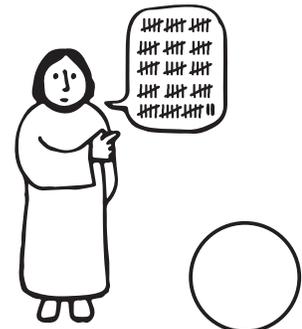
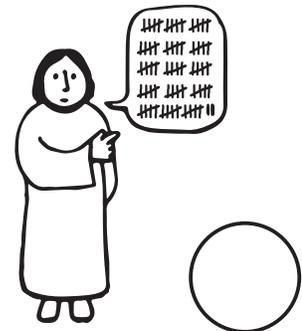
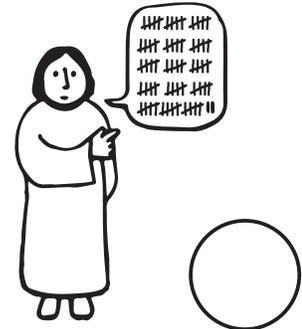
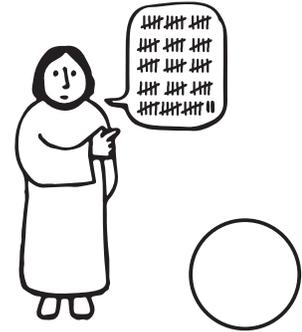


GAME CARDS

<p>Could you forgive if . . .</p> 	<p>Forgiveness looks like . . .</p> 
<p>Could you forgive if . . .</p> 	<p>Forgiveness looks like . . .</p> 
<p>Could you forgive if . . .</p> 	<p>Forgiveness looks like . . .</p> 
<p>Could you forgive if . . .</p> 	<p>Forgiveness looks like . . .</p> 

FORGIVENESS FOLDOUT

Make seven copies of this sheet for each group. Starting in this column, number each space from 1 to 77, numbering from top to bottom on each strip. Cut on the solid line and fold on the dotted line. Tape the strips together so they are numbered consecutively from 1 to 77.



I'VE GOT THE JOY

I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy,
Down in my heart, (where?)
Down in my heart, (where?)
Down in my heart;
I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy,
Down in my heart, (where?)
Down in my heart to stay.

I've got the love of Jesus, love of Jesus,
Down in my heart, (where?)
Down in my heart, (where?)
Down in my heart;
I've got the love of Jesus, love of Jesus,
Down in my heart, (where?)
Down in my heart to stay.

I've got the peace that passes understanding
Down in my heart, (where?)
Down in my heart, (where?)
Down in my heart;
I've got the peace that passes understanding
Down in my heart, (where?)
Down in my heart to stay.

Text: Traditional

SCENES OF FORGIVENESS

Your sins
are forgiven.



Let us love one
another as God has
loved us.



FORGIVE OUR SINS AS WE FORGIVE

“Forgive our sins as we forgive,”
you taught us, Lord, to pray;
but you alone can grant us grace
to live the words we say.

How can your pardon reach and bless
the unforgiving heart
that broods on wrongs and will not let
old bitterness depart?

In blazing light your cross reveals
the truth we dimly knew:
how trifling others’ debts to us;
how great our debt to you!

Lord, cleanse the depths within our souls
and bid resentment cease;
then, by your mercy reconciled,
our lives will spread your peace.

Text: Rosamond E. Herklots, 1905-1987, alt.
Text © Oxford University Press 1969

Tune options:
DETROIT
ST. ANNE

I'M SO GLAD JESUS LIFTED ME

I'm so glad Jesus lifted me.
I'm so glad Jesus lifted me.
I'm so glad Jesus lifted me,
singing glory, hallelujah! Jesus lifted me.

When I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me.
When I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me.
When I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me,
singing glory, hallelujah! Jesus lifted me.

Text: African American spiritual

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I WANT JESUS TO WALK WITH ME

I want Jesus to walk with me;
I want Jesus to walk with me;
all along my pilgrim journey,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

When I'm in trouble, Lord, walk with me;
when I'm in trouble, Lord, walk with me;
when my head is bowed in sorrow,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

Text: African American spiritual

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WE ARE MARCHING IN THE LIGHT/ SIYAHAMBA

English

We are marching in the light of God,
we are marching in the light of God.
We are marching in the light of God,
we are marching in the light of God.

We are marching, (marching, we are marching, marching,)
we are marching in the light of God.
We are marching, (marching, we are marching, marching,)
we are marching in the light of God.

Additional stanzas ad lib:

We are dancing . . .
We are praying . . .
We are singing . . .

Original

Siyahamb' ekukhanyen' kwenkhos',
siyahamb' ekukhanyen' kwenkhos'.
Siyahamb' ekukhanyen' kwenkhos',
siyahamb' ekukhanyen' kwenkhos'.
Siyahamba, (hamba, siyahamba, hamba,)
siyahamb' ekukhanyen' kwenkhos'.
Siyahamba, (hamba, siyahamba, hamba,)
siyahamb' ekukhanyen' kwenkhos'.

Text: South African traditional; tr. Freedom Is Coming, 1984
Tr. © 1984 Utryck, admin. Walton Music Corp.

FORGIVEN AND FREE

forgiven

free!



free!



free!

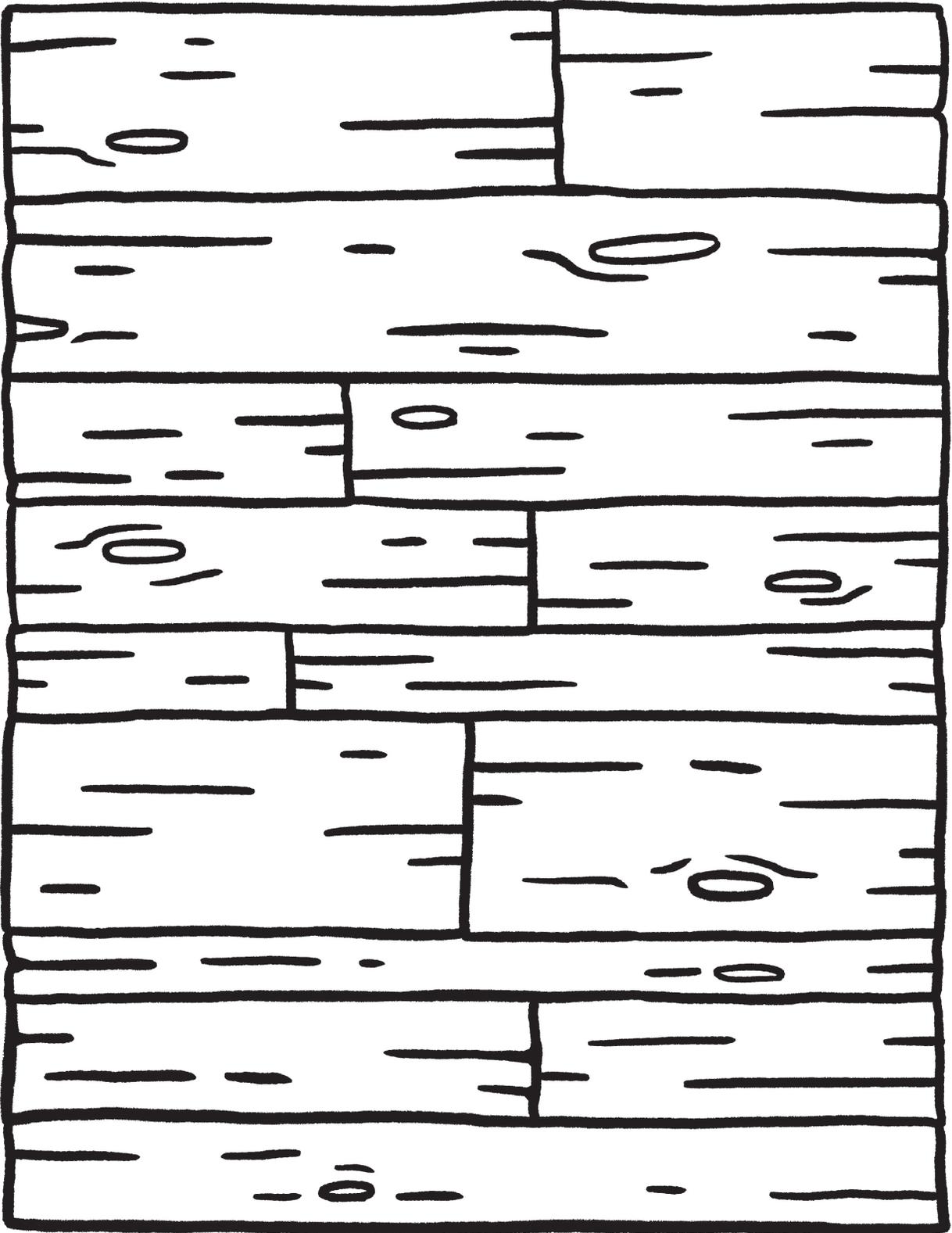


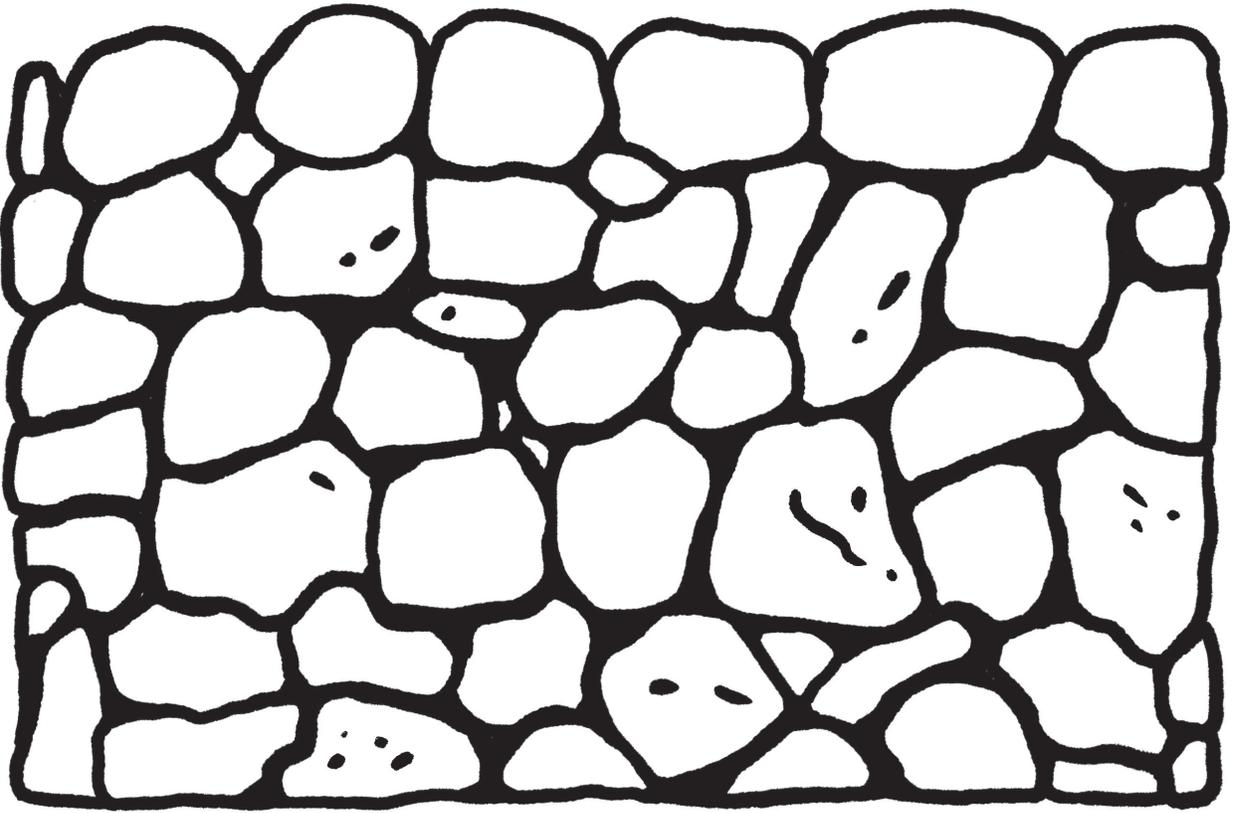
free!

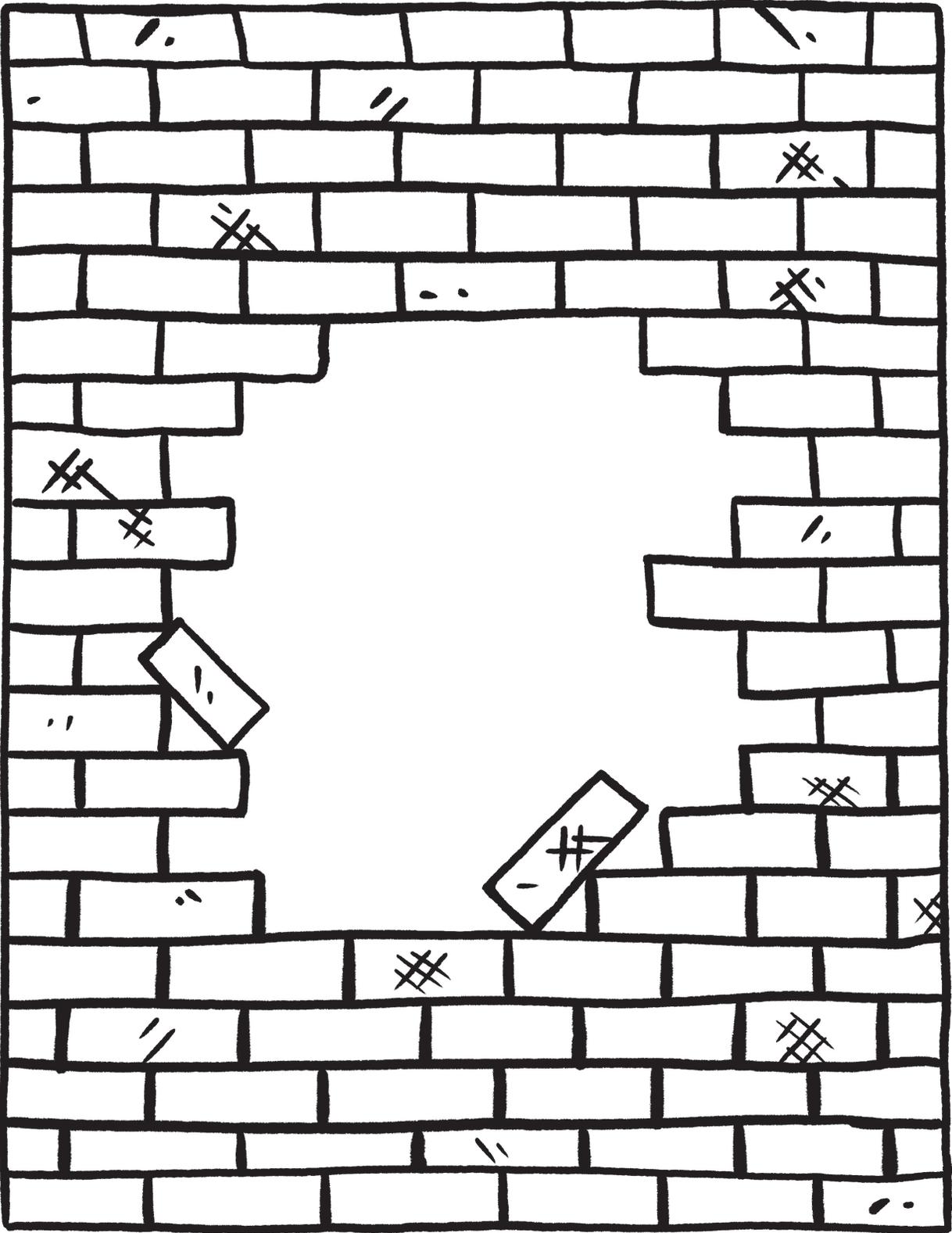


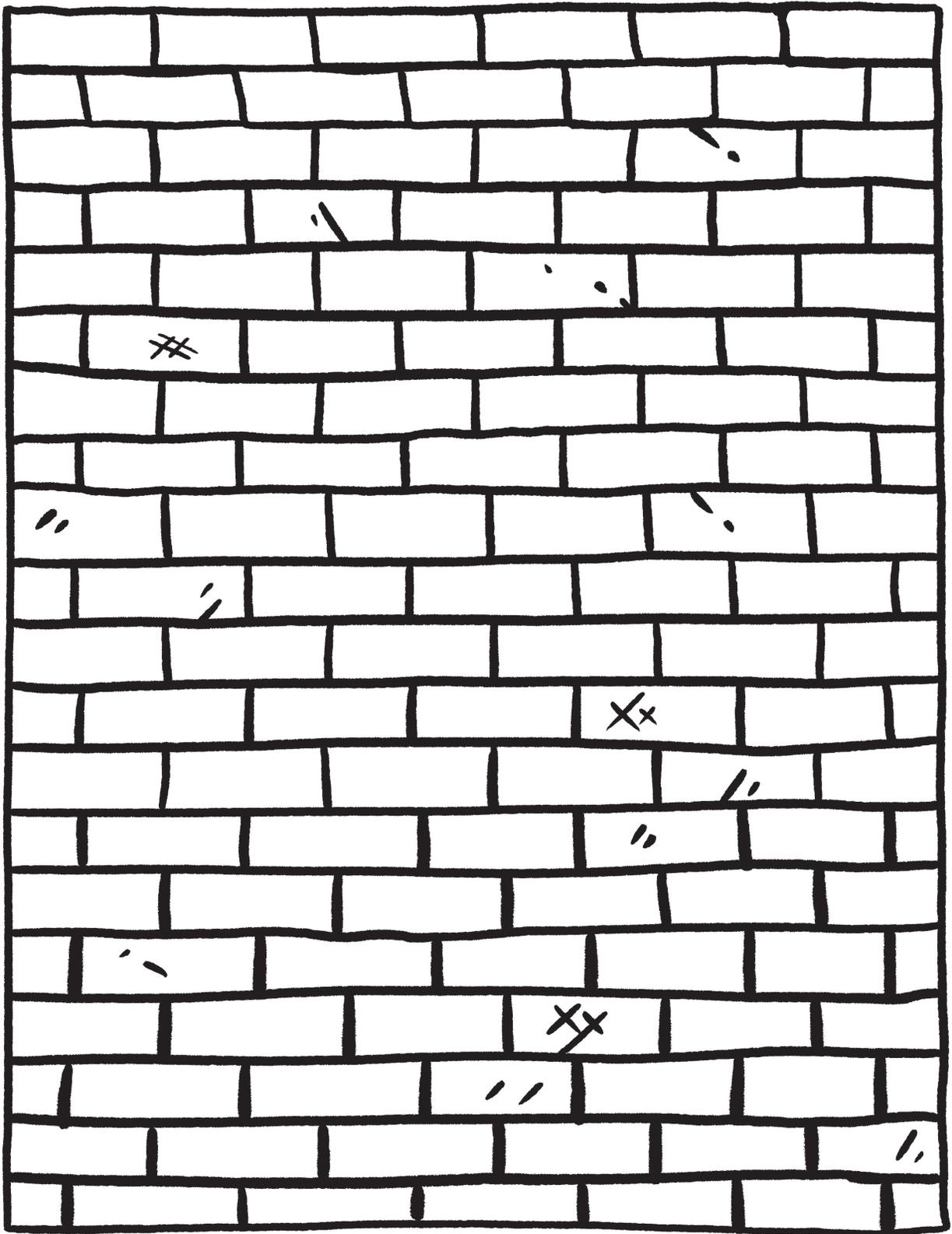
free!











MY PSALM

Dear God, you are:

(write or draw some things that describe what God is like)

I love you because:

(write or draw some of the reasons you love God)

Sometimes I make mistakes and do things that make me feel sad or ashamed. One mistake that I need help with is: (write or draw something that you are feeling sad or ashamed about)



I know that you have already forgiven me, and I want to feel it in my heart. When I feel your forgiveness, it makes me so happy, I want to:
(write or draw what you do when you feel God's forgiveness)



Thank you for forgiving me and thank you for loving me.
Thank you for: (write or draw your favorite people and animals)

Amen!

MEDITATION ON FORGIVENESS

Take one deep breath in the name of God, the parent who loves us.

Take one deep breath in the name of Jesus, the son who came to live with us.

Take one deep breath in the name of the Holy Spirit, who is with us always.

As you continue to breathe slowly in and out, picture yourself in your mind. As you breathe in and out, repeat these words silently to yourself:

From the bottom of my heart, I forgive myself for the bad things I did, today, this week, this month, this year, whether on purpose or by accident.

I know that God has already forgiven me and set me free from the power of my sins.

I know that God wants me to be happy, healthy, and at peace. I breathe in God's love and breathe out my anger at myself.

I know that God will help me as I try to make right the things that I've done wrong.

God of love, open our hearts and minds to meet in love and understanding.

Picture in your mind a person you love who has done something to hurt your feelings.

As you breathe in and out, repeat these words silently to yourself:

From the bottom of my heart, I forgive you for the bad things you did, today, this week, this month, this year, whether on purpose or by accident.

I know that God has already forgiven you and set you free from the power of your sins.

I know that God wants you to be happy, healthy, and at peace. I breathe in God's love and breathe out my anger toward you.

I know that God will help you as you try to make right the things that you've done wrong.

God of love, open our hearts and minds to meet in love and understanding.

As you continue to breathe in and out, try to feel the warmth of the healing between you, in your heart and spreading throughout your body.

Now picture in your mind someone you have hurt. As you breathe in and out, repeat these words silently to yourself:

From the bottom of my heart, I hope you can forgive me for the bad things I did, today, this week, this month, this year, whether on purpose or by accident.

I know that God has already forgiven me and set me free from the power of my sins, but that you may need a long time to forgive me, and that's okay.

I know that God wants us both to be happy, healthy, and at peace.

I breathe in God's love and breathe out the bad feelings between us.

I know that God will help us as we try to make right the things that have gone wrong between us.

God of love, open our hearts and minds to meet in love and understanding.

Open the hearts of everyone in the world to meet in love and understanding too.

As you continue to breathe in and out, try to feel the warmth of the healing between you, in your heart and spreading throughout your body.

As you continue to breathe in and out, try to feel the warmth of the healing between you, in your heart and spreading throughout the world.

Take one deep breath in the name of God, the parent who loves us. Take one deep breath in the name of Jesus, the son who came to live with us. Take one deep breath in the name of the Holy Spirit, who is with us always. When you are ready, open your eyes and calmly bring your attention back to the room.

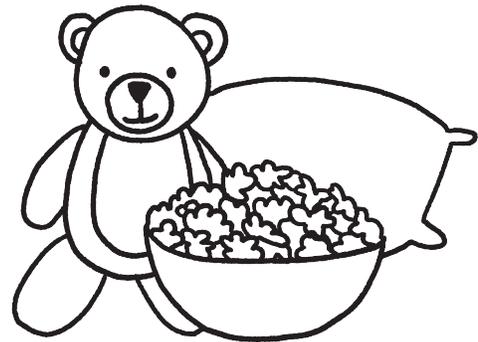
FORGIVENESS SCENARIOS

Scenario 1: Your sibling/friend borrows your favorite headphones and leaves them at school by accident, never to be seen again.



Scenario 2: You share some personal information about a family situation with a friend and ask them to keep it private. A few days later, one of your classmates asks you about the family situation.

Scenario 3: You invite a few friends over for a sleepover, but they tell you they can't go because they each have family events going on. Then you learn they were asked to a classmate's birthday party.



Questions for Consideration

Who was hurt in this scenario? Why were they hurt?

Who was the cause of the hurt?

Who is in need of forgiveness in this scenario?

Who is in the position to offer forgiveness?

What might they need to know or hear in order to offer it?

FORGIVENESS SKIT SCRIPT

Cast

Narrator

Audience Director

Joseph

Narrator: Once there was a man named Jacob. He had twelve sons and one daughter. One of Jacob's younger sons was named Joseph. Jacob spent more time with Joseph than his other sons. He even had a special coat made for him.

JOSEPH walks in wearing a colorful robe.

Narrator: Joseph's brothers thought their father loved Joseph more than them. This made them sad . . .

AUDIENCE DIRECTOR cues the audience to make sad faces and noises.

Narrator: . . . and also mad.

AUDIENCE DIRECTOR cues the audience to make mad faces and noises.

Narrator: Joseph had many interesting dreams, and he enjoyed telling everyone about them.

Joseph: I dreamed we were all in a field. We were tying stems of grain together. Suddenly your grain made a circle around mine and then bent down like you were bowing down to me! Isn't that amazing?

AUDIENCE DIRECTOR cues the audience to bow down.

Narrator: Joseph's brothers did not think that was amazing. Then Joseph had another dream.

Joseph: I had an even better dream last night! I looked up into the sky and you'll never guess what happened! The sun and the moon and eleven stars bowed down to me! Eleven stars . . . just like I have eleven brothers. What a coincidence! Isn't that amazing?

AUDIENCE DIRECTOR cues the audience to bow down again.

Narrator: Joseph's brothers did not think that was amazing. They didn't like these strange dreams Joseph was having. Father Jacob sent all the brothers except for Joseph out into the fields to take care of the sheep.

AUDIENCE DIRECTOR cues the audience to baa like sheep.

Narrator: After a while, Jacob sent Joseph out to see how his brothers were doing. When his brothers saw him coming they decided to get rid of him. They grabbed Joseph and threw him into a pit!

AUDIENCE DIRECTOR cues the audience to make struggling noises while JOSEPH pretends he is being wrestled into a pit even though there are no actual people doing this to him.

Narrator: Just then, a group of traders walked by on their way to Egypt. Joseph's brothers sold Joseph to them and he was taken far away.

JOSEPH stands up and walks out of the room, hands behind his back.

Narrator: It was hard for Joseph to be away from his family. But he had great success in Egypt. The ruler of Egypt, called Pharaoh, had many disturbing dreams. Joseph told him what those dreams meant.

JOSEPH reenters the room.

Joseph: I was so good at figuring out Pharaoh's dreams! He dreamed about skinny cows eating fat cows and rotten ears of grain eating plump ears of grain. I knew exactly what those dreams meant: a famine was coming, and soon there wouldn't be enough food for people to eat. I knew we could save enough food if we planned ahead. God worked through me and saved the land of Egypt from famine.

AUDIENCE DIRECTOR prompts the audience to say things like "Wow!" and "Amazing!"

Narrator: So Joseph was put in charge of getting Egypt ready for the famine.

JOSEPH acts as if he is directing people, giving instructions, and leading this action.

Narrator: Joseph's plan was a good one. Egypt's leaders saved enough food to get through the famine. Many countries did not have enough food, but Egypt had plenty. Back home, Joseph's family did not have enough to eat. Joseph's brothers and their families were hungry.

AUDIENCE DIRECTOR prompts the audience to make hungry noises and complain about not having enough food.

Narrator: Joseph's brothers traveled to Egypt to find food for their families. When they got to Egypt, Joseph recognized them, but they didn't recognize him.

JOSEPH looks very surprised.

Narrator: Joseph kept his identity a secret for a while. Finally he told his brothers who he was.

Joseph: I am Joseph, your brother. You sold me to the Egyptian traders.

AUDIENCE DIRECTOR prompts the audience to say things like "Wow!" and "Amazing!"

Narrator: His brothers were shocked! But they also felt afraid. What if Joseph tried to get back at them?

AUDIENCE DIRECTOR prompts the audience to say things like "Oh no!" and "What will happen?"

Narrator: The brothers worried that Joseph would never forgive them for what they did.

Joseph: You planned for something bad to happen to me, but God turned that into something good. God sent me ahead of you so that I could save people from this famine. Egypt has plenty of food to share with you and your families.

Narrator: And so Joseph forgave his brothers.

AUDIENCE DIRECTOR prompts the audience to applaud and cheer.

FEELINGS FRAMES



