

So they went on, and Ignorance followed. They went then till they came at a place where they saw a way put itself into their way, and seemed withal to lie as straight as the way which they should go; and here they knew not which of the two to take, for both seemed straight before them; therefore, here they stood still to consider. And as they were thinking about the way, behold a man, black of flesh, but covered with a very light robe, came to them, and asked them why they stood there. They answered, they were going to the Celestial City, but knew not which of these ways to take.

"Follow me," said the man, "It is thither that I am going."

So they followed him in the way that but now came into the road, which by degrees turned, and turned them so from the city that they desired to go to, that, in little time, their faces were turned away from it; yet they followed him. But by and by, before they were aware, he led them both within the compass of a net, in which they were both so entangled, that they knew not what to do; and with that the white robe fell off the black man's back. Then they saw where they were. Wherefore, there they lay crying some time, for they could not get themselves out.

Then said Christian to his fellow, "Now do I see myself in an error. Did not the Shepherds bid us beware of the flatterers? As is the saying of the wise man, so we have found it this day, 'A man that flatters his neighbour, spreads a net for his feet.'"

Hopeful said, "They also gave us a note of directions about the way; but we have also forgotten to read, and have not kept ourselves from the paths of the destroyer. Here David was wiser than we; for, saith he, 'Concerning the works of men, by the word of thy lips, I have kept me from the paths of the destroyer.'"

Thus they lay in the net. At last they saw a Shining One coming towards them, with a whip of small cord in his hand. When he was come to the place where they were, he asked them what they did there. They told him that they were poor pilgrims going to Zion, but were led out of their way by a black man, clothed in white.

Then said he with the whip, "It is Flatterer, a false apostle, that has transformed himself into an angel of light."

So he ripped the net, and let the men out and led them back to the way which they had left to follow the Flatterer.

Then he asked them, saying, "Where did you sleep last night?"

They said, "With the Shepherds, upon the Delectable Mountains."

He asked them then, if they had not of those Shepherds a note of direction for the way and why they had not read it.

They said, they forgot.

He asked, moreover, if the Shepherds did not bid them beware of the Flatterer.

They answered, "Yes, but we did not imagine, that this fine-spoken man was he."

Then I saw in my dream, that he commanded them to lie down; which, when they did, he used the whip on them to teach them a lesson. Then he said, "As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten; be zealous, therefore, and repent."

This done, he bid them go on their way, and take good heed to the other directions of the Shepherds. So they thanked him for all his kindness, and went softly along the right way.

The Lost Son

Sabbath

How long have you been away from home for?

- ☐ One night ☐ Two nights ☐ Many nights

Where did you go?

- ☐ Friends house ☐ Camp ☐ Other _____

Did you miss your family?

- ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Maybe

Were you glad to be home again?

- ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Maybe

Did your family miss you?

- ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Maybe

Did they do anything special when you got home?

- ☐ Hug you ☐ Kiss you ☐ Give gift
☐ Smile ☐ Laugh ☐ Special food
☐ Party ☐ Other _____

Thursday

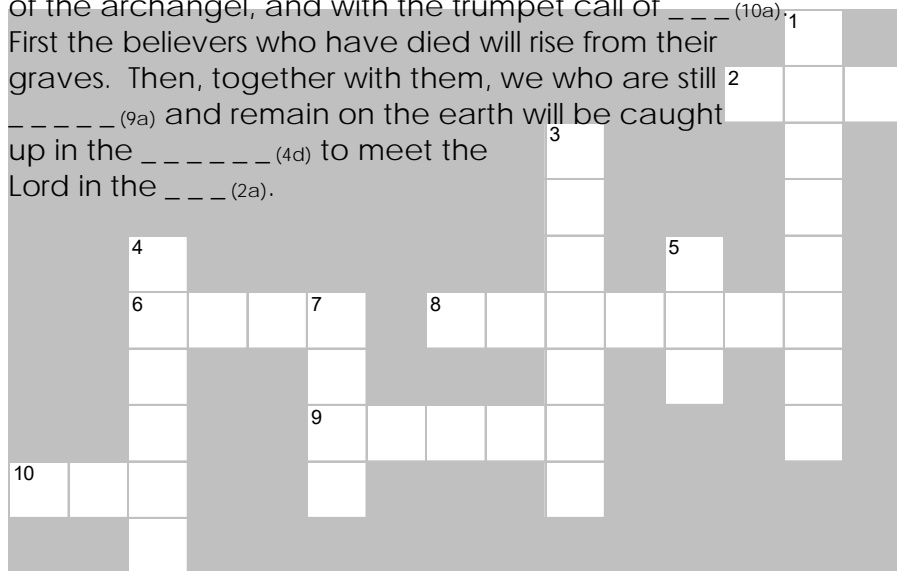
Reread the second story from Monday.

Some people have used this story to suggest that when a person dies they go straight to heaven or to hell. But there are plenty of other verses in the Bible that show that this is not correct and that this story is symbolic or figurative – made up, not real, not to be taken literally. Jesus told it to show that there was nothing more He could do to help those who did not believe, even when His rising from the dead would not convince them.

Look up these verses and then solve the crossword.

Ecclesiastes 9:5^{NIV} "For the _ _ _ _ _ (1 down) know that they that they will _ _ _ (5d), but the _ _ _ _ _ (7d) know _ _ _ _ _ (8a); they have no _ _ _ _ _ (3d) reward, and even their name is forgotten."

1 Thessalonians 4:16^{NLT} "For the _ _ _ _ (6a) Himself will come down from heaven with a commanding shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trumpet call of _ _ _ _ (10a). First the believers who have died will rise from their graves. Then, together with them, we who are still _ _ _ _ _ (9a) and remain on the earth will be caught up in the _ _ _ _ _ (4d) to meet the Lord in the _ _ _ _ (2a).



Monday

When the older son returned home from working in the fields. He heard music of the party and asked one of the servants what was going on. The older brother was angry and wouldn't join the party. His father came out and begged him, but he said, "All these years I've slaved for you, always doing what you asked, and you never honoured me like this. Yet when this son of yours comes back after wasting your money you have a party!"

His father said to him, "My dear son, you have always been by me, and everything I have is yours. But this is a happy day, because it is like your brother was dead and has come back to life! He was lost, but now he is found!"

This is another parable that Jesus told. It is an unusual story, because most of the stories that Jesus told were realistic, but this one is obviously a symbolic; it is not real, but was told to make a point.

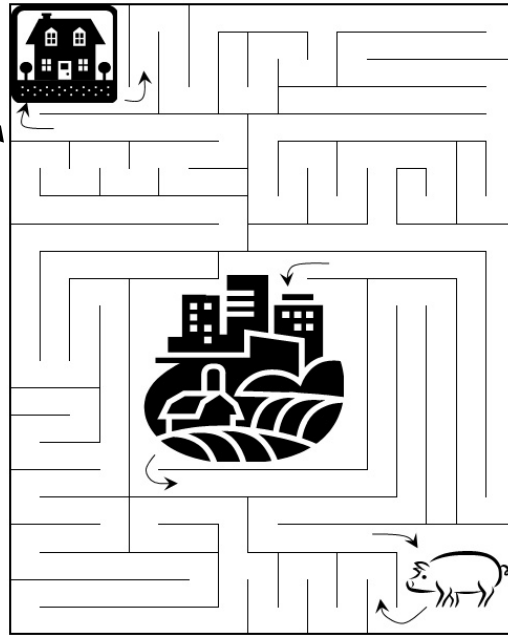
Imagine a rich man, living in luxury, with a beggar named Lazarus at his gate. When they die, Lazarus is carried to be with Abraham but the rich man is now tormented in fire. He cries out to Abraham to send Lazarus with some water, but Abraham says, it is impossible, and also tells the rich man that he received his good things in life; now it is Lazarus' turn.

Then the rich man asks Abraham to send Lazarus to his brothers to warn them. But Abraham says, they did not believe Moses and the prophets, nor will they believe, even if someone rises from the dead.

I do not know if Jesus told this story before, or after he raised the real Lazarus from the dead. But either way, Jesus knew that one day soon He would rise from the dead, and that the Priests and Pharisees still wouldn't believe.

Tuesday

Find the path the son took from his home to the big city, and then to the pig farm and finally back home again. Start here:

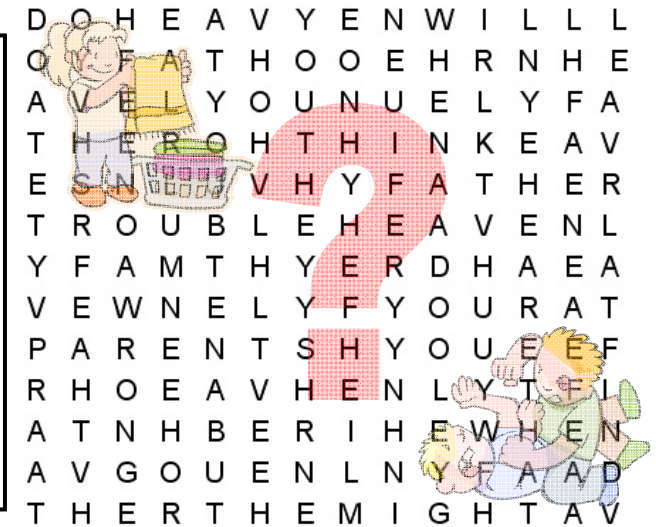


Draw arrows to join the pictures in the right order to tell the story.

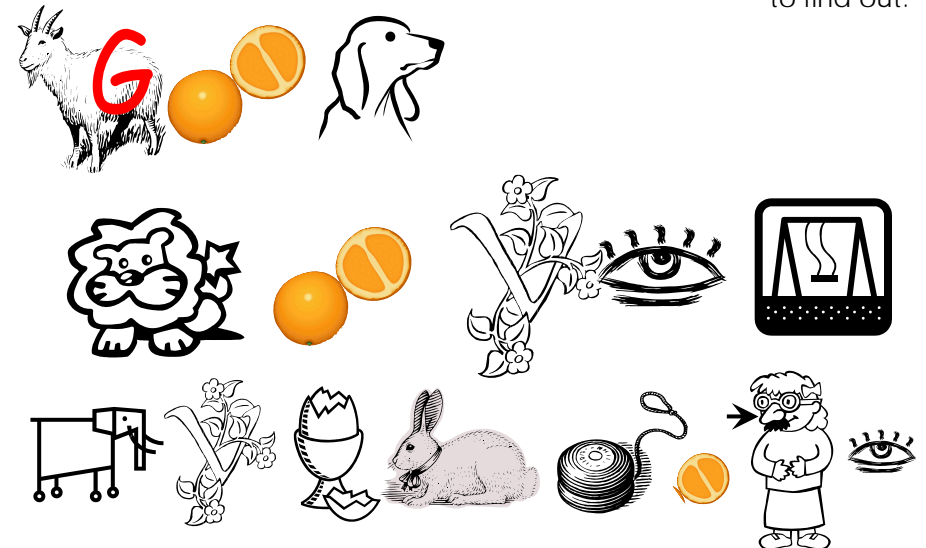


Wednesday

Do your parents love you when you do something wrong? You might not think so when you are in trouble, but you will find out that they do!



Who does God love? Write the first letter of every picture on the lines to find out.



G _____
