



Mahragan
Alkeraza
2019

ARISE & BUILD

Nehemiah 2:20



“Therefore we His servants will arise and build.”
Nehemiah 2:20

Gr. 3-4
English Edition



ARISE & BUILD



H.H. Pope Tawadros II

Pope of Alexandria &
Patriarch of the See of St. Mark



H.G. Bishop Mina

Bishop of Mississauga,
Vancouver and Western Canada



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INTRODUCTION

Mahragan Alkeraza 2019

As we celebrated the conclusion of last year's Mahragan with the distribution of the trophies for the first, second and third place winners, we were grateful for God's blessings for a successful 2018 Mahragan. His Holiness Pope Tawadros II said during the Awards Ceremony in Egypt, "I am happy to see the activities of the Youth Bishopric, I am glad that our beautiful Church that is 2000 years old is full of young youth and I am proud to see the creative work and achievements of the youth."

Last year, in addition to the usual participation from Egypt and Sudan, we had a great worldwide participation from 192 Churches representing more than 20 countries and 8 languages.

The theme for Mahragan 2019 is "Therefore we His servants will arise and build.." (Nehemiah 2:20). This year, God is asking each one of us to grow in Christ. To do this we will learn about the following topics:

- 1- Our Lord Is The Good Shepherd
- 2- Our Success Is Guaranteed With Him
- 3- We Are His Children And We Are Rooted In Him
- 4- We Raise Up Through God's Grace
- 5- Build A Stone Foundation



We hope that all of you will participate in the Mahragan activities this year, and encourage everyone you know to join us in one of the greatest annual events, presented by our mother, the Coptic Orthodox Church.

May God bless Mahragan Alkeraza this year and the efforts of all the participants and coordinators, through the prayers of our beloved father Pope Tawadros II.

✠
My best wishes for a happy
Festival
✠
Bishop Mousa



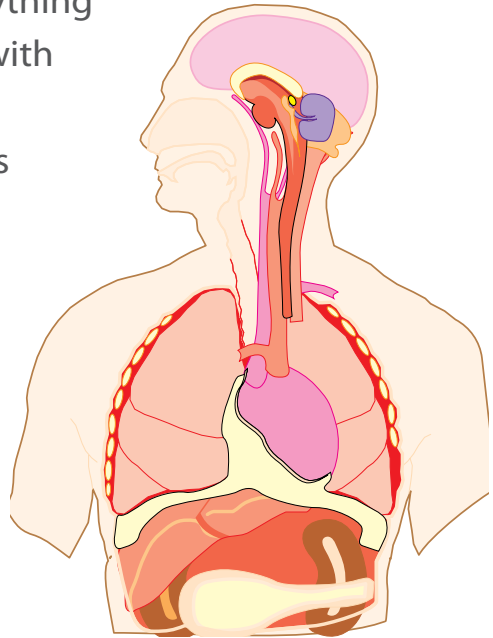
Our Lord Is The Good Shepherd

God's Attributes

God The Pantocrator

God is in control of everything. Everything that happens big or small happens with His permission. This is clear in:

- a. The Environment: All components work together in harmony
- b. Nature: There is an order in everything, in the nights and days, in the seasons, etc.
- c. The Human Body: Each system has a specific job and works with the other systems in a united and organized manner



MEMORY VERSE

“But You, our God, are gracious and true, patient, and in mercy ordering all things.” Wisdom 15:1

In the church altar, towards the East, there is an icon on the curved wall, called “the bosom of the Father” or “the Pantocrator”.



It is a painting of our Lord Jesus Christ sitting on His throne holding the globe in His left hand, to remind us that God created everything and is in control of everything.

God The Unlimited

God fills the heavens and the Earth. He is present everywhere and at all times. He is unlimited in every way:

Place: God is present everywhere

Time: God has no beginning and has no end. He is everlasting and eternal.

Power: God is all powerful

Knowledge: God is all knowing



MEMORY VERSE:

“Even from everlasting to everlasting, You are God.” Psalm 90:2

“Great is our Lord, and mighty in power; His understanding is infinite.” Psalm 147:5



The church building is often built in the shape of a circle to remind us that God is everlasting and eternal, not limited by place or time, just as a circle has no beginning and no end.

God The Unchangeable

God does not change in His characteristics, in His word or in His love for us. As the verse says:

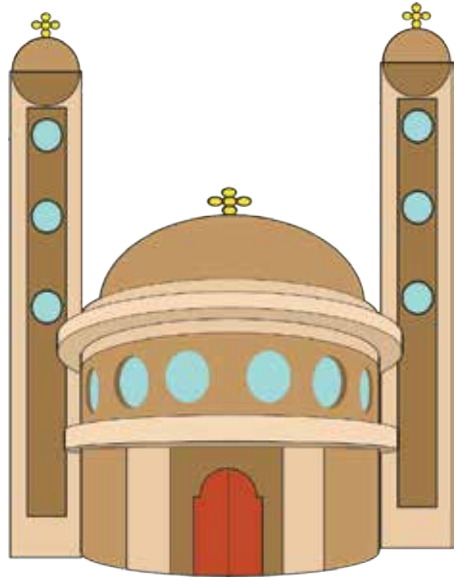
MEMORY VERSE:

“For I am the Lord, I do not change.” Malachi 3:6

God The Creator

Our Lord is the only Creator as He created everything from nothing.

While the human mind is able to make new things from existing matter created by God, the human mind cannot create something out of nothing, so the term Creator is reserved for God alone.





For example, when a carpenter makes a chair, he uses wood taken from trees that God created. He also uses his mind, which God gave him, to make the chair beautiful.

In summary:

1. God is the creator of all matter, which is used to make everything
2. God created the human mind which is used to transform existing matter into other things.
3. God alone gives life to all living beings

MEMORY VERSE:

“Who created the heavens, Who is God, Who formed the earth and made it.” Isaiah 45:18

The church teaches us to thank God for all His creation. The praises of Tasbeha are full of thanksgiving, to thank God for His love and for all His creation.





Creation Day By Day

Day 1	
Day 2	
Day 3	
Day 4	
Day 5	
Day 6	
Day 7	

Read the story of creation in Genesis of how God made the world and fill in the blanks of what he did of each day.



God Created Heaven & Earth

Connect these words (go from one dot to the next) to make the first sentence in the Bible. On which day of creation did God make the object you've drawn?



To get a message, cross out every third letter.

**ANTDGAODOMANDENTWEOGERETATBLIDGHOTSO,
THEEGDRESATKERJLIMGHETTHORAUDETOSHESDAEY,
AONDCTHOELAESSEKRLGSGHTGTORRUSLEDTHU
ENAINHTO: HEMMAZEQTHGESFTAIRSEALISO.**



Our Success Is Guaranteed With Him

Book of Joshua - Chapters 1-8

Joshua means “God saves.” Joshua was from the tribe of Ephraim. He was born in the land of Egypt and went in the wilderness with Moses. He was Moses’ servant and disciple. Moses taught Joshua the importance of prayer.



Joshua experienced this himself in the Israelites’ first war against the Amalekites after they had left the land of Egypt. Joshua also learned that victory is obtained through the power of prayer. God prepared Joshua to be the leader of the Israelites through his discipleship to Moses the prophet. Before Moses’ death, God appointed Joshua to lead the Israelites as Moses’ successor.



As their leader, Joshua's only goal was to lead the Israelites to the Promised Land, the land of Canaan, and to divide the land among the tribes.



Because it was a big responsibility, God always comforted him and promised him:

MEMORY VERSE:

“As I was with Moses, so I will be with you. I will not leave you nor forsake you.” Joshua 1:5

Crossing the Jordan

In order to go to the Promised Land, the Israelites had to cross the Jordan River. Once again, a great miracle happened. As soon as the priests who carried





the Ark of the Covenant dipped their feet in the water, the water stood still, and the upstream water rose in a heap far away. The priests found themselves standing firm on dry ground in the midst of the Jordan; and all of Israel crossed over the Jordan River on dry ground.

2. The Entry to Jericho

The Commander of the Lord's army appeared to Joshua to reassure him about their victory and told him what to do.

He instructed Joshua saying:
"You and your fighting men are to march around the city. March around it once each day for six days. The priests will carry the Ark of the Covenant and go around Jericho with you. Seven priests will walk ahead of the Ark and blow their trumpets of horns. On the seventh day march around the city seven times. Then the priests will give a long blast on the horns,





and then have everyone shout with a great war cry. And the walls will fall down flat!”

With faith, Joshua followed all these instructions. As promised, the walls of the fortified city of Jericho fell at the sound of the trumpet, without war or fighting.



God also instructed them not to take anything to themselves from the spoils of the city.

After their victory over Jericho, they were to enter a small city named Ai. Unexpectedly, they were defeated by this very small city. Joshua did not give in to the defeat, and with faith in God’s promises, he faced the problem and gathered the leaders of the people. He prayed to the Lord to reveal the cause of the defeat.





The Lord answered Joshua, saying that someone among the Israelites violated the commandment of the Lord and took from the spoils of Jericho, which the Lord had specifically commanded them not to do.

Joshua rose early in the morning and brought the Israelites, tribe by tribe, family by family, and man by man, until a man named Achan the son of Carmi from the tribe of Judah was taken.



Achan confessed that he took from the spoils of Jericho. Joshua dealt with him and his household with firmness and wisdom, because of the evil which he caused to all the people of Israel.

After the confession of Achan, God told Joshua to not fear, to be courageous, and to go defeat Ai just like He had done with Jericho.

After their victory over Ai, Joshua built an altar for the Lord



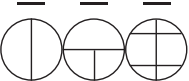

and offered sacrifices of thanksgiving. Joshua accomplished his goal and entered the Promised Land and distributed the land among the tribes of Israel.






God's Promise To Joshua

Use the key below to complete the verses about God's promise to Joshua.
How do you think Joshua felt after hearing God's promise?

"THERE SHALL NOT  

BE ABLE TO  BEFORE THEE ALL THE

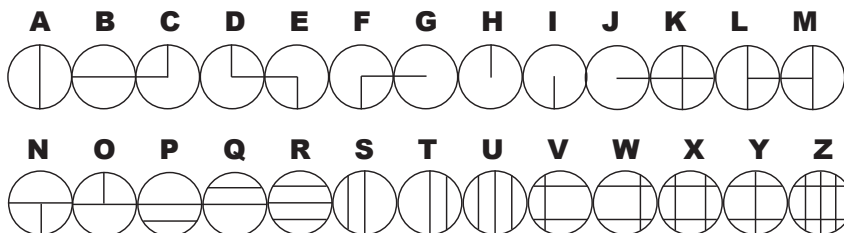
 OF THY LIFE: AS I WAS WITH

, SO WILL I BE WITH THEE. I WILL NOT

 THEE, NOR FORSAKE THEE."

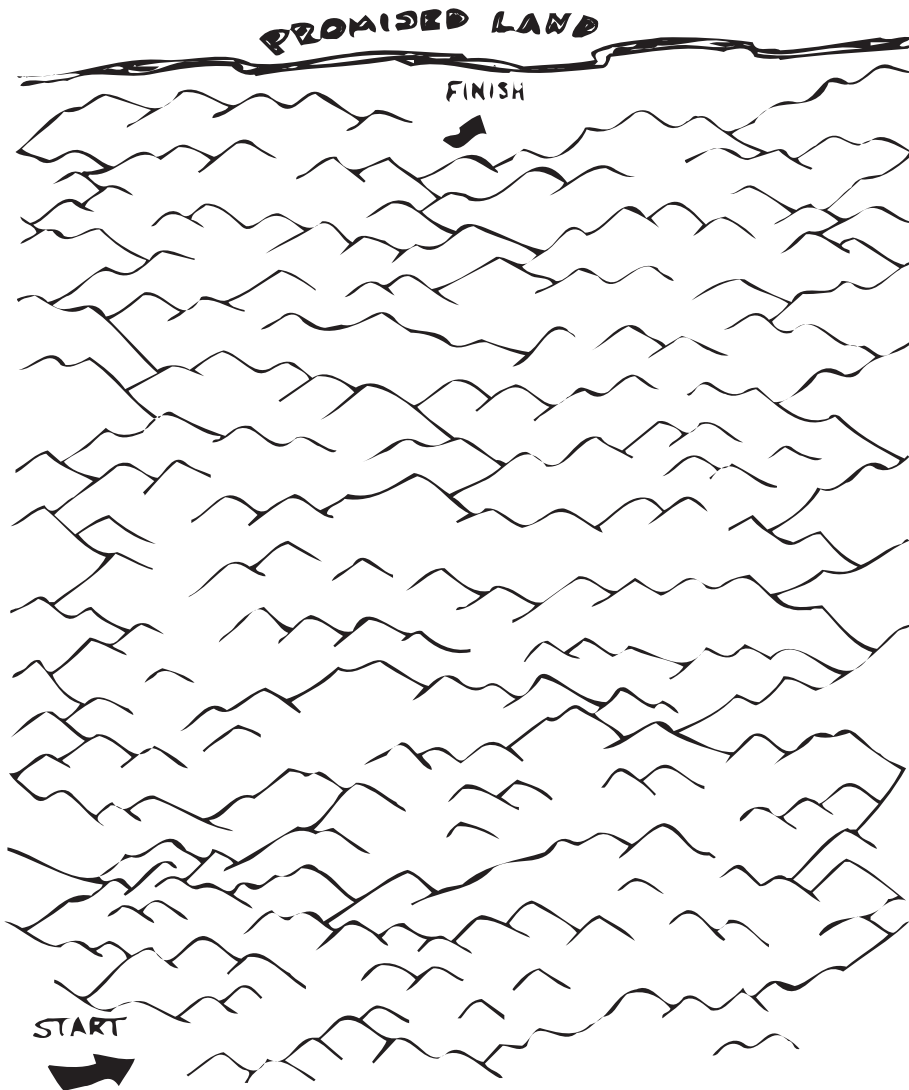
JOSHUA 1:5 KJV

KEY





Promised Land Maze





We Are His Children And We Are Fixed In Him

St. Theognosta - Synexarium 17 Tout

St. Theognosta was a nun in a convent in a city near Italy in Europe. In the year 395 AD, an envoy from the king of Edessa came to visit her city.

On their way back, they saw her outside the convent so they took her with them to become a slave to the king's wife. That is why she is drawn sweeping the floor with chains on her hands.

Because St. Theognosta was a true child of God, she did all her chores in full honesty always thanking God. God gave her grace in the eyes of the queen and she became the head of all the palace's workers.





Her presence in the palace did not prevent her from praying and following her monastic and ascetic life.

One day, the king's son was sick with a serious disease and both the physicians and the magicians could not heal him. The queen asked St. Theognosta to pray for him, because she always saw her praying to God. The saint prayed, did the sign of the Cross and asked God to heal the boy so that the healing could be a reason for many people to believe. Because St. Theognosta prayed with faith, God healed the boy just as the Bible promises:



MEMORY VERSE:

“And whatever things you ask in prayer, believing, you will receive.” Matthew 21:22

The king was very pleased and wanted to reward St. Theognosta. He set her free and gave her a small house to live in by herself. There, she spent her time in prayer asking for the salvation of everyone around her.



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One day the queen became sick and asked St. Theognosta to come and pray for her. When the saint came and prayed for her, she was healed. She spoke to the king about her faith, and while the king wanted to believe in St. Theognosta's God, he feared the people.



A while later, the King went to war but thick clouds and fog covered his path that he lost his way. He remembered the sign of the Cross that St. Theognosta used to make, so the King made the sign of the Cross over the fog and it cleared up. With the sign of the Cross, he also vanquished his enemies. When he returned victorious to his city, everyone was happy to see him. He told them what happened to him and they all rejoiced and glorified God.





The king then asked St. Theognosta to teach them the Christian faith. He also asked her to baptize him and the people of his city. She told them that it was not for her to baptize. They sent to the king of her country to inform him of their acceptance of the faith and asked him to send a priest to baptize them. The priest monk who was sent to baptize them praised St. Theognosta because she fulfilled the verse that says:

MEMORY VERSE:

“Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.” Matthew 5:16

He baptized them all of them and was later ordained a bishop over their city. He stayed with them and taught them all about the Christian faith and the number of believers was increasing day after day.

St. Theognosta played an important role in teaching the Christian faith to women. Many virgins who believed gathered around her. She built a convent for herself and for the many virgins who desired the monastic life.

She departed on the 17th day of the Coptic month of Tout, which is the day of the Feast of the Cross.



We Rise Up Through God's Grace

St. Onesimus the runaway slave

Synexarim 21 Amshir

The New Testament contains a short book called Philemon. In this book, St. Paul introduces himself as a prisoner of Jesus Christ. Paul was under house arrest in Rome at this time. When St. Paul was arrested for preaching about the Lord Jesus, he appealed to Caesar and was sent to Rome as a prisoner. While waiting for the trial, he lived in a rented house by himself with the soldier who was assigned to guard him for two years.

While he was there, he met with Onesimus. Onesimus had been Philemon's slave. Philemon was a Roman merchant and a believer who lived in Colossae. His house was a church where all the believers would gather to pray. His entire household served the Lord with love.





Onesimus had run away to Rome because he had stolen money from his master, Philemon.

When he met St. Paul, St. Paul taught him about our Lord Jesus who came to save us with His blood. He told him that our Lord Jesus teaches us to forgive others as He forgave us and to accept anyone who sins as long as they admit their mistake and repent; no matter how big the sin is. When Onesimus heard about the Lord Jesus and how He accepts the sinners, his life began to change.



He repented and confessed. He was baptized and became a Christian.

St. Paul then asked Philemon in the letter to forgive Onesimus and to accept him as a fellow Christian and as a beloved son. In his letter, Paul calls Onesimus “profitable”.





MEMORY VERSE:

“Who once was unprofitable to you, but now is profitable to you and to me.” Philemon 1:11

St. Paul then sent Onesimus back to Philemon and offered to pay Philemon for any debts that Onesimus owed him.

He trusted that Philemon would listen to his words and do even more than what he had asked him to do.

Onesimus' life changed from a thief to a believer. He became a deacon and was later ordained a bishop in the city of Berea. He was martyred on 21 Amshir.

Onesimus represents each of us in this story. We are all rather unprofitable servants as was Onesimus. We are slaves of sin





when we do wrong. At any time, any of us may run away from the Lord as Onesimus fled from Philemon. But we can still repent and turn our hearts to Jesus Christ even when we are far away from him.

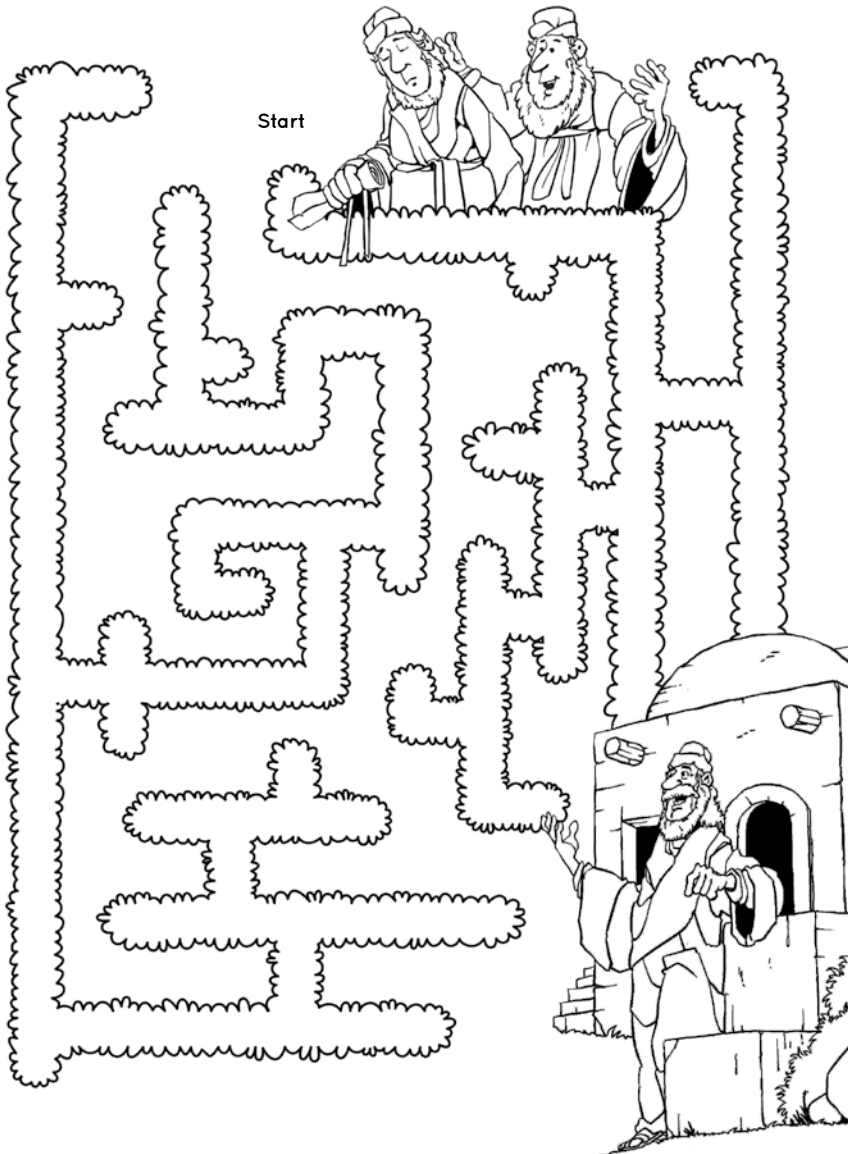
Onesimus repented and was able to overcome sin:

- He listened to St. Paul's words, who showed him he was wrong
- He stopped his wrongdoings and did not go back to his sin
- He confessed his sin and apologized to the person he wronged

Paul regarded Onesimus as his son. We become sons and daughters of Jesus Christ when we are spiritually reborn.



St. Paul Sends Onesimus To Philemon





St. Paul's Message To Philemon

Use the key below to decode a message from St. Paul to Philemon regarding Onesimus.

**K
E
Y**

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	
R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z

**M
E
S
S
A
G
E**

—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—



Build A Strong Foundation

The 12 Disciples And The Foundation Of The Early Church

When our Lord Jesus started His ministry, many people followed Him. He chose twelve to be with Him all the time. He taught them about the kingdom of heaven and called them His disciples.



Most of them were simple poor fishermen. Even the rich ones left their fortune and followed Him. They did not use money to spread Christianity, but rather these simple disciples enriched and taught the whole world with the grace that God gave them.

After our Lord Jesus chose His disciples, he taught and trained them. Although they saw all the great works He did, our Lord paid special attention to their training so He could send them later to minister.



- He took them with Him during His Sermon on the Mount, which is considered the Christian law.
- They saw and participated in many of His miracles, such as the feeding of the multitude, where He fed five thousand men, as well as their women and children with five loaves and two fish.



- They were with Him when he was praying. They felt the power of prayer and asked Him “Lord, teach us to pray” Luke 11:1.

Although the period they spent with our Lord Jesus was short, they learned many things.

Our Lord Jesus also called another seventy apostles to minister and teach the whole world.



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When our Lord Jesus Christ sent His disciples and Apostles to serve, He gave them authority to heal those who are sick, to raise the dead, to cast out demons and to baptize the believers.

After His Resurrection, the our Lord Jesus Christ appeared to them for 40 days teaching them about the Kingdom of Heaven and strengthening them. Before His Ascension, He promised them: "But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." Acts 1:8

Ten days after Jesus' Ascension, on the day of the Pentecost, the Holy Spirit came upon them and the promise of the Lord was fulfilled "I will make you fishers of men".

They began their ministry in Jerusalem, and then they went out of Jerusalem to Judea, Samaria and to the ends of the earth, preaching to the whole world. Many of them received the crown of martyrdom.



The twelve apostles are the head of the first church. We also call them the twelve pillars on which the church was built.

MEMORY VERSE:

***“Having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone.”
Ephesians 2:20***





The 12 Disciples

Jesus chose twelve men to help Him while He was here on earth. These men were called disciples or apostles. Just before He left to go to heaven, Jesus told the disciples to go all over the world to preach the gospel. In the first puzzle the names of the disciples are listed but a part of each letter is missing. Fill in the broken part of each letter.

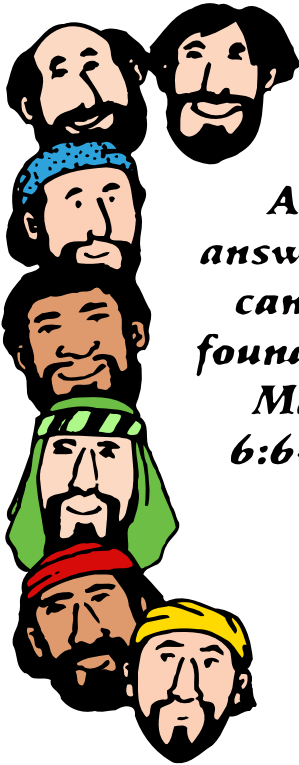
1	A _ _ _ _ _	7	M _ _ _ _ _
2	S _ _ _ _ _	8	T _ _ _ _ _
3	P _ _ _ _	9	J _ _ _ _ _
4	J _ _ _ _		
5	L _ _ _ _	10	S _ _ _ _ _
6	O _ _ _ _ _	11	M _ _ _ _
		12	J _ _ _ _ _

Here are the names of the twelve disciples again but this time the letters are scrambled.

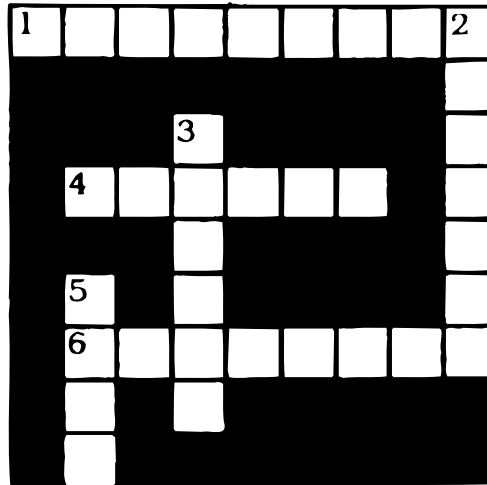
1. SHOMAT _____
2. SINMO HET AZELOT _____
3. WAREND _____
4. HOJN _____
5. LEAJS _____
6. OUSAJ ROICASIT _____
7. PIPHIL _____
8. SADUJ _____
9. WHATTME _____
10. NISMO TREEP _____
11. SEAMJ THE NSO FO LAPHAUSE _____
12. LANANATHE _____



The Disciples Of Jesus



*All 6
answers
can be
found in
Mark
6:6-13*



1. Another name for the followers of Jesus
2. The disciples wore these while travelling
3. Jesus taught them
4. The number of the disciples
5. Jesus had authority over this kind of spirit
6. Where the people lived



Memorization

BOOKS OF THE NEW TESTAMENT

1. Matthew
2. Mark
3. Luke
4. John
5. Acts
6. Romans
7. 1 Corinthians
8. 2 Corinthians
9. Galatians
10. Ephesians
11. Philippians
12. Colossians
13. 1 Thessalonians
14. 2 Thessalonians
15. 1 Timothy
16. 2 Timothy
17. Titus
18. Philemon
19. Hebrews
20. James
21. 1 Peter
22. 2 Peter
23. 1 John
24. 2 John
25. 3 John
26. Jude
27. Revelation



Memorization

PSALM 120

I lifted up my eyes to the mountains, from where my help shall come. My help shall come from the Lord, who made the heaven and the earth. He will not let your foot be moved; and your keeper will not slumber. Behold, He who keeps Israel shall not slumber nor sleep. The Lord shall keep you: the Lord shall cast a shelter upon your right hand. The sun shall not burn you by day, neither the moon by night. The Lord shall preserve you from every evil: the Lord shall keep your soul. The Lord shall keep your coming in and your going out, from this time and forever. ALLELUIA.



ARISE & BUILD

A series of horizontal dotted lines for writing, spanning the width of the page.



A series of horizontal dotted lines for writing, spanning the width of the page.



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