



MY BOOK

OF

STORIES





Love God and Your Neighbor Day 1

This story comes from the Bible. It is a story of Jesus.

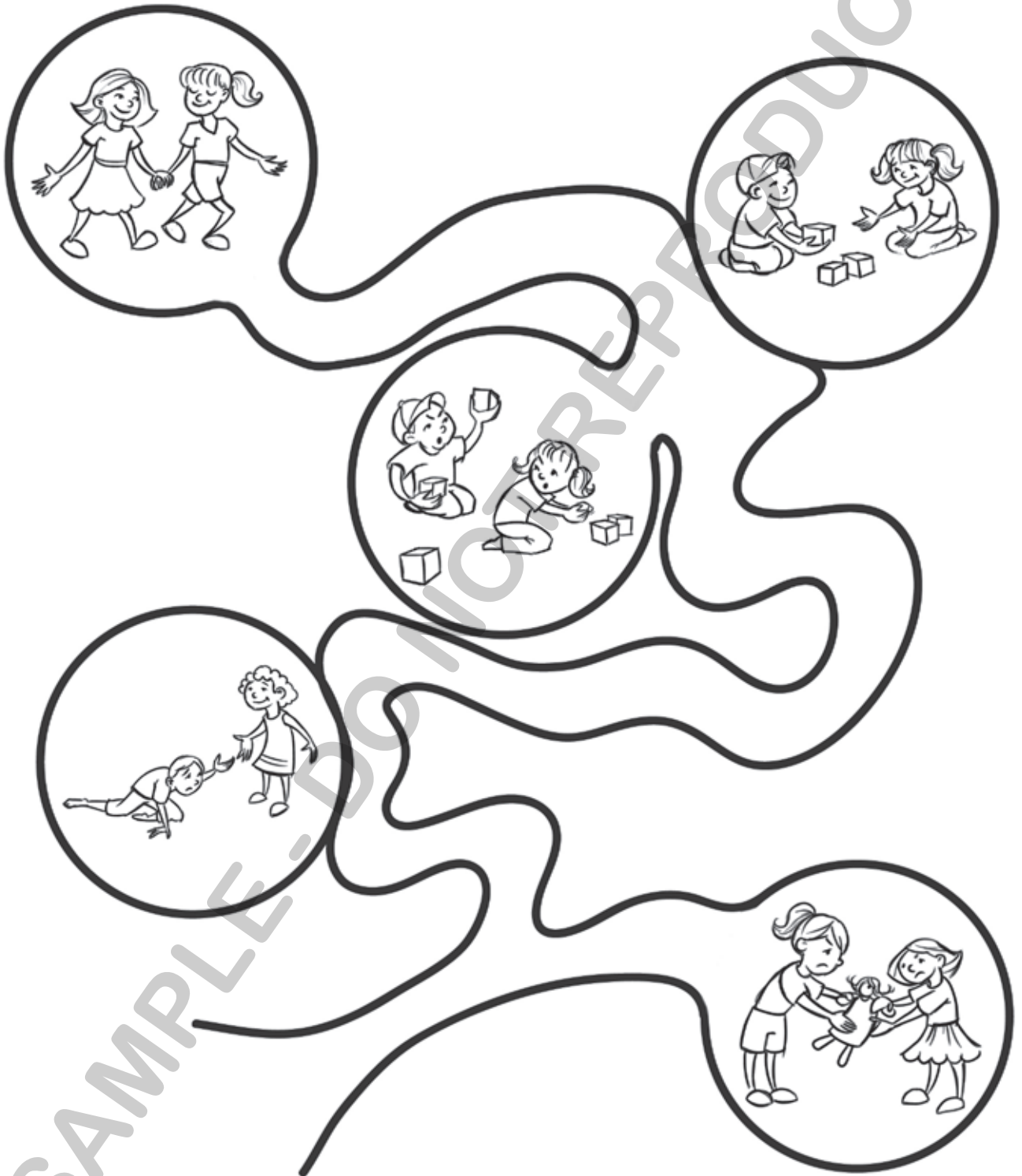
Wherever Jesus went, people came to hear him. A man came to Jesus and listened to what Jesus said. The man leaned in as close as he could so he would not miss hearing a word that Jesus said. He asked Jesus which rule was most important.

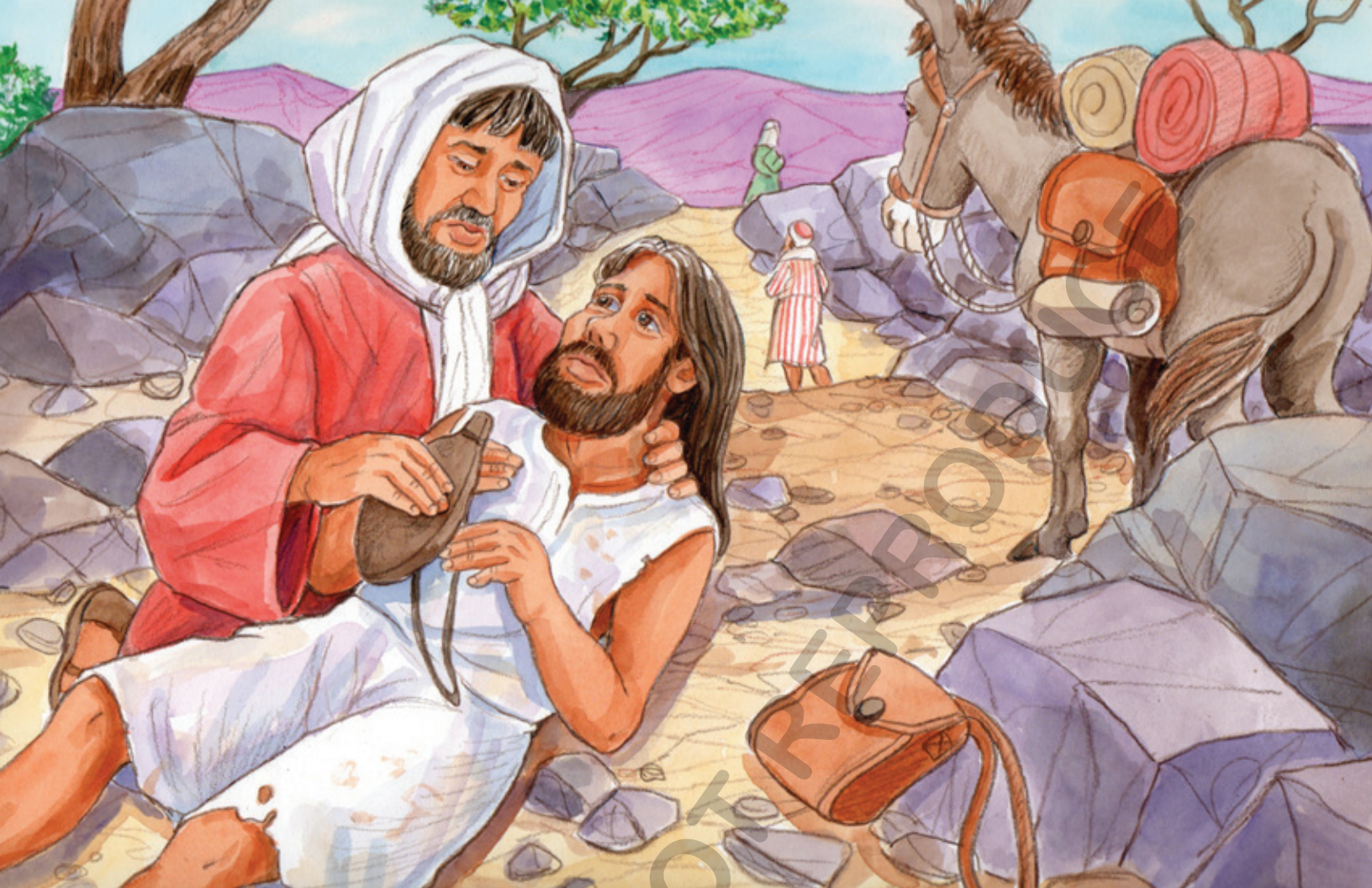
Jesus said, “You have one God. The first rule is to love God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength.” Jesus said, “The second rule is to love other people as you love yourself.”

The man said, “You are right! Loving God and others is more important than anything else!” The man said, “We should love God with our heart, soul, mind, and strength. And we should love other people as we love ourselves.”

Which pictures show someone loving their neighbor?

Color the pictures.





Who Is My Neighbor?

Day 2

The stories Jesus told are for you, for me, for all people. One day, a teacher asked Jesus, “Who is my neighbor?” Jesus answered the question with this story.

A man was walking down the road from Jerusalem to Jericho. Robbers came and hurt the man. They took his clothes and his money, and they left him lying down beside the road.

A priest walked down the road. He saw the man. Then he looked away and walked on the other side.

A temple worker walked down the road. He saw the man. Then he looked away and walked on the other side.

A Samaritan walked down the road. The Samaritan saw the man, and he looked at the man kindly. He walked over to the man, bandaged his sores, and put the man on his donkey. He brought the man to an inn.

The Samaritan gave the innkeeper money so the innkeeper could give the man food and a place to stay. The Samaritan said he would come back to pay whatever was needed to take care of the man.

After the story Jesus asked, “Which of the people was a good neighbor?”

The teacher said, “The one who helped the hurt man.”

Jesus said, “You should be like the good neighbor.”

Thank you, God, for people who help others!

Look at the pictures of people who help others. What do they do? Color the pictures.





Live Peacefully

Day 3

There was a man named Isaac who was a follower of God. Isaac and his wife Rebekah moved to a new place and began to grow crops. The plants grew and grew. Isaac became a very wealthy man. He owned many sheep, goats, and cows. He had many people who worked for him. Isaac's workers got water from his wells for the animals to drink.

The people who lived near Isaac and Rebekah were jealous. King Abimelech said, "You are too powerful. I want you to leave this place. Go away now." Isaac and Rebekah did not argue. They went away in peace.

Isaac went to a new place and dug a well for water. But the people who lived nearby said, "This is our water." Isaac and Rebekah did not argue. They went away in peace.

Isaac went to a third place and dug a new well. And again the people who lived nearby said, "This is our water." Again Isaac and Rebekah did not fight about the water. They went away in peace.

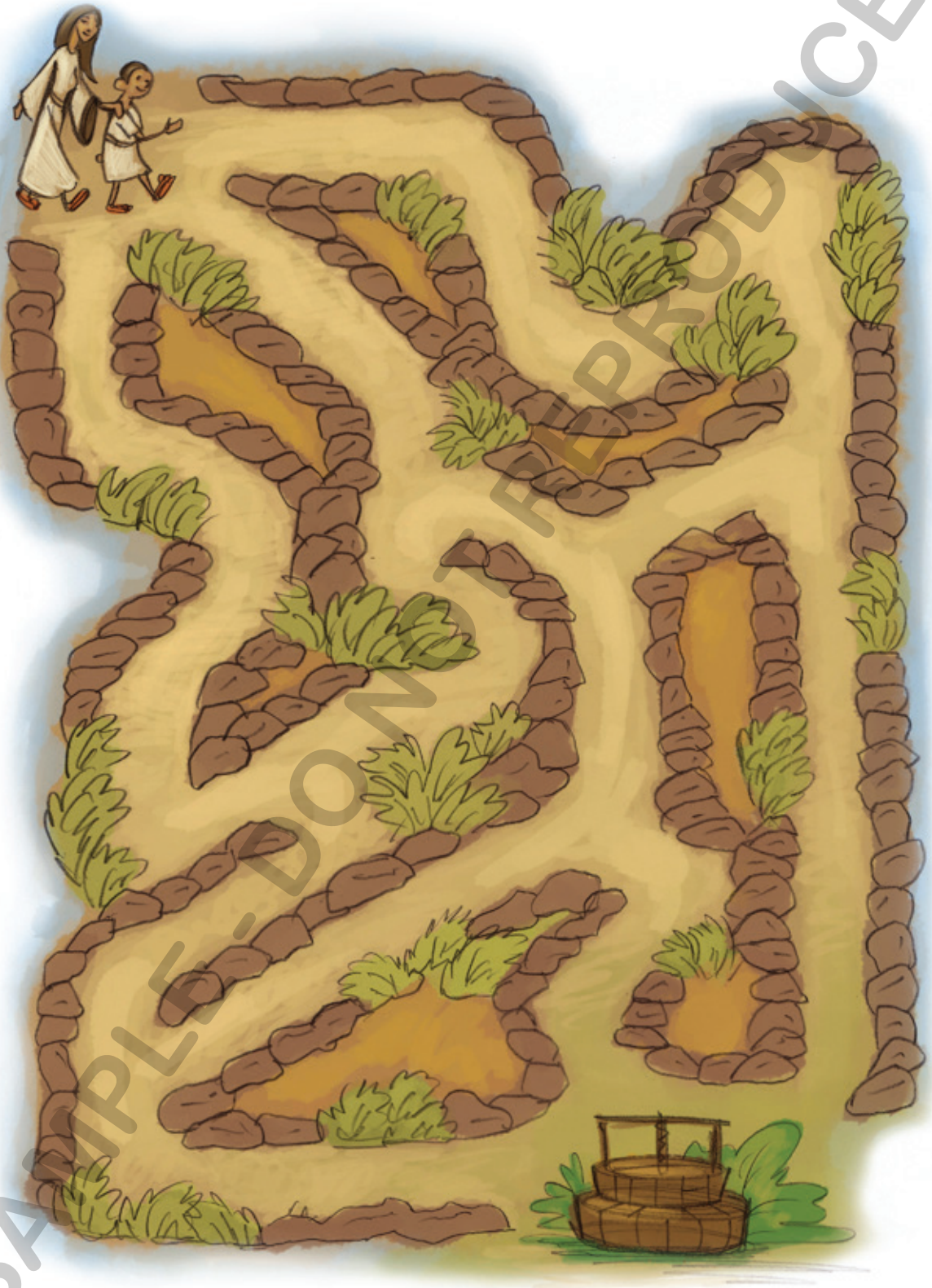
Finally, Isaac dug a well and no one took it away from him. God said, "Do not be afraid, Isaac. I am your God, and the God of your people. I will be with you and bless you. You will have many children."

Isaac piled up stones there to remember what God had said. King Abimelech came back to Isaac and said, "I can tell that God has blessed you. Let's promise never to hurt each other."

Isaac and Rebekah made food for King Abimelech. After eating, they said to each other, "I promise never to hurt you." Then Abimelech went away in peace.

Help Isaac and Rebekah's family find the well!

Draw a line from the people to the well.





Everyone Is Invited!

Day 4

Jesus went from place to place, teaching people about God. Sometimes Jesus told stories. Listen with ears to hear.

Jesus said, “Someone gave a great dinner and invited many people. When the dinner was served, none of the invited guests came.”

One said, “I cannot come. I am too busy.”

Another said, “I cannot come. I have work to do.”

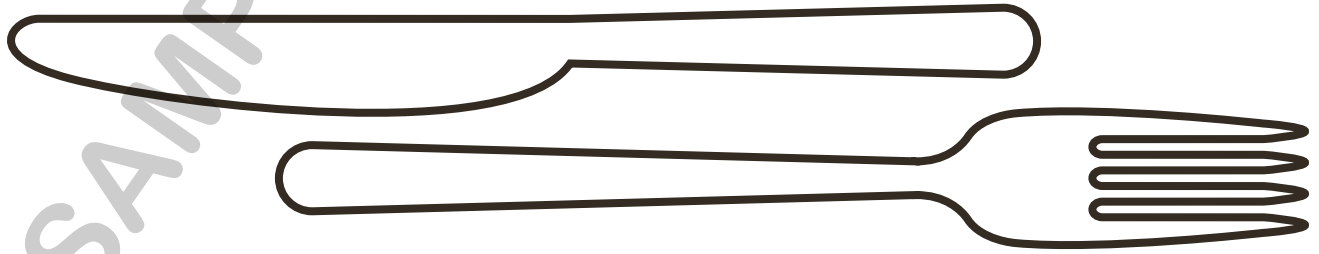
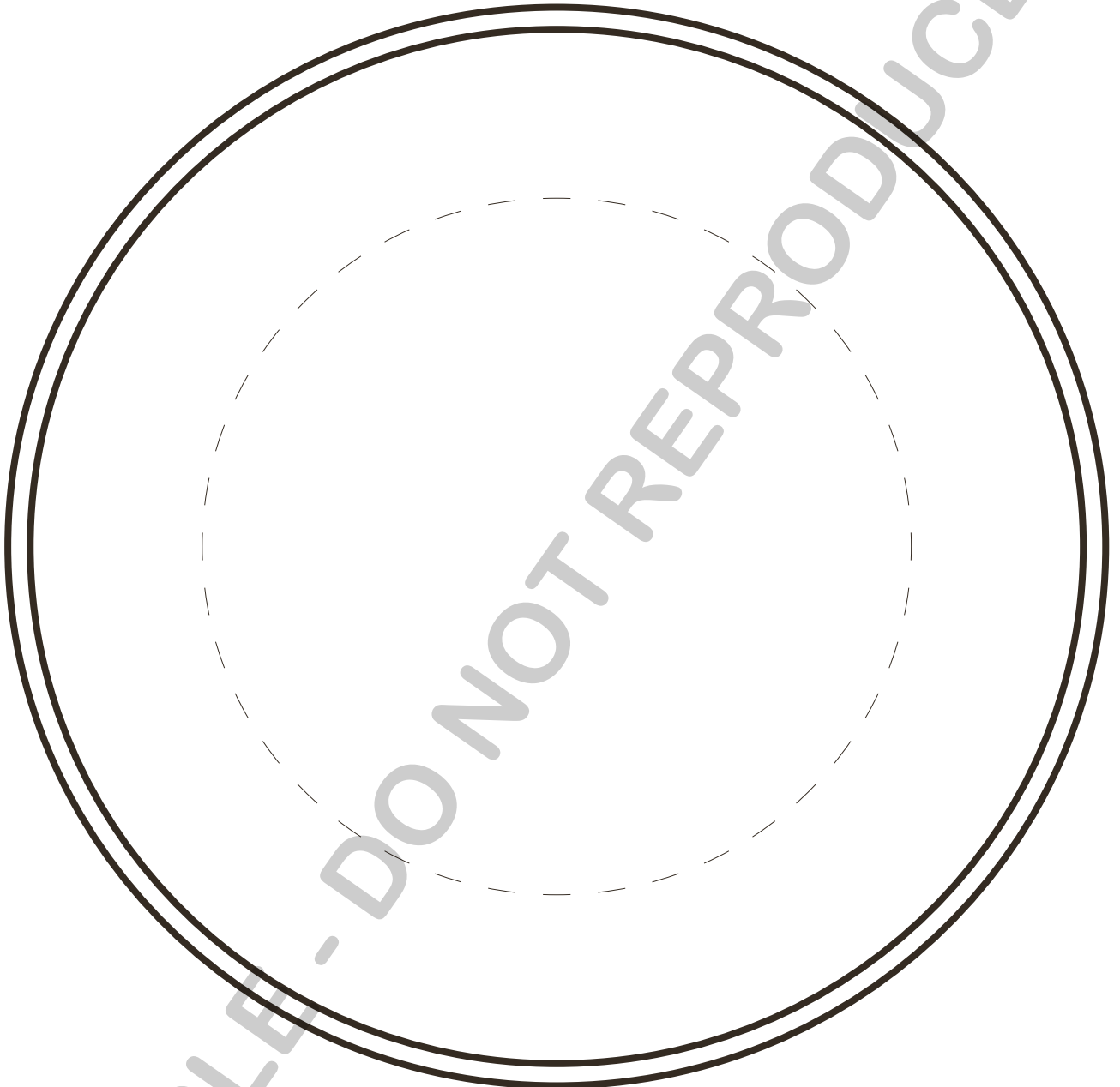
And still another said, “I cannot come. I need to take care of my family.”

The man giving the dinner was disappointed because the friends had said, “I cannot come.” So he went out to the streets of the town and brought in those who did not have money. He brought in those who could not walk. He brought in those who could not see.

But there was still room at the table. So the man went out on the roads and invited everyone he saw. Now there would be a great dinner and the house would be full.

What would you like to eat at a party?

Draw and color your favorite party foods on the plate.





Share with Others

Day 5

The followers of Jesus loved God. They also loved each other.

When they made clothes or tools they did not say, “These things are mine.” They said, “These things belong to all of us!”

When they made food, they did not say, “This food is only for me.” Instead they shared the food with others.

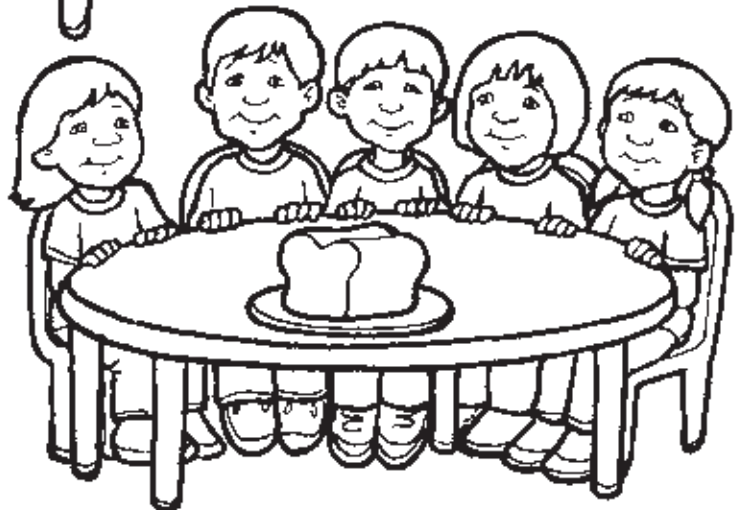
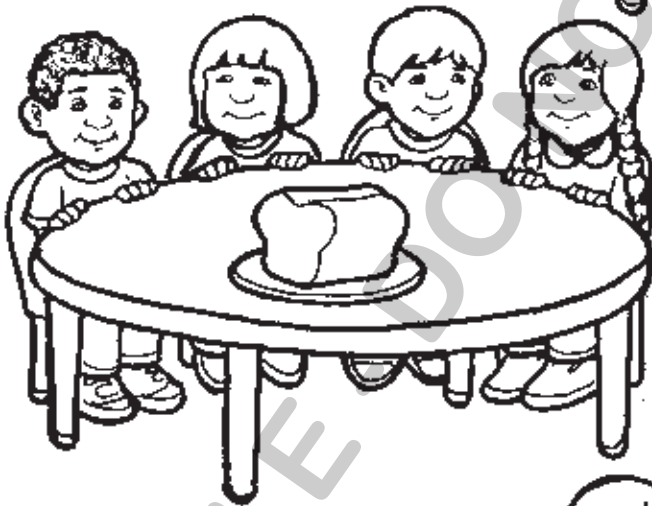
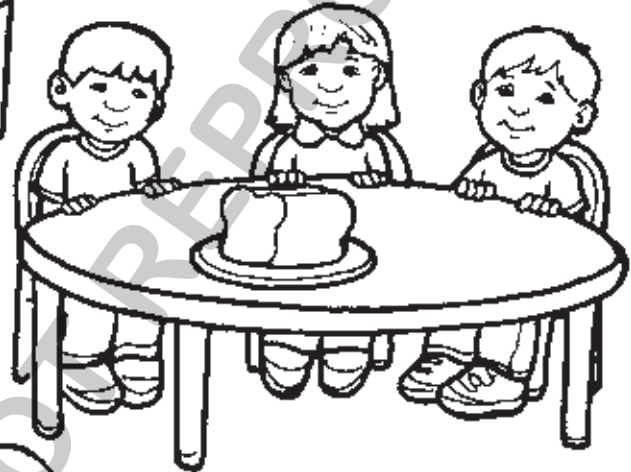
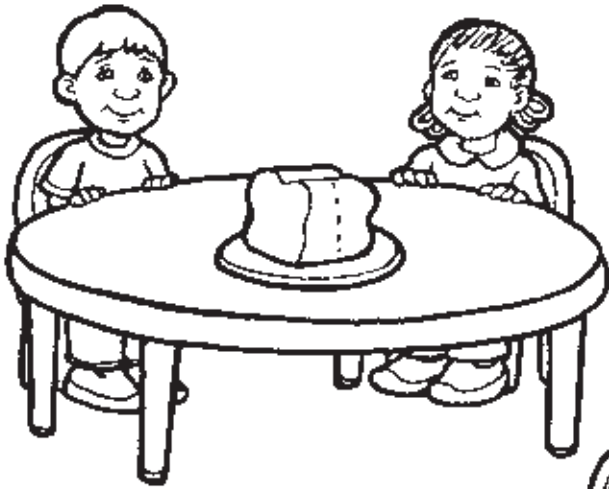
If someone needed money or a place to live, the people said, “We can help.” Everyone was taken care of; no one was in need.

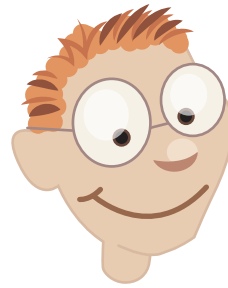
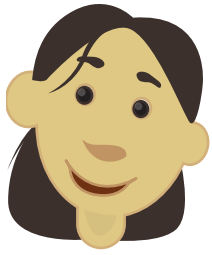
Day by day, the people worshiped God together. They broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts. The people felt very happy inside. They loved God and took care of each other.

Every day, more and more people wanted to follow Jesus and they joined the first church—men and women, girls and boys.

Sharing Bread

Help the children to share the bread. Draw lines to make equal parts, and then color the pictures.



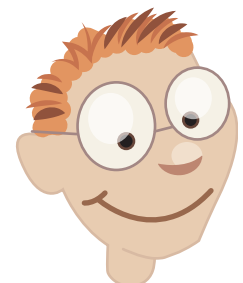
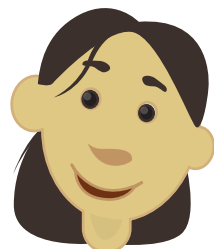
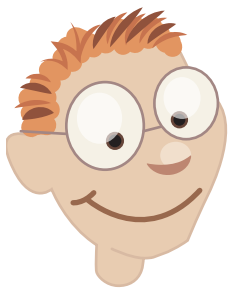
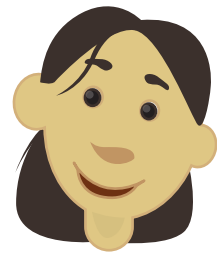
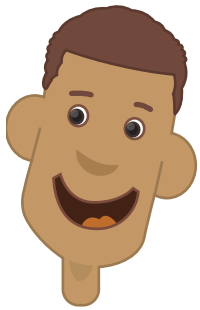


**Love the
Lord
your God.**

**Love your
neighbor**

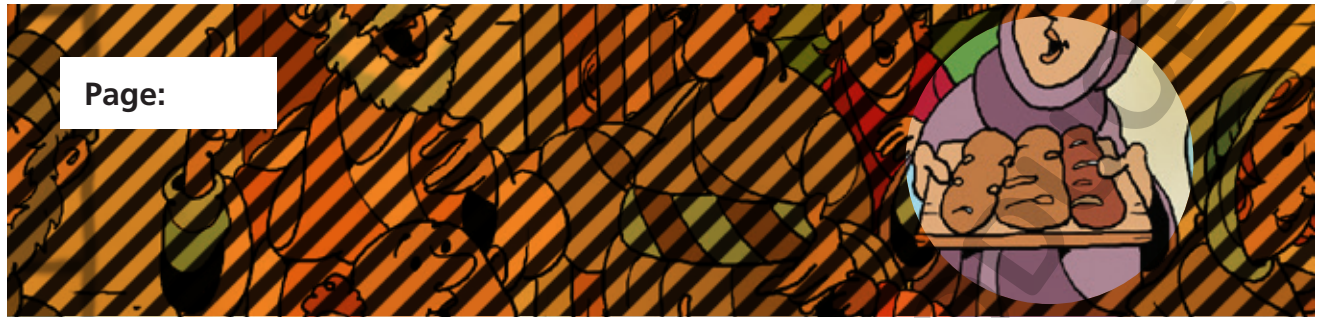
as yourself.

—Mark 12:30, 31, adapted



Where are the pictures?

Find each picture somewhere else in *My Book of Stories*.





We
have many
neighbors

Neighbors enjoy a snack together!

At the bottom of the page are several objects. Find them in the picture and circle them.



This book belongs to:

SAMPLE - DO NOT REPRODUCE



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