

Jesus and Nicodemus

5+ lesson pack



Introduction

This week we will learn more about the beginning of Jesus's ministry. A Pharisee named Nicodemus visited Jesus seeking answers to his questions. Our bible text is found in John 3. Some of the key points we will study are--

- Spiritual life vs. Physical life
- Doing good things is not enough. Nicodemus obeyed the law, but he needed to trust in Jesus.
- God loved the world so much He gave us Jesus to have eternal life.

Lesson Guide

Talk to your child about questions. Point out that some questions are easier to answer than others e.g. what is for dinner is easy to answer, but why questions might be harder to answer. Explain that Nicodemus had big questions to which he needed answers. Point out that Nicodemus went to Jesus to receive answers to his questions. Talk about how we can go to Jesus to answer our difficult questions, too. Explain that sometimes the answers are in the Bible, and sometimes we just need to trust that God knows the answer and He is in control.

Explain that Nicodemus was confused about the difference between spiritual things and physical things. Explain that spiritual things cannot be touched like physical things. Point out that your child's hand can be touched, but his soul cannot be. You may continue to speak about things we can see and things we cannot by asking the child to identify which an object is. Give your child a hug and point out that it is physical (we can see it) but explain that it is also a sign of the love you have for them.

If it is a windy day, you may go outside. You may also use a fan or a hairdryer. Ask the child if they can see the wind. They cannot. Ask the child if they can see what the wind does. Point out that we can. Explain that we might not be able to see Jesus in someone's soul, but we can see the signs that He is there in their words and actions. You may choose to read the fruits of the spirit found in Galatians 5:22-23.

Point out to the child that doing good things isn't enough. We need to trust in Jesus and have him clean our souls. Talk about how Jesus came into the world to save our souls, make us clean, and give us eternal life.

Get a jug. With your child's help, fill it with dirty things like old coffee grinds, teabags, left over food etc. Fill water over the top and stir to make a dirty mess. Then ask the child if the water looks good to drink. If your child is very young, you may have to help them realize that the dirty water is not good to drink. Point out that the water is like our souls without Christ—dirty and unclean. Now, take a spoonful of clean water and add it to the pitcher. Ask the child if the spoonful of water made the dirty water clean or if the dirty water made the clean spoonful dirty. You may continue to add spoonful's of clean water, each time pointing out that it is not making the dirt go away. Point out that just like the spoonful's, our good actions cannot remove our bad actions.

If the child is old enough, ask them to help you figure out how to make the water in the pitcher clean. You may help them in realizing that they must remove all the dirty water and bits, then scrub and clean the jar. Allow them to help you wash it. While you do so talk about how Jesus cleans the sin out of our souls and washes us clean. Then fill the pitcher with clean water and point out that Jesus fills our souls with His righteousness.

Pour yourselves each a glass of water from the clean pitcher and talk about how God loves us so much, He send Jesus to makes us clean.

Pray and thank Jesus for coming into the world to save sinners.

[Video playlist is available on the website post which goes alongside this lesson.](#)

Nicodemus

Pharisees were religious leaders. One of them was called Nicodemus, and he was a ruler of the Jews. He had heard of Jesus and wanted to meet Him. He came to Jesus by night.

“Teacher,” Nicodemus said to Jesus, “we know that you come from God because no one who didn’t come from God could do the amazing things that you do. God must be with you.”

“Unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. This is very true.” Jesus said to him.

Nicodemus did not understand. “How can a man be born again when he is old? Can a man enter his mother’s womb again to be born a second time?”

Jesus said. “Truly, truly, I say to you this truth. Unless a man is born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter God’s kingdom. Whatever is born of the flesh is flesh. Whatever is born of the Spirit is spirit. You should not be amazed at me telling you that you must be born again. Can you see the wind? It blows wherever it wants to blow. No one can see where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.”

Nicodemus was confused and asked Jesus. “How can this be true?”





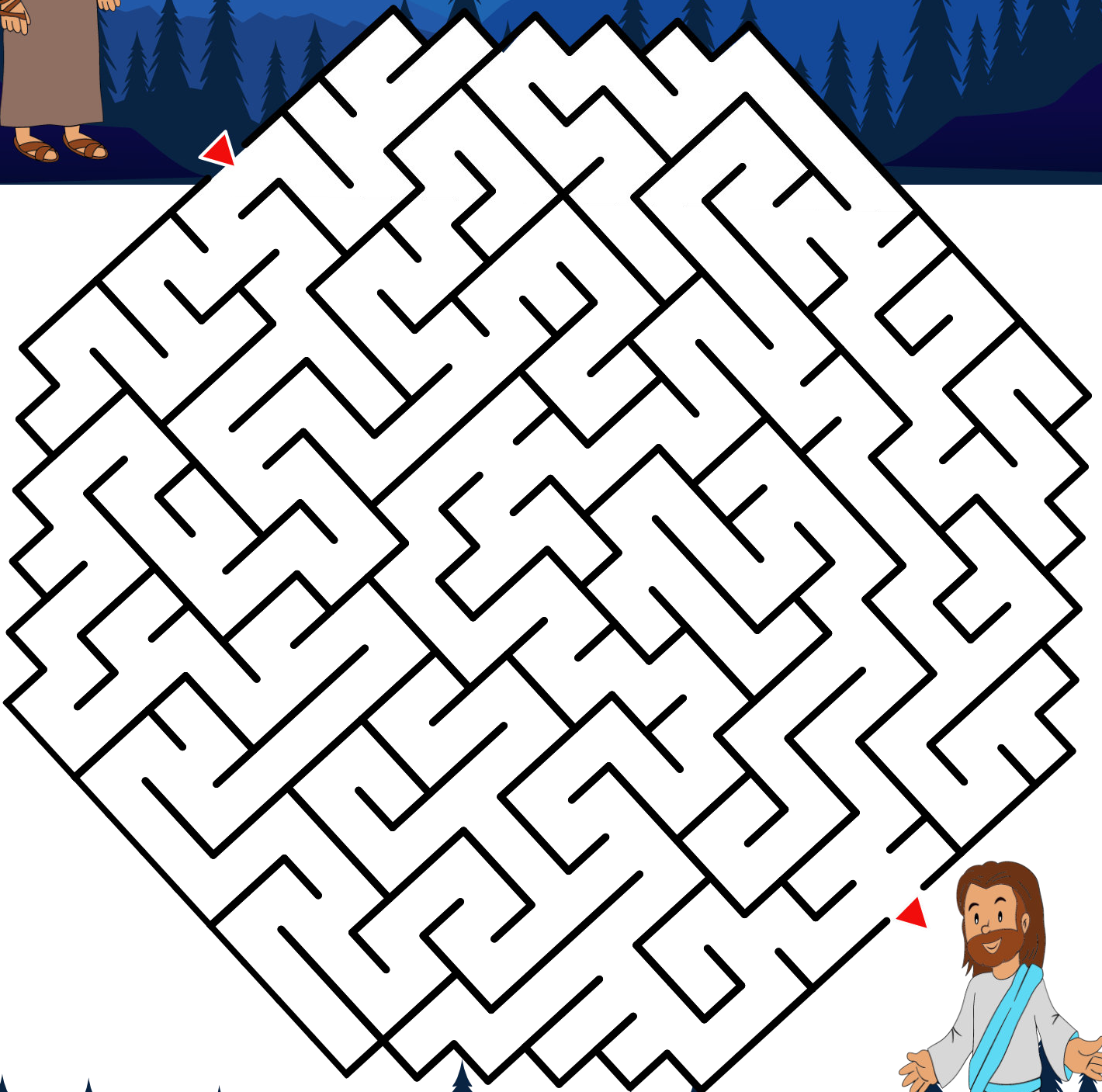
“Do you not understand?” Jesus said. “You are a teacher in Israel.” Jesus continued to speak to Nicodemus.

Then Jesus said, “For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. God sent his Son into this world so that by believing in Him, the world could be saved. Only by believing in Him can people be saved from their sins. The light of the world has come, but people do not love the light. Yet, those who come to the light can be saved.”

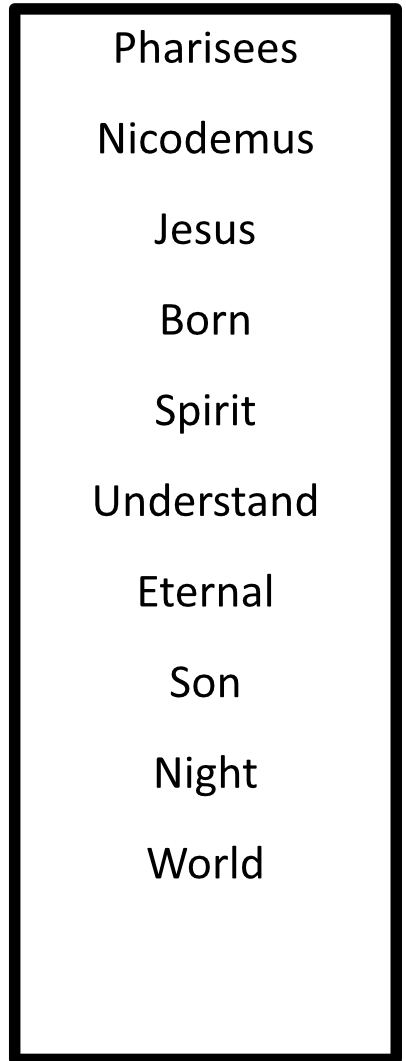
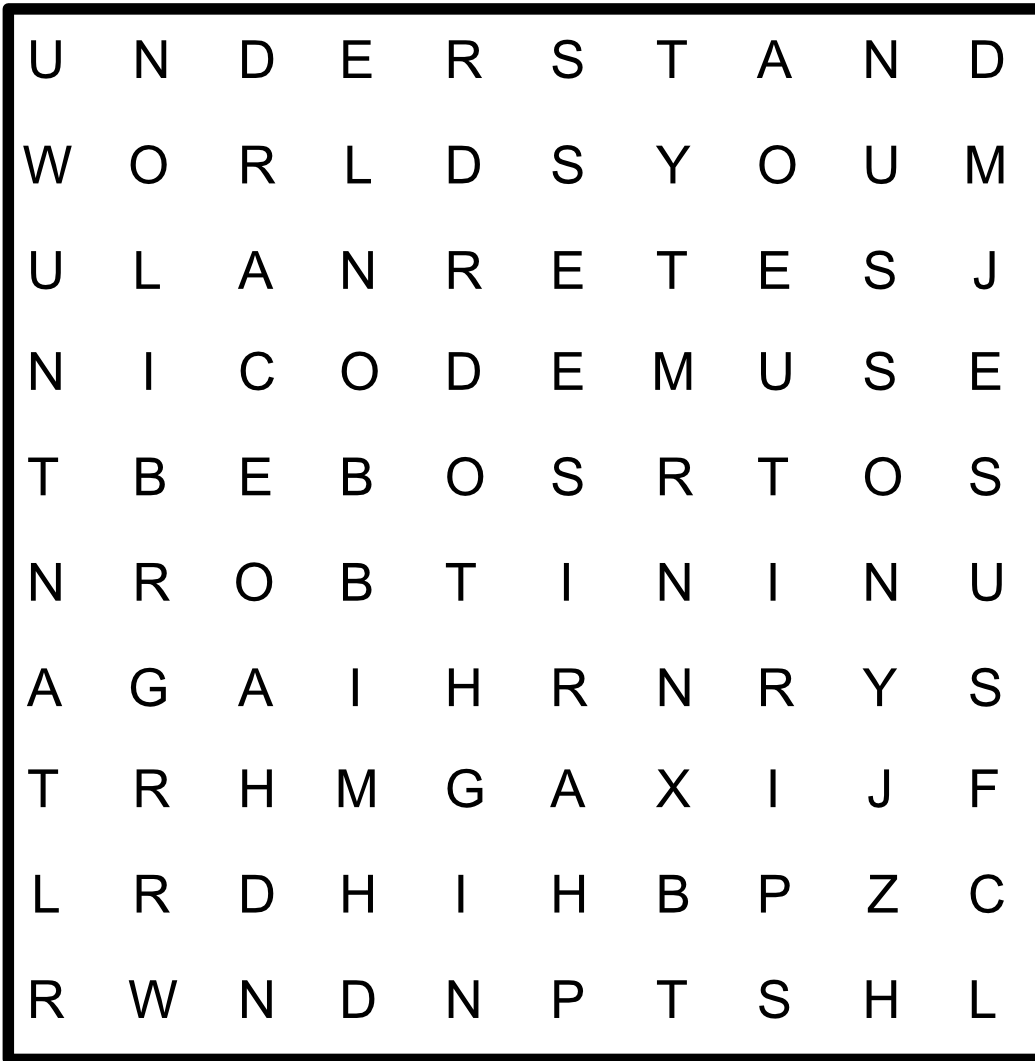
Jesus shared all of these things with Nicodemus, and afterwards, He departed from that area with His disciples.



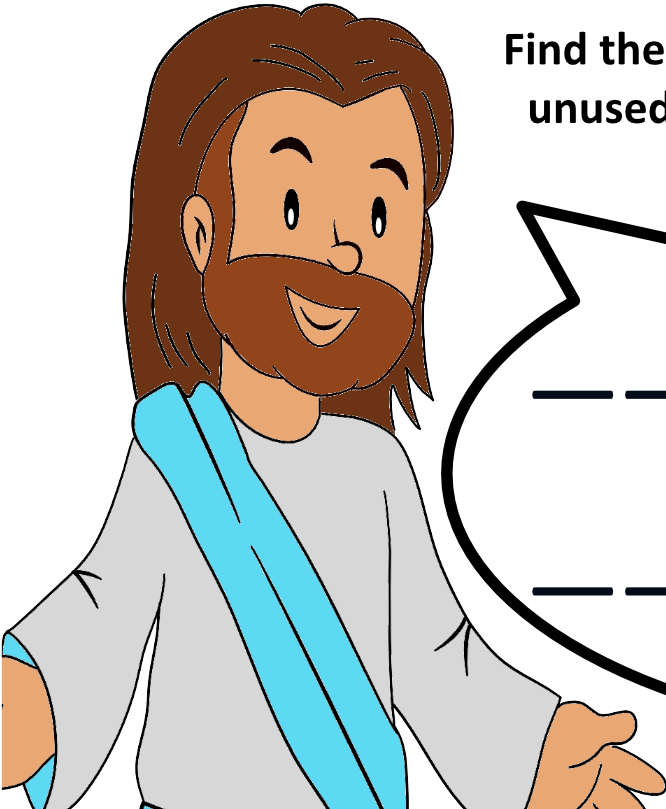
Help Nicodemus find the way to Jesus



Word Search



Find the words. When you are finished, copy the unused letters from top left to bottom right to find the message.



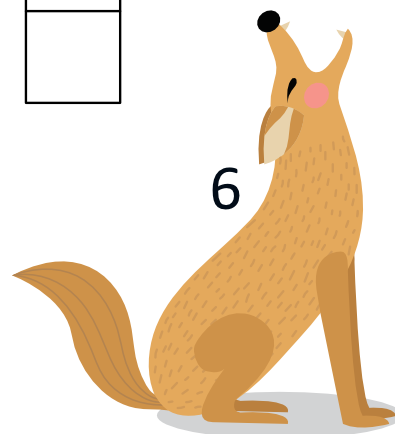
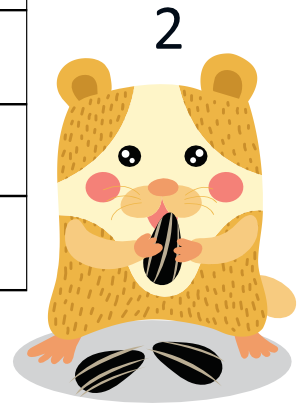
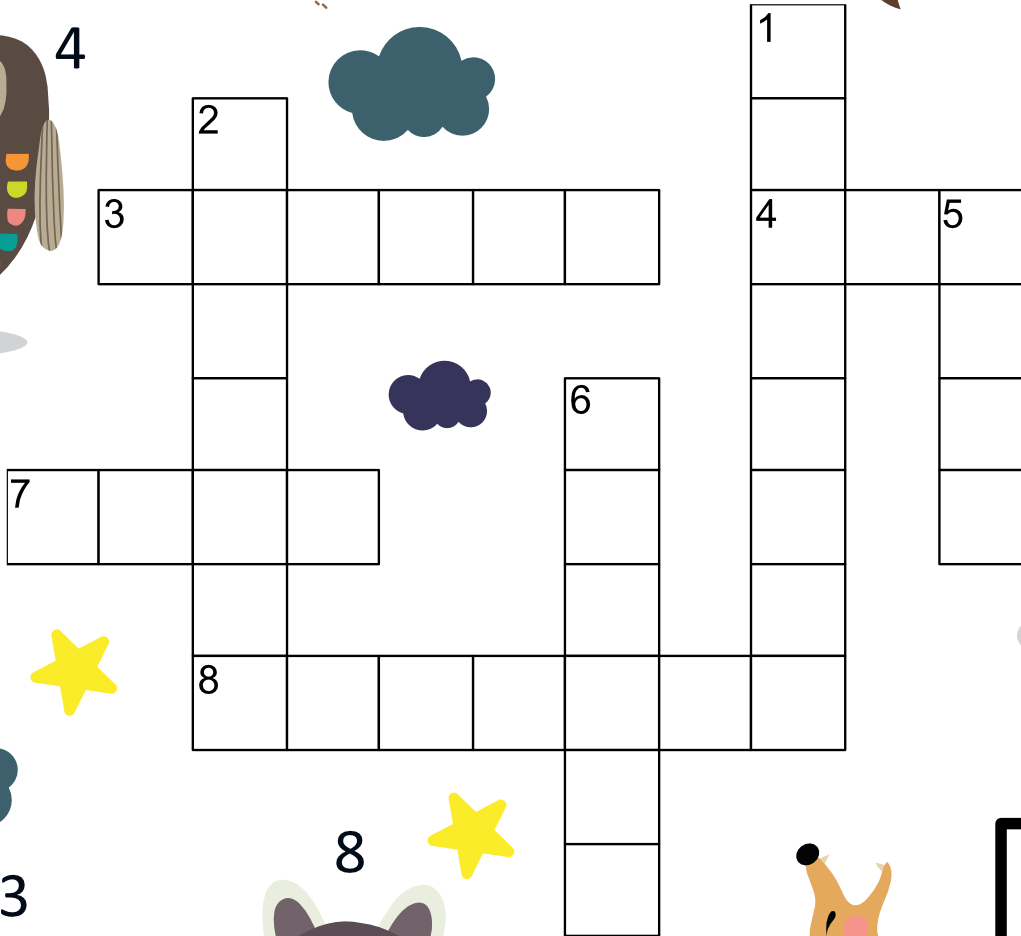
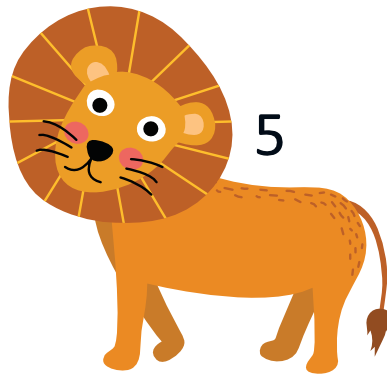
John 3:3

Draw a line from the image to its location on the map.



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

John 3:16



- | |
|----------|
| Moth |
| Lion |
| Owl |
| Badger |
| Scorpion |
| Hamster |
| Raccoon |
| Coyote |

Nocturnal Animals

Games and Activities

Caterpillar relay

Cut out a set of butterfly wings for each child.

You can play this game as individuals or split children into teams.

Place cut out wings on one side of the space. Children should line up on the opposite side.

On go, children should crawl like caterpillar across to the wings. Pick them up and 'fly' back to the start. If playing as a team, they should tag the next player.

Talk about how God wants to transform us at new birth.



Don't get caught

Have one player to face the wall. Everyone else should line up behind them on the other side of the room. The idea of the game is for the players to sneak up and tap the person facing the wall on the shoulder. The person may turn around at any time, and anyone seen moving, must return to the start. Remind them how Nicodemus didn't want to get caught talking to Jesus.

In the dark challenges

Speak about how it's much more difficult to see and carry out simple tasks in the dark. This is why Nicodemus decided to speak to Jesus during the night.

Find a dark space to do this activity. Time children doing a task in the light and again in the dark. How much longer does it take. Which child can do the fastest?

Some ideas may be:

Tie shoelaces, complete a worksheet. Write your name. Peel and eat a fruit, complete a easy jigsaw and so on.



God so loved the World



What you need:

Template pages (print one map page only.
Include your country).

Colouring pencils

Scissors

Glue

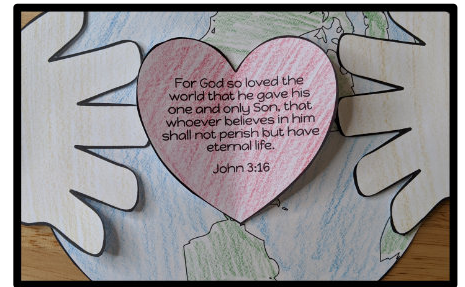
What to do:



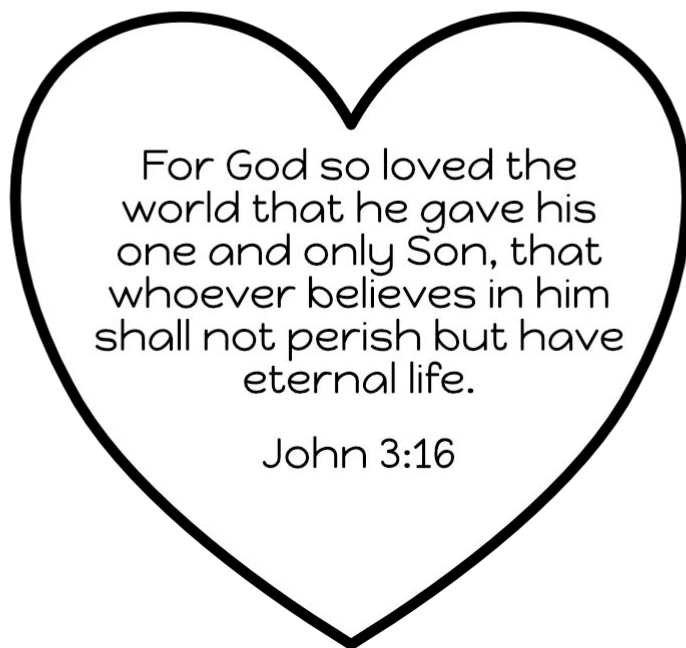
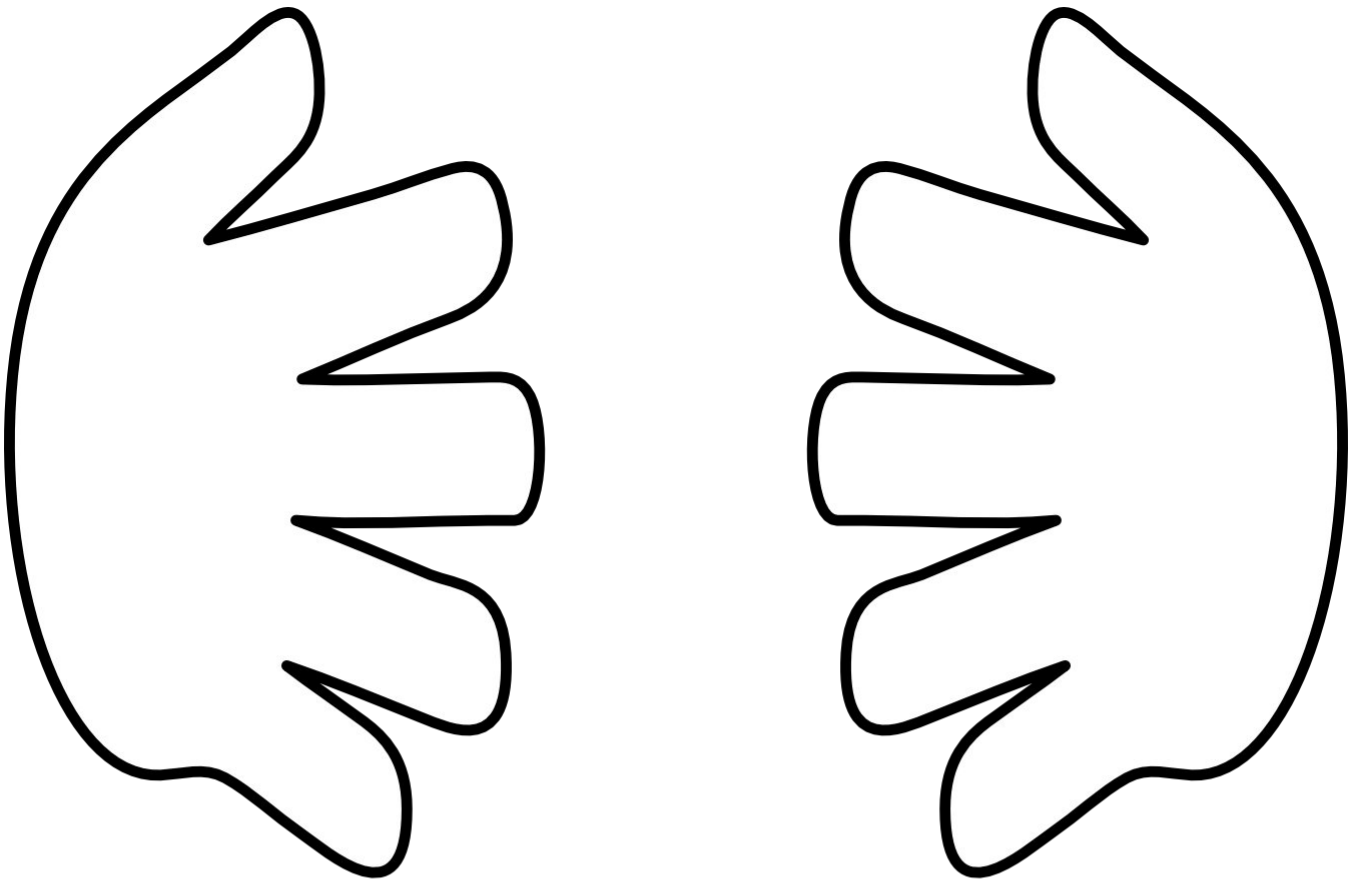
Colour in the template pages.

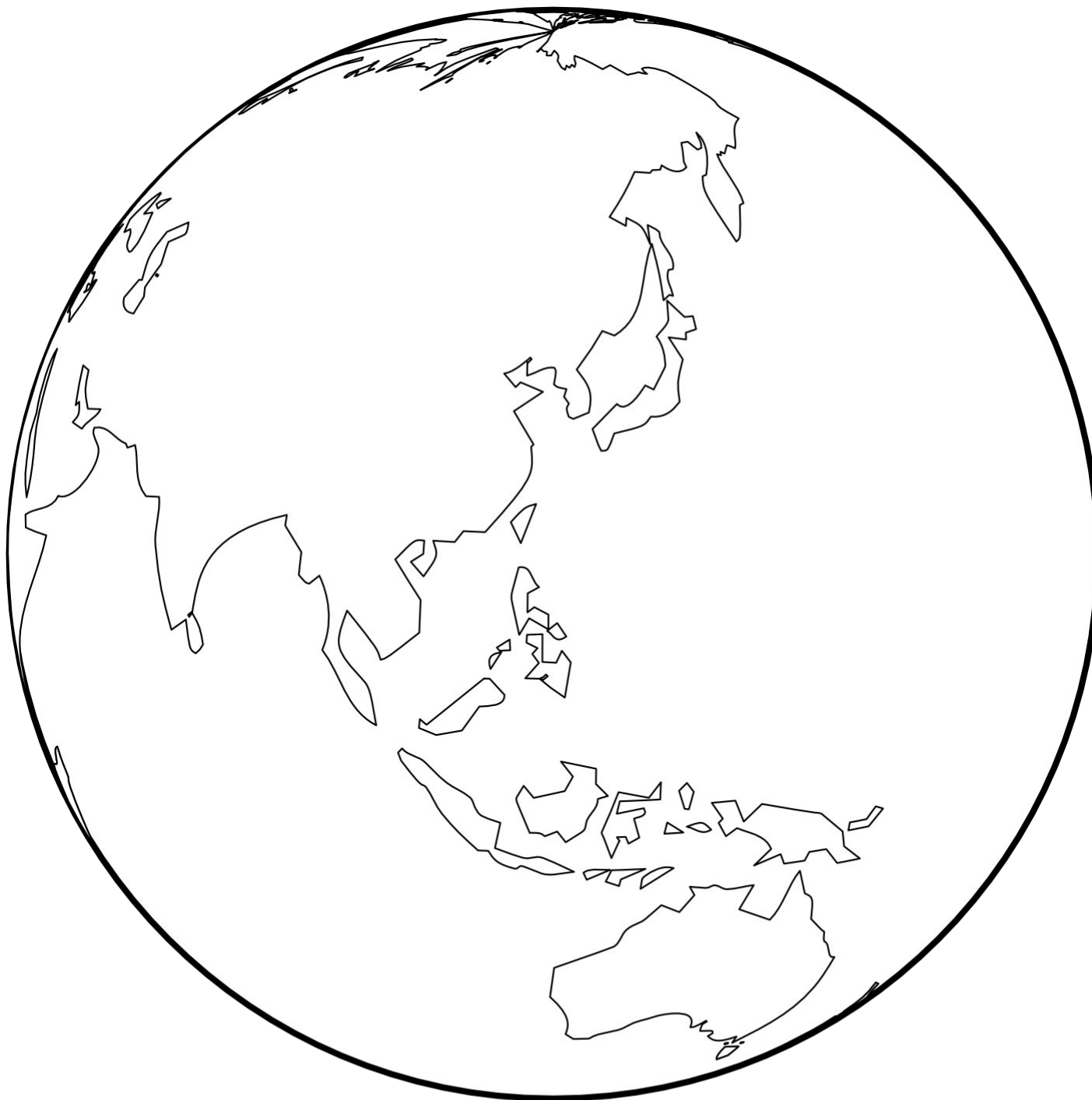


Cut out the world, hands and heart.

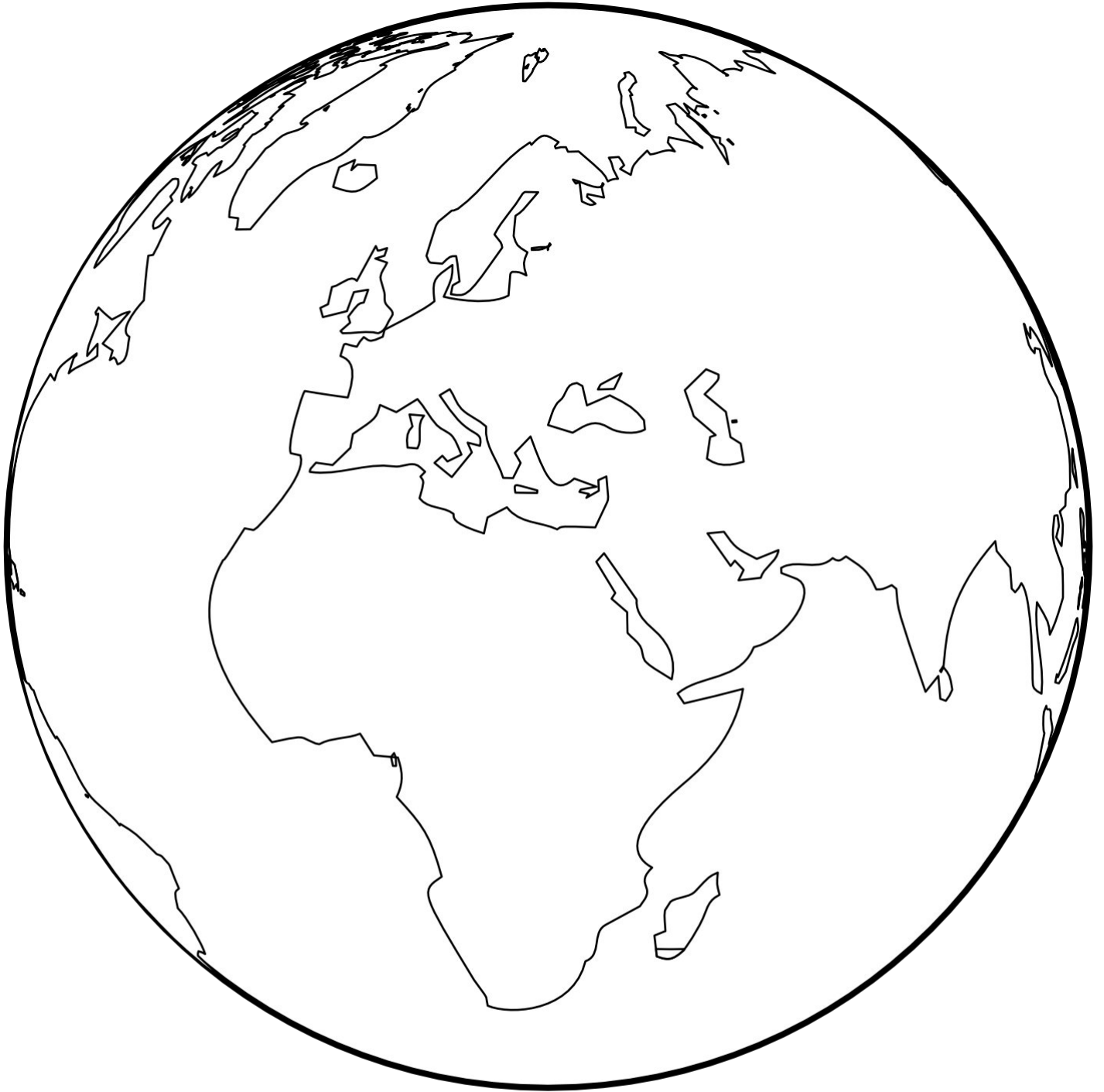


Glue hands onto side of world. Fold heart and glue down the centre. Fix into middle of world.









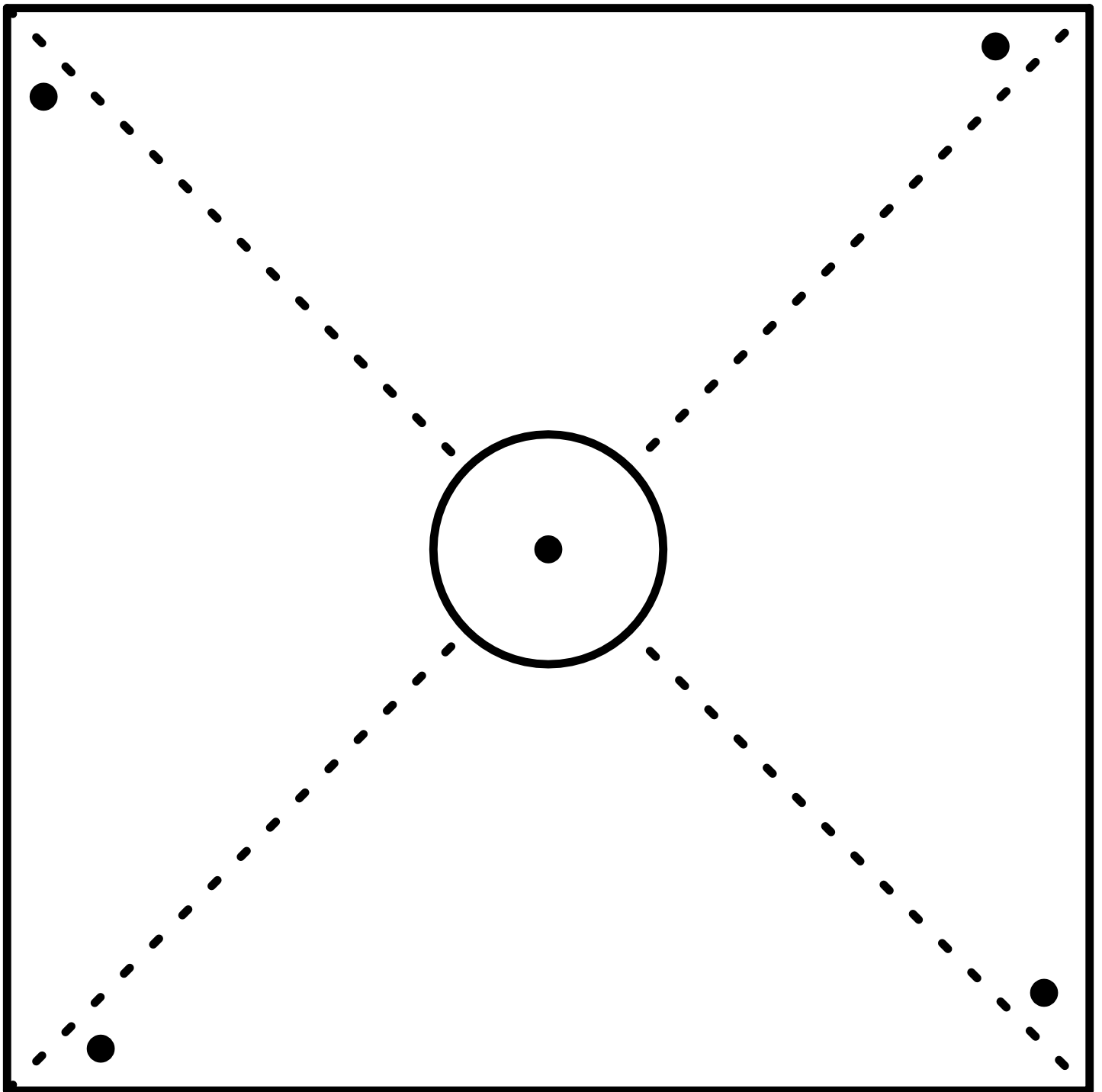


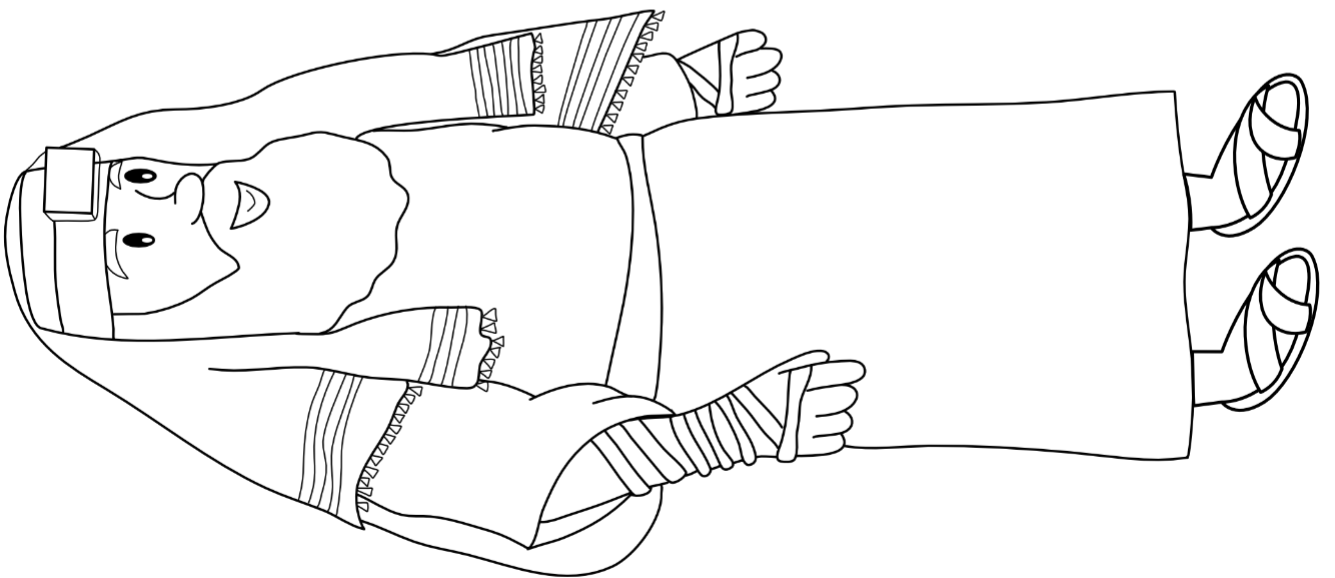
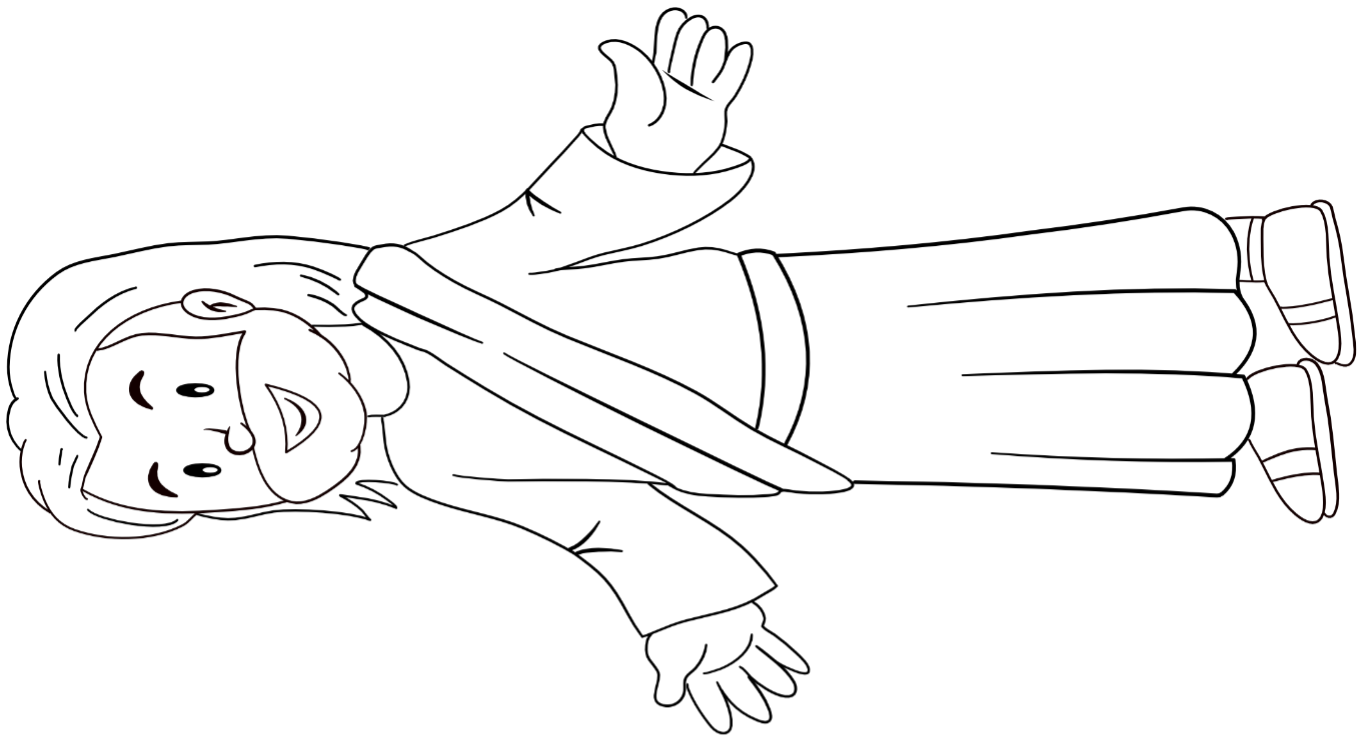
Paper pin Wheel

You will need:

A paper pin, colour pencils, a wooden stick

- 1) Colour both sides of the template.
- 2) Cut around outside and along dotted lines
- 3) Pin the black circles together
- 4) Pin into wooden stick

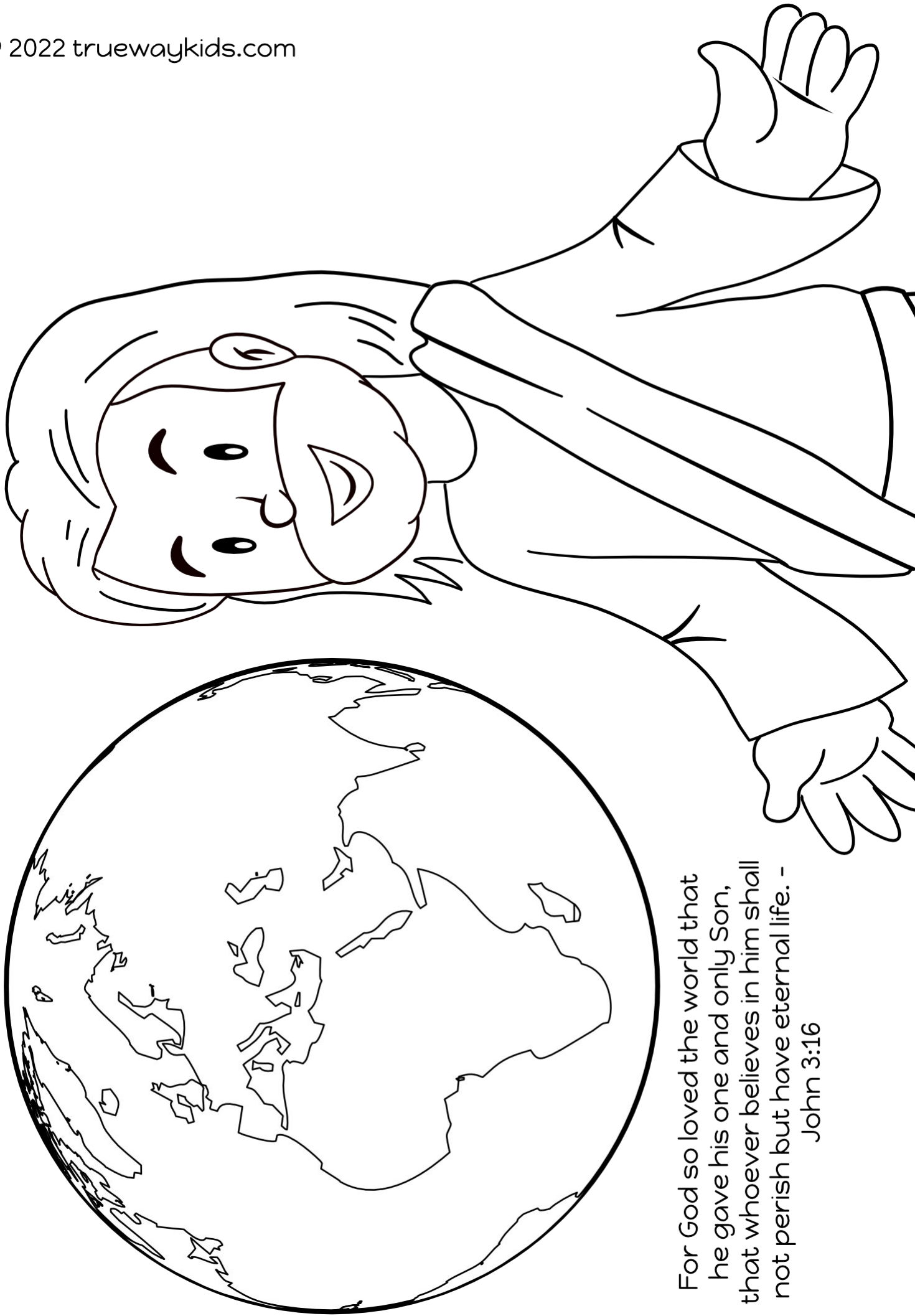








You must be
born again.



For God so loved the world that
he gave his one and only Son,
that whoever believes in him shall
not perish but have eternal life. -
John 3:16

Worship Time

Recommend worship songs. Not produced by Trueway Kids. YouTube Videos to be used for personal use only.

For God So Loved (John 3:16)

<https://youtu.be/HJPI6uDlaL4>

God So Loved - Hillsong kids

<https://youtu.be/BdzWhNp4cjk>

John 3:16

<https://youtu.be/k2iHNzNjkJw>



Prayer Time

Thank God that we can ask him anything.
Thank God that Jesus came that we can
enjoy eternal life with Him.

Ask God to help you believe and trust in
Him.

Next Week
Fishers of Men

If you haven't already done so, sign up to
receive future lesson by email.
truewaykids.com/subscribe/

