

Sunday Worship Services at 9am

In-Person in the Sanctuary, Live Online

(YouTube, Facebook, reedleymbc.org)

On Demand after 1pm on Monday

Children's Church

Ages 3 through 1st Grade

Fellowship on the Green at 10:20am

Adult and Children's Classes at 10:40am

SCAN TO CONNECT WITH US ON OUR DIGITAL
CONNECTION FORM
WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU!



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REEDLEY MENNONITE BRETHERN CHURCH

December 2021

the
Gift of
Jesus



*"... for I am gentle and lowly in heart..." -
Matthew 11:29*



Sunday Morning @ 9 AM

Online live @ 9 AM | On Demand after 1 PM on Monday

Sunday classes for all ages @ 10:40am



"...pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."
Luke 10:2

Today!
ON THE CHURCH GREEN

LOST FOUND

RMBC PRESENTS THE
CHILDRENS CHRISTMAS PROGRAM
DECEMBER 12TH @ 5:30PM

Save the Date

Dec 7	Immanuel Elementary Program	6pm
Dec 11	Children's Program Rehearsal	9am
Dec 12	3rd Sunday of Advent	9am
Dec 12	Children's Program	5:30pm
Dec 13	Chapter One School Christmas Program	7pm
Dec 17&18	Choir Christmas Program	7pm
Dec 19	4th Sunday of Advent, Tute Bags	9am
Dec 24	Christmas Eve Candlelight Service	5:30pm
Dec 26	Sunday Morning Service, no Sunday School	9am
Jan 2	Sunday Morning Service, no Sunday School	9am

"A thrill of HOPE the weary world rejoices"

JH & HS
Christmas Party
\$5 per student December 15th 5:30 - 8:30pm friends are free

CHRISTMAS CHOIR PROGRAM
THE Miracle OF Christmas WORSHIP HIS MAJESTY
December 17 & 18 at 7 pm
REFRESHMENTS IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL

GUADALAJARA
MEXICO MISSION TRIP
APPLICATIONS DUE DEC 12TH

HARTLAND PRETEEN winter camp 2022
Feb. 4-6
JR HIGH
Feb. 11-13
100%
Mark 12:30

RMBC WEDNESDAY NIGHT
Women's Bible Study
6:45PM IN EC 205

ROOTED
JHM WEDNESDAY NIGHTS 6:30-8:00 PM student center
HSM SUNDAY NIGHTS

For more details on these or additional RMBC Ministries: check the App, Website, or contact the church office at (559) 638-8123. Further details can also be found in today's Journal.





Welcome

Welcome to Reedley MB. We're pleased to have you join us today for our worship service. It's our prayer that you will meet the living God in this place as we hear from the Word of God. We are here to **GLORIFY** God, **GROW** together as equipped disciples of Jesus Christ, and **GO** proclaiming His gospel to all. If you have questions, please ask, check our app, scan the digital QR code on the back of the Bulletin, or stop by The Welcome Center on our main lawn.
Malcolm Light, Senior Pastor

Sermon Materials

Each week, Pastor Malcolm sends out sermon materials ahead of Sunday's sermon. You can find them on our App or if you'd like to receive these in your email, please contact the Church Office.

Upcoming Events

We have upcoming events! Don't miss out: check the RMBC Website, App, and online Bulletin.

Contact Details

Office: 559-638-8123
Email: kelly@reedleymbc.org
Website: www.reedleymbc.org
Address: 1362 L Street
Reedley, CA 93654

RMBC JOURNAL

REEDLEY MENNONITE BRETHERN CHURCH

WORSHIP TODAY

Sunday - December 5, 2021

Guest Network Password - Hisgift2us

As we look at the gift of Jesus and the heart he has towards us, we'll look today at some of Jesus' emotional life. Jesus is described as a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. We need a savior who knows our frailty and hurts and is able to show us the way in our suffering. Our text will be John 11:30-39. We encourage you to bring a friend with you to worship or invite a friend to join you online for worship!

Advent Candlelighters for this week is Nathan Koop and Isaak Ensz.

If you are visiting with us today we encourage you to download our app (search: reedleymbc), visit our website (reedleymbc.org), or visit our Welcome Center where you can get more information and a gift.

Join the 5 Day Bible Reading Challenge!

This week's passages: Week 49

Day 1: Esther 7-10; Revelation 3

Day 2: Ezra 7-10; Psalm 97; Revelation 4

Day 3: Nehemiah 1-3; Revelation 5

Day 4: Nehemiah 4-6; Psalm 98; Revelation 6

Day 5: Nehemiah 7-9; Psalm 140; Revelation 7

OPPORTUNITIES

PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES

Prayer Line - Would you like to receive our daily Prayer Line? You can via email, or through our App. Please contact the Church Office.

Sunday Morning Prayer - Meets in Pastor Malcolm's office at 8:15am.

Wednesday Morning Prayer - Meets at 6:30am in the Fellowship Hall. Come and join us as we seek the Lord for our church, our community, and our world.

MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

Missionary of the Week: **Johann Matthies** serving with Multiply as the European Mission Development Director and Regional Team Leader for Europe and Central Asia. Pray for Johann as he gives leadership, direction, and training to the churches in these areas.

Mexico Mission Trip - Apply today to be considered for the team serving in Mexico April 10-18th, 2022. Applications can be found in the office or online.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our condolence is extended to **Nat Weems and Crystal Kliewer** on the death of their father, **Jim Weems**. His service was Thursday in South Dakota.

Our condolence is also extended to **Brad Fast and family** on the death of his sister, Gail Harder. Her Memorial Service will be (unconfirmed as of 11/29/2021 at 5:30pm)

Our condolence is also extended to **Charlie Rivoire and family** on the death of his sister, Cherie Rivoire.

STEWARDSHIP

11/21/2021 - Attendance 542

YTD Goal \$474,475

YTD Deficit \$122,966

GIVING @ RMBC

- Text reedleymbc to 1-888-364-4483
- reedleymbc.org > Give
- RMBC App > Giving
- U S Postal Service
- Office, M-F, 8:30-5pm

OPPORTUNITIES

Missions Fundraiser - Christmas Hams \$75 each. Hormel Old Tyme Pit Ham (12 lb) Order by December 9.

Lost & Found - Did you happen to leave a Bible, a thermos, or jacket at church? Stop by the rack on the northeast corner of the church green this morning to see if any of the items belong to you or a friend.

Part Time Custodian needed at RMBC: This employee performs a variety of general custodial and light grounds keeping work in the care and maintenance of the church campus' buildings and grounds. Under the direction of the Business Manager and Custodial Lead, the Custodian performs a variety of semi-skilled and skilled work in the maintenance of buildings, grounds, and equipment. The position requires two days per week with additional opportunities available.

New Rejoice Devotion Books for December, January & February are available at the church office, Monday through Friday between 8:30am and 5pm. Or see Sheila today at the Welcome Tent. Cost is \$5 each.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

Children's Christmas Program will be December 12, at 5:30pm. We will have a rehearsal on Saturday morning December 11th at 9am.

Nursery is available for children birth through Age 2 in the Children's Center.

Children's Church is available for kids 3 years old - 1st grade. Children meet in the breezeway when dismissed from the service. Children's Church is located in the Children's Center in the Seashore Room.

Sunday School - Age 3 through 4th grade meet in the Children's Center; 5th & 6th grade are upstairs in the Student Center at 10:40am (**please don't send them to Sunday School until 10:35am**) Check in children prior to church service in the breezeway or after service in the lobby of the Children's Center. Children ages 3-4th grade will need to be picked up from their classrooms in the Children's Center instead of the playground. The weather is getting a little too chilly and wet for our kids to be dismissed from the playground. Please PROMPTLY pick up your children after Sunday School and have your parent check-in tag with you.

Pre-Teen Winter Camp at Hartland will be February 4-6th for 4th-6th graders. Space is limited. Sign up today!

The Children's Christmas Tree will be decorated on December 5th. Pick up your ornament and supplies at the check-in table in the breezeway or the Children's Center.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

MOMS End of Year Schedule - Meet in SC 200 at 9am; December 2 - Fellowship with guest speaker Rachel Triguero

December 9 - Bible Study "Truthfilled"

December 16 - Christmas Party

WOW 2021 - Community Bible Study Tuesdays, 9-11am in the Fellowship Hall.

Women's Study - Wednesday nights at 6:45pm in EC 205

OTHER MINISTRY

Bilingual Class meets Wednesday nights in EC 209 at 7pm.

College & Young Adults meet on Sunday nights from 6-9pm upstairs in the Student Center.

ROOTED STUDENT MINISTRIES

Sunday School - Junior High meets in the Student Center upstairs in SC200. Vince Balakian is teaching through the Old Testament. **High School** meets downstairs in the Student Center in SC100. The students are studying the miracles and parables of Jesus in the Gospels.

Rooted Christmas Party - All 7-12th graders are invited to our end of year party on Wednesday, December 15th, 5:30-8:30pm. Dinner will be served at 5:30pm followed by games and Christmas activities. The cost is \$5 per student and the money will go toward our designated missions fundraiser for the season. Bring non-RMBC friends for free.

Rooted Junior High Winter Camp at Hartland

Junior High Students are going to Hartland Winter Camp, February 11-13th. Sign up on the App or webpage. A \$50 deposit is required for official registration. The cost for camp this year is \$207. Scholarships are available for those with financial need.

Rooted High School Winter Camp at Hume

High school students are going to Hume Winter Camp, February 25-27. Register today on the App or webpage. A \$50 deposit is required to secure registration. The total cost is \$224. Scholarships are available for those with financial need.

Contact joel@reedleymbc.org for more information on Student Ministry

MEN'S MINISTRY

Forged Bible Study: Tuesdays, 6-7am in SC 100

Cross Trainers Basketball: Wed., 7pm, Immanuel

Men's Group: Thursdays at noon in the Student Center

Pickleball: Thursdays at 7pm, at the RMBC Court

Finally, **do something!** Jesus does not stay in weeping. Jesus turns from the tomb and gives three commands. Verse 39 – take away the stone. Verse 43 – Lazarus come out, and verse 44 – unbind him and let him go. Weeping is no excuse for passive idleness. Weeping should motivate us to action on behalf of Christ and His kingdom. Friends, if you cannot raise the dead, do something to see the stone rolled away which keeps others from the gospel of Jesus. Call them out to hear and know the Savior who rescues and looses them from the bondage of their sin and grief. May we as God’s people know the compassionate and caring heart of Christ who weeps with us; and may we be this heart of Christ to others weeping and walking with them from the manger to the cross.

Jesus Wept **John 11:30-39**

Pastor Malcolm
December 5, 2021

As we continue to look at Jesus’ heart, those things that both define and direct who He is, I want to focus for just a few minutes this morning on one verse of scripture that is simple and short but exploding with unfathomable depth into the heart of our savior. John 11:35, the shortest verse in the Bible states simply, “*Jesus wept.*” Three times in the New Testament we are told that Jesus cries. In Luke 19:41, Jesus weeps over the city of Jerusalem and the Jewish people who have rejected His message. (Read) The writer of Hebrews tells us that (Read Hebrews 5:7) And in our passage here, John 11:35, the simplest and most straightforward of the three – Jesus wept.

Have you ever stopped to really mull over why it was that Jesus wept at Lazarus’s tomb? Or ask, “What do we learn about the heart of our gentle and lowly Savior from Jesus’ tears?”

We shouldn’t be surprised that the Son of God who took on human flesh, would know sorrow, tears, and grief. We just looked at the three times in the New Testament that Jesus cried. And in scripture, we find passages that speak to God’s tenderness of heart towards those who are suffering and struggling. (Read Psalm 34:18, Psalm 147:3) Isaiah presents a profound picture of God’s coming Servant, the One who would be pierced for our transgressions and crushed for our sins is also, “... *despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief*”.

So when we stand with Jesus at the tomb of His deceased friend, we should not be surprised to see tears. And its on those tears I’d like to meditate for a few moments this morning as we consider the gift of who Jesus is to us. First, I would remind you that Jesus wept because He is fully human. Second, Jesus wept because of hopeless mourning. And finally, Jesus wept because of sin’s destructive work. We will look at each of these very briefly today.

First, **Jesus wept because He is fully human.** The Christmas season is not merely a celebration of the birth of Christ, it is the awe and wonder that the eternal God became like one of us, taking on a human nature and human flesh. Jesus was no ghost or fiction. Jesus was born of a woman, wrapped in swaddling clothes, grew as a child, obeyed his parents, and increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man. As a man He worked, and walked, and wearied. He ate as we do and hungered. In all things He was made like us. His humanity was our humanity to the full; yet without sin. Sin is not essential to humanity; it is a disease of nature, not a feature found in humanity as it come from the Creator’s hand. The fact that Jesus wept is clear proof of His full humanity.

Jesus wept because He had human friendships. Friendship is natural to being human. Rarely is a person without at least one other they will truly call friend.

We have many many acquaintances; our Facebook and Instagram feeds would be better labeled acquaintances than friends. Proverbs 18:24 makes this distinction for us saying (Read) In John 11, we see that Lazarus and his sisters, Mary and Martha, are Jesus' friends. John 11:5 says, "*Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus.*" Thus, Jesus wept at the grave of his friend. We see Jesus' full humanity as he weeps for His friend.

Jesus is fully human for He is stirred with human emotions. Yet Jesus' emotions are not like ours which while gifts from God are stained by sin. Theologian J.I. Packer has this insight saying, "We sometimes speak of our emotions "clouding our judgment" because our sinful nature has corrupted our emotions. But God has no sin, and His emotions are incorruptible. For example, there is a vast difference between human anger and divine anger. Human anger is volatile, subjective, and too often out of control. God's anger is rooted in divine justice. God's anger is perfectly righteous and predictable, never capricious or malicious. In His anger, He never sins. All of God's emotions are rooted in His holy nature and are always expressed sinlessly."

Friends, have a clear understanding of the humanity of Christ who you rightly worship as Lord and God. Know His divinity without any doubt, and His humanity without mistake. We can apply this to our lives practically as Paul says in Romans 12:15, "*Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.*"

Secondly, **Jesus wept because of hopeless mourning.** From the beginning of this story, Jesus has been clear that Lazarus's illness will not lead to His death. (Read John 11:4) Jesus makes what He is about to do absolutely clear (Read John 11:11) His disciples not understanding the situation Jesus states plainly (Read John 11:14) When Jesus arrives in Lazarus's hometown of Bethany, his sister Martha goes out to meet Jesus (Read John 11:21-24) Martha goes to get her sister Mary and the story continues (Read John 11:31-33) Two things we need to see in this story. First, there are two different words being translated weep in this passage. In verse 31 and 33 we see Mary and other Jews weeping with her. The word for weep being used is the word *klaio* and it's a weeping like loud, dramatic wailing. In the ancient world, the more extravagantly one mourned the loss of someone the more honor and importance was being given to the deceased. In John 11, it is thought that the Jews who were with Mary, were literally professional mourners, people a family would hire to make sure the mourning of the dead was sufficiently extravagant. The word used for Jesus' weeping is *dakruo*, used only once in the NT; and it is a quiet unassuming crying. Jesus' weeping is very different from that of Mary and her mourners.

The second thing to notice is Jesus' response to this scene. (Read John 11:33) We can certainly understand Jesus being deeply moved in His spirit in this scene. He was friends with Lazarus, Martha, and Mary and loved them accordingly.

But why is Jesus greatly troubled by this scene as well. I think it's because the mourning Jesus is seeing is a hopeless mourning. Jesus' problem in this story was not death. It was the mourners. Jesus was not a helpless man in the face of death. He knew what He was going to do. But in Martha's grief, she had been full of words; for Mary and her supporters they were full of tears and wailing. But for all of them Jesus was an unrecognized power in their midst. The Bible instructs us as Christians that given Jesus' death and resurrection, we are not to grieve as those who have no hope. Friends, we need to grieve with those who grieve, mourn with those who mourn, and weep with those who weep. But, and hear me clearly, we are not to do so in hopelessness. As Jesus' followers, we are not hopeless when it comes to the things we grieve. We are not hopeless when it comes to the things we hurt over. This world is not our home.

But in this scene we see a final reason Jesus weeps, **because of sin's destructive work.** Death and suffering, pain and difficulties in our lives were not what God intended for His creation. All of our suffering, all of our pain, all of our sadness and grieving are all the result of living in a post-Genesis 3 world, are all the result of sin in our world. (Read 1 John 3:8) Jesus came with passion and purpose; passion for human beings mired and destroyed by sin, with the purpose of destroying what sin brings does and bringing redemption and restoration to God. As Jesus stands at Lazarus's grave, the reminder and culmination of sin's destructive work is known in all its sadness and despair. We do well church to mourn and grieve the effects of sin in our own lives and the lives of others. This should drive us to personal repentance, as well as sharing the good news of Jesus with others. Jesus weeps seeing the final consequences of sin's destructive work, but He does not wallow in this grief.

How can we respond? Ultimately, let us imitate the Savior. We can do so first, by **weeping with others.** Friends, we need not fear tears. (Read Ecclesiastes 7:3) Entering into another's grief and pain, as we will look at next Sunday, we are able to sympathize as well as comfort from the comfort we ourselves have received. Sorrow is better than laughter because it causes us to reflect on our lives and make personal improvements. The actual sorrow is not enjoyable, but it can lead to a new way of life or a new perspective that improves life more than laughter ever could. May we gladly enter into the grief, mourning, and pain of others – weeping with them – as we help to carry that heavy burden with them as our Lord does with us.

We can also imitate our savior in weeping with those who are without hope by **being compassionate towards sinners.** It is tempting to see in Jesus' deeply moved and greatly troubled spirit towards the hopeless mourning of Lazarus's sisters and other friends, a haughty spirit of contempt because they don't get it. Jesus does not thunder at them, He weeps. Church, we must balance both our indignation and hatred of sin, with compassion and weeping for the sinner.

Jesus Wept
John 11:30-39

Pastor Malcolm
December 5, 2021

Three Reasons Jesus Wept

Because Jesus is _____

Because of _____

Because of sin's _____

How Do We Respond?

_____ with others

Be _____ towards _____

_____!

Jesus Wept
John 11:30-39

Pastor Malcolm
December 5, 2021

Three Reasons Jesus Wept

Because Jesus is _____

Because of _____

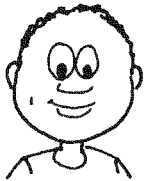
Because of sin's _____

How Do We Respond?

_____ with others

Be _____ towards _____

_____!



What does the Bible say
all people will see?



Trace the letters.

God's
Salvation



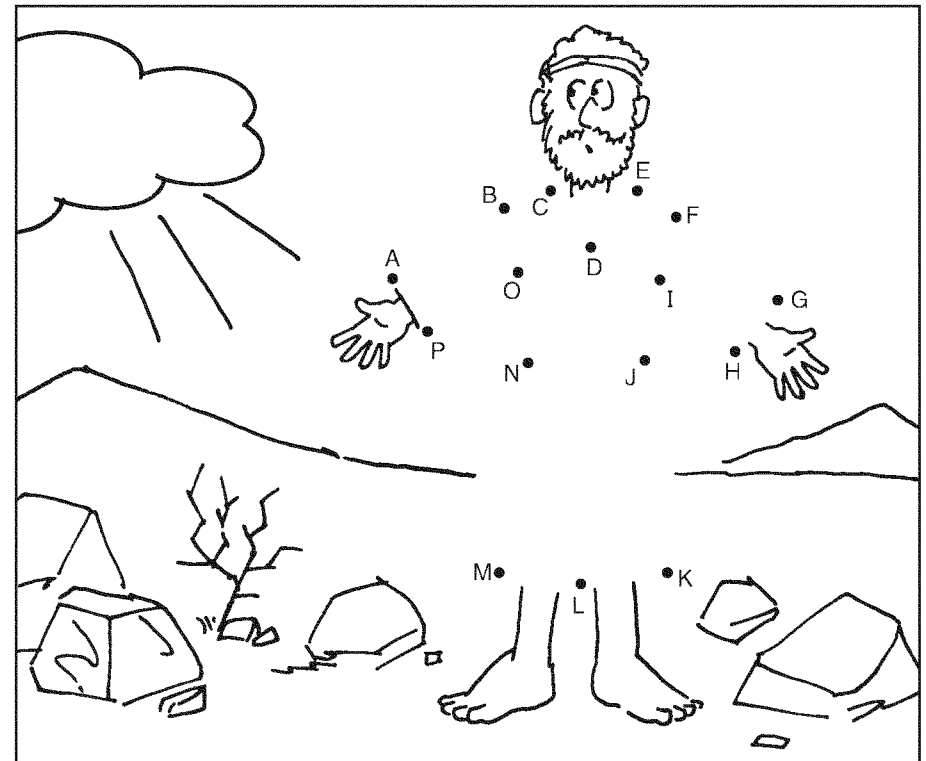
Ages 3+

December 5, 2021 • Luke 3:1-6

The Preaching of John the Baptist

The word of God
came to John in the wilderness.

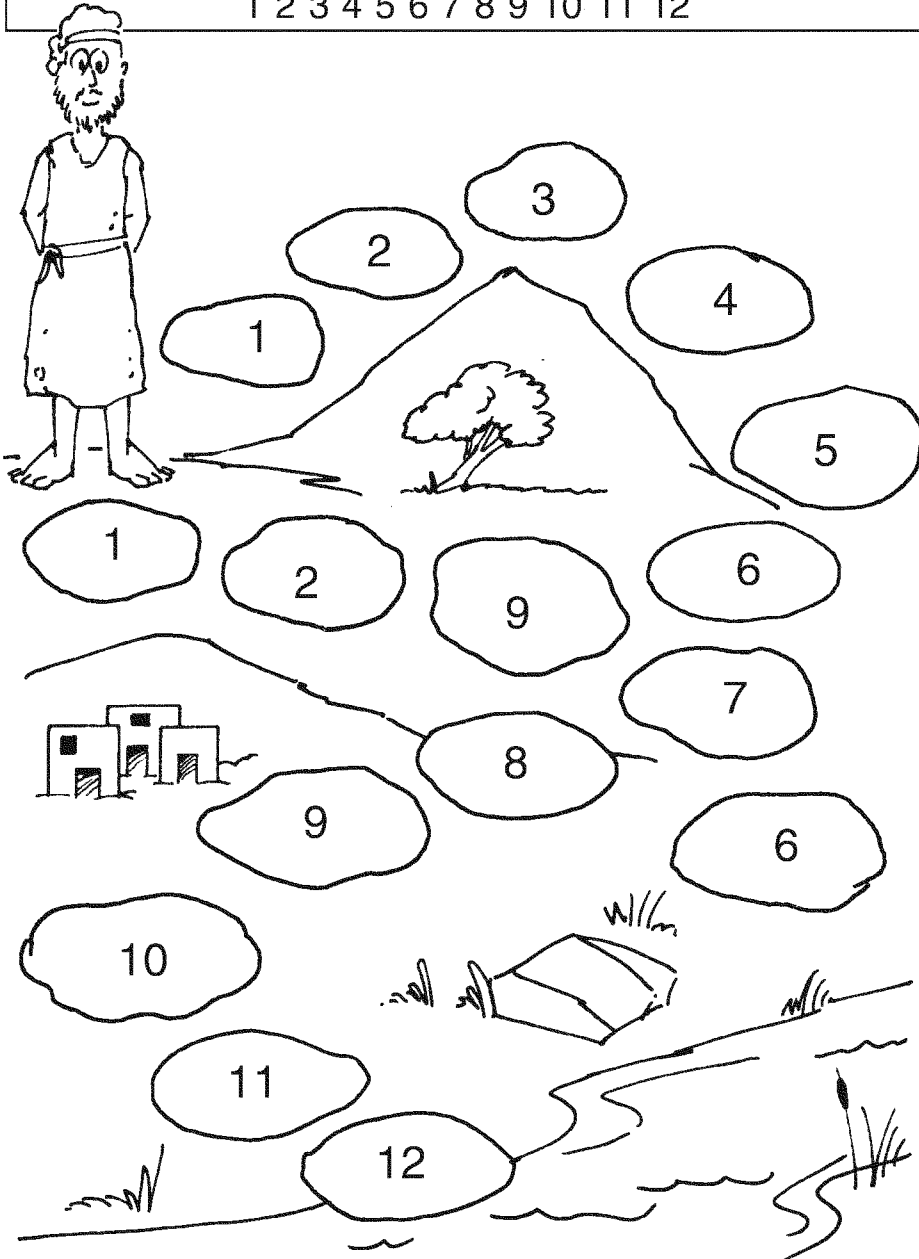
Connect the dots.
A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P



Enter your **SECRET CODE** to unlock games @ games.childrensbulletins.com **SECRET CODE**
FNSK59

John taught the people about forgiveness of sins.

Help John get to the river. Follow the numbers.
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12



John worked to prepare the way for Jesus.

Circle these pictures.

