

Tonight's

passage –

Isaiah 61.⁵⁻⁶

theme – **Going global!**

Tonight's passage reminds you that God's plan was to bring His good news to people from all the nations. So there's a picture of the world

on every page of the worksheet – see if you can spot the picture on every page!



All nations!

From the very start, God's plan (and His promise!) was one which included all peoples.

When God called Abram (you can read about that in Genesis 12.1-3), He said this –

“.. all peoples on earth will be blessed through you”

Do you know how many countries there are officially in the world today?

Circle the answer which you think is correct.



- A. 50-150
- B. 150-250
- C. 250-350
- D. 350-450



Colour in the map of the world using different colours for each country



God's big plan

Read
Isaiah 61
verses 3b-6

They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the Lord for the display of His splendour.

⁴They will rebuild the ancient ruins and restore the places long devastated; they will renew the ruined cities that have been devastated for generations.

⁵Strangers will shepherd your flocks; foreigners will work your fields and vineyards.

⁶And you will be called priests of the Lord, you will be named ministers of our God. You will feed on the wealth of nations, and in their riches you will boast.

God was so excited about what He was going to do through sending His Son, Jesus, into the world that, hundreds of years earlier He was letting His people know what He had planned to do!



It was an **AMAZING!** plan

No wonder He was so excited!

Last week we were looking at part of that plan – the way His people would be involved with Him in a great work.

Can you remember the 3 verbs which He used to describe that work? Fill in the boxes below (you'll find the answers in v.4!)

That was amazing enough in itself – even though things were in a real mess, there was the promise from God that He would clear it all up and make things right again.

But God had more surprises in store!



R

R

R

strangers and foreigners

Read

Isaiah 61 verse 5

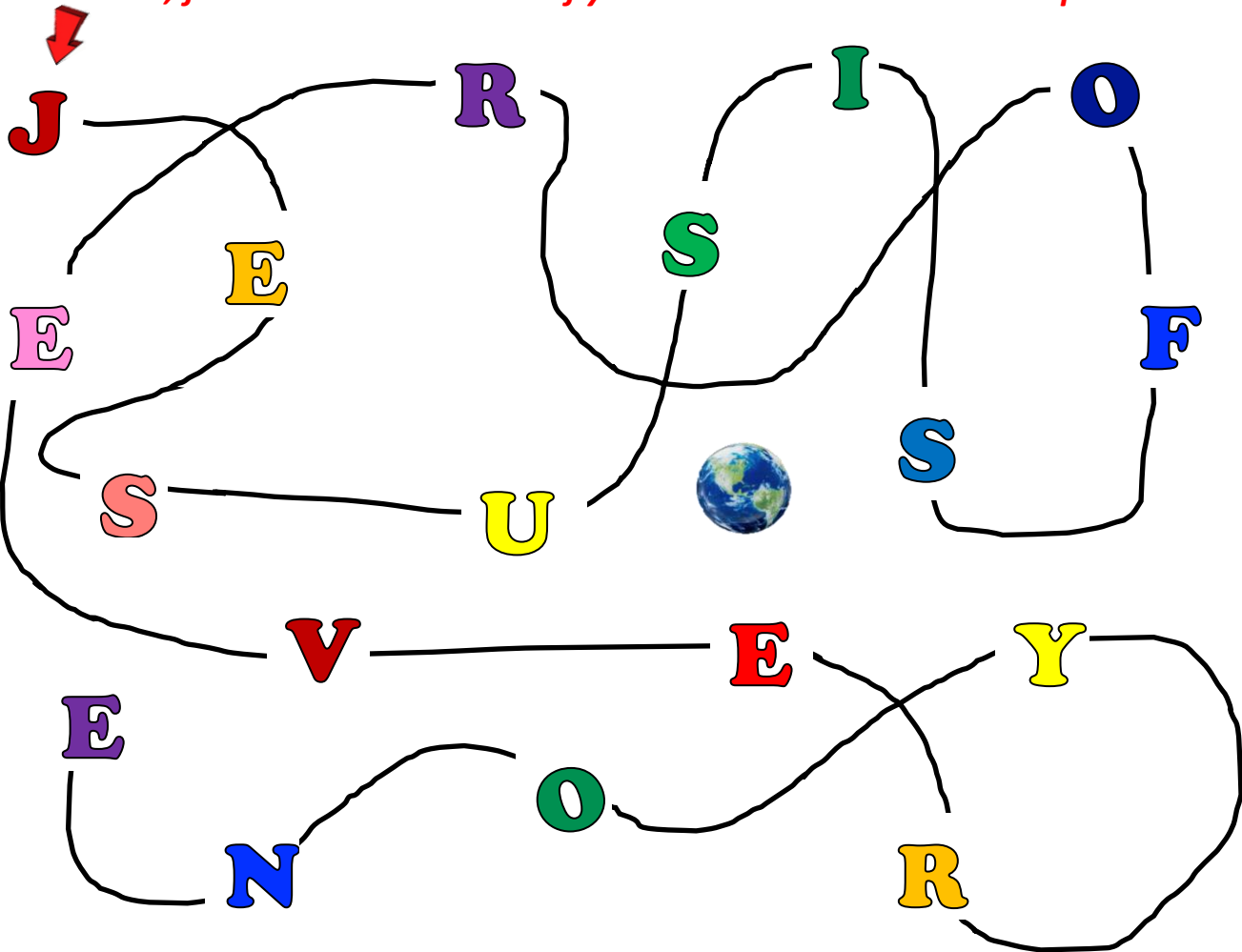
⁵ Strangers will shepherd your flocks; foreigners will work your fields and vineyards.

God was pointing forward to the day when His message would be taken to the whole world.

The 'strangers' and 'foreigners' refer to people who weren't Jews.

God was saying that all sorts of different people, from all sorts of different land would be involved in His work.

Start here, follow the trail and see if you can work out what the important message is



Write the answer here –

J _ _ _ _ _ **O** _ _ _ _ _ **Y** _ _ _ _ _

serving the Lord

Read

Isaiah 61 verse 6

⁶ And you will be called **priests** of the Lord, you will be named **ministers** of our God. You will feed on the wealth of nations, and in their riches you will boast.

The priests

acted as a sort of 'bridge' between God and His people.

It was an important job.

They were to speak to the people on behalf of God (helping them to know God's forgiveness).

And they were to speak to God on behalf of the people (praying that God would look after and help them).



People are sometimes likened to sheep in the Bible: they need a shepherd to look after them!

Sometimes, too, the people of God are said to be like His 'field'.



And sometimes His people are described as His 'vineyard' (it's not grapes He means to grow from His people, but 'the fruit of the Spirit' – check out **Galatians 5.22-23**)

Ministers

is just another word for 'servants'.

In the Old Testament the Levites had the job of 'serving' the Lord.

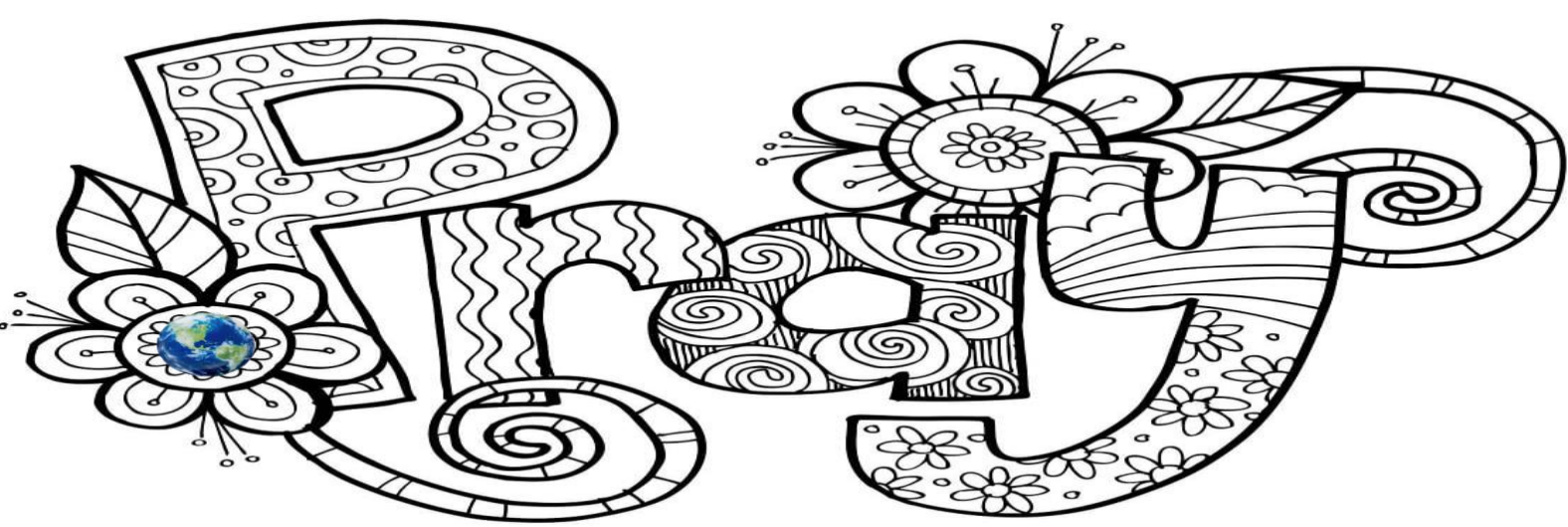
In v.5 God used 3 pictures to help the people understand what the work was like.

God's work is like

- looking after **flocks**
- working the **fields**
- harvesting **fruit**



Colour in the pictures



Think about what you've been learning in this worksheet.

Speak to God about what you've learned: if you want, use this prayer to help you

Lord Jesus, You do amazing things and You have the best and biggest plans!

It's exciting to know that You call even people like me to share with You in what You're doing in the world today!

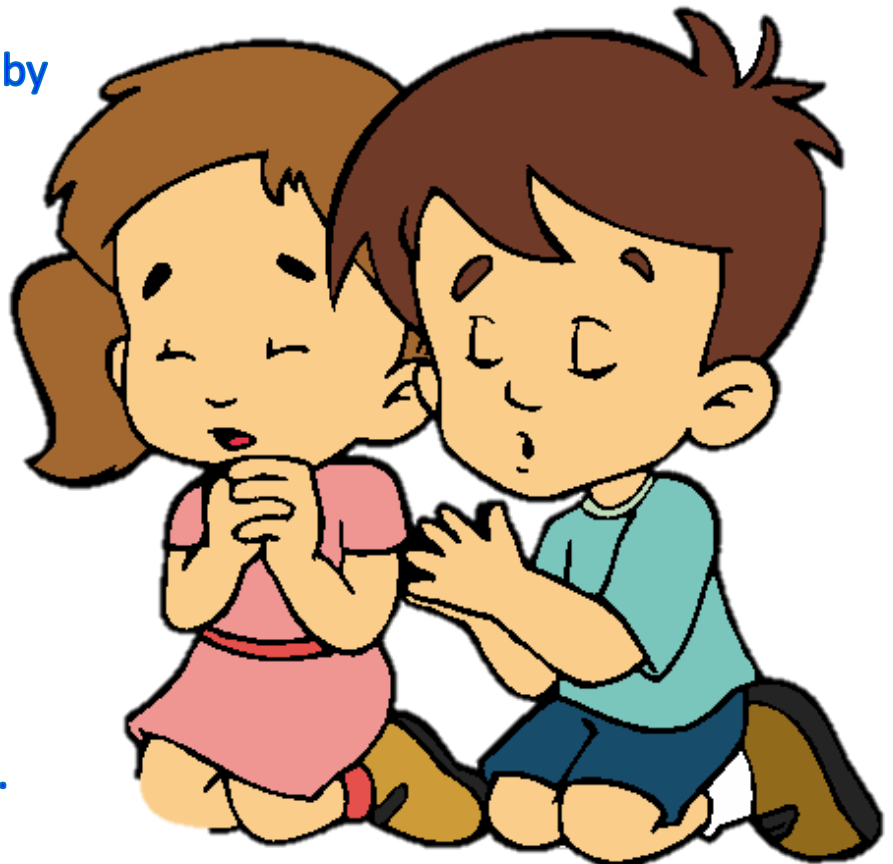
I definitely want to be part of that!

But I'll need You to help me day by Day: I'll need You to teach me and to make me bold and wise and strong in all that You call me to do.

Please help me to trust You always, to follow You closely, and to serve You really well.

Thank You, Jesus, for everything.

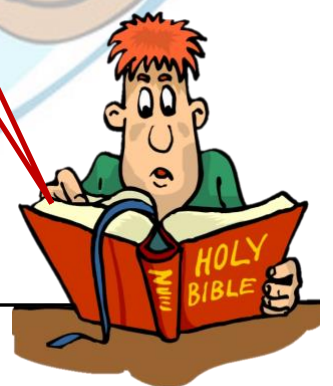
You're the best!



Today's verse for you to try and remember!

**"You will be
named ministers
of our God."**

Isaiah 61.⁶



A WORDSEARCH ...

In Acts 2 you can read the story of how the message about Jesus was preached by Peter to people from all sorts of different countries: this Wordsearch is based on that chapter – see if you can find all the different peoples and places which are mentioned!

S C U A I M A T O P O S E M J H V
E B E K J N W Z Q H P K F L S X W
S D M E P P P H R Y G I A U Y C W
X N W X J P R O S E L Y T E S A X
H S A L I B Y A T A X N S T C M W
S X I T U V E W I B O V A Y Y N E
M N L Q E Y G S Q P P V R A V G L
Z V A Q U R A H A T B N K I B R A
J Y N I R H C Q E I V Z C C H S M
M W N E H B K Y H F L Z E O N E I
Z K R G C T I O R Y O Y G D I D T
F L O Y J Y R G Z E Y X H O U E E
 G M P B U Q A S D N L A P A M S
E Z E T M N Q Q P G P E E P M O L
S N A E L I L A G J J N D P P A I
H W O P R I S K D U U I U A A X P
B A R A B I A N S E L H J C X Q J

ROME

PARTHIAN

LIBYA

ELAMITES

CAPPADOCIA

PROSELYTES

PAMPHYLIA

JUDEA

EGYPT

ASIA

PONTUS

MESOPOTAMIA

JEWS

CYRENE

ARABIANS

PHRYGIA

MEDES

GALILEANS

CRETANS

COLOUR in the picture



Psalm 100:1 "Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the lands!"

ANSWER

to the question on p.1

The correct answer is B. There's a bit of disagreement as to exactly how many countries there are, but the United Nations recognises 193 member states as well as 2 extra non-member 'observer' states – the Vatican and Palestine. One way or another, that's a lot of different nations!