

Primary Teacher Guide – January 2019



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Desire God

Get Excited!

Below are the instructions for the warm-up activity – Discuss how obedience to God’s commands can keep children safe.

Begin the discussion by asking students to share things their parents tell them to keep them from getting hurt. Emphasize the fact there are many rules in life. God gives us boundaries to help us stay safe. It is not enough to only know what the bible says. We must also obey what we learn.

Scripture Summary

The apostle Paul was confident that the Thessalonians were obedient to God’s commands. In this letter, Paul asked the Thessalonians to pray for him, Timothy and Silas so they could share God’s message and be protected from evil.

Key Verse Exercise

Read the verse to remember aloud.

And this is love, that we walk according to his commandments. (2 John 6)

Tell students to number the key verse phrases in the correct order.

his commandments

4

that we walk

2

and this is love,

1

according to

3

Read and Learn!

Read Adventures of the Faithful Five: Episode 6 aloud. Review key words.

Adventures of the Faithful Five – Episode 6: God is Great

“Today is a wonderful day, in the “House of The Lord!” exclaimed Mrs. Brown. Mrs. Brown is the teacher for Children’s Church. She loves the children at St. Peters. She greets each child as he or she arrives. When everyone is seated she says, “Good morning class” with a big smile. The children reply with the proper respect, “Good morning Mrs. Brown.”

“I hope everyone is ready to learn about God. Today our lesson is ‘God Commands Us.’ Let’s talk about four commands God expects us to obey.

1. Love the Lord with all your heart.
2. Honor your mother and father.
3. Follow God’s instructions.
4. Forgive those who have hurt you.

Has anyone heard any of these commands?,” Mrs. Brown asked. No one answered.

This lived down the street from the church. This was his first time in class. He raised his hand to ask a question. “Mrs. Brown I have heard honor your mother and father before, but I don’t know what does that mean?” Mrs. Brown was glad to see Jahari ask a question. “That means to obey your parents and to respect them at all times,” she answered. “God gave your parents **authority** over you to protect you and keep you safe. That is why it is important to follow their rules.”

Jahari raised his hand again to ask another question. “How can you forgive those who have hurt you? That doesn’t make sense to me.” Mrs. Brown started her response with a question, “How many of you have a best friend?” The whole class raised their hands. “How many of you sometimes get upset with them?” The whole class raised their hands again. “Do you then apologize to each other and become friends again?” The class **gaped** their mouths in amazement. Akeem said, “Oh wow, Mrs. Brown, I do that all the time.” Mrs. Brown smiled and said, “That’s how you someone who has hurt you.”

Mrs. Brown asked a final question to close the lesson. “Does anyone know the greatest command?” Aaliyah raised her hand. “Yes Mrs. Brown. It’s the first one on your list, to love the Lord with all your heart.” “That’s right Aaliyah. How many of you think that is something you know you can do?” Every student raised their hand. What a great way to end class.

key words

authority

a person with the power or right to give orders, make decisions and enforce obedience

gaped

stare with one’s mouth open wide

Rise Up!

Answers to questions in What Do You Think are underlined.

Which command keeps children safe? “Honor your mother and father.”

Which is the hardest command for you to follow? (Answers will vary)

Complete the Superhero Challenge if time permits.

Give each student a copy of the letter template in Appendix A. Tell students the Faithful Five want to write a letter to express how much they love God. Help them by writing a letter they can use as an example. (You may need to use a writing prompt for students who have trouble with putting their thoughts together. Sample guiding statements include:

- Tell God your favorite bible verse
- Tell God why you love him
- Tell God about your church
- Tell God how you obey your parents

Below are the instructions for the Time to Create activity – Make an “I Love You” scratch off card.

Materials needed: Silhouette printable scratch off sticker sheets (can be purchased from Michael’s); copies of scratch off card template in Appendix B (one per student), large blank index cards (one per student), glue, scissors, crayons or markers

Instructions: Before class cut out the scratch off cards in the template. Also cut the scratch off sticker sheets into rectangular strips large enough to cover the message lines in the template.

During class ask students to write a reason they love their parents or guardians on the message lines and allow them to color the rest of the scratch off card template. Cut the template in half so the words and lines can be glued separately. Fold the index card in half to make a small greeting card. Glue the words to the cover of the greeting card. Glue the message lines on the inside of the greeting card. Cover the message lines with the scratch off sticker so the message is completely hidden. Tell students to give the card to their parents or guardians. The parents or guardians may use a coin to reveal the scratch off message.

Close the lesson with prayer.

Lord, thank you for rules and boundaries that protect us. Help us to understand how your ways are better than our ways. And thank you for loving us even when we make mistakes. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

Love and Obey

Get Excited!

Below are the instructions for the warm-up activity – Discuss the differences between wants and needs. Begin the discussion by asking students if they usually get what they want or need for their birthday. Then ask students if they usually get what they want or need their parents take them shopping at other times during the year. Limit student response to three minutes. Explain that needs are the things we must have to survive. Basic human needs are food, clothing, shelter and love. Wants are the things we desire to have but are not necessary for survival. An example of a want is a video gaming system or a bicycle.

Scripture Summary

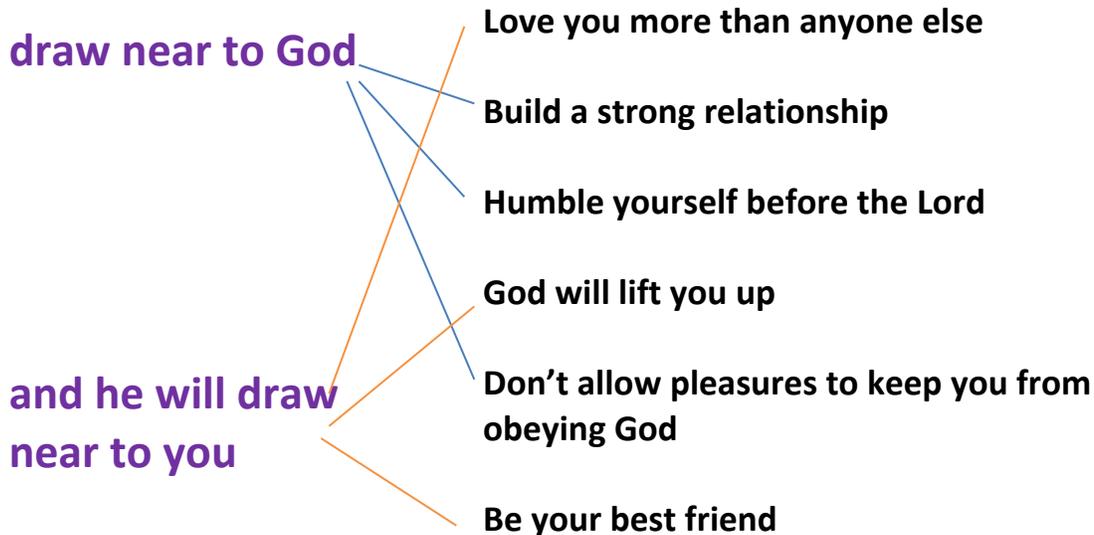
Sometimes Christians may pray for the wrong things or for the wrong reasons. Trying to get everything we want is not always best. In this letter, James (Jesus’ brother) warns the people to not allow worldly pleasures to keep them from obeying God.

Key Verse Exercise

Read the verse to remember aloud.

And this is love, that we walk according to his commandments. (James 4: 8)

Tell students to draw lines from each key verse phrase in the left column to their possible meanings in the right column. *Hint: Each phrase has three matches.*



Read and Learn!

Read Adventures of the Faithful Five: Episode 7 aloud. Review key words.

Adventures of the Faithful Five – Episode 7: God Forgives Us

“Today is Tori's birthday!” Israel thought to himself. “I must get her a birthday gift but what? I just don't know! I'll ask mom.” Israel went into the kitchen where his mother was cooking and said, “Mom, today is Tori's birthday and I don't know what to get her. Can you help me?” His mother replied, “I can't right now honey, but give me a minute.” Israel went to the living room and sat with a **gloomy** look on his face while he patiently waited for his mother. When his mother finished what she was doing she called for Israel. “Israel, where are you?” Israel answered, “I'm in the living room mom.” His mother made her way to the living and saw Israel's face. “Why do you look so sad?” she asked. “I don't know what to buy Tori for her birthday,” said Israel. “Well, I am sure we can come up with something,” his mother said as she gave him a hug. “What does she like?” Israel got even more **anxious** and said, “That's the problem. She likes a lot of things.” His mother suggested, “Make a list of the things Tori likes and choose something from the list.” Israel answered, “It's not that easy mom. I want to buy her the best gift ever! We are best friends!” Israel's mother thought about how having a good time can make a person just as happy as getting a great gift, especially when the person already has a lot of things. She turned to Israel and said, “The two of you can go skating and eat pizza and have a great time!” Israel wasn't sure about his mother's idea but he promised to call Tori to see what she thought about it. Israel started thinking to himself again, “I can't call Tori. I still don't have a gift for her.” When Israel's mother asked if he made the call, Israel said he did even though he did not. And he **embellished** the story by saying Tori thought it was a good idea. When his mother started to grab her purse and keys to pick up Tori, Israel had to **confess**. “Mom I'm sorry I didn't tell you the truth. I didn't call Tori. I was afraid because I didn't have a gift for her.” Israel knew what he did was wrong and asked God to forgive him. Israel's mother said, “I am disappointed you felt you had to lie but I am glad you realized it was the wrong thing to do. I'm sorry. I will sit with you while you make your phone call.” Tori was very excited about going to the skating rink and eating pizza. Israel thanked his mom for the great idea and was glad he knew how to ask God for forgiveness.

key words

gloomy

unhappy or not expecting anything good in a situation

anxious

experiencing worry or nervousness

embellished

make a story more interesting by adding more extra details that are not true

confess

admit that one has done something wrong

Rise Up!

Answers to questions in What Do You Think are underlined.

Why did James write this letter? To warn the people to not allow worldly pleasures to keep them from obeying God.

Complete the Superhero Challenge if time permits.

Tell students the Faithful Five want to learn the ways God wants children to live. Help them by identifying the godly behavior in the bible verses from Proverbs that I read aloud.

- If you really want to gain knowledge, you must begin by having respect for the Lord. Foolish people hate wisdom and training. (Proverbs 1:7, NIV) *The godly behavior is to have respect for the Lord.*

- Listen to your father’s advice. Don’t turn away from your mother’s teaching. (Proverbs 1:8, NIV) *The godly behavior is to listen to your parents and do what they teach you.*
- If sinners tempt you, don’t give into them. [They might say,] “Come and join our gang. We’ll share everything we have.” Don’t go along with them. Don’t even set your feet on their paths. (Proverbs 1:10, 14-15, NIV) *The godly behavior is to not follow the crowd that is doing wrong.*
- A gentle answer turns anger away. But mean words stir up anger. (Proverbs 15:1, NIV) *The godly behavior is to use kind words.*
- Anyone who turns away from his training hates himself. But anyone who accepts being corrected gains understanding. (Proverbs 15:32, NIV) *The godly behavior is to accept the consequences for bad choices and learn from them.*
- You should want a good name more than you want great riches. To be highly respected is better than having silver and gold. (Proverbs 22:1, NIV) *The godly behavior is to remember we are known by the way we act and treat others. Don’t do or say things that ruin your reputation.*

Below are the instructions for the Time to Create activity – Make “Quiet Time” sticks.

Materials needed: large craft sticks in various colors (five per student), 16 oz white paper cup (one per student), black fine point Sharpies, flip chart paper, black permanent marker (for flip chart use), crayons

Instructions: Ask the class for a list of activities they can do to spend quiet time with God. Ensure the list has at least five things. (Offer suggestions if necessary like read a devotional, pray, sing a song, read the bible or draw a picture about something learned in church.) Then give each student five craft sticks and ask them to write one thing on each of the crafts sticks. Allow students to decorate a white paper cup. The words “My Quiet Time with God” should be written somewhere on the cup. Place the sticks in the cup. Students should pick a stick every day and do the written activity.

Close the lesson with prayer.

Lord, help us to understand why getting everything we want is not always best. We will trust you to provide everything we need. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

Share Joy

Get Excited!

Below are the instructions for the warm-up activity – Watch the “Prison Break video.”

Show students a YouTube video of Paul in prison (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3h1pA5bGE9c>).

Scripture Summary

God gave the apostle Paul a special mission of sharing Christ with others. Paul wrote this letter while he was locked up in prison. He was letting the Philippians know that being in prison did not stop him sharing Christ. Even the people who locked him up (the Roman guards) learned all about Jesus and got baptized because of what Paul taught them.

Key Verse Exercise

Read the verse to remember aloud.

What does it matter? Just this, that Christ is proclaimed in every way. (Philippians 1: 18)

Organize the class in pairs. Give each pair a blank sheet of paper to draw a tic-tac-toe board. Give each student a set of key verse pieces in Appendix C. One student should have X's and one student should have O's. Tell students to play Key Verse Tick-Tac-Toe with their partner. The student who forms the key verse first wins the game.

Read and Learn!

Read Adventures of the Faithful Five: Episode 8 aloud. Review key words.

Adventures of the Faithful Five – Episode 8: The Evangelism Team

One day while playing outside the Faithful Five saw some of their church members walking in their neighborhood. They had bibles and brochures in their hands and looked like they were talking about something. “Hey look, there's Mr. Williams,” said Taj.” Let's go over and say hello.” The rest of the Faithful Five agreed. “Hi Mr. Williams,” said Aaliyah. “Well look who's here, the Faithful Five! How are you?” exclaimed Mr. Williams as he greeted each of them with a big hug. “We're fine,” Tori replied on behalf of the group. “We wanted to see what you all were doing.” Mr. Williams smiled and said, “ Let me introduce you to the **evangelism** team. This is Sis. Green, Bro. Lee, Sis. Allen and Bro. Timothy.” The Faithful Five greeted everyone and then turned to Mr. Williams **simultaneously** and asked, “What's an evangelism team?” Mr. Williams explained, “The evangelism team go out in the community to talk to people about the goodness of God and encourage them to build a relationship with God.” “We have a relationship with God and read our bibles every day. Can we help?” asked Israel. “We need to get your parents' permission. If they say it is okay, we would love for you to join us,” Mr. Williams responded. The Faithful Five ran to get their parents' permission. They were ready to spread the good news of Jesus.

key words

evangelism

spreading the Christian gospel by personal testimony or public preaching

simultaneously

at the same time

Rise Up!

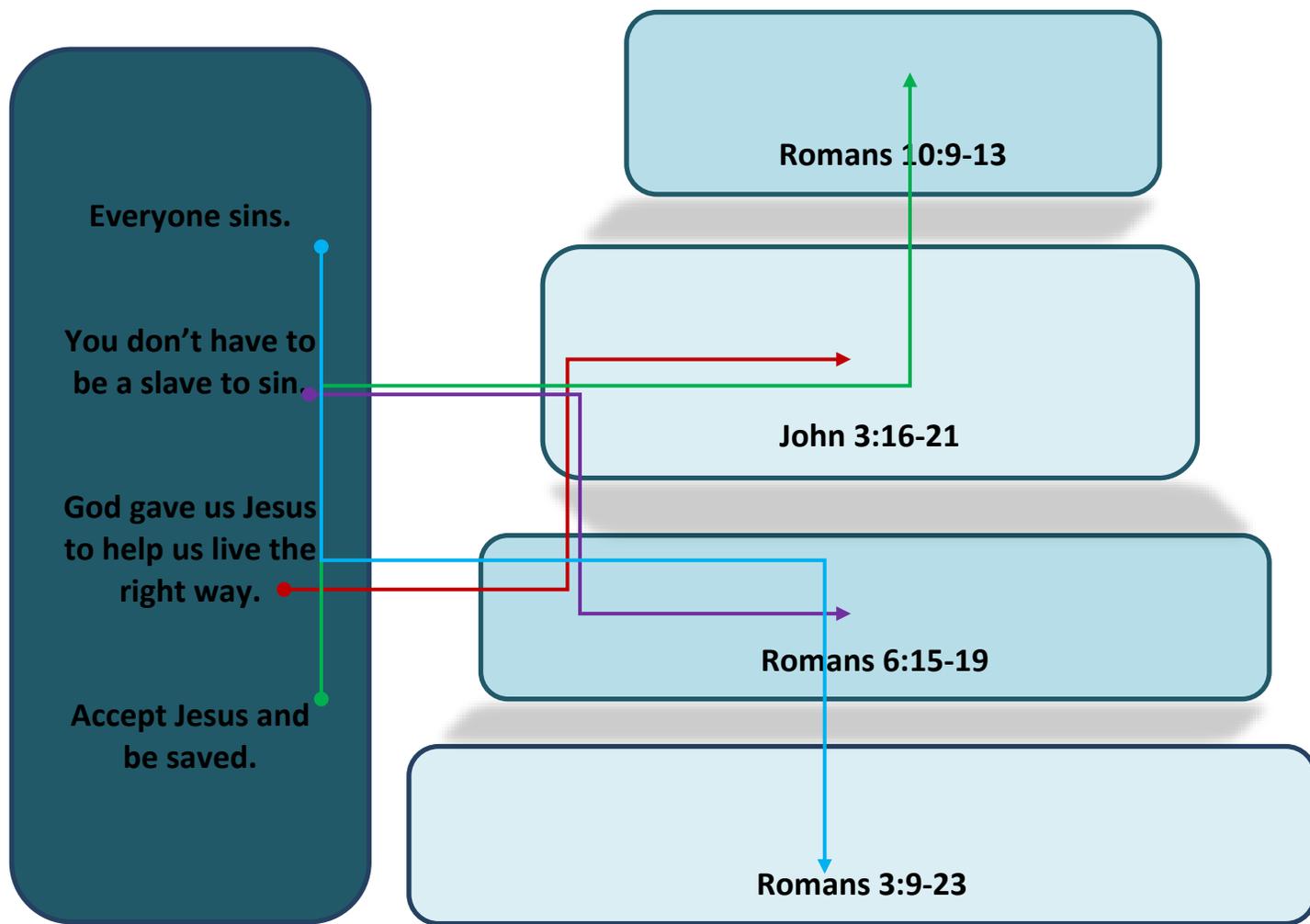
Answers to questions in What Do You Think are underlined.

Why did Paul write this letter? He wanted the Philippians to know being in prison did not stop him from sharing Christ.
Why do you think being in prison did not stop Paul from sharing Christ with others? (Answers will vary but emphasize how Paul was not ashamed of being a Christian.)

How do you share Christ with others? (Answers will vary)

Complete the Superhero Challenge if time permits.

Tell students the Faithful Five want to tell others about Jesus. Help them looking up the scripture to fill in the messages for the building blocks to salvation.



Below are the instructions for the Time to Create activity – Make a 3D snow globe.

Materials needed: copies of snow globe pattern in Appendix D (one page per student), scissors, glue or tape, crayons or markers

Instructions: Before class cut out the snow globe patterns. Each student will need all four patterns. Allow students to color and decorate the globes. Fold each globe in half so that the words are on the inside of the fold. Glue or tape the left side of a one globe to the right side of another globe. The crease should be in the center (or pointed away from your body). Repeat until all four globes are sealed together (see picture).



Close the lesson with prayer.

Lord, thank you for showing us how bad things can turn into good things. Help us to be bold about sharing the Good News of Christ. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Lesson 9 – January 27, 2019 | Philippians 2: 1-11

Serving with Joy

Get Excited!

Below are the instructions for the warm-up activity – Play “share-ades.”

Act out a scenario where you are sharing. See if the class can guess how you are sharing with others. You can act out other scenarios if time permits. Limit the activity time to five minutes.

Scripture Summary

Jesus gave up everything to obey God and serve others. The apostle Paul wrote this letter to warn the Philippians against selfish behavior. Christians should follow Christ's example of putting others first.

Key Verse Exercise

Read the verse to remember aloud.

Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. (Philippians 2: 3)

Tell students to trace the path to the verse to remember. (Path A is the correct path.)

Read and Learn!

Read *Adventures of the Faithful Five: Episode 9* aloud. Review key words.

Adventures of the Faithful Five – Episode 9: So Much Love to Give

Taj’s parents were sitting in the living room watching television. Taj came running down the stairs yelling, “What time is it!” His father said, “Wait a minute, slow down! What’s the rush?” Taj calmed down and said, “I’m sorry. I just wanted to go and meet Akeem so we could go to the arcade. Dad, you’re taking us. Remember?” Taj’s father **chuckled** and said, “Yes, son I remember. Let me get my jacket.”

The closer they got to Taj’s house, the more excited Taj became. “There’s Akeem in the yard! Pull in the driveway, dad,” shouted Taj. “I am Taj, calm down,” his father replied. Akeem ran in the house to give his parents a hug. His parents thanked Taj’s father for taking the boys to the arcade as Akeem got in the car. “Buckle up Akeem,” said Taj’s father. Akeem **obediently** buckled his seat belt and they were off to the arcade.

“Your dad is a lot of fun,” said Akeem. “Yes he is”, said Taj. “My dad always takes care of me and my mom. He makes a lot of sacrifices for us. He works hard on his job. He does work around the house for us. He makes sure we are safe. When he finishes all that, he makes time to have fun with us. He says he tries to follow the example of God who is the **ultimate** Father. I thank God and my dad for everything they do for us.”

“Okay guys, we’re here,” said Taj’s dad. The boys gave him a big hug. He hugged them back and asked, “What’s that for?” Taj explained, “We just wanted to give you a big hug for all the good things you do for us! Thank you, dad.” Taj’s father felt good because he could see that the boys recognized how he was trying to follow God’s example. He said, “It gives me joy to do these things for you. Now let’s go and have some fun!”

key words

chuckled

laughed quietly

obediently

willingness to follow a command

ultimate

the best of its kind

Rise Up!

Answers to questions in *What Do You Think* are underlined.

Why did Paul write this letter? To warn the Philippians against selfish behavior.

What sacrifice did Jesus make for us? He gave up everything to obey God and serve us.

Name the adults that make sacrifices for you. (Answers will vary.)

Complete the Superhero Challenge if time permits.

Tell students the Faithful Five want to encourage their peers. Help them by coming up with a list of compliments.

Below are the instructions for the Time to Create activity – Make a “Good Citizen” dog tag necklace.

Materials needed: Empty soda cans, copies of the dog tag necklace pattern in Appendix E (one dog tag per student), copies of the good citizen stickers in Appendix F (one sticker per student), cording (enough to make a necklace for each student; can be purchased from any craft store), hole punch, scissors, utility knife, glue, crayons or markers

Instructions: Before class cut the empty soda cans into strips. View a demonstration on how to cut the can at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=srnkE1QSdw8>. Press the cut piece firmly to make it flat. Use the dog tag pattern to cut dog tags from the flat soda can sheet. One soda can should make four dog tags. Punch a hole at the top of each dog tag. Cut the cording into to 24" pieces. Print the good citizen stickers.

Give each student a piece of cording, an aluminum dog tag and a good citizen sticker. Allow students to color and decorate the good citizen sticker. Students should fill in the missing word on the sticker (examples: good, kind, helpful) with a black fine tip marker. Glue the sticker to the aluminum dog tag. Put the cording through the hole in the dog tag. Tie both ends together to make a necklace.

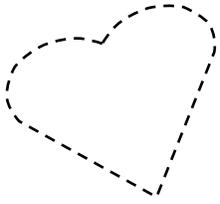
Close the lesson with prayer.

Lord, we want to be Christlike in everything we day and do. Help us to be good citizens. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Dear God,



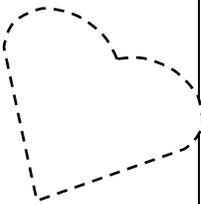
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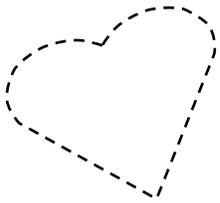
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LOVE

YOU



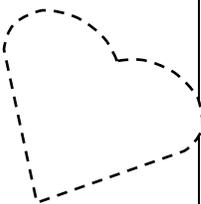
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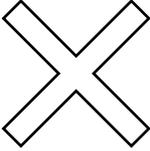
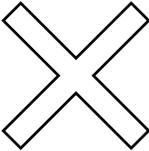
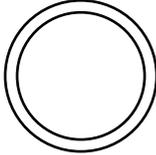
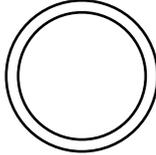
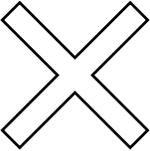
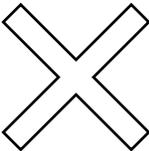
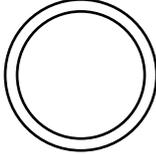
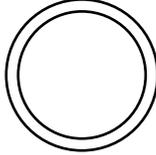
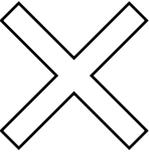
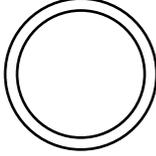
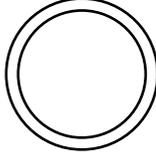
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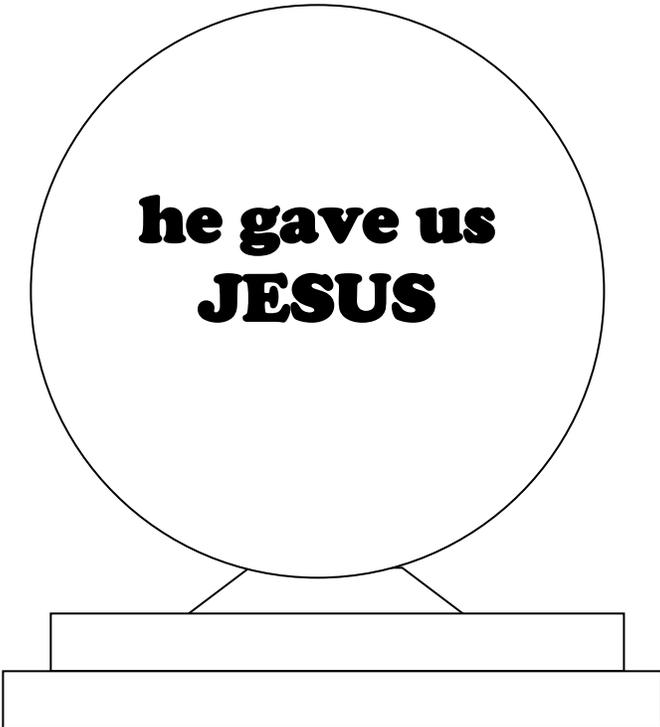
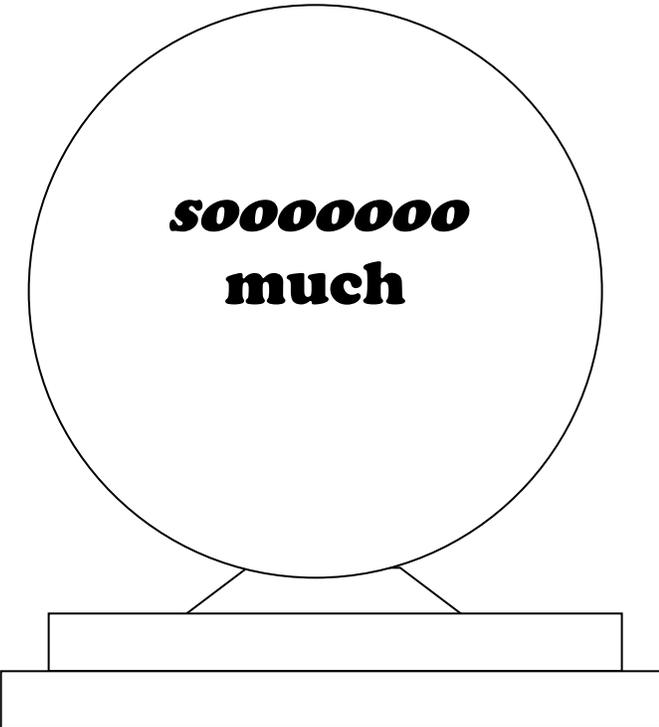
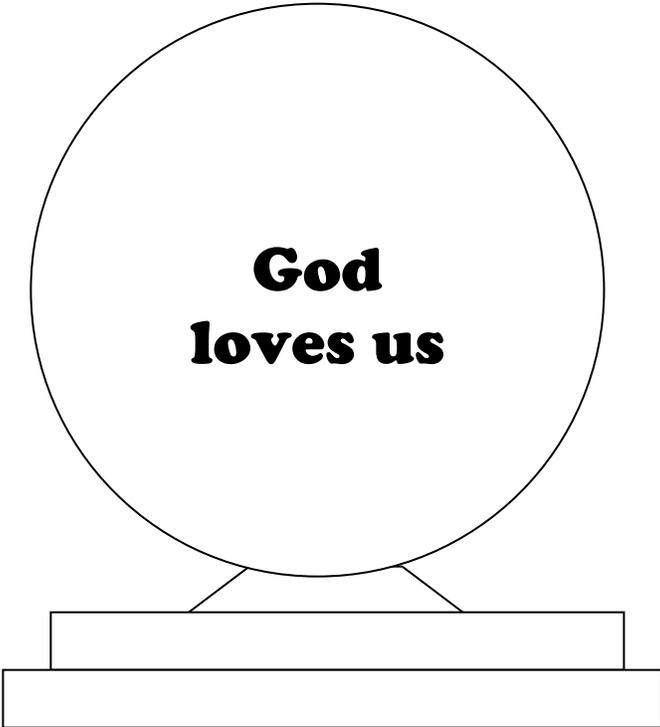
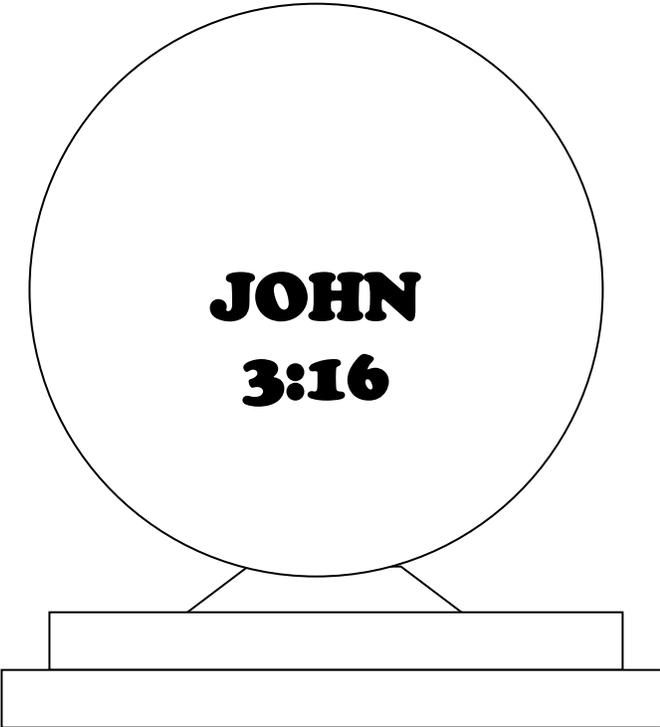
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YOU

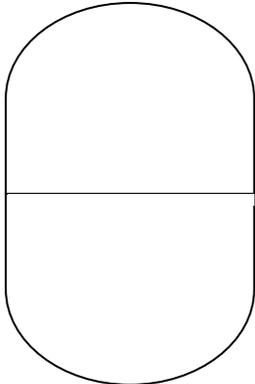
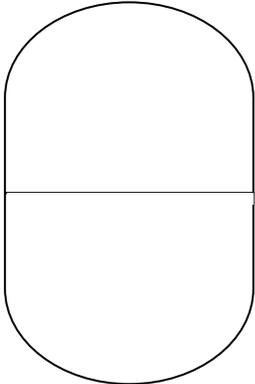
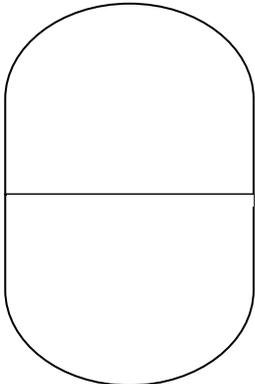
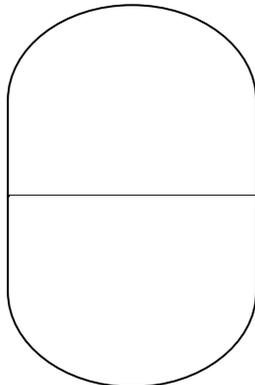
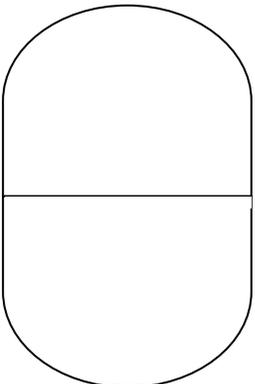
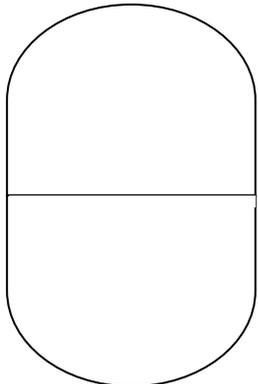
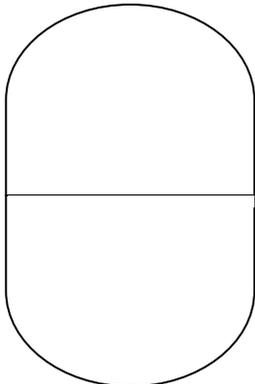
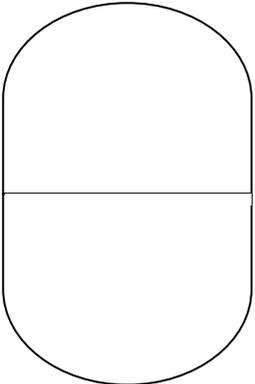
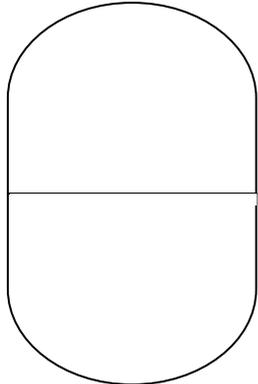


because

<p>What does it matter?</p> 	<p>What does it matter?</p> 	<p>What does it matter?</p> 	<p>What does it matter?</p> 
<p>just this, that Christ is</p> 	<p>just this, that Christ is</p> 	<p>just this, that Christ is</p> 	<p>just this, that Christ is</p> 
<p>proclaimed in every way.</p> 	<p>proclaimed in every way.</p> 	<p>proclaimed in every way.</p> 	<p>proclaimed in every way.</p> 



Appendix E | Good Citizen Dog Tag Pattern



Appendix F | Good Citizen Stickers

