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### WRITE YOUR NAME ON THIS LINE:

WRITE THE NICKNAME YOUR	FRIENDS & FAMILY CALL YOU:
WOULD YOU RATHER BE AB	LE TO FLY OR READ MINDS?
WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE TH	IING TO DO IN THE WINTER?
Lost &	FOUND
IF SOMEONE FINDS YOUR BOOK, D	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 WINTER?
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!

# JAGOB

### GOD'S CARE

The man said, "From now on, your name will no longer be Jacob. You will be called Israel, because you have wrestled with God and with men, and you have won."

Genesis 32:28

Jacob was terrified. God had told him to move back to the land where he grew up and had promised to take care of him. The problem was, when Jacob left his brother, Esau, years before, his brother wanted to kill him. Jacob obeyed God and took his family and belongings, but he got news that Esau was coming toward him . . . with an army of 400 men!

Jacob sent various animals ahead as gifts to help change Esau's mind. He hoped Esau would accept them.

Jacob was all alone one night, waiting to see what would happen. An unknown man, who Jacob believed was God disguised as a man, came and wrestled with him until just before sunrise. He wouldn't let go of this man who he believed was God, and he begged for his blessing. Eventually the man blessed him and left.

The next day, he met with his brother and Esau forgave him! No one got hurt and the two brothers were happy. God took care of Jacob, just as he had promised.

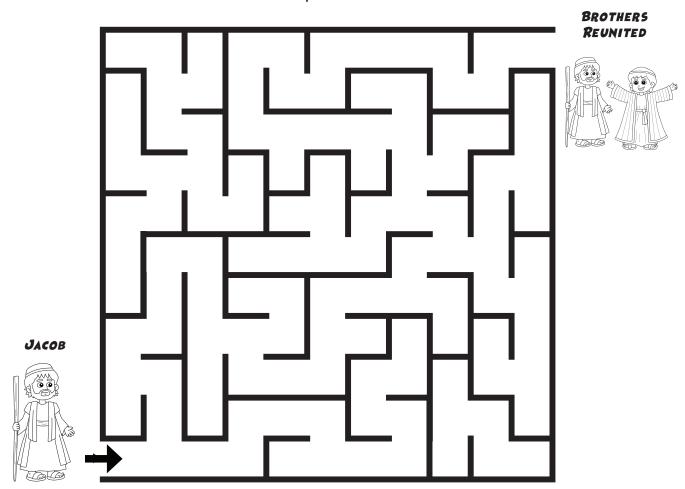
Sometimes when we're afraid, we struggle to trust God. We have doubts and fears. But if we keep holding on, God will bring us through.

Thank you, God, that I can trust you. You will take care of me when I obey. Help me be brave to do what you want.



Is there something you are afraid of that you need God to take care of?

Talk to God about it! Help Esau find his brother Jacob.



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

- ☐ Job 42:I-3
- ☐ Job 42:5

- □ Matthew 7:7-8
- Romans 8:38-39

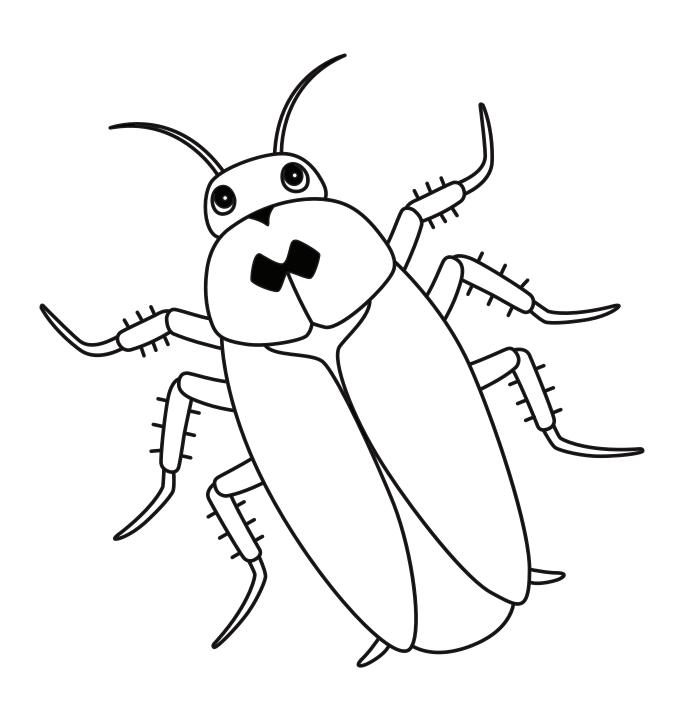
**WEEK FORTY** 





Leaf-footed bugs wrestle with each other using their back legs.

The winner gets the food or territory.



THE WOMAN
WHO LOVED
WISUS

WEEK 41

## GIVING JESUS EVERYTHING

"So I tell you that all her sins are forgiven, and that is why she has shown great love. But anyone who has been forgiven for only a little will show only a little love"

Luke 7:47

One day, Jesus was eating dinner at an important man's house. A woman came in who wasn't invited. She went to Jesus and started crying. Her tears fell on his feet, and she wiped them with her hair. She had brought with her a jar of expensive perfume. A person would have to save all their money for a year to buy it! She freely poured it out on Jesus's feet.

Why would she do that? Because she loved Jesus so much that she wanted to give him everything she had. Jesus loved her even though she had done bad things in her past. He liked her gift because he knew she gave it out of love.

When you love someone, you really want to show them. You do nice things for them, like this woman did with Jesus.

How much do you love Jesus? Are you willing to live for him in every part of your life? When we realize how much he loves us, it makes us want to love him back, especially when we know he forgives our sins. Think about that!

Jesus, thank you for forgiving my sins and loving me so much. Help me to love you back!



Have you ever given someone something you wanted to keep, but you gave it to them because you love them? When Jesus forgave you of your sins, he gave you the best gift ever! Thank him for his gift of forgiveness and eternal life, as you color in the special gift below.



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

	Psalm	116:1
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Psalm 130:3-4

### Philippians 1:9

☐ 1 John 4:19

#### WEEK FORTY ONE





Beavers produce 900 that can be used to make perfume.





# PLUNGING INTO LIFE WITH JESUS

"If you try to save your life, you will lose it.

But if you give it up for me, you will surely find it."

Matthew 10:39

You know the fun of jumping into a pool? It might seem scary, but to feel that big splash, you must bravely take the plunge!

Life is like that. We must choose whether we are going to do what's comfortable and live for ourselves or bravely follow Jesus. Jesus told people they had to lose their lives to find real life. That sounds weird, but Jesus was saying people must let go of living life their way and, instead, start obeying God.

That's what Jesus did for us. He came from Heaven to Earth to save us. He lived in a way that made God happy, died on a cross for our sins, and then God brought him back to life!

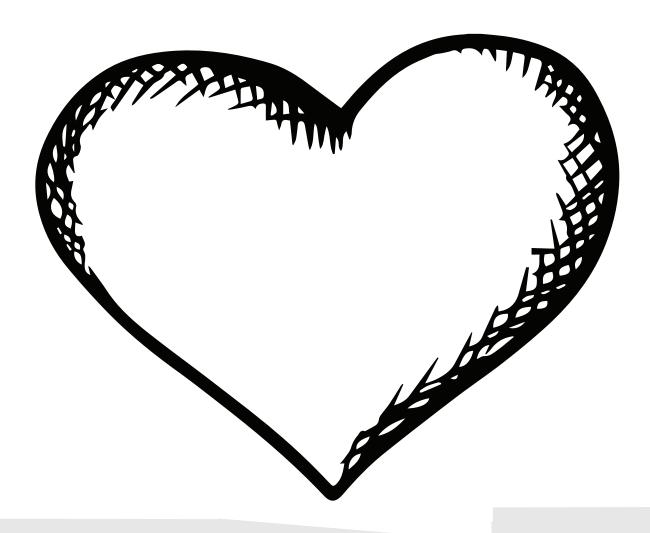
If we give our lives to Jesus, God will take care of us now . . . and after we die. We might want to keep doing things like being selfish. But if we hold on to our ways, we will miss out on God's good promises.

Jesus bravely gave his life for us and wants us to give ours to him. Will you live for Jesus today?

God, help me give up my ways and jump into fresh, new life with you!



When is it hard to do the right, most loving thing? Draw a picture of you doing the right thing with Jesus's help, and then ask him to help you do



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

☐ Isa	niah 53:5
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☐ Isaiah 53:12

### Romans 6:13

☐ I John 3:16

#### WEEK FORTY TWO

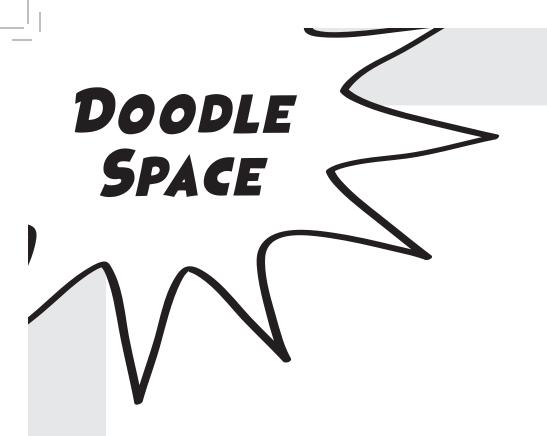




Ducklings hatch on dry land and then follow their mom into the water for their first swim.

(That must be scary for them! God is with you when you are scared, too.)







AME

WEEK 43

### WHEN GOD IS ON YOUR SIDE

I was a nobody, but I prayed, and the Lord saved me from all my troubles. Psalm 34:6

"Will you help me?" the little girl's eyes pleaded. Preena had escaped from some bad people, ran away as far as she could through the night, and hid in a church.

This was a long time ago, in a country far away called India. Amy Carmichael, a woman from Ireland, was working at the church. Amy had left her home and family to teach people about Jesus.

When Amy met Preena, she helped keep her safe. She did the same for more children. Amy rescued as many as she could, even disguising herself to find them

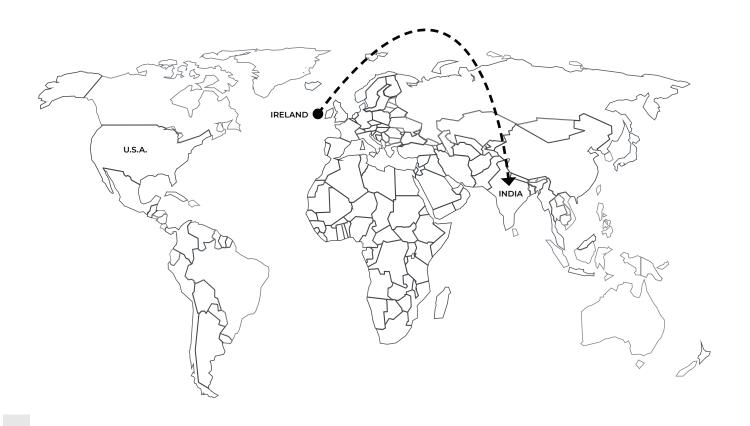
These kids were treated like nobodies. They had no money or power. They needed Amy's help, and Amy needed the Lord's help. Every day she prayed for everything she needed—food, clothing, and safety—and God gave them all of it. No one knows how many hundreds of children God helped Amy save.

Amy did this dangerous work because she loved Jesus and people. She saw miracles happen when she obeyed God and asked for his help. Just imagine what amazing things God can help you do for others!

Thank you, God, for people like Amy who help children. Please help me do things for other people, too!



Trace the arrow on the map. Amy traveled thousands of miles from her home in Ireland to India! Ask your parent to help you put a star by the places where you have lived. Color this map and pray that God will use you to tell people about Jesus and help them wherever you are!



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

- ☐ Psalm 28:8
- ☐ Psalm 33:17-18

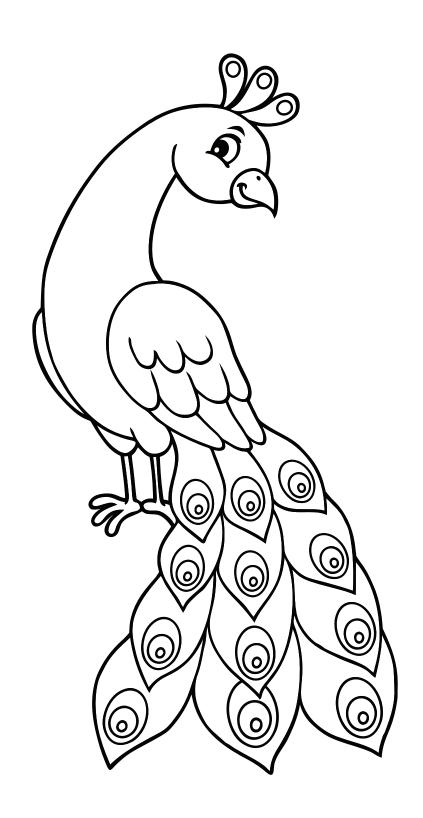
- 2 Corinthians 9:8
- Philippians 4:19

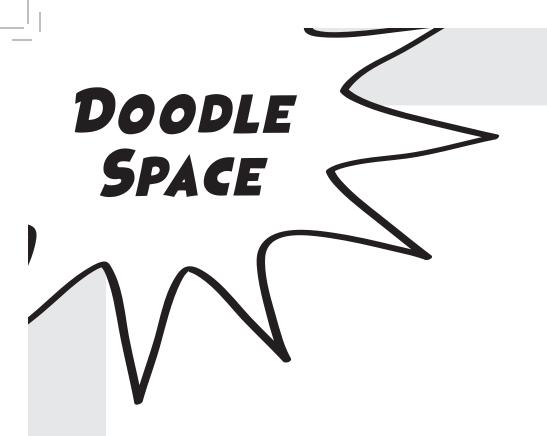
WEEK FORTY THREE

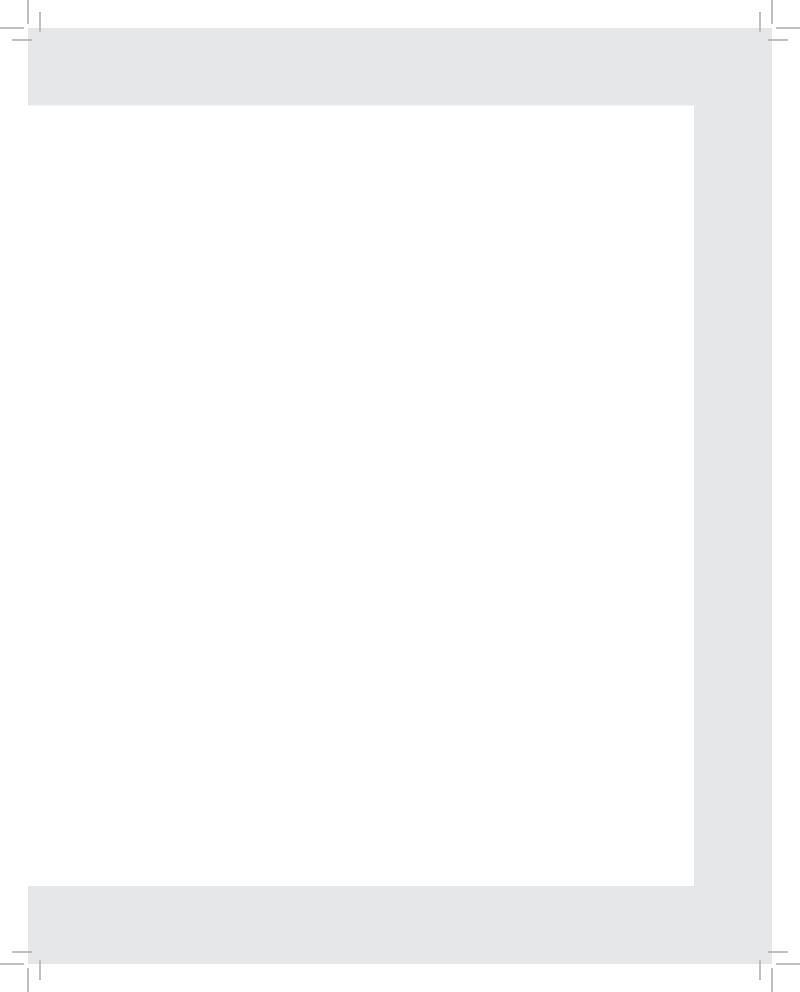




Peacocks live in the wild in India, like turkeys do in America.







WEEK 44

# JOHN

# CAN'T STOP GOD!

I am John, a follower together with all of you. We suffer because Jesus is our king, but he gives us the strength to endure. I was sent to Patmos Island, because I had preached God's message and had told about Jesus.

Revelation I:9

Did you ever get in trouble for talking too much?

John talked so much he got in trouble for it. But all he was doing was talking about Jesus!

John loved to talk about Jesus. He did it all the time, everywhere. He told anyone who would listen how wonderful Jesus is. Some bad people didn't want anyone to listen to John, so they sent him away to an island with very few people on it. "That will stop him." they said.

But when John couldn't talk to people about Jesus, he wrote about him instead! One day, God showed John amazing things. He wrote about everything he saw, including what it's like around God's throne in heaven, what the angels and other heavenly creatures are like, and what God wants the churches to do. God also showed John what would happen in the future.

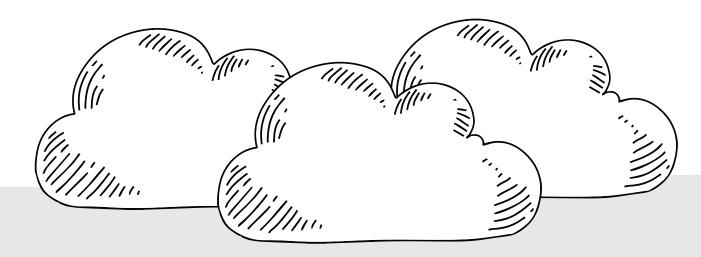
John's writings in the Bible have helped billions of people learn about Jesus. Who can you tell about Jesus to help them today?

God, thank you for telling
John about heaven so he
could tell us. Please help
me to tell others about
it. tool



The Bible says God is seated on a throne in Heaven.

Can you imagine what it looks like? In the space below, draw what you think God's throne is like... and color it in!



KEEP IT G	OING THIS	WEEK	Find out more by reading these verses
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Psalm 33:13-14	Revelation 1:2	FORT
Isaiah 66:1	Revelation I:10-11	Four





Today, Patmos Island is very different than it was in John's day.

It has many beautiful beaches and people go there to swim and fish.





# GOD'S MIGHTY WARRIOR

But my servant Caleb isn't like the others. So because he has faith in me, I will allow him to cross into Canaan, and his descendants will settle there.

Numbers 14:24

As a young man, Caleb was one of twelve men chosen by Moses, the leader of the Israelites, to spy on the land God was giving to his people. It was amazing, and Caleb was excited to live there. But the other spies said the people defending the land were too big and strong.

All the Israelites listening to the other spies became afraid. Caleb calmed them saying, "We have the Lord on our side! We can do it!"

Caleb didn't think they could win because of any strength they had. He knew they could do it because God was going before them.

But the Israelites got so mad out of fear, they wanted to kill their leaders. Thankfully, God showed the Israelites he was right there, so they couldn't harm Caleb and the other leaders. God also told Moses that because Caleb believed God, he would get to live in the land.

Everything God said came true. Caleb was 85 years old and still winning battles when he got to live in the special land God had promised him.

God, help me remember you are with me and making me brave just like Caleb!



BRAVE

CALEB

Knowing God was with him made Caleb brave. God is with you, too!

Thank God for helping you, while you color.



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

Numbers 13:30	2 Timothy 1:7	FOR
Joshua 14:11	1 John 5:4-5	FIVE

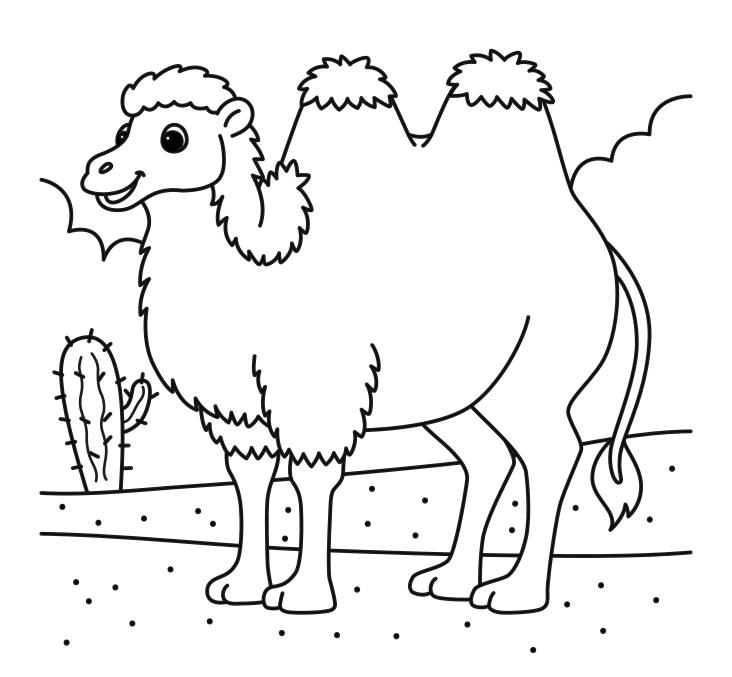


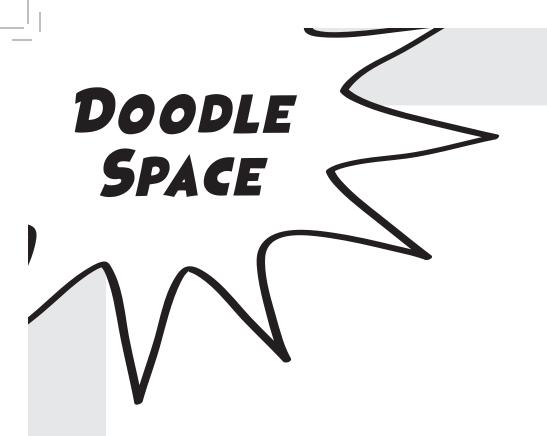


It's hard for people to live in the desert, but not so bad for some animals.

Camels can drink a lot of water.

Then they can go for days before they need a drink again.







WEEK 46

# JESUS

# WORKING HARD AT CARING

When he saw the crowds, he felt sorry for them. They were confused and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.

Matthew 9:36

Jesus walked a lot. He went from town to town.

He talked a lot, too. He told people how much God loved them, and what he wanted them to do.

And he cared a whole lot! When he saw people lost or suffering, he felt sorry for them and took action to care for them. He made people who were sick or hurting well again. He even gave his life for them and us!

And even though he is in Heaven now, he still cares about all of us—including you! Through his Spirit, he still teaches and heals us. And he wants us to be like him in caring for others.

Sometimes it's hard for us to care about others. We only want to take care of ourselves.

But when you see someone who is lost or needs help, be like Jesus. Let your heart feel compassion for them. And then do something to help them. This is one way we show God's love and become more like Jesus.

Ask Jesus to help you help others today!

Jesus, help me to be kind to other people, like you always are.



Who can you help today? Who needs your kindness? Practice showing love and kindness each day this week by randomly selecting a box in each of the categories below... and then doing the action!

ACT OF KINDNESS	SHOWN TO			
☐ Give a hug ☐ Give a compliment ☐ Draw a happy picture ☐ Tell someone how much	<ul><li>☐ A parent</li><li>☐ A teacher</li><li>☐ A grandparent</li></ul>			
Jesus loves them Give a high-five	A sibling or cousin     A classmate			
Spend some time playing with someone Give a toy or gift	A friend  A new kid at school			

KEEP IT GOING THIS WEEK	Find out more by reading these verses.
REEP II GUING INIS WEEK	I life Out life by readily these verses.

- ☐ Psalm 147:3
- ☐ Isaiah 42:3

- ☐ Matthew 7:12
  - Matthew 28:20b

WEEK FORTY SIX

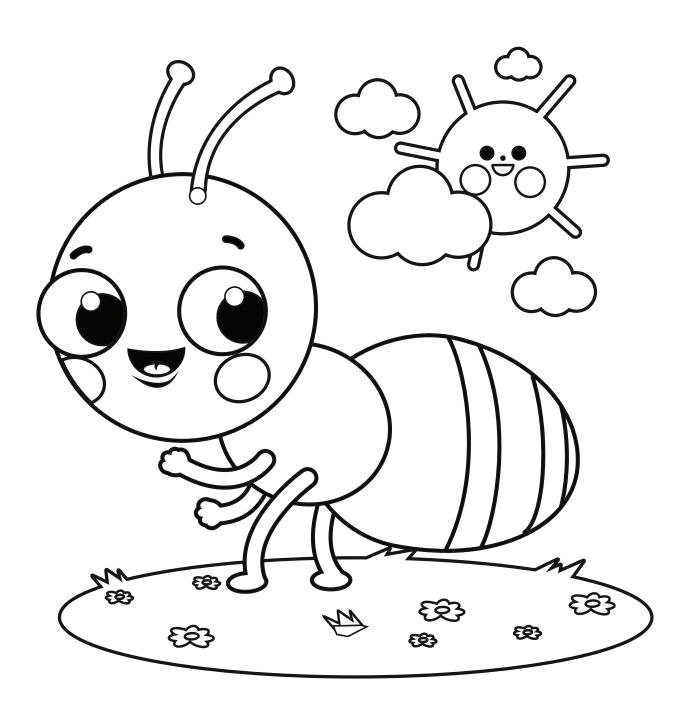




Ants walk a lot!

Every month, the average ant walks over 100 miles on its little legs.

(That's like walking from New York City all the way to Philadelphia!)



WEEK 47

# JONATUAN

## LET'S GO!

"...But the LORD can help a few soldiers win a battle just as easily as he can help a whole army. Maybe the Lord will help us win this battle." I Samuel 14:6b

Things didn't look good for Jonathan the prince. Much of his army had run away. The ones left didn't have a sword among them. He climbed a cliff and peeked over the top. He was badly outnumbered! It was just Jonathan and his assistant—also known as an armor bearer—against more than 20 men.

God, it's amazing how you helped Jonathan be brave and win the battle! Please help me, too.

What did Jonathan say? "Follow me! The Lord is going to win this battle for us!"

He and his assistant got to the top and started fighting. They killed about 20 enemies. The rest of the enemies panicked and ran—and then God sent an earthquake! Jonathan's army came back together, chased them down, and defeated them all.

Why was Jonathan so brave? Because he knew God was greater than his enemies. He knew God would take care of him.

Is there something you have to be brave about? Remember the story of Jonathan and say to God. "Let's go!"





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

Psalm 44:6-8

#### Romans 14:8

Philippians 1:20-21

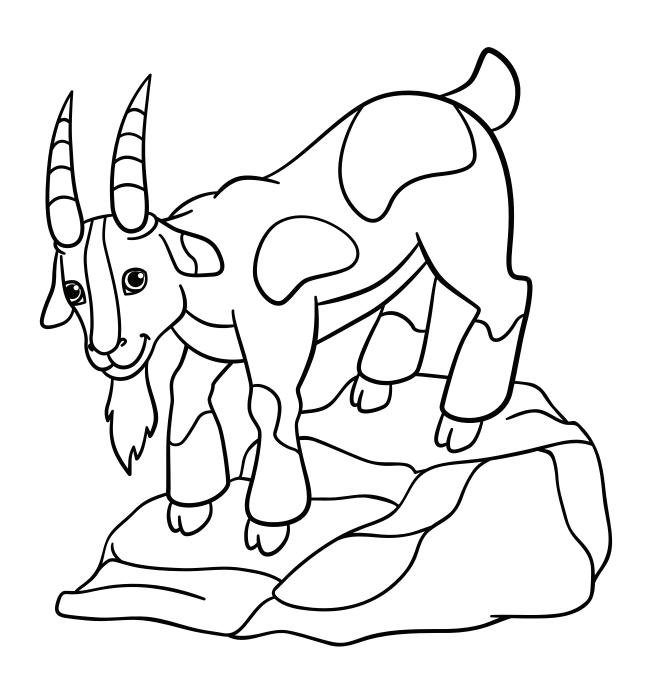
#### WEEK FORTY SEVEN

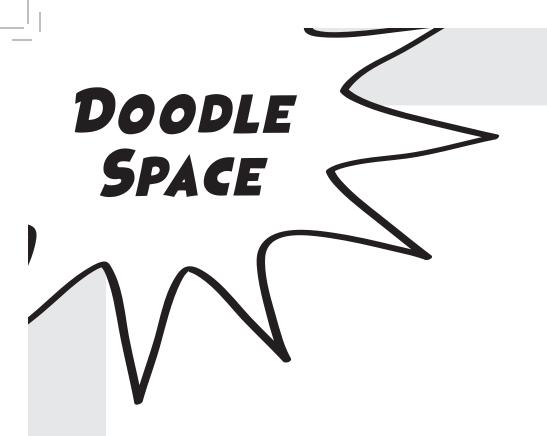


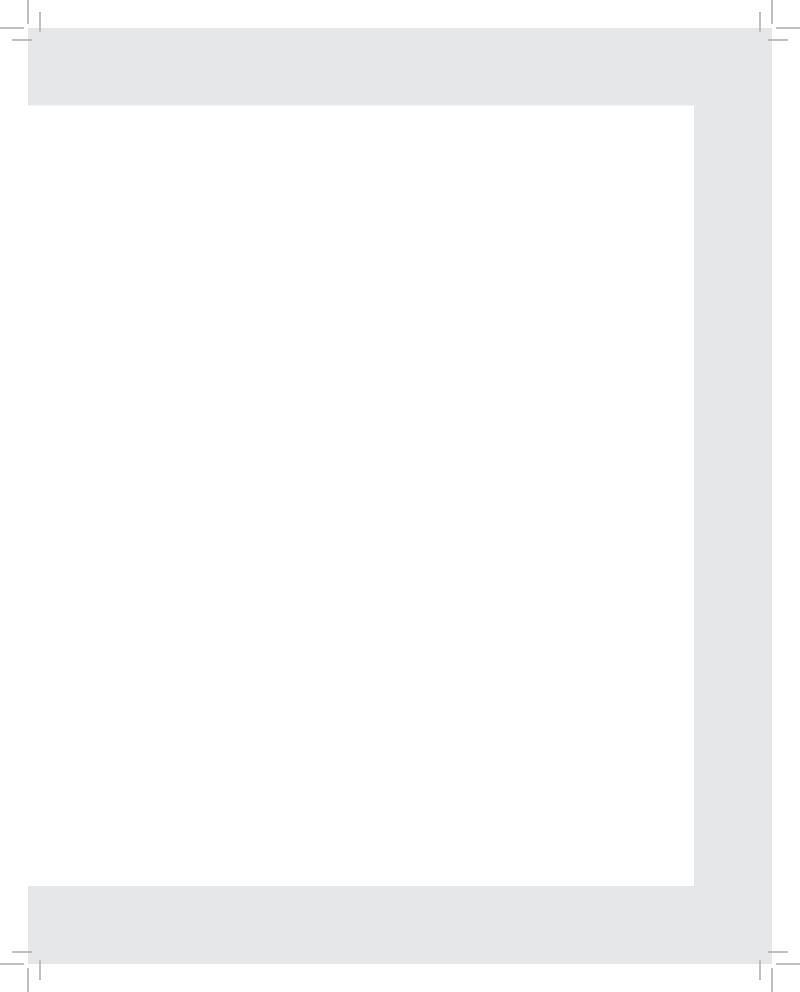


In a mountain goat family, the dads are called billies, the moms are called nannies, and the babies are called kids.

The kids start climbing mountains with their mom within a few hours of being born.









WEEK 48

# TELL THE WORLD!

"In the desert someone is shouting, 'Get the road ready for the Lord! Make a straight path for him."

Matthew 3:3b

There once was a man who lived in the desert, away from other people.

He wore clothes made from camel hair. So itchy!

He ate honey and bugs.

And when people came to see him, he told them Jesus was coming. He also told them to ask God to forgive them for their sins, to stop doing those bad things, and to be baptized by letting him dunk them under water in the Jordan River. When they did that, it showed they were leaving their old way of life behind. John baptized so many people, they called him John the Baptist!

Every day, John boldly told people the truth about themselves and Jesus. Some people got mad at what he said, but he stayed strong. He knew God's message was so important.

God does not ask us all to go live in the desert and eat bugs and baptize people, but he does want us to know his truth and tell people about it. We can tell others the good news that Jesus can be in their lives, too.

Thank you, God, for the people that tell me about Jesus, like John the Baptist did. Please help me tell other people about your great love!



John told his friends about Jesus and about living for God. Who can you tell? Practice what you would say to a parent, and then give it a try with a loved one this week!



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

- ☐ I Chronicles 16:8
- ☐ Matthew 28:19-20
- WEEK FORTY EIGHT

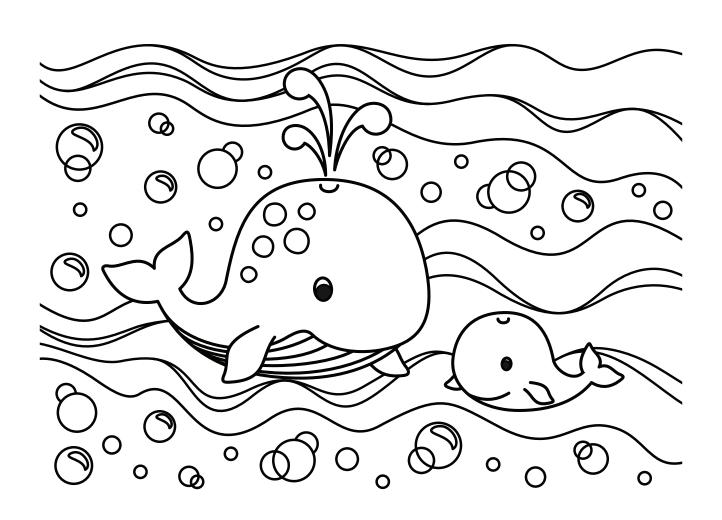
- ☐ Psalm 108:3-4
- ☐ Acts I:8





Whales are the loudest animals on Earth!

Think how many people you could tell about Jesus if you were that loud.



DEBORAH

WEEK 49

# A SONG OF VICTORY

We praise you, LORD! Our soldiers volunteered, ready to follow you.

Judges 5:2

Deborah did not think she would lead an army to victory. In Bible times, no one thought a woman could fight battles. But God likes to do surprising things.

Life was hard for Deborah's people, the Israelites. Another country kept attacking them. The attackers had 900 metal chariots and a very strong army. It was so scary to think about fighting them.

But Deborah trusted God. She listened when God told her it was time for the Israelites to fight back. She told General Barak to gather an army. He said he didn't want to go into battle without her. So she went.

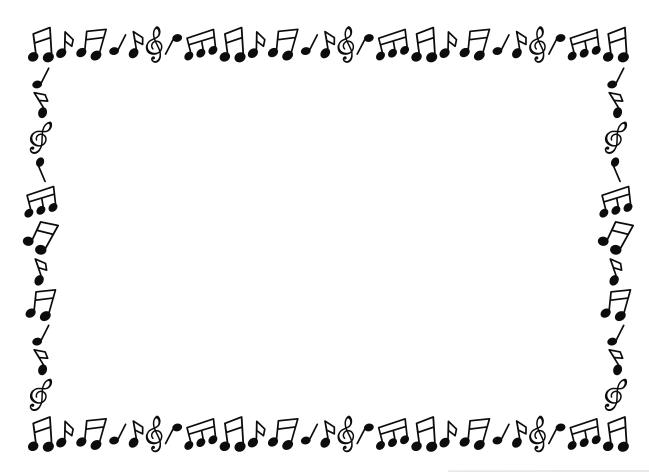
She inspired that little army to fight against all those chariots, shouting, "Go! God will fight for you!" And God did. The Israelites were able to capture every one of those chariots.

Then Deborah and Barak sang a song, telling everyone how powerful God is. And just like Deborah, when you give your life to God, he will do amazing things through you, too.

Wow, God! You can use anyone! I want to give you my life to use, too.



Deborah and Barak sang a song of victory to God. Make up your own song to sing to God! It can be silly, but don't forget to thank him for everything he has done, too! Draw an album cover for your victory song below!



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

☐ Isaiah 40:29-31

- 2 Corinthians 12:9
- WEEK
  FORTY
  NINE

□ Isaiah 64:8

Philippians 4:13

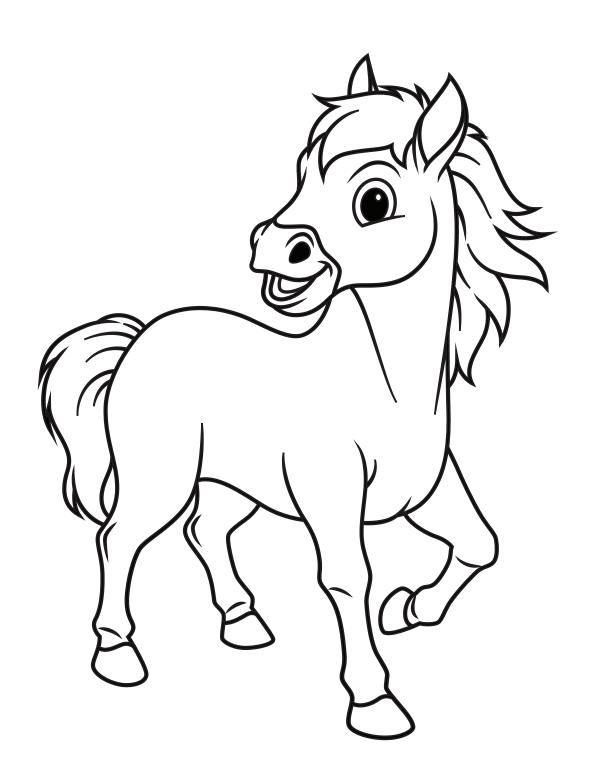


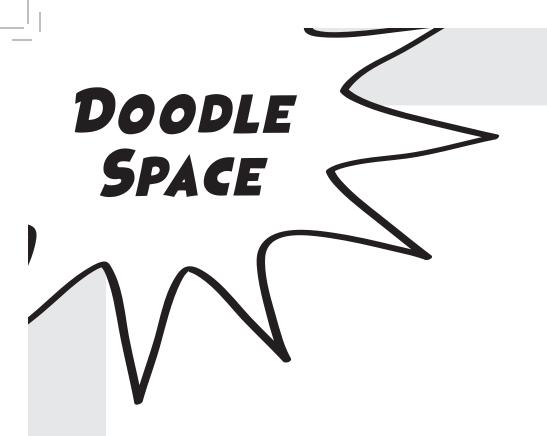


The Lipizzaner horses are fancy horses in Europe who can do amazing jumps and kicks.

They were originally trained to kick enemies during battles.

Now they do the kicks just for fun.







JESUS

WEEK 50

### THE GOOD SHEPHERD

I came so everyone would have life, and have it fully.

Everyone wants to be cared for. We all want to have food, a warm bed to sleep in, and a safe home to live in. Everyone wants to be loved!

But sometimes that is hard to find in this world.

Sometimes people hurt people. Sometimes they
don't know how to love, or it's hard to show love
because they are hurt.

One day, Jesus talked about being a shepherd.

Taking care of sheep is an important job. Sheep need food. They need to be protected from dangerous animals and told where to go. A good shepherd loves his sheep!

Jesus said he is that good shepherd—and we are his sheep. He helps and cares for his flock. He will find us if we get lost!

It's still hard sometimes. Our feelings and our bodies can still be hurt. Maybe you know a good warrior who got hurt badly. Sometimes Jesus heals us right away. Sometimes he holds us and helps us through. And someday we'll be with Jesus forever, completely healed. Either way, having Jesus as your shepherd is a wonderful life. You are loved!

Jesus, thank you for loving me and caring for me. I am so glad you are my shepherd!



Jesus is the good shepherd and we are his sheep. Follow the instructions below to make your very own sheep. Put it somewhere in your room as a reminder of how Jesus, your shepherd, loves and cares for you!

#### SHEEPTASTIC CRAFT TIME! WHAT YOU'LL NEED INSTRUCTIONS I. Using glue, cover the paper Paper plate plate with cotton balls. Glue 2. Cut and glue a large black oval to the center of plate. 20-30 cotton balls 3. Cut 2 small white circles and glue them side-by-side A piece each of black and inside the black oval. white construction paper 4. Cut 2 small black circles and glue them in the center of Scissors each white cirice. Black marker 5. Cut 2 smaller black circles and glue them to the bottom and backside of the plate. 6. Cut out two small black ovals and glue on the top left and right side of large black oval.

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

	zekiel	34:15-	<b>16</b> a
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#### ☐ John 15:9-10

Revelation 7	:1
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People raise sheep all over the world.

China has the most sheep—about 175 million!





## FLYING FOR GOD

Every day, you are kind, and at night you give me a song as my prayer to you, the God of my life.

Psalm 42:8

When Elizabeth Greene was young, she loved two things: Jesus and flying.

She gave her life to God and wanted to tell people everywhere about him. She saved up her money so when she was 16 years old she could take lessons to learn to fly airplanes.

Oh, how she loved being in the sky! The first time she flew by herself at night, she was bursting with happiness. Over and over in her mind she repeated today's verse. She felt God's love in giving her this gift of flying.

Elizabeth went into the Air Force during World War II and learned a lot more about airplanes. After the war, she helped start a new group of missionary pilots. She flew around the world bringing missionaries and their supplies to far-off places where people needed to hear about Jesus. Being able to use her love of flying for Jesus and helping others know about him was the best life she could have imagined.

What do you love to do? You can use it to serve Jesus, too! Pray about how God can help you do that today.

Jesus, thank you for giving me things I love to do. Help me use them for you!



What do you want to do when you grow up and who do you know who does it? Ask your parents to set up a time to call them this week so you can learn more about their job! Ask the following questions and write or draw a response.

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W	HAT DO I	LOVE ABO	OUT MY J	<b>0</b> B?		_
-						-
W	HAT IS H	ARD ABOU	IT MY JOI	3?		_
_			. – – -	. – – –	. – – –	_

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

- ☐ Psalm 37:4
- □ Psalm 145:19

- Galatians 2:20
  - Ephesians 3:20-21

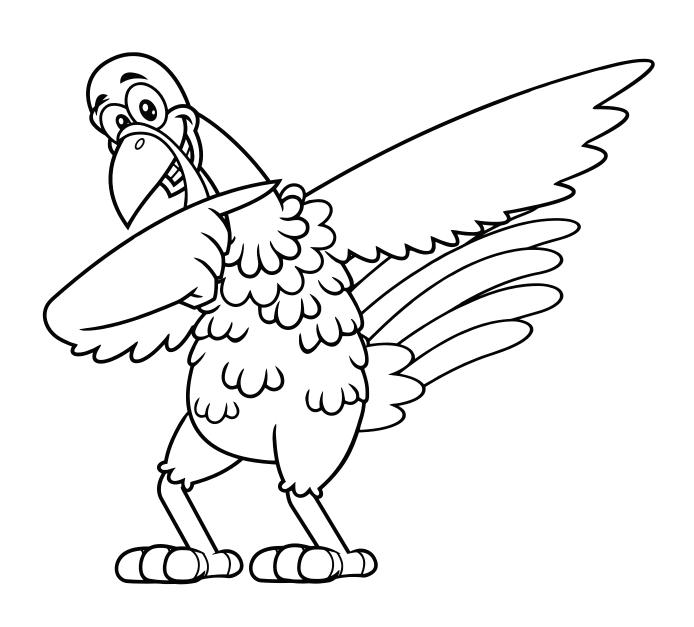
WEEK FIFTY ONE

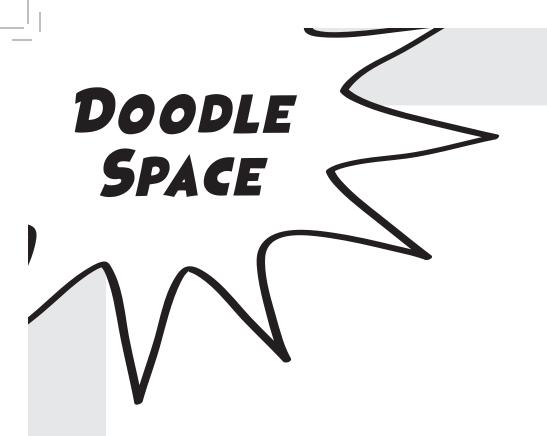


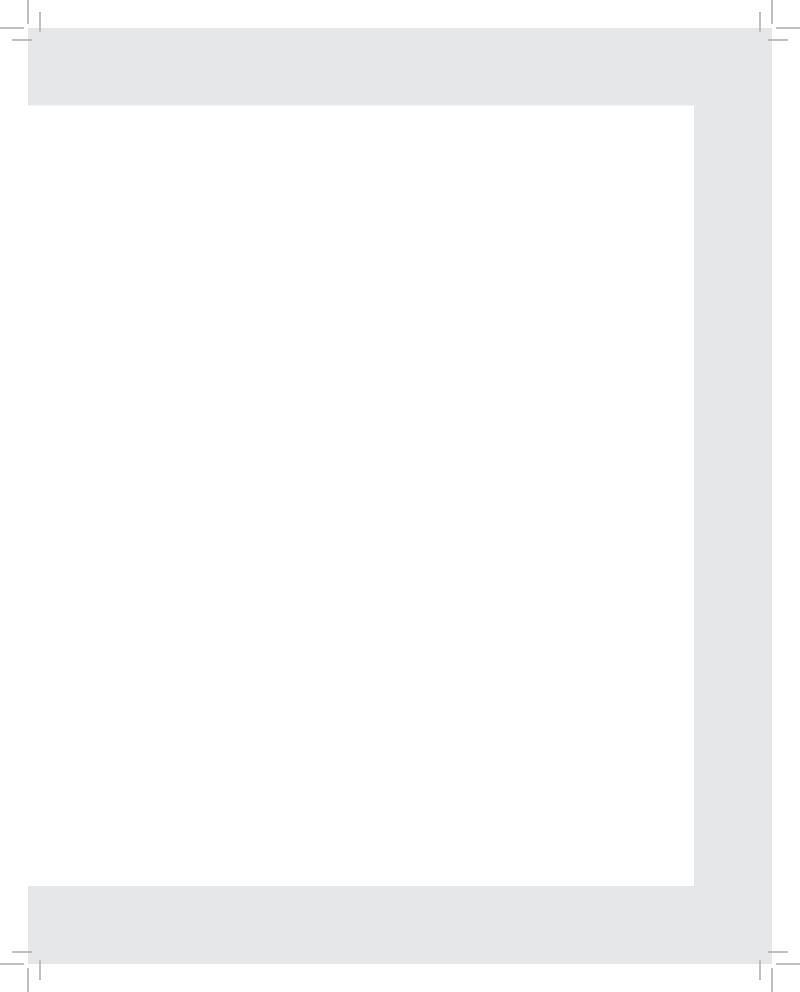


When the Wright Brothers were designing the first airplane, they studied how turkey vultures soar in the air.

This helped them learn how to make airplanes fly.







# STEPHEN

### SEEING INTO HEAVEN

But Stephen was filled with the Holy Spirit. He looked toward heaven, where he saw our glorious God and Jesus standing at his right side. Then Stephen said, "I see heaven open and the Son of Man standing at the right side of God!"

Acts 7:55-56

Should you get in trouble if you are doing good things? Stephen was doing great things. He was taking care of people in the church. He was telling people about Jesus. God even had him do miracles so people knew Jesus loved them.

But even though he was doing the right things, people argued with him about Jesus. God helped Stephen win those arguments, which made the people mad. Stephen was dragged into court, where he made a long speech about Jesus. At the end of this speech, God gave him a gift: Stephen saw into Heaven. He was so excited, he yelled out, "Look! It's Jesus in Heaven!"

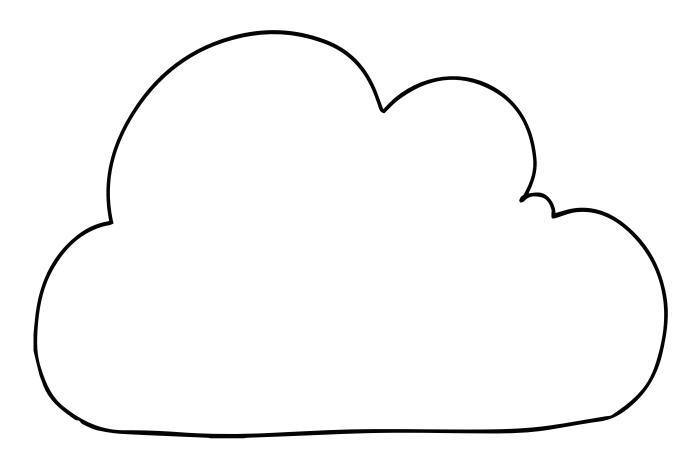
It made everyone so mad they decided to kill him! They took him outside and threw rocks at him. But Stephen was still talking about Jesus. He even forgave those people as he died.

It didn't matter to Stephen whether he lived or died. He just wanted to obey Jesus. And God rewarded his bravery with a glimpse of how awesome Heaven will be. No matter what your family faces, remember that God cares for his brave warriors.

God, please help me be brave and tell people about you, like Stephen. Thank you for the promise of Heaven.



Stephen was ready to go to Heaven to be with Jesus. Draw a picture inside the cloud of what you think Heaven might look like.



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

Psalm 31:14-15

Philippians 1:20-21

WEEK FIFTY TWO





We don't know where Heaven is, but the Bible says Stephen looked up to see it.

It might be past all the stars!

Right now, it would take nearly 90,000 years to reach the nearest star with our spacecraft.



