

EXPLORE

NORTH AMERICAN MISSIONS



AN ACTIVITY BOOK FOR CHILDREN



North American
Mission Board

Dear Future Missionary,

Have fun coloring and working through this book! On each page, you will learn about the North American Mission Board and read real-life stories* about how churches share the gospel with people through starting new churches, serving in compassion ministries, and sending out missionaries.

I pray that you will know Jesus and follow Him. You can learn more about Him on pages 24-32. We pray that when you grow up, you will be ready to serve Him in whatever you do. Maybe you will become an astronaut, teacher, football player, doctor, or church staff member. No matter what you do, you can be a missionary who tells people about Jesus' love. How cool would it be for you to one day serve as a missionary with the North American Mission Board?

Tell your parents and adult leaders to visit namb.net to learn more about the work we are doing in North America.

Serving together,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kevin Ezell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kevin Ezell
President, North American Mission Board

North American MISSION BOARD

The North American Mission Board (NAMB) helps churches tell people about Jesus in many ways. NAMB helps churches send missionaries, start new churches, and meet needs in the United States, Canada, and their territories. NAMB is part of the Southern Baptist Convention. Southern Baptist churches help people know and follow Jesus.

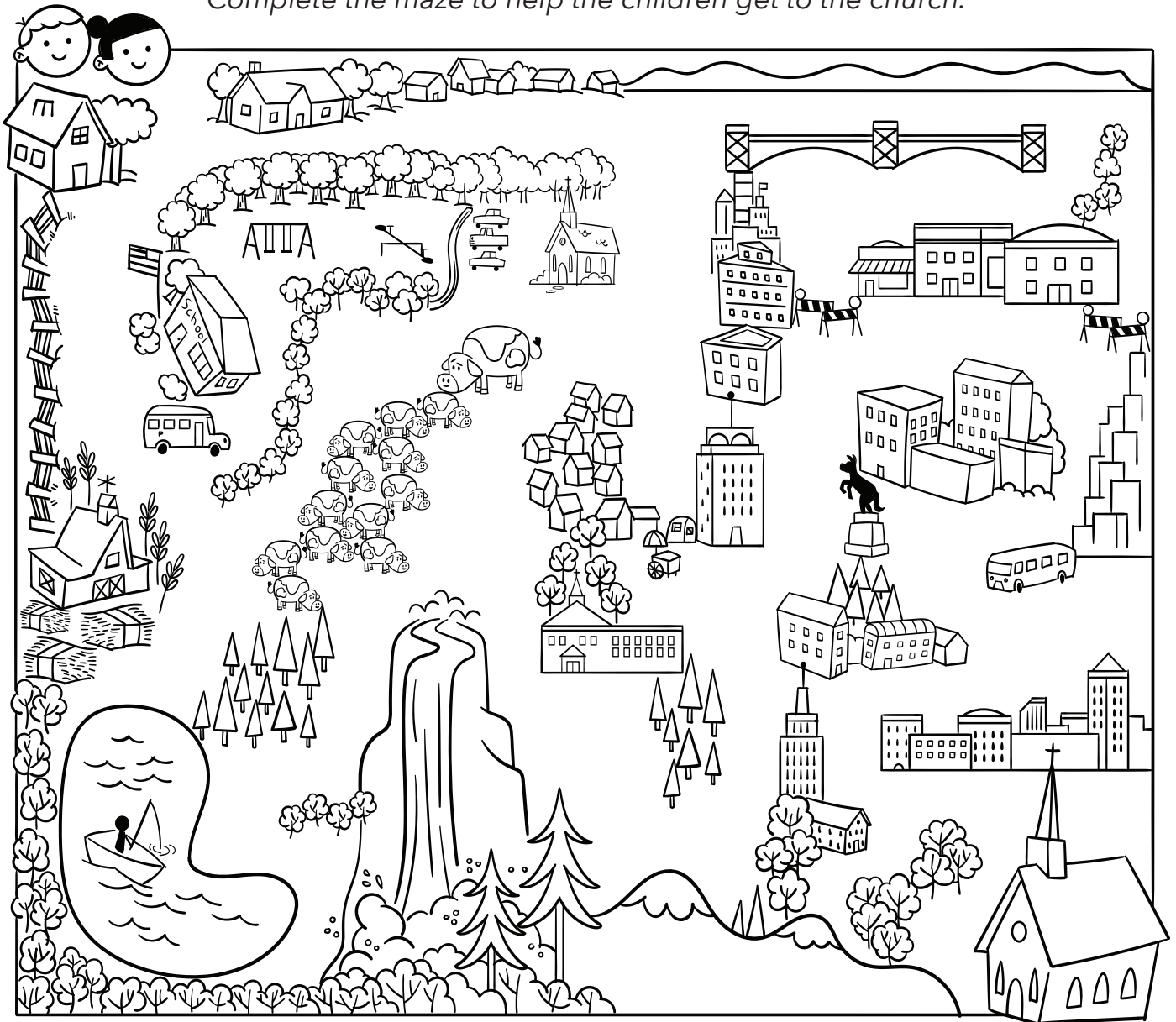
Color the map.



Church

A church is a group of people who worship God and serve Him together. They love and help each other as a family. Every follower of Jesus needs a church family. Millions of people live in North America. Many people live in places where there aren't enough churches. It's important to start (or "plant") churches everywhere so everyone can learn about Jesus.

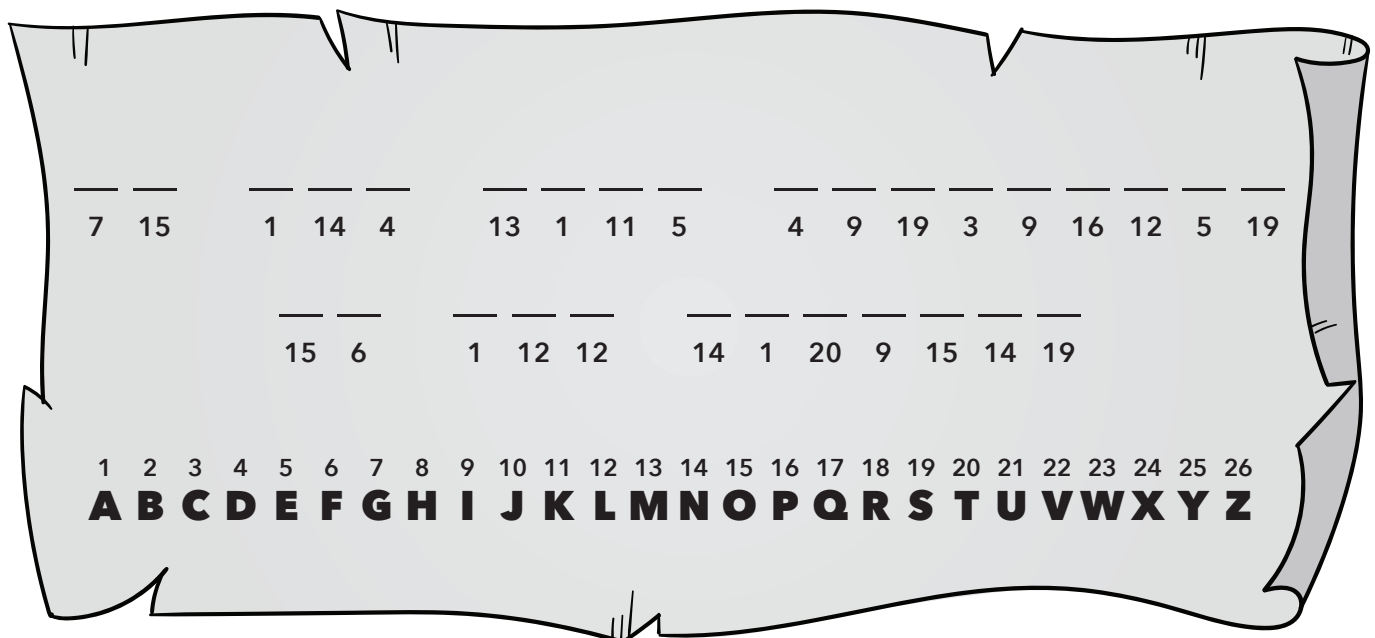
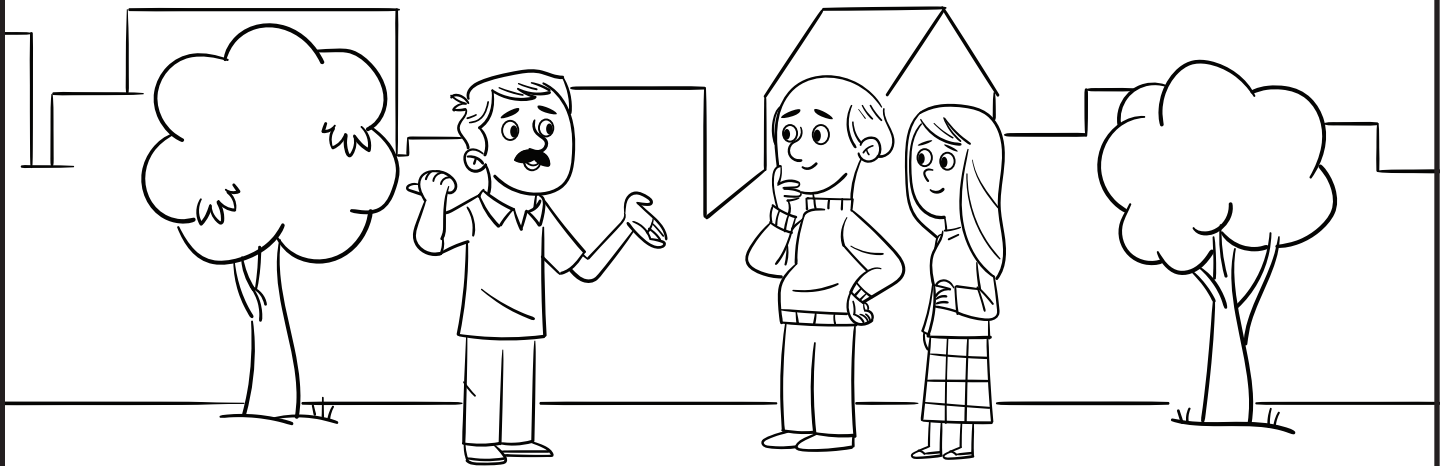
Complete the maze to help the children get to the church.



Missionaries

Every follower of Jesus should tell others about Him. A missionary is sent to a specific place to tell people about Jesus. Missionaries may go to faraway lands or near their own hometowns. Some missionaries start new churches. Some help meet people's needs. All missionaries love Jesus and teach people about Him.

*Crack the code to discover what Jesus tells His followers to do.
Then, find Matthew 28:19-20 in your Bible and read it.*



Annie Armstrong

Annie Armstrong lived from 1850-1938 in Baltimore, Maryland. She loved Jesus and the missionaries who served Him. Annie supported and encouraged missionaries. She also wrote thousands of letters to remind people to pray for missions, give to missions, and go to the mission field.

Today, we call our special North American missions offering the **Annie Armstrong Easter Offering®**. Every penny of that offering helps missionaries tell people about Jesus.



Find and circle the words from the word bank. As you find each word, think about how you can support and encourage missionaries like Annie Armstrong did.

X O F F E R I N G G R P I S
 H M N U P C T P X M O F I N
 D R L E P S O G C L S U S O
 O N C H U R C H M I W T U I
 K M I J C S I Y I A X O R S
 N O M T H A E E V R E S U S
 P R A Y E R L U O L M V E I
 E Q K C S Z B A O L O Q R M
 X S O C P B I C C W V A F C
 M B U O P T B W F J M G Q H
 X U S S M I S S I O N A R Y
 A N N I E A R M S T R O N G
 X V S O E J S W D E D E P B
 L Y F S G Z Y Q D K O R L Y

Word Bank

Annie Armstrong
 Bible
 Church

Gospel
 Jesus
 Missionary
 Missions

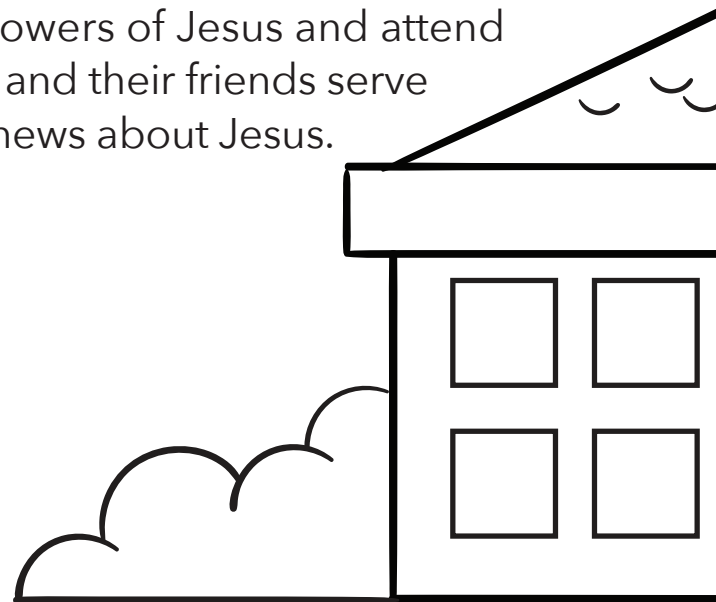
Offering
 Prayer
 Serve

Church Plants Share the Gospel

Vergil, Kelsey, and their four children live in Oregon. One day, Vergil believed that God wanted him to become a missionary and start a new church for people to learn about, love, and follow Jesus. So, their family moved to Portland, Oregon, a place where many people do not know about Jesus.

Moving to a new place is not always easy, but the family worked together to make friends in their new neighborhood. At community events, they set up a table and handed out bottled water to introduce themselves to people. As they made new friends, they invited them to their home to get to know people. This gave the family an opportunity to share about Jesus' love, give Bibles to those who did not have them, and invite their friends to church. The children even started a Bible study in their backyard for their friends!

Many of their friends have become followers of Jesus and attend church together. Now, Vergil, his family, and their friends serve their neighborhood to share the good news about Jesus.



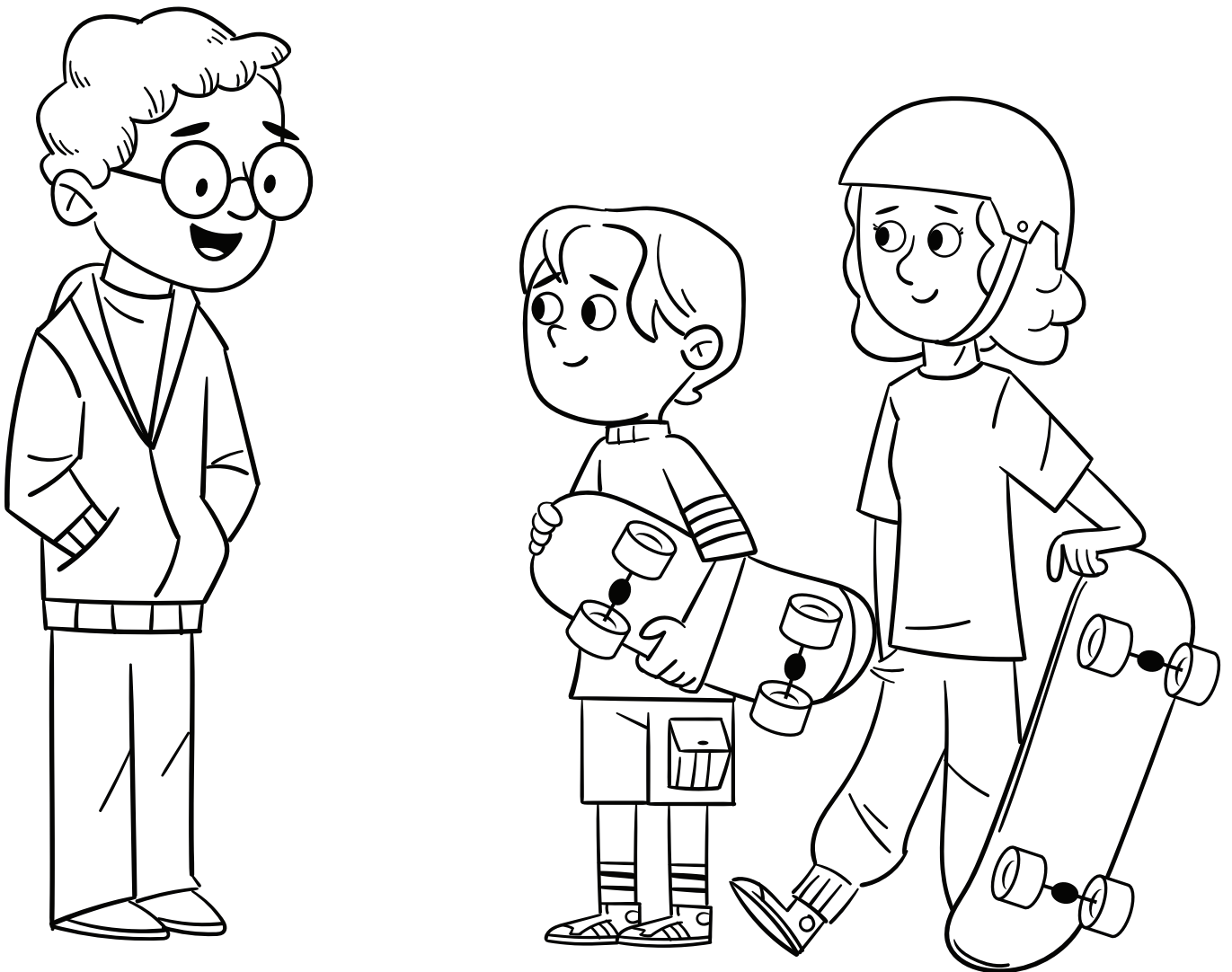
Cross out every third letter. Write the remaining letters in the blanks to discover something that followers of Jesus should tell others.

J E X S U Y S L P O V R E S Z Y O X U

_____!

Missionaries Teach About Jesus' Love

A boy named Joshua was born and raised in New Mexico. He and his family attended a church, but very few people in their community knew and followed Jesus. Most people were very poor. Many teenagers did not finish high school. Lots of people felt sad and unloved. They felt they had no purpose in life.



When Joshua grew up, he became a missionary. He wanted the people in his community to know Jesus loves them and has a purpose for their lives. Joshua started a youth group in his church to encourage teenagers in the community. Many teenagers now love Jesus and attend the church together.

Fill in the blanks with the correct vowels to see Jesus' words in John 10:10.

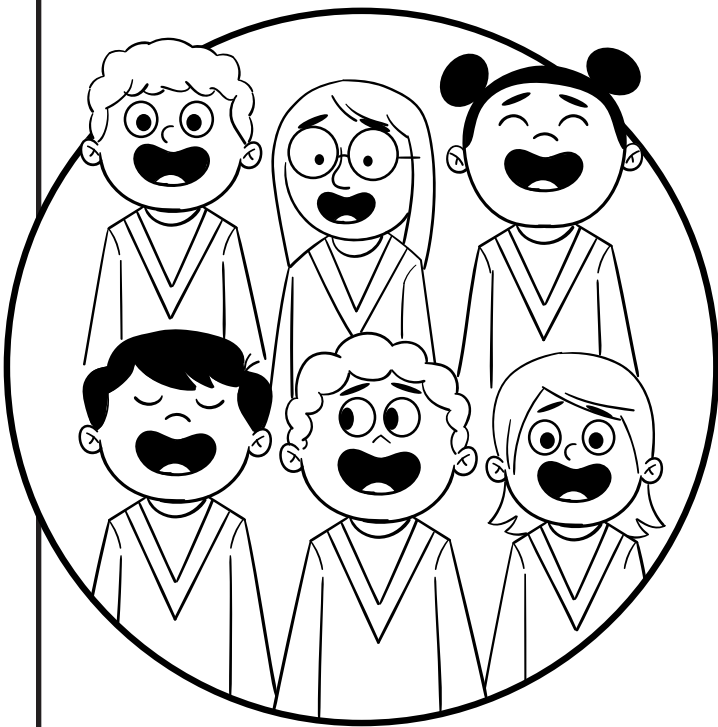
Vowels: a, e, i, o, u

___ h___v___ c___m___
s___ th___t th___y
m___y h___v___ l___f___
___nd h___ve ___t
___n ___b___nd___nc___.

John 10:10

Children Can Serve at Church

Noelson, his wife, and their children moved from the country of Haiti to the United States. The family visited Haitian churches in their new community, but the children did not always understand the language.

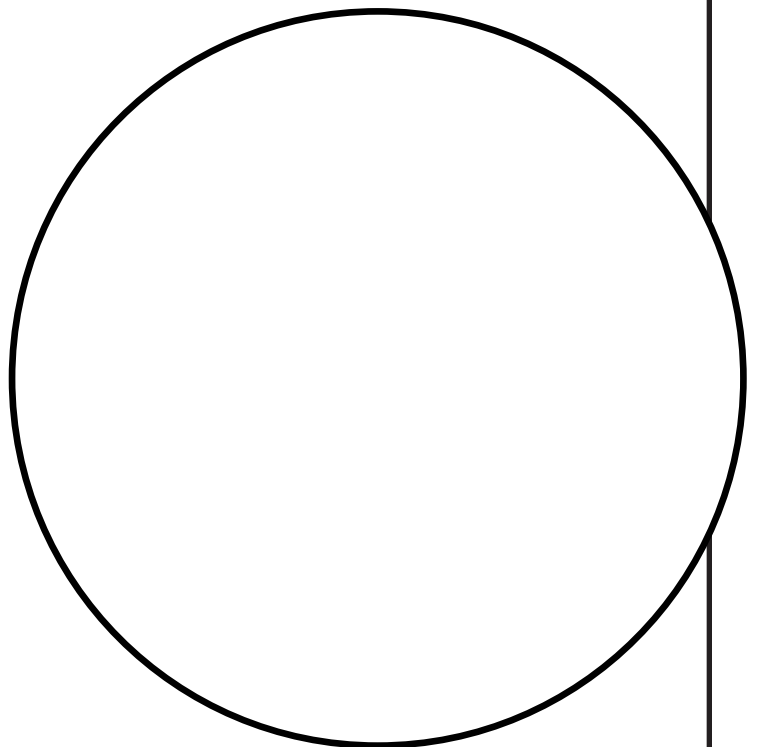
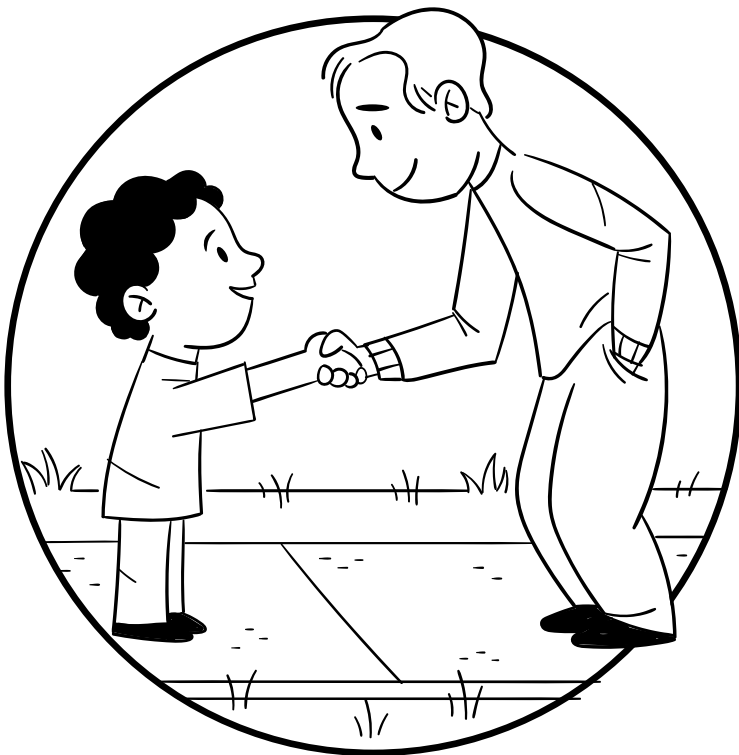


Color the pictures of children serving at church. In the blank circle, draw or write another way children can serve at church.



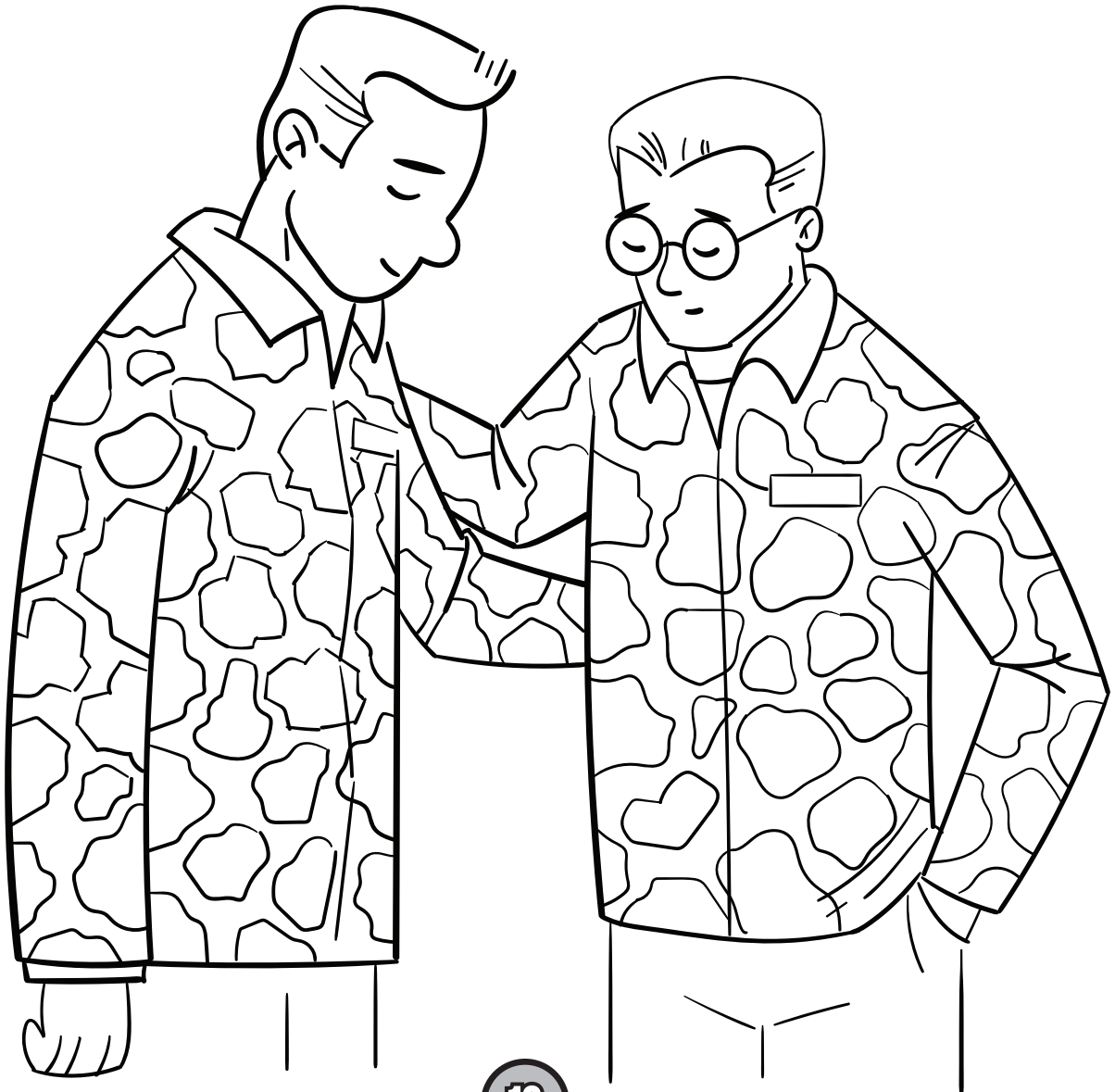
So, Noelson and his wife started a Bible study in their home. They wanted to teach their children about Jesus in a way they could understand. Many neighborhood children and their families started coming to the Bible study.

This Bible study eventually led to Noelson starting a new Haitian church! His children and the children from the neighborhood serve the church in many ways. They help set up signs and chairs, greet people, sing in the choir, and play musical instruments. They invite others to church so more people can know about Jesus. The children know they are an important part of the church.



Chaplains Encourage People

A chaplain is someone who encourages and prays for people when they are sick, scared, or sad. Chaplains want people to know that Jesus loves them. There are many types of chaplains. Some chaplains serve in the military or law enforcement while others work in hospitals, prisons, or companies.



Ricky served as a military chaplain and encouraged soldiers. Soldiers often live in difficult places. It is important they trust and follow Jesus. Chaplains pray and help soldiers love and follow Jesus.

One day, Ricky and a soldier were in a scary place. The soldier told the chaplain that he was not sure he trusted Jesus. Right there, Ricky led the soldier in a prayer for salvation. Later, the soldier was baptized. His fellow soldiers celebrated that he had become a follower of Jesus.

Military members often use Morse Code to communicate. Morse Code uses dots and dashes instead of letters. Use the Morse Code below to put the correct letters in the blanks. Then, read what the code reveals from Colossians 4:2.

— — — — —
 -•• • ••- --- - •

— — — — — — — — — — —
 -•--- --- ••- •-• ••• • -••• •••- • •••

— — — — — — —
 - --- •---• •-• •- -•--- • •-•

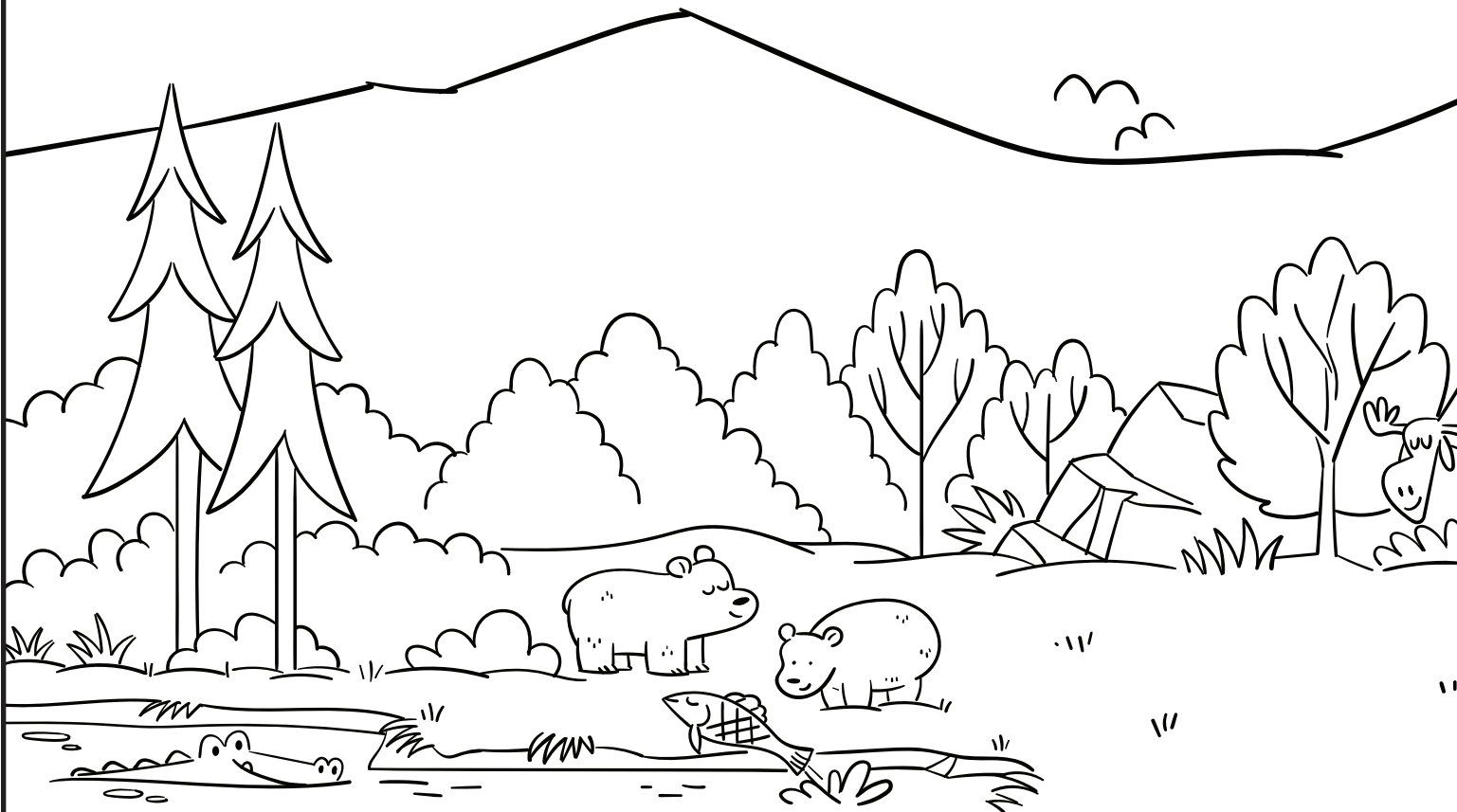
Colossians 4:2

| | | | | | | |
|--------|--------|--------|---------|--------|--------|---------|
| A •- | E • | I •• | M -- | Q --•- | U ••- | Y -•-- |
| B -••• | F ••-• | J •--- | N -• | R •-• | V •••- | Z ---•• |
| C -•-• | G ---• | K -•- | O --- | S ••• | W •-- | |
| D -•• | H •••• | L •-•• | P •---• | T - | X -••- | |

Replanting Churches Impacts Communities

Some church planters start new churches, but some planters restart churches. We call them "replanters." Replanters help a church grow and reach its community in new ways.

Alaska is a beautiful place to live. There are many mountains, trees, rivers, fish, and wildlife. The summer months may be warm, but the winter months are very cold and dark.



1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____
4 _____ 5 _____

There was a church in Anchorage, Alaska, that was without a pastor. A nearby church had a big building but also no pastor and little money. Philip prayed and knew that God wanted him to move from Texas to Alaska to pastor a church.

After Philip moved to Alaska, these two churches joined together as one church family in the big building and Philip become their pastor. This replanted church is now filled with people of all ages as they share about Jesus' love in their community.

Color the picture. Then, find and list the 5 objects that don't belong in Alaska.



Missionaries Show Compassion to Others

Olivia is a missionary in Boston. She shows compassion to women who are going through tough times. Compassion is a big word, but it means that you feel concerned for others who are hurting and show kindness to them.

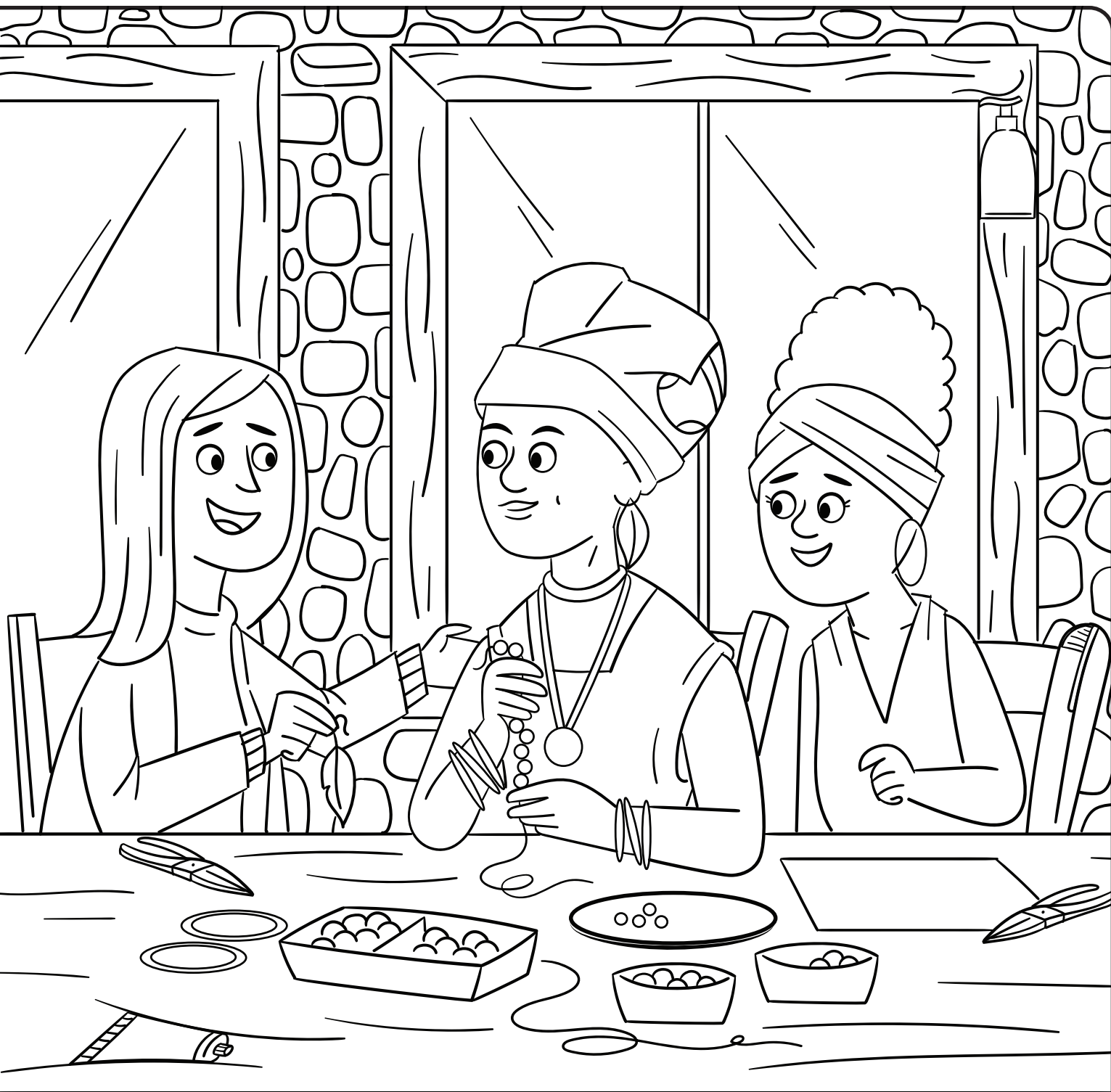
Olivia displays compassion and kindness to the women she meets. Sometimes, she gives them food and bags filled with things they need, like socks, toothbrushes, toothpaste, lotion, and soap. She also helps women learn how to make jewelry to sell so they can earn money to pay for food and a place to live.

Women of different cultures and countries gather to make jewelry. As they make jewelry, the women tell their life stories and encourage one another. This time allows Olivia to share how Jesus loves them.

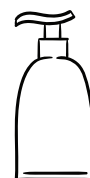
Use the code below to see what Ephesians 4:32 tells us to do.

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|----------------|---|--|----|----|
| 2 | 5 | | 11 | 9 | 14 | 4 | | 1 | 14 | 4 | | | | | |
| 3 | 15 | 13 | 16 | 1 | 19 | 19 | 9 | 15 | 14 | 1 | 20 | 5 | | 20 | 15 |
| 15 | 14 | 5 | | 1 | 14 | 15 | 20 | 8 | 5 | 18 | Ephesians 4:32 | | | | |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L | M | N | O | P | Q | R | S | T | U | V | W | X | Y | Z |



Find and circle these items hidden in the picture above.



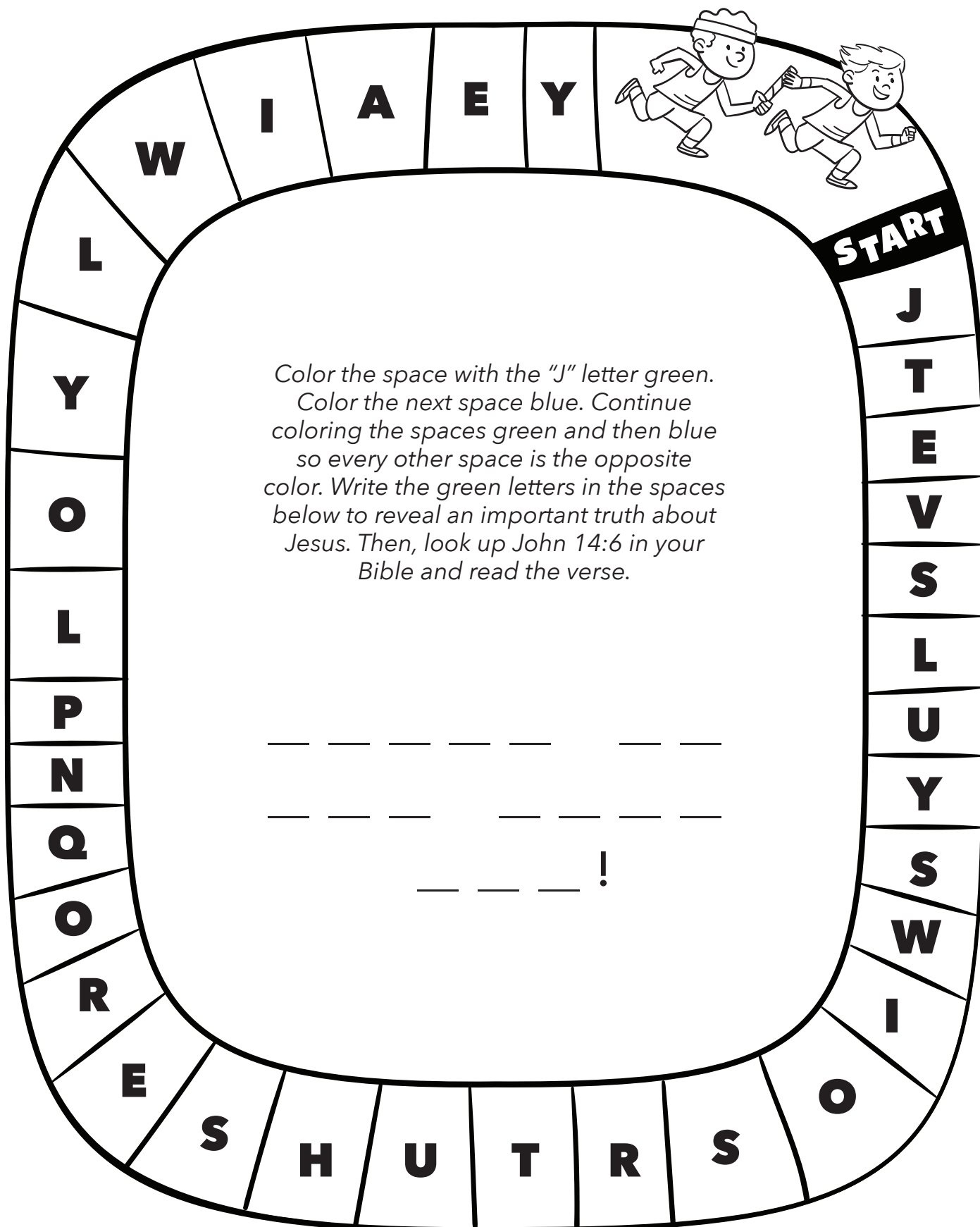
Church Plants Equip College Students

Young people from all over the world come to North America to attend colleges and universities. While some students may know and follow Jesus, many others have never heard about Him. Planting churches near colleges and universities helps these students to know Jesus and grow in their faith.

One missionary couple named Chris and Ashley planted a church next to a university in Texas. Because they know students are far from home and may miss their families and friends, Chris and Ashley invite students into their home for a Bible study.

Laura came to their Bible study. She shared that she was having a very hard time, but God changed her life through this missionary couple's work. As she learned and grew in her faith, Laura became the children's ministry director at their church. The children's ministry grew from six children to more than 40!





Missionaries Serve Others

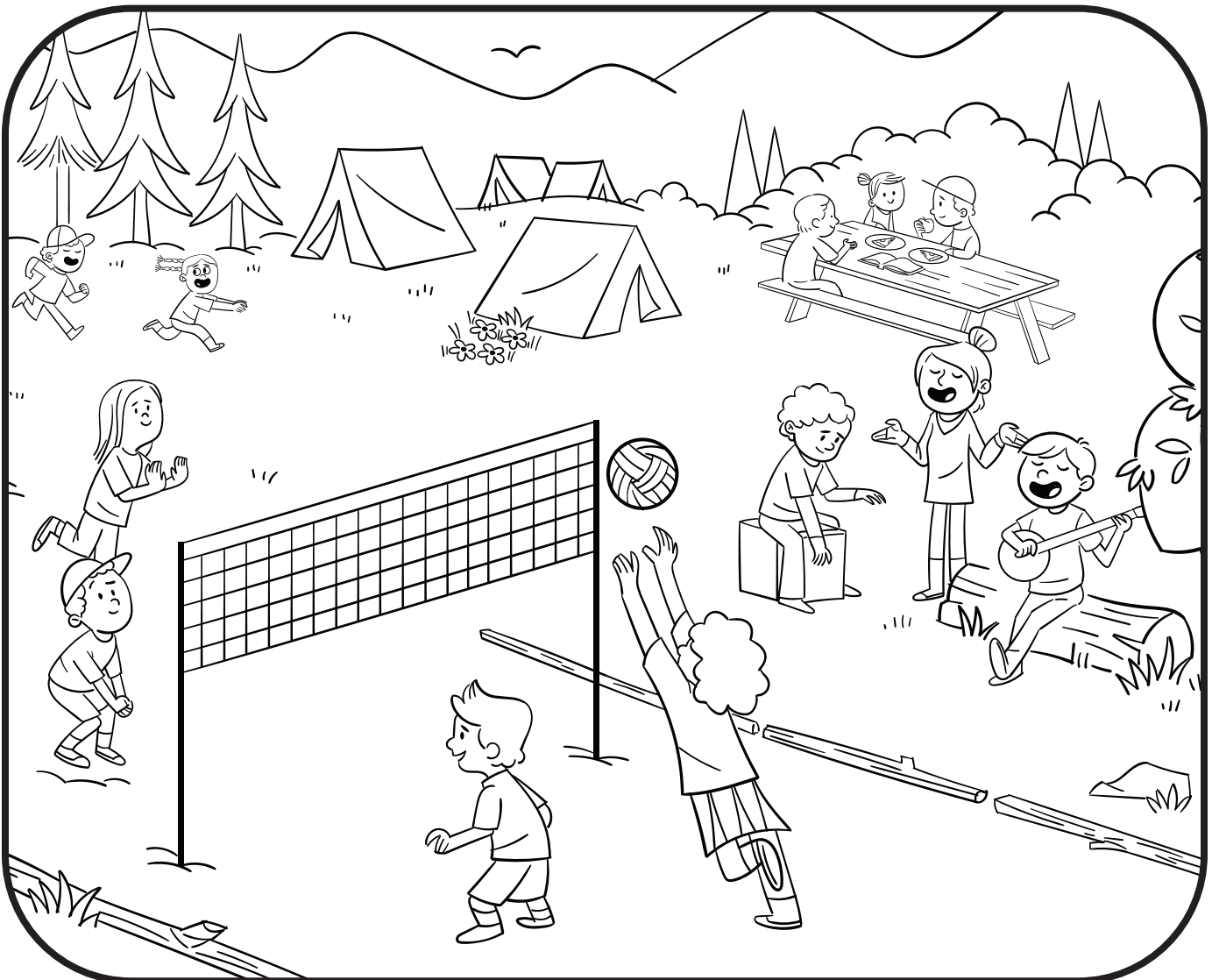
Matt and Amanda serve as missionaries on a Native American reservation in South Dakota. Most people on the reservation are very poor, so Matt and Amanda know that meeting their needs is a great help to the community.



Many homes on the reservation are unsafe. Some are without electricity or running water. Matt, Amanda, and volunteers from churches work to repair homes and build new houses.

Matt and Amanda also started a summer camp for children. At the camp, children eat healthy meals, play games, and learn about Jesus and His love for them. There is also a wellness center that has a dentist and an eye doctor and helps with other needs.

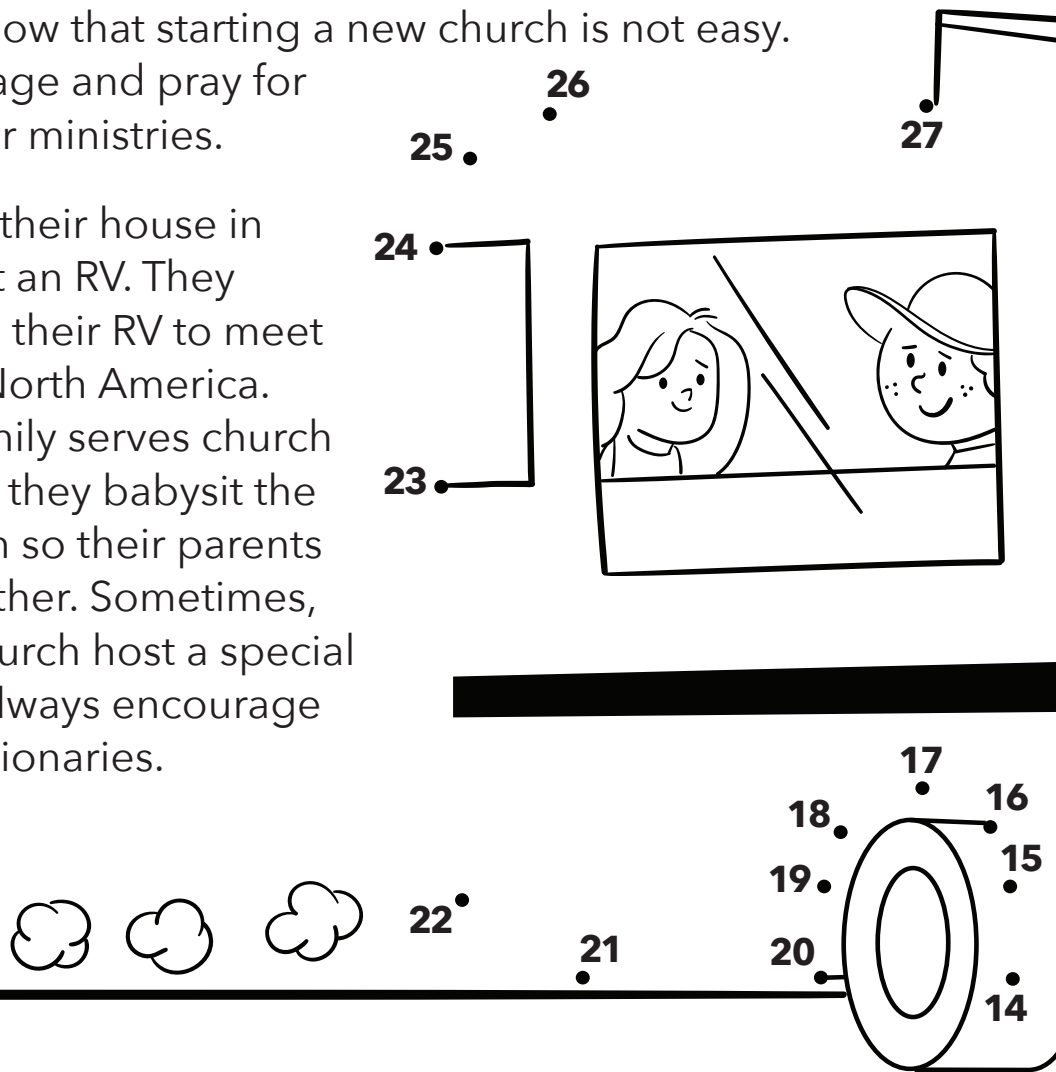
*Look at the two pictures of children at camp.
Find and circle the 7 differences in the two pictures.*



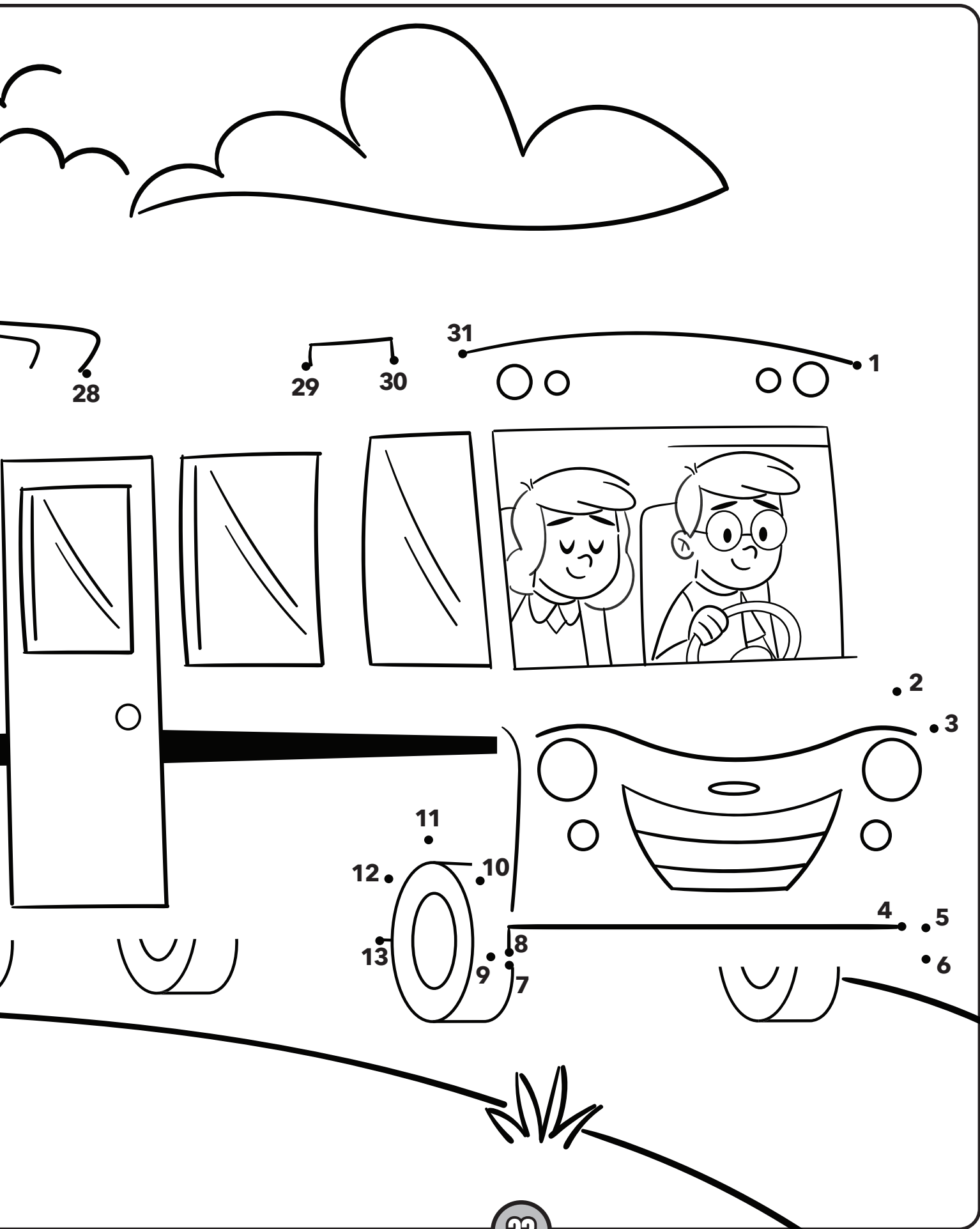
Missionaries Encourage Other Missionaries

The Kilgore family has a unique way to serve church planting missionaries. They know that starting a new church is not easy. They want to encourage and pray for missionaries and their ministries.

So, the Kilgores sold their house in Alabama and bought an RV. They now live and travel in their RV to meet missionaries across North America. At every stop, the family serves church planters. Sometimes, they babysit the missionaries' children so their parents can spend time together. Sometimes, they may help the church host a special event. The Kilgores always encourage and support the missionaries.



Connect the dots, then color the picture. After you are done, think about all the things you have learned about missionaries through these activities. Then, write ways you can encourage and pray for missionaries.



The Good News in 3 Circles

**DO YOU KNOW THE GOSPEL
OR “THE GOOD NEWS” ABOUT
JESUS? READ HOW YOU CAN
KNOW AND FOLLOW HIM.**

**WE LIVE IN A BROKEN WORLD WITH A LOT OF PAIN.
BUT WE ALSO HAVE A BEAUTIFUL WORLD THAT SHOWS
US HOW EVERYTHING CAN WORK TOGETHER.
IT’S A DESIGN CREATED BY GOD.**

God's Design

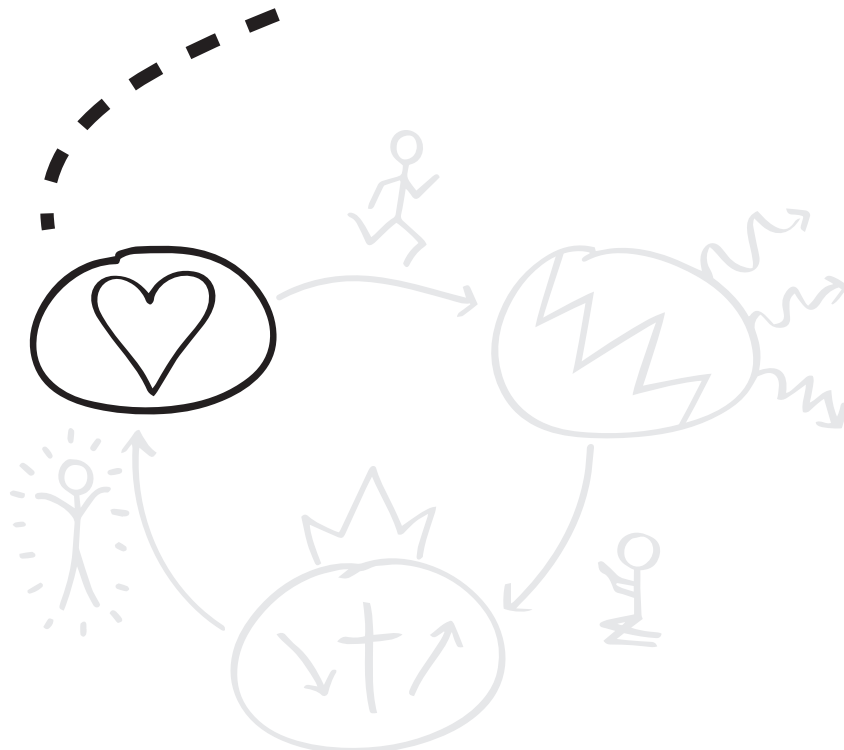
The Bible tells us that in the beginning, God created everything, and He made it perfect. He loved Adam and Eve and put them in charge to take care of the world. God planned a friendship with the people He made and wanted them to enjoy everything. God only gave them one rule: Don't eat fruit from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.



THE BIBLE SAYS:

*"God saw all that he had made, and it was very good indeed"
(Genesis 1:31).*

*"The heavens declare the glory of God, and the expanse proclaims the
work of his hands" (Psalm 19:1).*



Sin

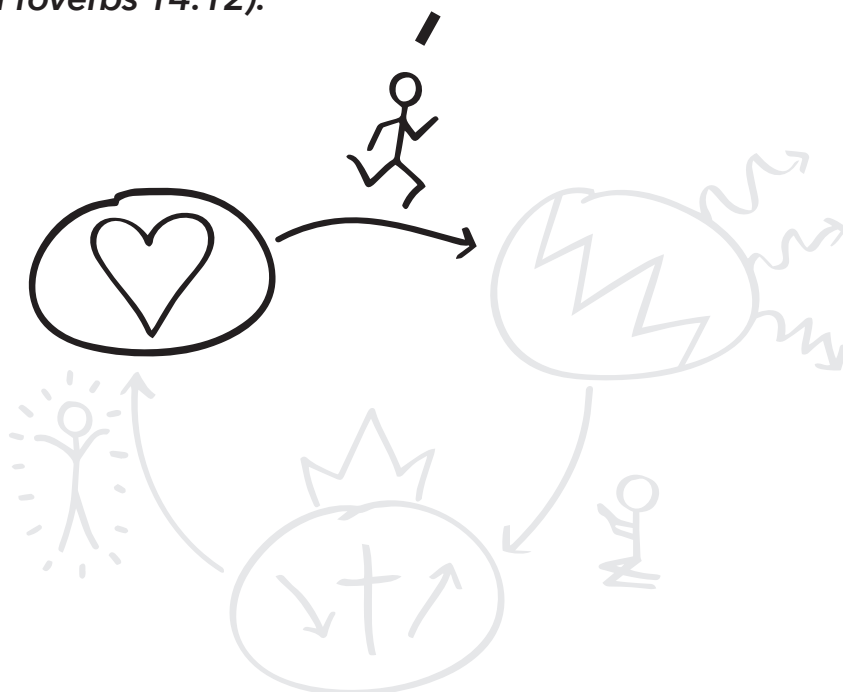
Adam and Eve disobeyed and broke God's one rule. They ate fruit from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, and they ran away from God. The world was not perfect anymore. When people disobey God, it's called sin. Sin separated Adam and Eve from God. They had to leave the garden and live in a broken world where they could get sick, could get hurt, and would one day die. Sin is the cause of death.



THE BIBLE SAYS:

"They exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served what has been created instead of the Creator" (Romans 1:25).

"There is a way that seems right to a person, but its end is the way to death" (Proverbs 14:12).



Brokenness

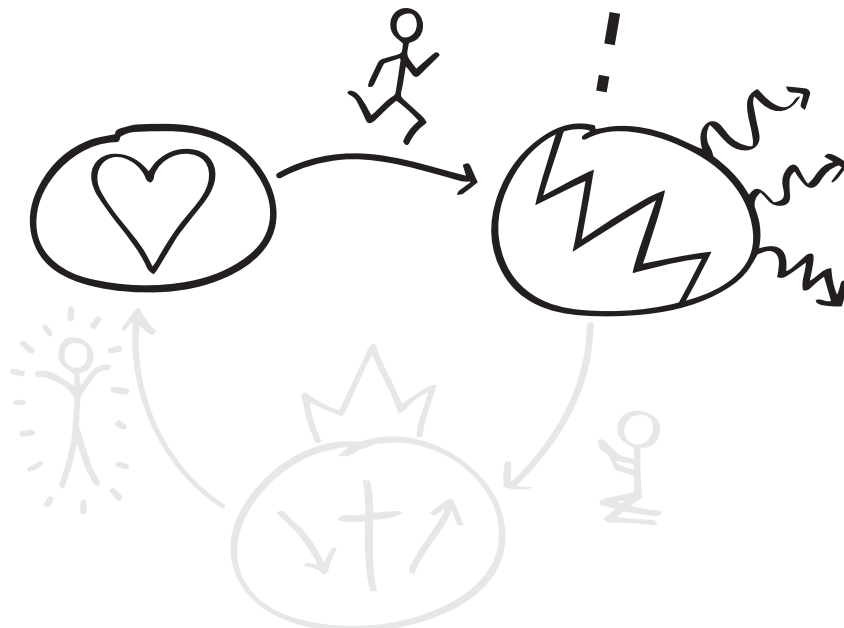
Sin broke God's beautiful plan for us and separated us from God. We experience sin in our own lives, too, when we say and do selfish things that go against the Bible. We can't fix our sin problem by doing our best to be good, obey our parents, or go to church. These are all good, but there is only One who can forgive sin.



THE BIBLE SAYS:

"For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23).

"For the wages of sin is death ..." (Romans 6:23).



Cross

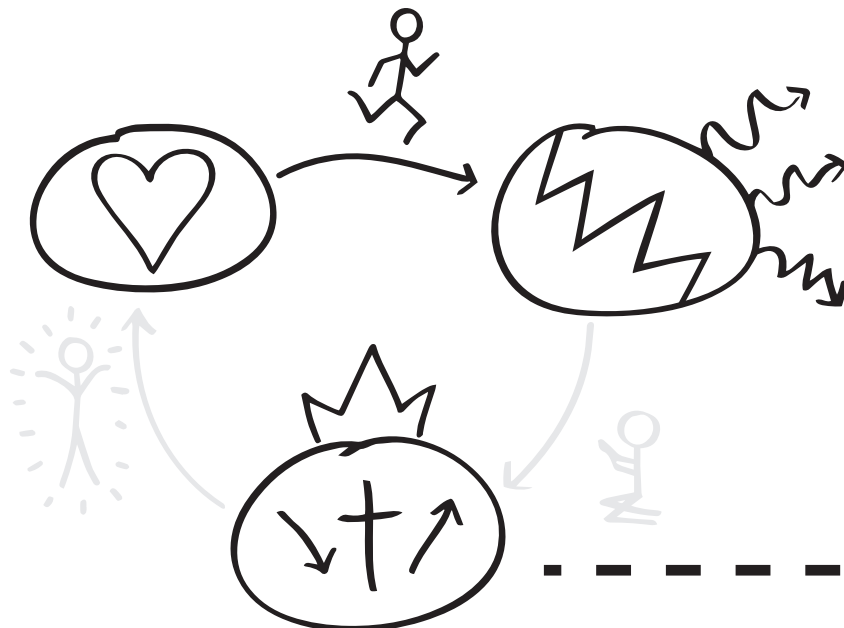
Jesus is the only One who can fix our sin problem. God made a way for us to be with Him forever. He sent Jesus, His only Son, to die on the cross and take the punishment for our sins. But that's not the end of the story—God raised Jesus back to life! And He offers us that same kind of forever life. He wants us to receive the forgiveness that Jesus provides.



THE BIBLE SAYS:

"He erased the certificate of debt ... and has taken it away by nailing it to the cross" (Colossians 2:14).

"Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures" (1 Corinthians 15:3-4).



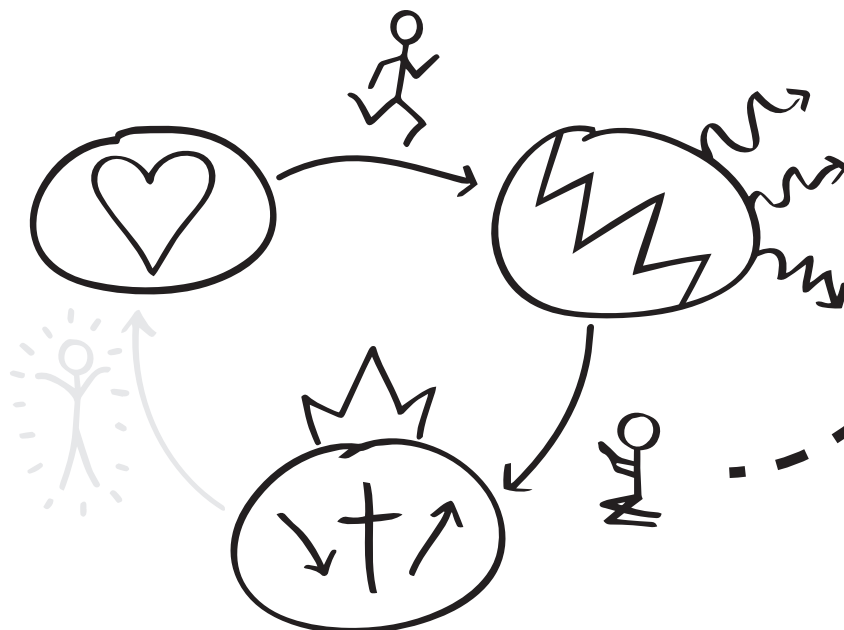
Trust & Believe

How do we do that? We pray to confess our sins and ask Jesus to be in charge of our life. If we put our trust in Jesus, which involves admitting that we sin and need forgiveness, and believe that Jesus is God's Son who died on the cross for our sins and gives us new life, then we have decided to follow Jesus as our King!



THE BIBLE SAYS:

"For God loved the world in this way: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:16).



Grow & Share

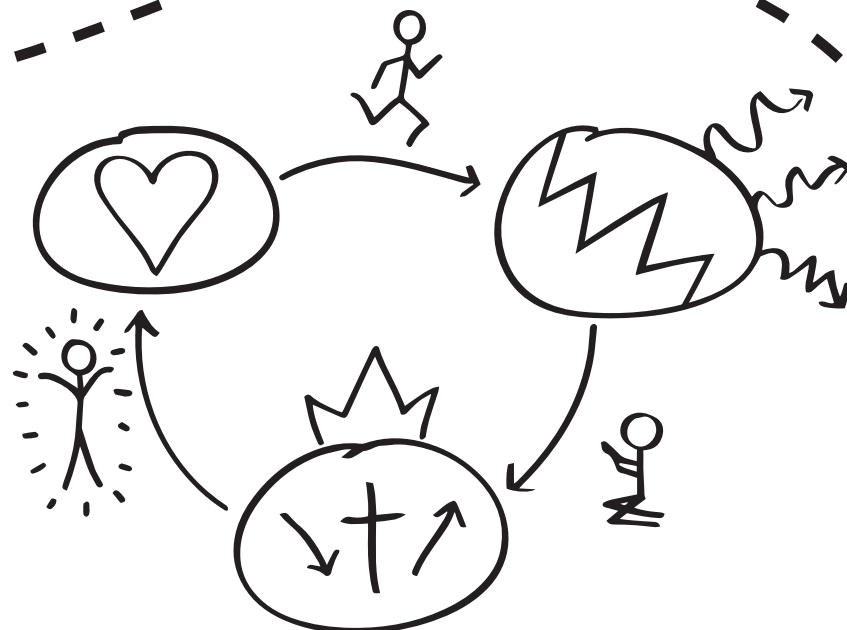
By putting our trust in Jesus, we are now close to God and have a friendship with Him. We discover His plan by reading our Bible, praying, going to church, and asking other Christians to help us. Even when we sin and disobey, we know God will forgive us. And one day when we die, we'll live forever with God in Heaven. As a Christian, we also have a new job! We need to share the gospel with others. The gospel is the good news about Jesus and His forgiveness of our sins.



THE BIBLE SAYS:

"For it is God who is working in you both to will and to work according to his good purpose" (Philippians 2:13).

"For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared ahead of time for us to do" (Ephesians 2:10).



What Should I Do?

Now that you have heard this good news, God wants you to respond to Him. You can talk to Him using words like these:

**DEAR GOD, I NEED YOU.
I BELIEVE JESUS CAME TO
LIVE, DIE, AND WAS RAISED
FROM THE DEAD TO SAVE
ME FROM MY SIN.**

**DEAR GOD, PLEASE
FORGIVE ME. I PUT MY TRUST
IN JESUS. I KNOW THAT HE
IS LORD OF ALL, AND I WILL
FOLLOW HIM.**



THE BIBLE SAYS:

*"If you confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved"
(Romans 10:9).*

*"For everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved"
(Romans 10:13).*

What's Next?

The Bible teaches how to start your new friendship with God. He desires us to have a relationship with Him and others. How?

PRAY: GOD WANTS YOU TO TALK TO HIM ABOUT EVERYTHING.

BIBLE: THE BIBLE REVEALS GOD'S DESIGN—SHOWING YOU HOW TO LIVE.

CHURCH: THE CHURCH IS GOD'S FAMILY TO HELP YOU WALK WITH HIM.

SHARE: NOW THAT YOU HAVE EXPERIENCED THIS GOOD NEWS,
TELL OTHERS ABOUT JESUS.



THE BIBLE SAYS:

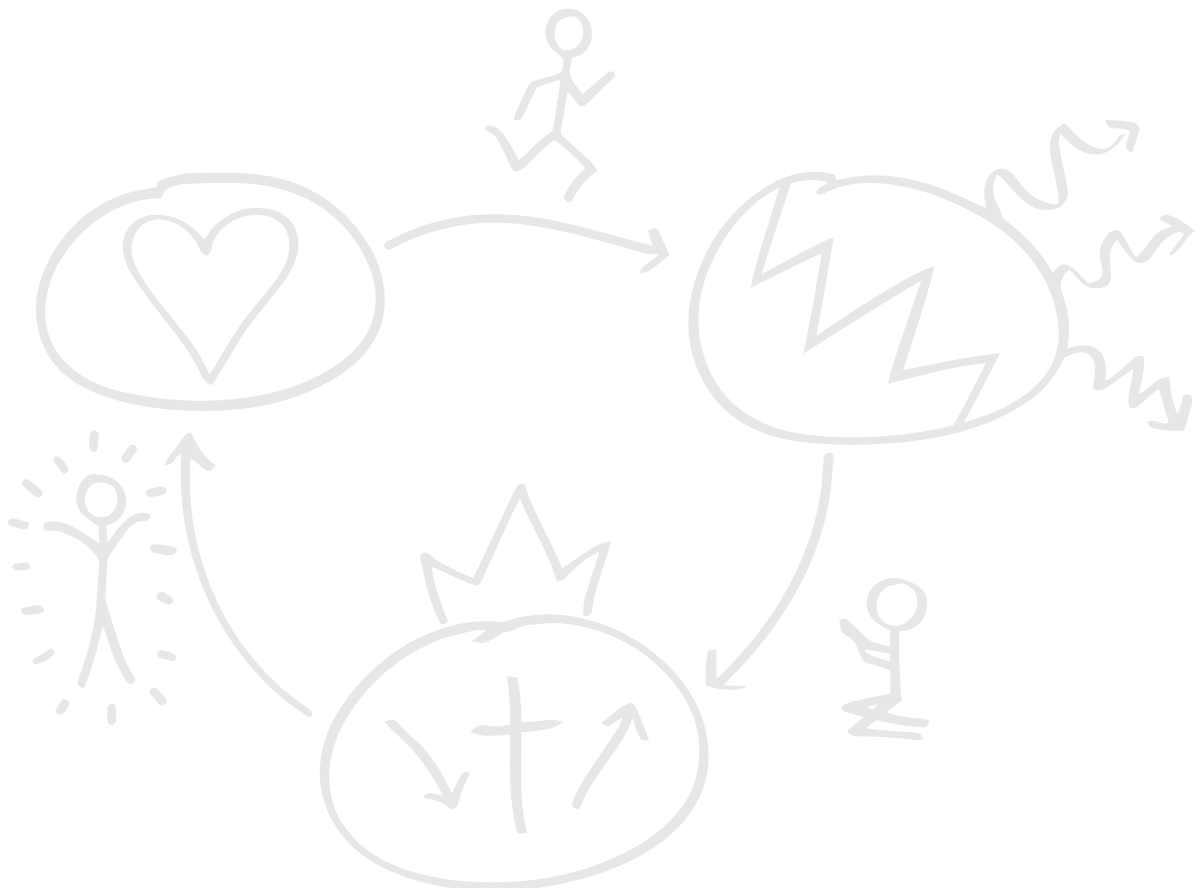
"But these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name" (John 20:31).

"But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be provided for you" (Matthew 6:33).

"So then, just as you have received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to walk in him" (Colossians 2:6).

Start Sharing the Gospel with Your Friends!

**PRACTICE DRAWING THE
3 CIRCLES BELOW:**





Copyright © 2025 North American Mission Board

Published by The North American Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, Inc., Alpharetta, Georgia

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced in any manner without prior written permission of the publisher. All inquiries should be addressed to Permissions, North American Mission Board, 4200 North Point Pkwy., Alpharetta, GA 30022-4176; or email permissions@namb.net.

All Scripture quotations are taken from the Christian Standard Bible, copyright 2017 by Holman Bible Publishers. Used by permission.