said, "Repent, be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of your sins, and you will receive the Holy Ghost."

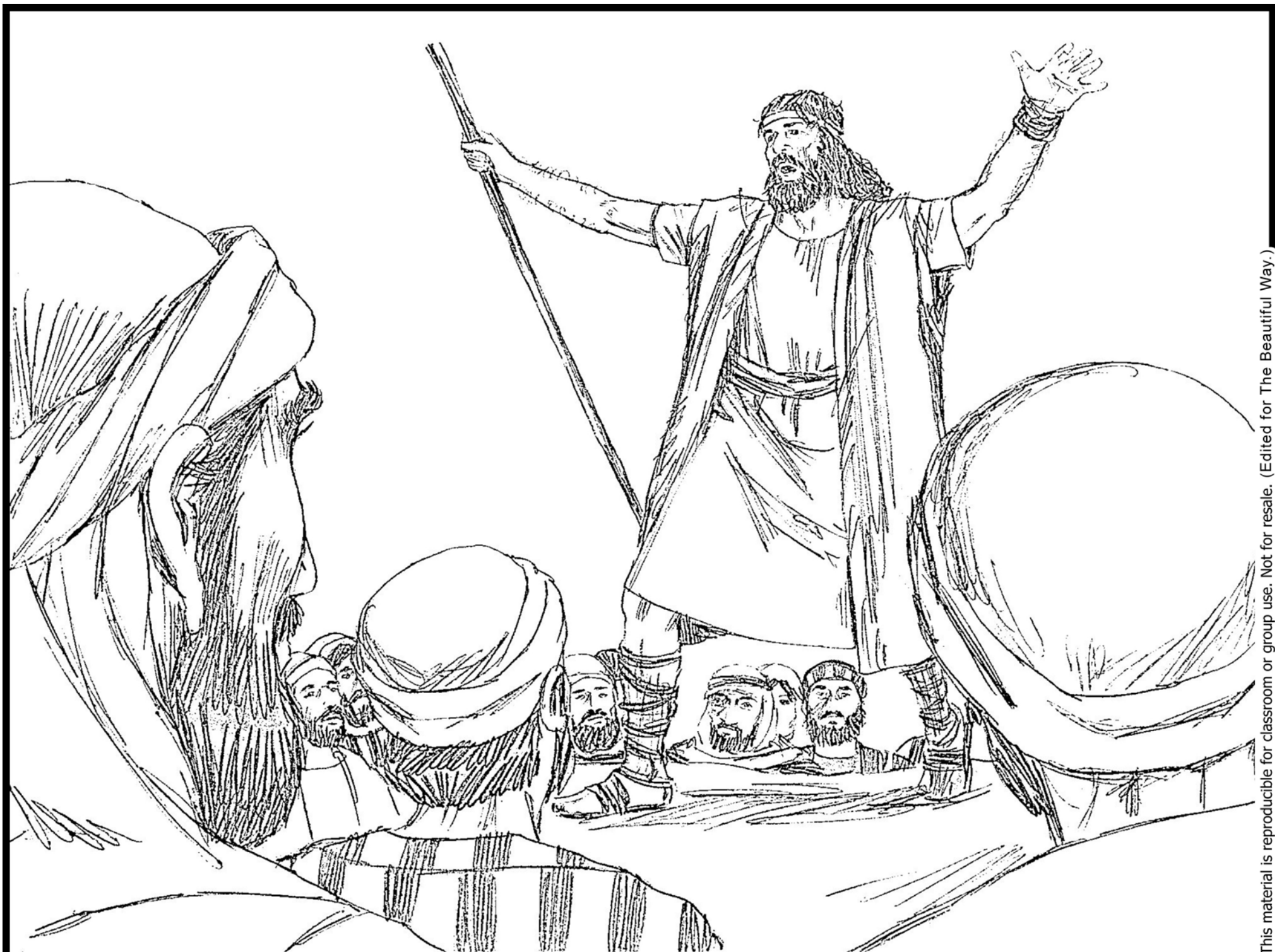
"The Lord gives this promise to you, to your children, and to every person whom the Lord calls."

### Memory Verse

Thou wilt show me the path of life: in thy presence is fullness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore. Psalm 16:11

### Questions

1. What was the name of the celebration the Jews were observing on the Day of Pentecost?
2. When people mocked the disciples, what did Peter say was the cause of their power?
3. What did Peter say we must do to be saved?
4. Who does the Lord give the promise of salvation?
5. Do you believe that following Jesus will fill you with joy? Why?



## Two Quarters Missing

"Mother," said Debbie as she walked into the laundry room where her mother was putting a load of clothes into the washer. "Mother, someone has been in my piggy bank again and I am missing two quarters. I just know I had two more quarters than I do now! One of the boys must be getting into my piggy bank, and that is stealing!"

"Now, now," said Mother calmly as she shut the washer lid and turned to look at Debbie, who was very upset. "Don't be so hasty in accusing your three brothers of wrong-doing. Are you sure the two quarters are not in your purse or coat pocket? Think and look good before you start accusing someone of stealing."

"But I already have looked closely," declared Debbie, shaking her head. "I know someone was in my piggy bank, because it was moved from the way I had it set. They were the two quarters Mrs. Hazel gave me for taking her the newspaper when the sidewalk was icy. I worked for those quarters!"

Mother sighed. "It would help, Debbie," she said, "if you would not be so upset. Let me ask your brothers myself and see what they say about this. Right now, you be quiet and patient and it will all go smoother. Okay?"

"Oh, all right," mumbled Debbie as she turned and walked quickly back to her bedroom.

Soon Doug came into the kitchen where Mother was now working. Mother looked up into Doug's face. "Doug," she said, "would you by chance know about

two quarters Debbie is missing?"

"No," replied Doug, "why would I want her two quarters when I have my own money? I don't even go into her room, anyway."

Then Don came into the kitchen and Mother asked him about the money. "Why, is Debbie missing some money?" he asked. "She shouldn't be so careless with it."

"Don, she said it was in her piggy bank," said Mother, "and her piggy bank has been moved. You didn't bother her piggy bank, did you?"

"No," said Don shortly. "Tell her to recount her money."

Later, Dewy came into the kitchen where Mother was cooking supper. "Dewy," she said, "do you know anything about two quarters that Debbie is missing from her piggy bank?"

"Well," said Dewy, "if I found Debbie's two quarters, will she buy me a can of pop?"

"Dewy!" exclaimed Mother, "you don't take someone else's money without asking and then want them to buy . . ."

"But I didn't take Debbie's money!" interrupted Dewy. "I know where it is, though! It's in Don's pocket because I saw him put it there! Can I have something for finding it?"

"When Daddy comes home," said Mother, "we will tell him this story and each one will be rewarded according to his deed. Here is Daddy coming home now!"

Now, Sunday school class, you can finish this story.

Connie Sorrell

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Primary Sunday School

July 23, 2017. V67, Q3, W4

## Rise Up and Walk

Lesson text: Acts 3, Matthew 19:26, Psalm 37:4-5

The city of Jerusalem buzzed with activity. People filled the streets and children ran and played. It was a very busy place!

A certain man lived in Jerusalem who was born lame, and couldn't walk. Every day, someone would carry him to the temple gate called Beautiful. Many people passed him as they entered the temple. Here, the lame man would ask them for alms, or money.

One day, Peter and John headed to the temple to pray. The lame man called out to them and asked for alms. Peter told him, "Look on us."

This probably surprised the lame man. He was used to being ignored. Peter and John had his attention, and he waited for the money.

Then Peter said, "Silver and gold have I none; but what I do have, I'll give to you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk."

Peter reached down and pulled him up. Immediately, strength entered the man's feet and ankle bones.

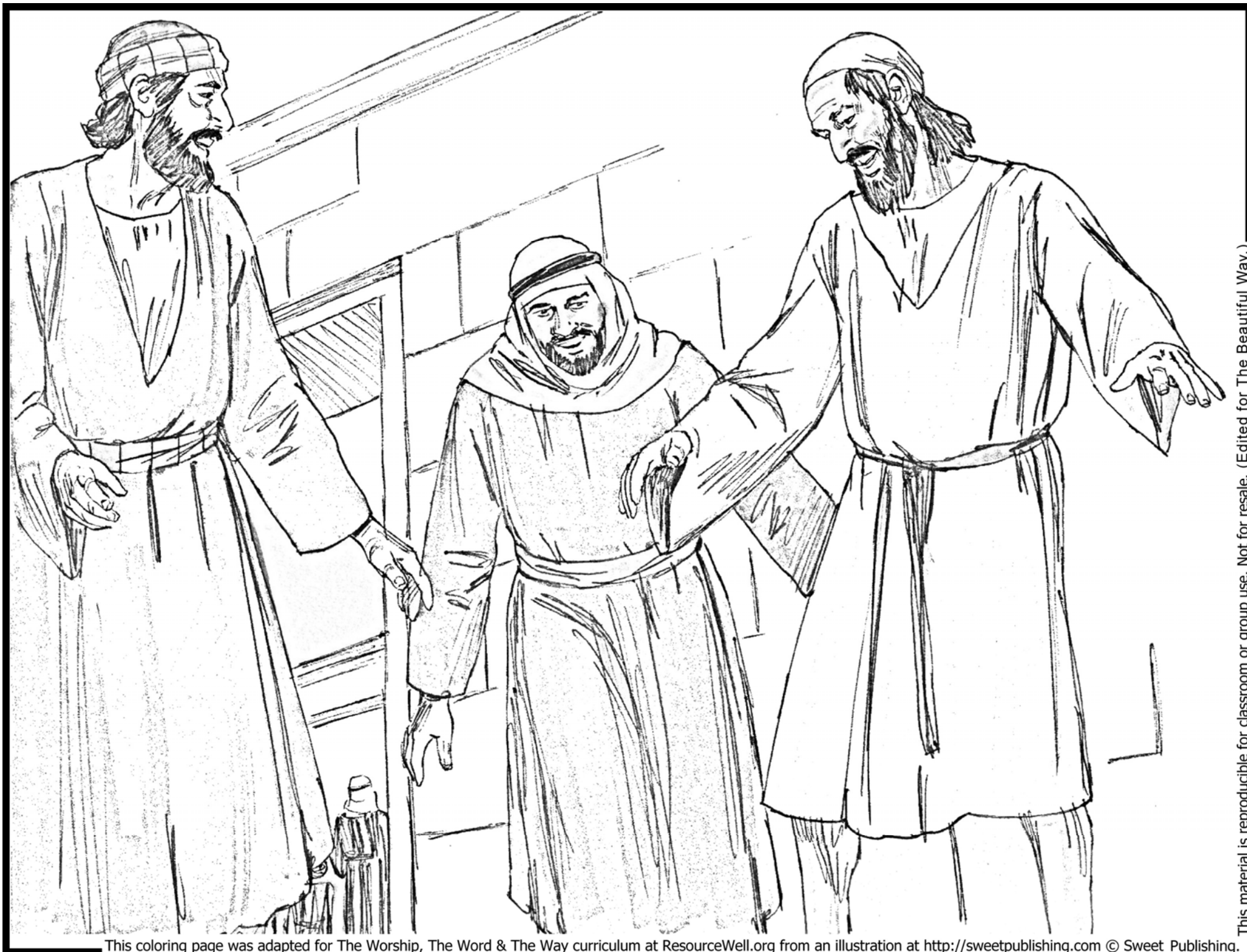
The man jumped to his feet. He walked and leaped into the temple with the disciples, praising God for the miracle. People saw him, and recognized him as the lame beggar at the gate. But he was walking now! They stared in amazement as he praised the Lord for the change in his body.

### Memory Verse

With God, all things are possible.  
Matthew 19:26

### Questions

1. Imagine if you were lame. How would you feel?
2. The lame man thought he needed money, but he really needed the Lord. Have there been times when you thought you needed something, but you were wrong?
3. Who did the lame man praise when he was healed?
4. Think about a time when God healed you, or someone you know.



## Two Voices

The evening was cold and icy on the outside, but inside the Murry home, it was warm and pleasant. The Murry's had company visiting them. It was the Sherman family. Both families were very good friends with each other.

Joe Murry was in his bedroom trying to show Jeff Sherman some of his favorite cars and toys. "Let's play cars!" said Joe, and Jeff decided that would be nice! Joe Murry had so many nice cars! Jeff did not have nearly so many, but he didn't care until a selfish, squeaky voice began talking within Jeff.

"Joe has so many cars and you don't have this many," said the squeaky voice. "Why don't you take some of Joe's cars and put them with yours so you will have more."

Jeff put one of Joe's cars into his pocket. Jeff obeyed that squeaky voice, which really was the devil speaking to him, causing him to take something that was not his own. The two boys went on playing together, but for some reason Jeff did not feel as comfortable with Joe as he had felt before he put that car into his pocket. Now another voice spoke to Jeff and this voice was kind but very firm in commanding Jeff to "Take that car out of your pocket and give it back to Joe. You never, for any reason, take something that is not yours."

That second voice really made Jeff feel bad. He knew it was true—he should never have taken that car and put it into

his pocket. Jeff put his hand into his pocket and felt the car inside. He was just ready to take the car out and put it beside the rest of Joe's cars when that first squeaky voice spoke again.

"One car doesn't mean that much to Joe. He doesn't know how many cars he has, and one car will really make you have more cars. Keep the car."

Once again, Jeff obeyed that squeaky voice of the devil. Soon Joe invited Jeff to come eat some cake and ice cream with the families in the kitchen. While they were eating, Joe's mother said, "Jeff, you are such a good boy! I am so glad that Joe can play with such an honest friend like you."

Jeff could hardly eat the piece of cake because now his heart was feeling very sad. Mrs. Murry thought he was an honest boy and she trusted him, but there he sat with one of Joe's cars in his pocket. Again, the still, firm voice spoke to Jeff. "When you take even one thing that is not yours, you are stealing. That is not honest."

As soon as Jeff finished eating, he washed his hands and hurried back to Joe's bedroom where they had the cars lined up. Quietly, when Joe was not looking, Jeff took the car out of his pocket and put it back with the rest of Joe's cars. Then Jeff felt a nice warm feeling glowing in his heart and he was so glad that he had obeyed that last voice, which was the voice of God.

Connie Sorrell



Primary Sunday School

July 30, 2017. V67, Q3, W5

## Through the Eyes of Caiaphas

Lesson text: Acts 4:1-22, John 11:47-53

I am Caiaphas, the High Priest and leader of the Sanhedrin. The Sanhedrin is a council who makes sure the people follow all the rules. We don't like to be questioned, and we certainly don't like this man called Jesus.

We thought we, the rulers of Jerusalem, had killed Jesus. We gave him an unfair trial and crucified him. That should have quieted all the people who were following Him and not us! But no.

His disciples say that he rose from the dead, and it is true that his body was not in the tomb. I shudder when I remember the strange events of his crucifixion...

And now, strange things are happening again! Peter and John, two of Jesus' disciples, healed the lame man who sits at the temple gate. And over 5,000 people have professed belief in Christ from their preaching. I don't like this at all.

I've ordered them to appear before me. Let's see what they have to say now.

"By whose name have you healed this lame man?" I ask.

"He is healed through the name of Jesus Christ. The man you crucified, the man God raised from the dead," Peter firmly responds.

"Do not preach in His name anymore!" I angrily retort.

"We have to speak about what we've seen and heard," Peter calmly answers.

The rulers and I were astounded at their ability to speak so clearly and with such power. We didn't know what to say, so we let them go.

### Memory Verse

But truly I am full of power by the spirit of the Lord, and of judgment, and of might, to declare unto Jacob his transgression, and to Israel his sin.

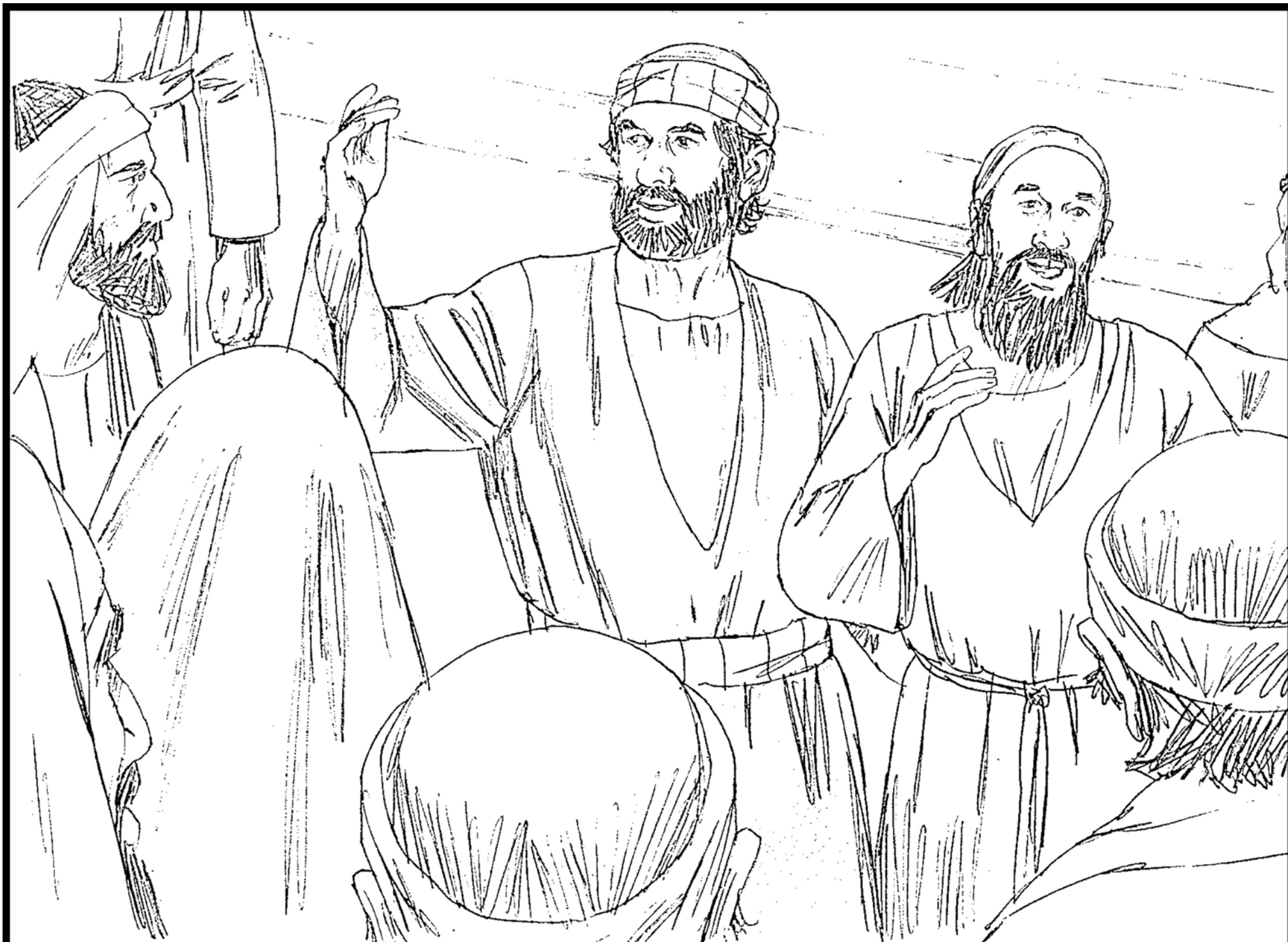
Micah 3:8

### Questions

1. Who was Caiaphas?
2. How many people confessed belief in Jesus through Peter and John's preaching?
3. What did Caiaphas order the disciples not to do?
4. What was Peter's response?
5. Jesus gave the disciples power to speak boldly to their enemies. Do you believe He can give you the same power?

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# Raphael Saw Noah's Ark

(A True Story)

Wrapped in heavy clothing with a rope around his waist, eleven-year-old Raphael was climbing Mount Ararat with his father, Fernand Navarra. Mount Ararat is on the border of Turkey and Russia and it is very, very cold there most of the time.

Raphael and his father cut holes in the ice to make steps to climb on. Then sometimes they threw their ropes onto a sturdy ledge of ice and climbed up the ropes. Many times, great big rolling rocks tumbled and fell, barely missing Raphael. Often, he and his father would pause and pray to God for protection and thank Him for His help.

Raphael and his father reached the top of Mount Ararat at last, and through the night they burned alcohol tablets to keep warm. When daylight came, they quickly ate dried fruit for breakfast. Then they moved carefully over the slick ice to a deep crack (crevice) where Raphael's father went down, down, down into the dark, icy ditch. He had a rope around his waist which Raphael held onto.

Soon Raphael called down, "Papa, have you cut off a piece of wood yet?"

At first his father didn't answer, then with tears of joy sounding in his voice, he called back, "I've found wood!"

The ship was very long and his father could only cut wood along the grain. Then he split off a piece about five feet

long. The wood had been well preserved in the ice, like something kept frozen in a freezer. Raphael's father wrapped a rope around the wood then went to the top of that deep crack so he could take a picture of Raphael as he pulled the wood to the top also. It was 7 a.m., July 6, 1955.

Since the wood was so heavy and long, they had to cut it into three pieces so they could carry it down the mountain. Also, soldiers were waiting at the bottom, and they would be angry that Raphael and his father climbed the mountain again to see Noah's ark.

God protected Raphael and his father as they climbed down the mountain. At first the Turkish-Russian soldiers scolded them, but Raphael's father showed them his cameras and took their pictures so that they soon forgot to be angry.

Several wise men who know about scientific research looked at the pieces of wood from Noah's ark. They did all kinds of tests to see what kind of wood it was, how old it was, how it had been cut, and other information. The wood is from the cypress tree which grows in Mesopotamia (Iraq), the cradle of civilization. At that time, the wood was dated 4484 years before Christ. Tests also showed that Noah had made the ark by hand with tools of stone.

In a museum in France, there is preserved in a showcase pieces of wood from the ark that Noah built.

Connie Sorrell

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Primary Sunday School

August 6, 2017. V67, Q3, W6

## Lying Lips Cause Death

Lesson text: Acts 5:1-11, Proverbs 12:22, Leviticus 19:11, John 8:44

The Early Church Christians shared their money and goods with one another. Christians would take their goods to the apostles and let them manage the provisions.

Two of these Christians, Ananias and Sapphira, sold a possession. They wanted to sacrifice some of their money to help the other Christians. However, they decided to pretend that they were giving all of the money from the sale. When Ananias laid the money at the apostles feet, the Holy Spirit gave Peter the wisdom to know what happened.

"Why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit?" he asked. "It was your possession, and your money. You are not required to give every penny from the sale, but you lied and pretended that you did. You have not lied unto men, but unto God."

Ananias fell down, and died, after hearing Peter's words.

About three hours later, Sapphira came in, not knowing what had happened. Peter asked, "Did you sell the land for so much?" (He quoted to her the amount Ananias had dishonestly told him earlier.)

She told him it was the correct amount, and Peter said to her, "Why have you agreed together to tempt the Spirit of the Lord? The men who carried your husband out will carry you, too." And Sapphira died, just as her husband had died.

This is a very sad story, and shows how serious it is to lie. They weren't punished for keeping some of the money, but for lying and pretending something that wasn't true.

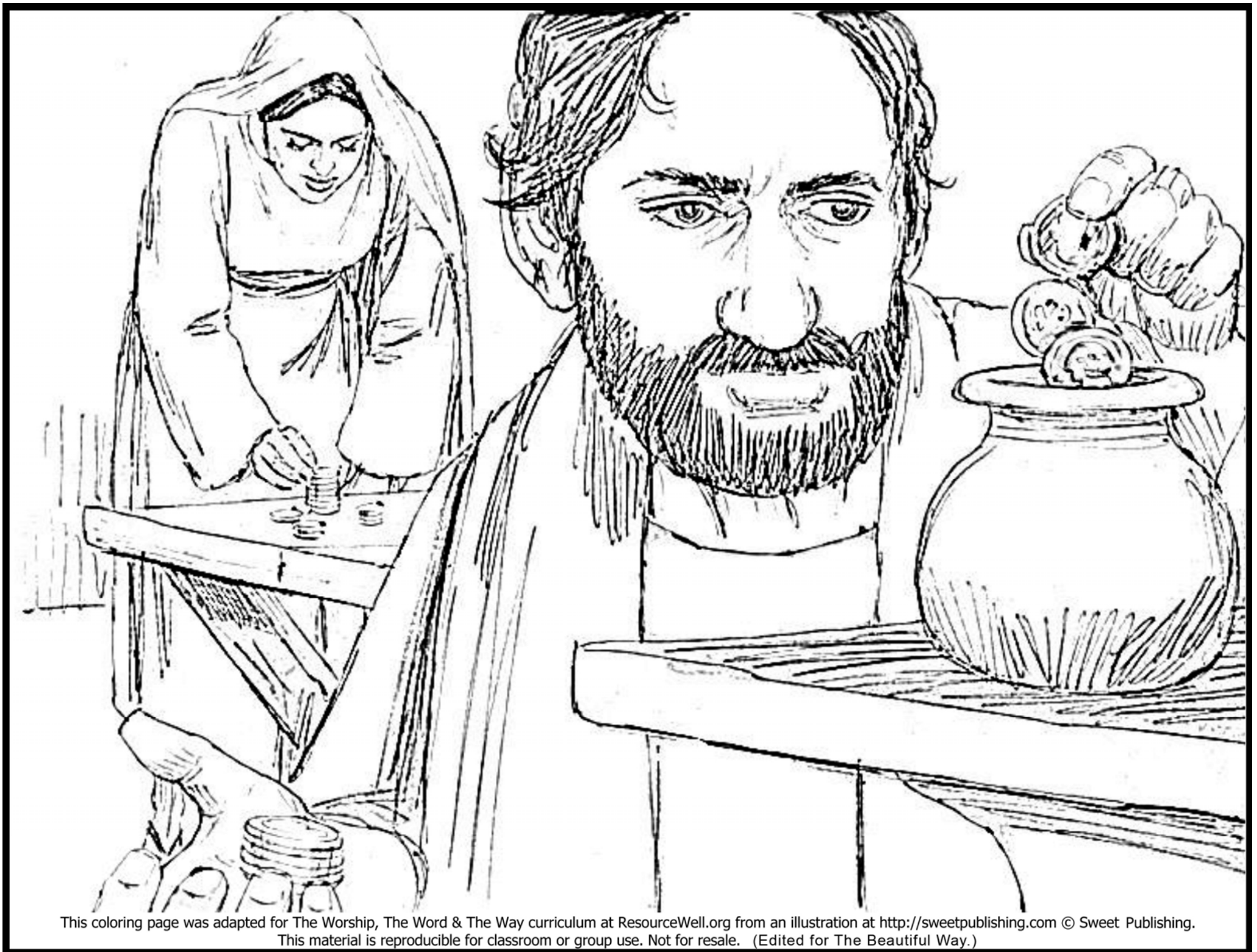
### Memory Verse

Lying lips are abomination to the Lord:  
but they that deal truly are his delight.

Proverbs 12:22

### Questions

1. Why did Ananias and Sapphira give some of their money to the apostles?
2. What did they decide to do that was dishonest?
3. How did Peter know about their lie?
4. What happened to Ananias and Sapphira because of their lie?



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# The Storm and The Rainbow

Rain was pouring down all around the big semi-truck that Jimmy was riding in. It was daylight, but because the rain clouds were so thick and the rain was coming down so hard, it seemed to Jimmy that it was close to nighttime.

The truck's long windshield wipers tapped as they dashed back and forth to help Jimmy's daddy see better. Jimmy looked over at his daddy who was quietly watching the road and his mirrors. His daddy looked so calm and patient driving in that blinding rain, which was very dangerous. Jimmy knew that in his heart, his daddy was praying to God for help and guidance.

Jimmy didn't like the rain either, because he knew that bad accidents can happen when a big truck is traveling down the highway in the rain. Usually Jimmy would be nervous and wiggle this way and that, hoping that the rain would soon stop, but this time Jimmy felt calm. He just knew God was in the truck cab helping them. Jimmy saw his daddy calmly sitting in his big cushioned truck seat, steadily driving that big powerful truck through blowing winds and pounding rain, and Jimmy prayed in his heart to God for protection.

The truck cab became stuffy and warm because they could not roll down the windows when it was raining outside. Without talking, they traveled mile after mile in blinding rain. Then the rain

began to slow down and there were only drops hitting the windshield with a slow ping, ping, ping. Before long it wasn't raining at all.

From his high seat in the truck, Jimmy could see water puddles and ditches filled with water by the side of the highway. Looking up, Jimmy saw that the dark thick clouds were beginning to part and the sunshine was trying to peek through. They would soon be out of the storm!

Then something really nice happened. Through the parted clouds in the sky, Jimmy could actually see the sun rays and the lines they made through the clouds. It was so pretty that Jimmy just looked and looked at the sun rays shining through, and then he saw something even more beautiful. Arching across the clouds where the sun was shining, there was a perfect rainbow with colors of blue, green, yellow, orange, red, and purple.

Jimmy glanced over at his daddy who was already looking at the rainbow. God had brought them through the blinding rain and over the dangerous highway in the big semi-truck. God had given them quiet strength and confidence through the storm, and now God was letting them see His favor with a rainbow in the sky.

God still puts rainbows in the sky for those who look for them.

Connie Sorrell



Primary Sunday School

August 13, 2017. V67, Q3, W7

## The Amazing Escape

Lesson text: Acts 5:26-32

*An officer's point of view:*

Men who follow Jesus were put in our prison, after the high priest and elders sent them here. They don't like these men. I think it's because many people follow their teachings of Jesus. The elders want everyone to follow their rules. But I wouldn't say that out loud!

Last night, the apostles escaped.

When my captain realized what happened, we hurried to the temple and brought them back. But we were very careful not to hurt the apostles. The people like them, and we didn't want to get stoned!

We set them before the council of elders. The high priest asked them, "Didn't we tell you not to teach in that man's name? And yet, you have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine. You intend to bring this man's blood upon us."

### Memory Verse

And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations. Luke 24:47

### Questions

1. Why were the prison officers nice to the apostles?
2. What did the elders tell the apostles not to do?
3. What did Jesus come to do with our sins?
4. Does Jesus love only those who follow him, or does he love even the people who are mean to him?

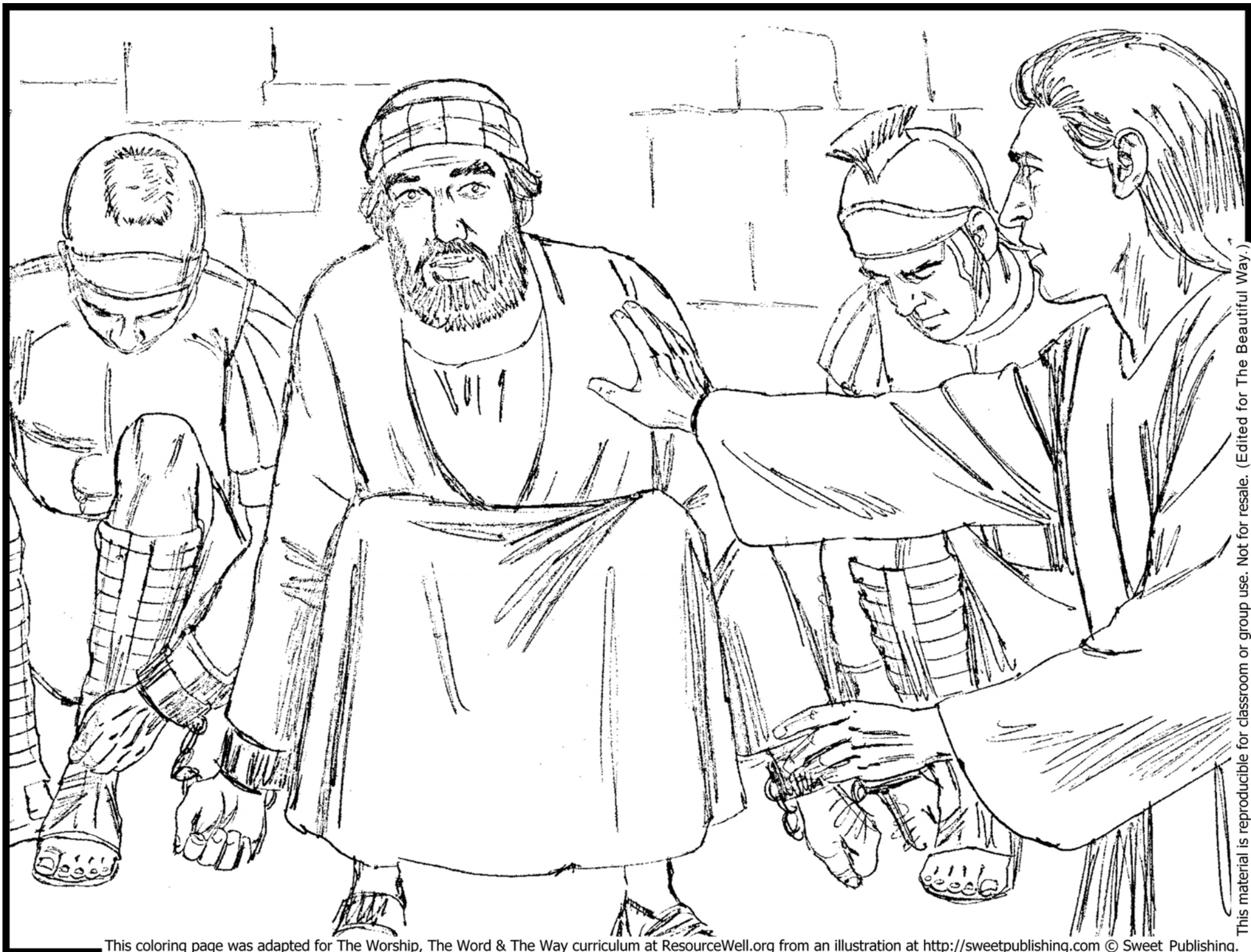
I thought to myself, "The more I hear about Jesus, and the more I'm around these arrogant elders, I'm beginning to believe the apostles."

Peter, an outspoken man, said "We ought to obey God rather than men. God raised up Jesus, whom you killed and hanged on a tree. But God has exalted Him. He is a Prince and a Savior, to give repentance and forgiveness of sins. We are his witnesses, and so is the Holy Ghost, whom God has given to all who obey Him."

My eyes widened. The elders were not happy. I was stirred. Would Jesus really forgive my sins? Could I be filled with the same power as Peter?

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## Listen to the Warning

It was evening church time and the chapel was full of people singing songs together. After prayer, two special songs were sung by a group of young people, then the preacher got up in the pulpit.

By now Jack and Jim were tired of sitting in their seats. Jack leaned over and whispered to his daddy, "I want a drink of water. May I go get a drink?"

Daddy didn't say a word, but shook his head "no."

Jack sat back on the bench and swung his feet for a minute then he whispered to daddy, "I need to go to the restroom. Can I go—I need to hurry!"

Daddy sighed a little, but he still shook his head "no" and told Jack to be still. That let Jack know he was going to sit there through the whole sermon, so Jack just laid his head back on the bench and shut his eyes. He pretended to be resting, but really, he was thinking about flying airplanes and he could just picture the ground far, far below as he swung his airplane around and took off flying through the clouds like a carefree bird. He could feel the wind buck against his airplane, but with a steady hand he straightened the plane. Poor Jack was not hearing the message at all.

Jim was just as tired as Jack, but Jim saw how his daddy and mother were listening so carefully to the preacher, so Jim decided to listen also. The more Jim listened, the more he wanted to hear!

The preacher was telling everyone how to escape awful punishment at the end of time, and Jim sure didn't want to be punished!

"You must repent of your sins, believe on Jesus, and He will save your soul from the burning fire," the preacher said. Jim thought over these words as someone called an altar song. A small, calm voice inside Jim's heart began to warn him that he would not be ready to go with Jesus like he was. Jim knew he needed to repent of his sins at the altar. He tugged at his mother's sleeve.

"Mother," he said, "would you go with me to the altar?"

Right away, Mother laid her song book down and put her arm around Jim's shoulders. Together they walked down the aisle to the altar. Jim knelt there and prayed and cried to Jesus to take away his sins and make his heart clean and pure. Jesus did answer prayer! Jim felt so much lighter and happier when he got up from the altar! It didn't seem hard at all to believe on Jesus and be saved from sin and the coming day of destruction when all the earth will be burned up with fire.

When Jim went back to his seat, his daddy hugged him also; he was so glad Jim was saved! Now Jack began to realize he had missed something. "Tomorrow night," thought Jack, "I'm not going to think about flying but I'm going to listen and learn what's going on. I don't want to be unsaved!"

Connie Sorrell



Primary Sunday School

August 20, 2017. V67, Q3, W8

## Strength Through Injustice

Lesson text: Acts 6, Acts 7, John 3:19, Isaiah 66:1-2

Stephen was a disciple full of faith and power. The Lord used him to perform many wonders and miracles.

A group of religious people rose up against Stephen, and tried to prove that his preaching was false. The Lord blessed Stephen, and they could not prove him wrong. He spoke with wisdom from the Holy Spirit.

Angry, they tried to find a reason to hurt him since they didn't like listening to God's truth. He had to stand before the counsel, and false witnesses lied and said he spoke evil against God.

However, as Stephen was falsely accused, the people saw that his face shone like an angel.

He began speaking to the high priest, and told the Bible stories of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph and Moses. He quoted scripture of God, and backed up his teaching that God wanted to live in people's hearts, and not a temple.

He called his accusers stiffnecked, and asked them why they resisted the Holy Ghost.

He pointed out that they had a history of killing the prophets of God, and that they didn't keep the law that God gave them.

The accusers knew they were wrong, but they were full of evil. They stoned him, and he looked up and saw Jesus standing beside God, watching. He prayed to the Lord, saying "Receive my spirit. Lord, lay not this sin to their charge." And Stephen fell asleep as his soul went to Heaven.

Nobody can prove God's word false. Truth stands forever.

### Memory Verse

The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart.

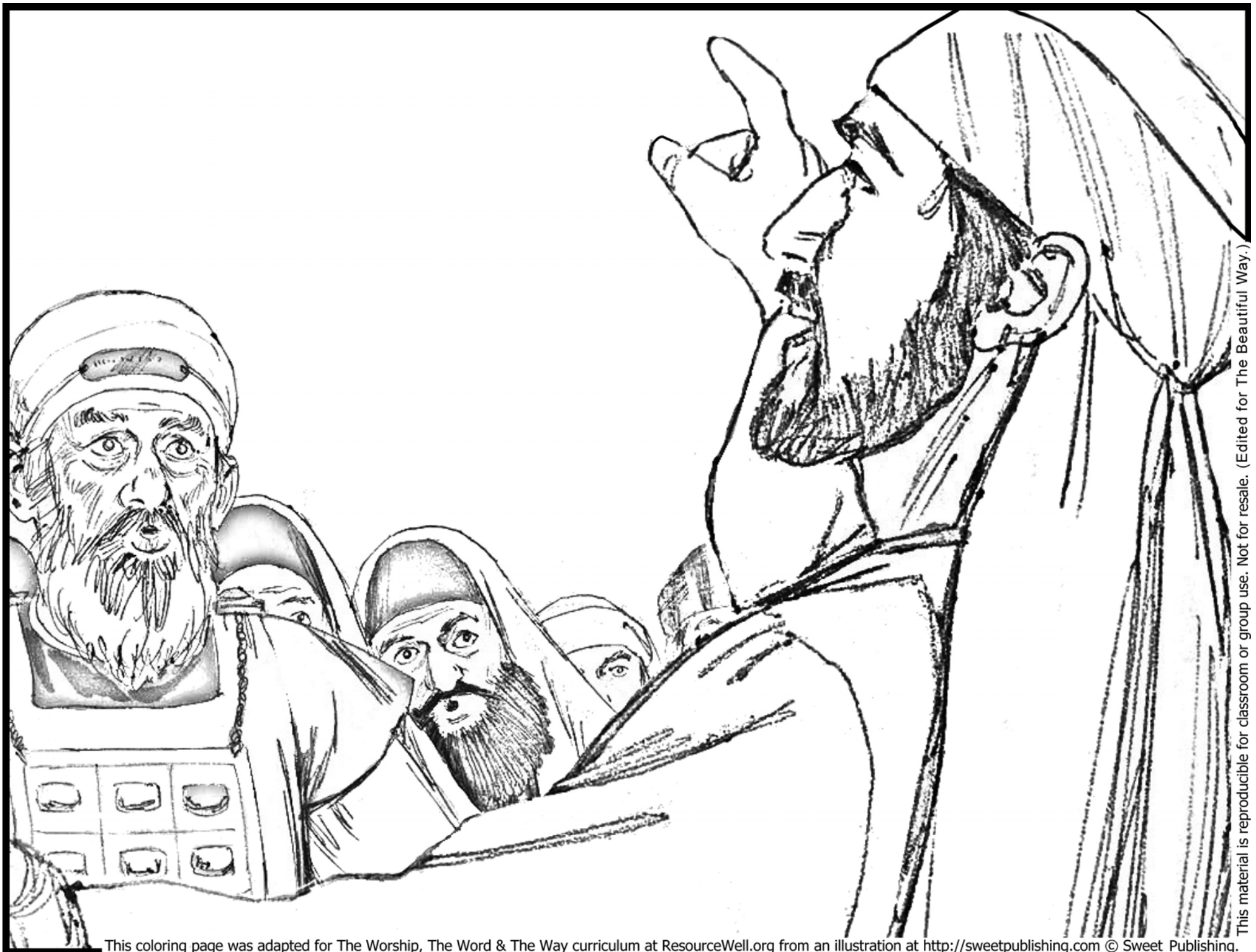
Psalm 51:17

### Questions

1. What did the group of people try to prove against Stephen?
2. What lie did they make up to get him in trouble?
3. How did Stephen's face look when he was accused?
4. Where does God want to live?

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Volume 67, Quarter 3, Week 8. Lindsey Gellenbeck, Editor. 2017.



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## Impatient and Selfish

It was supper time at the Smith's house. All six family members, Daddy, Mother, Randy, Frank, Nancy, and baby Susie, were sitting at the table with their hands washed and their faces clean, ready to offer prayer before eating.

Baby Susie reached her fat baby hand over and pulled Mother's napkin away.

"Susie! No, no!" said Mother as she took the napkin from the baby. Susie hollered and grabbed for Daddy's butter knife which was on her other side.

"No, no, Susie," said Daddy. "You don't need that!"

Now Susie was really upset and she began to holler again. Daddy put his hand over Susie's mouth. "No, don't holler, Susie," he said. "Keep your hands still and let's pray."

Susie was quiet a minute as she watched everyone else bow their heads. She bowed her head also but her fat little hand was tugging at Mother's sleeve. Susie was hungry and she didn't want to wait. Right after prayer, Mother fed Susie, but Susie didn't think Mother hurried enough. While Mother was pouring Nancy another drink, Susie reached over to Mother's plate to grab a bite of food with her hands. She knocked the whole plate of food on the floor!

"Susie, you must learn to be patient!" said Mother with a firm voice. "Nearly the first thing every baby must learn about is patience. If you had accidentally

knocked this plate on the floor, that would be pardoned, but because you were so impatient, Mother must slap your hand and tell you, 'No, no, Susie. Don't do this. Susie must learn to wait.'"

"I'm glad I'm not impatient like Susie," said Frank. "I don't remember ever grabbing for my supper!"

"Oh, yes you did!" said Randy. "You still don't like to wait while Mother serves someone else. Sometimes you push and shove so you can be first."

"I wonder who wants to have the first piece of pie," said Daddy to the two boys. That made the boys begin to eat their main meal so they could have dessert. Mother soon had the mess cleaned up and she ate some more supper. Everyone was ready for pie at the same time. Daddy gave Randy and Frank each a piece and then it was Nancy's turn.

"I want a bigger piece of pie than the boys have," said Nancy. "That's my favorite pie!"

"Well," said Daddy, "the pieces are all cut the same. This is a big enough piece."

"But I want more than that!" wailed Nancy.

"Do you think, Mother," asked Daddy, "that the next thing all babies and children must learn is to not be selfish?"

"Yes," agreed Mother. "It seems a baby isn't very old before it is impatient and selfish. It takes the blood of Jesus to wash away these bad seeds of sin."

Connie Sorrell

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Primary Sunday School

August 27, 2017. V67, Q3, W9

## A Universal Gospel

Lesson text: Acts 8:5-40, Matthew 28:19, Mark 16:16, Romans 10:9-13

Philip helped the apostles with their daily affairs, but he was also filled with the Spirit to spread the Good News. He was an evangelist, traveling and preaching God's word.

One day, God told him to head south to Gaza, a desert area. At the same time, a man from Ethiopia was returning from home from worshipping in Jerusalem. He was a eunuch, a treasurer of riches with great authority in the royal court of Candice, an Ethiopian queen.

As he was returning home, he sat in his chariot reading the book of Isaiah. The Spirit told Philip, "Go near, and join him."

Philip ran to him, and heard the man reading. He asked, "Do you understand what you're reading?"

"How can I? I need someone to guide me," the man said. He invited Philip to sit with him and started asking him questions. Philip started at the scriptures the man asked him about and "preached to him Jesus."

### Memory Verse

For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

Romans 10:13

### Questions

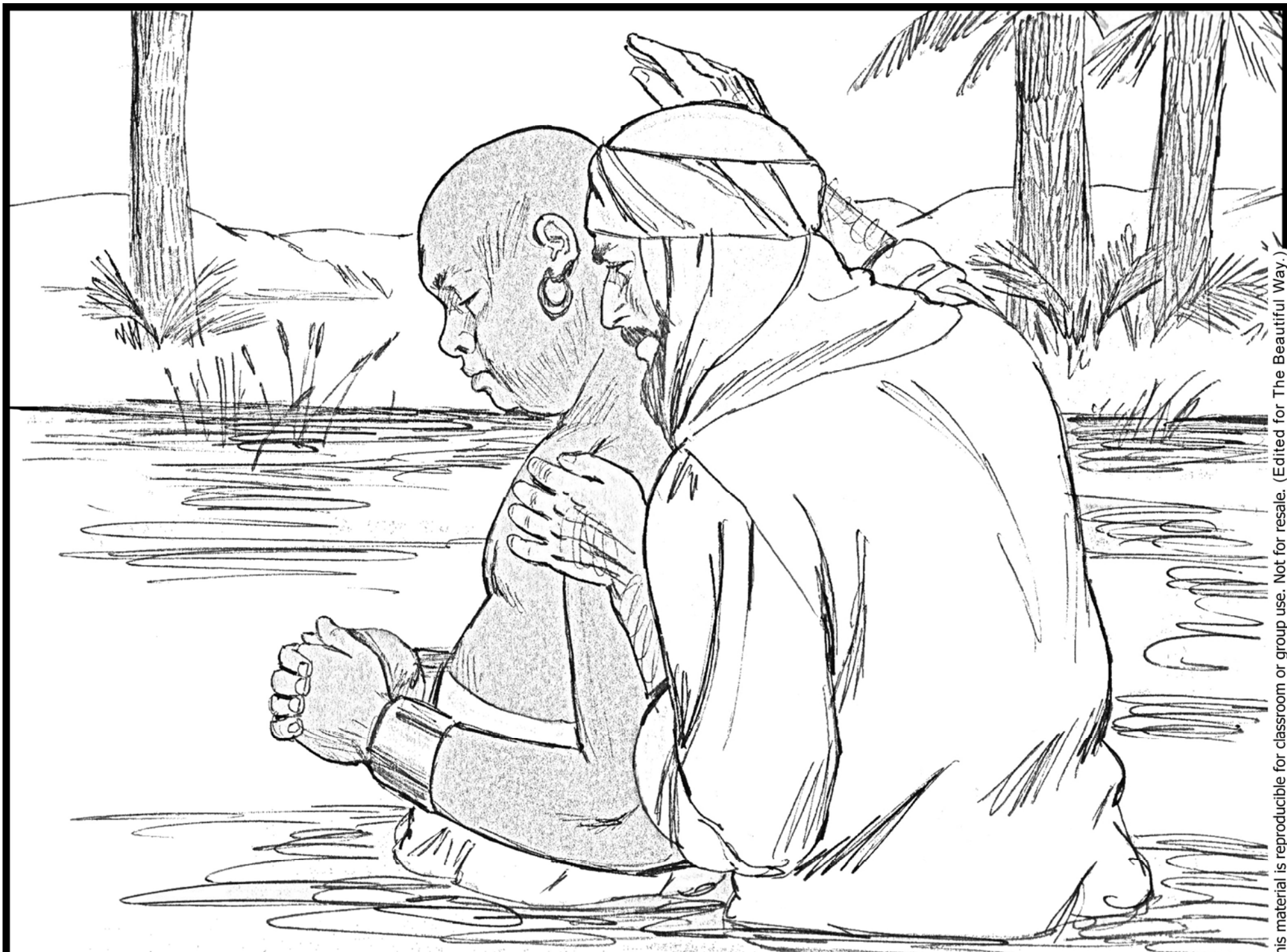
1. What did Philip do for God?
2. Who did Philip meet in the desert?
3. What did the eunuch say when he saw water?
4. Jesus wants us to listen to and obey his voice. Do you pray and let Him know that you're open to His will?

During the trip, they came to some water. Philip must have told him about baptism, because the man said, "Here is water. What doth hinder me to be baptized?"

Philip told him, "If you believe with all your heart, you may."

"I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. Stop the chariot!" the man commanded.

Both men went into the water, and Philip baptized the eunuch. When they came out of the water, the Spirit whisked Philip away to another place! The eunuch didn't see him again, but he went on his way rejoicing.



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# The Enemy is Sly

"Grandpa," said Tommy, "would you please tell me about when you were a soldier in the war?"

"Have you learned anything from my stories, Tommy?" asked Grandpa. "I would like to know if they are teaching you something good."

"Oh, yes, they are!" said Tommy. "I have learned that we can't trust the enemy; that we should be prepared all the time to defend ourselves; and that most of all, we must be alert!"

"Maybe that will remind you of a song in the Evening Light Songbook" said Grandpa. "Remember the song 'Watch and Pray'? One verse says, 'Watch and pray; the tempter may be near us; Keep the heart with jealous care, Lest the door a moment left unguarded, Evil thoughts may enter there.'"

"Back when we were fighting the Germans in World War II," began Grandpa, "one of the tricks the enemy tried on us was to train a handful of their most intelligent men to dress like us and act like us and go into our camp and spy on us. They must have gotten our uniforms off of dead men on the battlefield or from our soldiers who were taken as prisoners of war. Anyway, one day when my troop was camped very close to the battle line, I was put on guard duty. I was ordered to check anything that moved; report anything suspicious; and shoot on sight if the enemy came near the camp."

"Now you remember that a front-line

soldier has a hard, dirty job. War with men fighting against men is not good at all. When I was in the war, I was not saved though I knew how to pray, because, like you, I had been taught at home the value of prayer. Since then, I have gotten saved."

"What happened while you were on duty?" asked Tommy.

"Well, as I was saying, I was on guard duty and I was rather jittery. I saw a soldier by a tree, and I asked myself how he got over there without me seeing him go there. That really made me jittery thinking I was getting that bad at watching. The uniform and helmet he had pulled down on his head were American and when he passed by me, we just nodded to each other."

"Finally, I decided I should report that soldier's strange appearance and see for sure who it was. I told the captain and he called the troop roll call, then we searched the camp. No soldier admitted to coming into camp from that tree and we never saw any sign of that soldier. Later, we learned that another troop caught an enemy spy dressed in one of our uniforms. He was working right along with the American soldiers while he spied on what they were doing and saying."

"That must have been the same man you saw, Grandpa," said Tommy excitedly.

"It may have been," agreed Grandpa. "Just remember, Tommy, the enemy is sly, so always watch and pray."

Connie Sorrell

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Primary Sunday School

September 3, 2017. V67, Q3, W10

## The Life-Changing Light

Lesson text: Acts 9:1-22, Romans 1:21, I Timothy 1:15,

I used to be called Saul, and I persecuted and killed the Christians. One day, I left Jerusalem for Damascus. I planned to capture any Christians I found. That trip changed my life.

I was near Damascus when a light shone on me from heaven. I fell to the earth, and heard a voice say, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?"

"Who are you, Lord?" I said.

"I am Jesus, whom you persecute, it is hard for you to kick against the pricks."

"What do you want me to do," I asked, trembling and astonished.

The Lord said, "Arise, go into Damascus, and you will be told what you must do."

### Memory Verse

They that are whole have no need of the physician, but they that are sick: I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance. Mark 2:17

### Questions

1. Why was Saul going to Damascus?
2. What happened to Saul's vision after the Lord visited him on the road?
3. What did the Lord tell Ananias to ease his fears of Saul?
4. Saul was a bad man, but God saved him. Do you know of someone who needs to be saved? Never give up praying for them, loving them and believing that the Lord will save them, too.

When I got up, I was blind. I was led to the city, and didn't eat or drink for three days. I prayed, and the Lord sent me a vision of a disciple meeting me and putting his hand on me so I could see again.

Meanwhile, the Lord spoke to that disciple, Ananias. (A different man than Ananias and Sapphira.) He told him to meet Saul. Ananias was afraid, because he knew Saul was evil. But the Lord told him, "Go, for he is a chosen vessel to me."

I waited, and Ananias came, laid hands on me and said the Lord wanted me to be filled with the Holy Spirit. Immediately, I could see. I arose and was baptized.

Saul became a great apostle for the Lord. You probably know him by the name of Paul.



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# Healings Today

Not long ago a little boy and girl lay in bed very sick with a high fever. The little boy was on the top bunk and the little girl was on the bottom. They had been sick for six days now and the mother and father, grandparents, and others were praying to Jesus to heal them both very soon.

The mother knew Jesus could heal them. She remembered when she was sick one time as a little girl. Her fever was very high for several days. Then Jesus had slipped into the room and gave her a healing touch. The mother knew that Jesus could heal, because she had felt His healing power when she was little.

The father knew Jesus could heal because he remembered the many times Jesus had healed him. One time he was run over by a car. All the saints nearby gathered and prayed for him. Soon he was up and playing again, though his head was bandaged. Later on, all that was left was a scar. The father was healed of a ruptured appendix and water poisoning, so he knew Jesus could heal his little children also.

In a few days, Jesus healed the little boy, but He decided to take the little girl to heaven to be with Him. The father and mother cried because they missed their little girl, but they knew she was in a better place with Jesus. Then they were happy because Jesus had healed their little boy!

When we pray, we must believe. Not only do we trust Jesus to heal a sick person, but we also trust the wisdom of God. We know that all of us will die someday. Jesus doesn't want us to stay in this world of trouble and suffering. He wants us to come to heaven and be in that wonderful place with Him someday. Some of us will go to heaven sooner than others, but it is important that we live for Jesus and obey our parents.

Let us always remember that Jesus heals today. There are so many stories that we could tell. One time a little girl was hopping around in her brother's bedroom, showing him a flag that she had from school. Suddenly she lost her balance and fell. The hard, round flag stick jabbed right into the back of her mouth and tore a hole in her throat. It bled and bled while her brother and sister quickly worked together to stop the bleeding. They prayed to Jesus because the blood was running down her throat and also out of her mouth. That is a hard place to stop bleeding. Then Jesus came into the room and quieted the frightened girl and He stopped the bleeding. They called their mother and daddy who came into the room right away. They all had prayer again for healing. After a week of eating very carefully, the little girl was better and soon she was well again. Jesus heals today!

Can you tell some things about the healing power of Jesus?

Connie Sorrell



Primary Sunday School

September 10, 2017. V67, Q3, W11

## Death to Life

Lesson text: Acts 9:36-42, Isaiah 41:10, Jeremiah 17:14, James 5:14

A woman named Tabitha, also translated as Dorcas, lived in a city called Joppa. She was a loving woman, full of good works and charitable deeds.

She became sick, and died. As was custom, her body was washed and laid in an upper chamber. The Christians heard that Peter was in a nearby city, and they sent two men to ask him to not delay, and come to Joppa.

Peter went with them to Joppa, and they brought him into the upper chamber. The widows stood around Dorcas' body, weeping. They showed Peter their coats and garments she made for them.

Peter asked them to leave the room. He kneeled down and prayed to God. He turned to her body and said, "Tabitha, arise."

She opened her eyes, and when she saw Peter she sat up. He offered his hand, lifted her up and called the saints and widows. Then, he showed them that she was alive.

The news spread through Joppa. Many believed on the Lord!

God often uses physical affliction to reach people and increase our faith. He is the Creator of our earthly bodies, and knows us better than anyone else.

O Lord my God, I cried unto thee, and thou hast healed me. Psalm 30:2

### Questions

1. What is another name for Dorcas?
2. Who did the Christians send for after Dorcas died?
3. What happened in Joppa after Dorcas came back to life?
4. Think about times in your life when God healed you from sickness or pain.

Do you believe that the Lord can and will heal sickness and pain today just like He did in the Bible stories we read? When we get sick or hurt, remember that God knows exactly what's going on. Pray to Him for healing. Pray that you may be a Christian example to others, even when you are sick.



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# Beautiful Light

(A True Story)

A few short years ago, a Jewish girl, like most other Jews, did not believe Jesus rose from the tomb. She had been told the lie that Jesus was stolen away and that was all she knew.

Then one day this girl, whom we shall call Ruth, became very sick. She was in the hospital and the doctors didn't know if she would live. Then she saw a vision that God sent to her.

A beautiful, glorious light shone all around Ruth—light more beautiful than the sunshine. Next, Ruth heard a choir singing and it was the most beautiful singing she had ever heard. The harmony was perfect and Ruth listened closely to hear the words they were singing. She couldn't understand the words because they were in Hebrew, the old Jewish language. Then into the light came a man dressed in a white robe. His face was shining and His eyes were kind but commanding. He just stood before Ruth with His arms outstretched, looking right into her eyes. Ruth felt a very deep respect for this One in white and felt herself kneeling before Him.

From that time on, Ruth began to get better. Though Ruth never told anyone about this vision, she could not forget it and she said the Hebrew words over and over to herself so she would remember what they were.

A few years passed by and Ruth married and became a nurse. One day, Ruth met

a man in the hospital who was very sick. The man was a good Christian who read the Bible and believed in the saving grace of Jesus. Ruth heard from him more about Jesus than she had ever heard. She had not heard that Jesus was truly the Son of God. She had just thought of Jesus as a good prophet. Ruth would hear this Christian man pray to Jesus and that would touch her heart.

As time went by, the man became weaker and weaker until Ruth knew it would be just a few hours before he died. His wife and children were with him and Ruth was helping care for him. Suddenly, the room lit up with a beautiful glorious light. Each one saw it and felt the presence of a Divine Being. The sick man smiled and then stopped breathing.

Ruth remembered her vision and knew that was the same light she had seen. Now she was determined to know what those Hebrew words meant. Ruth had written them down long ago, so she took the words and found a Hebrew professor who could tell her what they were. He told her that the beautiful choir had been singing, "Praise to the Son of God!" Now Ruth knew it was Jesus Christ she saw!

Ruth became a Christian and she told others that Jesus was alive, for she had seen Him and she knew He took those who believe on Him to heaven.

Connie Sorrell

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Primary Sunday School

September 17, 2017. V67, Q3, W12

## One in Christ

*Lesson text:* Acts 10, Romans 3:22, I Corinthians 7:19, I Corinthians 12:13

Cornelius was a Roman centurion, a military officer over 100 men. The Bible says he was a "devout man, one who feared God with all his house... and he prayed to God often."

One day, he had a vision. An angel told him that God wanted him to send for Peter, so they could talk together. So Cornelius sent three men to find Peter.

The next day, God sent Peter a vision. He was on a rooftop and very hungry. In his vision he saw all kinds of different animals. A voice said, "Rise, Peter; kill, and eat." Peter said, "No, I can't, I have never eaten any thing that is common or unclean."

The voice said, "Do not call uncommon what God has cleansed."

Peter wasn't sure what the vision meant. The Spirit said, "Three men are looking for you. Arise, go with them, and do not doubt anything. I have sent them."

Peter came to the house of Cornelius. Cornelius met him, and when Peter went in the house he realized that there were many people waiting for the Word. As they spoke together, he realized the meaning of his vision.

It was Jewish law to avoid certain meats. God showed Peter that now he could eat any meat. Jewish law also forbid Jews from being with anyone from another nation. God showed Peter that Jews should not call any non-Jewish person common, or think they were less of a person.

Peter said, "I see that God is no respecter of persons. No matter what nation someone comes from, if he/she fear God and work righteousness, they are saved."

He preached the gospel, and the Holy Spirit fell on the listening people. The Jews were astonished, because the Gentiles received the Holy Spirit just as the Jews.

### Memory Verse

There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus. Galatians 3:28

### Questions

1. What did Cornelius do often?
2. What special message did God send Peter through the vision?
3. How did the Jews respond when the Gentiles received the Spirit too?
4. Do we think we are better than other people who are different than we? Does God think we are better?



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# Fishing

"Daddy, wouldn't you rather be fishing than reading the newspaper?" asked David as he sat down beside his father.

"I guess," said Daddy from behind his newspaper.

"Jimmy said his daddy knows where there are a lot of fish in a nearby pond. They are going fishing Saturday," stated David with a hint in his voice that he would like to do the same. Daddy didn't answer, so David tried to hint in another way. "Jesus baked fish one time for the disciples and they really did enjoy eating them," he said. "Jesus even told the disciples where to fish so they could catch more. He thought it was good to go fishing."

Now Daddy lay down his paper. "It is okay to go fishing," he said with a smile, "but sometimes it is not convenient. It takes a lot of work to get poles and tackle ready, and then you need to go where there are plenty of fish. You need to go at the right time when fish are biting and you need to know where they are biting."

David was now the quiet one for a moment, then he said, "Well, we can just ask Jesus where the fish are biting! He told the disciples where to fish!"

This answer caused Daddy to laugh. "Well, well, well," he said, "Jesus does have the answers and you do have the faith to get the answers! Maybe we could find where some fish are biting after all! Tell, me, David, do you know how the disciples caught fish?"

"They didn't use poles, but they used

nets so they could catch more at a time," replied David.

"Yes," said Daddy. "Last week I was reading about their way of fishing, along with a description about the nets. If the fishermen were near the shore or in shallow water, they used the cast net. It is large and round like a circle. At the edges of the circle, there are weights which draw the net down. The net is spun out flat over the water surface. Then the weights quickly pull it down over the fish. With a cord attached to the center of the net, the fishermen pull the net up out of the water. All the fish are then caught into the mesh of the net. This method of fishing is still used today on the Sea of Galilee. Out in the ship, fishermen use a drag net. They hold the mouth of these nets wide open while the ship moves gently through the water. Startled fish are caught into the net. When it is full, the fishermen pull the net up and dump the fish onto the bottom of the ship. Fish that are too small or cannot be eaten, are thrown back into the water."

"We could go fishing with nets if you want to," said David who liked what Daddy had said.

"We had better try the poles and fishing hooks," replied Daddy. "That is what I am used to. Maybe Uncle Andrew won't mind if we fish in his pond. Did you say you wanted to fish this Saturday?"

David's eyes shone as he nodded his head.

"If you will help me do some things around the house," said Daddy, "then we will try to go fishing Saturday."

Connie Sorrell



Primary Sunday School

September 24, 2017. V67, Q3, W13

## The Persecution of the Church

Lesson text: Acts 12, 2 Corinthians 1:10, Psalm 33:18-20, 41:2, Matthew 18:19

King Herod, the grandson to Herod the Great, persecuted the Christians. He killed James, the apostle and a brother to John. This made the Jews happy, so he captured Peter and put him in prison.

Herod didn't want Peter to escape, so he ordered 16 men to keep watch!

Peter was bound with two chains, slept between two soldiers, and guards watched the doors. The Christians prayed without ceasing.

At night, the angel of the Lord came into the prison. He woke Peter and said, "Arise up quickly."

The chains fell from Peter's hands. The angel told him, "Gird yourself, and put on your shoes."

The angel told him to follow. He obeyed, but Peter thought he was in a dream or a vision.

Angel and man walked past the first and second set of guards. They came to an iron gate that led to the city. The gate opened on its own, and they walked through. The angel left once they were on the street.

Peter realized he wasn't dreaming and said, "Now I know for sure: The Lord sent His angel and delivered me out of the hand of Herod, and from all the Jews."

He went to a house where many Christians gathered in prayer for him. He knocked at the door. A girl named Rhoda heard his voice, but she was so excited that she ran inside and told everyone he was at the gate - without answering the door!

The Christians didn't believe her, but finally said maybe it was his angel. Peter kept knocking and calling at the gate. When they finally opened the door, they were astonished!

Peter told them how the Lord rescued him out of prison. He told them to tell the apostles, then he left for another place.

### Memory Verse

The angel of the Lord encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them. Psalm 34:7

### Questions

1. Who captured and imprisoned Peter?
2. How many men did King Herod order to watch Peter?
3. What happened when God's angel visited Peter?
4. Where did Peter go after the angel left? What happened?

*The Beautiful Way* (primary) and *The Compass* (junior) Sunday school literature can be downloaded at [sundayschoolliterature.com](http://sundayschoolliterature.com) and [churchofgodeveninglight.com/beautiful-way](http://churchofgodeveninglight.com/beautiful-way). Please email any questions to [gellenbeck.lindsey@gmail.com](mailto:gellenbeck.lindsey@gmail.com).

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