

## GOD'S HERO MUST SUFFER

[Near the city of Caesarea Philippi] — Jesus did so many amazing things, the people wondered if he was God's promised hero [the "Messiah"]. Everybody was sure that when the hero came from God, to rescue everybody, he would be big and strong. Some people thought he would come riding into the country on a horse, swinging a sword, and chase the Roman soldiers out.

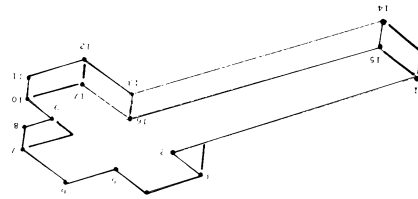
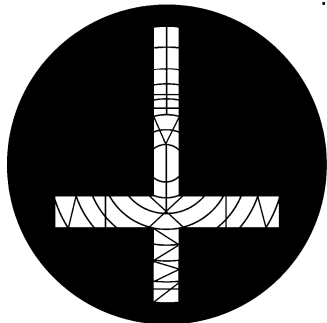
But Jesus' followers knew Jesus was really the hero God had promised. After Peter told Jesus that he was sure Jesus was God's Messiah, Jesus said something Peter couldn't understand. Jesus said, "God's hero doesn't help people by showing his muscles or getting rough with people or swinging a sword. God's hero helps people by suffering to help other people in trouble." Peter didn't like that idea. He said, "Jesus, don't talk like that."

Jesus said to Peter, "It's the truth. And you can be a hero for God too. But if you want to, you must suffer to help people, just the way I will when I die on the cross."

Matthew 16:21-26

A52

CODED MESSAGE:  
GOD'S HERO HAD TO SUFFER.



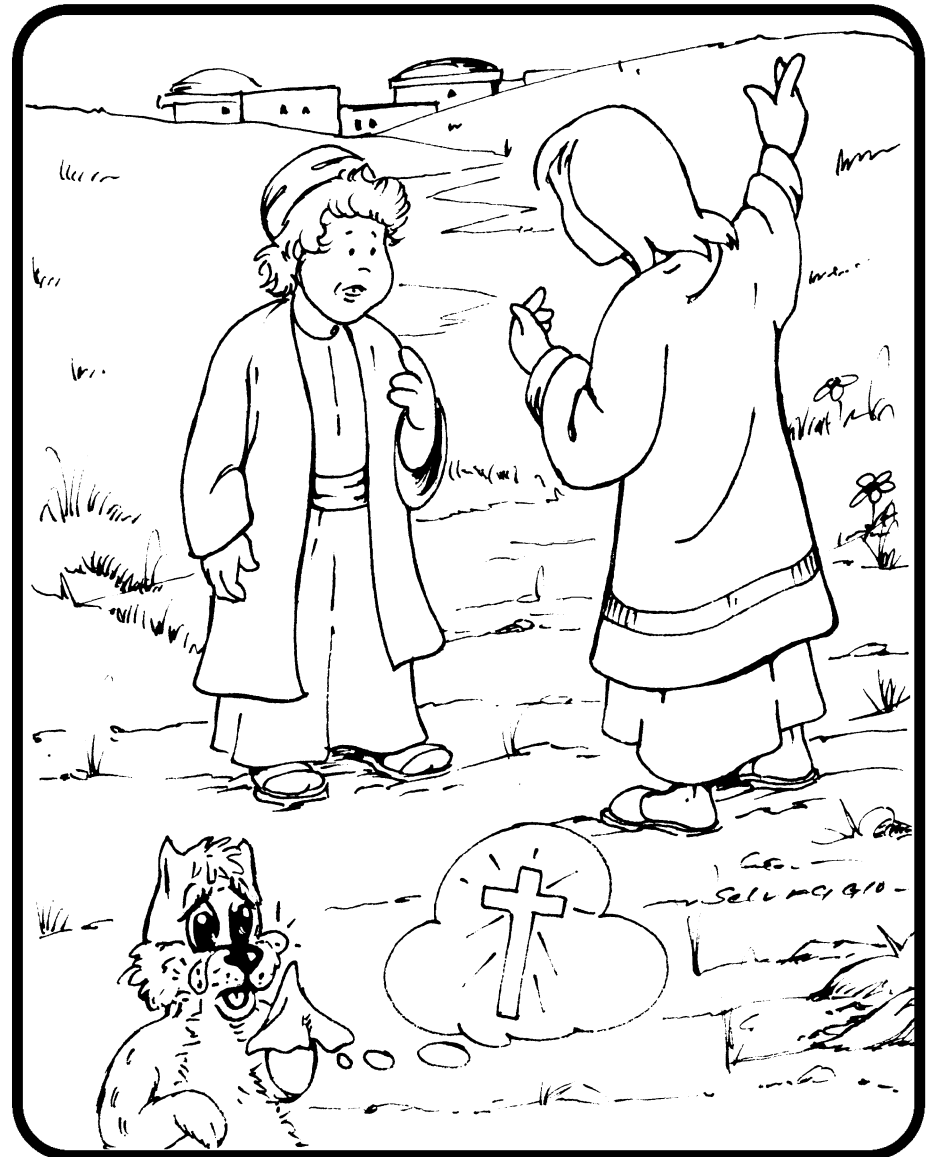
ANSWERS

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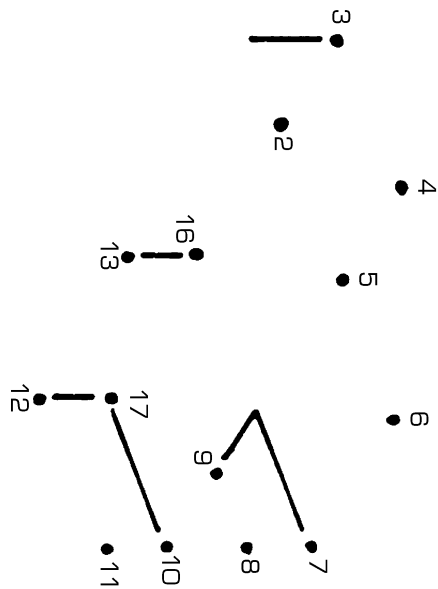
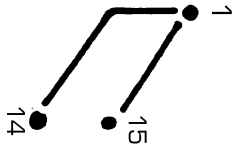
# GOSPEL GRAMS



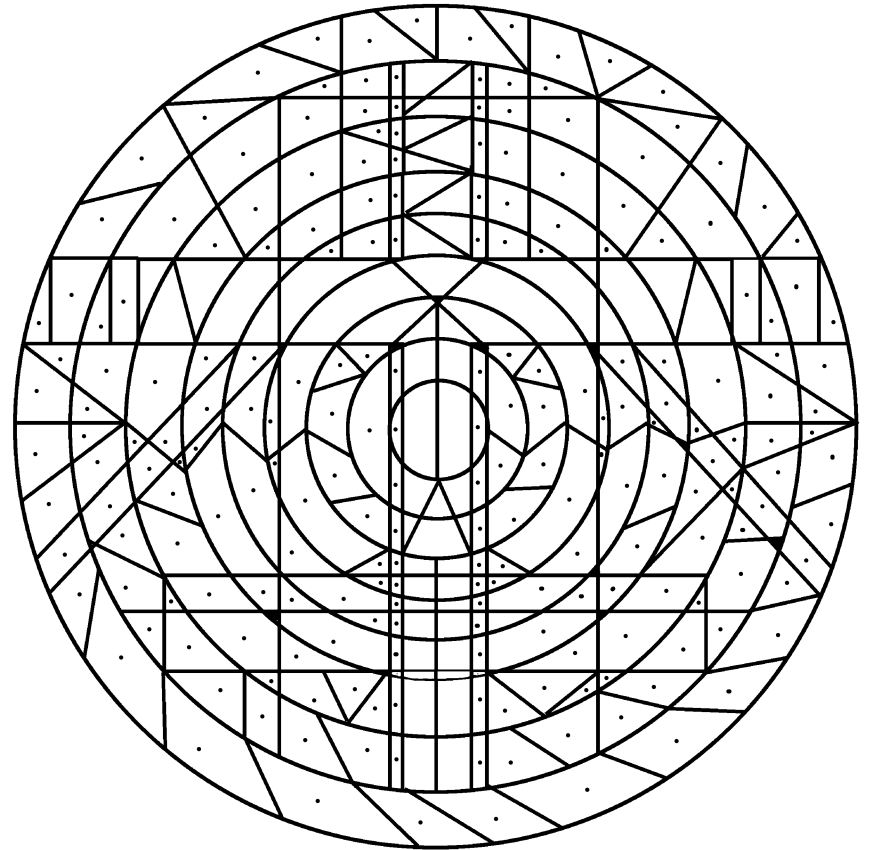
## SUNDAY ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN



**Finish The Picture.** Today's Gospel story tells about how Jesus taught his followers to think about the Messiah. They thought the Messiah would ride on a horse and swing a sword. But Jesus said the Messiah would do something very different. Finish the picture below to show what Jesus knew was waiting for him.



**Hidden Picture.** Below is a hidden picture of something we think of as a symbol of the suffering Jesus did for us. Shade in all the spaces with a dot in them to reveal the picture.



**Coded Message.** Take all the letters numbered "1" and fill them in on the blanks with the matching numbers. Then do the same for numbers 2, 3, 4, and 5.

2	1	4	5	2	4	3	2	1	3
H	G	T	S	E	O	H	R	O	A
5	5	1	2	5	1	5	3	5	
U	F	D	O	F	S	E	D	R	

1 1 1 1

2 2 2 2

3 3 3

4 4

5 5 5 5 5 5