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#### WRITE YOUR NAME ON THIS LINE:

WRITE THE NICKNAME YOUR	FRIENDS & FAMILY CALL YOU:
IF YOU COULD HAVE A SUPER	POWER, WHAT WOULD IT BE?
WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE 1	THING TO DO IN THE FALL?
Lost &	FOUND
IF SOMEONE FINDS YOUR BOOK, DO	•
Yes, call the number below!	No, just keep it.
WRITE A PARENT OR ANOTHER ADU	LT'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 FALL?
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!

MOSES

WEEK 27

## THE BEST PLACE

Then Moses replied, "If you aren't going with us, please don't make us leave this place."

Exodus 33:15

"Where are we going now?" As a Military kid, you get to go to a lot of places and see a lot of things. It can be so awesome!

But it can also be so scary! When you don't know what the new place will be like, you might be worried if you will like it. It can be a lot different, from how people talk to what they eat or the games they play.

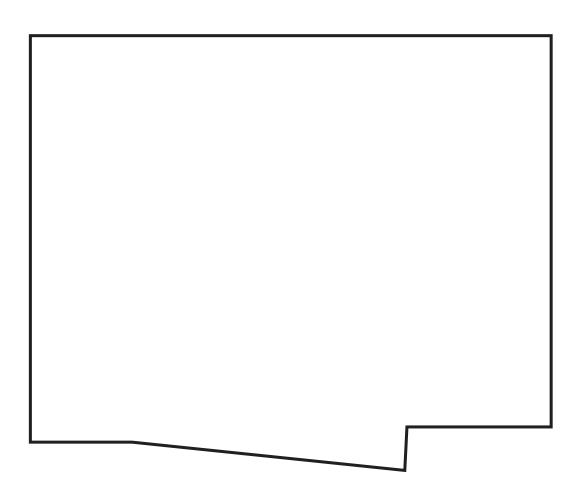
When Moses and the Israelites were moving from Egypt to the new place God promised them, they knew it would be really great. God said the new place had lots of good food and, best of all, they wouldn't have to be slaves anymore.

But even though Moses really wanted to get there, he didn't want to go on the journey without God. He prayed, "If you won't go with us, I don't want to go." Moses knew having God with him is better than being in the most wonderful place without him. Having God with us is what makes any place awesome!

God, any place will be good if you are there with us. Help me to be brave about moving.



What are your favorite places to be? Draw one of them below. Always remember, wherever you are, God is right there with you!



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

- ☐ Psalm 89:15
- ☐ Psalm 139:3-5

- ☐ Matthew 28:20
- ☐ 2 Thessalonians I:9

WEEK TWENTY SEVEN





A bobcat can climb up a big cactus and sit on it.

Even though they may get poked by the cactus, God makes it a good place for them!



## PETER

## THE BIG

God had already planned and decided that Jesus would be handed over to you. So you took him and had evil men put him to death on a cross. But God set him free from death and raised him to life. Death could not hold him in its power.

Acts 2:23-24

Do you ever feel like you can't be good? Like you just want your way or you want to be mean more than you want to be nice? Like evil is stronger than good?

It sure seemed like evil was winning when Jesus died. Even one of his closest friends, Peter, lied and didn't stand up for him during his final hours. If a perfect man like Jesus could be killed, what hope is there for anyone?

But Jesus came back to life, and he forgave Peter. He sent Peter out as a great preacher, and Peter stood up for Jesus for the rest of his life.

When Peter talked to people about Jesus, he said God knew the plan all along. God had decided long ago that Jesus would die on a cross and be raised to life. He knew that was the only way to forgive us for doing wrong and to save us. He knew the only way to win over evil was for Jesus to die and come back to life.

So, on days when you only want to do wrong, ask God to forgive you and help you trust his plan to save you.

God, thank you for your plan to save me from sin. Please forgive me when I mess up, and help me do what's right.



God's plan will defeat every evil thing in the world! His great plan is written for us all the read about in the Bible. Wow! This week, ask your parent or older sibling to help you read one verse from the Bible every day. As you do, keep track of your progress below by drawing a happy face inside each day's box.

	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
READING GOD'S PLAN			
WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY

KEEP IT GOING THIS WEEK	Find out more by reading these verses.
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☐ Psalm 34:22

☐ Luke 22:22

WEEK TWENTY EIGHT

| | Isaiah 43:11-12

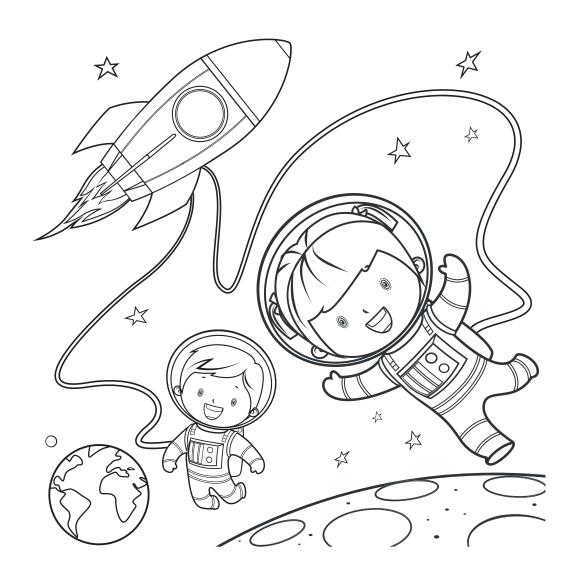
☐ I John 4:9-10

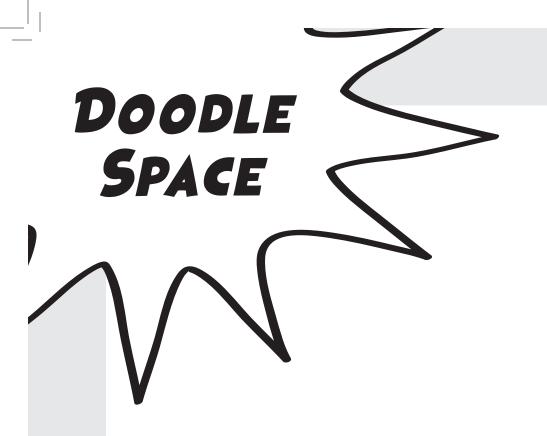




God's great plans started long, long ago when he created this beautiful world!

He made the sun, stars, oceans, animals . . . and, best of all, he made you!







## NEEDING A New Heart

Create pure thoughts in me and make me faithful again.

Psalm 51:10

Nicky Cruz wanted to be bad. He thought if he was the meanest, scariest person, everyone would be afraid of him and then they wouldn't hurt him. He was born in Puerto Rico and moved to New York City when he was 15. He joined a tough street gang. He often fought and hurt people.

One day, a pastor told Nicky about Jesus. Nicky didn't understand. It

scared him to think about God, so he beat up the man. But the pastor kept coming back.

When Nicky's best friend died in a fight, Nicky knew he had to change. He needed new thoughts and a new heart. But how could someone like him ever be different? God, I've done bad things, too, and I need you to change my heart. Help me do good. Thank you for forgiving me.

Again, the pastor told him all about Jesus. If Nicky would ask for forgiveness and let Jesus control his life, God would give him a new heart.

Nicky prayed, and God changed everything. Nicky didn't want to be bad anymore. God helped him love people and teach them about Jesus. And God can help you, too. He can give you a new heart filled with love for him and others!



Write your name on the heart. Pray to God asking him to help you love him and do good. Then decorate this heart and make it beautiful!



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

Psalm	51:1-2
1 241111	<i>-</i> 1

Ezekiel 18:31-32

#### ☐ Matthew 16:24-25

☐ Colossians 2:13-14

WEEK TWENTY NINE





## An octopus has three hearts!

(Go ahead and count them!)



## JESUS

## PERFECT LIKE JESUS

Christ never sinned! But God treated him as a sinner, so Christ could make us acceptable to God.

2 Corinthians 5:21

Did you ever get in trouble at school? Have you ever disappointed your mom

or dad by doing something bad? Have you ever stolen a cookie? Hit your brother? Called someone a mean name?

We've all done bad things. The only one who never did anything wrong was Jesus. He lived an absolutely perfect life! No matter how perfect we look, we have all disappointed God by doing wrong. And our disobedience hurts our friendship with God.

Thankfully, Jesus came to help us. When we should be punished for our sin, he takes the blame! When he died on the cross, Jesus took the punishment for us and made a way for us to become like him.

Jesus paid the price for all our sins. And if we say we are sorry and believe in him, he takes away our sin so we can be friends with God and one day be in heaven with him. How amazing! Because of what Jesus did, God can forgive our sins and help us be like Jesus.

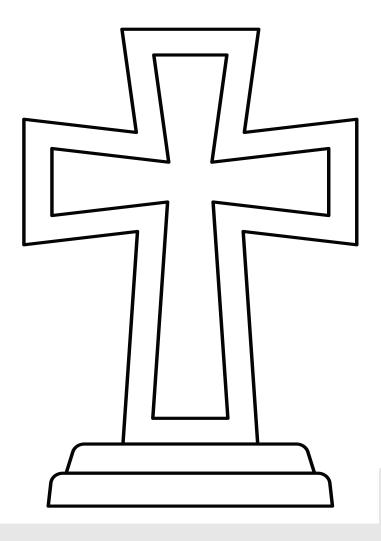
God, I am sorry for doing bad things. Please forgive me and help me be like Jesus. He is perfect!



Jesus died on the cross to take the punishment for our sins.

Because of this, we can be forgiven and have a relationship with him!

Color and decorate the cross below. As you do, thank Jesus for what he did for you.



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

☐ Psalm I30:3-4

☐ I Peter 2:24

☐ Isaiah 53:5-6

☐ 1 John 3:4-5

WEEK THIRTY

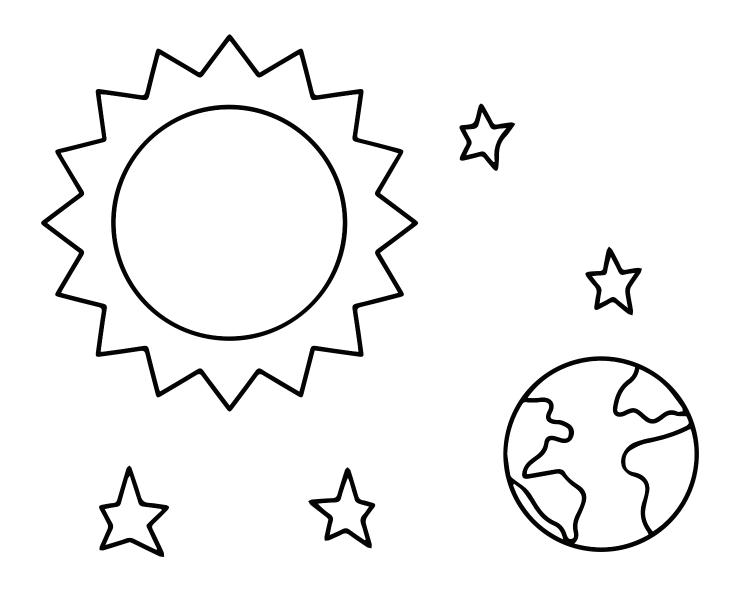


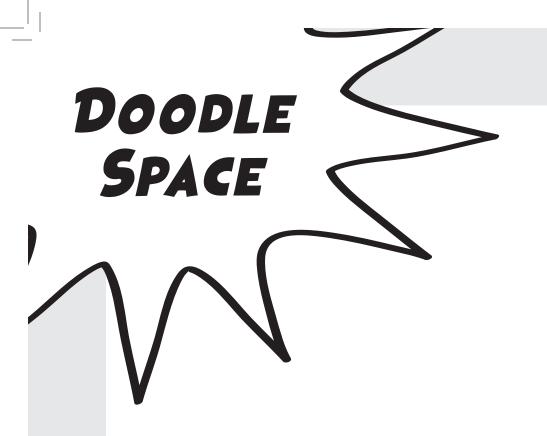


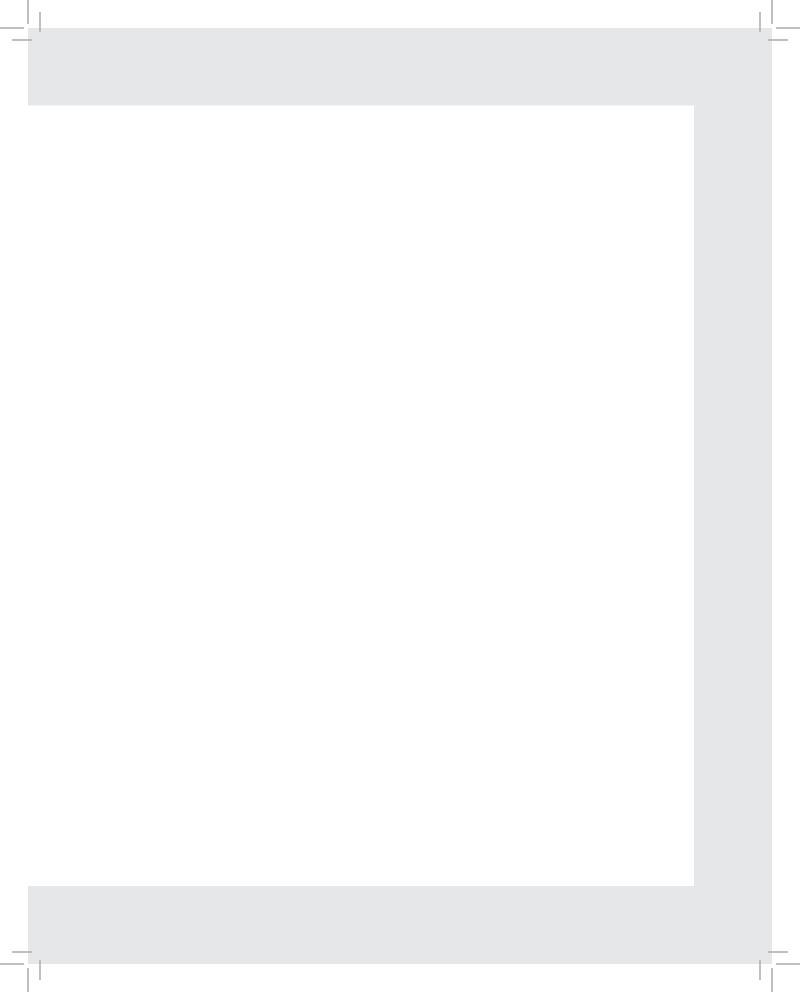
The earth is the perfect distance from the sun.

Any closer and we'd get too hot; further away we'd get too cold.

God's ways are perfect!









### THE BEST SIDE

I know that the Lord has given Israel this land. Everyone shakes with fear because of you. We know that the Lord your God rules heaven and earth, and we've lost our courage and our will to fight.

Joshua 2:9. II

A long time ago, God's people, the Israelites, needed a new, safe place to live. God promised them some good land, but there were bad guys living there who had to be cleared out first. Joshua, Israel's leader, sent a couple of spies to check out the land, including the city of Jericho.

But when the spies got into the city, someone found out and told the king of Jericho, who was not eager to welcome Joshua and his spies onto his land. Thankfully, a brave woman named Rahab hid them in her home and helped them escape out her window. She told them she knew God was on their side, and she did not want to go against God.

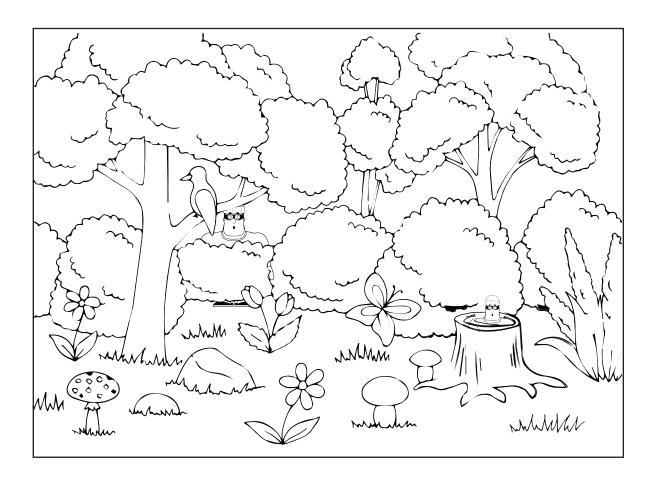
God gave the city to the Israelites, and the spies saved Rahab and her family because of what she had done to protect them. They lived with the Israelites and followed God, too.

Rahab's story reminds us that it's always best to take God's side because he always wins!

God, I know you are always right, and you always win. I want to be on your side!



Can you spy the spies?



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

- ☐ Joshua 6:22-23
- ☐ Psalm 20:7-8

- ☐ Hebrews II:31
- ☐ James 2:24-25

WEEK THIRTY ONE





In Panama, Peter's tent-making bats ride on the backs of their mothers when they are newborns.

After they grow a bit, she starts to nudge them off, making them try to fly.

They practice this way for several days before they fly on their own.



## PAUL

# **NEW LIFE**WITH JESUS

I have died, but Christ lives in me.

And I now live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave his life for me.

Galatians 2:20

You didn't want to share with your friend and now they are mad at you.

You accidentally broke your mom's favorite coffee mug, after she told you not to use it.

Some days, we just wish we could start over!

Paul, who wrote this week's Bible verse, felt that way. He thought he was supposed to punish people who were following Jesus, so he jailed Christians and hurt them. Then he met Jesus. He found out Jesus really was God's Son, and he realized he had been wrong. Paul gave his heart to Jesus, and God gave him a new life. Jesus forgave him!

Paul's life was completely changed once Jesus took control. God can do this for us, too. When we ask for forgiveness and let Jesus take over, we can start a new life. Jesus helps us quit our old bad ways, and live a new life that pleases God. How amazing!

God, thank you for sending Jesus. Thank you for giving me new life!



What are some things you do that you would like to stop? And what things could you replace them with? Ask your parents for help with writing a plan below!

I WILL REPLACE	WITH
Example: Hitting my brother	Example: High-fiving my brother
<del>-</del>	<b>-</b>

KEEP IT GOING THIS WEEK	Find out more by reading	these verses
REEF II GUING INIS WEEK	Tilly Out more by reading	, chese verses

\_\_ Psalm 51:17

#### Romans 6:6

☐ Colossians 2:20a

WEEK THIRTY TWO





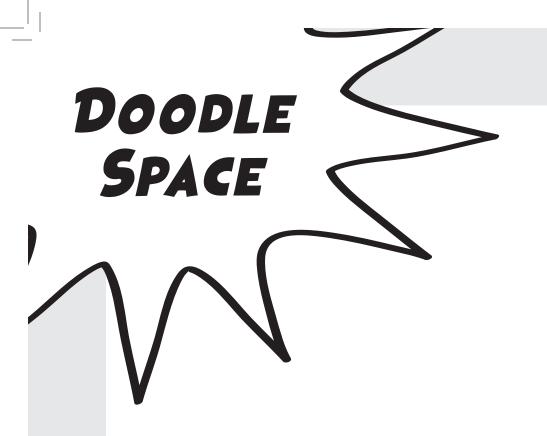
Bees completely change at different stages in their lives!

They start out looking like a worm, called a larvae.

Then they cocoon like a butterfly does.

Finally, they hatch out of their cocoon with wings and fly out of their hive.







WEEK 33



# TRADING ANGER FOR JOY

...and you gave me a new song, a song of praise to you. Many will see this, and they will honor and trust you, the Lord God.

Psalm 40:3

Betty Olsen was always angry. She was so angry people didn't want to be around her. Why was she so mad? Maybe because her mom died and she had to go to school in Africa, which was so far from her home in America.

Betty wanted to be a missionary—to help others and tell them about Jesus—but people questioned why she was always angry. Finally, a pastor helped her. After a lot of praying and reading the Bible, Betty found the joy that comes only from God.

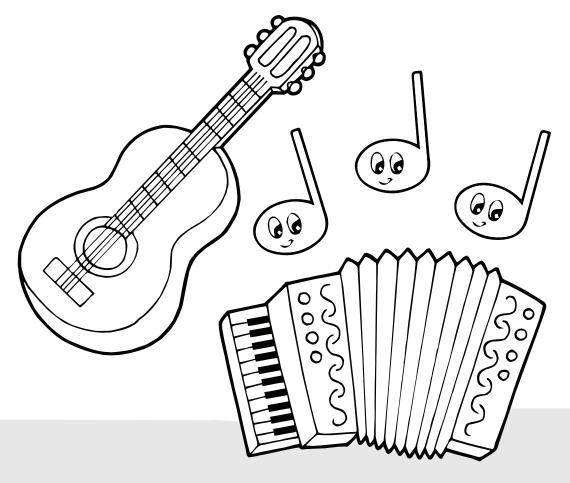
Betty went to work in a hospital in Vietnam. Sadly, a war was going on and Betty was captured by the enemies. She was treated terribly by the guards. Do you think she got angry at them? Maybe a bit, but she held her temper. People said she was kind even to the guards!

That's what God can do! He can change an angry person and help them to find a deep joy that changes the way they feel, act, and see life. Do you want that kind of joy today?

God, thank you for changing people like Betty. Please help me find your joy today, too.



This week's Bible verse talks about singing a new song to God. Do you ever sing to God? Maybe at church or Sunday School... but how about in your everyday life at home? When you are playing outside? When you are cleaning your room? You can sing to God anywhere! Color the music notes and instruments below as you sing a new song to God from your heart. He will be so glad to hear it!



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

- ☐ Psalm 103:10
- ☐ Isaiah 43:25

- ☐ Matthew 16:25-26
- John 12:24-25

WEEK THIRTY THREE





The brown thrasher bird knows the most songs to sing—about one thousand of them!

How many songs do you know?



WEEK 34

## JESUS

# THE BIGGEST LOVE

No one takes my life from me. I give it up willingly! I have the power to give it up and the power to receive it back again, just as my Father commanded me to do.

John 10:18

Who do you know that loves you so much they would do anything for you—maybe even fight or die? You probably know a few people who love you that much. Warriors in our Military have said they would take that chance!

But do you know God did just that for you?

Jesus is God. When Jesus came to Earth, he knew he would have to die for us. He said he would, as today's verse shows us.

It was hard for him. He could have run away; he could have told his Father he didn't want to die for us. But Jesus stayed true to what he said he would do. He took the punishment for all our sins and willingly gave his life for us.

Thankfully, because Jesus is God, he came back from the dead! He showed his love for us all the way to death and back again.

Thank you, Jesus, for giving up your life for me. You love me a lot! I'm so glad you came back to life!



Sometimes we like to say, "I love you to the moon!" Because the moon is so far away from Earth, this just means the love is super big. Jesus loved us all the way to death and back again. Now that is a huge, huge love! Below is a picture of Earth. Draw the sun and the moon next to it. As you do, remember that Jesus loves you to the moon... and so much more!



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

☐ Isaiah 53:4-6

Matthew 26:53-54

WEEK THIRTY FOUR

☐ Isaiah 53:II-I2

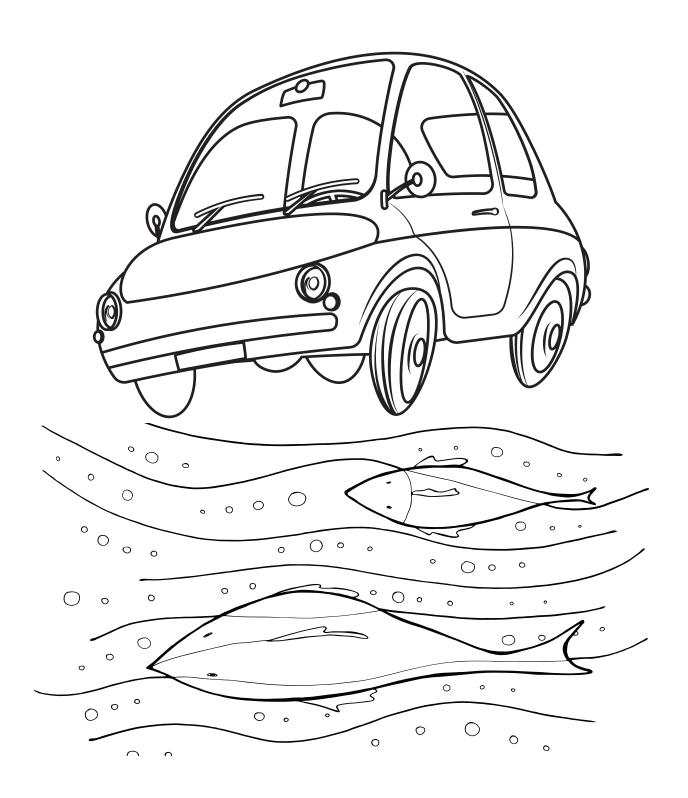
☐ Philippians 2:6-8

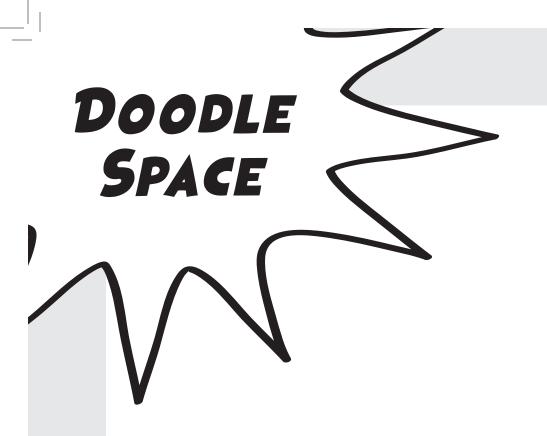


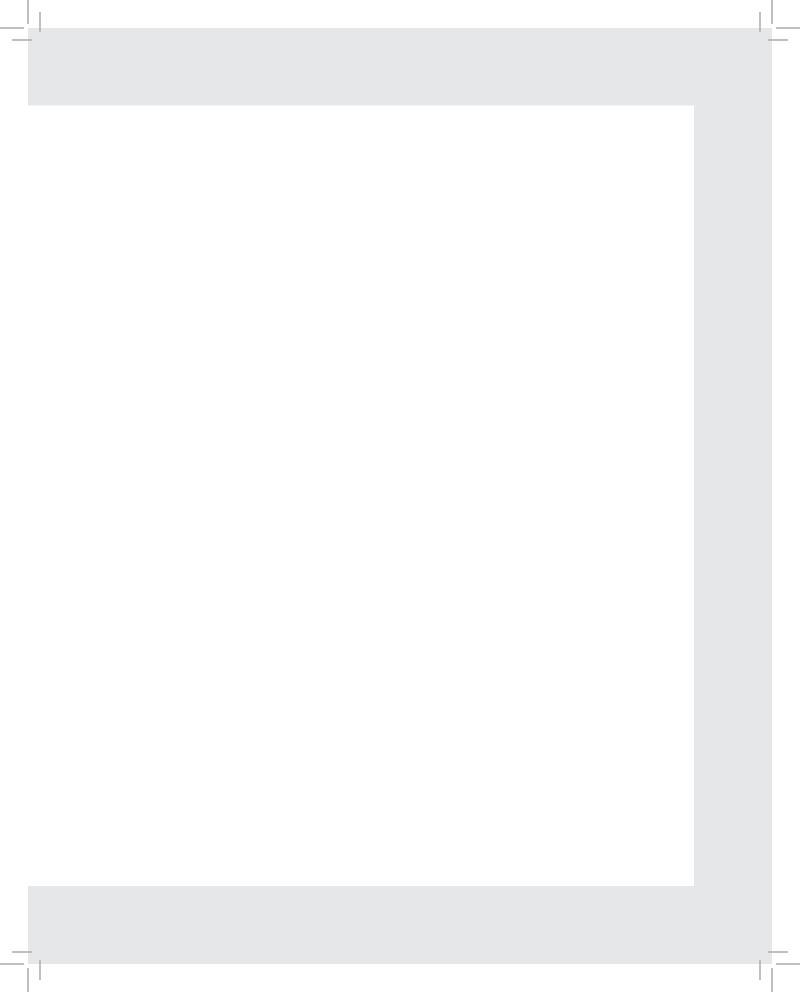


A car trip around the world would take 18 days of driving day and night.

(That's if you could drive over the oceans, of course!)











## WHEN GOD FORGIVES

In that city of Nineveh there are more than I20,000 people who cannot tell right from wrong, and many cattle are also there.

Don't you think I should be concerned about that big city?

Jonah 4:II

Have you ever had a hard time forgiving someone who upset you? Maybe your brother lost your favorite toy. Or your friend said they didn't want to play anymore. Maybe you're mad at the Military for taking your parent

away so much.

Jonah also struggled to forgive. Jonah was one of God's prophets, or messengers for God, in Israel. God sent Jonah to the people of Nineveh to share a message from God. Jonah didn't want to go because he believed God would forgive them if they repented; he wanted them to get in trouble!

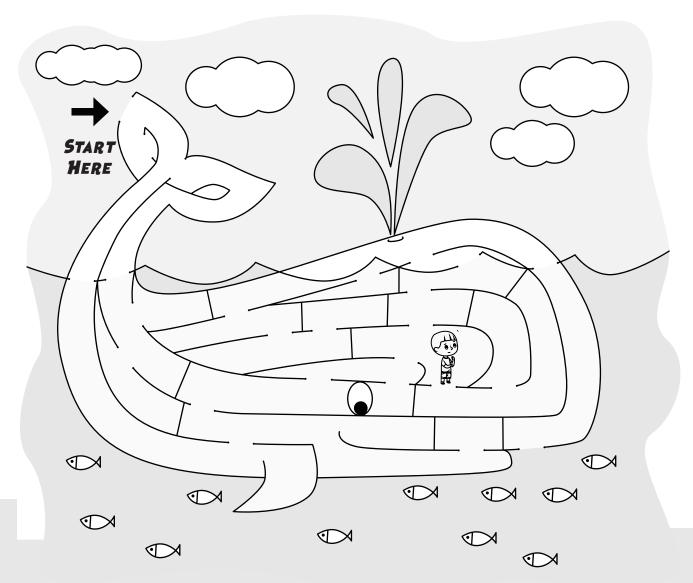
So, Jonah tried to run away, but God caused a huge fish to swallow him. He prayed and God gave him another chance. Jonah obeyed God and preached to the Ninevites. They changed their ways, and God forgave them.

God loved the people of Ninevah and Jonah. He loves you and the people who make you mad. He forgives you and wants you to forgive others. Will you ask him to help you do that today?

God, thank you for forgiving me of my wrongs. Help me not to stay mad at others, I want to love them like you do.



Help Jonah get out of the big fish!



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

- ☐ Exodus 34:6-7
  - Psalm 145:8-9

- ☐ Luke 6:36
- Ephesians 2:4-5

WEEK THIRTY FIVE

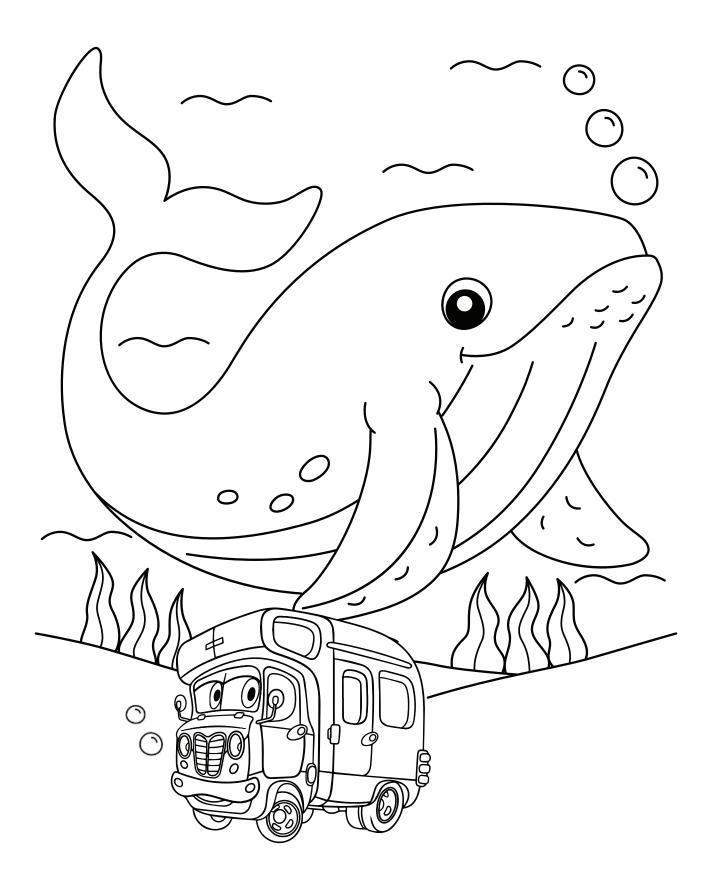




Some kinds of whales are bigger than school buses!

They are the biggest animals in the world.

(They could hold a lot of Jonahs!)





WEEK 36

#### SAVING A LIFE

"But no one who drinks the water I give will ever be thirsty again. The water I give will become in that person a flowing fountain that gives eternal life."

John 4:14

In today's Bible story, Jesus met a woman at a well. She was at the water well at a time of day when other people wouldn't be around. The people in her town did not accept her because of the bad choices she had made.

While she was talking with Jesus, she started wondering why he would even talk to a person like her. But Jesus offered her something much more helpful than the water in the well.

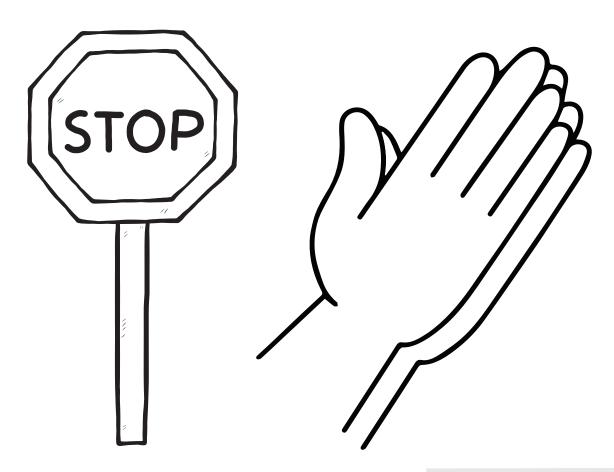
He told her he could give her eternal life, which meant she could live with God forever, even after she died. And he gave her hope for a good life. This made her so happy that she told everyone she could about Jesus. Many of the people in her town were glad to meet Jesus, too!

Just like the woman at the well, when we sin, we need to ask for Jesus's forgiveness. Because of Jesus, we can have the hope of eternal life!

God, thank you for giving me a better life now, and the hope of eternal life.



One way to stop doing wrong things is to pray and ask Jesus to help you. Play a game of freeze tag as a family. Whenever you are caught and stopped, say a little prayer as fun reminder that Jesus will always help when we stop and pray!



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

- ☐ Psalm 51:1-2
- □ Isaiah 43:25

- ☐ John 3:17
- Romans 6:1-2

WEEK THIRTY SIX

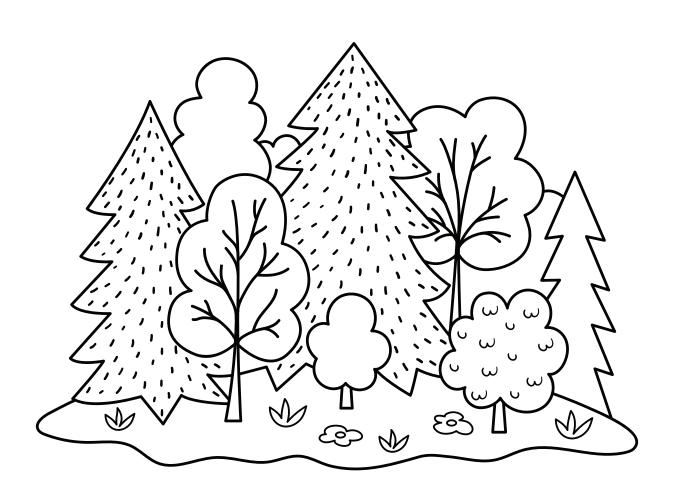


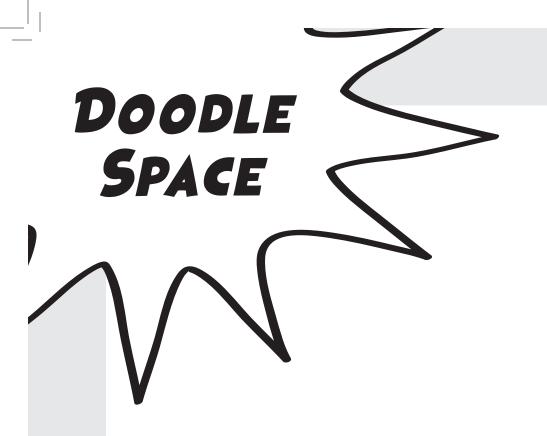


When fire burns through a forest, it looks awful for quite a while.

But soon, little plants and flowers begin to grow.

God gives new life!







## GAIN

## WHEN PEOPLE HURT PEOPLE

"This punishment is too hard!" Cain said. "You're making me leave my home and live far from you. I will have to wander about without a home, and just anyone could kill me.""No!" the Lord answered.

"Anyone who kills you will be punished seven times worse than I am punishing you." So the Lord put a mark on Cain to warn everyone not to kill him.

Genesis 4:13-15

Sometimes, people hurt people. Sometimes, our warriors go through such awful things they get hurt in their bodies... and in their hearts, too. Such bad things make us sad. They make God sad. too.

In this week's Bible story, a man named Cain got so angry with his brother, he killed him. How terrible! And when God talked with Cain about what he did, Cain was not sorry. Cain chose to sin, and God had to punish him. Cain was forced to go away from his family and live by himself, and he would never again be able to grow food to eat.

The Bible says that God always does what is right and will one day punish all people who sin. But God is loving and will forgive people when they're sorry for their sins and decide to turn to him. His grace is more powerful than sin!

God loves you so much. He will forgive you when you come to him and ask, and he will help people who have been hurt.

God, please help the people who have been hurt. Thank you for your grace and love for me and others.



Imagine a perfect world where everyone loves each other and no one gets hurt. That's what Heaven will be like! Thank God for the promise of Heaven while you color this picture.



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

- ☐ Psalm 79:10
- □ Jeremiah 7:13-15
- Romans 12:19
- Revelation II:17-18

WEEK THIRTY SEVEN





Many people use animals to help them feel better when they've been hurt by evil things in this world.

These therapy animals can be dogs, pigs, horses, even chickens!

Thank God for creating these wonderful animals.







## BRINGING YOU HOME

Christ died once for our sins. An innocent person died for those who are guilty. Christ did this to bring you to God, when his body was put to death and his spirit was made alive.

I Peter 3:18

You know how you feel when you get lost? Everything is scary! You just want to be home or with your mom and dad! You want to be back where you are safe, cared for, and loved.

Well, a part of you, your soul, is lost without God. God created us to be with him. He loves us and wants us to love him back. But when we decide we love other things more, or we forget about God and wander off, our soul will be lost. We lose the chance to be with God.

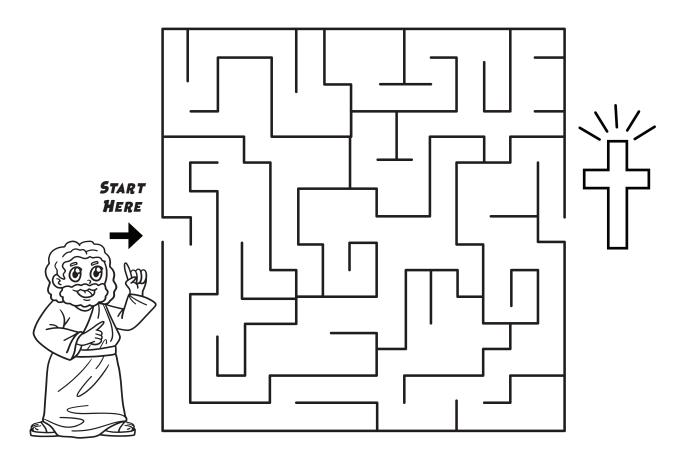
Peter, Jesus's friend, knew Jesus showed him the way to God. He also knew he had done bad things and was lost. Jesus helped Peter find his way back to God. Jesus died to save Peter and us from our sins. Because he died, God can forgive us. Our souls can be at home with God.

We can enjoy being friends with God every day, by praying to him, reading the Bible, and praising God. Then someday, we will live with him in Heaven!

Thank you, Jesus, for bringing me home to God! Please help me when I wander away from you. Help me to stay close.



Jesus brings us home to God. Find the path through the maze that leads Peter to the cross, and thank Jesus for what he has done!



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

- ☐ Psalm 51:11
- ☐ Isaiah 44:22

- ☐ Ephesians 2:12-13
- Colossians 1:21-22

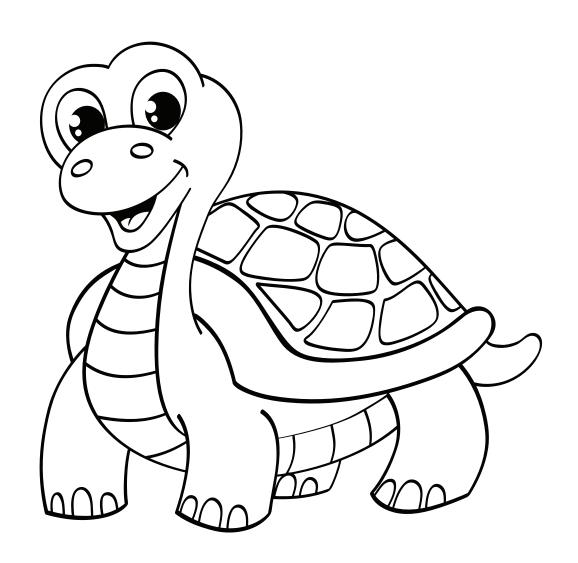
WEEK THIRTY EIGHT

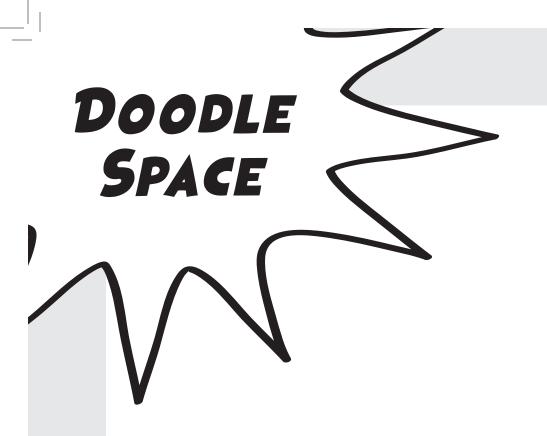


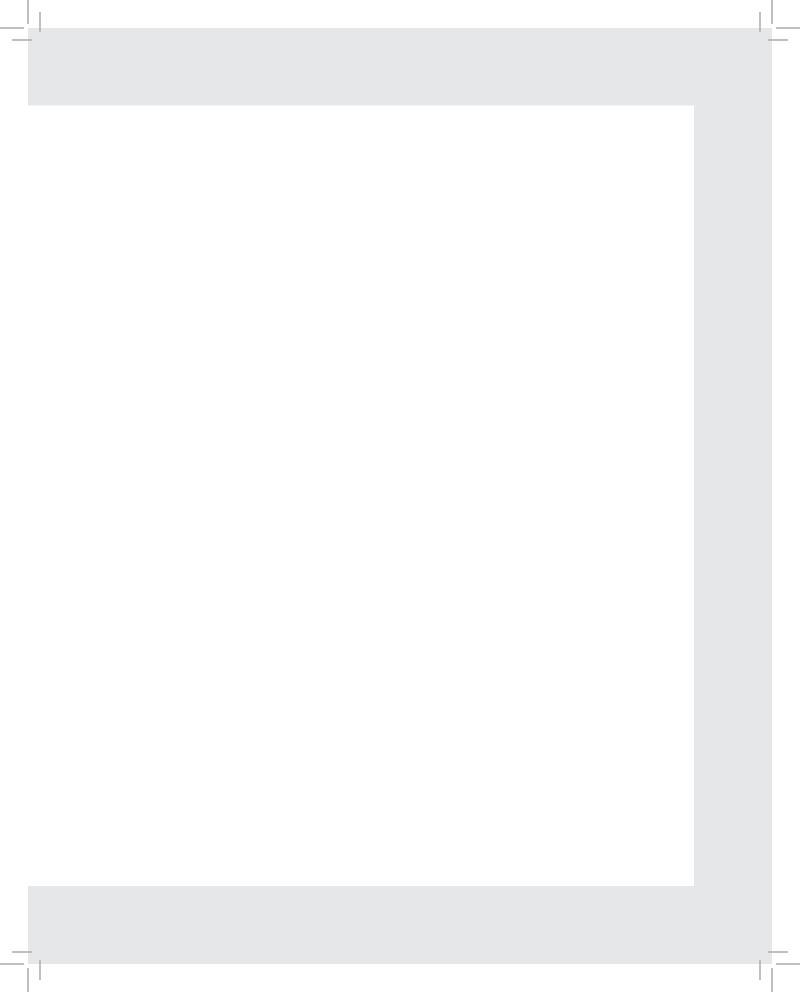


Box turtles will walk far away from their home every day, but they come back.

They have been known to stay in the same area for 50 years!







WEEK 39

# GIDEON

## BRAVE WITH GOD

The angel appeared and spoke to Gideon, "The LORD is helping you, and you are a strong warrior."

Judges 6:12

When someone tells you to be brave, do you wonder how you're supposed to do that? Or when they say you are strong, do you say, "No, I'm not!"?

That happened to Gideon. He was hiding from his enemies because they kept stealing his food. Then an angel came and called him a strong warrior! But how could he be a brave warrior when he was hiding in fear?

At first, Gideon did not believe the angel because he didn't feel strong or fearless at all. But eventually he believed the angel, because the angel said the Lord was with Gideon. After that, Gideon didn't need to hide anymore. God helped him lead an army to win important battles for his people.

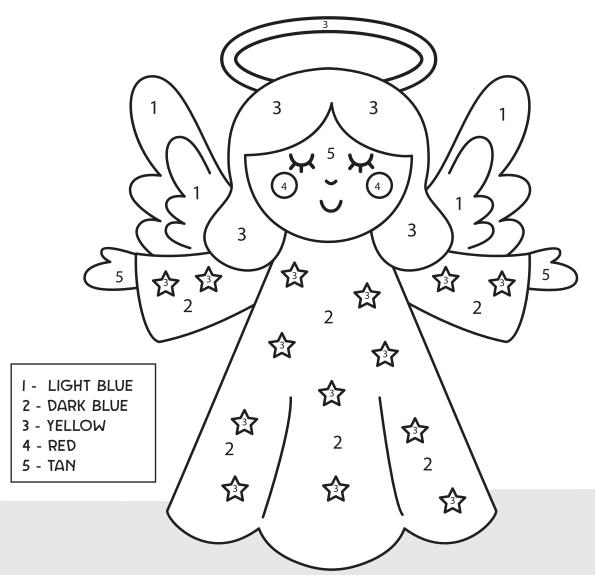
Gideon knew God was strong. When Gideon let God use his life, God made him a brave and mighty warrior. Do you think you can give God your life, too? He can help you be brave! So, when you are faced with tough things like deployments, ask God to be with you.

God, thank you for making Gideon brave. Please help me be brave, too, so I can win the battles in my life.



Gideon eventually believed what the angel said-that the Lord would make him a brave warrior. Follow the chart to color in the beautiful angel below.

As you do, remember that God makes you a brave warrior, too!



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

- ☐ Joshua I:5
- ☐ Judges 7:15

- ☐ 2 Corinthians I2:9
- Hebrews 13:5b-6

WEEK THIRTY NINE





When a prairie dog wants to hide, he goes into tunnels built by his family.

The tunnels are really long with lots of escape routes.



