

Little Dwellers

Light in the Darkness

Week 5



JESUS! I KNOW HIM!

Welcome to week 5 of Light in the Darkness: Jesus, I know Him! We will be learning about Jesus over the next few weeks. If you don't have a children's bible of your own, please let us know – we'll work to get you a copy for your home. Don't worry though, we'll continue to provide the pages here as well. Feel free to contact us at

thedwellingtx@gmail.com,

smecoff@yahoo.com or 281.723.0686.

Please watch for the Little Dweller's weekly information to be loaded on our platforms. Be sure to stay in contact with The Dwelling:

1. Website: www.thedwellingtx.org
2. Facebook page: [The Dwelling TX](#)
3. The Dwelling App: Download the ShareFaith App and Select "The Dwelling"
4. Email: thedwellingtx@gmail.com

Topic: Jesus, I know Him!

Day 1 – An Angel Visits Mary & Baby Jesus is Born

- We will be mimicking Little Dwellers during our normal Sunday service. Please watch the video with your little dweller:
<https://youtu.be/DIz35NMbhKQ> The images from The Beginner's Bible are listed on pages 6 – 11.
- Here are some questions you can ask your Little Dweller about today's bible story:
 - What is an Angel? **A messenger**
 - What message did the angel have for Mary? **Mary would have a baby and name him Jesus**
 - Where was Jesus born? **In a stable.** Was he born in a house? **No**
- Prayer: Feel free to say your own or use the provided one below
 - Dear God (repeat), thank you for sending (repeat) an angel to Mary (repeat) to bring Jesus into our world (repeat). Mary was scared (repeat). Sometimes I get scared too (repeat). Give me strength when I'm scared (repeat) like you did for Mary (repeat). Amen (repeat).
- Craft: 33
- Song: <https://youtu.be/M2ULTkNmIEY>

Day 2 – The Light of the whole world

- Please read the story "The Light of the world" with your Little Dweller. The images are on pages 12 – 15.
- Here are some questions you can ask your Little Dweller about today's bible story:
 - What did God put in the sky when Jesus was born? **The brightest star**
 - Who told the shepherds that Jesus had been born? **An angel**
- Prayer: Feel free to say your own or use the provided one below

- Dear God (repeat), thank for you for sending (repeat) the gift of Jesus (repeat). Help us to be (repeat) like the shepherds (repeat), telling everyone about you (repeat). Amen (repeat).
- Coloring page: 34
- Song: <https://youtu.be/M2ULTkNmIEY>

Day 3 – Jesus is Lost!

- Ask your little dweller what yesterday’s story was about.
- Please watch the video with your little dweller:
https://youtu.be/z_o3KL5Gq9o The images are on pages 16 – 19.
- Here are some questions you can ask your Little Dweller about today’s bible story:
 - How many days was Jesus missing? **3 days**
 - Where did Mary and Joseph find him? **In the temple**
 - What was he doing? **Talking with the teachers in the temple**
- Prayer: Feel free to say your own or use the provided one below
 - Dear God (repeat), help us to be like Jesus (repeat) and know that You (repeat) are our Heavenly Father(repeat). Let us also (repeat) love and obey (repeat) our parents too (repeat). Amen (repeat).
- Coloring page: 35
- Song: <https://youtu.be/luUePulhSgkQ>

Day 4 – John Baptizes Jesus

- Please read the story “John Baptizes Jesus” with your Little Dwellers. The images are on pages 20 – 22.
- Questions to ask your Little Dweller about today’s bible story:
 - What does it mean to be baptized? **To sprinkle, pour on, or cover a person with water. It is a sign that the person belongs to Jesus**
 - What came down in the form of a dove while Jesus was being baptized? **The Holy Spirit**

- What is the Holy Spirit? **God's spirit who creates life. He helps people do God's work. He helps people to believe in Jesus, to love him, and to live like him**
- Prayer: Feel free to say your own or use the provided one below
 - Dear God (repeat), help us tell people about you (repeat) just like John did (repeat). Amen (repeat).
- Coloring page: 36
- Song: <https://youtu.be/lUePulhSqkQ>

Day 5 – Jesus Chooses His Disciples

- Please watch the video with your little dweller: <https://youtu.be/OmKaBYwrD7A> The images are on pages 23 – 25.
- Questions to ask your Little Dweller about today's bible story:
 - What does a disciple of Jesus do? **Follows Jesus and does what Jesus tells them to do**
 - Can you remember any of the names of Jesus' disciples? **Peter, Andrew, James, John, Matthew, Philip, Bartholomew, Thomas, James, Thaddeus, Simon, Judas**
 - How many disciples did he have? **12**
- Prayer: Feel free to say your own or use the provided one below
 - Dear God (repeat), help us to learn (repeat) more about you every day (repeat). Teach us to be your helper (repeat) and do what you tell us to do (repeat). Amen (repeat).
- Coloring Page: 37
- Song: <https://youtu.be/HllmSfjK4ts>

Day 6 – God's wonderful surprise

- Please read the story "God's wonderful surprise" with your Little Dwellers. The images are on pages 26 – 28.
- Questions to ask your Little Dweller about today's bible story:
 - What did Mary and her friends find when they went to the tomb? **The tomb was open & Jesus' body was gone**

- What did the angel say to Mary and her friends? **Don't be scared; Jesus isn't dead anymore! He's alive again!**
- Prayer: Feel free to say your own or use the provided one below
 - Dear God (repeat), thank you for loving us (repeat) and sending Jesus to save us (repeat). Help us tell all our friends (repeat) what you've done (repeat) to save the world (repeat). Amen (repeat).
- Coloring page: 38
- Song: <https://youtu.be/FzxN0D3voo0>

Day 7 – Going home

- Please watch the video with your little dweller: <https://youtu.be/J7hQIsyy9xs> The images are listed on pages 29 – 32.
- Questions to ask your Little Dweller about today's bible story:
 - When Jesus's friends first saw him, what did they think he was? **A ghost**
 - What does it mean when Jesus said, "Death is not the end of you. You can live forever with your Father in heaven because I have rescued the whole world!"?
- Prayer: Feel free to say your own or use the provided one below
 - Dear God (repeat), thank you for sending Jesus (repeat) so that we can live (repeat) with you in heaven (repeat) forever and ever (repeat). Amen (repeat).
- Coloring page: 39
- Song: <https://youtu.be/FzxN0D3voo0>



An Angel Visits Mary

Luke 1:26-38

God sent the angel Gabriel to visit a young woman. Her name was Mary. She was scared. She had never seen an angel before.

266



Gabriel said, "Don't be afraid. You are very special to God. You will become pregnant and give birth to a son. You must name him Jesus. He will be called the Son of the Most High God."

267



Mary asked, "How can it be so?
I am not married."

268



Gabriel answered, "With God,
all things are possible."

269



Mary said, "I love God. I will do what he has chosen me to do."



Baby Jesus Is Born

Luke 2:1-7

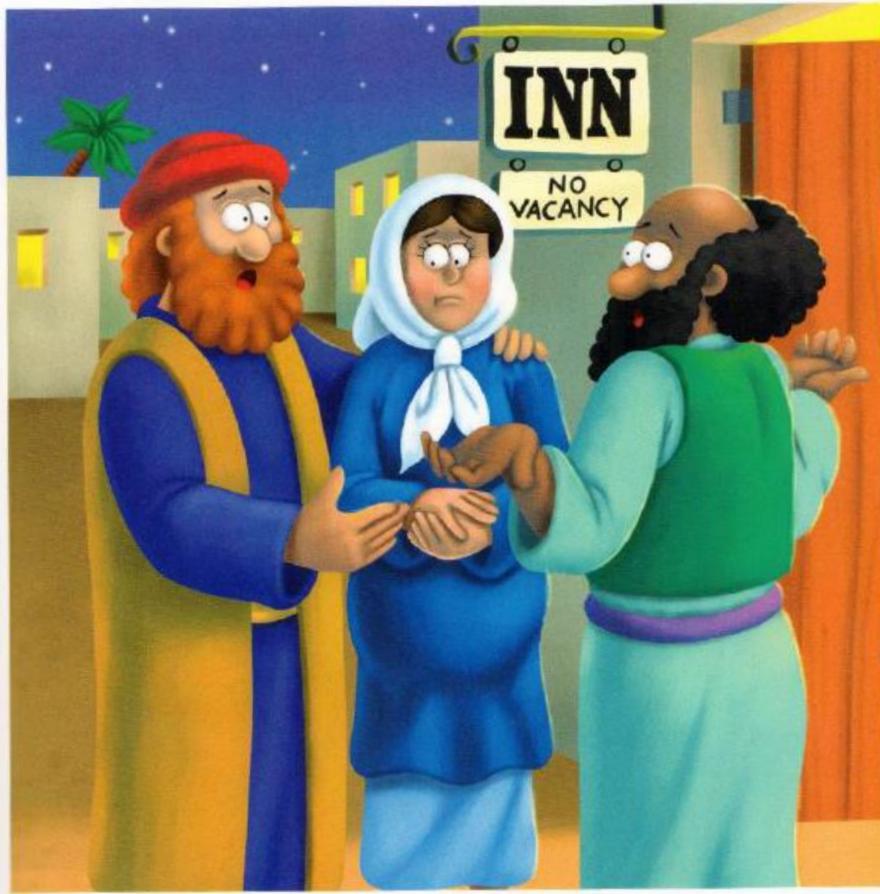
Mary loved Joseph. Mary and Joseph were going to be married soon. Joseph lived in Nazareth, but his family lived in Bethlehem.

271



A new leader named Caesar ordered all people to go back to their homeland. He wanted to count all the people in his kingdom. So Mary and Joseph went to Bethlehem.

272



Mary was going to have her baby soon. When they arrived in Bethlehem, they looked for a safe place to sleep, but all the inns were full.

273



Finally, a man was able to help them. He said, "I do not have any rooms left, but you are welcome to sleep in the stable."

274



Joseph made a warm place for Mary to rest. While they were there, little baby Jesus was born.

275



Mary wrapped Jesus in strips of cloth and gently laid him in a manger.

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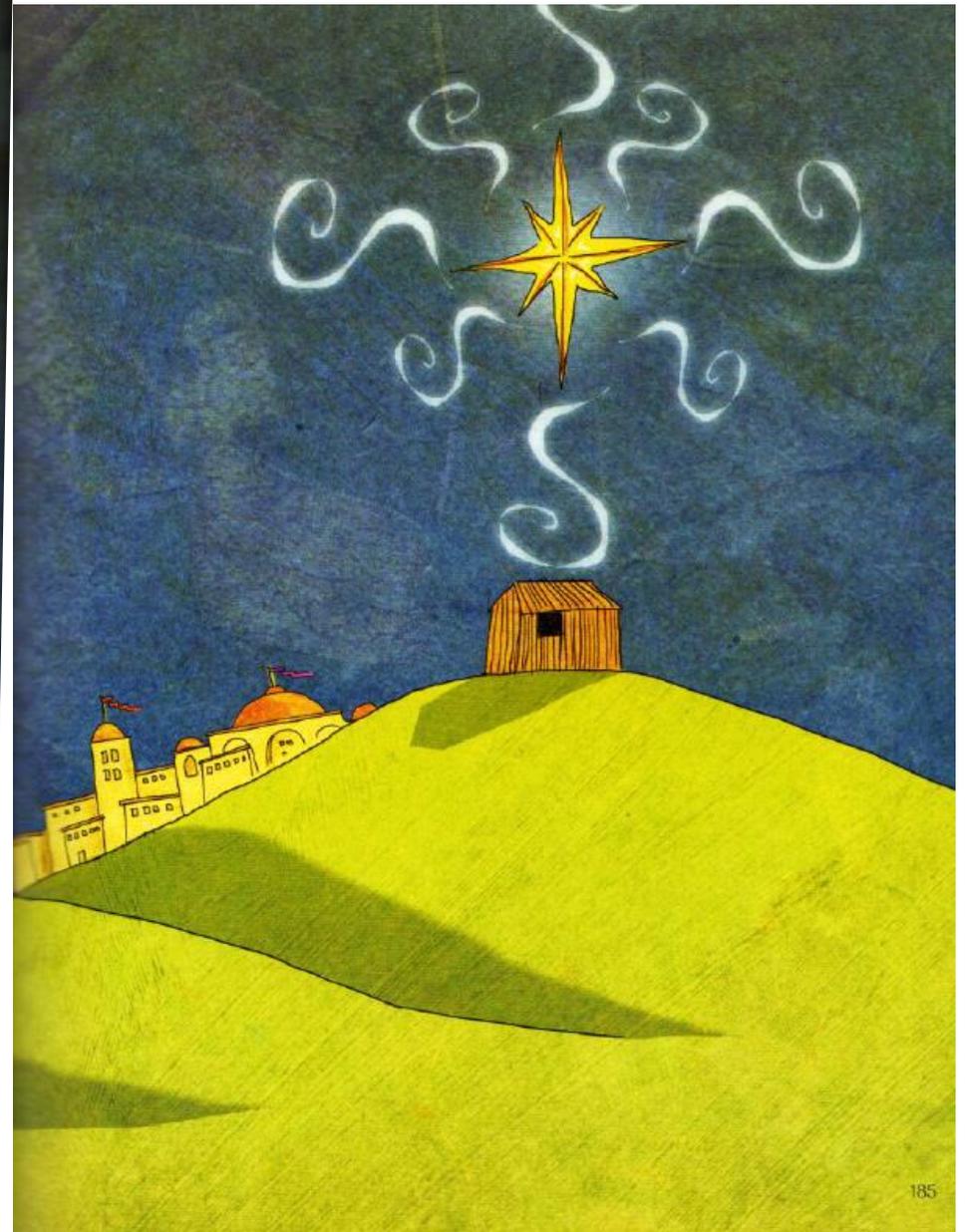
The Light of the whole world

The story of the shepherds, from Luke 2

THAT SAME NIGHT, in amongst the other stars, suddenly a bright new star appeared. Of all the stars in the dark vaulted heavens, this one shone clearer. It blazed in the night and made the other stars look pale beside it.

God put it there when his baby Son was born — to be like a spotlight. Shining on him. Lighting up the darkness. Showing people the way to him.

You see, God was like a new daddy — he couldn't keep the good news to himself. He'd been waiting all these long years for this moment, and now he wanted to tell everyone.



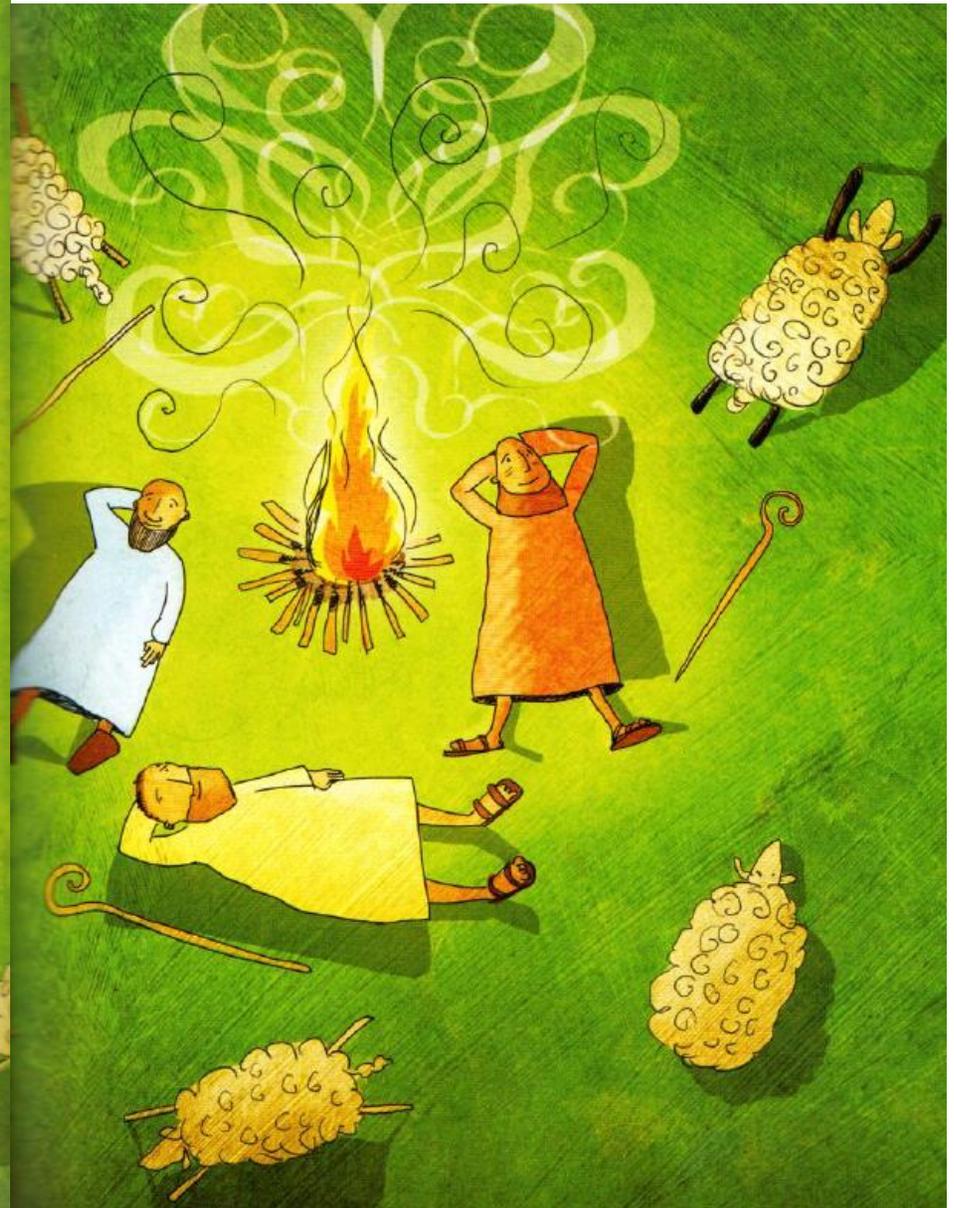
So he pulled out all the stops. He'd sent an angel to tell Mary the good news. He'd put a special star in the sky to show where his boy was. And now he was going to send a big choir of angels to sing his happy song to the world: *He's here! He's come! Go and see him. My little Boy.*

Now where would you send your splendid choir? To a big concert hall maybe? Or a palace perhaps? God sent his to a little hillside, outside a little town, in the middle of the night. He sent all those angels to sing for a raggedy old bunch of shepherds watching their sheep outside Bethlehem.

In those days, remember, people used to laugh at shepherds and say they were smelly and call them other rude names (which I can't possibly mention here). You see, people thought shepherds were nobodies, just scruffy old riff-raff.

But God must have thought shepherds were very important indeed, because they're the ones he chose to tell the good news to first.

That night some shepherds were out in the open fields, warming themselves by a campfire, when suddenly the sheep darted. They were frightened by something. The olive trees rustled. What was that... A wing beat?



They turned around. Standing in front of them was a huge warrior of light, blazing in the darkness. "Don't be afraid of me!" the bright shining man said. "I haven't come to hurt you. I've come to bring you happy news for everyone everywhere. Today, in David's town, in Bethlehem, God's Son has been born! You can go and see him. He is sleeping in a manger."

Behind the angel they saw a strange glowing cloud — except it wasn't a cloud, it was angels ... troops and troops of angels, armed with light! And they were singing a beautiful song: "Glory to God! To God be Fame and Honor and all our Hoorays!"

Then as quickly as they appeared, the angels left. The shepherds stamped out their fire, left their sheep, raced down the grassy hill, through the gates of Bethlehem, down the narrow cobble streets, through a courtyard, down some step, step, steps, past an inn, round a corner, through a hedge, until, at last, they reached ...



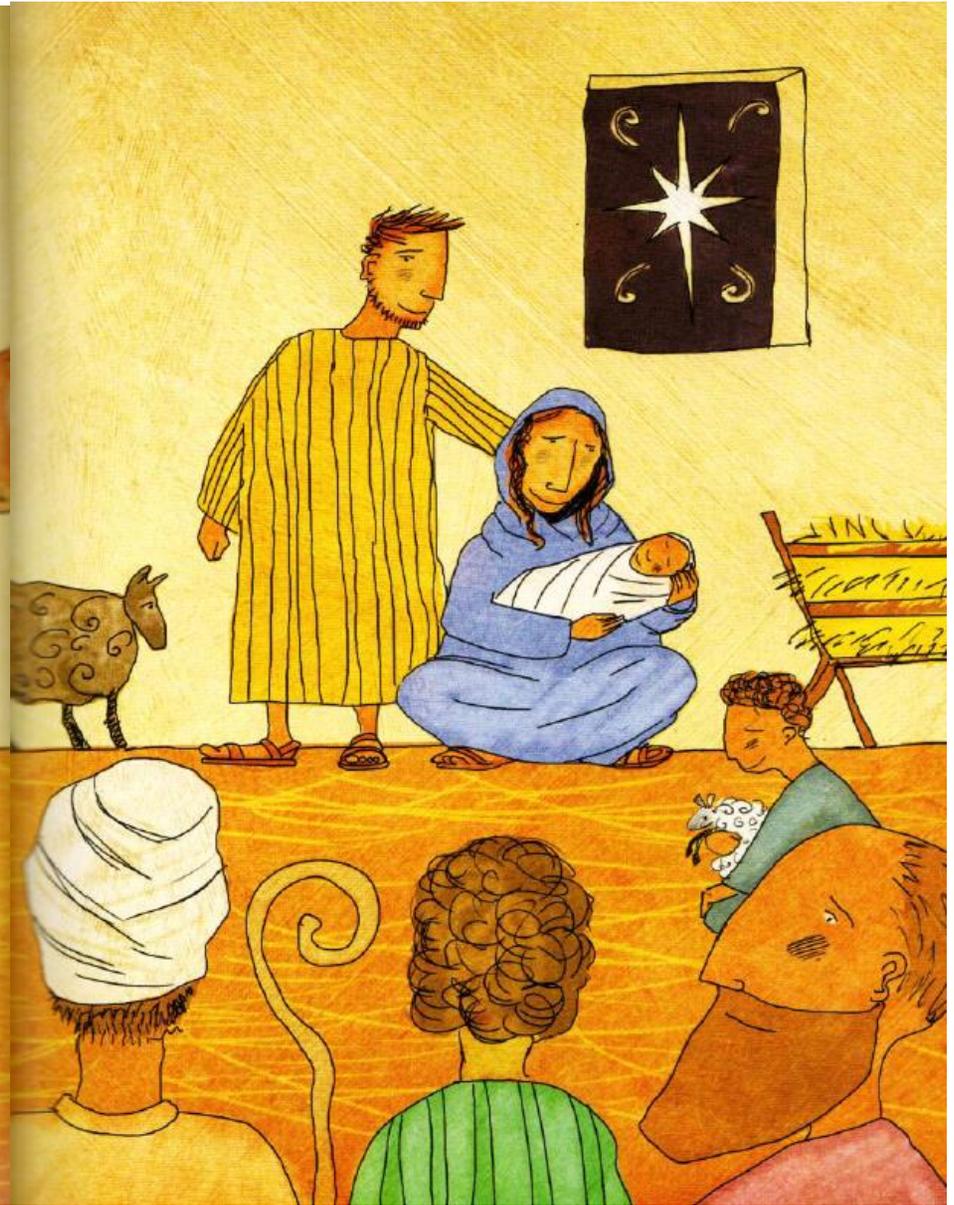
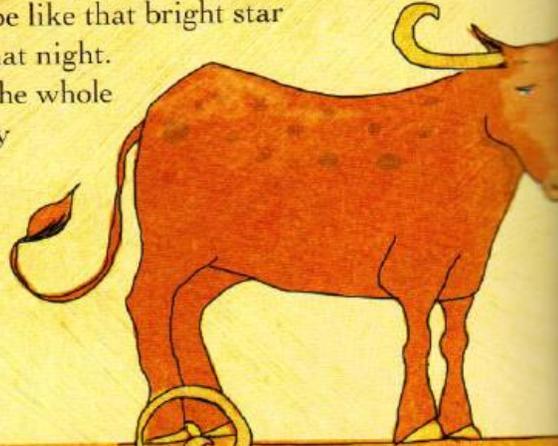
a tumbledown stable.

They caught their breath. Then quietly, they tiptoed inside.

They knelt on the dirt floor. They had heard about this Promised Child and now he was here. Heaven's Son. The Maker of the Stars. A baby sleeping in his mother's arms.

This baby would be like that bright star shining in the sky that night. A Light to light up the whole world. Chasing away darkness. Helping people to see.

And the darker the night got, the brighter the star would shine.



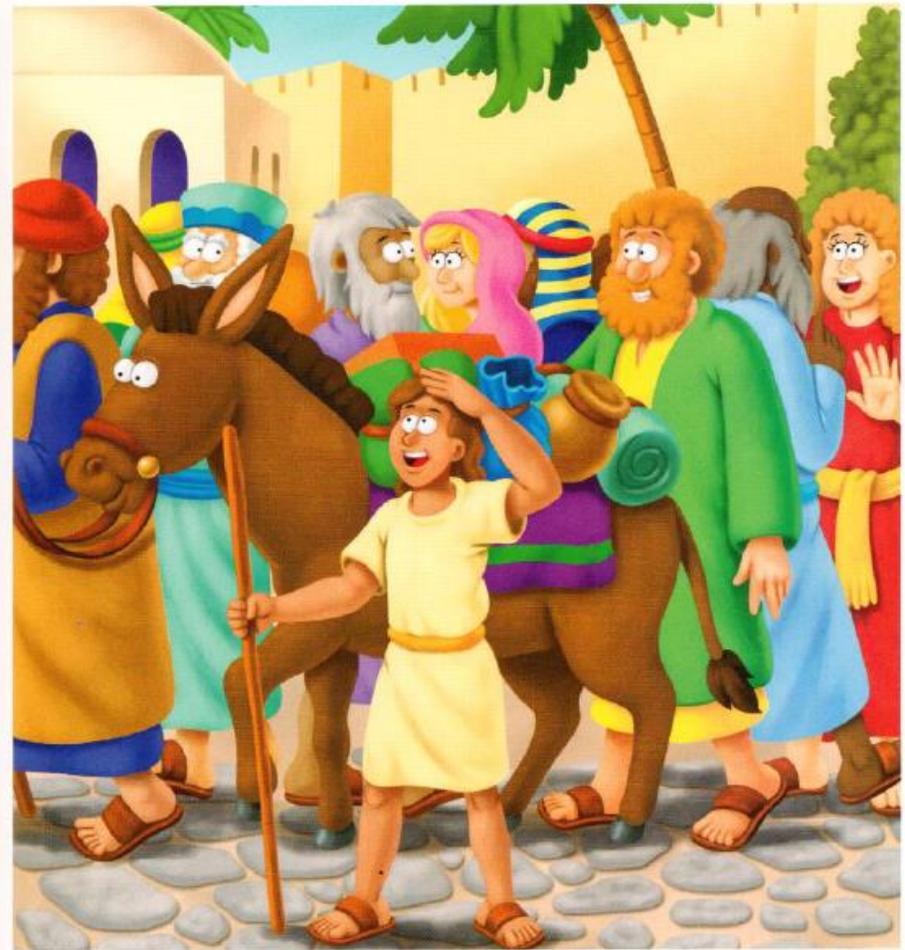


Jesus Is Lost!

Luke 2:41-52

Jesus grew up in Nazareth. Every year, Jesus and his family would go to Jerusalem to celebrate the *Passover* Feast.

296



When Jesus was twelve, they went to the Feast as usual. The streets were crowded with people.

297



On the way back home to Nazareth,
Mary and Joseph couldn't find Jesus.
They asked their relatives and friends,
"Have you seen Jesus?"
But no one knew where he was.

298



Mary and Joseph went back to Jerusalem.
They looked and looked for Jesus.

299



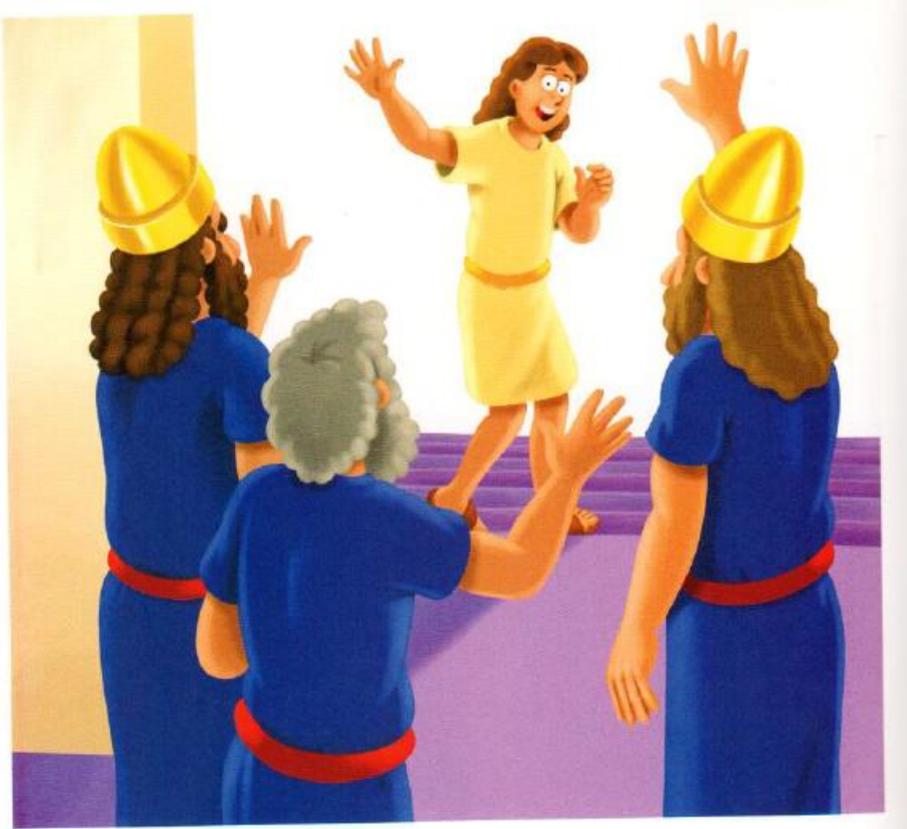
Finally, after three days, they found him! Jesus was talking with the teachers in the temple. The teachers were amazed. Jesus was very wise for such a young boy.

300



Mary and Joseph rushed to Jesus. “We were so worried about you!” said Mary.

301



Jesus knew God was his Father. He said,
“I had to come to my Father’s house.”
He loved and obeyed his parents too.
So he returned home with them
and grew stronger and wiser.



John Baptizes Jesus

Matthew 3:1-17; Mark 1:1-11; Luke 3:1-22; John 1:1-34

John was born just before Jesus was. They were cousins. When John grew up, he lived in the desert and ate bugs and honey.

303



John told the people about God. They asked him many questions about what is right and what is wrong. John told them to be good and kind and honest.

304



John preached about God's forgiveness.
Many people decided to follow God.
John *baptized* the people in a river.

305



John told the people to get ready for a special person who would save them from their sins. One day, Jesus came to the river. John knew Jesus was that special person. Jesus told him, "I need to be baptized by you." John was surprised, but Jesus said, "It is right for you to do this."

306



So John took Jesus into the Jordan River and baptized him. The *Holy Spirit* came down from heaven in the form of a dove. It landed on Jesus. Jesus smiled. Then God said, “This is my Son, and I love him. I am very pleased with him.”

307



Jesus Chooses His Disciples

Matthew 4:18-22; 9:9; 10:1-4; Mark 1-3; Luke 5-6

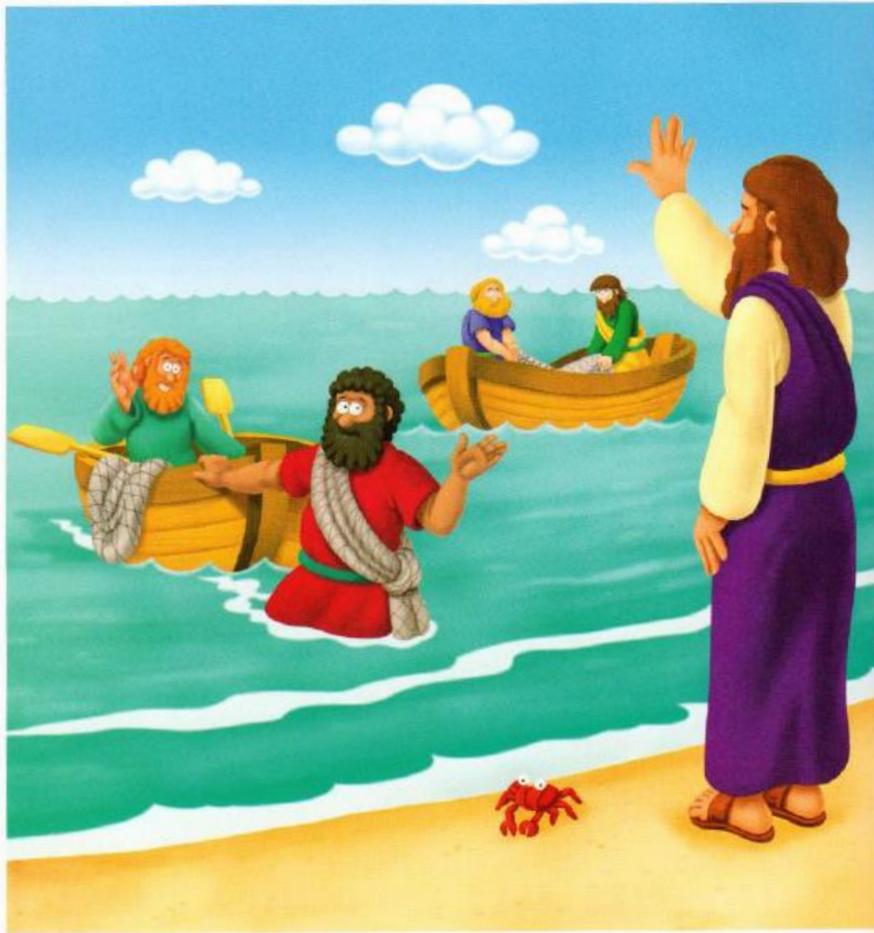
Jesus began to tell people about God. He knew he had a lot of work to do, and he went to find some helpers.

308



As Jesus was walking along the seashore, he saw some fishermen. Jesus called to them, “Come. Follow me. I will make you fishers of *people*.”

309



Right away, they left their boats and followed Jesus. Their names were Peter, Andrew, James, and John.

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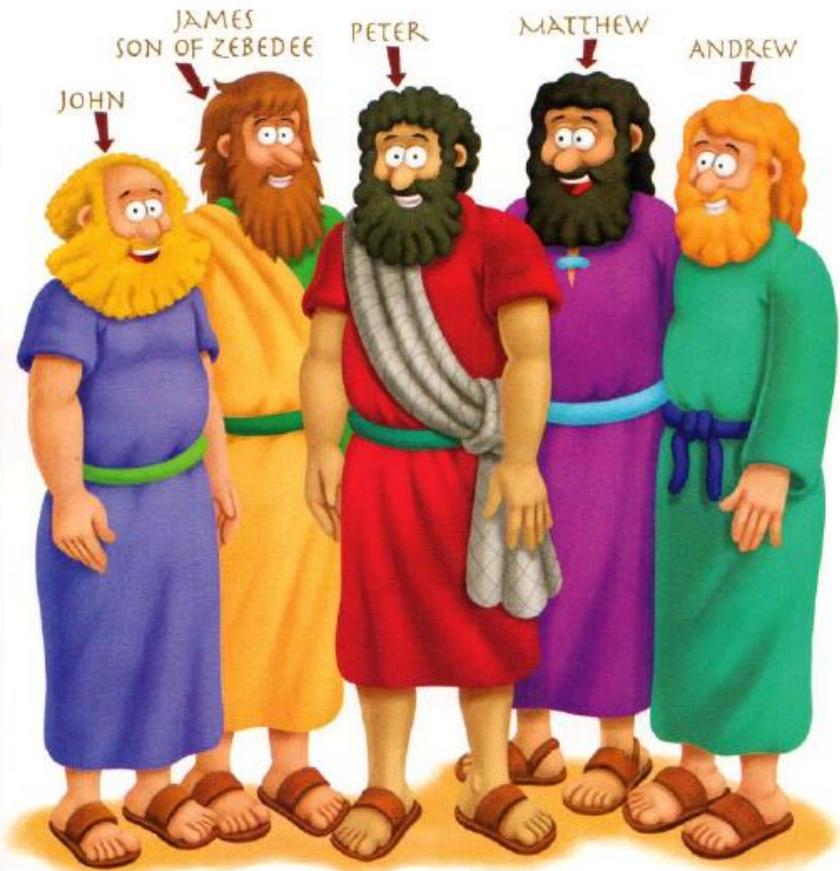


Later, Jesus met a tax collector named Matthew. His job was to get the tax money from the people and give it to the king. Matthew quit his job to follow Jesus too.

311



Jesus chose some more people.
 Their names were Philip, Bartholomew,
 Thomas, and another man named James.



Thaddaeus, Simon, and Judas joined them
 too. Jesus now had twelve new followers.
 He called them his *disciples*.
 Jesus taught them about God's love.

God's wonderful surprise

The Resurrection, from Matthew 28, Mark 16, Luke 24, John 20

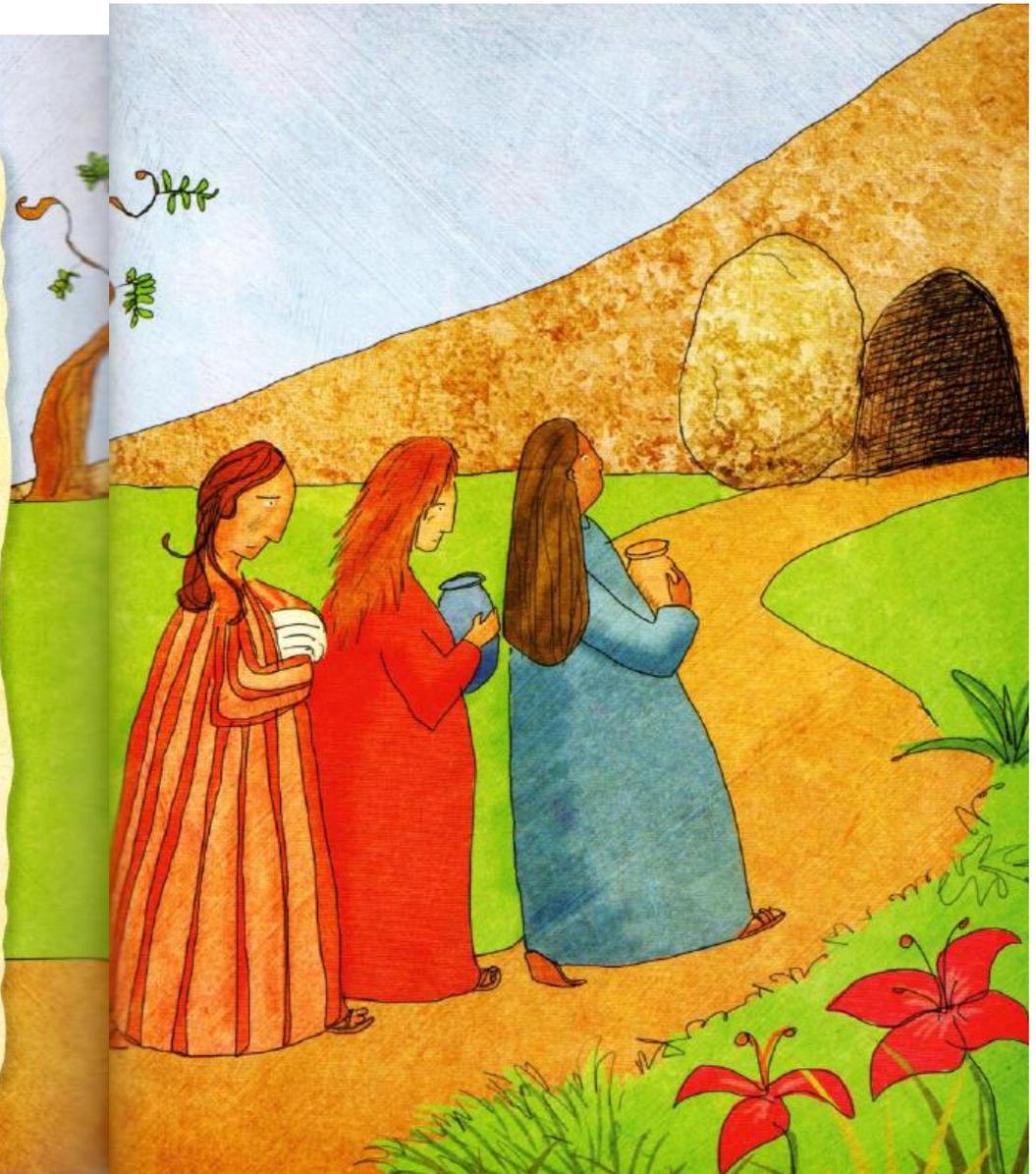
JESUS' FRIENDS WERE SAD. They would never see their best friend again. How could this happen? Wasn't Jesus the Rescuer? The King God had promised? It wasn't supposed to end like this.

Yes, but whoever said anything about the end?

Just before sunrise, on the third day, God sent an earthquake — and an angel from heaven. When the guards saw the angel, they fell down with fright. The angel rolled the huge stone away, sat on top of it, and waited.

At the first glimmer of dawn, Mary Magdalene and other women headed to the tomb to wash Jesus' body. The early morning sun slanted through the ancient olive trees, drops of dew glittering on leaves and grasses — little tears everywhere. The friends walked quietly along the hilly path, through the olive groves, until they reached the tomb. And immediately noticed something odd — it was wide open.

They peered through the opening into the dark tomb. But wait. Jesus' body was gone!



And something else: a shining man was there, with clothes made from lightning.

"Don't be scared," the angel said.

But (they couldn't help it) they screamed anyway.

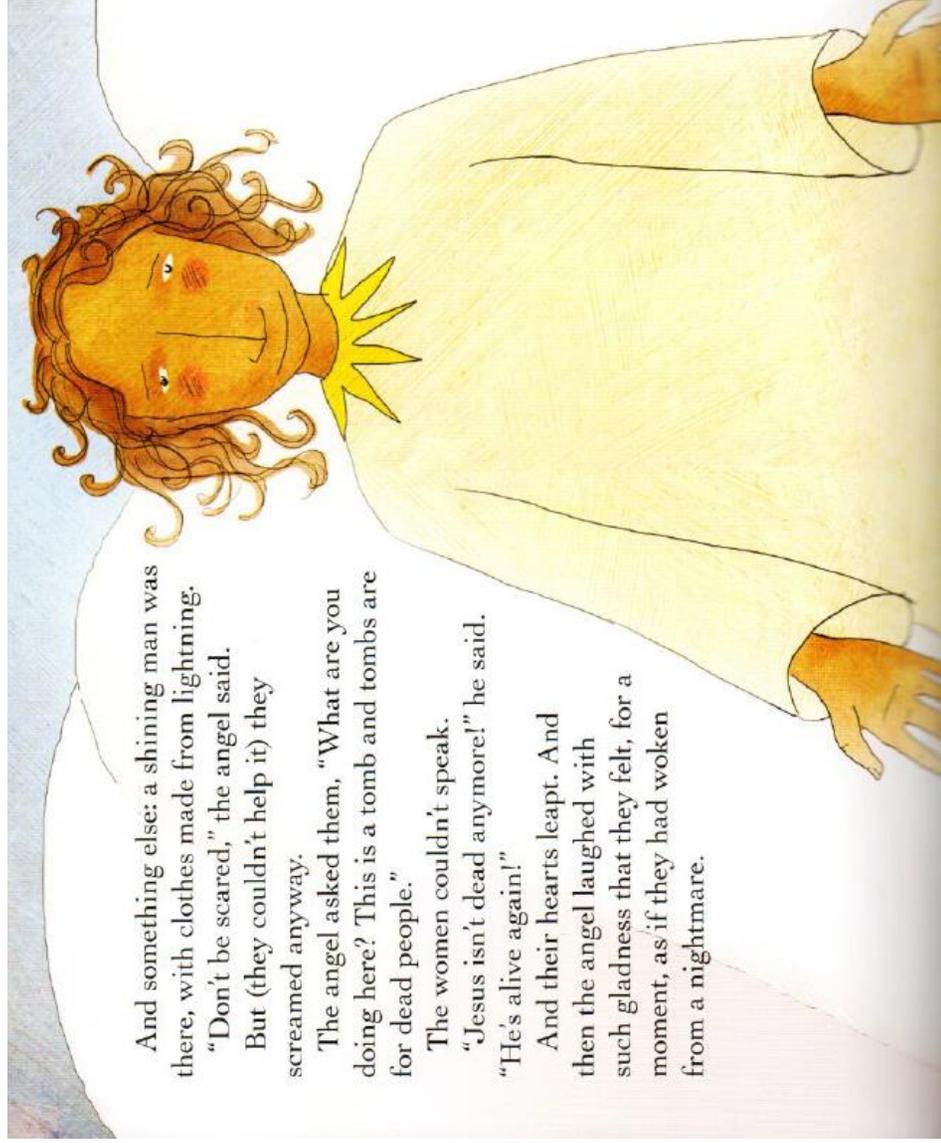
The angel asked them, "What are you doing here? This is a tomb and tombs are for dead people."

The women couldn't speak.

"Jesus isn't dead anymore!" he said.

"He's alive again!"

And their hearts leapt. And then the angel laughed with such gladness that they felt, for a moment, as if they had woken from a nightmare.



The other women rushed home, but Mary stayed behind. How could it be true? Jesus was definitely dead — how could he be alive? Just then Mary heard someone else in the garden. *Perhaps it's the gardener*, she thought. *He'll know where Jesus' body is.*

"I don't know where Jesus is!" Mary said urgently. "I can't find him."

But it was all right. Jesus knew where she was. And he had found her.

"Mary!"

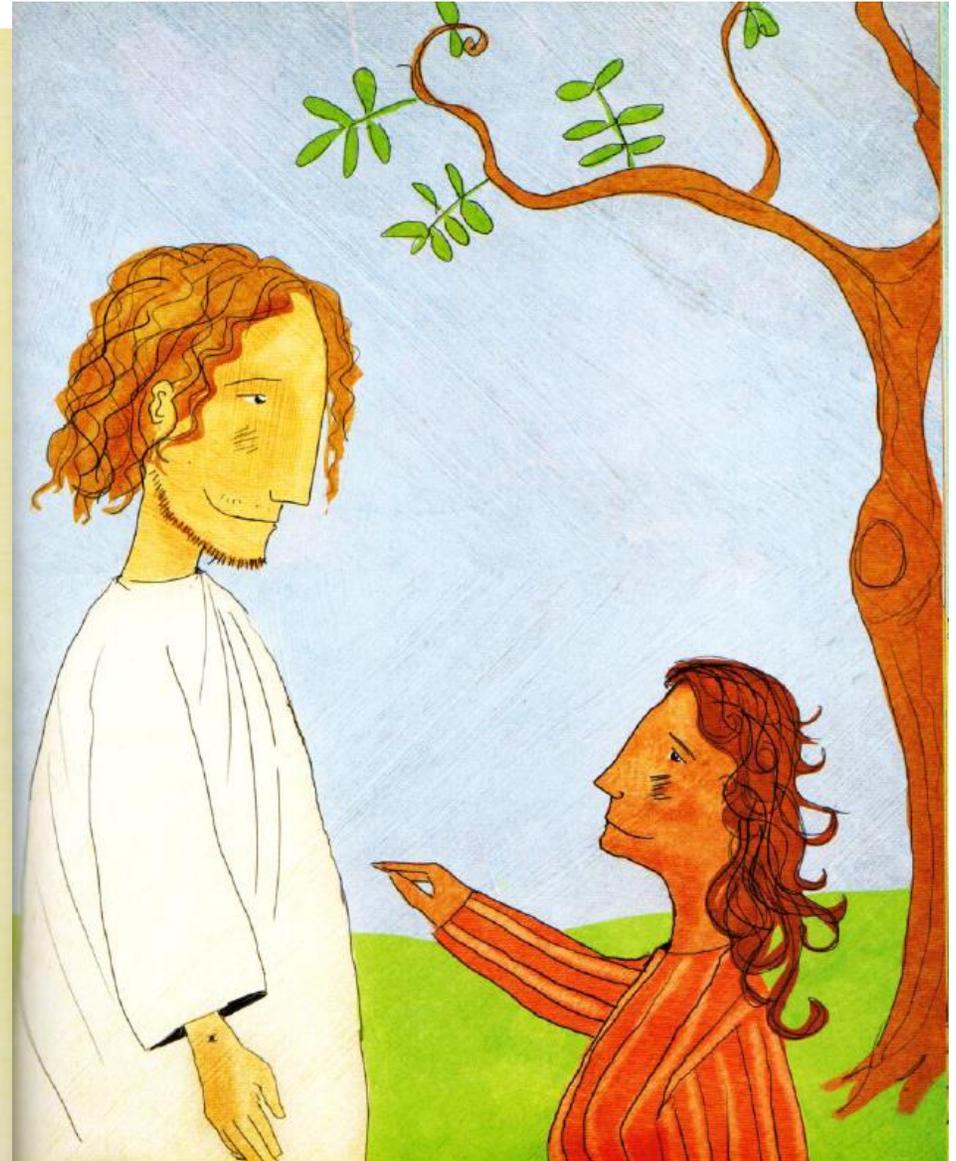
Only one person said her name like that. She could hear her heart thumping. She turned around. She could just make out a figure. She shaded her eyes to see ... and thought she was dreaming.

But she wasn't dreaming. She was seeing.

"Jesus!"

Mary fell to the ground. Sudden tears filled her eyes and great sobs shook her whole body, and all she wanted in that moment was to cling to Jesus and never let him go.

"You'll be able to hold on to me later, Mary," Jesus said gently, "and always be close to me. But now, go and tell the others that I'm alive!"



Going home

The Ascension, from Matthew 28, Mark 16, Luke 24, John 14

JESUS' FRIENDS WERE AFRAID. So they were hiding in an upstairs room with the door bolted shut.

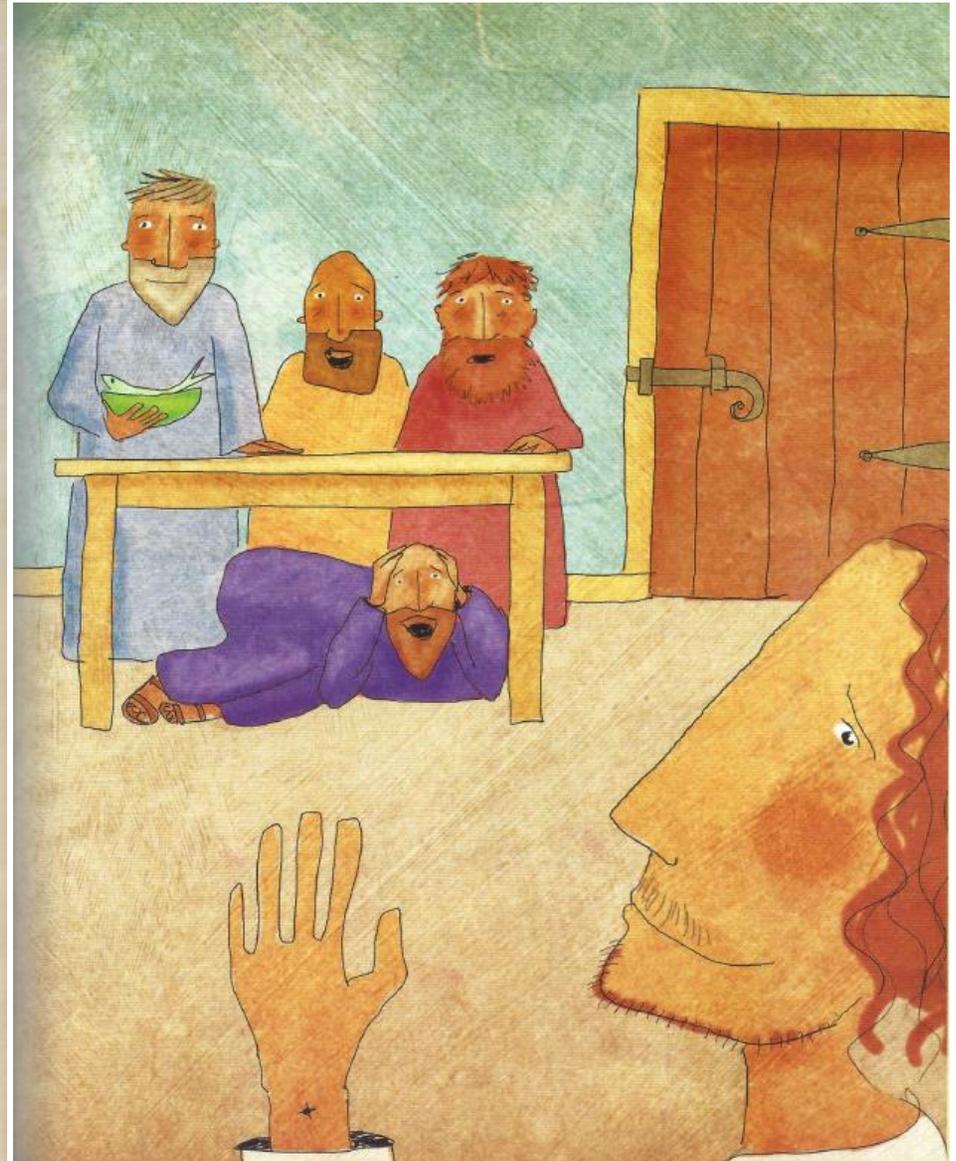
But that didn't stop Jesus. He just walked straight through the wall.

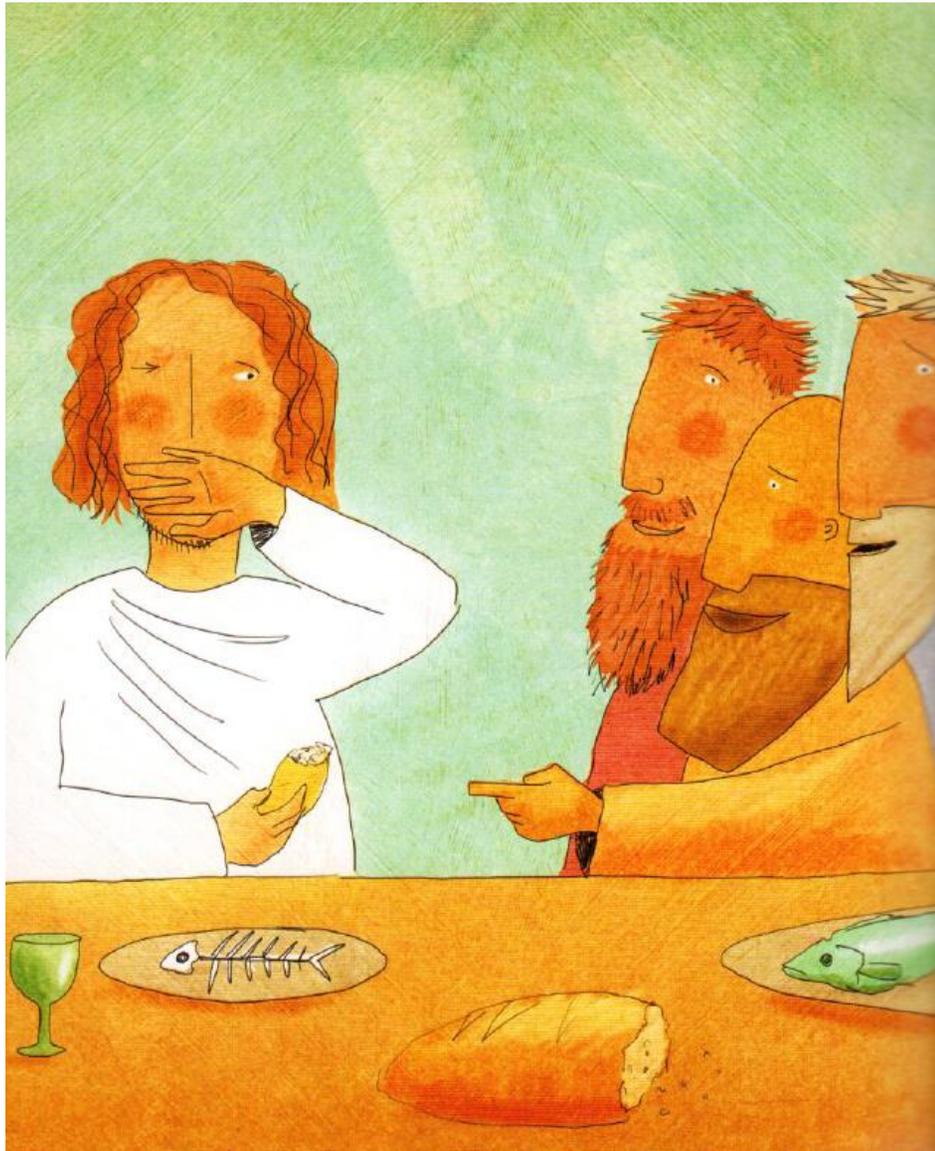
"It's a ghost!" Thomas screamed and hid under the table. But it wasn't a ghost.

"I'm hungry," Jesus said. "What's for lunch?"

Peter gave him a fish. They all hung back and watched him eat it. *This can't be, they were telling themselves. It's impossible. It's not happening.*

But it was — right in front of them.





“Delicious!” Jesus wiped his mouth with the back of his hand and grinned. “Can a ghost do that?” He winked. And then they all laughed.

“I’m really here!” Jesus said.

And he really was.

Peter’s heart leaped with joy and he fell into Jesus’ arms, hugging and kissing him. The others followed. They felt their hearts would burst from the happiness.

The friends ate together and chatted happily. And every now and then, they’d just gaze at Jesus, and have to touch him to be sure they weren’t dreaming.

Jesus had a real body but this body was better. It had come through death and couldn’t get sick or be killed again. This body would live forever. Jesus had come back with a brand new body.

Not only were sad things coming untrue, the friends realized, they were becoming new again. Was God going to make everything new?

Jesus said, “I am the Savior and the Rescuer of the world.” And they knew, because he couldn’t stay dead, because Jesus had come alive again, that somehow everything would be all right.

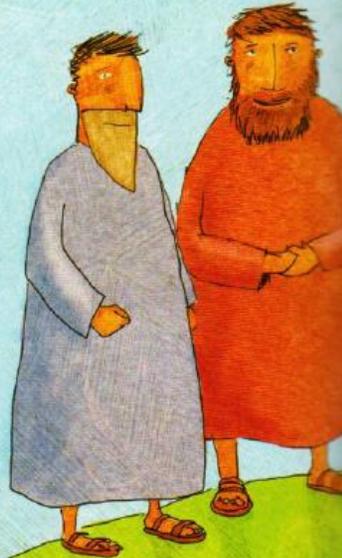
A few days later, as they walked together, Jesus told his friends, "It's time for me to go home to my Father."

They all looked worried. And then they remembered what Jesus had told them before he died. "There's a place for you. I'll get it ready," Jesus had said. "You know the way."

Thomas had panicked. "I don't know the way to get there!"

"Yes, you do," Jesus had said. "I am the Way and the Truth and the Life."

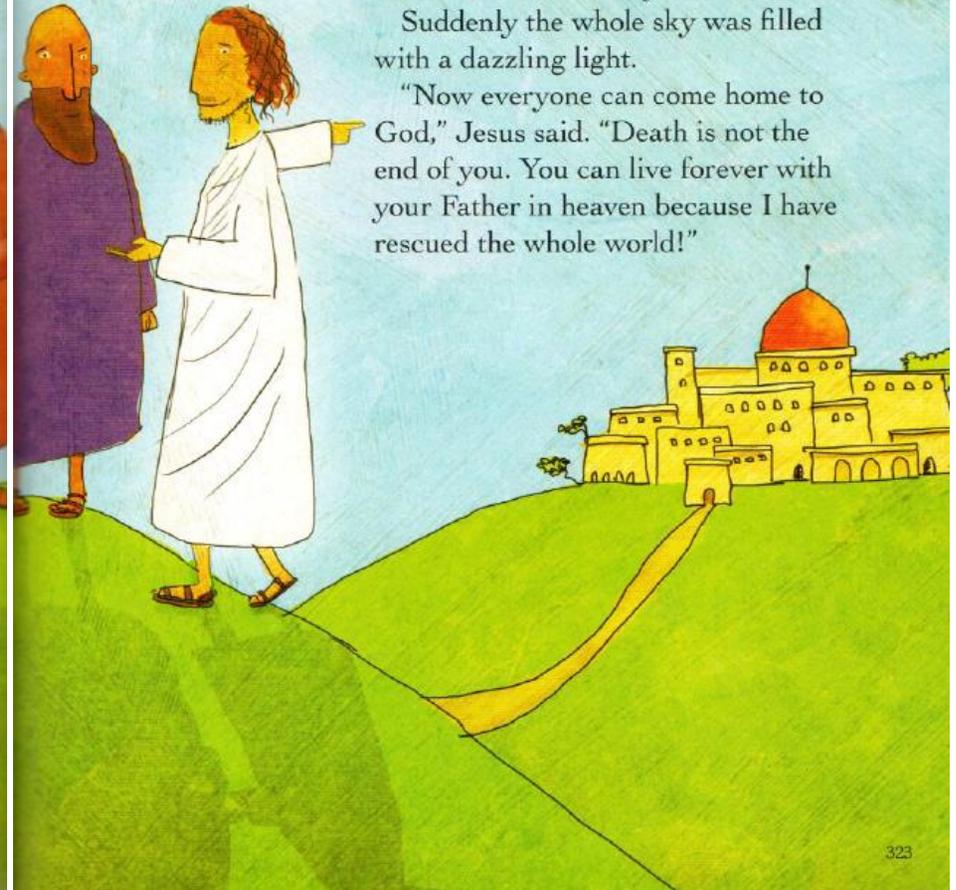
When at last they reached the top of the highest hill near Jerusalem, Jesus turned to them and said, "Go everywhere and tell everyone the happy news!"



"Tell them I love them so much that I died for them. It's the Truth that overcomes the terrible lie. God loves his children. Yes, he really does!"

Suddenly the whole sky was filled with a dazzling light.

"Now everyone can come home to God," Jesus said. "Death is not the end of you. You can live forever with your Father in heaven because I have rescued the whole world!"



And something amazing happened: Jesus rose up into the bright air, higher and higher. They shaded their eyes and watched him go, until a cloud hid Jesus so they couldn't see him anymore. They stood looking up into the sky like that for a long time.

Suddenly two shining men appeared. "What are you doing?" they asked. "Jesus has gone up to heaven. But one day he will come back. In the same way you saw him leave. From heaven. And from the sky."

Jesus' friends went back to Jerusalem with a strange gladness inside their hearts. And something Jesus said that stuck in their minds: "Even though you won't be able to see me anymore, I will never leave you. No! Not ever! I will be with you. Yes! Always and forever!"

"How can Jesus be with us and leave us at the same time?" they wondered.

They didn't understand.
No, but soon they would.



Angel Came to Mary Craft

Materials:

- Paper plate (or large circle cut from paper)
- Circle cut from paper (3 – 4" in diameter, to make angel's head)
- Markers, colored pencils, or crayons
- Glue or tape
- Optional: toilet paper roll

Instructions:

- Color both sides of the paper plate (or large circle)
- Guide learners in folding the paper plate to create a point at the top, the bottom will create the angel's gown. Glue or tape the folds down to hold in place.
- Color the angel's face on the smaller circle. Glue the circle to the top of the angel's gown.
- Trace each of the child's hand and cut out. Glue or tape the handprints to the back of the angel's gown to create wings. Optional: secure the toilet paper roll to the very bottom of the back of the angel's gown.





“for unto us
a child is

born...
and His
name shall
be called

Wonderful”

Isaiah 9:6

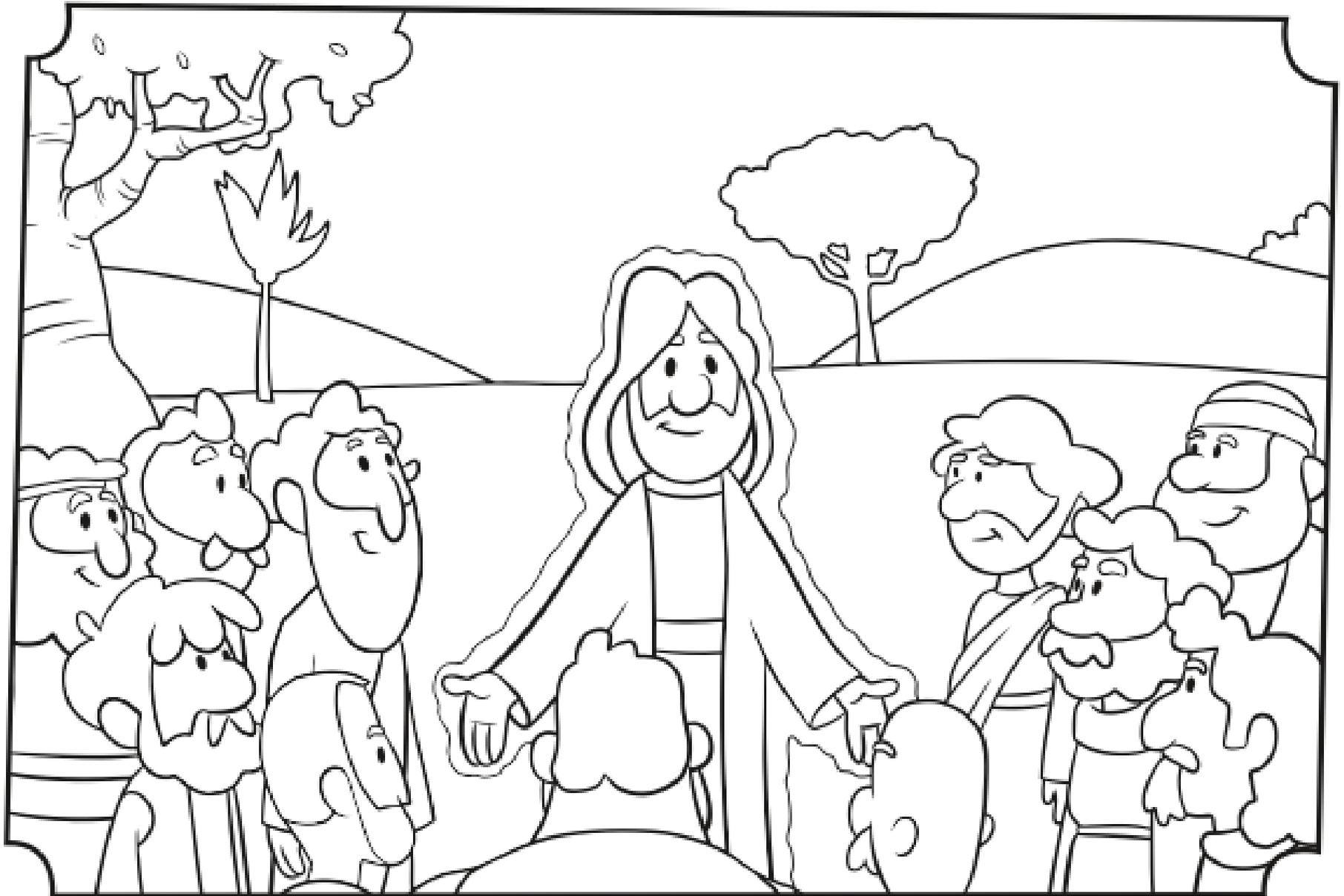




John baptized Jesus. When he did, the spirit of God appeared like a dove and said to Jesus, "You are my beloved son." Matthew 3



Jesus picked 12 men to be His disciples.



Jesus visited His disciples after He rose from the dead. He blessed them and went up into Heaven. Luke 24:36-53



