

How God's Miracles Can Answer Our Biggest Questions

MIRACLES

**Embracing the Impossible
Through God's Word**

BY TONIA STACEY GÜTTING

**★HERO
SQUAD**
JV EDITION

Miracles, Boys JV Squad Edition, Fall Issue

Copyright © 2025 by Armed Services Ministry, A Ministry of American Bible Society. All rights reserved.

No part of this publication may be reproduced, distributed, or transmitted in any form or by any means, including photocopying, recording, or other electronic or mechanical methods, without the prior written permission of the publisher, except in the case of brief quotations in printed reviews and certain other noncommercial uses permitted by copyright law.

Requests for information should be addressed to:

American Bible Society

101 North Independence Mall East, Floor 8

Philadelphia, PA 19106-2155

www.americanbible.org

herosquad@americanbible.org

www.myherosquad.org

Contemporary English Version, Second Edition (CEV®) © 2006 American Bible Society. All rights reserved.

Bible text from the Contemporary English Version 2nd Edition (CEV®) is not to be reproduced in copies or otherwise by any means except as permitted in writing by American Bible Society, 101 North Independence Mall East, Floor 8, Philadelphia, PA 19106-2155 (www.americanbible.org).

Cover and interior design by lindseybeharry.com

Item 125833

IP-3225-7/25-125833

Printed in the United States of America



WRITE YOUR NAME ON THIS LINE:

WRITE THE NICKNAME YOUR FRIENDS & FAMILY CALL YOU:

WHAT HAVE YOU LEARNED ABOUT GOD THIS SEASON?

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE FALL TRADITION?

Lost & Found

IF SOMEONE FINDS YOUR BOOK, DO YOU WANT THEM TO RETURN IT?

☐

YES, CALL THE
NUMBER BELOW!

☐

NO, JUST KEEP IT.

WRITE A PARENT OR ANOTHER ADULT'S PHONE NUMBER ON THIS LINE:



CONTENTS

How Do God's Miracles Answer Our Biggest Questions?	6
How to Use this Book	8
Tips & Ideas	9
WEEK 27: Can I Make God Do What I Want?	10
WEEK 28: How Does Jesus Handle My Fears?	14
WEEK 29: When You Feel Inadequate, Who Can You Count On?	20
WEEK 30: What Are the Perks of Being a Child of God?	24
WEEK 31: Does God Know My Address?	30
WEEK 32: How Do I Stand Up for My Faith When It's Challenged?	34
WEEK 33: What Do I Do When Nobody Else Believes in God?	40
WEEK 34: How Can I Find True Healing and Joy?	44
WEEK 35: What Can I Do When I Am Worn Out?	50
WEEK 36: Does God Want People to Die?	54
WEEK 37: How Can I Keep Going When Someone I Look Up to Is Gone?	60
WEEK 38: How Can I Know Jesus Is Who He Says He Is?	64
WEEK 39: What If I Can't Take Care of a Problem?	70

HOW DO GOD'S **MIRACLES** ANSWER OUR BIGGEST QUESTIONS?

Mira-
cles

A miracle is something extraordinary that happens through God's power, not something people can do on their own. The Bible is full of stories about miracles, like when Jesus walked on water or healed the sick. Miracles show us that nothing is too hard for God and that he cares for us deeply.

WHAT PRAYERS DO YOU HAVE THAT SEEM IMPOSSIBLE THIS SEASON?

Although we may not often see the same kind of miracles today, God still works in our lives. He answers prayers, gives us strength in hard times, and sends the right people to us when we need them. By reading about miracles in the Bible, we can recognize God's power and care in our lives and learn to trust Him no matter what.

WHAT ARE THREE THINGS YOU WANT TO LEARN FROM GOD THIS FALL?

EXAMPLE: To learn about how good God is

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 how the devotional applies to your life and what you are feeling right now.

3. EXPLORE

Complete the weekly “Spiritual Fitness Training” to explore how you can live out God’s Word each week.

4. LEARN

Look up each Bible verse in the “Keep it Going” section to learn more about God.

5. EXPRESS

Use the notes and doodles sections to write down any thoughts or questions you have about God or any ideas you have to live out God’s Word each week. Use these pages to express yourself in your own unique way, like the unique masterpiece you are!

Tips & Ideas



Think about things you might want to change in your life.



Talk with your parents or siblings about what you learned and ask them to help you live out God's Word 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!

The Sacred Chest

WEEK TWENTY-SEVEN

Can I Make God Do What I Want?



The cows went straight up the road toward Beth-Shemesh, mooing as they went. The Philistine rulers followed them until they got close to Beth-Shemesh.

1 Samuel 6:12

The Israelites leaders screwed up. They disobeyed God's rules and thought they could make him do what they wanted. They sent the Israelite army out in battle against the Philistines without asking God first. They faced the consequences and lost the battle. So then they got the bright idea they would bring out the ark of the covenant—a golden box that symbolized God's presence and power.

But ... God isn't some lucky rabbit's foot for you to use. They lost again, and worse, the enemies captured the ark.

The Philistines put the ark by the statue of their god, Dagon. But that night the statue fell over in front of the ark. They set it up again. It fell over again and was busted. Then God gave the Philistines terrible tumors. Many died.

They realized the ark had to go back to Israel. They made some golden tumors and rats to go with it, hoping to make God happy. Then they hitched a couple of momma cows to a cart and put the ark in it. They let the cows go, assuming they would go back to their babies, if they could pull the cart at all. But the cows headed to Israel.

Then everyone knew the Almighty God was not to be played with. You can't make God do what you want—He's not a magic trick. He's the all-powerful God, and our job is to listen, obey, and trust Him.

Mira-
cles

***The Almighty God cannot be controlled
or used however you want.***

Spiritual Fitness Training

We don't always know what is best for us, but God does. We need to ask him first when we have to make decisions. Ask a couple of people about a time they were told "no" for something, and it turned out for the best. Has that happened to you?

Name: _____	Name: _____	Name: <i>Me!</i>
What I wanted: _____ _____	What I wanted: _____ _____	What I wanted: _____ _____
What I got: _____ _____	What I got: _____ _____	What I got: _____ _____
How it was better: _____ _____	How it was better: _____ _____	How it was better: _____ _____

Keep It Going This Week *Find out more by reading these verses.*

☐ Psalm 37:5

☐ Matthew 16:24–26

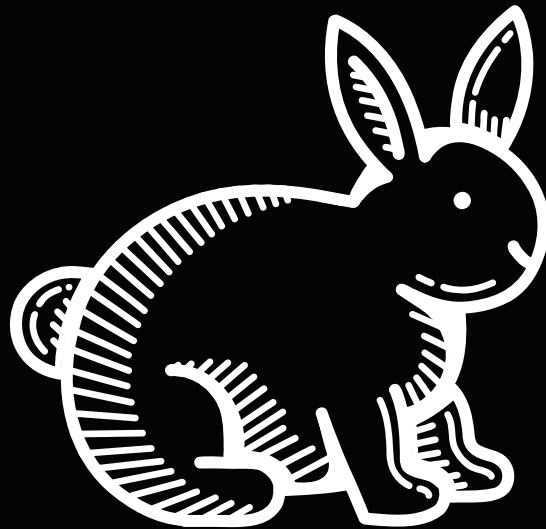
☐ Proverbs 3:5–6

☐ John 14:5–6

**Week
Twenty
Seven**

Mind Blower

People have believed the superstition about a rabbit's foot being lucky since ancient Rome. They thought it cured sickness.



Write Your Thoughts Here



God, you are all powerful and in control. Help me follow you—not try to use you for my wants.

**Week
Twenty
Seven**

Walking on Water

WEEK TWENTY-EIGHT

How Does Jesus Handle My Fears?



All of them saw him and were terrified. But at this same time he said, "Don't worry! I am Jesus. Don't be afraid." He then got into the boat with them, and the wind died down. The disciples were completely confused.

Mark 6:50–51

Jesus and his disciples were tired. They had tried to get away from a crowd by going to the wilderness, only to find a new group waiting there. Jesus helped them all day. When the disciples wanted to send them away, Jesus fed them instead.

When night approached, Jesus sent the disciples back across the lake in a boat while he went up on a mountain to pray.

The wind was against them. It was so strong that the guys in the boat—some of them professional fishermen—weren't getting anywhere with their rowing. They were in the middle of the lake in the middle of the night, exhausted and struggling.

But Jesus saw them from the mountain. And a few hours later he came walking by. On the water. Of the lake. It looked like he was about to walk by them.

They all thought they were seeing a ghost. That was easier to believe than that he was actually walking on the water. So they did what you do if you see a ghost—they screamed.

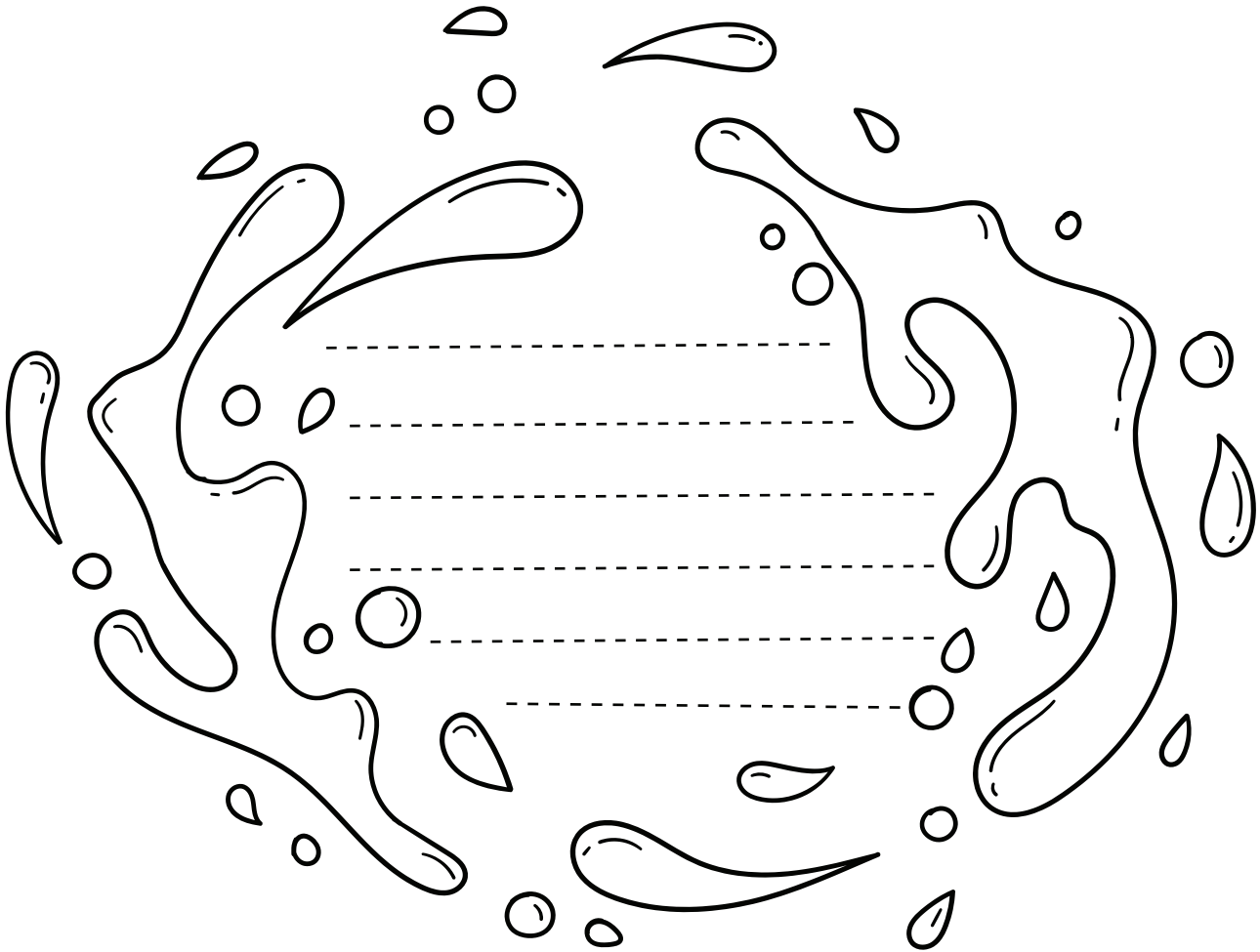
But Jesus told them to not be scared. He said, "It's me!" in the same way God says, "I Am!" And when he got in the boat, the wind stopped. Jesus sees you, comes close to you, and shows you that He's stronger than any fears you're facing.

Mira-
cles

Jesus calms storms and he calms fears.

Spiritual Fitness Training

When life gets scary, we can remember Jesus's words.
Write down what Jesus says in Mark 6:50 below, and remember
to pray when you need help.



Keep It Going This Week *Find out more by reading these verses.*

☐ Psalm 73:23–24

☐ Matthew 28:20

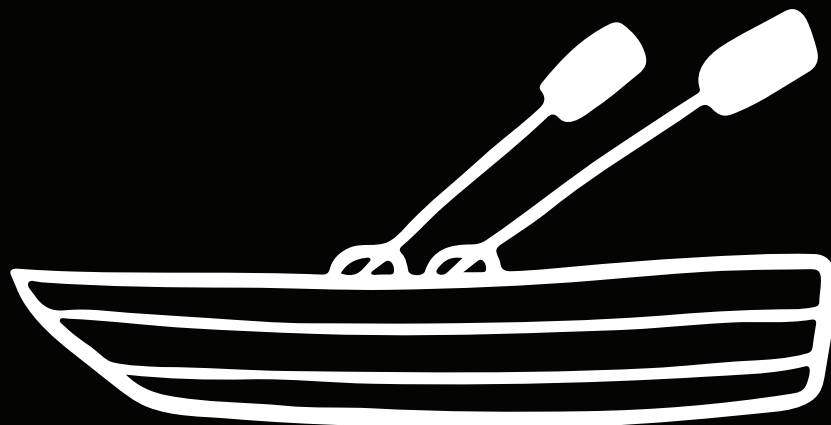
☐ Isaiah 40:29

☐ Hebrews 13:5–6

**Week
Twenty
Eight**

Mind Blower

"Row, Row, Row Your Boat"
has been an American folk
song since the 1800s.



Write Your Thoughts Here



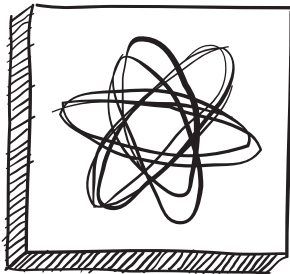
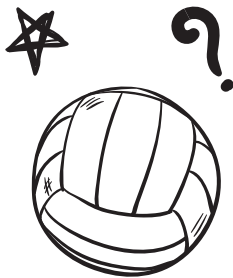
Jesus, I believe you are God with the power to control everything. Please help me when the wind is against me.

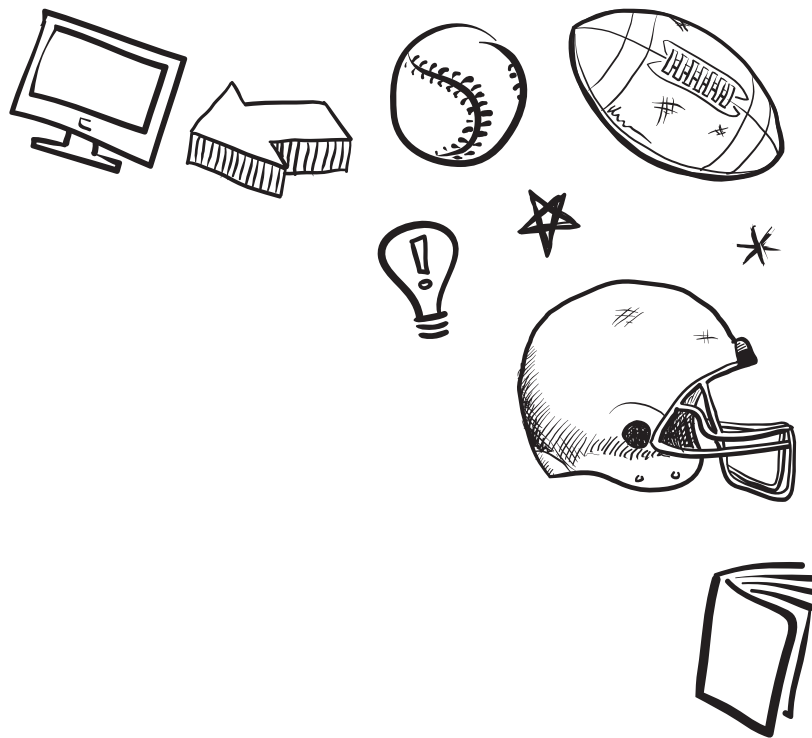
**Week
Twenty
Eight**

Doodle Space



God wants to hear from you. Draw something that makes you feel afraid, then write a prayer to God asking him to calm your fear.





Week
Twenty
Eight

David & Goliath

WEEK TWENTY-NINE

When You Feel Inadequate, Who Can You Count On?



When Goliath started forward, David ran toward him. He put a rock in his sling and swung the sling around by its straps. When he let go of one strap, the rock flew out and hit Goliath on the forehead. It cracked his skull, and he fell facedown on the ground.

1 Samuel 17:48–49

The fight of a lifetime. On the one hill, the Philistine army was betting on their greatest fighter—a nine-foot-nine-inch giant named Goliath. And Goliath was trusting in the Philistine gods and his own strength.

And on the other hill, the Israelite army was trusting in ... well, actually, they weren't trusting anyone. Even their tall-ish king was hiding in fear.

Every day, Goliath came out and dared them to send out a champion. Loser would be dead. Loser's team would be slaves. For 40 days the Israelites stood shaking on that hill, looking for someone to save them.

Then along came David, a shepherd boy sent to bring supplies to his brothers in the army. When he heard Goliath making fun of the Israelites, and their God, he got mad. He took the dare. He bet on God.

Well, the giant called down curses from his gods on David. But David said, "I will beat you with the help of the Lord All-Powerful." Before Goliath could even lift his spear, David hit him in the forehead with a rock from his slingshot. Knockout! Goliath fell on his face and David used Goliath's own sword to cut off his head.

You can always count on God when you're feeling small—His power is bigger than any giant you'll ever face.

Mira-
cles

***When you are up against something big,
ask for help from the all-powerful God.***

Spiritual Fitness Training

When you are feeling outranked by size or money or power, call on God for help. Fill in your giant and color this page as you pray. Then return to this page and write down how God handled it as a reminder that he outranks everything.

MY GIANT:

LORD ALL-POWERFUL

WHAT GOD DID:

Keep It Going This Week *Find out more by reading these verses.*

☐ Joshua 4:24

☐ 1 Corinthians 1:25

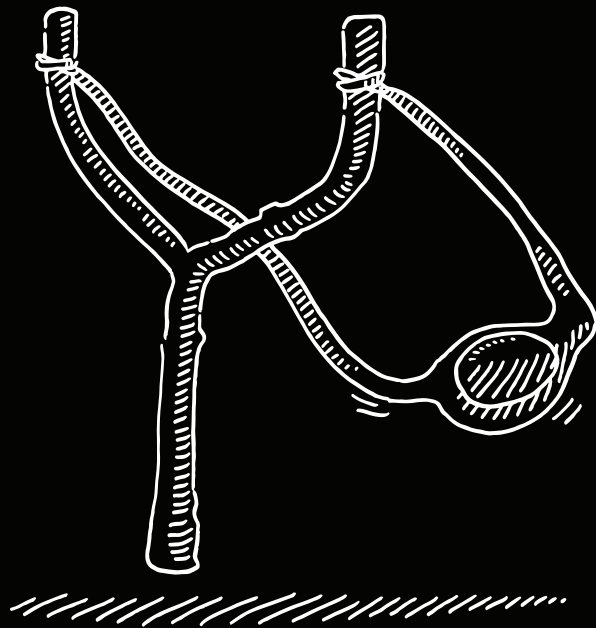
☐ Psalm 124:8

☐ 1 Peter 4:11

**Week
Twenty
Nine**

Mind Blower

The world's largest slingshot was built by some Norwegian men. It is 14 feet high, and it shot an exercise ball 41 feet.



Write Your Thoughts Here



God, make me bold like David when I need to stand up for your honor. You are the all-powerful God.

**Week
Twenty
Nine**

Fishing for a Coin

WEEK THIRTY

What Are the Perks of Being a Child of God?



"But we don't want to cause trouble. So go cast a line into the lake and pull out the first fish you hook. Open its mouth, and you will find a coin. Use it to pay your taxes and mine."

Matthew 17:27

A lot of times, things don't go like you expect when you are with Jesus. Just ask Peter. One day, a couple of temple officials confront Peter about the mandatory temple tax. "Or doesn't Jesus pay that?" they ask. Peter quickly says he does. He doesn't want any trouble.

So, Peter is probably wondering where they are going to get the money. He goes into the house, but before he can say anything, Jesus asks him if a king's sons have to pay taxes. Well, no, says Peter. That would be weird. The people pay the king's tax, not his family.

Jesus agrees, and then says, "But we don't want to cause trouble, so we will pay it anyway." Jesus is basically saying he is part of God the King's family, so technically they don't have to pay the temple tax.

Then Jesus tells Peter to go fishing. Peter thought he would take his net out on his family boat and sell the fish to get the money. But no. Jesus says, "Cast one hook on a line, catch one fish, and the exact coin we need will be in its mouth."

Do you suppose Jesus and Peter came away laughing at the weird way they paid their taxes? One of the many perks of being a child of God is getting to trust that your Father in Heaven knows what you need—and He can take care of you in the most unexpected and awesome ways!

Mira-
cles

***You never know how God will take care of things,
but he knows your needs before you even ask.***

Spiritual Fitness Training

What difference would it make to know you are part of a royal family? You are, if you let God adopt you! Write down some things that can change in your attitude, knowing you're God's child.

Doesn't matter what others

think of me.



Keep It Going This Week *Find out more by reading these verses.*

☐ Psalm 50:10-12

☐ Matthew 6:8

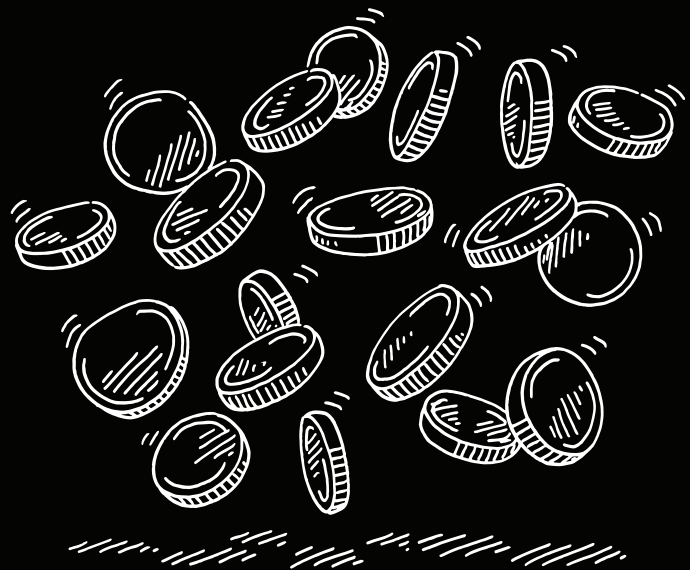
☐ Isaiah 58:11

☐ Psalm 145:16

**Week
Thirty**

Mind Blower

In 1933, America minted gold coins worth \$20 a piece, but then decided against it and melted them down. Someone stole a couple of those "double eagle" coins. One was sold in 2021 for \$18.9 million.



Write Your Thoughts Here



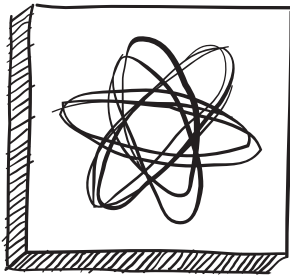
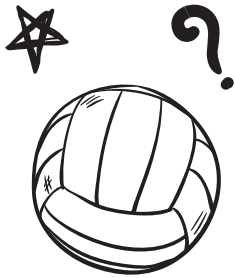
**God, sometimes you do crazy things to
take care of people! Help me trust you and
enjoy being your royal kid.**

**Week
Thirty**

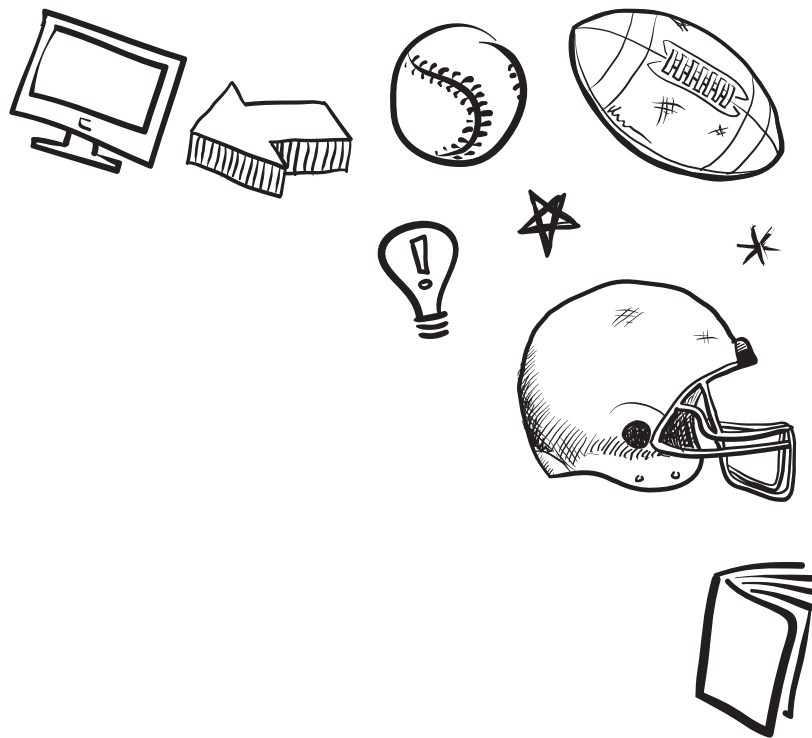
Doodle Space



Draw a picture of a heart. Inside the heart, write "God cares about my needs!" to remind you that you are important to him.



Mira-
cles



Does God Know My Address?



*Ravens brought him bread and meat twice a day,
and he drank water from the creek.*

1 Kings 17:6

Talk about the strangest PCS ever—Elijah got some really crazy orders and duty stations from God.

It all started when King Ahab took the throne. He had married Jezebel, a princess from another country, and built a temple for her god, Baal. Then she started killing the priests of the true God.

So God gave orders to his prophet Elijah. Elijah was sent to Ahab to tell him there would be no rain until the true God said so—a few years! They wouldn't be able to grow food or keep their animals alive. Baal was supposed to control the weather, but ... no rain came.

Since the drought wasn't very popular, Elijah needed to hide. God sent him to a ravine in the wilderness where he could drink from a stream. Then God sent big black birds—ravens—with food to him. Every morning and evening they brought bread and meat.

Now that's more reliable than a food delivery app! But the king and queen stayed rebellious against God. After a few years, God sent Elijah to challenge them again. God not only knows your address, but also knows everything you need.

**Mira-
cles**

God cares for your needs at every place.

Spiritual Fitness Training

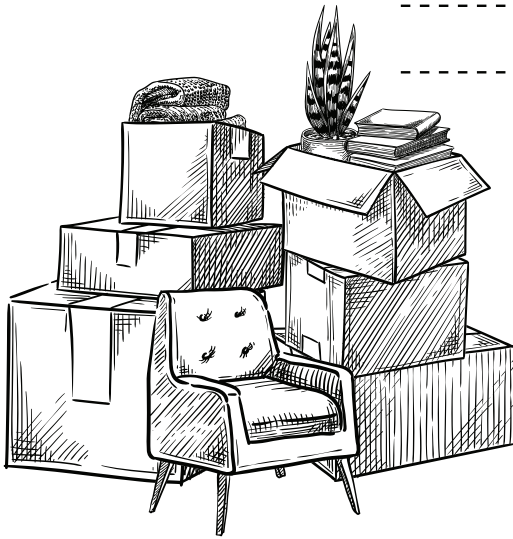
PCS season is stressful. You might be worried about your new home, school, church, and friends. But you can also start new habits and learn to lean on God! Write down some thoughts and prayers about your next move.

God, I trust you for:

.....

In this new place, I will start:

.....



.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

Keep It Going This Week *Find out more by reading these verses.*

☐ Psalm 34:15-16

☐ 2 Corinthians 9:8

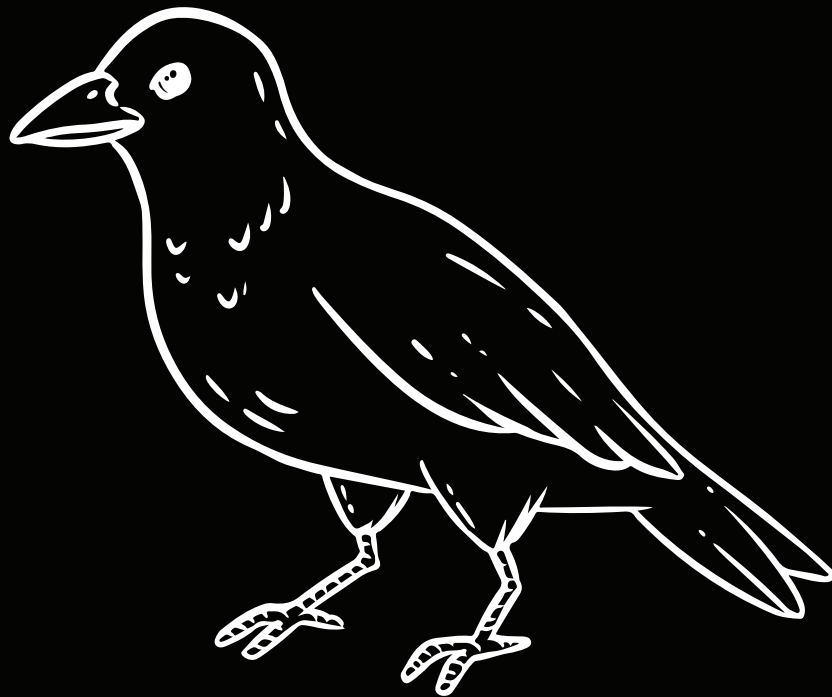
☐ Psalm 37:25

☐ 1 Peter 5:7

**Week
Thirty
One**

Mind Blower

Ravens live in most of the world,
from cold northern Alaska to the
hot deserts of Africa.



Write Your Thoughts Here



**God, when I move, I know you will care for every
need. Thank you for being a good God.**

**Week
Thirty
One**

Healing a Blind Man

WEEK THIRTY-TWO

How Do I Stand Up for My Faith When It's Challenged?



After Jesus said this, he spit on the ground. He made some mud and smeared it on the man's eyes. Then he said, "Go wash off the mud in Siloam Pool." The man went and washed in Siloam, which means "One Who Is Sent." When he had washed off the mud, he could see.

John 9:6-7

You would think making a blind man be able to see would convince people that Jesus had God's power. But some wouldn't believe even what was in front of their own eyes.

Jesus and his disciples met a man who had always been blind. Since birth, he had never seen the light of day. Jesus told him, "I am the light of the world" and then he proved it.

Jesus spit in some dirt, made it into clay, and then spread it on the man's eyes. Then Jesus told him to go wash it off. When he did, he could see!

Later, when people asked the man how it happened, he said Jesus did it. That made the religious leaders angry. Jesus was a threat to their power, and now he had done a powerful miracle. They tried to call the man a liar, but here he was—blind before, and now looking at them. They kept arguing with him, but the man could see it more clearly than those who had always had their sight—Jesus healed him!

When people challenge your faith, you have an opportunity to just tell the truth about what Jesus has done for you, and you can trust God to give you courage.

Mira-
cles

***To tell people about Jesus, talk about
what he has done for you.***

Spiritual Fitness Training

You might not have experienced a miracle, but if you think about it, Jesus has done a lot for you.. Write down a few of the good things he has done in your life. Then pray and ask God who you can tell about Jesus.

Keep It Going This Week *Find out more by reading these verses.*

☐ Psalm 103:2–4

☐ Luke 5:17

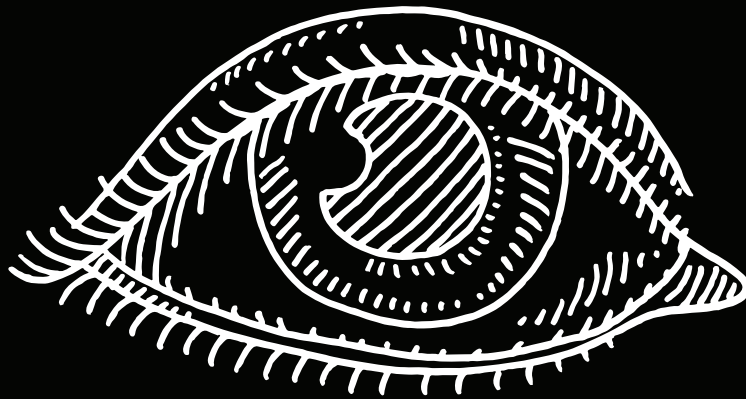
☐ Isaiah 35:4–5

☐ James 1:17

**Week
Thirty
Two**



Your eyeballs don't grow in
size from the time you are
born until you die.



Write Your Thoughts Here



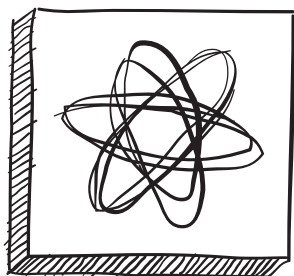
God, I know people who are spiritually blind—they don't see you. Please use me to help them believe.

**Week
Thirty
Two**

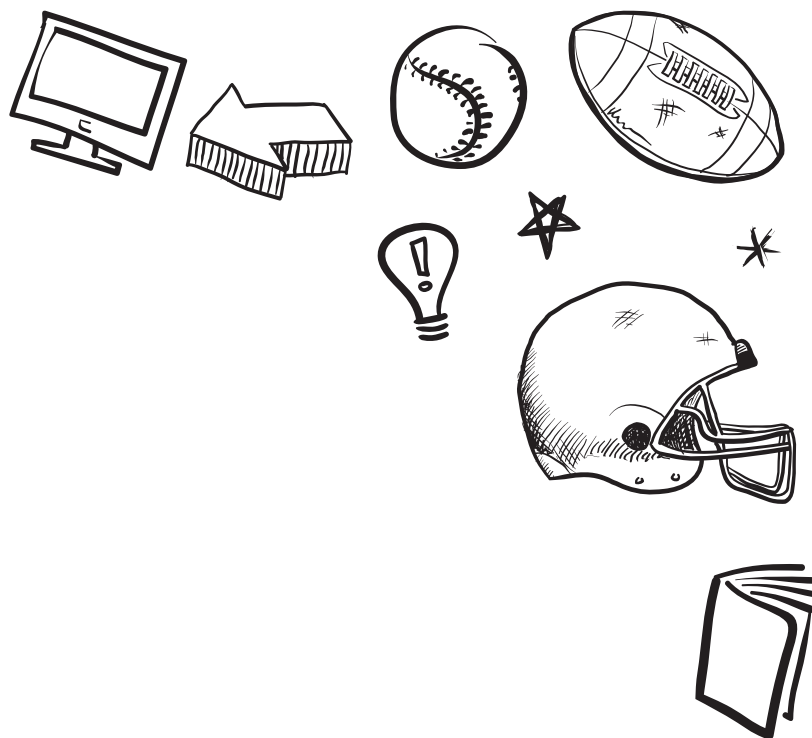
Doodle Space



Draw a picture of a Jesus. Around him, write down the things you know about him, like "He cares about me," "He helped me not be afraid," etc. Next time you want to tell someone about Jesus, use this list to describe him.



Mira-
cles



Fire on the Altar

WEEK THIRTY-THREE

What Do I Do When Nobody Else Believes in God?



The LORD immediately sent fire, and it burned up the sacrifice, the wood, and the stones. It scorched the ground everywhere around the altar and dried up every drop of water in the ditch.

1 Kings 18:38

Israel was trying to have it both ways. They worshipped God—sometimes—but they were also worshipping an awful god named Baal. The queen had even had hundreds of God's prophets killed. So God sent the prophet Elijah to confront the prophets of Baal.

The odds were over 400 to 1. They agreed to meet on Mount Carmel, build altars to their gods, and see which one responded with fire. That was the one they would worship.

The followers of Baal built their altar, stacked up wood like a scout troop, sacrificed a bull, and put it on top. Then they prayed. But their storm god didn't respond. They chanted, danced, yelled. Nothing. They even cut themselves, hoping the sight of blood would wake Baal up. Elijah began to laugh at them: maybe Baal was on the toilet!

When they had worn themselves out, Elijah built his altar and placed wood and a bull on it. But then he had people pour water over it until everything was soaked and a moat of water surrounded it. Then Elijah prayed to the Lord Almighty.

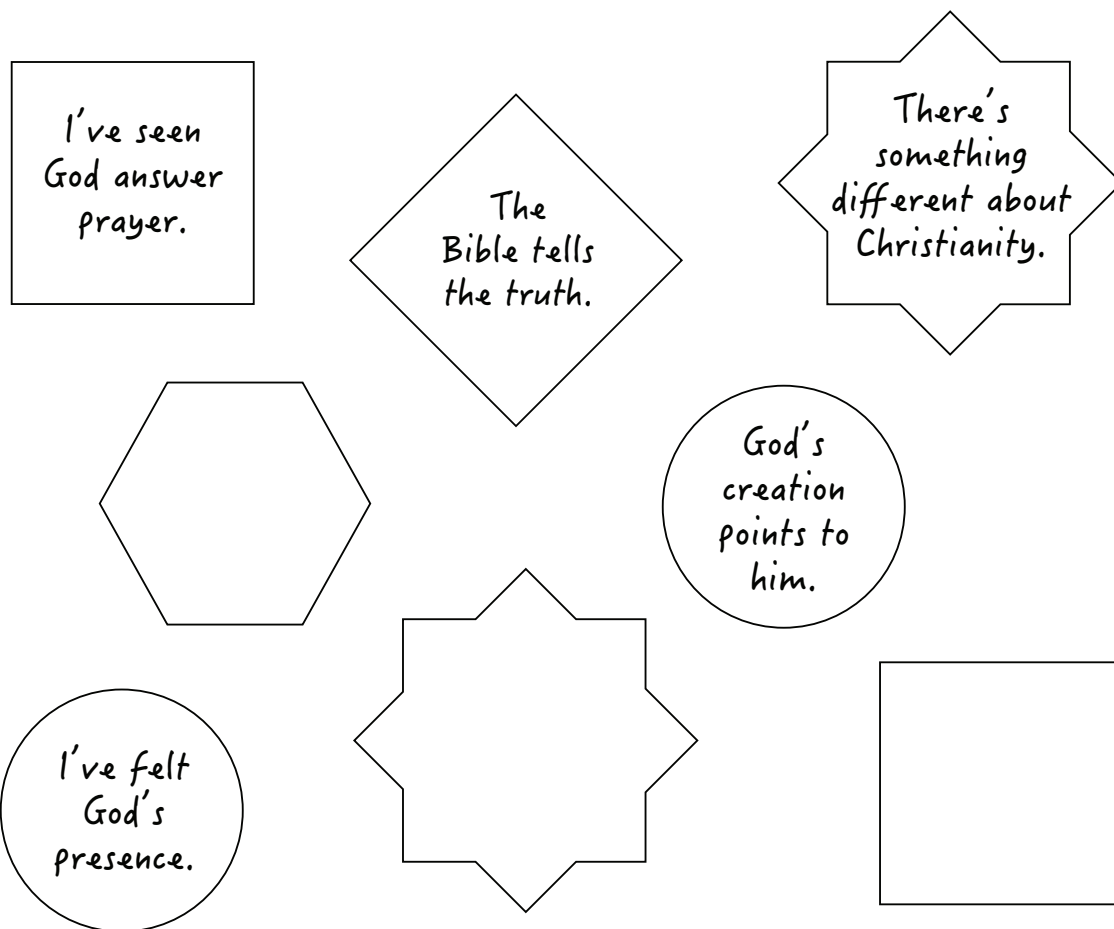
And fire came down. It was so hot it burned everything—even the stones and the water! The people got the point: the Lord is God! So, when it feels like you are the only one who believes in God, stand firm, pray boldly, and trust that God will show up in His power.

**Mira-
cles**

Stand firm in the one true God.

Spiritual Fitness Training

How can you know God is true? Color in the reasons below that make sense to you, or add in your own. Ask some other people and put a star beside their favorite reasons. If you aren't sure about God, ask him to show you the truth.



Keep It Going This Week *Find out more by reading these verses.*

- ☐ Proverbs 8:17
- ☐ Isaiah 55:6

- ☐ Matthew 7:7
- ☐ Acts 17:27-28

**Week
Thirty
Three**

Mind Blower

Lava from a volcano is melted rock, and if there's enough of it coming fast enough, it can melt other rocks.



Write Your Thoughts Here



**God, sometimes I feel like I'm the only
believer. Please send your help, but no
matter what, I trust you.**

**Week
Thirty
Three**

Healing 10 Lepers

WEEK THIRTY-FOUR

How Can I Find True Healing and Joy?



*When one of them discovered that he was healed,
he came back, shouting praises to God.*

Luke 17:15

There's one in every crowd ... but sometimes, it's a good one!

Jesus ran into that one day while walking to Jerusalem. A group of 10 men were shouting at him, asking for mercy. They were lepers—people with a terrible disease that eats away at skin, flesh, and even bone. It was illegal for them to live near healthy people so the leprosy would not spread. It was a hideous, lonely life.

Jesus saw them and told them to go show themselves to the priests, who had the job of diagnosing skin diseases. What was the good of that if they weren't healed? But they obeyed and started walking. As they went, they were all healed! Fresh blood pumping through new skin—a miracle!

One of them was so overwhelmed with gratitude, he turned back. He fell on his face in front of Jesus. He was as loud in praising God and thanking Jesus for his healing as he had been in shouting for mercy. Jesus wondered where the other nine were. But he told this joyful man that he was well, inside and out, body and spirit.

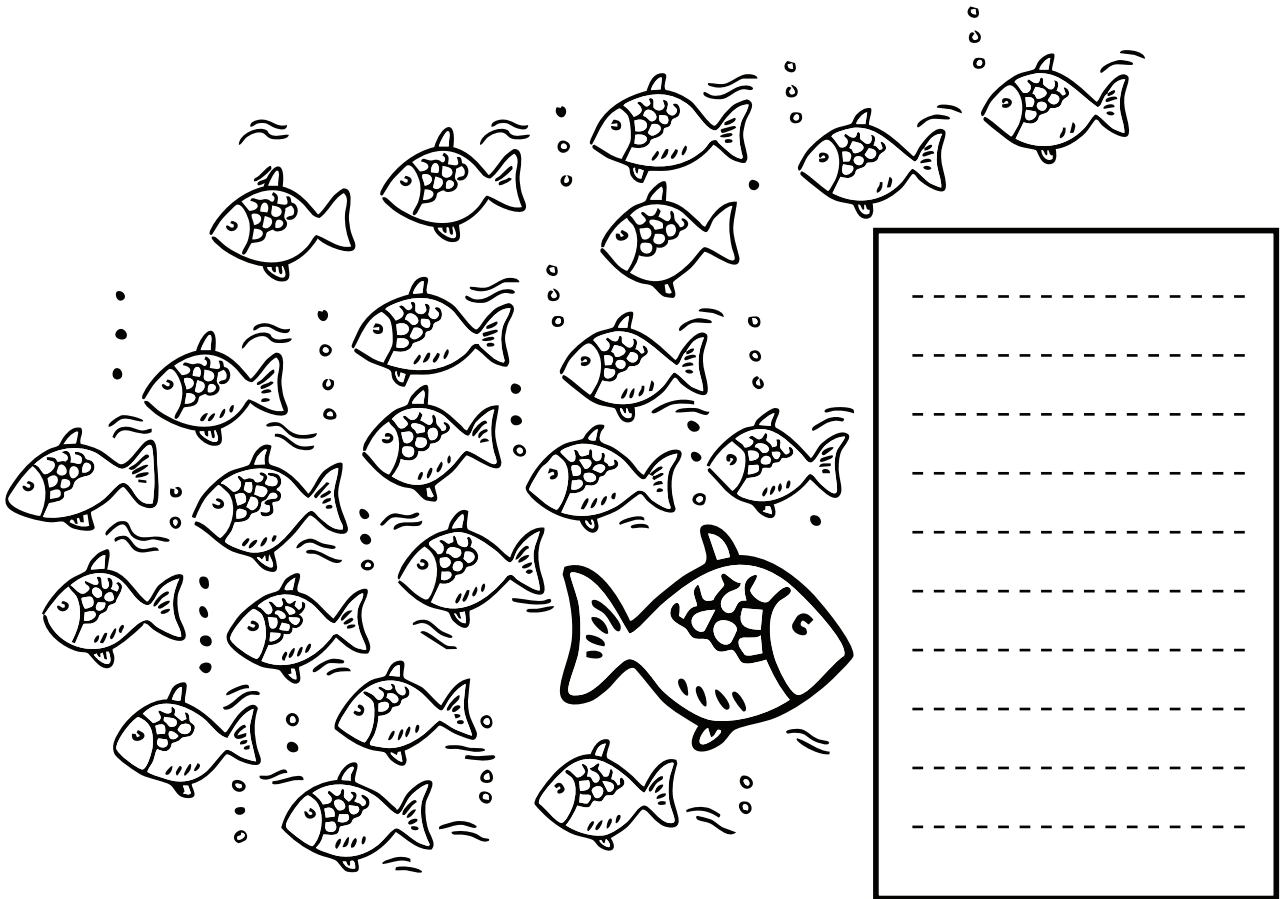
True healing and joy starts with Jesus—trust him, worship him, and never forget to thank Him with all your heart.

Mira-
cles

***For true healing and joy, worship God
and thank him for all he does for you!***

Spiritual Fitness Training

Sometimes you have to go against the crowd to worship God. Pick one of this week's extra verses and write it in the space provided below.



Keep It Going This Week *Find out more by reading these verses.*

☐ 1 Chronicles 16:29

☐ 2 Corinthians 9:15

☐ Psalm 13:6

☐ 1 Thessalonians 5:18

**Week
Thirty
Four**

 **Mind Blower**

People around the world say thank you! In Afrikaans it's pronounced "dankie"; Swahili "asante"; Filipino "salamat"; Japanese "arigatou"; Russian "spasiba." Jesus might have said "toda" in Hebrew.

**THANK
YOU!**

Write Your Thoughts Here



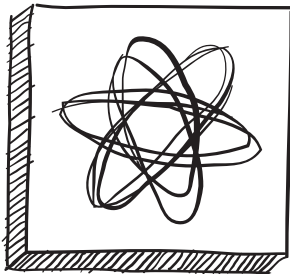
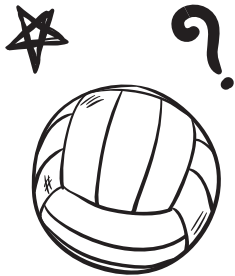
**God, you give great gifts because you
are great! Thank you for your love.**

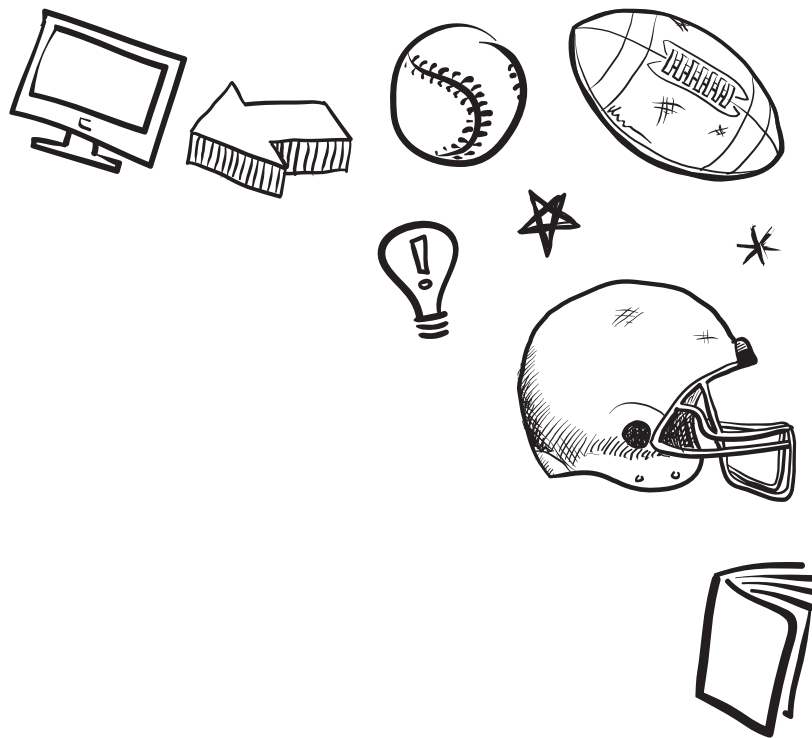
**Week
Thirty
Four**

Doodle Space



Draw a picture of a sun
and write "Joy" in the
middle of as a reminder
that God brings true
healing and joy.





Elijah Meets God

WEEK THIRTY-FIVE

What Can I Do When I Am Worn Out?



*Soon the LORD'S angel woke him again and said,
"Get up and eat, or else you'll get too tired to travel."*

1 Kings 19:7

Too much people time! Especially people trying to kill you. That's what Elijah was dealing with.

He had challenged the prophets of Baal and won because the real God answered with fire. Then he had to supervise the killing of 450 false prophets. After that, he prayed and waited for rain. When it came in a huge storm, Elijah ran all the way to town ahead of the king's chariot.

But then the evil queen threatened his life. It was too much. Elijah he fled the country and went into the wilderness. Starving and exhausted, he fell under a bush and asked God to let him die.

Elijah fell asleep. Suddenly he was awakened by an angel who brought him food. He fell asleep again and the angel woke him again with more food. Then he travelled on for 40 days to the mountain where Moses had met God.

God showed Elijah his power by sending a windstorm, an earthquake, and a fire. Then God quietly showed Elijah his love. He listened to his fears and frustrations, told Elijah he wasn't alone, promised him a new assistant, and gave him new jobs to do.

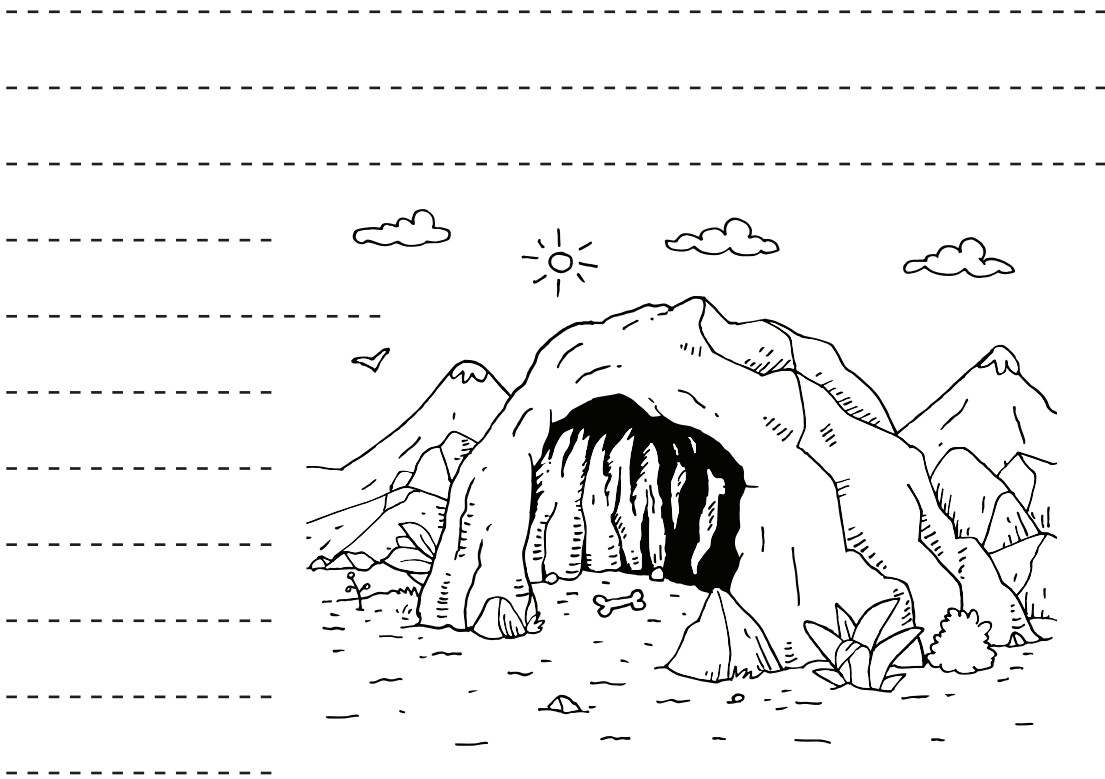
When you're worn out, run to God and let Him give you the strength and love you need to keep going.

Mira-
cles

***When Elijah ran to God, God took
care of all of his needs.***

Spiritual Fitness Training

Sometimes, especially if there's a bully threatening or you are on the move with a PCS, life can feel overwhelming. But we can run to God in those times. He will listen to our problems, and he will help us. What are some of your favorite examples of his power? Write them down and thank God for them.



Keep It Going This Week *Find out more by reading these verses.*

☐ Psalm 119:76

☐ 2 Corinthians 1:3–4

☐ Isaiah 41:10

☐ 2 Thessalonians 2:16–17

**Week
Thirty
Five**



The pronghorn antelope of the Great Plains can run the distance of a marathon in 45 minutes, when the very fastest humans take two hours to run it. Antelopes can maintain a fast pace for a longer time than most animals.



Write Your Thoughts Here



**God, when things seem terrible, remind me to
run to you. Thank you for taking care of me.**

**Week
Thirty
Five**

Raising Lazarus

WEEK THIRTY-SIX

Does God Want People to Die?



The man who had been dead came out. His hands and feet were wrapped with strips of burial cloth, and a cloth covered his face. Jesus then told the people, "Untie him and let him go."

John 11:44

Death is final. Never again will you talk to or be with that person ... or so it seems. That's why the family and friends of Lazarus were crying. He had been dead and buried for four days. They would never again hear his laugh, feel his hug.

And Jesus was late for the funeral of his dear friend. His two sisters had sent Jesus a message that Lazarus was sick. Now both of them asked him why he had not come earlier. "If you had been here, he wouldn't have died!"

Jesus looked at these people he loved, and he cried too. Even though he knew what he was going to do, he was angry at death, and sad that death separates us. Death came into the world because of sin. And Jesus had come to deal with both sin and death.

Now Jesus stood in front of the cave-tomb holding Lazarus's body and called his name. And Lazarus came walking out—as best he could with all the burial cloths wrapped around him.

Tears turned into shouts and joy. "Unwrap him!" said Jesus with a grin.

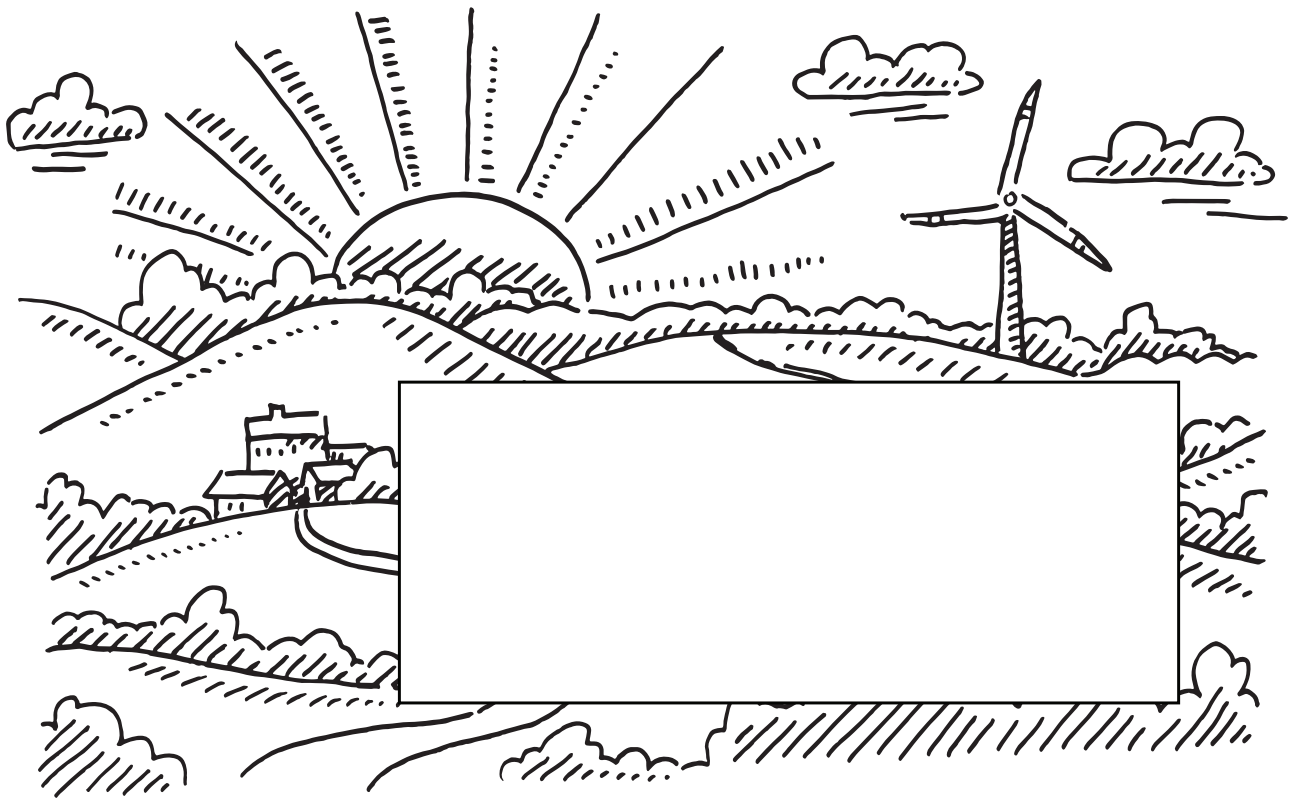
Jesus holds the power over death, and we can trust his promise that those who trust in him will live, even if they die!

Mira-
cles

Everyone dies. But Jesus promises to raise the dead and bring eternal life to his followers.

Spiritual Fitness Training

Death is still terrible—for now—but God gives us hope we can hold on to. He holds power over death, and promises that a new world is coming where there is no death. We will live with him—and all those he loves—forever. Pick one of this week's extra verses and write it below. Work on memorizing it so you remember God's power over death.



Keep It Going This Week *Find out more by reading these verses.*

☐ Psalm 23:6

☐ John 11:25–26

☐ Daniel 12:2

☐ John 10:28

**Week
Thirty
Six**

Mind Blower

Meerkats live in family groups called "mobs." Is that a good name for your family?



Write Your Thoughts Here

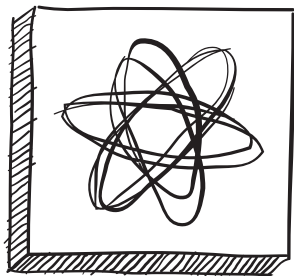


**God, you understand the sadness of death. Thank
you for giving eternal life to all who love you.**

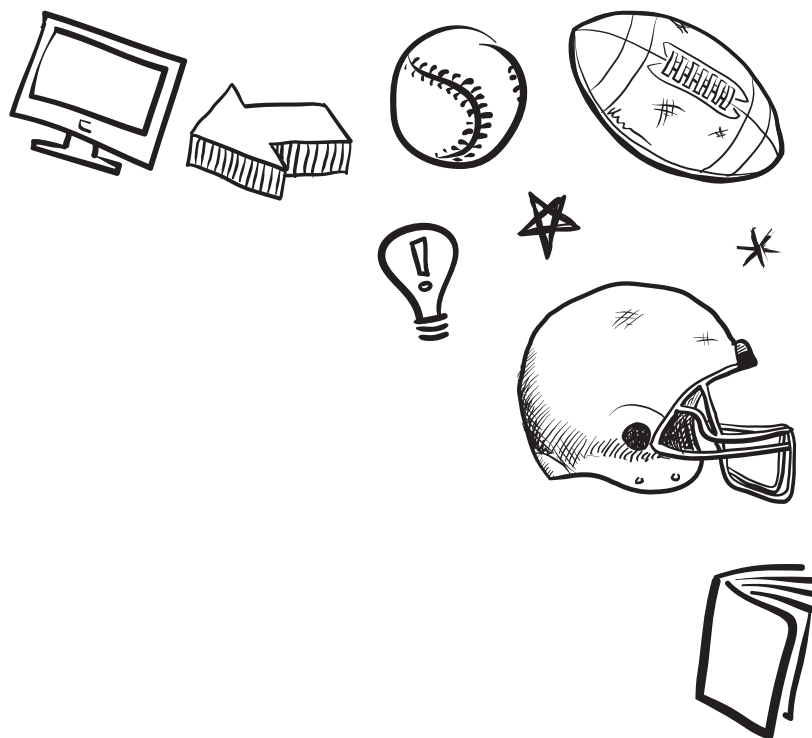
**Week
Thirty
Six**

Doodle Space

Draw a picture of
what you think heaven
will be like.



Mira-
cles



Chariots of Fire

WEEK THIRTY-SEVEN

How Can I Keep Going When Someone I Look Up To Is Gone?



Elijah and Elisha were walking along and talking, when suddenly there appeared between them a flaming chariot pulled by fiery horses.

At once, a strong wind took Elijah up into heaven.

2 Kings 2:11

God's prophet, Elijah, knew when God was going to take him to heaven, and so did his assistant, Elisha.

So, it must have felt really weird for Elijah and Elisha as they walked the road where God sent them. Maybe they were curious, certainly sad, and a bit scared. A couple of times, Elijah tried to have Elisha stay behind so he would not have to see him leave, but Elisha stuck with him.

When they came to the Jordan River, Elijah hit the water with his cloak and it backed up so they could walk across on dry land. Then Elijah asked if there was anything he could do for Elisha before he was taken away. Elisha said that he wanted the spirit that helped Elijah so he could carry on Elijah's work. The prophet said that if Elisha saw him being taken to heaven, it would mean God would give him that spirit.

Suddenly, a fiery chariot pulled by horses of fire swooped down between them, and a whirlwind took Elijah up into heaven. Elisha saw Israel's calvary and chariots.

When he couldn't see anything more, he picked up Elijah's cloak, which had fallen down. He went back to the river, hit the water, and again walked over on dry land. God will give you what you need, including his Holy Spirit, when someone you look up to is gone.

Mira-
cles

***God shows great care to those
who have lost loved ones.***

Spiritual Fitness Training

Find words from Elijah's story in the puzzle.

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

ELIJAH
ELISHA
FIRE
CHARIOT
HORSE
CLOAK
WHIRLWIND
HEAVEN
HOLY SPIRIT

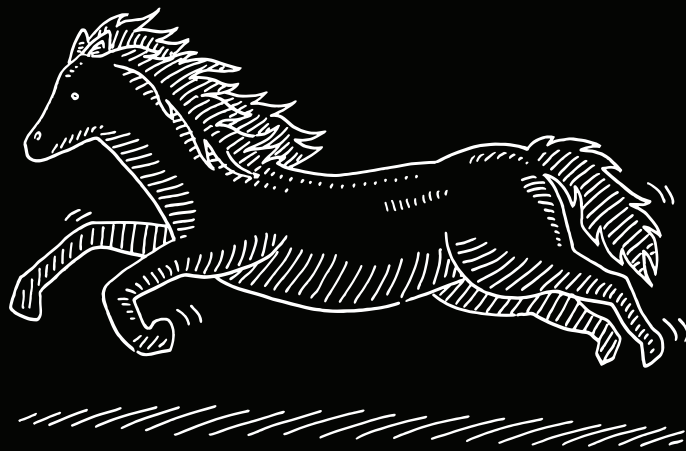
Keep It Going This Week *Find out more by reading these verses.*

- | | |
|----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Psalm 139:7–8 | <input type="checkbox"/> Philippians 1:21 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Isaiah 66:1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Timothy 4:18 |

Week
Thirty
Seven

Mind Blower

The biggest horse ever recorded was named Sampson. He lived in England in the 1850s, weighed over 3,000 pounds, and was over seven feet tall at his shoulder.



Write Your Thoughts Here



God, help me trust you in life and death.

**Week
Thirty
Seven**

Transfiguration

WEEK THIRTY-EIGHT

How Can I Know Jesus Is Who He Says He Is?



The shadow of a cloud passed over and covered them. From the cloud a voice said, "This is my Son, and I love him. Listen to what he says!"

Mark 9:7

If you are trying to get people to follow you, maybe you shouldn't tell them you are going to be killed.

At least, that's what the disciple Peter thought, so he had told Jesus to quit talking about his upcoming death. (If you really believe someone is God's Son, should you doubt him by telling him what to do?)

Jesus corrected his friend. And just six days later, Jesus took Peter, James, and John up on a mountain. Suddenly Jesus started to change. Even his clothes became shockingly white.

Moses and Elijah (men who had been dead for centuries) appeared and were talking with him. Then a cloud came down and God's voice said, "This is my Son, and I love him! Listen to him!"

On a mountain, surrounded by a cloud, terrified, these disciples couldn't deny that Jesus was who he said he was. When we spend time in God's Word, we'll discover it, too.

Mira-
cles

***God's Word gives us confidence
in who Jesus really is.***

Spiritual Fitness Training

Everyone struggles with doubt at times, but the important thing is to keep looking for God and God's work. Ask some Christians you respect what helps them believe. Put a star next to the things that help you.

<div>Name:</div> <div>What helps them believe:</div> <div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>	<div>Name:</div> <div>What helps them believe:</div> <div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>	<div>Name:</div> <div>What helps them believe:</div> <div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Keep It Going This Week

Find out more by reading these verses.

- ☐ Proverbs 3:5

☐ Philippians 3:15–16
- ☐ Isaiah 55:6–8

☐ Jude 22–23

Week
Thirty
Eight

Mind Blower

People believe this event late
in Jesus's ministry happened on
Mount Tabor. A church was built
on that mountain in 1924
on top of the ruins of
other old churches.



Write Your Thoughts Here



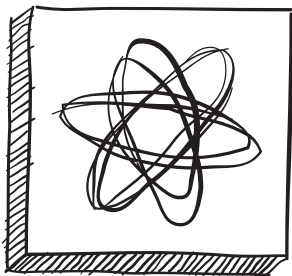
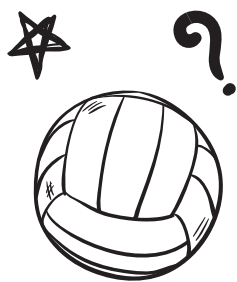
**God, sometimes I don't trust you. Forgive me.
Show me who you are today.**

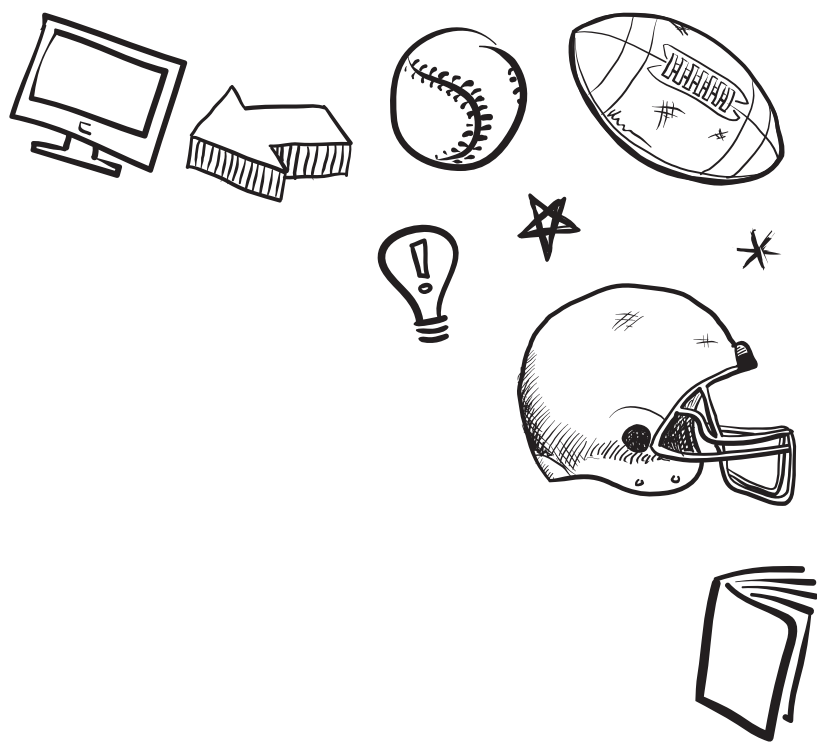
**Week
Thirty
Eight**

Doodle Space



Draw a circle and in the middle, write down a question you have about God. Pray about it and ask him to show who he is. When he gives you the answer, draw a heart and write the answer inside.





Jars of Oil

WEEK THIRTY-NINE

What If I Can't Take Care of a Problem?



At last, she said to one of her sons, "Bring me another jar." "We don't have any more," he answered, and the oil stopped flowing from the small bottle.

2 Kings 4:6

God works through people! Like the time he worked through the prophet Elisha to help a widow who needed money.

See, the woman's husband died, leaving her with two little boys. He had been working under Elisha with a group of prophets—not a high-paying job. When he died, he owed money to a man, and the widow could not repay it. Now the man was coming to take the two boys as slaves to repay the debt.

Desperate, the widow turned to God's prophet. Elisha asked her what she had in her house, and she said only a little olive oil in a bottle. He told her to go borrow a bunch of jars from her neighbors—all she could get, without holding back. Then, she and her two boys were to go into their house, shut the door, and fill those jars from her oil bottle.

She had asked for help, so she did what Elisha said. She and the boys started filling those jars. And oil kept pouring out of her little bottle until every jar was full. They had enough oil to sell to pay back the debt—with some left over to live on.

God is awesome like that. He will help you with your problems when you ask him.

Mira-
cles

***God is not limited in ways to help
people. He is never broke.***

Spiritual Fitness Training

God often uses people to help other people. Find a local food bank and make a plan to help them out for a day.

***I PRAY THAT GOD WILL TAKE
CARE OF ALL YOUR NEEDS WITH
THE WONDERFUL BLESSINGS
THAT COME
FROM CHRIST
JESUS!***

-PHILIPPIANS 4:19



Keep It Going This Week *Find out more by reading these verses.*

☐ Psalm 42:11

☐ 2 Corinthians 12:9

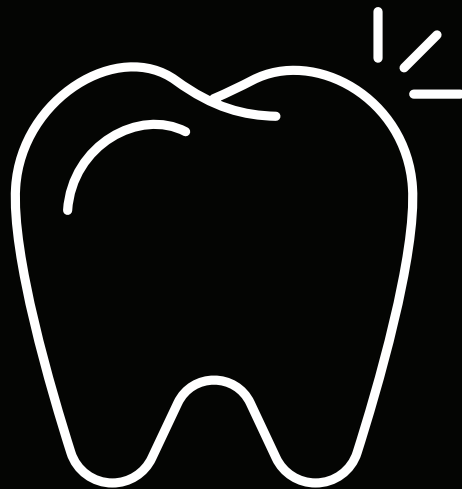
☐ Psalm 50:10–11

☐ Philippians 4:19

**Week
Thirty
Nine**



Alina Morse was only nine when she started making candy that cleans your teeth! Her company, Zolli Candy, has made her a millionaire.



Write Your Thoughts Here



God, you can make anything happen, in ways I can't even imagine. Thank you for looking out for me.

**Week
Thirty
Nine**

Mira-
cles

Mira-
cles

Mira-
cles

Keep It Going! 

Great job!
Check your mailbox for
your next book!

(It's coming soon!)

