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WRITE YOUR NAME ON THIS LINE:

WRITE THE NICKNAME YOUR	FRIENDS & FAMILY CALL YOU:
WHO IS ONE PERSON YOU	THINK IS SUPER BRAVE?
WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE TI	HING TO DO IN THE SPRING?
1 ost &	FOUND
	O YOU WANT THEM TO RETURN IT?
Yes, call the number below!	No, just keep it.
WRITE A PARENT OR ANOTHER ADU	ILT'S PHONE NUMBER ON THIS LINE:





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HOW DOES GOD'S WORD MAKE US BRAVE?

Being brave means you have a strong mind to help you do the right and good thing when you are faced with hard, scary choices. You can be brave when you try new things—like riding a bike—or when you choose to be kind even when you don't feel like it.

DRAW THREE THINGS THAT MAKE YOU FEEL BRAVE:				
God's Word, the Bible, helps us to be brave because it teaches us that God is always with us and loves us—no matter how big and scary something feels. In this book, you'll meet some strong and courageous leaders who followed God and his Word, and you'll discover how you can be brave with God's help, too!				
WHAT ARE THREE THINGS YOU WANT TO LEARN FROM GOD THIS SPRING?				
EXAMPLE: To learn about how brave Jesus was				

HOW TO USE THIS BOOK

This book is created especially for Military children, like you, who face unique battles in life. Follow these simple guidelines to get the most out of this book.

1. READ

Read the devotional each week to learn more about loving God, yourself, and other people.

2. REFLECT

Think about the devotional and how you can do the things God is teaching you to do.

3. EXPLORE

Complete the weekly "Hero Training" to explore how you can live out your God's Word each week.

4. LEARN

Ask an adult to help you look up each Bible verse in the "Keep It Going" section to learn more about God.

5. HAVE FUN

Use the doodle sections to write down any thoughts or questions you have about God and use the coloring sheets to have fun!

TIPS & IDEAS



Think about how God is helping you to love other people.



Talk with your parents or siblings about what you learned and ask them to help you love them better each week.



If you don't understand something you read, don't be afraid to ask an adult to help you understand it.



Memorize the Scripture verse each week.



Have fun and mark up this book with your own thoughts and doodles!

JOSHUA

WEEK I

BRAVE LIKE JOSHUA

I've commanded you to be strong and brave.

Don't ever be afraid or discouraged! I am the Lord your God, and I will be there to help you wherever you go.

Joshua I:9

Are there things you have to do that scare you? Maybe it's scary to move to a new place. Or maybe it's scary when your parent is away.

Did you know that everybody gets scared? Yep, even the biggest, toughest warrior is afraid of some things. Even your mom and dad get scared!

Today's verse tells of a man named Joshua who had to do some scary things, including lead an army into battle. God promised to help Joshua and his people and tells him to be strong and brave!

God knows you are afraid sometimes, too. But he promises to help you. You might not feel brave, but you can be brave because God is more powerful than anything you face, and he loves you.

So next time you have to do something hard or something that scares you, ask God to help you. He can make you brave even when you don't feel like it. Great things happen when we trust God and do what he says.

God, please help me do hard things. I need your help. You make me strong and brave!



Think about God helping you be brave when you are scared.

Ask God to help you while you color this picture.



KEEP IT GOING THIS WEEK Find out more by reading these verses.

Joshua	11.23
JUSIIUa	11:43

☐ Matthew 28:20b

Psalm 27:1

☐ Ephesians 6:10

WEEK ONE





Wood ducks make their nests in hollow trees, high above the ground or water. But baby wood ducks can't fly!

When they get older, their momma calls them and they have to jump out of the nests. They must be very brave to do this!



GOD CAME NEAR ME

In the beginning was the one who is called the Word. The Word was with God and was truly God. . . . The Word became a human being and lived here with us. We saw his true glory, the glory of the only Son of the Father.

John I:I.I4a

Before the world began, before oak trees and mountains, before big elephants and tiny worms, even before the stars . . . God was here. And God decided to create the world filled with people! God made people with crazy hair, who could make goofy faces and have belly buttons, both innies and outies. God loves all people and wants to be with us. And that means you, too!

To be with us and help us know God better, God became like you and me. The writer, John, says that God became human by sending his son, Jesus to Earth. He walked around and talked, just like you and me! Even though he is God, Jesus really understands what it means to be human... because he was one.

Jesus knows all about you—from the inside squishy guts to the color of your eyes to your favorite ice cream. He also knows the bad things you do—your sins. But he still loves you and wants to help you do what's right. That's why Jesus came to earth and gave his life for you. You are worth it to him!

Jesus, you are so awesome! Thanks for loving me and all the people in the world.



God created you and knows everything about you. If you could create a creature, what would it be like? Draw it here and thank God for creating you!



KEEP IT GOING THIS WEEK Find out more by reading these verses.

Gene	-i-	1.24
しっといり	2515	1, 10

☐ Acts 17:24-26

WEEK Two

□ Job 38:4

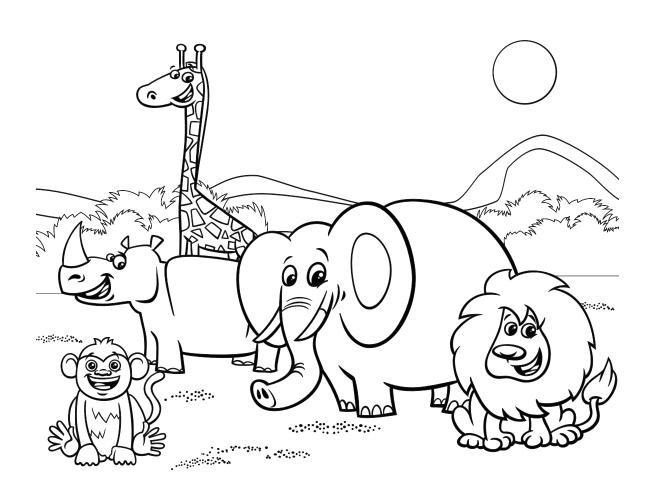
Colossians 1:15-16

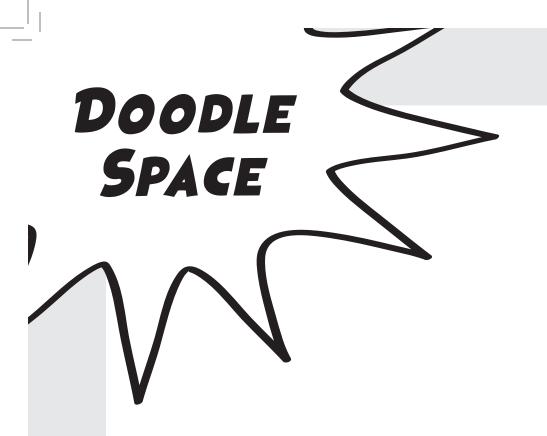




Scientists think there are nearly 3,000 different kinds of animals in the United States.

What's your favorite animal? God created them all!









BIG PROBLEMS, BIGGER GOD

But Moses answered, "Don't be afraid! Be brave, and you will see the Lord save you today. These Egyptians will never bother you again. The Lord will fight for you, and you won't have to do a thing."

Exodus 14:13-14

Imagine you just escaped bad guys who made you work all day without paying you. God got you out of there and is taking you safely home. But now you see the bad guys coming again... and they have you cornered against a big sea! *Eeek!*

That's what happened to God's people, the Israelites. They were being kept as slaves, but God sent Moses to free them. After escaping, the bad guys went after them to try and get them back. The people became afraid and didn't know what to do.

Do you ever feel like that? Maybe there's a hard math problem you just can't figure out on your own. Maybe your parents are fighting, your friend is sick, or some kids aren't nice. What can you do?

Moses asked God for help. God answered, "I will fight for you." Then God opened up a path in the sea! God caused the wind to move the water until there was dry ground the people could walk across. God's people escaped and were free!

You can ask God to help with your big problems, too. Remember, he is bigger than the problems and he promises to be with you always and help you get through them.

God, thank you for fighting for me when the problems are too big. You are so powerful!



What is something you need God's help with? Pray about it now as you color this picture. Remember that he is a big, big God and can help you with your problems!



KEEP IT GOING THIS WEEK Find out more by reading these verses.

- ☐ Exodus 14:24-25
 - Psalm 46:9-10
- ☐ John 10:10
- ☐ Galatians 4:7

WEEK THREE





When sea turtle eggs hatch, baby sea turtles leave their sandy nests and walk across the beach into the sea.



CORNELIUS

GETTING ALONG WITH GOD

This is the same message that God gave to the people of Israel, when he sent Jesus Christ, the Lord of all, to offer peace to them.

Acts 10:36

Do you know how it feels to not get invited to something? Maybe some

kids are playing without you or going to a party and they didn't ask you. It's hard to be on the outside!

A man in the Bible named Cornelius probably felt that way. He loved God so much and wanted to be a part of his family, but he didn't really know how. He did everything he could, but still felt on the outside. He didn't know about Jesus. He just kept trying to do good things, and he kept praying to God.

God knew Cornelius couldn't figure out on his own how to get closer to God, so God made a way to help Cornelius. He sent a man named Peter to tell him about Jesus. Cornelius believed God sent Jesus to die for his sins and he asked God to forgive him. God forgave him and Cornelius became a part of God's family!

Jesus wants you to be part of his family, too, and to not have anything keeping you away from God. You can ask God to forgive you of bad things you do and show you how to grow closer to him. Then you can have peace with God just like Cornelius. Peace with God means God is close to you and helps you get through all of life's hard times. Will you pray that prayer today?



How does it feel to have peace with God? Cornelius was so happy he was praising God! You can color this picture and thank God for peace with him.





KEEP IT GOING THIS WEEK Find out more by reading these verses.

- Deuteronomy 10:17
- □ Job 34:19

- ☐ John 3:16
- ☐ Acts 10:34-35

WEEK **F**OUR



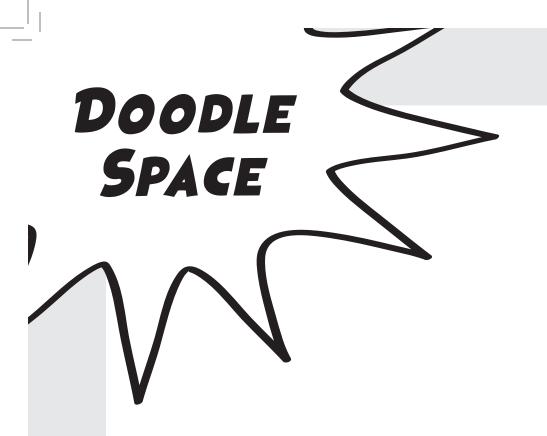


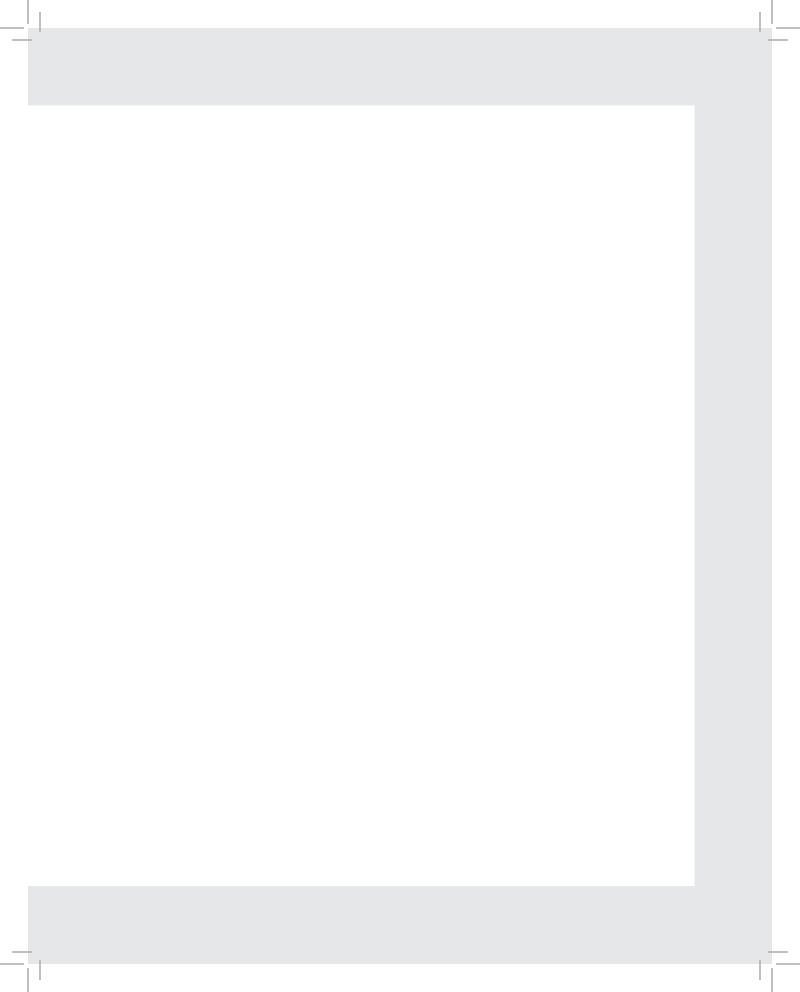
Wolves have strict rules about how they live with each other.

If a wolf breaks the rules, he will get growled at or even forced to leave the pack.

(Whew! Aren't you glad Jesus forgives us?)







WEEK 5

THROUGH THE HARD TIMES

Honor the Lord! You are his special people.

No one who honors the Lord will ever be in need.

Psalm 34:9

Two hundred years ago, a little girl named Amanda had to work on a farm along with her family. Her father had to work on a different farm far away from them. Life was very hard for them. Every day, they prayed things would change. Amanda's daddy worked extra hard to earn money to support his family. Finally, he made enough to bring them back together into a home where they could live together. Their prayers were answered! God protected them and helped them.

Amanda grew up and started teaching and preaching all over the world about Jesus! Many times in her life, she didn't have enough money or didn't know how she would make it through, but she knew that God could do the impossible. She prayed and did what God said, and he took care of her.

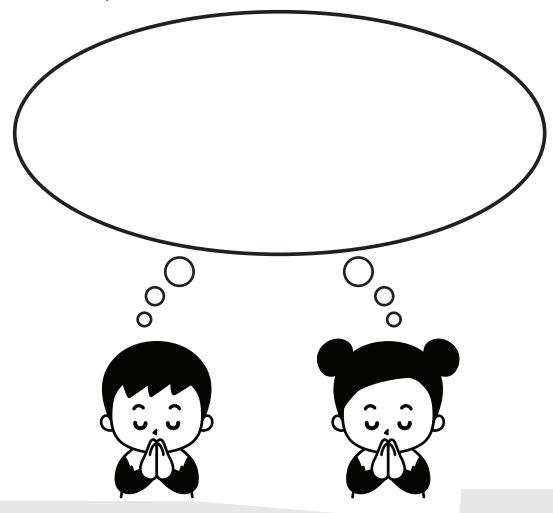
And he will do the same for you!

What is your family praying and working for? How do you need God to help you? Pray to him today and ask him. He is listening!

God, I need you to protect me and help me. You are powerful! You can give me what I need.



What is something you could use God's help with? Can you draw a picture of it? When you are finished drawing it, pray to God and ask him for his help.



KEEP IT GOING THIS WEEK Find out more by reading these verses.

- ☐ Psalm 23:I
- ☐ Isaiah 58:II

- 2 Corinthians 9:8
 - Philippians 4:19

WEEK FIVE

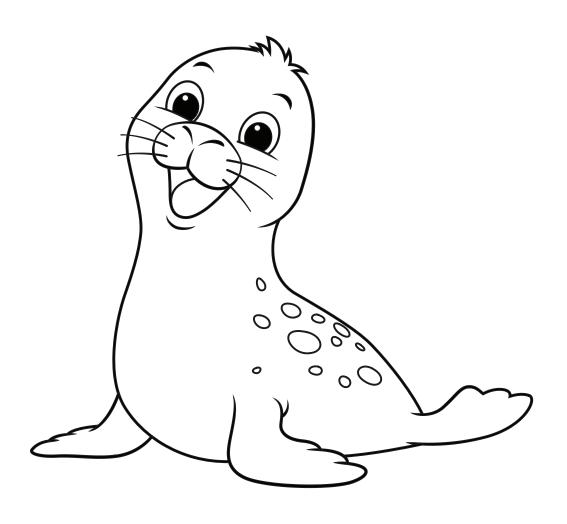




The Northern Elephant Seal spends most of its life traveling.

It goes further than almost all other animals on Earth!

(Maybe they even traveled farther than Amanda did for Jesus. That's really far!)



JESUS

STOPPING THE BAD

Jesus stood up and asked her, "Where is everyone? Isn't there anyone left to accuse you?" "No sir," the woman answered. Then Jesus told her, "I am not going to accuse you either. You may go now, but don't sin anymore."

John 8:10-II

Mom called Clint and his sister Hannah in for their favorite snack: M&M's! Clint gobbled his up, but Hannah ate hers slowly, one color at a time. A brown one was sitting at the edge, so Clint swiped it into his mouth.

"Mom!" Hannah cried, and Clint got scared.

"But. I'm sorry!" he said.

"Alright," Mom replied, and she went back to folding laundry.

Hannah started playing with her last green candies, and one slid closer to Clint. He stared at it a minute, then ate it quickly, too.

Have you ever said you were sorry, but then did that bad thing again? Sometimes it's hard not to do things that are wrong, especially when no one else is around. But when we say we are sorry and ask for forgiveness, especially from God, he will help us to not do it again.

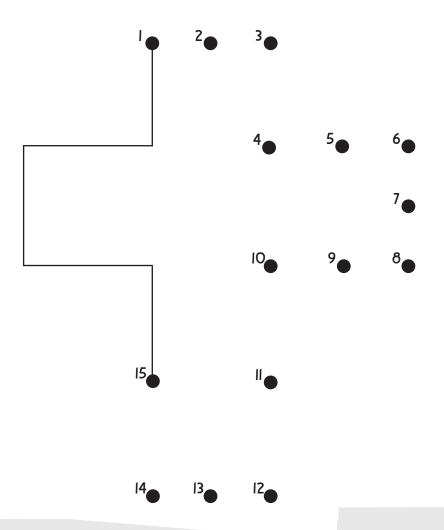
In this week's Bible story, a woman had been caught doing something bad. The people wanted to punish her, but Jesus forgave her. Then he told her to not do those things anymore.

When Jesus forgives us, he wants us to stop sinning. He loves us and helps us do what is right.

Jesus, thank you for forgiving me. Help me to do the right thing.



Connect the dots below to find a reminder that Jesus can help us make the right choices.



KEEP IT GOING THIS WEEK Find out more by reading these verses.

- ☐ Nehemiah 9:17
- Psalm 51:1-2

- ☐ Acts 3:19
- ☐ 1 John 1:9

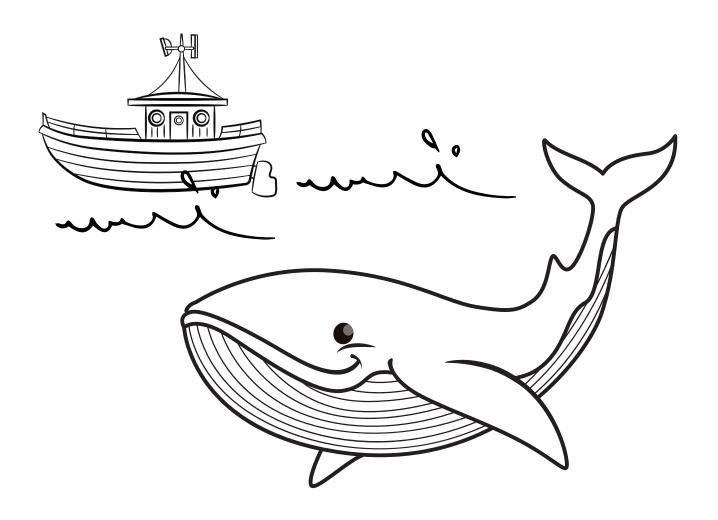
WEEK SIX

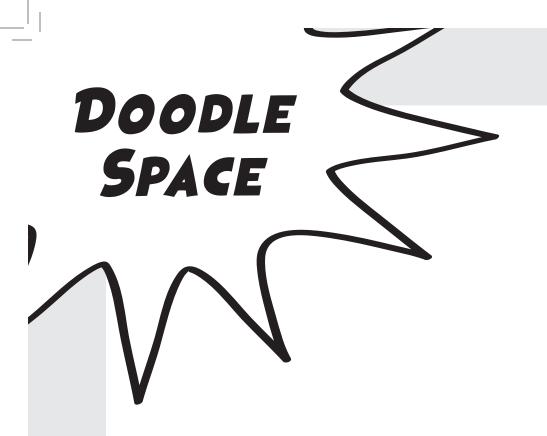




Sperm whales in Alaska are known to follow fishing boats so they can steal their dinner off the lines of the fishermen!

(Bet God could help them stop all their stealing!)







WEEK 7

A House With God

Though I live high above in the holy place, I am here to help those who are humble and depend only on me.

Isaiah 57:I5b

If you could live anywhere, where would you build your home? Out in the stars? In the deep ocean? Beside a big mountain?

God made all the places and he can live wherever he wants! The Bible talks about heaven being his home. But heaven can seem so far, far away. Is God far away from us. too?

Absolutely not! God is right with you, all the time. It may be hard to understand, but God can be everywhere at once. (He has that superpower!)

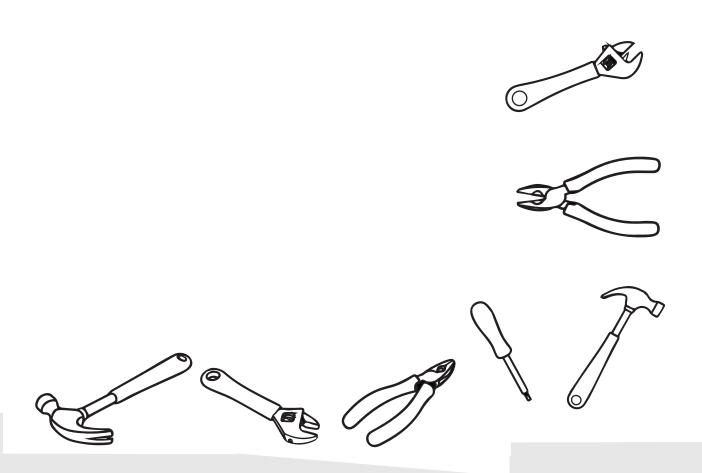
As a Military kid, sometimes you don't get to choose if you live in a pretty place or a nice house or near people you love. But guess what? No matter where your family lives, God wants to make his home there, too! Even if you lived in a hole in the ground by the garbage dump, God would be with you.

God knows your address. He's right there with you whenever you need him. Pray to God today and thank him for always being with you.

Thank you, God, for being with me in this place. I'd rather be here with you than anywhere else without you!



Do you wish you had a basketball court on the roof of your house? A flower garden in the bedroom? A petting zoo by the garage? Draw your dream house below. Have fun with it! Then, thank God for being with you where you are right now.



KEEP IT GOING THIS WEEK Find out more by reading these verses.

- ☐ Psalm 25:9 ☐ Matthew II:28-30
- Proverbs 3:34 Matthew 23:II-I2

WEEK SEVEN





Beavers in Canada built the biggest dam in the world.

They make dams so their homes will be surrounded by water for protection.



WEEK 8

PAUL

HOW TO BE BRAVE

Keep alert. Be firm in your faith. Stay brave and strong.

I Corinthians 16:13

When your parent has to leave, it's hard to be brave. You probably want to cry or you feel scared. Sometimes you might be mad that they have to go away! Maybe they tell you to be brave, but you don't know how.

A man named Paul had to leave his friends who lived in a place called Corinth. He had a hard job, and he never knew what might happen to him, like getting beat up or thrown in jail. He wrote a letter back to his friends and told them to be brave.

But he also told them how to be brave: he said they should be firm in their faith, which means to obey God in good times and bad. Paul knew God made him brave and God would help his friends be strong, too.

So Paul's friends prayed to God and knew that he was with them, helping them. That's the best way to be brave... with God right by your side! With God's help, you too can be brave. Say a prayer today asking him to help you be brave always.



God helps people in the Military to be very brave and strong. Color this picture and ask God to help you be like them.



KEEP IT GOING THIS WEEK Find out more by reading these verses.

- ☐ Deuteronomy 31:6
- ☐ Mark 13:13
- ☐ Psalm 37:23-24
- ☐ Ephesians 6:10

WEEK EIGHT

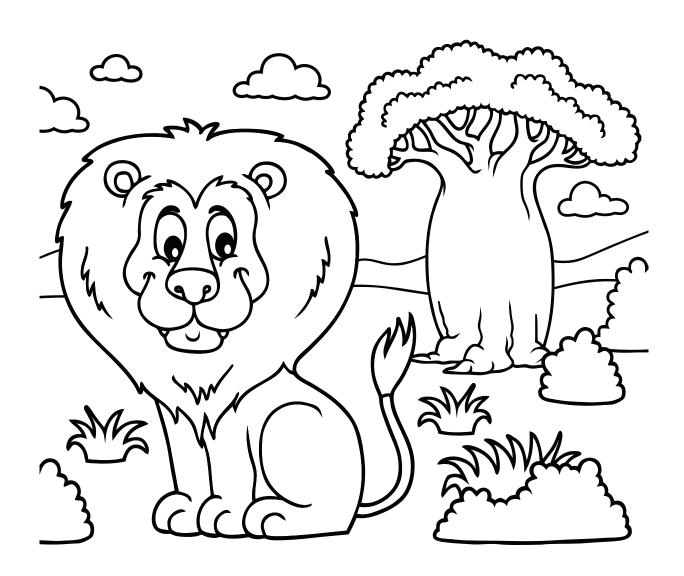


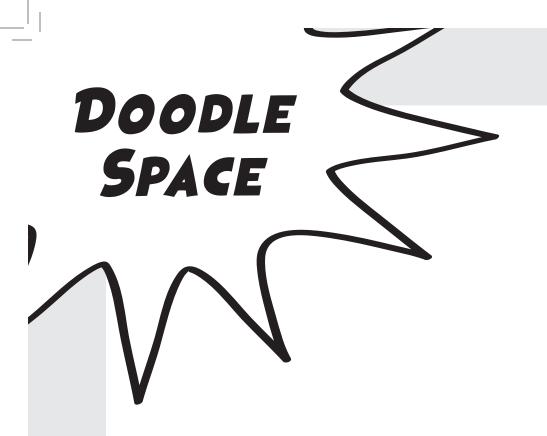


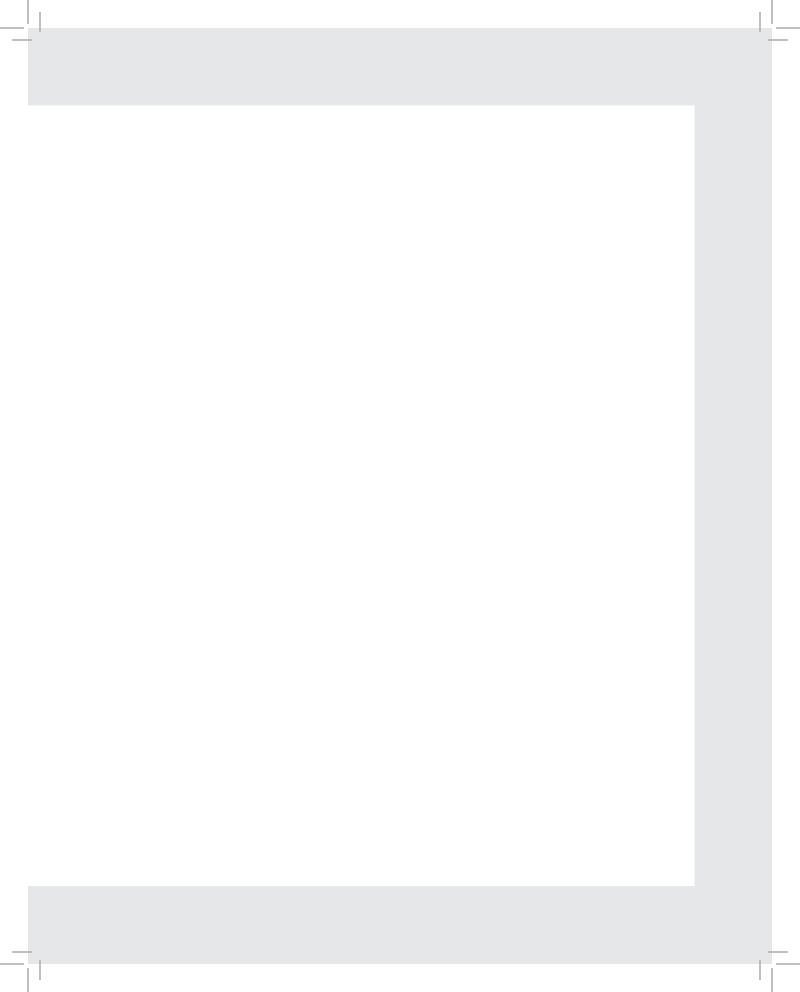
A lion's mane grows very long.

It makes them look bigger, but also protects their neck and head while hunting.

(A lion's mane makes them brave just like Jesus makes us brave!)







WEEK 9

A NEW HEART

I will take away your stubborn heart and give you a new heart and a desire to be faithful. You will have only pure thoughts, because I will put my Spirit in you and make you eager to obey my laws and teachings.

Ezekiel 36:26-27

Have you seen people do really mean things? Have you ever done unkind things that you really feel bad about? Maybe you were very mad, or you wanted something badly and you just did a wrong thing before you thought about it?

It happens to everybody. We all need a new heart... one that doesn't hate and isn't selfish.

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The Bible tells us about a man named Ezekiel who was sad. His whole country, the people of Israel, needed new hearts! They weren't following God and being kind like they should. And they were being punished for the bad things they were doing.

Ezekiel prayed to God, and God spoke to him in amazing ways. God promised he would give new hearts to his people. These weren't real, beating hearts in their bodies. God was talking about people having new attitudes and wanting to do good. With these new hearts, people would no longer be selfish or mean.

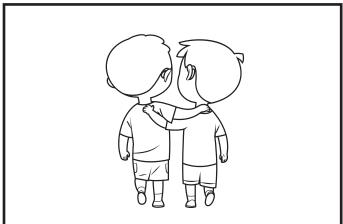
God's son, Jesus, made a way for anyone who believes in him to have a new heart. When we say we are sorry for all the bad things we do, decide to obey God's words, and ask Jesus into our heart, he makes us clean and new!

Jesus, I'm sorry for the mean and selfish things I do. Please come into my heart and make it new so I want to do good for you.



Jesus can make anyone's heart brand new! Color the pictures below and ask Jesus to help you show kindess and love to everyone.







KEEP IT GOING THIS WEEK Find out more by reading these verses.

- ☐ Psalm 51:10
 - Jeremiah 24:7

- ☐ Matthew 22:36-38
 - Hebrews 8:10

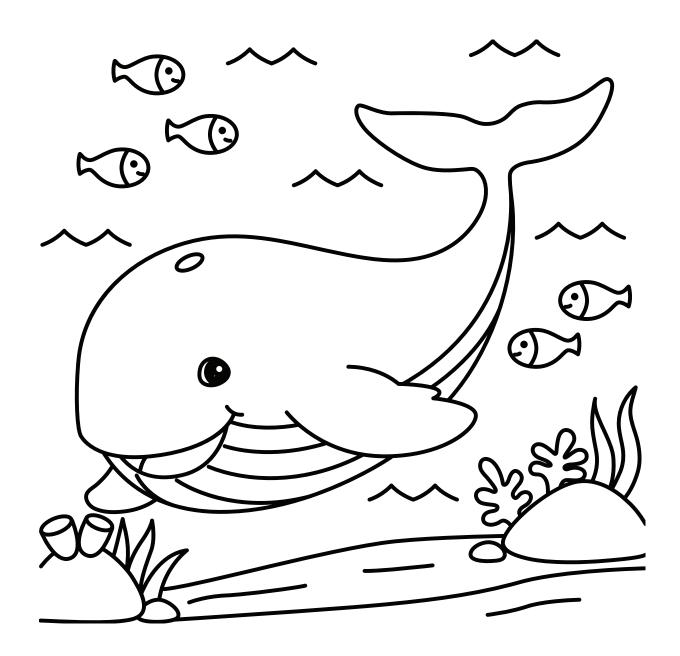
WEEK NINE





The blue whale has the biggest heart on earth.

It's about 5 feet tall, which is probably taller than you!



JESUS

WHEN SADNESS COMES

I give you peace, the kind of peace only I can give. It isn't like the peace this world can give. So don't be worried or afraid.

John I4:27

What things make you sad? Do you cry sometimes? Everybody does!

Bad things happen in this world and can make us unhappy. When we are feeling sad, we can tell Mom or Dad and they can give us big hugs. Or we can tell a sibling or friend, who will sit with us for a while. But even better yet, we can ask Jesus for help. He always wants to help us!

We have to wait until Heaven to be face-to-face with Jesus. But while we are here on Earth, Jesus is with us! It may be hard to understand because you cannot see him with your eyes. But he is here. In fact, he is sitting right there beside you. Isn't that amazing?!

Jesus gives us peace when we live our lives close to him. With Jesus by our side, even the sad things in life don't seem as bad. We can feel okay even through the troubles!

Having Jesus makes it easier to be brave when sad things happen. Pray to him this week when you are feeling sad or lonely. He will help you! Jesus, thank you for being with me always. It makes it easier to handle when I'm sad.



Stand up! Ask your parent or older sibling to set a timer for two minutes. When the timer starts, shake off all of your sad feelings while you do as many jumping jacks as you can do before time runs out! Then say a prayer to ask Jesus to help you feel okay each and every day. He is with you!



KEEP IT GOING THIS WEEK Find out more by reading these verses.

☐ Psalm 23:1-2		Psalm	23:1-2
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☐ John 16:33

□ Isaiah 26:3

☐ Philippians 4:6-7

WEEK TEN

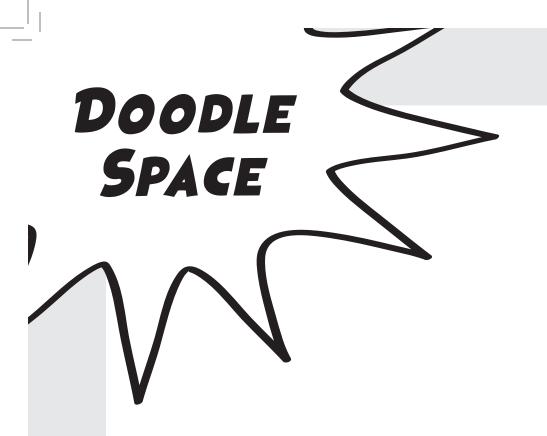




Giant anteater moms carry their babies to keep them safe and happy.

God carries us, too.







WEEK II

KING SAUL

THE BEST GIFT

"Tell me," Samuel said. "Does the Lord really want sacrifices and offerings?

No! He doesn't want your sacrifices. He wants you to obey him.

I Samuel 15:22

"Amelia, please clean up the living room," Amelia's mom said while she was doing the dishes. Amelia went and started picking up her toys when she got an idea. I'll make it extra pretty in here with flowers, she thought, and headed outside to pick some from the yard. When her mom came in after a little while, she found Amelia's toys still all over the floor, but there were flowers on the table. Do you think her mom was happy?

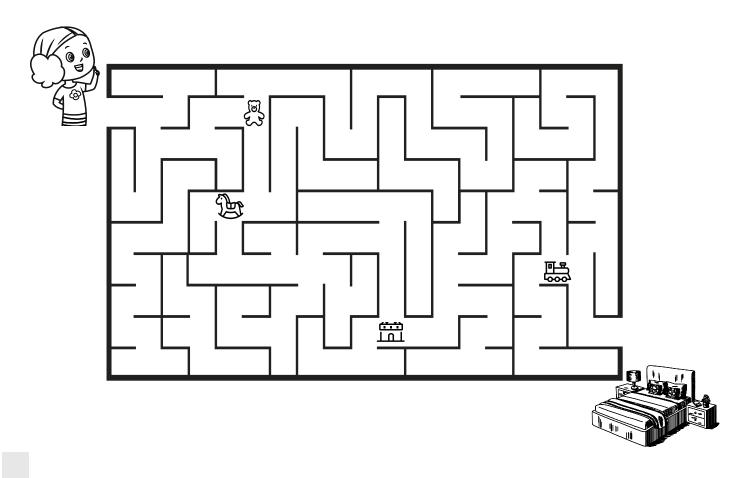
This is kind of like King Saul's story. God told him to fight a battle and not take anything from the land. Saul and his men decided instead to take the best sheep and cattle. They said they were going to give them to God, but that's not what God wanted. Samuel, the prophet who spoke to the people for God, told the king he would be punished because he didn't obey. God didn't want Saul's gifts. He wanted Saul to listen.

Sometimes we don't do what God says to do, like obeying mom. But it's important to always listen and obey what God says. He knows what is best for us.

God, please forgive me when I don't obey. Help me to do what you tell me to do because I love you.



Help Amelia obey her mom! Lead her through the messy room to pick up all her toys along the way, circling each toy as you pass it and pick it up. When she gets through the maze, her room will be all cleaned up!



KEEP IT GOING THIS WEEK Find out more by reading these verses.

- ☐ I Samuel 15:23
- □ John 6:38

☐ Psalm 40:6

☐ John 14:23-24

WEEK ELEVEN





Lions hunt in groups.

All the young lions must wait patiently in the grass.

If they don't wait like they are supposed to, they scare away the prey and no one gets to eat.





GOD'S GREAT PLAN

God is the one who began this good work in you, and I am certain that he won't stop before it is complete on the day that Christ Jesus returns.

Philippians I:6

Shhh! Zhang Boli had to be quiet! He was hiding. Zhang and his friends had told the government of China they wanted more freedom. But that made the rulers angry, so they hurt a lot of people and put others in jail. In China, you can't say bad things about the government.

So, Zhang ran for his life! He barely escaped. When he got far away into the country, an old woman helped hide him. She asked him to do something for her. She couldn't read, but she had part of the Bible that someone had written out, and she wanted him to read it out loud. This was a secret, too, because the Chinese government didn't want anyone to own a Bible or be a Christian. But when Zhang read the words in the old woman's Bible, he believed them and turned to Jesus.

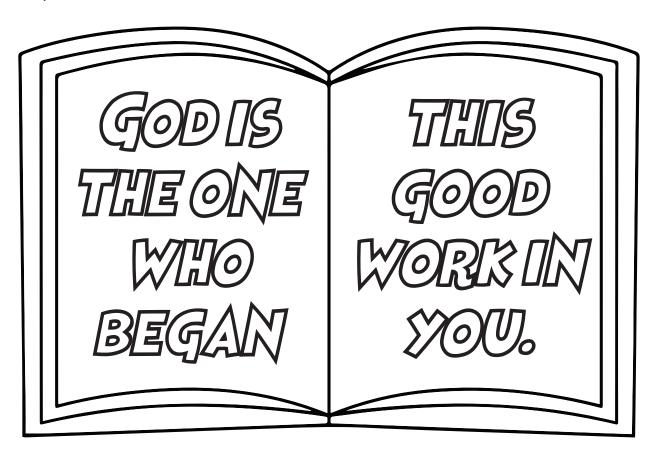
Later, God helped Zhang get safely to America. He is a pastor now, and he helps other people learn about Jesus. He thanks God for hiding him with that woman. God has a great plan for him, and he has a great plan for you, too!



BRAVE

ZHANG BOLI

Zhang's life changed when he heard the Bible read out loud. The Word of God is powerful! Ask your mom, dad, or older sibling to read the words of this week's verse out loud. Repeat it after them. Thank God for his great plan for your life!



KEEP IT GOING THIS WEEK Find out more by reading these verses.

- ☐ Psalm 40:5
 ☐ I Corinthians 1:7-8
- ☐ Isaiah 55:10-11 ☐ Philippians 1:9-10

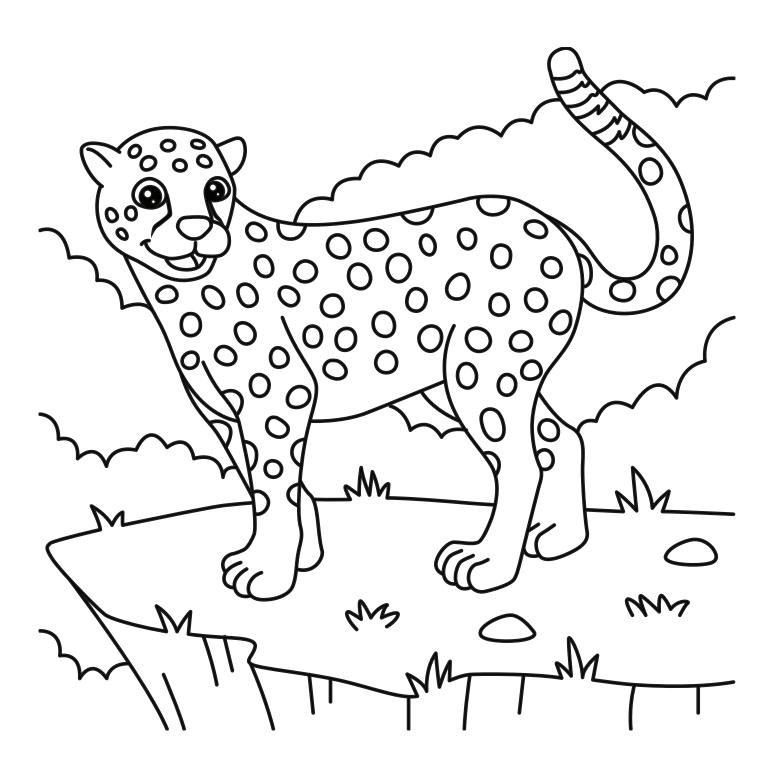
WEEK **T**WELVE

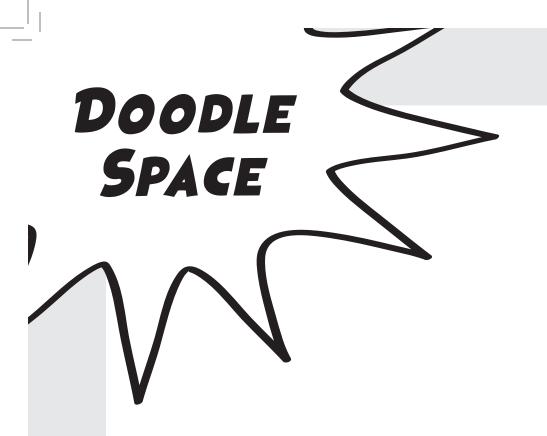


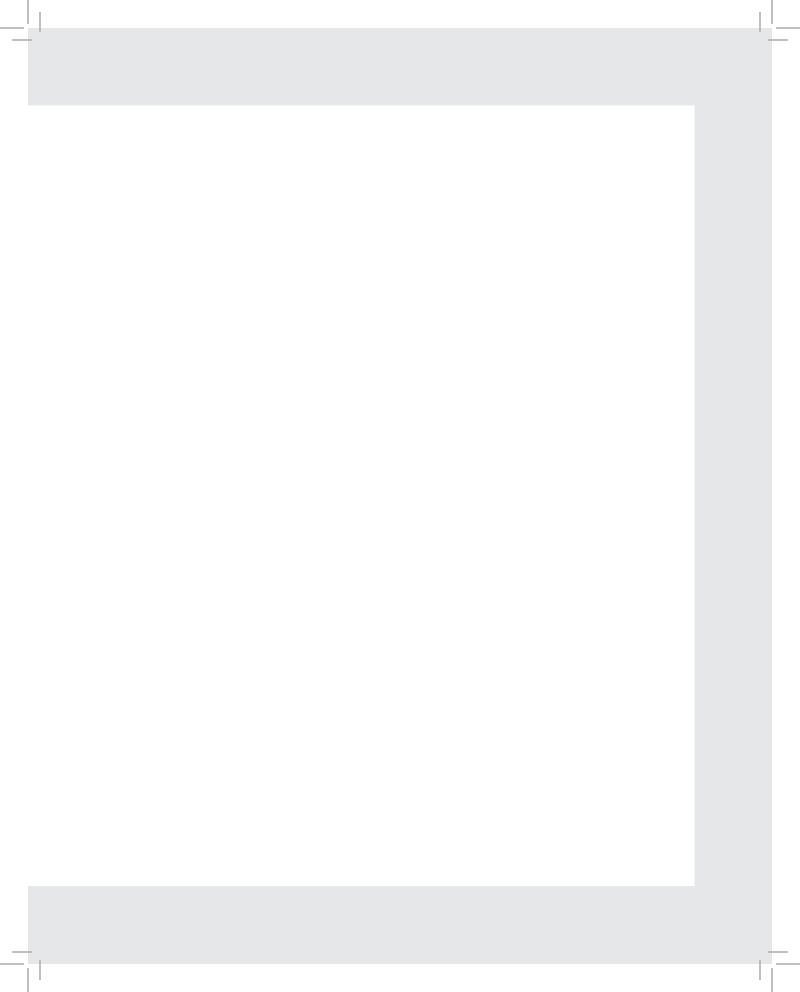


The North Chinese Leopard lives in the mountains of China, near Russia.

God kept Zhang Boli safe from them, too!









STAYING SMART, STAYING SAFE

David told her: I praise the Lord God of Israel! He must have sent you to meet me today. And you should also be praised. Your good sense kept me from taking revenge and killing innocent people.

I Samuel 25:32-33

"Help! They're coming! Do something!" screamed the workers on the farm. Abigail looked at the people around her, workers on her husband's farm who helped with their sheep and goats. Everyone was afraid.

A fighter named David and his men had been staying nearby the farm. He was a good man who loved the Lord and did what was right, and he protected their farm.

But when David and his men were hungry and they asked Abigail's husband for food, Abigail's husband said no. David became angry and decided he and his warriors would kill every man on the farm. What a bad idea!

Abigail knew and listened to God. He helped her know what to do. She quickly packed food on top of donkeys for David, as an apology. David accepted and quickly changed his mind about killing the men. Abigail listened to God and helped stop David from making a terrible choice!

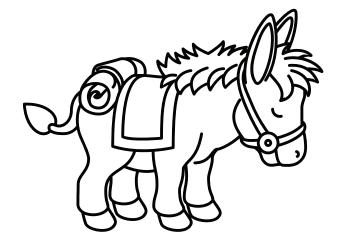
Sometimes it is hard to know the right thing to do, but God knows. You can pray to him and ask him to help you make good, safe choices—like the good choice Abigail made. God will help you!

God, thank you for helping us to know what to do to stay safe.



What should Abigail pack for David? Help her by drawing a line from the food to the donkey.













KEEP IT GOING THIS WEEK Find out more by reading these verses.

- Leviticus 19:18
- □ Joshua I:7-8

- ☐ Matthew 5:9
- ☐ Romans 12:17-19

WEEK THIRTEEN





In a lot of places, people still use donkeys to carry things.

They can carry more than 100 pounds!

