

Tonight's

You want to look out for banana skins!

You can slip on them quite easily. There are banana skins

on every page of the worksheet – see if you can find them all!

passage – 1 Samuel 8.¹⁻²²



theme – banana skins!



It can be painful when you slip on a banana skin! Tonight's passage shows how easy it can be for us to slip up in life!



living for the present

Read
1 Samuel 8
verses 1-3

When Samuel grew old, he appointed his sons as Israel's leaders.

²The name of his firstborn was Joel and the name of his second was Abijah, and they served at Beersheba.

³But his sons did not follow his ways. They turned aside after dishonest gain and accepted bribes and perverted justice.

BANANA SKIN #1

Things were all right when Samuel was around.

Samuel had heard God's call as a boy and served Him well all his life.

Just because he was a good leader, though, it didn't mean that his sons would be good leaders too.

They weren't! They were rather different.

They _ _ _ _ _ **o** _ _ **o** _ _ **o** _
_ _ _ _ _

Can you spot 8 differences between the two pictures below?
(I couldn't!)



think . .

All the way through the Bible God tells us to plan well for the future.

What can you do now to ensure that as you grow up you'll be following the Lord all the days of your life?



leaning on our own understanding

Read
1 Samuel 8
verses 4-9

BANANA SKIN #2

The people realised that they had a problem.

And they had a bright idea as to how to solve it!
They thought that **changing the system**
would do the trick. They hadn't had a king before
and they thought that would be a good idea.

**But they already had a King, of course –
the Lord!**

When you've got a problem, look to the Lord and
ask Him to sort it out. Don't think that you've got
all the answers – because you don't! He *does!*

**Here are a couple of important verses which
remind you of how to avoid this banana skin!**

See if you can learn these 2 verses by heart!

“Trust in the LORD
with all your heart
And do not lean on
your own understanding.
In all your ways
acknowledge Him,
And He will make
your paths straight.”
Proverbs 3:5-6

⁴So all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah. ⁵They said to him, 'You are old, and your sons do not follow your ways; now appoint a king to lead us, such as all the other nations have.'

⁶But when they said, 'Give us a king to lead us,' this displeased Samuel; so he prayed to the Lord. ⁷And the Lord told him: 'Listen to all that the people are saying to you; it is not you they have rejected, but they have rejected me as their king. ⁸As they have done from the day I brought them up out of Egypt until this day, forsaking me and serving other gods, so they are doing to you. ⁹Now listen to them; but warn them solemnly and let them know what the king who will reign over them will claim as his rights.'



Read
1 Samuel 8
verses 19-22

refusing to be different

¹⁹ But the people refused to listen to Samuel.

'No!' they said. 'We want a king over us.' ²⁰ Then we shall be like all the other nations, with a king to lead us and to go out before us and fight our battles.'

²¹ When Samuel heard all that the people said, he repeated it before the Lord.

²² The Lord answered, 'Listen to them and give them a king.'

BANANA SKIN #3

It's not easy being different from your friends!

It's much easier being part of the crowd! How would you feel wearing a Scottish top when the crowd around you were all supporting England?



The people in Samuel's time felt the same. What did they say they wanted to be?

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† ----- † -----

God had called them to be different, though!

They were to be *His* people, living *His* way.

And the King He was going to be giving them is the best King of all!

JESUS

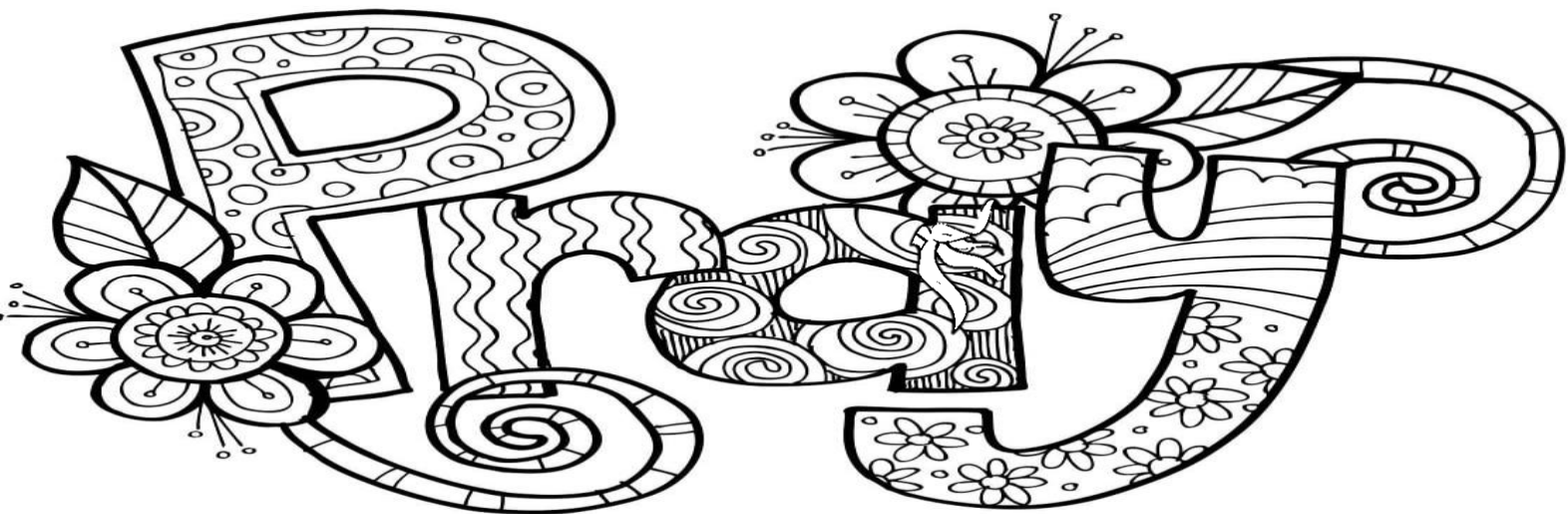
think . .

Following Jesus means you'll live in a different way from some of your friends.

In what ways will you be different?

Where might you find the support that you'll need to keep on following Jesus?





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 the Bible.

It really helps to see how Your people from long ago faced just the same sort of problems and challenges which we face today.

And it's re-assuring, too, to see how often they made mistakes!

Help me to learn from *their* mistakes (as well as from my own!) so that hopefully I'll be able to avoid the mistakes they made!

I want to follow You and serve You well all my life.

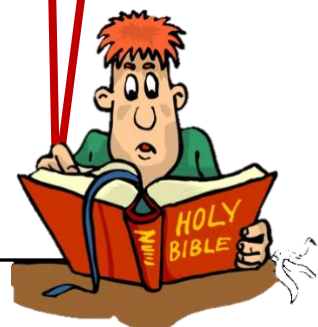
I know that's not going to be easy, so please help me to learn from You day by day and to look to You whatever problems I have!



Today's verse for you to try and remember!

Trust in the Lord
with all your heart
and lean not on your
own understanding

(Prov.3.5)



Wordsearch

It's tempting to rely on our own abilities to fix our problems. Proverbs 3.5-6 reminds us to rely on the Lord – to have Him direct our paths. See if you can all the words.

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



understanding

submit

paths

lean

straight

all

Lord

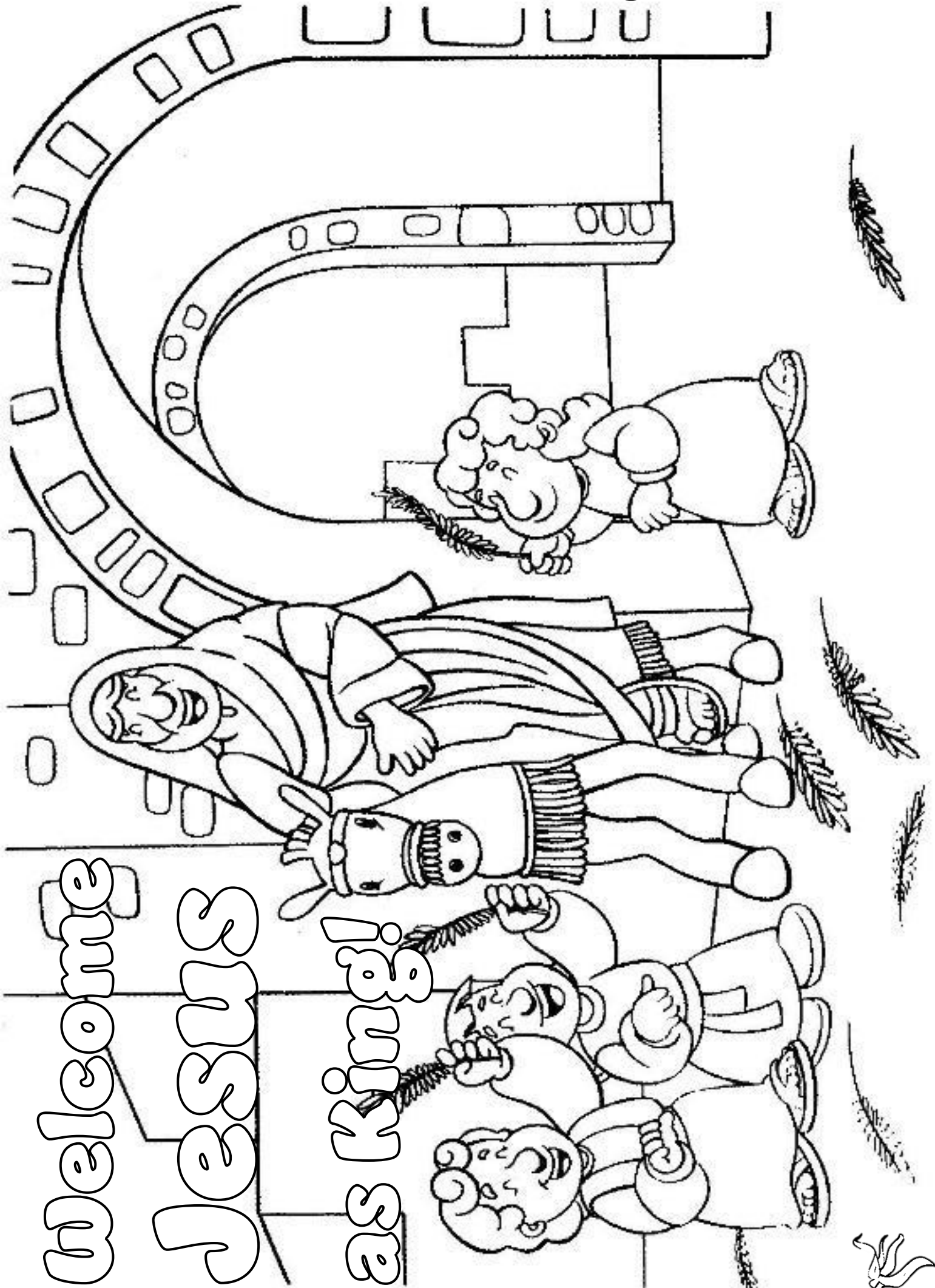
Trust

heart

ways



COLOUR in the picture



welcome

Jesus

as king!