

WEEK 4

GOD IS REDEEMER

GOD GIVES US A PURPOSE

PRIMARY LESSON GUIDE

THE FOUR KEYS

KEY VERSE

And I am sure of this, that He who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. Philippians 1:6

KEY IDEAS

1. God's people are His messengers
2. God sends His messengers to the world
3. God spreads the Gospel (Good News) through His messengers

KEY PASSAGE

Matthew 4:18-22, Matthew 28:16-20

KEY PRINCIPLES



EVERY CHILD SHOULD KNOW . . .

that God's people are His messengers to tell the world about Him.



EVERY CHILD SHOULD FEEL . . .

excited to share the news of Jesus.



EVERY CHILD SHOULD BE ABLE TO . . .

explain the Gospel of Jesus.



EVERY CHILD SHOULD WANT . . .

all people to hear the Good News.

INTRODUCTION

God is not only our Savior but also our Redeemer. The word redemption means to “buy back” something that has been lost. In our case, we have lost our freedom and fellowship with God because of sin. We are slaves to sin, and Jesus bought us back through His blood that was shed for us on the cross. When we repent and trust in Him, we are transformed into new creations with new hearts and given the promise of eternal life. God’s plan is to redeem all people who will repent and trust in Him. Together, we are His church. The church is both local (Christians who meet together weekly to pray and worship) and global (all Christians on earth). Jesus describes the church in Matthew 5 like a “city on a hill” that gives light to the darkness that surrounds it. God has given Christians a special job to shine His light to the world so all people have a chance to know Him and be saved.

OPENING ILLUSTRATION

Begin class by leading the children in an opening game of “Fishing for Men”. Use the laminated fish and dowel rod in the teacher’s closet. Allow the children to take turns collecting one fish until all fish have been gathered. Help them put the fish together to form the bible verse. When finished, instruct the children to sit back down in their seat and explain that Jesus told His disciples that they would fish for people!

STORY

Read Matthew 4:18-22 or use the Jesus Storybook Bible.

What did Jesus tell Peter and Andrew?
What do you think Jesus meant by “fish for men”?

Peter, Andrew, James, and John were four of Jesus’s twelve disciples. A disciple is someone who follows the teaching of Jesus. These men went with Jesus everywhere He went during His ministry, and they learned that He was the Messiah that God promised to bring to save the world.

Jesus told His disciples that He had a plan for them. That plan was for them to go into all the world sharing the Gospel, which means Good News, of Jesus. The Good News is that we do not have to stay in sin, but we can be forgiven because He paid the punishment for us on the cross! The Good News is that He has come to give life to the world! The disciples became the first followers of Jesus, so they were the first messengers! As they told people about Jesus, more and more people were saved!

Today, the church is God’s messengers, and we have the same job to tell the world about Jesus and His great love for all people.

Read Matthew 29:16-20

ACTIVITY

Using the activity sheets included and the supplies in the teacher’s closet, help the children make their own fish craft. Remind kids that we are called to fish for people, too.

PRAYER

Thank God that He gives us a purpose to share His love with the whole world. Ask God to help you be brave to share the truth with people you meet who may not know His love.

SONG

Who is the Redeemer by The New City Catechism

FAMILY DEVOTIONAL

Matthew 28:16-20, John 3:16-18

ACTIVITY

Play a game of “Follow the Leader” with your child. After a few rounds, reread the story from this week’s lesson. Use the discussion questions below to help your conversation.

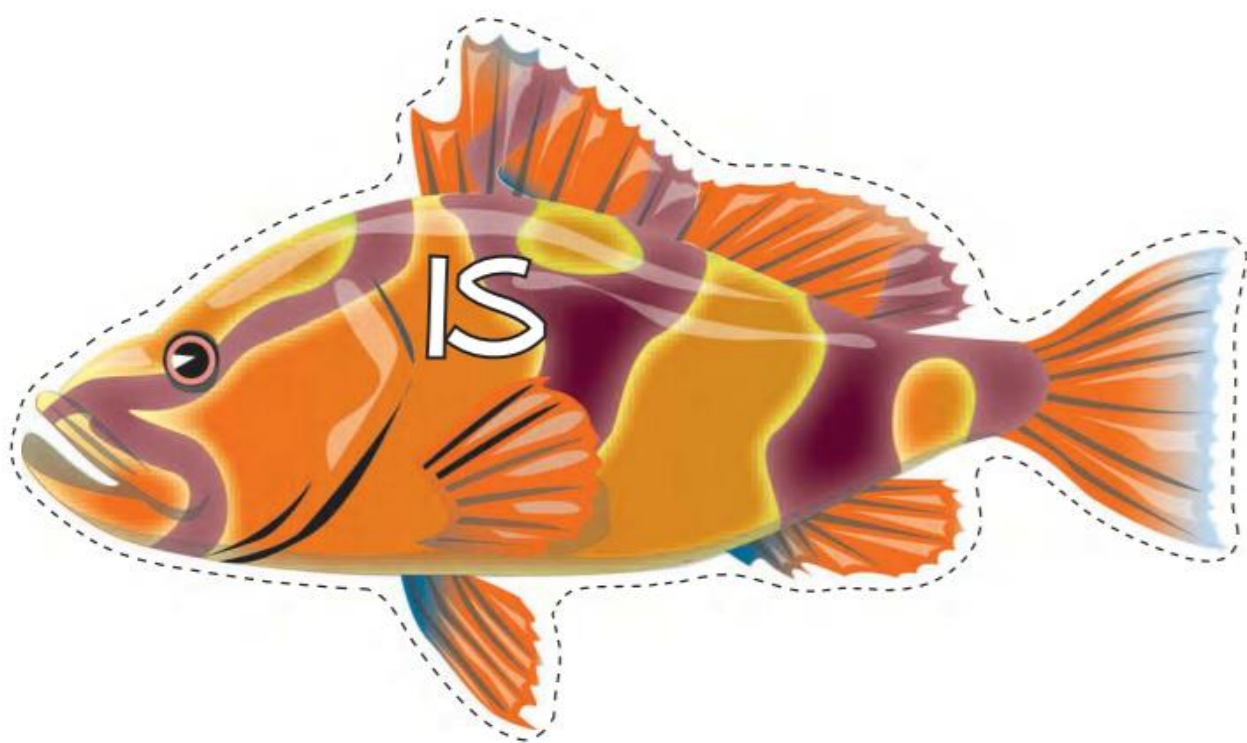
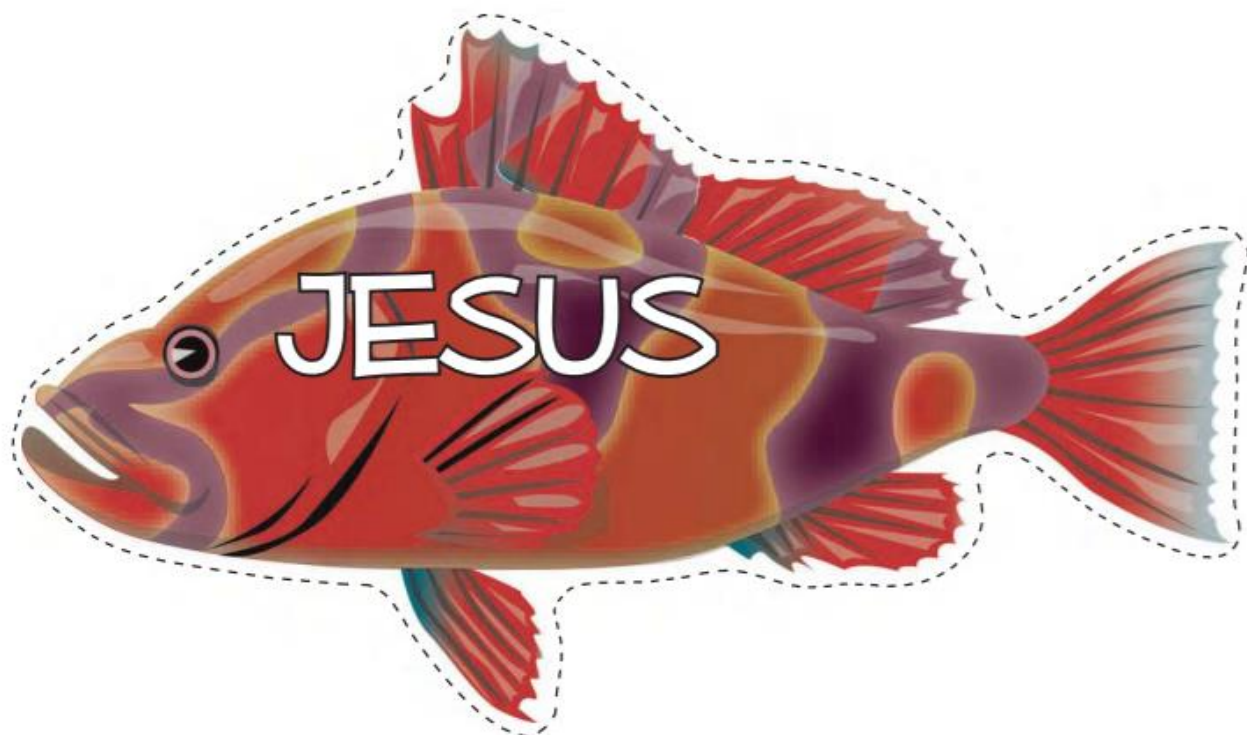
Throughout the week, be intentional about “fishing for men” with your child so that you can model for them what it looks like to share the Gospel and be a practical missionary.

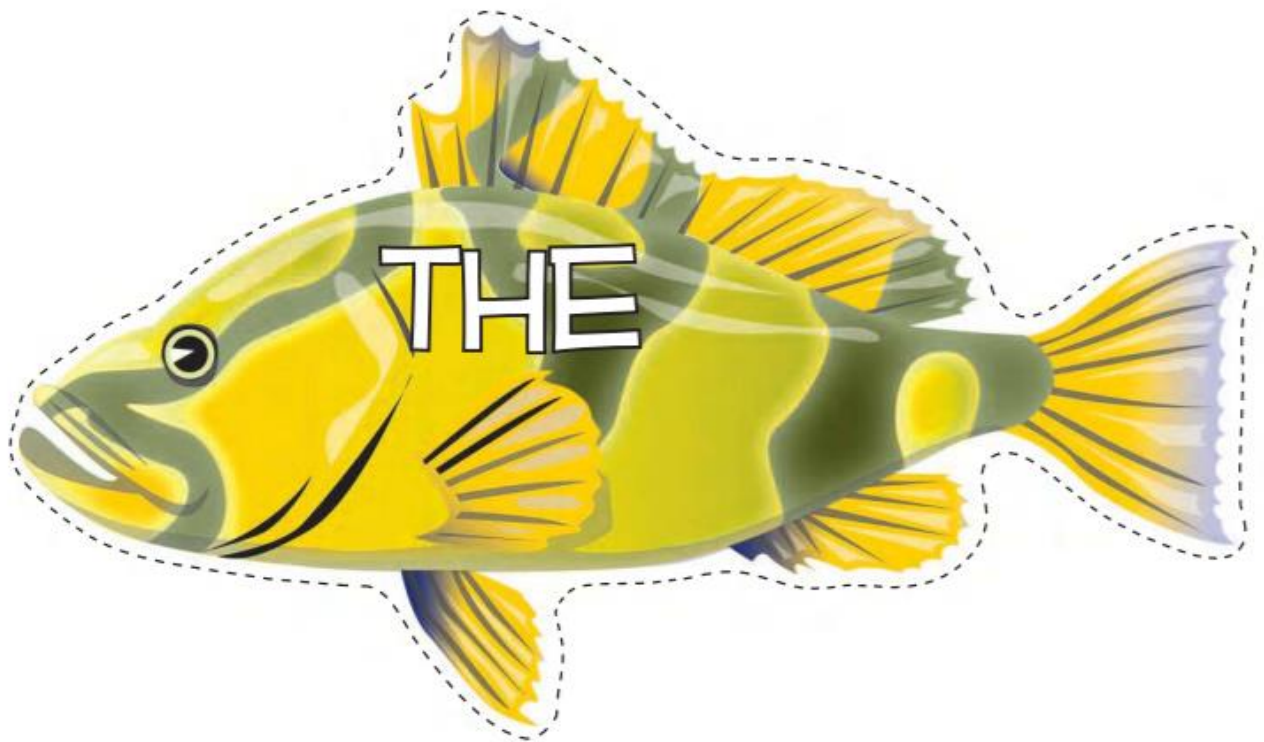
DISCUSSION

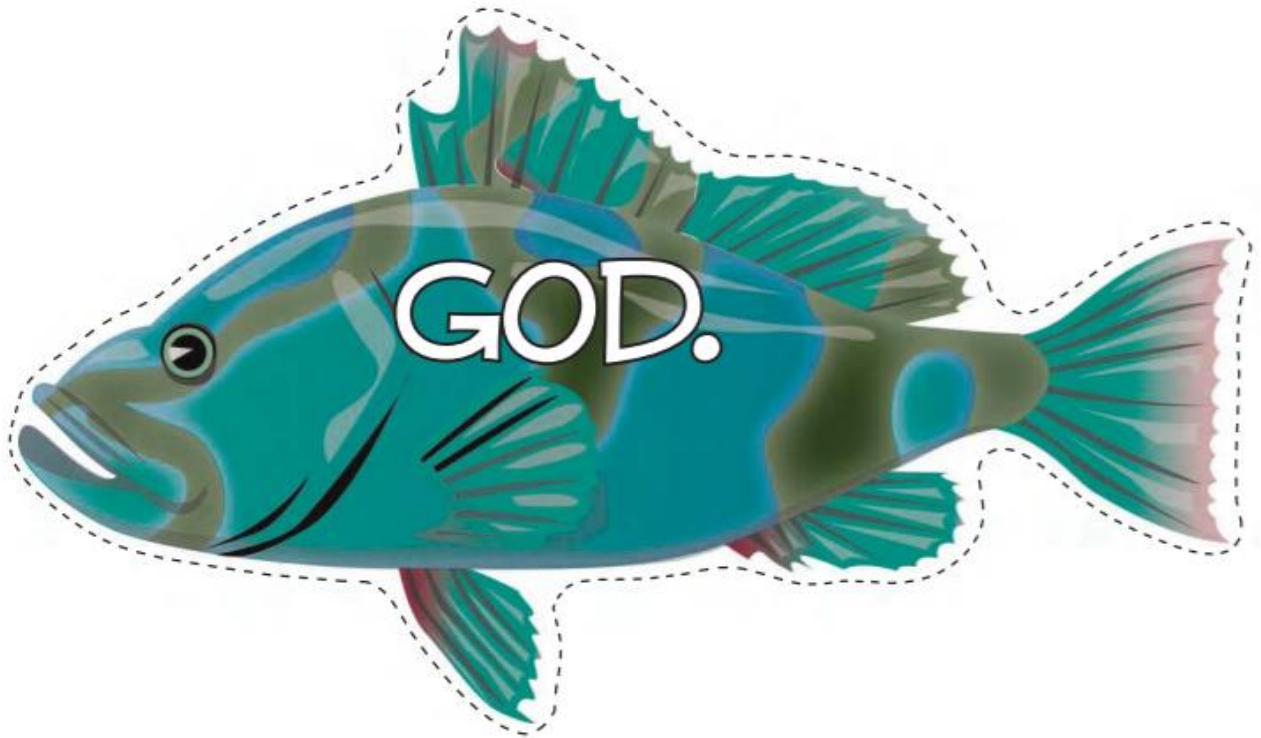
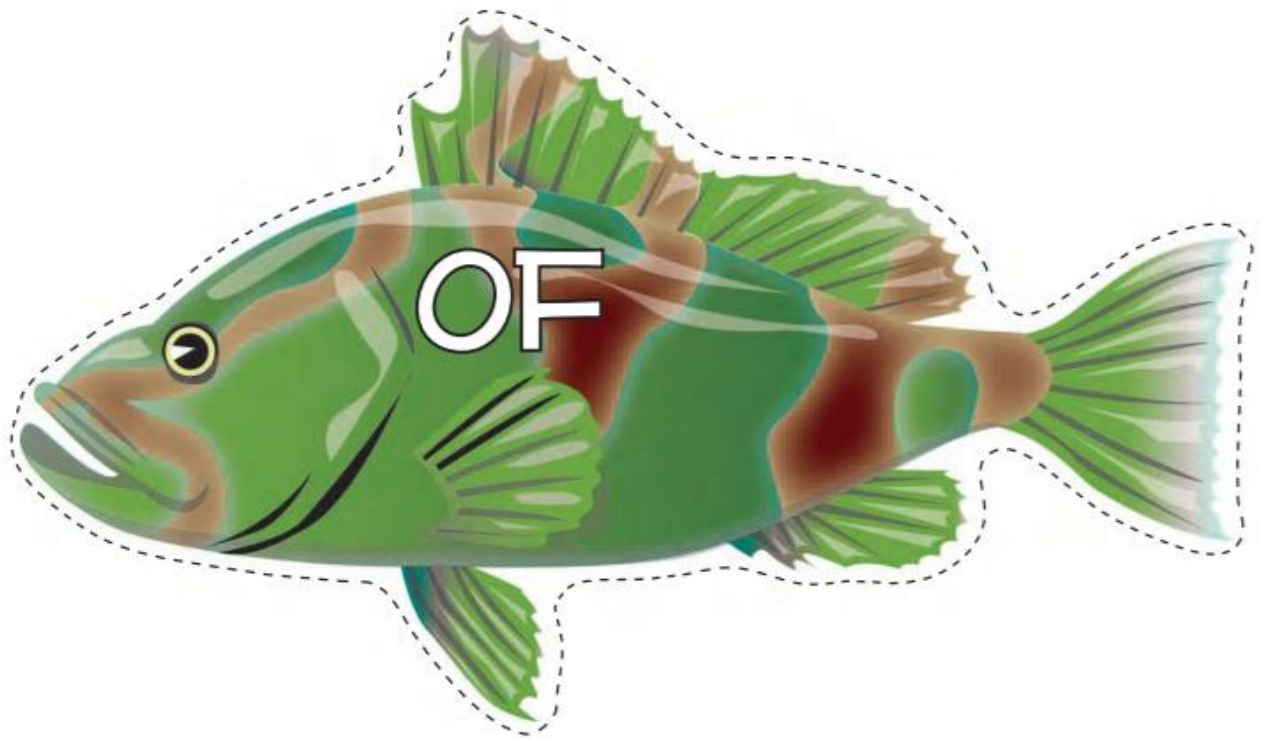
- What did Jesus tell Peter, Andrew, James, and John to do?
Jesus instructed them to stop what they were doing and follow Him. He told them He would make them fish for men.
- What does it mean to fish for men? What purpose did Jesus have for His followers?
The men probably did not know what Jesus meant by “fishers of men” at first, but they followed Him anyway, because they believed in who He said He was. Eventually, as they followed Him, they learned that it meant they would become His messengers to the world. Jesus wanted them to spread the Good News that He had come to save the world from sin so that many people would believe and be saved!
- What purpose does Jesus have for the church today?
Jesus has the same purpose for us, His church, today. He wants us to learn from Him, and tell others about His great love for them. Read the Great Commission with your child and discuss who you need to share the gospel with next. (Matthew 28:16-20)

PRAYER

Thank God for giving us a purpose and a church family to be on mission with. Ask God to help you be brave in telling others about His great love for them.









Fishers of Men Bible Craft



Bible Story: Andrew Becomes a Fisher of Men

Bible Text: Matt. 4:18-20

Suggested Learning Outcome: This fun stick craft will help children remember the job that Andrew left so that he could become a fisher of men with Jesus.

Supplies List:

- Craft sticks (4 per student)
- Craft eyes
- Hot glue
- Paint or crayons

Instructions:

Step 1. Instruct children to color their craft sticks in fish like colors. Assist children in hot gluing two craft sticks together at an angle (see image).

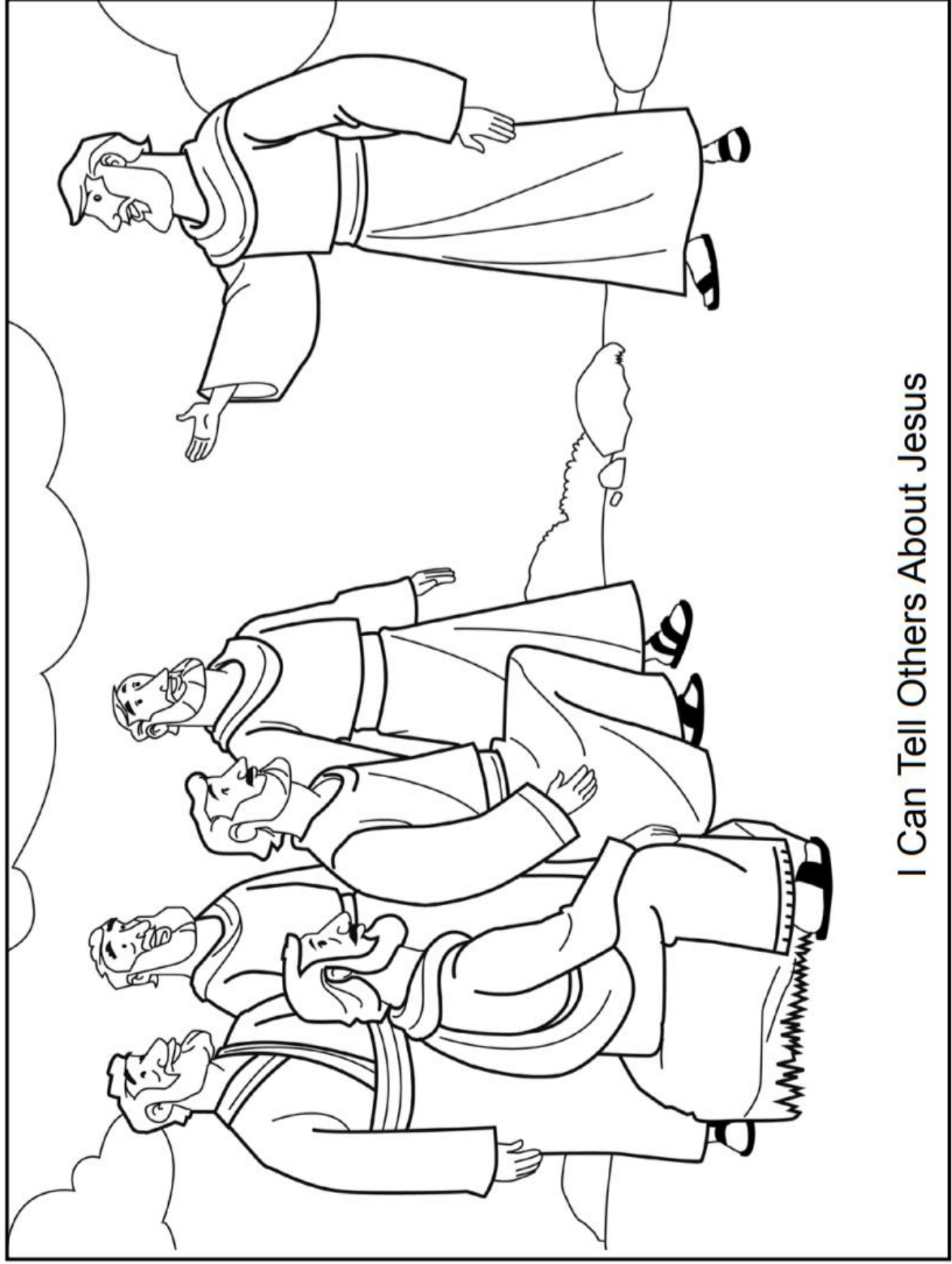


Step 2. Next, glue two more sticks at right angles to create a fish fin (see image).



Step 3. Allow children to add a craft eye to complete the fish (see image).





I Can Tell Others About Jesus