

Gladly's Bible Lands Coloring Book



by Michael Cortright

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Michael Cortright
PO Box 434
Allegan, MI 49010-0434
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*All scriptures cited are from the *King James Version* of the Bible. The references to Bible land culture found in this coloring book have been derived from the works and teachings of Bishop K.C. Pillai, D.D.*

Loins Girt About with Truth

Ephesians 6:14a Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, . .

In the Bible lands, they wear long flowing robes which could hinder walking. They wear a "girdle" or belt (a wide strip of cloth) around their waist to pull the robes together so that their clothes will not get in the way of their feet. The word of truth is our belt and it keeps anything from hindering our walk with God.

Loins Girt About with Truth



Walking in Your Own Sparks

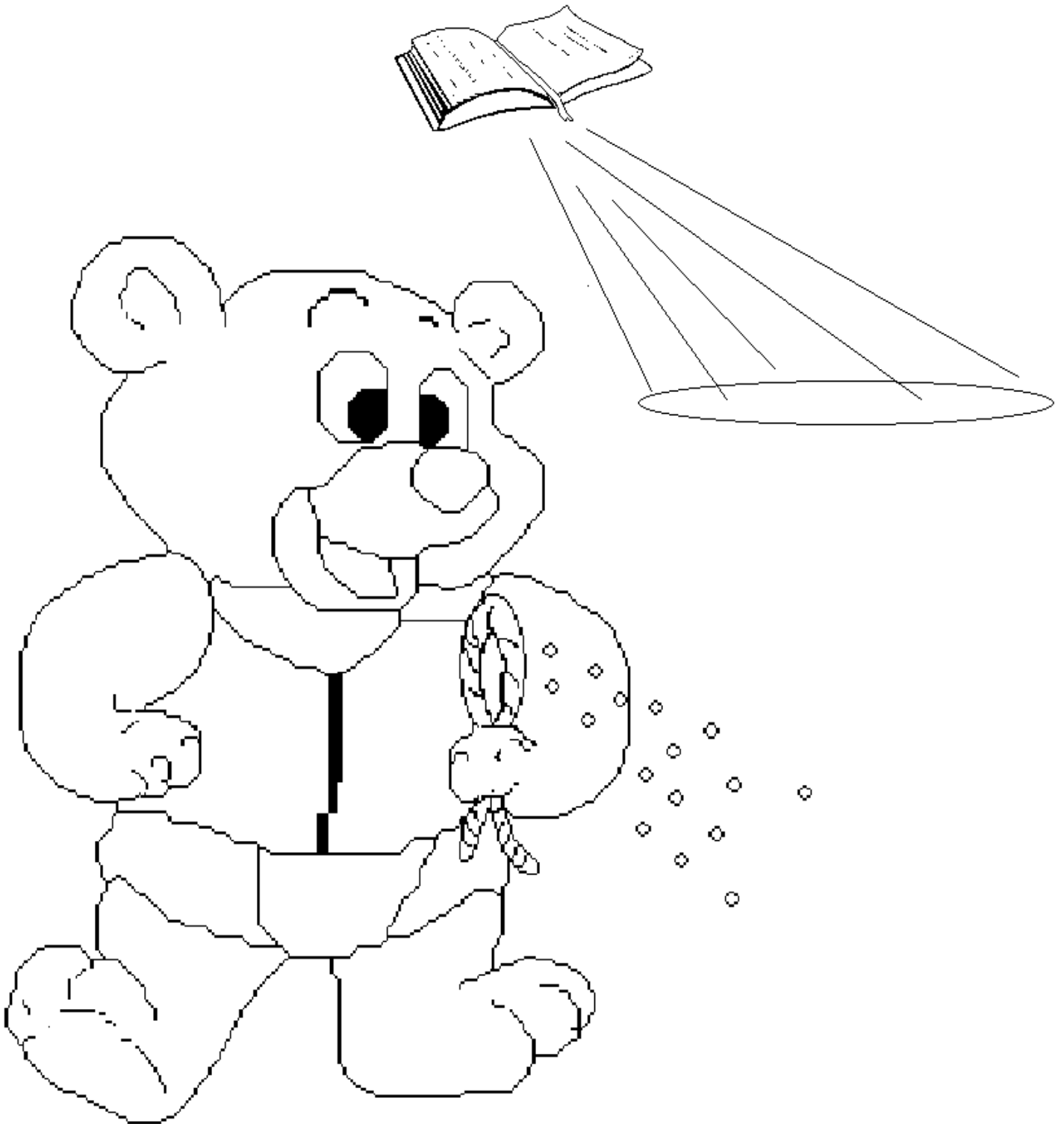
Isaiah 50:11

Behold, all ye that kindle a fire, that compass *yourselves* about with sparks: walk in the light of your fire, and in the sparks *that* ye have kindled. This shall ye have of mine hand; ye shall lie down in sorrow.

In the Bible land villages the farmers make a public fire for the whole village each morning. The farmers gather around the fire early in the morning to warm their hands and feet. While it is still dark the farmer takes a rope made of coconut fiber and sets fire to the end of it. Then, as he walks down the path to the field, he blows on the rope and it sparkles. He holds the rope down to the road to see where he is going.

Our own sparks do not give out much light. We need to walk in the bright light of God's Word rather than trying to light our own path.

A Lamp to My Feet



Psalm 119:105

Thy word *is* a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

Salted and Swaddled

In the Bible lands whenever a royal child was born, he was salted and swaddled. The baby was gently washed in water having salt in it. Salt stood for truth and honesty. Bathing a newborn in salt meant that when he grew up, his words would be salted.

When a baby was swaddled, he was wrapped from head to toe in fine linen strips that were about two inches wide. The baby's body, legs, and arms were held very straight by the wrappings. The baby was only left in the swaddling clothes for a very short time. Swaddling meant that as a king the baby would grow up to walk straight and tall before his people.

Jesus Christ was God's only begotten son and heir to the throne of David. Mary and Joseph followed the customs of the time and made sure that Jesus was salted and swaddled.

Salted and Swaddled



Luke 2:7a

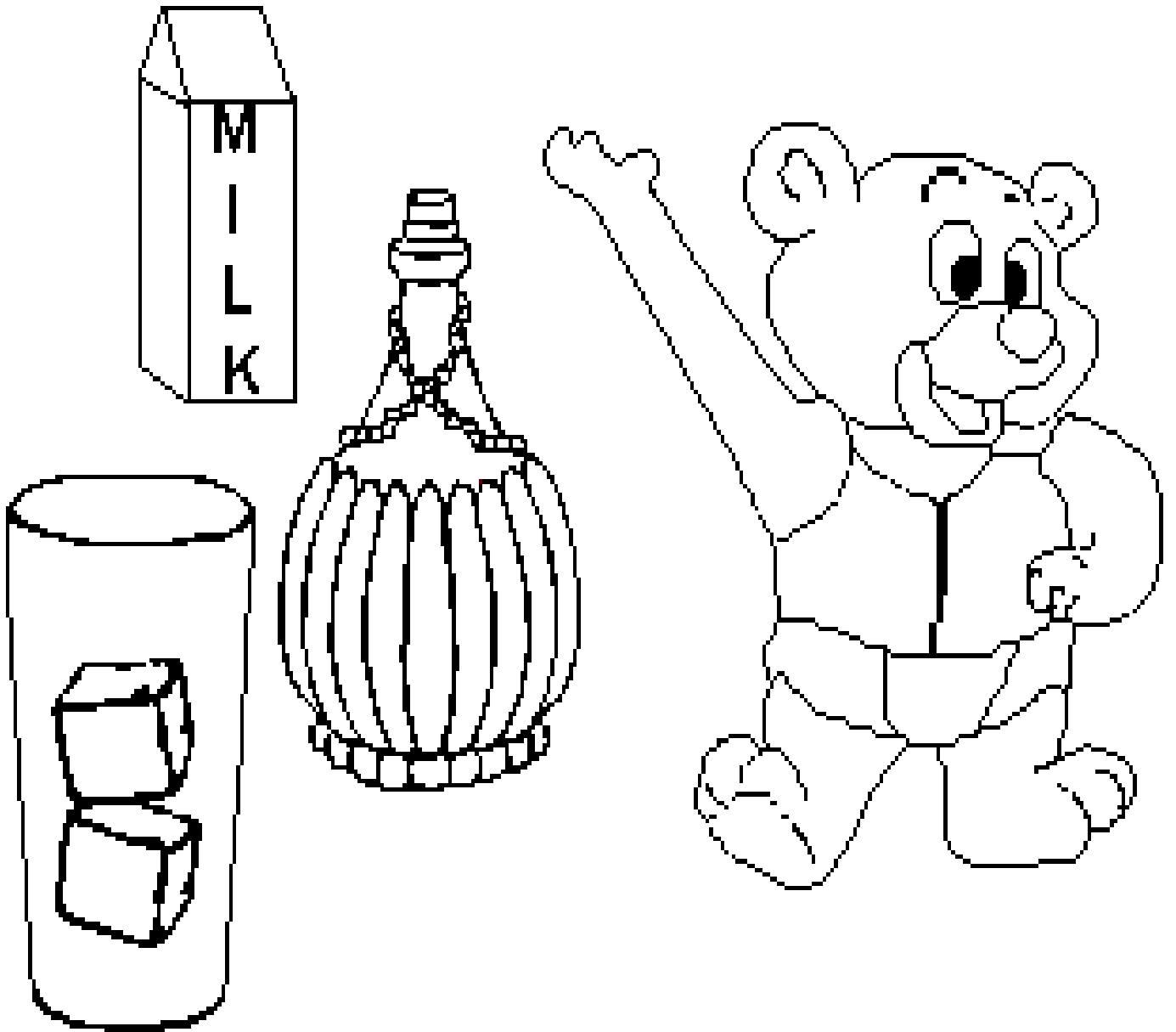
And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger;

Buy Without Money

In the Bible lands the one who sells water, wine and milk publicly announces the price in the market. When someone has a birthday, he wants to make others happy. He buys the water, wine, and milk from the one selling. The seller then calls out: "Come buy without price." Those who have a need can then get the water, wine and milk they need for free because it has already been paid for by the person having the birthday.

Jesus Christ paid the price for our sins. We can freely receive all that God has made available thanks to Jesus Christ who paid the price.

Buy Without Money



Isaiah 55:1

Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters,
and he that hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat; yea,
come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.

Kick Against the Pricks

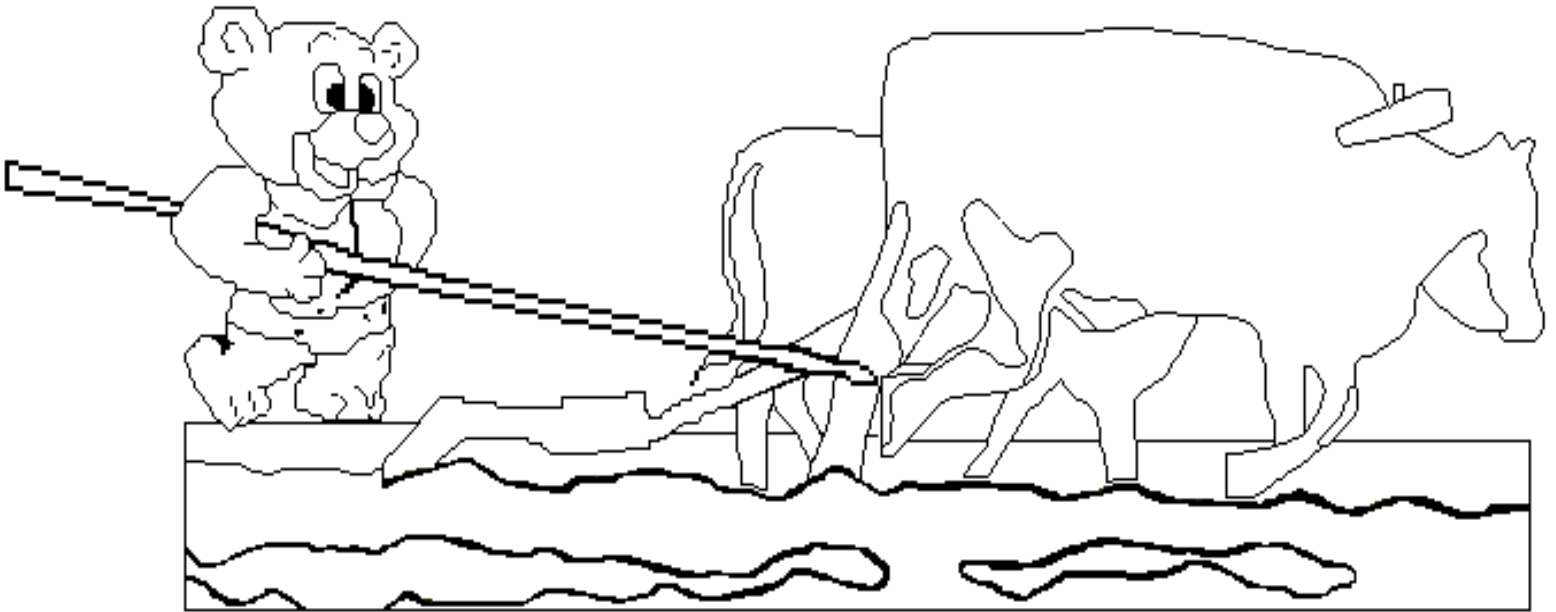
In the Bible lands oxen are used for plowing. The oxen are kept in the furrow by means of pricking with a goad. A goad is a long stick with a sharp point or nail on the end. As long as the ox goes straight down the furrow, he is not pricked with the goad. But if he starts to stray out of line, he is pricked. An ox may kick back at the plowman, but the plowman holds the goad so that the ox kicks right into it.

Saul thought that in persecuting the church he was doing the will of God. In reality he was out of line with God and was "kicking against the pricks" of God's Will.

Kick Against the Pricks

Acts 26:14

And when we were all fallen to the earth, I heard a voice speaking unto me, and saying in the Hebrew tongue, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me? *it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks.*

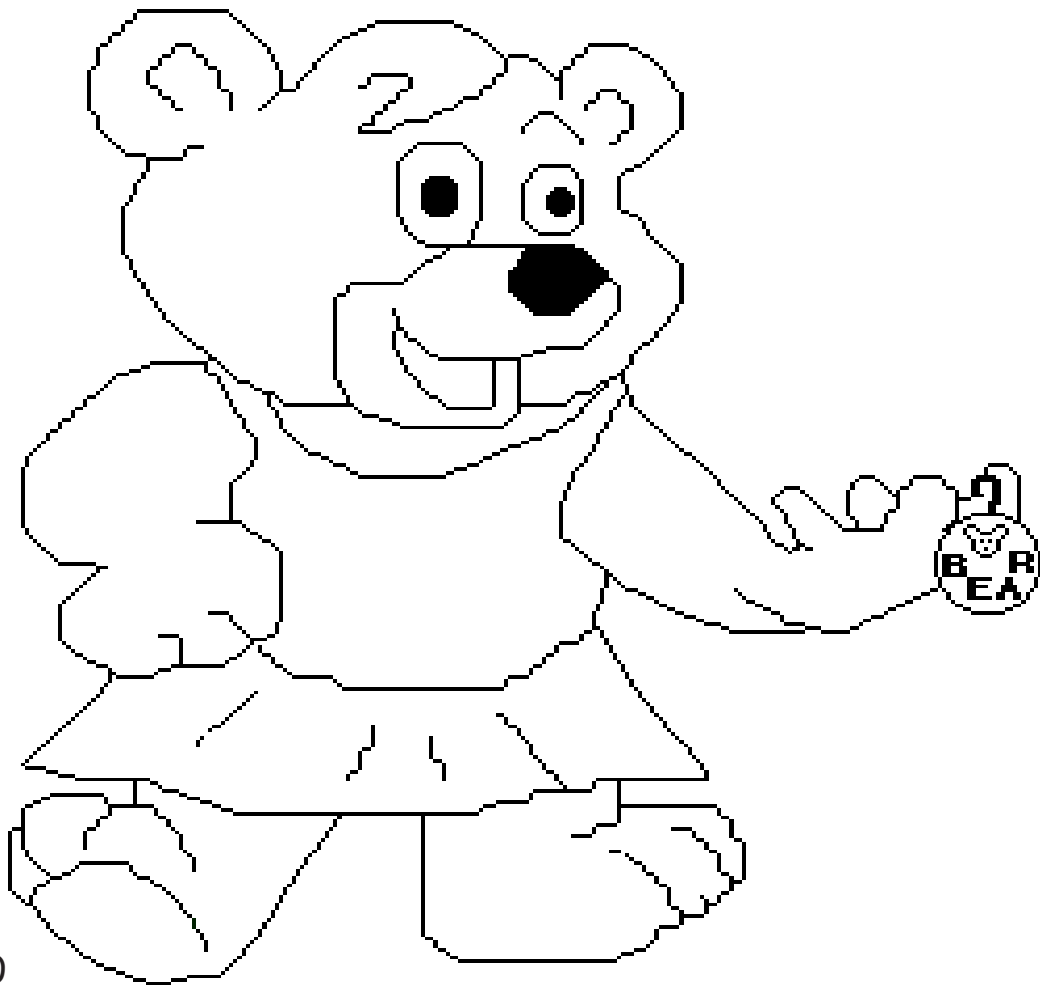
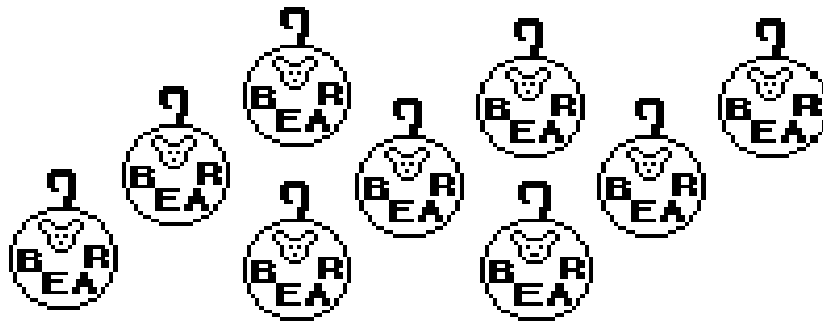


Ten Pieces of Silver

In the Bible lands, the "*ten pieces of silver*" are given to a young woman by a young man as part of the betrothal ceremony. The "*ten pieces of silver*" are coins that have been handed down and kept in the family for this purpose. On one side of each coin there is the coat of arms of the young man's family; on the other side is imprinted the year in which the coins were made. During the wedding ceremony, the bride will wear the "*ten pieces of silver*" hooked with little hooks in her hair. After the wedding she must guard them with her life. In Bible land culture, to lose one of the "*ten pieces of silver*" is to lose God's favour on the marriage. No wonder the woman in the record in Luke rejoiced so much when she found her lost piece.

God puts great value upon us, and there is great rejoicing in heaven when one lost sinner turns to God.

Ten Pieces of Silver



Luke 15:8-10

Either what woman having ten pieces of silver, if she lose one piece, doth not light a candle, and sweep the house, and seek diligently till she find *it*?

And when she hath found *it*, she calleth *her* friends and *her* neighbours together, saying, Rejoice with me; for I have found the piece which I had lost.

Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth.

Father Knows Best

In the Bible lands they bake a bread which is round, thin, and flat. When the bread is done it is stacked on a round flat stone about the same size as the bread. Ghee, which is like butter, is used in cooking the bread and over time it soaks into the stone and it begins to look like the bread.

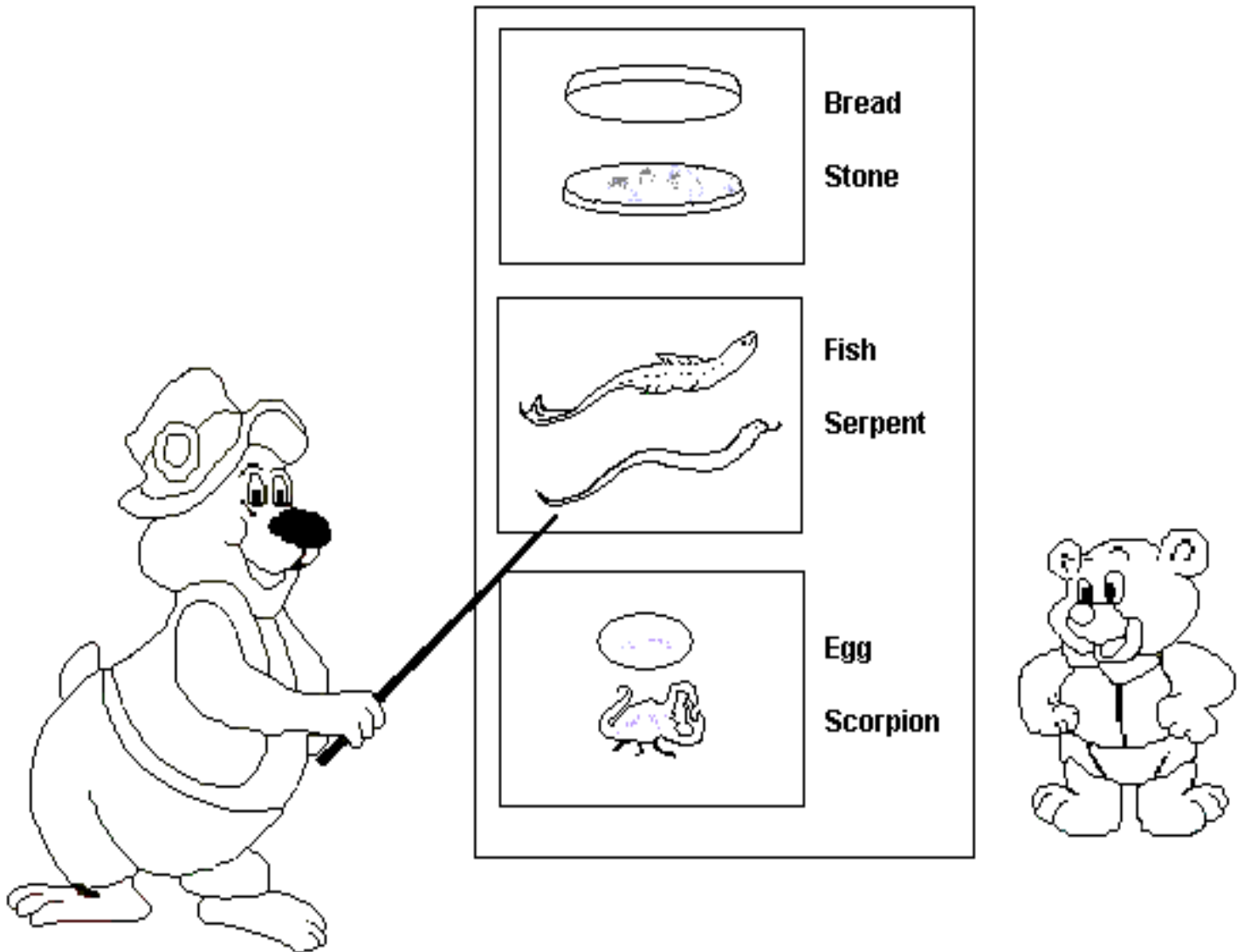
There are many kinds of fish in the Bible lands and there are many serpents which look like fish.

White scorpions are plentiful in the Bible lands. The body of the scorpion looks like an egg. If you were to cut open the body, the inside is white and yellow just like an egg.

A child might mistake the stone for the bread, the serpent for the fish, or the scorpion for the egg. But a loving father would never give anything harmful to his child.

God is our Father. God is good! ALWAYS! He is more concerned about His children than earthly fathers are about theirs. He has given us holy spirit for our good. We can be assured that nothing harmful comes to us from God and that His gift to us is good.

Father Knows Best



Luke 11:11-13

If a son shall ask bread of any of you that is a father, will he give him a stone? or if he ask a fish, will he for a fish give him a serpent?

Or if he shall ask an egg, will he offer him a scorpion?

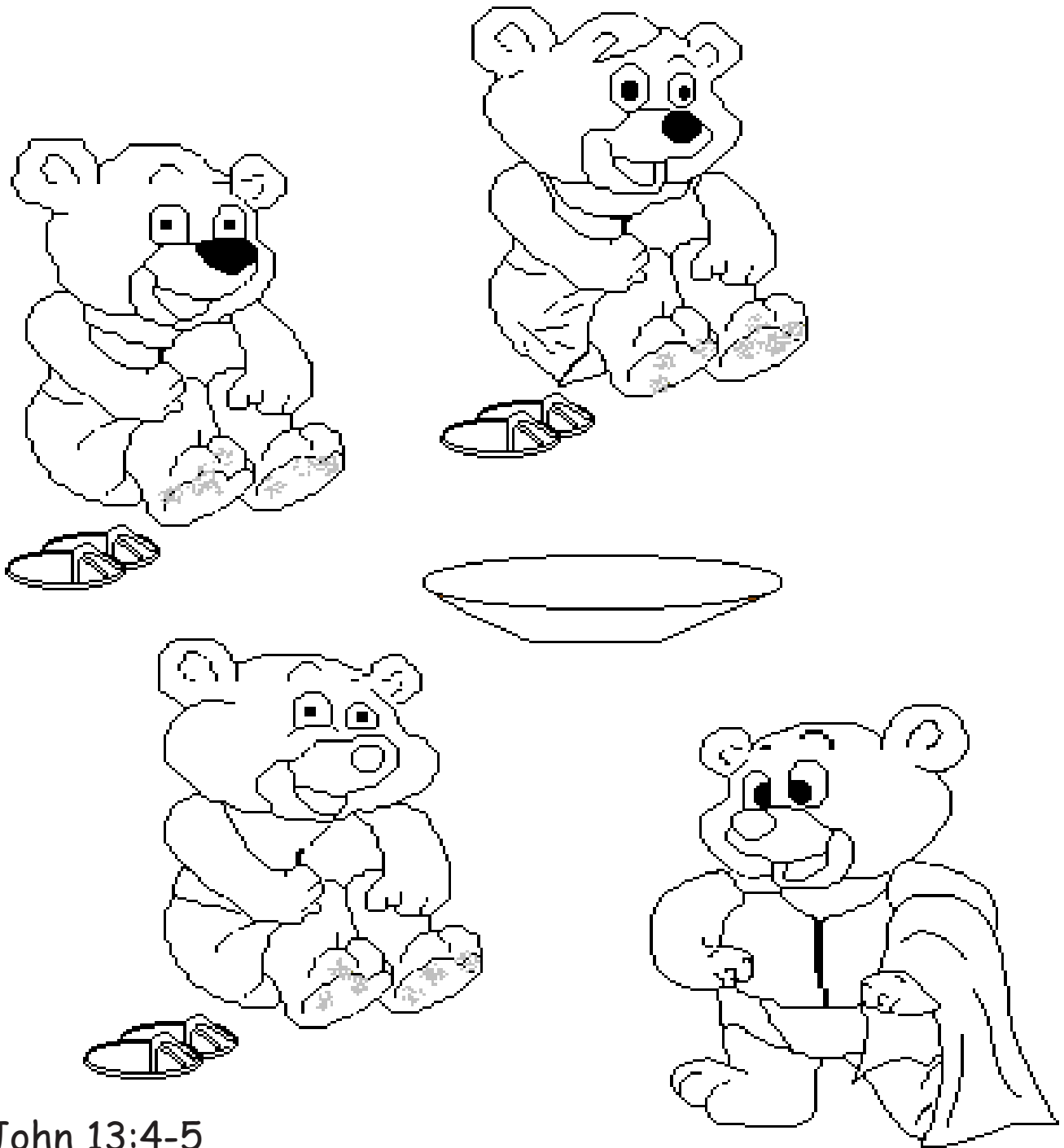
If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?

Serve One Another

In the Bible lands and times, the lowliest servant was responsible for washing the feet of his master's family. He also washed the feet of guests when they arrived at the house. People would get dirty feet from wearing only sandals when walking on the dusty roads. When a person of high rank or royalty visited, the head of the house would show his great respect for the man by washing his feet and serving him at supper. This was a very high compliment for a man to give his guest.

Jesus Christ performed this humble task for his disciples to set an example of love, service, and humility. As believers, we are to treat one another like royalty and be willing to do the lowliest task in order to bless and serve one another.

Serve One Another



John 13:4-5

He riseth from supper, and laid aside his garments; and took a towel, and girded himself.

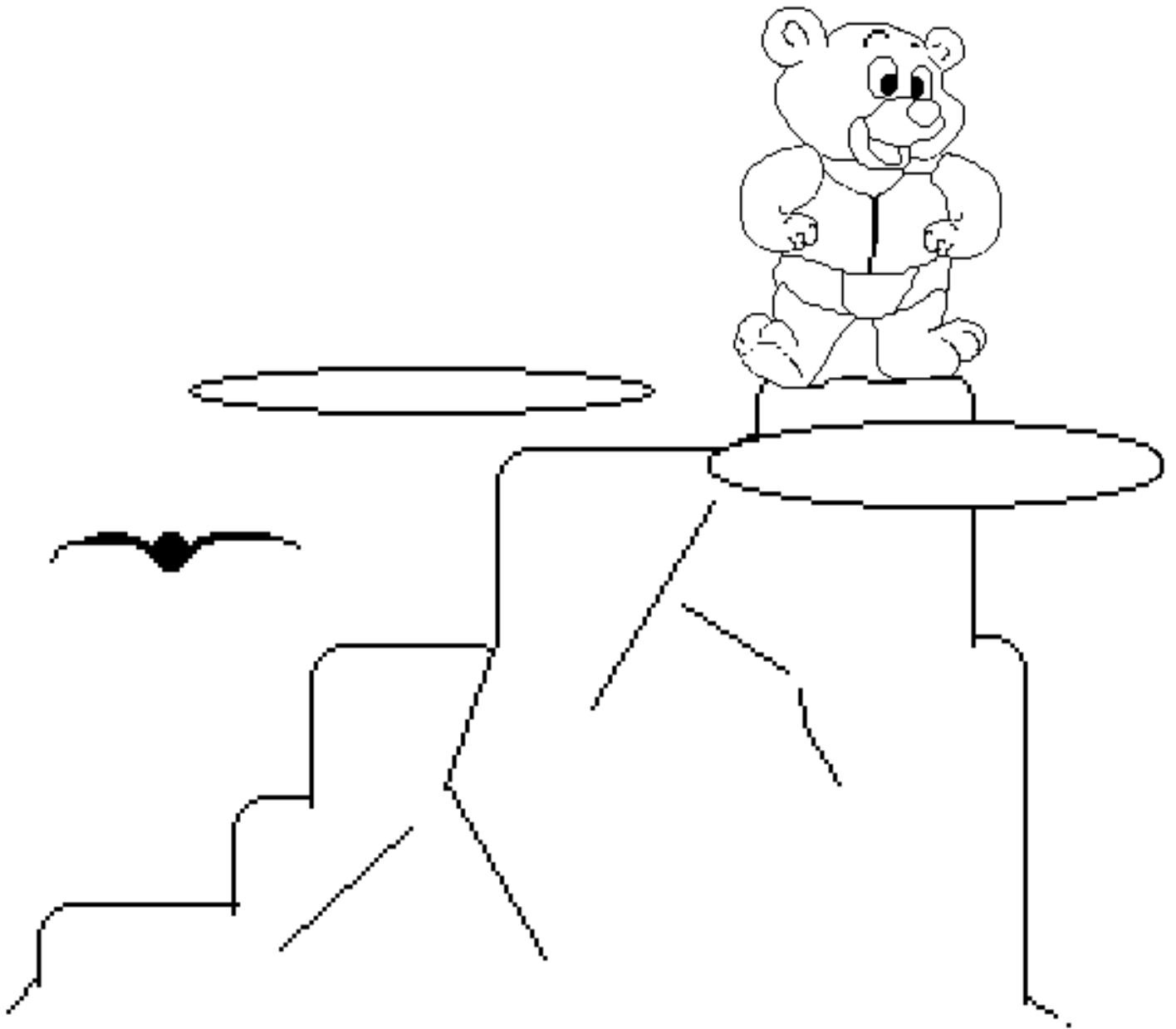
After that he poureth water into a bason, and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe *them* with the towel wherewith he was girded.

Like Hinds' Feet

A hind is a mother deer that lives in the mountains of the Bible lands. The hind is one of the most sure footed animals in the world. When she goes up the side of the mountain, she uses her front feet to test for loose stones on the slope. When she finds firm ground, she places her back feet in the exact spot that her front feet were placed. If she did not test the rocky incline with her front feet, the loose stones would cause her to slip and fall down the mountain. The young deer follow their mother step by step placing their feet exactly where the mother hind had placed her feet.

God's Word is like the mother hind to us. The Word is sure, tried and tested. If we will stand on the solid ground tested by God's Word and place our feet where the Word has set its feet we too will be set upon our high places and never fall.

Like Hinds' Feet



Psalm 18:32-33

It is God that girdeth me with strength, and maketh my way perfect.

He maketh my feet like hinds' feet, and setteth me upon my high places.

Shake Off the Dust of Your Feet

"Shake off the dust of your feet" is a Bible Lands saying which means to shake off any anger or bitter feelings which arose between you and another as you leave. By getting rid of these things, you can go on your way with your heart full of peace and joy, as a believer should.

You must never take with you the dust of hatred and resentment. Shake it off and leave it behind so you may continue with a pure heart.

Shake Off the Dust of Your Feet



Matthew 10:14

And whosoever shall not receive you, nor hear your words, when ye depart out of that house or city, shake off the dust of your feet.

Renewed Like the Eagle

In the Bible lands, when the eagle's feathers become frail and weak they get rid of their old feathers to become youthful. The eagle will drop itself down from the top of a high tree into the water beak first. The force of the water removes the old feathers and leaves the eagle helpless in the water. The eagle cannot fly or swim and it struggles to get to shore. It takes six to eight weeks for new feathers to grow out. During this time the eagle must simply "wait on God" to renew its strength. The people in the Bible lands sometimes care for the eagles and feed them as they grow new feathers.

Just as the eagles are strengthened and their youth is renewed, we can shed our old self-sufficiency and wait on God to strengthen us by keeping our thoughts on His wonderful Word.

Renewed Like the Eagle



Psalm 103:5

Who satisfieth thy mouth with good things; *so that* thy youth is renewed like the eagle's.

Isaiah 40:3

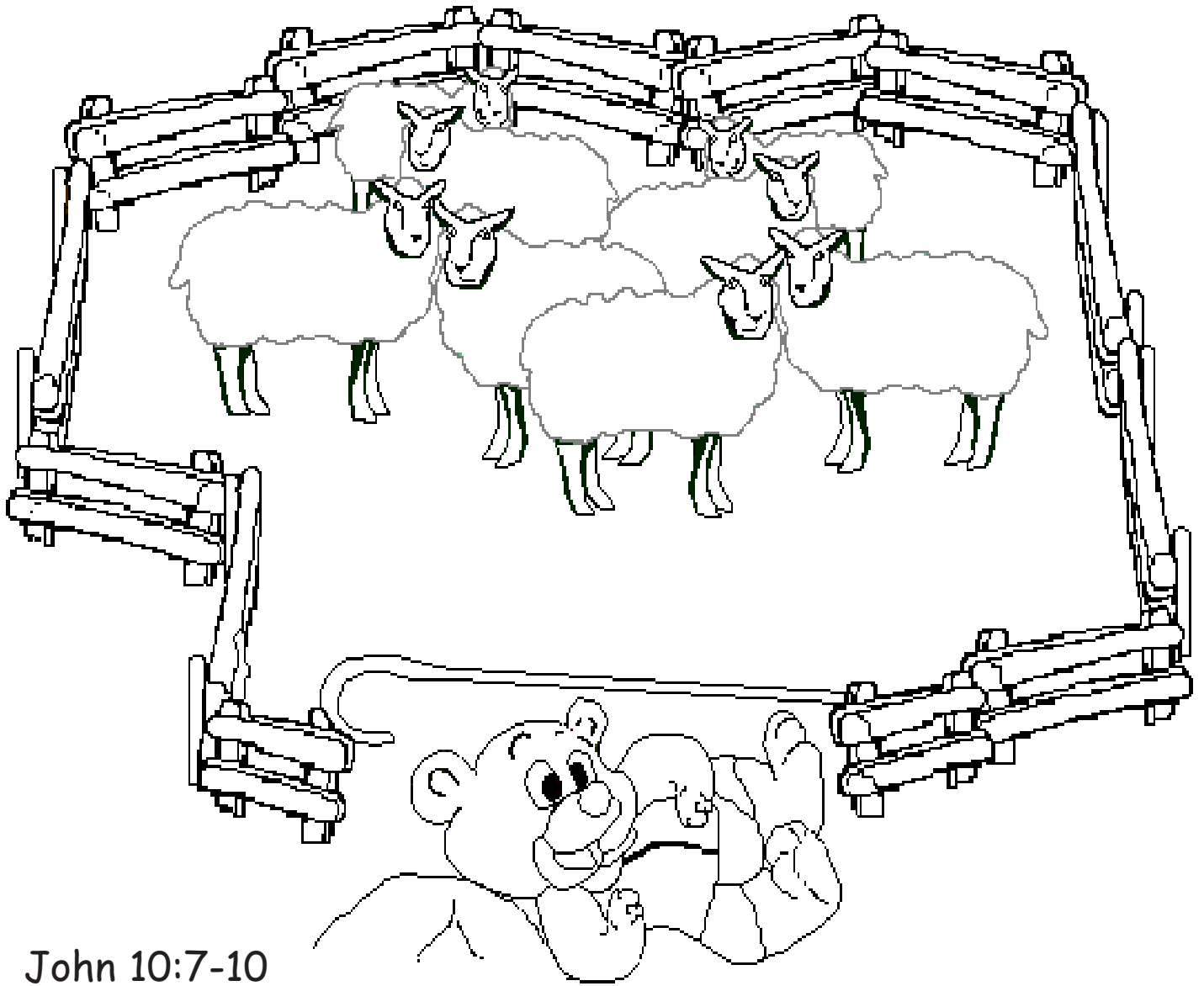
But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; *and* they shall walk, and not faint.

Door of the Sheep

In the Bible lands, the sheepfolds have no doors. At night, when the shepherd has all his sheep in the fold, he lays his crook (which is used to fight off animals) across the top of the passageway, and then the shepherd lays down in the doorway to sleep. The shepherd is the door for his sheep. He loves his sheep as his own children. They are never trusted to a hireling. He knows each one by name, and they come when he calls.

Jesus Christ is the only doorway to God. He is the door to a more abundant life.

Door of the Sheep



John 10:7-10

Then said Jesus unto them, again, Verily, verily, I say unto you, I am the door of the sheep.

All that ever came before me are thieves and robbers: but the sheep did not hear them.

I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.

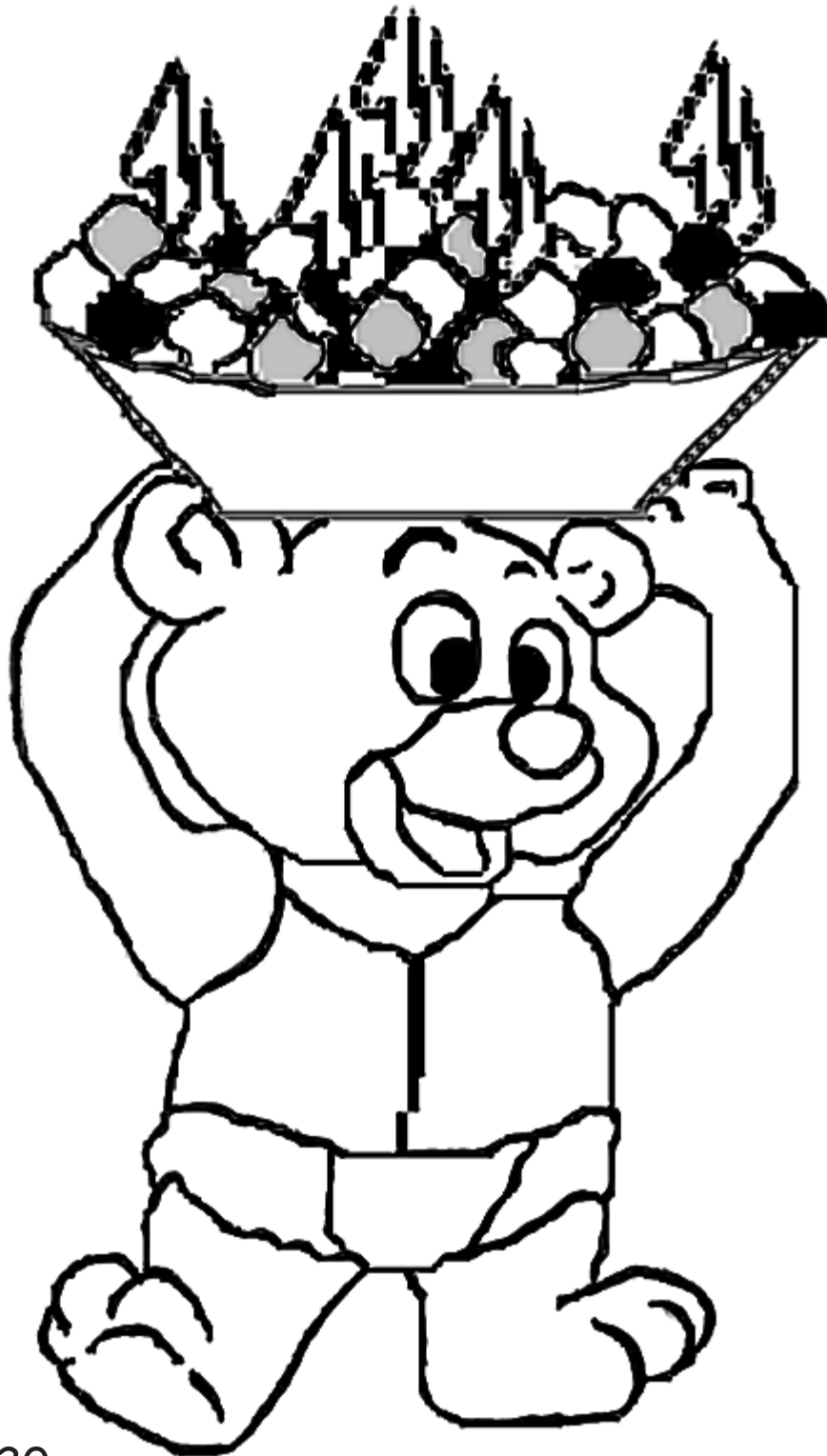
The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have *it* more abundantly.

Coals of Fire

In the Bible land villages, coals of fire are carried from one house to another. One person gets up early in the morning and builds a fire. A boy carries burning coals from the fire to each house in the village. He carries them on his head using a piece of pottery. This is really a very pleasant task for the boy because when the morning is cold, he is warmed up by the coals as he goes from house to house.

By placing coals of fire on your enemy's head, you may warm him up and change his heart.

Coals of Fire



Romans 12:20

Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head.

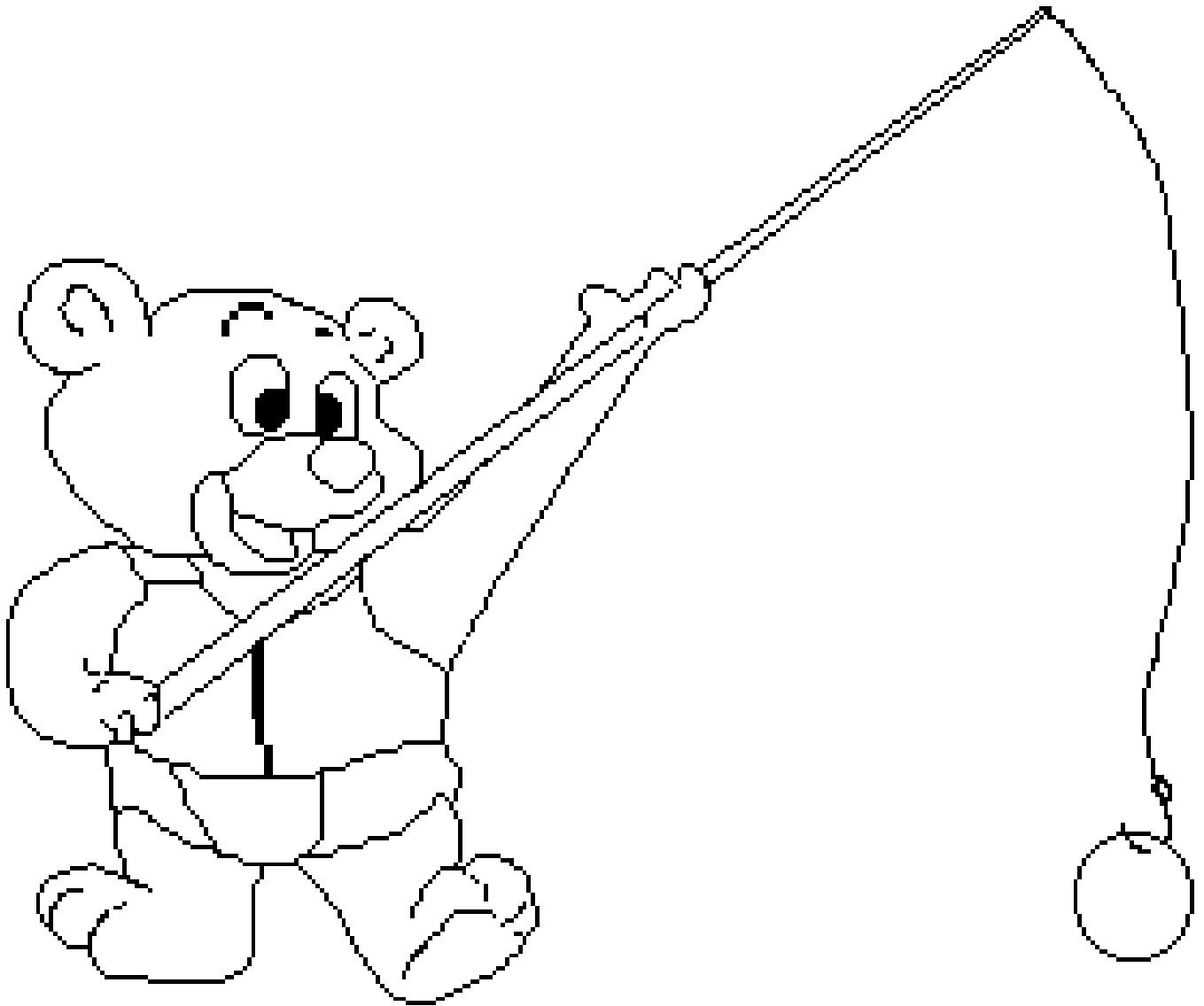
Fishing for Money

In the Bible lands there is a fish called a Musht. The fish is about six inches long, has a large head, and a bag under its mouth. The Musht picks up coins and other objects that sparkle in the water and keeps them in the bag under its mouth. Musht are hard to catch and rare but some men have become rich by catching Musht. Other fishermen have never caught one.

Coins are often thrown into the water by people at times of prayer as offerings to God. The Musht pick up the coins from the bottom of the rivers.

God has promised to supply all of our need. That does not mean that we should fish for money; but we know that God will care for us as He has promised.

Fishing for Money



Matthew 17:27b

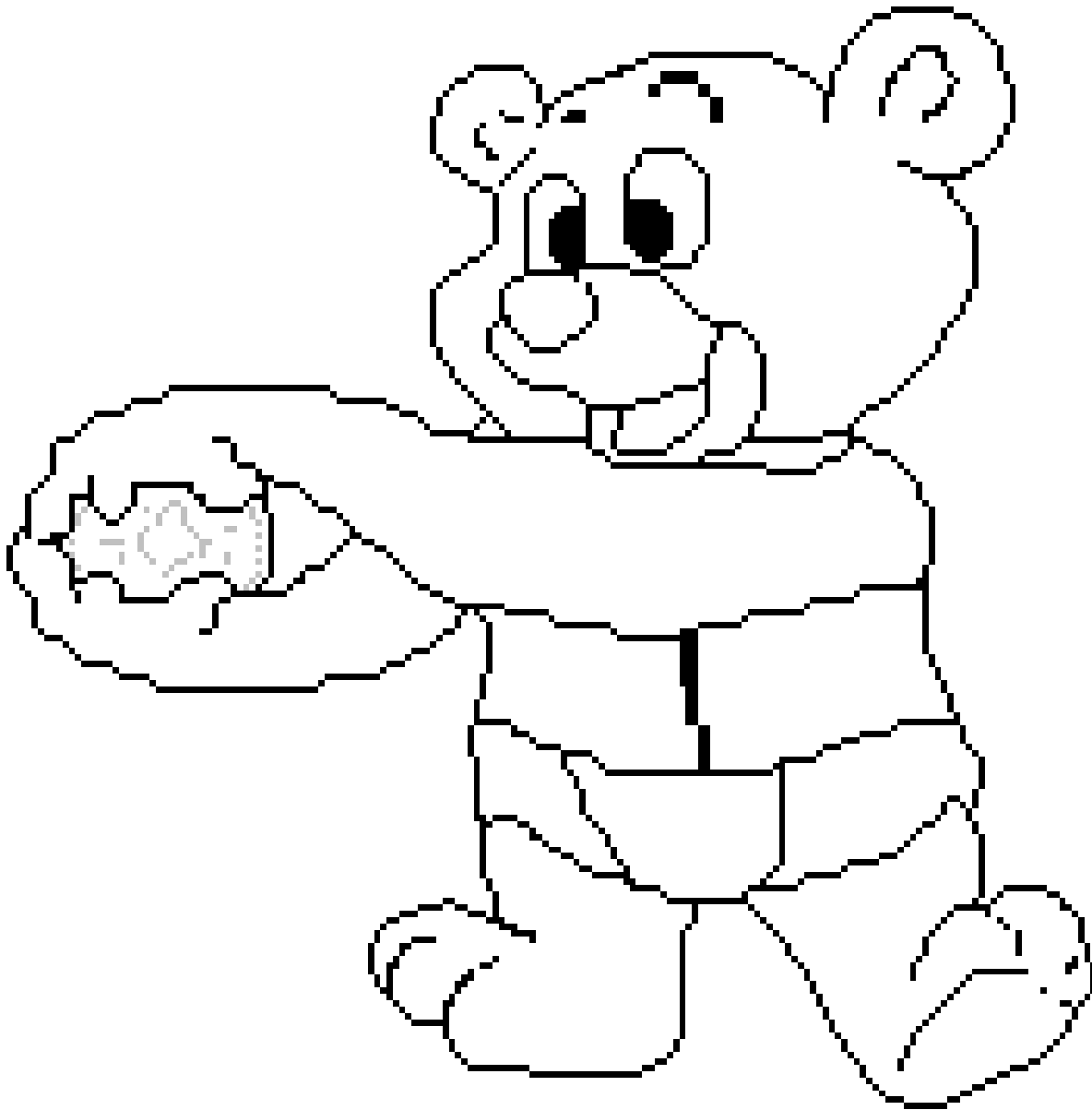
... go thou to the sea, and cast an hook, and take up the fish that first cometh up; and when thou hast opened his mouth, thou shalt find a piece of money: ...

Pluck Them Out of My Hand

In the Bible lands children play a game in which one child tries to pluck a stone or a coin from the hands of another child. The coin is held between the palms of one child's hands and the other child tries to separate the hands to get the coin.

There is not a hand strong enough to pluck us out of the hands of God.

Pluck Them Out of My Hand



John 10:28-29

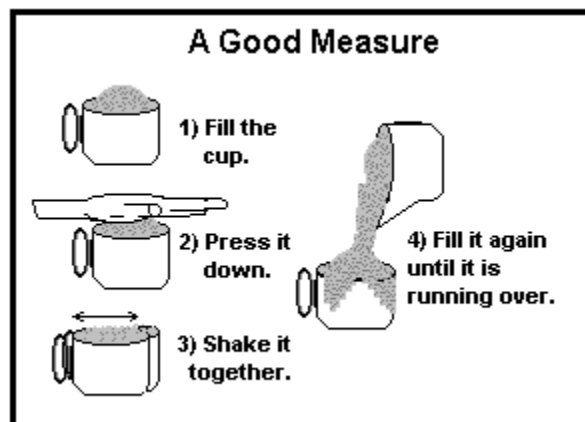
And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any *man* pluck them out of my hand.

My Father, which gave *them* me, is greater than all; and no *man* is able to pluck *them* out of my Father's hand.

Pressed Down, Shaken Together and Running Over.

In the Bible lands market, a good merchant provides the buyer with a "good measure." People bring a container to the market to buy grain. The merchant fills their cup, presses it down, shakes it together, and then fills it again until it runs over.

God's Word promises that when we give, God will bless us back abundantly with a "good measure."



Pressed Down, Shaken Together, and Running Over.



Luke 6:38

Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again.

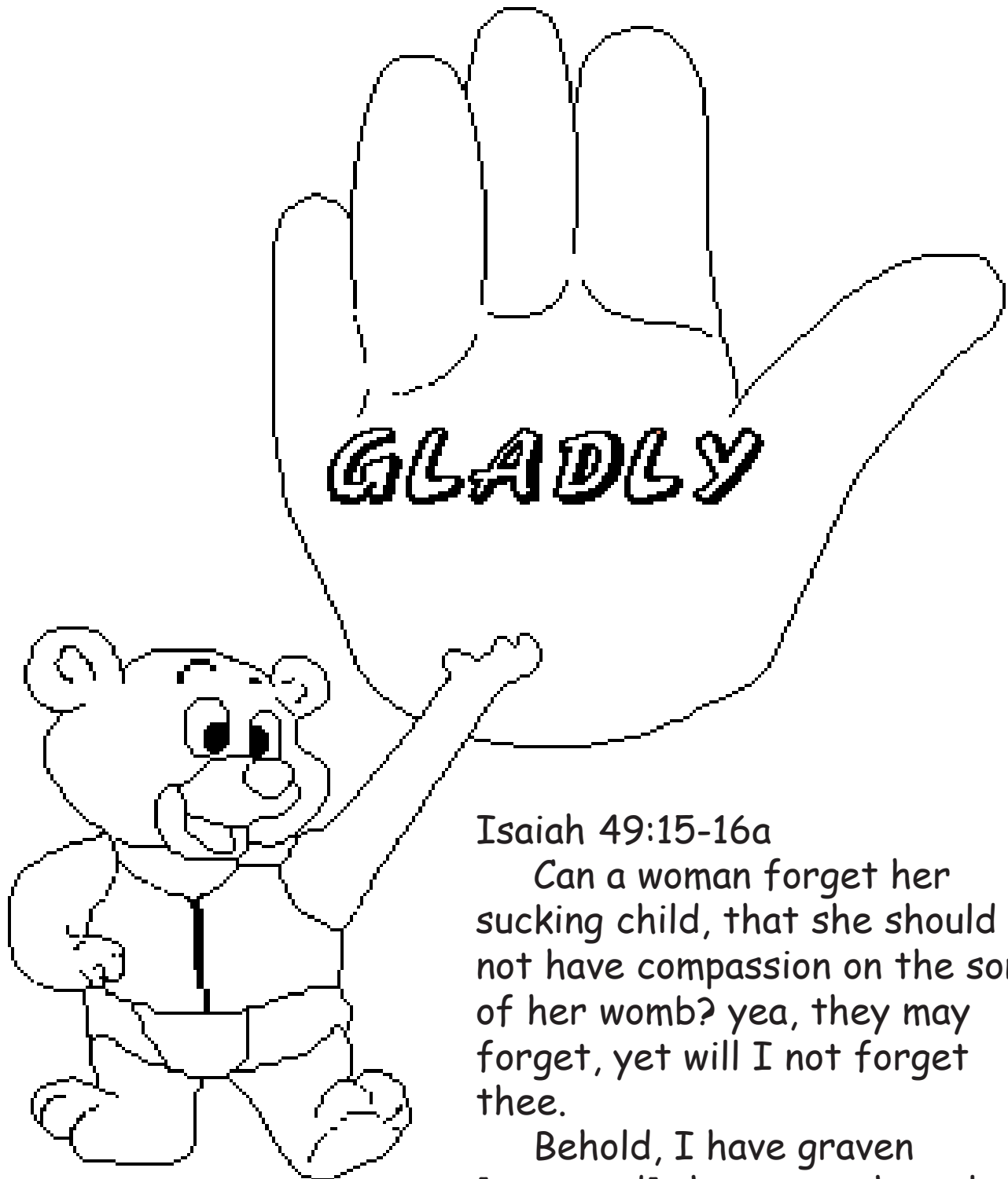
The Palms of God

It seems very unlikely that a mother could ever forget her child; yet, it is possible. God's Word declares that even though a mother could forget her child, God will NEVER forget us.

In the Bible lands, there is a tradition of tattooing the names of those you dearly love on your body. But no one would think of going through the pain of tattooing on the sensitive palms of their hands.

God is Spirit. He does not have physical hands. God uses figures of speech (like tattooing on the palms of His hands) to emphasize things in His Word. Our names are not tattooed on a hidden part of His body. God has declared in this beautiful figure of speech that he has tattooed our names on His palms so that He can hold us in His memory, always right there before His face.

The Palms of God



Isaiah 49:15-16a

Can a woman forget her sucking child, that she should not have compassion on the son of her womb? yea, they may forget, yet will I not forget thee.

Behold, I have graven [tattooed] thee upon the palms of my hands;

A Grain of Mustard Seed

Luke 17:5-6

And the apostles said unto the Lord, Increase our faith [belief].

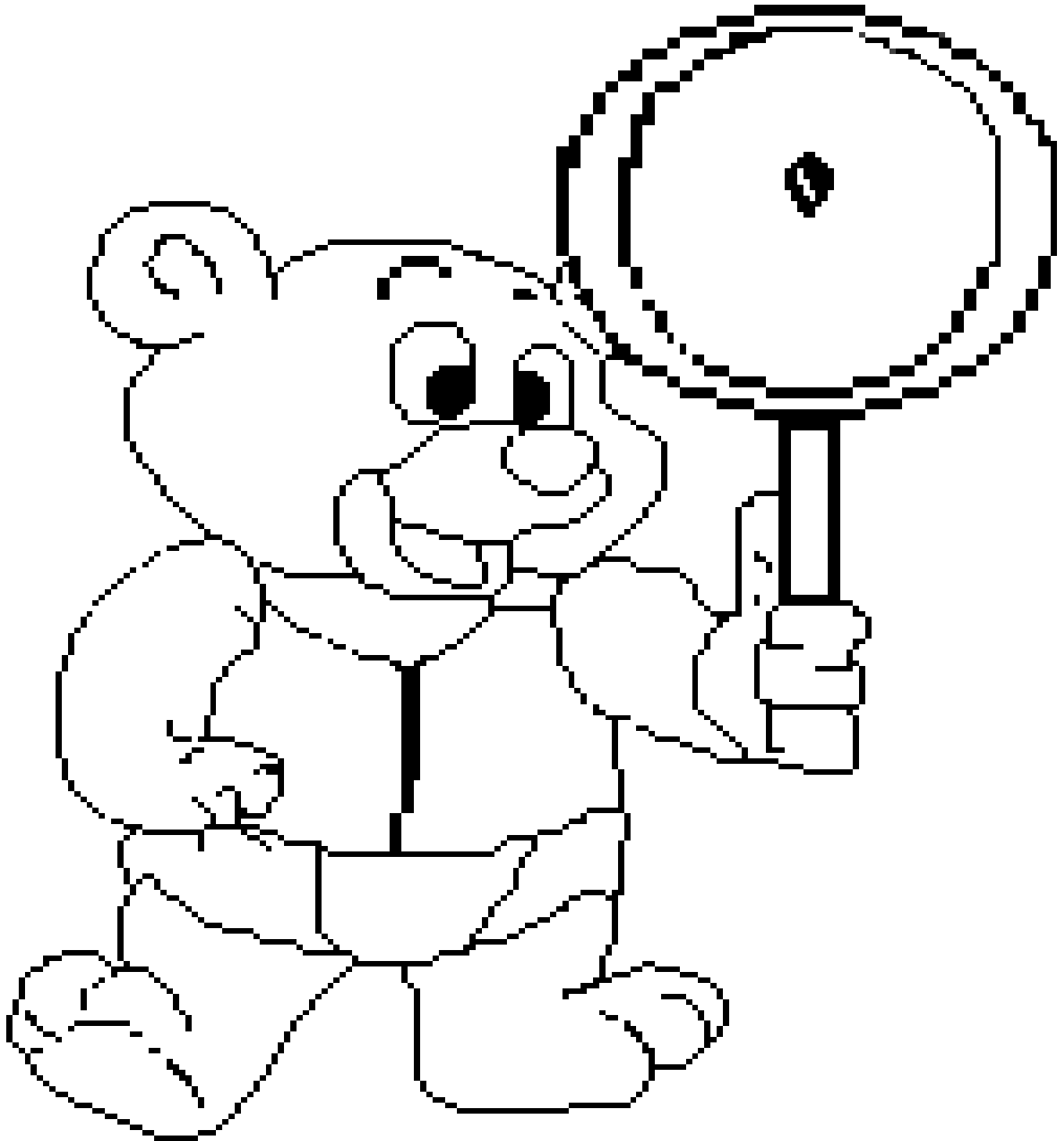
And the Lord said, If ye had faith [belief] as a grain of mustard seed, ye might say unto this sycamine tree, Be thou plucked up by the root, and be planted in the sea; and it should obey you.

The mustard seed of the Bible lands is about 10 times smaller than the mustard seed in America and the west. It is a very tiny dark seed that is so small that if you were to get it in your eye you would hardly notice it.

The mustard plant that grows from this seed is also different from the western mustard plant. The Bible lands mustard plant grows into a tree the size of a fruit tree.

To believe God is to act upon His Word. Belief is a small thing that produces great results just as the tiny mustard seed produces a great tree.

A Grain of Mustard Seed



A Picture and a Promise Coloring Book



by Christine Cortright

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Christine Cortright
PO Box 434
Allegan, MI 49010-0434
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The Word of God

Isaiah 55:10 and 11

For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater:

So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper *in the thing* whereto I sent it.

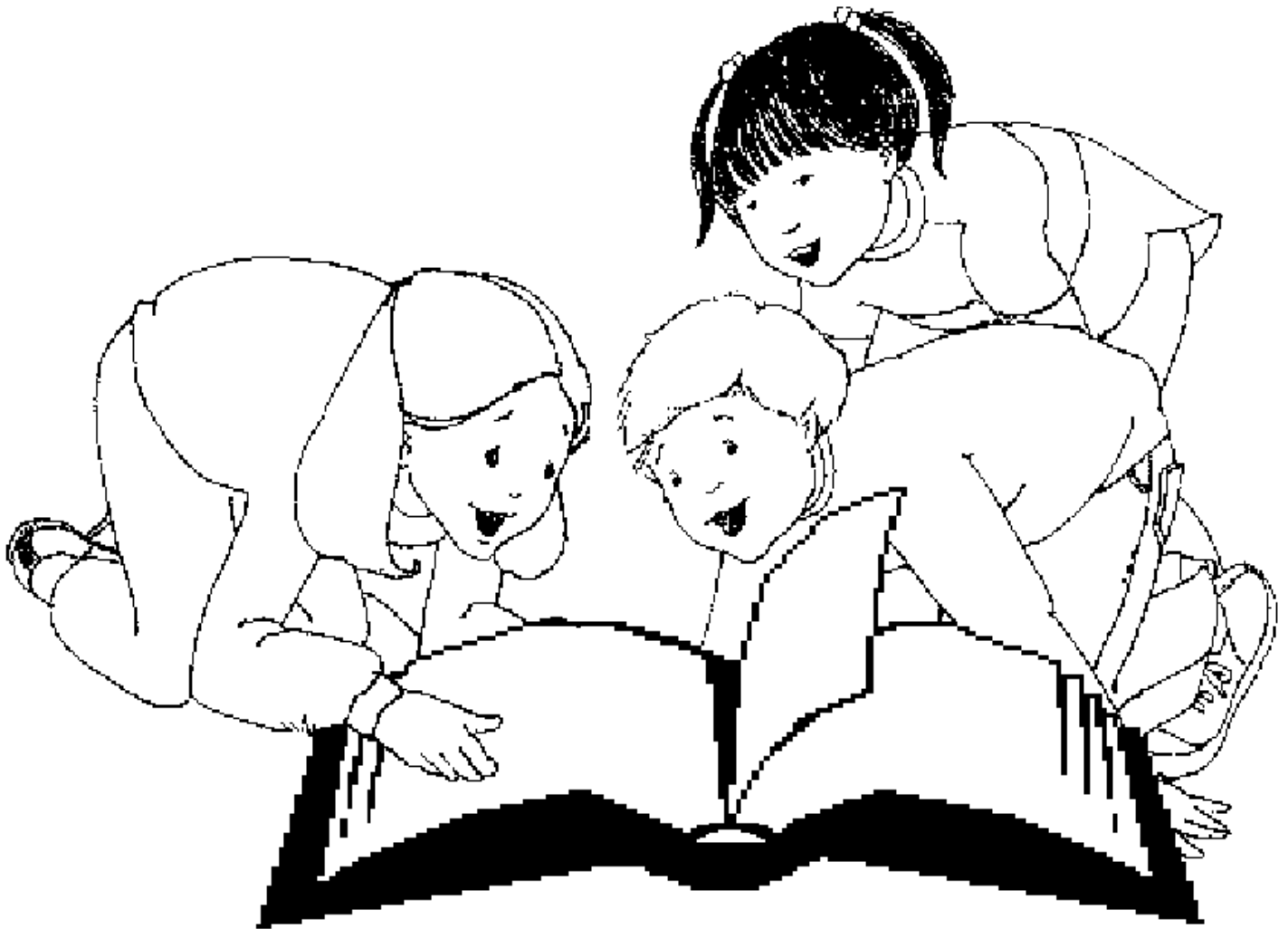


Playing in the rain can be even more fun when it reminds us of God's promise that His Word accomplishes what He sends it to do.

Searching God's Word

John 5:39

Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me.

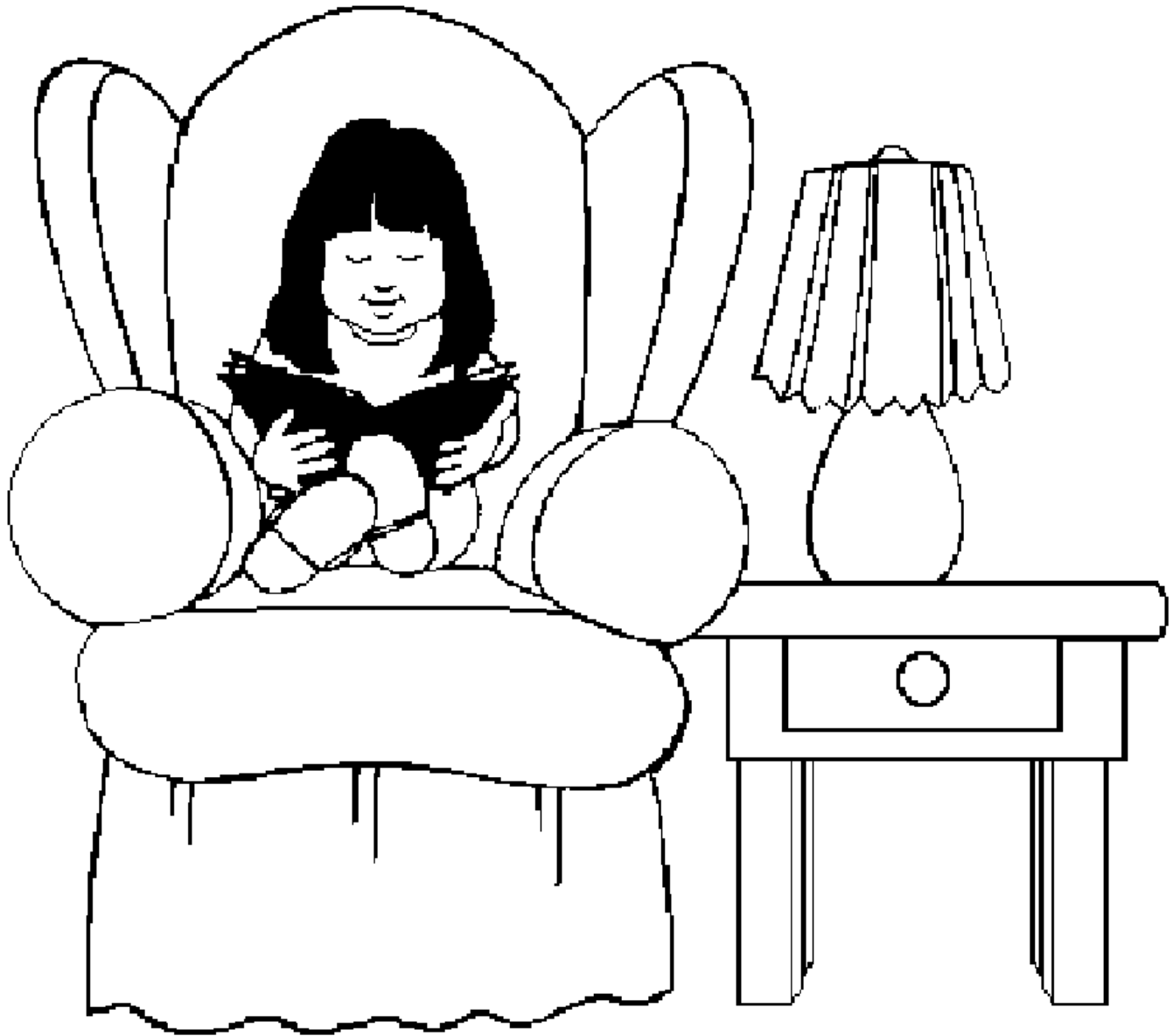


God has promised us eternal life through His son, Jesus Christ. We can find the knowledge of God about Jesus Christ by searching the Word of God.

Read God's Word

2 Timothy 3:15

And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.



God has promised that His Word will make us wise about salvation. To be wise is to know what to do. *Romans 10:9-10* tell us that we must confess that Jesus Christ is Lord and believe in our heart that God raised him from the dead in order to be saved. It is really great that you can know God's Word about salvation when you are still a child.

Workmen of God's Word

2 Timothy 2:15

Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.



Workmen stand approved in their jobs by working very hard. They know how to use their tools skillfully and do the job right. We stand approved before God when we work hard to study His Word and understand it rightly.

The Perfect Gift

James 1:17

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

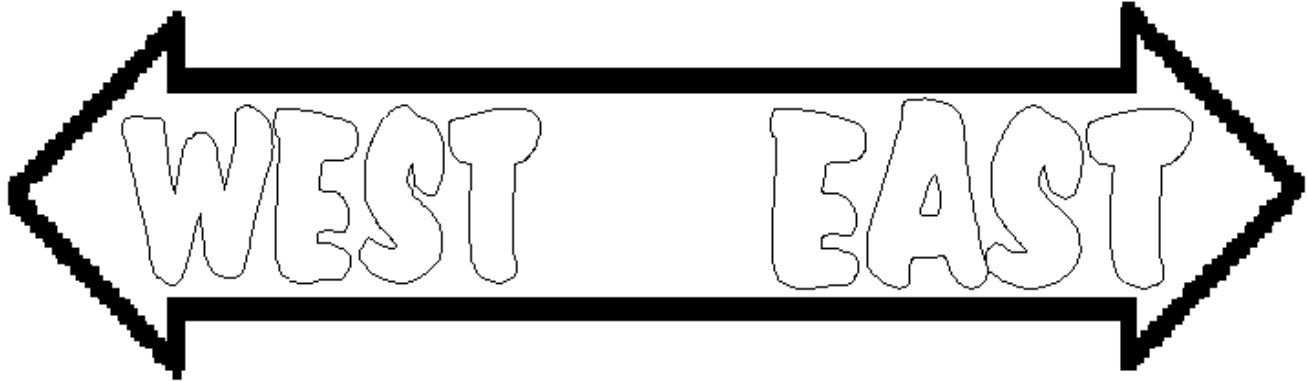


Can you ever remember getting a present that seemed absolutely perfect? Did you ever get a gift that was exactly what you wanted or needed? God has given us the greatest gift we could ever get. He has given us holy spirit and He has given us eternal life. This gift cost God a great deal. It cost the life of His son, Jesus Christ! Yet, God loved us so much that He was willing to pay the greatest price to give us the perfect gift.

East Never Meets West

Psalms 103:12

As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us.



God removed your sins as far as the east is from the west; so you can NEVER meet up with them again. That is because East and West never meet.

No Condemnation

Romans 8:1

There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.



We can stand in the knowledge that NOW we are more than conquerors and that NOW there is no condemnation to us. There is nothing that can separate us from the love of God that we share in God's family. No waiting, it's ours now and forever.

Boldness

2 Timothy 1:7

For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.

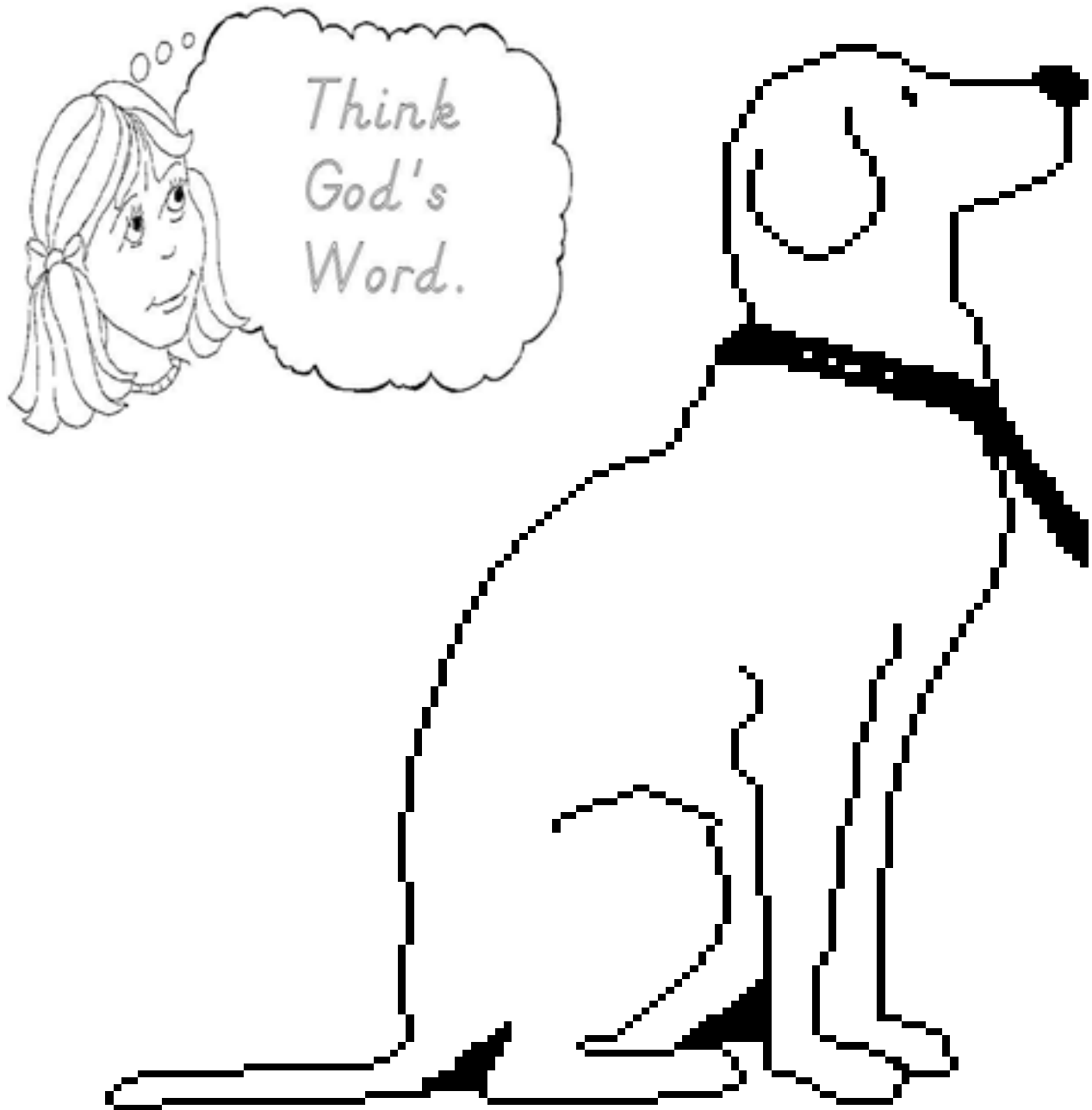


We can be fearless in every situation because God has given us His gift of holy spirit. We have power, love, and a sound mind. We can depend on God's strength in us. God's love in us casts out all fear. When our thoughts line up with God's Word, we have a sound mind.

Stayed Mind

Isaiah 26:3

Thou wilt keep *him* in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee.

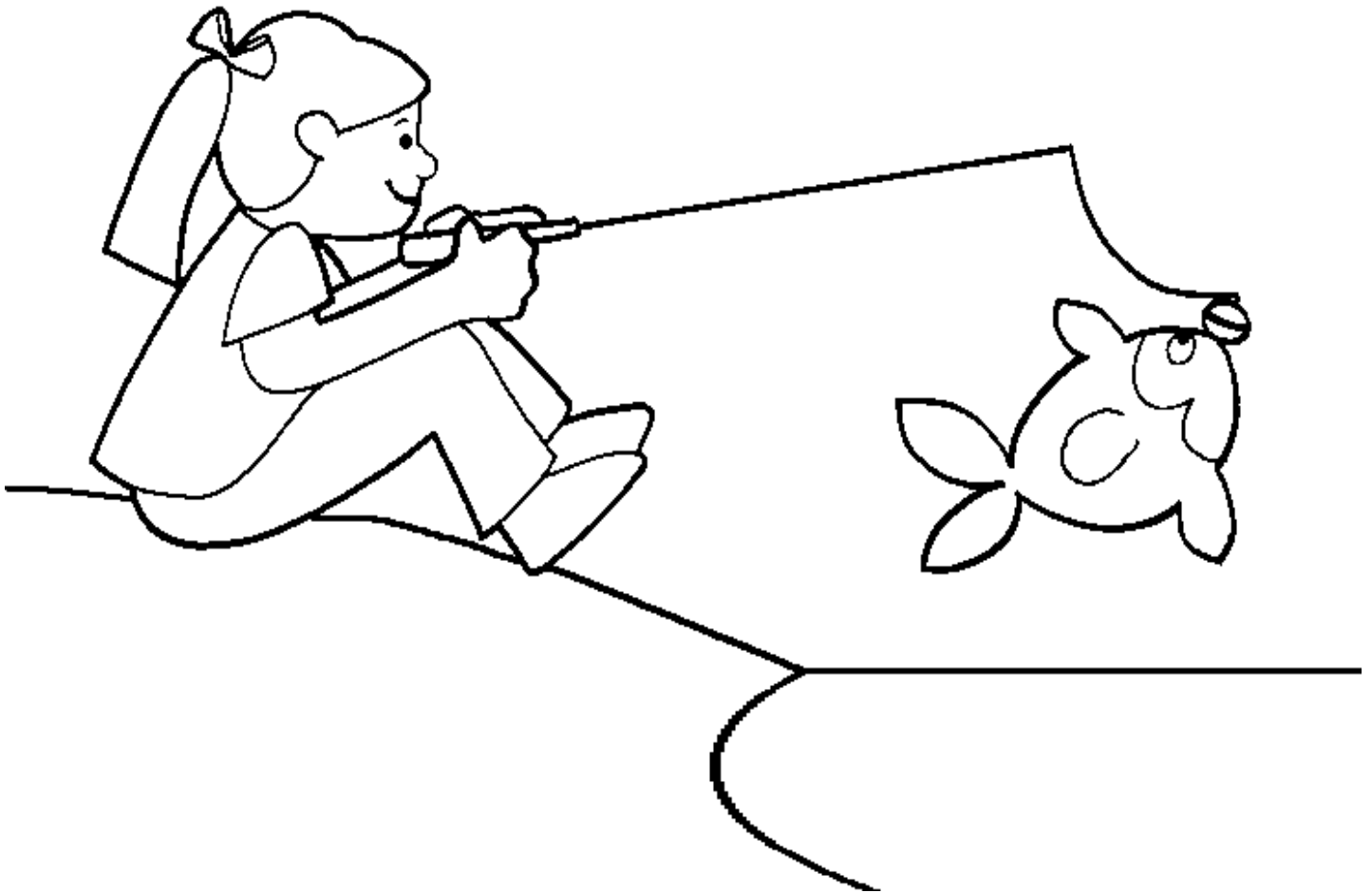


God has promised to keep us in perfect peace when we keep our minds stayed on Him. You can train your mind to stay put just like you teach a dog to stay. When your thoughts wander, tell your mind to stay on God and think about the promises of His Word.

God Cares for Us

1 Peter 5:7

Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.



We can cast our cares upon God just like we can cast fishing lines out into the water. When we have thrown our cares out to Him, He is able to take care of us.

Abundance

2 Corinthians 9:6

But this *I* say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully.

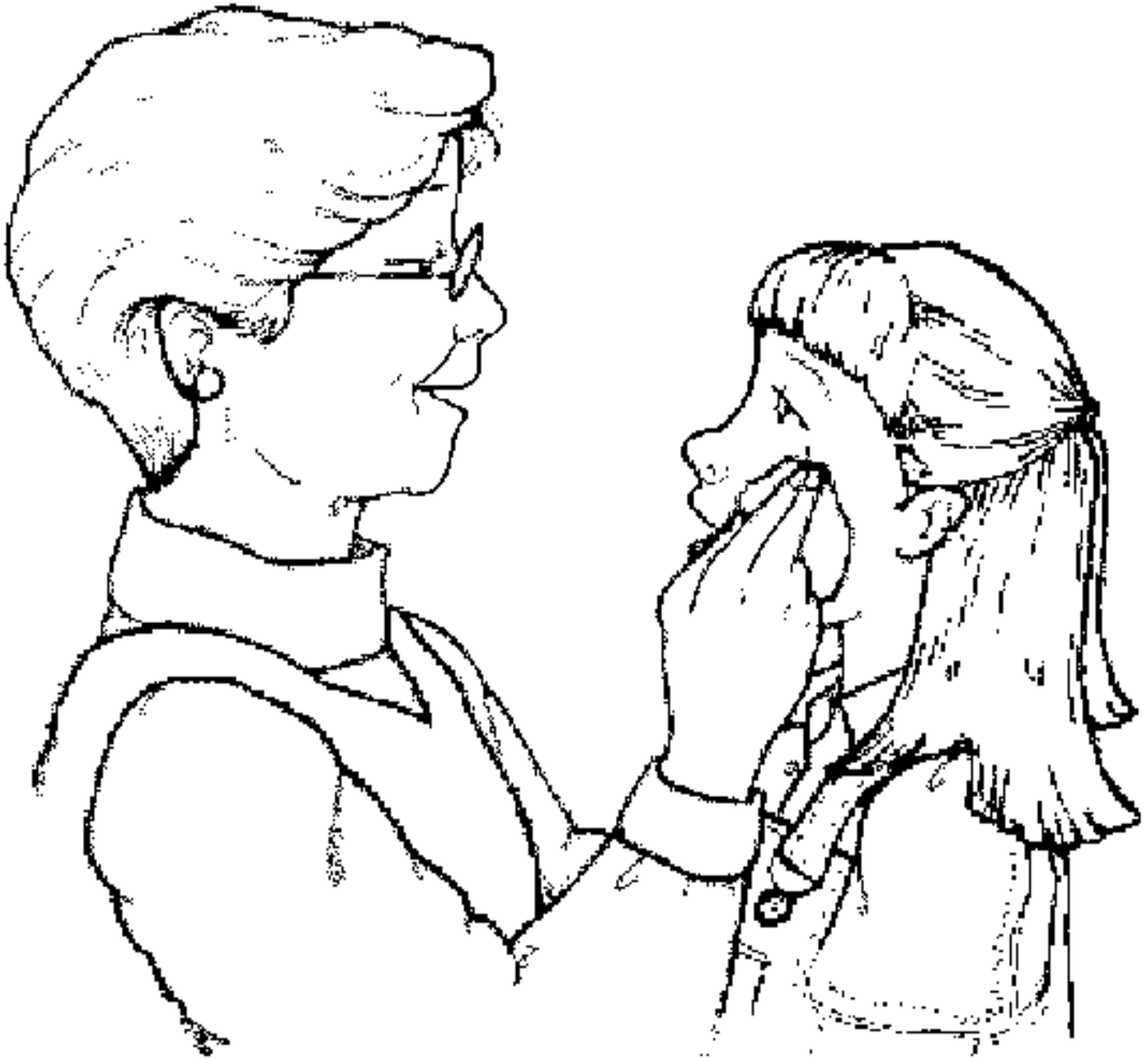


Did you ever plant a garden? The more seeds you plant, the more food you have to harvest. In the same way, God promises to provide us with abundance according to our giving. The more you give the more you will receive.

God is There

Psalm 46:1

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.



God has promised to be a very present help when we are in trouble. God is always there to help. God is our strength. God is our refuge; our hiding place. God is with us right now to make us strong and to help.

God's Love

1 John 4:18

There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear; because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.



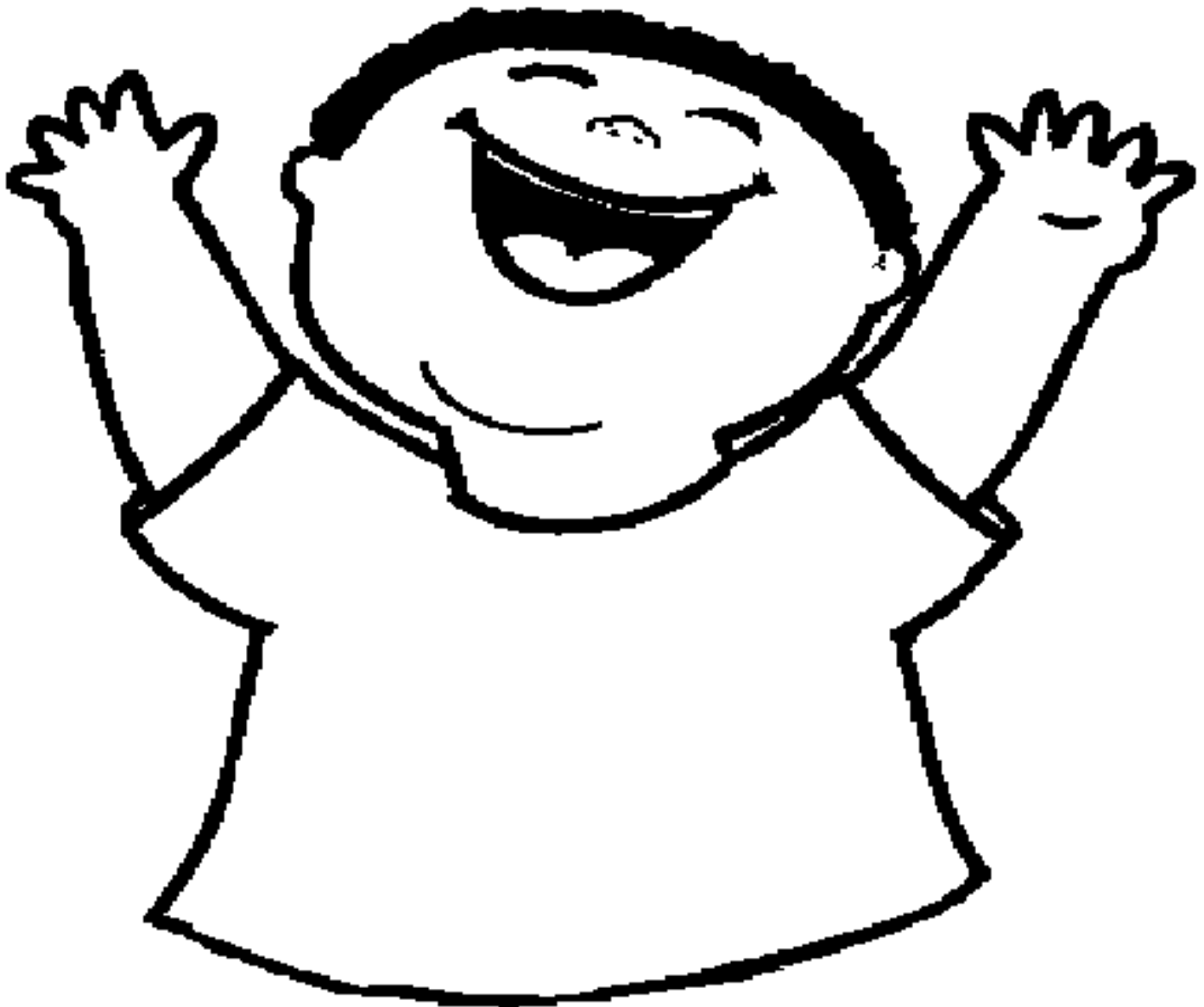
**Perfect love
casts out fear.**

Perfect love comes from God. God has promised that fear will disappear when we love one another with His love. God's love is something you can count on. God never leaves you frightened or alone.

Rejoice

Psalm 5:11

But let all those that put their trust in thee rejoice: let them ever shout for joy, because thou defendest them; let them also that love thy name be joyful in thee.

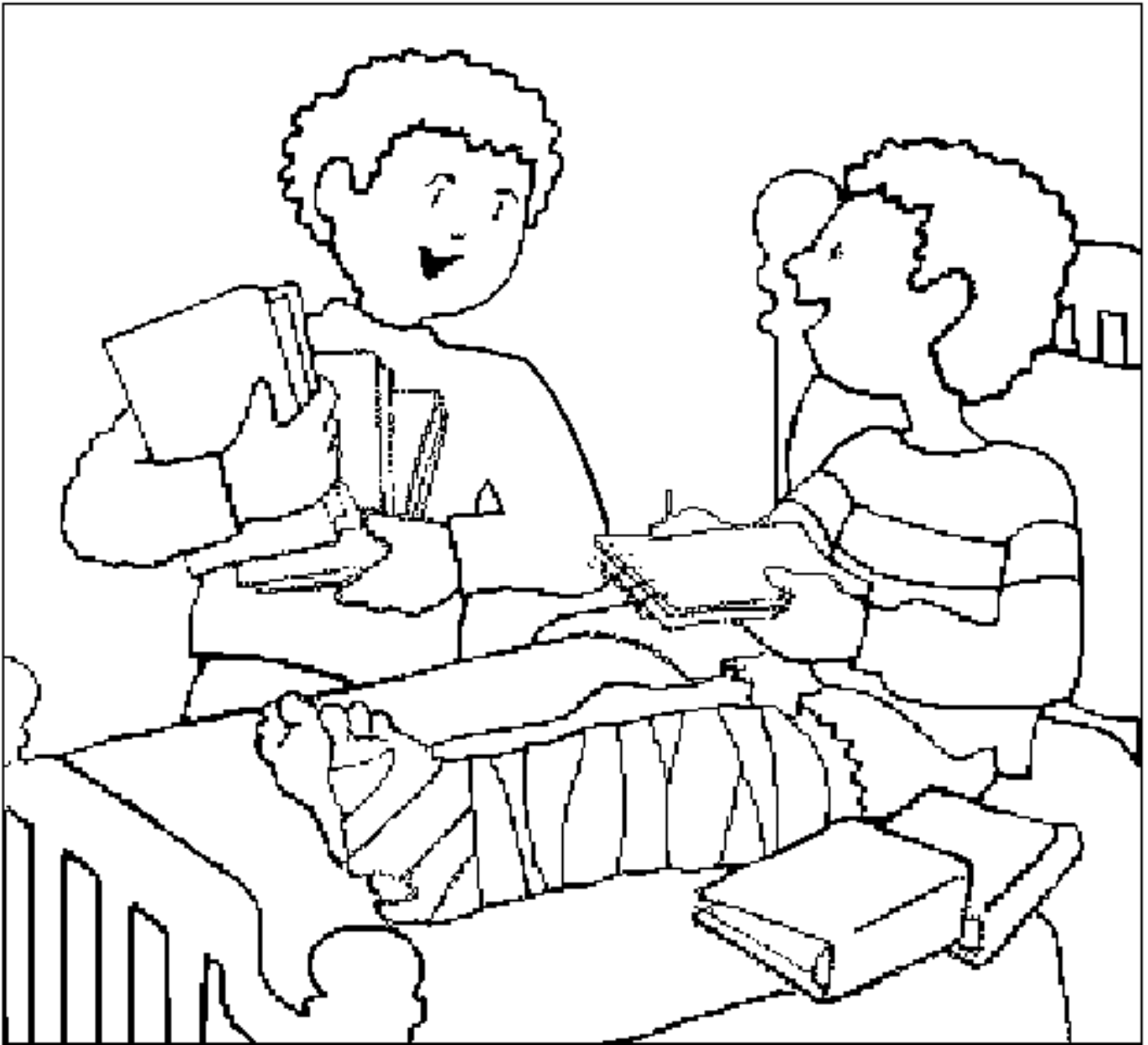


God's Word promises that you are blessed and protected on all sides and that is the truth. We shout for joy because we love God and trust His Word.

A Merry Heart

Proverbs 17:22a

A merry heart doeth good like a medicine:



God promises that a merry heart helps to heal us. When someone needs healing, share God's Word to make his heart "merry." When you need healing, keep your heart merry with God's promises.

Learning the Mystery

Ephesians 3:4

Whereby, when ye read, ye may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ



If we want to know the "mystery of Christ", we need to read and believe God's Word. With reading comes understanding. In Ephesians, Paul declares the mystery: "That the Gentiles should be fellowheirs, and of the same body, and partakers of his promise in Christ by the gospel:"

God's Habitation

Ephesians 2:21-22

In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord:

In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.



God lives in us. Together with our brothers and sisters in Christ, we are God's building. We are God's home.

Christ in You!

2 Corinthians 3:18

But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, *even as by the Spirit of the Lord.*

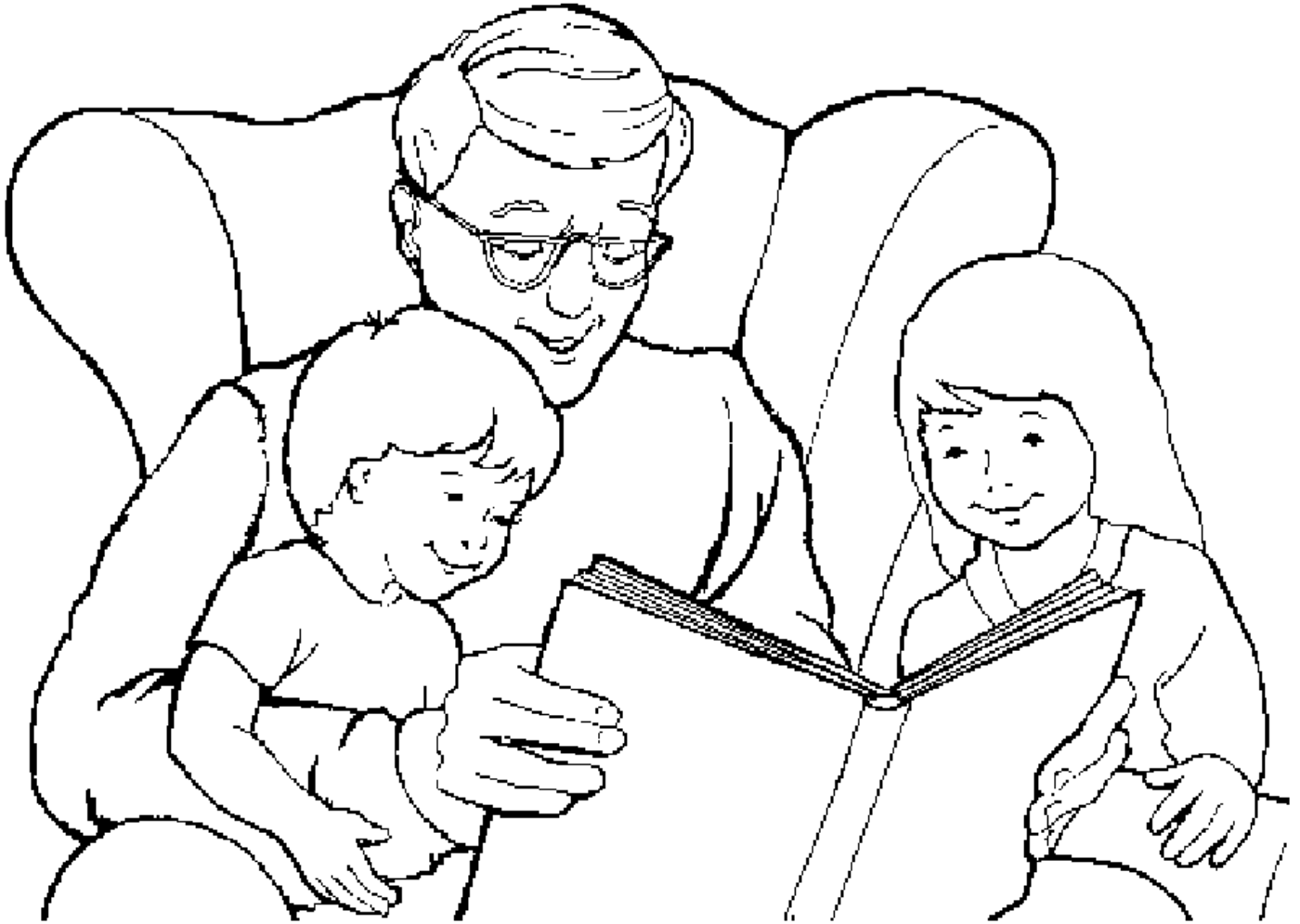


God has promised that as we look at the Christ in us we will shine brighter and brighter.

Read God's Word

Romans 15:4

For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.



By study of the scriptures, we learned of God's promise to send the Lord Jesus Christ to redeem us. Now, as sons of God, His Word also gives us knowledge of our hope for Christ's return.

The Hope

1 Peter 3:15

But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and *be ready* always to *give an answer* to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear:



God has promised that Jesus Christ is going to return and that we will be gathered together with him. We will receive new spiritual bodies and live forever with God. We need to be ready to comfort someone who needs to know about our hope.