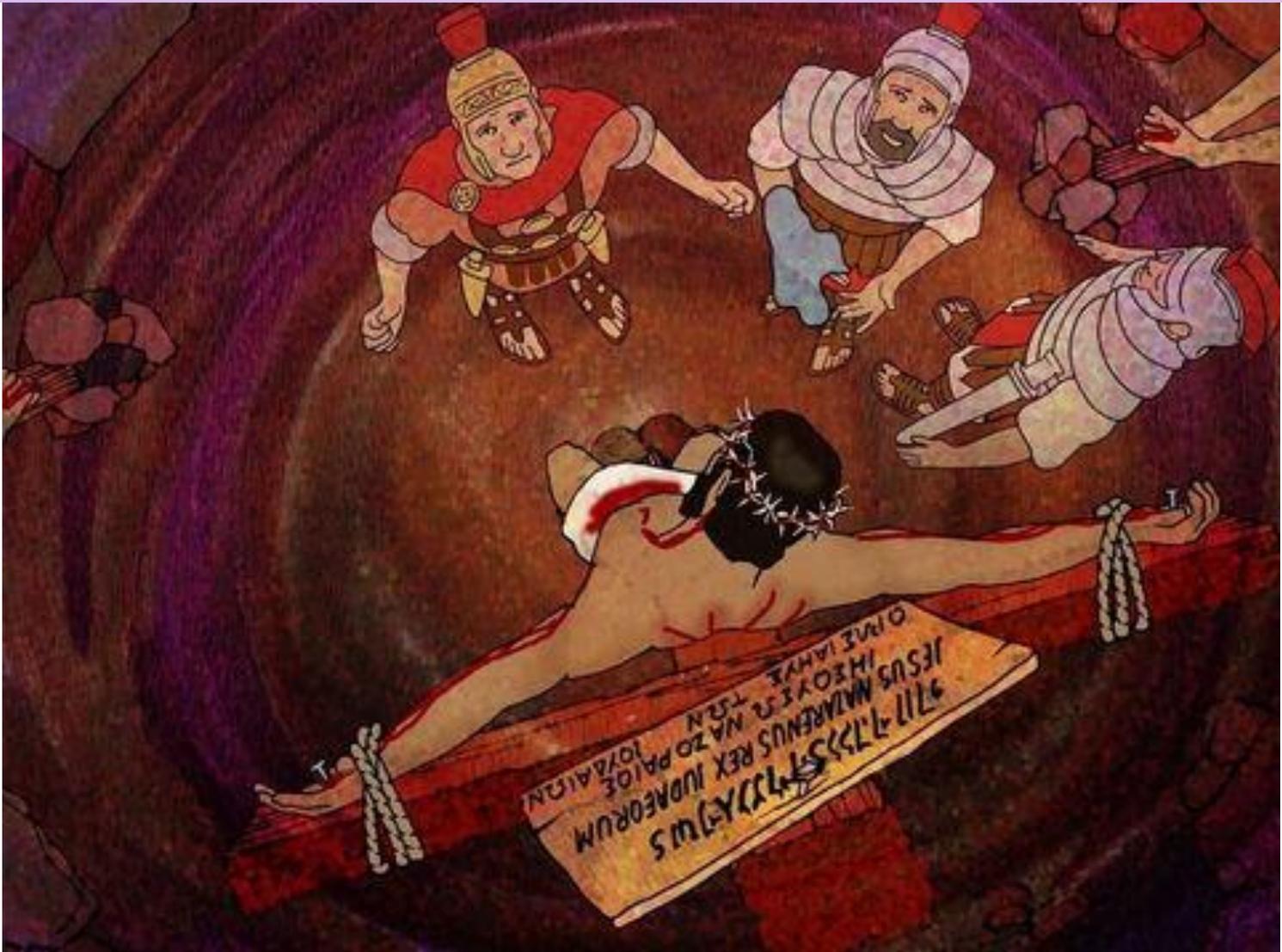


An Easter Journey



Holy Week # Jesus' Last Week

☞ 28th March - 4th April 2021 ☞

My Name: _____

My Age: _____



Lesson 1: Palm Sunday

Read: Matthew 21: 1-11

The Story:

Jesus and his disciples travelled to the city of Jerusalem. He had done this many times before. However, this day was different. Instead of walking into Jerusalem, Jesus planned to ride in on a colt. A colt is a young male donkey. Another amazing thing happened that day that was different to all the other times Jesus had entered Jerusalem. Thousands and thousands of people - very large crowds of people came out to meet him and walked with him into Jerusalem. They sang and shouted and danced. They called Jesus the king of Israel.

But they didn't stop there. Have you ever seen famous people walking on a red carpet? Well, the crowds did something similar. But since they didn't have a red carpet, they took off their coats and laid it on the road. They did this so that the feet of Jesus' donkey didn't even have to touch the dirty road. Many even cut palm branches. They took some branches and waved them in the air like flags and other branches they laid on the floor with their clothes.

All this was to fulfil what the prophet Zechariah said would happen 500 years ago:

 *Zec. 9:9 "People of Zion, rejoice! People of Jerusalem, shout with joy! Look, your king is coming to you! He is the good king who won the victory, but he is humble. He is riding on a donkey, on a young donkey born from a work animal."*

The people shouted, "Hosanna to the son of David!" and "Blessed is the King!". They treated Jesus like a king. Everyone was so happy. Psalm 106:1 is a good verse to help us remember to say good things to God and to Jesus (Psalm 106:1 is mentioned below).

Questions:

1. When Jesus entered Jerusalem, what did He ride on? _____
 2. What did people do with their coats that day? _____
 3. Why do we call this Sunday, "Palm Sunday"? _____
-
4. Zechariah called Jesus the K _ _ _ !

Memory Verse:

"Praise the Lord. Give _____ to the Lord,
for he is _____; his love endures forever." Psalm 106:1

Prayer:

Dear Lord Jesus, help me to praise You and give You thanks. Amen!

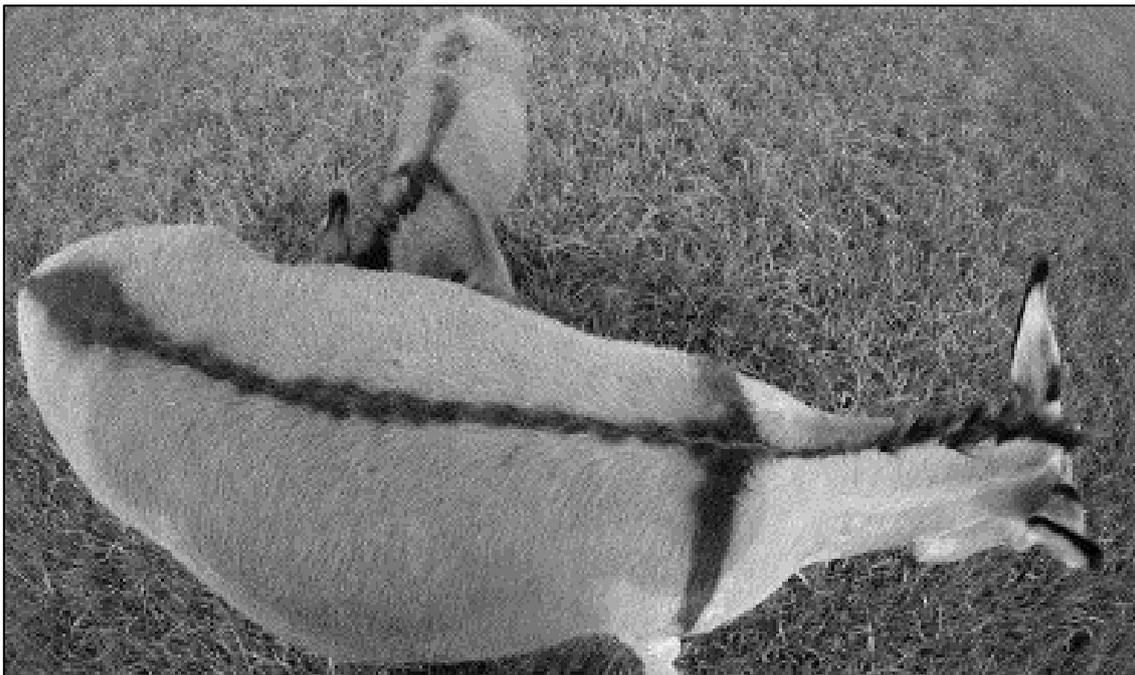
Song Suggestions:

Hosanna Rock song

Rejoice in the Lord Always song

Did you know that a donkey has a cross on his back?

A legend tells us that the donkey that carried Jesus in Jerusalem on Palm Sunday also followed Him to Calvary, for the donkey loved the Lord. At the sight of the cross, the donkey turned away but could not leave. The shadow of the cross fell upon his shoulders and back, forever marking him and all his descendants.



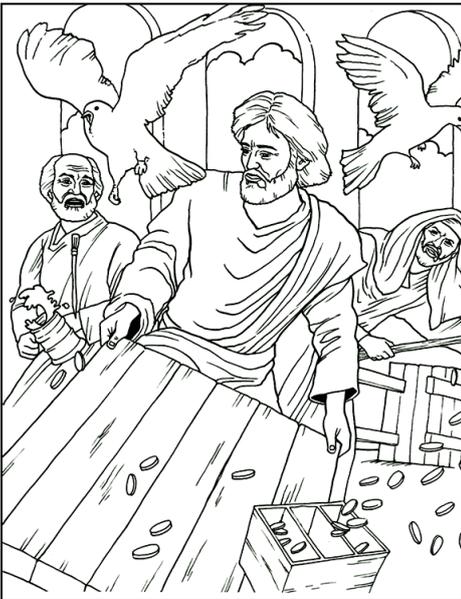
Activity: Colouring Picture



Read: Luke 11: 12-19

What items do you use to clean your room? _____

Today we are going to learn about a time when Jesus did some house cleaning. It was time for the annual Passover celebration, so Jesus travelled to Jerusalem. When he arrived in Jerusalem, Jesus went to the temple, the house of God. He couldn't believe what he saw. Right there in the temple area he saw people who were selling cattle, sheep and doves to be used as sacrifices in the temple (*imagine the noise!*). There were even tables set up where men were changing money so that people could pay their temple taxes. It looked more like a market than a house of worship.



Jesus did not like what he saw. He was so angry that he picked up a piece of rope, made a whip, and drove the cattle, sheep and those who were selling them out of the temple. Next, he went to the money changers and turned their tables over, scattering coins all over the temple floor. To the ones who were selling the doves he said, "Get out of here! How dare you turn my Father's house into a market." I would say that Jesus did some serious house cleaning in the temple that day - he cleared all the dirty animals from the temple - the House of God!

Questions:

1. Where was Jesus going? _____
2. What were the people selling in the temple? _____
3. Why did Jesus become angry? _____

Memory verse:

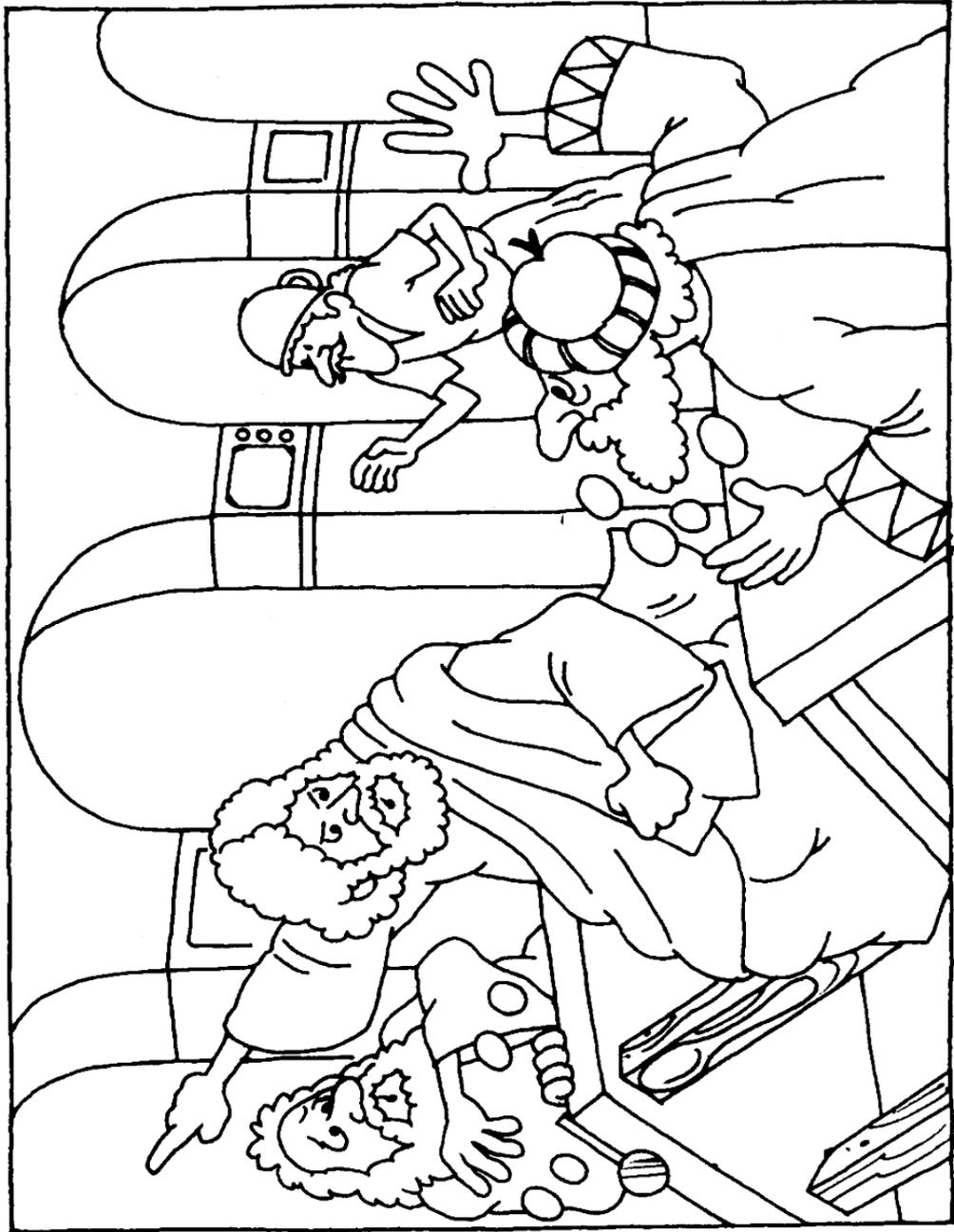
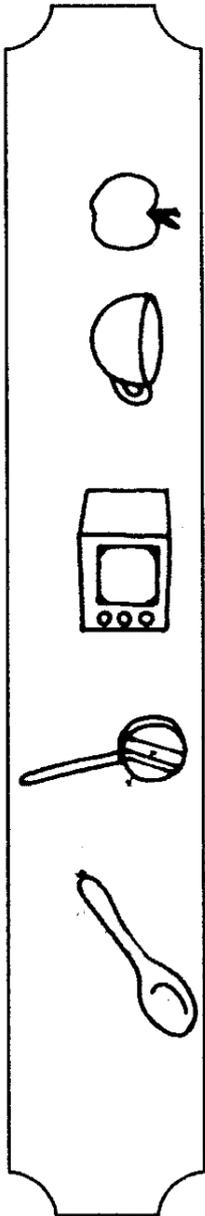
"My house will be called a _____ of prayer." Matthew 21:13

Prayer:

Father, help me to remember that I am your temple and that your Spirit lives in me. Help me to keep my life clean and useful for service to You. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Activity:

Find these items hidden in the picture below:



Jesus went to the temple in Jerusalem to worship God. But he was upset when he saw men in the temple who were dishonest. They were selling things in the temple and were cheating people who had come to worship. Jesus chased all the bad men away. He reminded everyone that the temple was a place to pray.

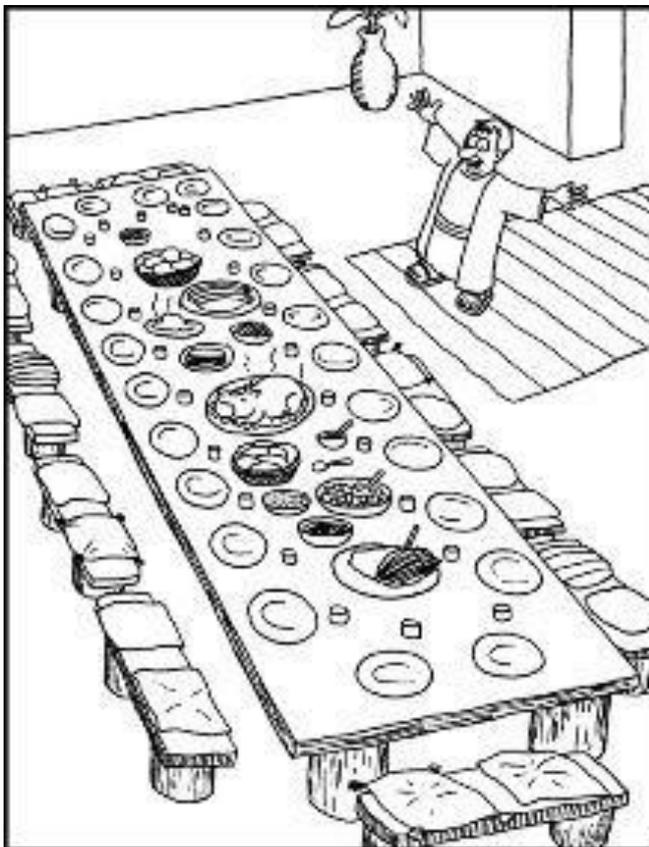
Read: Matthew 22: 1-14

Jesus liked to tell stories to help people understand things better, and those stories are called **p _ _ _ b _ _ s**.

When you have a birthday party, is it just you? Or do you have friends come over? Of course, you have friends over! Birthday parties by yourself just isn't a birthday. A slumber party by yourself would just be going to bed. And a wedding reception by yourself would just be dinner.

Today's parable is about a huge party that a king threw for his son's wedding. The King wanted something special! So, he invited all his friends, all his family and all the people that were important to him and his son, and since this was a king having a party for a prince, there were **WHOLE LOT OF PEOPLE**.

How many people do you think showed up? _____



"Everything is ready."

What? No even one! The king sent some messengers out to get them, but they all said they were just too busy. They didn't have time for all that, and their lives were much more important than the prince's or king's lives. The king was upset, but he wasn't going to let this party become just a dinner, so he sent out his messengers again, and this time he told them to invite anyone and everyone they saw.

The room began to fill up and that wedding turned into a huge party! These people weren't special. They weren't the king's friends or family. They weren't rich or famous. But they came. And the king was very happy.

That's kind of like how heaven is going to be. Way back in the Old Testament, God chose the Jews as his chosen people. They were the only ones invited and that made them very special. Then when Jesus came, many of the Jews didn't want anything to do with Him. Crazy right?!? But once Jesus came, that invitation to heaven was opened to anyone who wanted to come. It didn't matter if they were a Jew or not. And that invitation is still open today. Everyone is invited! You are invited too!

Questions:

1. What was the special occasion? _____
2. Who was invited to the wedding feast? _____
3. Who showed up? _____

Prayer:

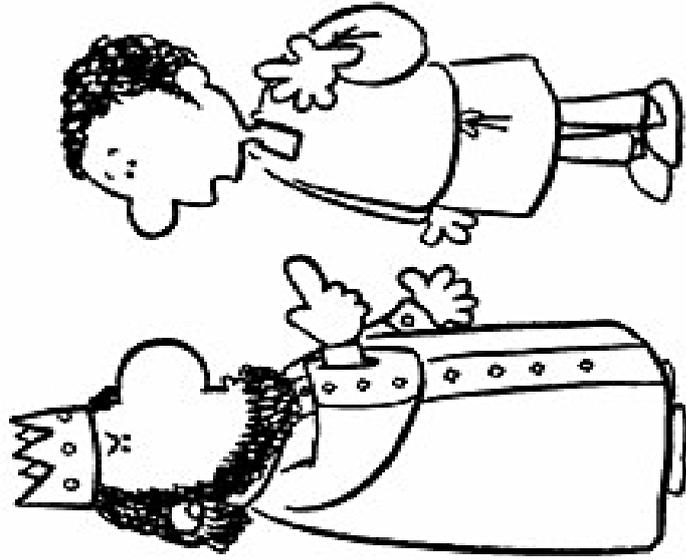
Thank you, God, that I am invited to come to Your party in heaven. Amen.

Memory Verse:

"The _____ told his servants, "Go everywhere. Invite everyone you find to the _____" – Matthew 22: 2 & 9

Activity: Word Search

KING FEAST WEDDING
 BANQUET OXEN BUSINESS
 FURIOUS UNWORTHY GARMENT
 SILENT FEW CHOSEN



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

Read: Matthew 26: 6-13

Do you like to give presents? Today, we will learn about a woman who gave a very expensive gift to Jesus (many people think her name was Mary). The woman wanted everyone to know how much she loved Jesus.



Jesus and his disciples went to Bethany, to the home of a man named Simon. While they were there, a woman came to Jesus carrying a jar filled with expensive perfume. She poured the perfume on Jesus' head while He sat at the table. When the people around Jesus saw this, they didn't understand why the lady had done this. They thought it was wasteful for her to pour all the perfume on Jesus.

(The ointment came from Northern India and was made of pure nard oil. This oil comes from a very special flower grown in India. The worth of the ointment was about a year's worth of wages. This oil was used to make very expensive perfume. The cost of the ointment was worth about 300 denarii, about R760 000!)

The people were more concerned about the money the perfume was worth. They said that the money could have been used to help poor people. But Jesus corrected them for thinking this way. He knew why the woman had done this. He told the people that she was preparing His body to be buried. In those days, they used to put perfumes and other items on people's bodies before burying them. Jesus knew that the perfume was so expensive, that the woman was giving it to him as a gift. It was also a form of worship. She gave what she had—without holding anything back. Jesus went on to say that this lady's gift would be talked about around the world and everybody would remember her unselfishness. He said that her story would be part of the Good News story about God's love.

The woman is a good example of always giving to God the very best that we can. We should never think that our gifts cost us too much money. Instead we should ask ourselves, "What is the BEST gift I can give to Jesus?", and then we should give it.

Questions:

1. How did the woman show Jesus how much she loved Him?

2. How much did her gift cost? _____

3. Why did the people around Jesus get upset when they saw this?

4. When she poured the perfume on Jesus, she was helping to prepare Him for His b _ _ _ _ l.

5. What do people think this woman's name is? _____

Prayer:

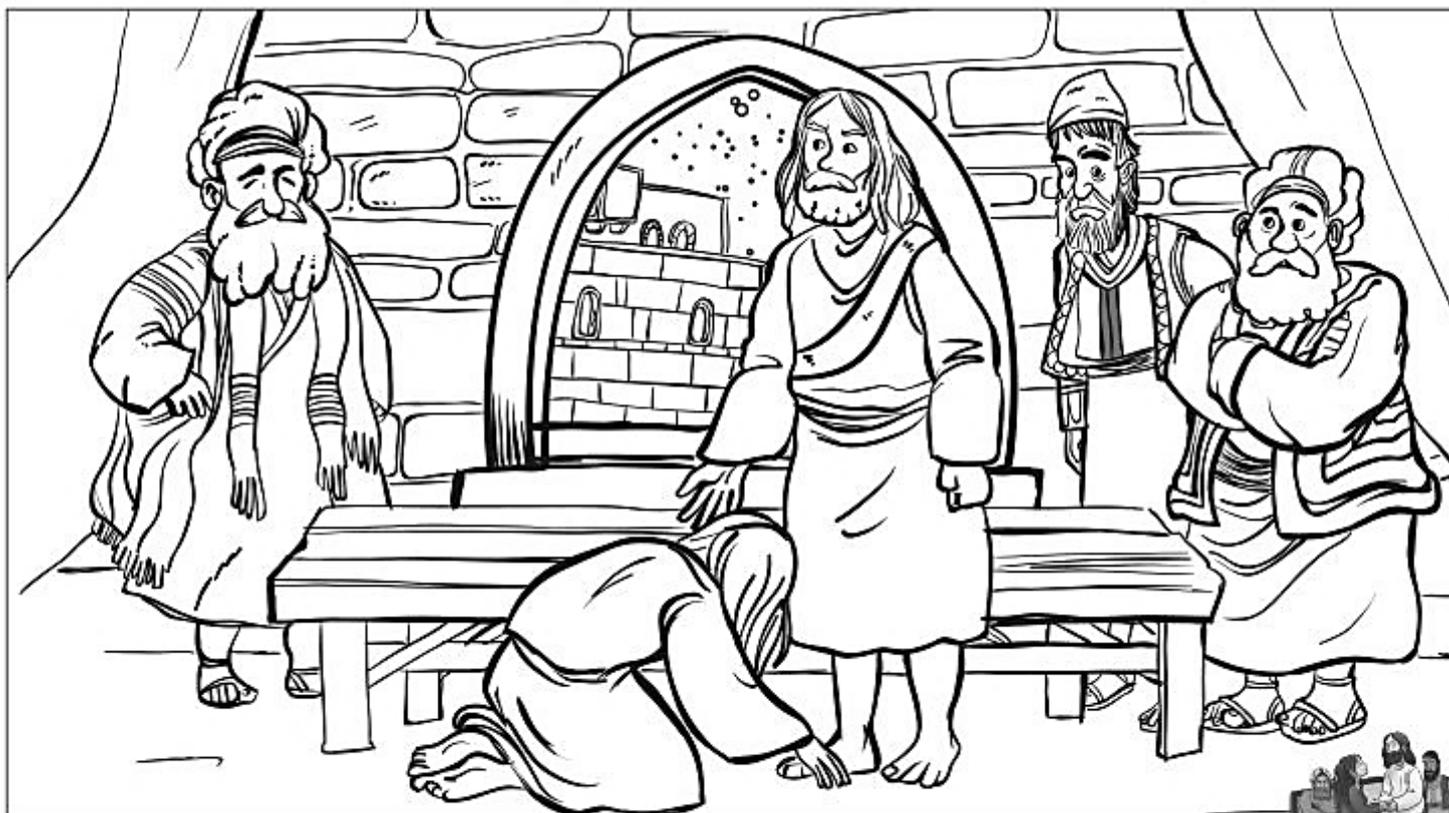
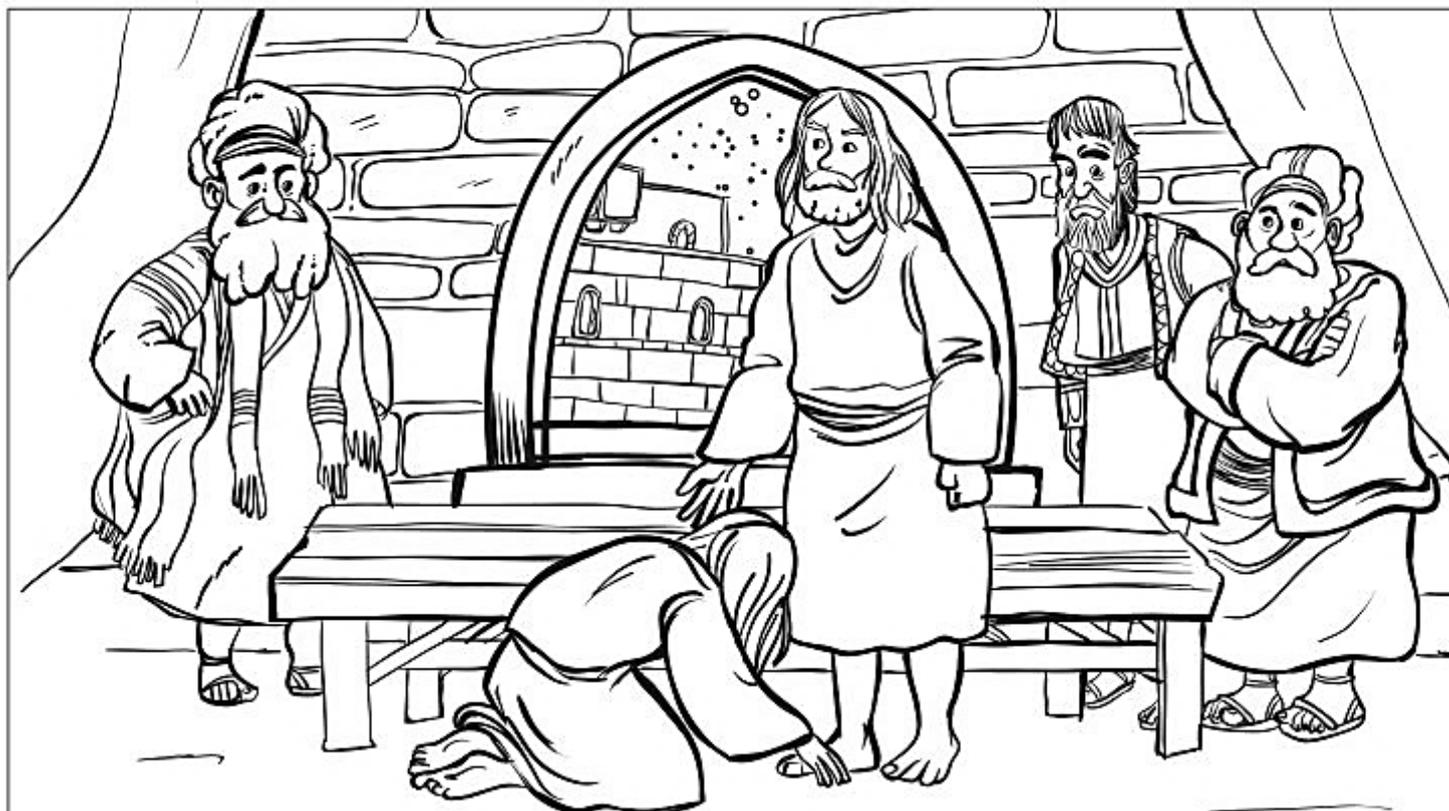
Dear Lord Jesus, help me to love you as much as Mary loved you.
Amen.

Memory Verse:

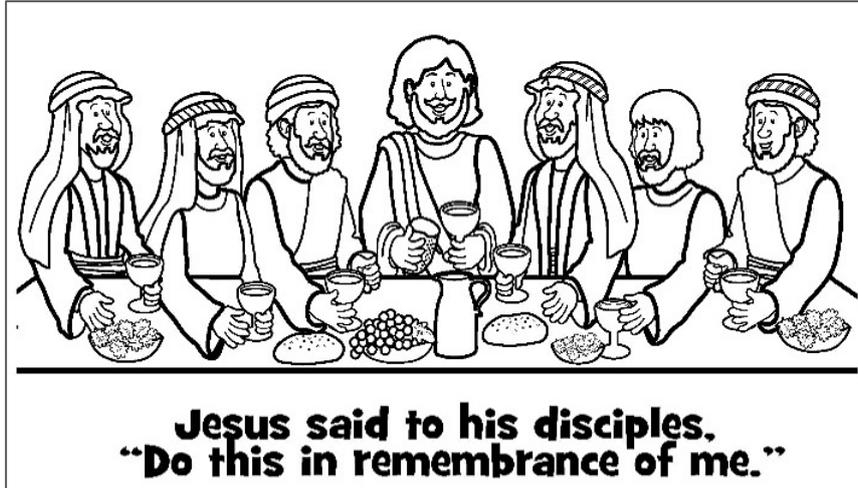
"Wherever this _ _ _ _ _ is preached throughout the
_ _ _ _ _ , what she has done will also be told, in memory of
her." – Matthew 26:13

Activity:

Spot 8 differences between the two pictures.



Read: Matthew 26: 17 - 30 & I Cor. II: 23-26



This is the day we remember the "Last Supper" Jesus had with his disciples before he was crucified. This was also called the Passover meal. The Passover meal was usually celebrated with family and Jesus ate it with those who were his family - His disciples. During this meal the Israelites were to remember how God had saved them out slavery when they were in Egypt. God decided that a good way to remember would be to tell them to eat a special Passover Meal every year. Each year when they ate this meal in their homes, they were to remember what God had done for them when he delivered them.

Jesus and the disciples ate bitter herbs to help them remember the bad times that the Israelites had had when they were slaves in Egypt. They ate roasted lamb and they remembered the lamb's blood that was put on the doorposts in the Old Testament. They drank grape wine and ate unleavened bread. They liked to dip the bread into a tasty sauce and eat it.

During the Passover meal Jesus and his disciples were dipping the bread into the bowl of sauce. Jesus told them something very sad. He said, "Someone here is not really my friend. He will do bad things that will make me get into trouble. One of the people who dipped his bread in the bowl with him would betray me." Judas knew that he was the one. Judas already agreed to betray Jesus for 30 pieces of silver which is only a couple of hundred rand.

Jesus also wanted his disciples to remember what he was going to do for them by dying on the cross. So, he said that they should regularly have communion meal together ("communion" is another word for "the Lord's Supper"). The

communion meal consisted of wine or grape juice and bread. When they drank the wine or grape juice, they were to remember his blood that was shed for them. When they ate the bread, they were to remember his body that was beaten and bruised for them. We are to do the same: whenever we partake in the Lord's Supper, we are also remembering how Jesus died so that we could have eternal life with God forever.

Questions:

1. Who was Jesus with during his last supper? His d _ _ c _ p _ _ s
2. What do we eat and drink when we remember Jesus and his Supper?
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
3. Who was the disciple that got Jesus into trouble (betray)? _____

Prayer:

Lord Jesus, help me to always remember what you have done on the cross to save me. Amen!

Memory Verse 1:

Jesus gave them the _ _ _ _ _ and said,
"This is my _ _ _ _ _ sacrificed for you. Remember me
whenever you eat it" ~ 1 Corinthians 11:24

Memory Verse 2:

Then He took the cup of _ _ _ _ _ and said,
"This wine is like my _ _ _ _ _ poured out for you.
When you _ _ _ _ _ this, do it to remember me."
1 Corinthians 11:25

Read: Matthew 27: 32 - 56

If your friend got into trouble, would you be willing to get punished for them? _____

Not many of us would want to be punished for something that someone else did wrong, yet that is exactly what Jesus did for us when He died on the cross—He took our punishment. We have learned that one of Jesus' disciples, Judas, led the soldiers and religious leaders to Jesus. Jesus was arrested and put on trial. The religious leaders did not believe that Jesus was the Son of God, and they were jealous because all the people listened to Him. So, they made up lies about Jesus. They held a trial in the middle of the night. At that trial they said that Jesus deserved to die.



They decided to take Jesus to the Roman governor, Pilate. Pilate decided he would let a large crowd of people decide what should happen to Jesus. He gave the people a choice. He would set one prisoner free: either Jesus or Barabbas, a man who had killed someone.

Do you know who the crowd chose? They wanted Barabbas, the murderer to go free! The crowd decided to put Jesus on a cross so that He would die. The soldiers took Jesus away. They were very cruel to Him - they hit him, spat on him, they gave him a crown to wear that was made from thorns and they made fun of Him. Then the soldiers made Jesus carry a big cross to the place where they would crucify Him.

Jesus was too weak from the beatings and He could not carry the cross very far. The soldiers found a man named Simon of Cyrene who was near them. They forced Simon to carry the cross for Jesus the rest of the way.

It was nine o'clock in the morning when they arrived at the hill. It was called Golgotha, which means "skull." There, they nailed Jesus to the cross. They put a huge nail, or spike, in each hand and one spike through His feet. The soldiers put a sign above His head that read, "KING OF THE JEWS." Jesus' cross was placed between two other men. These men were thieves.

At noon (midday), darkness covered the land for three hours. Jesus got weaker and weaker. He cried out to God "Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?" which means "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?". Soon after that, Jesus died. One of the soldiers standing at the cross said, "He really was the Son of God!" A man named Joseph of Arimathea went to Pilate and asked to take Jesus' body to a tomb that he owned. He wrapped Jesus' body in linen cloth and placed it in the tomb carved out of rock. He then rolled a large stone in front of the tomb. Then, because the Sabbath was approaching, everyone went home. We know that this is not the end of the story...

True or False ?

1. The soldiers put a gold crown on Jesus' head. ____
2. A man named Simon carried Jesus' cross part of the way. ____
3. Jesus was crucified alone ____
4. One of the thieves recognized that Jesus is the son of God. ____
5. Miracles occurred as Jesus died. ____

Memory Verse:

“Real love isn’t
our love for
God, but His
love for us.”

1 John 4:10

Prayer

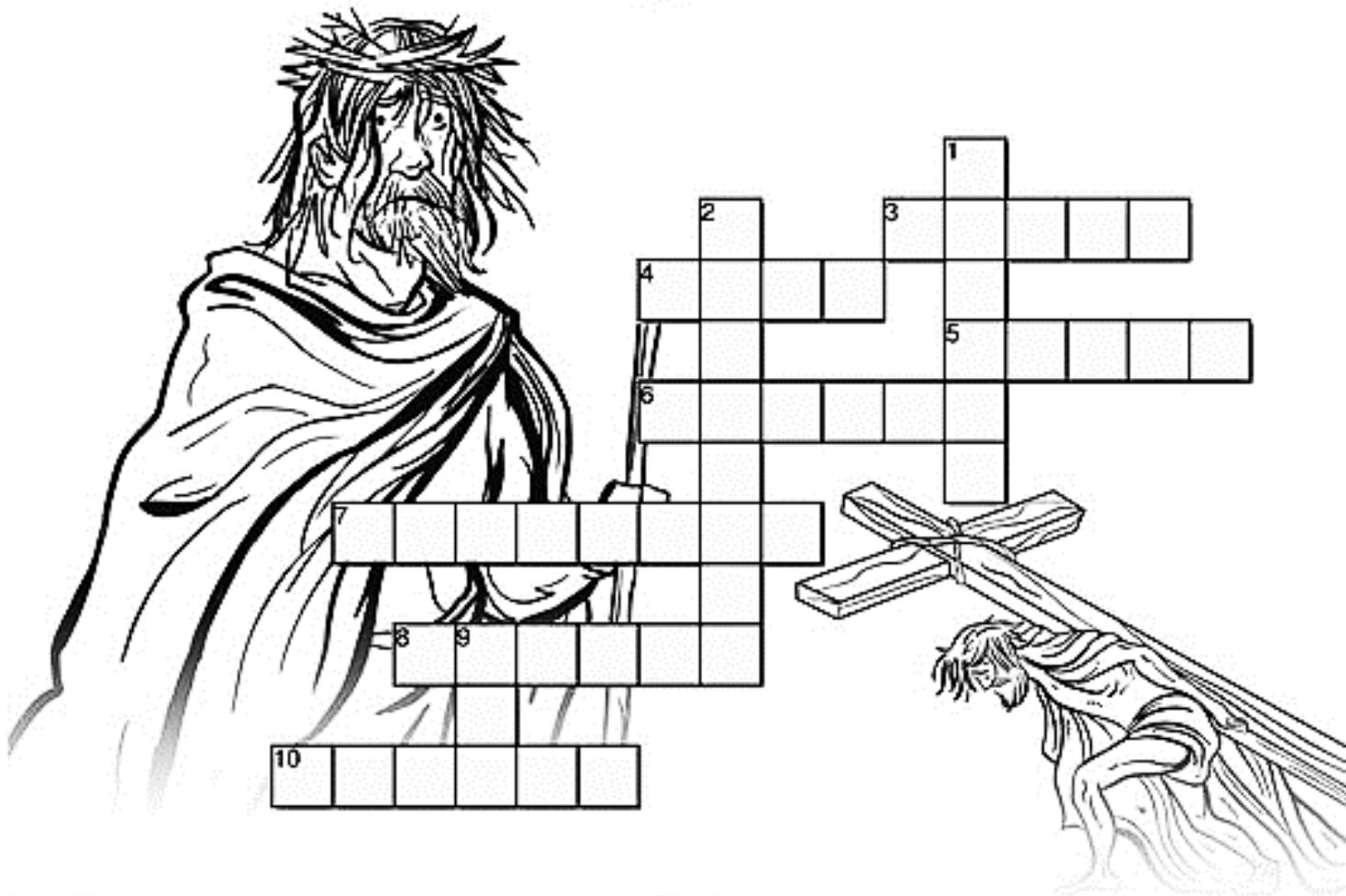
Dear Lord Jesus, thank you for taking my place of punishment by dying on a cross. Thank you that you love me so much. Amen.

Activities: Find your way through the crown of thorns.



THE CRUCIFIXION OF JESUS

**Matthew 26:1-27:55,
Mark 14:22-15:40;
Luke 22:1-23:56; John 18:1-19:37**



Across

3. The disciple who betrayed Jesus was _____.
4. Jesus died for the _____ of everyone in the world
5. Who denied knowing Jesus?
6. What was the Roman leader's name?
7. Jesus was crucified on a hill called _____, which means 'Hill of the Skull.'
8. Jesus _____ the injured soldier.
10. Jesus told his disciples that one of them would _____ him.

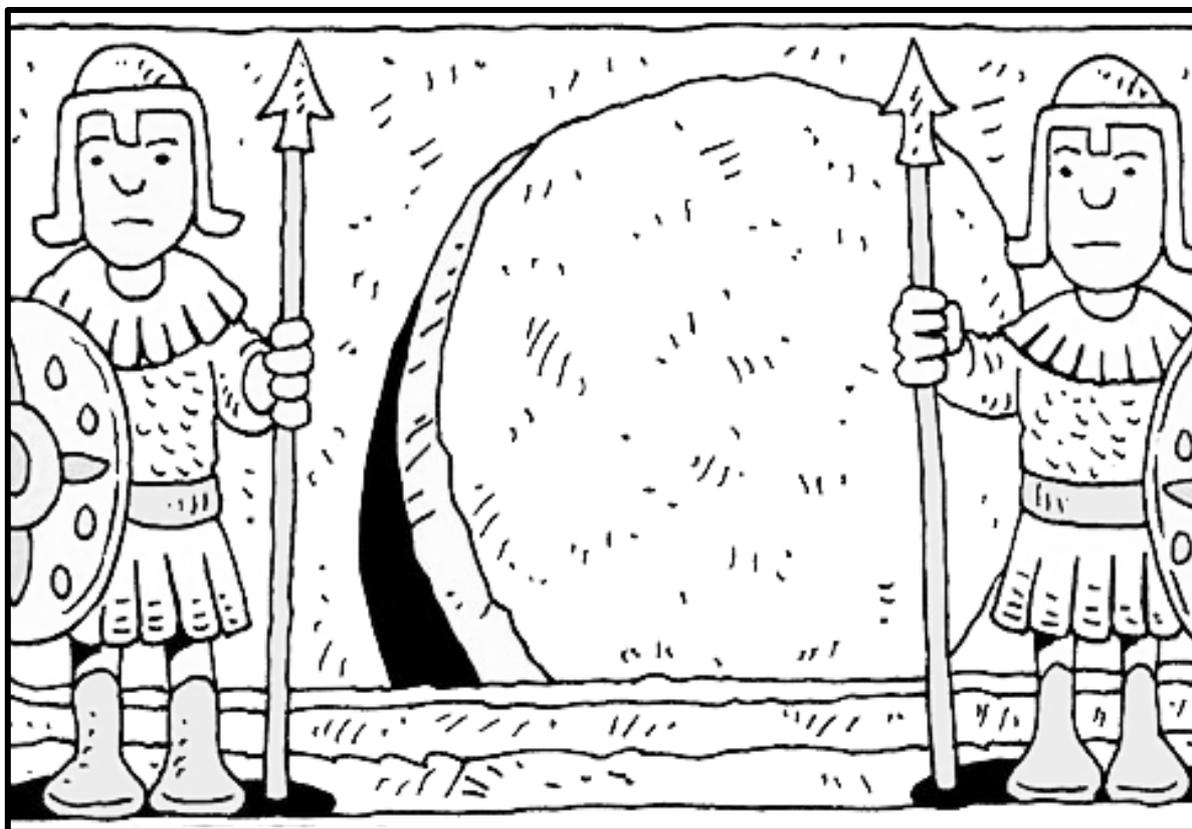
Down

1. During the festival of Passover, Jesus and his disciples had their last _____ together.
2. Jesus's last words were 'It is _____.'
9. When Peter was trying to protect Jesus from the soldiers he cut off the _____ of one soldier.

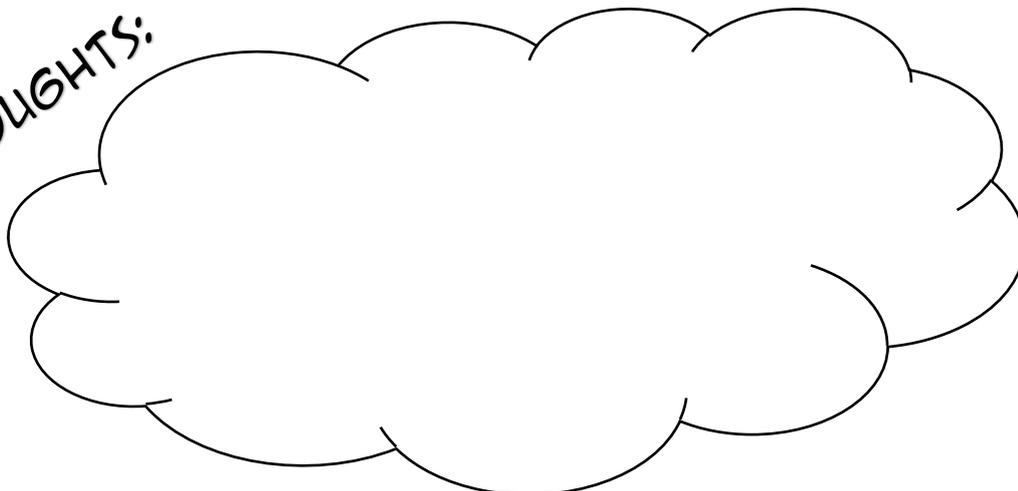


Read: Matthew 27: 62 - 66

The Jewish leaders didn't believe that Jesus would rise from the dead, but they were afraid that one of the disciples might steal Jesus' body and then **say** that he was raised from the dead. So, they asked Pilate to put a special seal on the stone in front of the tomb and put guards in front of it. That was still on Friday (the first day). Saturday (the 2nd day) passed and all was quiet...

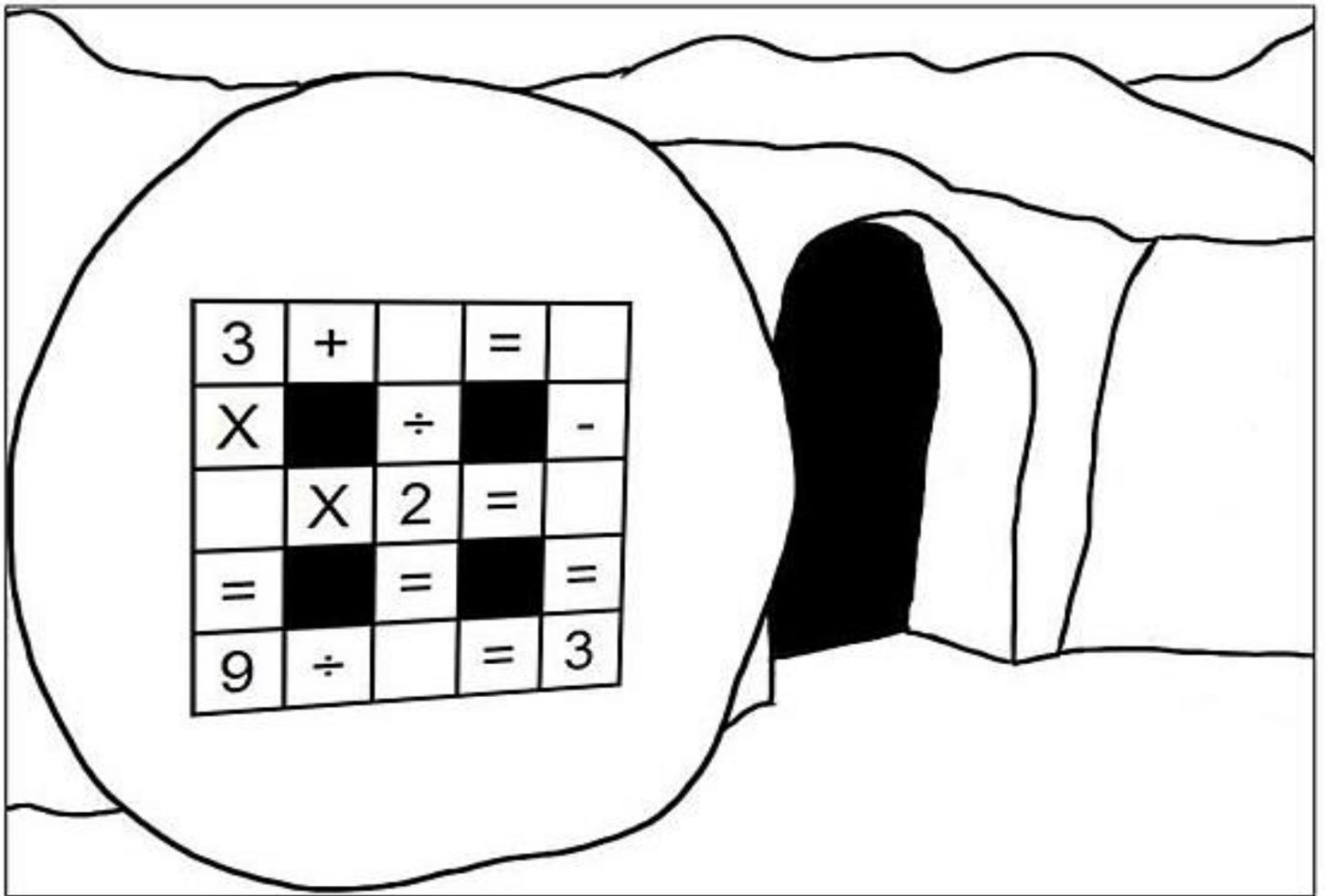


MY OWN THOUGHTS:



Activity

Complete the sums on the tomb stone...



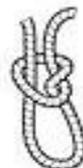
... then find the hidden message from Luke 24 v 6



-N



-FH



-K



-EL

+RE



B+

-H



-T



-AN

+

7

-VE



Read: Matthew 28: 1 - 9

On the third day, after Jesus was buried, some women went to the tomb to put special types of spices on Jesus' body. That is what they did with dead people in those days. But, when they got to the tomb, they were shocked to find that Jesus' body was gone! They found the huge stone rolled back from the tomb and an angel inside. The angel told them that Jesus had risen from the dead. The women left to tell the other followers of Jesus.

But one of the women, Mary Magdalene, stayed behind. She stood beside the tomb crying because she still could not understand how Jesus' body could be gone. How could the tomb be empty? Maybe someone had stolen it. Suddenly two angels appeared to her and asked her why she was crying?

She began to explain ... but then heard another voice. At first, she didn't know who was speaking but when she heard him say, "Mary", she knew that it was JESUS, her teacher, speaking. Jesus *had* come back from the dead!

Jesus spoke to Mary and told her to go and tell the others that he would spend some time on earth with them, and then he would be returning to his Father in heaven.

Questions:

1. Who were the first people to visit the tomb? (vs.1) *m* _____ &

m _____ *m* _____

2. When did they go to the tomb? (vs 1) _____

3. What did they see? (vs.2) _____

4. What did the angel say to them (vs.6)? _____

Prayer:

Dear Jesus, I believe that You are alive and one day you will come and take me to heaven too. Amen!

Memory verse:

“He is not here. He is _____.” Matthew 28:6



WARNER BANGA

Activity: Have an Easter Egg Hunt

At the empty tomb, Mary Magdalene talked to a man. She thought he was a gardener. But then she saw that the man was really Jesus! He had risen from the dead and was alive again!

Color the picture using the code. Cut it out and tape it up so you can be reminded of this wonderful truth!

1 = green

3 = blue

5 = pink

7 = purple

2 = brown

4 = orange

6 = yellow

8 = red

