



ST NINIAN'S UNITING CHURCH
PEBBLES SEPTEMBER 13TH 2026
MATTHEW 12:38-40

MATTHEW 12:38-40 (the Message)

"Later a few religion scholars and Pharisees cornered him. "Teacher, we want to see your credentials. Give us some hard evidence that God is in this. How about a miracle?" Jesus said, "You're looking for proof, but you're looking for the wrong kind. All you want is something to titillate your curiosity, satisfy your lust for miracles. The only proof you're going to get is what looks like the absence of proof: Jonah-evidence. Like Jonah, three days and nights in the fish's belly, the Son of Man will be gone three days and nights in a deep grave."

THE DAY TWO IN GOD'S WORLD

One sunny morning, where God was sitting and thinking hard about so many things, everything felt quiet—like the world was holding its breath.

God looked around and said, "Let there be something in the sky to separate the waters!"

And whoosh!

God looked up high above in the heavens where the sun, moon and stars are, and a shiny huge space appeared. It wasn't like a ceiling—more like a special home where the water up in the sky and the water down on earth could be kept in the right places.

Up above, the clouds gathered softly like lots of different sized cotton balls making different shapes in the sky, and below them, rivers, creeks, seas, and oceans began to form and sparkle.

The world started to feel more like a playground—safe and ready for what God's next plans were.

But then, something else happened.

God smiled and reminded everyone (and that includes us!) that the goodness of God never stops.

Jesus once made a promise too—when He said, "*And surely I am with you always... even to the end of the age.*"

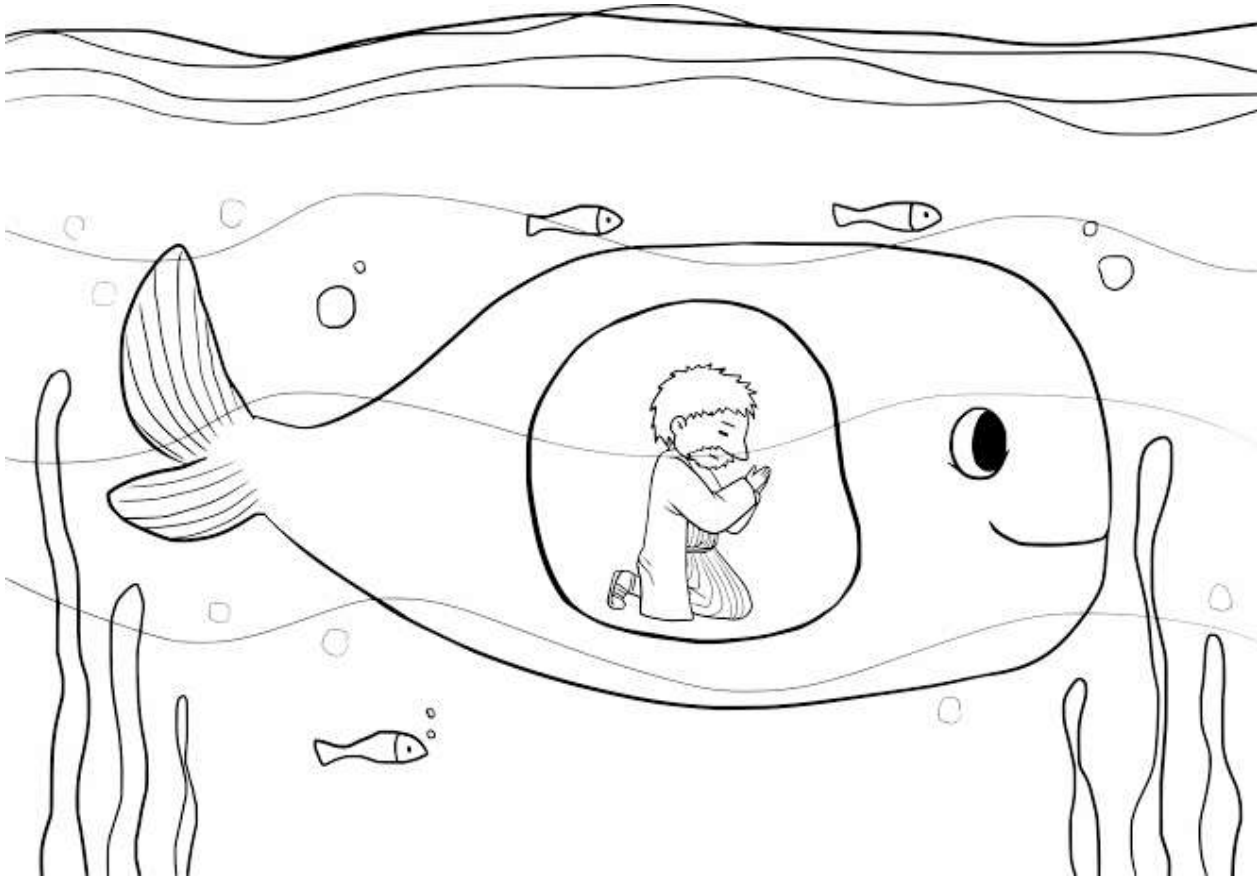
So, while the sky was being made, the angels whispered, "God doesn't just make things... He cares for them forever."

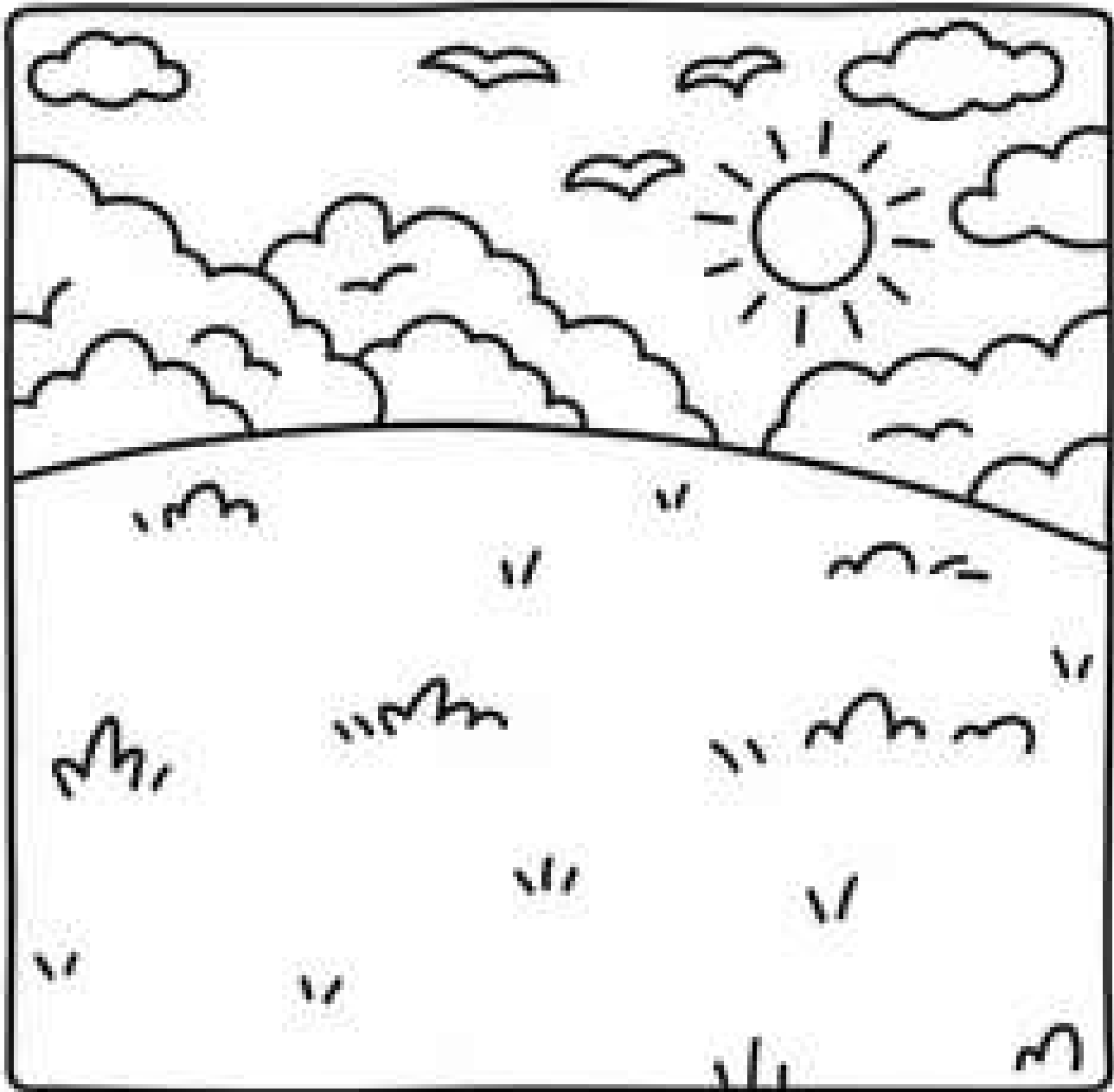
Something that we always remember is, God is powerful and loving—He makes things true and carefully, and God always stays with us to help.

And from that day and every day until Jesus returns, whenever you look up and see clouds making pictures in the sky as they float past, or making rain clouds to water the gardens, the bush, the farms, help the fish in the creeks and rivers to swim, or just make mud puddles you can remember: God is still

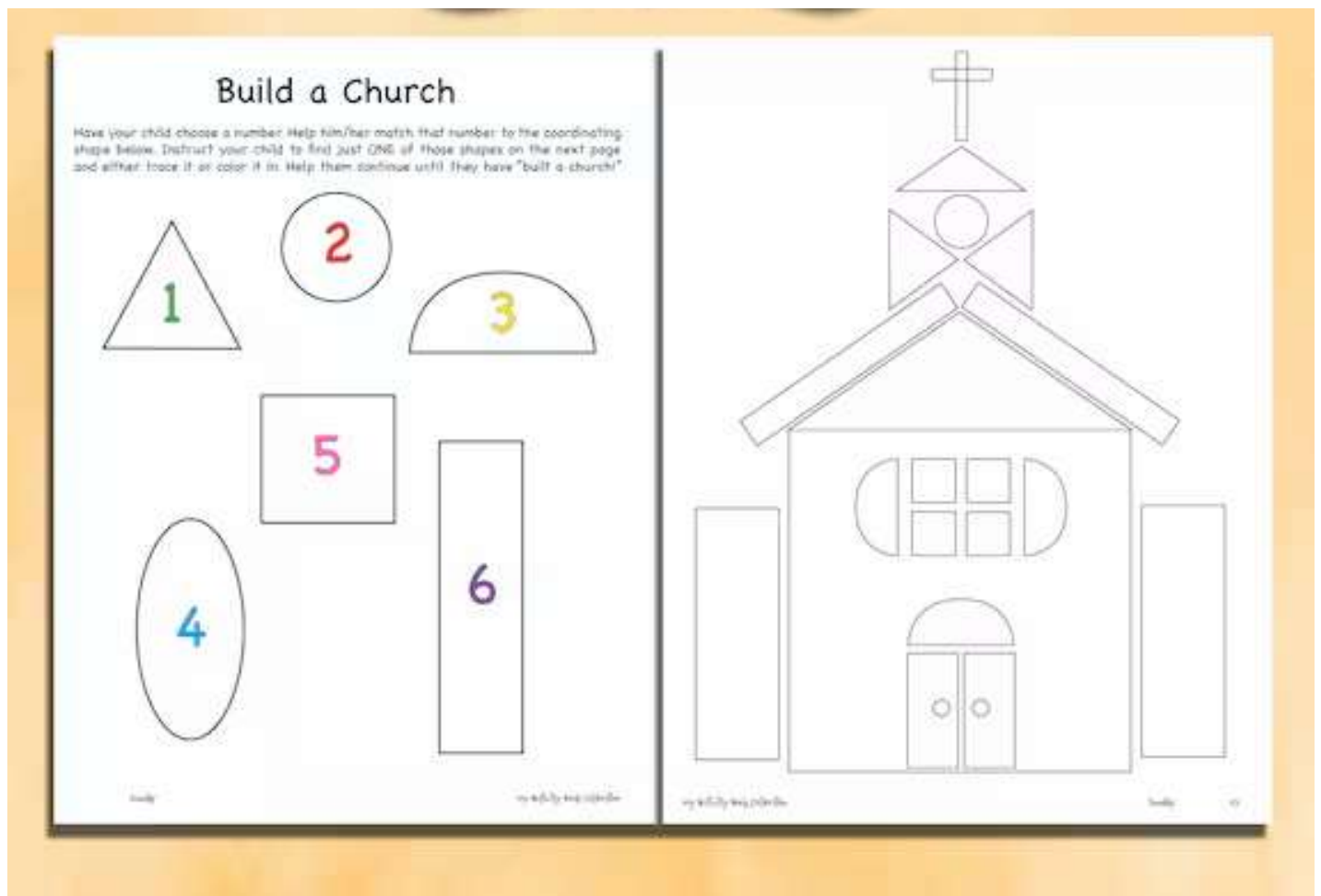
PRAYER

Thank you, Jesus for giving me such a wonderful world to be part of from the sun, moon and the stars at night, to the beautiful rivers and oceans for me to swim in. Thank you, God for giving me such a fun place to play and be safe in when I'm with my mum and dad and all the people who love me. Thank you for loving me so much you have promised to never leave me. Amen.





Put your family in the picture; you can include your pets, and your friends, and your church. Where will you put Jesus in your picture?



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wCZnLqmwQEE&list=RDwCZnLqmwQEE&start_radio=1

