

JULY 3, 2020

THE COST OF FOLLOWING JESUS



BIBLE PASSAGE: MATTHEW 8:18-22; MATTHEW 16:24-26

STORY POINT: Following Jesus is not easy, but He is worth it.

BIG PICTURE QUESTION: What did Jesus teach when He was on earth?

Jesus taught about God and His kingdom. He taught that all Scripture is about Him.

JULY 3, 2020

FAMILY DEVOTIONAL QUESTIONS:

- **Read Matthew 8:18-20.** What statement did the teacher of the law make? How did Jesus respond to him? Does Jesus promise that following him will be easy? Read 2 Corinthians 11:25-27. What were some of the hard things the apostle Paul had to go through to follow Jesus? What are some of the hard things you have had to go through to follow Jesus?
- **Read Matthew 8:21-22.** What did Jesus say to the man who wanted to bury his father? Is Jesus telling the man to dishonor his father? What is Jesus really telling the man?
- **Read Matthew 16:24.** If we are going to follow Jesus, what must we do with our own desires? How does obeying mom and dad help you become a follower of Jesus? Do mom and dad ever ask you to do something that you don't want to do? How do you respond?
- **Read Matthew 16:25.** What promise does Jesus make to those who deny their own desires to follow him?
- Pray that God will help you to put Jesus first, to turn away from your selfish desires, and to follow him no matter what hard things you have to go through.

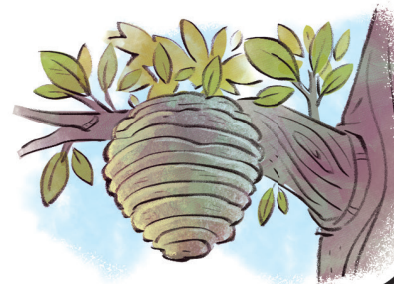
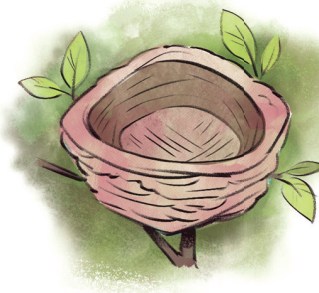
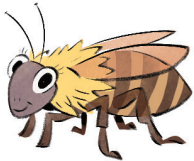
All this I have spoken while still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.

John 14:25-26



Home

INSTRUCTIONS: Draw a line to match each creature with its home.



Preschool Activity Pages

Unit 23 • Session 2 The Cost of Following Jesus

BIBLE STORY SUMMARY:

- Jesus taught that following Him is not easy.
- Jesus said we must be willing to give up everything to follow Him.
- Jesus wanted people to choose carefully and think about the cost before following Him.

KEY PASSAGE: John 14:26

BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

- What did Jesus teach when He was on earth? Jesus taught about God and His kingdom.

FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS:

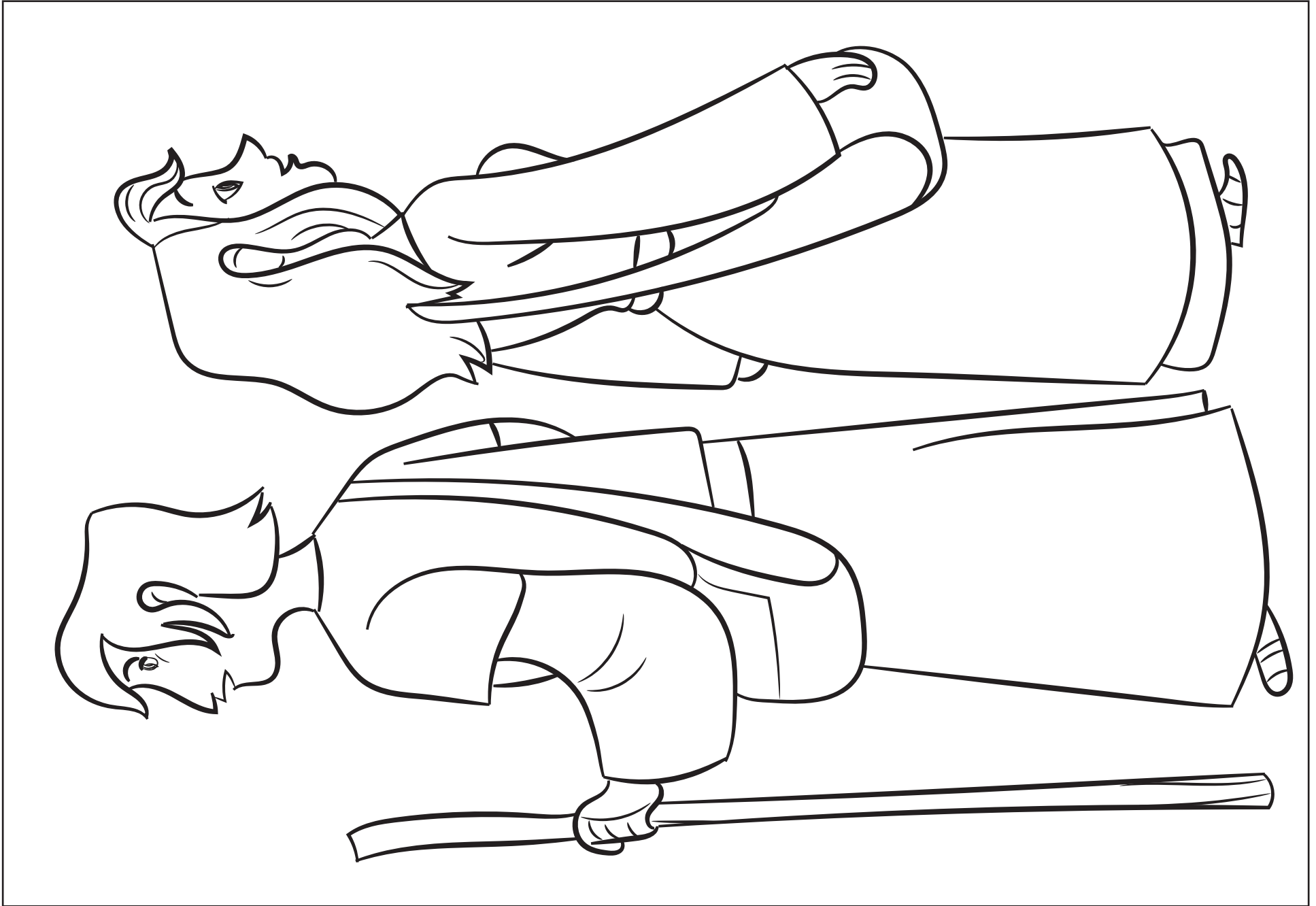
- Why did Jesus say following Him is hard? Can you think of ways that this is true?
- Who can help us follow Jesus?
- Who gave up His own life to rescue people from sin?

FAMILY ACTIVITY:

- Build a tower as a family. Read Luke 14:28-30. Talk about what it means to count the cost.
- Share with your kids something that you have given up to follow Jesus. Talk about how Jesus has shown you He is worth it.



DOWNLOAD the
LIFEWAY KIDS APP



Count the Cost

INSTRUCTIONS: In each example, count the money to determine if you have enough to buy the object.

Younger Kids Activity Pages
Unit 23 • Session 2
The Cost of Following Jesus

BIBLE STORY SUMMARY:

- Many people wanted to follow Jesus, but He wanted them to be sure before committing.
- Jesus told them that only those willing to suffer could be disciples.
- Following Jesus is not easy, but He is worth it.

KEY PASSAGE: John 14:25-26

BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

- What did Jesus teach when He was on earth? Jesus taught about God and His kingdom. He taught that all Scripture is about Him.

FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS:

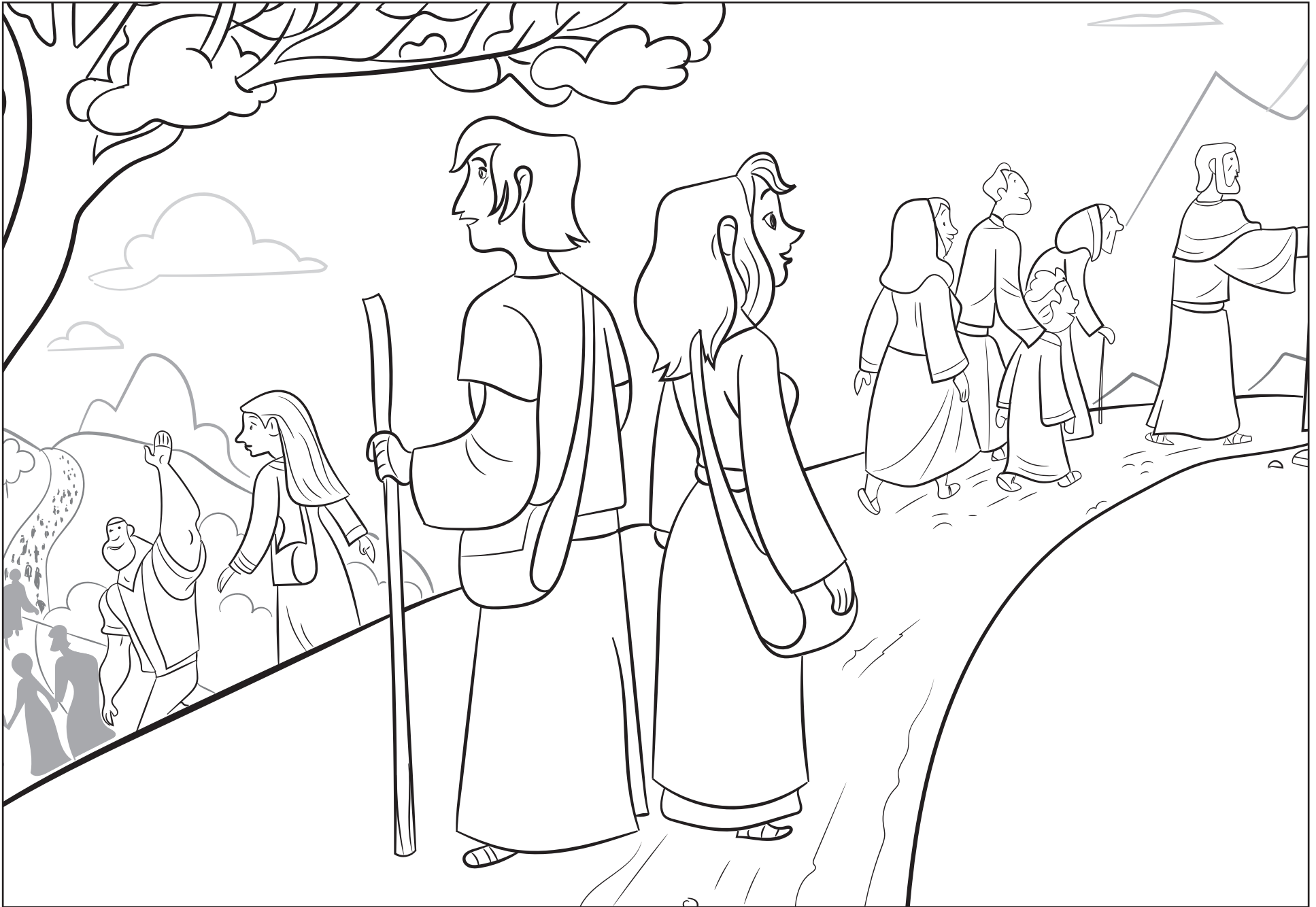
- Why is following Jesus difficult?
- How can we be sure following Jesus is worth the difficulties we may face?
- What might we have to give up to follow Jesus?

FAMILY ACTIVITY:

- Set a goal with your kids, such as walking a 5k. Help them work toward the goal with you, and discuss how succeeding is worth the difficulties of training. Tie this to the idea of following Jesus.



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Journal Page



- What does this story teach me about God or the gospel?
- What does this story teach me about myself?
- Are there any commands in this story to obey? How are they for God's glory and my good?
- Are there any promises in this story to remember? How do they help me trust and love God?
- How does this story help me to live on mission better?

FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS

- What are some reasons people might hesitate to follow Jesus?
- Share about a time you did something hard because you knew it was worth it.
- How is Jesus better than anything the world offers?

The Cost of Following Jesus

Matthew 8; 16; Luke 9; 14

STORY POINT: FOLLOWING JESUS IS NOT EASY, BUT HE IS WORTH IT.

Large crowds traveled with Jesus. One man said, "Teacher, I will follow You wherever You go." Jesus told the man, "Foxes have dens and birds of the sky have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay His head."

Another disciple said, "Lord, I will follow You, but first let me go and bury my father."

Jesus replied, "Follow Me, and let the dead bury their own dead."

Jesus told the people that following Him wouldn't be easy.

"Anyone who is unwilling to suffer cannot be My disciple," Jesus said.

He told them a story: "If you wanted to build a tower, you would first sit down and figure out what it would take to complete the tower. Otherwise, you would build the foundation and be unable to finish. People would laugh at you."

Jesus wanted the people to consider the cost. "If you are not willing to give up everything you have, you cannot follow Me," Jesus said.

Jesus said, "Whoever gives up his life for Me will find true life. What good is it to have everything you want in the world if you give up life with God forever?"

Christ Connection: Jesus taught that following Him is not easy. It requires commitment and sacrifice. When we trust in Jesus, we give Him complete control of our lives. True life is found in Jesus, who gave up His life to rescue us from sin and death. He is worth it.



FOLD

What Will It Take? | For each scenario, describe what it would take to accomplish the task.



Earn a good grade on the math test.



Grow the largest pumpkin in the state.



Follow Jesus.

Story Point Shapes

Color in the shapes according to the key to finish the story point.

“Following Jesus is not easy, but He is ...”



W P F O C T A T N P G I O T D

L J V R S N H D
