Keep a piece of paper in your pocket to write down questions this week.

Learn something new about someone you may have misjudged.

Do something kind for a family member without being asked.

Write a poem about walking the walk and talking the talk.

Pray for the strength to do what God asks of you.

Matthew 21:23-32

Arrrrre You Sure about that Pirate?

You can never trust a pirate. Just don’t do it. You’ll say to yourself, “But this one is different!” And I’ll say to you, “No, this one is not different. This one cannot be trusted.”

Then you’ll say, “C’mom, how do you know this one can’t be trusted? Look at the cute parrot on his shoulder! Everybody knows a pirate with a parrot is a pirate that can be trusted.” And I’ll say, “No, a parroted pirate cannot be trusted.”

And you’ll say, “A parroted pirate with a hook for a hand?” And I’ll say, “No, a pointy prosthetic, parroted pirate cannot be trusted.”

And you’ll say, “What if he has a nose ring? Then can he be trusted?” And I’ll say, “No, a pierced proboscis, pointy prosthetic, parroted pirate cannot be trusted.”

And you’ll say, “Look past those things and watch what he does. He treats the deck swabbers with respect and shared the loot with those who are poor.” And then possibly I’ll peer past my preconceived perceptions of pierced proboscis, pointy prosthetic, parroted pirates, and say, “Pardon me,” as I ponder the possibility of a penitent pirate.

God gives us second chances.

I wonder...

• If Jesus got tired of all those questions.
• What questions Jesus asks me.
• How those two sons got along with each other.

Faith on the Go!

Pentecost
There and Back

In this two-player game, one person will be X and one will be O. The goal is to make it across the board and back by taking turns writing your letter in adjacent squares. You can only move diagonally and you can’t place a letter in a square that already has a letter in it. If you get stuck, you get one second chance: you can place your next letter anywhere within two squares of your last letter. The first letter has been done for you.

Fun Facts

In Jesus’ day, Israel was occupied by Rome.

Since tax collectors worked for Rome, Jews saw them as traitors and sometimes thieves.

Because the Pharisees hated the tax collectors, they thought that Jesus should too.

Matthew was a tax collector.

All the chief priests reported to one high priest.

Elders were community leaders and judges.

Look It Up!


Memory Verse

He answered, “I will not”; but later he changed his mind and went. Matthew 21:29

Fortunate Question

Cut out the shapes below. On the rectangle write one question that you have about God, church, or faith. Follow your leader’s instructions to turn these shapes into a fortune cookie.