

Wisdom Talks About Work: Finding God's Purpose in Our Everyday Lives

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Wisdom Talks About WORK

Lesson One, Level One

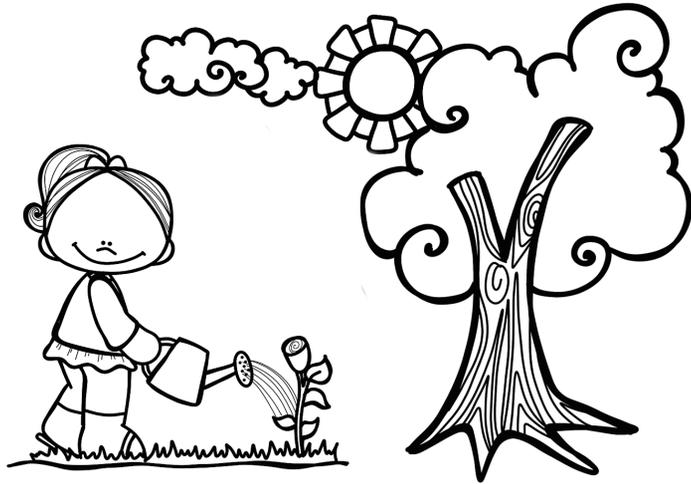
Why is Work So Hard?

God created Adam and Eve to work. Work is a good thing!
But, when Adam and Eve sinned and disobeyed God, work became hard.

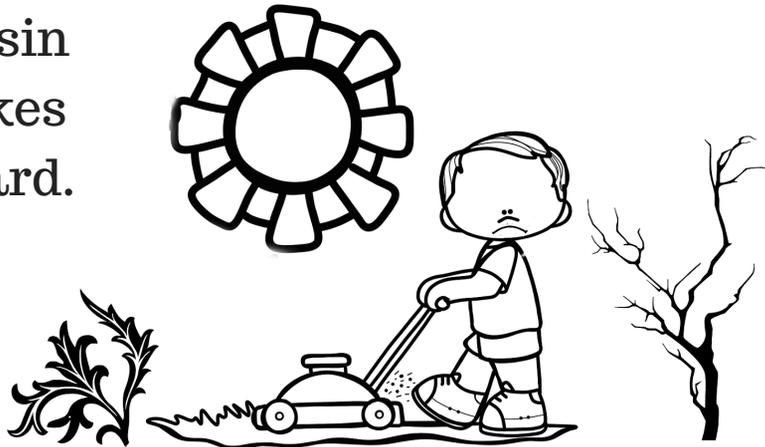
Read Genesis 2:8-9; 2:15-18; Genesis 3:17-19

Color the pictures below:

Work is good,



but sin makes it hard.



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Lesson Two, Level One

WORK: God's Path of Blessing

God created people to work. Work is good, even though it is hard.

Read Proverbs 10:1-5

God blesses us when we work hard to get food and money.

God blesses us when we obey our parents.

Color the pictures of the children who are working hard.

Draw an X over the pictures of the kids who are not working.



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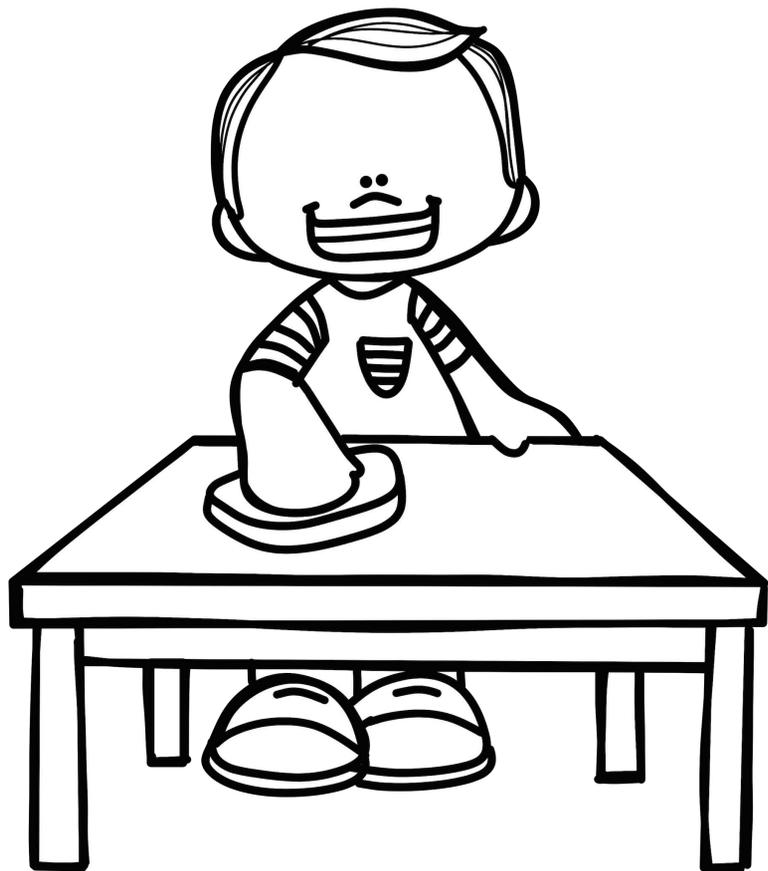
Lesson Three, Level One

Why Should You Work Hard?

Read Colossians 3:23-24

These verses tell us that we need to work hard because God sees our work and He cares about it. When we work, we need to be working for God.

What is some work that you do? Do you work with a happy heart for God?



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Lesson Four, Level One

Are You Complaining?

In our last lesson, we learned that God SEES our work and CARES about it. We need to be doing our best work because we are working for God, not for man.

Read Colossians 3:23-24; Read Colossians 3:17

God wants us to work with happy, thankful hearts. Color the face below each work that shows how you feel when you do this work.



Are you working with a happy, thankful heart? If not, pray and ask God to help you.

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Lesson Five, Level One

Boaz and Ruth: A Hard Working Couple

Ruth believed in God. Her husband had died and she was very poor. She needed to work hard in the grain fields in order to get food for herself and Naomi, her mother-in-law.

Ruth worked hard and God blessed her work.

Read Ruth 2:2-3; 2:11-12

Can you color Ruth and Naomi?



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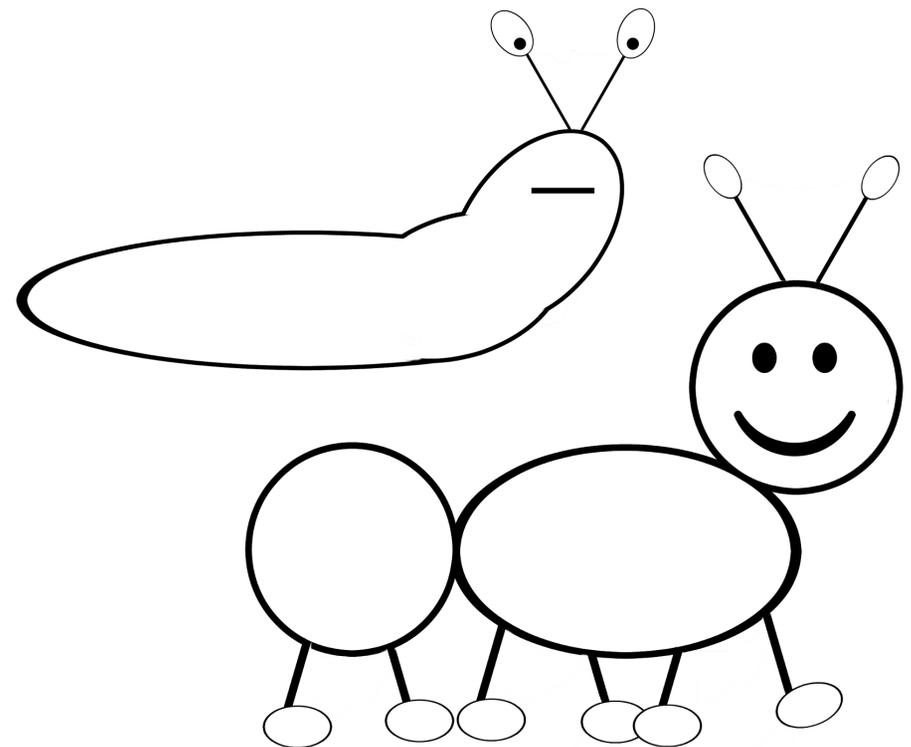
Lesson Six, Level One

The Ant and the Slug

In today's reading, King Solomon (the writer of Proverbs) will tell us about an insect who is a good worker. Listen carefully to see if you can figure out who this good worker is and why she is a good worker.

Read Proverbs 6:6-11

Who is the good worker? Color her.



Do you work like an ant, or a slug?

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Lesson Seven, Level One

A Skilled Man

Read Proverbs 22:29

This verse tells us that the king wants a skillful man, or a man who is good at his work, to work for him. You can become a skillful worker by working slowly and carefully, and not getting frustrated when you have to try again.

You probably don't work for an earthly king, but you do work for your mom and your dad or your teachers. And you can also do good work to glorify God.



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Lesson Eight, Level One

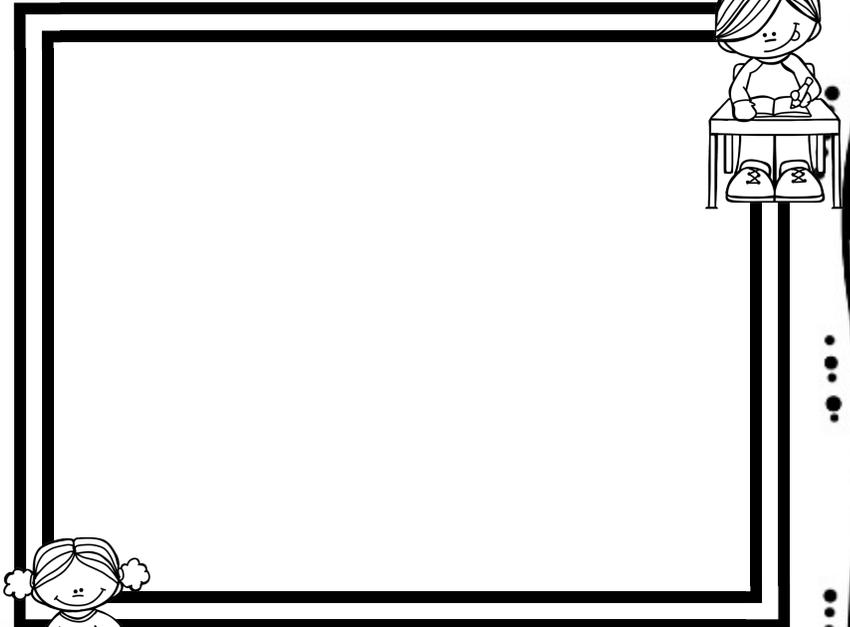
Skillful Workers

In our last lesson, we learned that skillful workers, or people who do a good job in their work, are important to "kings" - or parents, teachers, and bosses.

We all need to be working hard to do the best work we can do.

Read Proverbs 22:29 again.

Do you know somebody who is a good worker - who does a really good job in their work? Draw a picture of this person below doing their work. Ask your mom or dad to write this person's name and work under your picture.



_____ is a skillful person!
He/She works hard to be good
at _____.

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Lesson Nine, Level One

God Works a Miracle



(For this lesson, you will need a bowl of water, a rock or small piece of metal (such as a screw or nail), and a small stick that will fit into the bowl.)

Read 2 Kings 6:1-7

In this story, we read about a group of prophets who needed a bigger house. Their house was too small for them all to live there. They decided to build a bigger house. They asked for Elisha to go with them because Elisha was a man of God. While they were working, one man's ax head fell off of the ax handle and fell in the water. Let's see what happens when something heavy falls in the water.

(Drop the rock or metal into the bowl of water.)

The man's ax went down into the river. The river was deep and muddy. The man could not see his ax head anymore.

He couldn't get it out of the river.

Elisha came to help the man. Elisha threw a stick into the river and God made the ax head float.

(Throw a small stick into the cup of water.)

Can a stick make this rock float? God worked a miracle for this man. This man was working hard, and God watched over his work and helped him.

Remember, God sees our work and cares about our work. It is good to ask God to help us in our work.

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Lesson Ten, Level One

Are You a Busybody?

A busybody is someone who is so busy trying to make sure that everybody else is doing what they should be doing, that the busybody does not have time to do his or her own work.

Read 2 Thessalonians 3:10-13

Read 1 Thessalonians 4:10b-12

In the pictures below, color the children who are working quietly with their own hands or obeying. Circle the children who are being busybodies.



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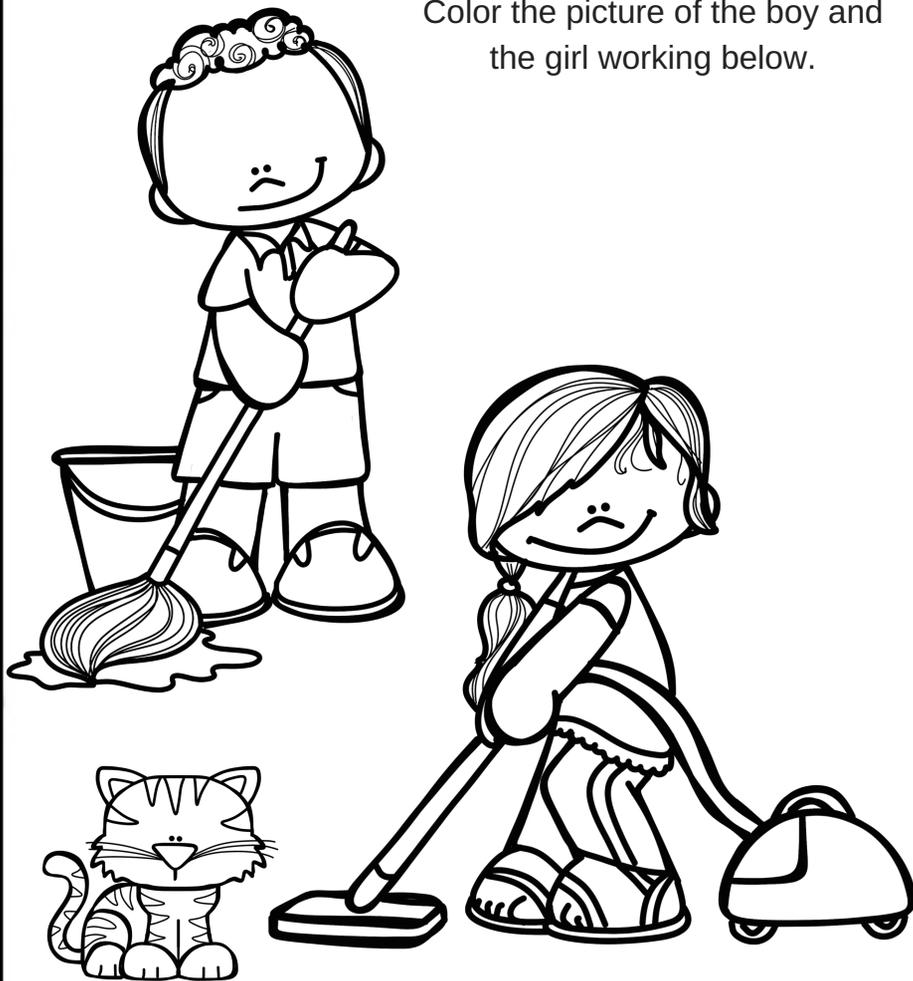
Lesson Eleven, Level One

A Servant Leader

Read **Philippians 2:5-8**

Have you ever had to work when you didn't want to? **Sometimes we have to work, even though we don't want to.** God tells us that we still need to obey and work, just as Jesus worked for us.

Color the picture of the boy and the girl working below.



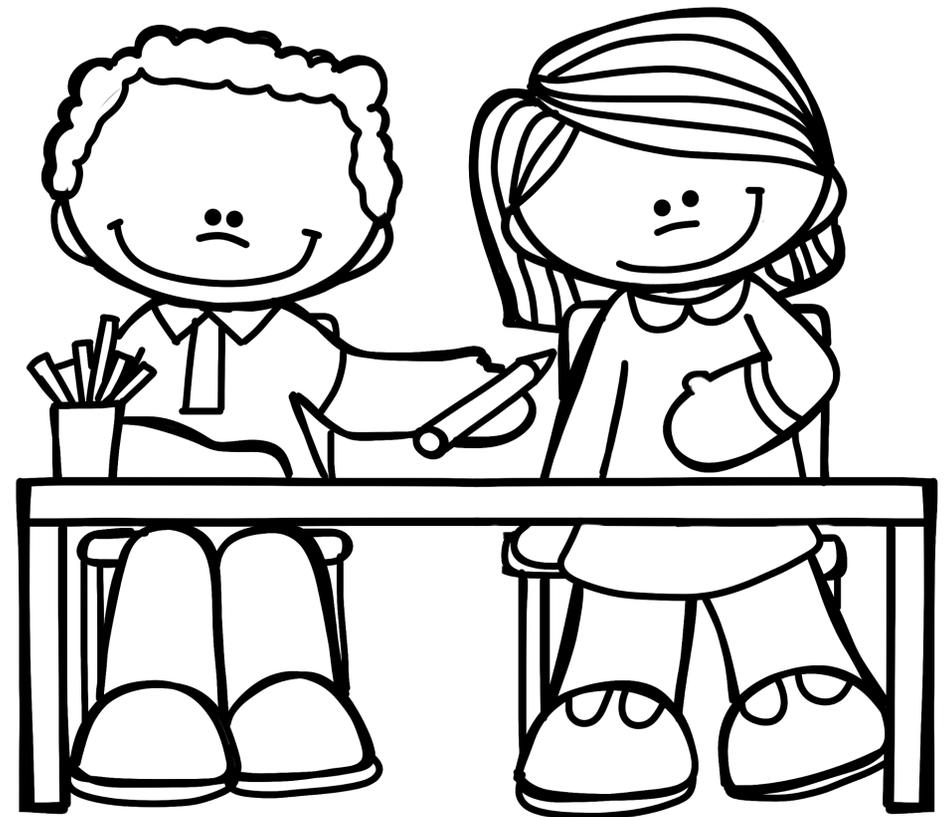
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Lesson Twelve, Level One

The Blessing of Work

Read **1 John 3:16-18**

God blesses us when we work hard to get food and money. But, do you remember that sin made work hard? **Because we live in a sinful world, sometimes people can't work hard to get food and money for themselves and their families.** The Bible tells us to help these people by sharing what we have.



Are you good at sharing? Sharing is a good way to show that we love other people and that we love God.

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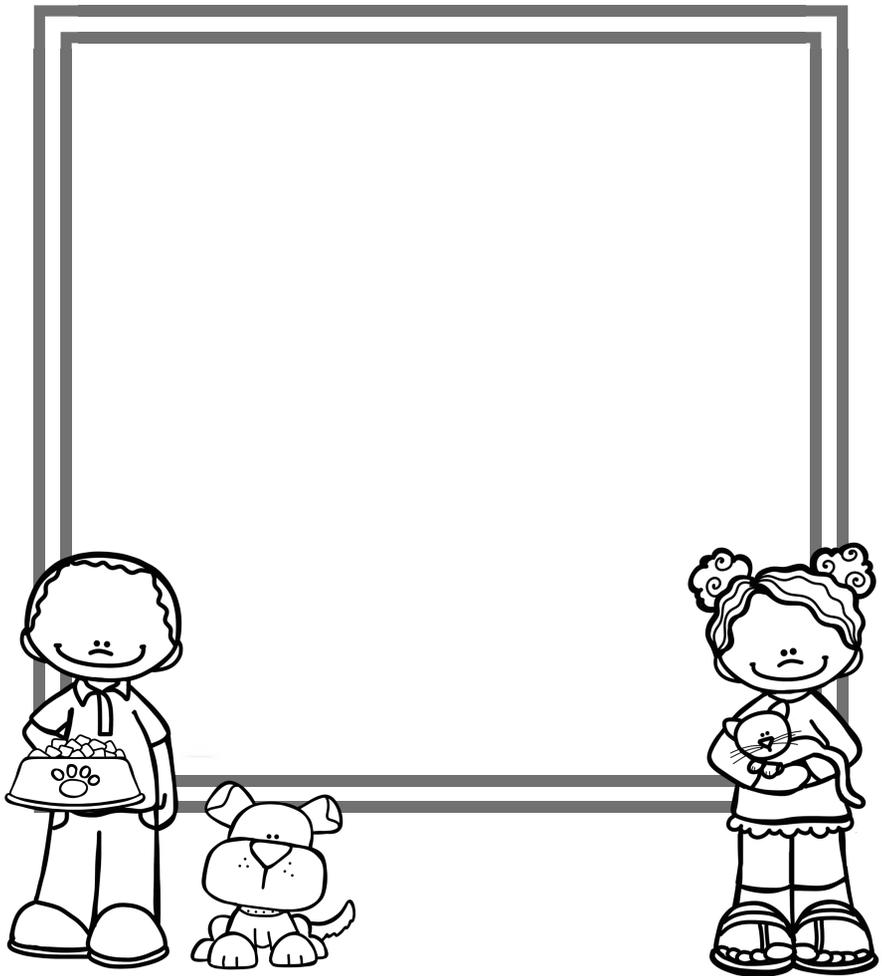
Lesson Thirteen, Level One

Doing Good Works

Read Hebrews 13:16

God is pleased when we work hard to serve other people and when we share what we have with other people.

Can you think of something kind that you can do for someone? Draw a picture or have your mom or dad write down something that you can do to be kind to others today..



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Lesson Fourteen, Level One

An Example to Follow

Read Acts 9:39-42

Tabitha loved God. Because she loved God, she worked hard to sew clothes for people who were poor.

When we love God, we will want to work hard to do kind things for other people around us - because God loves them, too!

Color the picture of Tabitha and Peter.



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Lesson Fifteen, Level One

Honoring Those Who Work Among Us

Read 1 Thessalonians 5:12-13

In this verse, the Bible tells us to honor the people who are working hard to teach us about the Bible. Who teaches you about the Bible?

We can "honor" the people who teach us about the Bible by obeying them, praying for them, and thanking them.

Use the note on the next page to write a thank you card to your teacher. Your mom or dad can help you write the words and cut out the card, and you can color the picture.

Then, don't forget to pray for your teacher!



Dear _____,
Thank you for teaching me the
Bible! I like it when you _____
_____. I am
praying for you.

Sincerely, _____



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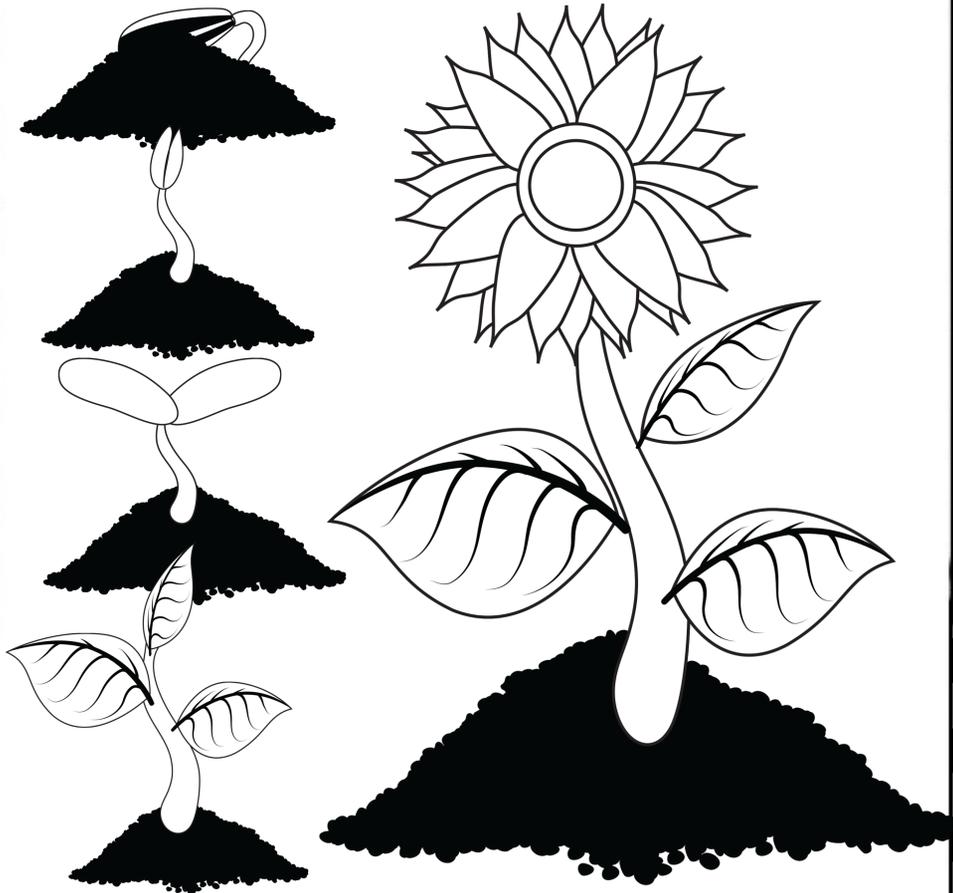
Lesson Sixteen, Level One

"You Don't Have to Work Hard..."

We have already learned that we can please God when we work hard. Sometimes Satan lies to us, though, and tells us that we can get what we need through lying or stealing.

Read Proverbs 11:18

This verse is telling us that if we obey God, it is like planting good seeds. They will grow up and give us good fruit. If we listen to Satan and follow him, it is like planting bad seeds in our lives. Those seeds will grow up and give us thorns! Are you working to obey God?



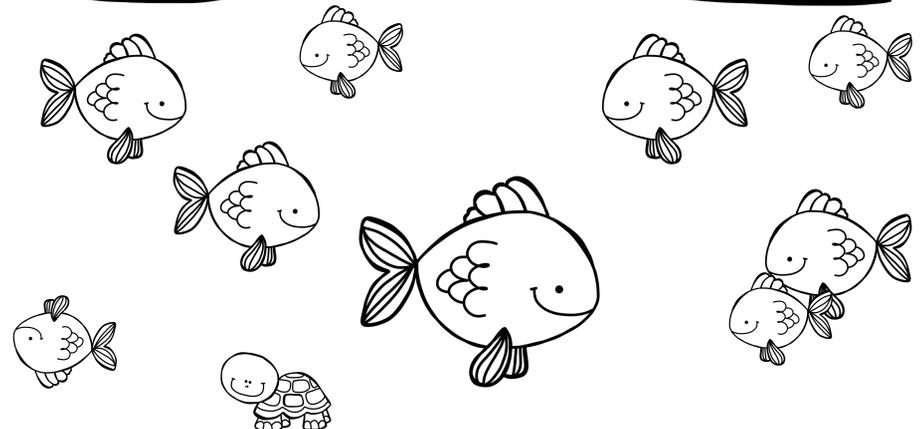
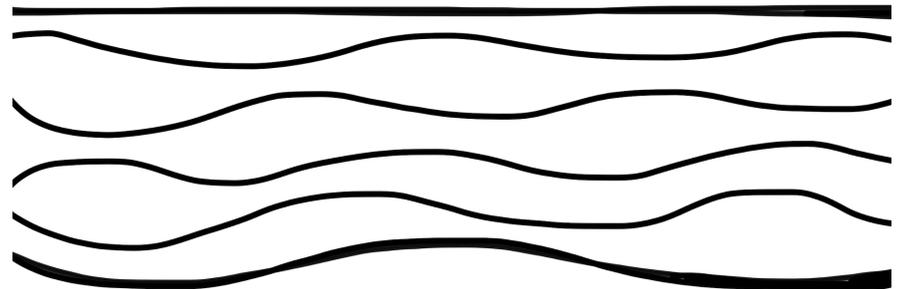
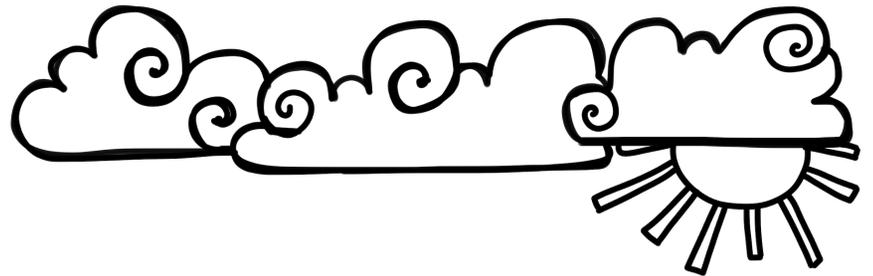
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Lesson Seventeen, Level One

Commit Your Work to the Lord

Read Proverbs 16:3 and Luke 5:3-7

Jesus helped Simon Peter catch lots and lots of fish. Jesus reminded Peter that he could only catch fish because God helped him. Can you color the fish below?



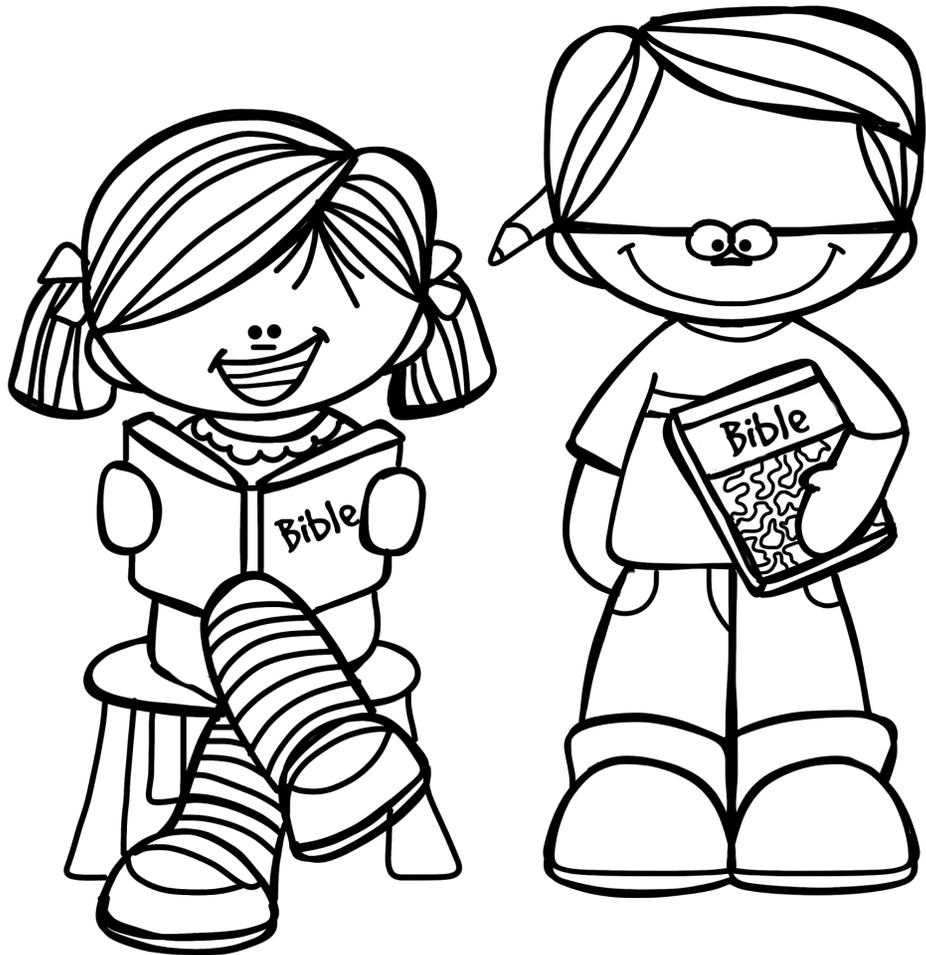
When we work, we need God's help. We can't do it by ourselves. When you work, ask God to help you!

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Lesson Eighteen, Level One
Work in Studying?

Are you learning the ABC's and how to count? Learning can be fun, but sometimes it can be hard work, too. We can glorify God when we work hard on our school work and when we learn Bible stories and verses.

Read Joshua 1:8-9



Do you pay attention when your parents and your teachers teach you about the Bible?

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Lesson Nineteen, Level One
A Child Who Studied God's Word

Today we are going to read about Timothy. Timothy was just a little boy when his mom and grandma started teaching him about the Bible. Timothy learned about the Bible so that he could grow up and teach it to other people.

Read 2 Timothy 3:14-15

Circle the pictures below of the ways you learn about the Bible.



Sunday School



Mom and Dad



Reading the Bible



Learning Bible Songs



Preschool or School.

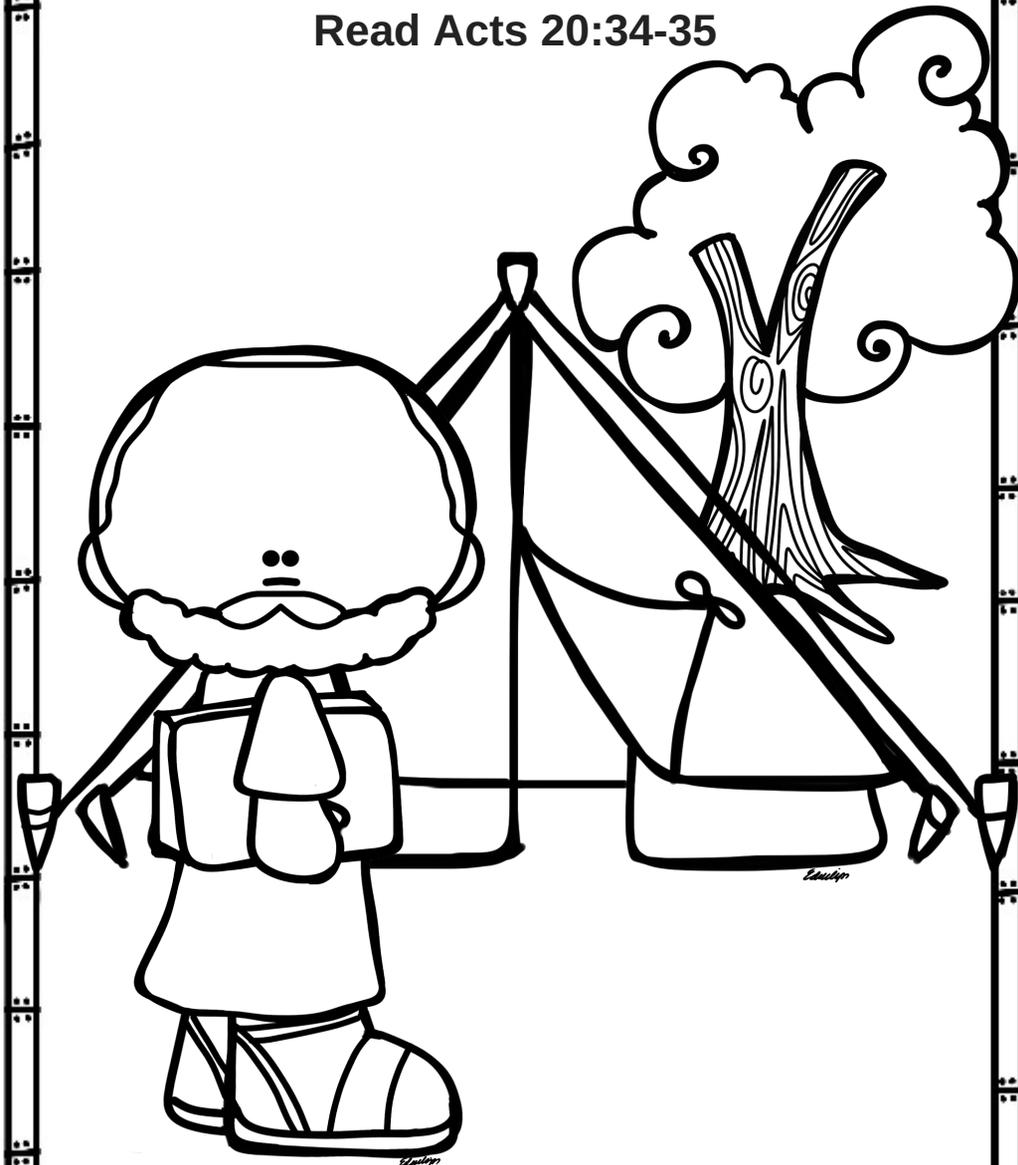
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Lesson Twenty, Level One

A Hard-Working Missionary

Paul was a hard working missionary. He worked hard to tell people about Jesus. He also worked hard to build tents which he could sell to make money.

Read Acts 20:34-35



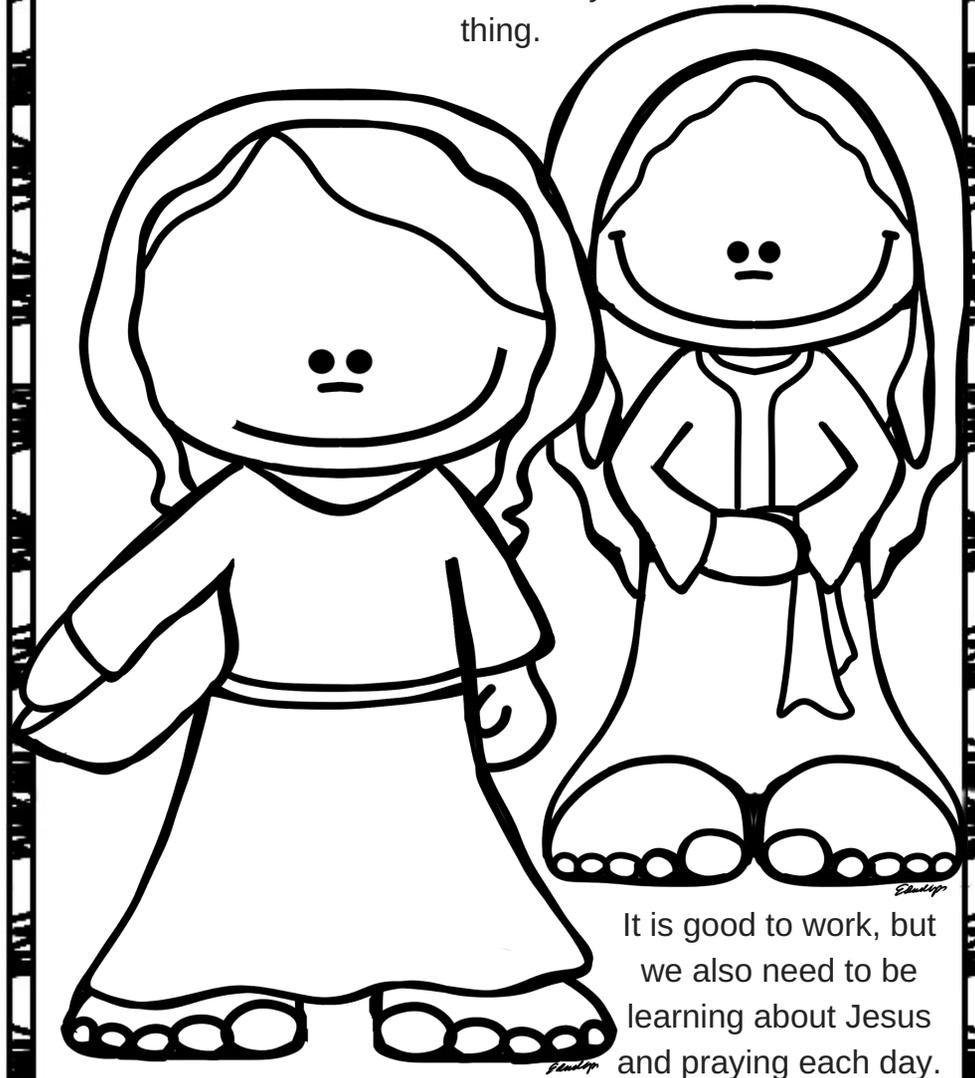
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Lesson Twenty-One, Level One

Can Work Become An IDOL?

Read Luke 10:38-42

— Martha invited Jesus into her home. She worked hard to make a meal for Jesus. Mary chose to sit at Jesus' feet and learn from Him. Jesus said that Mary had chosen the better thing.



It is good to work, but we also need to be learning about Jesus and praying each day.

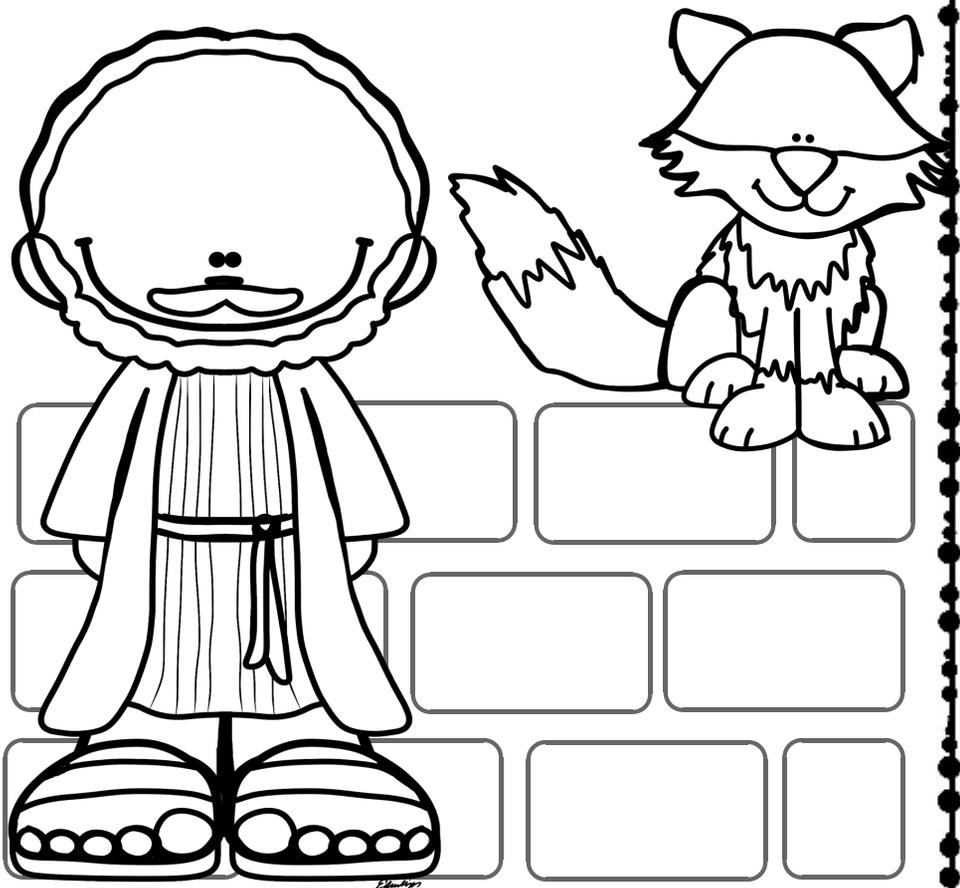
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Lesson Twenty-Two, Level One

A Man Who Wouldn't Give Up!

Read Nehemiah 2:17-18

God called Nehemiah to rebuild the wall of Jerusalem that had been knocked down so that the people would be safe inside the wall. Nehemiah obeyed God and worked hard.



Can you build a strong wall with building blocks?

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Lesson Twenty-Three, Level One

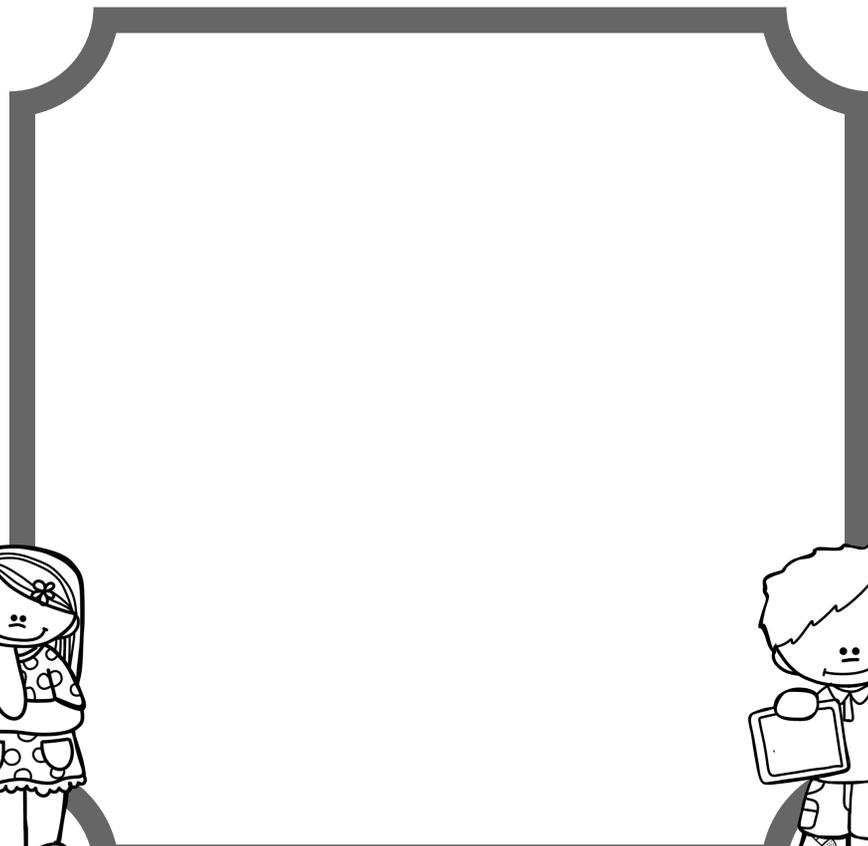
A Man Who Wouldn't Give Up! (Con't)

Even though building the wall was a LOT of work and even though Nehemiah's enemies laughed at him and then threatened to attack him, Nehemiah kept on obeying God and building the wall. Nehemiah didn't give up. God protected Nehemiah and helped him finish building the wall.

Read Nehemiah 6:15-16

Who helped Nehemiah finish the wall?

Can you draw a picture of Nehemiah's wall?



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Lesson Twenty-Four, Level One

A Hard Working Woman

Read Proverbs 31:27-31

Does your mom work hard
for you? Tell her thank you!
You can learn to work
hard, too.



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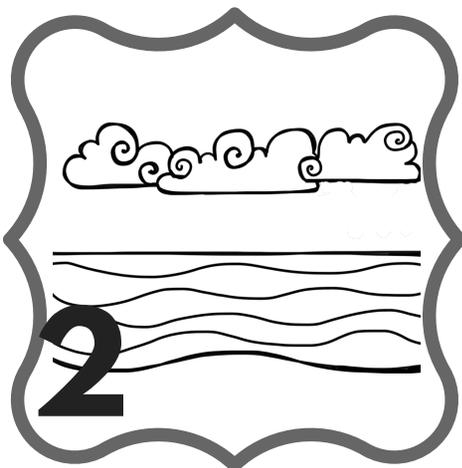
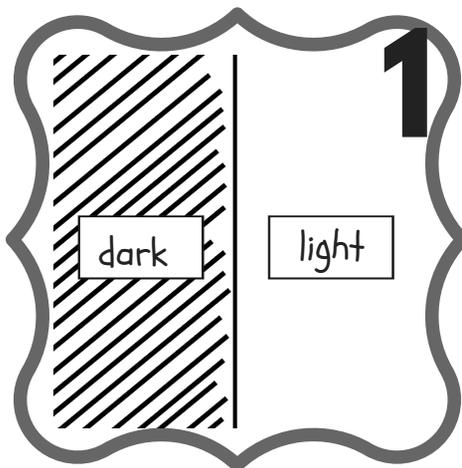
Lesson Twenty-Five, Level One

God's Work in Creation

Read Genesis 1:1, 24-25

God calls us to work hard. But, did you know that God works hard, too? God created the world. We can see His work all around us! He did a good job, didn't He?

Color the pictures of the things that God made on the different days of creation.



What is your favorite thing that God made?

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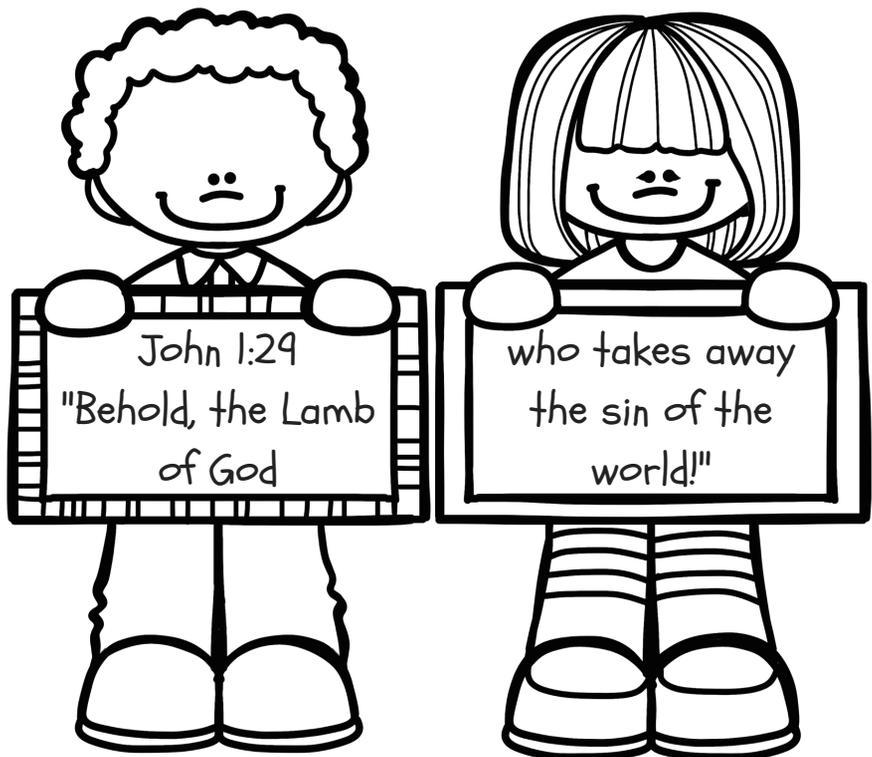
Lesson Twenty-Six, Level One

Jesus Worked When We Could Not

When God created the world, everything was good. Adam and Eve decided to disobey God, though, and sin entered the world.

We all do bad things and disobey God. This is called sin. Because we sin, we cannot go to heaven to be with God. So, God sent Jesus, His Son, to live a perfect life and die in our place so that we can go to heaven when we believe in Him. Jesus worked for us when we could not do the work ourselves!

Read Romans 3:23; John 3:16



Can we get to heaven because we do good work? No! The Bible tells us that we can only get to heaven because Jesus worked for us.

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Lesson Twenty-Seven, Level One

Jesus Made Time for the Most Important Things

Jesus was very busy doing the work that God had called Him to do while He was here on earth.

Even though Jesus was very busy, He still slowed down and made time for the things that are important to God.

Jesus slowed down to spend time in prayer, to rest in quiet places with His disciples, to go to the Synagogue (just like we go to church) and to bless and pray for little children.

Read Matthew 19:13-15



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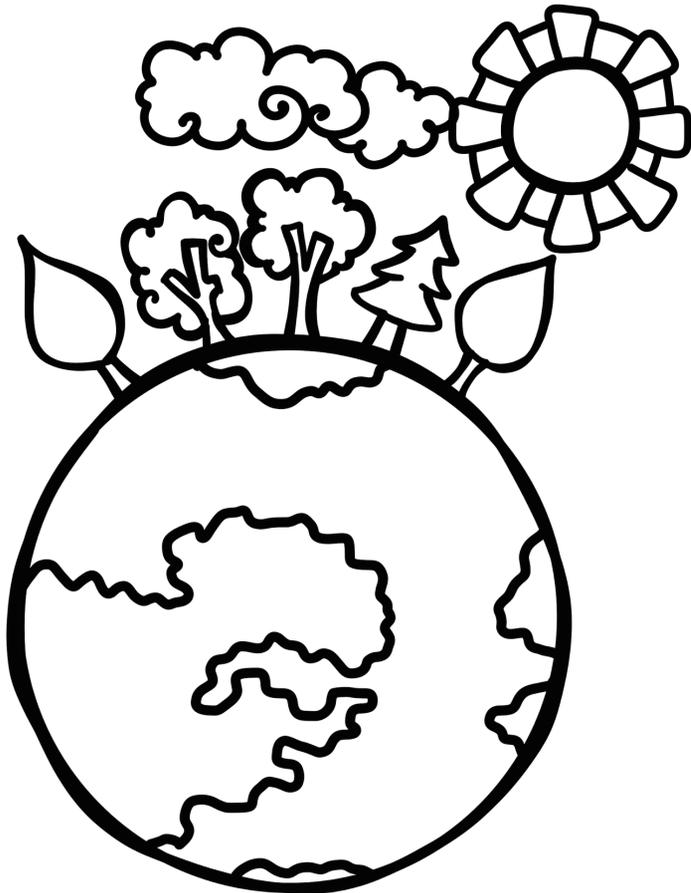
Lesson Twenty-Eight, Level One

Jesus' Perfect Work

We have studied different people in the Bible who have worked hard, including Tabitha, Paul, Timothy, and Nehemiah. These people all worked hard and are good examples to us. Today, though, we are going to study a Man Who worked perfectly and completely fulfilled God's will. This man's name is Jesus, and He is the Son of God!

Read Philippians 2:8-11

I am thankful that Jesus did perfect work for us!



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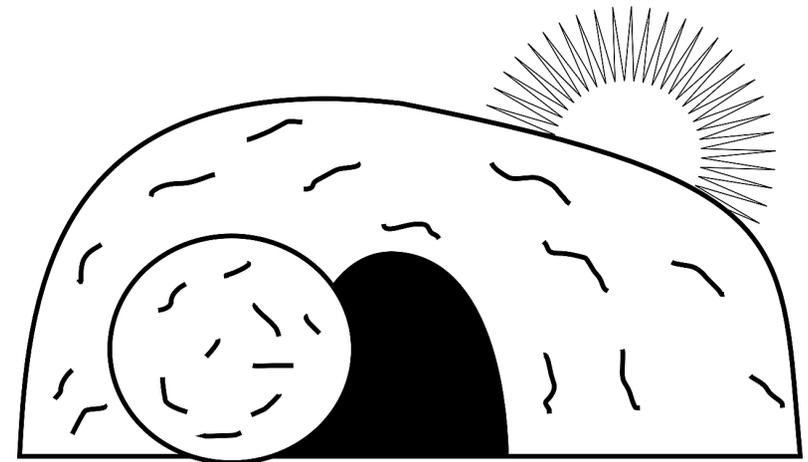
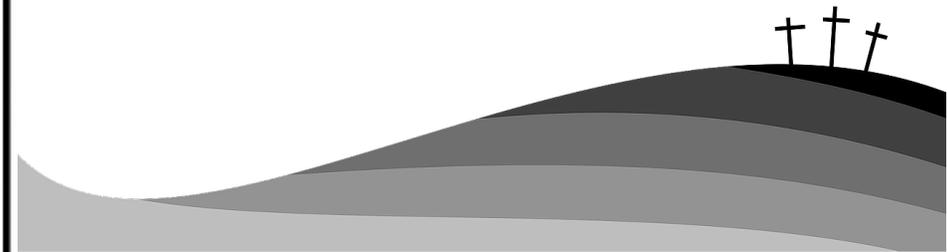
Lesson Twenty-Nine, Level One

Jesus Finished His Work

God sent Jesus into the world to obey perfectly and to die for the sins of His people, so that they might be saved.

This is what Jesus said to God the Father about the work that He had done:

Read John 17:3-5



Jesus finished His work. Then, Jesus rose again from the dead. Now He is in heaven with God. Someday everyone will worship Jesus because of His perfect work.

Wisdom Talks About WORK

Lesson Thirty, Level One

Resting in Faith While Working For
God's Glory

Read Ephesians 2:8-10

We cannot get to heaven because of our own works. We must believe in Jesus in order to go to heaven. We do good work because we love God and want to glorify Him.

