



Let's travel to Jerusalem!

**A Children's Ministry Program
for Holy Week and Easter.**

Teacher's Book



This Easter...

Dear brothers and sisters,

It is my joy to present a new curriculum for Easter and...

...Holy Week.

Your church may be doing something special for the adults, but it is good to prepare something specifically for the children to learn about Jesus Christ and his coming to earth to die for our sins on the cross. Maybe they know the story, but this curriculum will give them a different perspective on the Holy week that led up to the day Jesus conquered sin and death for all time!

You may use this curriculum as you choose, 5 lessons for 5 days during Holy week, or as 5 Sundays leading up to resurrection Sunday. You can also choose 3 of the 5 lessons, and give them on good Friday, Saturday and resurrection Sunday.

We are imagining that you and your class of students will be traveling to Jerusalem to celebrate together the Holy Week, complete with a Jewish Passover meal and a Jewish dance. Your whole church will have fun! Even though this program is fun, we will be looking at the basics of our faith, Sin, God, Christ dying for our sins, and in accepting Him how we can be saved!

We pray that this will be a **blessing**
for you and your whole church!

From the team at "Children are Important"

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...will be different

Lesson 1

Theme:

Theme: God Message:
"Jesus Christ is here"
Bible Story:
Triumphant Entry

Activities:

Act: Drawing competition
Game: Palm leaves
Craft: Palm
Hebrew: Jehovah Shamma
Extra: Map of Jerusalem



Bible verse:

"Hosanna to the Son of David!" "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" Matthew 21:9b

Lesson 2

Theme:

Theme: Sin Message:
"Jesus Christ cleans us"
Bible Story:
Jesus cleans the temple

Activities:

Act: Cleaning the church
Game: Teams in action
Craft: Frangrance bag
Hebrew: Jehovah Tsidkenu
Extra: Pronunciation of Hebrew



Bible verse:

"But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." Romans 5:8

Lesson 3

Theme:

Theme: Remember Message:
"Jesus Christ with us"
Bible Story:
The Passover

Activities:

Activity: Jewish Passover
Game: Throw the plate
Craft: Placemat
Hebrew: Jehovah Jireh
Extra: Israel flag



Bible verse:

"It is the Passover sacrifice to the Lord, who passed over the houses of the Israelites in Egypt and spared our homes..." Exodus 12:27

Lesson 4

Theme:

Theme: Salvation Message:
"Jesus Christ Saves us"
Bible Story:
La Crucifixion

Activities:

Activity: Drama
game: Salvation
Craft: Cross
Hebrew: Jehovah Nissi
Extra: Live sheep



Bible verse:

"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

Lesson 5

Theme:

Theme: Celebration Message:
"Jesus Christ as Risen"
Bible Story:
The Resurrection

Activities:

Activity: Jewish Dance
Game: Travel to Jerusalem
Craft: Ribbons & shakers
Hebrew: Jehovah Elohim
Extra: Memory game



Bible verse:

"Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; he has risen, just as he said." Matthew 28:5-6

Theme:
God

Game

Putting palms at the donkey's feet

Materials

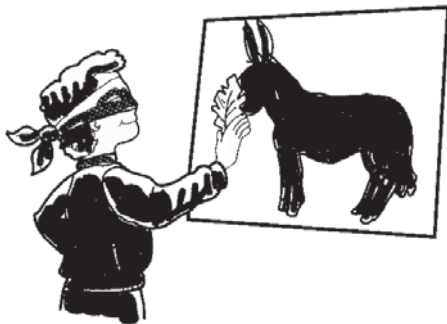
- A large paper with a drawing of a donkey. (Use the donkey we have provided to help create it.)
- Green paper
- Masking tape or adhesive tape.

Preparation

Make photocopies of the leaves onto the green paper.

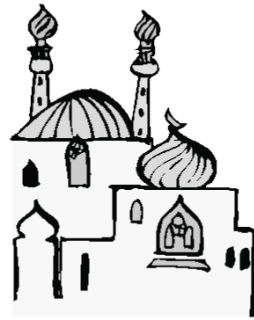
Leading the game

1. Have the younger children start first.
2. The teacher explains that when Jesus entered Jerusalem on a donkey, the people threw palm leaves at his feet as he went by. This game is to remember Jesus's entrance into Jerusalem.
3. Put the names of each student on their leaves.
4. One at a time, cover the students eyes, and turn them around 3 times. With their eyes blindfolded, have them try to put their palm at the feet of the donkey.



for the Teacher

Just as Jesus came that special day to Jerusalem ... so many years ago, He also comes into our lives today. Even though we cannot see with our eyes the spiritual world that exists around



Let's travel to Jerusalem!

The Triumphant Entry

Mateo 21:1-11

As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, 2 saying to them, "Go to the village ahead of you, and at once you will find a donkey tied there, with her colt by her. Untie them and bring them to me. 3 If anyone says anything to you, say that the Lord needs them, and he will send them right away."

4 This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet:

5 "Say to Daughter Zion, 'See, your king comes to you, gentle and riding on a donkey,

and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.'"

6 The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them. 7 They brought the donkey and the colt and placed their cloaks on them for Jesus to sit on. 8 A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. 9 The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted,

"Hosanna to the Son of David!"

"Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!"

Children memorize today's message:

Jesus Christ is here

us, it is very real. How will we receive Him?

We must decide. There is a heaven and there is a hell. Our spirit will live forever in one of these two places. Are we going to run to him, and leave our life at his feet just as the people laid palms at His feet at the triumphant entry? Or do we decide to keep our distance, listen to what the world says?

In this lesson, it is good to establish well in the minds of children that there is a God that exists and is real. Just as Jesus came to Jerusalem that day, so today he comes into our lives. Take a few minutes of prayer and ask the children to decide if they truly believe in God, and decide how they will receive Him.

“Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

10 When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, “Who is this?”

11 The crowds answered, “This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee.”



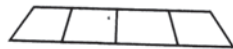
Craft- Paper palm leaves

Materials

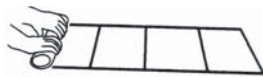
Green paper, toilet paper tube, adhesive tape

Craft

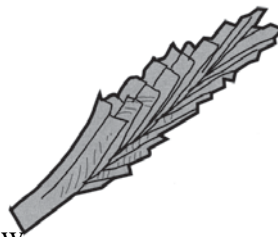
1. Lay your green paper down as shown below, connecting them with adhesive tape so that they do not unfold.



2. Roll up your paper like a tube.



3. Cut your roll into 4 flaps on the upper part only, and attach to the toilet paper tube. Now pull the inside of the roll outward and upward, to create the feel of palm leaves.



God thinks children are important. And you?



From parchment...

...to the Heart

Memorize

“Hosanna to the Son of David!”

“Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!”

Matthew 21:9b

Hebrew

Jehovah-Shammah

Jehovah is there;

יהוה שמה

Ezequiel 48:35b “And the name of the city from that time on will be:

THE LORD IS THERE.”

The name of the holy city, which is also similar to the word “Yerushalayim” as they pronounce the word Jerusalem in Hebrew.

Activity

One activity you can do for the whole week is a drawing, coloring or decoration competition. (We have provided a cross and a butterfly that you can use.) The students can use paintings, or shells of crushed and painted eggs, and then paste them on the sheet.

Children can do it at home and bring it on the last day, or do it in class. We suggest you give different prizes, not only the best, but also the one with the best color or creativity.



IDEA: Show a map of Jerusalem.

Theme:

Sin

Game

Teams in Action

Materials

Balloons in 2 colors.

Preparation

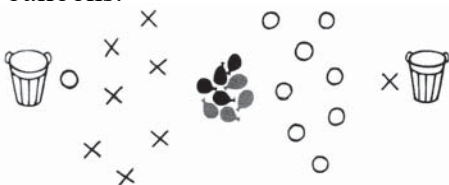
Blow up the balloons and put into a large bag until gametime. Put a bucket at each end of the field.

Leading the game

This is a game like soccer or football but using many balloons of two colors so that each team identifies its color. Put the balloons into the field with your students and they can make goals by kicking the balloons to the container to make a goal. Allow use of hands once a balloon is near the bucket. In the end, the team that has the most balloons wins.

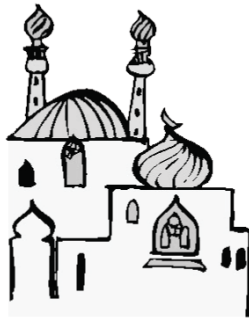
Options

1. if you do not have a field, play inside, removing shoes.
2. Be careful when forming teams that both sides have similar aged players.
3. Do variations on the game, requiring that they hop around, or only use their left foot to kick a balloon.
4. You can also play with all the students seated on the floor, and they use their hands to move the balloons.



for the Teacher

Just as Jesus came that day to the temple ... so many years ago, He also comes into our lives. How will He find us? Sin exists; it is real. We get dirty with it. But how are we going to react when God



Let's travel to Jerusalem!

Jesus Cleans the Temple

Matthew 21:12-13

Jesus entered the temple courts and drove out all who were buying and selling there. He overturned the tables of the money changers and the benches of those selling doves.

13 "It is written," he said to them, "'My house will be called a house of prayer,' but you are making it 'a den of robbers.'"

You are an important part in the proclamation of our Christian Faith!

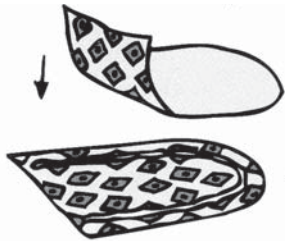
Children memorize today's message:

Jesus Christ cleans us

finds us filthy with sin? The Bible says that our body is the temple of the Lord. God has many characteristics including mercy and forgiveness. But when he comes to His temple that He wants clean, and finds sin, he also becomes angry. God has a good anger against sin – not sinning in his anger. Just as Jesus did in the temple in Jerusalem, Jesus attacks sin with fervor! God always loves us, but he hates sin. It may hurt when God comes into our life and begins to throw tables and make a mess of what we think is right. This lesson gives us a good opportunity to teach children how to humble ourselves when God finds us in sin, and to let Christ cleanse us. The right thing is not to hide the sin, but to repent of it - With fervor!

Craft: Fragrance bag

1. Cut 2 peices of fabric as seen here.

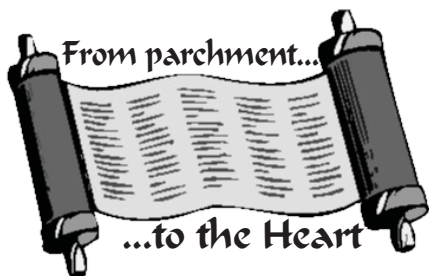


2. Put the two good sides together. Use a strong clue to go around the edges and glue together. Allow to dry. (Use can also use staples or silicon or hot glue gun.)

3. Turn the fabric inside out.

4. Put a small drop of fragrance on a cottonball and put inside the bag.

5. Tie off with yarn or ribbon. Mention that God does not smell our sin when we are covered with the fragrance of Christ.



From parchment...

...to the Heart

Memorize

"But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us."
Romans 5:8

Hebrew Jehovah Tsidkenu

Jehovah our righteousness

יהוה צדקנו

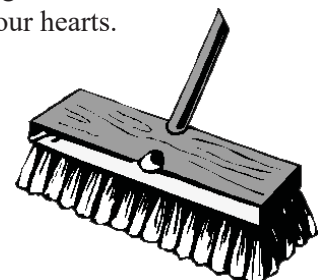
Jeremiah 23:6 "This is the name by which he will be called:

THE LORD OUR
RIGHTEOUS SAVIOR.
Right, correct, strong,
balanced as on a scale,
equal weight, justice,
declared innocent.

Activity

As an extra activity, you can challenge your class to clean your church this week, cleaning the toilet, sweeping and mopping and a few extra things. Thus, children can remember Christ: cleansing the temple and our hearts.

After cleaning, you can pray together for God to cleanse your hearts.



IDEA: Help your students pronounce the words in Hebrew.

Theme:
Remember

Game Throw the plate

Materials

Disposable plates, markers

Preparation

Decorate the plates and in each place a letter, until forming the phrase 'CHRIST WITH US'. Use a single-color marker for each team's letters. You will have to mark two lines in the ground, one where the children will throw the plates and the other they need to throw past. Before marking, check the distance by throwing a plate yourself with the type of plate that you will use (because the plates do not fly well).

Leading the Game

Divide your class into groups, no less than 12 children so that each has a letter with which the sentence is composed. On a table put the plates out of order, for the team to put them in order and each child to take one to accommodate in line. The teacher reads it to check if it is OK and gives them a signal so they start to toss one by one while the other team puts them together to put them on the table. When it is the next teams turn, do in the same way as the other.



for the Teacher

Just as Jesus celebrates the holy supper with his disciples so many years ago, He also wants to spend time with us. How will we receive Him?



Let's travel to Jerusalem!

The passover

Éxodo 12:14-17, 24-28

14 "This is a day you are to commemorate; for the generations to come you shall celebrate it as a festival to the Lord—a lasting ordinance. 15 For seven days you are to eat bread made without yeast. On the first day remove the yeast from your houses, for whoever eats anything with yeast in it from the first day through the seventh must be cut off from Israel. 16 On the first day hold a sacred assembly, and another one on the seventh day. Do no work at all on these days, except

to prepare food for everyone to eat; that is all you may do.

17 "Celebrate the Festival of Unleavened Bread, because it was on this very day that I brought your divisions out of Egypt. Celebrate this day as a lasting ordinance for the generations to come.

24 "Obey these instructions as a lasting ordinance for you and your descendants. 25 When you enter the land that the Lord will give you as he promised, observe this ceremony. 26 And when your

Children memorize today's message:

Jesus Christ with us

God wants us to remember His sacrifice. We see it in the Passover of the Old Testament, as described also in the scriptures below. It was a law that they had to remember how God had passed over the Israelites, and they did not die. Also, when we take communion, Christ asks us to remember his shed blood and his body with the taking of bread and wine. Like his name, "Jehovah Jireh" - meaning that God is going to provide it. We do not recommend that you have communion with your students, but to have the Jewish Passover celebration with them will be a fun activity to remember and celebrate how God will always provide for us. We always remember ... because with His sacrifice, Christ is with Us!

children ask you, 'What does this ceremony mean to you?' 27 then tell them, 'It is the Passover sacrifice to the Lord, who passed over the houses of the Israelites in Egypt and spared our homes when he

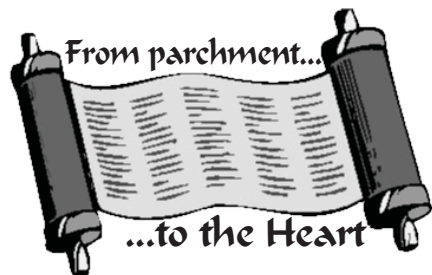
struck down the Egyptians.'" Then the people bowed down and worshiped. 28 The Israelites did just what the Lord commanded Moses and Aaron.



Craft: Placemat

Children can make this placemat for the Passover dinner. Use two sheets of paper of different colors for each child. Have a teacher cut all paper beforehand. The papers of one color, cut them every 2 centimeters of the wide side. The other color is cut every 2 centimeters on the long side. In the class the children weave the pieces together to form the placemat. They begin with a long paper, and all the shorter papers weave them together and glue them. From there they continue to weave the other strips of paper.

Jews today still celebrate the traditional Passover. At dinner, they end up praying, hoping that in the coming year they can celebrate the Passover in Jerusalem. It means, "We expect the Messiah to come this year." They still wait for their Messiah, because they do not believe in Jesus Christ, although there are saved Jews who believe with Christians that Jesus Christ was the messiah, and has already come!

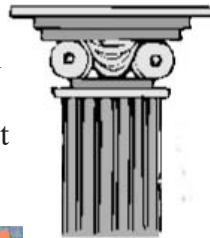


From parchment...

...to the Heart

Memorize

"It is the Passover sacrifice to the Lord, who passed over the houses of the Israelites in Egypt and spared our homes when he struck down the Egyptians." *Exodus 12:27*



1
2
3
4
5

Hebrew Jehovah Jireh

Jehovah will Provide

יהוה יראה

Genesis 22:14 So Abraham called that place THE LORD WILL PROVIDE. See, assure, provide, take care of, God will always provide at the right time, an assurance of things.

Activity

Passover- a Jewish meal

1. *Kadesh*- blessing and drink juice
 2. *Urechatz*- Wash hands
 3. *Karpas*- Eat cilantro with salt water. (Cilantro signifies the humility of the jews, salt water the tears.)
 4. *Yachatz*- Eat "Matzah" (bread without leavening- you can use crackers for the children.)
 5. *Maggid*- tell the story of the exodus from Egypt. (Take a drink of juice)
 6. *Rachtzah*-Wash hands
 7. *Motzi*- Pray to eat
 8. *Matzah*- Eat "Matzah" (another piece of cracker)
 9. *Maror*- Eat lettuce alone or with a fruit mix. (Signifies the bitterness of being slaves)
 10. *Shulchan Orech*- Eat dinner
 11. *Tzafun*- Eat "Matzah" (Hide what is left of the crackers and the children have to find it and eat it.)
 12. *Barech*- Drink juice and pray
 13. *Hallel*- Worship and finish the drink.
 14. *Nirtzah*- Shout together
- "It is finished, thanks to the messiah who has come!"

IDEA: Show the flag of Israel.

Theme:
Salvation

Game Salvation

Materiales

Cards, pen, and music.

Preparación

Make cards with a letter on each one to spell out "Salvation".

Dirigiendo el juego

Gather the cards that spell salvation, and add other empty cards until you have the same number of cards as students in your class. Put the cards face-down. When the music starts and when they turn it off, have the students turn the cards and those that have the letters need to stand in the correct order to spell "salvation." Students who picked up an empty card have to do an instruction like, turn around two times, greet someone, give a shout of joy, jump three times, etc.



Children memorize today's message:

**Jesus
Christ
Saves us**

for the Teacher

The ultimate sacrifice that Jesus made that day on the cross so many years ago, can save our lives if we accept Him into our hearts. Are we going to accept Him?



Let's travel to Jerusalem!

The crucifixion

Mateo 27:26-51

26 Then he released Barabbas to them. But he had Jesus flogged, and handed him over to be crucified.

27 Then the governor's soldiers took Jesus into the Praetorium and gathered the whole company of soldiers around him. 28 They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, 29 and then twisted together a crown of thorns and set it on his head. They put a staff in his right hand. Then they knelt in front of him and mocked him. "Hail, king of the Jews!" they said. 30 They spit on him, and took the staff and struck him on the head again and again. 31 After they had mocked him, they took off the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him.

32 As they were going out, they met a man from Cyrene, named Simon, and they forced him to carry the cross. 33 They came to a place called Golgotha (which means "the place of the skull").

34 There they offered Jesus wine to drink, mixed with gall; but after tasting it, he refused to drink it. 35 When they had crucified him, they divided up his clothes by casting lots. 36 And sitting down, they kept watch over him there. 37 Above his head they placed the written charge against him: THIS IS JESUS, THE KING OF THE JEWS. 38 Two rebels were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left. 39 Those who passed by hurled insults at him, shaking their heads 40 and saying, "You who are going to destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! Come down from the cross, if you are the Son of God!" 41 In the same way the chief priests, the teachers of the law and the elders mocked him. 42 "He saved others," they said, "but he can't save himself! He's the king of Israel! Let him come down now from the cross, and we will believe in him. 43 He trusts in God. Let God rescue him now if he wants him, for he said, 'I am the Son of God.'" 44 In the same way the rebels who were

Sin exists. The payment of sin is death in hell. Only shed blood can pay this debt, blood of a perfect man, Jesus Christ. Although you as a teacher may be sure that the children have already received Christ in their hearts, it is good to offer everyone this opportunity today, and to pray together. Sometimes children do not understand that it is not something their parents can do for them. They themselves must decide, and open their hearts to Jesus Christ, to receive the gift of Salvation. Christ was raised like a standard in the desert - died on the cross, and thus overcame death. We receive his sacrifice, and though we are sinners, we are saved. Glory to God!

crucified with him also heaped insults on him.

45 From noon until three in the afternoon darkness came over all the land. 46 About three in the afternoon Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Eli, Eli,[a] lema sabachthani?" (which means "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?").[b]

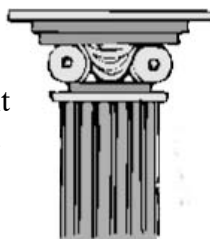
47 When some of those standing there heard this, they said, "He's calling Elijah."

48 Immediately one of them

ran and got a sponge. He filled it with wine vinegar, put it on a staff, and offered it to Jesus to drink. 49 The rest said, "Now leave him alone. Let's see if Elijah comes to save him."

50 And when Jesus had cried out again in a loud voice, he gave up his spirit.

51 At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. The earth shook, the rocks split.



Craft- Cross from egg carton

Materials

Empty egg carton, glue, copies of the printed ribbon, scissors, paint, and old newspapers.

Preparation

Cut two lines from the egg carton for each student, one with five cups and one with six, the one that has five is assembled in the one of six, forming a cross and it is painted of the color that they choose using the newspapers so that they do not stain. Glue the saying on top.



Memorize

"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

Hebrew Jehovah Nissi

JEHOVAH MY BANNER

יְהוָה נִסִּי

Éxodo 17:15

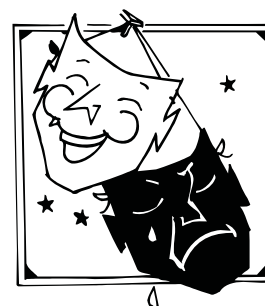
"Moses built an altar and called it THE LORD IS MY BANNER."

An altar in the desert, God at the battlefield, raise up, shine.

Christ on the cross is the perfect example.

Activity

have your students act out the various scenes in the story of Jesus and his journey to the cross. Have them use sheets or shawls for Bible-time clothing.



IDEA: Bring an actual animal to class, or a stuffed animal. (sheep is best)

Theme:
Celebration

Game

Travel to Jerusalem

Materials

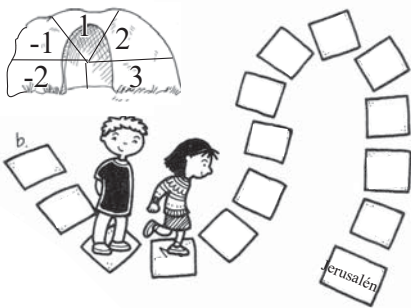
Paper, pens, and glue.

Preparation

Print the tomb picture provided (as seen below) and also a page that says JERUSALEM.

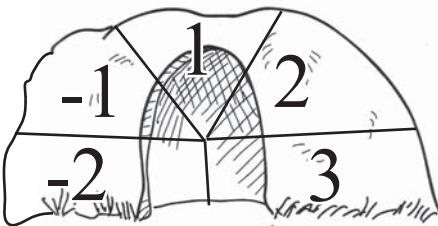
Leading the game

Each child decorates a paper like stones in a road, then you join them together, forming a path and the teacher puts Jerusalem at the end. The children line up to walk along the path, but first they must throw a small rock to the grave and advance or retreat according to the number shown. The child who comes to Jerusalem first will win.



Options

If you have more than 10 students, you can form 2 paths if needed.



for the Teacher

Christ was resurrected that day ... so many years ago, and we found the perfect reason for the greatest celebration in the whole world! What are we going to do?

He is no longer dead. He died, but he is not in the tomb. He



Let's travel to Jerusalem!

The Resurrection

Mateo 27:62- 28:7

62 The next day, the one after Preparation Day, the chief priests and the Pharisees went to Pilate. 63 "Sir," they said, "we remember that while he was still alive that deceiver said, 'After three days I will rise again.' 64 So give the order for the tomb to be made secure until the third day. Otherwise, his disciples may come and steal the body and tell the people that he has been raised from the dead. This last deception will be worse than the first."

65 "Take a guard," Pilate answered. "Go, make the tomb as secure as you know how." 66 So they went and made the tomb secure by putting a seal on the stone and posting the guard.

28 After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb.

2 There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the

Children memorize today's message:

Jesus Christ has Risen!

rose! If we celebrate our birthdays for one more year of life, or if we celebrate when a girl reaches the age of 15, or when the bride and groom marry ... Will not we also celebrate the greatest event in the world? We were lost forever and now we are saved. We are not alone. Christ paid the ultimate price with his death, but he did not stay dead. He's alive, and he's with us. He lives among us. Jehovah Elohim - the only God. There is no other.

Why don't you celebrate as a teacher with your children this great event! Why not enjoy yourselves together- Christ is not dead- HE HAS RISEN!

stone and sat on it. 3 His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. 4 The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men. 5 The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are

looking for Jesus, who was crucified. 6 He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. 7 Then go quickly and tell his disciples: 'He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.' Now I have told you."



Hebrew Jehovah Elohim JEHOVA GOD

יהוה אלהים

The two names for God: Jehovah and Elohim are in the Bible thousands of times, both together and separate. Using the two names together means: "THE ONLY GOD" There is no other.

Activity

Celebrate with your students with a... Jewish Dance

Basic steps:

1. In a circle, going around, one foot in front, one in back.
 2. Two circles of students walking in opposite directions.
 3. Everyone gathers to the middle, either down low, clapping or hands high.
 4. Snap fingers with hands high- with the body facing one direction then the other.
 5. Start any of the previous steps slowly and then speed it up.
- Do a variety of these steps in a circle, with Jewish music playing.

Craft- Ribbons and Shakers

Cut pieces of ribbon 2 meters long for each student. Form a ring from pipe cleaners. Tie the ribbon to the ring, you are ready for a dance.

Save toilet paper tubes, one for each child. Cover one side with paper and glue or tape it down. Fill with beans or rice. (But not so full) Close the other side so that no beans can escape. Decorate the tube outside. You have your sound shaker!

**Thank you for your
effort in saving lives!**



From parchment...

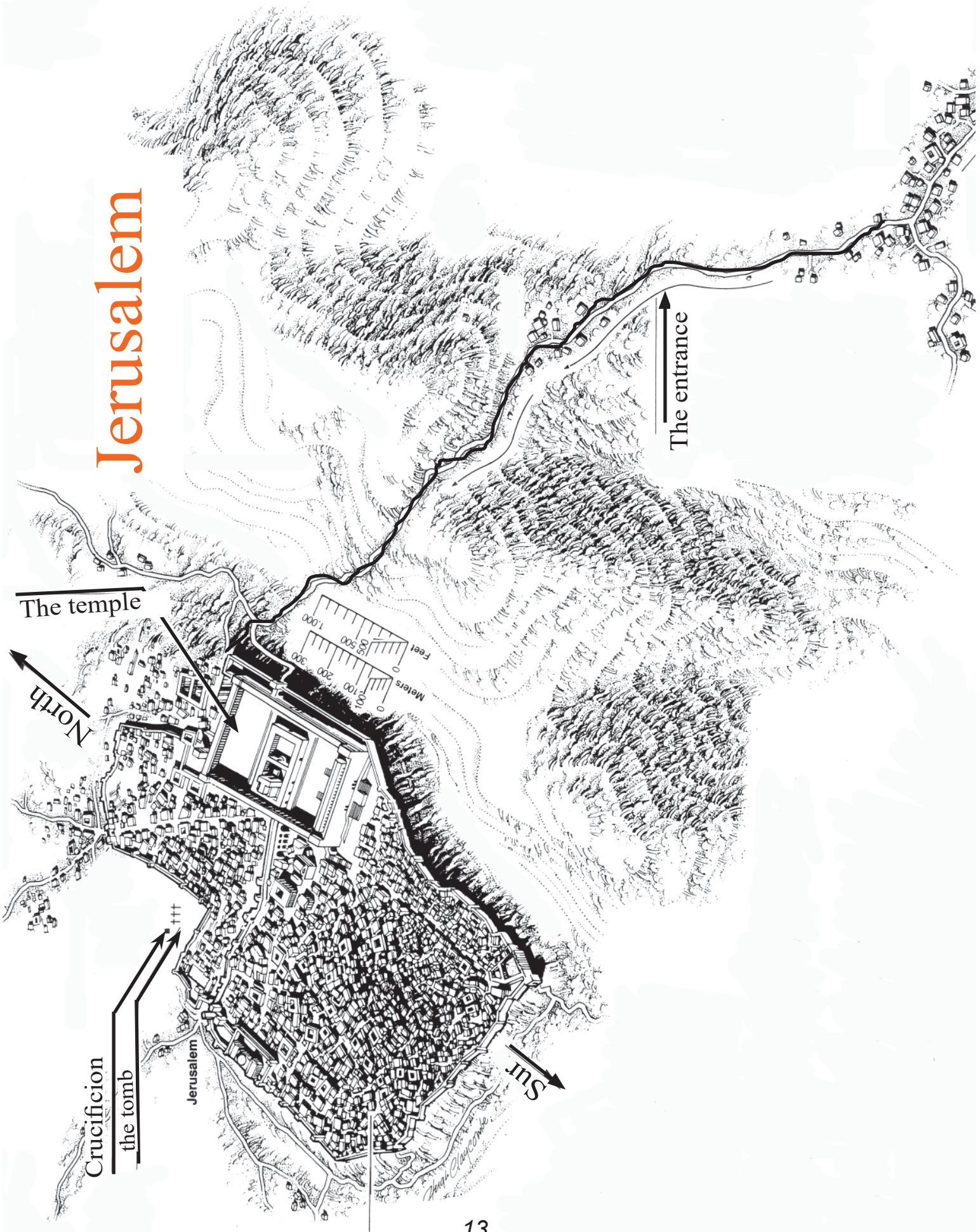
...to the Heart

Memorize

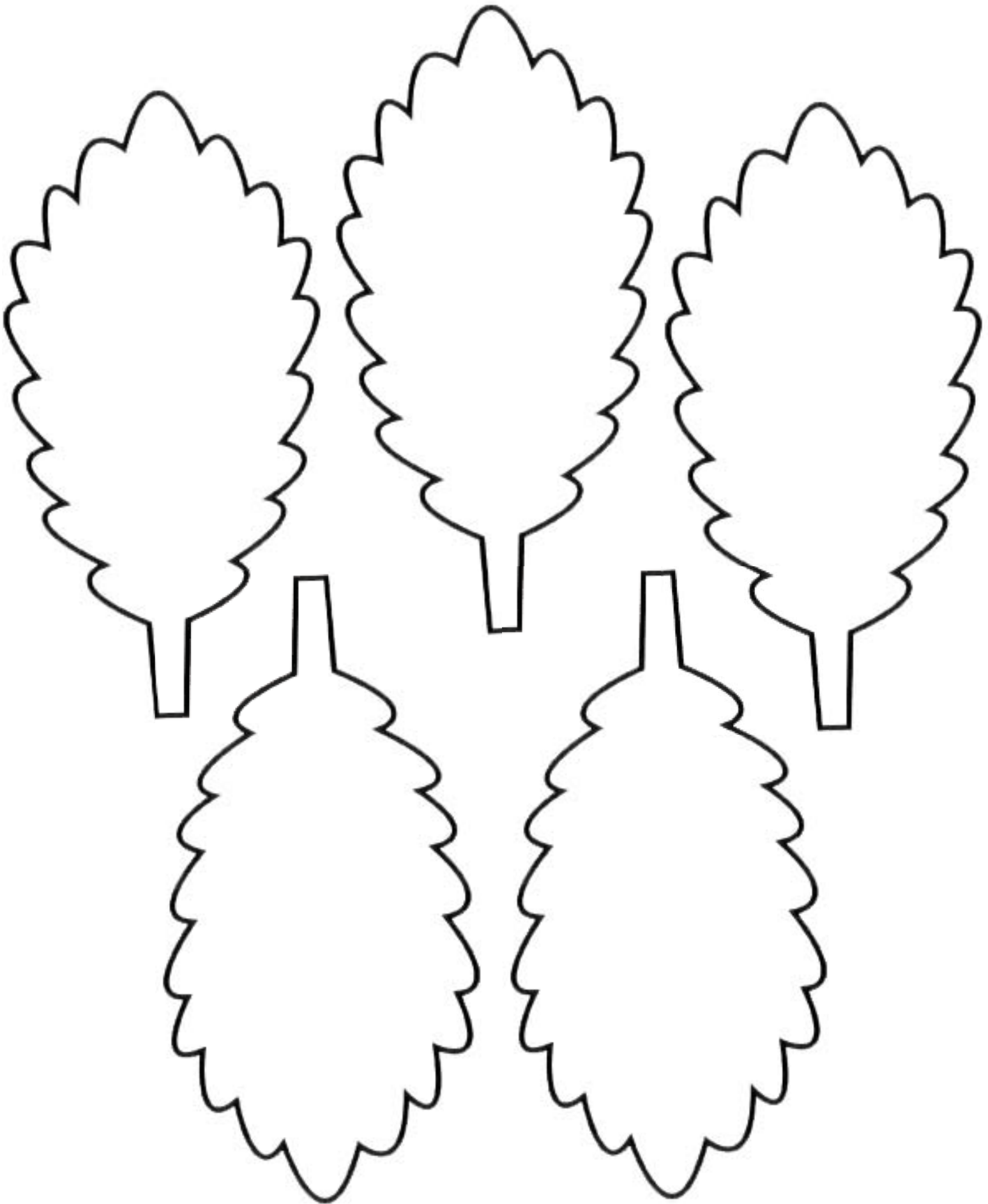
"Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; he has risen, just as he said." *Matthew 28:5-6*

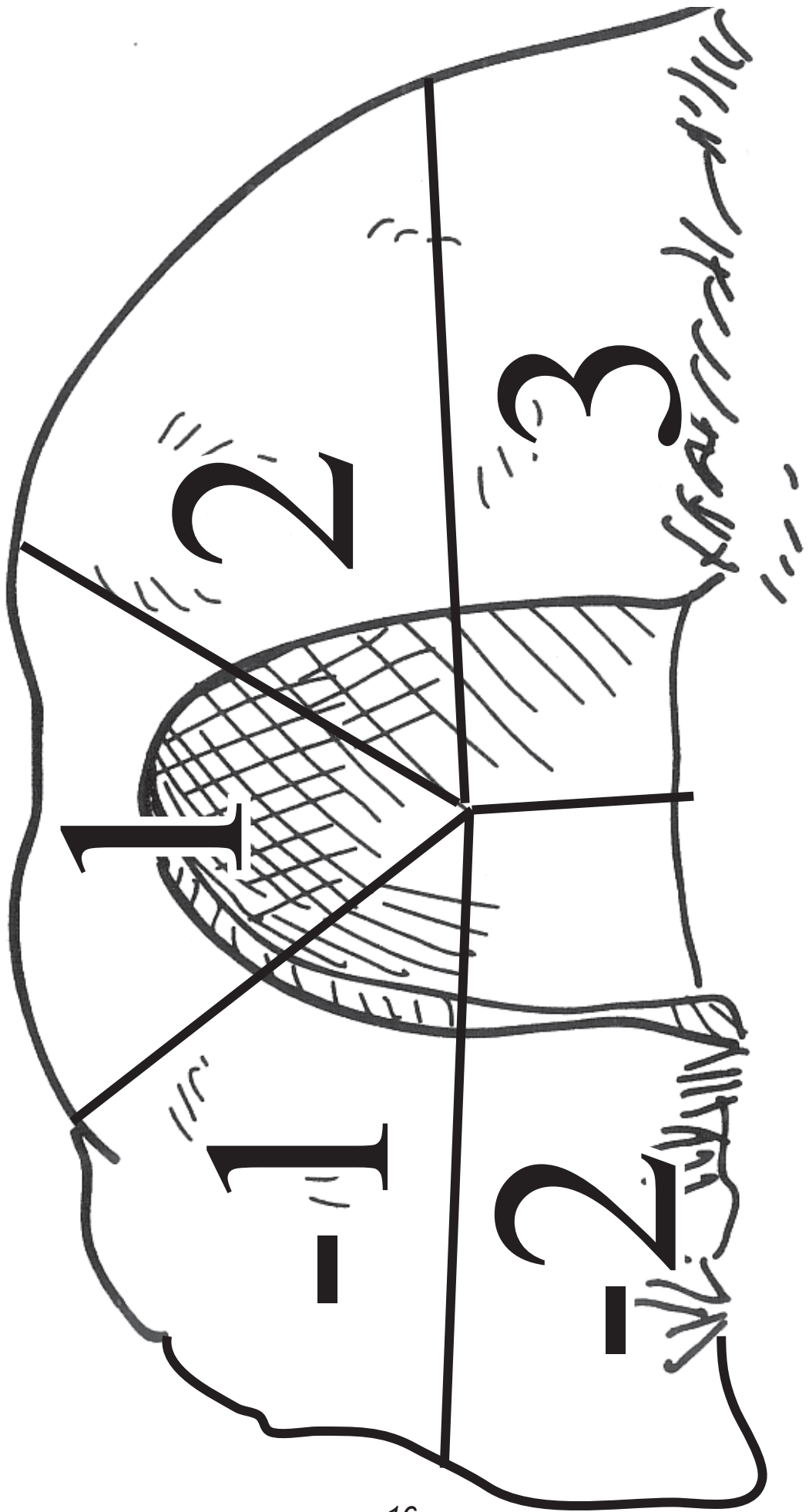
IDEA: Easter Memory Game

Jerusalem









Jesús Christ has Risen

Jesús Christ has Risen

Jesús Christ has Risen

Jesús Christ has Risen

Jesús Christ has Risen

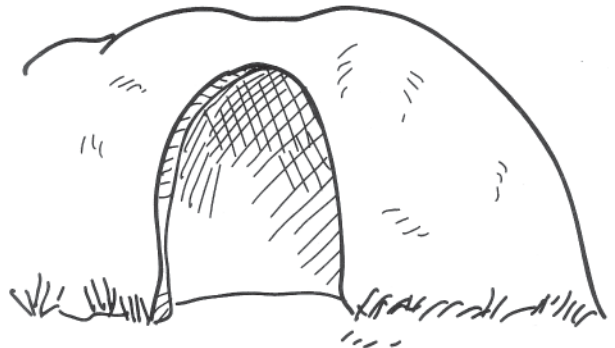
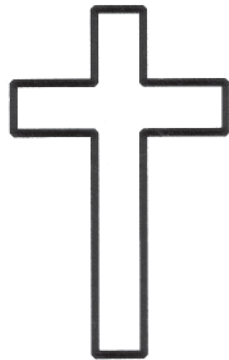
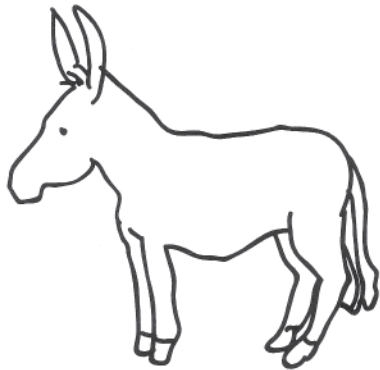
Jesús Christ has Risen

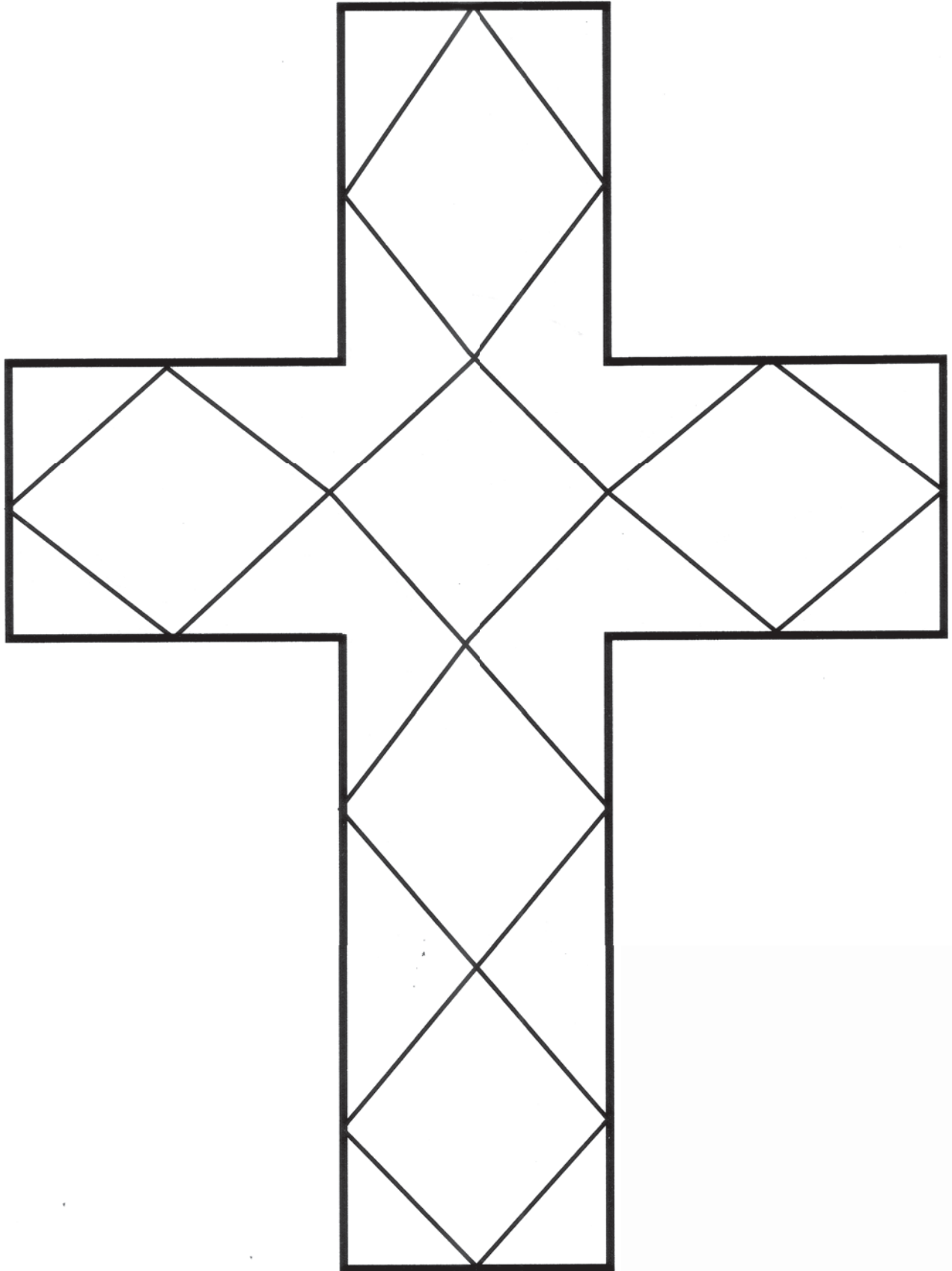
Jesús Christ has Risen

Jesús Christ has Risen

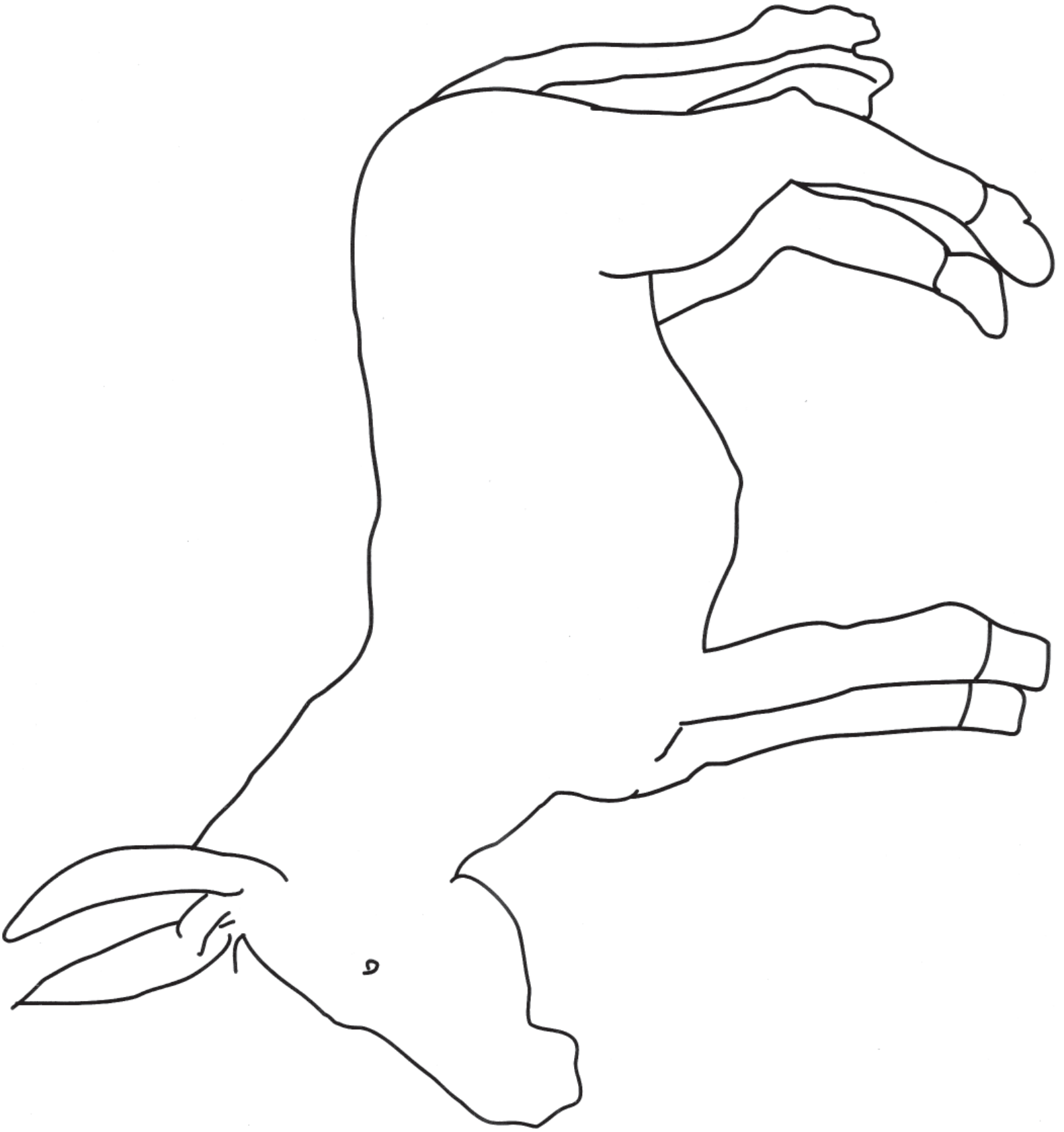
Jesús Christ has Risen

Jesús Christ has Risen











We are taking this space to let you know that we **LOVE** your children's ministry!

Thank you so much for all your hard work, effort, time and love that you give to the children so that they can know God!



Thank you!

From the whole team at
"Children Are Important"

P.S. See you at the FaceBook teacher training!