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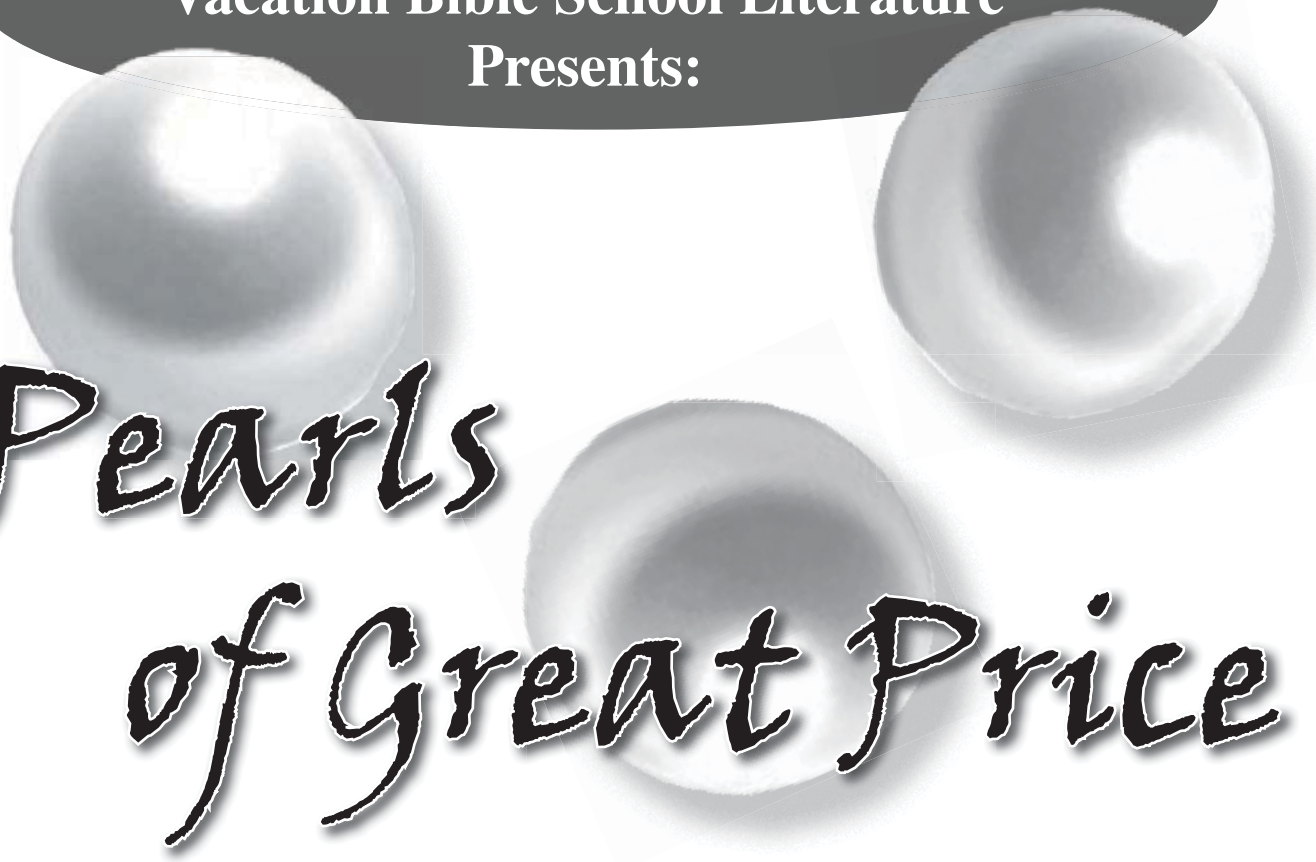

Pearls of Great Price

Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a merchant man, seeking goodly pearls: Who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had, and bought it. **- Matthew 13:45-46**

AGES 0 - 4

The Missionary Baptist
Vacation Bible School Literature Committee presents

Pearls Of Great Price

Vacation Bible School Lessons for Ages 0-4
Written by Sister Michelle Corder

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“WEALTH”
Scripture Text: Acts 4:32-37, 5:1-11

Long ago there was a group of God's believers. They knew the warnings and threats of speaking about Jesus, but they stood firm in their beliefs. God was with them and they received many, many blessings. There was a great spirit of love and unity among the believers and they willingly shared what they had with those who were in need.

Barnabas was one of these believers. One day he sold some land he owned and gave all the money to the group to help those in need. No one had asked him to do this; he did it because of his love of the Lord and his willingness to help others.

Ananias and his wife, Sapphira, heard about Barnabas's gift and the praise he received. So they sold some land that they owned. Unlike Barnabas, Ananias and Sapphira did not give all they received to the group. Together they planned what they would say and how much they would keep. The next day, possibly Ananias got up early and spent extra time getting dressed. Maybe He wanted to look his best when he gave his gift because he thought lots of people would be watching.

Just as Barnabas had done, Ananias brought his money to the group and announced that the Lord had spoken to him and told him to sell a field and bring in the money. He waited for a response but he did not get what he expected. The group knew that he had lied and kept part of the money. They told him that he had lied to God Himself. Those words struck Ananias's heart and God struck him dead. A little while later Sapphira came in, perhaps expecting a lot of praise. She did not get the reaction she was expecting. Not knowing what had happened to Ananias, she also lied when the group asked her what they had received from selling their land. She fell dead and was buried next to Ananias.

Being wealthy can provide many things that we need and want. We should never let wealth stand in the way of serving God. Lying to God is a very serious thing. Love and serve Him with all your heart and He will give you many blessings.

Memory verse: II Corinthians 9:7
"…for God loveth a cheerful giver.”

COLORING ACTIVITY

Ananias and his wife, Sapphira, heard about Barnabas' gift and the praise he received. But unlike Barnabas, Ananias and Sapphira did not give all they received to the group. God punished them for lying.

“HEALTH”
Scripture Text: Acts 9:36-42

Dorcas was a very kind woman who lived in the city of Joppa. She spent her time caring for the widows and the poor. She made clothes for the widows and the needy of her church. She willingly gave of her money and time.

One day Dorcas became sick and died. All of her friends were very sad. They heard that Peter, a disciple of Jesus, was performing miracles in the city of Lydda. Dorcas' friends believed that Peter could raise her from the dead, so they sent two men into the city of Lydda to find him.

When Peter arrived, he was taken to the room were Dorcas lay. The room was full of her friends and widows that she had cared for. Peter asked everyone to leave the room and he knelt and prayed, asking God to bring life back into her body. Peter then told Dorcas to stand up. She opened her eyes and when she saw Peter, she sat up. He took her by the hand and helped her stand. Peter called her friends into the room, and there they saw their friend, alive again. Because of this miracle, many people in Joppa believed in the Lord.

Even when Dorcas' health was bad, God was able to show others the endless possibilities of His power.

Memory Verse: Mark 10:27
“…for with God all things are possible”

COLORING ACTIVITY

Dorcas was a very kind woman who lived in the city of Joppa. She spent her time caring for the widows and the poor. She made clothes for the widows and the needy of her church. She willingly gave of her money and time.

"WISDOM"
Scripture Text: I Kings 3:4-27

After King David died, his son Solomon became king over Israel. Solomon loved God very much and wanted to do the things God would have him to do. One night, God appeared to Solomon in a dream. In the dream God asked Solomon what he would like to have. Solomon could have asked to be rich, or to have a long life, or for victories over his enemies, but he didn't. Solomon asked for an understanding heart to rule over God's people, to help him know good from bad and to be a fair judge.

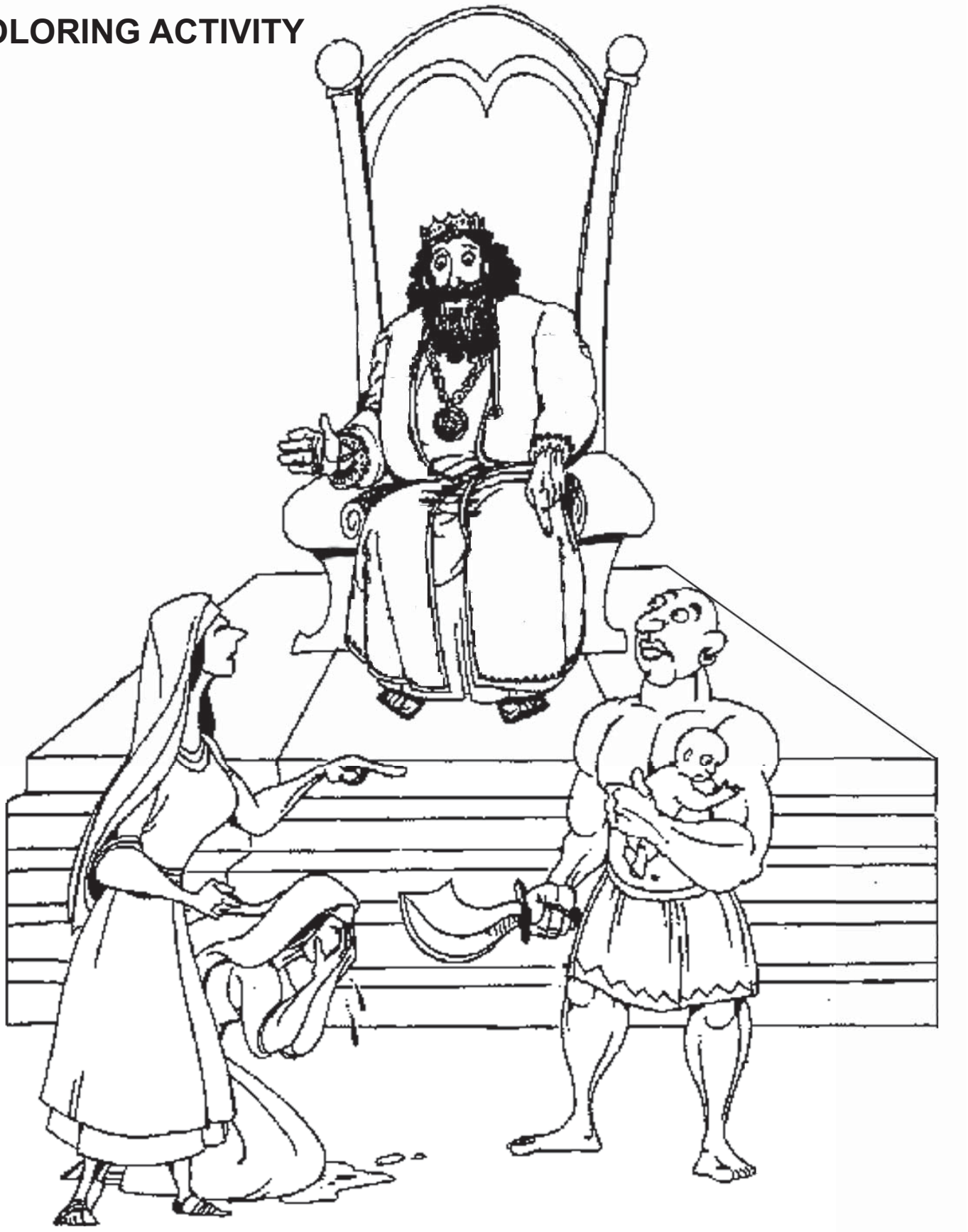
The Lord was very pleased with Solomon's request and he was given a wise and understanding heart. The Lord also blessed him with riches, honor, and a long life.

One day two women approached King Solomon. These two women lived in the same house and both had recently had a baby. One of the babies had died during the night and the two women were arguing over who was the mother of the living baby. King Solomon ordered his servant to get a sword. He then told the servant to cut the child in half and to give each woman half. The real mother begged King Solomon not to kill the child and to give it to the other woman. The other woman said to cut the baby in two. King Solomon then told the servant not to kill the baby and to give it to the first woman. He knew that the real mother would rather give up her baby so it would not be harmed.

King Solomon used the wisdom God gave him to settle the argument. We, too, should ask God to give us wisdom and guidance in all that we do.

Memory Verse: Matthew 21:22
"…whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, ye shall receive."

COLORING ACTIVITY



King Solomon used the wisdom God gave him to settle the argument. We, too, should ask God to give us wisdom and guidance in all that we do.

“FREEDOM”
Scripture Text: John 8:31-36

We all have people who love us and whom we love. This is a wonderful gift from God; God is love. Jesus, God's Son, loves us so much that He gave his life that we may be free from sin.

Jesus was on his way to Jerusalem. He was coming to Jerusalem for the Passover. It was a special celebration and Jesus knew that this would be the last time He would be at the feast with his disciples. After they had finished eating, Jesus talked to the disciples about lots of things He wanted them to know.

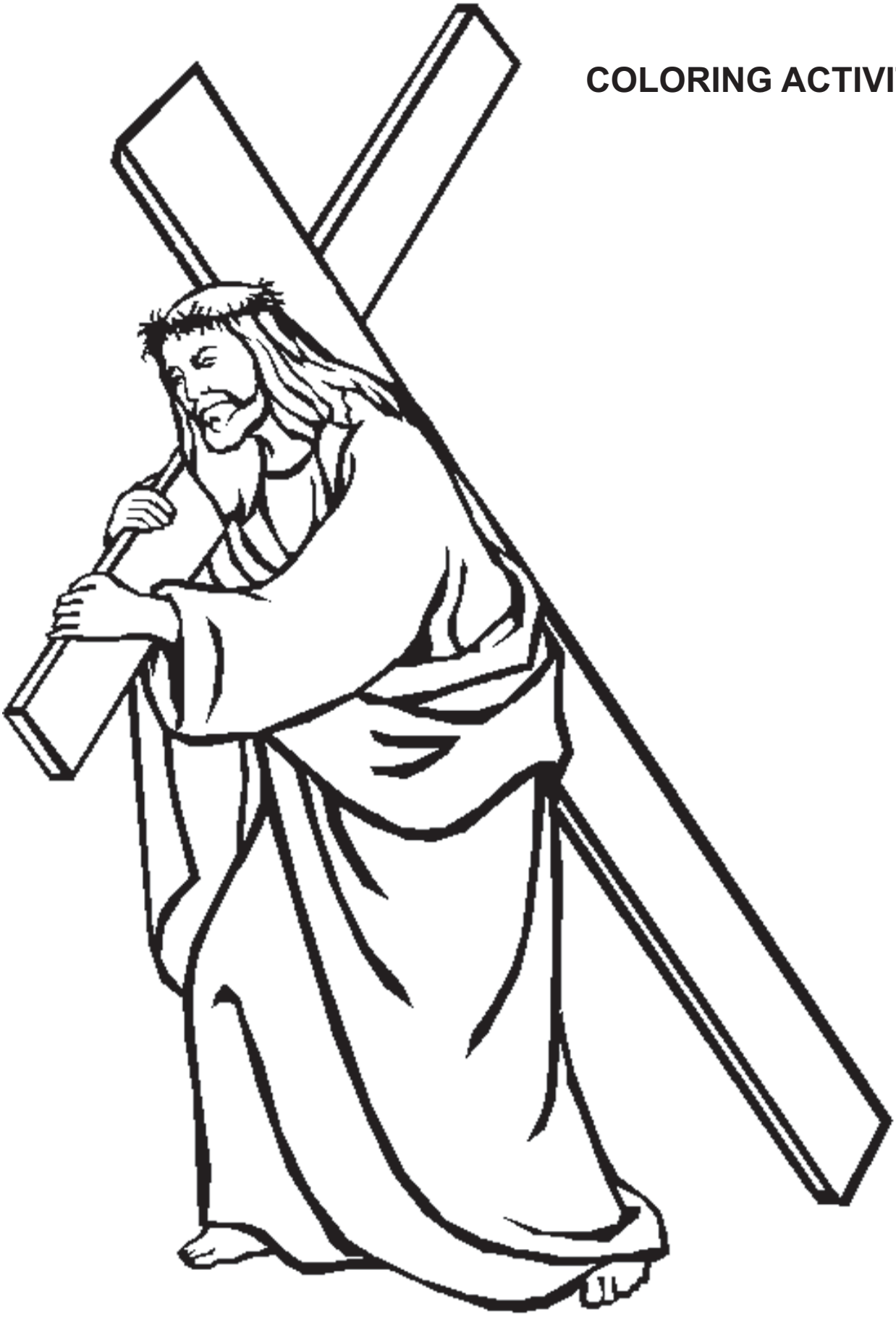
Jesus and the disciples walked through the city and into a garden called the Garden of Gethsemane. When they reached the garden, Jesus went in to pray. He was very sad because He knew that He would leave his friends soon.

As He prayed, He knew the time had come for Him to die so that all the people could be saved and freed from their sins. It was a hard thing to do but He was ready to do whatever God wanted Him to do. A group of soldiers came into the garden and Jesus knew they were looking for Him. He was arrested and taken before the leaders of the people. They wanted Him crucified. He was led out of the city to Calvary and nailed to a wooden cross.

Jesus died that day. His death made it possible for us to repent and be free from sin. Without this sacrifice we would have no hope of spending eternity in heaven with God.

Memory Verse: Galatians 5:1
“…and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.”

COLORING ACTIVITY



They wanted Him crucified. He was lead out of the city to Calvary and nailed to a wooden cross.

“PEACE AND LOVE”
Scripture Text: Acts 9: 1-31; John 18: 15-27; I Corinthians 10: 1-7; John 21: 1-17; Acts 2: 14-42

Many years ago, there was a man named Saul. He was an enemy of the church and he did many terrible things to the followers of Jesus. He was part of a group of people who stoned a man because he was preaching about Jesus.

One day, Saul was travelling to the city of Damascus looking for Christians so that he could have them thrown into prison. On the way to Damascus, a bright light appeared and Saul heard the voice of Jesus speak to him. Jesus asked him why he was doing all these terrible things.

After that meeting with Jesus, Saul's life was changed. Jesus even gave him a new name; Paul. From that day on, Paul went from town to town preaching and teaching in the name of Jesus.

God gave Paul, a man that had done so much harm, a heart full of peace and love.

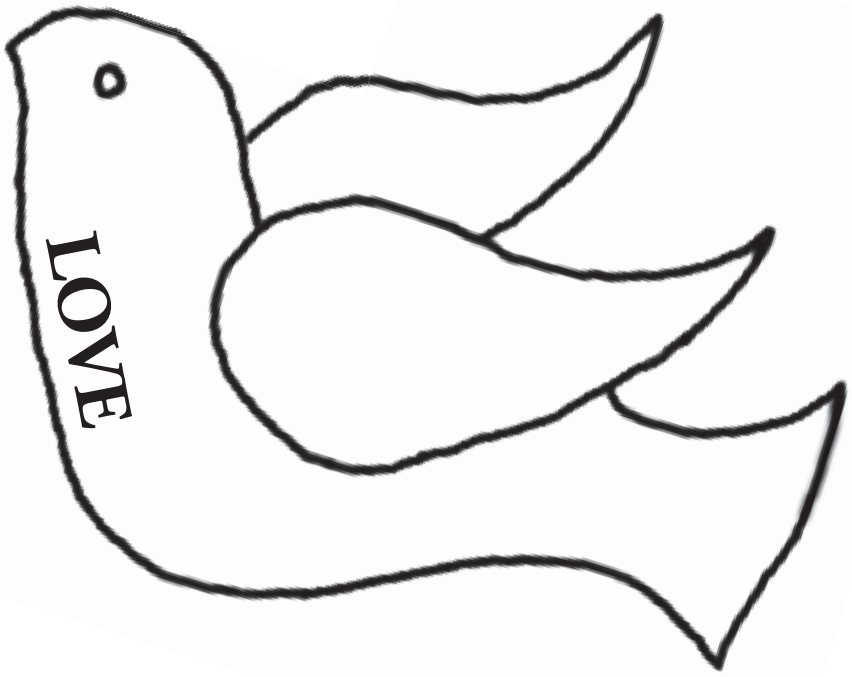
There was another of Jesus’ disciples named Peter. Peter was a fisherman. When Jesus called him to be one of his disciples, he immediately threw down his fishing nets and followed Jesus. Peter knew for sure that Jesus was God's Son. As much as Peter loved Jesus he made a promise that he could not keep.

Peter was with Jesus the night he was praying in the Garden of Gethsemane when the Roman soldiers came to arrest Him. Jesus knew that Peter would deny Him three times before the rooster crowed. As the rooster crowed, Jesus turned and looked at Peter and he knew that he had failed Him. Peter went out and wept bitterly. Jesus had just been convicted, beaten and sentenced to death. In the midst of intense pain and suffering Jesus prayed for Peter. Jesus forgave Peter for denying him. Jesus told Peter he would be God's spokesman. He would preach and teach the people to obey God.

Peter showed his love for Jesus and found peace by following His commands and preaching God’s word.

Memory Verse: Ephesians 6: 23 - “Peace be to the brethren, and love with faith from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.”

COLORING ACTIVITY



Peter showed his love for Jesus and found peace by following His commands and preaching God's word.