

Tonight's

passage – 1 Samuel 6.¹⁻¹²

theme – Jesus paid the price!

Tonight's passage is a reminder that there's a price to be paid for sin. Jesus paid that price on the cross: so, there's a picture of the cross on every page of the worksheet. See if you can find it on every page.



GET YOUR BEARINGS!

Here's a map of the land of the Israelites and the land of the Philistines.

See if you can find all the following places on the map (and when you do, draw a circle round them).

SHILOH

where the ark of the LORD had been kept

EBENEZER

where the battle had been fought

The 5 Philistine cities

ASHDOD

where they took the ark first of all

GATH

the next city to get the ark after Ashdod

EKRON

they tried to take the ark here after Gath

ASHKELON

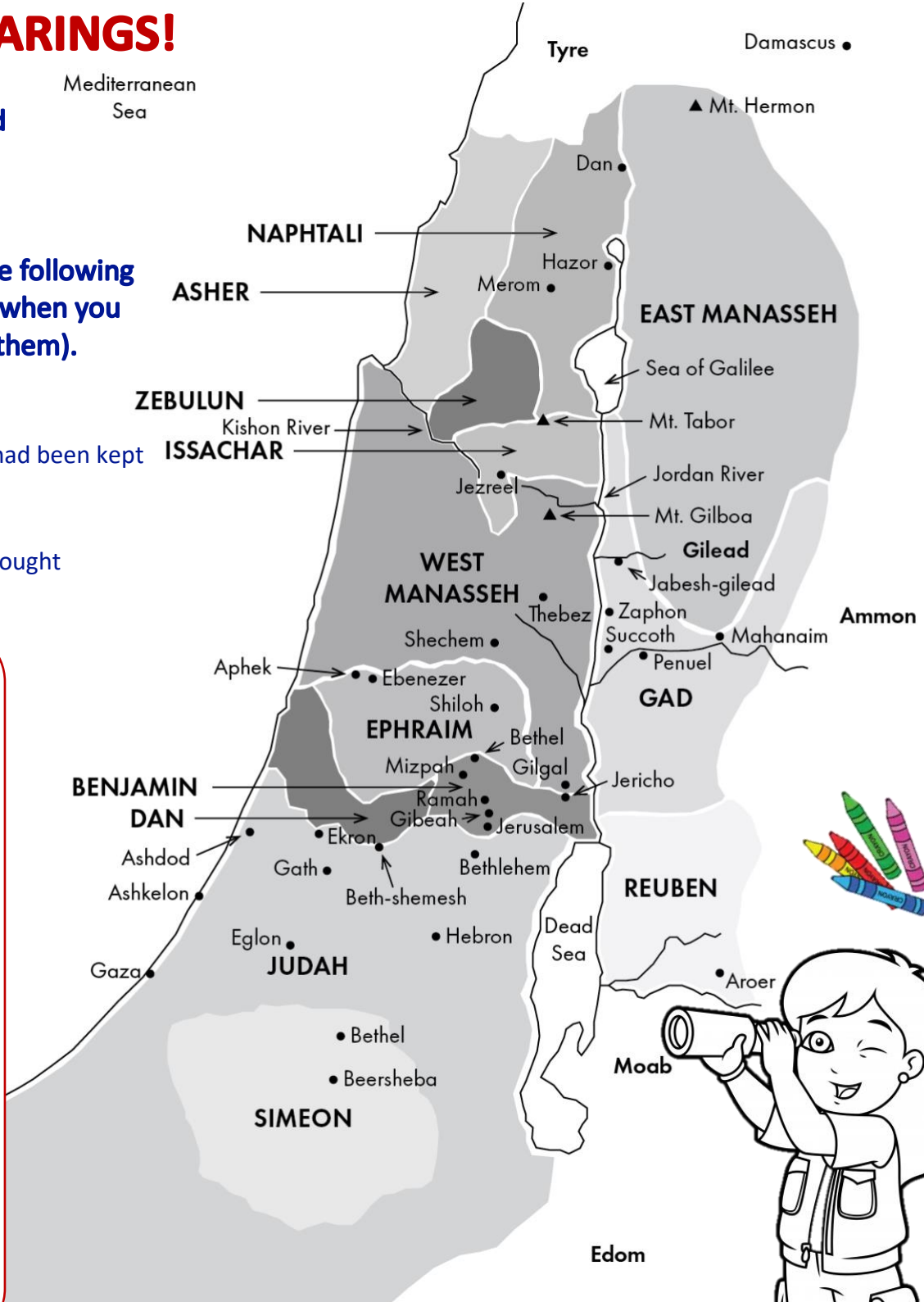
one of the 5 cities

EGLON

the other Philistine city

BETHSHEMESH

where the ark ended up



The LORD wants everyone in the whole world to know that He alone is God!

We need to know He's for real.
And we need to be right with Him!



Read
1 Samuel 6
verses 1-6

guilty

GETTING RIGHT WITH GOD

When the ark of the Lord had been in Philistine territory for seven months, the Philistines called for the priests and the diviners and said,

'What shall we do with the ark of the Lord? Tell us how we should send it back to its place.'

³They answered, 'If you return the ark of the God of Israel, do not send it back to Him without a gift; by all means send a guilt offering to Him.

Then you will be healed, and you will know why His hand has not been lifted from you.'

Have you ever had times when nothing seems to go right for you?

If you have, you'll know how the Philistines were feeling! They had **7 months** of things not going right for them!

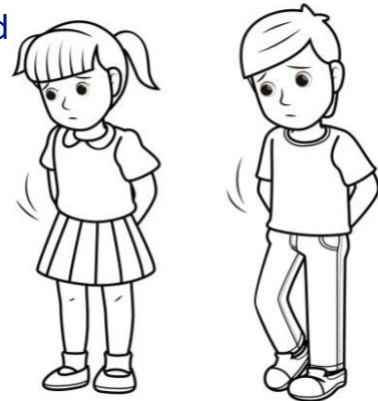
7 months when things had gone really wrong!

- **The statue of their god, Dagon, had broken**
- **Rats had been ruining the country**
- **The people had suffered from nasty tumours**
- **Loads of people had died**

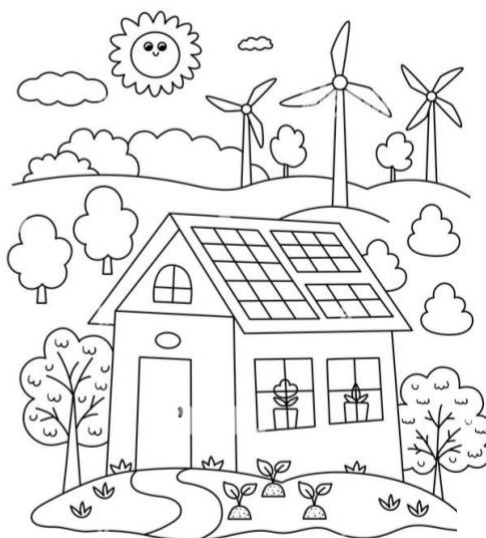
So they figured they'd be better off without the ark of the covenant of the LORD among them.

And it felt like they needed to get right with God.

You probably know the feeling – when you've done something wrong and feel rather guilty ...



When things are not as they should be at home!



There are **10 differences** between these two pictures.

Can you spot them all?

And how are things in your home? Have things been going wrong there?

dealing with guilt

PAYING THE PENALTY

When you've done wrong, there's a penalty to be paid.

Have you ever behaved badly at school and the teacher has given you a punishment?

Tick the box if that's happened



Or how about at home? Have you ever had to be punished for behaving badly at home?

The Philistines

wanted to sort things out and get right with God

they figured that they'd need to send a **'guilt offering'** back with the ark – some sort of payment by way of a penalty.

They thought they could **'buy off'** God with their gifts.

There were 5 Philistine cities, so they made 5 sets of gifts. 5 models of tumours and rats (that had been the problem) They made them of gold (they thought the best was best)

Read 1 Samuel 6 verses 4-6

⁴The Philistines asked, 'What guilt offering should we send to him?'

They replied, 'Five gold tumours and five gold rats, according to the number of the Philistine rulers, because the same plague has struck both you and your rulers.'

⁵Make models of the tumours and of the rats that are destroying the country and give glory to Israel's God. Perhaps He will lift His hand from you and your gods and your land.

⁶Why do you harden your hearts as the Egyptians and Pharaoh did? When Israel's God dealt harshly with them, did they not send the Israelites out so that they could go on their way?

Jesus paid the price

The price of our sin is too great from any of us to pay. Nothing we do or give can pay the penalty.

God sent His Son Jesus to pay the penalty for all who will trust in Him.

Read
1 Samuel 6
verses 7-12

God at work

⁷ 'Now then, get a new cart ready, with two cows that have calved and have never been yoked. Hitch the cows to the cart, but take their calves away and pen them up. ⁸ Take the ark of the LORD and put it on the cart, and in a chest beside it put the gold objects you are sending back to Him as a guilt offering. Send it on its way, ⁹ but keep watching it. If it goes up to its own territory, towards Beth Shemesh, then He has brought this great disaster on us. But if it does not, then we shall know that it was not His hand that struck us but that it happened to us by chance.'

¹⁰ So they did this. They took two such cows and hitched them to the cart and penned up their calves. ¹¹ They placed the ark of the LORD on the cart and along with it the chest containing the gold rats and the models of the tumours. ¹² Then the cows went straight up towards Beth Shemesh, keeping on the road and lowing all the way; they did not turn to the right or to the left. The rulers of the Philistines followed them as far as the border of Beth Shemesh.

Coincidence?

How were the Philistines to understand all the things which had been going wrong?

Had it just been coincidence?
Or was this God at work?

How could they know?

Well .. read about the plan which they came up with!

Cows which have had a calf **NEVER** go off in the opposite direction and leave their calves.

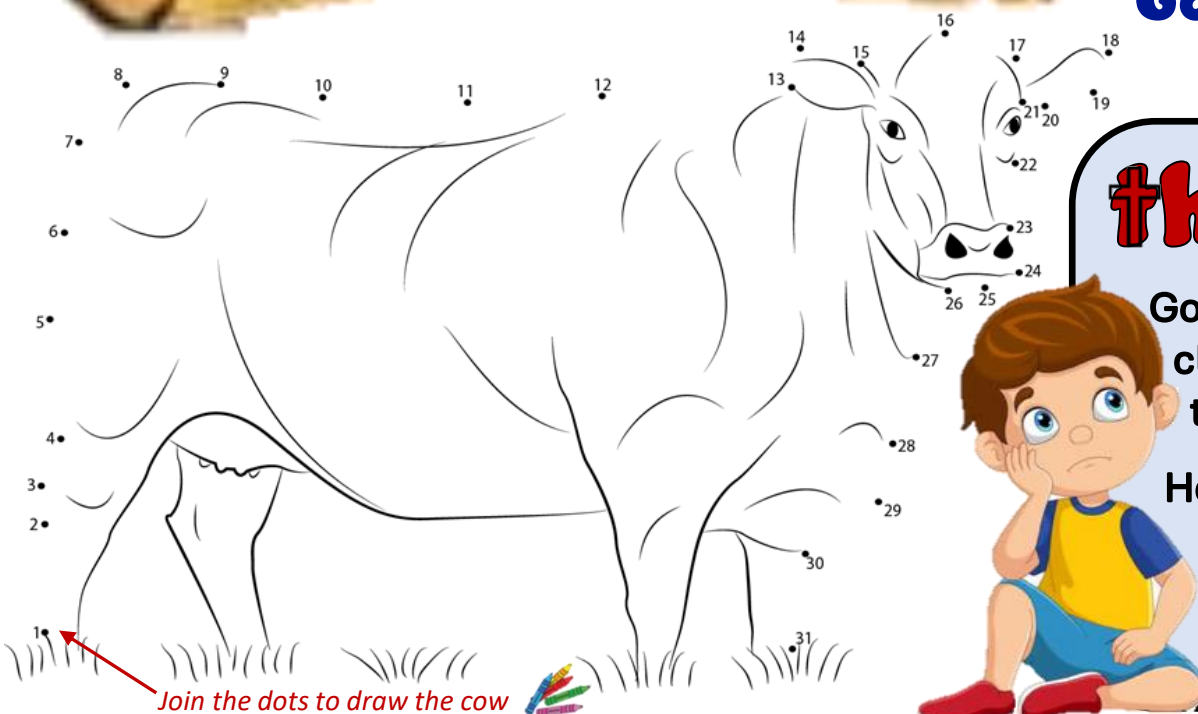
But these ones did!

The Philistines knew this was
God at work

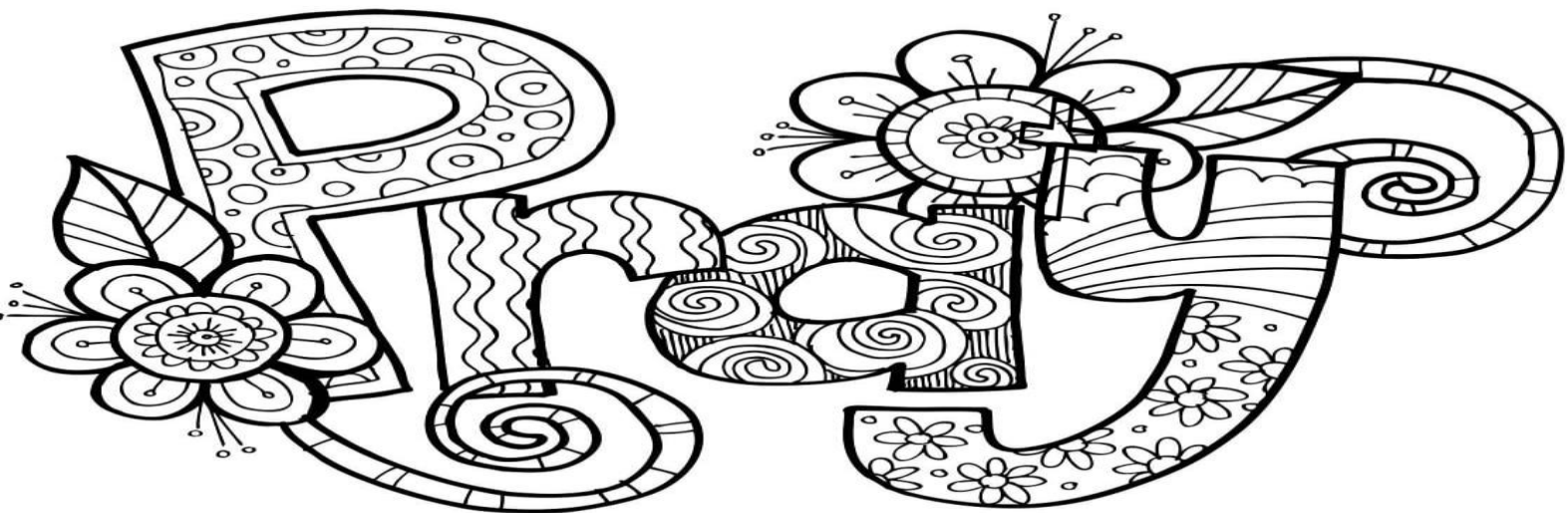
think ..

God has shown us clearly that we're to trust in Jesus.

How can I show Him clearly that I have trusted in Jesus?



Join the dots to draw the cow



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, thank You for all that You teach us in the Bible.

I know I get things wrong so often.

That makes me feel guilty.

**Help me to confess my sins and say sorry –
to You, and to anyone else whom I have wronged.**

**Thank You that You came
to pay the penalty for all
our sins.**

**It's amazing to think that
You loved Your people so
much that You were willing
to do that for us and pay the
price of our wrong-doing.**

**Help me to know that I'm forgiven
and give me the strength to live for You each day!**



Today's verse for you to try and remember!

If it goes up to its own
territory, towards Beth
Shemesh, then He has
brought this great
disaster on us.

(1 Samuel 6.9)



Wordsearch†

Jesus paid the penalty for our sins when He died on the cross.

This wordsearch is all about the crucifixion. See if you can find all the words!

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

crown of thorns

pontius pilate

rooster crows

last supper

forgiveness

gethsemane

sacrifice

atonement

caiaphas

innocent

golgotha

arrested

betrayal

passover

barrabas

cyrene

burial

cross

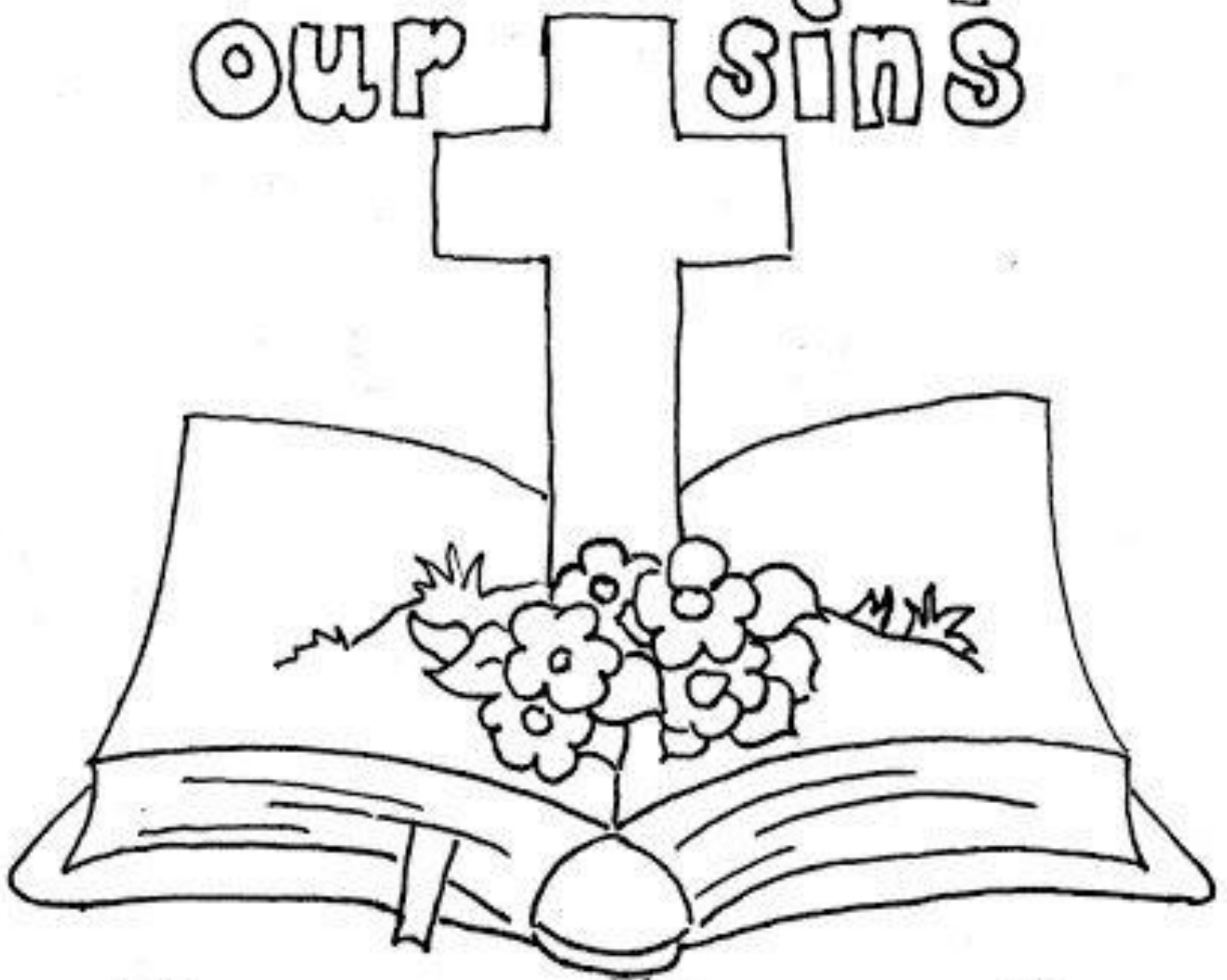
love

tomb



COLOUR in the picture

Christ died for
our sins



According to
the Scriptures
1 Corinthians 15:3