

This edition copyright © 2023 Lion Hudson IP Limited

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopy, recording, or any information storage and retrieval system, without permission in writing from the publisher.

Published by **Candle Books**
www.lionhudson.com
Part of the SPCK Group
SPCK, 36 Causton Street, London, SW1P 4ST

ISBN 978 1 78128 458 2

First edition 2023

The publisher would like to thank the following for their contributions:

Friends and Heroes Bible illustrations copyright © 2023 Friends & Heroes Productions Ltd

Cheeky Pandas Activity Book text and illustrations copyright © 2023 Swell Revolution

Bob Hartman's Act-along Bible text copyright © 2023 Bob Hartman, illustrations copyright © 2005, 2006 Estelle Corke

Gemma Hunt's See! Let's Be A Good Friend text copyright © 2022 Gemma Hunt

Planet Protectors text copyright © 2021 Paul Kerensa and Ruth Valerio, illustrations copyright © 2021 Fay Austin

Wow! Jesus text copyright © 2023 Martha Shrimpton

God Cares When I am Anxious text copyright © 2020 Debbie Duncan

The Good Thing about Bad Days text copyright © 2020 Margaret McAllister

Children of the Bible text copyright © 2019 Margaret McAllister, illustrations copyright © 2019 Alida Massari

The Lion Wondrous Bible illustrations copyright © Alida Massari

Bible Stories Gone Crazy, Mega Activity Book, Candle Activity Fun copyright © Zip Address Ltd

Scripture quotations marked NIV taken from The Holy Bible, New International Version® NIV® Copyright © 1973 1978 1984 2011 by Biblica, Inc. TM

Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.

A catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library

Produced on paper from sustainable sources

Printed and bound in China, November 2022, LH54



Welcome to the first Big Start Annual

You'll find it packed with stories, activities, games, jokes, family-time ideas, prayer and commitment prompts, and more, all based on the theme "Flipped: The Upside-down Kingdom".

Jesus talked a lot about the Kingdom of Heaven – a place where wonderful things happen. We find out about this through Matthew, one of the friends of Jesus, who wrote about what he saw and heard in his gospel – a book in the Bible. The Kingdom exists wherever there are people who get to know and follow Jesus as their King.

A BIG thank you goes to all the contributors who have shared their work. So, get "flipping" backwards and forwards, twisting and turning and find out how Jesus' teaching turned the way we live upside down!

You can find the Big Start theme song here:



Contents

6 Flipped!

8 The world says, "Chase popularity"
Jesus says, "Welcome everybody"

14 The world says, "Keep all you can"
Jesus says, "Give all you have"

30 The world says, "Worry about tomorrow"
Jesus says, "Trust God today"

40 The world says, "Become the boss"
Jesus says, "Become like a child"

46 Answers

Key Each section uses these symbols:



Story



Think



Reflect



Question



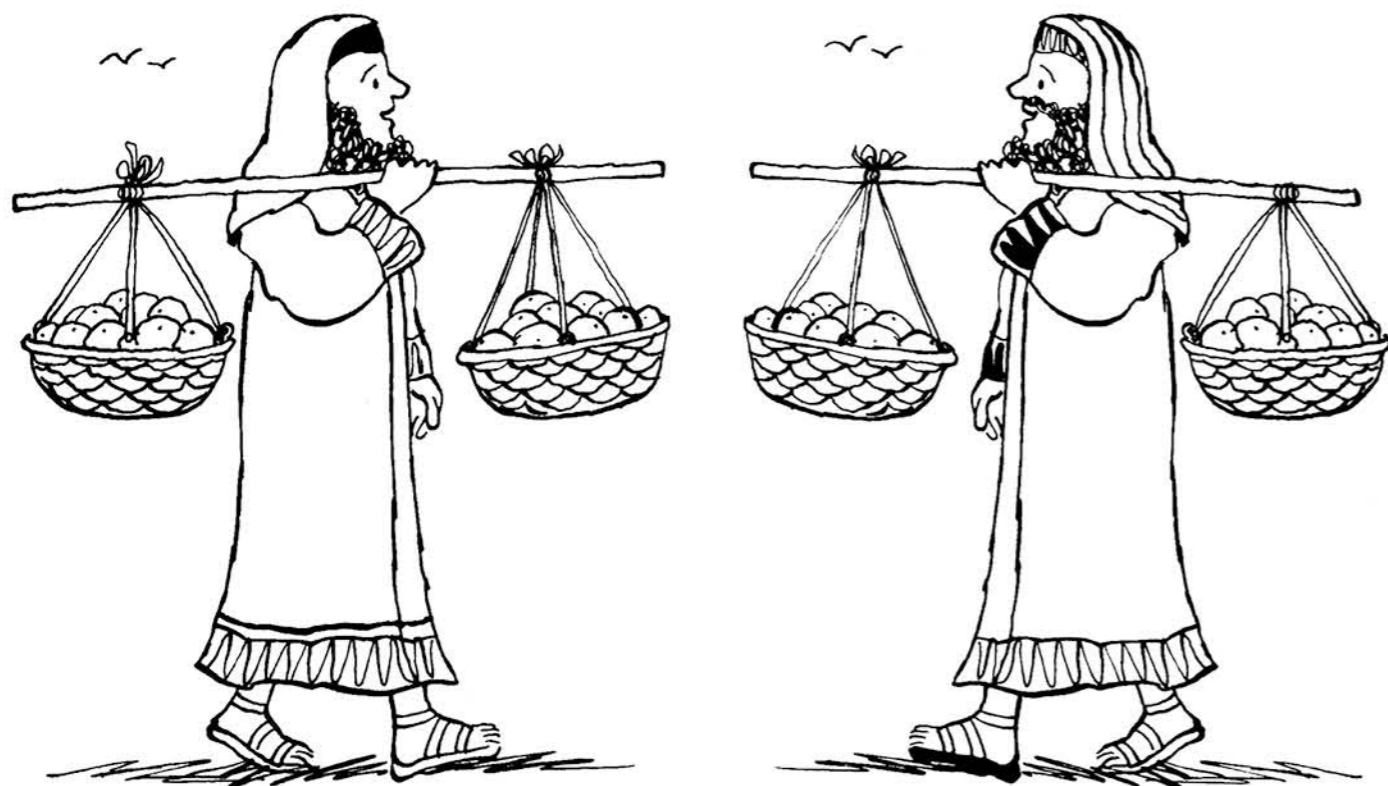
Think
Pair
Share

Look out for the running sheep! →



Flipped!

This man is carrying fruit to market. Can you find ten differences between the reflected drawings? Colour in the picture.



The answers are on p.46

What do you see in this picture?
Ask your family and friends
what they see?

Can they see the same thing
or something different?



**The world looked at how to live one way and
Jesus looked at how to live another way.**

Did you know?

Jesus preached to huge crowds of more than 5,000 people. He spoke about living in the Kingdom of Heaven.

The artist has forgotten to draw the crowds. Can you add lots of people listening to Jesus?

Why not draw yourself and your family and friends in the crowd?



Think!

In his Kingdom, Jesus said, "I am King." What do you think Jesus meant by this? What sort of crown do you imagine Jesus wearing? Draw your design here.



The world says
**"Chase
 Popularity"**

Jesus says,
**"Welcome
 everybody"**



Hi, I'm Matthew and my world was turned upside down when I met Jesus. I wrote a gospel – a book in the Bible all about the life of Jesus and his good news message. Here's a story from my gospel about when I first met Jesus.



As Jesus moved from place to place, people began to follow him. They wanted to hear more about God's kingdom, and how they could become part of this by turning away from their wrongdoings. There was a tax collector named Matthew in the town of Capernaum. One day as he sat collecting the taxes from the farmers, merchants, and traders, Jesus came to him.

"Follow me," Jesus said to him.

Matthew stood up, left everything, and followed him. He gave a great banquet in his house. Many of Matthew's friends were other tax collectors, who often overcharged. The religious leaders, called the Pharisees, were shocked that Jesus was with them.

"Why do you eat and drink with sinners?" the Pharisees complained.

Jesus replied, "Those who are well do not need a doctor. I am like a doctor, for I have come to bring these people back to be with God."

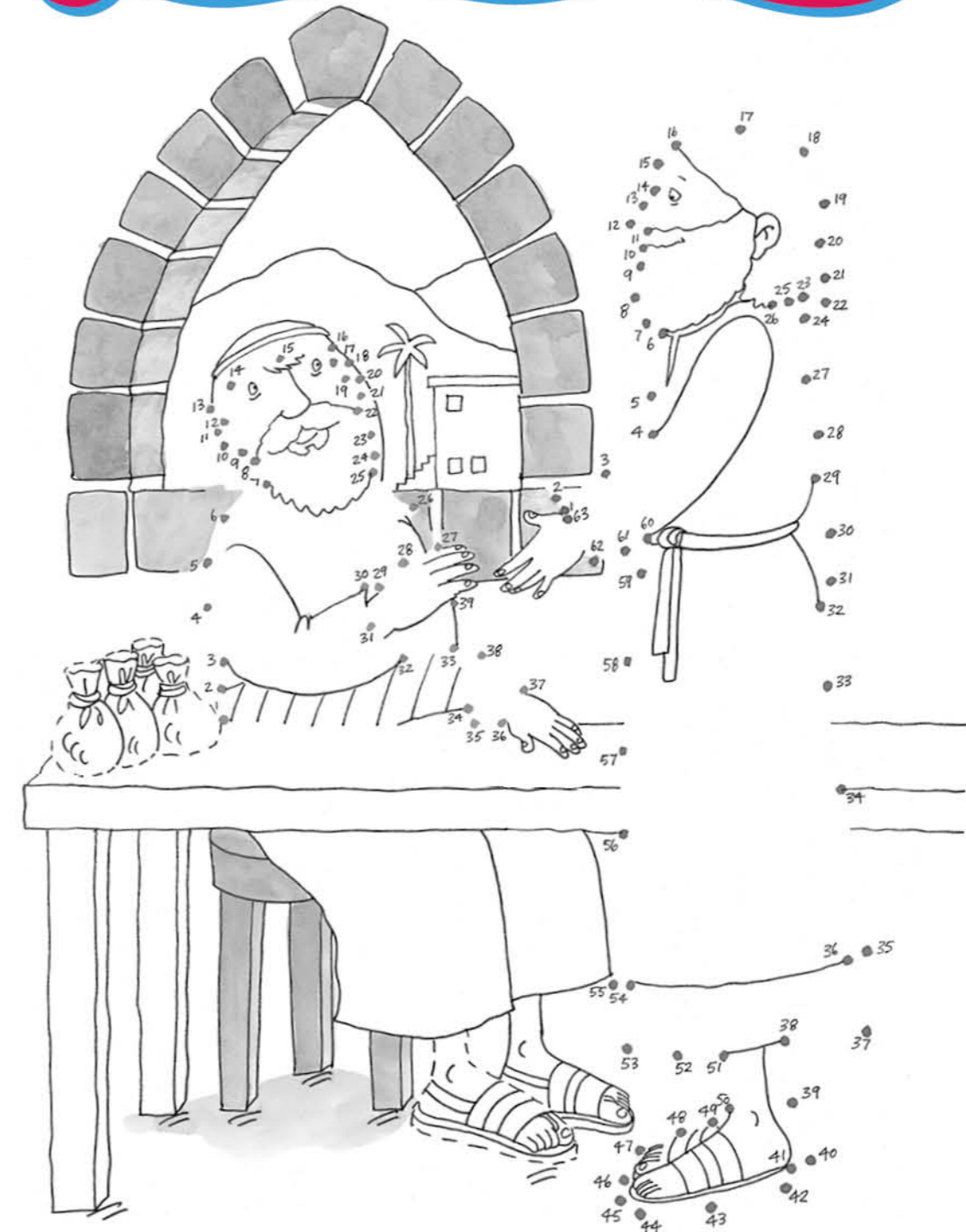
Jesus not only spoke to the people about the good news of the coming of God's kingdom, but also healed people who had diseases. Jesus had God's power to forgive and heal and this amazed the people. His fame spread and the crowds grew. Jesus knew that he needed help with his work to reach more people.

At night, when the crowds went home, Jesus often went up into the hills to pray to God. Sometimes he prayed all night. After one night of prayer, he gathered those who were following him and learning from him. He chose twelve men among these disciples to be his closest companions and helpers, calling them apostles. They were Peter, Andrew, James, John, Philip, Bartholomew (Nathanael), Matthew, Thomas, James (son of Alphaeus), Simon, Thaddaeus (Judas, son of James), and Judas Iscariot.

This story is taken from **The Lion Wondrous Bible**
 ISBN 9780745979281, written by Deborah Lock and
 illustrated by Alida Massari



Join the dots. Colour in the picture.

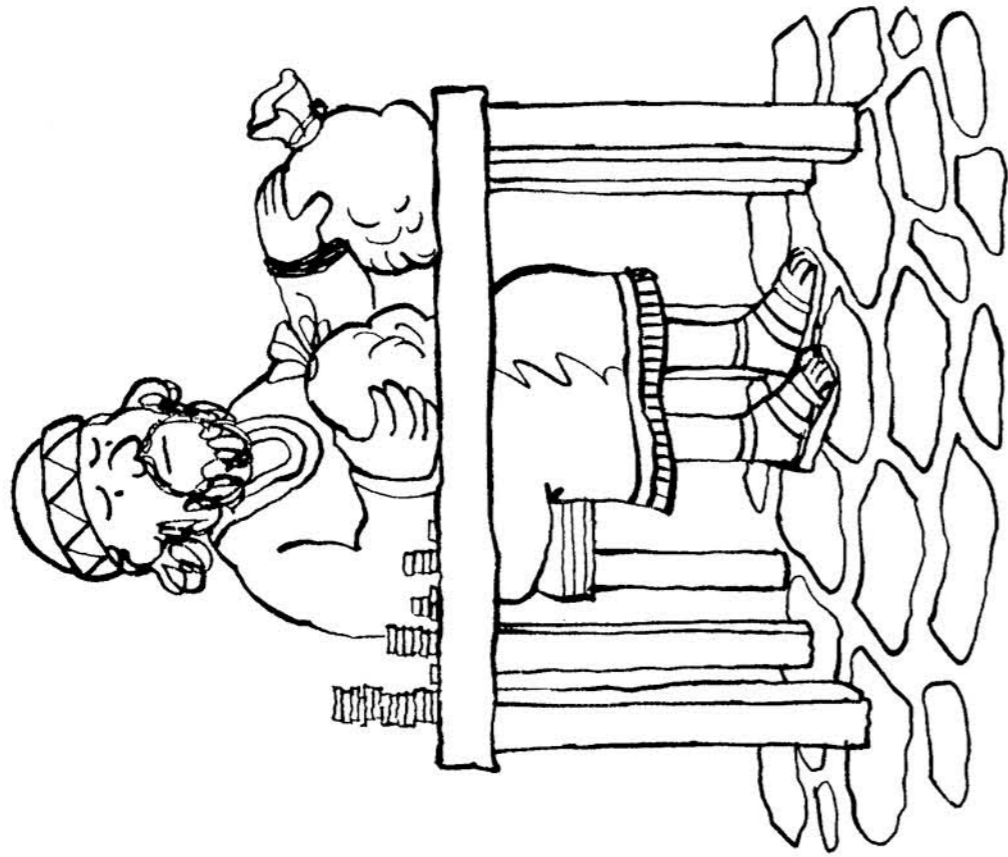
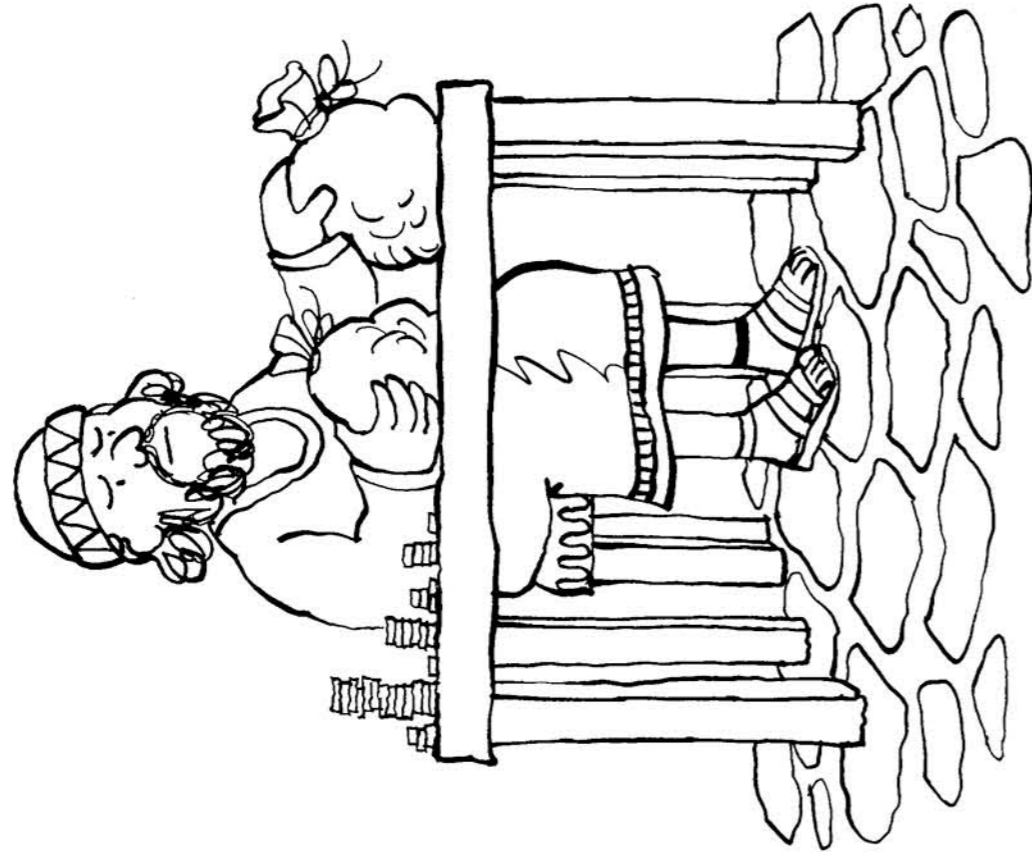


Question

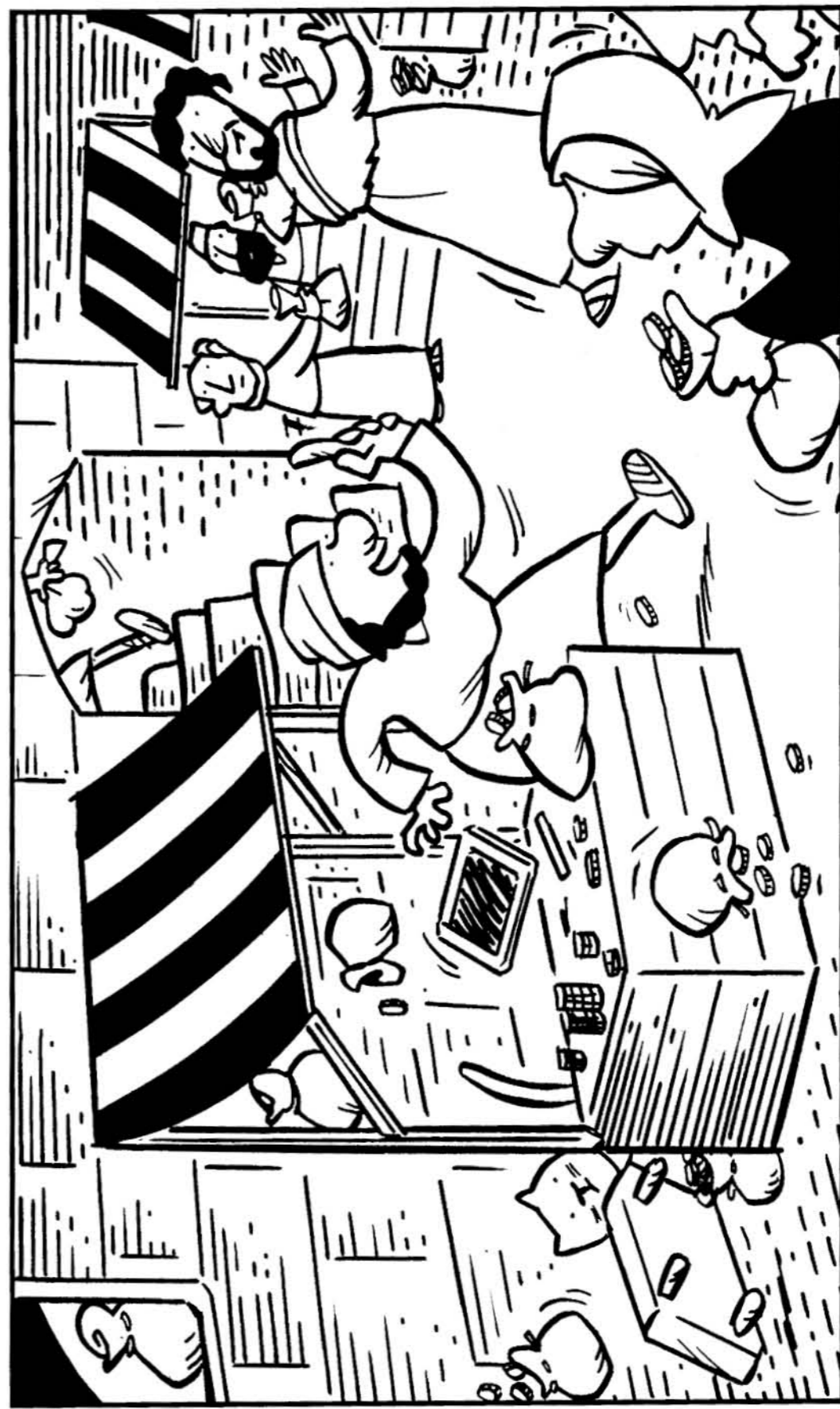
Can you remember what Matthew is doing? What did Jesus say to him?
 This story is found in the Bible: The Gospel of Matthew, chapter 9, verses 9 to 13.
 (Answers on the next page.)



Matthew the tax collector was busy collecting money.
Find ten differences between these two pictures. Colour in Matthew's hat and clothes.



The answers are on p. 46



Jesus said, "Follow me." Matthew got up and followed him.

Can you find twelve (12) moneybags hidden in this picture? Colour them in.
Why not add a mouse, a chicken, and a bird to the picture?



Did you know?

Jesus welcomed everyone to join the Kingdom – the unpopular tax collectors, the poor who had been ignored, and people who had diseases and been cast out of towns.

He needed help to spread the good news that everyone was welcome, so he chose twelve (12) close followers to be his disciples.

One disciple appears twice here. Which one? Colour them in.



Who do you know that is unpopular or lonely and in need of a friend?



think pair share

Think!

What must it be like to feel popular?

What must it feel like to be unpopular?

Use this space to doodle or write your thoughts.

Pair and share!

Share your thoughts with your family and friends, and pray together. You could pray for those you've thought about on page 12. Ask God to help you make them feel welcome and loved.

What could you do? Here are some ideas to get started:

- Chat with them.
- Bake some biscuits to share with them.
- Make a "Hello!" card.

