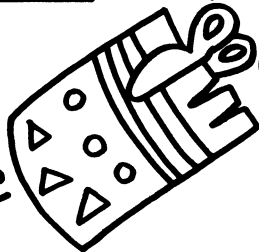


Colour
and
decorate



Cut a fringe
at each
sheet end



Twenty-sixth Sunday of the Year

Focus

A Bible open at today's Gospel, with a candle and a glass of water next to it.

Introduction

Jesus said, 'Love one another as I have loved you' (John 15:12). By his words and actions, he gave us the perfect example of how to love God and one another. Whoever acts kindly in his name is fulfilling this commandment of love and will be rewarded by God for their goodness.

Gloria

Gospel Acclamation

Light the Gospel candle and sing Acclamation 1.

Gospel

A reading from the Gospel of St Mark (9:38-43, 45, 47-48) (See page 385.)

Reflection

What did the disciples do when they saw a stranger curing people who were sick?

They tried to stop him because they did not know him, and he did not belong to their group of followers.

What did Jesus say to his disciples?

Whoever chooses to act kindly in the name of Jesus will be blessed by God for their goodness. It did not matter that the man was not recognised as belonging to their group of followers; his actions clearly marked him out as being a loving disciple of Christ. However small or unimportant a loving action or gesture might seem, God is aware and pleased by that moment of goodness.

What did Jesus want his disciples to understand?

As Christians we must always try to be tolerant and receptive to others whose ways might be different or unknown to us. There are many different paths that lead to the kingdom of God, and we should not presume that one way is best and should be followed by everyone.

With whom did Jesus come to share his love and life?

Jesus came into the world for the sake of the world. He sent his disciples out to share his Gospel of love with every nation, race and colour of people. He included everyone and excluded no one from the opportunity to become a follower of Christ. We must remember that whoever loves Jesus and acts in his name will be loved and rewarded for their kindness by our heavenly Father.

As Christians today, how are we expected to act?

The commandments of love given by Jesus to his early disciples are just as relevant for his disciples today. We are called upon to love one another as Jesus loves us, and that love should clearly mark us out as Christians and be an example of goodness to the world. To help us to do this in our everyday lives, it is helpful to ask ourselves what Jesus might do or say in any given situation.

His shining example of love will light up the darkness of uncertainty or doubt and show us the way to choose.

Activity

Help the children to make their own 'bracelet' with the letters WWJD to remind them to always take time to consider 'What would Jesus do?' in any particular circumstance.

Photocopy the templates on to thick paper or thin card and cut out. Thread one end through a paperclip, then make a small loop and secure firmly with glue or sellotape. Attach another paperclip to the first, and arrange them side by side rather than end to end. Give the 'threaded' bracelets to the children to decorate brightly. To wear the bracelets, simply thread the end through the second paper clip and cut off any excess. (For very young children, to avoid swallowing hazards, simply use sellotape to secure their bracelets in place.)

Intercessions

As brothers and sisters in one loving family, together let us pray to our heavenly Father:

That Christians everywhere may brighten our world with the light of Christ's love.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

That peace may overcome war, and enemies become friends.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

That we may relieve the suffering and hardship of the poor and the hungry.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

That the sick may find comfort and relief through God's healing love.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Knowing that our heavenly Father is listening, in the silence of our hearts let us share our own unspoken prayers with him.

Silence

Loving Father,
as you pour your love into our lives,
may we willingly share that love
with our brothers and sisters throughout the world.
Grant this through Jesus your Son.

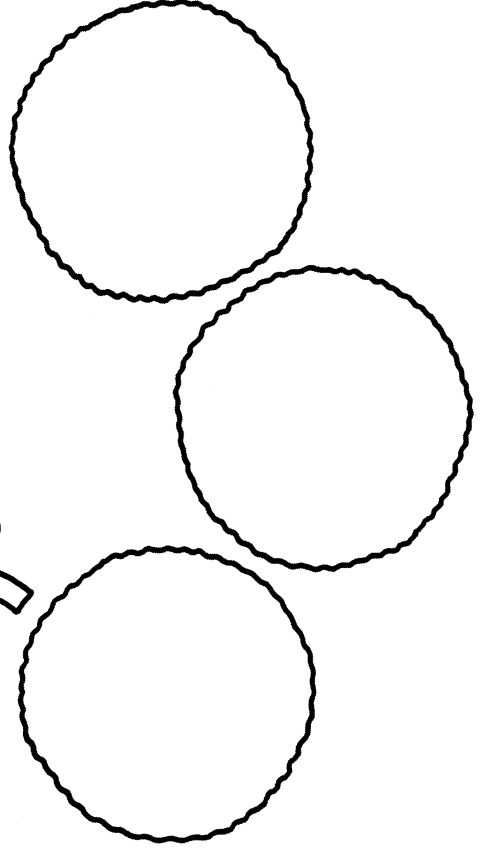
Amen.

We can all find a way to
be kind like Jesus!

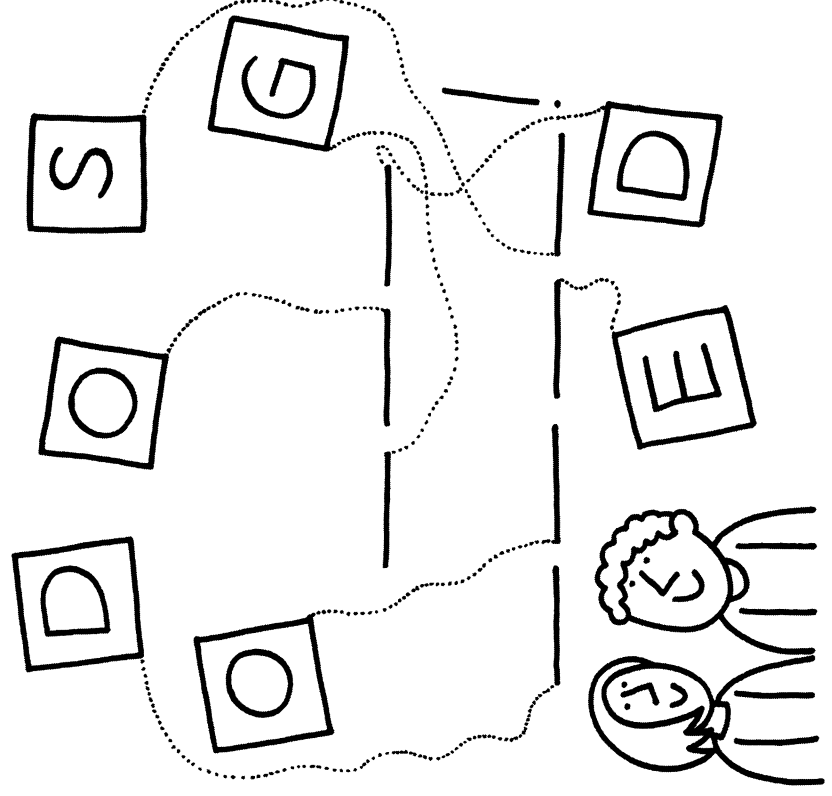
Who sees and
rewards us for being
kind and good?

Draw pictures of yourself or someone you know
doing something kind

Acts of love
for God



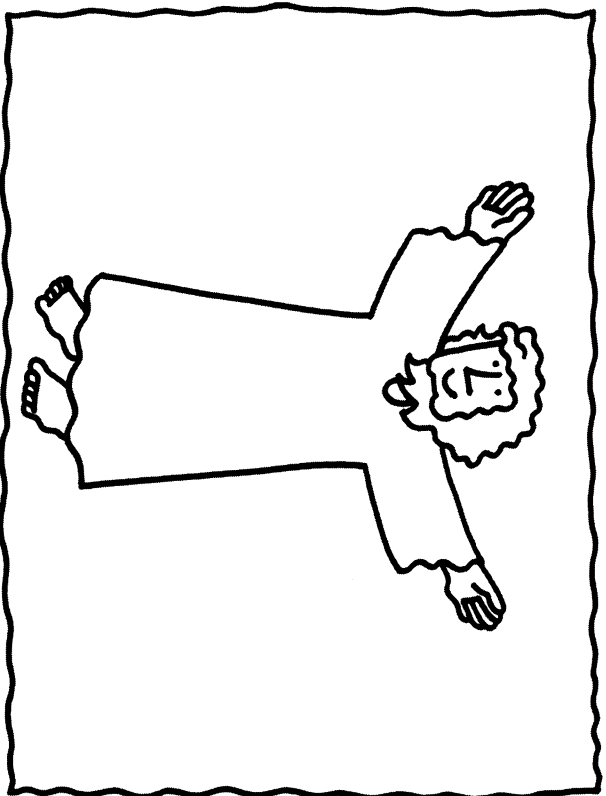
Trace the lines and copy the letters



THINK and **LOOK** ahead

Next Sunday Jesus meets
some children like you!

Draw some children next to Jesus



• STEP BY STEP •

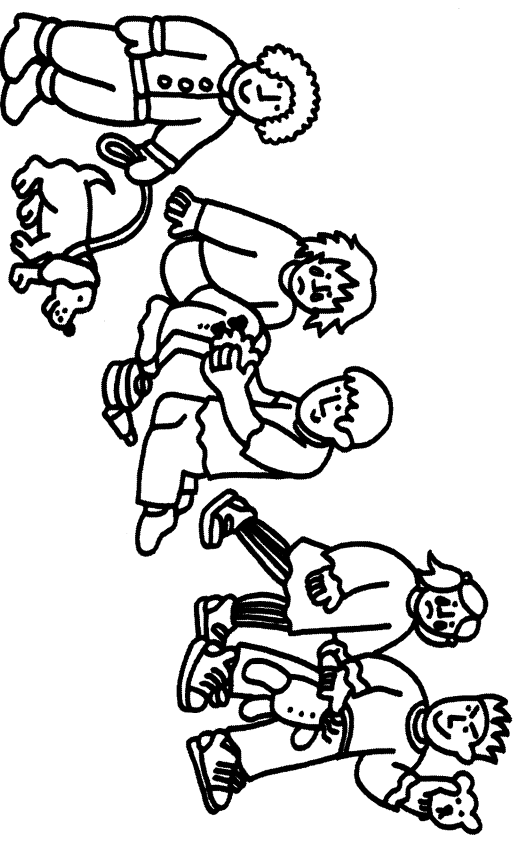
TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR, YEAR B

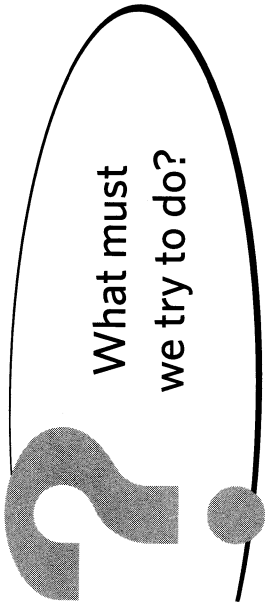
**All goodness
comes from God**

MARK 9:38-50

We must try to see
God's goodness in each other!

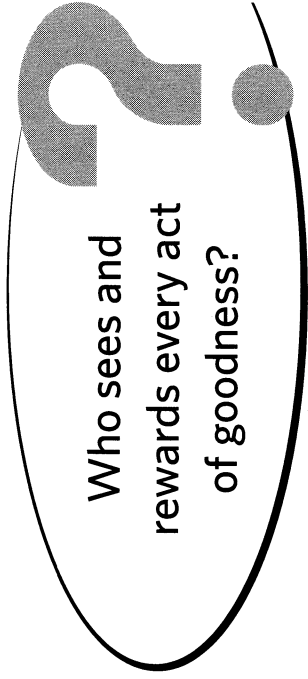
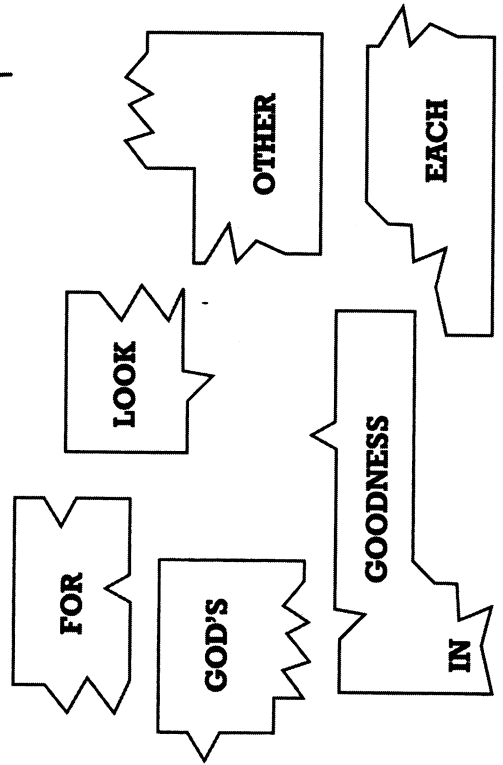
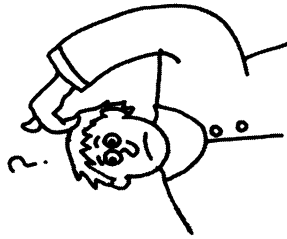
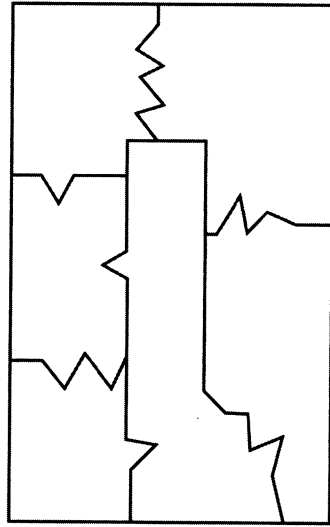
Which person is not being good?
Color the pictures





What must
we try to do?

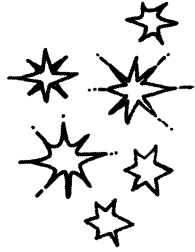
The answer has been torn into pieces.
Put the pieces together to read what it says



Who sees and
rewards every act
of goodness?

Write every letter with an even number
in order on the lines below

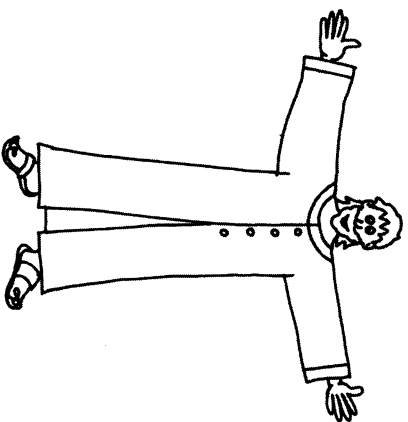
START → **HOGAFODPLOPEMULRSEH**
11 9 2 7 5 10 8 3 1 12 5 11 13 4 17 6 21 1 10
→ **FWBYOLRJNGEZSVAFBE**
20 7 3 14 19 8 23 3 4 9 12 7 1 8 6 5 11 2
→ **OPMABTSHBARENSRLG.**
21 3 7 16 5 22 11 4 7 13 15 12 17 1 2 3 13



THINK and LOOK ahead

Next Sunday
the people bring their children
to meet Jesus.

Draw a picture of yourself and some of your friends with Jesus



All goodness
comes from God

MARK 9:38-50

Jesus told his disciples...

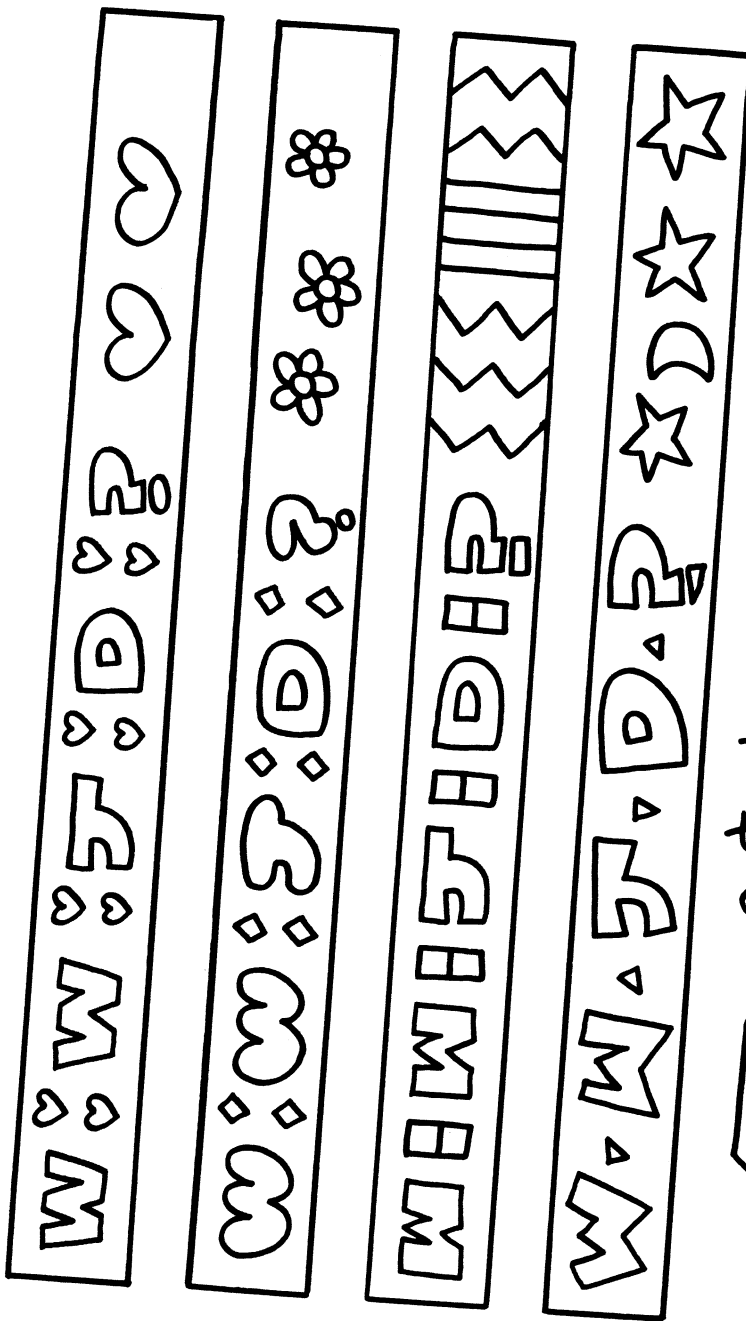
Use the code pad to find his words

“
[grid of boxes with letters and symbols]
’
[grid of boxes with letters and symbols]
’”
[grid of boxes with letters and symbols]

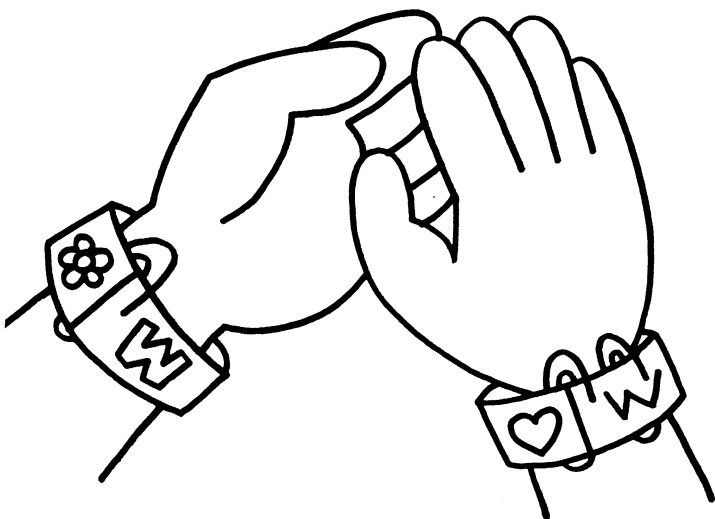
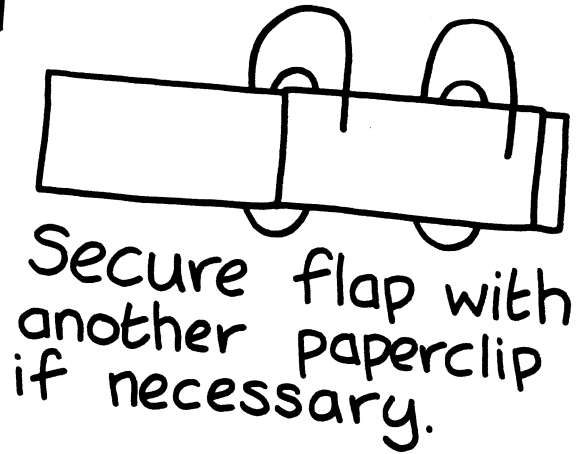
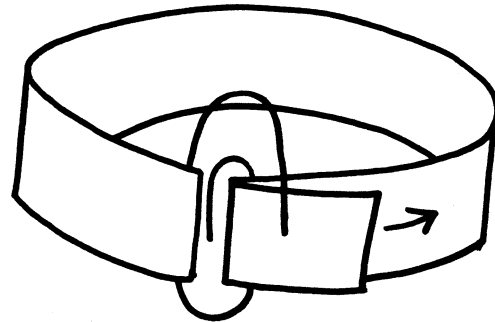
CODE PAD											
U =	<input type="checkbox"/>	A =	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I =	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	M =	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
H =	<input type="checkbox"/>	D =	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	S =	<input type="checkbox"/>	F =	<input type="checkbox"/>				
G =	<input type="checkbox"/>	T =	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	P =	<input type="checkbox"/>	R =	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
O =	<input type="checkbox"/>	N =	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	E =	<input type="checkbox"/>	Y =	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				



MARK 9:39



Thread other end through paperclip and back again.



Year B

Twenty-Sixth Sunday of the Year

All goodness comes from God

INTRODUCTION

Anyone who loves Jesus and acts in his name, is filled with the goodness of God. Whatever our religion or race might be, God will see this goodness, and reward us with his love.

SIGN OF THE CROSS

LIGHT THE CANDLES

Light the candles and read this passage aloud:

Live your lives as children of the light.

Do not hide in the darkness,
for there is nothing to fear.

Fill your lives with love and goodness,
and follow in the footsteps of Jesus.

(Romans 13:12–14)

SORRY

If we have shut out God's love and turned away from him, let us ask his spirit to change our hearts as we pray:

Lord Jesus,
you were always kind and caring;
forgive us if we have been selfish or unkind,
and help us to become
more loving and thoughtful.

Lord in your mercy...

All: *Hear our prayer.*

GLORIA

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

To welcome today's Gospel sing Acclamation 2.

GOSPEL (MARK 9:38–41)

One day John came to Jesus and said, "Lord, we saw a man curing the sick in your name, and because we did not know him, we told him to stop."

But Jesus said to him, "Do not stop anyone who is using my name from doing something good. By their actions they show their love for me, and they can do no harm. Any person who acts kindly for my sake will be rewarded for their goodness in heaven."

DISCUSSION

John was worried that the actions of the man curing the sick might not please Jesus. Although this man was a follower of Jesus and cured people using his name, the disciples did not know him. John tried to stop the man from what he was doing.

As followers of Christ we are called Christians, and we try to live as Jesus did, filling our lives with kindness and love, and obeying God's commandments. This man was also a Christian, a follower of Jesus, who showed his love for God by helping people who were sick. Jesus saw the goodness of this man who acted with kindness and love, and he was pleased.

God's generosity is so great that he freely offers his love to all people of every race, color, and religion. He shares this love with the world through the gift of his Holy Spirit. The spirit brings us his gifts and guides our lives, so that we can share God's goodness with everyone we meet.

ACTIVITY

Copy the dove and the picture of the world onto a large sheet of paper. Have the children color the dove, cut it out, and paste it onto cardboard.

Spend some time talking about the Holy Spirit, and see if the children can remember the seven gifts which the Spirit shares with us. (See Pentecost Sunday.)

CREED

CLOSING PRAYER

Let us pray that the spirit of God
will work through our lives,
so we can share
Christ's love with the world.