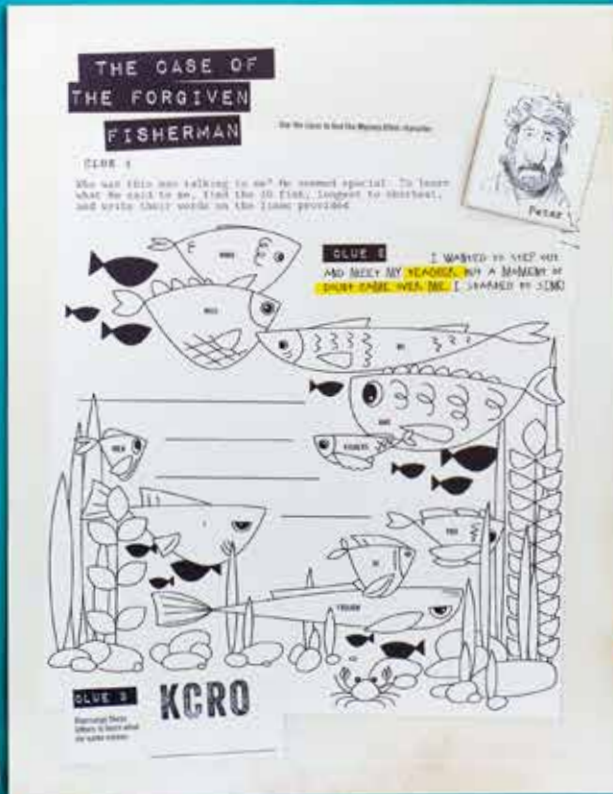
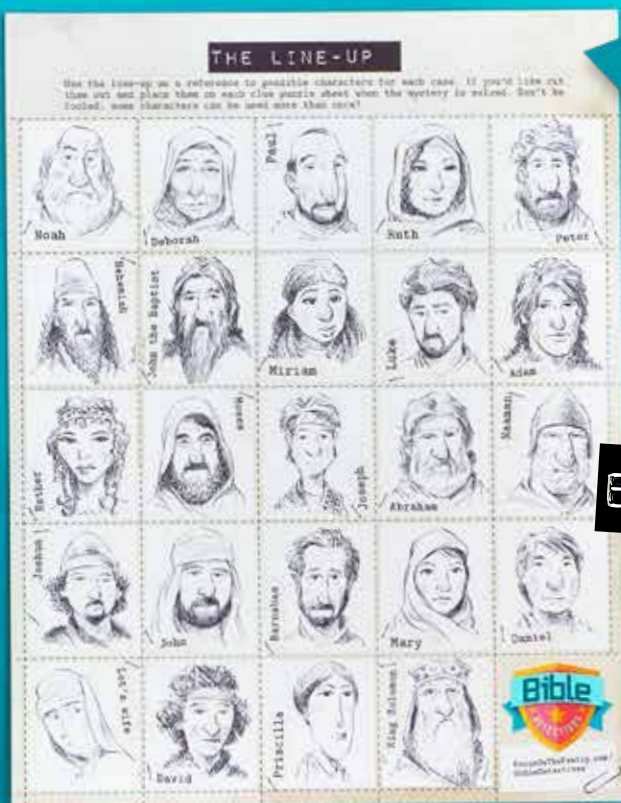




FOCUS ON THE FAMILY PRESENTS

# BIBLE LITERACY



- 2 / directions
- 4 / puzzles
- 32 / resources
- 36 / character files
- 37 / line-up
- 39 / decoder wheel
- 55 / answers



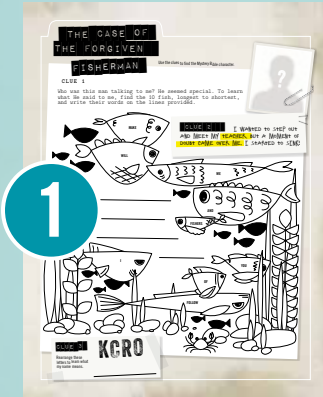


Welcome to the Bible Detectives adventure kit, where you and your kids will test and build your Bible literacy by solving fun mystery cases.



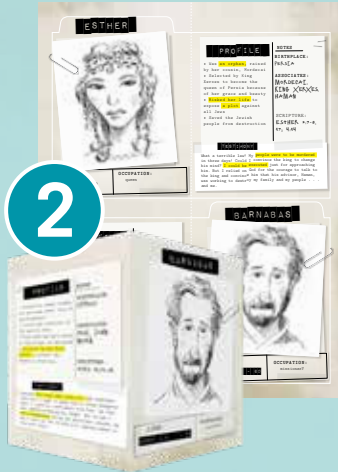
## PRINT, CUT, ASSEMBLE

### puzzles / pages 4-35



Print the 32 mystery puzzles

### character files / pages 40-54



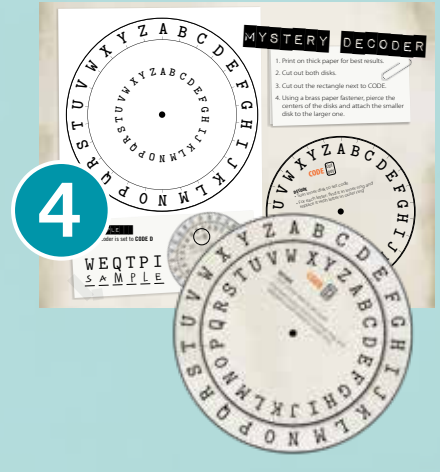
Print the 15 pages of 30 character files.  
Cut each page in half, and then fold to create the character file.

### the lineup / page 37-38



Print two pages of The Lineup per child and cut out each small square.  
**You can also cut these squares apart as mysteries are solved.**

### decoder wheel / page 39



Cut out and assemble the decoder wheel.

## SOLVING THE MYSTERY

### Investigate the scene

Each mystery has its own puzzle page. Explore the case by solving the puzzle and deciphering the clues. There's plenty of evidence--if you can find it.

### Study the characters

Dive into your files of Bible characters. Analyze their background, biography and testimony. Which characters do you suspect might be a match for the case?

### Solve the case

Identify the correct character. Then attach the person's Lineup picture to the puzzle sheet. But be careful: Some characters may be used in more than one case!

### More to come

Once you have solved all the mysteries, find a safe place for your Bible Detectives materials because more cases are coming soon. *Focus on the Family* magazine will alert readers of new cases when they're available.

# FOCUS ON THE FAMILY®

president Jim Daly  
chief operating officer Ken Windebank  
publisher Steve Johnson

editorial director Sheila Seifert  
managing editor Andrea Gutierrez  
copy chief Scott DeNicola

art director Brian Mellema  
designer Anneka Jack  
original design Cary Bates and Jody Reiner

cover photo Cary Bates  
illustrator Dan Vasconcellos  
puzzle design Cary Bates and Anneka Jack  
silhouette image kowalska art—Thinkstock

media publishing director Kevin Shirin  
editorial assistant Kat Bittner  
authors Vance Fry, Julie Holmquist

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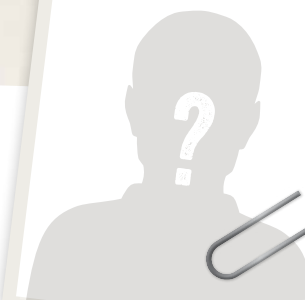
[FocusOnTheFamily.com/magazine](https://FocusOnTheFamily.com/magazine)

# THE CASE OF THE TRANSFORMED TRAVELER

Use the clues to identify the mystery Bible character.

## CLUE 1:

Jesus spoke to me as I traveled! Circle every fifth letter (do not count any numbers) to learn what He said to me. (Hint: 0 is a letter not a number.)



## CLUE 2

I ONCE THOUGHT IT WAS  
**RIDICULOUS** THAT JESUS  
WAS THE SON OF GOD. HE  
SURE **CHANGED MY MIND!**

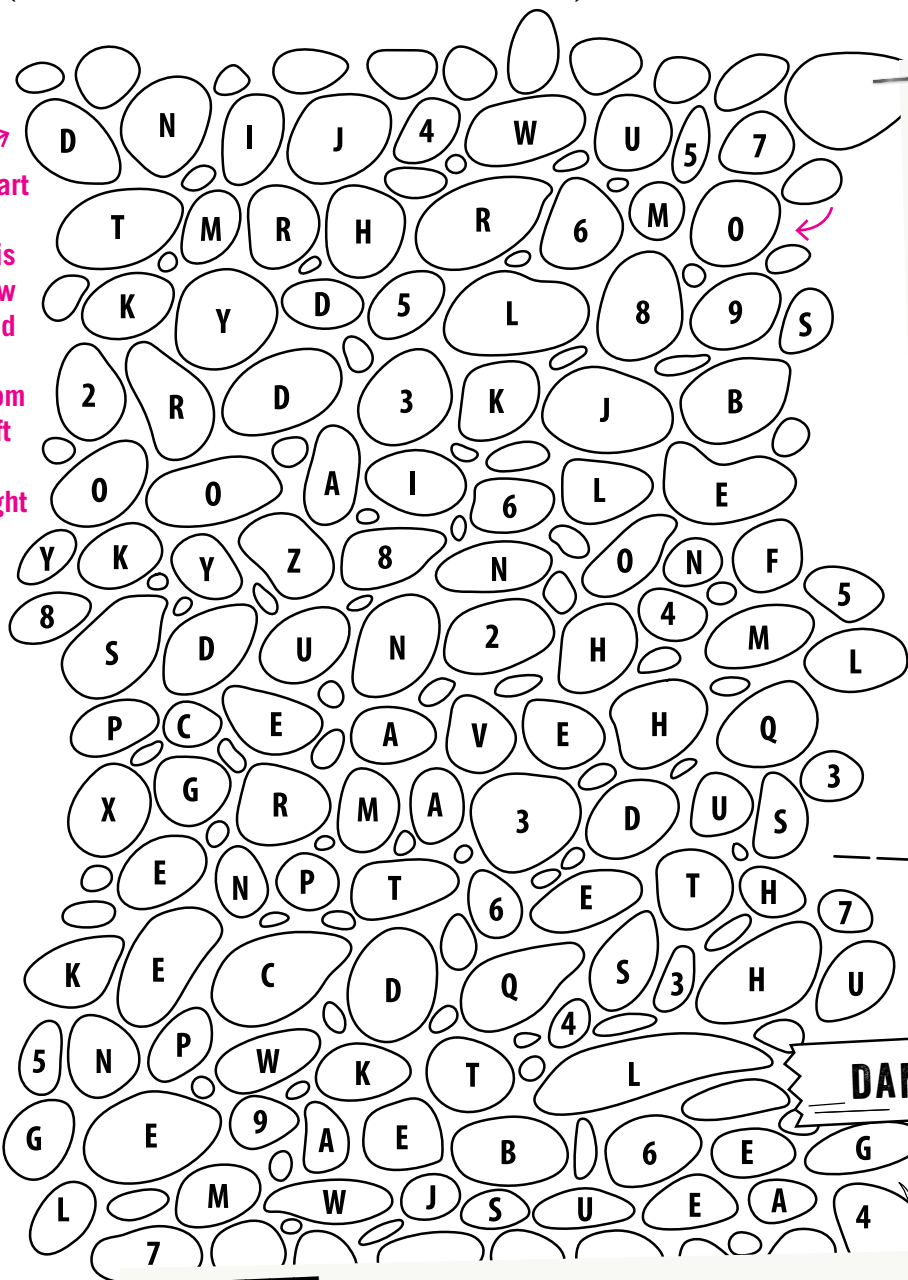
“

— — —

— —

— — —

?”



## CLUE 3

Use code G on your decoder wheel

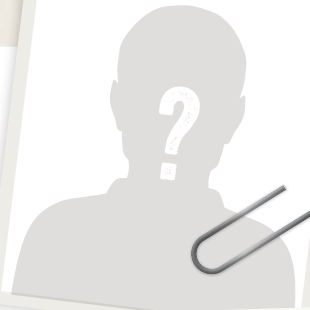
B PKHMX FTGR UHHD L BG MAX UBUEX.



# THE CASE OF THE FIRE WATCHER

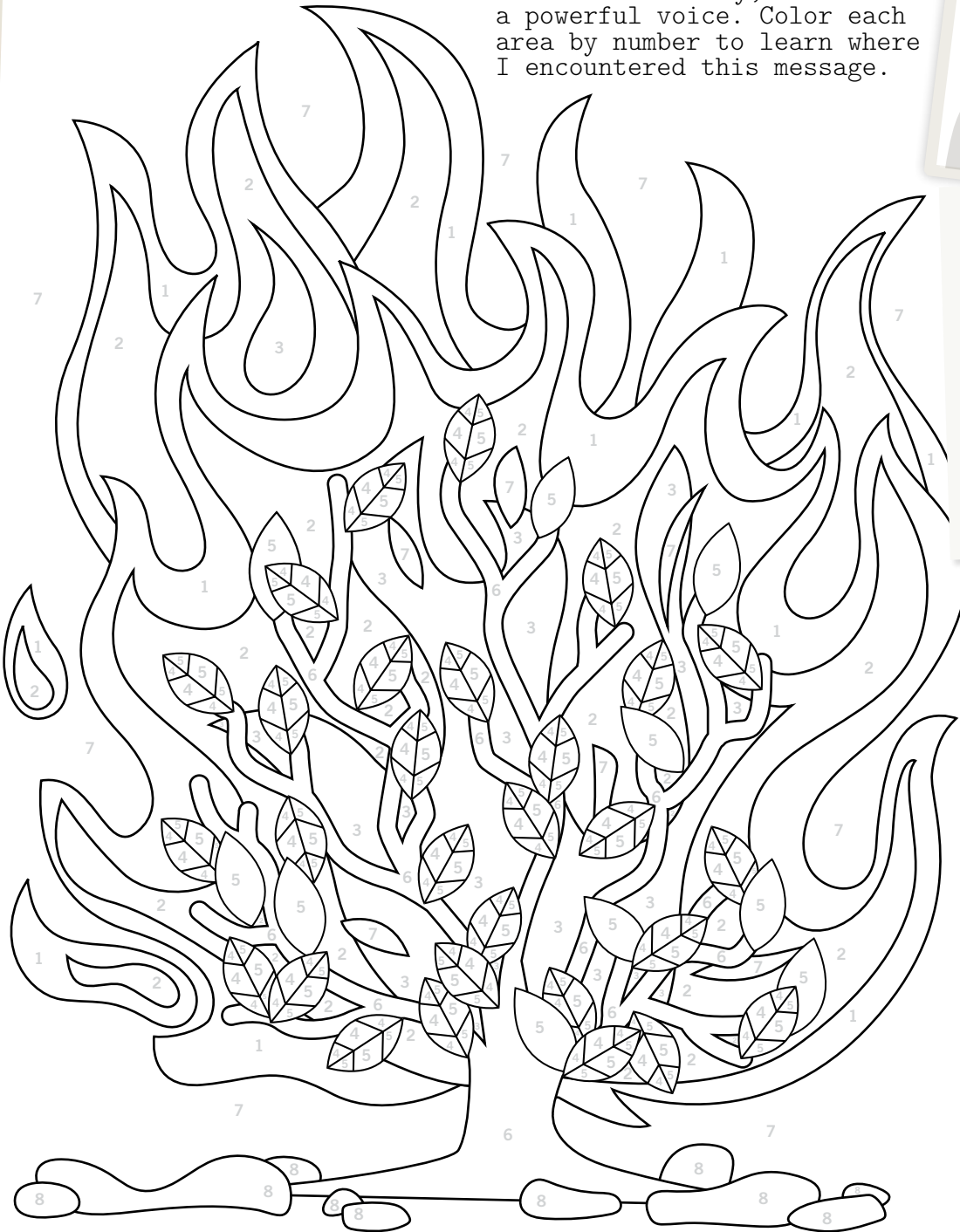
Use the clues to identify the mystery Bible character.

**CLUE 1:** One day, I heard a powerful voice. Color each area by number to learn where I encountered this message.



## CLUE 2

I **WONDERED** WHY GOD WOULD CHOOSE ME TO HELP **FREE HIS PEOPLE**. I WASN'T A LEADER OR EVEN A GOOD SPEAKER!



## COLOR CHART

- 1 - yellow
- 2 - orange
- 3 - red
- 4 - light green
- 5 - dark green
- 6 - brown
- 7 - blue
- 8 - gray

## CLUE 3

Use **code H** on your decoder wheel.

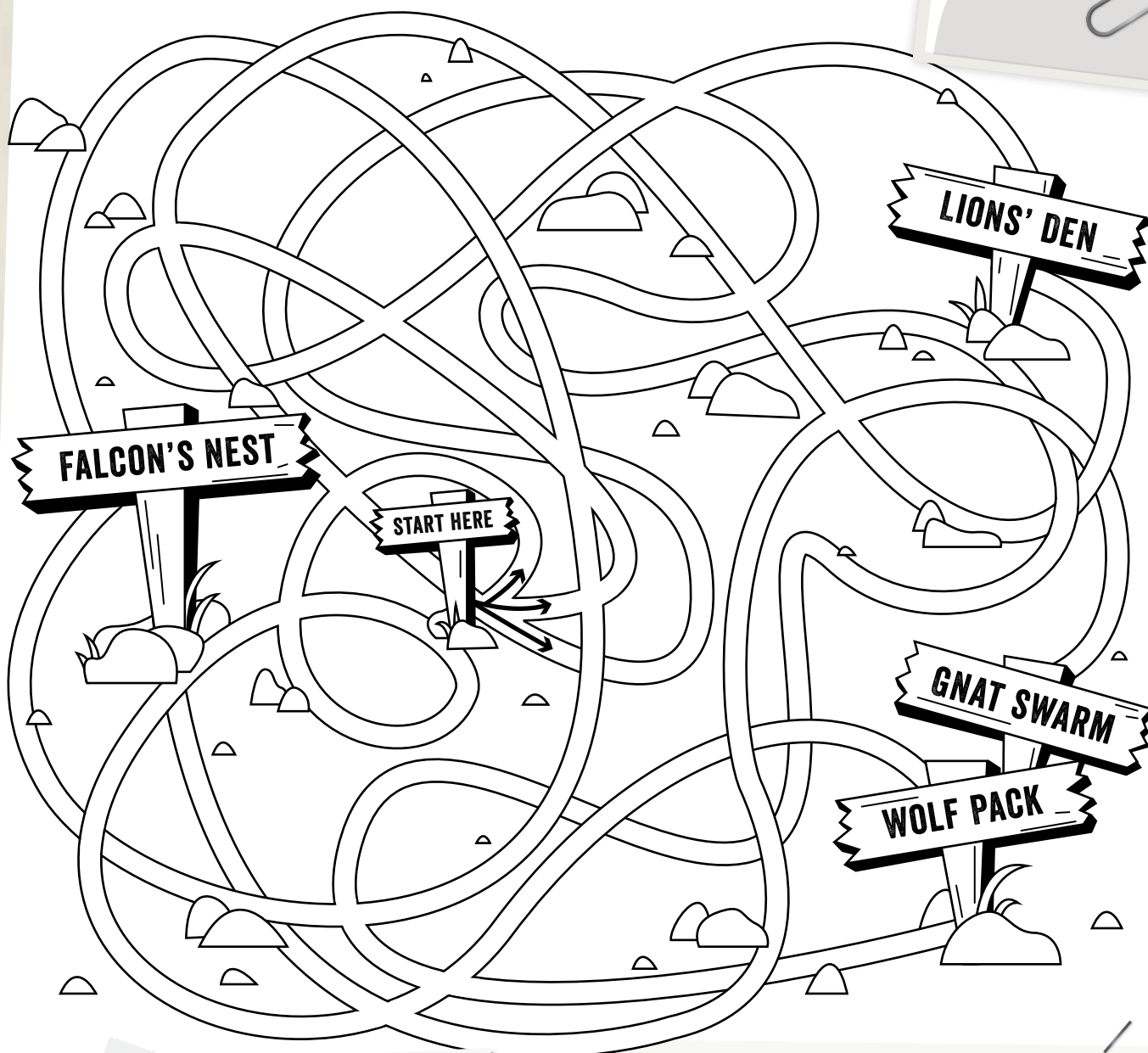
I led my people...  
**LZJGMYZ LZW JWV KWS.**

# THE CASE OF THE LONELY BELIEVER

Use the clues to identify the mystery Bible character.

## CLUE 1:

Follow the right path to learn what creatures  
I had a very close encounter with!



## CLUE 2

I LIVED AND WORKED IN AN  
ENVIRONMENT THAT WAS **HOSTILE** to  
MY BELIEFS. YET THE LORD'S POWER  
**STRENGTHENED** MY FAITH IN HIM.

## CLUE 3

I did something  
the king didn't  
like!

Use **code K** to learn  
what it was.

EGPNTS IWGTT

IXBTH P SPN



# THE CASE OF THE LONE VOICE

Use the clues to identify the mystery Bible character.

## CLUE 1:

People kept asking who I was! Unscramble each word to learn what I told them.

I MA EHT OVCEI  
“

— — — — —

FO OEN YICRGN UOT

— — — — — C — — — — —

NI ETH NSDLERWEIS

— — — — — W — — — — — ,

KMAE TARTINGS HTE

— — — — — — — — — — —

YAW FO TEH RODL

”

— — — — — — — — — — — .



## CLUE 2

WOULD YOU LIE to  
PRESERVE YOUR LIFE?  
I KNEW THE TRUTH  
MIGHT GET ME IN  
TROUBLE. BUT I SAID  
IT ANYWAY, AND IT  
EVENTUALLY COST ME  
MY LIFE.

## CLUE 3

I sure didn't  
have a fancy  
diet.

Use code Y to learn what foods  
sustained me.

MPDVTUT

BOE XJME

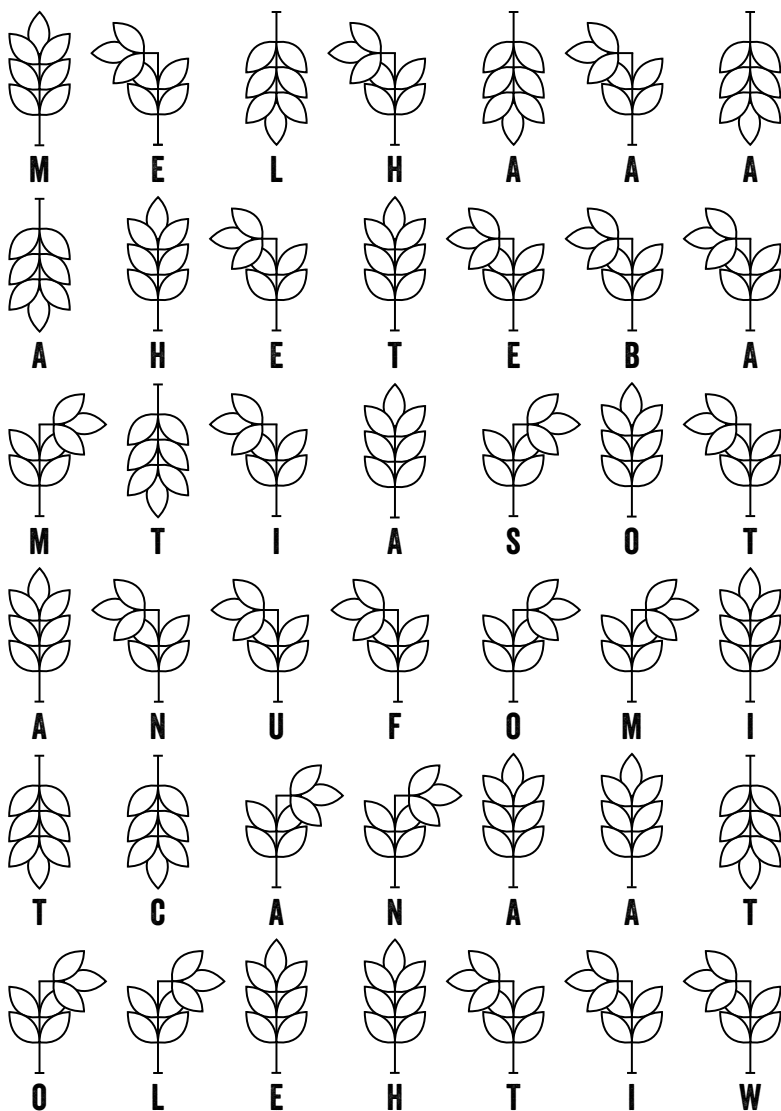
IPOFZ

# THE CASE OF THE HUMBLE HARVESTER

Use the clues to identify the mystery Bible character.

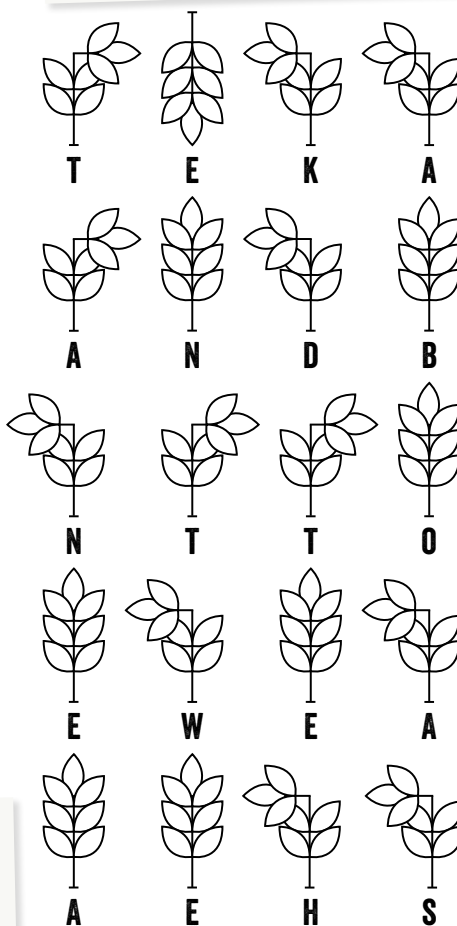
## CLUE 1

I was known to be very dedicated to my mother-in-law. Starting at the bottom, follow the stalks of grain in the direction they point to learn what people say about me.



## CLUE 2

I WORKED AS A **GLEAHER**. I GATHERED **LEFTOVER BITS OF WHEAT** THAT THE REAPERS HAD MISSED DURING THE HARVEST.



## CLUE 3

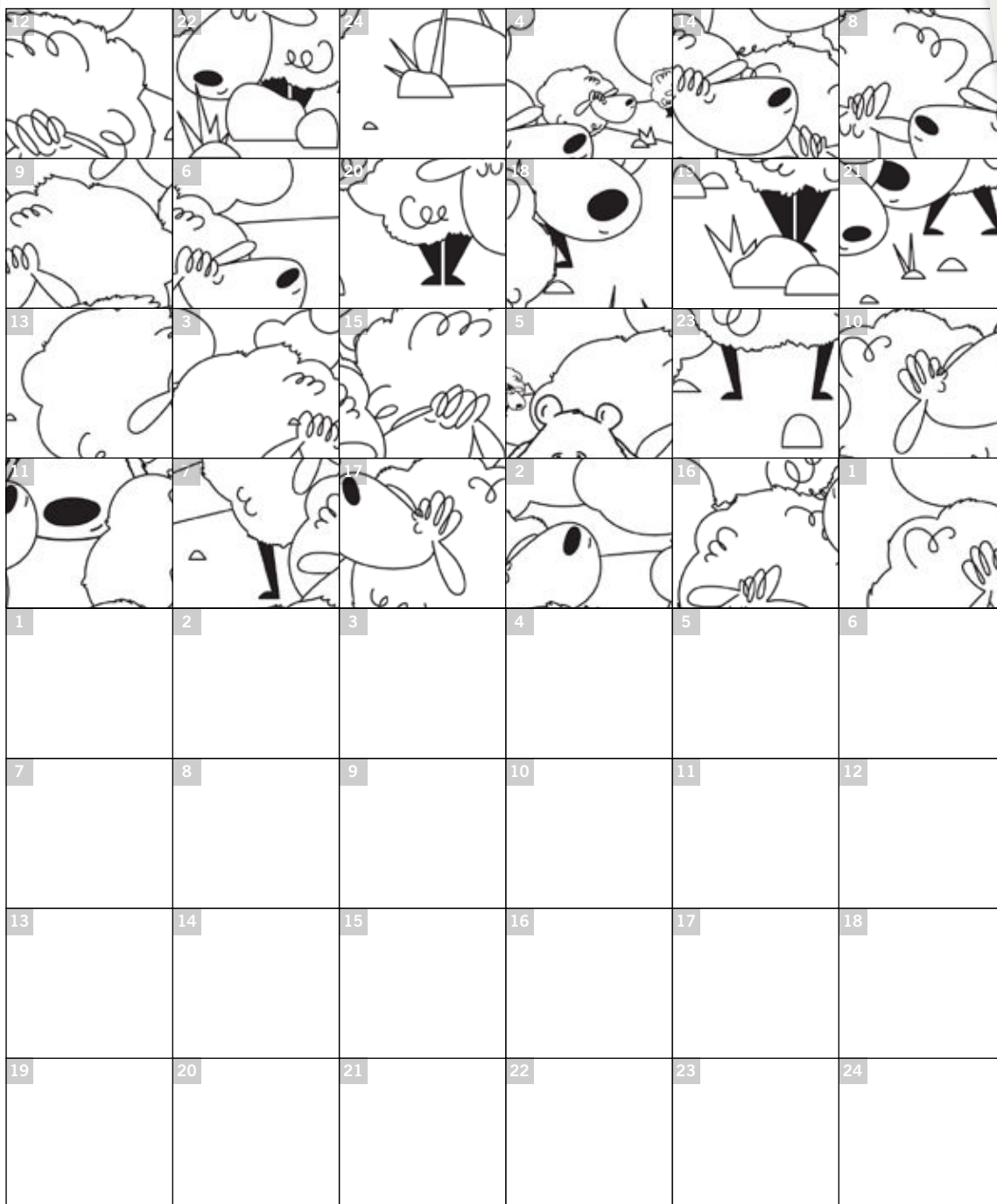
Read this message in a mirror:

I AM ONE OF ONLY FIVE WOMEN LISTED  
AMONG THE ANCESTRY OF THE MESSIAH.



# THE CASE OF THE PINT-SIZED PROTECTOR

Use the clues to identify the mystery Bible character.



## CLUE 1:

Guarding sheep wasn't easy. One time, I found a stranger in their midst. Redraw (or cut and paste) the pictures in the correct boxes below to learn what enemy I had to face.

## CLUE 2

EVERYONE WAS SCARED OF THIS HUGE FOE, BUT THE LORD'S STRENGTH WOULD HELP ME FIGHT.

## CLUE 3

Cross out every B, Z, K, Q and X to learn something about me that I'm well-known for.

QXI ZWZKRBOTQQEX KMZABNBY SZQOKNQXGBS.

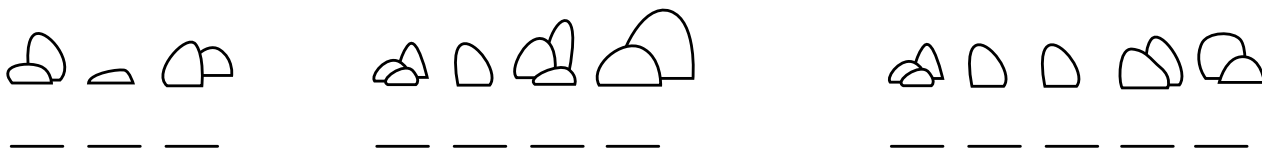
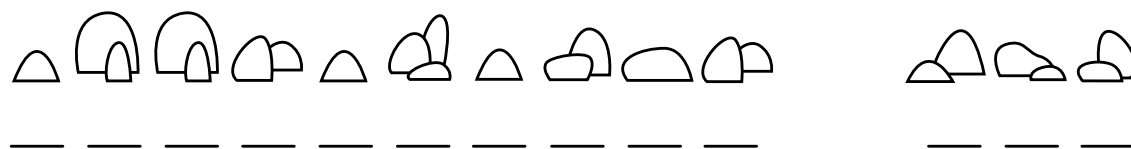
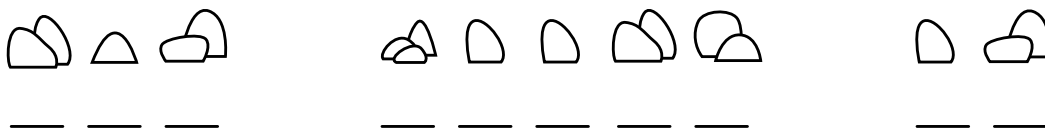
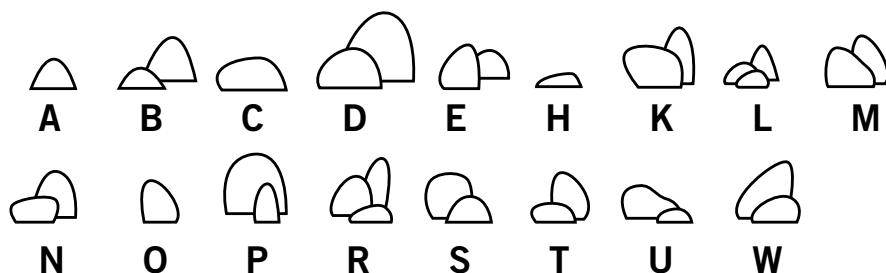
# THE CASE OF THE UNEXPECTED LEADER

Use the clues to identify the mystery Bible character.



## CLUE 1:

Why did the Lord choose me to be king?  
Decode His message by filling in the letters  
that correspond to the rocks below.



## CLUE 2

I WAS AN  
IMPORTANT  
ANCESTOR  
OF JESUS.  
MANY PEOPLE  
DESCRIBE OUR  
LONG FAMILY  
LINE USING  
MY NAME.

## CLUE 3

I had a very close relationship with God.  
Use Code W to find out how God described me.

"D PDQ DIWHU PB RZQ KHDUW."

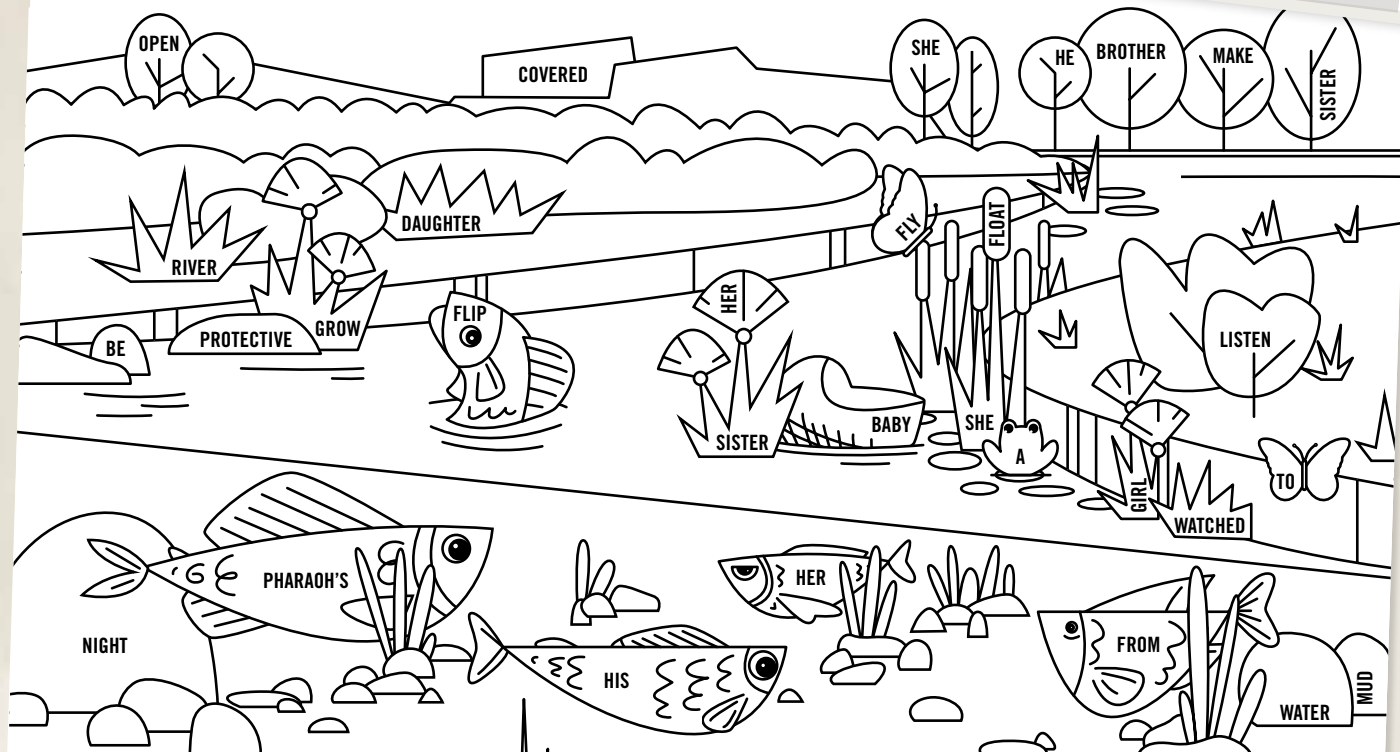


# THE CASE OF THE RIVER WATCHER

Use the clues to identify the mystery Bible character.

## CLUE 1:

Copy the words on the symbols in the river to the matching symbols below. Be sure to use an exact match!



## CLUE 2

GOD HAD THROWN THE ENEMY INTO THE SEA! WE COULDN'T CONTAIN OUR JOY. WE SANG AND DANCED ON THE SHORES, KNOWING THAT GOD HAD DELIVERED US.

## CLUE 3

Use Code I to learn something else about me.

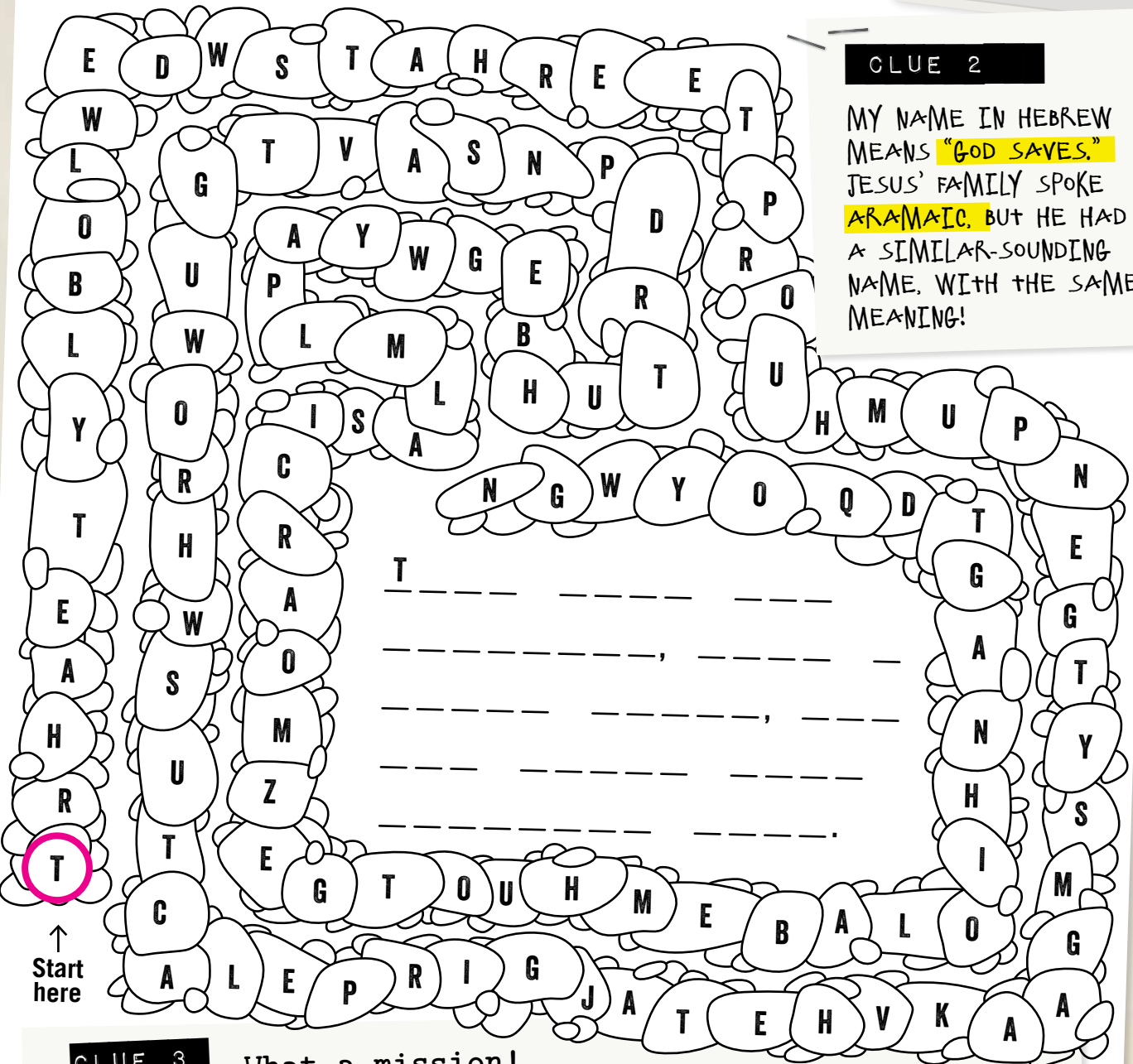
Z NRJ R CVRUVI FW YVSIVN NFDVE.

# THE CASE OF THE BRAVE LEADER

Use the clues to identify the mystery Bible character.

## CLUE 1:

I led a famous marching band around Jericho! Circle every other letter, copying those letters into the blanks below, to discover what my people accomplished.



## CLUE 2

MY NAME IN HEBREW MEANS "GOD SAVES." JESUS' FAMILY SPOKE ARAMAIC, BUT HE HAD A SIMILAR-SOUNDING NAME, WITH THE SAME MEANING!

## CLUE 3

What a mission!

Use Code V to decode God's encouragement to me:

FI WXVSRK ERH GSYVEKISYW!

!



# THE CASE OF THE FORGIVEN FISHERMAN

Use the clues to identify the mystery Bible character.

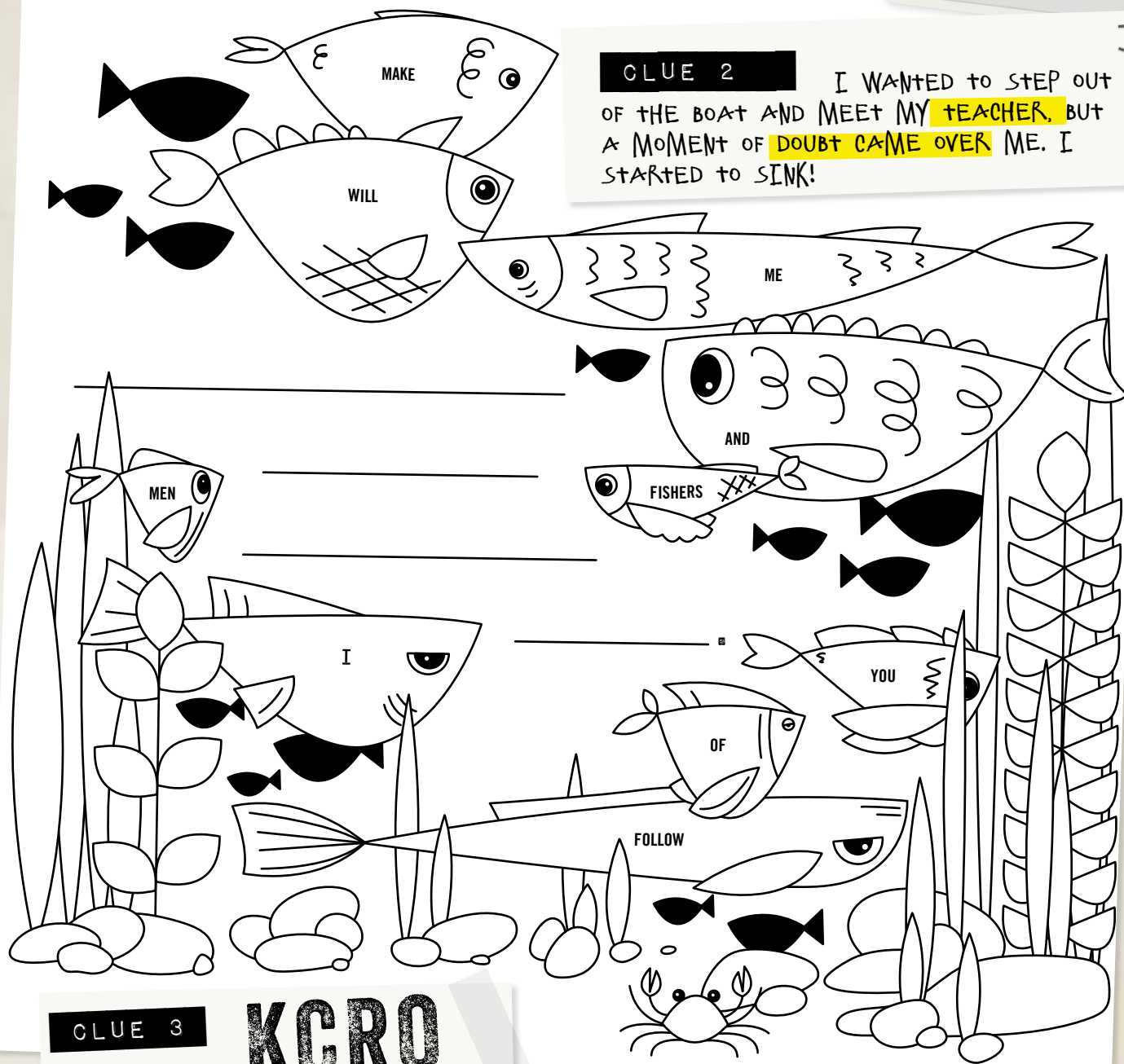


## CLUE 1:

Who was this man talking to me? He seemed special. To learn what He said to me, find the 10 fish, longest to shortest, and write their words on the lines provided.

## CLUE 2

I WANTED to STEP OUT OF THE BOAT AND MEET MY **TEACHER**, BUT A MOMENT OF **DOUBT** CAME OVER ME. I STARTED TO SINK!



## CLUE 3

**KCRO**

Rearrange these letters to learn what my name means.

# THE CASE OF THE RELUCTANT BATHER

Use the clues to identify the mystery Bible character.

## CLUE 1:

Bathe seven times in the river? I didn't believe the prophet at first. But I decided to try. Cross out every word listed to reveal what happened to me after I washed in the river.

B F L E S H S O R E B L I S T E R W A S R O T  
R B L E E D I N G R E S T O R E D U L C E R S  
U N C L E A N L E P R O S Y S U F F E R I N G  
I L I K E F S T I N G T B L E M I S H G A S H  
S C A B S F W O U N D H L E P R O S Y S C A B  
E U R O T L E S I O N E B R U I S E F L E S H  
G T O F I I A B L E E D I N G C U T W O U N D  
A P A I N C U T S U F F E R I N G U L C E R S  
S O R E G T L I T T L E S O R E U N C L E A N  
H B O I L I S C R A T C H T O B L E M I S H P  
C H I L D O O U A N D ~~C U T~~ T S C R A T C H A  
R O T T E N R T B L I S T E R W A S B O I L I  
R O T I N F E C T I O N C L E A N R O T T E N

## WORD SEARCH

affliction  
bleeding (2)  
blemish (2)  
blister (2)  
boil (2)  
bruise (2)  
cut (5) (4)  
gash (2)  
infection  
leprosy (2)  
lesion  
pain (2)  
rot (4)  
rotten (3)  
scab (2)  
scratch (2)  
sore (4)  
sting (2)  
suffering (2)  
ulcers (2)  
unclean (2)  
wound (2)

## CLUE 2

"Go to SAMARIA." MY WIFE'S  
SERVANT GIRL SAID. "GO, AND  
YOU COULD BE HEALED." REALLY?

## CLUE 3

Use Code A to  
learn the name  
of the prophet  
I visited.

DKHRGZ

# THE CASE OF THE HOSPITABLE

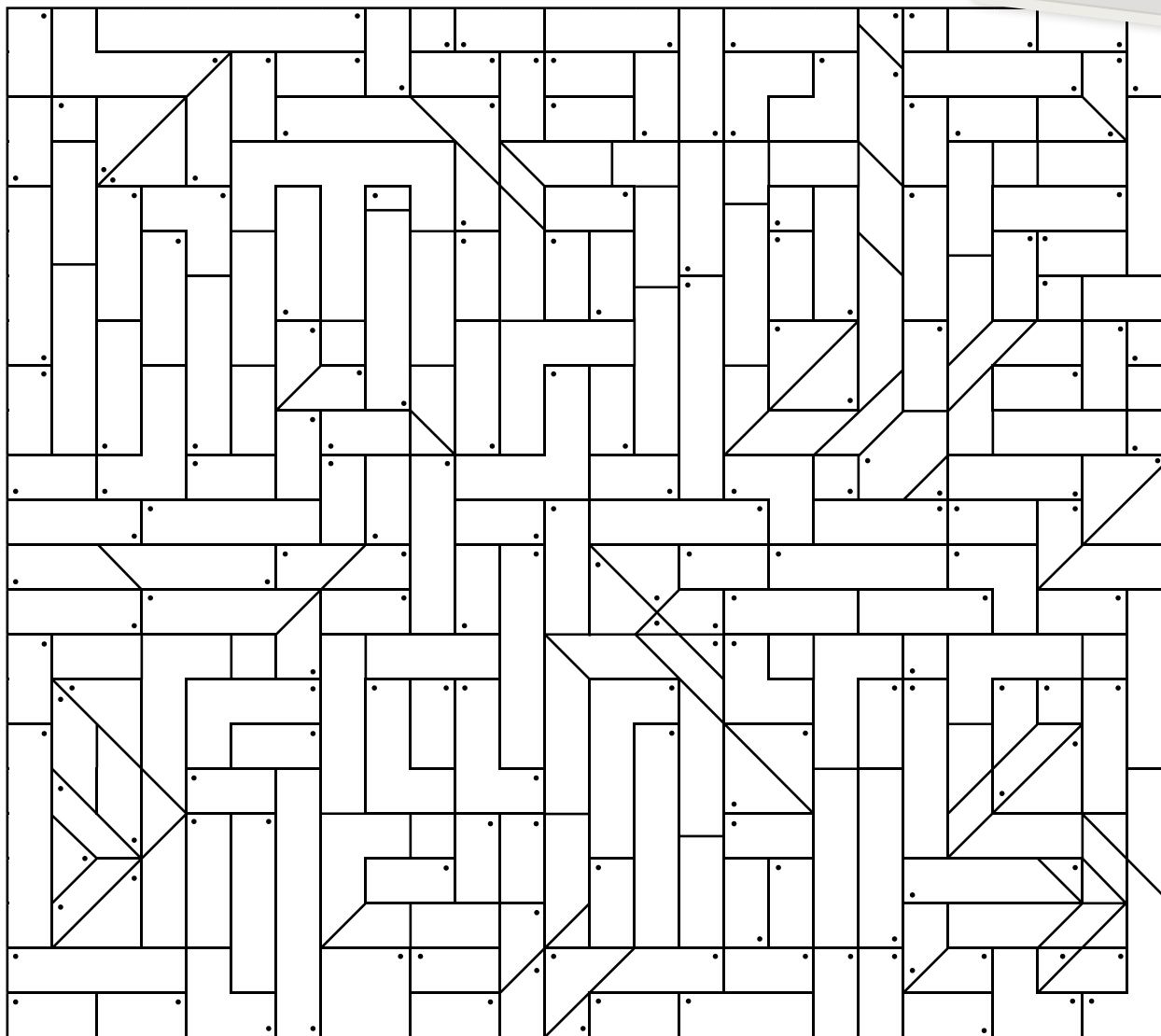
## TEACHER

Use the clues to identify the mystery Bible character.



### CLUE 1:

Color the shapes with dots to learn what my husband and I did for work--with one of our friends, the apostle Paul.



### CLUE 2

BEING A **NEW BELIEVER** CAN BE HARD. WHEN OUR FRIEND APOLLOS STARTED PREACHING, HE DIDN'T FULLY UNDERSTAND **THE GOSPEL**. WE HELPED HIM!

### CLUE 3

Use **Code G** to learn where you can find my story in Scripture.

**BG MAX UHHD HY TVML**

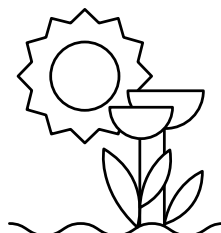
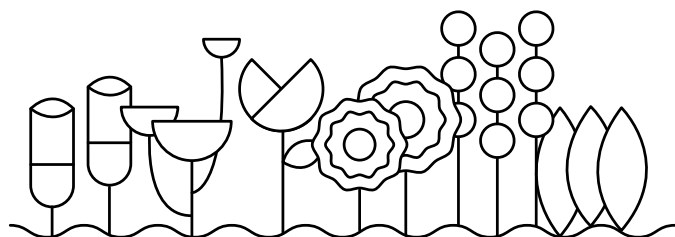
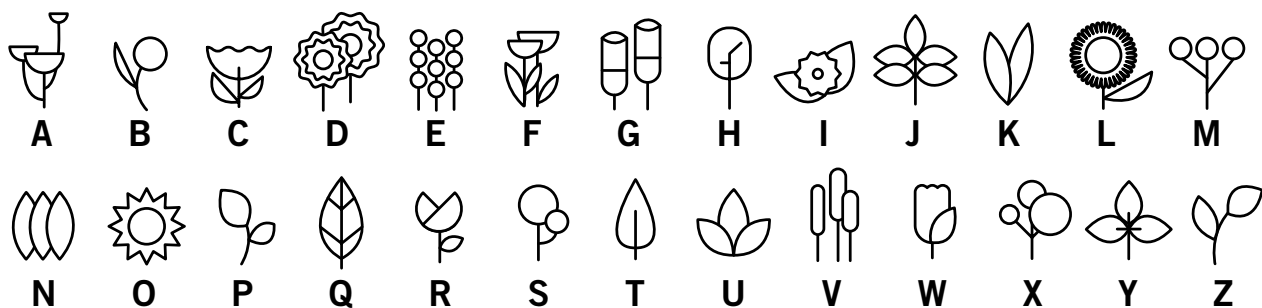


# THE CASE OF THE TROUBLED FARMER

Use the clues to identify the mystery Bible character.

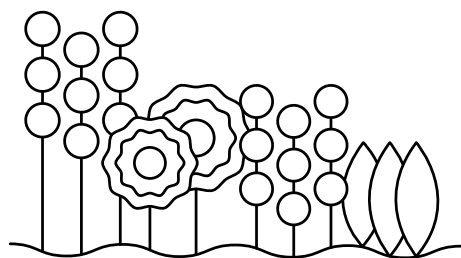
## CLUE 1:

I once had a great home. To learn where it was, find the symbols that match the sequences below and copy the letters into the spaces.



## CLUE 2

GROWING FOOD  
IS **HARD WORK!**  
IT WAS **EASIER**  
WHEN ALL THE  
WORK WAS DONE  
FOR US.



## CLUE 3

I had several children. But you  
may know about two of my sons.

Use **Code Y** to learn their names.

**DBJO BOE BCFM**

# THE CASE OF THE OBEDIENT BUILDER

Use the clues to identify the mystery Bible character.



**O**

**A**

**I**

**G**

**B**

**T**

**R**

**E**

**O**

**A**

**B**

**J**

**B** \_\_\_\_\_

**B** \_\_\_\_\_

## CLUE 1:

How many nails did each board take? Draw a line from each plank to matching nails. Copy the crossed out letters and rearrange them to learn what special project God had for me.

## CLUE 2

WHAT BEAUTIFUL  
COLORS! I'D NEVER  
SEEN SUCH A  
SIGHT BEFORE.  
AND WHENEVER I  
SAW THOSE COLORS  
AGAIN, I WOULD  
REMEMBER GOD'S  
PROMISE!

## CLUE 3

Use **Code H** to discover the material that God told me to use on my project.

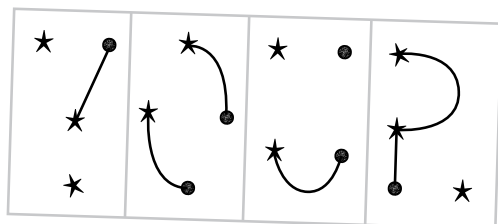
YGHZWJ      OGGV

# THE CASE OF THE DELAYED DAD

Use the clues to identify the mystery Bible character.

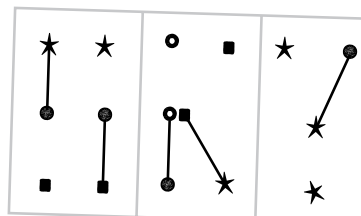
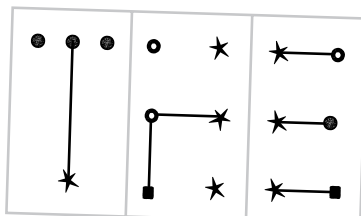
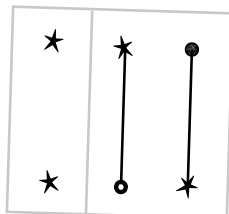
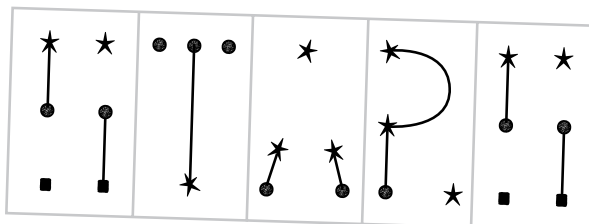
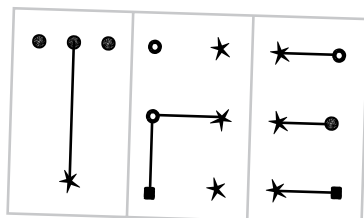
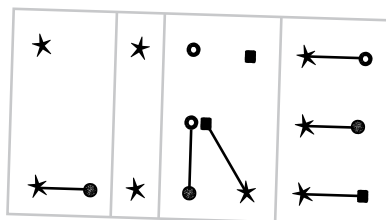
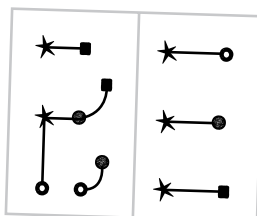
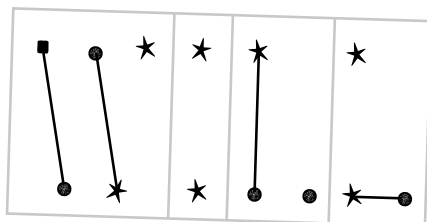
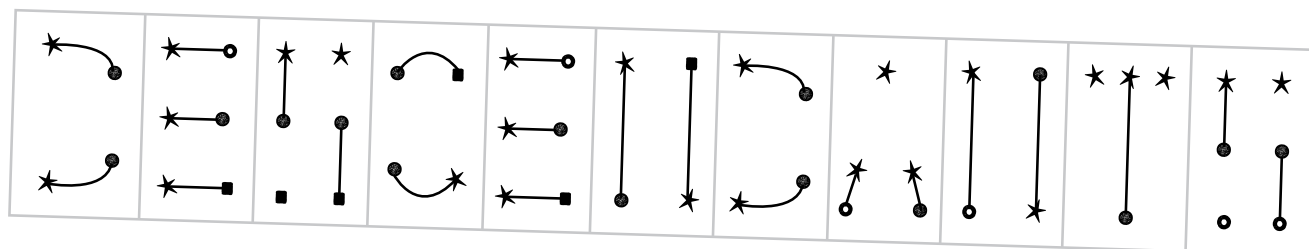
## CLUE 1:

I was an old man when God told me something that was hard to believe. Connect the matching shapes in each box to learn what He said.



## CLUE 2

DID THE LORD REALLY WANT MY SON'S LIFE? I WASN'T SURE WHAT HIS PURPOSE WAS, BUT I KNEW I NEEDED TO TRUST HIM.



## CLUE 3

Use Code T on your decoder wheel to discover the name of my wife.

YGXGO

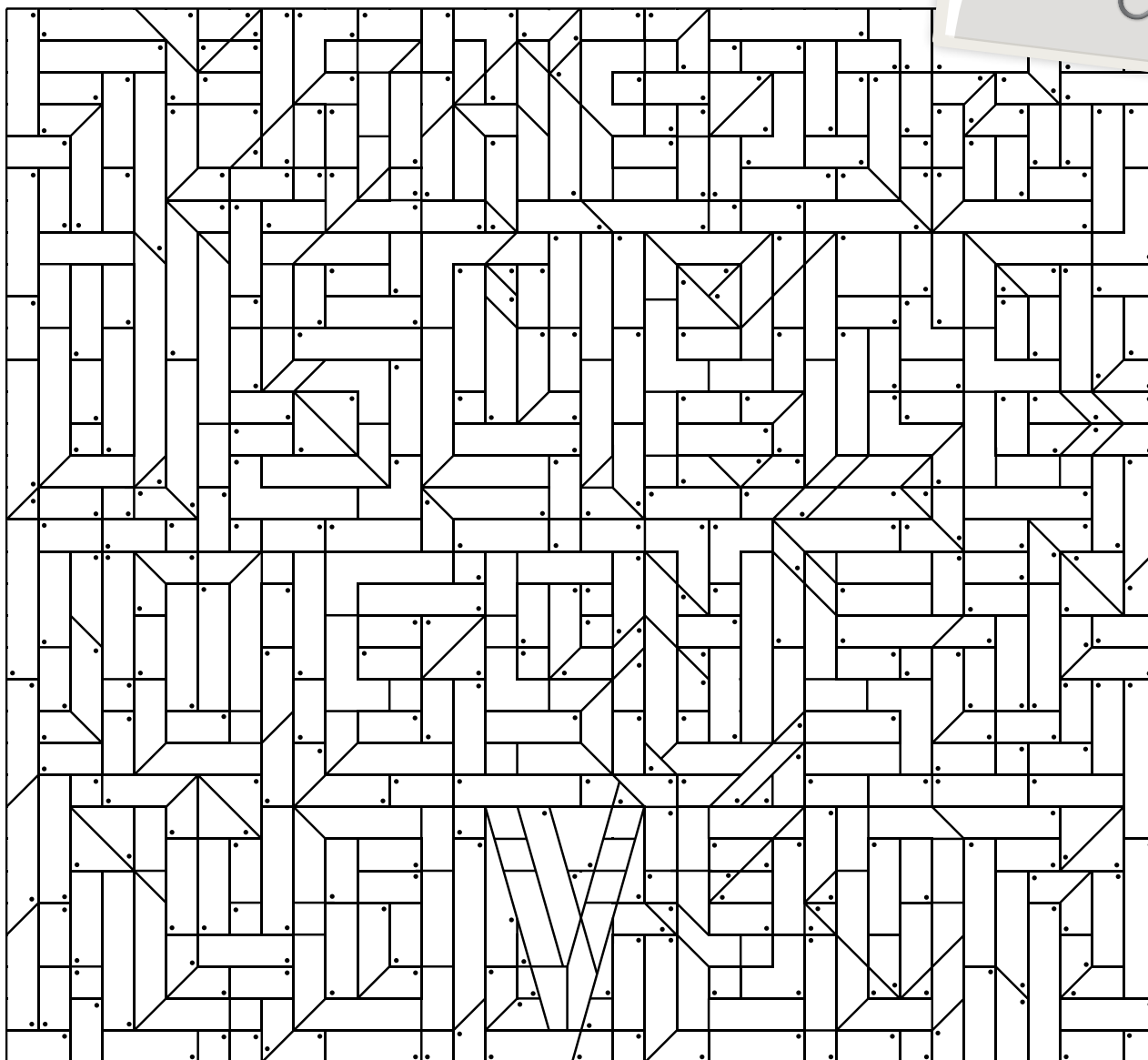


# THE CASE OF THE LOVING EXILE

Use the clues to identify the mystery Bible character.

## CLUE 1:

Color the shapes with dots to learn how I am sometimes described in Scripture.



## CLUE 2

MOST OF MY FRIENDS DIED BE-  
CAUSE OF THEIR FAITH. MAYBE  
I WAS FORTUNATE TO BE ONLY  
**EXILED FROM MY HOME.**

## CLUE 3

My brother and I were  
both students of a  
wonderful teacher.  
Rearrange the following  
letters to learn my  
brother's name.

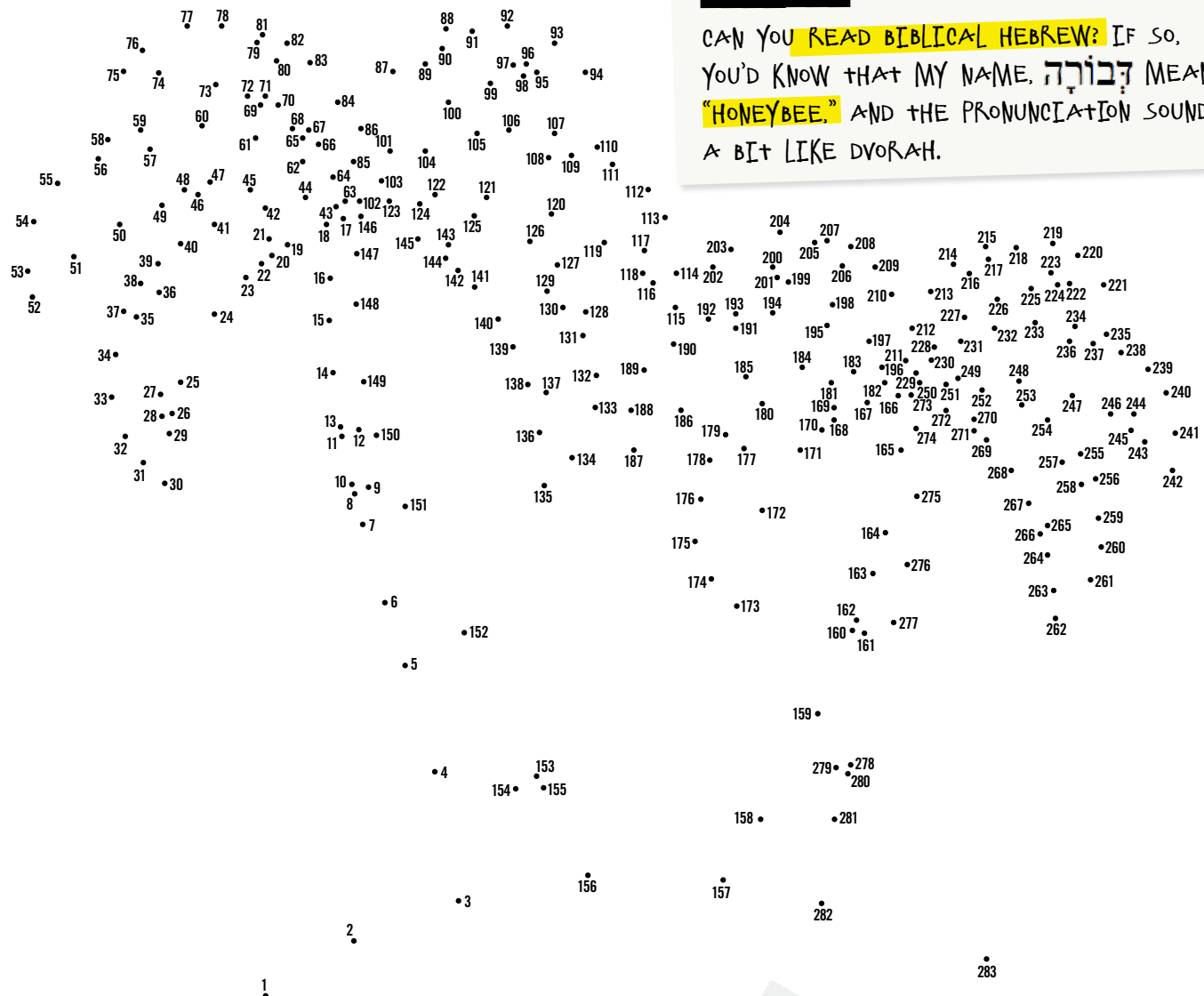
**AESMJ**

# THE CASE OF THE WISE WOMAN

Use the clues to identify the mystery Bible character.

## CLUE 1:

Many leaders have grand thrones or big, beautiful rooms to work in. Not me! Connect the dots by number to reveal the place where I advised my people.

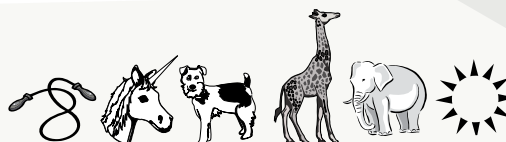


## CLUE 2

CAN YOU READ BIBLICAL HEBREW? IF SO, YOU'D KNOW THAT MY NAME, דְּבוֹרָה (DEBORAH) MEANS "HONEYBEE." AND THE PRONUNCIATION SOUNDS A BIT LIKE DVORAH.

## CLUE 3

Write the first letter of each object or animal in the blank below to help you find the Bible book where my story is told.



\_\_\_\_\_

# THE CASE

# OF THE COLORFUL

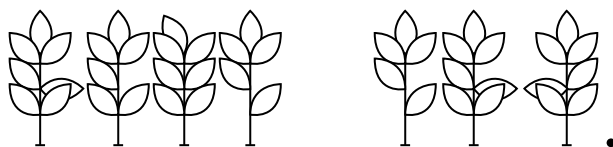
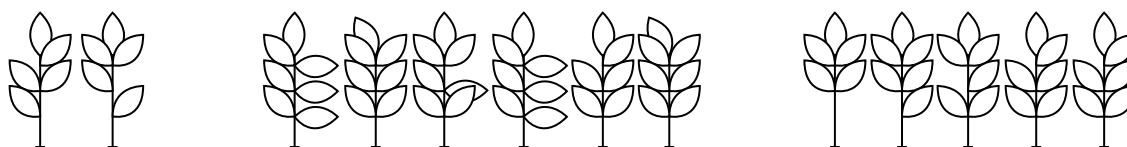
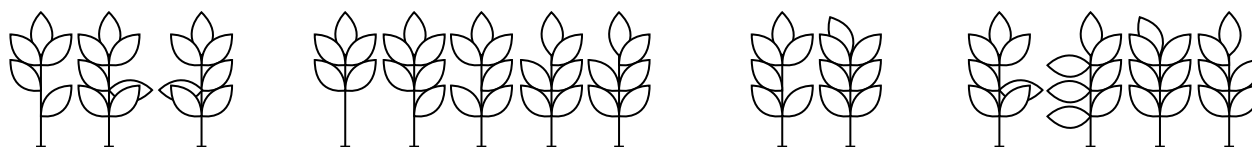
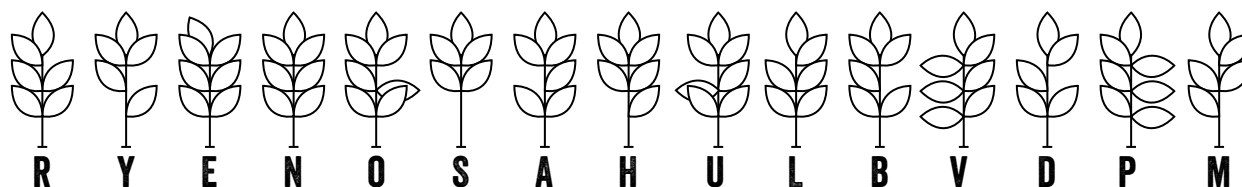
# DREAMER

Use the clues to identify the mystery Bible character.



## CLUE 1:

Against my will, I was sent to a foreign land. I worked as a slave at first, but one day, the king told me something incredible. Transfer the letters of the matching wheat stalks to the spaces below to learn what he said.



**CLUE 2** MY FATHER LOVED ME. HE SAID I WAS THE SON GIVEN TO HIM IN HIS OLD AGE. ONCE HE MADE ME A BEAUTIFUL COLORFUL COAT!

## CLUE 3

Some people were very cruel to me. To learn their identity, unscramble these words (all names of colors), and transfer the first letter of each word to the blanks below.

KALCB DRE GNEROA NTA RLMEEDA SERO LEIVSR

MY

H

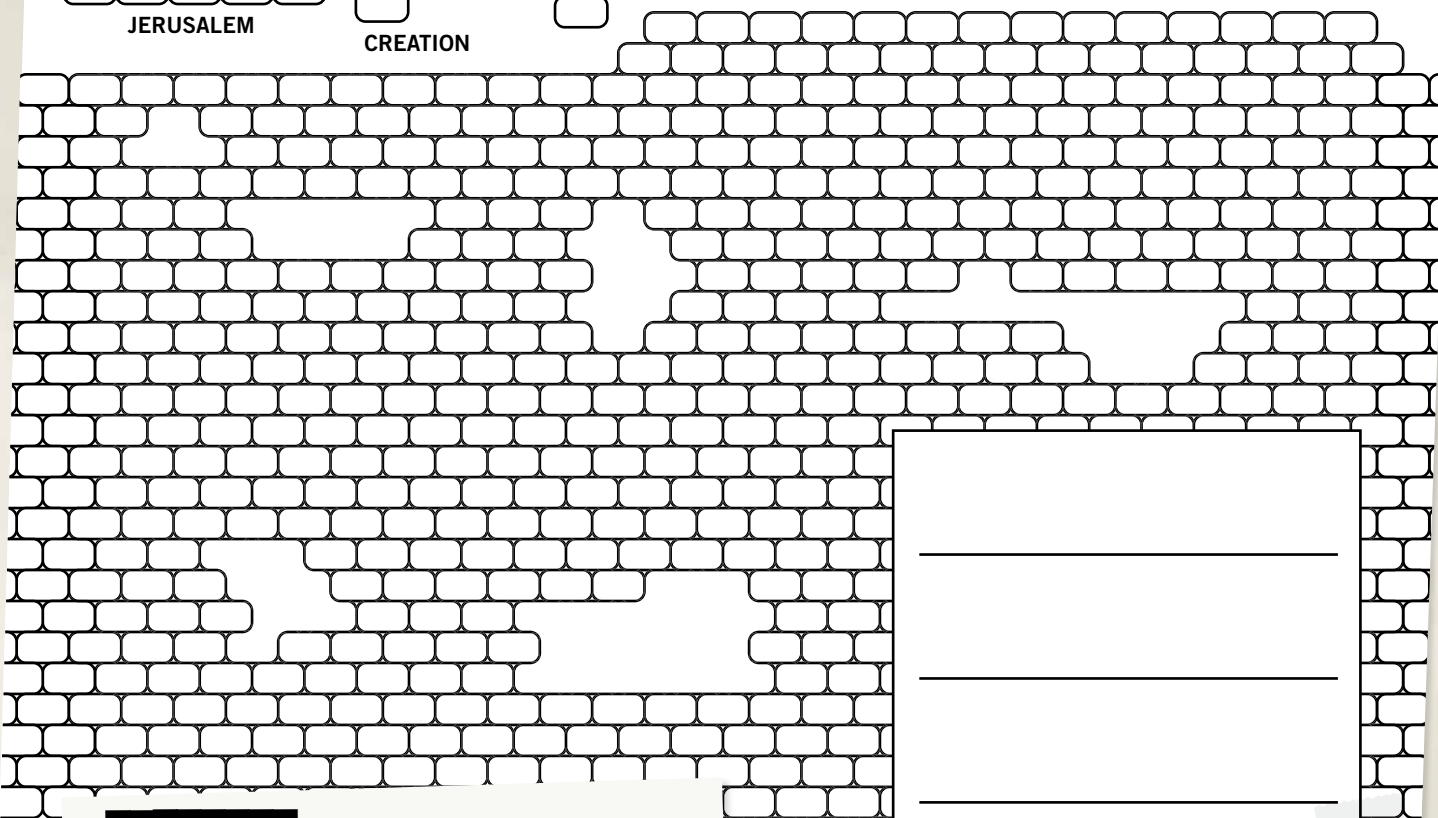
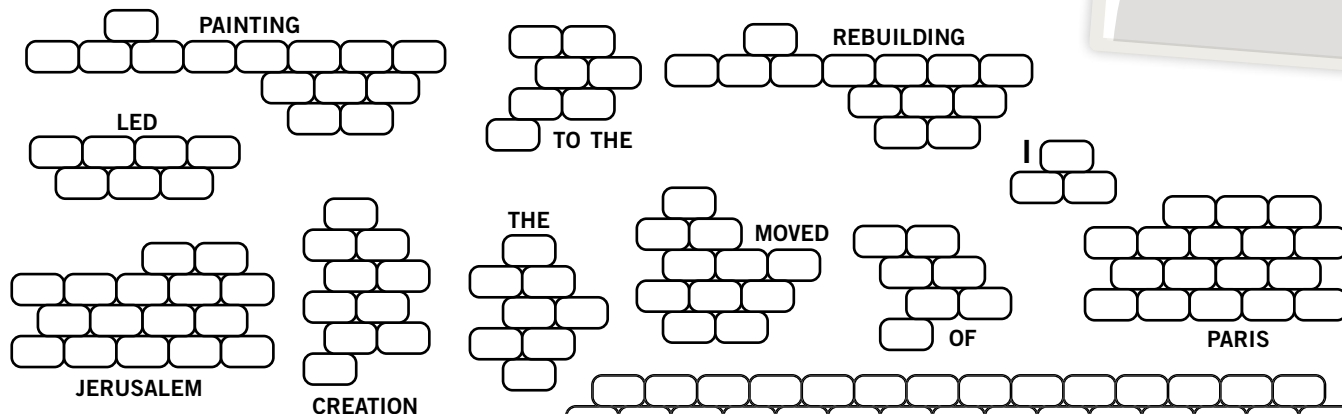


# THE CASE OF THE CRYING CONSTRUCTION WORKER

Use the clues to identify the  
mystery Bible character.

## CLUE 1:

Finish building this wall by matching the correct shapes to the holes where they fit. Then copy the words to the blanks to learn what job I accomplished.




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## CLUE 2

MOST CUPBEARERS HAVE A SIMPLE, YET DANGEROUS JOB: TASTE THE KING'S WINE TO MAKE SURE IT ISN'T **POISONED**. BUT AS A CUPBEARER, I BECAME ONE OF MY KING'S MOST TRUSTED ADVISERS.

## CLUE 3

Use **Code X** to learn the name of one my co-workers. He helped restore God's temple.

**GBTC**

# THE CASE OF THE ROYAL ORPHAN

Use the clues to identify the mystery Bible character.

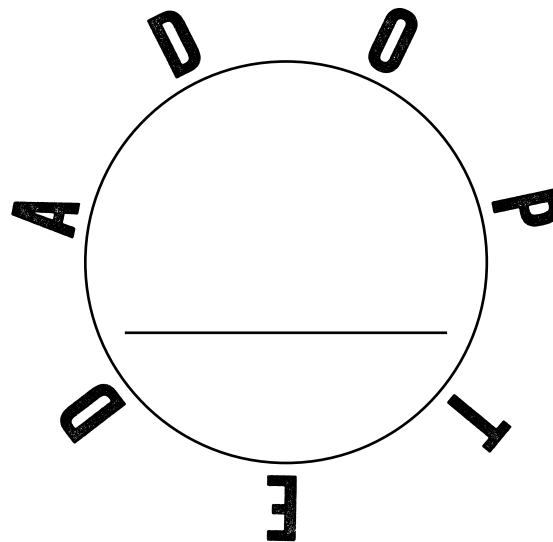


## CLUE 1:

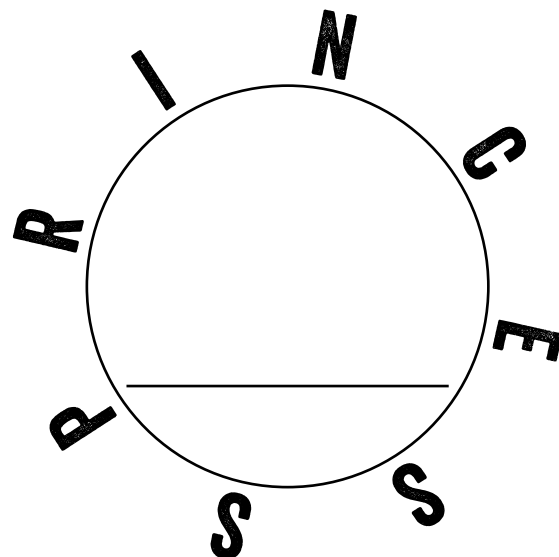
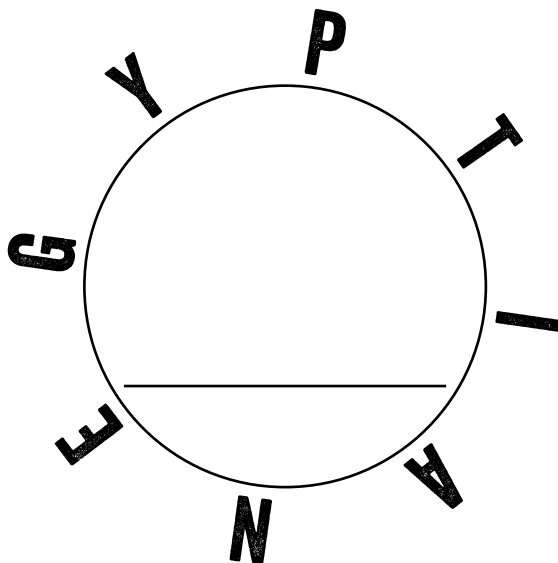
Something happened to me when I was a baby. To discover what happened, find the correct place to start reading on each word wheel. Then fill in the word in the blank.

## CLUE 2

AS A YOUNG MAN,  
I MADE A BIG  
MISTAKE. I KILLED  
A BULLY WHO WAS  
HARASSING ONE OF  
MY PEOPLE. THEN I  
RAN AWAY.



BY AN



## CLUE 3

My sister was  
pretty famous,  
too. You may  
know her.

Use Code W to discover her name.

**PLULDP**

# THE CASE OF THE PEEKING PERSON

Use the clues to identify the mystery Bible character.



## CLUE 1:

Why didn't I obey the angel? Because I disobeyed, I was transformed into something awful. Discover what I became. Find the hidden letters by decoding each clue, and then copying each letter into the space above the bottle.



## CLUE 2

WHEN I DOUBTED GOD, I DIDN'T  
KNOW I'D ONE DAY BE USED  
IN A WARNING FROM JESUS:  
"THOSE WHO TRY TO MAKE  
THEIR LIFE SECURE WILL LOSE  
IT, BUT THOSE WHO LOSE THEIR  
LIFE WILL KEEP IT."

## CLUE 3

I can't say I wasn't warned. Uncover the angel's message to me and my family by reading this sentence in a mirror.

**DON'T LOOK BACK!**

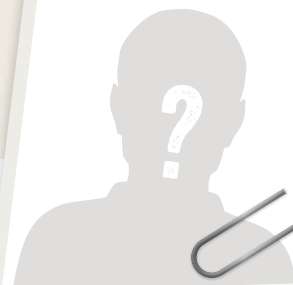


# THE CASE OF

Use the clues to identify the mystery Bible character.

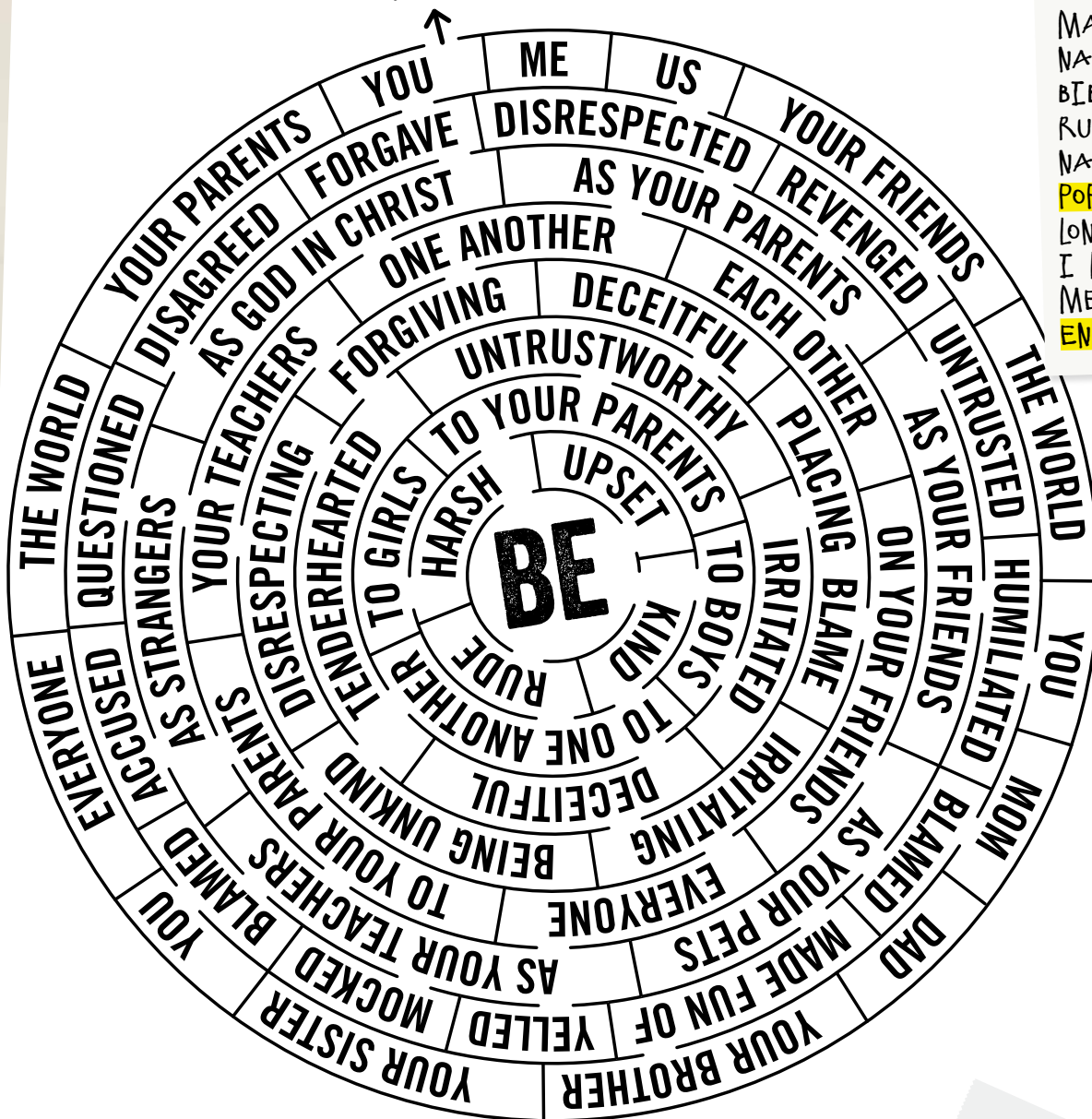
CLUE 1:

My friend and I had a serious disagreement! Later, he had some good advice for all of us. To learn what he said, start in the center of the wheel. Circle one word or phrase in each row to find your way to the outside. Avoid the words that don't fit my friend's advice!



## CLUE 2

MANY KIDS HAVE NAMES FROM THE BIBLE. MICAH. RUTH. JOHN. MY NAME ISN'T AS POPULAR. too LONG MAYBE? BUT I LIKE IT! IT MEANS "SON OF ENCOURAGEMENT."



CLUE 3

You might know about something nice I did for my friends. Read this clue in a mirror to discover what I did.

SOLD LAND AND GAVE MONEY TO CHRISTIANS

# THE CASE OF

## THE CHOSEN ONE

Use the clues to identify the mystery Bible character.

### CLUE 1:

Jesus probably spoke to me more than any other person! Discover what name He used for me by drawing a straight line from each question to the correct number. Unscramble the letters that you crossed out, and write the word on the lines below.

ON WHAT DAY DID GOD CREATE MAN?	
HOW MANY DAYS DID NOAH SPEND IN THE ARK?	
HOW MANY COMMANDMENTS DID GOD GIVE MOSES?	
HOW MANY DAYS DID JONAH SPEND IN THE BELLY OF THE GREAT FISH?	
HOW MANY DAYS DID THE ISRAELITES MARCH AROUND JERICO?	
HOW MANY TRIBES OF ISRAEL WERE THERE?	

### CLUE 2

WHY WOULD ANYONE WANT to **KILL** **BABY BOYS**? MY HUSBAND AND I KNEW WE WERE **IN DANGER**, SO WE FLED to EGYPT UNTIL THE DANGER HAD PASSED.

T  
A R D M  
T U O K  
E  
H A  
S R N  
M \_ \_ \_ \_ R

6  
7  
12  
40  
3  
10

### CLUE 3

Use **code P** on your decoder wheel to learn where I was born, and where my husband and I raised our son.

XKJKBODR

# THE CASE OF THE TRAVELING DOCTOR

Use the clues to identify the mystery Bible character.

## CLUE 1:

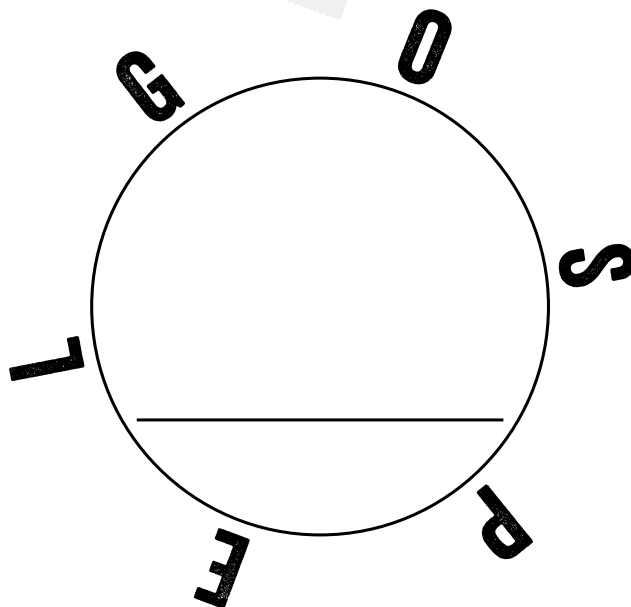
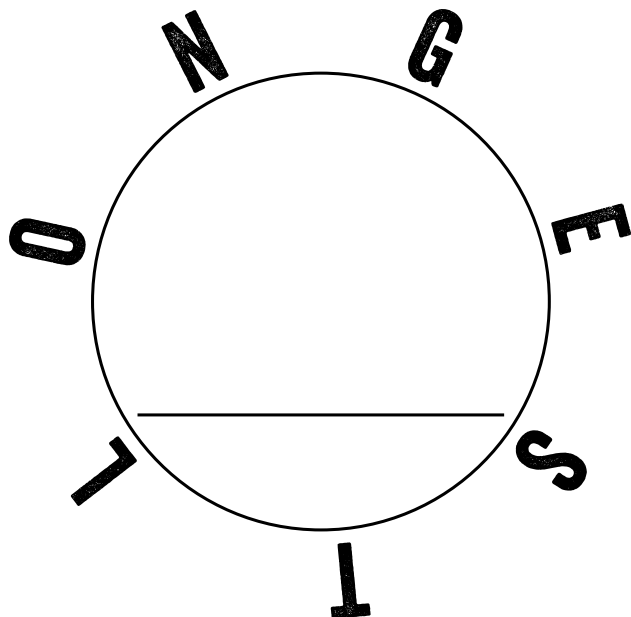
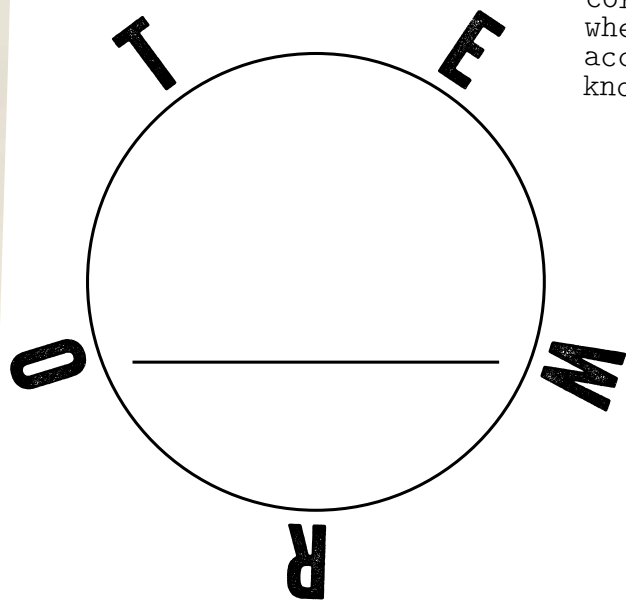
Start reading at the correct place on each word wheel to learn about an accomplishment that I'm known for.



## CLUE 2

MY FRIENDS WERE  
HAPPY TO HAVE  
ME ALONG. I'M A  
GENTILE, AND WE  
WERE PREACHING TO  
GENTILES. I'M ALSO  
A PHYSICIAN. WHEN  
YOU TRAVEL A LOT,  
HAVING A DOCTOR  
MAKES LIFE SAFER.

**THE**



## CLUE 3

You probably know  
the name of one of  
my good friends.

Use code Y to learn my friend's name.

UIF BQPTUMF QBVM

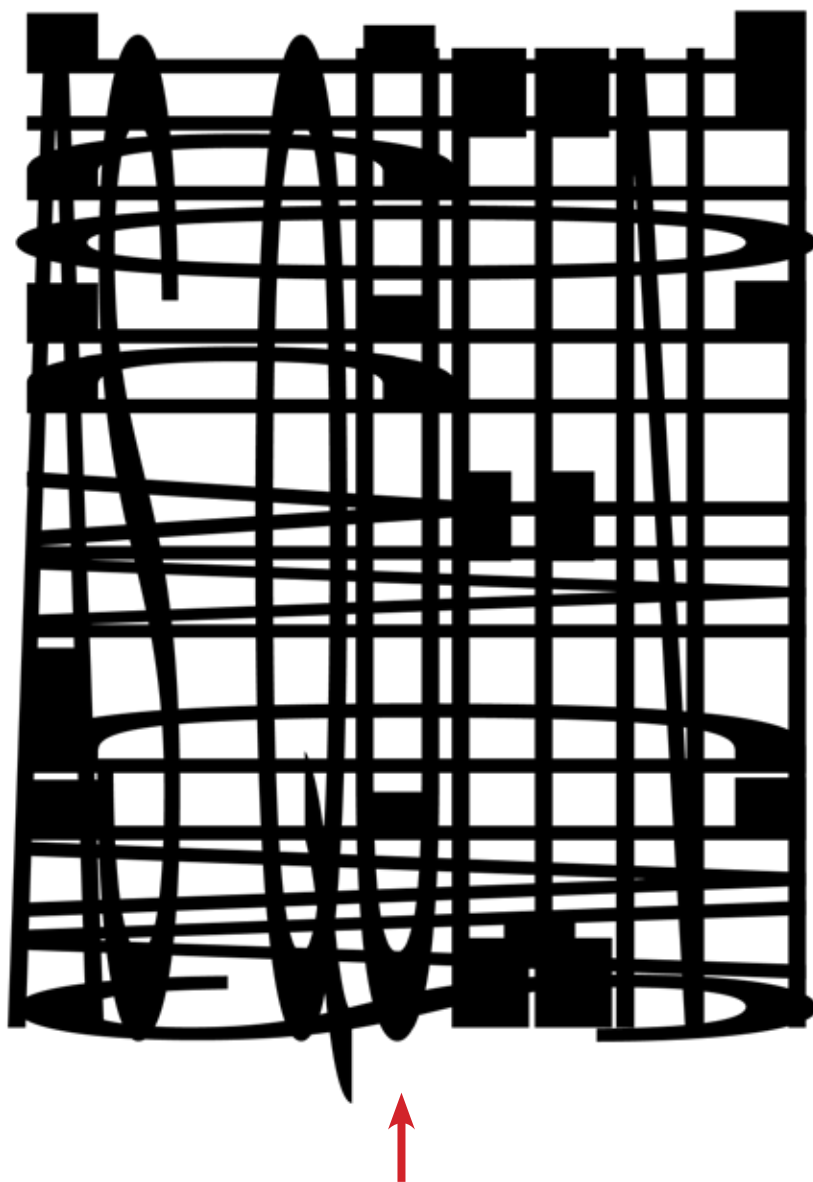
# THE CASE OF THE ROYAL RESCUER

Use the clues to identify the mystery Bible character.



## CLUE 1:

Can you discover the hidden words in this image? Tilt your page almost to eye level, and then rotate it to read the second part. You'll learn something about me.



## CLUE 2

I NEVER REALLY KNEW MY PARENTS. WHEN MY FATHER AND MOTHER DIED, MY OLDER COUSIN TOOK ME INTO HIS HOME AND RAISED ME.

## CLUE 3

I wouldn't have been in a position to help anyone without my cousin's help.

Use **Code X** to learn the name of my cousin.

OQTFGECK



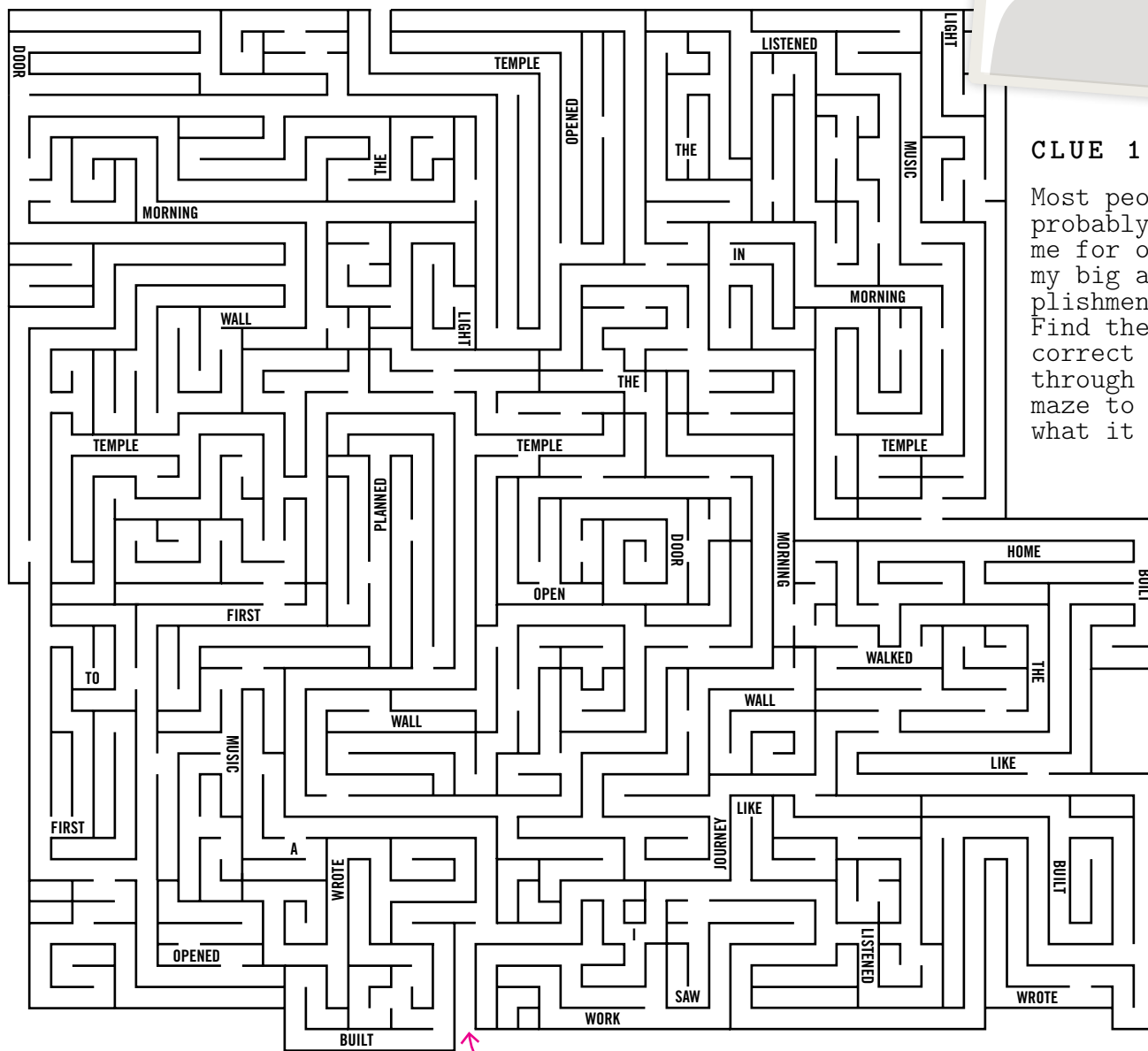
# THE CASE OF THE ROYAL BUILDER

Use the clues to identify the mystery Bible character.



## CLUE 1:

Most people probably know me for one of my big accomplishments. Find the correct way through this maze to learn what it was!



Start here

## CLUE 2

BEFORE MY DAD DIED, HE GAVE ME SOME WORDS TO LIVE BY. "BE STRONG," HE SAID "AND SHOW YOURSELF A MAN, AND KEEP THE CHARGE OF THE LORD YOUR GOD!" GOOD WORDS FROM A KING.

## CLUE 3

Do you know my father? Write the first letter of each object or animal in the blanks to discover his name.



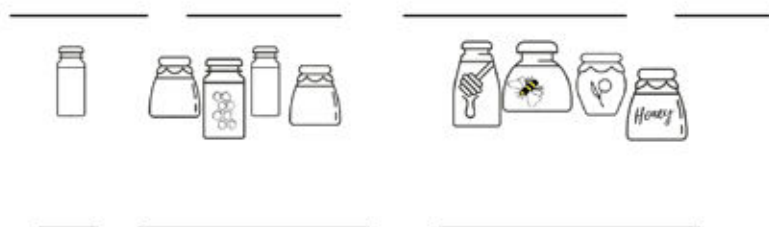
\_\_\_\_\_

# THE CASE OF THE HAIRY SITUATION

Use the clues to identify the mystery Bible character.

## CLUE 1:

Is anything sweeter than honey? Maybe, but not for me. Once, I found some honey in a strange place. Match the markings on each honey jar to the letters below to learn where I found this very tasty treat!



## CLUE 2

I MADE A SPECIAL PROMISE to GOD, SO I HAD to FOLLOW SOME SPECIAL RULES. I COULDN'T GO TO A GRAVE, EVEN WHEN SOMEONE I KNEW DIED. I COULDN'T CUT MY HAIR OR EVEN EAT GRAPES!

## CLUE 3

Whenever I think of the woman who betrayed me, a thought goes through my head.

Use Code J to reveal the answer.

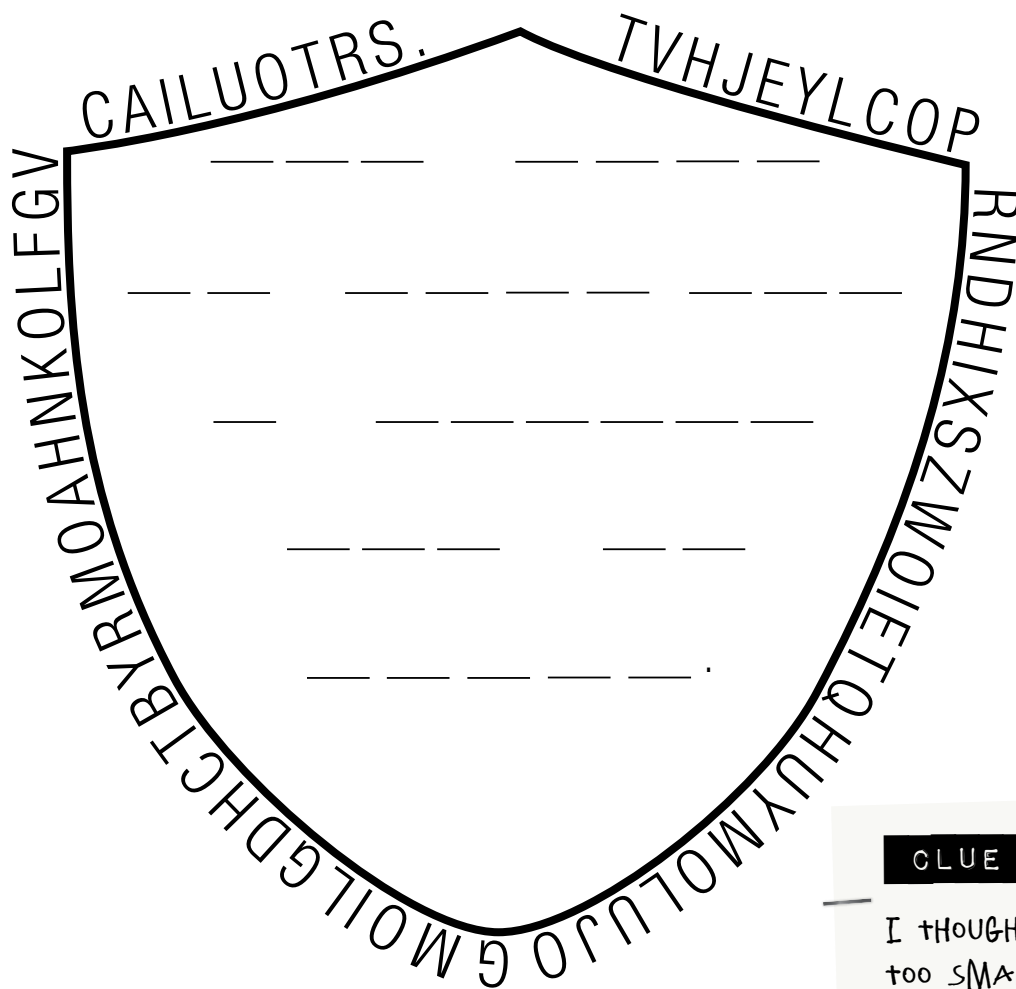
MEHIJ XQYHSKJ ULUH

# THE CASE OF THE MISMATCHED MILITARY

Use the clues to identify the mystery Bible character.

## CLUE 1

I was the youngest in my family, weak and small. How could God use me? But one day, the Lord's messenger greeted me. And you wouldn't believe what He said! Start at the top right of the shield, and copy every other letter from the rim to the spaces below.



## CLUE 2

I THOUGHT MY ARMY WAS TOO SMALL. BUT GOD WAS IN CHARGE. I NEEDED TO LEARN TO TRUST HIM. HE NARROWED OUR NUMBERS DOWN TO JUST 300 MEN BASED ON HOW THEY TOOK A DRINK OF WATER.

OUR LITTLE ARMY MARCHED FORWARD WITH TRUMPETS AND TORCHES. WOULD GOD GIVE US VICTORY?

## CLUE 3

Hold this message to a mirror and flip it upside down to see something I accomplished:

**YACAN GOD BAAT  
DESTROYED AN AGIAB TO THE**

# THE CASE OF THE LAUGHING ANCESTOR

## CLUE 1

Use the clues to identify the mystery Bible character.

When you're my age, you try to see the lighter side of life. But why would I laugh after hearing good news that fulfilled my childhood dreams? Unscramble each word to learn what that news was.

" I SAW 09 SEARY  
\_\_\_\_\_ Y \_\_\_\_\_

DOL HEWN HET  
\_\_\_\_\_

DORL DLOT EM  
\_\_\_\_\_ T \_\_\_\_\_

I DOWLU NOSO  
\_\_\_\_\_

EVAH A NOS  
\_\_\_\_\_ . "



## CLUE 2

MY DESCENDENTS BECAME  
GOD'S CHOSEN PEOPLE,  
ISRAEL. I GUESS I'D  
FORGOTTEN SOMETHING  
VERY BASIC AND VERY  
TRUE: NOTHING IS TOO  
DIFFICULT FOR THE LORD!

## CLUE 3

Not many people  
get a new name  
at this point in  
life. And I kind  
of liked my old  
name!

Use code Y to learn  
what that name was.

NZ OBNF

XBT TBSBJ



# THE CASE OF

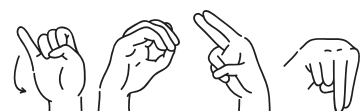
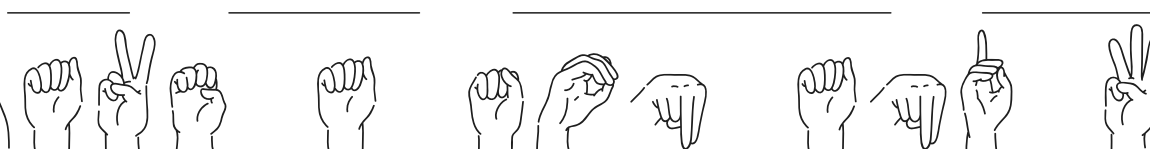
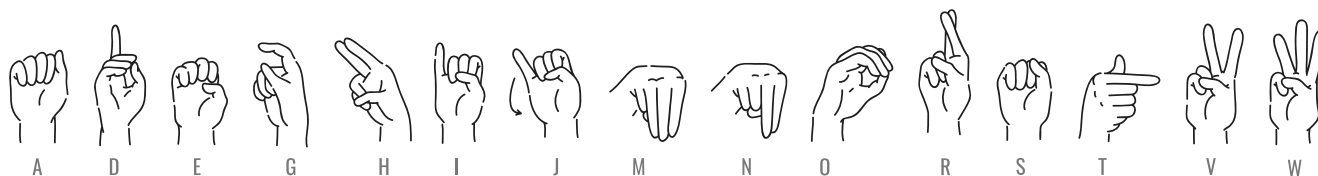
Use the clues to identify the mystery Bible character.

## THE SILENT SPOUSE



### CLUE 1:

My husband was away at work when an angel gave him some incredible news. But he doubted that news and lost his voice as a result! Replace each sign with the correct letter in the spaces below to learn what that news was.



!

**CLUE 2** MY SON HAD A STRANGE DIET AS AN ADULT. HE WILL MISS MY COOKING!

### CLUE 3

My cousin Mary came to visit when I was with child. Use code X to discover what happened.

K HGNV LQJP LWOR HQT LQA .

# THE CASE OF

## THE FIRST WITNESS

Use the clues to identify the mystery Bible character.

### CLUE 1:

A few days after one of the most terrible days I've ever witnessed, a good friend of mine fulfilled a promise. Cross out every word listed to reveal what happened.

HTCSBJESUSDERITERGOS  
 THRSLDNESUFFERINGABB  
 AIUOEGRAVEEFROMDTSM  
 ERCRENTHORNSCHEDHOO  
 DSICDITDESTRUCTIONTO  
 NTFAIYOTIREDTGBURIED  
 IYIDNDMANDBURIALIWAS  
 ATEHGEBBRUISEFISRSTT  
 PODSTOMBSTONENEEHURT  
 HURTUCHIBURIALDMPAIN

### WORD SEARCH

burial (2)  
 death  
 cross  
 tombstone  
 pain (2)  
 suffering  
 blood  
 grave  
 tomb (2)  
 cut (2)  
 bruise  
 thirsty  
 tired (2)  
 crucified  
 dying  
 end (3)  
 destruction  
 gash (2)  
 bleeding  
 thorns  
 buried  
 hurt (2)

### CLUE 2

THE MAN LOOKED LIKE A GARDENER, OR SO I THOUGHT. BUT HE WAS **SO MUCH BETTER** THAN THAT.

### CLUE 3

Don't confuse me with another person who shares my name! She comes from Nazareth. Use **code S** to learn where I come from.

**THNKHSH**

# THE CASE OF THE MISSING MISSIONARY

Use the clues to identify the mystery Bible character.



CLUE 1:

I guess others have also learned to follow God's directions the hard way. But God had to get really serious with me. Redraw the puzzle pieces in the correct boxes below to learn how God got my attention.

## CLUE 2

GOD WAS TRYING TO TEACH ME SOMETHING. EVEN IN MY DISOBEDIENCE. I LEARNED THAT

## SALVATION

BELONGS TO  
THE LORD, AND  
NOT TO ME!

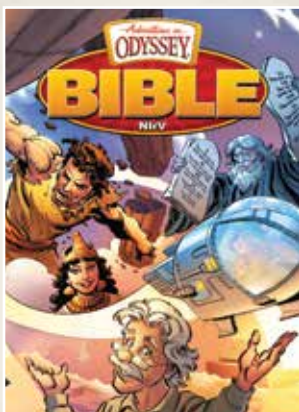
## CLUE 3

I couldn't believe that God wanted to save bad people. I had a lot to learn about God's grace. Use **code N** to discover where God sent me.

ZUZQHQT



# BIBLE LITERACY RESOURCES FOR YOUR FAMILY



## Adventures in Odyssey Bible

Kids can enjoy reading God's Word with the characters from Adventures in Odyssey.



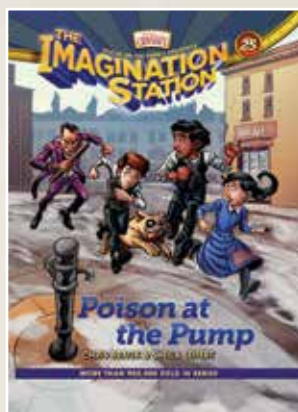
## Adventures in Odyssey Club

Each month you'll get access to a brand-new, exclusive Adventures in Odyssey episode and activities, in addition to access to the entire Adventures in Odyssey series. [AIOClub.org](http://AIOClub.org)



## Bible KidVentures

Get stories that build on a child's knowledge of the Bible with fun and entertaining short stories. For ages 7 to 12.

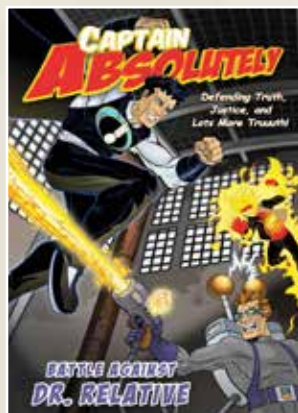


## Imagination Station

Explore history from a biblical perspective with Patrick and Beth, two characters from Odyssey. For ages 5 to 10.



**Clubhouse Jr.** is an award-winning, biblically based magazine for 3- to 7-year-olds.



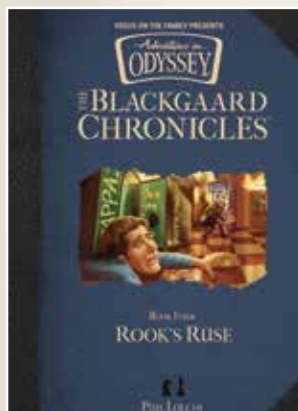
## Captain Absolutely: Defending Truth, Justice, and Lots More Truuuth!

Josiah King battles villains and defends God's truth.



## Focus on the Family Clubhouse

magazine is an award-winning, biblically based publication for 8- to 12-year-olds.



## Adventures in Odyssey: Blackgaard Chronicles Books

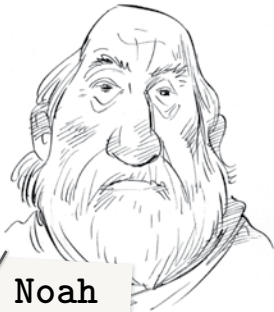
A book series that introduces stories based on the Adventures in Odyssey audio program.

Find these great resources at [FocusOnTheFamily.com/store](http://FocusOnTheFamily.com/store)



# THE LINEUP

Use the lineup as a reference to possible characters for each case. When a mystery is solved, cut out the correct character and attach it to the puzzle sheet. Don't be fooled; some characters can be used more than once!



Noah



Deborah



Paul



Ruth



Peter



Nehemiah



John the Baptist



Miriam



Luke



Adam



Esther



Moses



Joseph



Abraham



Naaman



Joshua



John



Barnabas



Mary



Daniel



Lot's wife



David



Priscilla






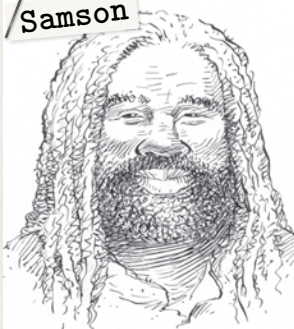


King Solomon



FocusOnTheFamily.com/  
BibleDetectives

# THE LINEUP

Use the lineup as a reference to possible characters for each case. When a mystery is solved, cut out the correct character and attach it to the puzzle sheet. Don't be fooled; some characters can be used more than once!

 <div>Sarah</div>	 <div>Jonah</div>	 <div>Elizabeth</div>	 <div>Samson</div>	 <div>Mary Magdalene</div>
 <div>Gideon</div>				

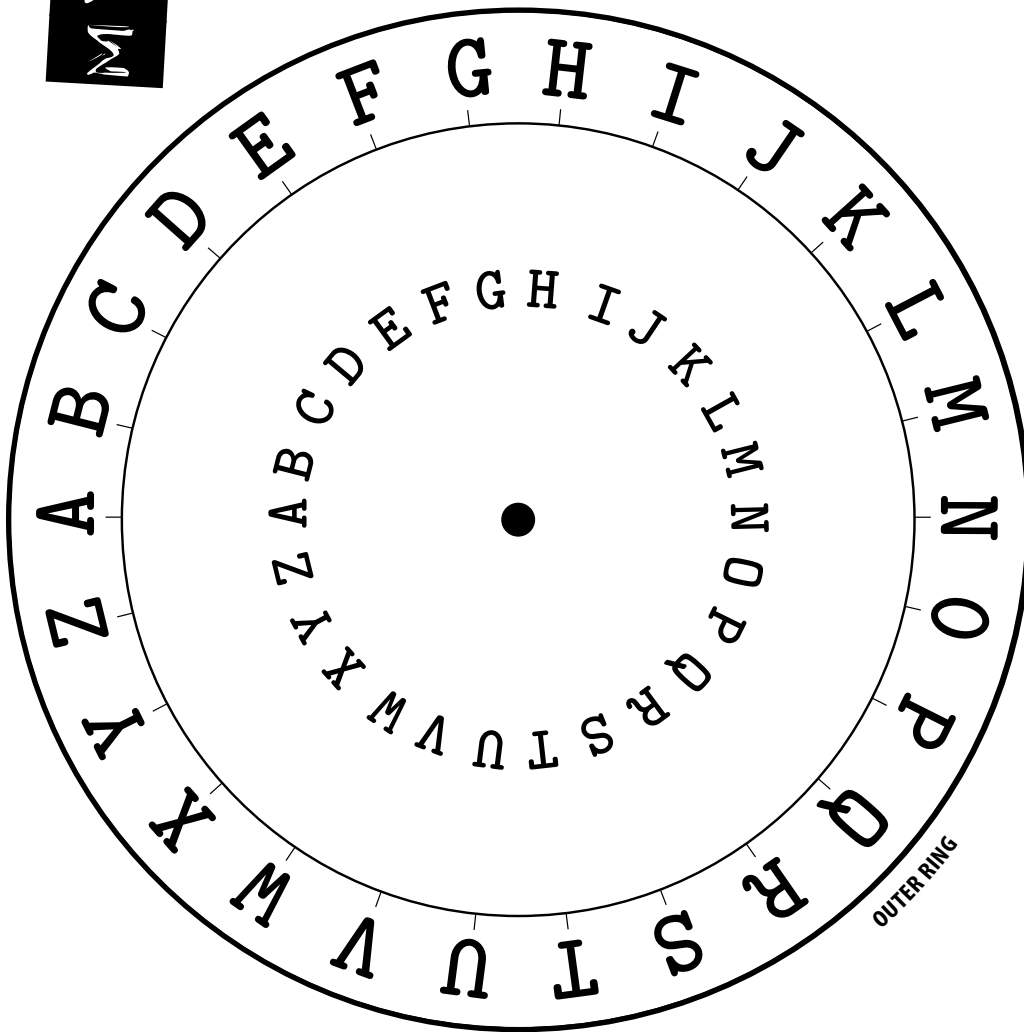


FocusOnTheFamily.com/  
BibleDetectives



# MYSTERY DECODER

1. Print on thick paper for best results.
2. Cut out both disks.
3. Cut out the rectangle next to CODE.
4. Using a brass paper fastener, pierce the centers of the disks and attach the smaller disk to the larger one. (Instead of a brass fastener, you can use a thumbtack to fasten it to a small box.)



## EXAMPLE

This decoder is set to **CODE D**

WEQTPI  
SAMPLE

# PAUL THE APOSTLE



## PROFILE

- Birth name: Saul
- Arrested and persecuted Christians
- Saw Jesus on the road to Damascus and went blind for three days
- Became a missionary of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, especially to Gentiles
- Author of several New Testament books

## NOTES

**BIRTHPLACE:**  
TARSUS, CILICIA  
(ROMAN EMPIRE)

**ASSOCIATES:**  
BARNABAS,  
SILAS, TIMOTHY

**SCRIPTURE:**  
ROMANS 1:15

## LIVED:

A.D. 5 - 67

## OCCUPATION:

tentmaker, missionary

## TESTIMONY

As a Pharisee, I thought I was such an educated man! I believed I was serving God by persecuting the followers of Jesus Christ. But Jesus still loved me, and He convinced me to serve Him while I traveled along the road to Damascus. I went from persecuting Christians to planting churches!

## PROFILE

- Born to a Hebrew mother but raised by an Egyptian princess
- Fled Pharaoh after killing an Egyptian
- Heard the voice of God, who spoke to him from a burning bush
- Led Israel out of Egypt to the Promised Land

## NOTES

**BIRTHPLACE:**  
EGYPT

**ASSOCIATES:**  
AARON,  
MIRIAM,  
JOSHUA

**SCRIPTURE:**  
EXODUS 3:10

## TESTIMONY

I knew my heritage, that I was Hebrew. When I saw an Egyptian beating another Hebrew, I became so angry that I killed him. But there were witnesses. I had to run away. Then God spoke to me through a burning bush and told me I had to go back and lead the Israelites out of captivity. I doubted I'd be a good leader, but God's power was with me.

# MOSES



## LIVED:

1393-1273 B.C.

## OCCUPATION:

leader, lawgiver



## DANIEL



### LIVED:

620-538 B.C.

### OCCUPATION:

civic leader,  
prophet

## PROFILE

- Taken as a **slave** to Babylon as a young man
- Honored God as he served the pagan kings of Babylon and Persia
- **Interpreted royal dreams** and visions
- Thrown into a den of lions for praying to God three times a day

## NOTES

### BIRTHPLACE:

JUDAH

### LIVED IN:

BABYLON, PERSIA

### ASSOCIATES:

SHADRACH,  
MESHACH,  
ABEDNEGO

### SCRIPTURE:

DANIEL 1:17;  
6:3

## TESTIMONY

Can God touch a pagan king's heart? He certainly wants to. God allowed me to interpret King Nebuchadnezzar's dream, even though the king never told me any details. The Lord also protected me when jealous leaders forced King Darius to throw me into **a lions' den**. But both kings did recognize that the Lord is the only true God.

## PROFILE

- **Wore camel hair robes;** ate locusts and wild honey in the wilderness
- Prepared the way for Jesus by teaching Israel about their need to repent and about the kingdom of heaven
- **Baptized Jesus;** recognized Him as God's Son
- **Beheaded by Herod** after criticizing Herod for marrying his brother's ex-wife

## NOTES

BIRTHPLACE:  
JUDAEA

ASSOCIATES:  
JESUS OF  
NAZARETH,  
ELIZABETH

SCRIPTURE:  
MATTHEW  
11:7-11

## TESTIMONY

People asked me many questions. **Was I the Messiah?** "Who are you?" they finally asked. I told them I was there to prepare the way for the Lord's arrival. I encouraged people to repent and change their ways--to live godly lives.

## JOHN THE BAPTIST



### LIVED:

A.D. 1 - ABOUT 31

### OCCUPATION:

preacher

## RUTH



LIVED:

ABOUT 1100 B.C.

OCCUPATION:

gleaner

## PROFILE

- Was a Moabite widow and the daughter-in-law of Naomi
- Gathered grain from fields after crops were harvested
- Married Boaz, who recognized her as a woman of noble character
- Great-grandmother of King David and an ancestor of Jesus

## NOTES

BIRTHPLACE:

MOAB

LIVED IN: MOAB, ISRAEL

ASSOCIATES:

NAOMI, BOAZ

SCRIPTURE:

RUTH 1:16-17

## TESTIMONY

After my husband died, my mother-in-law, Naomi, told me to stay in Moab with my people. Naomi was going to return to her home in Bethlehem. But I told her that I would go with her and that I would serve her God. Only death could stop my loyalty to her!

## PROFILE

- Was a disciple of John the Baptist before becoming a disciple of Jesus
- Wrote the Gospel of John and First, Second and Third John
- Often called "the disciple who Jesus loved"
- Exiled to the island of Patmos
- Observed and recorded a vision of the last days

## NOTES

BIRTHPLACE:  
BETHSAIDA,  
GALILEE

ASSOCIATES:  
JESUS, JAMES  
(BROTHER),  
JOHN THE  
BAPTIST

SCRIPTURE:  
ACTS 4:13

## TESTIMONY

I traveled with Jesus during His ministry. Years later, after Jesus returned to the Father, the Roman government placed me in exile. It was difficult, but I was there for a reason. God sent an angel to give me a vision about the future. I recorded what I saw so that others could learn about God's message of what was to come.

## JOHN THE APOSTLE



LIVED:

A.D. 6-100

OCCUPATION:

apostle, author

## DAVID



### LIVED:

1040 - 970 B.C.

### OCCUPATION:

shepherd,  
warrior, king

## PROFILE

- This shepherd boy famously defeated the giant Goliath
- Was called a "man after God's own heart"
- Served as the second King of Israel
- Was an ancestor of Jesus Christ
- Wrote many songs and poems included in the book of Psalms

## NOTES

BIRTHPLACE:  
BETHLEHEM

ASSOCIATES:  
JONATHAN

SCRIPTURE:  
ACTS 13:22

## TESTIMONY

What a life God had for me! From shepherd to warrior to king of Israel. Most of the time, I've tried to follow the Lord's will, although I committed some great sins. Still, God's love and His power were with me. He helped me protect my sheep from a fierce lion. He helped me slay the giant Goliath. And He helped me be a good king to my people.

## PROFILE

- Lived in Sodom, an ungodly city
- Was told that city would be destroyed
- Was commanded by an angel to leave and not look back
- Disobeyed God's instruction and was turned into a pillar of salt

## NOTES

HOME:  
SODOM

ASSOCIATES:  
Lot (HUSBAND),  
TWO DAUGHTERS

SCRIPTURE:  
GENESIS 19:26;  
LUKE 17:32-33

## TESTIMONY

God had saved my family before. Why didn't I trust Him? Why didn't I obey His messengers? I chose to look back at the destruction of my home city! Maybe it was because I missed it already or that I wanted to see what was happening. I don't know. But as the flaming sulfur fell upon the city, I was transformed into a pillar of salt.

## LOT'S WIFE



### LIVED:

ABOUT 1900 B.C.

OCCUPATION:  
mother



## MIRIAM



LIVED:

ABOUT 1400 B.C.

OCCUPATION:

prophetess, leader

## PROFILE

- Older sister of Aaron and Moses
- Watched as Pharaoh's daughter found Moses in reeds
- Leader of Hebrew women
- Afflicted with leprosy after criticizing Moses, but healed through her brother's prayer

## NOTES

BIRTHPLACE:

EGYPT

ASSOCIATES:

AARON,  
MOSES,  
JOSHUA

SCRIPTURE:

EXODUS  
15:20-21

## TESTIMONY

We thought we were caught. We would be returned to captivity! But God's power gave us safe passage to the other side of the Red Sea. And when we turned around, we saw Pharaoh's horses and soldiers swept away by the tumbling waters. I was filled with such joy and relief. I sang and danced to celebrate the Lord's deliverance of His people.

## PROFILE

- Sent as one of 12 spies to explore Canaan
- Name means "God saves"
- Chosen by God to lead Israel after Moses
- Led Israel into the land of Canaan
- Commanded Israel's army in several battles, beginning with the city of Jericho

## NOTES

BIRTHPLACE:

EGYPT

ASSOCIATES:

MOSES,  
CALEB,  
RAHAB

SCRIPTURE:

JOSHUA 1:2-3;  
6:27; 24:15

## TESTIMONY

I helped Moses lead the Israelites out of Egyptian captivity. I even climbed Mount Sinai with him when he received the Ten Commandments from God. Before he died, Moses told me that God had chosen me to lead the Israelites into the Promised Land. I wasn't sure about this job. But God instructed me to be "strong and courageous."

## JOSHUA



LIVED:

1355-1245 B.C.

OCCUPATION:

spy, leader of  
Israelites

## PETER



### LIVED:

1 B.C. - A.D. 67

### OCCUPATION:

fisherman,  
disciple

## PROFILE

- Name was changed by Jesus from Simon to Peter, which means "rock"
- Was a friend and disciple of Jesus--once walked on water with Jesus
- Was the author of First and Second Peter

## NOTES

### BIRTHPLACE:

GALILEE

### ASSOCIATES:

ANDREW  
(BROTHER),  
JESUS,  
JAMES, JOHN

### SCRIPTURE:

LUKE 5:11;  
MATTHEW 16:16

## TESTIMONY

I never thought it would happen to me. Deny my Lord? The Messiah? But on that dark night before Jesus' death, I found myself denying Him three times. I was so relieved to see Jesus again, to know that He had forgiven me for betraying Him. And I spent the rest of my life telling others about Him.

## PROFILE

- Left his homeland to follow God's lead
- Had a son, Isaac, when he was 100 years old
- Was willing to obey God completely, even if it meant sacrificing his own son
- Became the father of all Israel

## NOTES

### BIRTHPLACE:

UR

### ASSOCIATES:

SARAI  
(WIFE), Lot  
(NEPHEW)

### SCRIPTURE:

GENESIS  
13:14-16

## TESTIMONY

I was 96 years old when God told me I would be a father of many, numbering more than the stars in the sky. What a promise! I was an old man. My wife was old, too. Could God really do this? I believed Him because God created everything that lives. Surely He could fulfill this promise.

## ABRAHAM



### LIVED:

ABOUT 1800 - 1600 B.C.

### OCCUPATION:

livestock  
owner



## MARY



### LIVED:

18 B.C. - ?

### OCCUPATION:

mother, wife

## PROFILE

- Was the mother of Jesus
- Found favor with God and rejoiced in the plan God had for her
- Temporarily **lost her Son** in Jerusalem when He was 12
- Was **present at Golgotha** when Jesus was crucified

### NOTES

**BIRTHPLACE:**  
NAZARETH

**ASSOCIATES:**  
JOSEPH  
(HUSBAND);  
ELIZABETH  
(COUSIN)

**SCRIPTURE:**  
LUKE 1:38;  
2:5-6

## TESTIMONY

The angel told me I was going to have a baby! How? I wasn't married yet. The angel said God's Holy Spirit would cause me to become pregnant. The child would be called the Son of God. "**Nothing is impossible** with God," the angel said as he left me. I treasured this message, trusting God's plan for the salvation of His people.

## PROFILE

- Victorious commander of Syrian army
- Visited Elisha in Judah, hoping to be healed of leprosy
- Initially **too proud** to bathe in the Jordan River

### NOTES

**BIRTHPLACE:**  
ARAM-  
DAMASCUS

**ASSOCIATES:**  
KING BEN  
HADAD II

**SCRIPTURE:**  
LUKE 4:27

## TESTIMONY

I was suffering from a **painful skin disease** called leprosy. My wife's servant girl suggested that I go to Israel to visit a prophet who could heal me. I was excited until the prophet Elisha told me to **bathe in a muddy river**. I was unwilling to follow his instructions. But when I finally did, I was healed!

## NAAMAN



### LIVED:

ABOUT 850 B.C.

### OCCUPATION:

military commander

## NOAH



**LIVED:**  
SOME UNKNOWN TIME  
AFTER CREATION

**OCCUPATION:**  
ship builder

## PROFILE

- Used by God to save his family and every animal species from destruction
- Was 600 years old when God flooded the earth
- Witnessed the first rainbow, the promise from God that He would never again destroy the world by a flood
- Lived to be 950 years old

## NOTES

**BIRTHPLACE:**  
MESOPOTAMIA

**ASSOCIATES:**  
SHEM, HAM,  
JAPHETH  
(SONS)

**SCRIPTURE:**  
GENESIS 6:22;  
2 PETER 2:5

## TESTIMONY

I wanted to love God and His truths. And I tried to help my family do the same. But there was such overwhelming evil in the world! God said He was going to wipe the sin away with a giant flood. He told me to build a giant boat to save my family and all the animals on earth. And that's what I did.

## PROFILE

- Evicted from Rome under the orders of the Roman emperor
- Lived, worked and sometimes traveled with the apostle Paul
- Discipled Apollos, a famous first-century evangelist
- Praised for her servant heart and the gift of hospitality

## NOTES

**BIRTHPLACE:**  
ROME

**ASSOCIATES:**  
AQUILA  
(HUSBAND),  
APOSTLE  
PAUL

**SCRIPTURE:**  
ACTS 18:2-3,26

## TESTIMONY

Yes, I knew the apostle Paul. He was a good friend. My husband and I served with Paul as missionaries to the Gentiles. We discipled new believers, helping them grow stronger in their faith. But we still had to make a living. So we all worked as tentmakers.

## PRISCILLA



**LIVED:**

FIRST CENTURY

**OCCUPATION:**

tentmaker,  
missionary

## ADAM



LIVED:

BEFORE ANY OTHER HUMAN

OCCUPATION:

farmer

## PROFILE

- Was the first man
- Named the animals and was given authority over the earth
- Disobeyed God's command and ate the forbidden fruit
- Brought sin into the world and caused all of creation to fall under God's curse
- Lived to be 930 years old

## NOTES

HOME: EDEN

ASSOCIATES:  
EVE (WIFE),  
CAIN AND  
ABEL (SONS)

SCRIPTURE:  
GENESIS  
2:7-8

## TESTIMONY

I should have spoken up. "No, we can't eat from that tree. God commanded us to not eat that fruit." But it sure looked tasty. Sweet and juicy. And wouldn't it be good to be able to tell the difference between good and evil? To be like God. So we ate. And then everything changed.

## PROFILE

- Served as cupbearer to King Artaxerxes
- Received permission to help rebuild Jerusalem
- Resisted Israelite enemies, such as Sanballat, Tobiah and Geshem
- Worked with Ezra, who restored the nation's observance of God's laws

## NOTES

BIRTHPLACE:  
BABYLON

ASSOCIATES:  
EZRA, KING  
ARTAXERXES

SCRIPTURE:  
NEHEMIAH  
2:3-5; 6:15-16

## TESTIMONY

I'd just heard the terrible news. The walls around Jerusalem were still destroyed, with fires breaking out around the city. I prayed and wept and mourned the fate of my fellow Hebrews. I decided to ask King Artaxerxes for some time off from my job. I wasn't going on vacation. I was going back to Judah to help repair the home of my ancestors.

## NEHEMIAH



LIVED:

FIFTH CENTURY B.C.

OCCUPATION:

cupbearer, adviser  
to the king, builder



# DEBORAH



## PROFILE

- Was the fourth judge of Israel after Joshua
- Advised and judged from under a palm tree
- Told Barak that God wanted him to attack Jabin, king of Canaan
- Agreed to go into battle with Barak

## NOTES

BIRTHPLACE:  
ISRAEL

ASSOCIATES:  
BARAK

SCRIPTURE:  
JUDGES 4:14

## TESTIMONY

I was the fourth judge of Israel. I was also the only female judge and the only judge to also be called a prophet. I tried to lead my people with wisdom and God's truth. My 40 years of leadership in Israel happened over 1,000 years before Jesus came to Earth.

### LIVED:

LATE 12TH  
CENTURY-1067 B.C.

### OCCUPATION:

judge, prophetess

## PROFILE

- Called the "beloved physician" by the apostle Paul
- Accompanied Paul on several missionary journeys
- Helped establish the early Christian church
- Was the author of the Gospel of Luke and the book of Acts

## NOTES

BIRTHPLACE:  
ANTIOCH,  
SYRIA

ASSOCIATES:  
PAUL, MARK,  
JUSTUS,  
EPAPHRAS

SCRIPTURE:  
LUKE 1:1-4

## TESTIMONY

As I worked with the apostle Paul, I talked with many who were eyewitnesses to the life and ministry of Jesus Christ. These men and women told me about Jesus' love for the poor and the oppressed. He truly was the Messiah! I carefully recorded these events so that others could learn about how Jesus came to save us all!

# LUKE



### LIVED:

FIRST CENTURY

### OCCUPATION:

physician,  
missionary, writer



# ESTHER



## LIVED:

FIFTH CENTURY B.C.

## OCCUPATION:

queen

## PROFILE

- Was an orphan, raised by her cousin, Mordecai
- Selected by King Xerxes to become the queen of Persia because of her grace and beauty
- Risked her life to expose a plot against all Jews
- Saved the Jewish people from destruction

## NOTES

BIRTHPLACE:  
PERSIA

ASSOCIATES:  
MORDECAI,  
KING XERXES,  
HAMAN

SCRIPTURE:  
ESTHER 2:7-8,  
17; 4:14

## TESTIMONY

What a terrible law! My people were to be murdered in three days! Could I convince the king to change his mind? I could be executed just for approaching him. But I relied on God for the courage to talk to the king and convince him that his adviser Haman was working to destroy my family and my people . . . and me.

## PROFILE

- Originally named Joseph, his new name meant "son of encouragement"
- Friend and co-worker of the apostle Paul
- Sold land and gave money to Christians in Jerusalem
- Directed by the Holy Spirit to preach the Gospel to Gentiles

## NOTES

BIRTHPLACE:  
CYPRUS

ASSOCIATES:  
PAUL, MARK

SCRIPTURE:  
ACTS 11:22-24

## TESTIMONY

Sometimes Christians have conflicts. And sometimes there isn't a right or wrong side to those disagreements. I worked as a missionary with Paul. We traveled together preaching the Gospel. But we had a sharp disagreement during one particular journey. We had to split up, but we both still wanted others to know about Jesus!

# BARNABAS



## LIVED:

ABOUT A.D. 1 - 61

## OCCUPATION:

missionary

## JOSEPH



### LIVED:

1562-1452 B.C.

### OCCUPATION:

slave,  
prime minister of Egypt

## PROFILE

- Was the favorite son of his father
- Sold into slavery by his brothers
- Imprisoned after being falsely accused of assault
- Became a powerful leader in Egypt

## NOTES

### BIRTHPLACE:

ISRAEL

### ASSOCIATES:

PHARAOH,  
ASENATH (WIFE),  
JACOB (FATHER)

### SCRIPTURE:

GENESIS

37:3,12,18;

50:20

## TESTIMONY

What crazy dreams! I was gathering wheat in a field with my 11 brothers. Their bales of wheat bowed down to me! Later, I dreamed that my family--represented as the sun, moon and stars--all bowed down to me, too. My brothers were angry when I told them about these dreams. Perhaps I was wrong to tell them, but after many hardships, God did bring these things to pass.

## PROFILE

- Built God's temple
- Was blessed by God with wisdom and wealth
- Wrote three books of the Old Testament
- Didn't follow God in later years; had multiple wives and worshipped idols

## NOTES

BIRTHPLACE:  
JERUSALEM

ASSOCIATES:  
BATHSHEBA  
(MOTHER)  
KING DAVID  
(FATHER)

SCRIPTURE:  
1 KINGS 4:29

## TESTIMONY

"Ask for anything you want." Those were God's words to me one night as I became king. What should I ask for? Power and wealth? The death of my enemies? No, I wanted to honor my father, King David, and the relationship he had with God. So I asked for wisdom and knowledge to rule my people well. God gave me those things, but also prosperity.

## KING SOLOMON



### REIGN:

EARLY 10TH  
CENTURY-931 B.C.

### OCCUPATION:

king, builder

## SARAH



LIVED: APPROX. 1800 -  
1600 B.C.

OCCUPATION:  
wife, mother

## PROFILE

- God changed her name from Sarai to Sarah, reflecting His promise to make her a "mother of nations."
- Followed God's plan to leave Ur and settle in the land of Canaan
- Angelic messengers foretold the birth of her son.
- Her descendants became God's chosen people, Israel.

## NOTES

BIRTHPLACE: UR  
OF THE CHALDEES

ASSOCIATES:  
ABRAHAM  
(HUSBAND),  
ISAAC (SON),  
TERAH (PARENT)

SCRIPTURE:  
GENESIS  
17:15-16

## TESTIMONY

God promised that my descendants would be as numerous as the stars. But when He made that promise, my husband and I didn't have any children. Many years later, when I was already too old to give birth, God said that I would have a son. I laughed at the idea! But at age 90, I gave birth to a boy! I named him Isaac, meaning "laughter." Ha! It's true: Nothing is too difficult for the Lord!

## PROFILE

- Tried (unsuccessfully) to run away from God's plan
- Led the city of Nineveh to repentance
- Was angry that God spared the wicked Ninevite
- God used a worm and a withering plant to teach him about grace.

## NOTES

BIRTHPLACE:  
GATH HEPHER,  
ISRAEL

ASSOCIATES:  
AMITAI  
(FATHER),  
KING  
JEROBOAM

SCRIPTURE:  
JONAH 4:1-4

## TESTIMONY

I tried to run away from God's mission for me, but He sent a mighty storm to stop the ship. I was thrown overboard and swallowed by a huge fish. What an awful experience! But God heard my prayers. He made the fish spit me out! So I preached what He wanted me to say in Nineveh, telling them to repent. I couldn't believe God wanted to save them! I guess I had a lot to learn about God's grace.

## JONAH



LIVED:  
EIGHTH CENTURY B.C.

OCCUPATION:  
prophet



# ELIZABETH



## PROFILE

- Descended from Aaron, the first priest of Israel
- An angel foretold the birth of her baby, who was to be named John (the Baptist).
- Felt her baby jump for joy when Mary, who was pregnant with Jesus, came to visit

## NOTES

BIRTHPLACE:  
HEBRON

ASSOCIATES:  
ZACHARIAH  
(HUSBAND),  
JOHN THE  
BAPTIST  
(SON), MARY  
(COUSIN)

SCRIPTURE:  
LUKE 1:5-6

LIVED:  
FIRST CENTURY B.C.

OCCUPATION:  
wife, mother

## TESTIMONY

Friends pitied my husband and me because we couldn't have children. But God still had a plan for us. One day, after serving in the temple, my husband came home unable to speak. An angel had appeared to him, saying we would have a baby boy whom God would use to prepare the hearts of His people. What a blessing!

## PROFILE

- A Nazirite, set apart by God, living by special rules.
- Told to never cut his hair, or God would take away his strength
- Protected God's people from the Philistines, enemies of Israel
- One of the last judges of Israel
- Once used the jawbone of a donkey as a weapon to kill a thousand Philistines

## NOTES

BIRTHPLACE:  
ZORAH

ASSOCIATES:  
MANOAH  
(FATHER),  
DELILAH

SCRIPTURE:  
JUDGES 13:5

## TESTIMONY

God gave me great strength. I once killed a lion with my bare hands. And later I found honey in that lion's carcass! Regretfully, I broke my promises with God by sharing the secret of my strength. So Delilah cut my hair, and my strength disappeared. While enslaved by the Philistines, my hair slowly grew back. I asked God for my strength again. With it, I brought down a mighty building on Israel's enemies!

# SAMSON



LIVED:  
APPROX 1100-1050 B.C.

OCCUPATION:  
Judge of Israel



# MARY MAGDALENE



**LIVED:**  
FIRST CENTURY

**OCCUPATION:**  
Follower of Christ

## PROFILE

- Loyal to Jesus; traveled with Him during His ministry
- Jesus cast seven demons out of her.
- Was present at Jesus' crucifixion and death
- Was the first to witness Christ's resurrection

## NOTES

**BIRTHPLACE:**  
MAGDALA

**ASSOCIATES:**  
JESUS,  
PETER, MARY  
(MOTHER OF  
JAMES)

**SCRIPTURE:**  
JOHN 20:11-16

## TESTIMONY

After Jesus died, I wept outside His tomb. But then I looked in because the stone had been moved from the opening. I saw where His body should have been, but He wasn't there. Two angels were sitting there instead! Then I saw a man not far away and thought he was a gardener. He asked why I was weeping. Then he said my name and I realized that this man was Jesus! He had risen!

## PROFILE

- The youngest son in his family
- Visited by an angel, who called him a "mighty man of valor"
- Doubted his own abilities; kept asking for signs to confirm God's plan
- Destroyed an altar to the pagan god Baal and won a battle against the Midianites

## NOTES

**BIRTHPLACE:**  
MANASSEH

**ASSOCIATES:**  
JOASH  
(FATHER),  
JEHER  
(SON)

**SCRIPTURE:**  
JUDGES  
6:12-14

## TESTIMONY

I gathered an army of Israelites, but God said I had too many warriors! Too many? I sent some home. But He kept telling me to reduce the number of soldiers, so that His power would be known. When I only had 300 men left, we marched on the enemy, blowing trumpets and lighting torches. We were such a small force, but God confused the Midianites and caused them to start fighting each other! God gave us victory.

# GIDEON



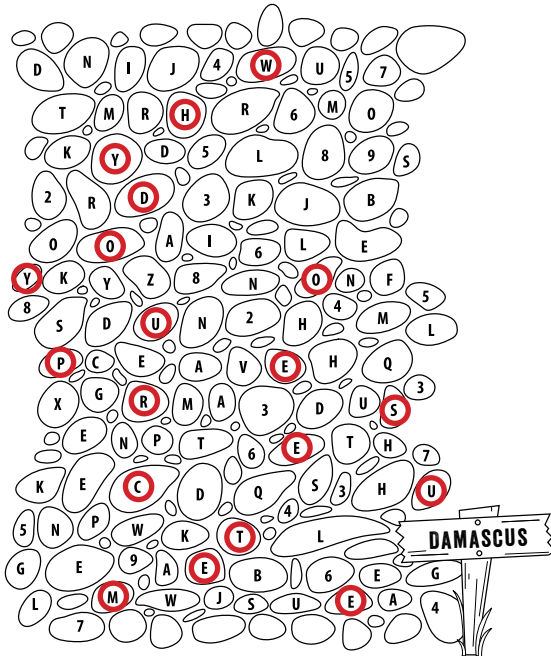
**LIVED:**  
ABOUT 1200-1150 B.C.

**OCCUPATION:**  
judge, military  
commander

# Solutions

## The Case of the Transformed Traveler

Clue 1:



Clue 2: Paul the Apostle

Clue 3: I wrote many books in the Bible.

## The Case of the Fire Watcher

Clue 1:

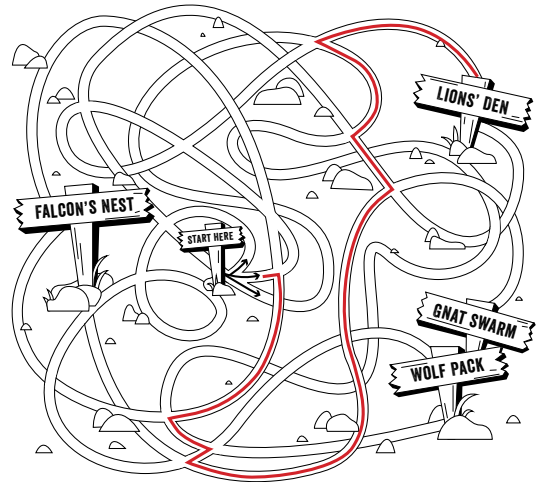


Clue 2: Moses

Clue 3: through the Red Sea.

## The Case of the Lonely Believer

Clue 1:



Clue 2: Daniel

Clue 3: Prayed three times a day

## The Case of the Lone Voice

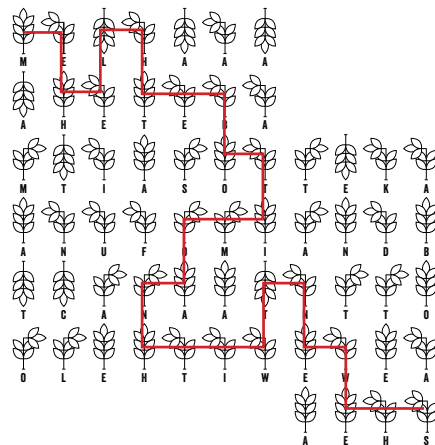
Clue 1: "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, make straight the way of the Lord."

Clue 2: John the Baptist

Clue 3: Locusts and wild honey

## The Case of the Humble Harvester

Clue 1: She went with Naomi to Bethlehem

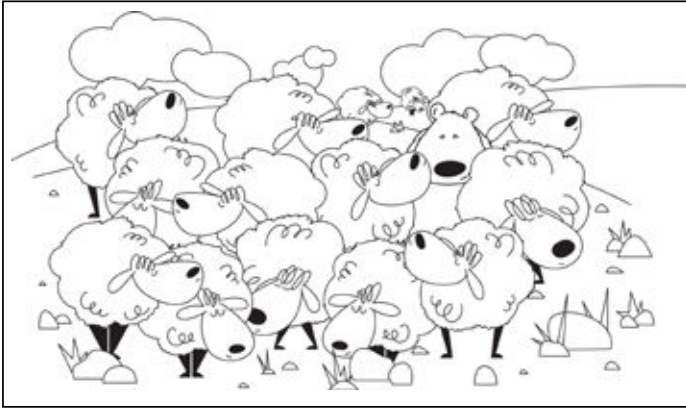


Clue 2: Ruth

Clue 3: I am one of only five women listed among the ancestry of the Messiah.

### The Case of the Pint-Sized Protector

Clue 1:

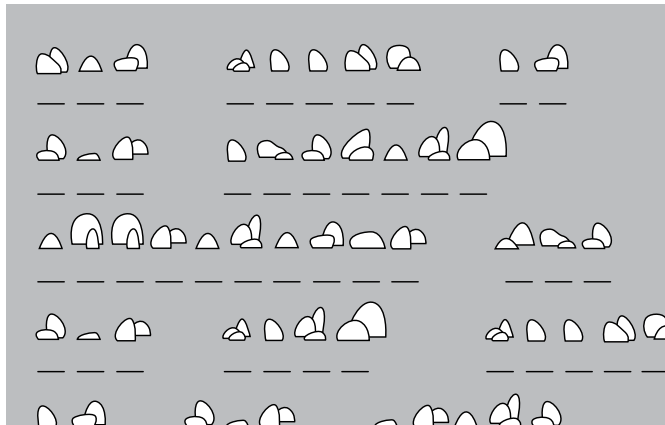


Clue 2: David

Clue 3: I wrote many songs.

### The Case of the Unexpected Leader

Clue 1:



Clue 2: David

Clue 3: "A man after my own heart."

### The Case of the River Watcher

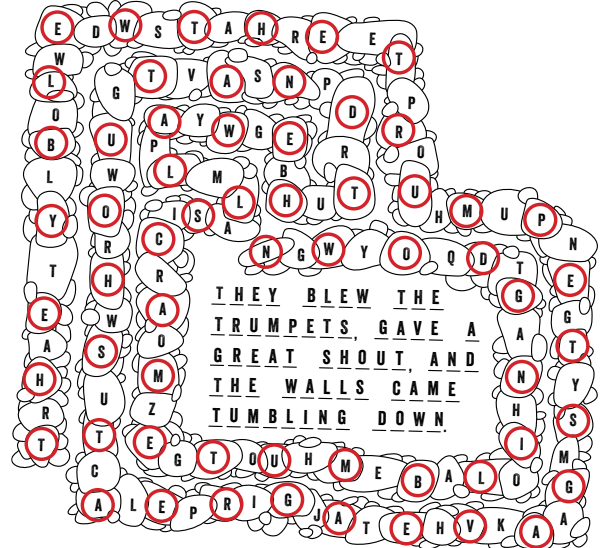
Clue 1: A protective sister, she watched her baby brother float to Pharaoh's daughter.

Clue 2: Miriam

Clue 3: I was a leader of Hebrew women.

### The Case of the Brave Leader

Clue 1:

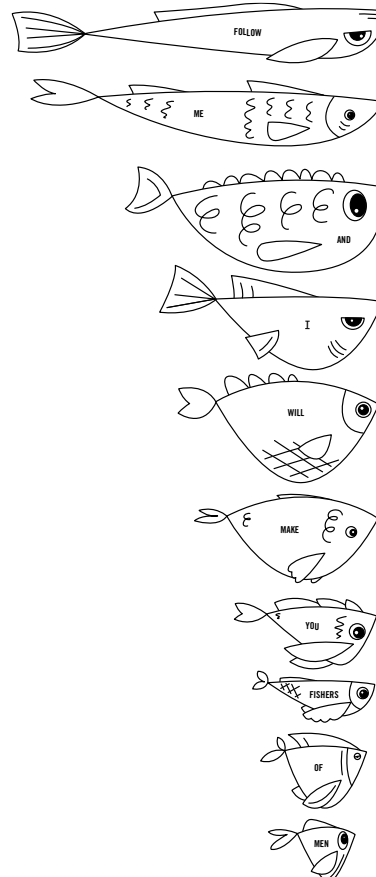


Clue 2: Joshua

Clue 3: Be strong and courageous!

### The Case of the Forgiven Fisherman

Clue 1:



Clue 2: Peter

Clue 3: Rock

### The Case of the Reluctant Bather

Clue 1:

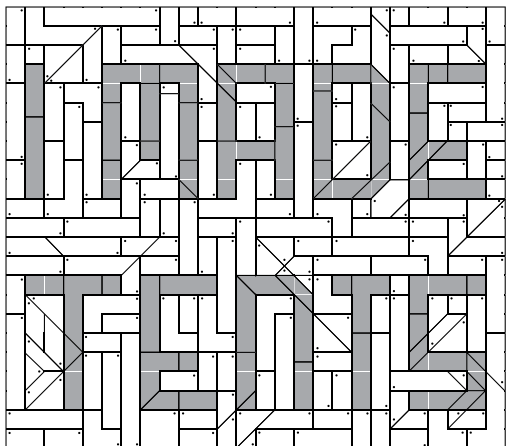
B F L E S H S O R E B L I S T E R W A S R U I  
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U N C L E A N L E P R O S Y S U F F E R I N G  
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S C A B S F W O U N D H L E P R O S Y S C A B  
E U R O T L E S I O N E B R U I S E F L E S H  
G T O F I I A B L E E D I N G C U T W O U N D  
A P A I N C U T S U F F E R I N G U L C E R S  
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H B O I L I S C R A T C H T O B L E M I S H P  
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R O T T E N R T B L I S T E R W A S B O I L I  
R O T I N F E C T I O N C L E A N R O T T E N

Clue 2: Naaman

Clue 3: Elisha

### The Case of the Hospitable Teacher

Clue 1:



Clue 2: Priscilla

Clue 3: In the book of Acts

### The Case of the Troubled Farmer

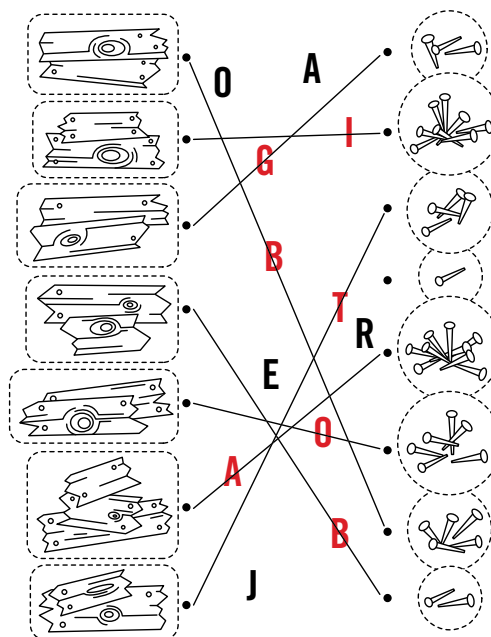
Clue 1: Garden of Eden

Clue 2: Adam

Clue 3: Cain and Abel

### The Case of the Obedient Builder

Clue 1:

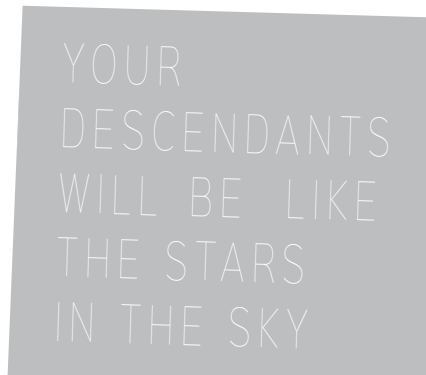


Clue 2: Noah

Clue 3: Gopher wood

### The Case of the Delayed Dad

Clue 1:



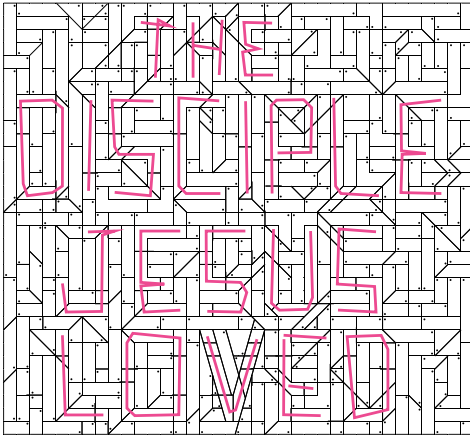
Clue 2: Abraham

Clue 3: Sarai



## The Case of the Loving Exile

Clue 1:



```
Clue 2: John
Clue 3: James
```

## The Case of the Wise Woman

Clue 1:



Clue 2: Deborah  
Clue 3: Judges

## The Case of the Colorful Dreamer

Clue 1:

Clue 2: Joseph  
Clue 3: Black; Orange; Tan; Emerald; Rose;  
Silver; My brothers

## The Case of the Crying Construction Worker

Clue 1: I led the rebuilding of Jerusalem  
Clue 2: Nehemiah  
Clue 3: Ezra

# The Case of the Royal Orphan

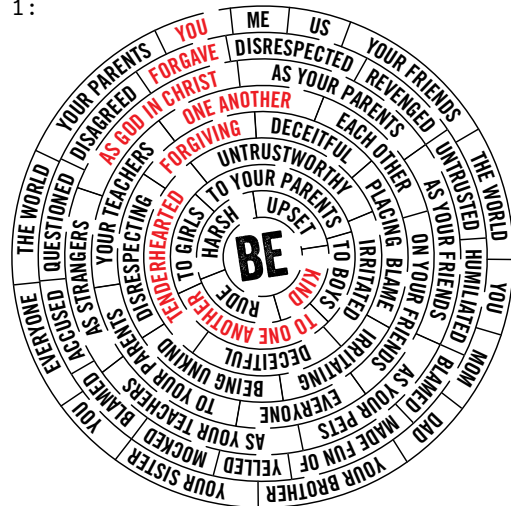
Clue 1: Adopted by an Egyptian princess  
Clue 2: Moses  
Clue 3: Miriam

# The Case of the Peeking Person

Clue 1: Pillar of salt  
Clue 2: Lot's wife  
Clue 3: Don't look back!

## The Case of the Apostle's Argument

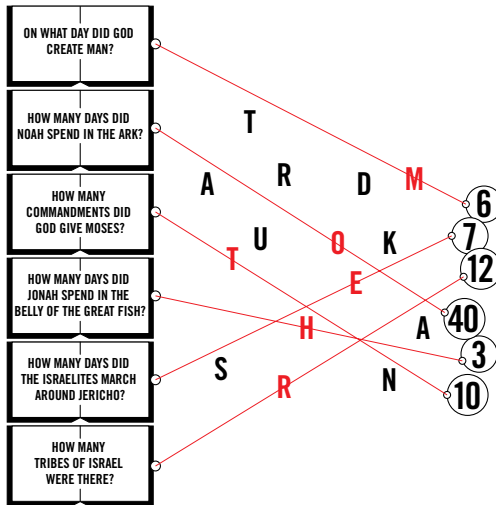
Clue 1:



Clue 2: Barnabas  
Clue 3: Sold land and gave money to Christians.

## The Case of the Chosen One

Clue 1:



Clue 2: Mother

Clue 3: Nazareth

## The Case of the Traveling Doctor

Clue 1: Wrote the longest Gospel

Clue 2: Luke

### Clue 3: The apostle Paul

# The Case of the Royal Rescuer

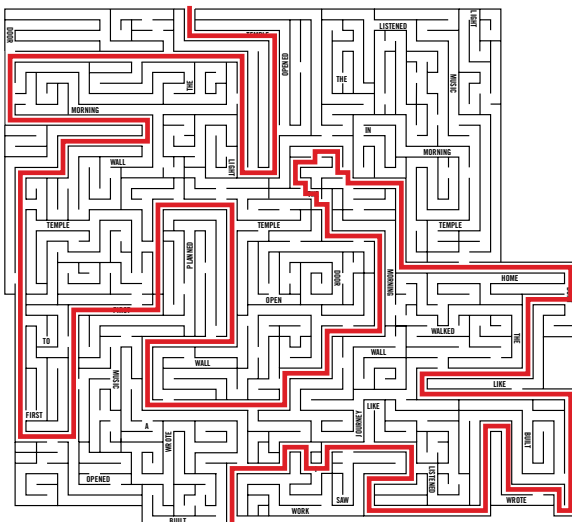
Clue 1: As queen saved my people

Clue 2: Esther

### Clue 3: Mordecai

## The Case of the Royal Builder

Clue 1:



Clue 2: King Solomon

Clue 3: David

## The Case of the Hairy Situation

Clue 1: In the body of a dead lion

Clue 3: Worst haircut ever

## The Case of the Mismatched Military

Clue 1: The Lord is with you, O mighty man of valor. (ESV)

Clue 3: Destroyed an altar to the pagan god Baal

## The Case of the Laughing Ancestor

Clue 1: I was 90 years old when the Lord told me  
I would soon have a son.

Clue 3: My name was Sarai.

## The Case of the Silent Spouse

Clue 1: We are going to have a son, and we are to name him John!

Clue 3: I felt John jump for joy.

## The Case of the First Witness

Clue 1:

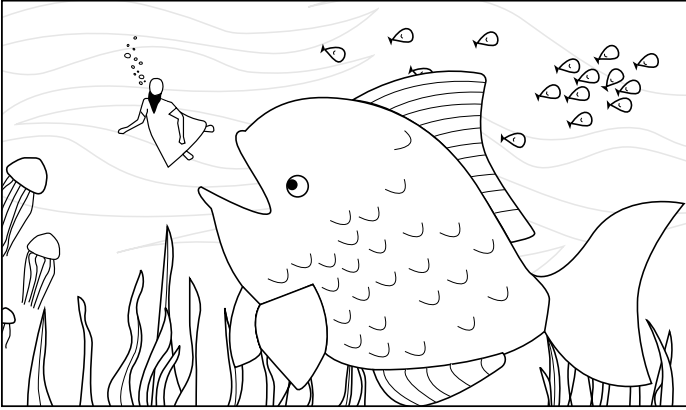
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JESUS ROSE FROM THE DEAD AND  
I WAS THE FIRST TO SEE HIM.

Clue 3: Magdala

## The Case of the Missing Missionary

Clue 1:



Clue 3: Nineveh