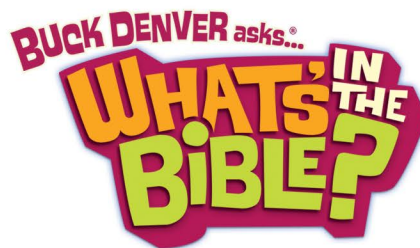


# *Holy Week Devotional*



**8-DAY FAMILY BIBLE READING  
AND DEVOTIONAL PLAN  
+ BIBLE COLORING PAGES**





# Holy Week Devotional

This reading plan is perfect for your whole family to read during the week leading up to Easter Sunday! You can begin on Palm Sunday and walk through the last week before Jesus' death and resurrection together. Each day is paired with a coloring page featuring scenes from Phil Vischer's *Buck Denver Asks®...What's in the Bible?*

## Day 1: Palm Sunday

John 12:12-16 & Zechariah 9:9

When Jesus entered Jerusalem to celebrate the Passover feast with his disciples, people greeted him saying "Hosanna!" and waving palm branches. Jesus rode on a donkey, which fulfilled an Old Testament prophecy about the Messiah. Even while some of the people were thrilled to see Jesus, others were plotting to kill him. At your church you may wave palm fronds or see other churches recognize the day with the waving of a branch from a palm tree. That is simply a way to recognize the beginning of Jesus' time in Jerusalem and the promises he would fulfill that week.

Let's pray, thanking God for the blessing of His son and asking Him to help quiet our hearts in anticipation of this Holy Week.

*Turn to page three to color a scene of Jesus riding into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday!*

## Day 3: Tuesday of Holy Week

Mark 4:30-32

Jesus came to bring the Kingdom of God to earth! The Israelites were expecting a Messiah who would set them free from the Romans, and who would restore their earthly kingdom. But Jesus was a different kind of Messiah – one who came to save all people from their sin, and to establish the Kingdom of God on earth! Jesus said that the Kingdom of God is like a mustard seed. He came to plant it like a small seed, and it is growing all of the time and one day it will be in full bloom! God's creation will be restored to how He designed it in the beginning – before sin entered the world.

Let's pray, thanking God for sending His son to bring His kingdom to earth. Let's ask God to show us ways that we can help build His kingdom in our family, our school, our church, and our city.

*Turn to page five to color Jesus explaining how the Kingdom of God is like a mustard seed!*

## Day 2: Monday of Holy Week

Genesis 12:1-3 & 2 Samuel 7:12-16

God promised throughout the Old Testament that a Messiah would come to save the Israelites. He made covenants (special promises) to Abraham and David. He told Abraham that through him, all the people of the world would be blessed. God promised David that a king would come through his family who would rule over God's people forever. Jesus fulfilled both of those promises – and all of the other promises about a Messiah in the Old Testament!

Let's pray, thanking God for the plan He had to rescue all of us from sin. Let's praise Him for being such a faithful God and for keeping His promises!

*Turn to page four to color Abraham, David and Jesus!*

## Day 4: Wednesday – Passover

Exodus 12:5-13

Jesus had come into Jerusalem to celebrate the Passover, a traditional feast for the Jewish people that reminded them of God saving them from death in Egypt. During the original Passover, the Israelites were slaves in Egypt and Moses was trying to convince Pharaoh to let them go. Pharaoh refused, so God sent plagues on the Egyptian people. The final plague killed all of the firstborn sons of the Egyptians. God told the Israelites to sacrifice a lamb and put its blood on their doors, and He would pass over them and save their sons from death. Jesus became the Passover lamb for us – His death ensured that we would be saved from separation from God forever because of our sin!

All this week, let's ask God to prepare our hearts as we remember His son's death on the cross. Let's thank Him for preparing a way for us to be with Him forever.

*Turn to page six to color a reminder of the traditional Jewish holiday of Passover.*

## Day 5: Maundy Thursday

Luke 22:14-23

Maundy Thursday is the day we remember the Last Supper, which Jesus ate with his disciples. Jesus knew that he was going to be captured and killed. During the meal, Jesus took bread and told his disciples that it represented his body, which would be given for them. He took a cup and told his disciples that it represented his blood, which would be poured out for them. Today we practice communion the same way to remember what Christ did for us.

Let's pray, asking God to be present with us each time we take communion. Let's thank Him for the gift of Jesus' body and blood and what it means for our lives.

*Turn to page seven to color Jesus at the Last Supper.*

## Day 6: Good Friday

Mark 15:33-39

After being brought to trial by Jewish leaders, Jesus was sentenced to die on a cross. The Jewish leaders did not have the authority to put someone to death, so they appealed to the Roman leader Pontius Pilate. Pilate said that Jesus was not guilty, but the Jewish leaders cried out "crucify him!" Jesus suffered a horrible beating, the mocking of the people, and ultimately was separated from God while he died.

Let's pray, asking God to be with us as we reflect on the sadness of Good Friday. Let's thank Jesus for enduring a horrible punishment in our place.

*Turn to page eight to color John 3:16 – a reminder of God's love for us through Jesus.*

## Day 7: Holy Saturday

Psalms 22:1-8

As Jesus died, he cried "My god, my god, why have you forsaken me?" The whole earth was dark, and when Jesus died, the temple curtain ripped in two. Not only did Jesus experience a physical death, but he experienced God's punishment for the sin of all people when he died. Jesus defeated sin when he died on the cross. He was then buried in a tomb, which was sealed tightly shut.

Let's pray, thanking God for sending His son to die in our place and for removing the stain of sin from every one of us.

*Turn to page nine to color a reminder of why this day is called Holy Saturday.*

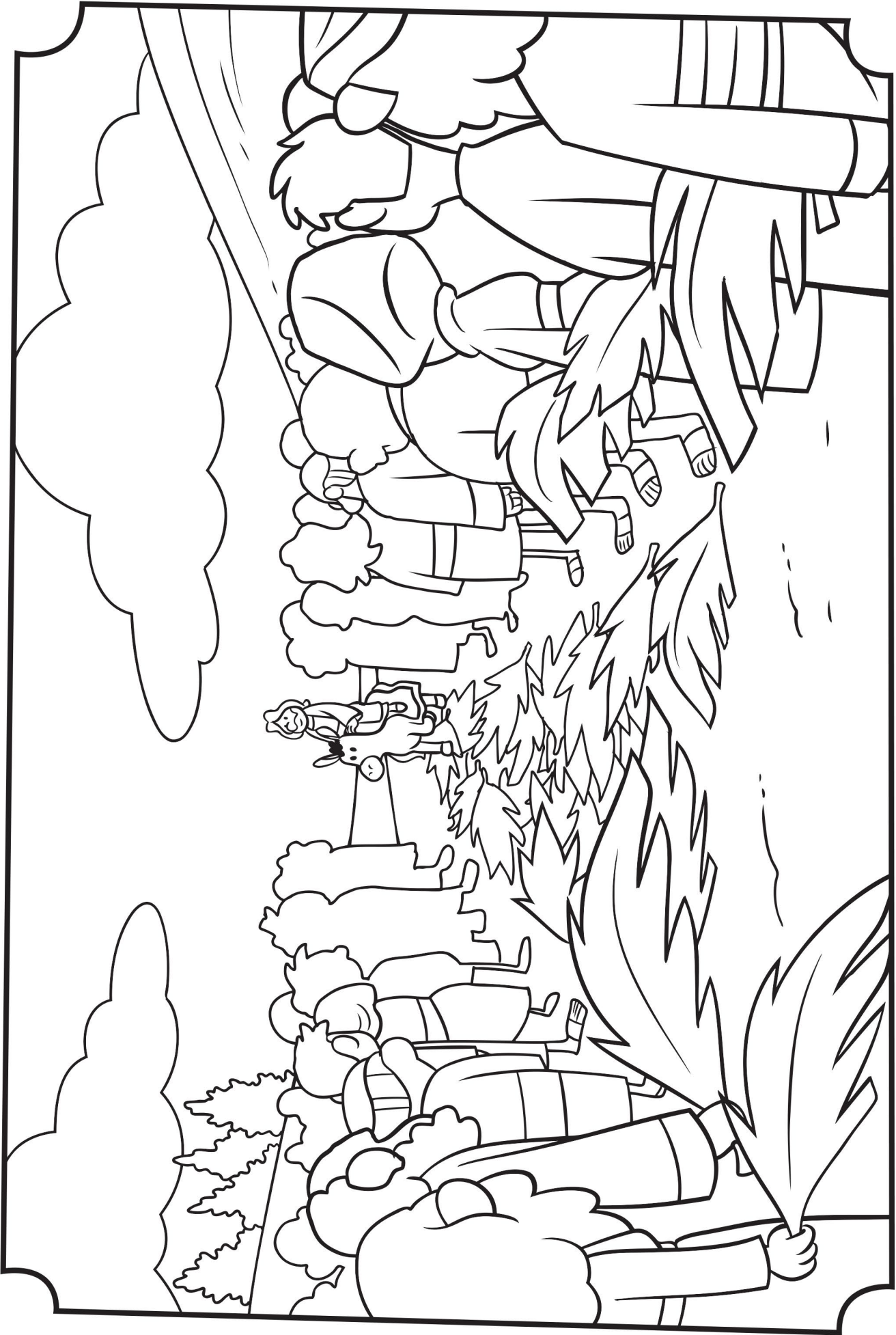
## Day 8: Easter Sunday

Matthew 28:1-9

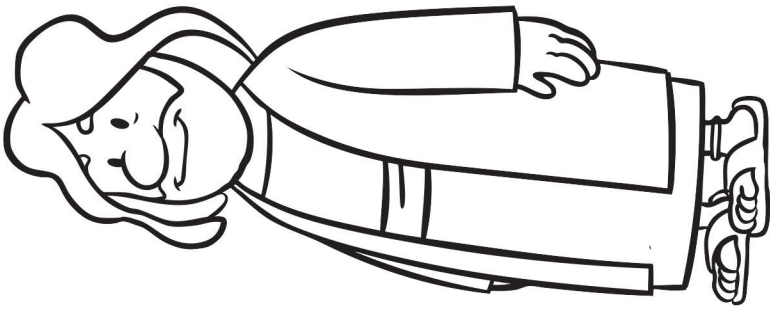
Jesus' body was placed in a tomb and on the Sunday morning after the Passover Feast (which happened on Saturday), two women went to the tomb. But when they arrived, it was empty! Jesus had defeated death. He is risen! We celebrate His resurrection every day, but especially on Easter Sunday! Jesus appeared to more than 500 people after he rose, including his disciples. His resurrection proved that the Kingdom of God is real, that sin and death have no power, and that we will get to be with God forever!

Let's praise God for the beauty and joy of Easter morning! And let's thank Him for the gift of His son and that we get to be with Him forever!

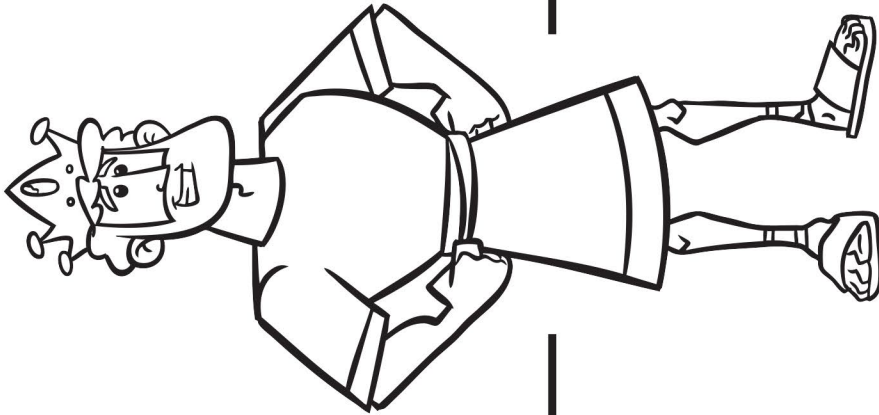
*Turn to page ten to color a reminder that Jesus is risen!*



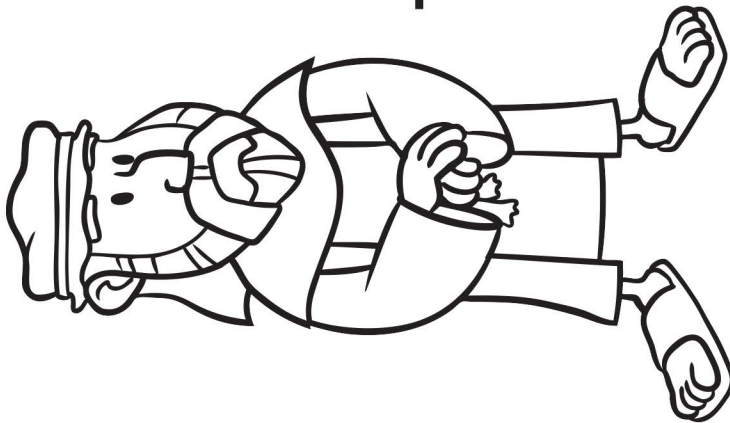
Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey and the people cried “Hosanna!” and waved palm branches. John 12:12-15



**JESUS**



**DAVID**

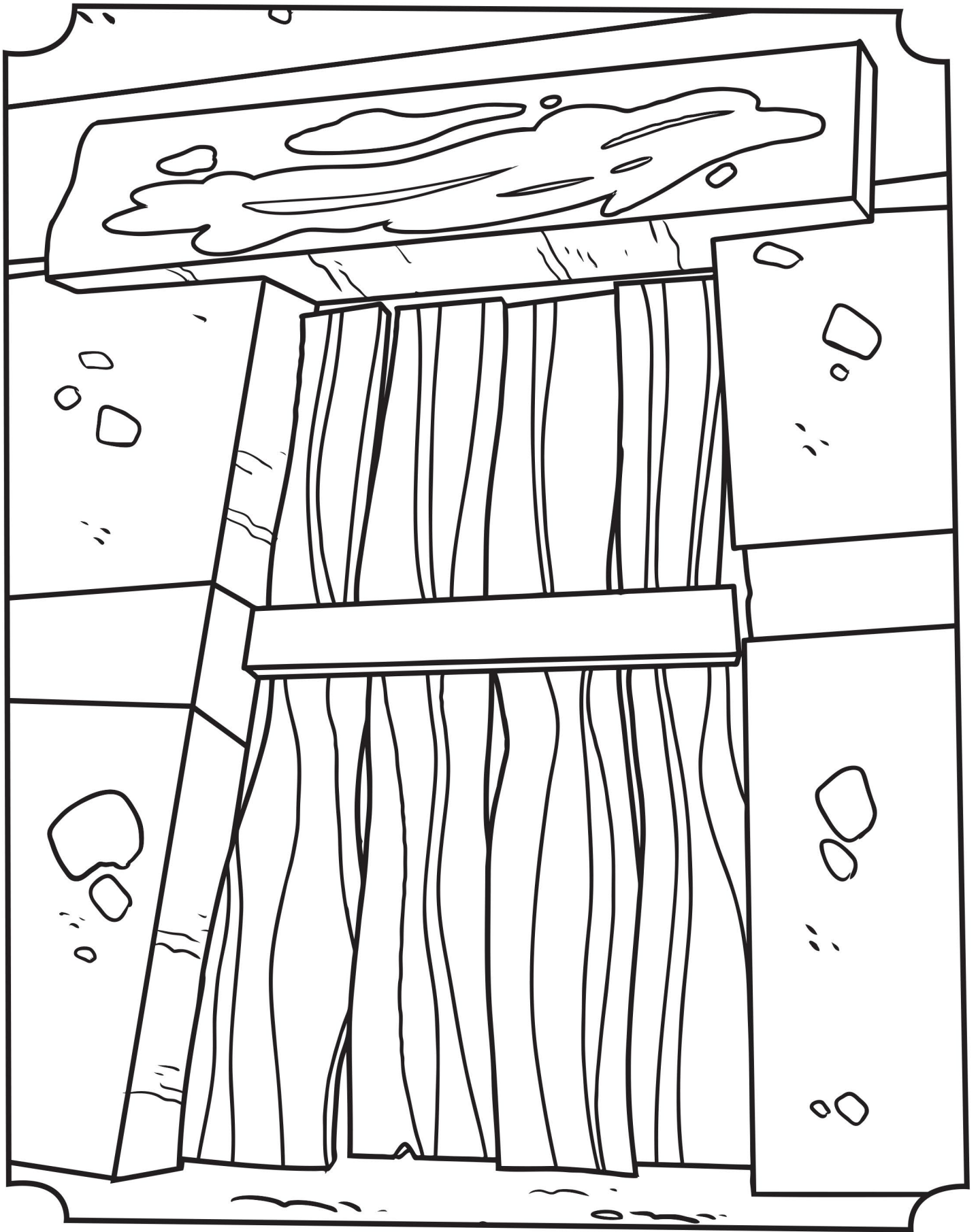


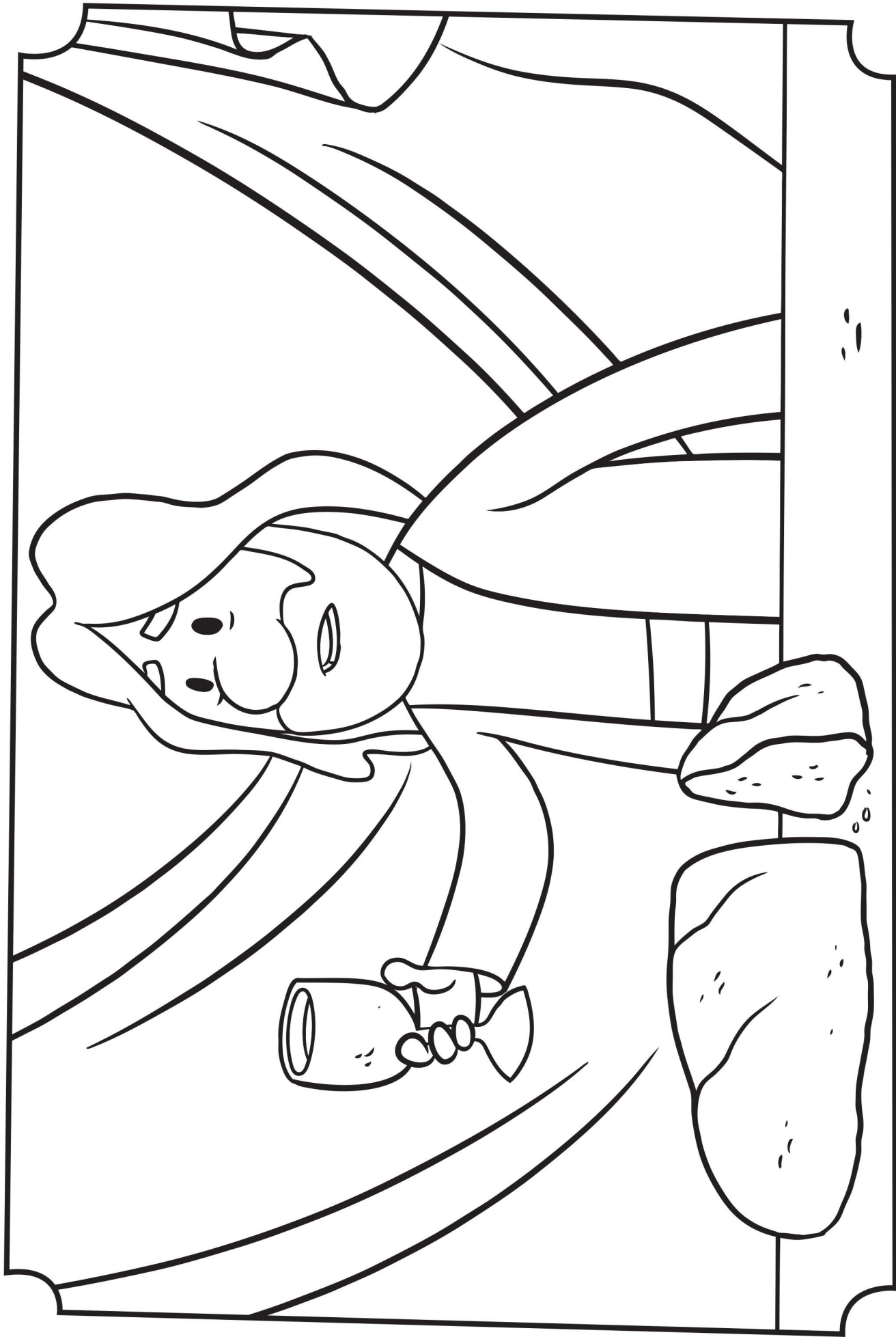
**ABRAHAM**

Jesus came from the line of David and Abraham - fulfilling God's promises to the both of them!



Jesus told parables to teach people about the Kingdom of God.  
In one famous parable, he said that the Kingdom of God is like a mustard seed -  
it will start small and then grow! Mark 4:30-32



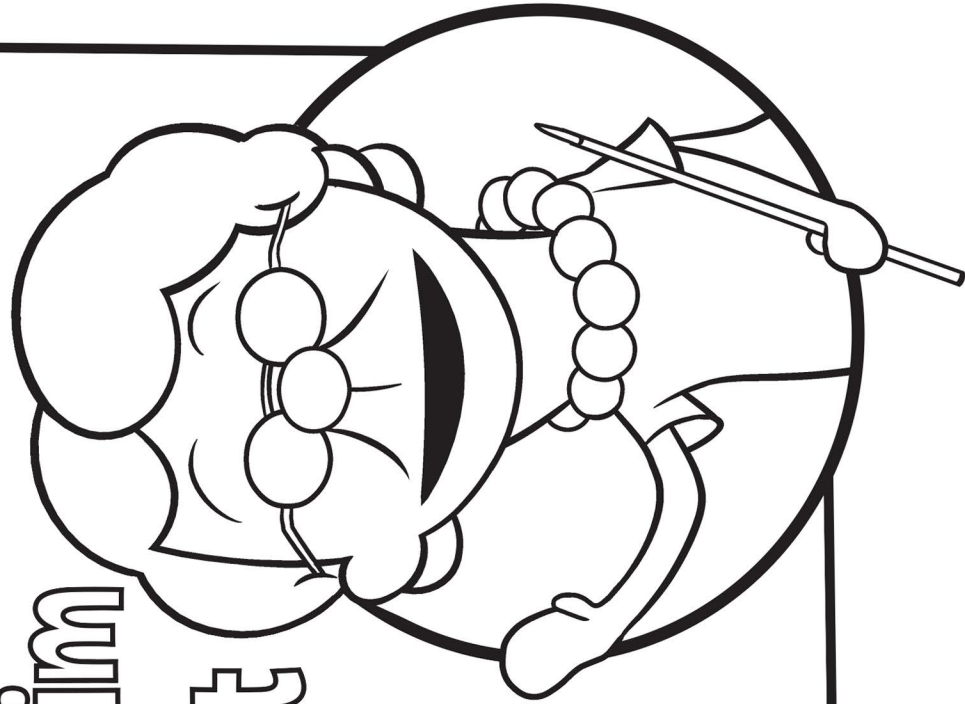


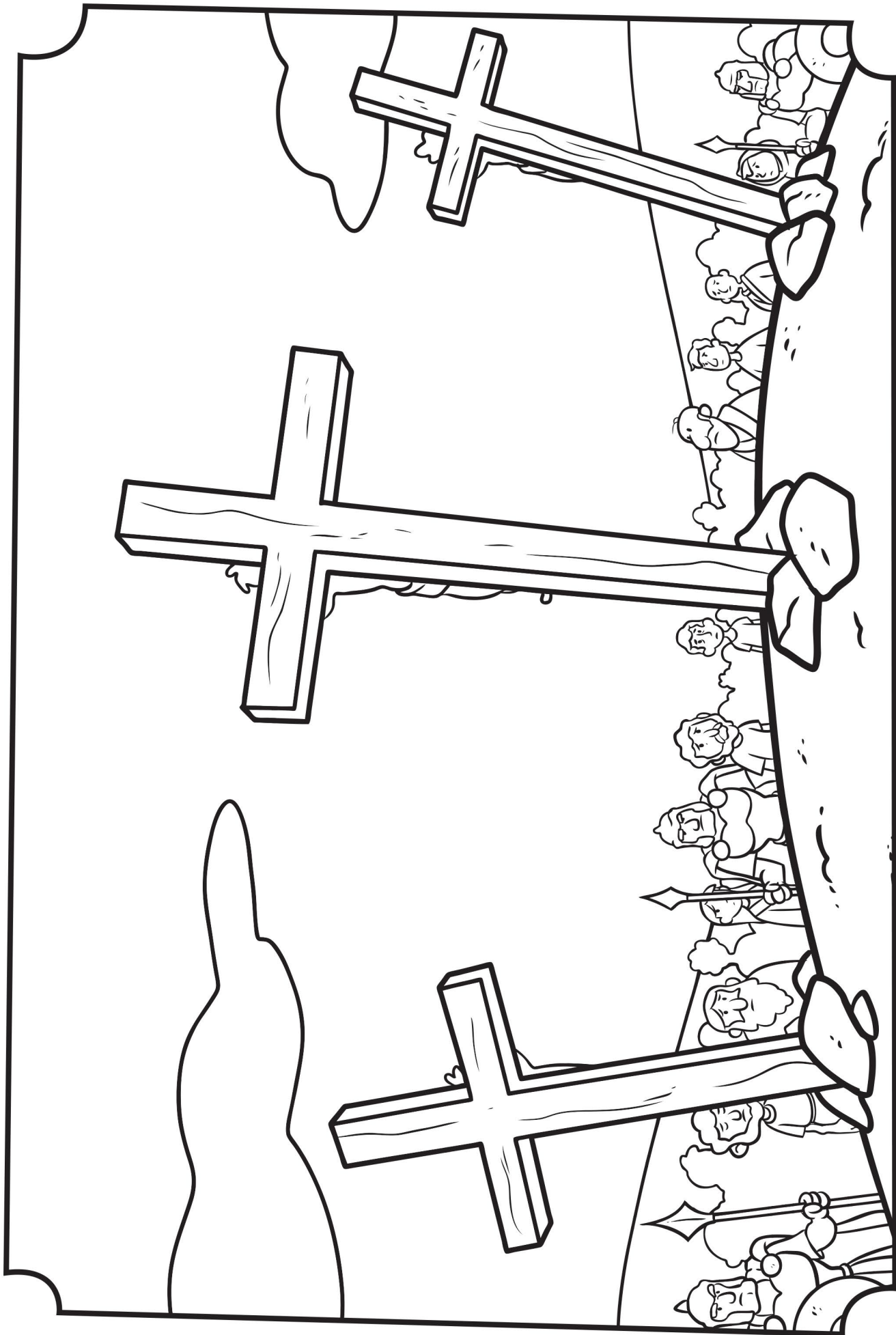
Jesus hosted a Passover meal for His disciples before He died. He told them that His body would be broken and His blood would be shed for them.  
Luke 22:14-23



For God so **LOVED** the world,  
that he gave his only Son, that  
whoever believes in him  
should **NOT** perish but  
have **ETERNAL LIFE.**

**John 3:16**





Jesus died to save a world that was covered in sin - He took the punishment for the sin of the world, so that we could all be a part of the Kingdom of God. Mark 15:33-39



Jesus had been dead for 3 days when 2 women went to visit his tomb and found that it was empty. Jesus is risen! He had defeated death. Mark 16:1-7