

Little Dwellers

Light in the Darkness

Week 6

Welcome to week 6! The Little Dwellers bible reading plan is going to take a little more time to learn about Jesus. We couldn't fit all of the great things about Jesus into just one week. Last week we learned about some of the big things in Jesus' life. This week, we'll learn about the things Jesus taught us – there are so many amazing things we've learned from Him! What do you think we will learn about next week? I hope you're as excited as I am!!

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, He's taught us a lot!

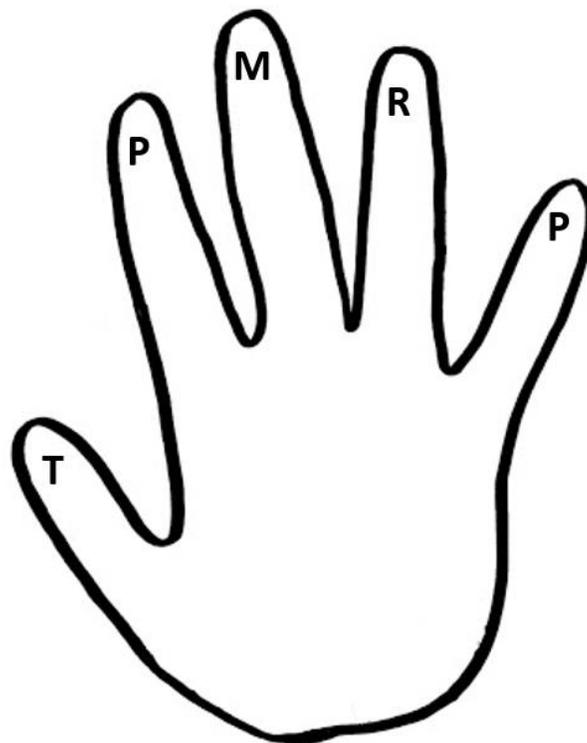
Day 1 – Jesus Teaches on a Mountain

- We will be mimicking Little Dwellers during our normal Sunday service. Please watch the video with your little dweller: <https://youtu.be/FhMsPVcxxo> The images from The Beginner's Bible are listed on pages 7 – 8.
- Here are some questions you can ask your Little Dweller about today's bible story:
 - Who does Jesus say takes care of the birds and the flowers?
God
 - Is God taking care of us too? **Yes**
- Prayer: Feel free to say your own or use the provided one below
 - Dear God (repeat), thank you for loving us (repeat) and always taking care of us (repeat). We love you (repeat). Amen (repeat).
- Craft: 29 – 30
- Song: <https://youtu.be/vAaQS0poL-Q>

Day 2 – How to Pray & The Lord's Prayer

- Please read the stories "How to Pray" & "The Lord's Prayer" with your Little Dweller. The images are on pages 9 – 12.
- Here are some questions you can ask your Little Dweller about today's bible story:
 - Does God only listen to the prayers of the Extra-Super-Holy - People? **No way! He listens to the prayers from all of us.**
 - Is there only one right way to pray? **Nope! You can pray in your normal voice, just like you're talking to someone you love very much. Or maybe try singing a prayer.**
- Prayer:

- Practice with your Little Dweller on “talking prayers” – those prayers where they talk to God just like we talk to family and friends. They might feel more comfortable if you do a copy cat prayer that they are the leader for and you copy their words.
 - Use your hands to help your Little Dweller think of things to prayer for:
 - T is for THUMB – T is for THANKS. Tell God something you are thankful for.
 - P is for POINTER finger – P is for PRAISE. Tell God why you love him.
 - M is for MIDDLE finger – M is for MISTAKES. Let God know about the mistakes you’ve made and tell Him you are sorry.
 - R is for RING finger – R is for REQUEST. Ask God for something you need.
 - P is for PINKY finger – P is for PROTECTION. Ask God to protect you and others from harm.



- Coloring page: 31
- Song: <https://youtu.be/7ZmpWgzlZtY>

Day 3 – A Fisherman’s Net

- Please read “A Fisherman’s Net” with your Little Dweller. The images are on pages 13 – 15.
- Questions to ask your Little Dweller about today’s bible story:
 - Did the fisherman keep all of the fish they caught? **No**. What kind of fish did the fishermen keep? **The good fish**
 - Who will live in heaven forever? **The people who believe in God**
- Prayer: Practice your talking or copycat prayers. Refer to today’s story for ideas to be thankful for – like being able to spend forever in heaven with God.
- Coloring Page: 32
- Song: <https://youtu.be/aDCTNhYqEko>

Day 4 – The Good Samaritan

- Please watch the video with your Little Dweller: <https://youtu.be/8idPotxwvU0> The images are on pages 16 – 18.
- Questions to ask your Little Dweller about today’s bible story:
 - Did all the people in the story who saw the man with ouchies go to help him? **No, only one man helped**
 - Who was the Good Samaritan? **The man who stopped to help the man with ouchies**
- Prayer: Practice your talking or copycat prayers, make sure to ask for PROTECTION.
- Coloring page: 33
- Song: <https://youtu.be/JKOOOF8u8nqY>

Day 5 – The Lost Sheep

- Ask your little dweller what yesterday’s story was about.

- Please read “The Lost Sheep” with your Little Dweller. The images are on pages 19 – 21.
- Here are some questions you can ask your Little Dweller about today’s bible story:
 - What does the shepherd do to make sure none of his sheep are lost? **He counts them**
 - What does the shepherd do if one of his sheep is missing? **He looks everywhere for the lost sheep.** Does the shepherd ever give up? **No**
 - What does God do when one of his children is found? **He celebrates**
- Prayer: Practice your talking or copycat prayers. Refer to today’s story for ideas to PRAISE God – what has He done that you’re thankful for?
- Coloring page: 34
- Song: <https://youtu.be/iTEhrNel6Rg>

Day 6 – The friend of little children

- Please watch the video with your little dweller: <https://youtu.be/BWUSj7KVNjl> The images are on pages 22 – 25.
- Questions to ask your Little Dweller about today’s bible story:
 - Did Jesus’ helpers want to let the children talk to Jesus? **No, they tried to send the children away**
 - Who is super important to Jesus? **The children**
- Prayer: Practice your talking or copycat prayers. Refer to today’s story for ideas to PRAISE God – what has He done that you’re thankful for?
- Coloring page: 35
- Song: https://youtu.be/B_xdkk_sXgA

Day 7 – A Short Man

- Please read “A Short Man” with your Little Dweller. The images are on pages 26 – 28.

- Questions to ask your Little Dweller about today's bible story:
 - What did Zacchaeus do so that he could see Jesus? **He climbed a tree**
 - Whose house did Jesus go to? **Zacchaeus**
- Prayer: Practice your talking or copycat prayers. Refer to today's story for ideas to talk about the MISTAKES we make. Zacchaeus told Jesus how he cheated people when collecting taxes and that he was sorry. What mistakes have you made that you're sorry for?
- Coloring page: 36
- Song: <https://youtu.be/hq-HA5arHYw>



Jesus Teaches on a Mountain

Matthew 5:1–12; 6:25–34; Luke 6:17–23; 12:22–31

All sorts of people went to see Jesus.
Children, mothers, fathers,
grandmas, and grandpas.
They all wanted to hear what
he was teaching.

318



“Look at the birds,” said Jesus.
“Do they store up food in a barn?
No. God feeds them.”

319



“Look at the flowers,” said Jesus.
“They don’t work or make clothes.
God dresses them in lush leaves
and pretty petals.”



Then Jesus said, “You are much more
important than birds. You are much
more important than flowers.
So do not worry. If God takes care
of them, God will take care of you.”



How to pray

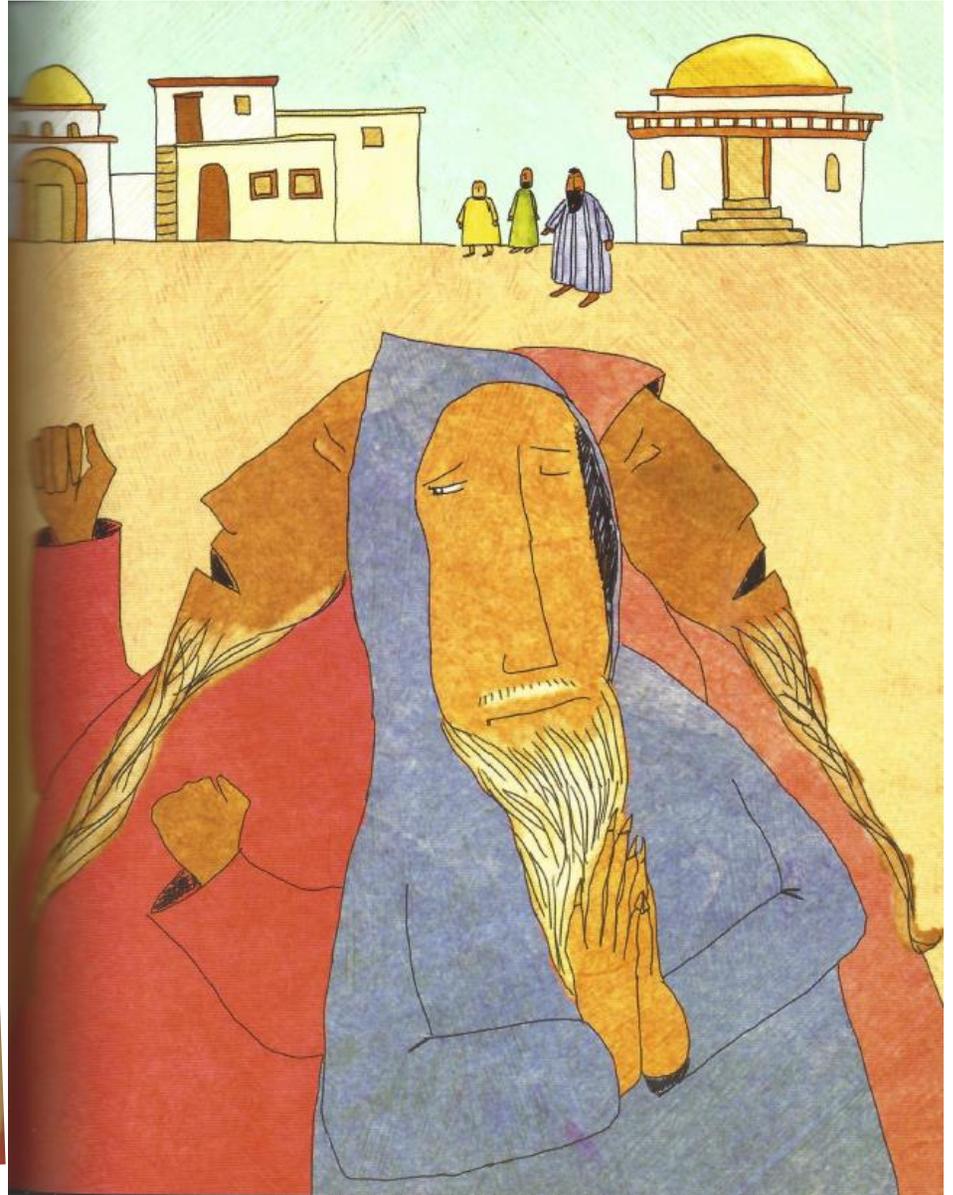
*Jesus teaches people about prayer; paraphrase of
The Lord's Prayer, from Matthew 6*

IN THOSE DAYS there were some Extra-Super-Holy People (at least that's what they thought), and they were called "Pharisees." Every day, they would stand out there in the middle of the street and pray out loud in big Extra-Super-Holy Voices. They really weren't praying so much as just showing off. They used lots of special words that were so clever, no one understood what they meant.

People walking by would stop and stare, which might sound rude — except that's exactly what the Extra-Super-Holy People wanted. They wanted everyone to say, "Look at them. They're so holy. God must love those people best."

Now, you and I both know they were wrong — God doesn't just love holy people. But the people walking by weren't so sure. Perhaps you did have to be really clever, or good, or important for God to love you. Perhaps you had to know lots of difficult, clever words to speak to God.

222

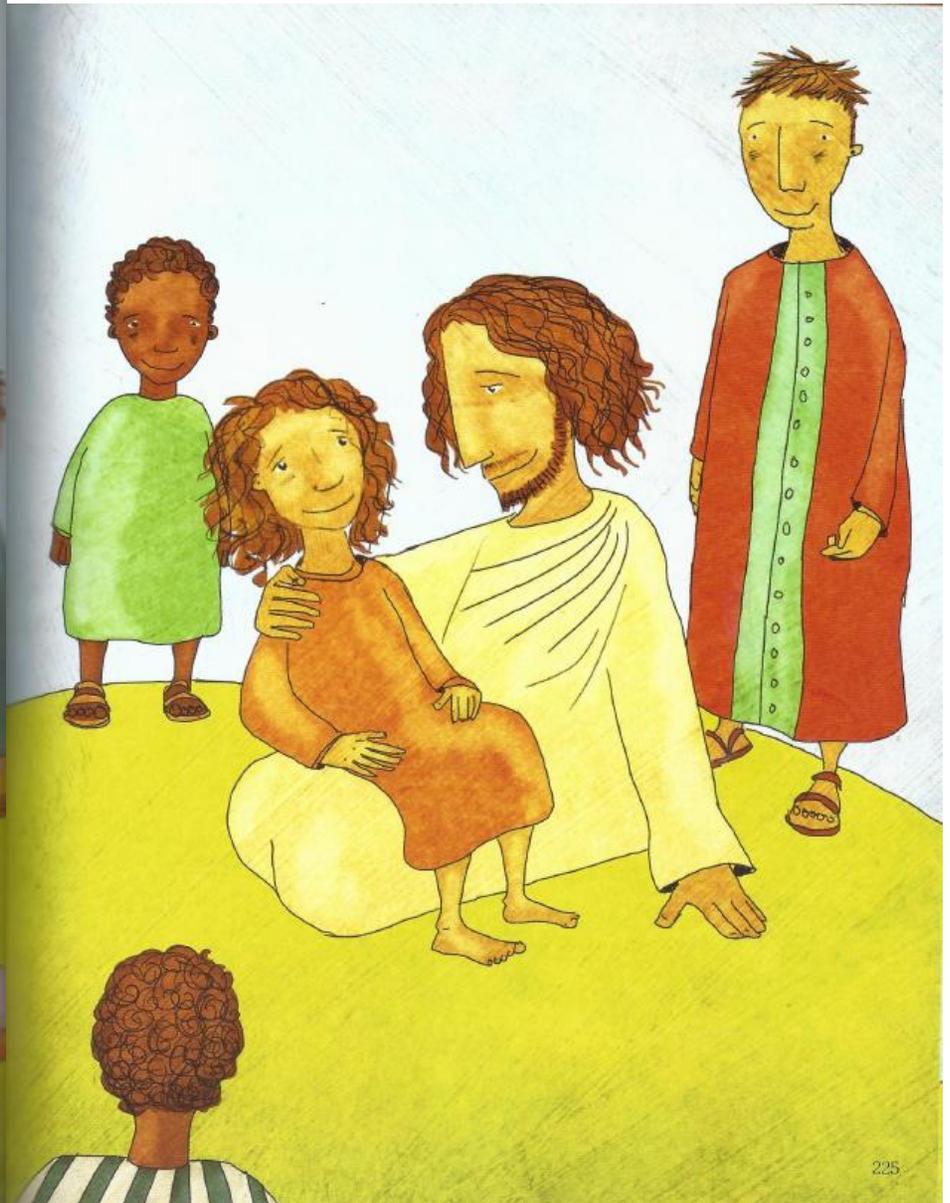
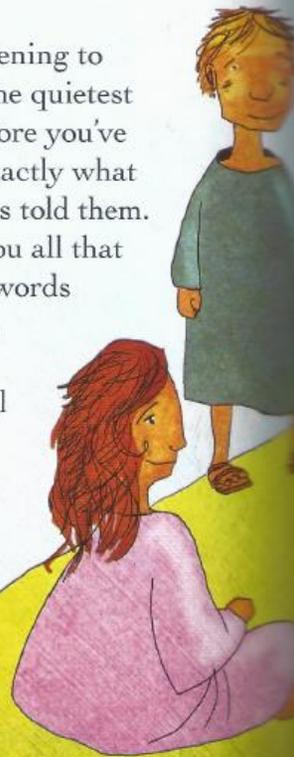


So one day, Jesus taught people how to pray. He said, "When you pray, don't pray like those Extra-Super-Holy People. They think if they say lots of words, God will hear them. But it's not because you're so clever, or good, or so important, that God will listen to you. God listens to you because he loves you.

"Did you know that God is always listening to you? Did you know that God can hear the quietest whisper deep inside your heart, even before you've started to say it? Because God knows exactly what you need even before you ask him," Jesus told them.

"You see, God just can't wait to give you all that you need. So you don't need to use long words or special words. You don't have to use a special voice. You just have to talk.

"So when you pray, pray in your normal voice, just like when you're talking to someone you love very much. Like this ...

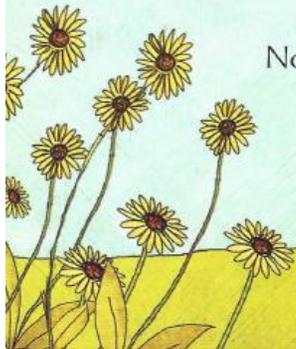




Hello Daddy!
We want to know you.
And be close to you.
Please show us how.



Make everything in the world right again.
And in our hearts, too.
Do what is best — just like you do in heaven,
And please do it down here, too.
Please give us everything we need today.
Forgive us for doing wrong, for hurting you.
Forgive us just as we forgive other people
when they hurt us.
Rescue us! We need you.
We don't want to keep running away
and hiding from you.
Keep us safe from our enemies.
You're strong, God.
You can do whatever you want.
You are in charge.
Now and forever and for always!
We think you're great!
Amen!
Yes we do!

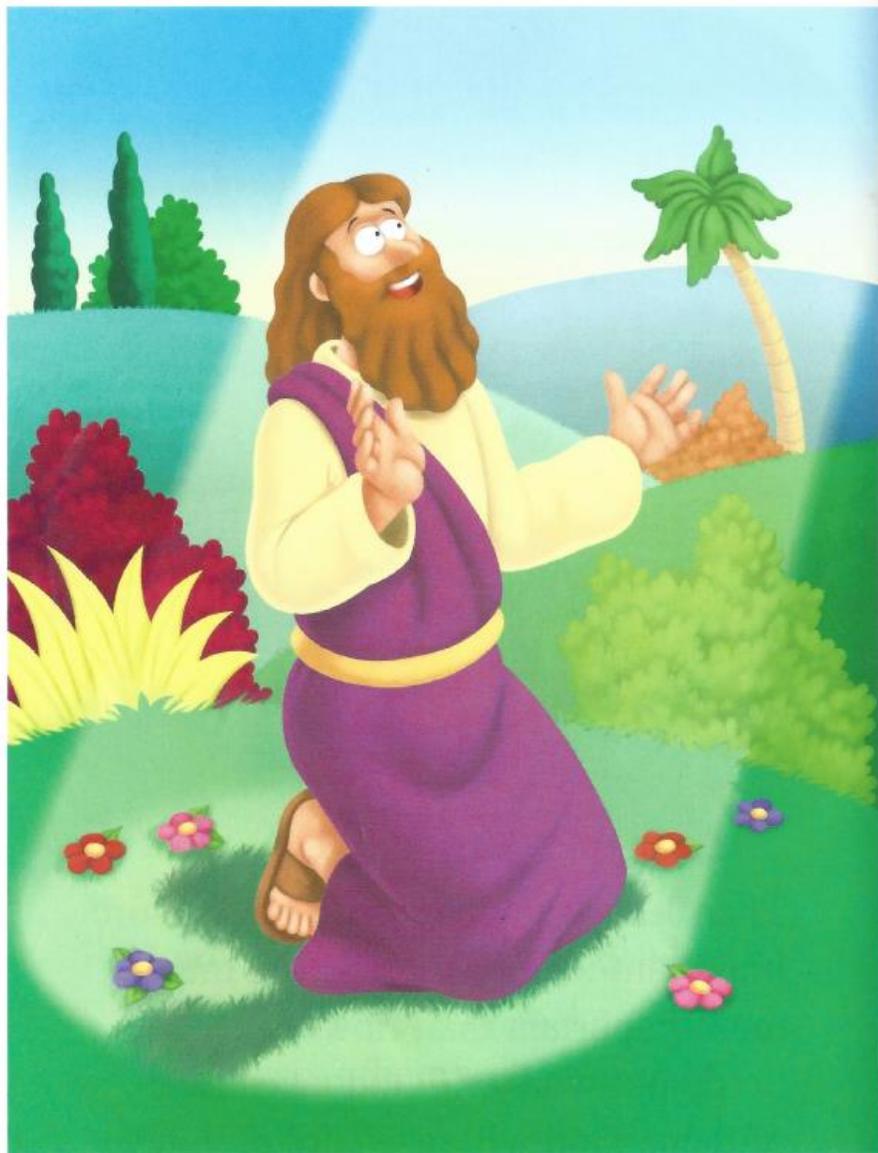


You see, Jesus was showing people that God would
always love them — with a Never Stopping, Never
Giving Up, Unbreaking, Always and Forever Love.

So they didn't need to hide anymore, or be afraid, or
ashamed. They could stop running away from God.
And they could run to him instead.

As a little child runs into her daddy's arms.





The Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9-13; Luke 11:1-4 (NIV)

When Jesus was on the mountain,
he taught the people how to pray.
Jesus said,
“Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our debts,
as we also have forgiven our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from the evil one.”

Amen.

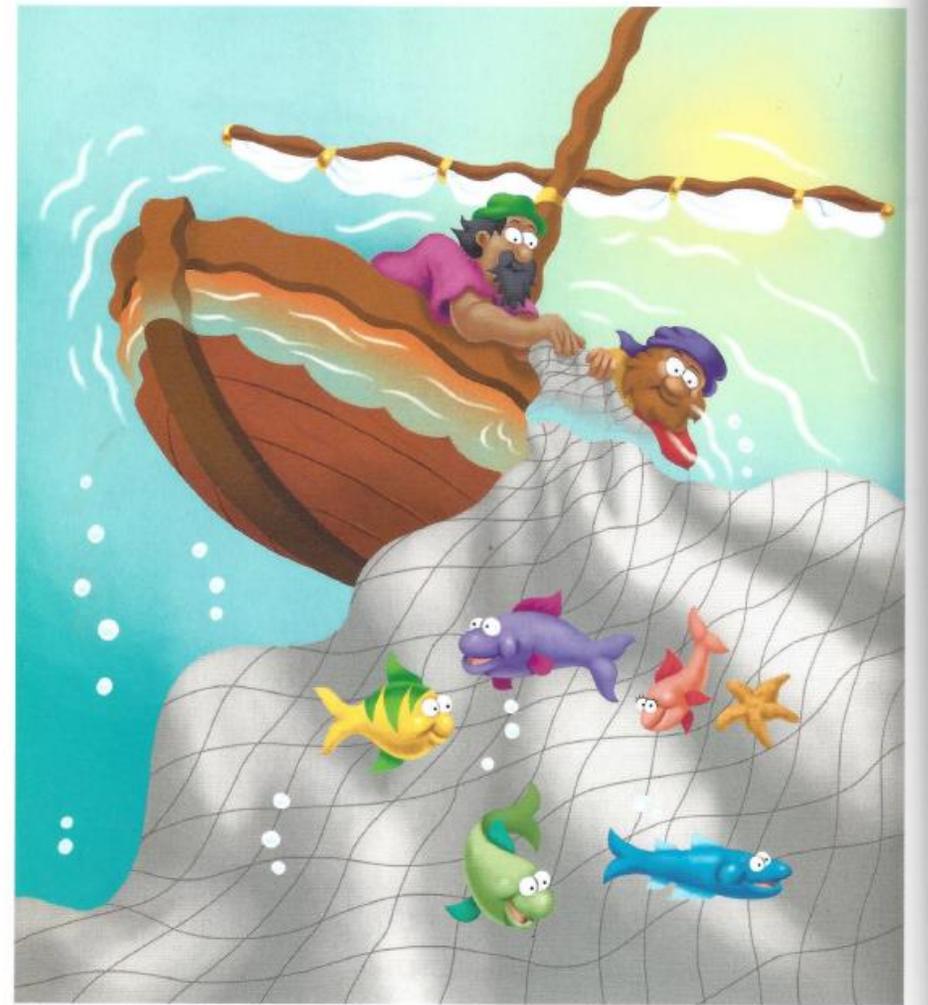


A Fishermen's Net

Matthew 13:47-49

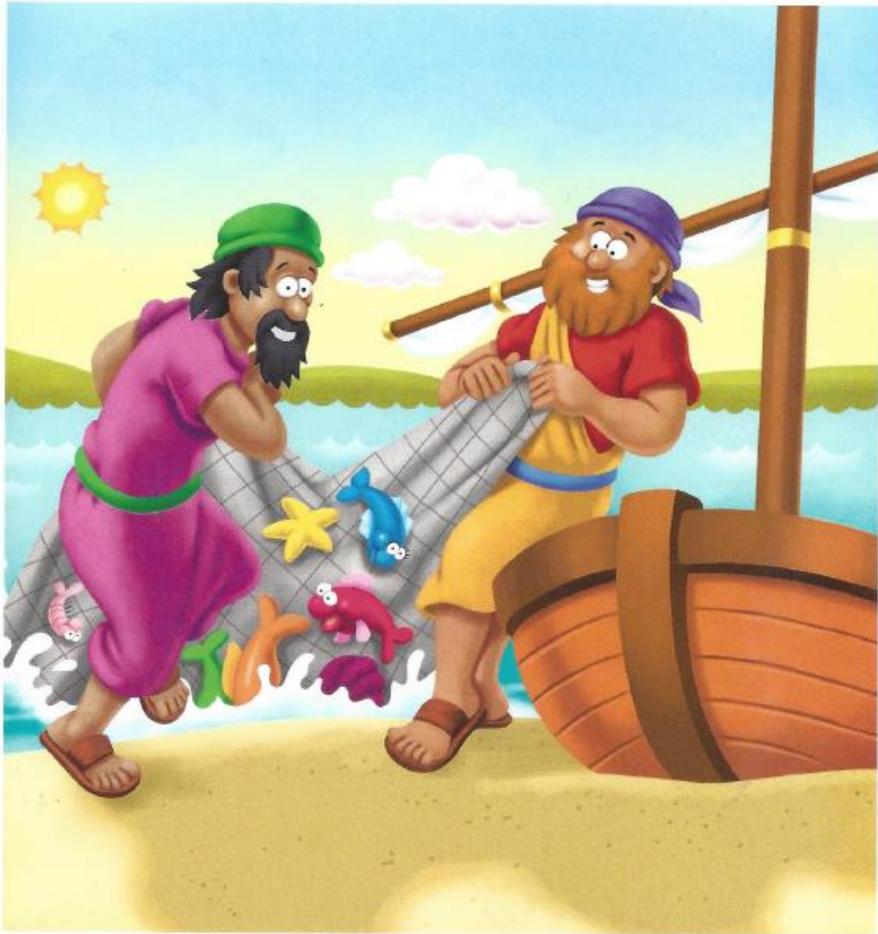
Jesus told a story. "One day," he said, "some fishermen took their boat out."

351



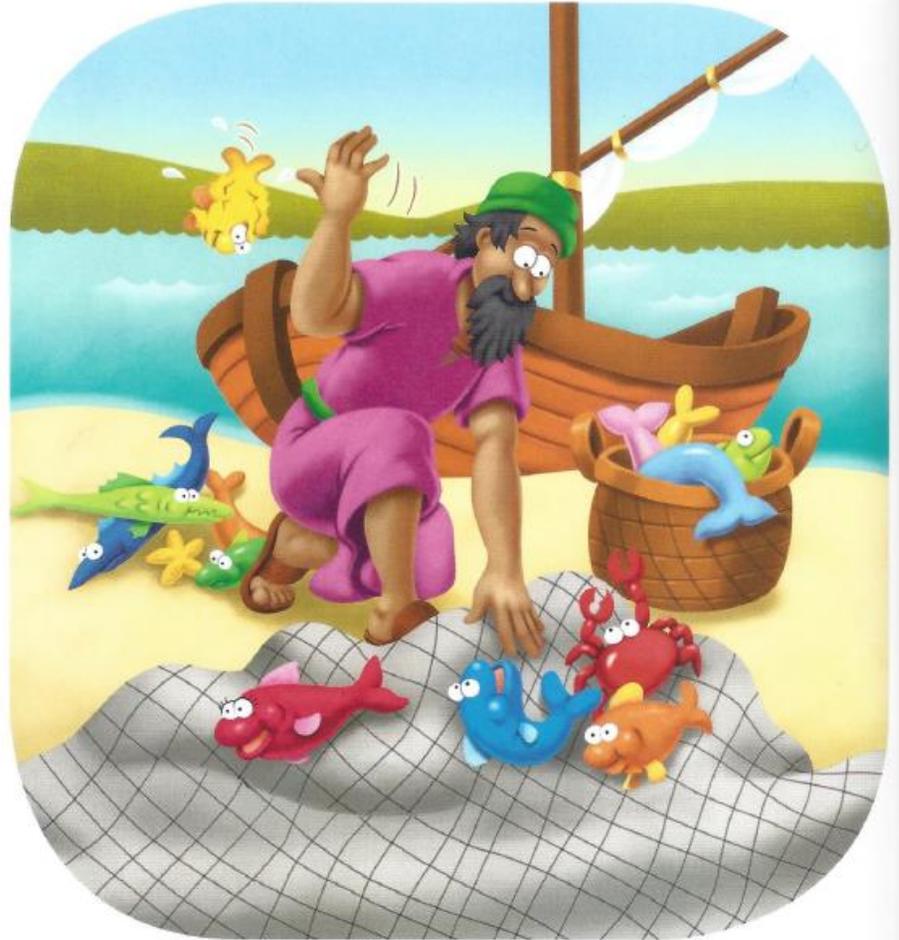
"They threw their net into the water. All kinds of fish swam in the lake."

352



“When the fishermen returned to shore, they dragged their net out of the water and looked through their catch,” said Jesus.

353



“They kept all the good fish and tossed out all the bad fish.” Jesus said, “The fishermen’s net is like God’s kingdom.”

354



“Everyone wants to be part of his kingdom.
But the angels will come and separate the
godly people from the ungodly people.”

355



“The godly people will live in heaven
with me forever.”

356



The Good Samaritan

Luke 10:25-37

One day, a lawyer put Jesus to the test. He said, "I know the law says to love God with all my heart and to love my neighbor as myself. But who is my neighbor?"

379



Jesus told him this parable:
"A man was on his way to the city of Jericho. Some robbers beat him. They stole everything he had."

380



“The man was hurt. He needed help. Along came a priest. The priest saw the man, but he did not stop. Along came a helper in the temple. He saw the man but did not stop. Along came a Samaritan man. When he saw the hurt man, he stopped. The Samaritan man cleaned up the man’s wounds.”

381



“He lifted the man onto his own donkey and took him down the road to an inn. They stayed at the inn. The Samaritan man took care of the hurt man all night long,” said Jesus.

382



“In the morning, the Samaritan man gave the innkeeper two silver coins and said, ‘Take good care of him until I return.’”

383



After Jesus finished the story, he asked, “Which one of the three men was the neighbor?” The lawyer answered, “The one who took care of the hurt man.” Jesus said, “Go and do as he did.”

384



The Lost Sheep

Matthew 18:10-14; Luke 15:3-7

Some people wondered who was most important to God. So Jesus told them a parable.

391



“Think about a shepherd. What does he do? He watches over his sheep. He gives them plenty of food, and he gives them plenty of water.”

392



“He counts them up to make sure they are all there. If one is lost, he looks for it. He looks in the barn. He looks near the stream. He looks in the hills. He looks everywhere.”



“The shepherd does not give up. At last, he finds the little lost sheep!”



“He carries the sheep back.
He calls his friends together
and says, ‘Let’s celebrate!
My lost sheep has been found!’”

395



Then Jesus said, “God loves every one
of his children like a shepherd loves his
sheep. When one of them sins, it is like
a sheep that has gone astray, and God is
very sad. But when the person turns away
from sin and comes back to God, he is
very, very happy. He celebrates like a
shepherd who has found his lost sheep.”

396

The Friend of little children

Jesus and the children, from Matthew 18, 19, Mark 10, Luke 18

JESUS' FRIENDS WERE ARGUING. Who was the most important helper in God's kingdom? They wanted to know.

"I am!" James said.

"No, you're not!" said Peter. "I am!"

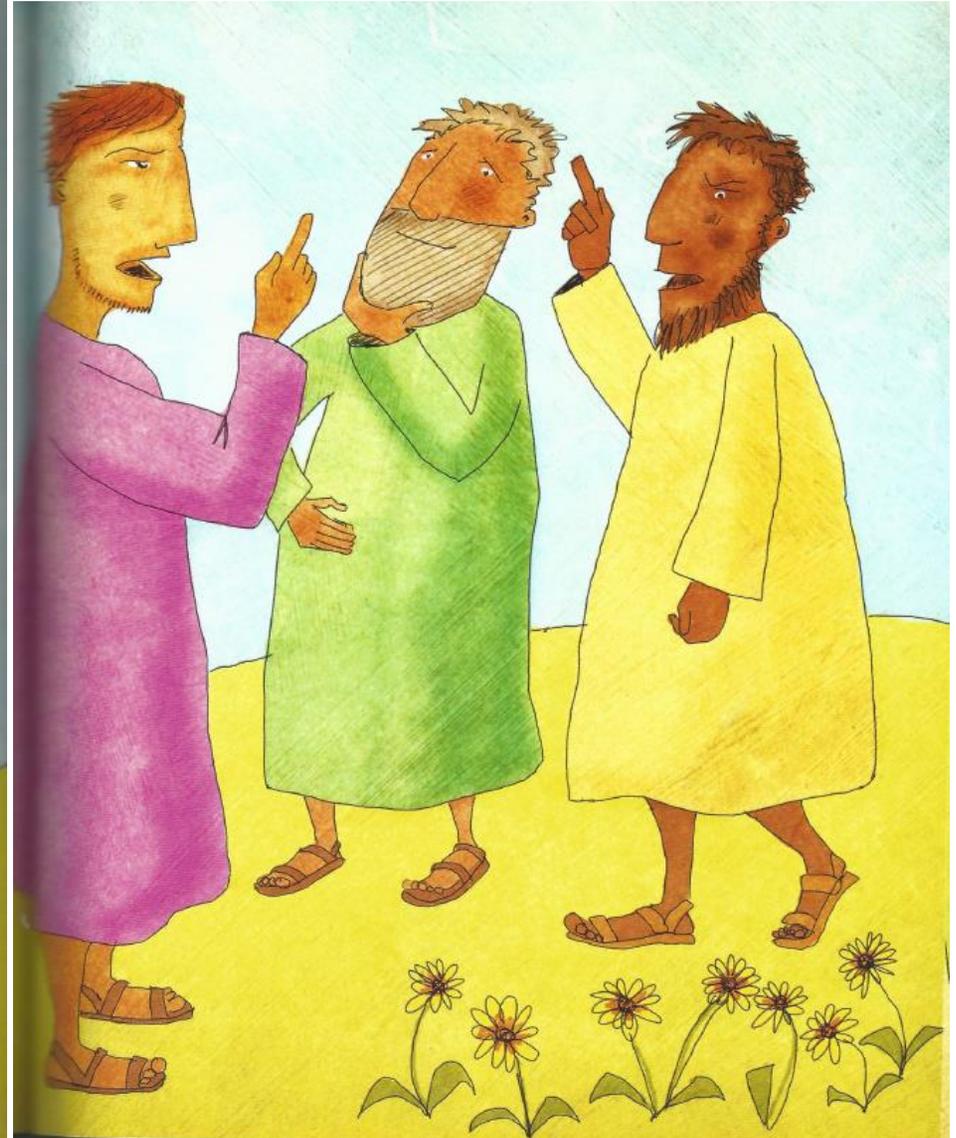
"Nonsense," Matthew said. "I'm the cleverest!"

"No, you're not!"

"Yes, I am!"

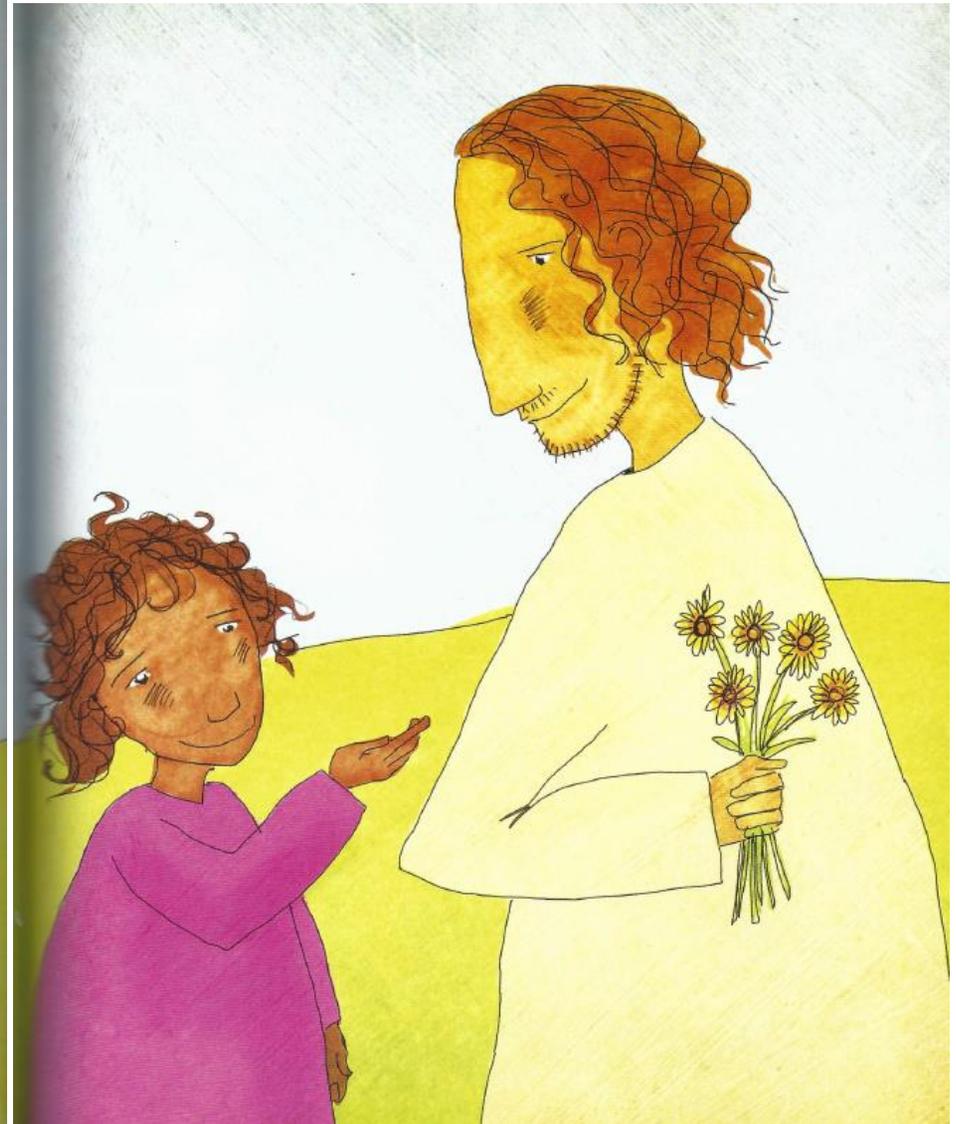
"Yes!" "No!" "Am, too!"

This silliness went on and on like that for some time. You see, Jesus' friends had started thinking they had to do something to make themselves special to Jesus — that if they were the cleverest or the nicest or something, Jesus would like them best.



But they had forgotten something. Something God had been teaching his people all through the years: that no matter how clever you are, or how good you are, or how rich you are, or how nice you are, or how important you are — none of it makes any difference. Because God's love is a gift and, as anyone will tell you, the whole thing about a gift is, it's free. All you have to do is reach out your hands and take it.

So while Jesus' friends were arguing, some people who knew all about getting gifts — in fact, you might say they were gift-experts — had come to see Jesus. Who were they? They were little children.

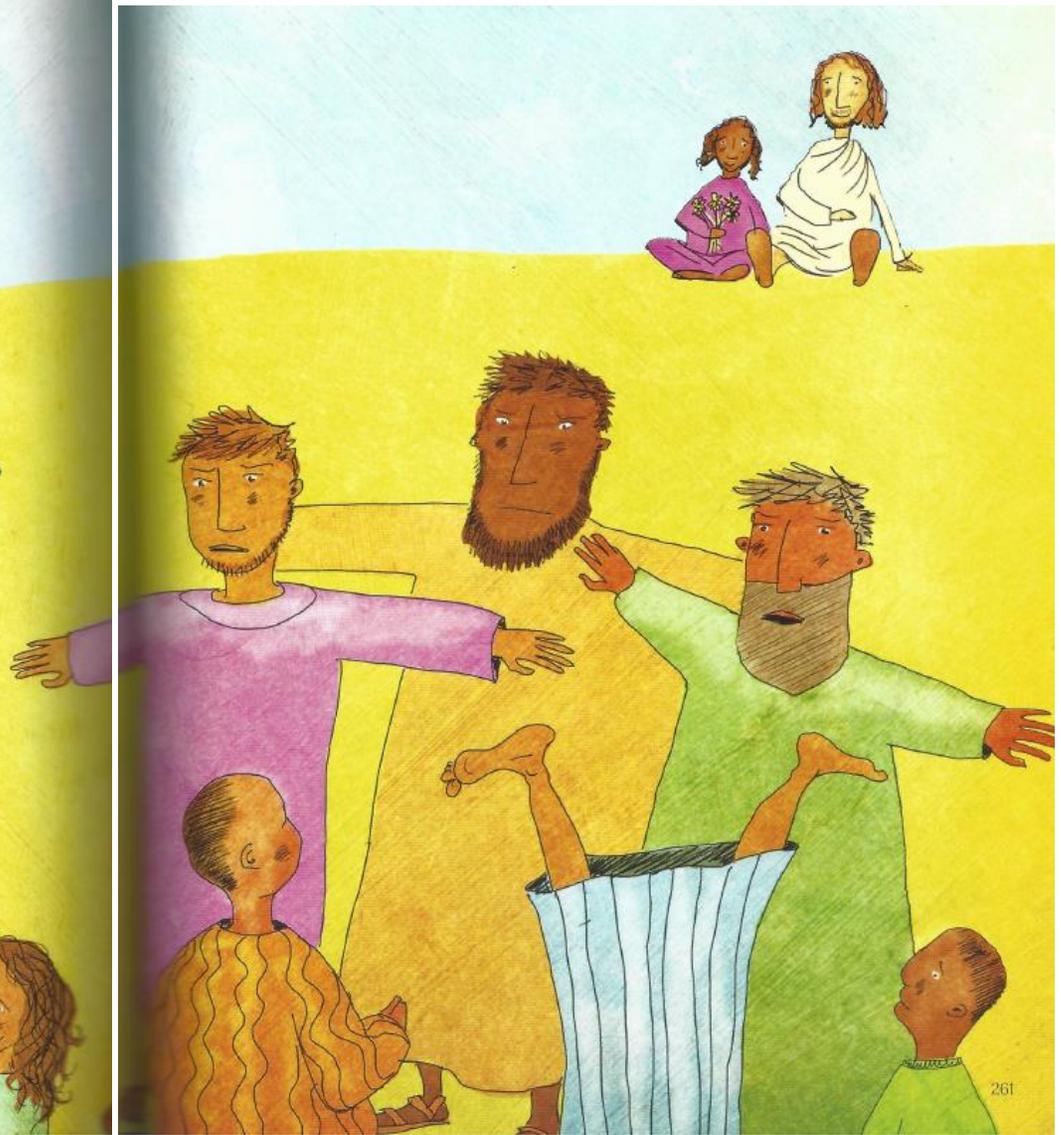


Jesus' helpers tried to send them away. "Jesus doesn't have time for you!" they said. "He's too tired."

But they were wrong. Jesus always had time for children.

"Don't ever send them away!" Jesus said. "Bring the little ones to me."

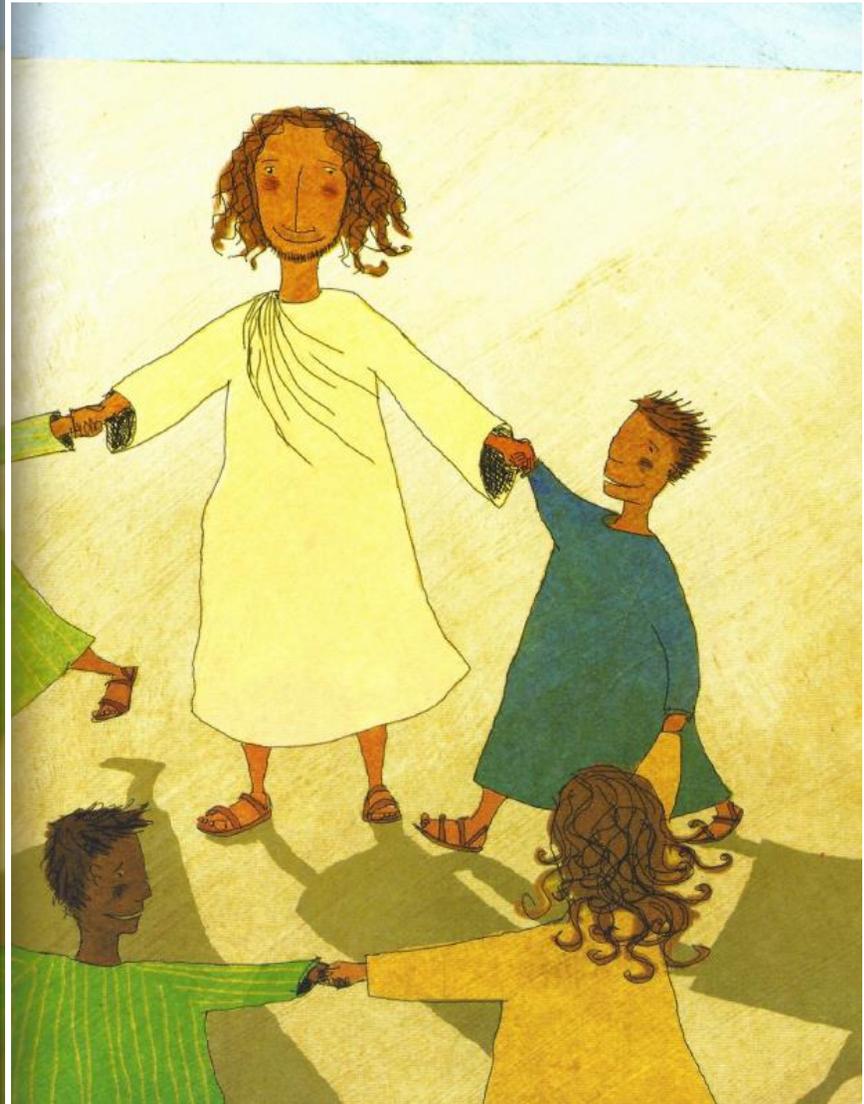
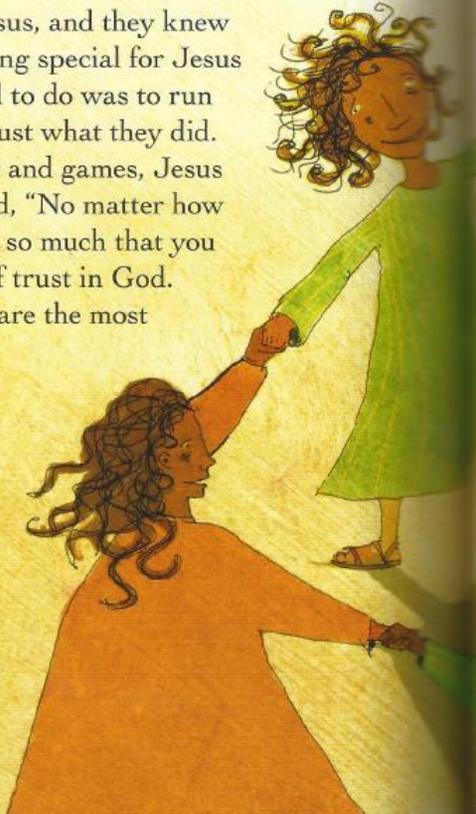
Now, if you had been there, what do you think — would you have had to line up quietly to see Jesus? Do you think Jesus would have asked you how good you'd been before he'd give you a hug? Would you have had to be on your best behavior? And get dressed up? And not speak until you're spoken to?



Or ... would you have done just what these children did — run straight up to Jesus and let him pick you up in his arms and swing you and kiss you and hug you and then sit you on his lap and listen to your stories and your chats?

You see, children loved Jesus, and they knew they didn't need to do anything special for Jesus to love them. All they needed to do was to run into his arms. And so that's just what they did.

Well, after all the laughing and games, Jesus turned to his helpers and said, "No matter how big you grow, never grow up so much that you lose your child's heart: full of trust in God. Be like these children. They are the most important in my kingdom."



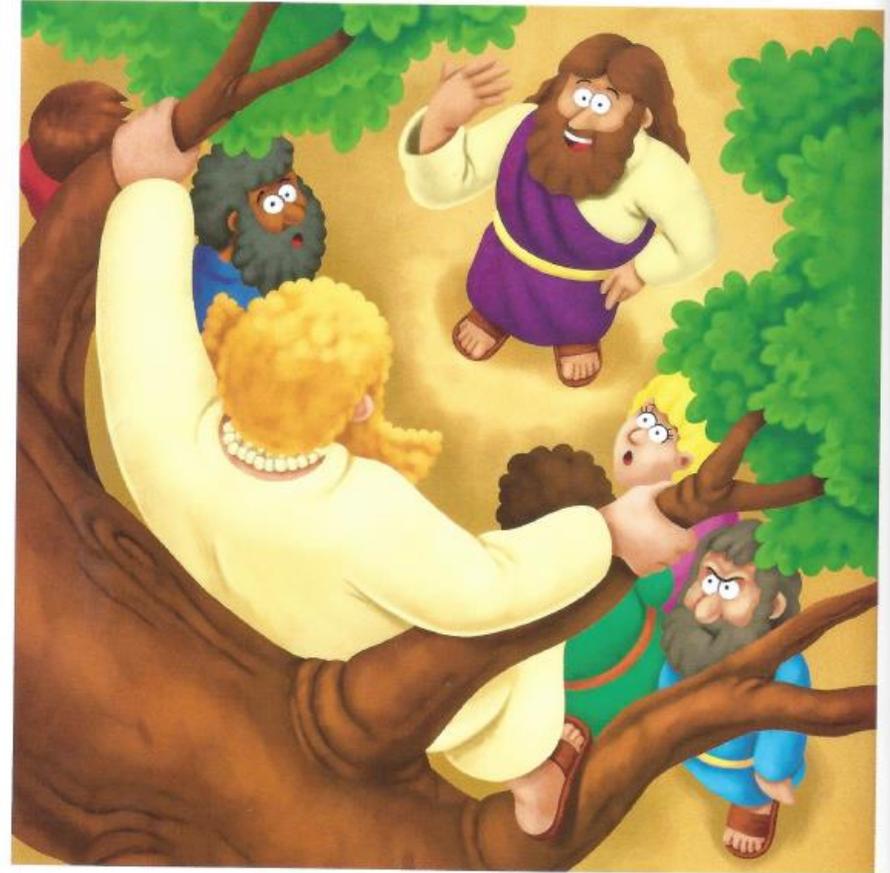


A Short Man

Luke 19:1-10

People crowded the streets to see Jesus.
Zacchaeus wanted to see too,
but he was too short.
So he climbed up a tree.

413



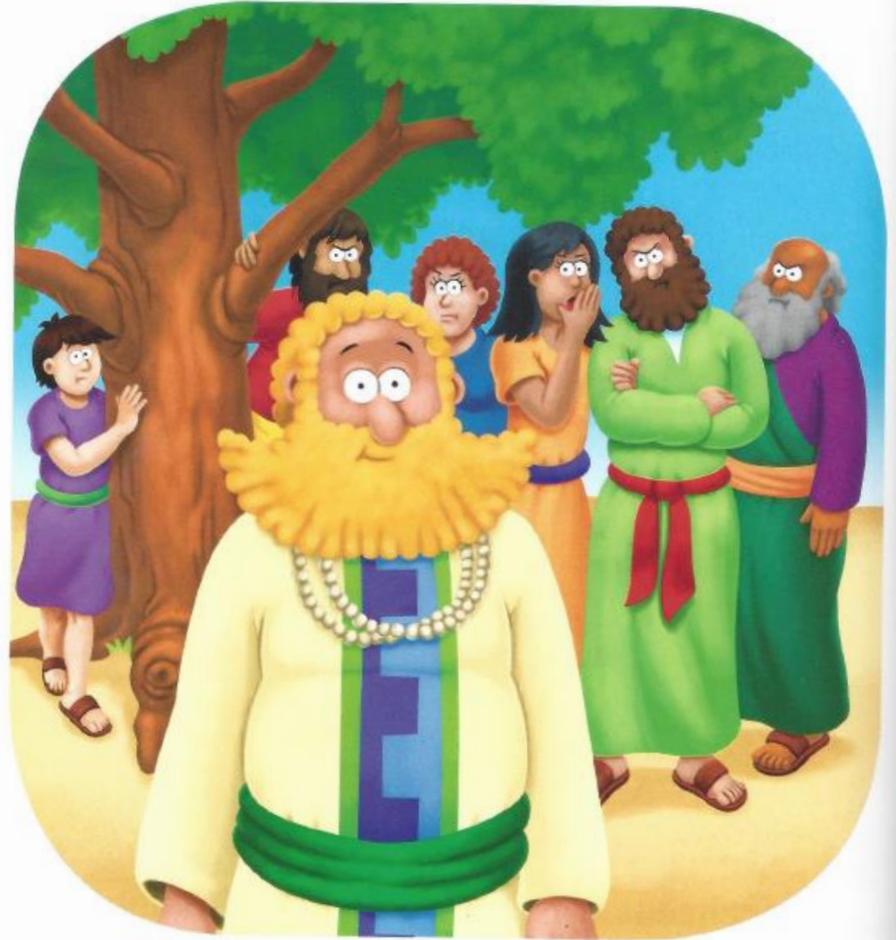
As Jesus was passing by, he looked up
and said, “Zacchaeus, come down.
I want to go to your house.”
Zacchaeus scrambled down the tree.

414



Zacchaeus was a tax collector. His job was to get the tax money from the people and give it to the king. Nobody liked him. He was surprised but happy that Jesus wanted to come to *his* house!

415



A crowd of people stood outside the house. They grumbled, “Why is Jesus in *there*?”

416



Zacchaeus told Jesus, “I will give money to the poor. And I will pay back anyone I have cheated. In fact, I will give them back more money than I took.”

Jesus was happy that Zacchaeus was going to make things right.

417

Jesus Teaches on a Mountain Craft

Materials:

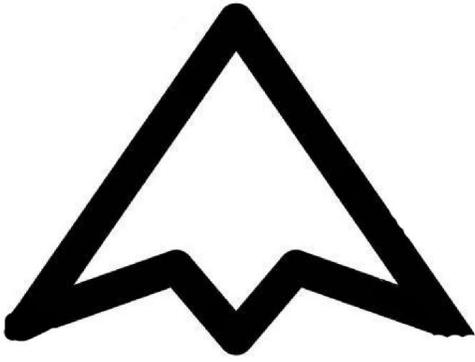
- 3 Popsicle sticks
- Glue
- White Paper
- Template images (below)
- Optional: paint, markers or crayons (to paint/color the mountain)

Instructions:

- Color Jesus & people template
- Cut out all template images
- Glue 3 popsicle sticks into a triangle
- Color or paint popsicle sticks brown or gray
- Cut out mountaintop & glue to top of triangle
- Glue Jesus & people to opposite sites of triangle



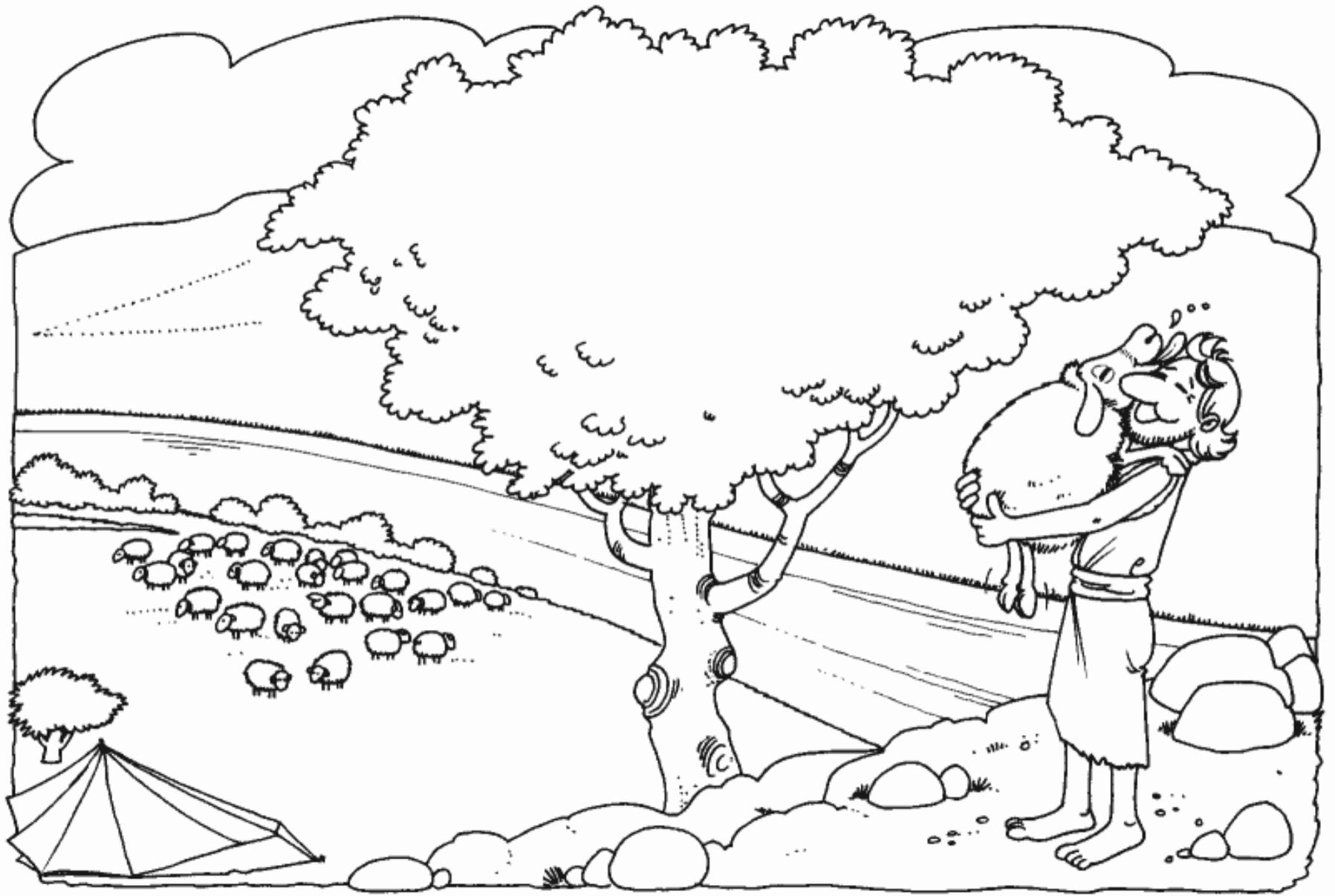
Templates:















Jesus wants to
be my friend
forever.

Zacchaeus
Luke 19:1-8

"Love each other
as I have loved you."

John 15:12