



HOPE

GAZETTE

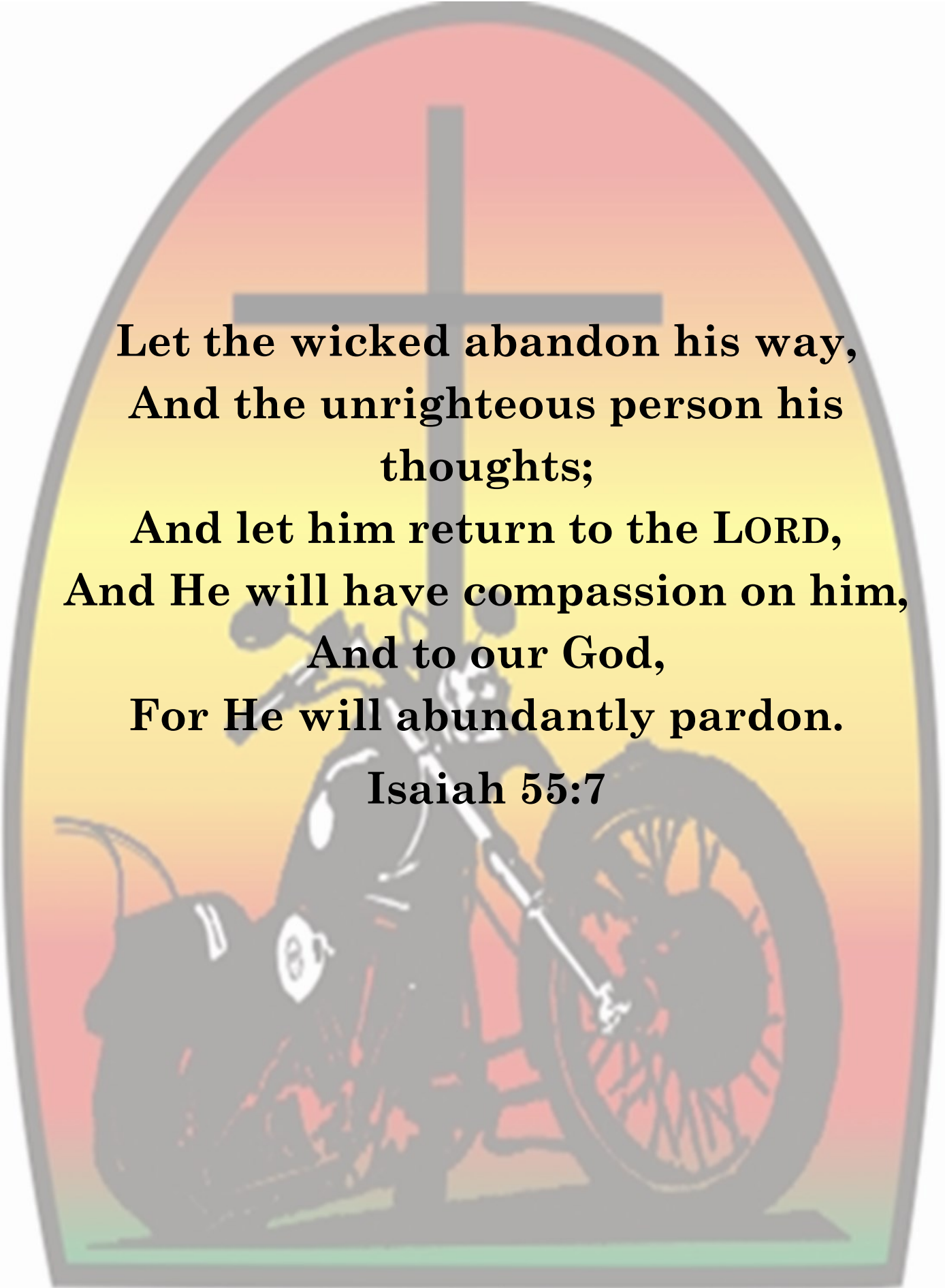
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APRIL 2021



**Let the wicked abandon his way,
And the unrighteous person his
thoughts;
And let him return to the LORD,
And He will have compassion on him,
And to our God,
For He will abundantly pardon.**

Isaiah 55:7

HOPE

APRIL 2021



Resurrection

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Matthew 28

Why Resurrection is Important

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1 | RESURRECTION

New American Standard Bible



The resurrection story is the account of Jesus Christ rising from the dead after being crucified on the cross and buried in the tomb. Accounts of the story can be found in Matthew 28:1-20, Mark 16:1-20, Luke 24:1-49, and John 20:1-21:25.

Matthew 28:1-20

28 Now after the Sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to look at the tomb. 2 And behold, a severe earthquake had occurred, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled away the stone, and sat upon it. 3 And his appearance was like lightning, and his clothing as white as snow. 4 The guards shook from fear of him and became like dead men. 5 And the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; for I know that you are looking for Jesus who has been crucified. 6 He is not here, for He has risen, just as He said. Come, see the place where He was lying. 7 And go quickly and tell His disciples that He has risen from the dead; and behold, He is going ahead of you to Galilee. There you will see Him; behold, I have told you."

8 And they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to report to His disciples. 9 And behold, Jesus met them and said, "Rejoice!" And they came up and took hold of His feet, and worshiped Him. 10 Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go, bring word to My brothers to leave for Galilee, and there they will see Me."

11 Now while they were on their way, some of the men from the guard came into the city and reported to the chief priests all that had happened. 12 And when they had assembled with the elders and consulted together, they gave a large sum of money to the soldiers, 13 and said, "You are to say, 'His disciples came at night and stole Him while we were asleep.' 14 And if this comes to the governor's ears, we will appease him and keep you out of trouble." 15 And they took the money and did as they had been instructed; and this story was widely spread among the Jews and is to this day.

16 But the eleven disciples proceeded to Galilee, to the mountain which Jesus had designated to them. 17 And when they saw Him, they worshiped Him; but some were doubtful. 18 And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. 19 Go, therefore, and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to follow all that I commanded you; and behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

1

WHY RESURRECTION IS IMPORTANT

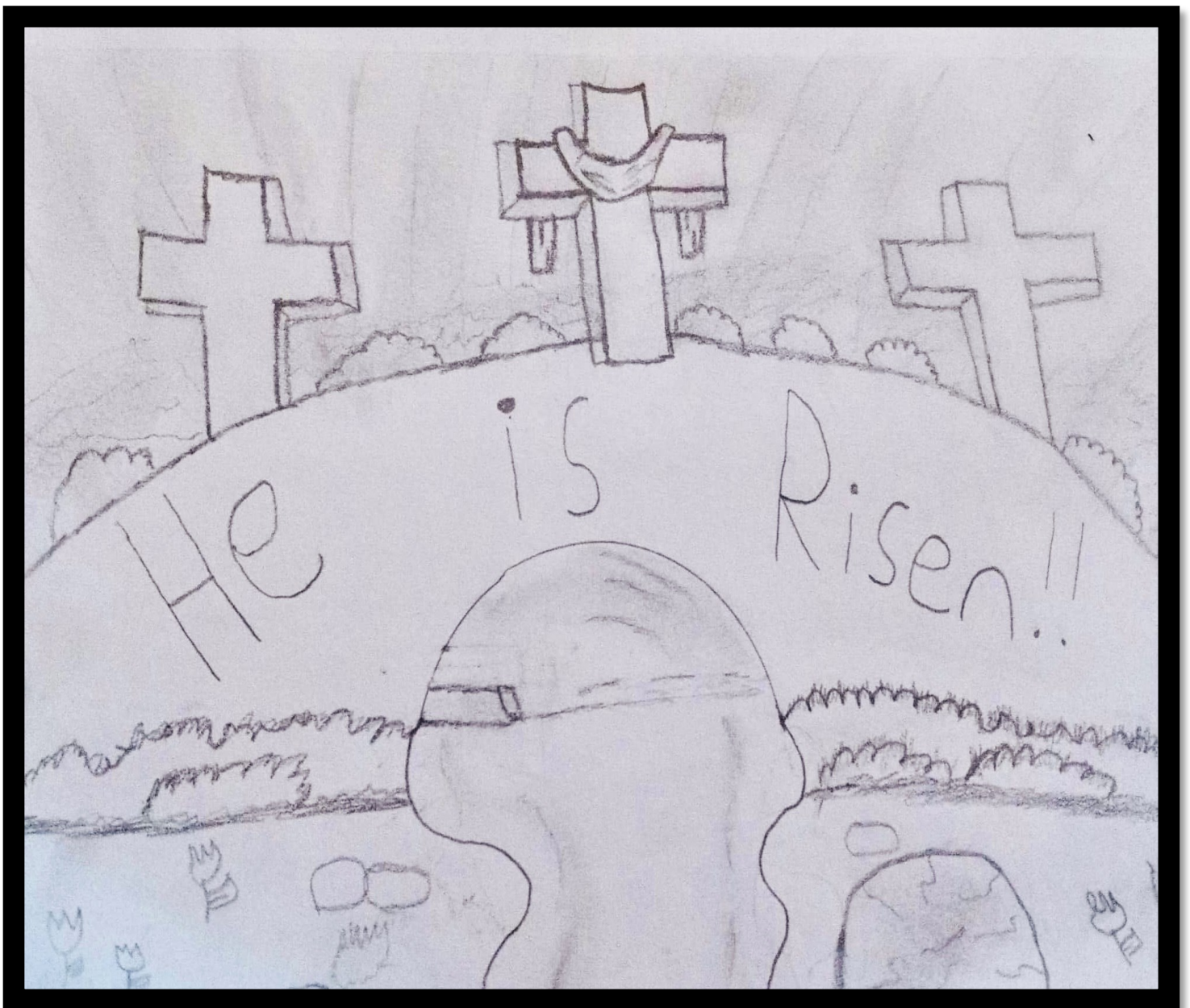
GotQuestions.Org

The resurrection of Jesus is important for several reasons. First, the resurrection witnesses to the immense power of God Himself. To believe in the resurrection is to believe in God. If God exists, and if He created the universe and has power over it, then He has power to raise the dead. If He does not have such power, He is not worthy of our faith and worship. Only He who created life can resurrect it after death, only He can reverse the hideousness that is death itself, and only He can remove the sting and gain the victory over the grave (1 Corinthians 15:54–55). In resurrecting Jesus from the grave, God reminds us of His absolute sovereignty over life and death.

The resurrection of Jesus Christ is also important because it validates who Jesus claimed to be, namely, the Son of God and Messiah. According to Jesus, His resurrection was the “sign from heaven” that authenticated His ministry (Matthew 16:1–4). The resurrection of Jesus Christ, attested to by hundreds of eyewitnesses (1 Corinthians 15:3–8), provides irrefutable proof that He is the Savior of the world.

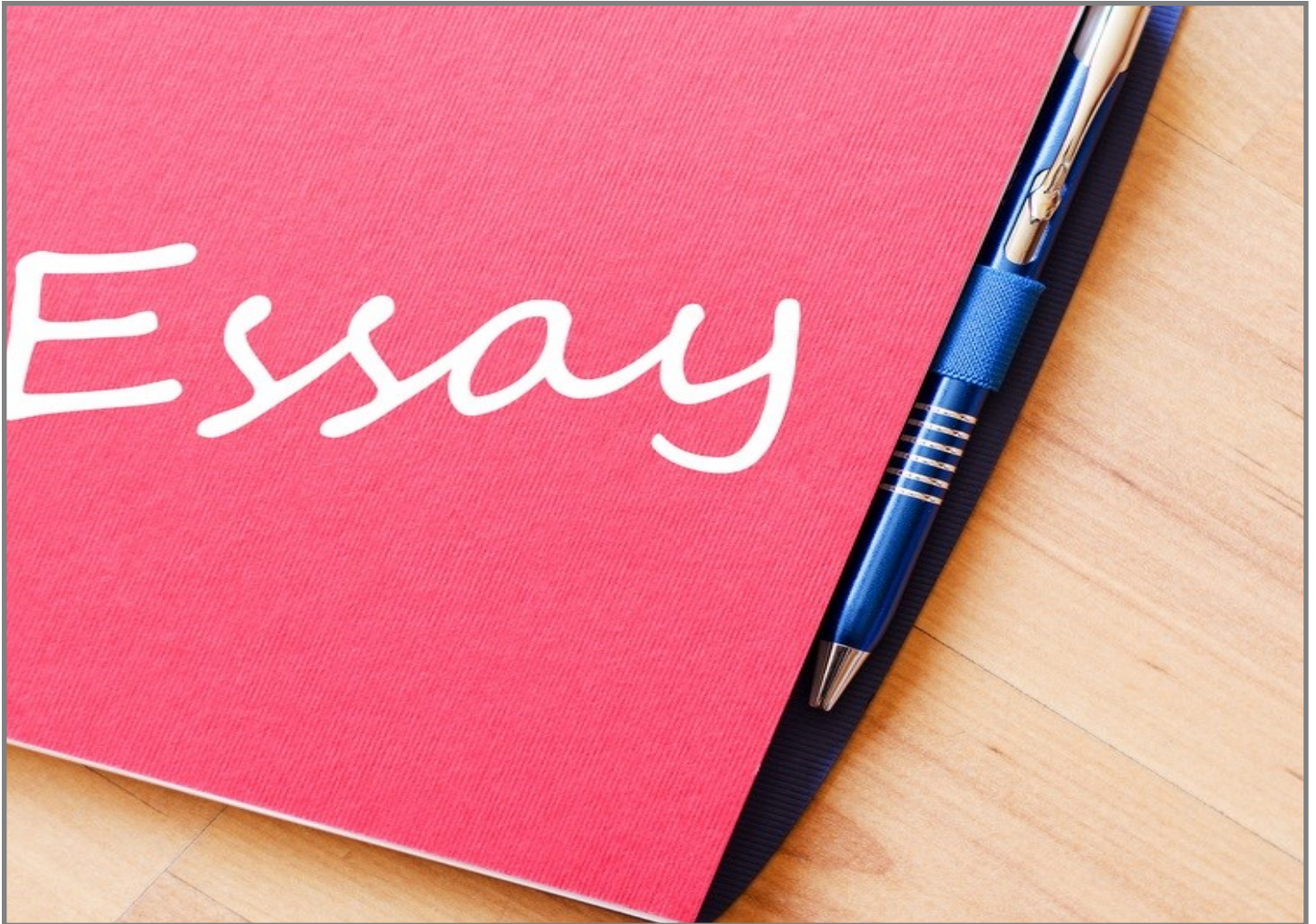
Another reason the resurrection of Jesus Christ is important is that it proves His sinless character and divine nature. The Scriptures said God’s “Holy One” would never see corruption (Psalm 16:10), and Jesus never saw corruption, even after He died (see Acts 13:32–37). It was on the basis of the resurrection of Christ that Paul preached, “Through Jesus the forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you. Through him everyone who believes is set free from every sin” (Acts 13:38–39).

The resurrection is the triumphant and glorious victory for every believer. Jesus Christ died, was buried, and rose the third day according to the Scriptures (1 Corinthians 15:3–4). And He is coming again! The dead in Christ will be raised up, and those who are alive at His coming will be changed and receive new, glorified bodies (1 Thessalonians 4:13–18) (1 Corinthians 15:51-54). Why is the resurrection of Jesus Christ important? It proves who Jesus is. It demonstrates that God accepted Jesus' sacrifice on our behalf. It shows that God has the power to raise us from the dead. It guarantees that the bodies of those who believe in Christ will not remain dead but will be resurrected unto eternal life.



Artwork By Jazmin Holliday

2 | ESSAY CONTEST



Participants were asked to write about Matthew 8:7-9.

⁷ Jesus said to him, “I will come and heal him.” ⁸ But the centurion replied, “Lord, I am not worthy for You to come under my roof, but just say the word, and my servant will be healed. ⁹ For I also am a man under authority, with soldiers under me; and I say to this one, ‘Go!’ and he goes, and to another, ‘Come!’ and he comes, and to my slave, ‘Do this!’ and he does *it*.”

2

First Place Winner

Author Charles Culp

7 Jesus said to him, "Shall I come and heal him?"

8 The centurion replied, "Lord, I do not deserve to have you come under my roof. But just say the word, and my servant will be healed. 9 For I myself am a man under authority, with soldiers under me. I tell this one, 'Go,' and he goes; and that one, 'Come,' and he comes. I say to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it."

Are we worthy of Christ?

Is the grace of God how we can earn what Jesus gives freely?

In history, a centurion is a position of great power and duty, in charge of up to eighty battle-ready infantrymen, a militant part of the system that was the Roman Empire. To be a centurion was to have a job with great responsibility, and the requirements of this job came with a coveted breast plate, a sword, a shield, and a helmet with frills. The war-tested centurion in this story seeks Jesus, a peaceful wanderer, who wears no armor and carries no weapon. The centurion speaks on behalf of his servant who is in need of healing at home, and Jesus, knowing the heart of this ruthless Roman leader, is ready to do the work that is being

requested, for it is faith that brings these two people together in this story, faith in the far-reaching power of God.

But how worthy could this man who is distracted by the rules of Rome be? How worthy are *we* as modern Christians with *our* distractions, our cars, and cable tv, and cell phones? As a commander of legion, the centurion is trained to push through battle and bloodshed, becoming numb to the stench of deathly fields as he orders others to take lives. The systems we are a part of have their grip on us, but are they what is guiding us? Can our society and cultural expectations reach what is eternal in our hearts like Christ can? The truth of who we are rests in the place of love we all share, the heart, and regardless of the roles we put on and the work we do, it is our hearts that guide our actions.

Continued

The very *role* of the centurion is different from the *heart* of the centurion, and it is the same for each one of us, and yet still, there are systems that seem to own us. We are all caught in responsibilities we can't get out of. We have jobs. We work. We make money and decisions that affect the lives of our loved ones. We have a duty to feed and shelter, but to what cost? Do the jobs we do make us who we are? What does the Lord see? Beyond our own breastplates and the distracting colors we wear, in the end, our ability to lead in love comes from the work of the heart, and the one who knows this most was the great heart-worker himself, Jesus Christ.

Jesus sees beyond the frills. He is unimpressed by what we have accomplished in this material world, and at the same time he understands our struggle. He can see the truth of our ways and motivations. And the centurion, in his wisdom, comes to Jesus humbly, stating, "Lord, I do not deserve to have you come under my roof." The centurion is open in his unworthiness. He knows of his part in the violent expansion of the Roman Empire and he cannot hide it, but he knows, because of his faith in Jesus, that he is worthy of the grace and love that is waiting for him. The centurion is a man of power, but of even greater faith and humility. He does not come to the Lord with something to hide for he knows the work of God can be done in a single breath.

The centurion fills his role for Rome, and yet still, Jesus can see how this leader of soldiers is a true believer. How are we as followers of Christ not the same as this centurion? We may not be militant, but we work to keep our homes warm and the groceries coming in. We do much in our lives, not always as Jesus would, but still, Jesus knows of our faith, our humility, and our love. We do not wander like him, growing out our hair, trusting God for our next meal, and sometimes we even take up too much responsibility on our own. Yet, no matter our role, there can be goodness and love that we share that makes us worthy for the grace of God to touch our lives, for we are made whole in the eyes of God, not by what we do for a living, but by how we live.

And should you still doubt the worthiness of this centurion, who lives like many of us, realize that his request to Jesus was not for his own wealth, or power, or protection in battle, but to heal the simple servant who was waiting at home. Before the centurion even spoke Jesus had received him in love, for the centurion, like the many that came after him, sought Jesus *in* love, and what was asked was done in the name of the Lord without anyone entering the home, for that is the power of God for all those who believe.

2

Second Place Winner

Mark Pitman

Simply Trust

When I first heard of this essay contest it reminded me of my high school days when I had to write an assignment essay on a particular topic. I had to gather my thoughts and look at it in a new way, not as an assignment but as an understanding of my own faith as a catalyst for writing this essay. There are many examples in my life where I have exercised my faith in God as I know Him. How Matthew 8:7-9 applies to modern day is the focal point of this essay.

The text reads:

⁷ Jesus said, "I will come and heal him." ⁸ But the officer said, "Lord, I am not worthy to have you come into my home. Just say the word from where you are, and my servant will be healed. ⁹ I know this because I am under the authority of my superior officers, and I have authority over my soldiers. I only need to say, 'Go,' and they go, or 'Come,' and they come. And if I say to my slaves, 'Do this,' they do it." (NLT)

A centurion was a career military officer in the Roman army with control over 100 soldiers. Roman soldiers of all people were hated by the Jews for their oppression, control, and ridicule. Yet this man's genuine faith amazed Jesus. Authority is powerful to the point of allowing it to keep someone from exercising their faith. We have a common faith that we rely on everyday in ordinary circumstances. We have faith that the brakes will work on our car, we have faith that if we sit in a chair that it will hold us up. We don't have to exercise that faith, it just comes naturally. The Roman centurion hated by the Jews has expressed absolute faith in the power of God. He could not express his faith openly for fear of death according to Roman law.

Continued

Let's now look at the modern day application of this example of faith in our society.

There are many examples of modern religions that do not believe in God and some even suffer great persecution for placing their faith in God. We are going to look at one particular religion, the Islamic religion. The Islamic religion doesn't even allow a Muslim to convert to Christianity. They are shunned by their whole family. It is considered an act of treason bearing the death penalty. Islam is more than a religion: it is a combination of religion and state, and a way of life.

There are 4 pillars of the Islamic faith which we will look at:

Shahada: Sincerely reciting the Muslim profession of faith.

Salat: Performing the ritual prayers in the proper way 5 times each day.

Zakat: Paying an alms or charity to benefit the poor or needy.

Swam: Fasting during the month of Ramadan.

These pillars are obligatory acts of worship. Take the Shahada as one example of the faith of a Muslim. Recitation of the Shahada is the most common statement of faith for the Muslims. It is whispered by the father in the ear of a newborn child, and it is whispered in into the ear of a dying person. In accordance with the central importance played by the notion of intention in Islamic doctrine, the recitation of the Shahada must reflect understanding of its importance and heartfelt sincerity. Intention is what differentiates acts of devotion from mundane acts and a simple reading of the Shahada from invoking it as a ritual activity.

Parallel that with Christianity where an act of faith is worship to God. Faith is an action word. We put our faith in action when we believe what the word of God says. In Matthew 17:20, it is referring to an earlier account when the disciples could not drive out a demon in a boy. Jesus replied, "Because you have so little faith. Truly I tell you, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, Move from here to there and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you." (NLT)

Faith is simple. It is religion that complicates it. Why? Control perhaps. Distinction from other religions maybe. I'm not quite sure. What I do know is that faith is not about either control or distinction. Instead it is about release, the turning loose of all attachments. When Jesus said that faith no bigger than a mustard seed, He was not saying faith comes in varying quantities. Yet this is how many religious people have mistakenly understood His words. People have died in the mistaken belief that they didn't have enough faith to be healed.

The centurion was exercising his faith when he asked Jesus to heal his servant. Even though he knew that in doing so he could be put to death under Roman law. It was important his servant to be healed more so than the threat of death he faced.

We as modern Christians can exercise the same faith that the centurion displayed when we take Jesus at His Word. We can face any situation we encounter with the assurance that He will keep His promise. We don't have to recite the Shahada, or travel to Mecca, or pray 5 times a day in the proper way. We just have to simply trust and ask, and it shall be done for the glory of the Father in Heaven.

Don't let pride, doubt, money, or self-sufficiency hinder your approach to God. In Hebrews 11:6, God says "And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to Him must believe that He exists and that He rewards those who earnestly seek Him." (NLT)

Sometimes we wonder about the fate of those who haven't heard of Christ or follow other religions, or don't even have a Bible to read. God assures us that all who earnestly seek Him, who act in faith on the knowledge of God that they possess will be rewarded.

The Roman Centurion acted on this knowledge and his servant was healed instantly. We all could learn from this example of his unwavering faith.

3 Odds and Ends

Upcoming Events and Things to Know

Circle J Kids Ranch

The goal at Circle J Ranch is to minister the gospel of Jesus Christ to each child in a fun and interactive way! For some it may mean getting saved for the very first time or even being baptized, for others it might mean having that one on one moment with their counselor to unload hardships and pain they are feeling. We desire to create an atmosphere where the Holy Spirit can minister to each and every individual that walks on campus.

Circle J is our opportunity to reach beyond our church and our community for the cause of Christ and have a fun time while doing it. We have horse-back riding, paint ball, swimming, Indian Village, Fort Friendly, Potter's House, and daily chapels. Whoever said serving the Lord wasn't fun couldn't be more wrong!

Train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old he will not depart from it. – Proverbs 22:6

There are many volunteer opportunities available! You can pick up a volunteer packet at the information station or go online to thehop-e.com to fill one out there.

Kids Camper Applications are also available online or at the information station!




Call 812-876-9002

Ext 112

for more information!

Granny Smith Apple Pie

Ingredients	Directions
<p>Basic pie crust</p> <p>Granny smith apples</p> <p>White sugar</p> <p>Brown sugar</p> <p>All-purpose (white) flour</p> <p>Sea salt</p> <p>Lemon juice</p> <p>Cinnamon</p> <p>Butter</p> <p>Egg</p> <p>Coarse Sugar</p>	<p>Prepare the dough and chill while you prep the filling. Preheat the oven. Peel, core, and slice the apples, and place them into a large bowl. While we don't always state that apples must be peeled for recipes, granny smith apples have a very unpleasant peel when baked.</p> <p>Add the white sugar, brown sugar, flour, cinnamon, and salt to the apples. Stir to coat the fruit.</p> <p>Roll the dough out if you haven't already done so and place it into a pie tin. Fill with the prepared apples, heaping toward the center if needed. Top the apples with small pieces of butter.</p> <p>Place the top crust over the filling and decorate with any scraps of dough if you'd like. Brush with the egg wash, then top with coarse sugar. Bake the pie for about 20 minutes at 425°F (220°C) then another 30 minutes or so at 375°F (190°C). See the notes below on why we reduce the temperature partway through! Let the pie set, resting at room temperature, for a couple of hours before serving.</p>
<p>NOTES AND TIPS</p> 	<p>Setting the pie, or letting it relax and cool for a while after baking, ensures nice clean slices and a filling that isn't too runny. You can serve a hot pie but the filling will leak when slices are cut. Starting the baking hot and then reducing the temperature makes for a nice crisp crust and no soggy bottom.</p> <p>Coarse sugar on the pie crust makes for a more beautiful pie, with the shimmering pieces of sugar, and adds a nice bite. It's optional but delicious.</p> <p>You can sub half the apples for an eating apple, like Braeburn, Boskoop, or Honeycrisp. This makes for a more typical apple pie and one that's a bit sweeter than the full granny smith apple pie.</p> <p>For a vegan version, use our vegan pie dough and leave the egg wash off the top of the pie. You can either use vegan butter in the filling or leave it out.</p> <p>Try subbing apple pie spice for the cinnamon – we recommend doubling the amount if you go this route.</p>

Classifieds

Magazine Volunteers Needed

Writers, journalist, photographers, artists, and anyone with an interest in volunteering to help please contact Kasey Parrott 317-513-9285



Farm Fresh Eggs For Sale
\$2 a carton
See Jeannette Parrott

Hey! Got something to sell, trade, or give away? Maybe some motorcycle parts to sell? Looking for help? Feel free to reach out to list an item or ad.

If you have a business or a service to offer you can advertise here as well! For just a \$10 Circle J Kids Camp Donation you can list your professional services.

Bill Martin Lawn Care

Home: 812-339-7613

Cell: 812-360-7145

"I haven't met a lawn yet that I couldn't handle"



ISO: GUNS!!!!

Will look at any and all guns

Contact Joel Freeman

812-821-1160



Kaylee Gregory - I am selling custom made bracelets, necklaces, and keychains to save for college. \$2 per item. Call or text 812-585-4640!



Got a Question? Ask A Pastor!

Submit your questions via email or in the drop box at the church. Your questions will be answered in the next magazine!

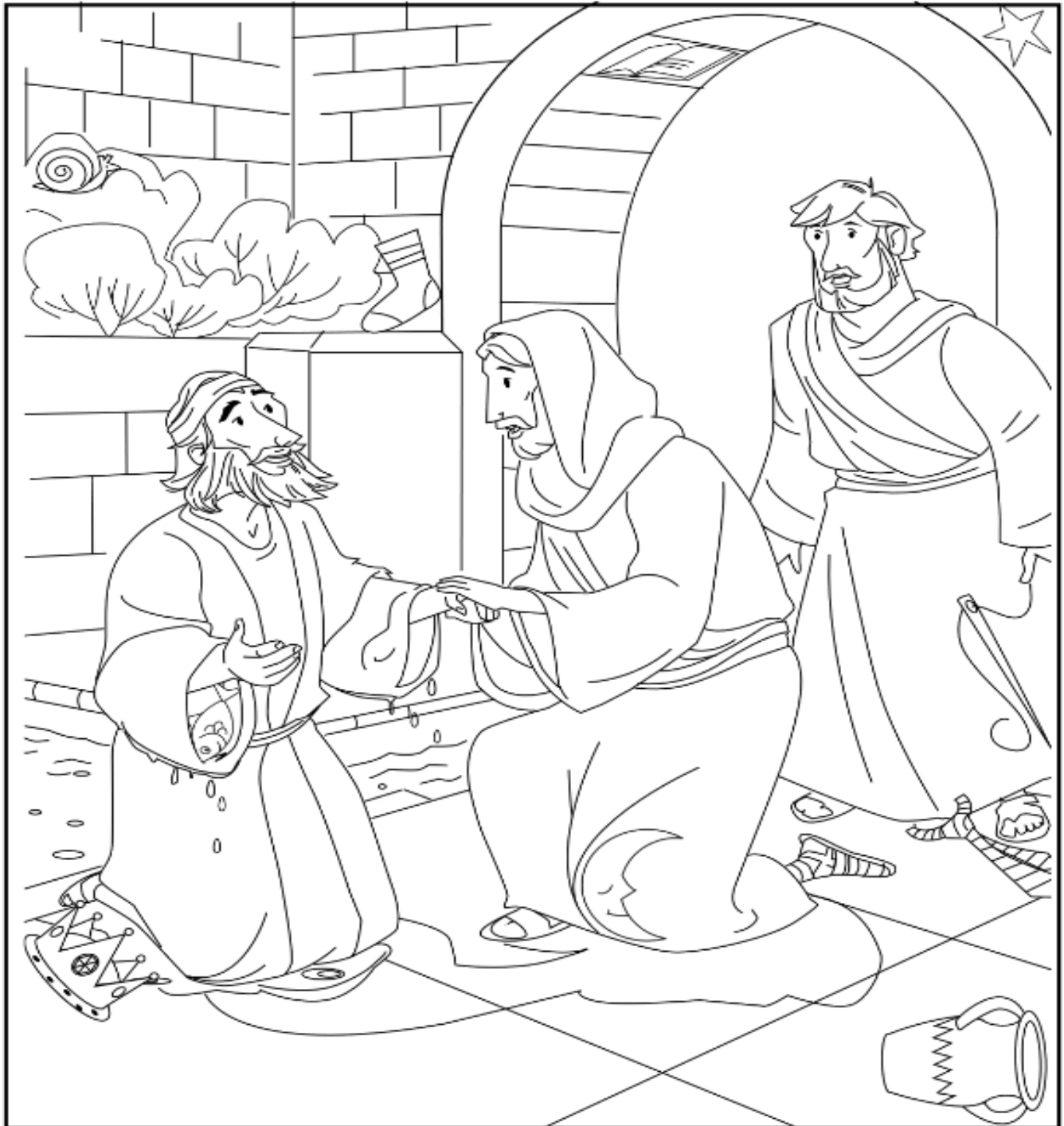
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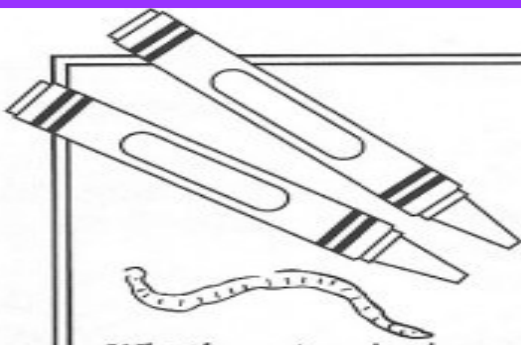
4 Kids Zone



Hidden Pictures: Jesus Healed a Blind Man

Find these objects hidden in the picture below: book, crown, fish, jug, moon, necktie, needle and thread, snail, sock, star.





Just for KIDS

Bugs in the Bible



Whether at a picnic, on the beach or playing outdoors, it seems like we're always joined by uninvited guests – bugs!

Bugs and other little creatures are mentioned in the Bible.



Fill in the blanks with the little creatures mentioned in each verse.
Circle them in the puzzle below.

Proverbs 6:6 _____

Exodus 16:20 _____

Psalms 78:45 _____

1 Sam. 24:14 _____

Matt. 23:24 _____

Isaiah 50:9 _____

Judges 14:8 _____

Isaiah 59:5 _____

Acts 12:23 _____

Leviticus 11:22 _____

Leviticus 11:22 _____

Leviticus 11:22 _____

Leviticus 11:22 _____

Deuteronomy 7:20 _____



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

WHAT DO YOU CALL A PIG
THAT DOES KARATE?



PORK CHOP

WHAT KIND OF SHORTS
DO CLOUDS WEAR?



THUNDERWEAR

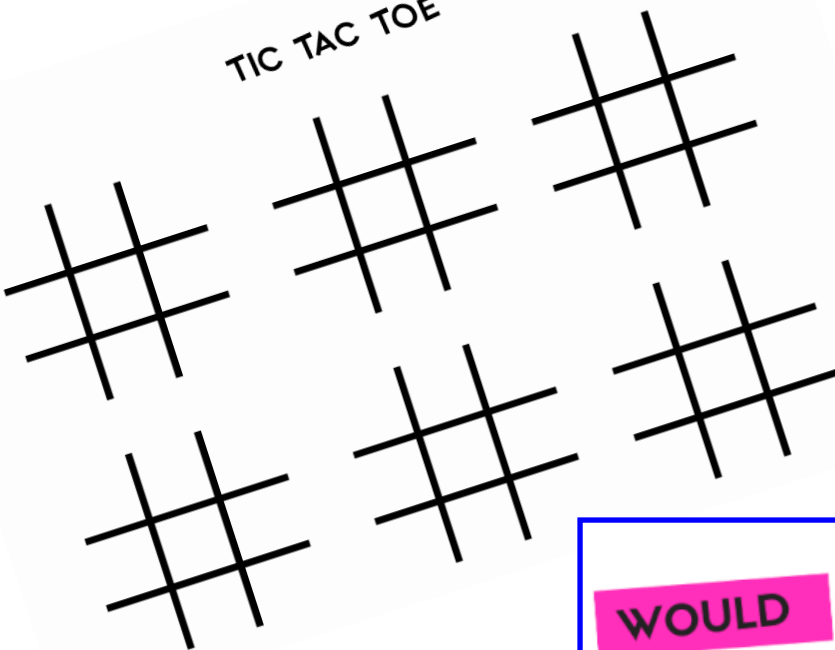
WHAT DO YOU CALL A COW
WITH NO LEGS?



GROUND BEEF.



TIC TAC TOE



Memory Verse

“Your word is a lamp to
my feet and a light to
my path”

Psalm 119:105

Why do bees have
sticky hair?

Because
they use
honeycombs.

What type of
sandals do
frogs wear?

Open-toad.

Why did the gym
close down?

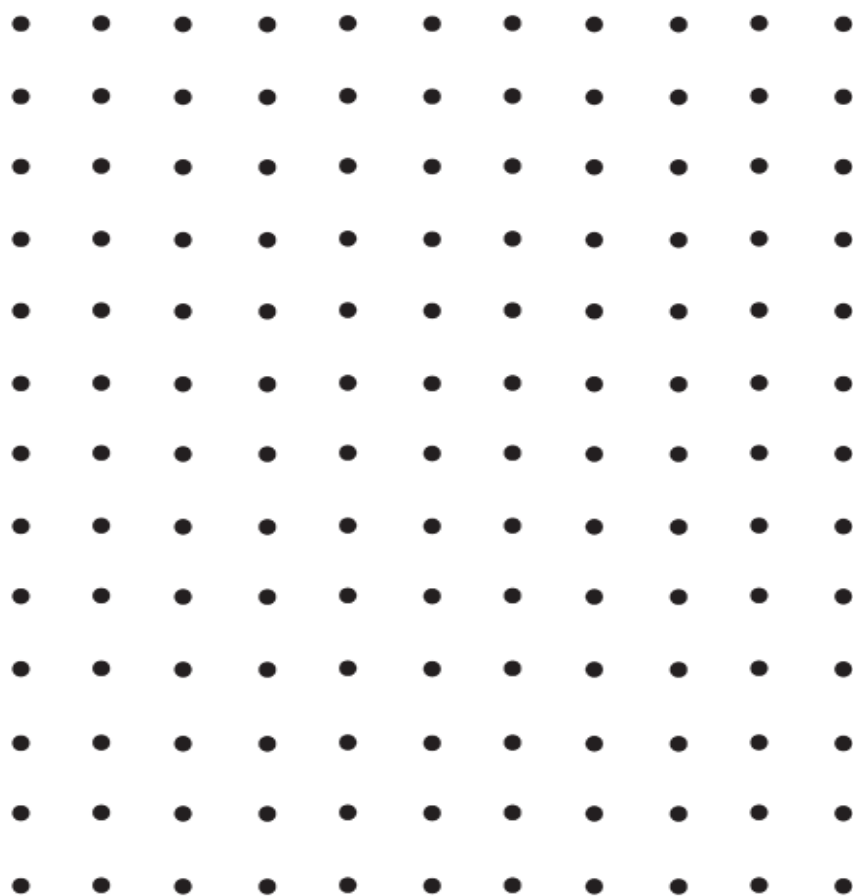
It just didn't
work out.

WOULD YOU RATHER

stay QUIET or sit STILL
for an hour?



DOTS & BOXES



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