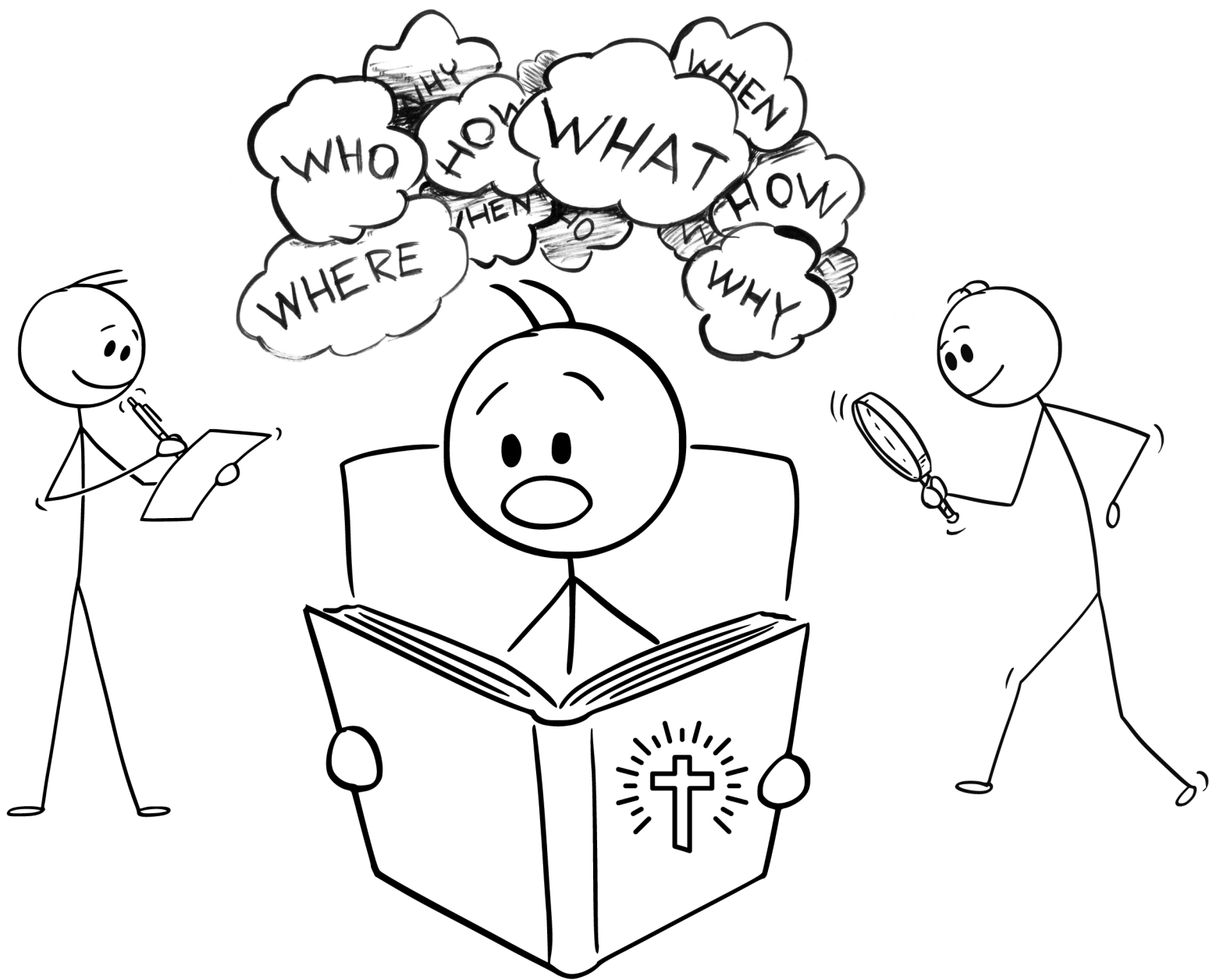


2026 Summer Bible Study

Name: _____





Name: _____

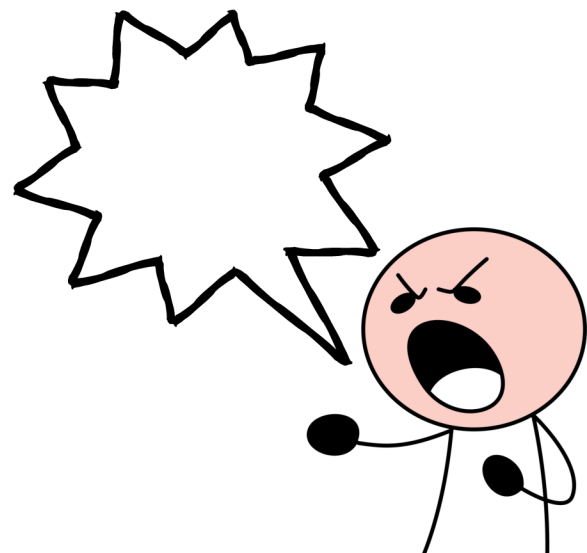
John

The Amazing and Interesting Life of John the Apostle.

John the Apostle, also known as John the Beloved, was likely born around 6 AD. He was born in Bethsaida, Galilee, Roman Empire.

Key Facts About John the Beloved:

- Background: Son of Zebedee and Salome, brother to James the Great, and likely younger than his brother.
- "Sons of Thunder": Jesus nicknamed John and James "Sons of Thunder," likely due to their intense, fiery zeal early in their ministry.
- Inner Circle: Along with Peter and James, John was part of Jesus' closest circle, witnessing events like the Transfiguration and the agony in Gethsemane.
- The "Beloved" Identity: He is often called "the disciple whom Jesus loved," a phrase found in the Gospel of John, which many scholars believe indicates his role as an intimate eyewitness.
- At the Cross: John was the only male disciple present at the crucifixion, where Jesus tasked him with caring for his mother, Mary.
- Authorship: He is traditionally credited with writing the Gospel of John, 1, 2, & 3 John, and the Book of Revelation.
- Transformation: He matured from a quick-tempered "Son of Thunder" into an "apostle of love," focusing heavily on love and truth in his later writings.
- Exile & Later Life: According to tradition, he was the only apostle to die of natural causes, surviving being boiled in oil before being exiled to the island of Patmos.
- Last Survivor: He is believed to be the last surviving apostle and a leader of the early church in Ephesus





John

Name: _____

The first four chapters of John establish Jesus as the divine "Word" made flesh (1:1-14), beginning his ministry with miracles and personal encounters.

Key events include explaining Jesus and his divinity, the first miracle at Cana, teachings on being "born again" to Nicodemus, and acting differently than the rest of the Jews, by offering salvation to the Samaritan woman.

Chapter 1: The Word Became Flesh and the First Disciples

- The Prologue (1:1-18): John opens with a profound theological statement, calling Jesus the "Logos" (Word), who is eternal, divine, and the creator of all things, yet became human to dwell among people.
- John the Baptist's Testimony (1:19-34): John the Baptist denies being the Messiah but identifies himself as the one paving the way, specifically pointing to Jesus as "the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world".
- The First Disciples (1:35-51): Jesus calls his first followers—Andrew, Peter, Philip, and Nathanael—who begin to recognize him as the Messiah.
- Owlcation +4

Chapter 2: The First Sign and Temple Cleansing

- Wedding at Cana (2:1-12): Jesus performs his first miracle, turning water into wine, demonstrating his glory and authority over creation.
- Cleansing the Temple (2:13-25): Jesus drives money changers out of the Temple in Jerusalem, asserting his authority and declaring that his body is the true temple.

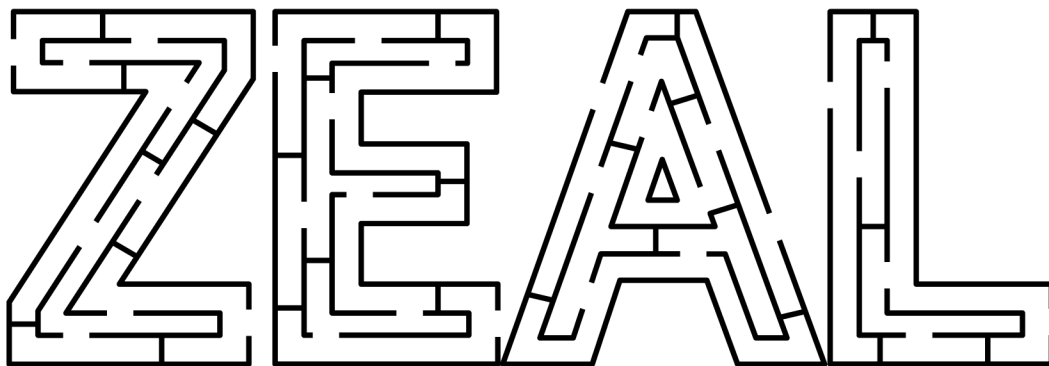


Name: _____

John

Based on the biblical accounts, it is widely believed that Jesus overturned tables in the temple twice. The first instance occurred at the beginning of his public ministry (recorded in John 2:13–16) and the second at the end, immediately before his crucifixion (recorded in Matthew 21:12–13, Mark 11:15–17, and Luke 19:45–46).

- First Cleansing (Beginning of Ministry): John 2 records Jesus creating a whip of cords, driving out sellers, and overturning tables at the start of his ministry.
- Second Cleansing (End of Ministry): The Synoptic Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke) record this event, commonly known as the "Triumphal Entry" or Palm Sunday week.
- Context: Jesus was upset that the "Court of the Gentiles" had been turned into a marketplace, preventing a place of prayer for all nations.



Key Aspects of Biblical Zeal:

It's Like a Fire: True zeal is a lasting, burning desire to please God in everything, not just a quick feeling.

Active Love: It's not just sitting around; it's being eager to act and show love for Jesus in daily life.

Example from the Bible: David showed zeal when he felt it was like a fire in his bones to build a house for God.

Jesus' Zeal: Jesus showed great zeal when He was passionate about keeping God's temple holy.

Important Goal: It is about putting God first and wanting to serve Him with your whole heart



Name: _____

John

Chapter 3: Nicodemus and New Life

- The New Birth (3:1-21): Jesus tells Nicodemus, a Pharisee leader, that one must be "born again" of the Spirit to see the kingdom of God.
- John 3:16: This chapter includes the well-known verse detailing God's love for the world through the sacrifice of his Son.
- John the Baptist's Final Testimony (3:22-36): John the Baptist reaffirms that his role was to prepare the way for Jesus, stating, "He must increase, but I must decrease".

Chapter 4: The Woman at the Well and Healing

- The Samaritan Woman (4:1-42): Breaking racial and gender barriers, Jesus speaks to a Samaritan woman at a well, revealing himself as the Messiah and offering "living water".
- Healing the Official's Son (4:43-54): Jesus returns to Cana and heals an official's son from a distance, demonstrating that his power is not restricted by location.





Name: _____

John 5

The Healing at the Pool

Some time later, Jesus went up to Jerusalem for one of the Jewish festivals.

² Now there is in Jerusalem near the Sheep Gate a pool, which in Aramaic is called Bethesda and which is surrounded by five covered colonnades. ³ Here a great number of disabled people used to lie

⁴—the blind, the lame, the paralyzed.

⁵ One who was there had been an invalid for thirty-eight years.

⁶ When Jesus saw him lying there and learned that he had been in this condition for a long time, he asked him, “Do you want to get well?”

Why would Jesus ask if someone wants to get “well” from an illness?



Name: _____

John 5

7 “Sir,” the invalid replied, “I have no one to help me into the pool when the water is stirred. While I am trying to get in, someone else goes down ahead of me.”

8 Then Jesus said to him, “Get up! Pick up your mat and walk.”

9 At once the man was cured; he picked up his mat and walked.

The day on which this took place was a Sabbath,

10 and so the Jewish leaders said to the man who had been healed, “It is the Sabbath; the law forbids you to carry your mat.”

11 But he replied, “The man who made me well said to me, ‘Pick up your mat and walk.’ ”

12 So they asked him, “Who is this fellow who told you to pick it up and walk?”

When was the lame man cured? How long did it take?
How long was he lame for?



John 5

Name: _____

Key Details Regarding the Pool of Bethesda (John 5:1-15):

- The Setting & Superstition: The Pool of Bethesda ("House of Mercy") was a five-porched pool in Jerusalem. People believed an angel stirred the waters and the first to enter was healed.
- Missing Scripture: Many modern Bible translations (NIV, ESV) place the "stirring" verse (5:4) in footnotes rather than the main text, as it does not appear in the earliest, most reliable Greek manuscripts.
- The Context of the Myth: The man's response, "I have no one to help me into the pool when the water is stirred," suggests a deeply ingrained, desperate belief in this "lottery-like" healing method.
- Jesus' Action: **Jesus ignores the pool entirely**, asking "Do you want to be made well?" and commanding the man to pick up his mat, demonstrating direct healing power without needing the water.
- Archaeological Evidence: Excavations in 1888 found the five-sided pool with porticos, as well as evidence of a nearby pagan healing temple to Asclepius, which may have contributed to the superstition of "stirred" waters.
- Spiritual Significance: The passage contrasts the fleeting, superstitious hope of the pool with the permanent, spiritual, and physical healing offered directly through Christ



John 5

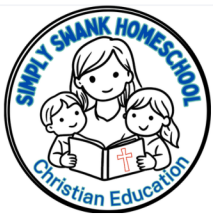
Name: _____

Jesus asks over 300 questions in the Gospels, acting as a master teacher who uses questions to challenge, teach, and encourage thought, rather than just giving answers. These questions appear throughout his ministry, from his youth in the temple to his crucifixion, his purpose was to reveal hearts and encourage people to have a deeper faith:



Key Ways Questions Resolve Conflicts:

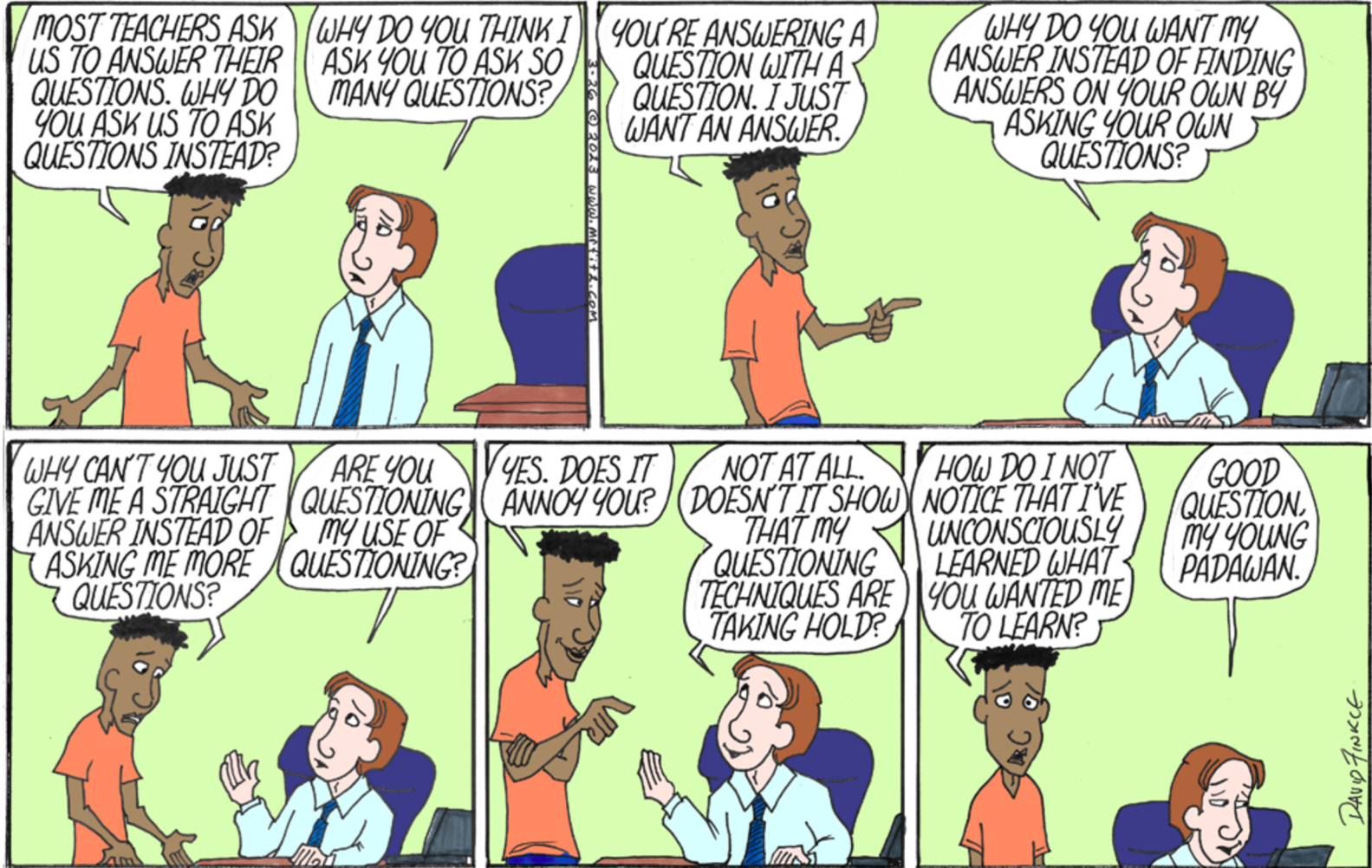
- Shifts from Blame to Understanding: Asking questions like "What's going on?" or "How do you think he feels?" helps us move away from blaming and toward understanding the other person's way of thinking.
- Reveals the True Problem: Instead of focusing on the surface issue, questions help identify the real cause ("I wanted a turn" rather than just "I hate him").
- Encourages **Empathy**: When asked "What happens when we share?", we begin to think about the effects of their actions on others.
- Gives us Power: Asking "What do you think we should do?" instead of giving a command allows us to brainstorm solutions, which helps us become independent problem-solvers.
- Calms Tense Emotions: Open-ended questions (e.g., "What's wrong?" or "How can we fix this?") encourage us to use words to describe our feelings rather than acting out in anger!



Name: _____

John 5

How can questions help you?



Ask Me?
Anything?



John 5

Name: _____

The belief that an angel stirred the waters of the Pool of Bethesda (John 5:1–9) was likely a popular superstition of a local pagan, rather than Jewish, healing tradition. While the text mentions an angel, it is generally considered a later, non-original insertion added to explain the **superstition**.

Key Details on the Pool of Bethesda:

- The Belief: People believed that when the water was stirred, the first person to enter would be healed of any ailment.
- Pagan Connection: The pool is believed by some to have been a Roman Asclepeion (a healing temple dedicated to the Greek god Asclepius) or heavily influenced by Hellenistic culture.
- The "Angel" Modification: The account of an "angel of the Lord" causing the movement in John 5:4 is missing from the earliest and most reliable manuscripts, leading many researchers to conclude it was added later to make the popular superstition more acceptable in a religious context.





John 5

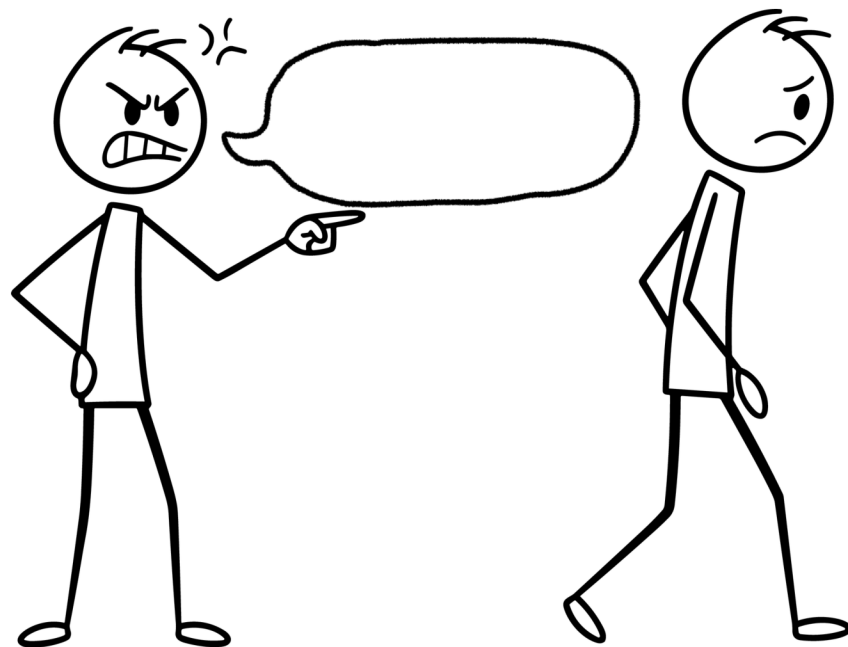
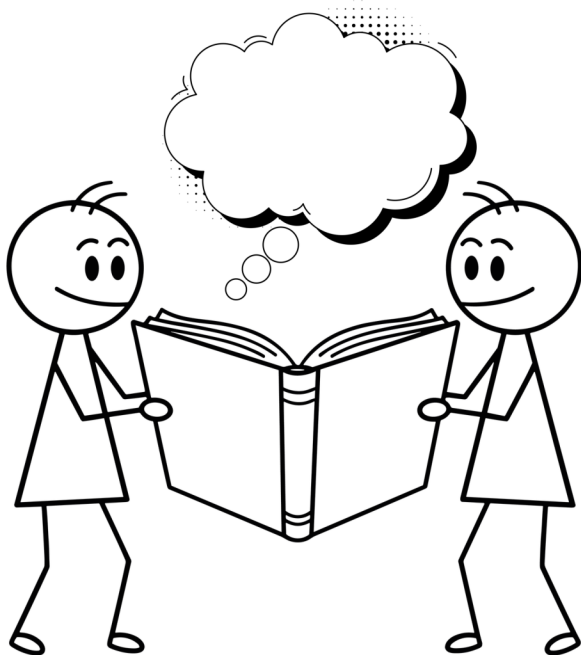
Name: _____

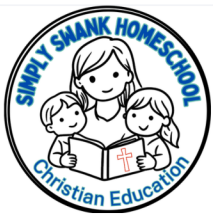
When talking to someone about Jesus is it best to debunk their beliefs, or to ignore them and share truth?

The most effective approach is generally to share truth in love rather than aggressively debunking beliefs. Engaging with gentleness, personal testimony, and curiosity (asking questions) builds bridges, whereas direct, adversarial argument often causes people to become defensive or hostile.

Key Principles for Sharing Truth

- **Speak Truth in Love:** Focus on presenting the gospel clearly, but with kindness and respect.
- **Share Your Personal Testimony:** Share how Jesus has impacted your life; personal stories are difficult to argue with and demonstrate the power of faith.
- **Use Questions:** Ask about their beliefs to show you care and to understand their perspective, rather than just waiting to talk.
- **Avoid Arguments:** Do not waste energy fighting over interpretations or trying to win a debate, as this rarely leads to conversion.
- **Focus on the Core Gospel:** Stick to the message of Jesus' death and resurrection (the plan of salvation) rather than getting side-tracked.
- **Know When to Stop:** If someone strongly rejects the message, it is best to move on rather than forcing the conversation





Name: _____

John 5

13 The man who was healed had no idea who it was, for Jesus had slipped away into the crowd that was there.

14 Later Jesus found him at the temple and said to him, "See, you are well again. Stop sinning or something worse may happen to you."

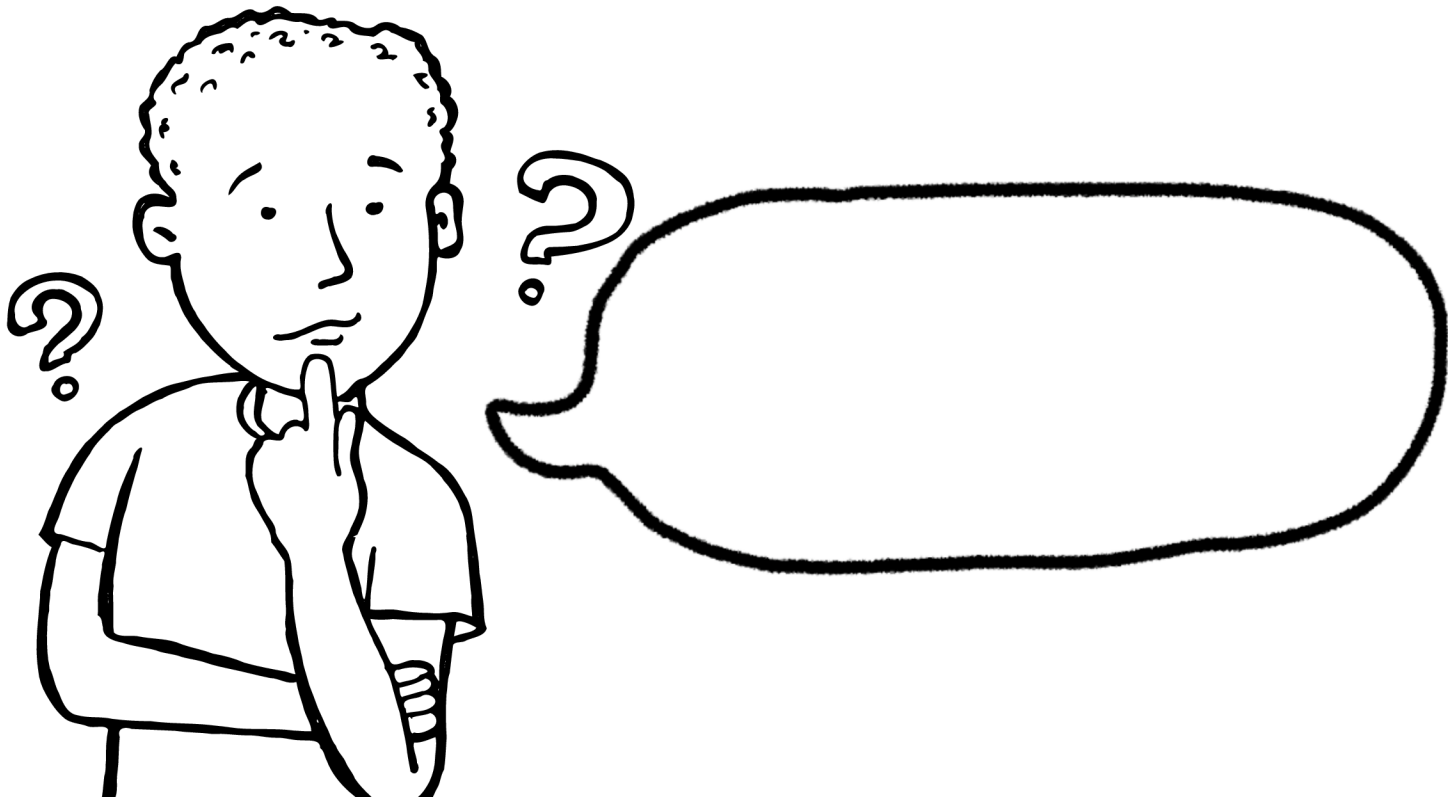
15 The man went away and told the Jewish leaders that it was Jesus who had made him well.

The Authority of the Son

16 So, because Jesus was doing these things on the Sabbath, the Jewish leaders began to persecute him.

17 In his defense Jesus said to them, "My Father is always at his work to this very day, and I too am working."

18 For this reason they tried all the more to kill him; not only was he breaking the Sabbath, but he was even calling God his own Father, making himself equal with God.





Name: _____

John 5

The Authority of the Son - Always Working?

Working hard, through intense or aerobic exercise, releases beta-endorphins, which act as natural painkillers and mood boosters to reduce stress and pain.

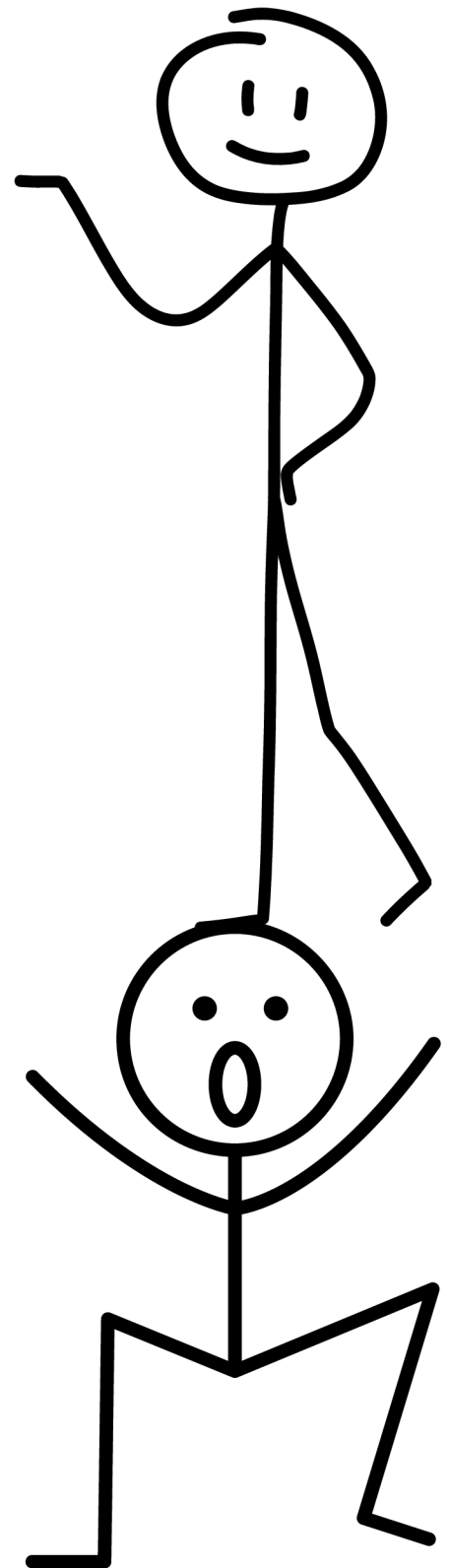
These neurotransmitters are released by the pituitary gland and hypothalamus to manage physical stress, often creating a euphoric, relaxed feeling.

Key Endorphins and Related Chemicals:

- Beta-Endorphins: The most potent type of endorphin for relieving pain and stress.
- Endocannabinoids: These are biochemical substances, produced by the body, which, unlike endorphins, can pass the blood-brain barrier to promote calmness.
- Dopamine: Released after endorphins attach to brain receptors, which motivates you to repeat the exercise.

When and How They Are Released:

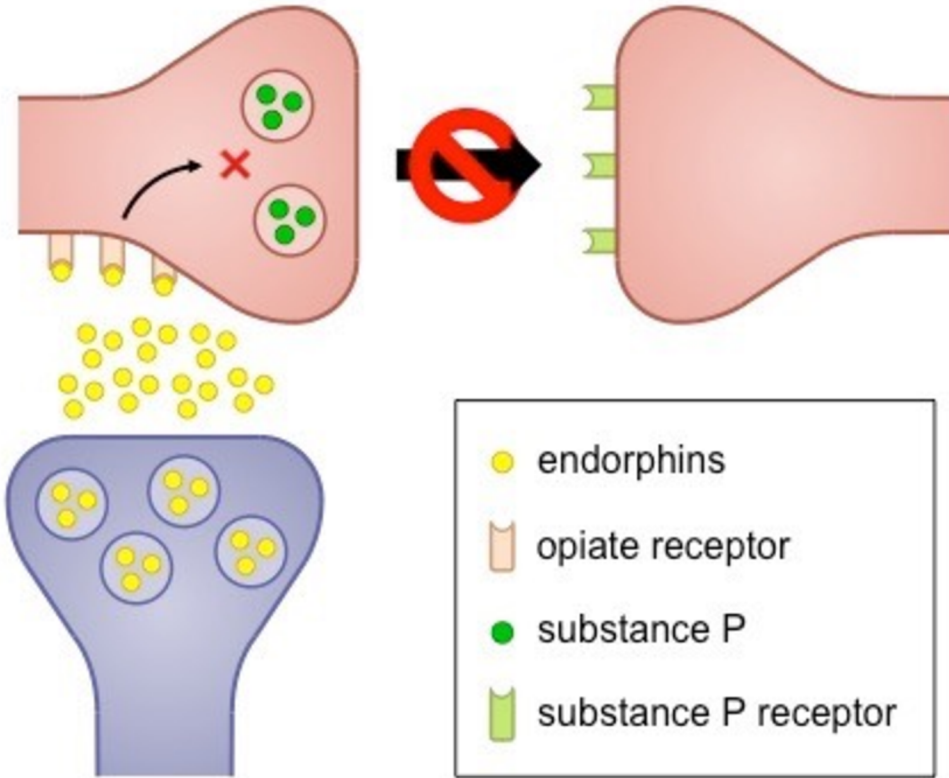
- Intensity: Moderate to high-intensity workouts stimulate the most significant release.
- Duration: The "rush" is often triggered after about 20 to 30 minutes of continuous activity.





John 5

Name: _____



Substance P is a neurotransmitter involved in *pain responses*

Endorphins are released by the pituitary gland in order to *block pain perception*

Endorphins bind to opiate receptors located on the presynaptic membrane and *block the release of substance P*

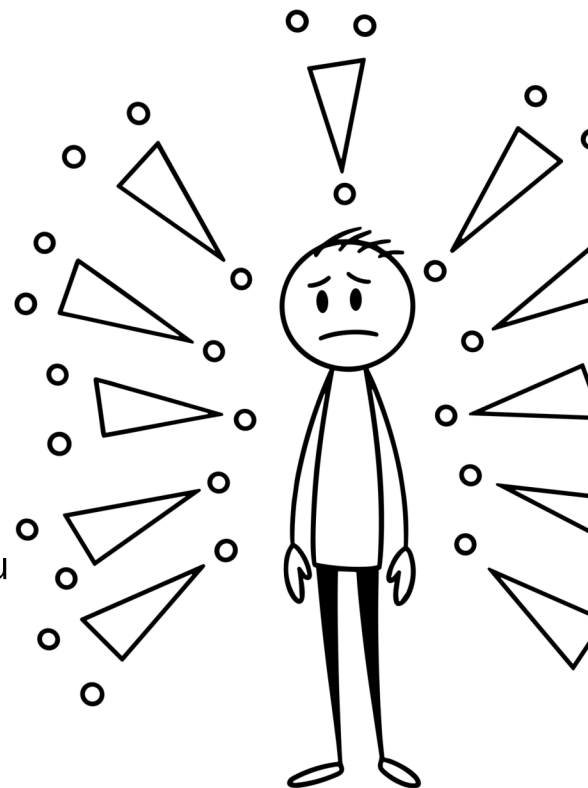
Do you ever get frustrated when you are doing school?

What is a good solution to this frustration?

Is it a good thing to ask for a break to be active?

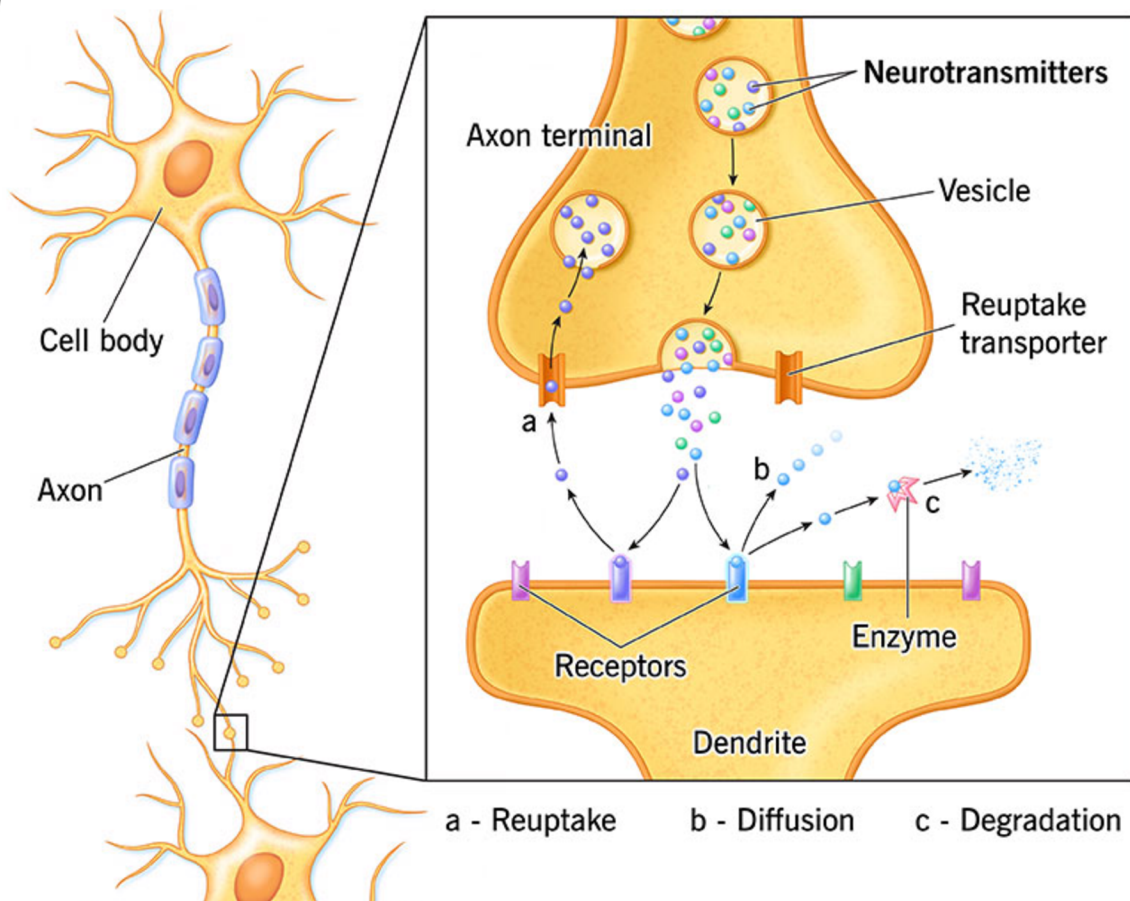
What are good and healthy actions you can take to get back into a happy and focused attitude towards school?

How does knowing how your brain works help you understand how to have a better relationship with your parents?





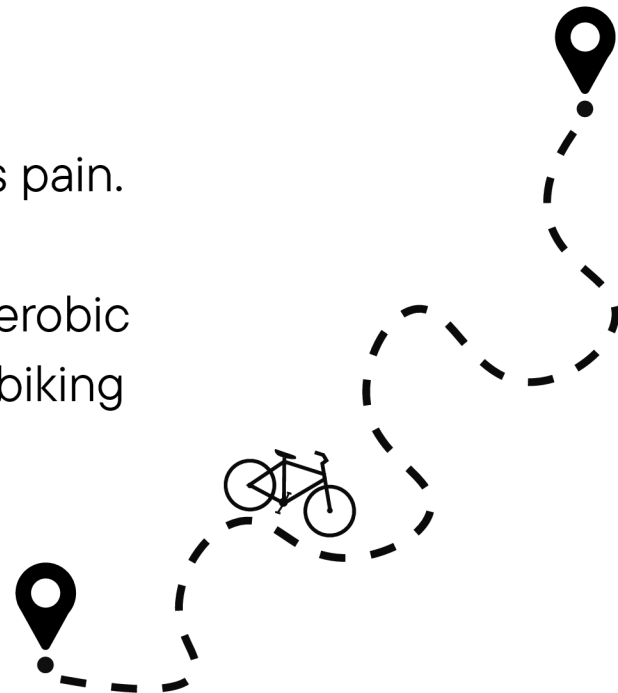
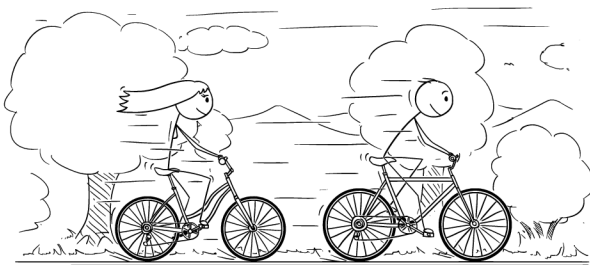
Name: _____



How do endorphins function? What do endorphins do?

Endorphins, being the natural painkillers of the body, are released during situations that are physically or mentally demanding in order to neutralize the painful effects that those situations can have on the body.

In other words, endorphins kill the body's pain. The majority of situations that trigger the release of endorphins are vigorous aerobic exercises, such as running, jogging, and biking





Name: _____

John 5

19 Jesus gave them this answer: “Very truly I tell you, the Son can do nothing by himself; he can do only what he sees his Father doing, because whatever the Father does the Son also does.

20 For the Father loves the Son and shows him all he does. Yes, and he will show him even greater works than these, so that you will be amazed.

21 For just as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, even so the Son gives life to whom he is pleased to give it.

22 Moreover, the Father judges no one, but has entrusted all judgment to the Son,

23 that all may honor the Son just as they honor the Father.

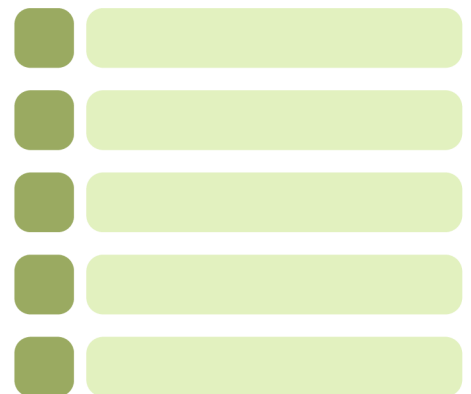
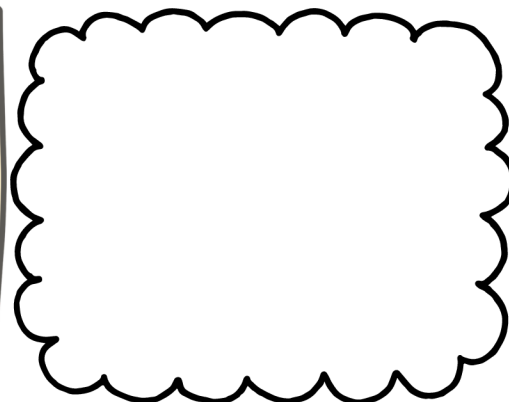
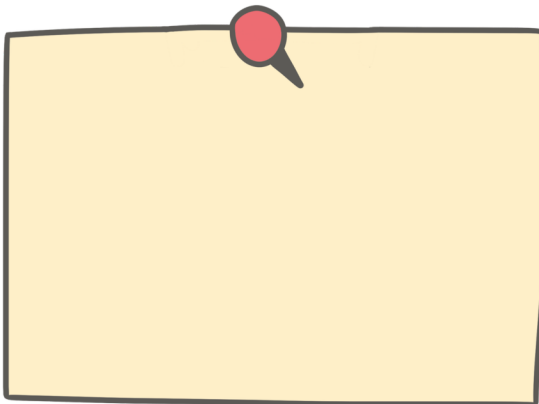
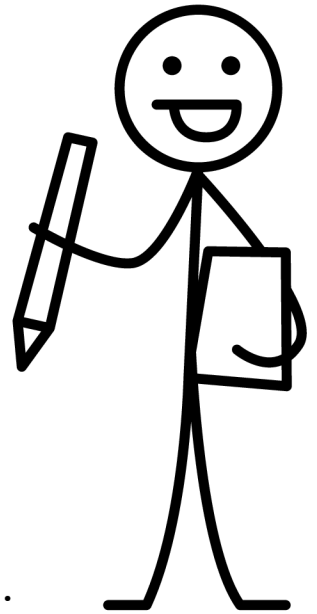
Whoever does not honor the Son does not honor the Father, who sent him.



According to the New Testament gospels, Jesus raised three specific individuals from the dead during his ministry:

1. **Jairus' daughter** [Mark 5:21-43],
2. **The widow's son in Nain** [Luke 7:11-17],
3. **Lazarus** [John 11:1-44].

These miracles were distinct from his own resurrection, demonstrating power over death.





John 5

Name: _____

24 "Very truly I tell you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be judged but has crossed over from death to life.

25 Very truly I tell you, a time is coming and has now come when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God and those who hear will live.

26 For as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son also to have life in himself.

27 And he has given him authority to judge because he is the Son of Man.

28 "Do not be amazed at this, for a time is coming when all who are in their graves will hear his voice

29 and come out—those who have done what is good will rise to live, and those who have done what is evil will rise to be condemned.

30 By myself I can do nothing; I judge only as I hear, and my judgment is just, for I seek not to please myself but him who sent me.



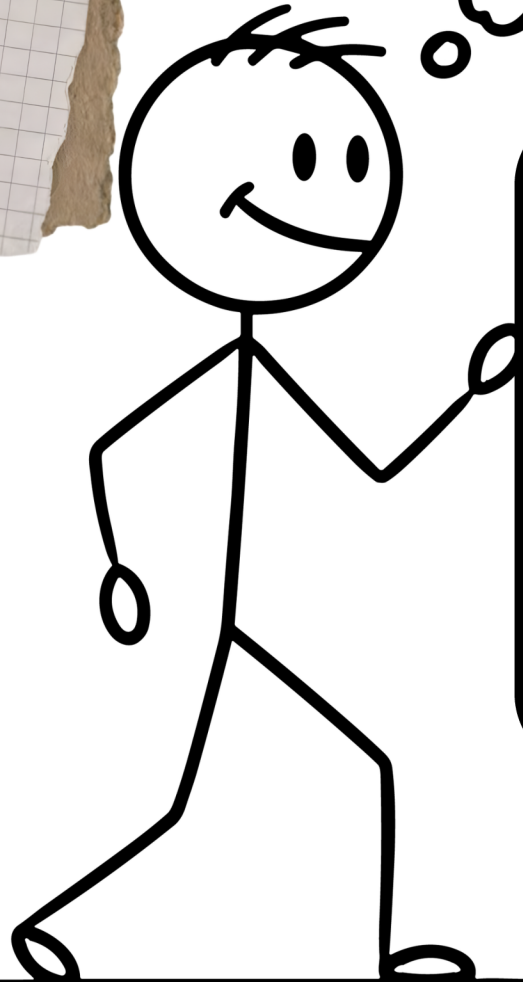
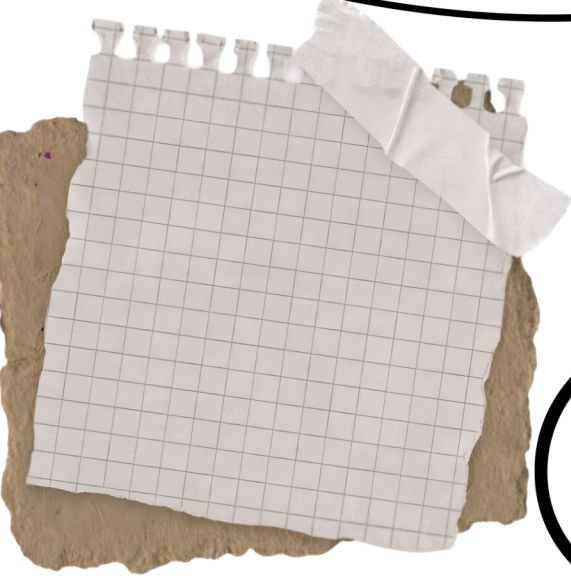
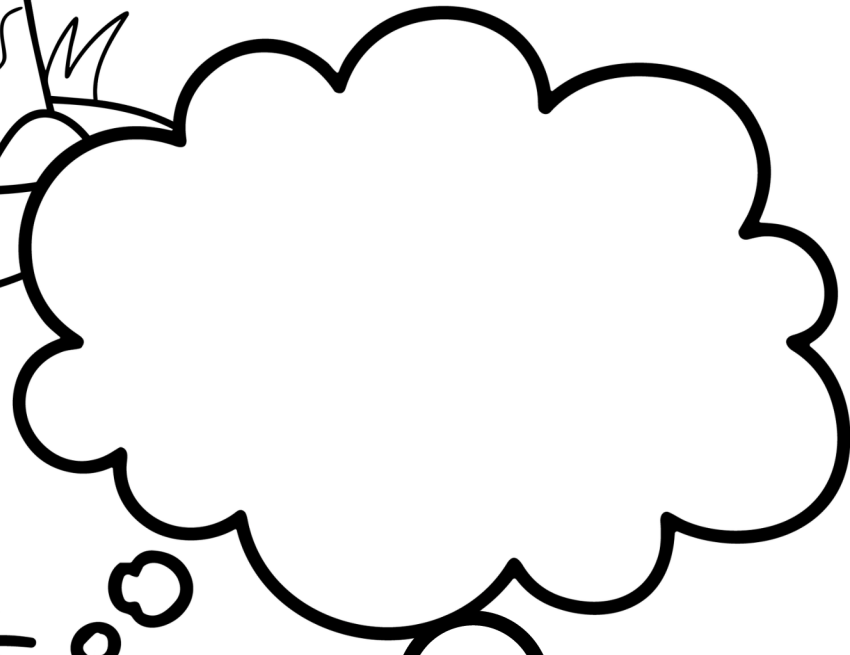
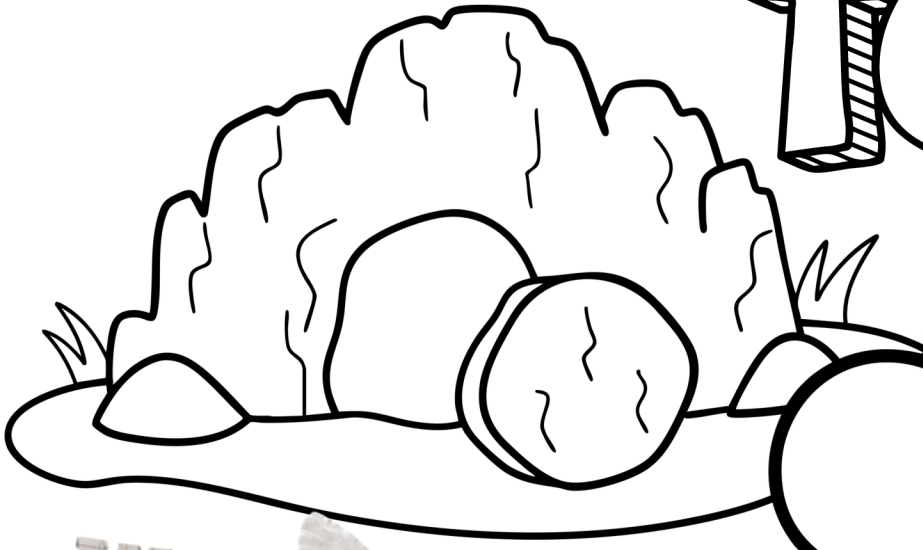
According to Matthew 27:51-53, immediately following Jesus's death, an earthquake opened tombs and many "saints" (holy people) were raised, though they only came out of their tombs and entered Jerusalem after Jesus's own resurrection. This event, unique to Matthew's Gospel, serves as a sign of Christ's victory over death and a foretaste of the future resurrection of believers.



John 5

Name: _____

TO DO





Name: _____

John 5

Testimonies About Jesus

31 “If I testify about myself, my testimony is not true.

32 There is another who testifies in my favor, and I know that his testimony about me is true.

33 “You have sent to John and he has testified to the truth.

34 Not that I accept human testimony; but I mention it that you may be saved.

35 John was a lamp that burned and gave light, and you chose for a time to enjoy his light.

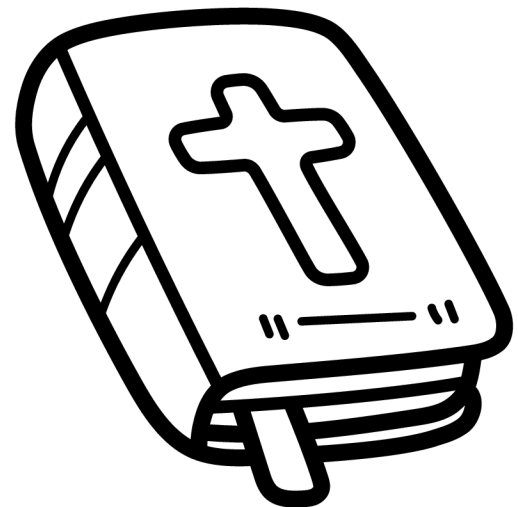
36 “I have testimony weightier than that of John. For the works that the Father has given me to finish—the very works that I am doing—testify that the Father has sent me.

37 And the Father who sent me has himself testified concerning me. You have never heard his voice nor seen his form,

38 nor does his word dwell in you, for you do not believe the one he sent.

39 You study the Scriptures diligently because you think that in them you have eternal life. These are the very Scriptures that testify about me,

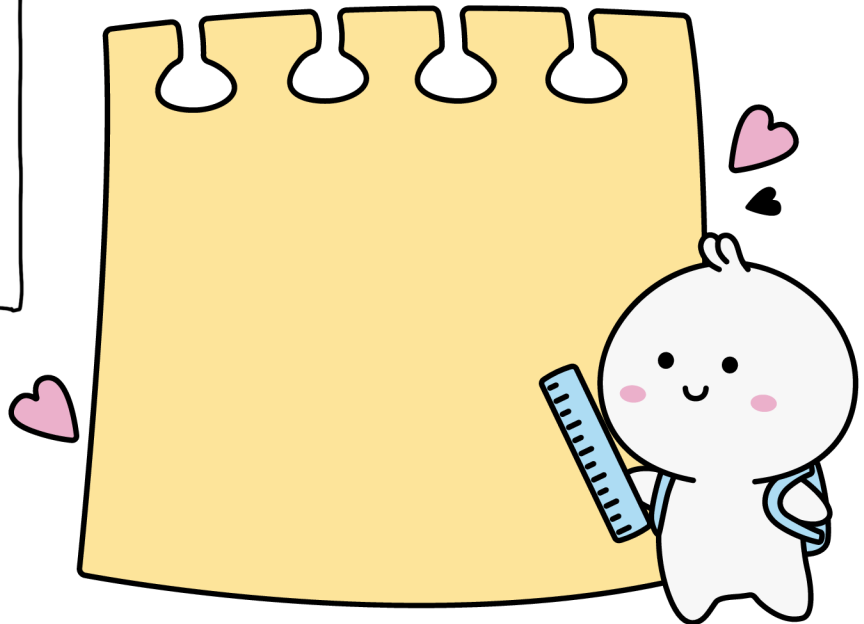
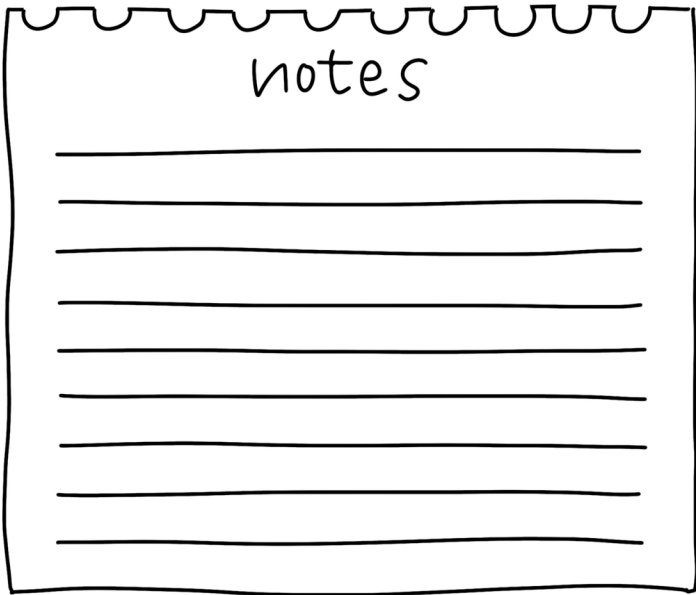
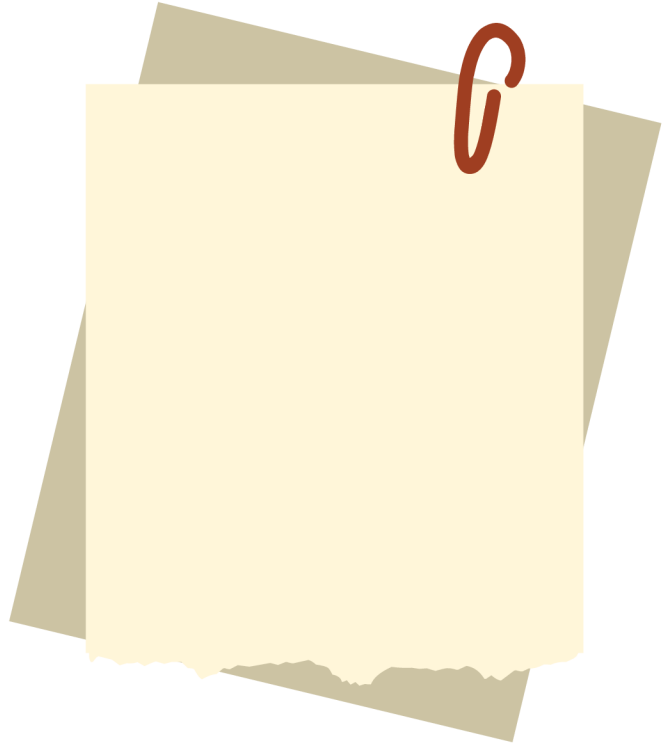
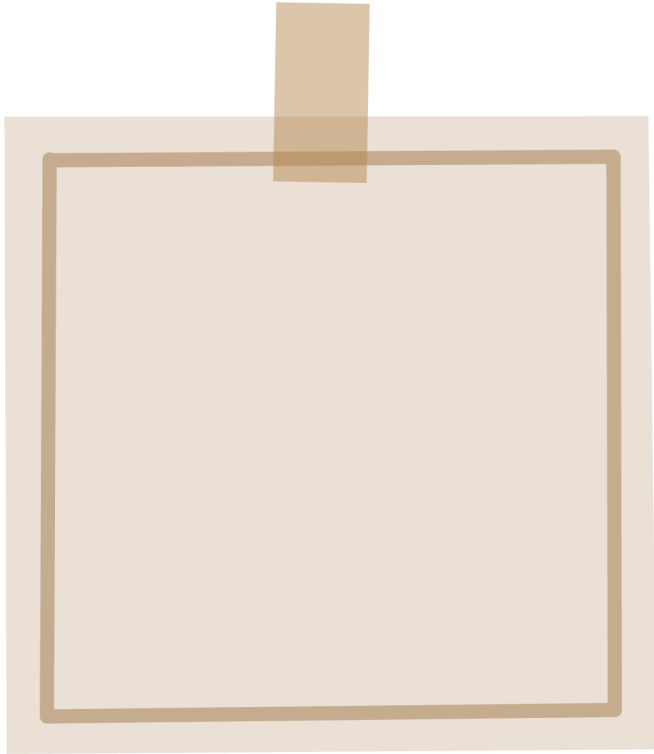
40 yet you refuse to come to me to have life.





John 5

Name: _____

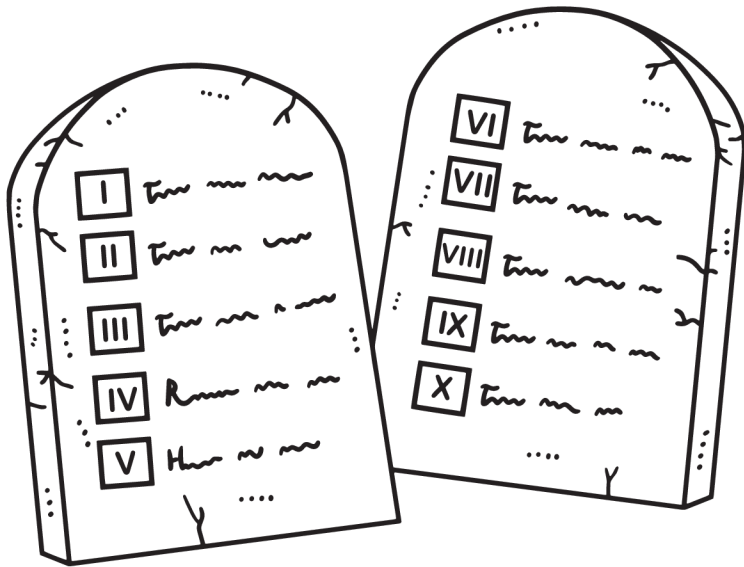




Name: _____

John 5

41 “I do not accept glory from human beings,
 42 but I know you. I know that you do not have the love of God in
 your hearts.
 43 I have come in my Father’s name, and you do not accept me; but
if someone else comes in his own name, you will accept him.
 44 How can you believe since you accept glory from one another
 but do not seek the glory that comes from the only God?
 45 “But do not think I will accuse you before the Father. Your
accuser is Moses, on whom your hopes are set.
 46 If you believed Moses, you would believe me, for he wrote about
 me.
 47 But since you do not believe what he wrote, how are you going to
 believe what I say?”



Romans 3:19-22

19 Obviously, the law applies to those to whom it was given, for its purpose is to keep people from having excuses, and to show that the entire world is guilty before God.
 20 For no one can ever be made right with God by doing what the law commands. The law simply shows us how sinful we are.

Christ Took Our Punishment

21 But now God has shown us a way to be made right with him without keeping the requirements of the law, as was promised in the writings of Moses and the prophets long ago.

22 We are made right with God by placing our faith in Jesus Christ. And this is true for everyone who believes, no matter who we are.

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Name: _____



MOSES AND THE BURNING BUSH

God said, "Do not draw near. Take your sandals off your feet, for the place where you stand is holy ground."

Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look upon God.

— Exodus 3:5-6



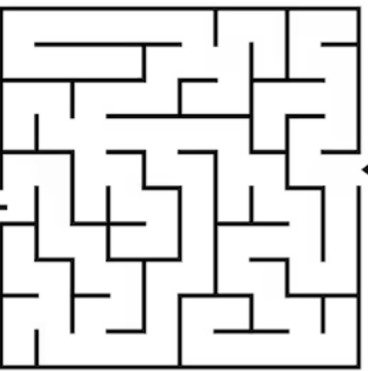
"MINI QUIZ!"

- Who did God speak to at the burning bush?
a) Abraham
b) Moses
c) Joseph
- Where was Moses when God spoke to him?
a) Nile River
b) Mount Horeb
c) Egypt
- What did God tell Moses to take off?
a) His hat
b) His sandals
c) His coat
- What did God reveal about Himself?
a) He is the God of Pharaoh
b) He is the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob
c) He is the God of the animals
- Why did Moses hide his face?
a) He was tired
b) He was afraid to look at God
c) He was playing



"WORD SCRAMBLE!"

- OMSES → _____
- EYOB → _____
- EDHI → _____
- HOARPHA → _____
- EBHOR → _____



"HELP MOSES OBEY GOD AND GO TO PHARAOH!"

When God spoke to Moses on Mount Horeb, He revealed Himself as the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and told Moses to obey and go to Pharaoh to free His people.



- MOSES
- BUSH
- FIRE
- GOD
- HORN
- GROUND
- SANDALS
- DELIVER

Can You Find the Hidden Words?

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

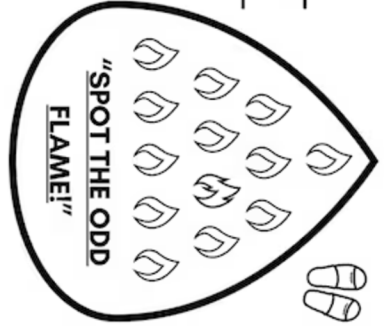
"WORD SEARCH!"



HOW MANY SANDALS CAN YOU SPOT?



"TIC TAC TOE!"



"SPOT THE ODD FLAME!"



John 6

Name: _____

Jesus Feeds the Five Thousand

Some time after this, Jesus crossed to the far shore of the Sea of Galilee (that is, the Sea of Tiberias), and a great crowd of people followed him because they saw the signs he had performed by healing the sick.

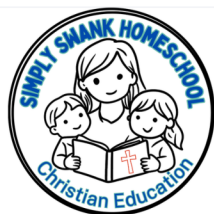
3 Then Jesus went up on a mountainside and sat down with his disciples.

4 **The Jewish Passover Festival was near.**

5 When Jesus looked up and saw a great crowd coming toward him, he said to Philip, “Where shall we buy bread for these people to eat?”

6 He asked this only **to test him**, for he already had in mind what he was going to do.





John 6

Name: _____

Philip answered him, “It would take more than half a year’s wages to buy enough bread for each one to have a bite!”

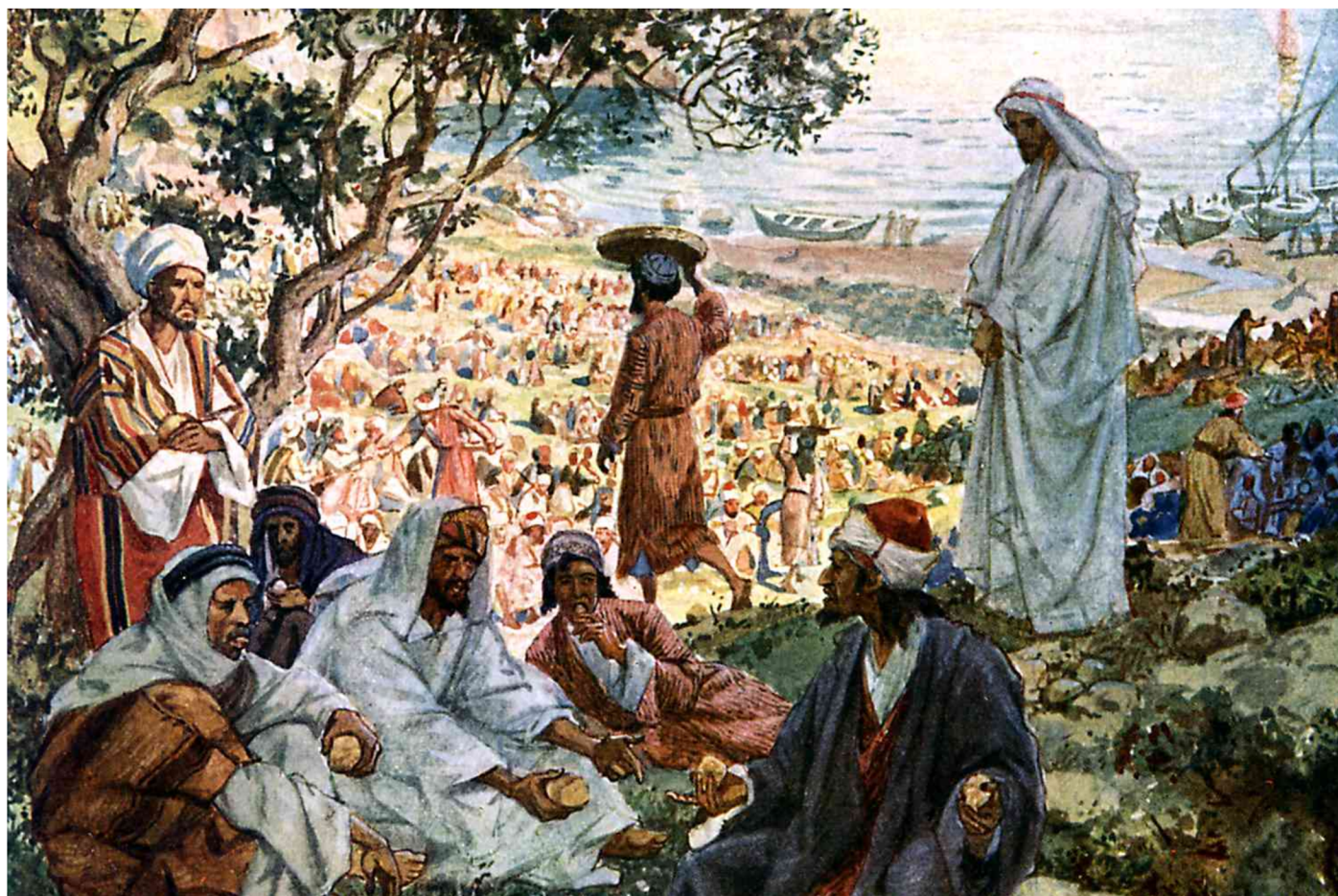
8 Another of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, spoke up,
9 “Here is a boy with **five small barley loaves** and two small fish, but how far will they go among so many?”

10 Jesus said, “Have the people sit down.” There was plenty of grass in that place, and they sat down (about five thousand men were there).

11 Jesus then took the loaves, gave thanks, and distributed to those who were seated as much as they wanted. He did the same with the fish.

12 When they had all had enough to eat, he said to his disciples, “Gather the pieces that are **left over**. Let nothing be wasted.”

13 So they gathered them and filled **twelve baskets** with the pieces of the **five barley loaves** left over by those who had eaten.





John 6

Name: _____

Key Facts About Philip the Apostle

- **Direct Calling:** Jesus found Philip and simply said, "Follow me," which he did immediately.
- **Evangelist Friend:** One of his first actions was to find Nathanael (Bartholomew) and bring him to Jesus, telling him "Come and see".
- **Bridge to Gentiles:** Because he bore a Greek name and was likely bilingual, some Greek pilgrims approached him to meet Jesus, highlighting his role as an intermediary.
- **"Bean Counter" Role:** Philip was practical and analytical, tasked with logistics like calculating how to feed the 5,000.
- **Deep Desire to Know God:** At the Last Supper, he asked Jesus to "show us the Father," prompting Jesus' teaching on their unity.
- **Martyrdom Tradition:** According to tradition and the apocryphal Acts of Philip, he was martyred by being crucified upside down in Hierapolis in Asia Minor.



Ask Yourself:

When did Jesus call you to salvation?

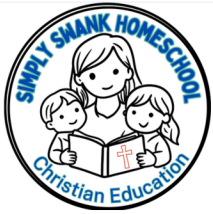
Are you an evangelist? Are you asking people to "come and see?"

How are you using common interests to build a bridge to salvation?

Are you using your talents for Jesus? or are they causing you to doubt Jesus?

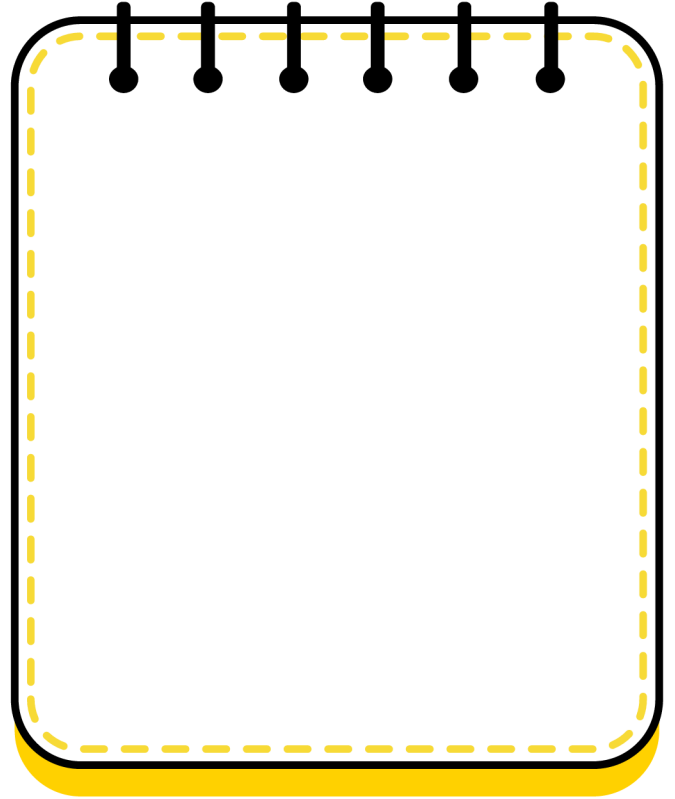
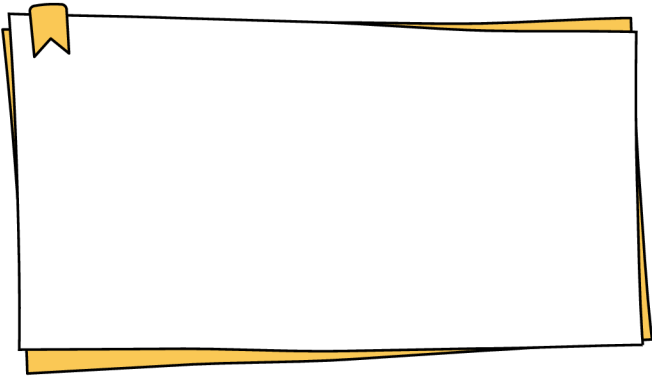
Do you have a deep desire to know God? (how do you test that?)

Do you think that people still lose their lives for their faith today?

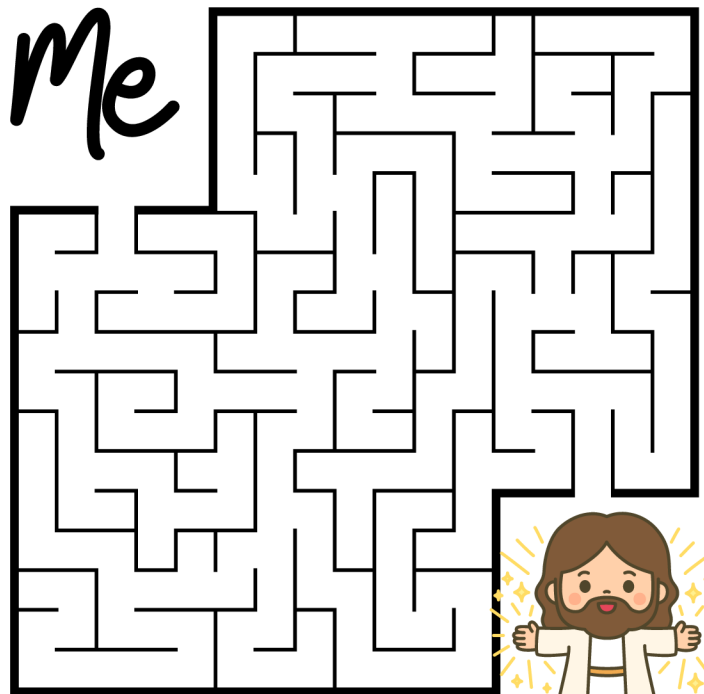
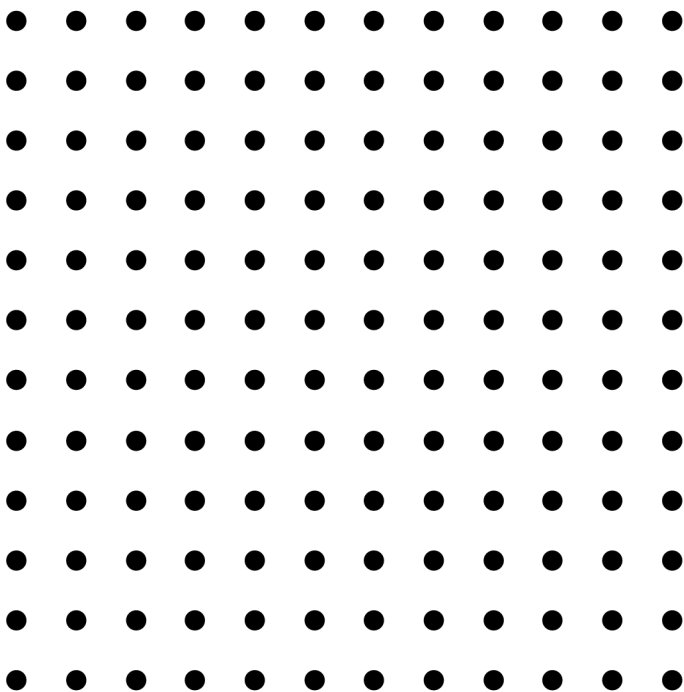
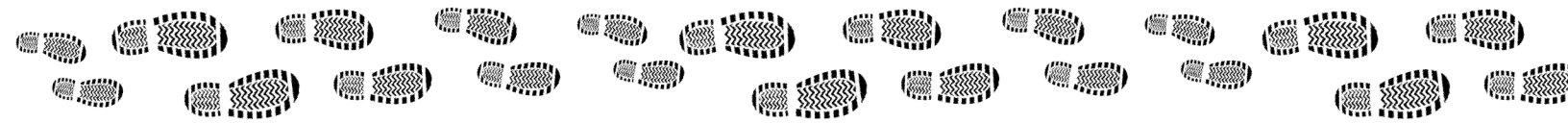


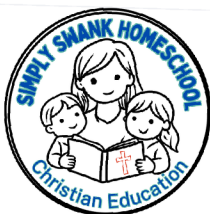
John 6

Name: _____



Notes





John 6

Name: _____

¹⁴ **After** the people saw the sign Jesus performed, they began to say, "Surely this is **the Prophet** who is to come into the world."

¹⁵ Jesus, knowing that they intended to come and make him king by force, withdrew again to a mountain by himself.

After multiplying loaves to feed thousands, the crowd recognized Jesus as the prophesied "Prophet" (Deuteronomy 18:15 states: "The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your fellow Israelites. You must listen to him.")

Moses promises that God will send a future prophet similar to himself, instructing the people to follow this prophetic voice rather than pagan diviners)

The Israelites wanted to be free from Roman rule, so they intended to force him to being their King... Jesus withdrew to a mountain alone because his mission was spiritual, not a worldly, political, or a military kingdom.



Key Thoughts:

The Sign: The miracle (feeding the 5,000) convinced the crowd that Jesus was the Prophet they were waiting for.

The Misinterpretation: The people saw Jesus as a earthly king who would fix their material problems and lead them against Rome.

The Reaction: Jesus "perceived" their intent to take him by force.

The Withdrawal: Jesus escaped to a mountain alone, showing that his kingship was not of this world. (where is your kingdom?)

Context: This occurred just before Jesus walked on water and began his "Bread of Life" discourse, moving from physical signs to spiritual truth.



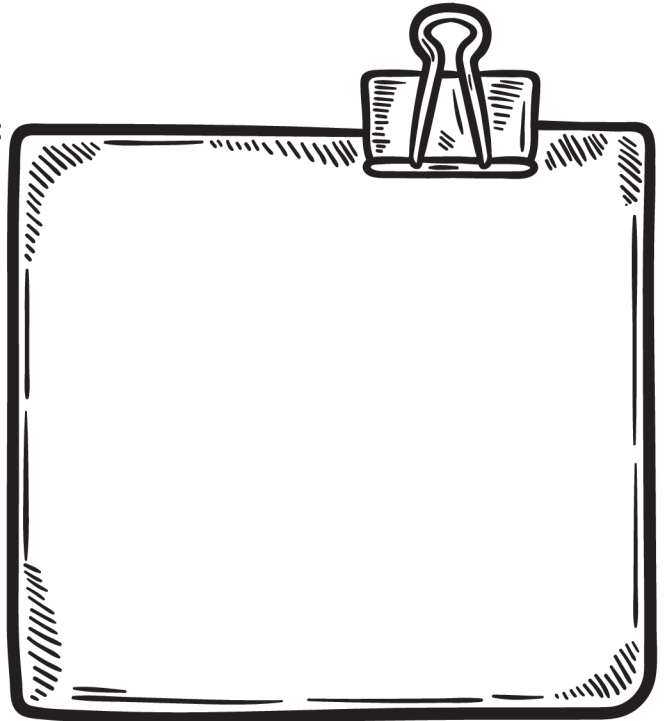
John 6

Name: _____

Questions Frequently Asked About This Passage:

- Why did Jesus not want to be king?
- What prophet did they think he was?
- Why did he withdraw?

Handwriting practice lines consisting of a vertical blue line on the left and several horizontal blue lines.



Do I think about the solution or the way out of my problems instead of wondering why I am in a place of discipline in the first place?
Why was Israel under Roman occupation? Were they faithful to the One who could save them?
Were they crying out to God, or were they searching for another quick fix?



John 6

Name: _____

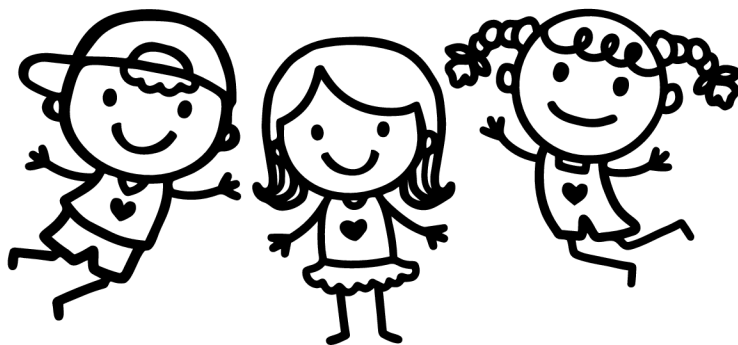
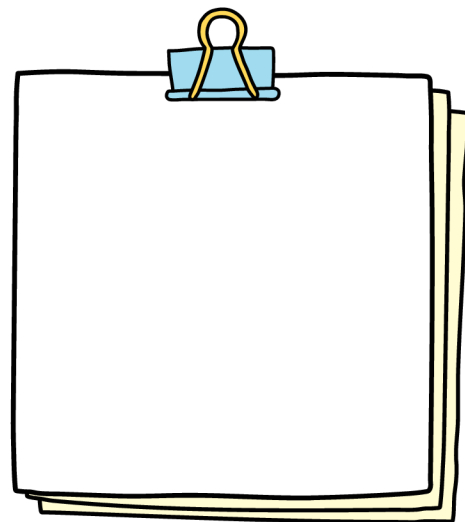
In the Book of John, the Jewish people are under Roman rule because Rome had conquered Judea in 63 BC, turning it into a **vassal state** and later a province, which allowed them to maintain the Judean territory for strategic purposes, economic tax collection, and Mediterranean stability.

A vassal state is a country that is mostly controlled by a stronger, more powerful country, similar to how a smaller kid might have to follow the rules of a bigger kid. While the smaller country has its own local leader, it must pay money, give resources, or provide soldiers to the stronger "master" country.

Roman rulers, such as Pontius Pilate, ruled the region, limiting the local Sanhedrin authority and specifically restricting the ability of Jews to execute individuals, which required them to turn to the Roman legal system to execute Jesus.

The Roman Empire took control under Pompey **during a Jewish civil war in 63 BC**, and by the time of Jesus, the land was a Roman-controlled puppet state.

What did Jesus say about a "house divided against itself?"





John 6

Name: _____

Imagine living in a country where a foreign army completely takes over, changes the laws, and forces your family to pay heavy taxes. That is exactly what happened to the Jewish people in Israel around 60 BC, when the powerful Roman Empire marched in and took control.

Here is how that tense political situation eventually led to the crucifixion of Jesus.

The Roman Takeover (60 BC)

- **Powerful Army:** Rome had the strongest military in the world.
- **Loss of Freedom:** They took away the Jewish people's independence.
- **Heavy Taxes:** Romans forced the locals to pay lots of money to Rome.
- **Cultural Clash:** Romans worshipped many gods, while Jews believed in only one God.

What the Jewish People Wanted

- **A Deliverer:** The Jewish people desperately wanted a leader to save them.
- **The Messiah:** Ancient prophecies promised a savior, called the Messiah.
- **Military Leader:** Most people expected this Messiah to be a fierce warrior king.
- **Crush Rome:** They thought he would raise an army and kick the Romans out.

Why Jesus Didn't Fit Their Plan

- **Peaceful Message:** Jesus did not talk about fighting Rome.
- **Love Enemies:** He taught people to love everyone, even the Romans.
- **Spiritual King:** He said his kingdom was in heaven, not on Earth.
- **Disappointment:** Many people felt let down because he wouldn't fight for their political freedom.

The Tipping Point

- **Religious Anger:** Jewish religious leaders felt insulted because Jesus criticized their rules.
- **Fear of Riots:** The leaders worried Jesus would start a massive crowd disturbance.
- **Roman Revenge:** They feared a riot would make the Romans destroy their temple and city.
- **The Trap:** Leaders told the Roman governor that Jesus was a rebel trying to be a king.
- **The Sentence:** To keep the peace and stop a riot, the Roman governor agreed to execute Jesus by crucifixion.



John 6

Name: _____

Scholars and Jewish tradition point to several key Old Testament passages to explain why the expected messiah was to be a warrior:

- **Numbers 24:17:** This prophecy by Balaam states, "A star will come out of Jacob; a scepter will rise out of Israel. He will crush the foreheads of Moab, the skulls of all the people of Sheth." Historically, Jews interpreted this as predicting a powerful king who would defeat Israel's enemies.
- **Isaiah 11:1-4:** The prophet Isaiah describes a descendant of Jesse who "will strike the earth with the rod of his mouth; with the breath of his lips he will slay the wicked." This establishes the messiah as an agent of divine justice and a military-style judge.
- **Psalms 2:** This royal psalm describes the messiah as God's anointed king who will "break them with a rod of iron" and "dash them to pieces like pottery" in the face of earthly rebellion.
- **Zechariah 9:9-10:** While verse 9 famously mentions a humble king riding on a donkey (the basis for Jesus' entry into Jerusalem), verse 10 immediately follows with a vision of a warrior establishing global dominion: "He will proclaim peace to the nations. His rule will extend from sea to sea and from the River to the ends of the earth."



John 6

Name: _____

Jesus is described as returning in two very different ways.

The Two Pictures of Jesus

The First Coming: Jesus first came to Earth gently. He rode a donkey, healed sick people, and taught about love.

The Second Coming: The Bible says when He returns, He will come with great power to fix all the broken and unfair things in the world.

Why the Bible Uses "Warrior" Imagery

In the book of Revelation, Jesus is described riding a white horse and leading an army.

Fighting Evil: He is coming to destroy evil, sin, sickness, and death forever.

Bringing True Peace: Sometimes a protector has to stand up to bad things to keep others safe. Jesus acts like a protector to make the world completely safe and peaceful.

Justice: He will stop bullies and people who cause hurt, making sure everyone treats each other fairly.

The Ultimate Goal

The Bible says in Proverbs 9:10 that *the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom*. He uses His power to rescue the world and bring a permanent home filled with joy, where fighting and sadness do not exist anymore.



John 6

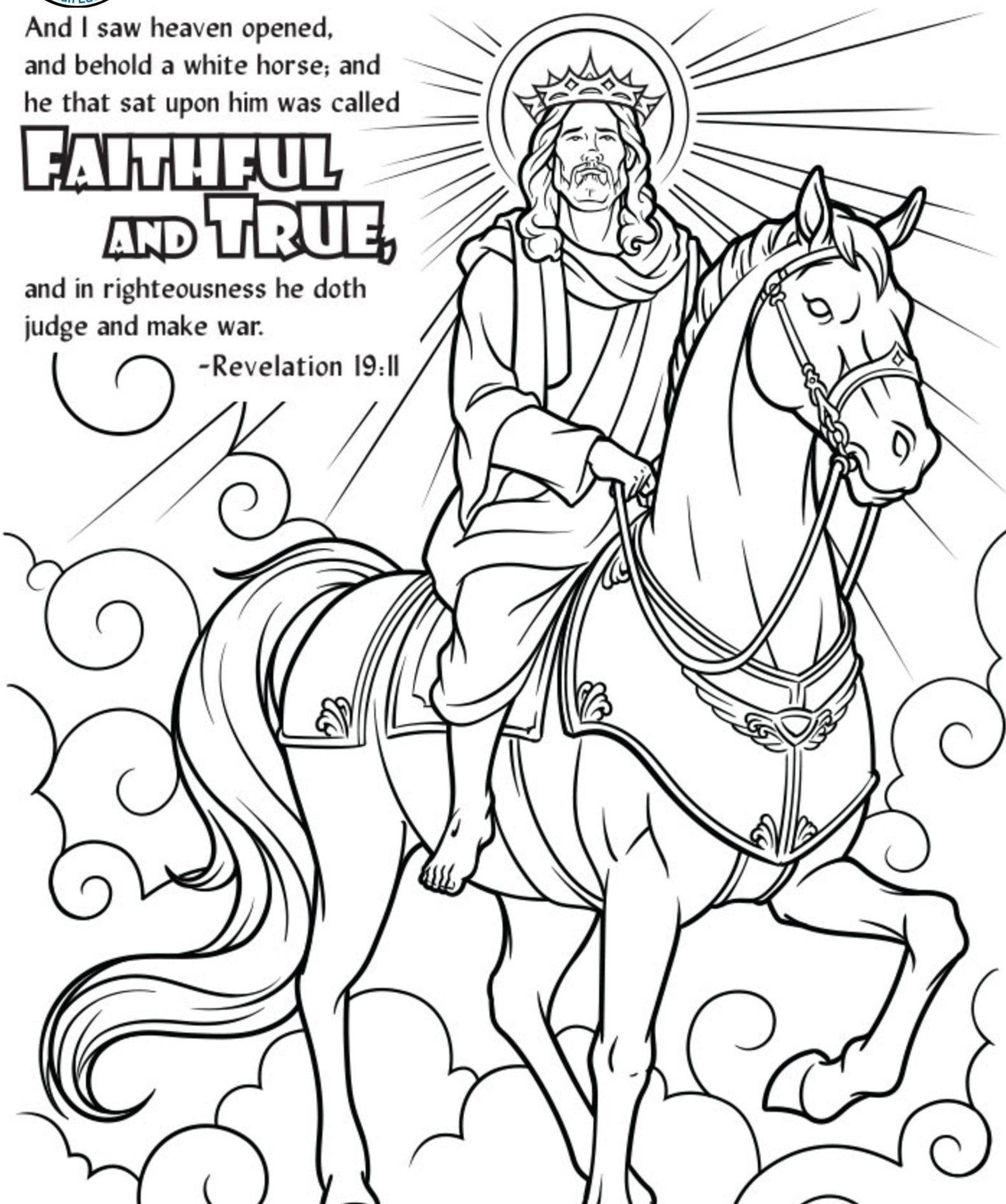
Name: _____

And I saw heaven opened,
and behold a white horse; and
he that sat upon him was called

**FAITHFUL
AND TRUE,**

and in righteousness he doth
judge and make war.

-Revelation 19:11





John 6

Name: _____

When books or articles say "**according to scholars and Jewish tradition,**" they are blending two different ways of looking at history: scientific detective work and deeply held family and religious beliefs.

Think of it like studying the history of your church. You could interview the pastor and read the official church website (the tradition), or you could have an outside researcher dig up old town maps and architecture blueprints to see how the building changed over time (the scholars). Both give you important answers, but they look at the story through different lenses.

Here is exactly how to break these two groups down:

Who are the Scholars?

Scholars are like history detectives. They do not look at things from a religious point of view. Instead, they look at hard, physical evidence to figure out what happened in the past.

- What they do: They translate ancient languages, dig up buried cities (archaeology), and compare old pieces of paper to see when a book was actually written.
- Their goal: To find historical facts that can be proven to anyone, no matter what religion that person is.

What is Jewish Tradition?

Jewish tradition is the living history, faith, and practices passed down through Jewish families for nearly 4,000 years.

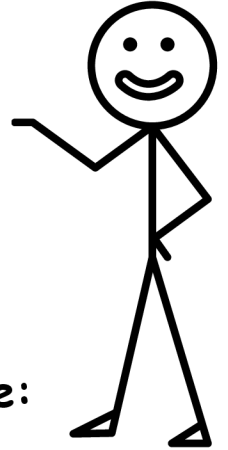
- What it includes: Sacred text readings like the Torah (the first five books of the Hebrew Bible), oral stories, holiday celebrations like Passover, and cultural customs.
- Their goal: To keep a sacred promise (called a covenant) with God, protect their cultural identity, and pass down moral lessons about justice and kindness to the next generation.



John 6

Name: _____

Children can significantly improve home life by taking initiative with chores, practicing clear communication, and contributing to a positive atmosphere. Simple actions like cleaning up after themselves, helping with meals, sticking to routines, and showing kindness to siblings and parents creates more harmony and a less stressful household.



Here are specific ways you can improve home life:

1. **Take Initiative with Chores:** Instead of waiting to be asked, you can independently make your beds, tidy bedrooms, put away laundry, or set the table.

2. **Contribute to Household Tasks:** you can help by putting away toys, prepare simple meals, wash dishes, or help carry and put away groceries.

3. **Practice Good Communication:** Expressing wants and needs clearly, communicating about schedules, and calmly discussing feelings (especially during conflicts) leads to fewer misunderstandings and less tension.

4. **Respect Routines:** Doing morning and bedtime routines before being asked, such as brushing teeth or preparing school bags, helps the home run smoothly.

5. **Show Kindness and Support:** Small acts of kindness, such as helping a sibling or offering a compliment, builds comfort in your home.

6. **Look After Shared Spaces:** Picking up personal items in common areas, vacuuming or sweeping the floors, like the living room or kitchen helps keep the home organized.

7. **Be Responsible for Pets:** Helping with feeding, cleaning up after messes, or playing with family pets reduces the burden on parents.

By taking on these responsibilities, children develop independence and self-worth, while actively making their home a more pleasant place to be.



Love Your Mom and Dad...

Name: _____

Make your bed

Brush your teeth

Get dressed

Make breakfast for everyone

Clear table and countertops after each meal

Set table before meals

Wipe down bathroom counters
after getting washed up morning and night

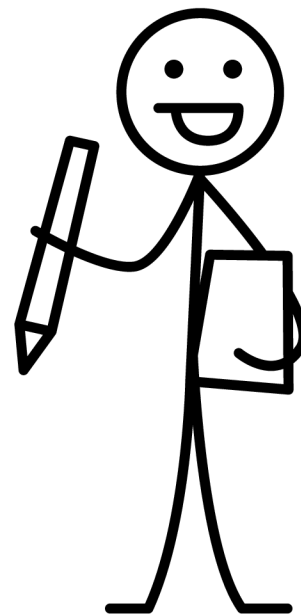
Empty/load dishwasher

Wipe down counters, table, and sink

Take out trash

Vacuum house

Before bed, clean up items in your bedroom





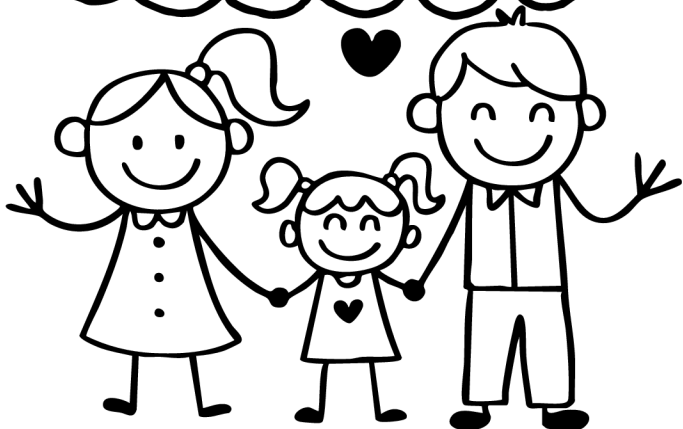
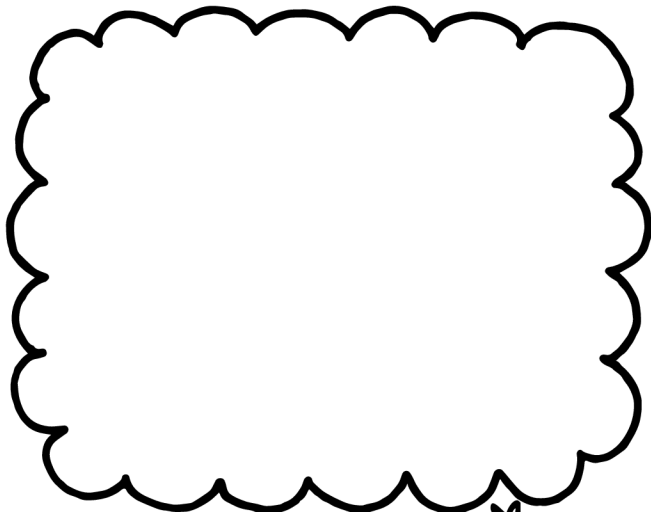
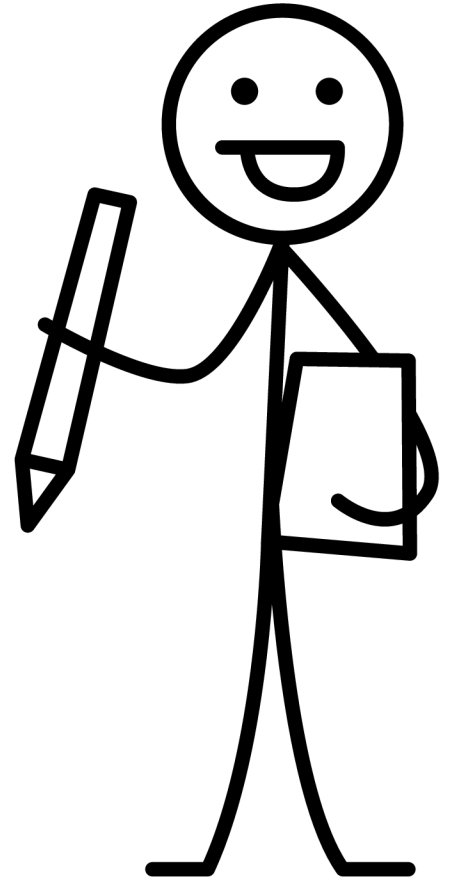


John 6

Name: _____

to do list

<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	_____



<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	_____

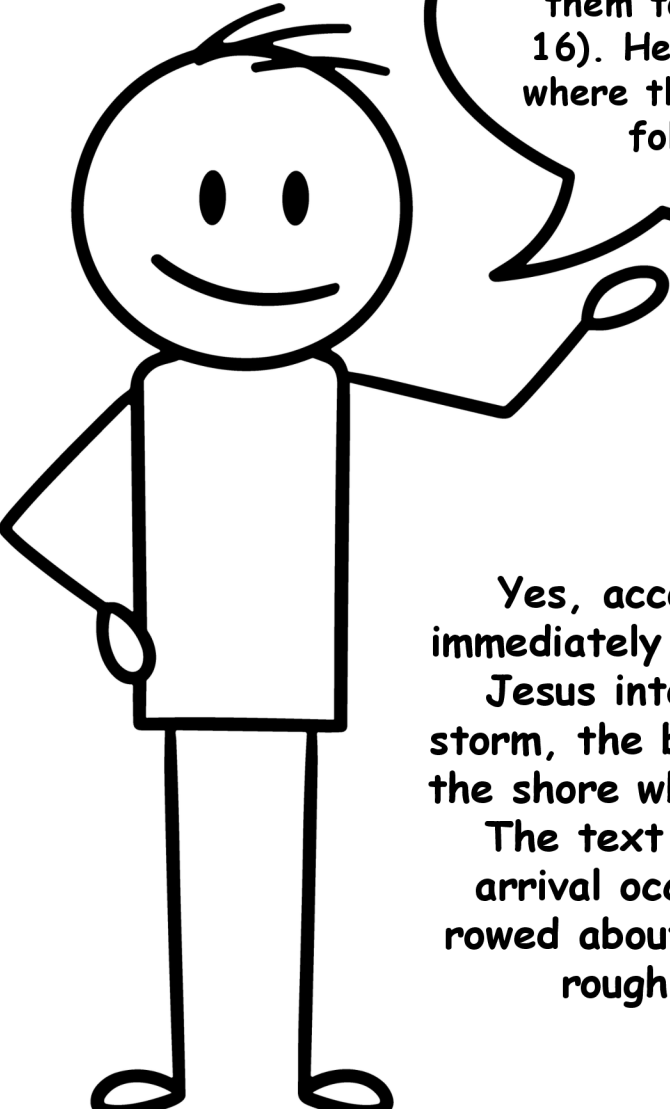


John 6

Name: _____

Jesus Walks on the Water

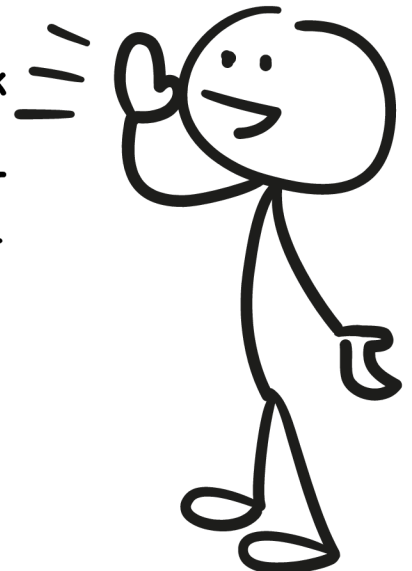
- 16 When evening came, his disciples went down to the lake,
17 where they got into a boat and set off across the lake for Capernaum. By now it was dark, and Jesus had not yet joined them.
18 A strong wind was blowing and the waters grew rough.
19 When they had rowed about **three or four miles**, they saw Jesus approaching the boat, walking on the water; and they were frightened.
20 But he said to them, "It is I; don't be afraid."
21 Then they were willing to take him into the boat, and **immediately the boat reached the shore where they were heading.**



The disciples left on a boat while Jesus was on the mountain because Jesus specifically compelled or instructed them to leave (Matthew 14:22, John 6:15-16). He sent them ahead to avoid a situation where the crowd would forcibly make him King following the feeding of the 5,000

Location of Miracle: The feeding of the 5,000 occurred on the northern shore near Tabgha, which is in the northern portion of the sea.

Yes, according to John 6:21, immediately after the disciples took Jesus into the boat during the storm, the boat *instantly* arrived at the shore where they were heading. The text indicates this sudden arrival occurred after they had rowed about three or four miles in rough, windy conditions

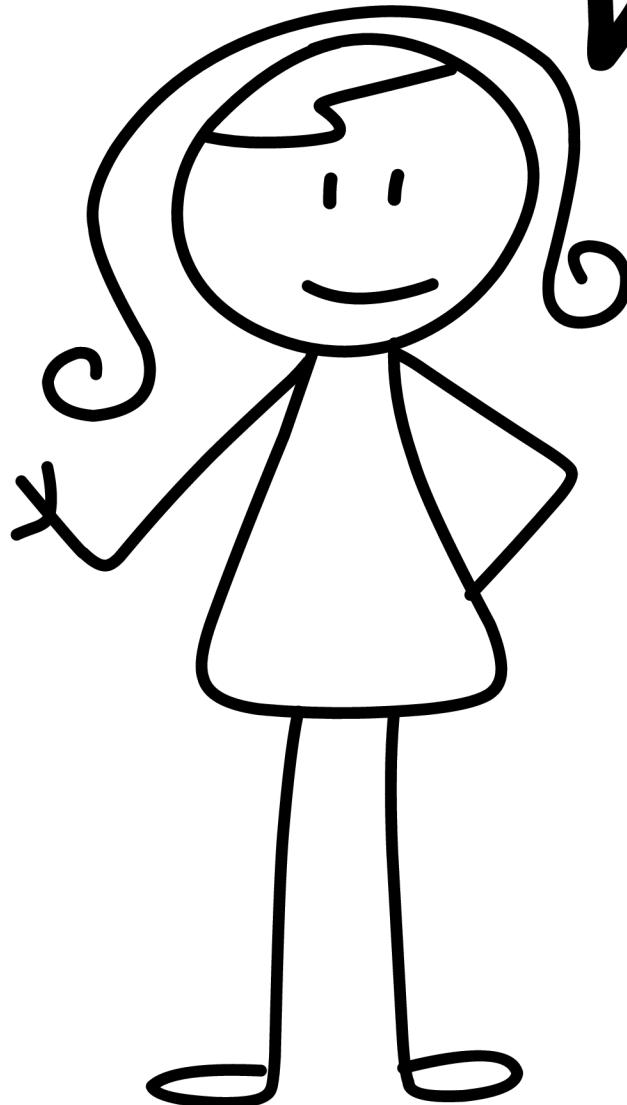




John 6

Name: _____

Please take time right now to pray, we will ask God to help us understand why he repeated "The Bread of Life" Why he was so intent to help us understand that He alone provides eternal life? Why did he use bread? He begins with actually feeding the multitude, then moves into spiritual understanding...How will you walk away from this teaching? Let this sink in deep...





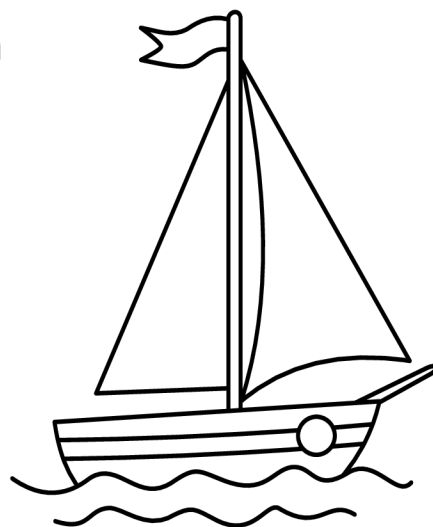
John 6

Name: _____

22 The next day the crowd that had stayed on the opposite shore of the lake realized that only one boat had been there, and that Jesus had not entered it with his disciples, but that they had gone away alone.

23 Then some boats from Tiberias landed near the place where the people had eaten the bread after the Lord had given thanks.

24 Once the crowd realized that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they got into the boats and went to Capernaum in search of Jesus.



Jesus the Bread of Life

25 When they found him on the other side of the lake, they asked him, "Rabbi, when did you get here?"

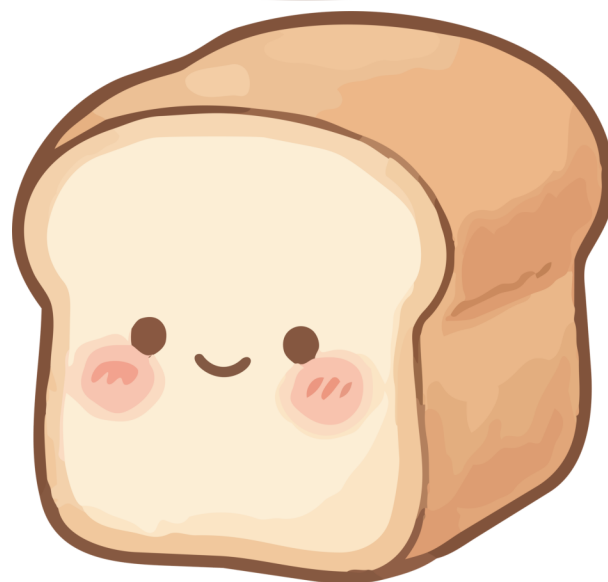
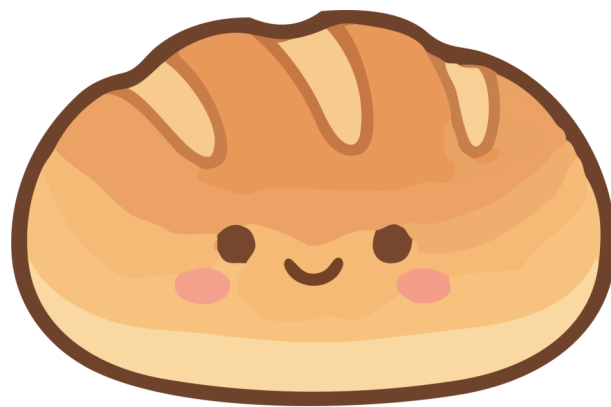
26 Jesus answered, "Very truly I tell you,

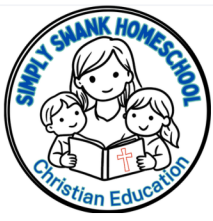
you are looking for me, not because you saw the signs I performed

but because you ate the loaves and had your fill.

27 Do not work for food that spoils, but for food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you.

For on him God the Father has placed **his seal of approval.**"





John 6

Name: _____

8 Then they asked him, “**What must we do** to do the works God requires?”

29 Jesus answered, “The work of God is this: to **believe** in the one he has sent.”

30 So they asked him, “What sign then will you give that we may **see it** and believe you?”

What will you do?

31 Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written: ‘He gave them bread from heaven to eat.’”

32 Jesus said to them, “Very truly I tell you, it is not Moses who has given you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven.

33 For the bread of God is the bread that comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.”



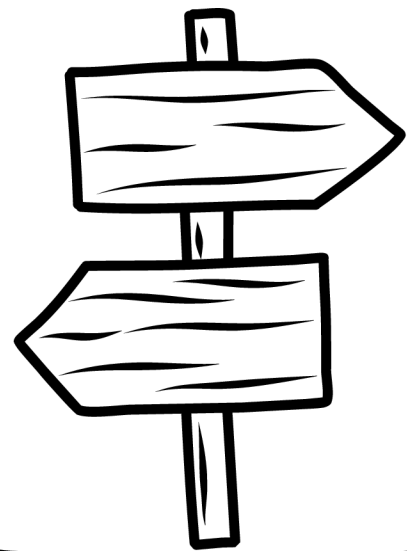
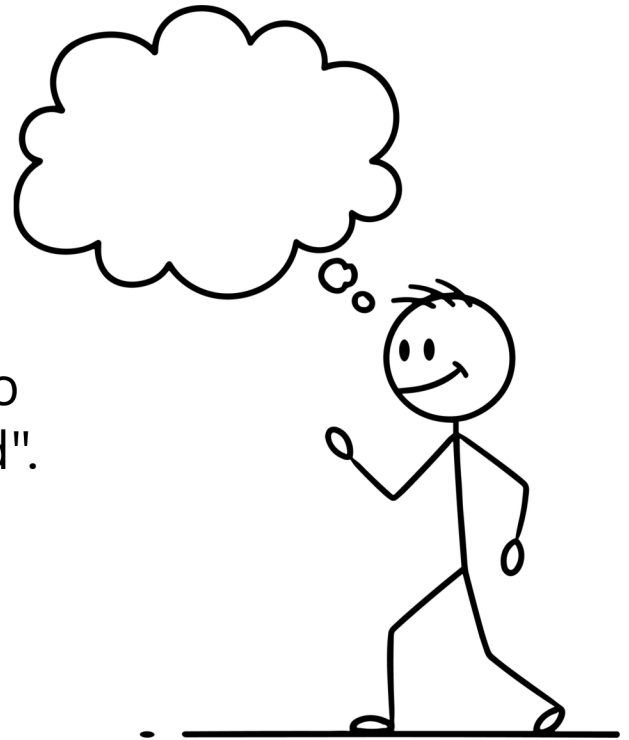


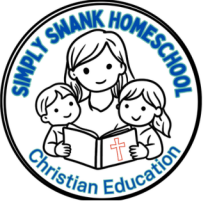
John 6

Name: _____

Key Meaning and Context

- **True Bread vs. Manna:** Jesus distinguishes between the physical manna Moses provided, which only temporarily fed ancestors who later died, and the "true bread".
- **The Father's Gift:** The "true bread" is not just a miracle to witness (like manna or the recent loaves), but a gift from the Father.
- **Jesus as the Bread:** Jesus is the bread of God that "comes down from heaven and gives life to the world". This signifies his divine origin and mission to provide eternal life to all believers, not just physical nourishment.
- **Focus on Belief:** He redirects them from seeking signs (physical food) to believing in him for lasting, spiritual satisfaction.





John 6

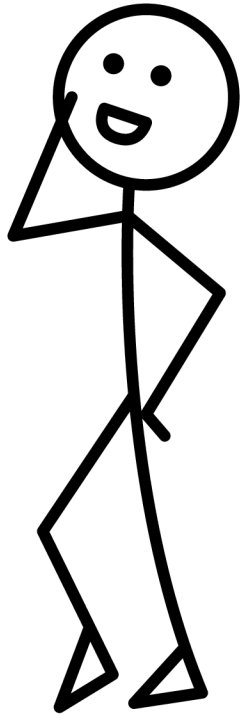
Name: _____

34 "Sir," they said, "always give us **this bread.**"

35 Then Jesus declared, "**I am the bread of life.**"

Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.

hang on...this sounds familiar....something about a well...and a woman....



The Disciples Rejoin Jesus

27 Just then his disciples returned and were surprised to find him talking with a woman. But no one asked, "What do you want?" or "Why are you talking with her?"

28 Then, leaving her water jar, the woman went back to the town and said to the people,

29 "Come, see a man who told me everything I ever did. Could this be the Messiah?"

30 They came out of the town and made their way toward him.

31 Meanwhile his disciples urged him, "Rabbi, eat something."

32 But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you know nothing about."

Jewish law, may have restricted interactions between men and women, especially unmarried women



36 **But as I told you, you have seen me and still you do not believe.**

37 All those the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never drive away.

38 For I have come down from heaven not to do my will but to do the will of him who sent me.

39 And this is the will of him who sent me, that I shall lose none of all those he has given me,

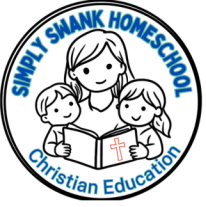
but raise them up at the last day.



40 For my Father's will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life,

and I will raise them up at the last day."





John 6

Name: _____

41 At this the Jews there began to grumble about him because he said, "**I am the bread** that came down from heaven."

42 They said, "Is this not Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, 'I came down from heaven'?"

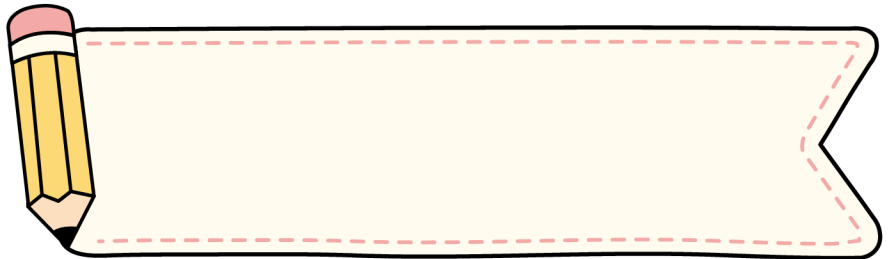
43 "Stop grumbling among yourselves," Jesus answered.

44 "No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws them,

and I will raise them up at the last day.

45 It is written in the Prophets: 'They will all be taught by God.' Everyone who has heard the Father and learned from him comes to me.

How many?





John 6

Name: _____

46 No one has seen the Father except the one who is from God; only he has seen the Father.

47 Very truly I tell you, the one who believes has eternal life.

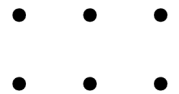
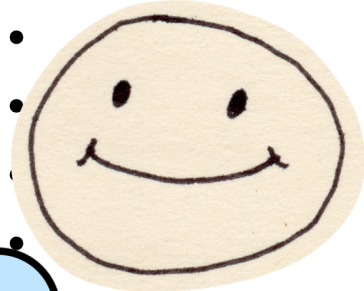
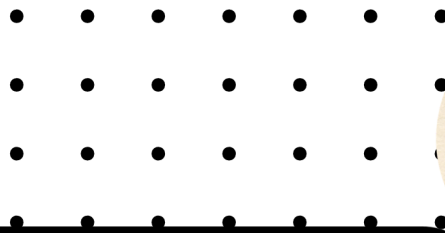
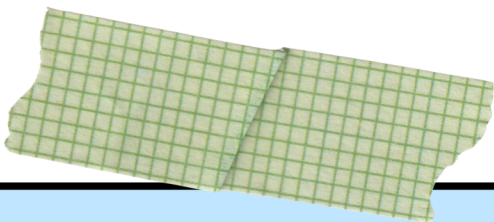
48 I am the bread of life.

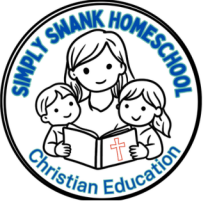
49 Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, yet they died.

50 But **here is the bread** that comes down from heaven, which anyone may eat and not die.

51 **I am the living bread** that came down from heaven. Whoever eats this bread will live forever. **This bread is my flesh**, which I will give for the life of the world.”

52 Then the Jews began to argue sharply among themselves, “How can this man give us his flesh to eat?”





John 6

Name: _____

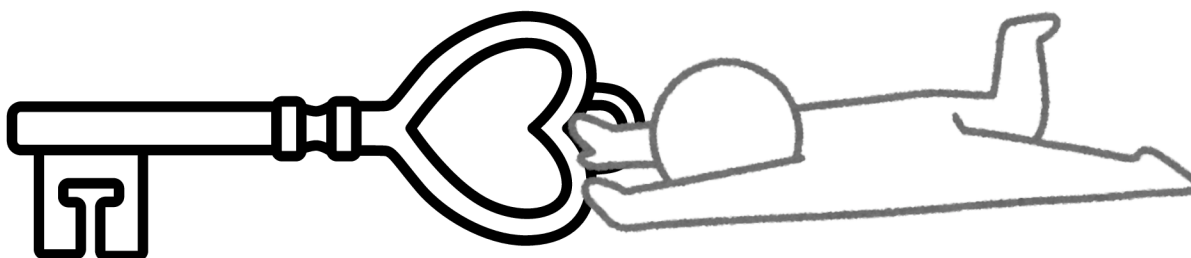
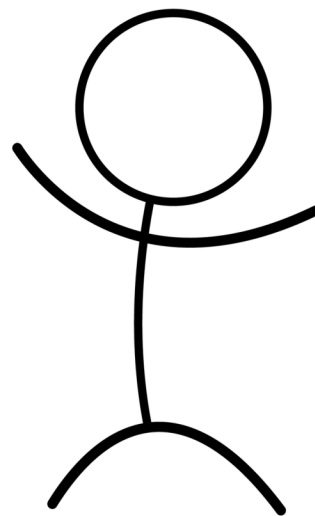
Key Points:

Jesus is "Soul Food": Just like food keeps your body strong, believing in Jesus keeps your heart and spirit healthy, happy, and connected to God forever.

Trust Completely: "Eating" means trusting Jesus totally, not just a little bit, for forgiveness and life.

The Cross: When He talks about his blood/body, He is referring to his sacrifice—dying to take away our sins and giving us "eternal life," which means friendship with God that never ends.

Communion: This is why we have communion (or the Lord's Supper) at church, where we use bread and juice to remember what Jesus did for us



53 Jesus said to them, "Very truly I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you.

54 Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise them up at the last day.

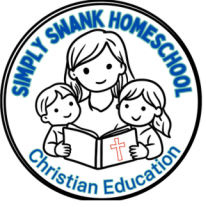
55 For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink.

56 Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me, and I in them.

57 Just as the living Father sent me and I live because of the Father, so the one who feeds on me will live because of me.

58 This is the bread that came down from heaven. Your ancestors ate manna and died, but whoever feeds on this bread will live forever."

59 He said this while teaching in the synagogue in Capernaum.



John 6

Name: _____

In John 6:53, Jesus uses stark, symbolic language to explain that "eating his flesh" and "drinking his blood" means, metaphorically, to believe in him, **accept his sacrifice**, and abide in him to gain eternal life. This "food" represents spiritual sustenance rather than physical eating, distinguishing his teaching from the manna of the Old Testament





John 6

Name: _____

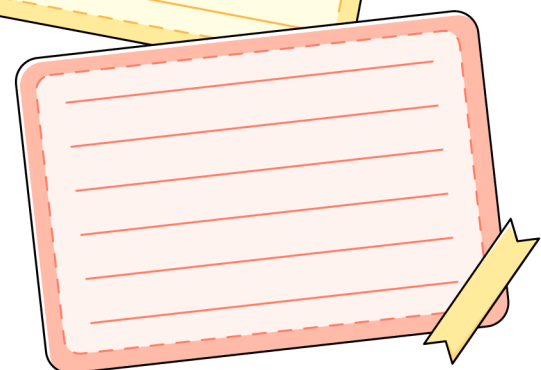
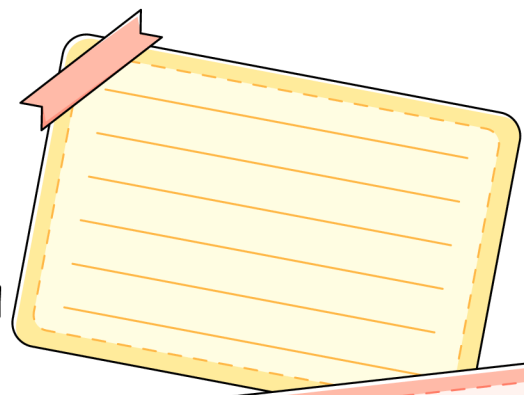
ἀναστήσω (anastēsō): From anistēmi, meaning "I will raise up," "erect," or "cause to stand," referring to raising a person from the dead.

ἐν τῇ ἐσχάτῃ ἡμέρᾳ (en tē eschatē hēmera): Meaning "in the last day" or "at the final day". This refers to the end-times resurrection/judgment day.

Context of Repetition: Jesus repeats this promise four times in John 6 (verses 39, 40, 44, 54), emphasizing the certainty of the promise for those the Father draws.

Studying the Bible - always use the Bible to study the Bible -
BibleHub.com

Parallelism is a grammatical, rhetorical, or logical structure where parts of a sentence, idea, or data set share the same form, rhythm, or direction, enhancing clarity, balance, and memorability. It connects similar ideas using consistent grammar (e.g., nouns with nouns, -ing with -ing) to create rhythm, improve readability, and strengthen arguments



Parallelism is a special way of writing used in the Bible—mostly in poetry like Psalms and Proverbs—where the writer does not rhyme words (like "cat" and "hat"), but instead rhymes ideas. Think of it like a "thought-rhyme," where the second line of a verse matches, explains, or contrasts the first line to make the point stronger



John 6

Name: _____

1. Synonymous Parallelism (The "Echo" Method)

In this type, the second line repeats the same idea as the first line, but uses different words. It's like an echo that makes the point clearer.

- Example: "The heavens declare the glory of God, / and the sky above proclaims his handiwork." (Psalm 19:1)
- Explanation: "Heavens" is like "sky," and "declare glory" is like "proclaims handiwork." They both mean God is awesome!.

2. Antithetic Parallelism (The "Opposite" Method)

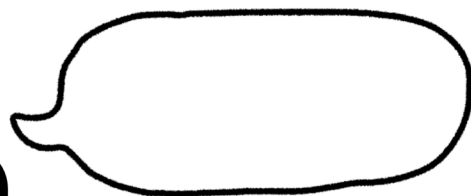
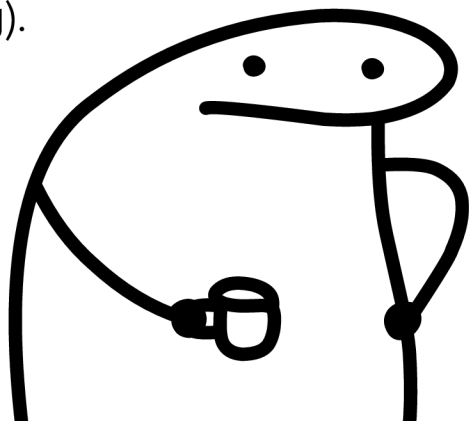
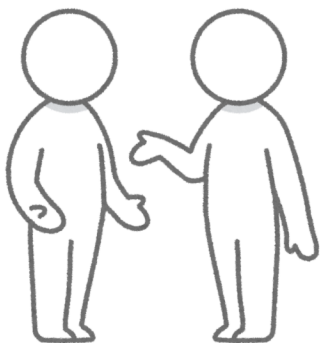
This type uses a contrast to teach a lesson by putting two opposite ideas side-by-side. It often uses the word "but" to show the difference.

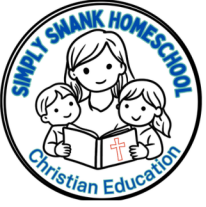
- Example: "A wise son brings joy to his father, / but a foolish son brings grief to his mother." (Proverbs 10:1)
- Explanation: This compares a good choice with a bad choice to show that our actions affect others.

3. Synthetic Parallelism (The "Building" Method)

In this type, the second line adds more information to the first line, building on it like a staircase.

- Example: "The LORD is my shepherd; / I shall not want." (Psalm 23:1)
- Explanation: The first line tells us who God is (my shepherd), and the second line tells us what that means for us (I won't lack anything).





John 6

Name: _____

Why Did Bible Writers Use Parallelism?

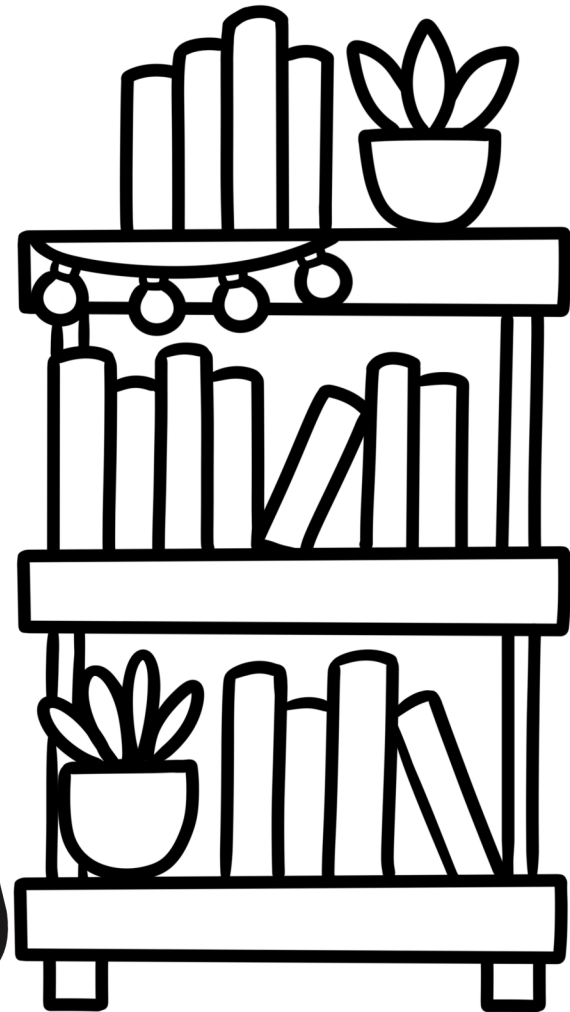
- Memorization: It made it easier for people to remember long passages before they had books.
- Emphasis: Repeating or contrasting ideas makes the message stand out.
- Beauty: It makes the poetry sound rhythmic and thoughtful in any language.

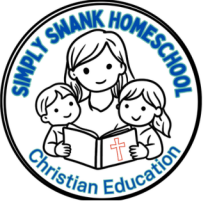
An Example in Action:

Imagine saying:

- Line 1: "I love to eat pepperoni pizza."
- Line 2 (Synonymous): "That cheesy treat makes me happy."
- Line 2 (Antithetic): "But I hate broccoli on top."

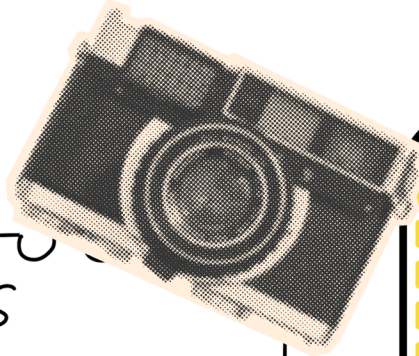
Parallelism helps us see that the Bible is not just a list of rules, but a beautiful, creative book!.





John 6

Name: _____



notes





John 6

Name: _____

Jesus used parallelism most frequently to teach about the **Kingdom of God** and the behaviors or characteristics associated with it, using it to highlight what the Kingdom is like, who belongs to it, and how it contrasts with the world.

Parallelism appears in nearly 200 instances in the Gospels, often highlighting the kingdom's present reality and future hope.

The most prominent ways Jesus used parallelism include:

Antithetical Parallelism (The Kingdom vs. The World): This is the most common form in Jesus's teaching, with nearly 140 instances, often used to contrast the kingdom of God with the ways of the world.

Example: "Every healthy tree bears good fruit, but the diseased tree bears bad fruit" (Matt. 7:17).

Synonymous Parallelism (The Nature of the Kingdom): Jesus frequently used this to reinforce his message, stating the same truth in two different ways to emphasize a point. Example: "Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil" (Matt. 6:13).

Step/Climactic Parallelism (The Chain of Authority): This form advances the thought from one line to the next. Example: "Whoever receives you receives me, and whoever receives me receives him who sent me" (Matt. 10:40).

Beyond specific teachings, Jesus also used parallel parables (e.g., the mustard seed and the leaven) to reinforce the same lesson about the growth of the Kingdom



John 6

Name: _____

According to Jesus, Judgment Day is the final, public separation of humanity at the end of time, where he will return in glory to judge all people based on **their faith and works**. It is described as a moment where believers are separated from unbelievers, similar to **a shepherd separating sheep from goats**.

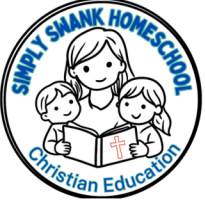
Key Aspects of Judgment Day According to Jesus:

- **Jesus is the Judge:** The Father has entrusted all judgment to the Son (Jesus), who will sit on a throne and judge all nations.
- **The Separation:** Jesus describes it as a separation between "sheep" (the righteous/believers) and "goats" (the unrighteous/unbelievers).
- **Basis of Judgment:** Judgment will be based on whether an individual accepted Christ (their works demonstrating their faith).
- **Separation of Belief:** It will be a public declaration of who belongs to Him, resulting in eternal life for the righteous and eternal punishment for the wicked.
- **Timing:** It occurs at the end of the age (or after death).

Key Parables and Teachings:

- The Sheep and the Goats (**Matthew 25:31-46**): Jesus describes himself sitting on his throne, separating people, with the righteous entering eternal life and the unrighteous going to eternal punishment.
- The Wheat and the Weeds (**Matthew 13:30**): Jesus indicates that a time is coming when He will separate those who followed him from those who did not, ending their coexistence.
- Judgment on Works: In **Matthew 7:22-23**, Jesus states that many will call him "Lord" on that day, but he will turn away those who practiced lawlessness.

In essence, Jesus presents the day as a definitive, universal accountability event, where he is the final authority determining eternal destiny

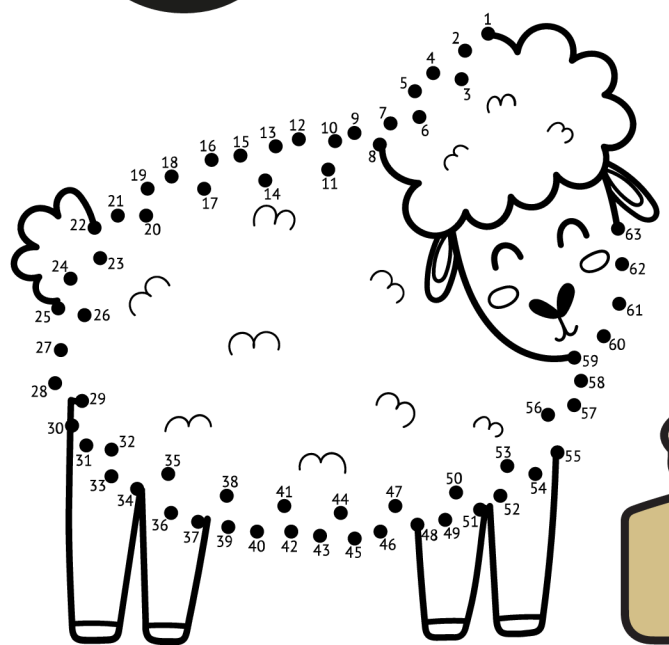


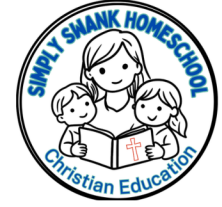
John 6

Name: _____



g.o.a.t.





John 6

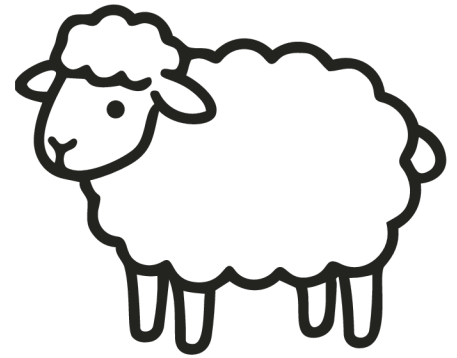
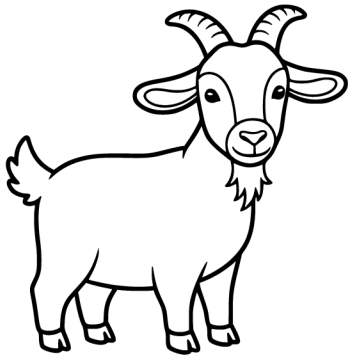
Name: _____

The Parable of the Sheep and Goats (Matthew 25:31-46)

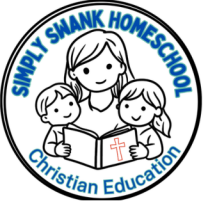
is a teaching by Jesus describing the final judgment, where he separates humanity into two groups based on their actions, rather than just words. "Sheep" (the righteous) are those who acted with compassion, feeding the hungry and caring for the vulnerable, thereby serving Jesus himself. "Goats" (the unrighteous) are those who neglected to help others, facing separation and judgment.

Core Aspects of the Parable:

- The Judgment Scenario: Jesus depicts himself as a King/Shepherd separating people into two groups: the righteous on his right and the cursed on his left.
- The Criteria (The "Least of These"): The deciding factor is how people treated vulnerable, needy individuals, identified as "the least of these brothers". Helping those in need is treated as serving Jesus directly.

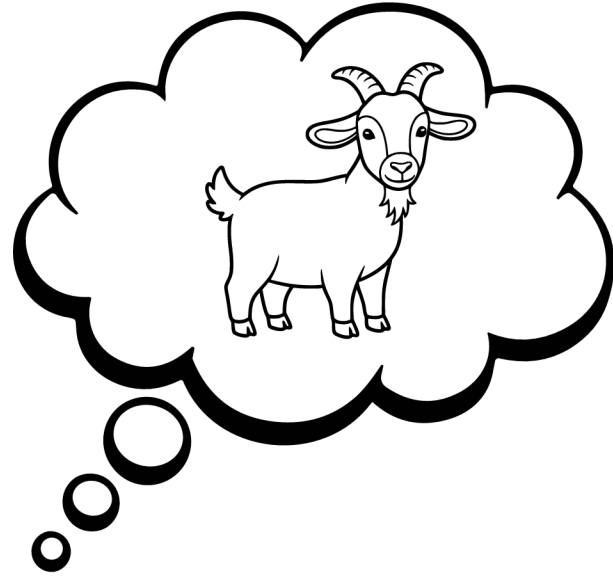


- The Outcomes:
 - Sheep (Right Side): Represent the righteous, saved individuals who inherit the kingdom because they showed compassion.
 - Goats (Left Side): Represent the unrighteous who did not serve others, leading to eternal punishment.
- Symbolism of Animals: Sheep are portrayed as reliant on the shepherd, representing followers, while goats are considered headstrong, independent, and stubborn, representing those who refuse to follow divine guidance.



John 6

Name: _____





John 6

Name: _____

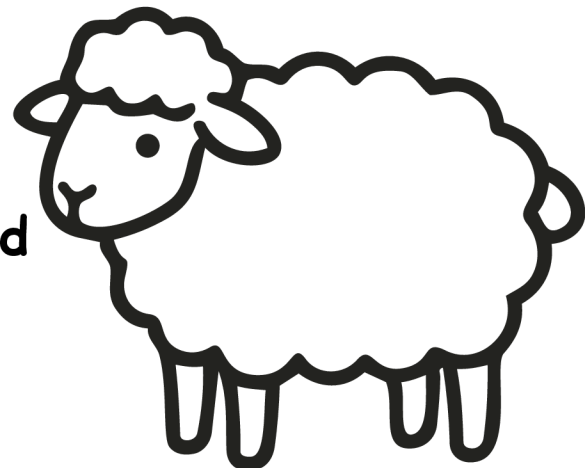
In Christianity, sheep symbolize believers who are defenseless, prone to wandering, and entirely dependent on Jesus (the Good Shepherd) for protection, guidance, and salvation.

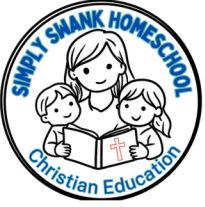
Understanding sheep involves recognizing their need for leadership, their tendency to follow, their vulnerability to predators, and their ability to recognize their shepherd's voice.

Key characteristics of sheep important to Christians include:

- **Defenselessness & Vulnerability:** Sheep lack natural defenses (no sharp claws or speed) and cannot protect themselves, highlighting a believer's need for Christ's protection from spiritual dangers.
- **Tendency to Wander:** Sheep easily get lost and wander off. This mirrors humanity's tendency to go astray and disregard God's path, as noted in Isaiah 53:6.
- **Dependence on a Shepherd:** Unlike animals that can find their way home, sheep require a shepherd to guide them to pasture and water. This highlights the need for daily reliance on God's direction.
- **Following the Shepherd's Voice:** Sheep know their shepherd and follow him, but they can be led astray by following the crowd, emphasizing the importance of discerning Christ's voice over worldly influence.
- **Being "Cast Down":** A sheep that has rolled onto its back and cannot get up is "cast." It is helpless and will die without the shepherd, symbolizing that Christians cannot overcome struggles (like sin or anxiety) without Jesus.
- **Need for Cleansing:** Sheep require care to remove parasites and debris from their wool, representing the spiritual need for cleansing and sanctification.

In essence, these traits emphasize the humility, trust, and obedience required of Christians to remain secure under the care of the Good Shepherd



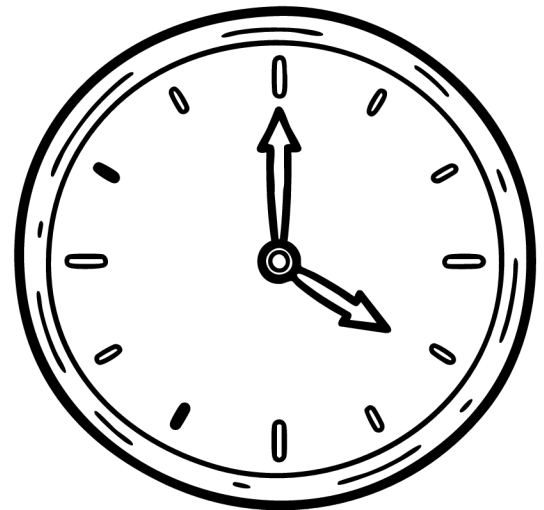
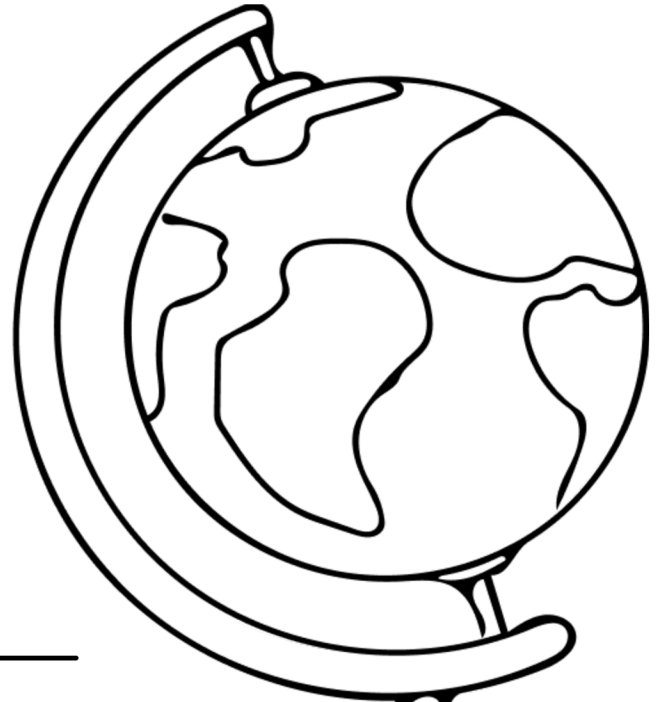


John 6

Name: _____



Handwriting practice lines consisting of 18 horizontal lines.





John 6

Name: _____

Based on the Parable of the Sheep and Goats (Matthew 25), **goats** symbolize unbelievers or complacent Christians who are self-reliant, disobedient, and uncompassionate toward the needy.

Key traits to avoid include stubborn independence, pride, neglect of service to others, and a rebellious spirit that refuses to follow the Shepherd (Jesus).

Key Characteristics of the "Goat" to Understand & Avoid:

Independence and Rebellion: Unlike sheep that follow the flock and shepherd, goats are independent, headstrong, and prone to going their own way, representing a lack of submission to God's will.

Lack of Compassion (Selfishness): Goats are characterized by their failure to minister to the hungry, thirsty, strangers, or sick. Their focus is self-centered rather than sacrificial.

Stubbornness and Contrary Nature: They are often unpredictable and resistant to discipline or guidance.

Self-Righteousness and Hypocrisy: They may appear active but often act out of self-interest rather than true, sacrificial love, leading to surprise on the day of judgment.

Disunity: Goats often act alone and do not exhibit the strong flocking, unified instinct of sheep.

Haughtiness: They can exhibit a haughty, arrogant, or proud attitude.

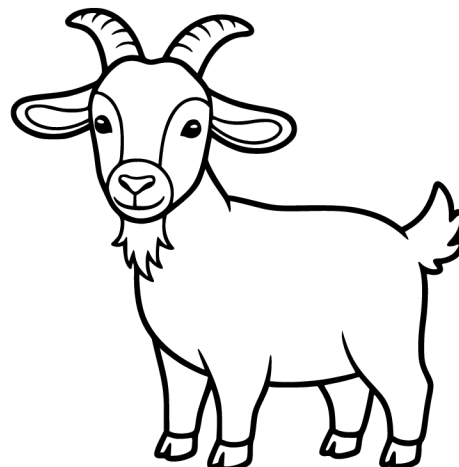
What to Avoid (The "Goat" Lifestyle):

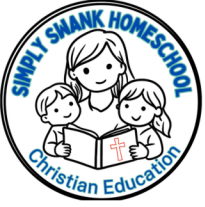
Avoiding Service: Failing to see Christ in the "least of these" and neglecting to show love and mercy.

Independent Living: Trying to live by one's own rules rather than following the voice of the Shepherd.

Being "Judas Goats": Following leaders or trends that lead others away from the faith and into destruction.

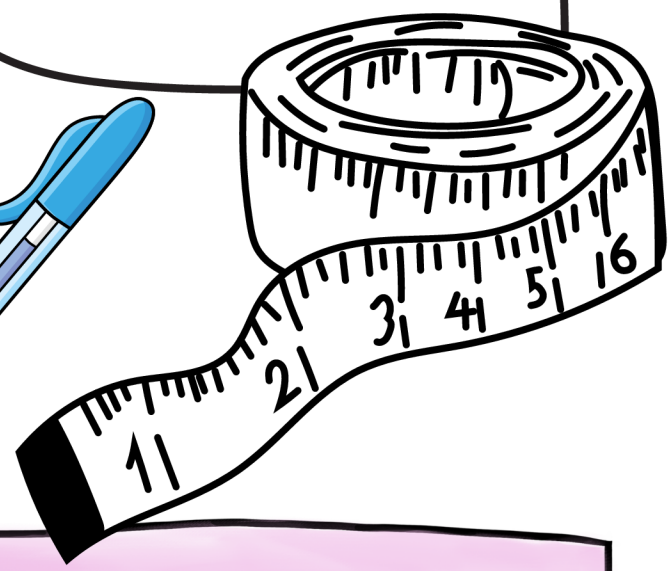
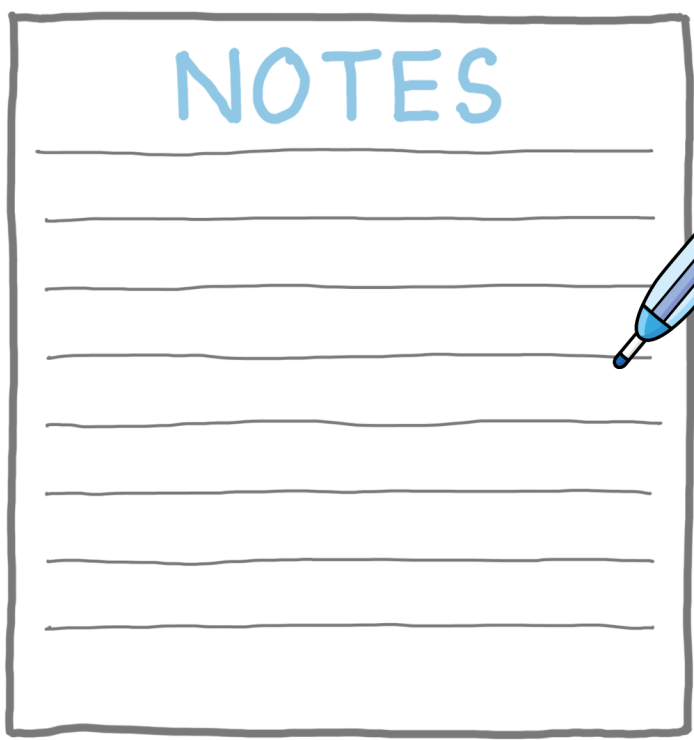
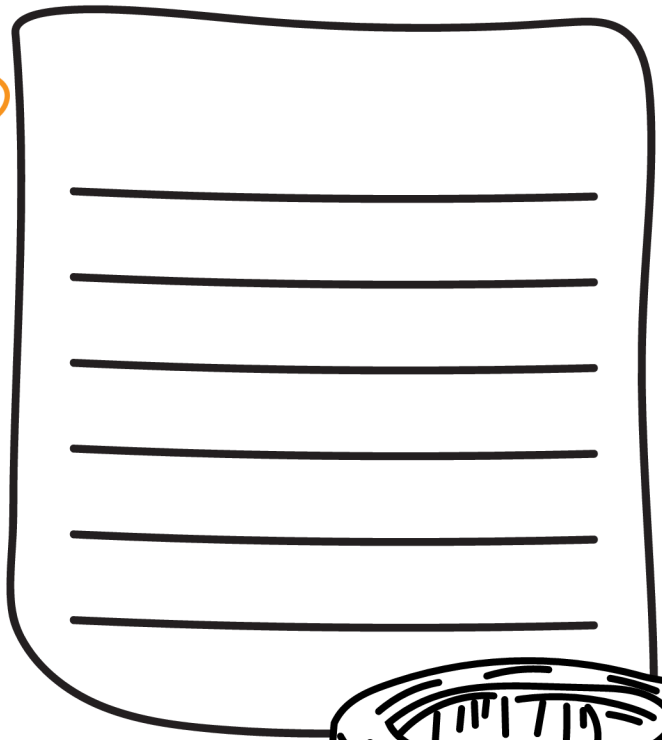
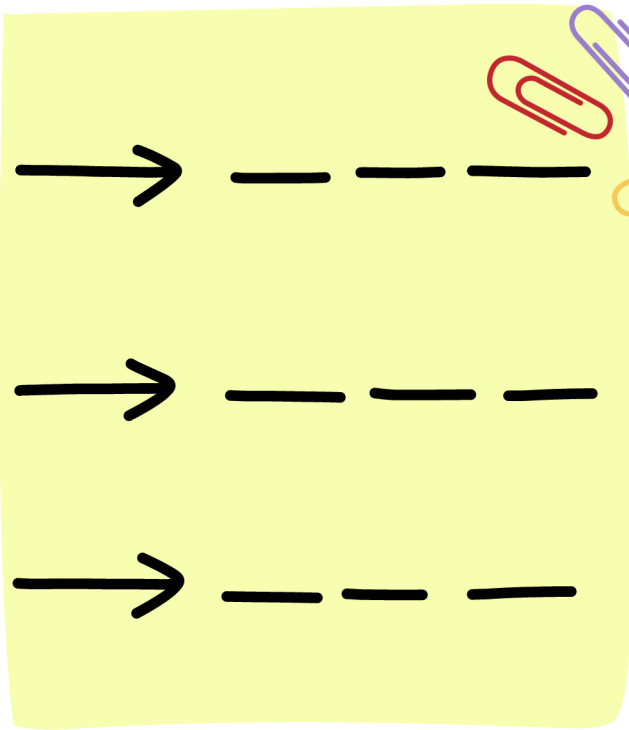
The Goal:
The difference lies not just in outward action, but in the heart and fruit—true believers (sheep) exhibit compassion and obedience, whereas "goats" are marked by their indifference to Christ's teachings





John 6

Name: _____



important



John 7

Name: _____

Jesus Goes to the Festival of Tabernacles

After this, Jesus went around in Galilee. He did not want to go about in Judea because the Jewish leaders there were looking for a way to kill him.

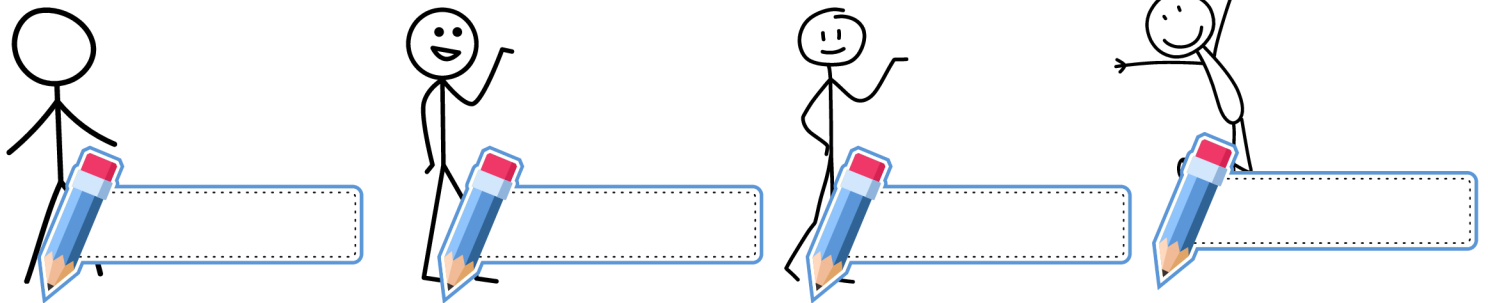
² But when the Jewish Festival of Tabernacles was near,

³ Jesus' brothers said to him, "Leave Galilee and go to Judea, so that your disciples there may see the works you do.

⁴ No one who wants to become a public figure acts in secret. Since you are doing these things, show yourself to the world."

⁵ For even his own brothers did not believe in him.

Named Brothers: James, Joseph, Simon, and Judas are specifically mentioned in Matthew 13:55-56 and Mark 6:3.

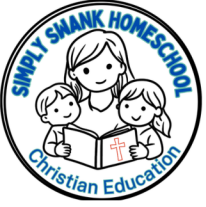


Sisters: The Bible indicates Jesus had at least two sisters (plural), but they are not named or numbered



Context: The brothers are described as not believing in Jesus during his ministry (John 7:5), but they are later found praying with the disciples in Acts 1:14.

Significance: James, the brother of Jesus, became a leader in the Jerusalem church (Acts 12:17, 15:13) and is believed to have written the book of James. Jude (Judas) is believed to be the author of the book of Jude



John 7

Name: _____

The Festival of Tabernacles, or Sukkot, is a joyful 7-day biblical fall festival (often extending to 8) that serves as a thanksgiving holiday for kids to celebrate God's protection, provision, and the fall harvest. It remembers the 40 years the Israelites lived in temporary shelters while traveling through the wilderness after leaving Egypt





John 7

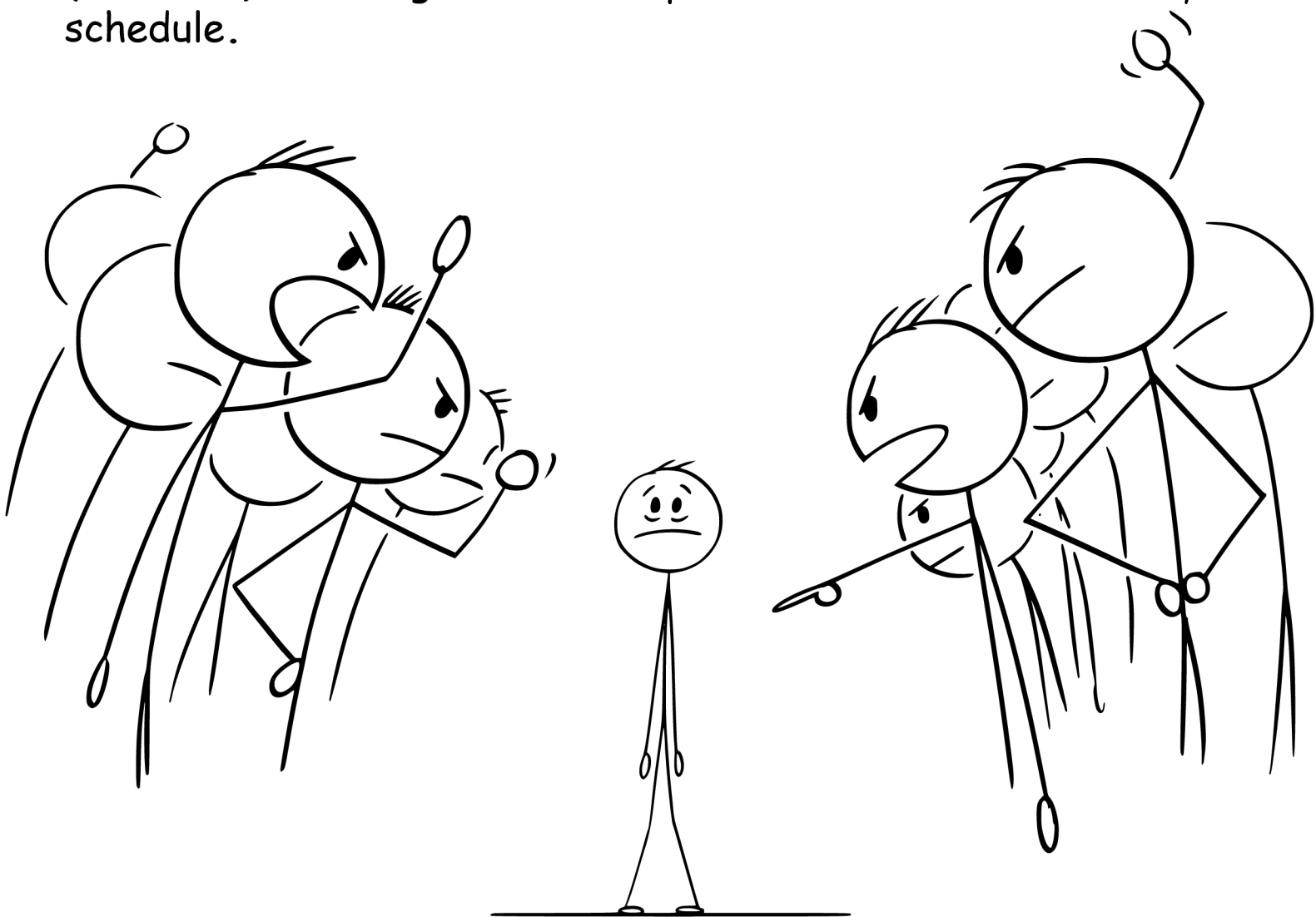
Name: _____

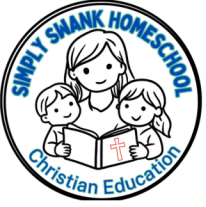
The Conflict: Brothers' Unbelief

Lack of Faith: The passage specifically notes that "not even his brothers believed in him" (John 7:5), despite seeing his signs.

Worldly Motives: The brothers, acting with the wisdom of the world, challenged Jesus to display his works publicly in Judea to gain fame, suggesting that a public figure should not work in secret.

Different Timetables: The brothers were ready to go anytime, whereas Jesus stated his "time had not yet fully come" (John 7:8), refusing to let their pressure dictate his ministry's schedule.





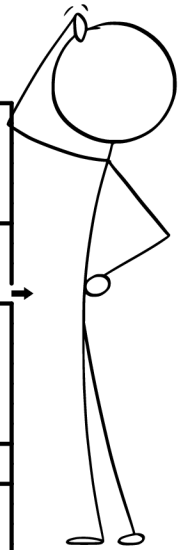
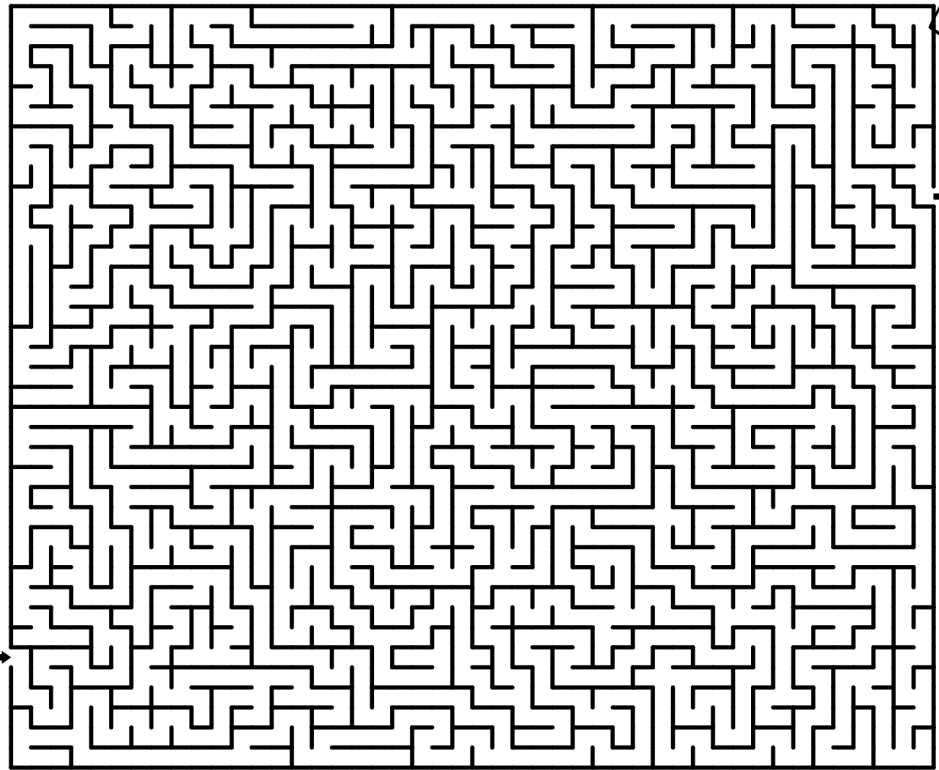
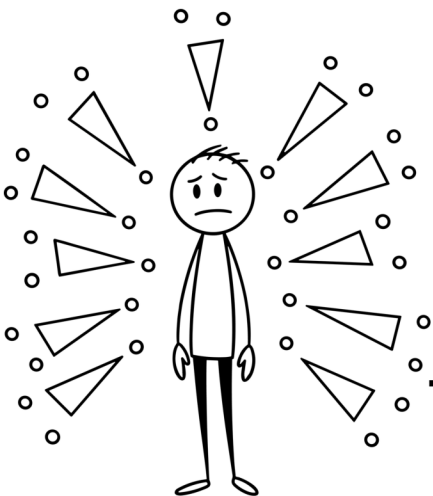
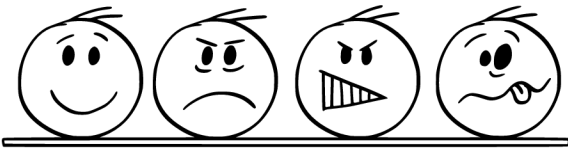
John 7

Name: _____

From a Biblical standpoint, feelings are God-given, purposeful components of being made in His image, not inherently sinful or merely obstacles to faith.

While emotions should not be the ultimate guide for truth (which is Scripture), they are vital for experiencing relationship with God, navigating life, and reflecting His character, including love, joy, and holy anger

NOTES





John 7

Name: _____

Therefore Jesus told them, "My time is not yet here; for you any time will do.

7 The world cannot hate you, **but it hates me because I testify that its works are evil.**

8 You go to the festival. I am not going up to this festival, because my time has not yet fully come."

9 After he had said this, he stayed in Galilee.

10 However, after his brothers had left for the festival, he went also, not publicly, but in secret.

11 Now at the festival the Jewish leaders were watching for Jesus and asking, "Where is he?"

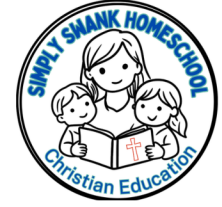
12 Among the crowds there was widespread whispering about him. Some said, "He is a good man." Others replied, "No, he deceives the people."

13 But no one would say anything publicly about him for fear of the leaders.

Jesus attended the Feast of Tabernacles in secret to avoid premature conflict with leaders plotting his death and to reject his brothers' pressure for self-promotion.

*His actions were governed by divine timing rather than public spectacle, and his later, private arrival did not constitute a lie but a **change in methods.***

Jesus did not lie to His half-brothers. He was making it clear to them that if or when He went to the festival was a matter of God's exact timing and perfect plan, not their ignorant opinions. He knew His brothers would see Him at the festival and would have to think about what He told them more deeply when His exact hour had come, but not before

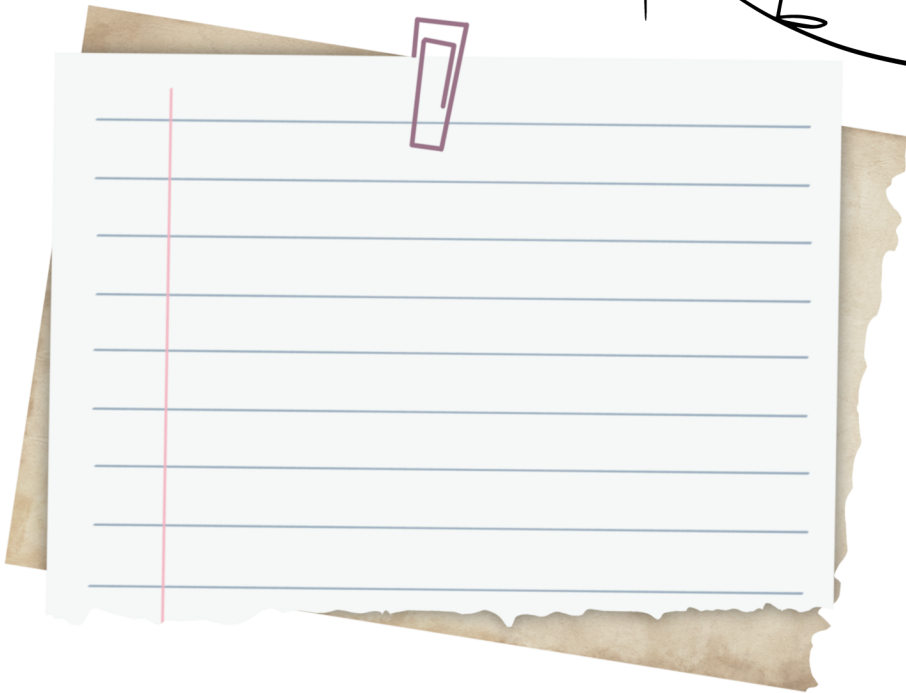
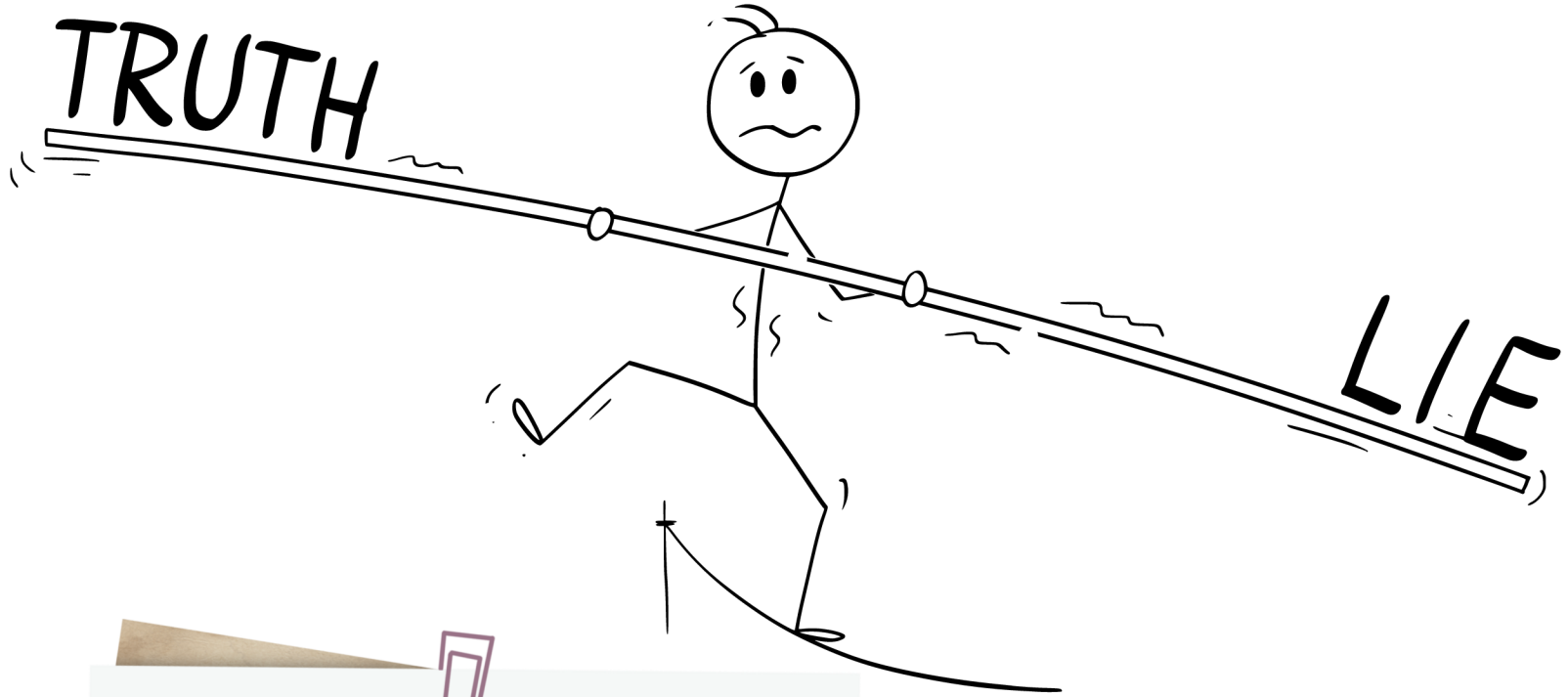


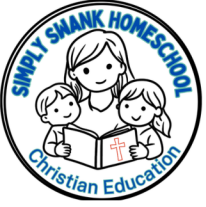
John 7

Name: _____

The Bible consistently portrays lying as a sin that displeases God, listing a "lying tongue" as an abomination (Proverbs 6:16-19) and designating Satan as the "father of lies".

While generally forbidden, Scripture records rare instances—like the Hebrew midwives or Rahab—where lying to protect life occurred, though the lies themselves are not praised





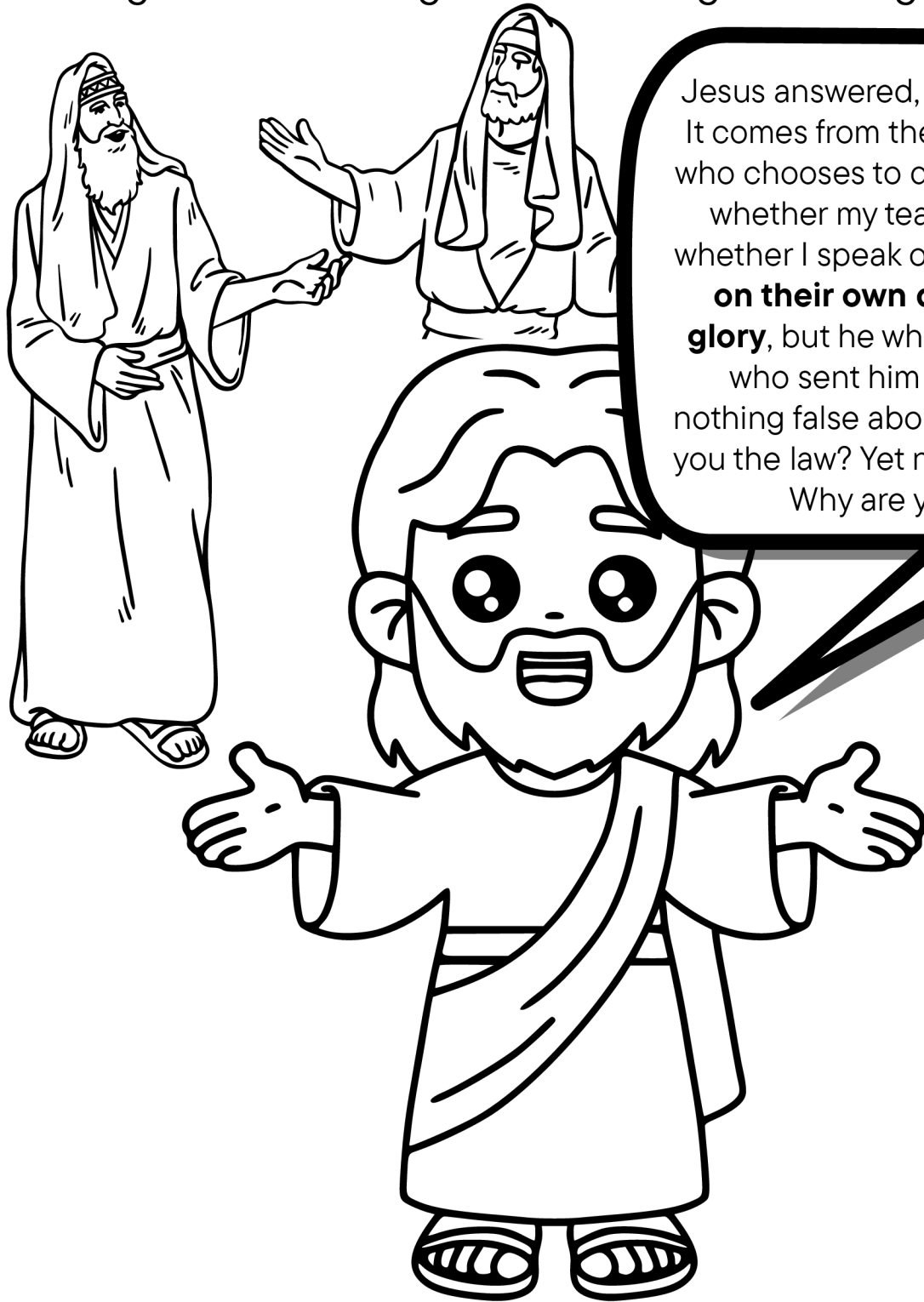
John 7

Name: _____

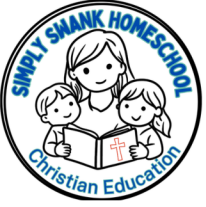
Jesus Teaches at the Festival

14 Not until halfway through the festival did Jesus go up to the temple courts and begin to teach.

15 **The Jews there were amazed** and asked, "How did this man get such learning without having been taught?"



Jesus answered, "My teaching is not my own. It comes from the one who sent me. Anyone who chooses to do the will of God will find out whether my teaching comes from God or whether I speak on my own. **Whoever speaks on their own does so to gain personal glory**, but he who seeks the glory of the one who sent him is a man of truth; there is nothing false about him. Has not Moses given you the law? Yet not one of you keeps the law. Why are you trying to kill me?"



John 7

Name: _____

20 “You are demon-possessed,” the crowd answered. “Who is trying to kill you?”

21 Jesus said to them, “I did one miracle, and you are all amazed.

22 Yet, because Moses gave you circumcision (though actually it did not come from Moses, but from the patriarchs), you circumcise a boy on the Sabbath.

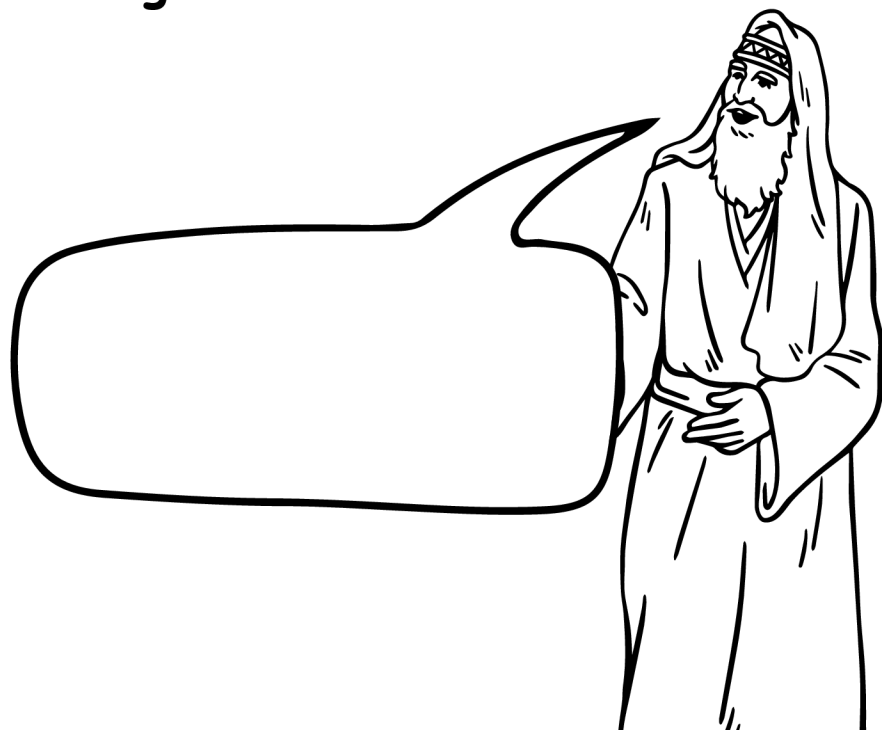
23 Now if a boy can be circumcised on the Sabbath so that the law of Moses may not be broken, why are you angry with me for healing a man’s whole body on the Sabbath?

24 Stop judging by mere appearances, but instead judge correctly.”

This statement was a direct defense of his action in healing the crippled man at the pool of Bethesda in John 5:1-9, which the leaders in Jerusalem used to accuse him of violating the Sabbath.

The Reaction:

Rather than rejoicing at the healing, the leaders were furious and "sought to kill Him" because he did these things on the Sabbath.





John 7

Name: _____

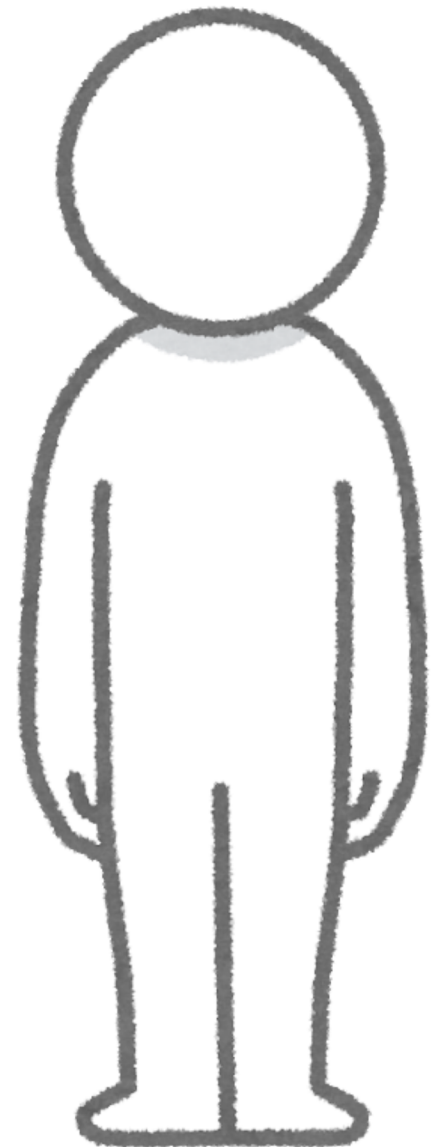
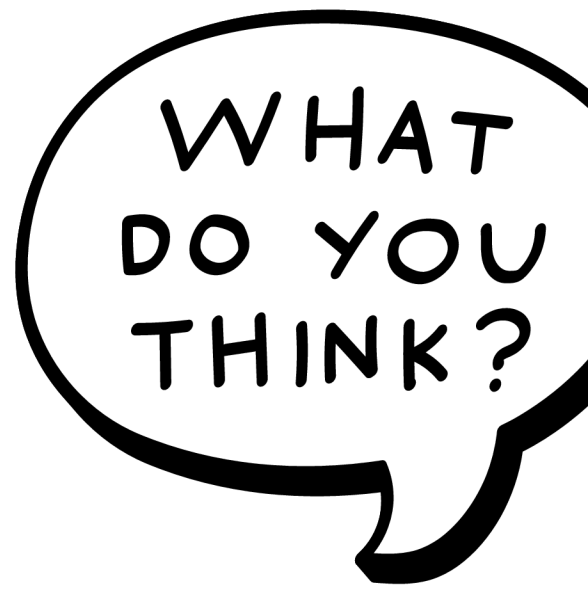
Move past the surface: Jesus was criticizing the Pharisees for judging based on outward, legalistic appearances (e.g., healing on the Sabbath) rather than the intent of the law (mercy).

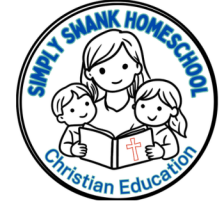
Use God's Standard: "Righteous judgment" is not based on personal opinion, reputation, or worldly standards, but on divine truth, which is objective and found in Scripture.

The Context of "Do Not Judge": This verse contrasts with Matthew 7:1 ("Do not judge"), clarifying that Jesus did not forbid all judgment. Instead, he condemned hypocritical and unrighteous judgment, while commanding discernment.

Righteousness vs. Self-

Righteousness: Judging wrongly is self-righteous and proud; judging rightly is humble and aimed at restoration.





John 7

Name: _____

Division Over Who Jesus Is

²⁵ At that point some of the people of Jerusalem began to ask, "Isn't this the man they are trying to kill?"

²⁶ Here he is, speaking publicly, and they are not saying a word to him. Have the authorities really concluded that he is the Messiah?

²⁷ **But we know where this man is from; when the Messiah comes, no one will know where he is from."**

"When the Messiah comes, no one will know where he is from": Based on some Rabbinic and popular traditions (often interpreting Malachi 3:1), many believed the Messiah would appear suddenly in the temple or have a miraculous, obscure, or heavenly origin.



The Old Testament contains numerous prophecies regarding the birth of Jesus Christ, with some analysts identifying hundreds of messianic predictions. Key prophecies include his birth to a virgin (Isaiah 7:14), birth in Bethlehem (Micah 5:2), royal lineage (Isaiah 9:7), and his nature as the "Mighty God" (Isaiah 9:6)



John 7

Name: _____

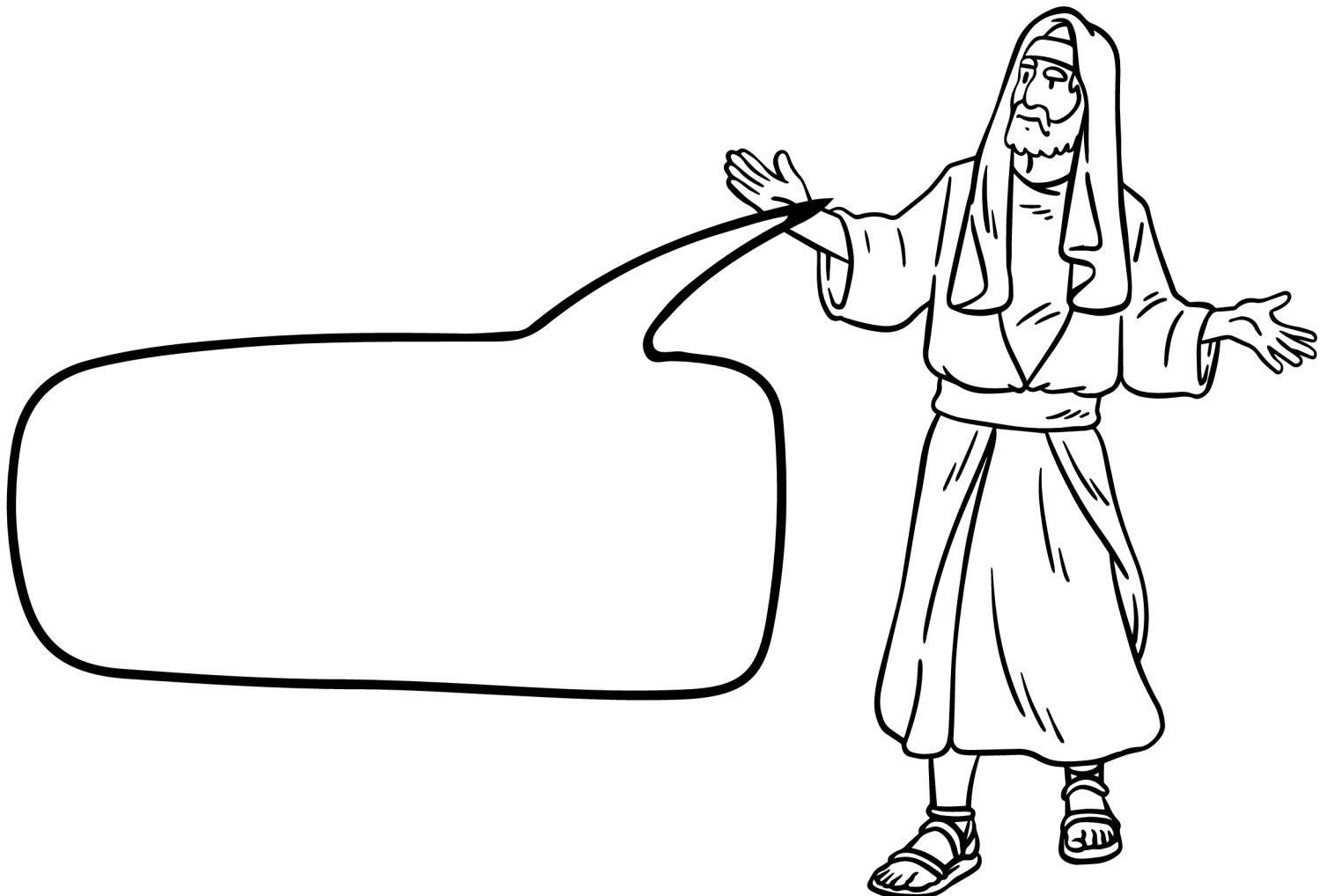
28 Then Jesus, still teaching in the temple courts, cried out, “Yes, you know me, and you know where I am from. I am not here on my own authority, but he who sent me is true. You do not know him,

29 **but I know him because I am from him and he sent me.”**

30 At this they tried to seize him, but **no one** laid a hand on him, because his hour had not yet come.

31 Still, **many in the crowd believed** in him. They said, “When the Messiah comes, will he perform more signs than this man?”

32 The Pharisees heard the crowd whispering such things about him. Then the chief priests and the Pharisees sent temple guards to arrest him.





John 7

Name: _____

33 Jesus said, “I am with you for only a short time, and then I am going to the one who sent me.

34 You will look for me, but you will not find me; and where I am, you cannot come.”

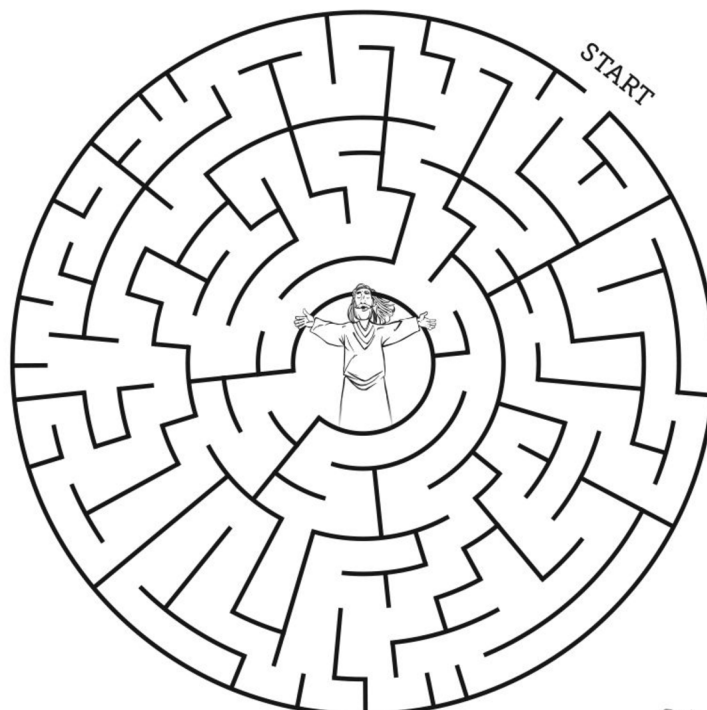
35 The Jews said to one another, “Where does this man intend to go that we cannot find him? Will he go where our people live scattered among the Greeks, and teach the Greeks?

36 What did he mean when he said, ‘You will look for me, but you will not find me,’ and ‘Where I am, you cannot come’?”

Why It Matters

This passage shows a classic theme in the Gospel of John: Jesus talks about spiritual, heavenly realities, but the crowd is only thinking about physical, earthly things. They were looking for a geographic destination, while Jesus was talking about a divine one.

Follow the path to Jesus.





John 7

Name: _____

Unbelief of the Jewish Leaders

45 Finally **the temple guards** went back to the chief priests and the Pharisees, who asked them, “Why didn’t you bring him in?”

46 “No one ever spoke the way this man does,” the guards replied.

47 “You mean he has deceived you also?” the Pharisees retorted.

48 **“Have any of the rulers or of the Pharisees believed in him?”**

49 No! But this mob that knows nothing of the law—there is a curse on them.”

50 **Nicodemus, who had gone to Jesus earlier and who was one of their own number, asked,**

51 **“Does our law condemn a man without first hearing him to find out what he has been doing?”**

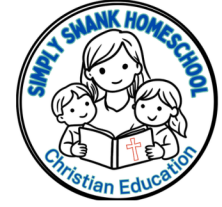
52 They replied, “Are you from Galilee, too? Look into it, and you will find that a prophet does not come out of Galilee.”

53 Then they all went home



Nicodemus, who had gone to Jesus earlier and who was one of their own number, asked,

asking questions provokes a response...sparks ignite



John 7

Name: _____

Nicodemus is a Jewish religious leader in the New Testament who journeys from a secret, confused seeker to a bold, public follower of Jesus. His story is only found in the Gospel of John and unfolds across three specific moments.

Who Was Nicodemus?

Nicodemus had a lot to lose by talking to Jesus. He was a Pharisee, which means he belonged to a strict group of Jewish religious experts who heavily studied God's laws. He was also a member of the Sanhedrin, the supreme court of ancient Israel. This made him wealthy, powerful, and highly respected. Most people in his position disliked Jesus, but Nicodemus was curious.

Act 1: The Midnight Meeting (John 3)

Nicodemus wanted to talk to Jesus, but he was afraid of what his powerful friends would think. To protect his reputation, he snuck out to meet Jesus late at night.

The Confusion: Nicodemus admitted that Jesus' miracles proved He was sent by God. Jesus responded with a puzzling statement: "No one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again."

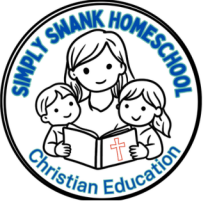
The Literal Thinker: Nicodemus took this literally. He asked how a grown man could possibly crawl back inside his mother's womb.

The Spiritual Truth: Jesus clarified that He was talking about a spiritual rebirth, not a physical one. He explained that just like your body is born into the world, your spirit needs a fresh start from the Holy Spirit.

The Famous Verse: During this exact late-night conversation, Jesus said the most famous verse in the Bible,



"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."



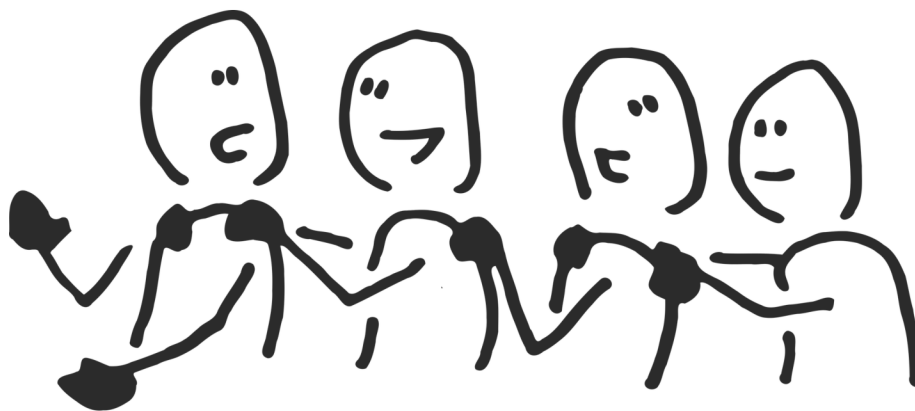
John 7

Name: _____

Coming "By Night" (Dealing with Peer Pressure)

Nicodemus visited Jesus in the dark. He did this because he was afraid of what the other leaders would think of him.

- **The Reflection:** In middle school, it is easy to worry about fitting in or being judged by your friends.
- **The Question:** Have you ever hidden what you really believe, or changed how you act, just because you were afraid of what people might say?



Being "Born Again" (Starting Fresh)

Jesus told Nicodemus that he needed to be "born again" of the Spirit. This completely confused Nicodemus because he took it literally. Jesus was actually talking about a spiritual reset—starting over with a clean heart.

The Reflection: 7th grade is a time of massive change. It is the beginning of something new, and the end of something new

The Question: Where do you need a fresh start in your life? This lesson reminds us that God always offers a way to hit the reset button.



John 7

Name: _____

Act 2: Speaking Up in Court (John 7)

The next time we see Nicodemus, he is starting to show a little more courage. The other Pharisees and religious leaders were furious with Jesus and wanted to arrest Him without a fair trial.

Nicodemus stood up in front of the Sanhedrin and defended Jesus. He reminded them of their own rules, saying, "Does our law condemn a man without first hearing him to find out what he has been doing?" The other leaders mocked him for it, but Nicodemus successfully delayed their plans.

Act 3: The Bold Burial (John 19)

The final chapter of Nicodemus' story takes place right after Jesus was crucified. While Jesus' closest disciples were hiding in fear, Nicodemus stepped completely out of the shadows.

He teamed up with another secret follower named Joseph of Arimathea to give Jesus a proper burial. Nicodemus brought about 75 to 100 pounds of expensive burial spices (myrrh and aloes). This massive, costly amount was a tribute usually reserved only for royalty. By helping bury Jesus in broad daylight, Nicodemus publicly declared his love and respect for Jesus, finally leaving his fear behind.

The Big Takeaway

Nicodemus' story shows that faith is a journey. He started with questions, moved to doubts under the cover of darkness, and eventually found the courage to take a bold, public stand.



The only prominent Pharisees mentioned in the Bible who became followers of Jesus are:

Nicodemus - who came to Jesus at night

Paul - who came to Jesus blind





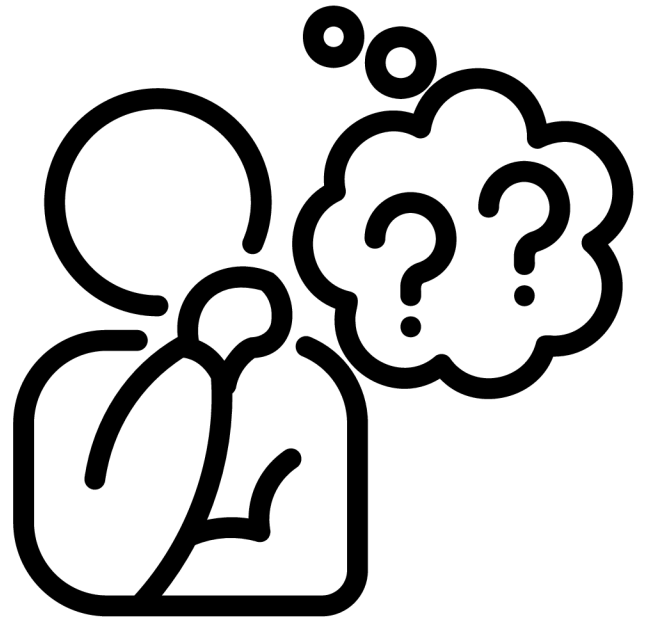
John 7

Name: _____

Asking Hard Questions (Growing Up)

Nicodemus did not just nod his head and pretend to understand. He honestly asked Jesus, "How can this be?" He used his brain and was willing to admit he didn't have all the answers.

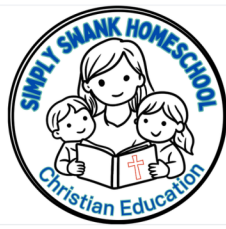
- **The Reflection:** As you grow up, your faith and your view of the world should come from *God's Word*. God wants you to be curious about him and ask deep questions.
- **The Question:** Asking questions sparks interest. The quest is exciting, wonderful and will create a bond with Jesus that is unbreakable.



Moving into the Light (Showing Courage)

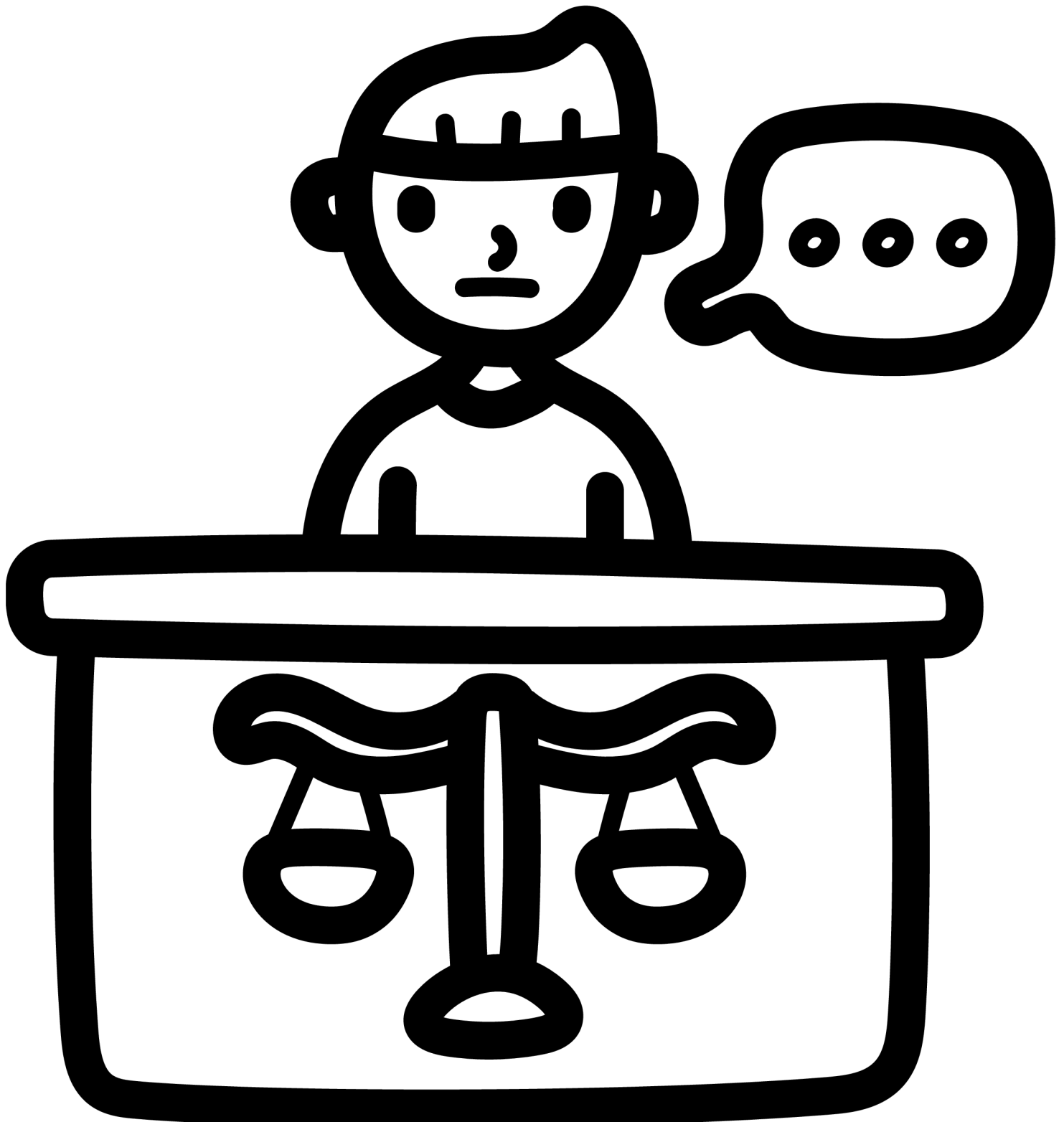
Nicodemus started in the dark, but his story doesn't end there. Later in the Bible, he stood up for Jesus in front of the rulers and even helped give Jesus a proper burial. He stepped out of the shadows.

- **The Reflection:** Your personal faith and character take time to grow. Your journey with Jesus will never end, and each day is new and full of "the next right thing for Jesus."
- **The Question:** How can you step out of the shadows this week to stand up for justice, truth, and live a life that is more bold for Jesus?



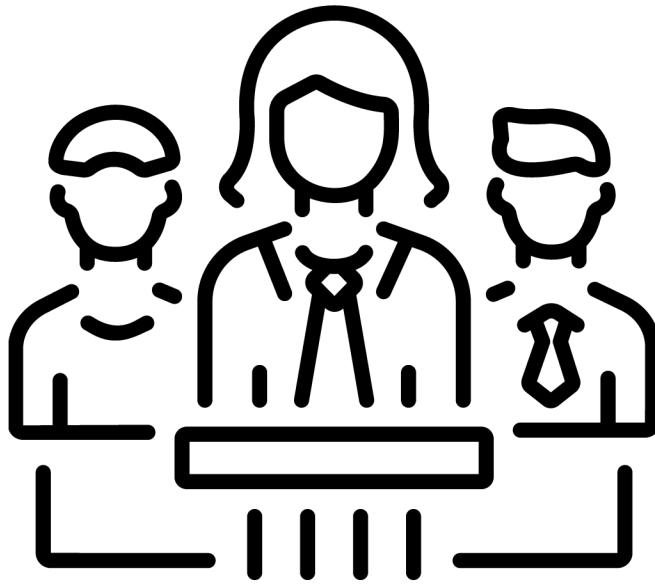
DEFEND YOUR FAITH

Name: _____





Name: _____



When people view the Bible as the word of a just and omniscient God, and attempt to have society's laws and social practices reflect biblical teachings, serious error and harm will occur if the Bible was actually written by fallible humans who lived in an unenlightened era.

In that case, the Bible would not be a guidebook for attaining human happiness and well-being. It would instead perpetuate the ideas of an ignorant and superstitious past – and prevent humanity from rising to a higher level.



Name: _____

Examples of New Testament Contradictions

In the New Testament, there are contradictions between the genealogies of Jesus given in the first chapter of Matthew and the third chapter of Luke. Both genealogies begin with Jesus' father, who is identified as Joseph (which is curious, given that Mary was supposedly impregnated by the Holy Ghost). But Matthew says Joseph's father was Jacob, while Luke claims he was Heli. Matthew lists 26 generations between Jesus and King David, whereas Luke records 41. Matthew runs Jesus' line of descent through David's son Solomon, while Luke has it going through David's son Nathan

Common Interpretations & Solutions:

- **Joseph vs. Mary:** A widely held view is that Matthew provides the genealogy of Joseph (legal/royal line) and Luke provides the genealogy of Mary (biological line), with Luke's reference to "Heli" referring to his father-in-law.
- **Levirate Marriage:** Another explanation suggests that Joseph's biological father and legal father were different due to a levirate marriage, with one Gospel covering each.
- **Different Goals:** The differences are often interpreted not as errors, but as intentional choices. Matthew focuses on legal succession to King David, while Luke emphasizes the human lineage of Jesus back to Adam.

These differences are not usually viewed as contradictions by theologians, but rather as distinct, complementary accounts.

The genealogies of Jesus in Matthew 1 and Luke 3 are often cited as contradictions because they list almost entirely different names between King David and Joseph. Matthew traces the royal line through David's son Solomon, while Luke traces a separate line, likely Mary's, through David's son Nathan



Name: _____

Examples of New Testament Contradictions

In the New Testament,

The story of Jesus' birth is also contradictory. Matthew 2:13-15 depicts Joseph and Mary as fleeing to Egypt with the baby Jesus immediately after the wise men from the east had brought gifts.

But Luke 2:22-40 claims that after the birth of Jesus, his parents remained in Bethlehem for the time of Mary's purification (which was 40 days, under the Mosaic law). Afterwards, they brought Jesus to Jerusalem "to present him to the Lord," and then returned to their home in Nazareth. Luke mentions no journey into Egypt or visit by wise men from the east.

Harmonization Approaches:

Many scholars and theologians argue these are not contradictions but complementary perspectives. The most common approach suggests the flight to Egypt occurred after the Temple visit in Luke.

- **Chronology:** After Jesus was presented in the Temple, they returned to Bethlehem (or Nazareth) and then the Magi arrived, triggering the escape.
- **Omission \ Contradiction:** Luke simply omits the Magi and Egypt, focusing on the legal, public presentation in Jerusalem.
- **Audience:** Matthew, writing to a Jewish audience, highlights fulfilled prophecy and the King's threat, while Luke highlights religious adherence.





Name: _____

Examples of New Testament Contradictions

In the New Testament,

Concerning the death of Judas, the disloyal disciple, Matthew 27:5 states he took the money he had received for betraying Jesus, threw it down in the temple, and “went and hanged himself.” To the contrary, Acts 1:18 claims Judas used the money to purchase a field and “falling headlong, he burst asunder in the midst, and all his bowels gushed out.”

While Matthew 27:5 states Judas hanged himself and Acts 1:18 describes him falling and bursting open, these accounts are generally reconciled as complementary rather than contradictory. The consensus is that Judas hanged himself (likely on a cliff), and subsequently, the rope or branch broke, leading to a fall that caused his body to burst open.

- The Hanging (Method of Suicide): Matthew 27:5 focuses on the immediate action of Judas, who felt remorse, returned the money, and hanged himself.
- The Fall (Condition of the Body): Acts 1:18 describes the horrific aftermath, likely occurring when the body was found days later, where a fall resulted in his bowels gushing out.
- The Field Purchase: Matthew 27:7 states the priests bought the field with the returned money, while Acts 1:18 says Judas “purchased” it. This is reconciled by viewing it as a field bought with his money, or a purchase he initiated before his death.





Name: _____

Examples of New Testament Contradictions

In the New Testament,

As for the crucifixion, Matthew 27:44 tells us Jesus was taunted by both criminals who were being crucified with him. But Luke 23:39-43 relates that only one of the criminals taunted Jesus, the other criminal rebuked the one who was doing the taunting, and Jesus told the criminal who was defending him, "Today shalt thou be with me in paradise."

Perspective 1: Progressive Change (Harmonization)

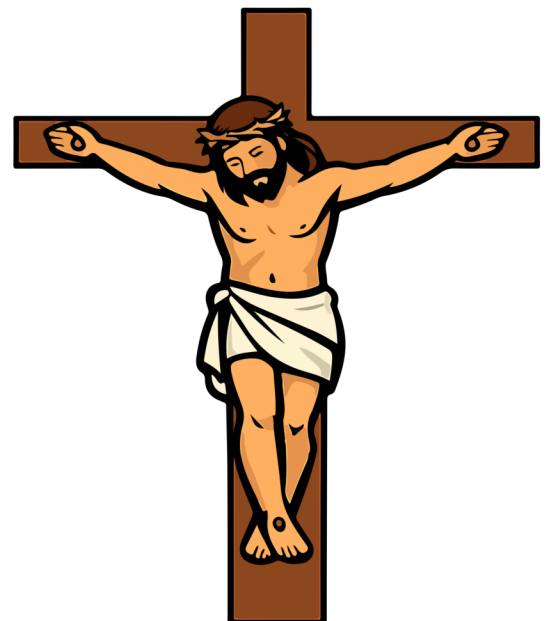
This view argues both accounts are factually accurate but describe different moments in time.

- **Initial Reaction:** Both criminals initially mocked Jesus together.
- **The Turning Point:** The second criminal witnessed Jesus's forgiveness and the midday darkness.
- **The Change of Heart:** He repented and rebuked the first criminal.
- **Literary Focus:** Matthew captures the early collective mockery, while Luke highlights the later repentance.

Perspective 2: Theological Focus (Literary Analysis)

This view suggests the authors structured their narratives to emphasize specific theological themes.

- **Matthew's Intent:** Focuses on complete abandonment. Everyone, including both criminals, rejected Jesus.
- **Luke's Intent:** Focuses on mercy, salvation, and forgiveness for outsiders.
- **Historical Context:** Ancient biography focused on character and meaning over strict chronological synchronization.





Name: _____

Examples of New Testament Contradictions

Regarding the last words of Jesus while on the cross, Matthew 27:46 and Mark 15:34 quote Jesus as crying with a loud voice, "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?" Luke 23:46 gives his final words as, "Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit." John 19:30 alleges the last words were, "It is finished."

The different final words of Jesus recorded in the Gospels—Matthew 27:46, Mark 15:34, Luke 23:46, and John 19:30—are not considered contradictions by most biblical scholars, but rather complementary accounts of the several hours Jesus spent on the cross.

These accounts represent different moments and different perspectives of the crucifixion, which lasted from roughly 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Reconciling the Gospel Accounts

The seven recorded sayings of Jesus are believed to have occurred in this chronological order:

"Father, forgive them..." (Luke 23:34)

"Truly... today you will be with me in Paradise" (Luke 23:43)

"Woman, behold your son" (John 19:26-27)

"My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?" (Matthew 27:46; Mark 15:34)

"I thirst" (John 19:28)

"It is finished" (John 19:30)

"Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit" (Luke 23:46)

Analysis of the Phrases

Matthew 27:46 / Mark 15:34 (Anguish & Prophecy): Crying out "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" (or in Aramaic, Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani), Jesus was quoting Psalm 22:1, signaling the fulfillment of prophecy while experiencing the profound spiritual burden of taking on the sins of humanity.

John 19:30 (Victory): Saying "It is finished" (Greek: Tetelestai—meaning "paid in full"), Jesus declared that the work of salvation was accomplished.

Luke 23:46 (Surrender): Saying "Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit," Jesus voluntarily yielded his life to God, indicating a return to communion with the Father after the period of separation represented in Matthew/Mark.



Name: _____

Examples of New Testament Contradictions

There are even contradictions in the accounts of the resurrection – the supposed event that is the very foundation of the Christian religion. Mark 16:2 states that on the day of the resurrection, certain women arrived at the tomb at the rising of the sun. But John 20:1 informs us they arrived when it was yet dark.

The Gospels focus on different people and perspectives, which likely explains the differing details.

- **Mary Magdalene's Initial Visit:** It is a common harmonization that Mary Magdalene arrived at the tomb first while it was still dark (John 20:1). After seeing the stone moved, she ran to tell Peter and John.
- **The Group of Women:** Other women mentioned in Mark and Luke may have arrived slightly later, as the sun was higher.
- **John Focuses on Mary:** John likely focuses on Mary Magdalene's personal account, whereas the Synoptic Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke) focus on the broader group of women

Complementary, Not Contradictory

Rather than contradicting, many scholars argue that the accounts are complementary—different, yet not mutually exclusive.

- **Different Perspectives:** The Gospel writers were not writing modern, scientific, or legalistic reports. Their accounts represent different witnesses to the same events.
- **The Core Assertion:** All four Gospels agree on the core, central fact: the women arrived early on the first day of the week, and the tomb was empty.

Ultimately, while the details of the timing, number of women, and presence of angels vary, traditional scholarship maintains that these variations are not contradictory but rather show that the accounts are independent testimonies rather than a single, pre-coordinated story.



Name: _____

Examples of New Testament Contradictions

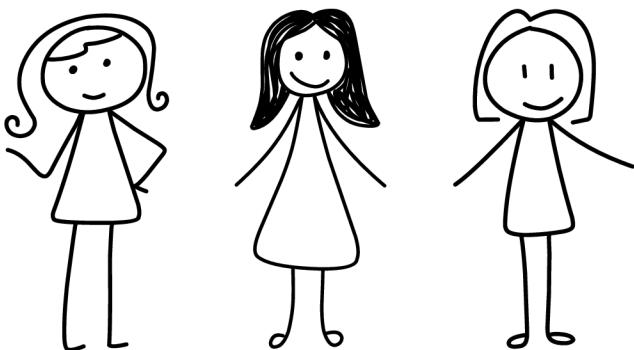
Luke 24:2 describes the tomb as open when the women arrived, whereas Matthew 28:1-2 indicates it was closed. Mark 16:5 declares that the women saw a young man at the tomb, Luke 24:4 says they saw two men, Matthew 28:2 reports they saw an angel, and John 20:11-12 claims they saw two angels.

Angelic Encounters: One vs. Two and Men vs. Angels

- **Mark 16:5:** Describes a "young man" sitting inside.
- **Luke 24:4:** Mentions "two men in dazzling clothes" inside.
- **Matthew 28:2-5:** Reports one angel sitting on the stone outside.
- **John 20:11-12:** Describes Mary Magdalene seeing two angels inside after returning with Peter.
- **Reconciliation:** These are likely not contradictions, but different moments. The women likely saw one angel outside (Matthew), who moved inside and was joined by another (Luke/Mark), or the women saw different messengers at different times during their visits. Furthermore, the term "young man" is understood to be a literary description of an angelic figure.

General Perspective on Discrepancies

- The accounts are independent testimonies that share a core set of facts—the tomb was empty and the women were the first to find it.
- The differences, such as which specific women went, are seen as evidence that the stories were not artificially harmonized, strengthening their authenticity as independent reports



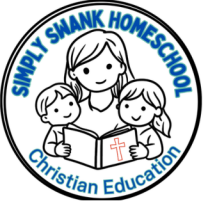


Name: _____

Examples of New Testament Contradictions

Also in the resurrection stories, there are contradictions as to the identity of the women who came to the tomb,[7] whether the men or angels the women saw were inside or outside the tomb,[8] whether the men or angels were standing or sitting,[9] and whether Mary Magdalene recognized the risen Jesus when he first appeared to her.[10]

- **Identity of the Women [7]:** The Gospels do not provide a complete, exclusive list. While Matthew mentions Mary Magdalene and "the other Mary" (28:1), Mark mentions Salome (16:1), and Luke mentions Joanna and others (24:10), these are not contradictions. They are complementary details; no Gospel says only one or two specific women went.
- **Angels Inside or Outside [8]:** The accounts can be reconciled by noting that there were likely two angels present (as mentioned in Luke and John) who moved. One angel may have been seen sitting outside on the stone (Matthew), while another was inside, or they moved from one position to another over the course of the morning.
- **Angels Standing or Sitting [9]:** Different witnesses observed different moments. One gospel might describe the angel(s) sitting on the stone (Matthew), while another mentions them standing inside (Luke).
- **Mary Magdalene Recognizing Jesus [10]:** In John 20, Mary does not immediately recognize Jesus, mistaking him for the gardener. Explanations for this include her extreme grief (tears obscuring her vision), looking for a dead body rather than a living person, or Jesus having a resurrection body that was not immediately recognizable.



Name: _____

