

AN ENEMY CONVERTS

Saul
Acts 9:1–31

Early Childhood
Lesson 12

Storytelling Directions

Do the action rhyme at the end of the story with child(ren).

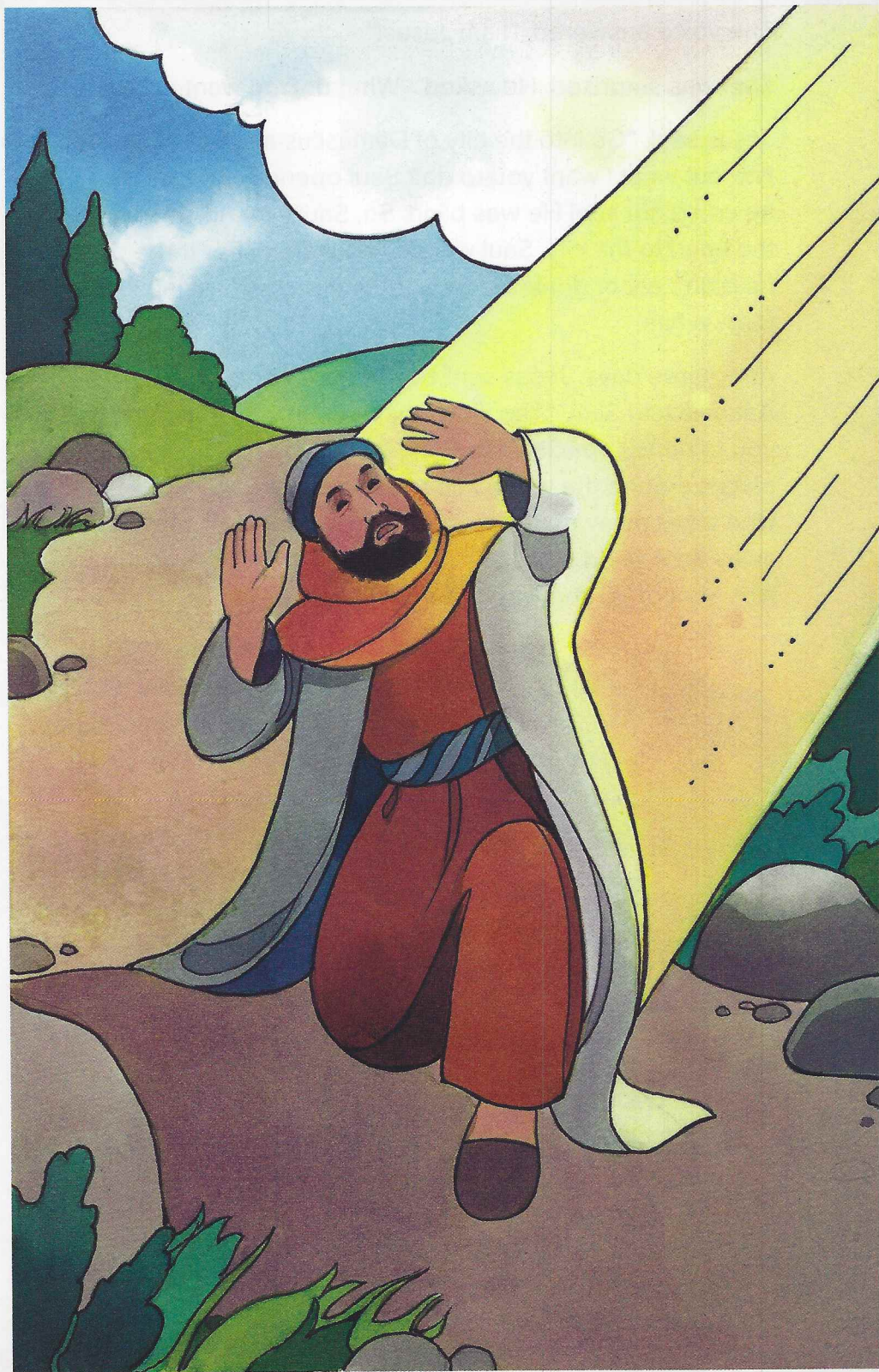
Jesus had gone back to heaven, but He kept on helping His friends. He helped them show love to one another. They shared their homes and their money. They gave food and clothing to poor people. They told many people that Jesus loved them and died on the cross to pay for their sins. Many people came to believe in Jesus as their Savior and love Him too.

But some people didn't love Jesus. One of these was a man named Saul. Saul grabbed Jesus' friends and put them in jail. Jesus' friends were afraid of him!

One day, Saul left Jerusalem with some friends. He was going on the road to Damascus. He wanted to catch more of Jesus' friends and throw them in jail. All of a sudden, Saul saw and heard something to surprise him.

I wonder . . . what do you think it was?

Let's find out. *Turn the page.*



First, Saul saw a bright light coming down from heaven. Saul was afraid and fell down on the ground. Then he heard a voice calling his name. It said, "Saul, Saul, why are you trying to hurt Me?"

Saul asked, "Who are You?"

The voice answered, "I am Jesus!"

Saul was surprised. He asked, "What do You want me to do?"

Jesus said, "Go into the city of Damascus and wait. You will find out what I want you to do." Saul opened his eyes, but he could not see! He was blind. So, Saul's friends led him by the hand to the city. Saul waited and waited. For three days, he didn't eat or drink. He thought and prayed, asking God to forgive him.

After three days, Jesus sent His helper Ananias to talk to Saul. Ananias told Saul, "The Holy Spirit is with you. Jesus wants you to be His special helper. He wants you to travel to many places around the world and tell people how He is the Savior who takes away our sins." Ananias touched Saul, and right away Saul could see again. Saul was so happy Jesus forgave him. He got up and was baptized right away.



Later, people called Saul by his other name, Paul. Paul loved Jesus and told many people about Jesus' love and forgiveness. He was not mean anymore but happy, because Jesus was his friend, his helper, and most of all his Savior!

Do this action rhyme together.

I can tell, I can tell. (*Point to mouth.*)

Listen closely, I can tell. (*Cup ears. Point to mouth.*)

Jesus loves you and me. (*Hug self; point.*)

Can you hear me? I can tell. (*Cup ears. Point to mouth.*)

Jesus died, rose again. (*Make finger cross.*)

What good news! I can tell. (*Point to mouth.*)

Parent Talk

Talk about opposites with your child: *big* and *little*, *happy* and *sad*, *up* and *down*, *black* and *white*. Then tell your child Jesus' love changed Saul from an enemy to the opposite: Jesus' friend. Talk about how Jesus' love changes you and your child into His friends too. Thank God for His forgiveness, and model being God's servant in what you say and do. Help your child grow in this as well.



Bible Verse: 2 Corinthians 5:17

If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation.

Prayer

Dear Jesus, help me be Your friend. Help me show love for others. Help me tell them that You love them too. Thank You for forgiving me when I do something wrong. I love You. Amen.

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Saul
Acts 9:1–31

Today I learned . . .

God calls me by name and changes me on the inside so I can live a new life as His child.

Saul was called by name and changed through the Word, Jesus Himself, and Baptism from an unbeliever to one who loved Jesus. God changes us, too, through Word and Baptism, calling us by name and making us His new creation so we can serve Him.

Let's Talk about It

- What is Saul like at the beginning of the story?
- Who talks to him on the road?
- How does God change Saul?
- What does Jesus want Saul to do?



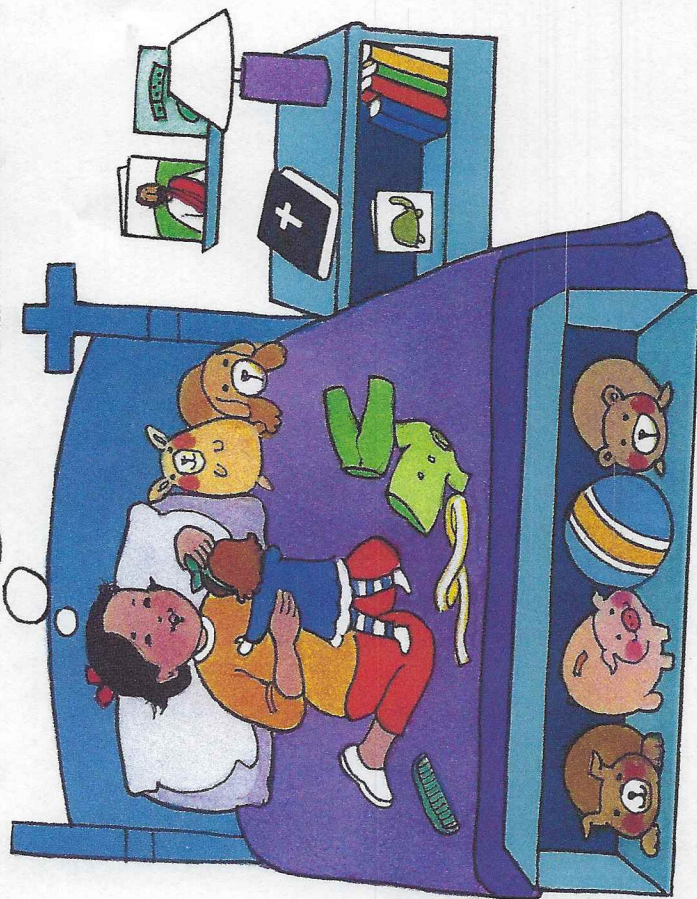
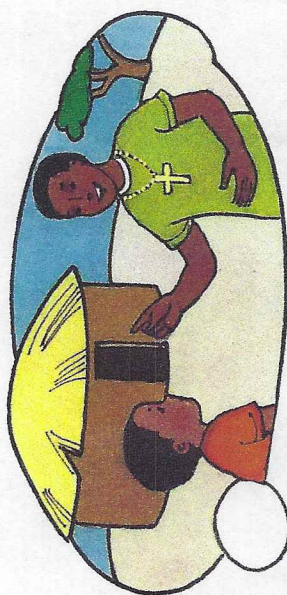
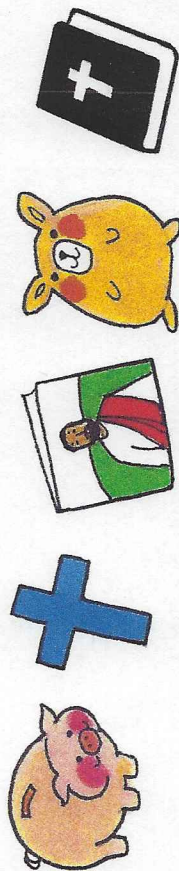
These rays of light are white. Can you change them to a pretty color?
Who spoke to Saul from the light? Where does Jesus speak to you?

I Can Show Jesus' Love

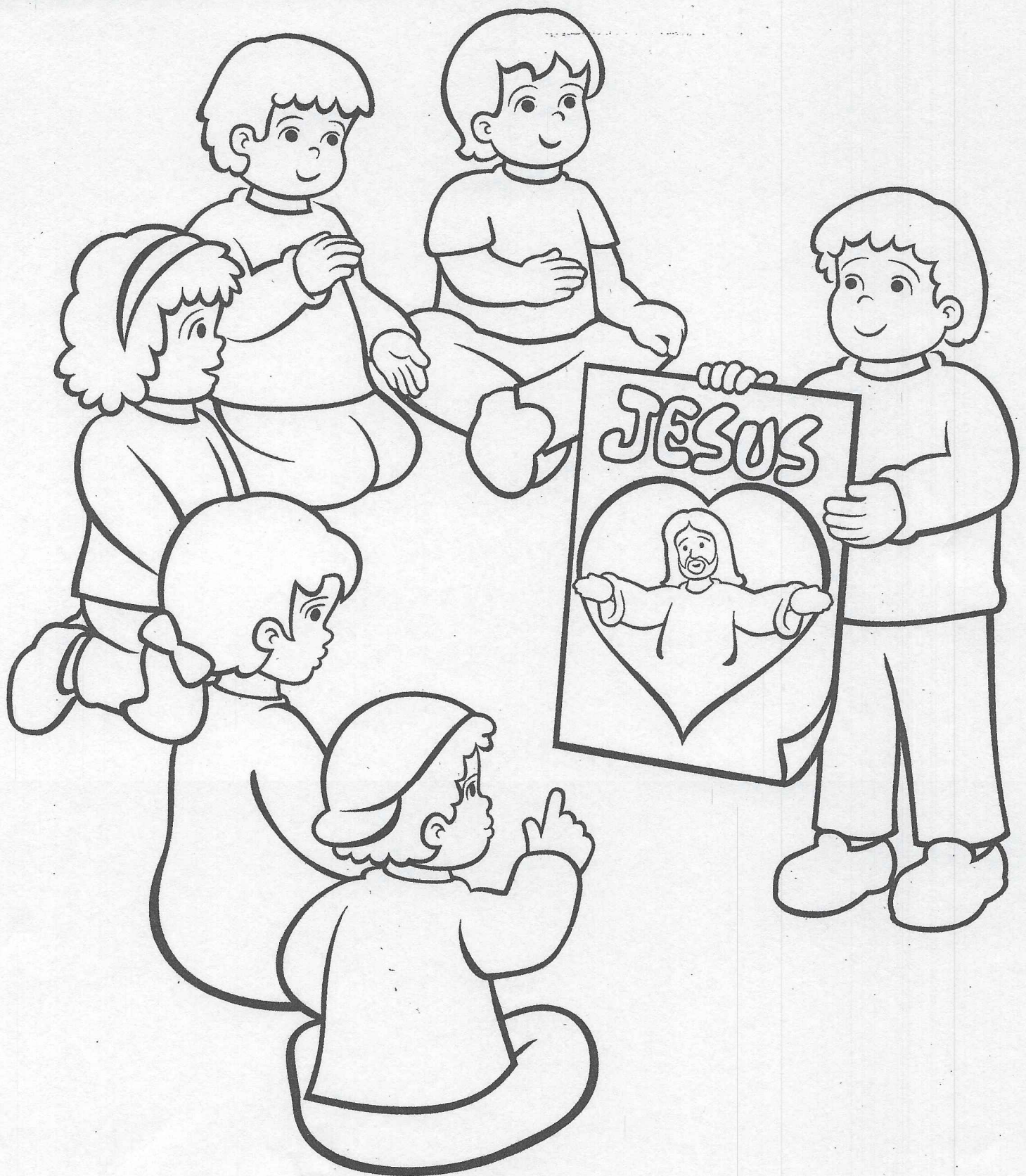
Because Jesus loves Remy, Remy wants to show love and help his neighbor, but he needs some special things. Can you find a rake, a watering can, a packet of seeds, and a shovel?



Because Jesus loves Bella, she wants to show love and send things to children in faraway lands so they can learn about Jesus. Can you find a piggy bank, a cross, a Jesus storybook, a stuffed toy, and a Bible?



GOD GIVES ME HIS WORD



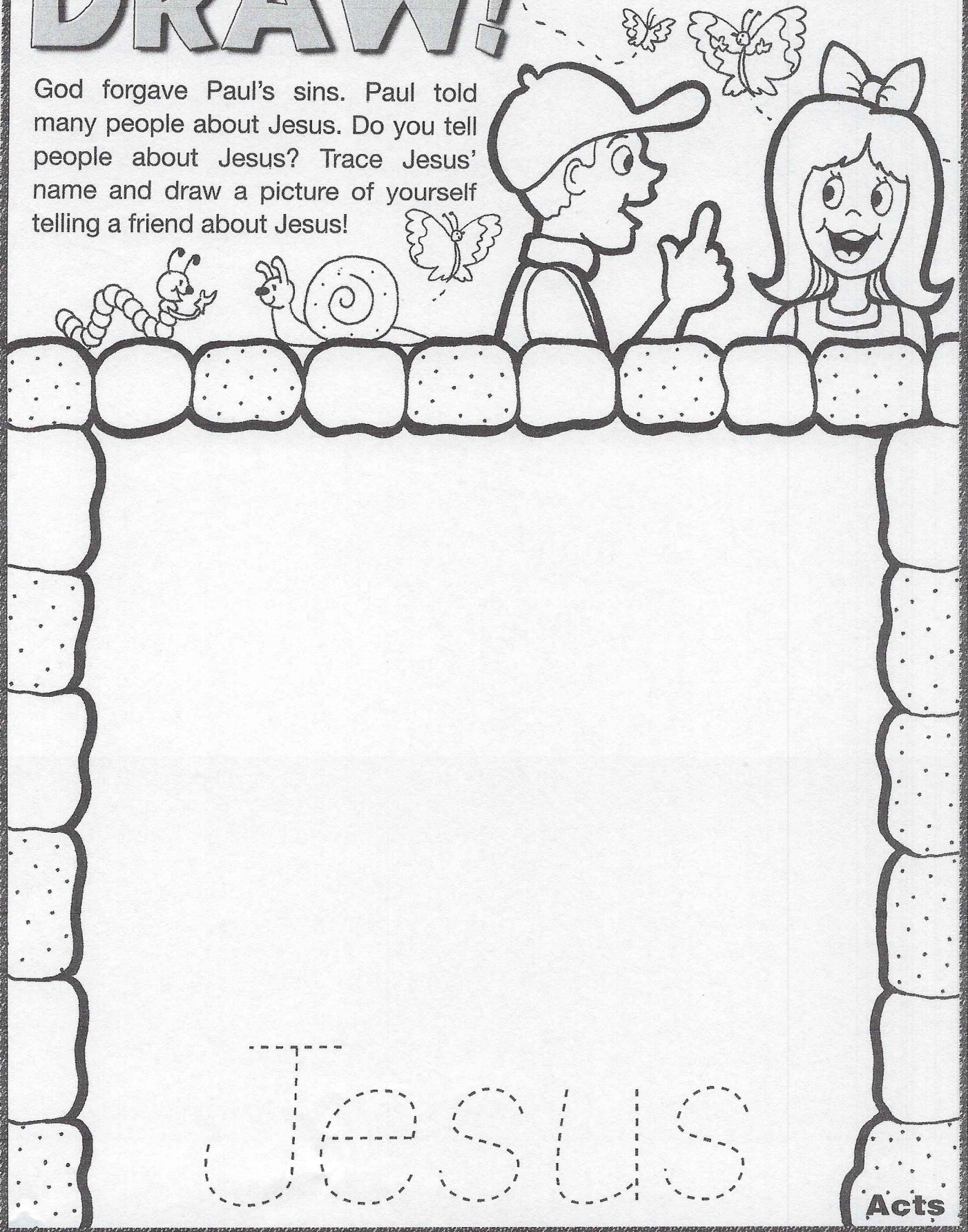
**JESUS ENCOURAGES ME TO TELL OTHERS WHAT
I LEARN FROM GOD'S WORD. (See Acts 4:20)**



DRAW!

Name _____

God forgave Paul's sins. Paul told many people about Jesus. Do you tell people about Jesus? Trace Jesus' name and draw a picture of yourself telling a friend about Jesus!



Acts

Jesus Changes Saul's Life

Saul went to Damascus to find Christians and put them in jail. Jesus met Saul along the road and changed his life! When Saul finally got to Damascus, he asked to be baptized. God had worked faith in Saul's heart.

Saul later changed his name to Paul. God used him to tell many people about Jesus. Paul was one of the first Christian missionaries.

Help Saul get to Damascus. On the way, he'll pass Jesus.

