

Righteous or Religious

Lesson Objectives

- The children will distinguish the Pharisee from the tax collector in the Bible story.
- The children will identify some things that they need help with and will pray about them.
- The children will thank God for caring about their needs.

Lesson Text

Luke 18:9-14

Scripture Memory

Verse

"The hand of the Lord is powerful."
Joshua 4:24

Lesson Plan

Greeting and Registration

Preclass Activity: Paper-Bag Puppet People

Welcome and Singing

Centers:

Bible Story: The Man Who Needed God

Life Application: Prayer Collage

Craft: God Listens

NOTE: Be sure to allow sufficient time for a snack.



Pre
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Righteous or Religious

Paper-Bag Puppet People

The children will make paper-bag puppets which will be used to tell the Bible story.

Materials

For each child:

- 2 small paper bags (lunch bags)
- glue stick
- crayons

For the teacher:

- scissors
- yarn
- cloth or felt scraps
- other decorative items

Reproducible Pages:

- Page A, 1 copy for each child
- Page B, 1 copy for each child

Preparation:

1. Cut out the Pharisee's and tax collector's bodies and heads from the copies of Reproducible Pages A and B.
2. Glue the heads to the bottom flaps of the paper bags.
3. Glue the bodies under the heads on the front of the bags. See Figure A.
4. Cut small pieces of cloth or felt scraps for clothes. Use a variety of colors and patterns, if possible.
5. Cut the yarn into 3" pieces to use for hair.
6. Make a model of each of the puppets. Save these models for the Bible story teacher.

Instructions

1. Give each child a Pharisee and a tax collector puppet.
2. Have the children color the puppets and glue the yarn in place as hair. Glue on fabric pieces and any other decorative items you choose.

Conclusion

While the children are working on the puppets, begin to acquaint them with the Bible story. Talk briefly about each puppet. *In the Bible story today you are going to hear about two people, a Pharisee and a tax collector. One of them did not make God happy but the other one did. In the story you will learn who pleased God so that you can be like him.*

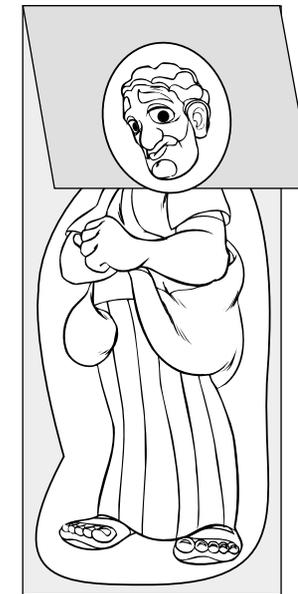


Figure A

Righteous or Religious

The Man Who Needed God

The children will hear a story illustrating God's desire for us to be humble.

Lesson Text

Luke 18:9-14

Materials

For the teacher

- 2 puppets from the Preclass Activity
- Bible

Preparation

Familiarize yourself with the story and practice telling it with the puppets.

Instructions

Open your Bible to Luke and begin telling the story. *The Bible says that we need God's help all of the time. Jesus told a story about two men who prayed to God. He told this story to teach people that they should be humble and not think they are better than other people. One man in the story was a Pharisee. The Pharisees were people who said they loved God but they didn't always act like it. The other man was a tax collector. A tax collector had to take money from people to give to the government, so most people did not like tax collectors very much. One of these men was humble because he knew he needed God's help all of the time. The other man did not think he needed much help from God at all. Someone who is humble is polite and respects others. See if you can tell which one is humble.*

Hold up the Pharisee puppet. Have him look up and say in an arrogant voice: *God, thank you that I am not like other people, people who do bad things! I do more good things than other people do. I'm so good! Thank you that I don't sin like this tax collector. Amen.*

Put the Pharisee puppet down and hold up the tax collector puppet. Have him look down and say in a humble voice: *Dear God, I love you so much. I'm sorry for the times that I don't make you happy. Please forgive me. I need your help, God! Amen.*

Which man do you think was humble? Right, the tax collector was humble. He made God happy. God said that the tax collector made him happy because he had a humble heart and didn't think that he was better than anybody else. He knew he needed God. God wants us to need him and ask him for help by praying to him.

Conclusion

What was wrong with the way the Pharisee prayed? (He thought he was better than other people, he thought he didn't need God to help him.)

Who do you think was the humble man? Yes, the tax collector was humble. Why? (He knew that he needed God, he asked God for help, he apologized to God for things he had done wrong.) God wants us to be humble. He wants us to need him and ask him for help by praying to him.

Teacher Tips

- As the puppets speak, the children may yell out which one they think is humble and which one isn't. Remind them to wait until the story is over and then they can answer.
- A "humble voice" does not have to be a quiet or sad voice, be expressive.
- You can decorate a cardboard box to be a temple and use it as a prop for the puppets.



Righteous or Religious



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Prayer Collage

The children will make a collage of things they will pray for.

Scripture Memory Verse

"The hand of the Lord is powerful."

Joshua 4:24

Materials

For each child:

- 1 piece of poster board, 8½" x 11"
- glue stick

For the teacher:

- 1 black magic marker
- magazines
- a list of all the children's names in the class (take special note of the visiting children who come to class that day)

Preparation

1. Cut several pictures from magazines illustrating things that we would pray for such as: family, friends, doctors, policemen, food, toys, etc.
2. Cut out a picture of a group of children.
3. Write "_____ loves to pray." across the top of each poster board.

Instructions

1. Give each child a poster board and write their name in the blank space.
2. Have the children choose magazine pictures of things that they want to pray for.
3. Have the children glue their pictures to their poster boards.

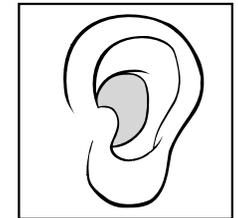
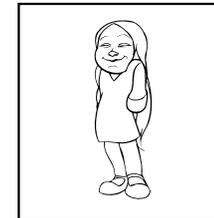
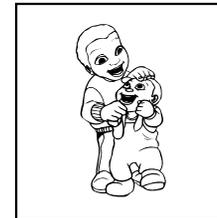
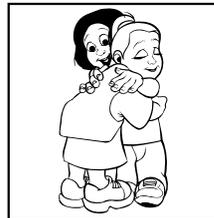
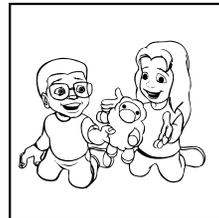
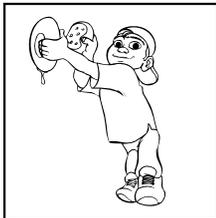
Scripture Memory Activity

Have each child share about the things that they choose to pray for. After each child shares, have them say the memory verse to remind them that God answers prayers.

Pray with the group, giving each child a chance to pray for one thing that they put on their collage.

Conclusion

Look at the completed collages and say: *This shows us that there are so many things we can pray for. But there is something else we should pray for every day. Do you know what that is? Show them the picture of the children. We should ask God to help us tell our friends about Jesus. We should ask God to help us bring friends to our Bible class so they can learn about how much God loves them.*



Righteous or Religious

Life

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“The hand of the
Lord is powerful.”

Joshua 4:24



Righteous or Religious

God Listens

The children will make a large set of ears to remind them that God always listens to them.

Materials

For each child:

- glue stick

For the teacher

- bright-colored poster board
- stickers for decorations
- scissors
- markers

Reproducible Pages:

- Page C, 1 copy for each child

Preparation

1. Cut out one set of "ears" from the copies of Reproducible Page C for each child.
2. Cut a strip of posterboard 2" x 22" for each child.
3. Make a model of the craft following the instructions.

Instructions

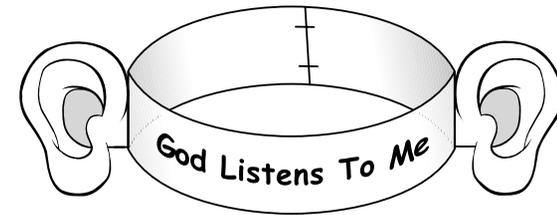
1. Give each child a set of ears to color.
2. Have each child fold their ear tabs at the dotted line. See Figure A.
3. Give each child a strip of poster board and help them to adjust it around their head, making a headband. Mark the headband where the ends meet to fit the child's head so you can later staple it together.
4. While the headband is on the child's head, mark the two places where the ears should be glued.
5. Have the child take off the headband and glue the tabs of the ears to the spots that you marked. See Figure B.
6. Write "God Listens To Me" on the center of each strip, in between the ears.
7. Staple the ends together where the mark is, forming the headband.
8. Have the children decorate their headbands with stickers and markers.

Conclusion

Have the children put on their headbands and talk with them about how God listens to them. *When do you think that God listens to you? (anytime) Who else does God listen to? (everyone) When does God listen? (all of the time)*

Teacher Tips

Make a complete craft as a model before you cut out the necessary items for the children. This will help you if you need to change any measurements.



Righteous or Religious

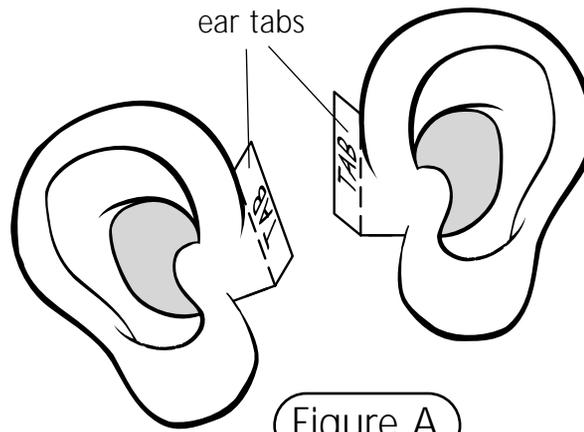
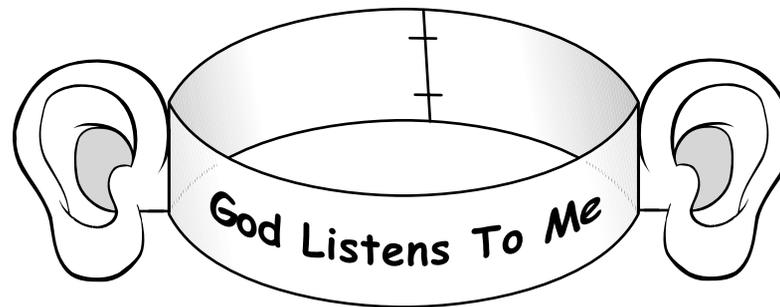


Figure A



Figure B



Finished Craft





Pre class



Righteous or Religious

The Nature of God

Lesson 6

Lesson Objectives

- The children will distinguish the Pharisee from the tax collector in the Bible story.
- The children will identify some things that they need help with and will pray about them.
- The children will thank God for caring about their needs.

Lesson Text

Luke 18:9-14

Scripture Memory Verse

"The hand of the Lord is powerful."

Joshua 4:24

God's Power

The children will decorate a picture to help them remember the memory verse.

Materials

For each child:

- crayons
- glue stick
- 1 piece of construction paper

For the teacher:

- blue and green tissue paper (optional)

Reproducible Pages:

- Page D, 1 copy for each child



Lesson Plan

Greeting and Registration

Preclass Activity: God's Power

Welcome and Singing

Centers:

Game: The Pharisee

Craft: Two-Faced Puppet

Life Application: Prayer Collage

NOTE: Be sure to allow sufficient time for a snack.

Preparation

1. Cut out the picture from Reproducible Page D for each child.
2. Make a model following the instructions.

Instructions

1. Give each child a picture.
2. Have the children color their pictures.
3. Give each child a piece of construction paper and have them glue the pictures onto the middle of the construction papers. This will make "frames" for their pictures.
4. Have the children write their names on their pictures.

Conclusion

As the children decorate their pictures, talk to them about the hand in the picture. Ask them, *Who's hand do you think that is? Right, it is God's hand. What is God holding? What do you think the picture means?* Talk about how strong and mighty God is, he can handle the whole world and every single person in it. Ask the children who remembers the memory verse and have the children take turns reciting it.

Teacher Tips

The children can rip pieces of tissue paper to glue onto their worlds.



The Pharisee

The children will play a game that will reinforce the names of the people in the Bible story.

Materials

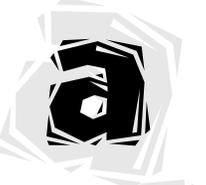
No materials necessary.

Preparation

Familiarize yourself with the game.

Instructions

1. Have the children sit in a circle.
2. Pick one child to be the Pharisee.
3. Explain the rules of the game to the children.
 - A. The Pharisee will go around the circle and touch each child on the head, saying "tax collector". He then chooses a child to chase him, by touching that child on the head and saying "Pharisee."
 - B. Once a child is tapped and hears the word "Pharisee", he will stand up and start to chase the child that tapped him.
 - C. The first child will run all the way around the circle and sit in the second child's spot before getting "tagged" by the "Pharisee".
 - D. If he makes it to the spot then the other child becomes the Pharisee and the game begins again.
 - E. If he is tagged then he must go and sit in the middle of the circle until another child is tagged and comes to replace him.

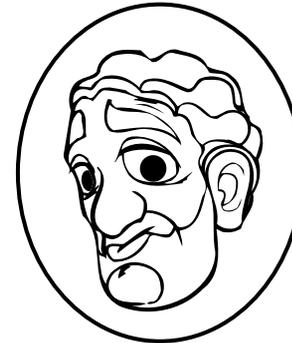


Conclusion

Encourage the children to be honest with God as the tax collector was.

Teacher Tips

Have fun with the game. Make sure all of the children get picked at least once.





Righteous or Religious

Two-faced Puppet

The children will make a two-faced puppet of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector.

Materials

For each child:

- 1 craft stick
- crayons or markers
- glue stick

For the teacher:

- scissors

Reproducible Pages:

- Page E, 1 copy for each child

Preparation

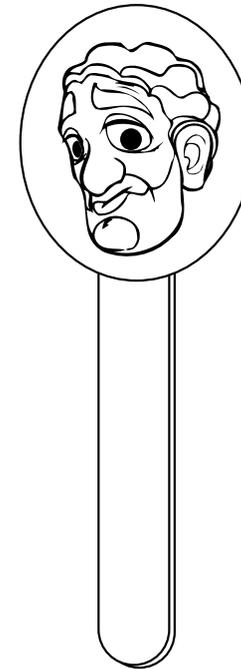
1. Cut out the faces of the tax collector and the Pharisee from the copies of Reproducible Page E.
2. Make a model of the craft following the instructions.

Instructions

1. Give each child a tax collector face and a Pharisee face to color.
2. Have each child glue a face to a craft stick. See Figure A.
3. Have each child glue the other face on the back of the craft stick as shown in Figure B.

Conclusion

Have each child pray as the tax collector would, with a humble heart, thanking God for caring and wanting to listen to them.



Righteous or Religious

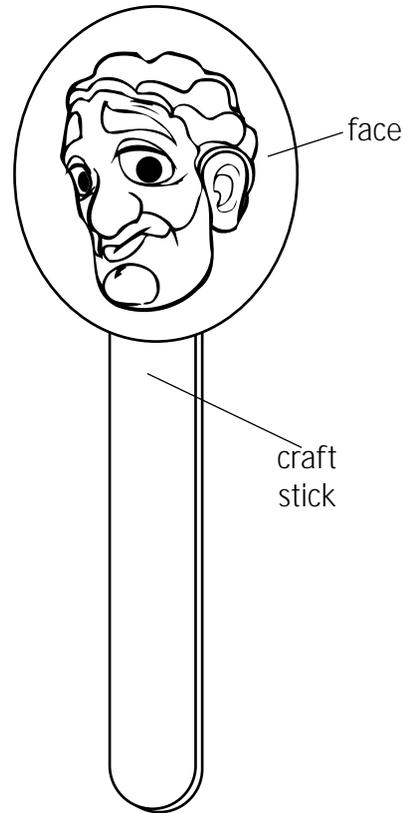


Figure A

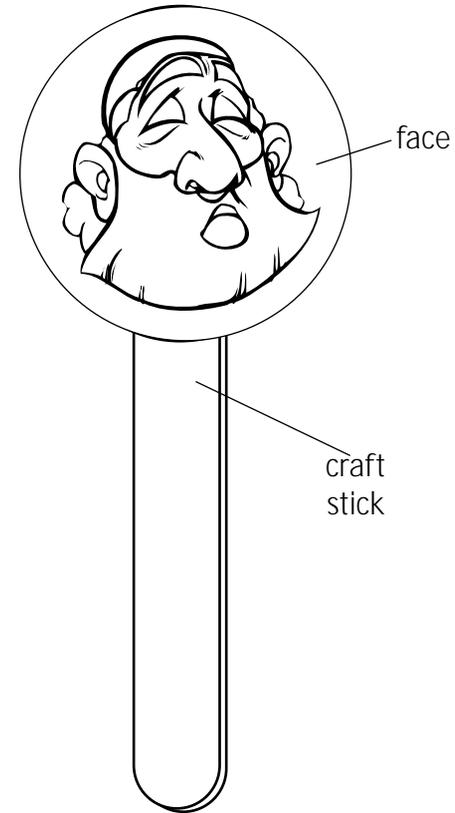


Figure B



Prayer Collage

The children will make a collage of things they will pray for.

Scripture Memory Verse

"The hand of the Lord is powerful."
Joshua 4:24

Materials

For each child:

- 1 piece of poster board, 8½" x 11"
- glue stick

For the teacher:

- 1 black magic marker
- magazines
- a list of all the children's names in the class (take special note of the visiting children who come to class that day)

Preparation

1. Cut several pictures from magazines illustrating things that we would pray for such as: family, friends, doctors, policemen, food, toys, etc.
2. Cut out a picture of a group of children.
3. Write "_____ loves to pray." across the top of each poster board.

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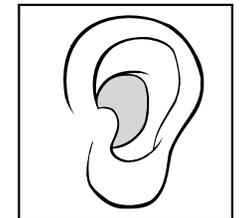
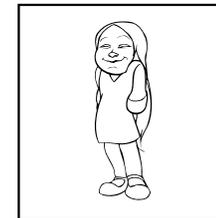
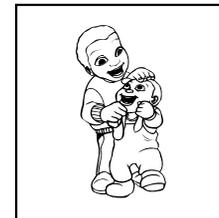
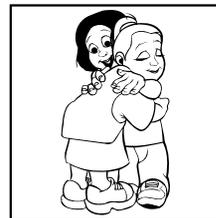
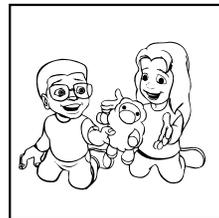
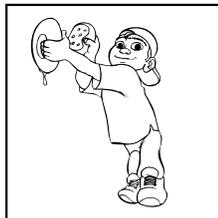
Scripture Memory Activity

Have each child share about the things that they choose to pray for. After each child shares, have them say the memory verse to remind them that God answers prayers.

Pray with the group, giving each child a chance to pray for one thing that they put on their collage.

Conclusion

Look at the completed collages and say: *This shows us that there are so many things we can pray for. But there is something else we should pray for every day. Do you know what that is? Show them the picture of the children. We should ask God to help us tell our friends about Jesus. We should ask God to help us bring friends to our Bible class so they can learn how much God loves them.*



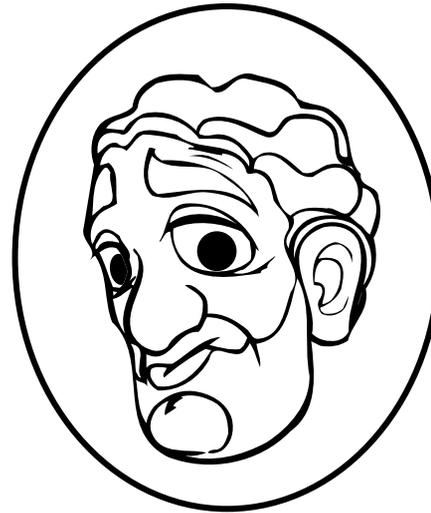
"The hand of the Lord is powerful."

Joshua 4:24

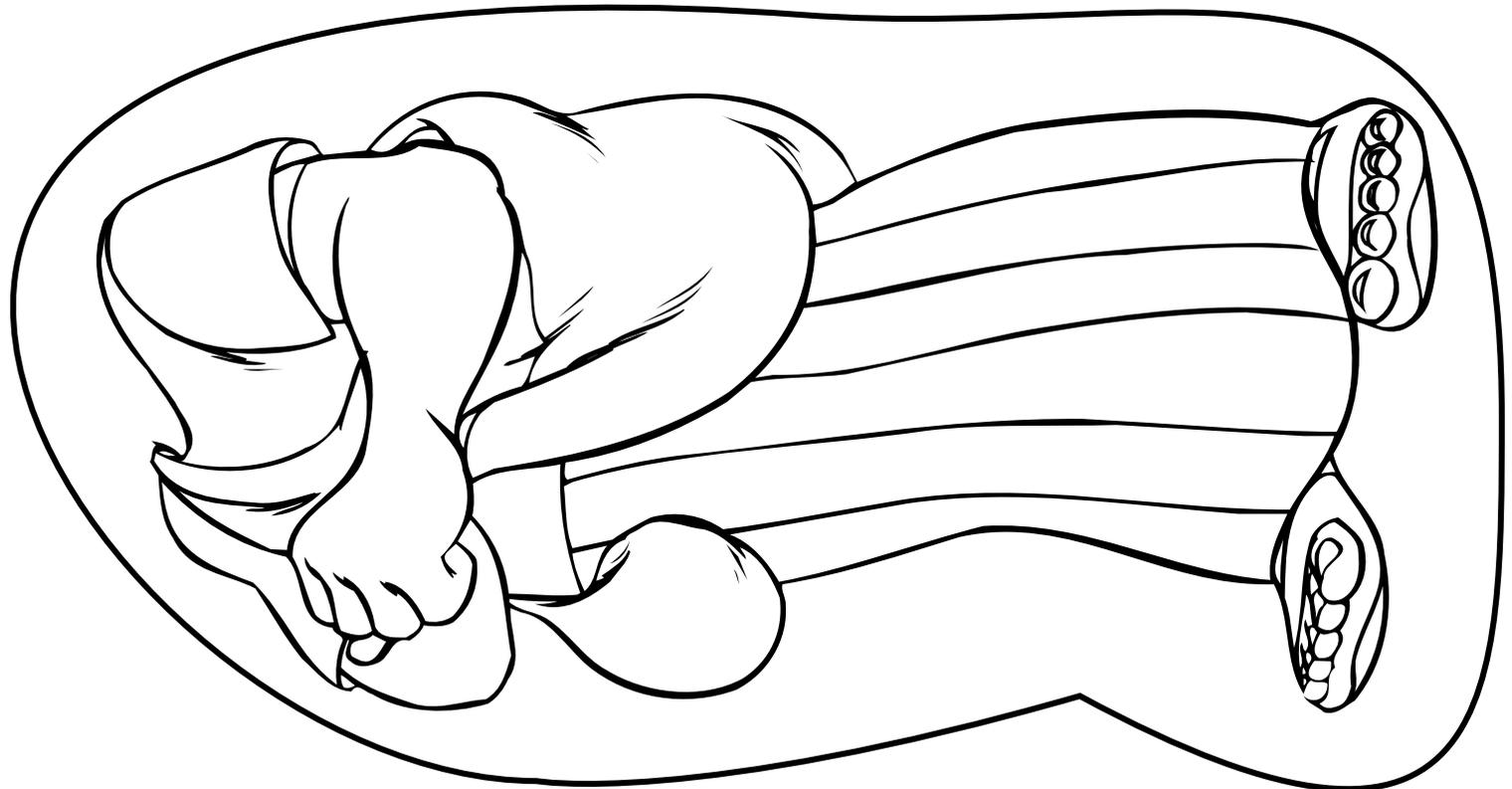


Core/Preclass

1 copy for each child



tax
collector



REPRODUCTION

Page

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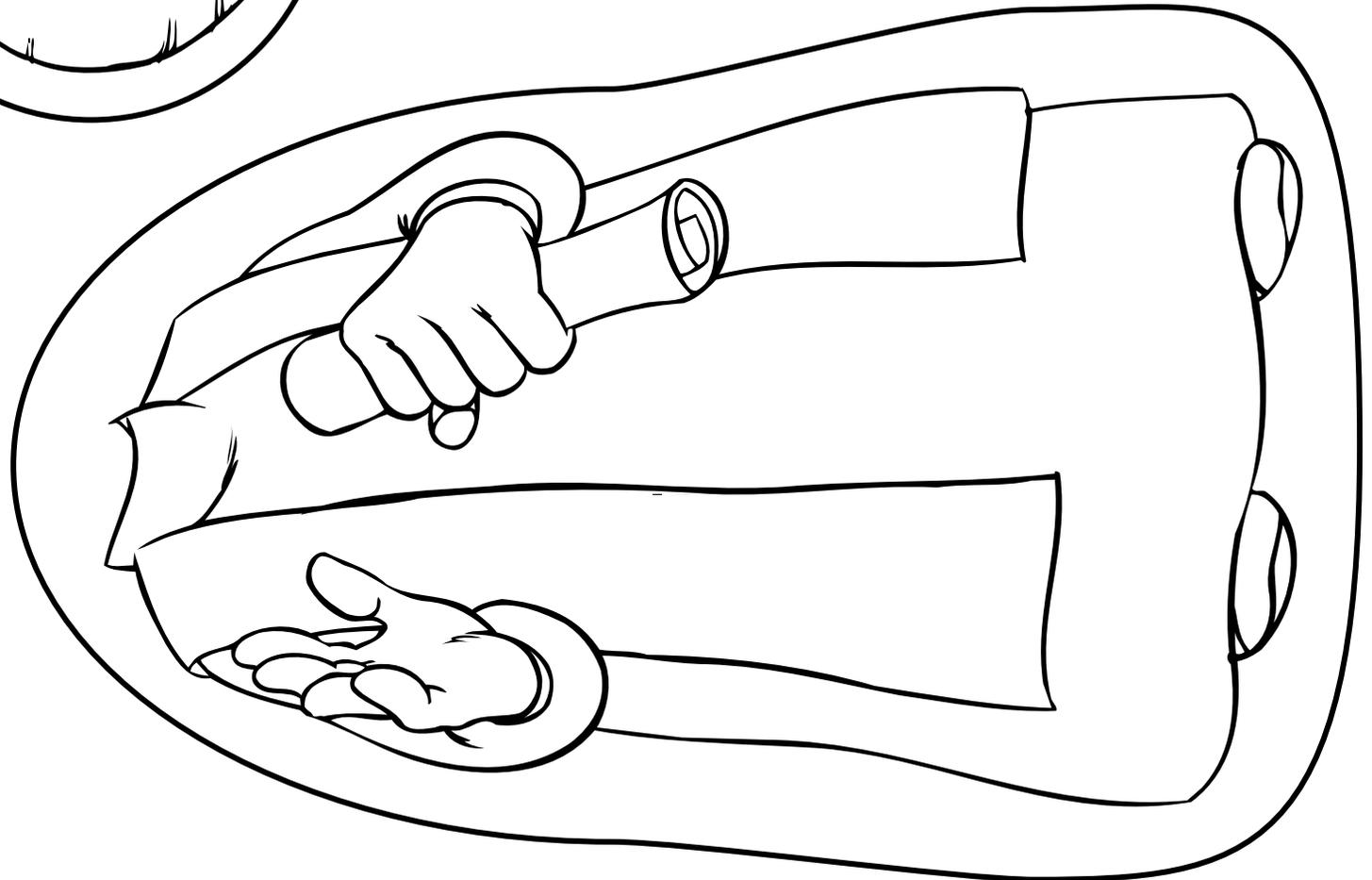
4 and 5 Year Olds

Core/Preclass

1 copy for each child



Pharisee



REPRODUCTION

Page

B

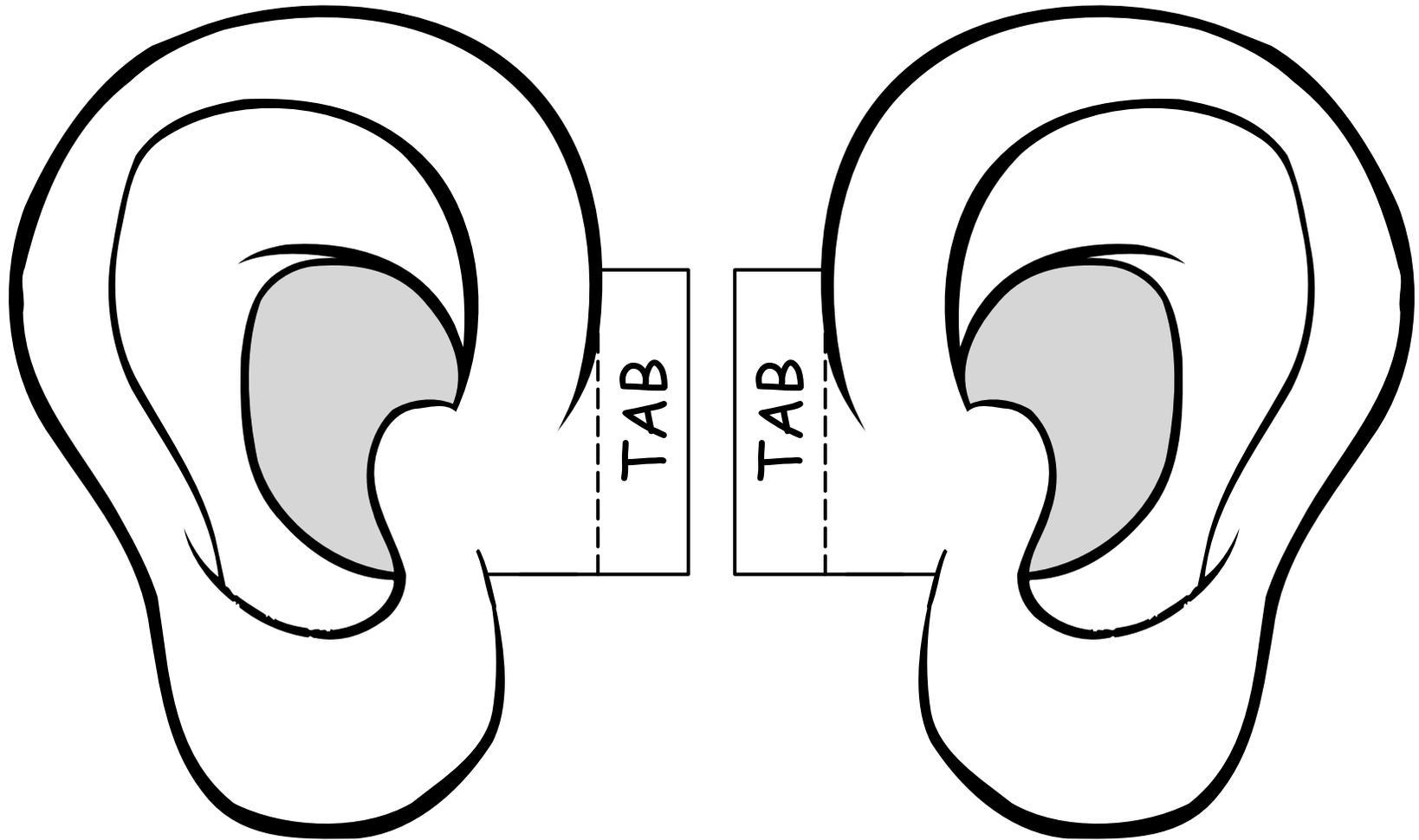


Core/Craft
1 copy for each child

Hand-Drawn

Page

C



ears



Supplement/Preclass

1 copy for each child



“The hand of the Lord is powerful.” Joshua 4:24

Discipleship

Page

D



4 and 5 Year Olds

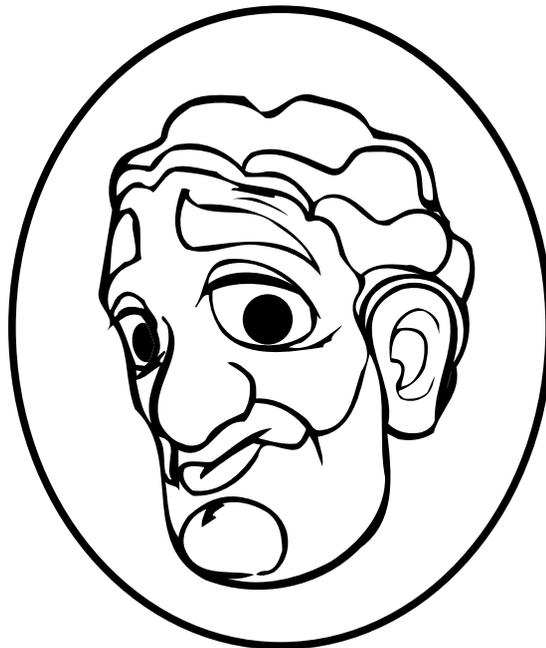
Supplement/Craft

1 copy for each child

REPRODUCTION

Page

1



tax collector



Pharisee

