

15.08.21

K@O@H

Helping Children Follow Jesus, For Life!

Prep n Prayer...

Last Week: Mark 8:31-33 → Messiah needs to die & rise for sins. A surprise/shock/hard to handle for his disciples.

This Week: Mark 8:34-38 → Following Jesus is hard, but it's worth it! Deny self, take up your cross, follow Jesus.

Bible Story retelling:

→ Get someone to read Verse 34, and ask and listen for answers to what is taking up your cross?

→ Retell the Rich Young Ruler story - Mark 10: 17-22, and 28-31. Which ones chose to follow Jesus? How can you tell?

→ Get others to read out the other verses one at a time separately from Mark 8:35-38, emphasising that while following Jesus is hard, it's totally worth it!

→ What is hard about following Jesus? Why is it worth it? (**Hard examples...** reading bible, praying, going to church, speaking up about Jesus, peer pressure to do the wrong thing, embarrassment/ashamed of being Christian, trusting God and not worrying, remembering saved and loved by grace not works, resist sin, selflessness, denying self, taking up your cross etc!

Worth it examples... forgiveness, peace with God, eternal life/heaven, Holy Spirit, avoidance of punishment, Good life now, relationship with God and others of faith, safe and secure, knowing you're loved no matter what, joy, out of the rat race etc.

Teaching Tips: Following Jesus is hard, but it's worth it! Free but it will cost you everything. You need to exchange your life now for his gift. Die to self, alive in Christ. Stacks of things that are also hard to do, but worth it (shared in Kids Spot)– so keep going with your Christian walk, in the good and the bad times – it's more valuable than the whole world of power and stuff. 😊 NB: while spiritual disciplines are required to follow Jesus, simply a strong will/self-discipline and perseverance alone will not save a person from sin – keep the order in check. Repent, believe in the gospel, be saved, receive HS power, follow Jesus. But it is all part of the same resolve - Die to self, be saved, live for him. Repent and believe!

Craft/Activity: Scales/weights on one side the world and everything in it, the other side your soul, or Jesus. Or do the same with a Gold medal – one side the things of the world go in it (money, toys, cars, planes, sin etc) on the other side of the medal, heaven. Large versions pages 5-7



Kids Spot: Phill → Some things are hard but worth it! Olympics / Mornings / Study / Exercise / Long Sermons / Having Children / Apologising / resisting temptation / denying self, taking up cross and following Jesus! Why, the immense value of knowing Jesus – life eternal. Weigh up the cost of following Jesus! It's hard, but worth it! Whole World / Life eternal.

On the day...

- Leaders Meet & Pray in courtyard (8:45 - eek!)
- Run-through Game:** Watch for slipping over games.
- Big Group Time:** News, Lawi, Prayer & Videos: [Video Playlist - click here.](#)
- Small Groups:** Jigsaw/Game → Teaching Time → Craft/Activity
- Depart at 10:25/10:30 (Name Tags return / Fruit / Return inside for final Song if possible):
- Leaders Debrief / Talk with Parents / Return and Clean up!

*Don't forget @Home with Parents over lunch/dinner... (Interview Q's on Worksheet)
Resources still available online at [/homeresources.](#)*

My Name: _____

Following Jesus is hard!

Mark 8:34-48

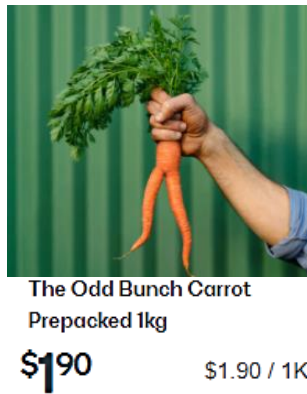
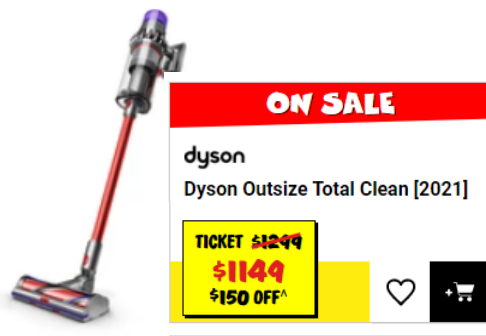
But worth it!

Can you fill in the blanks?

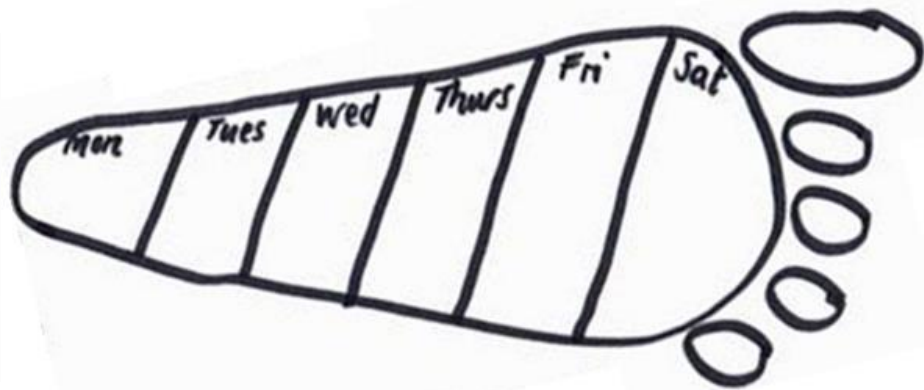
34 - Whoever wants to be my disciple must d_____ themselves and take up their c_____ and follow me.

36 - What good is it for someone to gain the whole w_____, yet lose their s_____?

Circle which things you think are NOT worth it?



Colour in the foot day by day as you follow Jesus!



Following Jesus is hard, but worth it – circle the top 3 things you find make it worth it!

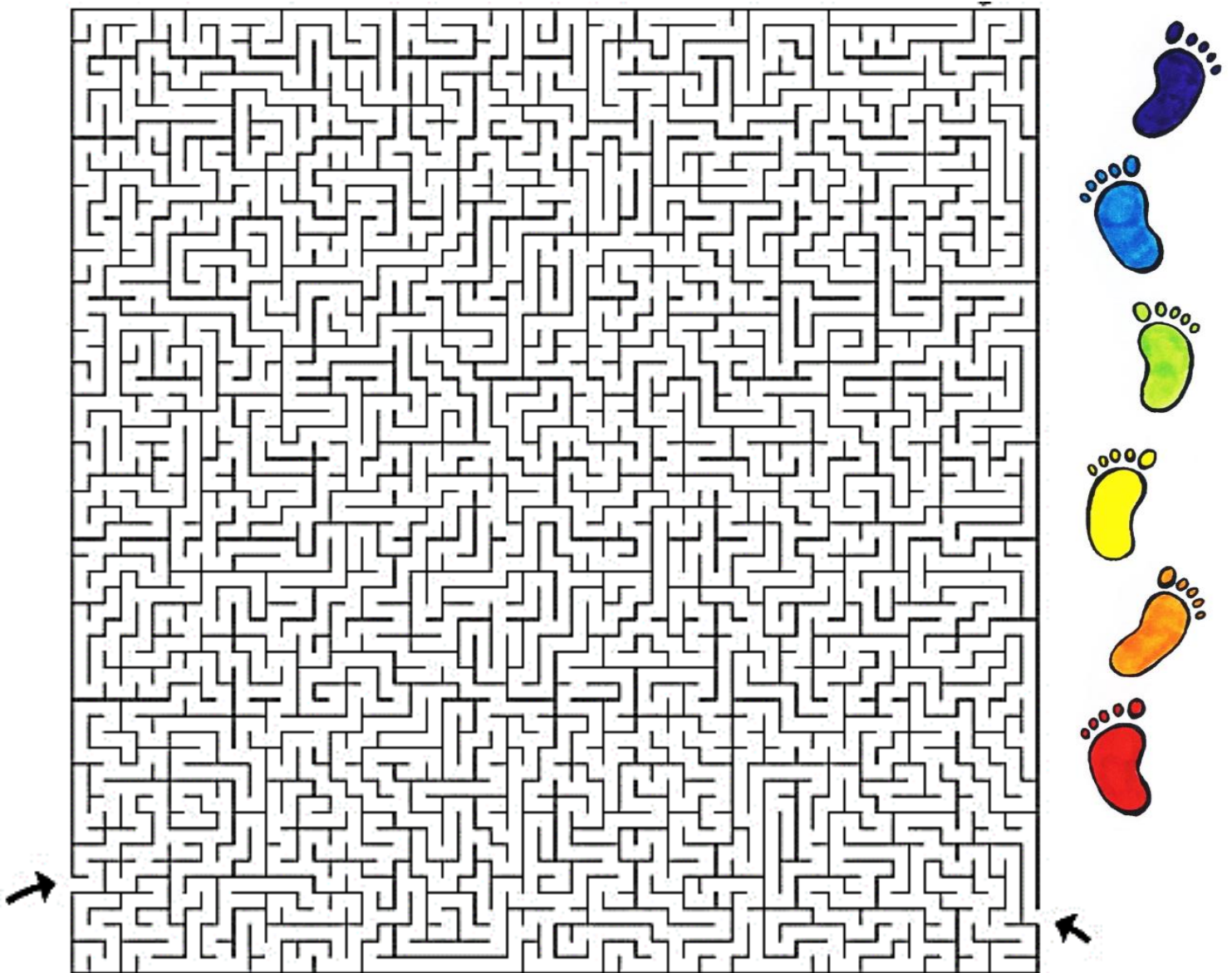
No need to pretend / No need to try and impress people / Forgiveness of sins / Relationship with God / Relationship with other believers (Church) / Heaven / Peace with God / Freedom / Joy / Being safe & secure



Following Jesus is for anybody! **But what's the cost involved?** Circle as many as you think...

Everything / nothing / the world / all my possessions / my self / popularity / success / fun

Helping Children Follow Jesus, for Life!



Parent Discussion Questions - @HOME

1. Generally, what do people think are the most valuable things in life? What do people aim for /desire?
2. What stopped the rich young ruler from following Jesus?
3. Should we literally build a cross and carry it each day?
4. It is hard to be a disciple of Jesus. What do you find hard about following Jesus?
5. So why do you follow him? What is the value of trusting Jesus?
6. Jesus thinks that it's more valuable to have eternal life, than to have all the things in the world combined, just for you, now. Do you agree with him? Why? Why not?
7. What does it cost to be a Christian? What do you give up? What did Jesus give up?
8. To follow Jesus we must die to ourselves, and live for Jesus. This will be hard, but worth it. Matthew 5:10-12 says blessed is the one who gets hardships because of following Jesus. It's not all bad, there are good things now of course, but this lesson is all about counting the cost – there is a cost, but it's worth it! ☺ Let's pray and ask for help to persevere in following Jesus, for life!

Prayer: Good God, thank you for sending Jesus to save us by living and dying and rising for our sins. Please help us to deny ourselves, take up our cross, and follow your Promised, Saving, King – Jesus every day. Thank you that while it's hard to follow Jesus, it's worth it! Amen.

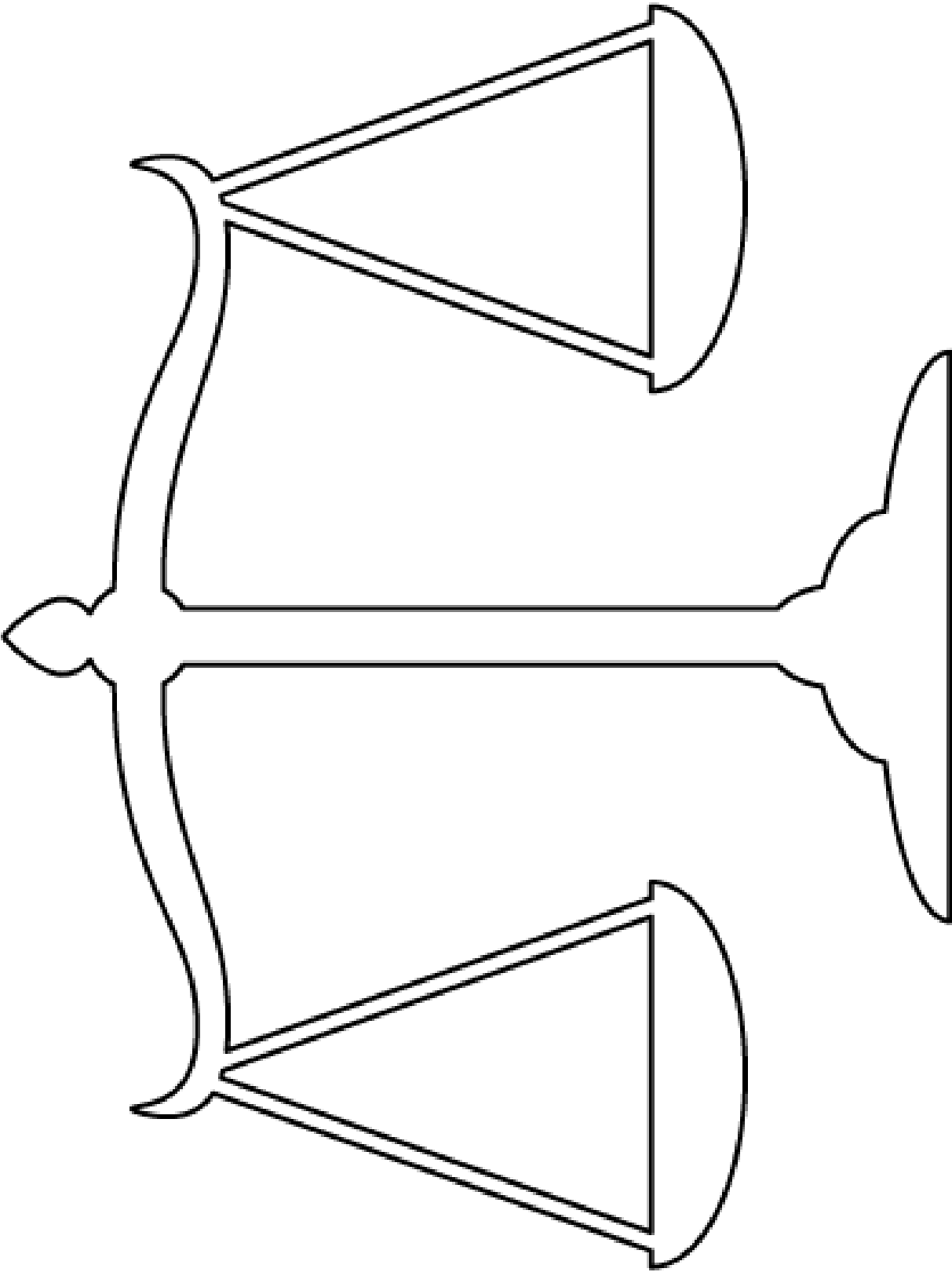
Following Jesus

This week
I will follow
Jesus by
doing this

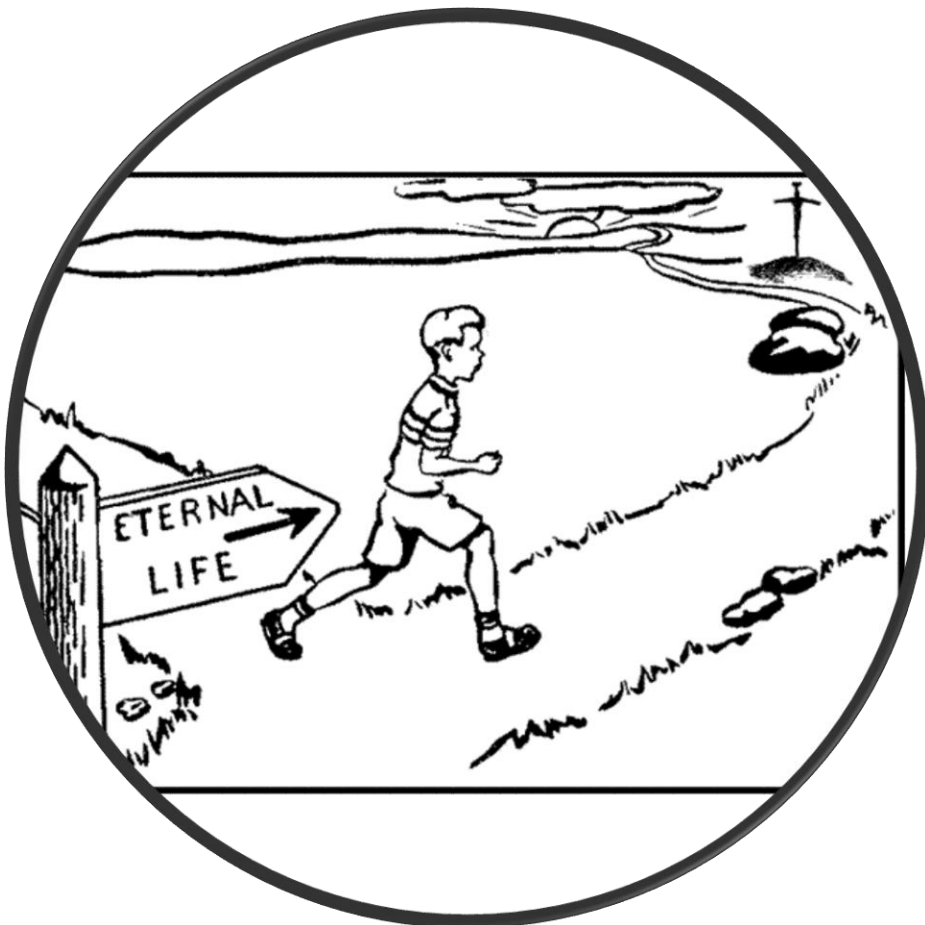


Colour in
the foot
day by
day as you
follow Jesus!

Lord God
help me to be a
disciple this
week.
Amen







“Follow me”

