

Summer 2020 • June / July / August

BEGINNERS' STORIES

Summer Quarter 2020: June • July • August

BEGINNERS' STORIES

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Letter to the Parents

Dear Parents,

Thank you for sharing your child with me as we learn about God's Word together. Your child is going to enjoy learning the lessons for this quarter.

God is experienced as Wisdom in both the Hebrew Scriptures and the New Testament. During this quarter, we explore the many facets of wisdom as recorded in the book of Proverbs, in the Gospels, and in the letter written by James.

Unit I, "Wisdom in Proverbs," containing four lessons, explores the nature of God's wisdom as found in the book of Proverbs. These lessons describe how Wisdom calls to us; the value of Wisdom; and the gifts she offers. The unit ends by exploring the metaphor of the feast of Wisdom.

Unit II, "Wisdom in the Gospels," offers four lessons—one from each of the four Gospels. This unit examines the wisdom of God as seen in the teachings and life of Jesus.

Unit III, "Faith and Wisdom in James," offers a five-lesson study of wisdom as seen in the letter of James. These lessons explore the interaction of faith and wisdom, including practical advice regarding faith in action and the taming of the tongue. The study ends by contrasting two kinds of wisdom.

Your Child's Teacher

June 7, 2020

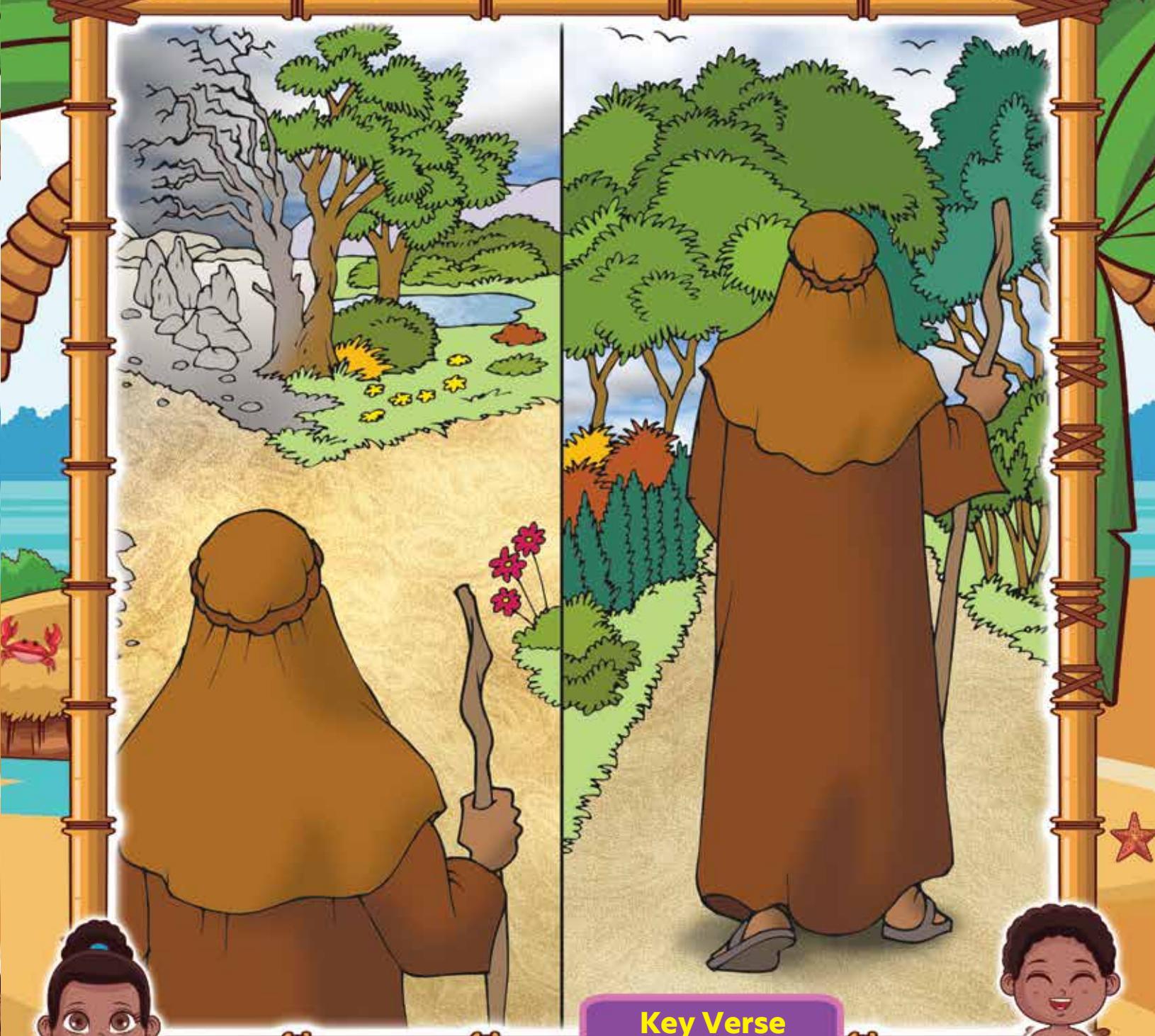
Beginners' Stories

Wise Up!

Lesson Scripture: Proverbs 1:1-4, 7-8, 10-11, 20-22, 32-33

Lesson

1



Key Verse

"Whoever listens to me will live in safety and be at ease, without fear of harm." (Proverbs 1:33)





Wise Up!

(Proverbs 1:1-4, 7-8, 10-11, 20-22, 32-33)

King Solomon wrote many wise sayings. He wrote wise words to teach young people how to do what is right, honest, just, and fair.

The first step is to love and respect God. Next, you must listen to what your parents tell you to do. Do not follow people who are doing wrong. It does not matter what they say. Do not be like people who will not follow instructions. Their actions will get everyone in trouble.

Wherever you go, wisdom is there. So, listen and become wise. Then you will be at peace, happy, and safe from harm.

For the Parents

Dear Parents/Guardians,

In today's lesson, your child heard one of King Solomon's proverbs. In this proverb, King Solomon encourages people to listen to and follow wisdom. He emphasizes that the first step in being wise is to respect God. As you review the lesson, emphasize the benefits of listening and obeying instruction, and the consequences of disobeying instruction. Review rules you want your child to follow. Acknowledge your child for listening and obeying instruction.

Faith Block

I will listen
and obey!

Your Child's Teacher

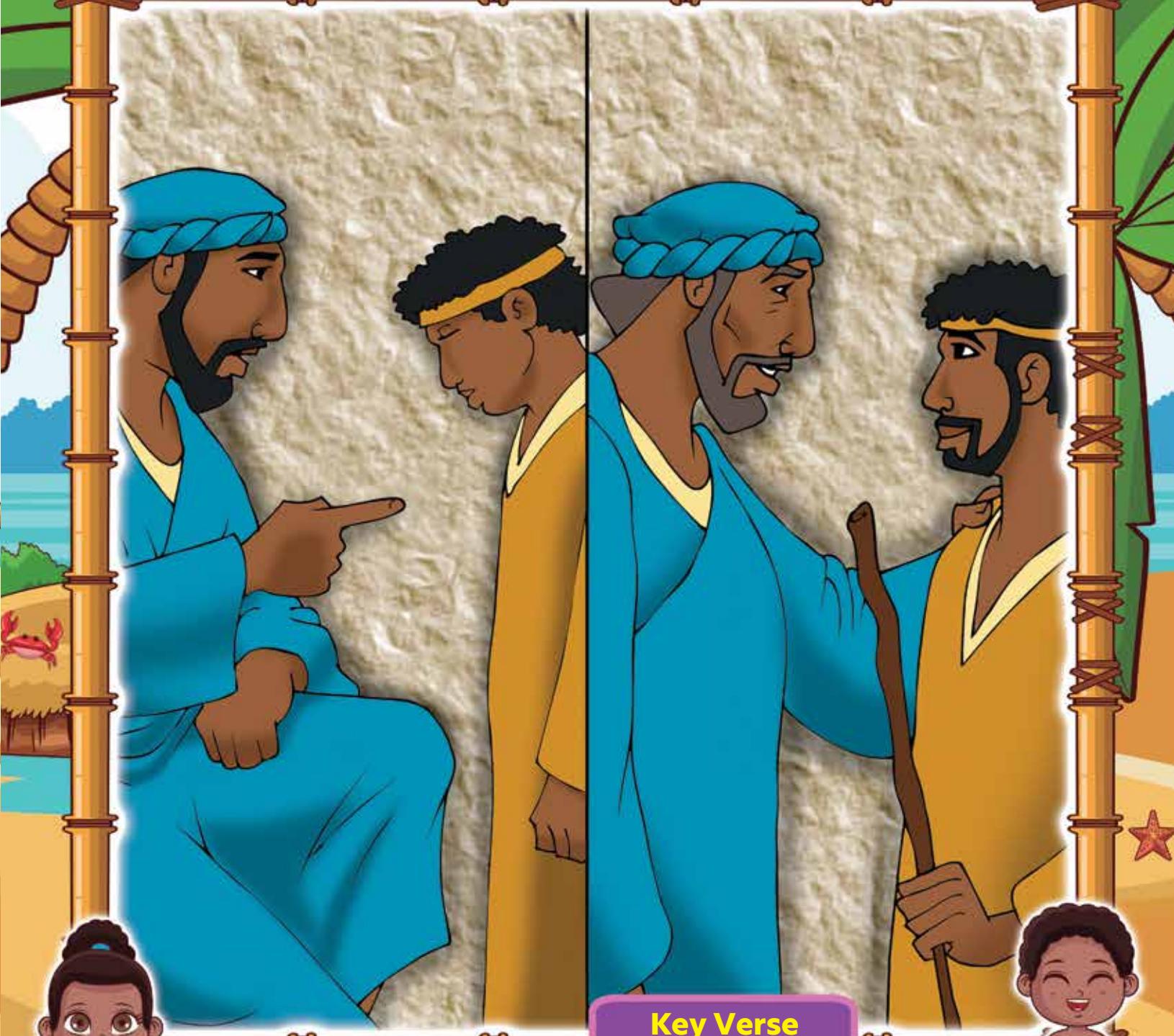
JUNE 14, 2020

Beginners' Stories

A Special Treasure

Lesson Scripture: Proverbs 2:1-11

Lesson
2



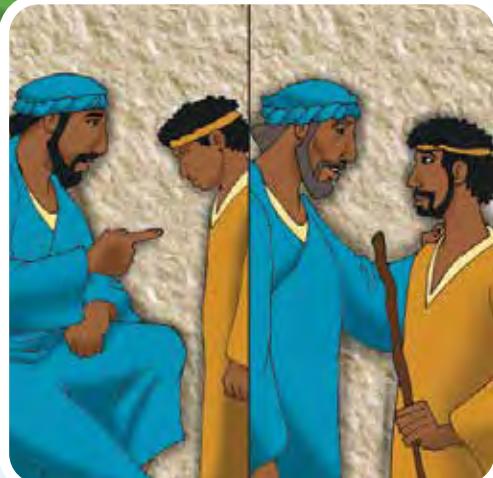
Key Verse

The LORD gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding. (Proverbs 2:6)



A Special Treasure

(Proverbs 2:1-11)



Listen carefully with your ears when a wise person is speaking to you. If you do not understand what is being said, then ask God to help you understand. God gives people wisdom, knowledge, and understanding.

If you lose treasure, you try to find it. Well, wisdom and understanding are special treasures. You must search for them.

Live right, and God will help you know and do what is right. God will protect you. God will guard your path. Then you can understand what is right and fair. You will know how to make right choices. You will have joy and be safe.



For the Parents

Dear Parents/Guardians,

In today's lesson, your child heard a proverb encouraging youth to listen to wisdom and seek God for understanding. Victory, protection, safety, joy, and the ability to make right choices and do what is just are available to all who seek and obtain wisdom. Emphasize the benefits of having wisdom as you review today's lesson with your child. Encourage your child to not be shy about asking for understanding and wisdom.

Faith Block

I will ask God
for wisdom!



Your Child's Teacher

June 21, 2020

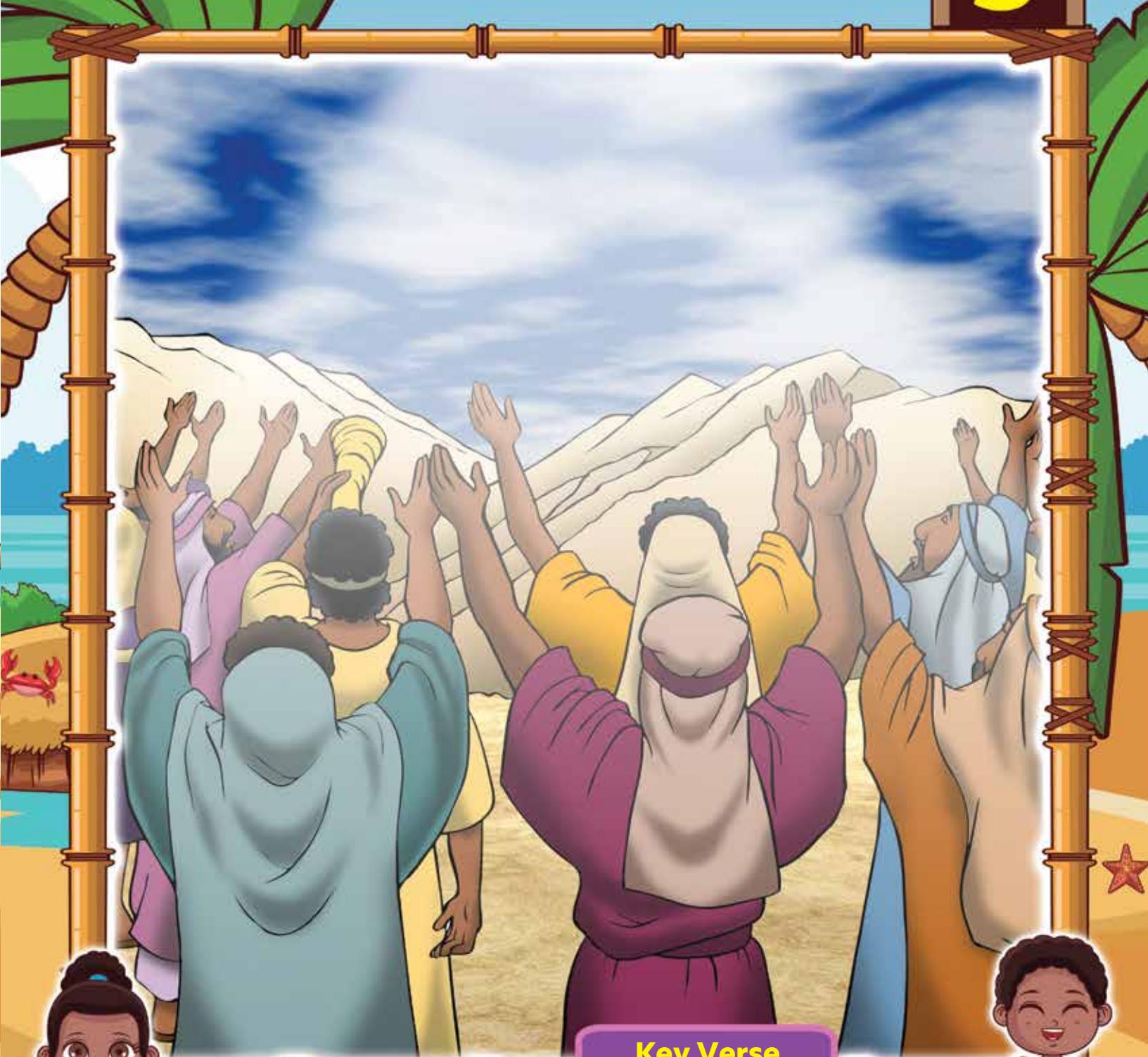
Beginners' Stories

A Great Gift

Lesson Scripture: Proverbs 8:8-14, 17-21

Lesson

3



Key Verse

"Choose [Wisdom's] instruction instead of silver, knowledge rather than choice gold."
(Proverbs 8:10)





A Great Gift

(Proverbs 8:8-14, 17-21)

When you have wisdom, you will know what is true, good, and fair. If you really want to learn things, use wisdom. Choose to follow instructions and gain knowledge. Choose to have wisdom rather than silver and gold. Wisdom is worth more than those things.

Nothing in this world is greater than wisdom. With wisdom, you will do what is right. And you will not like bragging, wrong behavior, and bad words.

When you choose to love and follow God, you do what is good. When you listen and do what is right, you are wise. Choose wisdom. It is the greatest gift ever!



For the Parents

Dear Parents/Guardians,

In today's lesson, your child heard how wisdom is more valuable than gold and silver. In wisdom are found knowledge, good judgment, and power. As you review today's lesson with your child, emphasize that toys are not to be valued over doing what is right. What is most valuable is the gift of wisdom. Model good decision making. Encourage your child to use wisdom to improve in certain areas of his or her life.

Faith Block

Wisdom is a great gift!



Your Child's Teacher

JUNE 28, 2020

Beginners' Stories

Wisdom's Feast

Lesson Scripture: Proverbs 9:1-6, 8-10, 13-18

Lesson
4



Key Verse

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom,
and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.
(Proverbs 9:10)



Wisdom's Feast

(Proverbs 9:1-6, 8-10, 13-18)

King Solomon talks about wisdom like it is a woman who hosts a banquet. Wisdom is like a good hostess. The food is cooked. The table is set. Now she, Wisdom, has sent her servants to invite people who need to learn wisdom and understanding. She wants them to be wise and live.

Do not bother to correct disrespectful people. Instead, correct wise people. Wise people learn from teaching. Those who learn more about God and respect Him understand more things.

Solomon also talks about foolishness, or *folly*, like it is a woman who does not know anything. Anyone who follows Folly will find trouble.



For the Parents

Dear Parents/Guardians,

In today's lesson, your child heard wisdom compared to a good hostess and folly to a bad hostess. Wisdom is prepared to teach her guests understanding and wisdom. However, Folly is unprepared and has no knowledge or discipline. Folly offers trouble and destruction. After reviewing this lesson with your child, give your child the opportunity (with your guidance) to make a wise choice. Discuss the understanding and wisdom used in making the choice.

Faith Block

I will live wisely!



Your Child's Teacher

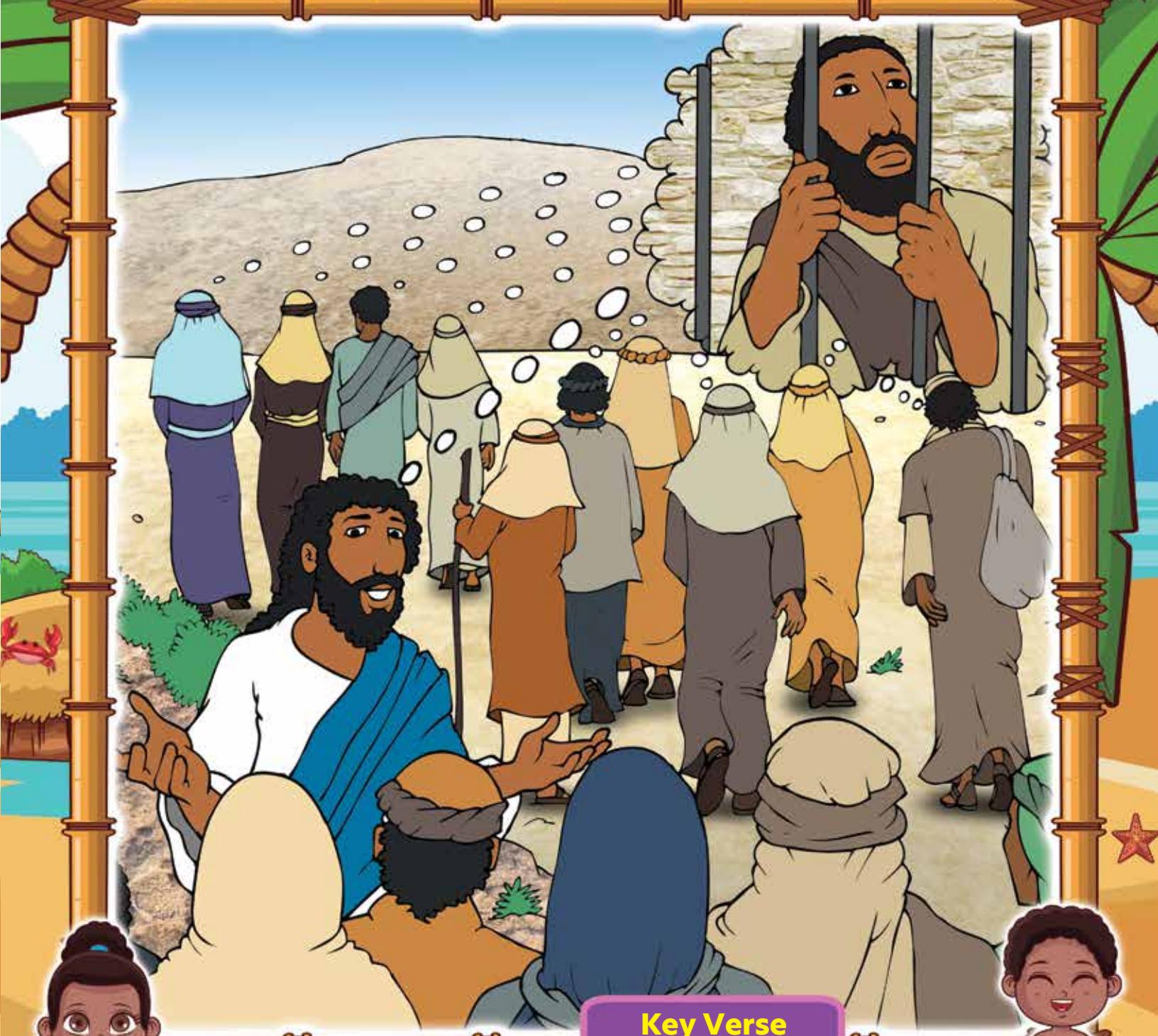
JULY 5, 2020

Beginners' Stories

Proof Positive

Lesson Scripture: Matthew 11:7-19

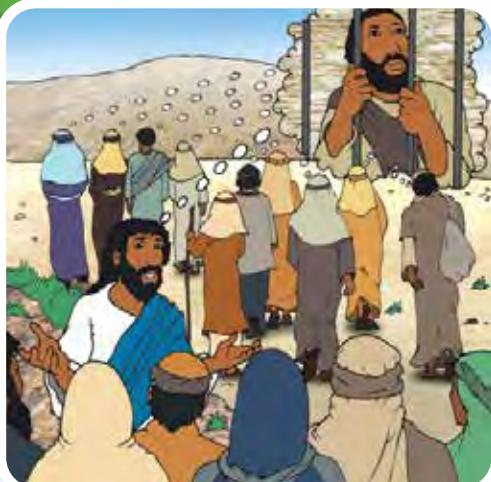
Lesson
5



Key Verse

"Wisdom is proved right by her deeds."
(Matthew 11:19b)





Proof Positive

(Matthew 11:7-19)

People went to see John the Baptist. Did they expect him to be weak? Or dressed in nice clothes? Or a prophet (messenger of God)? John was more than a prophet. Prophets said that he would come before Jesus with a special message.

John was the greatest. But those thought of as unimportant in God's kingdom are greater than John! After John began preaching, God's kingdom grew.

Because John did not eat or drink, people said he had a bad spirit. Jesus *did* eat and drink. And they called Jesus greedy and a friend to sinners. But the work of Jesus and John is proof of their wisdom.

For the Parents

Dear Parents/Guardians,

In today's lesson, your child heard Jesus' message concerning John the Baptist. Jesus emphasized how John's uniqueness was criticized by people as his being possessed by a demonic spirit. In addition, people criticized Jesus for associating with sinners. However, their deeds reflected their wisdom. As you review this story, remind your child that though people might make fun of his or her wise actions, he or she should know that those actions are pleasing to God.

Faith Block

I want my work
to show
my wisdom!

Your Child's Teacher

JULY 12, 2020

Beginners' Stories

Questions Are Good!

Lesson Scripture: Ecclesiastes 3:1, 7; Luke 2:39-52

Lesson

6

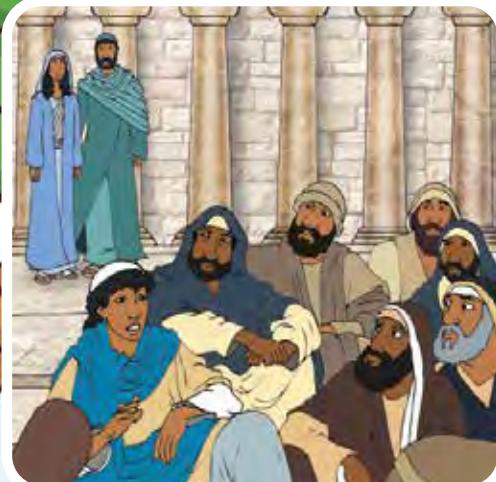


Key Verse

[Jesus' parents] found him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. (Luke 2:46)

Questions Are Good!

(Ecclesiastes 3:1, 7; Luke 2:39-52)



There is a time to be silent, and a time to speak. Jesus was a very wise child who spoke up.

One time, when Jesus was twelve years old, His family went to Jerusalem for the Passover Festival. On the way home from the festival, Jesus' parents could not find Him. So, they returned to Jerusalem to look for Him. After three days they found Jesus in the Temple courts, sitting with the religious teachers! He was discussing important questions. Everyone

was amazed at His understanding and answers!

Jesus left with His parents and was very obedient. Jesus continued to grow in wisdom.

For the Parents

Dear Parents/Guardians,

In today's lesson, your child heard how wise Jesus was as a child. At age 12, He was able to discuss important matters with religious teachers—and His answers indicated that He was wise and had great understanding. As you review today's lesson, encourage your child to ask questions at home, at church, and at school so that he or she can learn something new daily.

Your Child's Teacher

Faith Block

I will
ask questions!



JULY 19, 2020

Beginners' Stories

Don't Let the Doubters Stop You

Lesson

7

Lesson Scripture: Mark 6:1-6



Key Verse

When the Sabbath came, [Jesus] began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were amazed. (Mark 6:2)



Don't Let the Doubters Stop You

(Mark 6:1-6)



Jesus taught in the synagogue in His hometown of Nazareth. People were amazed at His wisdom, especially since He was Mary's Son. He was a carpenter. The people knew His brothers and sisters. They wanted to know how Jesus became so wise and had power to do miracles.

The people got upset. They refused to believe in Jesus. Jesus told them that a prophet can be honored everywhere except in his hometown. Because of their unbelief, Jesus could only heal a few people.

Jesus was amazed at their unbelief. But they did not stop Jesus. Jesus left and went from village to village teaching.

For the Parents

Dear Parents/Guardians,

In today's lesson, your child heard how Jesus' amazing wisdom, teaching, and ministry of healing was rejected by people in His hometown. They saw Jesus as a carpenter and as Mary's Son. They refused to believe in Him. However, Jesus continued with His ministry. As you review the lesson, encourage your child to keep doing what is right and fair. Acknowledge and praise him or her when he or she does the right things.

Faith Block

I will never stop
doing what
is right!

Your Child's Teacher

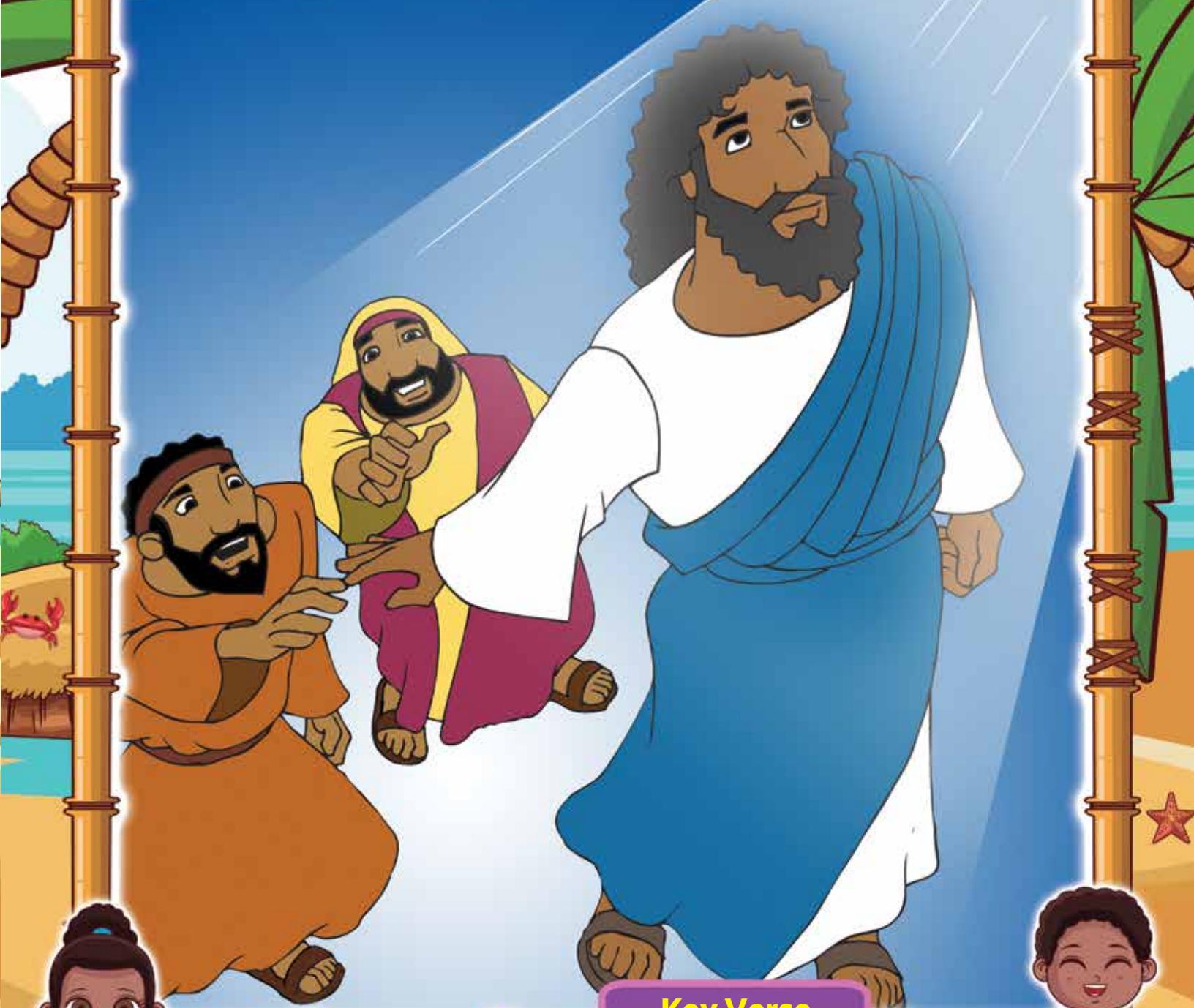
JULY 26, 2020

Beginners' Stories

I Choose Truth

Lesson Scripture: John 14:1-14

Lesson
8

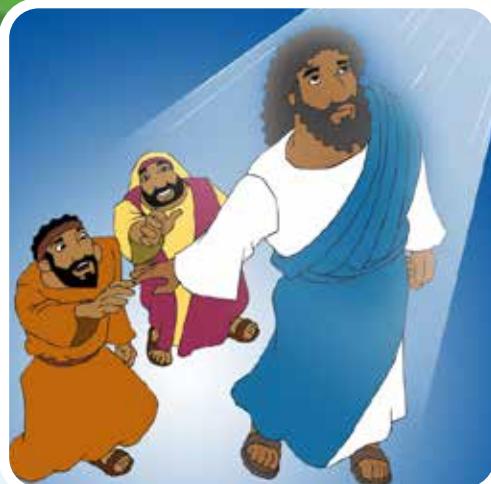


Key Verse

[Jesus said,] "Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father." (John 14:12)

I Choose Truth

(John 14:1-14)



Jesus said to His disciples, "I am going to My Father to prepare a place for you. Then I will come back for you. You know where I am going and the way there."

"No, we don't, Lord," Thomas said. "How can we know the way?" Jesus said, "I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life. You must come through Me to see the Father." Philip said, "Show us the Father."

Jesus said, "Anyone who has seen Me has seen the Father! And whoever believes in Me will do greater things than I have done. Ask for anything in My name, and I will do it for you."

For the Parents

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Today, your child heard that Jesus announced that He was leaving, but He promised to return for His disciples. Jesus told His disciples that the way to God is through Him. And He encouraged them to do greater works than He had done. Review this lesson with your child, emphasizing that Jesus' way is the way to follow because it is truth. Read the Bible to your child, pointing out and emphasizing Jesus' ways. Model Jesus' ways for your child.

Faith Block

I find the truth
in Jesus!

Your Child's Teacher

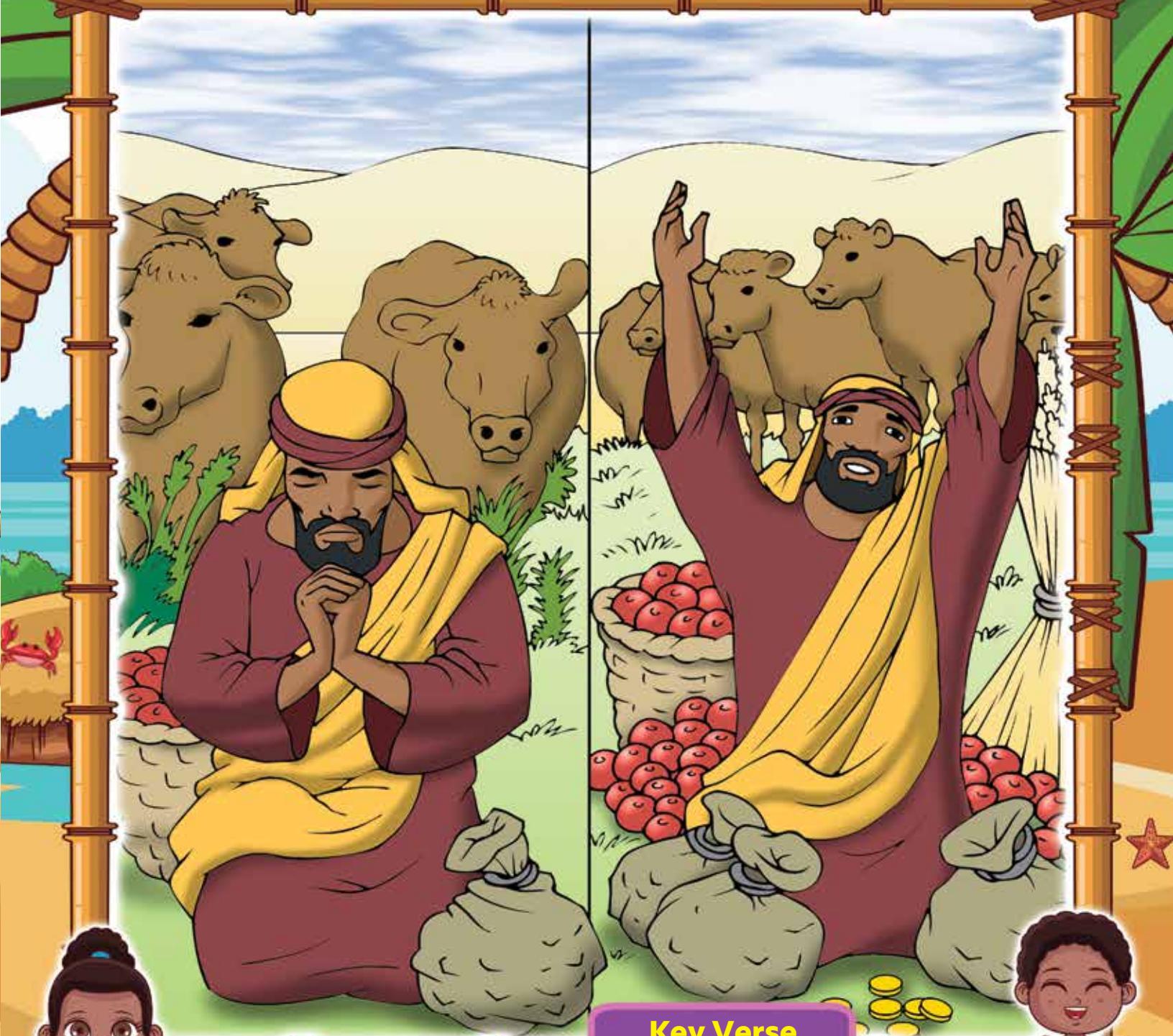
AUGUST 2, 2020

Beginners' Stories

Believe and Know

Lesson Scripture: James 1:1-11

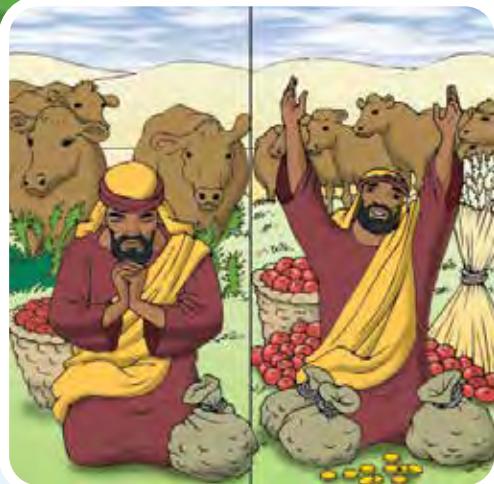
Lesson
9



Key Verse

If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you. (James 1:5)





Believe and Know

(James 1:1-11)

When trouble comes, do not get upset. Be joyful! Sometimes, your *faith* (what you believe in) will be put to the test. This means that you will wonder about your faith. Tests help your faith to grow strong. Tests teach you how to be patient and wait.

If you need wisdom, ask God for it. God will give it to you. But, make sure you believe that God will answer.

Poor people should feel proud. God will lift them up. Rich people should be glad that God will bring them low, because their riches will not last. Know what you believe!

For the Parents

Dear Parents/Guardians,

In today's lesson, your child heard that God will grant wisdom to all who ask and believe. As you review the story, pray with your child for wisdom and joy in the midst of trouble. Role-play a peer-pressure scenario, encouraging your child to ask God for wisdom in handling peer pressure. Recognize any efforts your child makes to respond to trouble patiently and with wisdom.

Faith Block

I believe God!

Your Child's Teacher

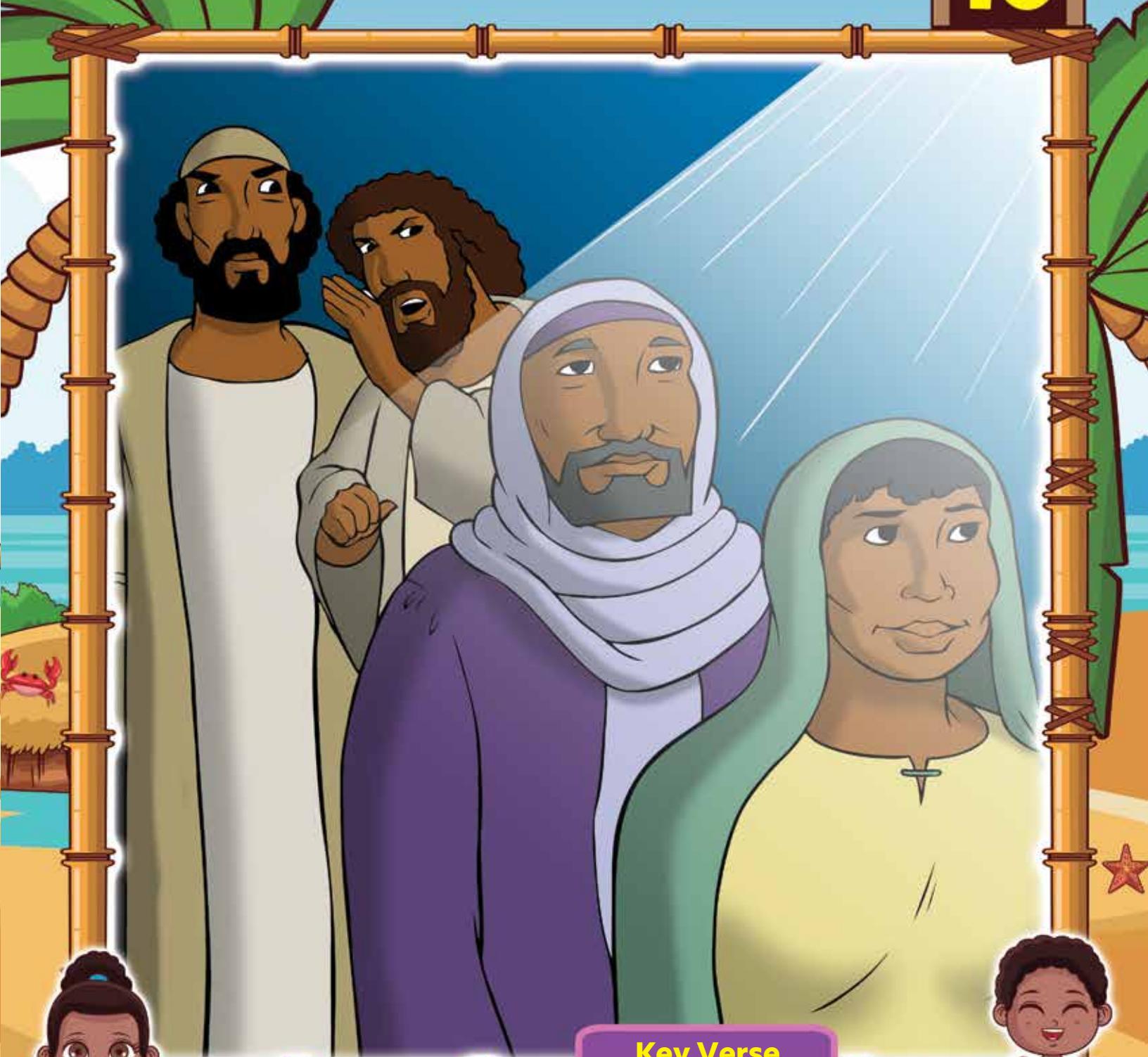
AUGUST 9, 2020

Beginners' Stories

Hear and Do

Lesson Scripture: James 1:19-27

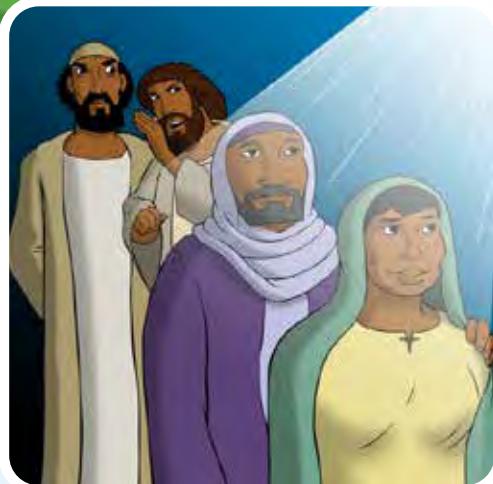
Lesson
10



Key Verse

Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. (James 1:22)





Hear and Do

(James 1:19-27)

Listen first, then slowly speak. Do not get angry. Getting angry will not make things right. Get rid of all your wrongdoing. Receive God's message. It will save you.

Do not just hear God's Word. You must obey it too. You do not look at a mirror and then forget what you look like. So, do not just hear God's rules and then forget them. Instead, look closely at God's law and remember it. Do what it says. God will bless you.

Watch what you say. God wants us to look after children without parents and women without husbands. Do not let the world make you do wrong.



For the Parents

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The lesson today encouraged your child to listen to and obey God's Word and emphasized the importance of being slow to speak. Also, God desires that we take care of those who are helpless—like orphans and widows. Review the lesson with your child. Then assist your child with making a to-do list. Post the list on your child's wall and check off each task with a smiley face when he or she completes it.

Faith Block

I will hear
God's Word
and obey it!



Your Child's Teacher

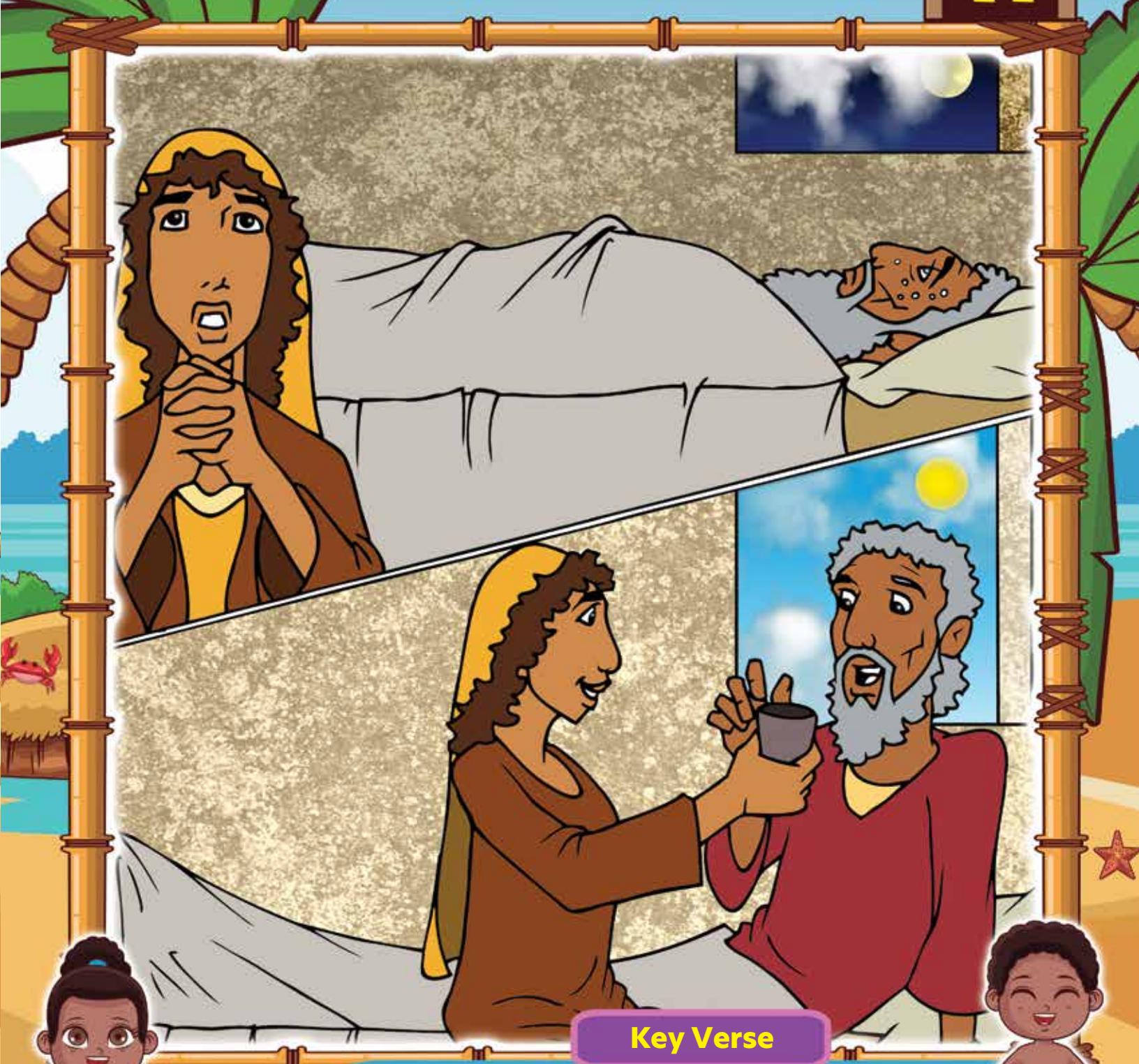
AUGUST 16, 2020

Beginners' Stories

A Working Faith

Lesson Scripture: James 2:14-26

Lesson
11



Key Verse

Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by my deeds. (James 2:18b)



A Working Faith

(James 2:14-26)



What good is having *faith* (belief in God) if there are no good deeds with it? That type of faith will not help anyone. What if you see someone with no clothes? You may say to him, "God bless you. Stay warm." But you do not give him clothes to wear. Did faith help the person? No. You have to do more than just have faith. Faith without good actions or deeds is useless.

Abraham was made right by God when he obeyed God. Abraham trusted God. Rahab was also made right when she helped the Israelite spies escape. You must put your faith to work also.

For the Parents

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Today, your child heard a message of encouragement to put faith to work by doing good deeds (works). Having faith without doing good deeds is useless.

Abraham and Rahab are two examples of persons that obeyed God and put their faith to work. As you review today's lesson, encourage your child to do good deeds at home or for a neighbor. Praise and emphasize the importance of his or her efforts.

Faith Block

I will put my
faith to work!

Your Child's Teacher

AUGUST 23, 2020

Beginners' Stories

Watch Your Tongue

Lesson Scripture: James 3:1-12

Lesson
12



Key Verse

[James wrote,] Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this should not be. (James 3:10)



Watch Your Tongue

(James 3:1-12)



To “control your tongue” is to be careful about what you say. People who control their tongues are good at controlling themselves.

We can control a horse by a tiny bit in his mouth. We can control a ship with a tiny wheel. The tongue is tiny too, but it is hard to control. The tongue can hurt others with wrong words, just like a fire burns.

Sometimes, the tongue is used to praise God. The tongue is also used to say mean things to people. So good words and bad words come out of the same mouth! This is not right. Watch what you say!

For the Parents

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Today, your child heard a message concerning how difficult it is to control the tongue. Those who control their tongues are able to control themselves. As you review today's lesson with your child, remind him or her to use wisdom by listening first and then speaking politely. Practice using kind words with your child, encouraging such behavior at home and at school. Praise your child for his or her efforts.

Faith Block

I will watch
what I say!

Your Child's Teacher

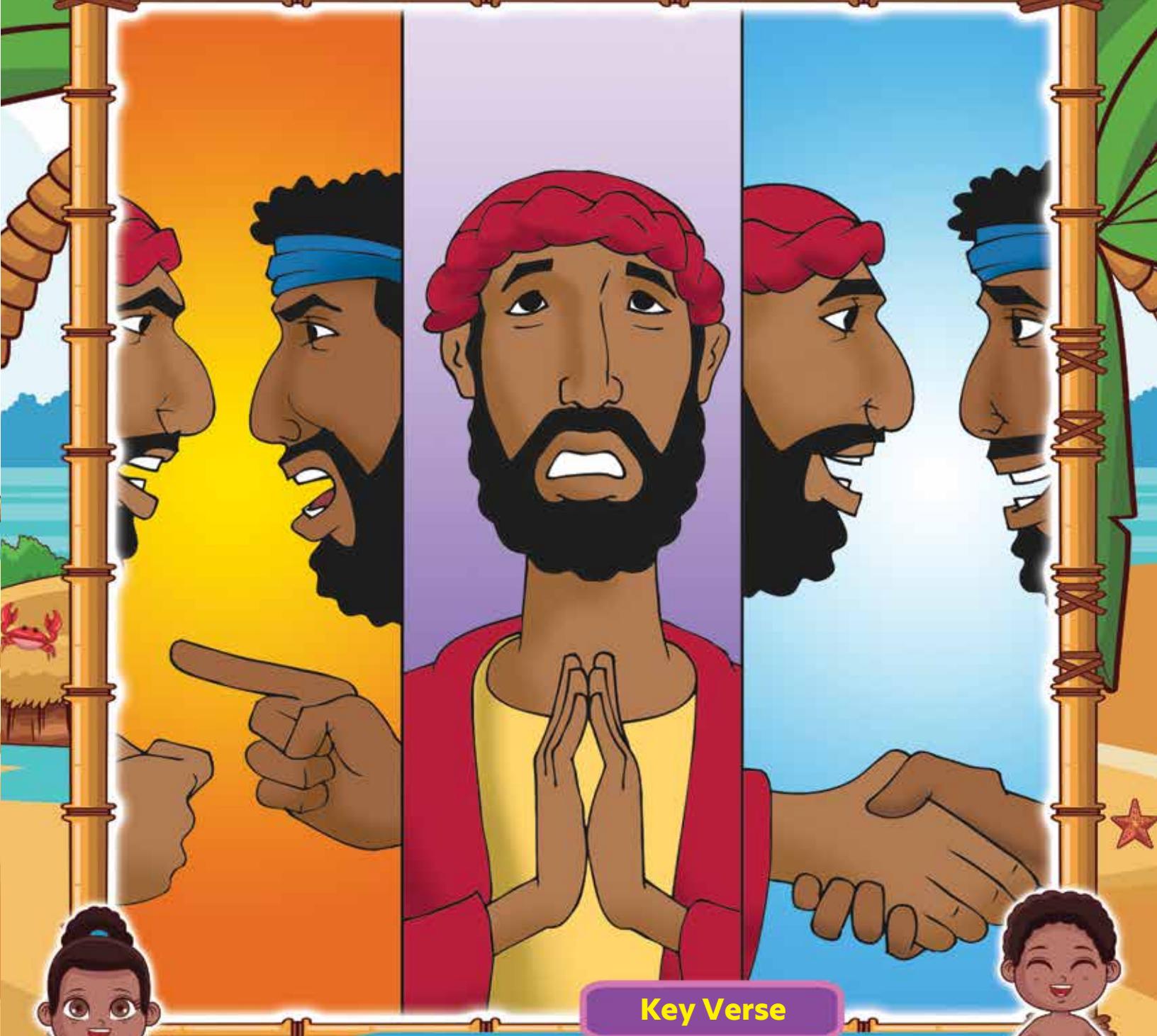
AUGUST 30, 2020

Beginners' Stories

Think First

Lesson Scripture: James 3:13-18; 5:7-12

Lesson
13



Key Verse

Who is wise and understanding among you? Let them show it by their good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom. (James 3:13)





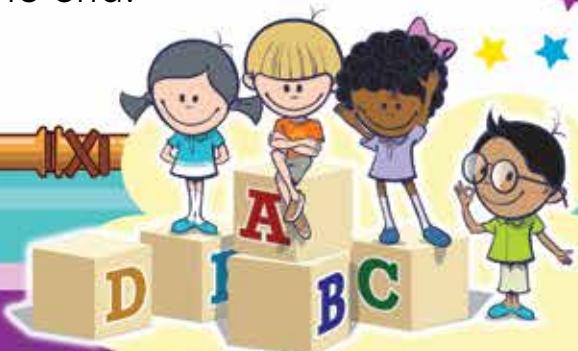
Think First

(James 3:13-18; 5:7-12)

Show wisdom by living a good life. Do good deeds because you want to do them. Do not be jealous and selfish, then try to hide it or brag about it. That is not godly wisdom.

Godly wisdom leads people to be good, peaceful, and kind. Having godly wisdom leads to being loving, *sincere* (true), and fair. Showing godly wisdom makes things better.

Be patient like a farmer. A farmer has to wait for his crops to grow. Do not grumble and complain with others. Think first and then say nice things. Never use bad words. A believer named Job lost everything. But he waited, and God blessed him in the end.



For the Parents

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Today, your child heard a message that compared godly wisdom to ungodly wisdom. Godly wisdom makes everything better. Ungodly wisdom is described as being jealous and selfish. As you review the lesson, encourage your child to think first about God's Word before speaking or acting—asking himself or herself, "What would Jesus do?" Begin by saying kind words at home and showing more patience. Recognize and praise your child's efforts.

Faith Block

I want to
live wisely!



Your Child's Teacher

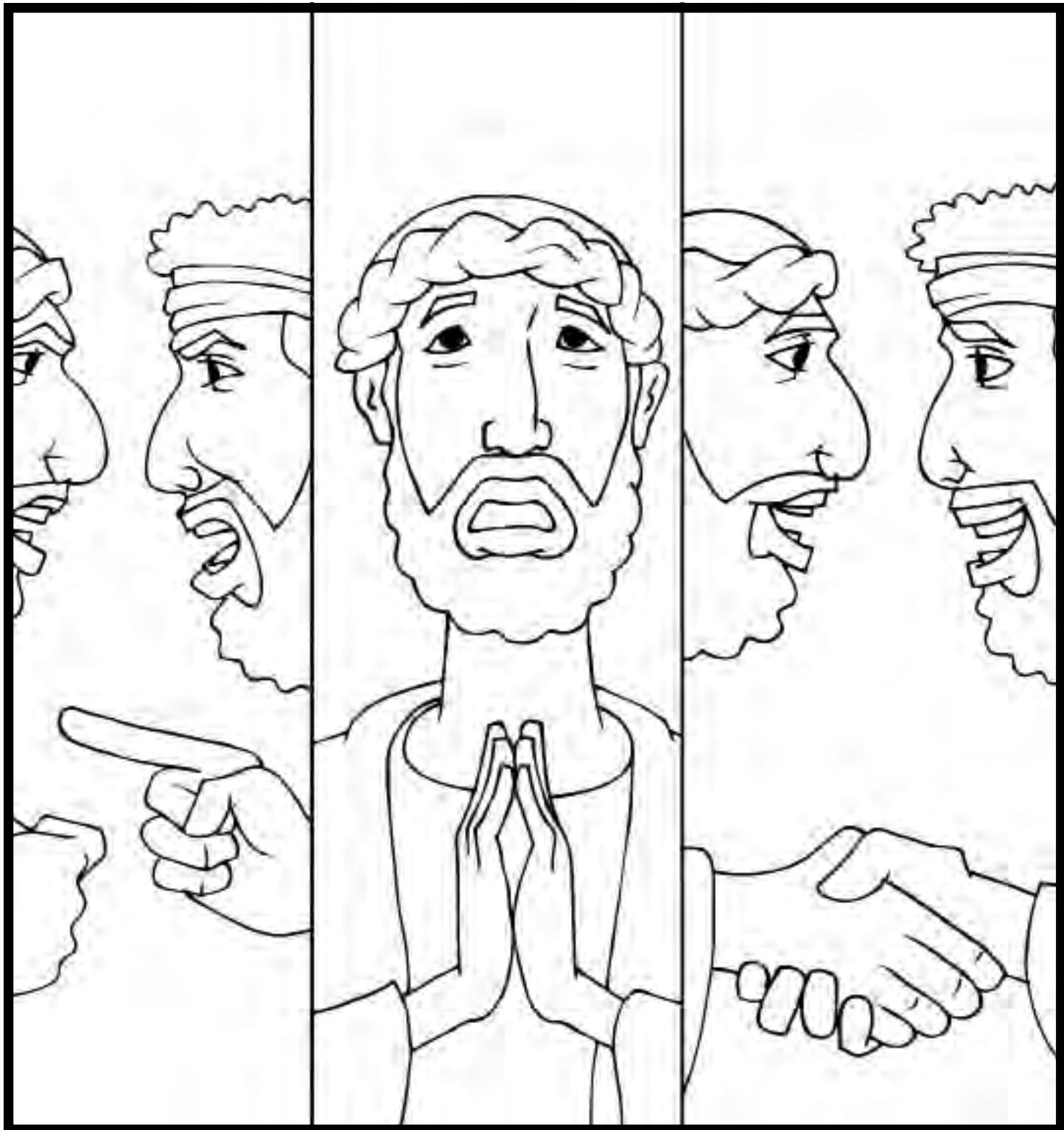
Which Shows Godly Wisdom?

Circle the pictures below that show children using godly wisdom. Cross through any pictures that show children who are not using godly wisdom.



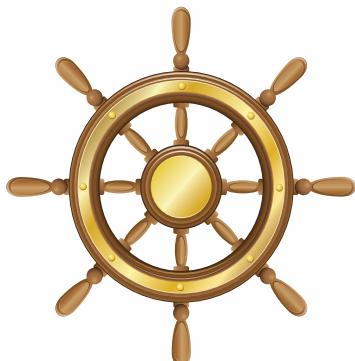
Thinking before Speaking Is Good

Color the Bible picture from today's lesson.



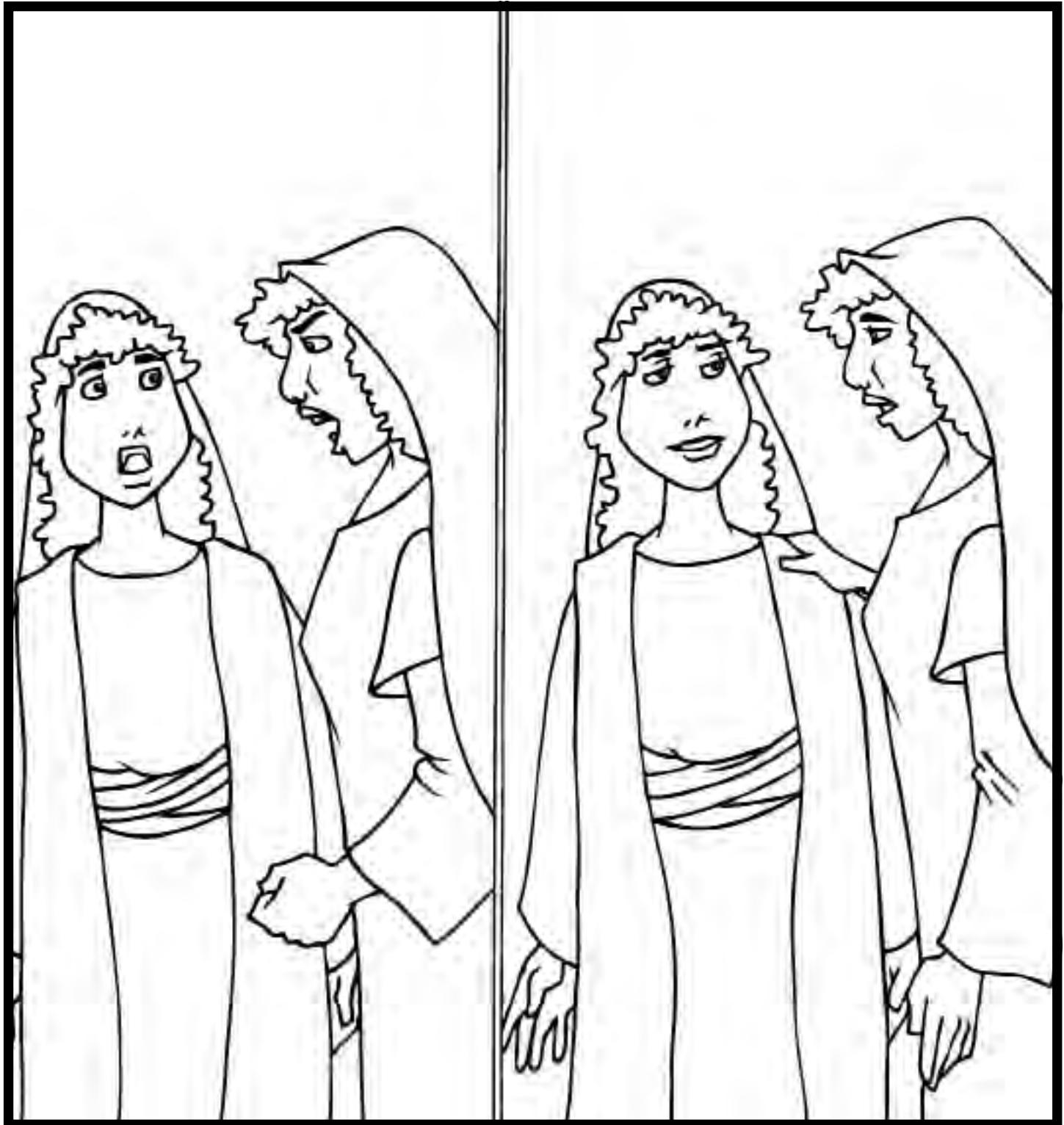
Match the Pictures

Below are pictures showing things that were talked about in today's Bible story. Draw a line from the picture on the left to the picture that matches it on the right.



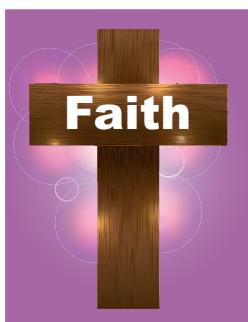
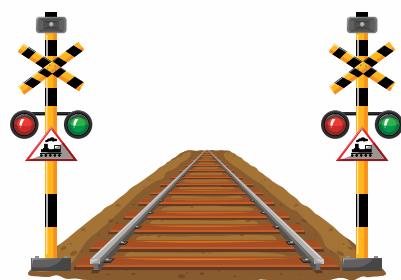
Being Careful with What We Say

Color the Bible picture from today's lesson.



What Goes Together?

We heard in today's Bible story that faith and deeds go together. There are some other things that go and work together too. Draw a line from the picture on the left side to the picture that goes with it on the right side.



Putting Faith into Action

Color the Bible picture from today's lesson.



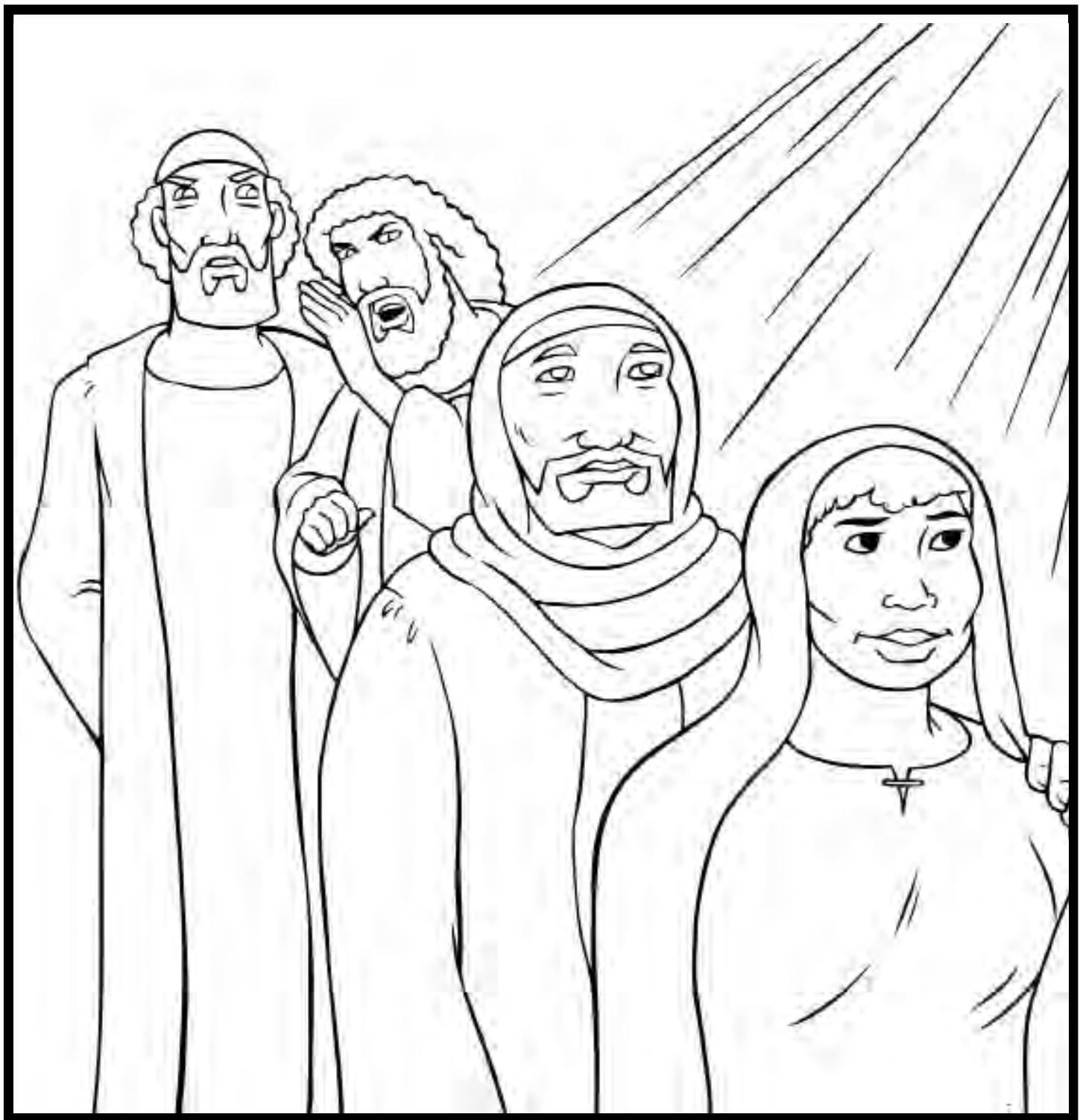
"I Can Share" Drawing

Today's lesson was about listening to God's Word and obeying it. God wants us to be kind to others. Draw a picture of yourself sharing your toys with someone.



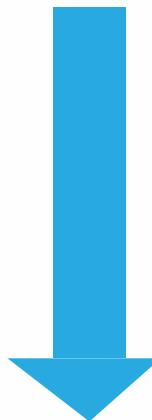
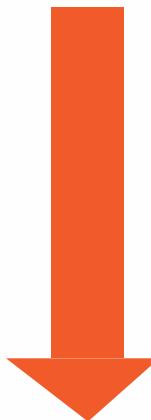
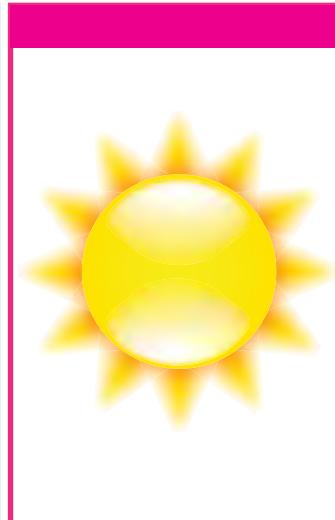
Listen to and Obey God's Word

Color the Bible picture from today's lesson.



Picture Test

What does God want us to be? Answer the question by writing in each box the first letter of each thing shown below. The first one is done to get you started.

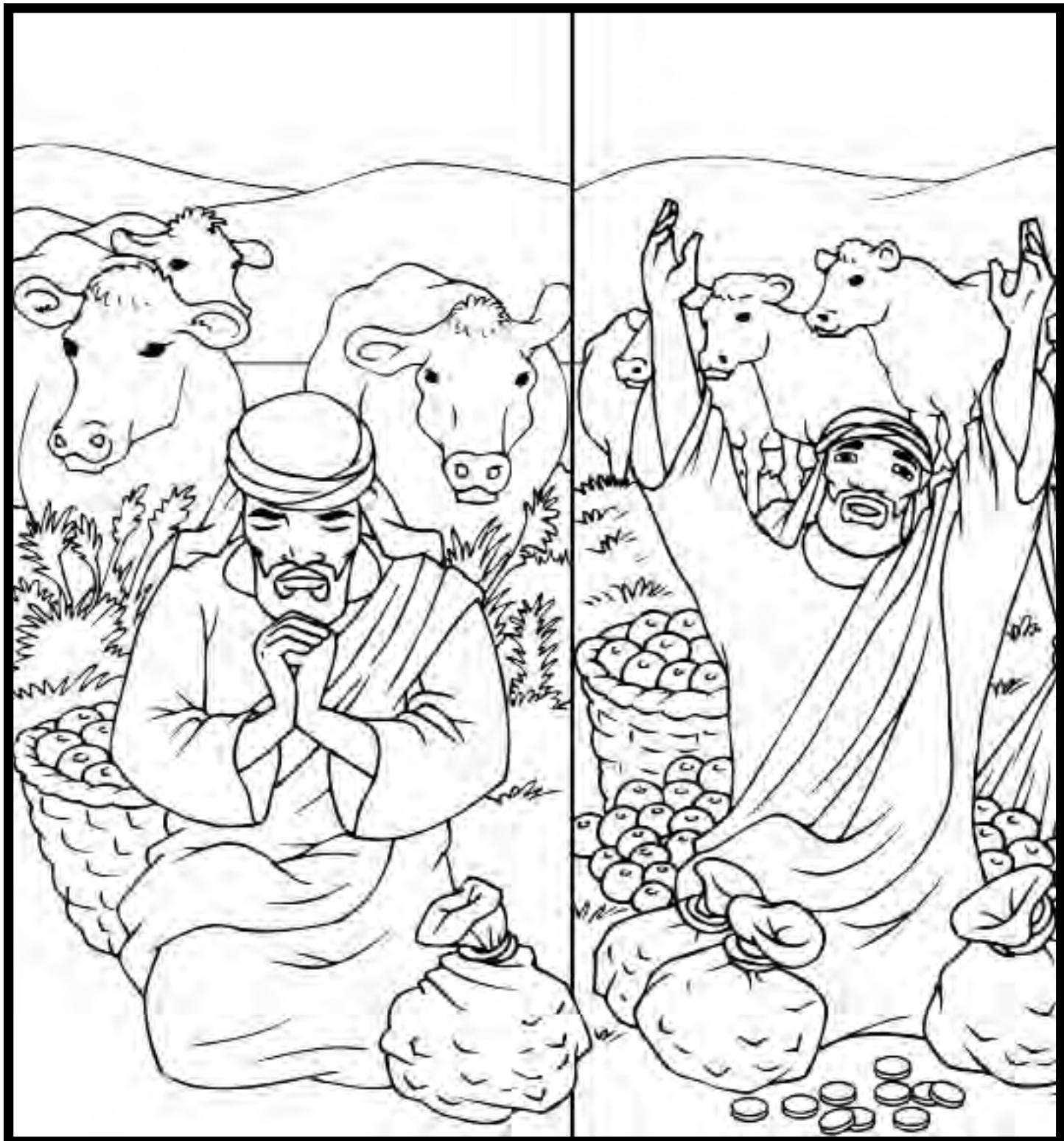


W

A large, bold black letter 'W' is centered within a rectangular box with an orange border. This box corresponds to the first picture of a wave.A blank rectangular box with a blue border, corresponding to the second picture of ice cream.A blank rectangular box with a pink border, corresponding to the third picture of the sun.A blank rectangular box with a green border, corresponding to the fourth picture of the elephant.

Believing and Knowing God

Color the Bible picture from today's lesson.



Discover the Hidden Letters

Jesus spoke a message of truth in today's Bible story. Trace and color the hidden vowels to complete the message.

**Jesus answered,
“I am the way
and the truth
and the life.”**



Jesus Is the Truth

Color the Bible picture from today's lesson.



Trace the Sign

In today's lesson, we learn from Jesus not to give up on doing what is right. Trace the sign below. Next, color the letters and the sign. Then read the message together as a class.

Don't
Ever
Give Up!



Jesus Continues to Teach

Color the Bible picture from today's lesson.



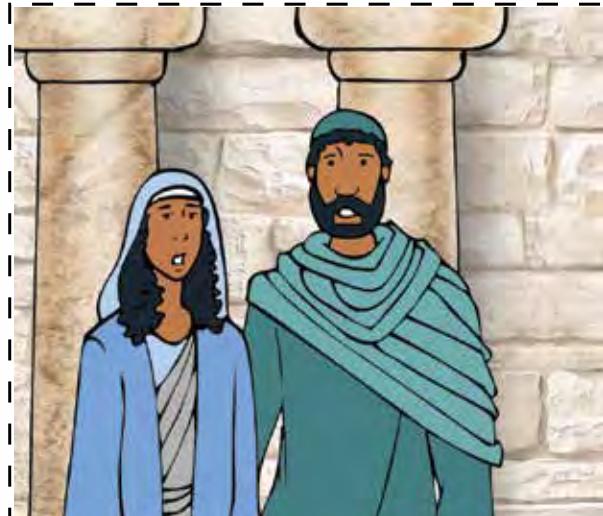
Retell the Bible Story

Cut out the pictures below. Then glue them in the story banner in the correct order to retell the Bible story.

Questions Are Good!

**Mary and Joseph,
Jesus' parents,
search for Him.**

**When they find Him,
Jesus is in the Temple,
talking with the
religious leaders.**



Jesus Talks with the Religious Leaders

Color the Bible picture from today's lesson.



"Wisdom" Crossword Puzzle

Choose the missing vowels from the Vowel Bank below to complete the puzzle with words from today's Bible story. Ask your teacher for help, if needed.

WORD LIST: JESUS, JOHN, WISDOM

VOWEL BANK

E I O U



J		h	n

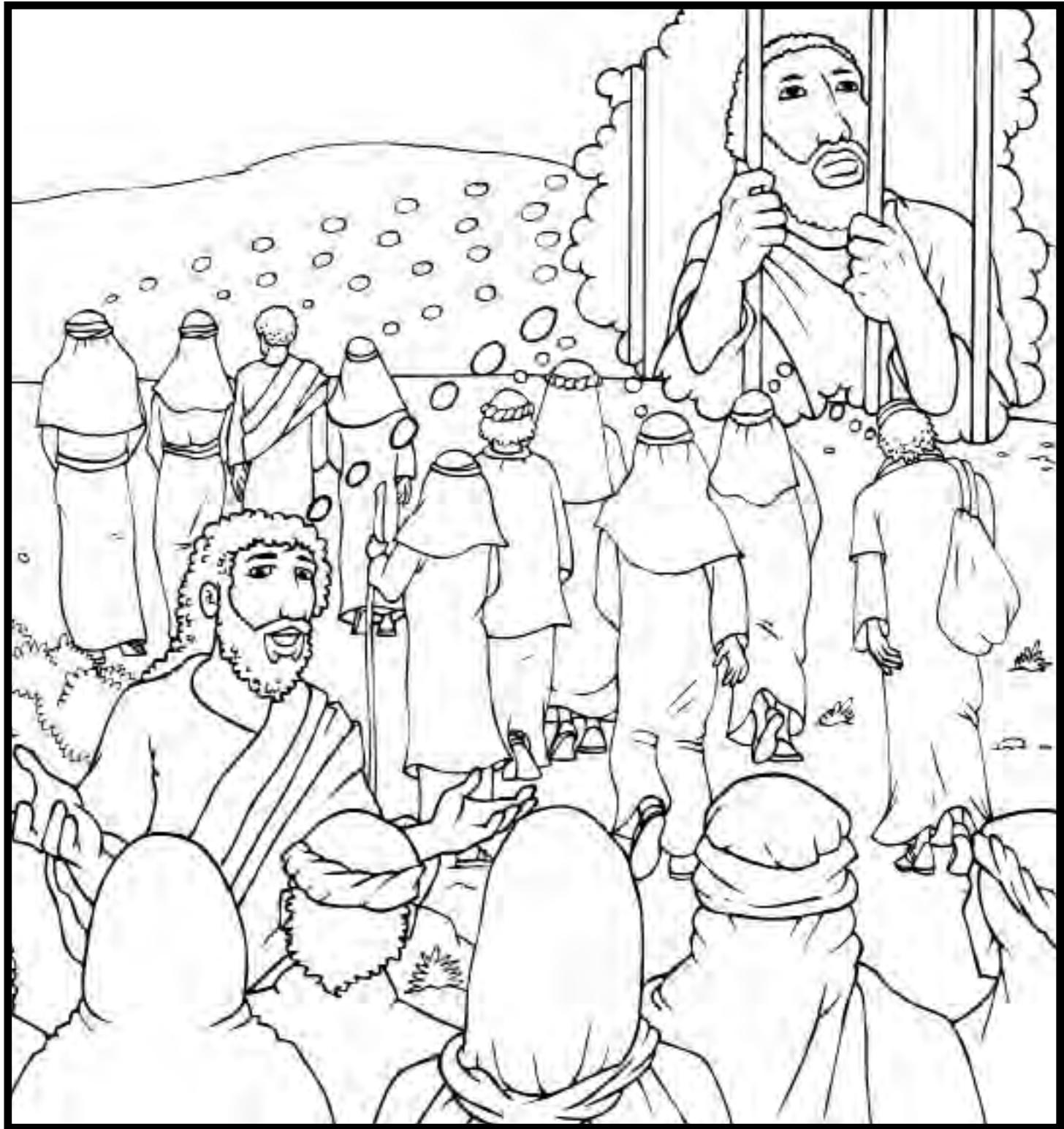
W		s	d		m

S



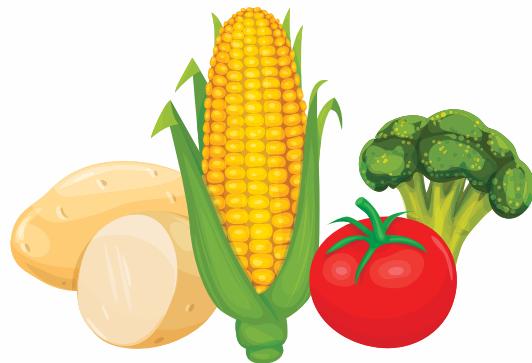
Jesus Talks about John's Greatness

Color the Bible picture from today's lesson.



Which Choices Are Wise?

Boys and girls must eat and drink healthy things to grow up big and strong. Circle the foods and drinks below that are wise to eat and drink.



Choose Wisdom over Folly

Color the Bible picture from today's lesson.



Yes or No?

Your teacher will read the sentences below that are about today's Bible story. Circle YES if you agree with the statement. Circle NO if you do not agree with the statement.

1. If you want to learn things, use wisdom.



2. With wisdom, you will do what is right.



3. Wisdom helps you make bad choices.



4. Wisdom is the greatest gift.



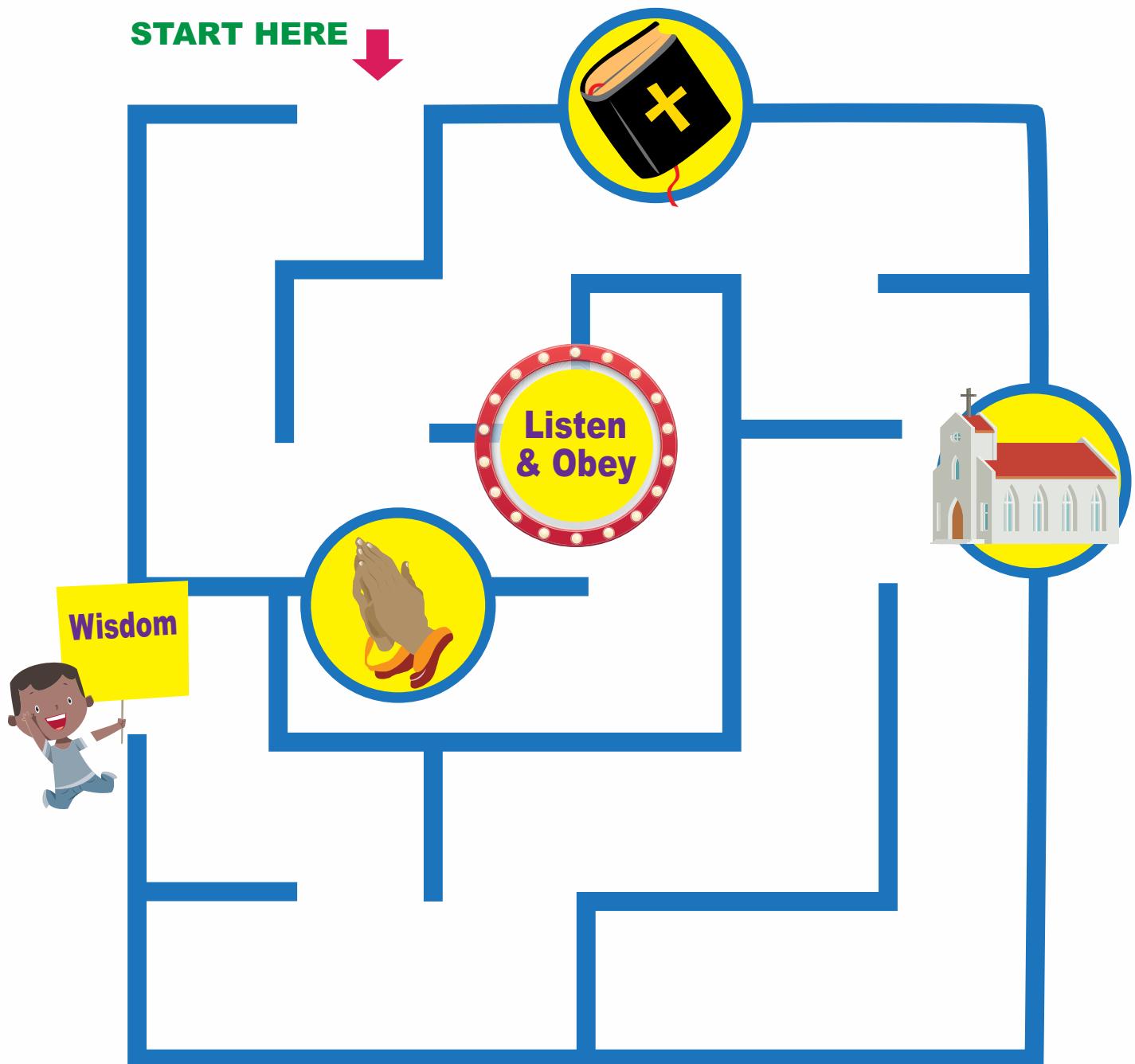
The Gift of Wisdom

Color the Bible picture from today's lesson.



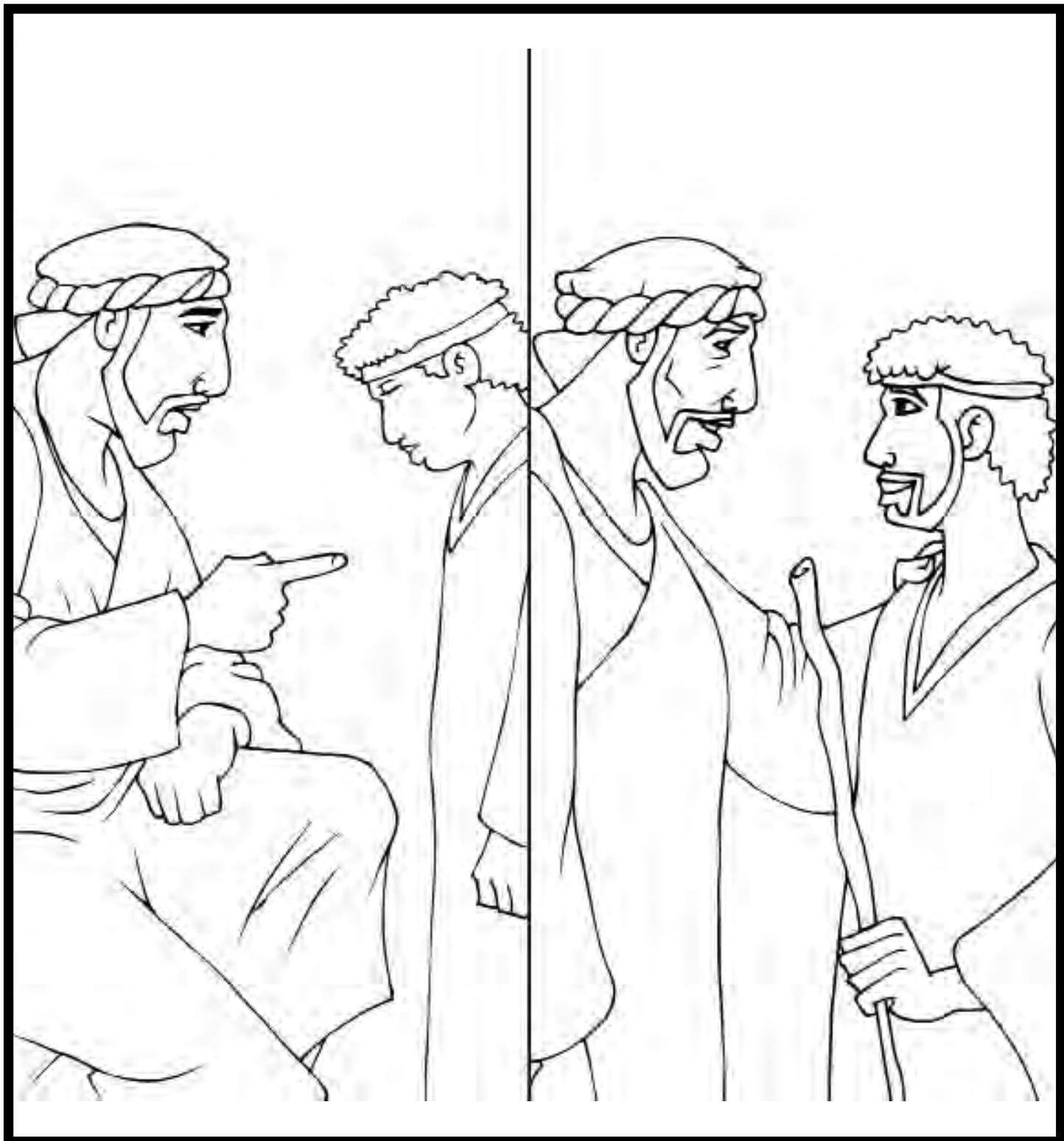
Follow the Path to Wisdom

You can make it through a maze using wisdom. Follow the line through the path to get to wisdom. Along the way, circle the pictures that show things you need to get to wisdom.



Wisdom Is a Treasure from God

Color the Bible picture from today's lesson.



"Wise Up" Pictures

Draw a line from the WISDOM sign to the pictures showing children who are doing things to become wise.



God Gives People Wisdom

Color the Bible picture from today's lesson.

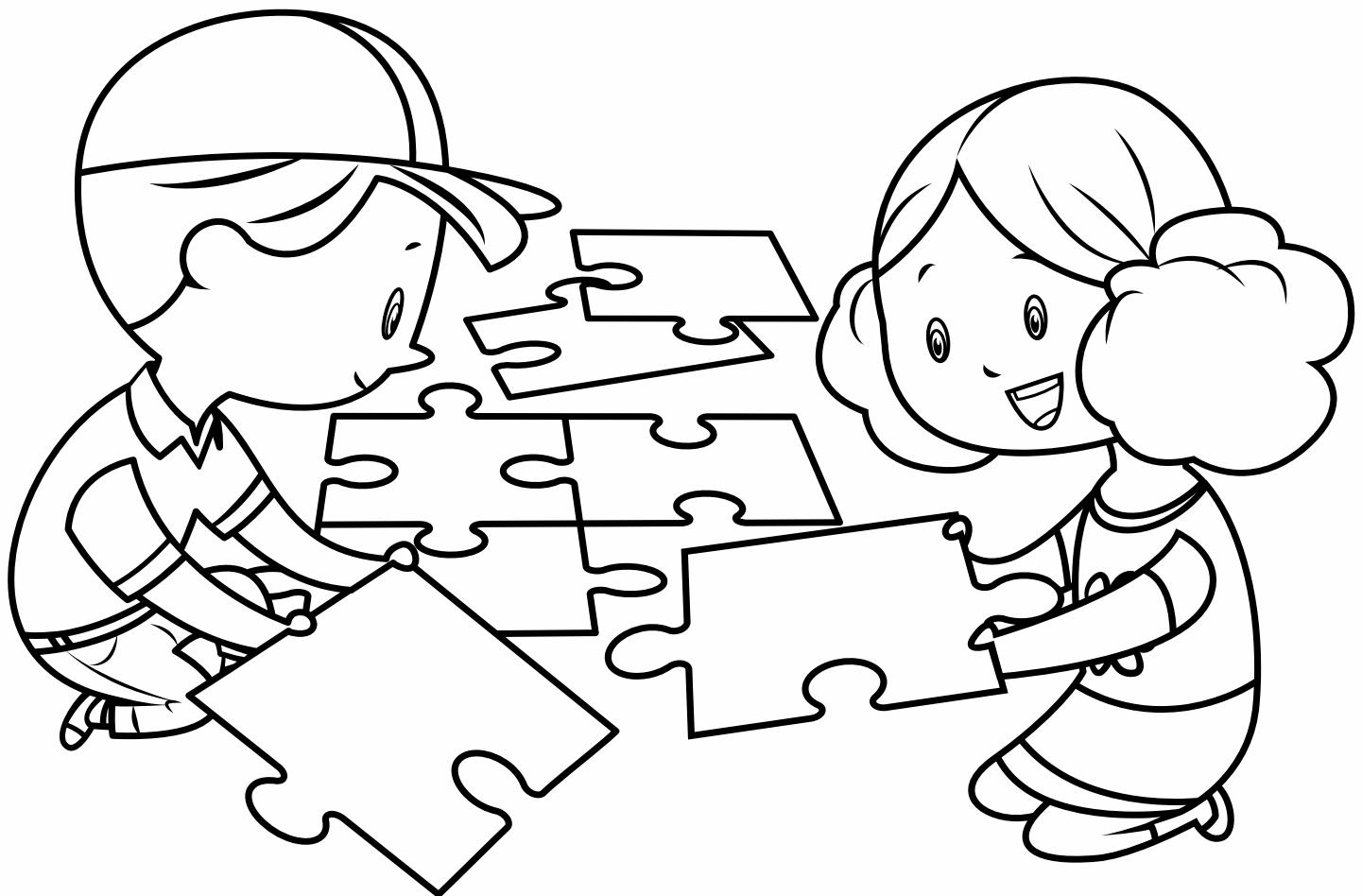


Extra Activity 1

Choose Wisdom

Color the letters in the word WISDOM below. Choose a different color for each letter. Then color the rest of the picture.

WISDOM



Extra Activity 2

Letter and Picture Match

The word obey begins with the letter O. Draw a line from the O to the pictures whose names begin with the letter O.

