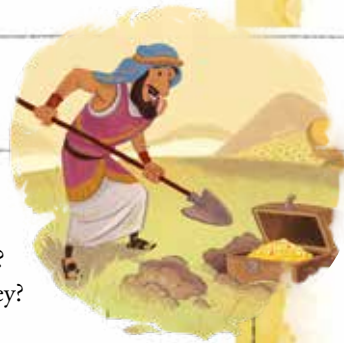


Journal Page



- What does this story teach me about God or the gospel?
- What does this story teach me about myself?
- Are there any commands in this story to obey? How are they for God's glory and my good?
- Are there any promises in this story to remember? How do they help me trust and love God?
- How does this story help me to live on mission better?

FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS

- Why is God's kingdom so valuable?
- How is God's kingdom different than the world?
- What does your family value most? How do you know?

Kingdom Parables

Matthew 13

STORY POINT: GOD'S GROWING KINGDOM IS MORE VALUABLE THAN ANYTHING.

Jesus told the people parables to teach them about the kingdom of God.

Jesus told a parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that a man planted in his field. It is the smallest of all seeds, but it grows taller than the garden plants. It becomes a tree, and the birds come and build nests in its branches."

Jesus continued, "The kingdom of heaven is like leaven, or yeast, that a woman mixed into fifty pounds of flour. The leaven makes the dough rise."

Jesus told another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure, buried in a field, that a man found. He reburied it, and then he joyfully sold everything he had and bought that field."

Then Jesus said, "The kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls. When he found one priceless pearl, he went and sold everything he had and bought it."

When Jesus finished teaching the crowds, He left that place and went to Nazareth.



Christ Connection: The kingdom of God is growing in the world. This kingdom is valuable and worth giving everything for. While we wait for Jesus to return and fully set up His kingdom, we carry out the mission of telling others about King Jesus, who rescues sinners.

FOLD

The Kingdom Is Like ...

What did Jesus say the kingdom of God is like? Use the key to decode each description.

... a _____

☾ ☂ 😊 🌾 🍎 💧 💎 _____

😊 🟡 🟡 _____

... _____

♥ 🟡 🍎 🥚 🟡 🛡

... a _____

🌾 💧 🟡 🍎 😊 ☂ 💧 🟡 _____

... a merchant looking for fine _____

🟢 🟡 🍎 💧 ♥ 😊

KEY	
🍎 = A	🟢 = P
💎 = D	💧 = R
🟡 = E	😊 = S
♥ = L	🌾 = T
☾ = M	☂ = U
🛡 = N	🥚 = V

Parable Pairs

For each set of parables, write what the stories teach about the kingdom of God.



Journal Page



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FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS

- Who are you most like—the younger brother who breaks the rules or the older brother who thinks rules can save him?
- How is the gospel good news for both rule breakers and rule followers?
- Pray as a family for someone you know who is far from God.

Three Parables

Luke 15

STORY POINT: JESUS CAME TO SEEK AND SAVE THE LOST.

Jesus told the religious leaders three parables to teach about God. Jesus said, "If a man has 100 sheep and loses one, he leaves the 99 sheep and searches for the lost sheep until he finds it." Jesus also said, "If a woman has 10 silver coins and loses one of them, she lights a lamp, sweeps the house, and searches carefully until she finds it."

Jesus told a third story. "A man had two sons. The younger son said, 'Father, give me my inheritance today.' So the father did. The younger son left home. He wasted his money and lived foolishly. The younger son decided to go back to his father and admit he was wrong. He would ask to work for his father like the servants.

"His father ran to him, threw his arms around him, and kissed him. The son began to apologize.

"But the father told his servants, 'Let's celebrate with a feast! This son of mine was lost, and now he is found!'

"At this time, the older son came from the fields. 'What's going on?' he asked one of the servants.

"Your brother is here,' the servant said. 'Your father is celebrating.'

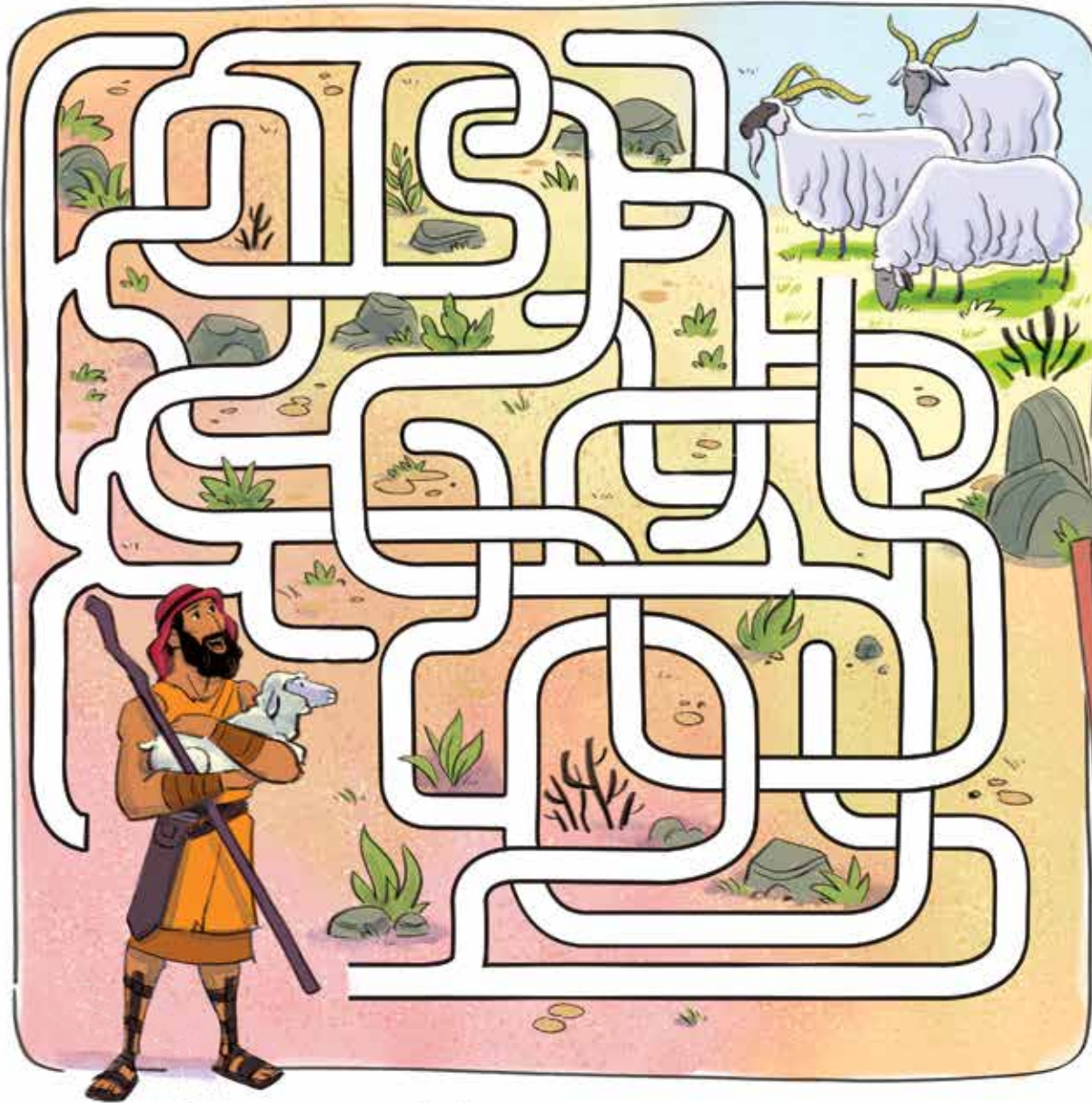
"The older brother was angry!

"Son,' the father said, 'everything I have is yours. We have to celebrate. Your brother was lost and is found.'"

Christ Connection: The religious leaders complained that Jesus welcomed sinners. Jesus told these parables to teach about God's forgiveness. God sent Jesus so sinners can be forgiven. As Savior, Jesus seeks sinners. He paid the ultimate price—His own life—to save people from sin.



FOLD



Storyboard Scenes

Look up each reference in the Bible. Draw a picture from each scene.

Luke 15:11-19

Luke 15:20-24

Luke 15:25-32

Going Home

Find the path from the shepherd and his sheep to the flock of sheep.

Journal Page



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FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS

- Do you find any of Jesus' teachings difficult to accept? Why?
- What kind of King is Jesus?
- Does anything about Jesus surprise you? Why?

Jesus' Hard Teachings

John 6

STORY POINT: MANY PEOPLE MISUNDERSTOOD JESUS' TEACHING.

A crowd of people went looking for Jesus. They found Jesus on the other side of the Sea of Galilee. "Teacher, when did You get here?" they asked Jesus.

Jesus answered, "Why are you looking for Me? Did you want to find Me because I can do miracles, or were you looking for Me because I gave you food? If you're seeking food, remember that food on earth will perish. Search for food that gives eternal life. The Son of Man will give it to you."

The people asked, "What does God want us to do?" Jesus said, "Believe in the One whom He has sent."

The people said, "Will You do another miracle?" Jesus said, "I am the bread of life. No one who comes to Me will ever be hungry, and no one who believes in Me will ever be thirsty again."

The Jews began complaining. "Isn't this the son of Joseph?" they asked. Jesus said again, "I am the bread of life. Unless you eat My flesh and drink My blood, you will not live forever."

When Jesus said this, many of His followers said, "This teaching is hard. Who can accept it?" Many of the people who had followed Jesus turned away from Him. Jesus asked His twelve disciples, "Do you want to go away too?"

Peter answered, "Lord, where would we go? We believe and know that You are the Holy One of God."

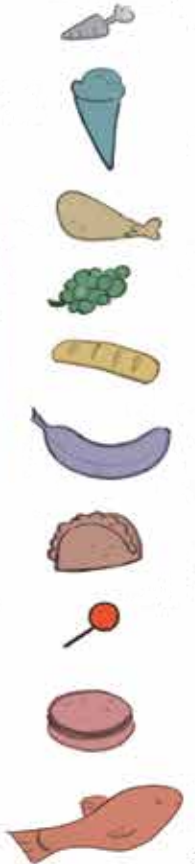
Christ Connection: Jesus wanted to do more than fill people's stomachs; He wanted to give them true life. Jesus' teachings were hard to understand. When Jesus talked about His flesh and blood, He was talking about His death and resurrection. When we trust in Jesus, He gives us the gift of eternal life.



FOLD

Finding Food

Circle the food from the key hidden in the picture.



Hard Teachings

Draw the emoji that best describes how you feel about each statement.



• Food on earth will not last forever.

• Jesus said, “I am the bread of life.”

• The Son of Man gives food that never goes bad.

• God wants people to believe in the One whom He has sent.

• Jesus came from heaven.

• Jesus said, “Unless you eat My flesh and drink My blood, you will not live forever.”

• Jesus is the Holy One of God.

Journal Page



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FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS

- Why do you think Jesus wept when He knew He could raise Lazarus from the dead?
- What hope do we have, even in death?
- Do you know anyone who is grieving? Pray that God would comfort him or her.

Jesus Raised Lazarus

John 11

STORY POINT: JESUS HAS POWER OVER DEATH.

Jesus and Lazarus were friends. One day, Lazarus got sick. Mary and Martha sent a message to Jesus. "Lord, Your friend Lazarus is sick," they said. Jesus stayed where He was for two more days. Then Jesus said, "Let's go back to Judea." By the time Jesus arrived in Bethany, Lazarus had been in a tomb for four days. Martha said, "Lord, if You had been here, my brother wouldn't have died."

Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in Me, even if he dies, will live. Do you believe this?"

"Yes, Lord," Martha said. "I believe You are the Messiah, the Son of God."

Martha went back to her house. She told Mary that Jesus wanted to see her. Mary fell at Jesus' feet and said, "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died!" Mary was crying. Jesus wept too.

Mary led Jesus to the tomb where Lazarus was buried. It was a cave, and a huge stone covered the opening. "Remove the stone," Jesus said.

So the stone was moved aside. Jesus looked up and said, "Father, I thank You that You heard Me." Then Jesus shouted, "Lazarus, come out!"

Lazarus came out of the tomb, wrapped in linen and cloth. Jesus said, "Unwrap him and let him go."

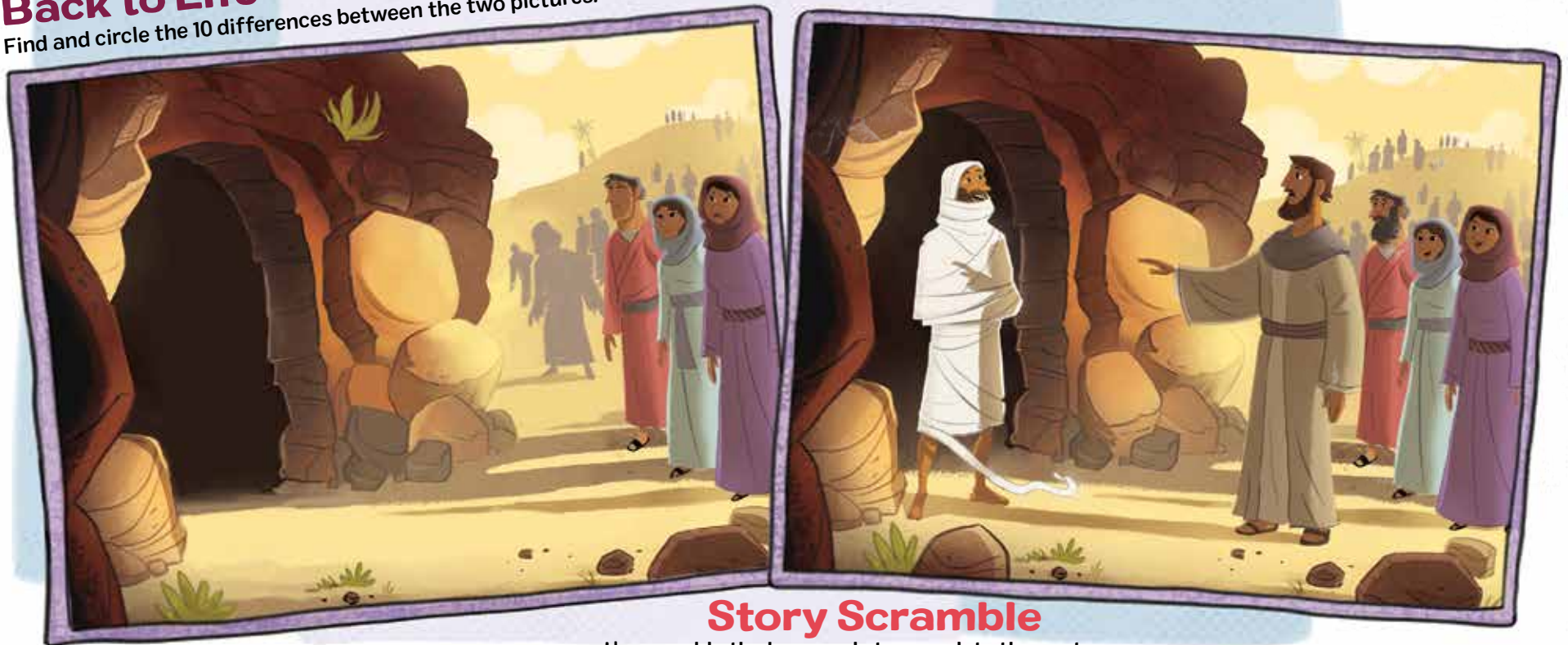
Christ Connection: When Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead, He showed that He has power over death. Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life." Jesus died on the cross for our sins and rose from the dead. He gives eternal life to those who trust in Him.



FOLD

Back to Life

Find and circle the 10 differences between the two pictures.



Story Scramble

Unscramble the key words to complete the sentences.

Lazarus lived in the town of **YANHEBT**, in Judea, with his sisters, **ARMY** and **RATMAH**. One day, Lazarus got

CISK. Mary and Martha sent a message to Jesus. "Lord, Your friend **AZALSUR** is sick," they said.

When Jesus came, Lazarus was **EDAD**. Jesus said, "I am the **TIURERRECOSN** and the **FEIL**." He went to the

MOBT and said, "Lazarus, come **TUO**!" Lazarus came out of the tomb. Jesus showed His **WERPO** over **THEAD**.