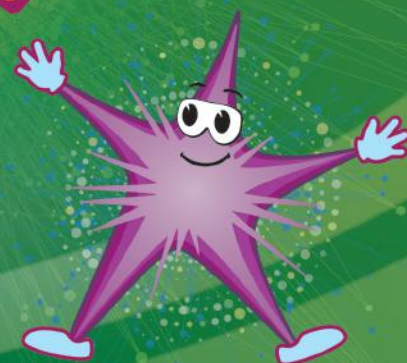


# SPARK BOOK



CHANGEMAKERS  
LAB

Early Childhood Child Booklet





DAY 1

# How Is This Possible?

John 3:1–17

There once was a man named Nicodemus.  
He went out at night to meet Jesus.  
He asked lots of questions,  
And he wondered aloud,  
“How is that possible, Jesus?”

Jesus loved Nicodemus’ questions.  
He answered them proudly,  
“I am God’s son!” he said,  
a little too loudly.  
“God loves the world.  
There’s no question!”

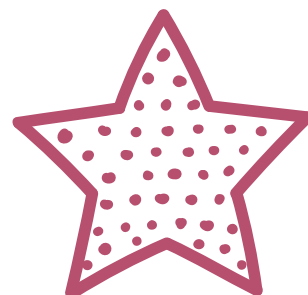






## Match the Stars

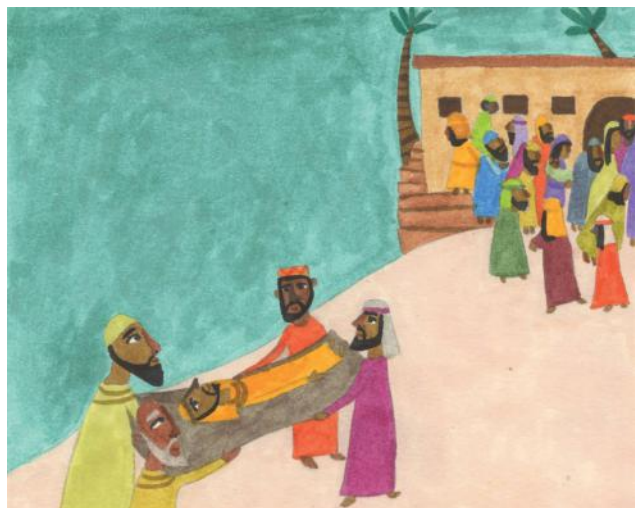
Nicodemus went to see Jesus at night. He probably looked at the stars as he went. Draw lines to connect each star on the left with its match on the right.





# Who Will Fix It?

Mark 2:1–12



Five friends went to see Jesus.  
Four friends carried one friend on a mat.  
Jesus was in a house.  
People were all around!  
How would the friends get to Jesus?

They wondered. They thought. They tried something new!  
Up to the roof the five friends went.  
They dug a hole and lowered the friend on the mat.



Finally, he was right by Jesus!  
“Get up and walk!” said Jesus.

The man stood up!  
He picked up his mat and went home.  
Everyone was amazed.  
The five friends were so excited to have met Jesus.

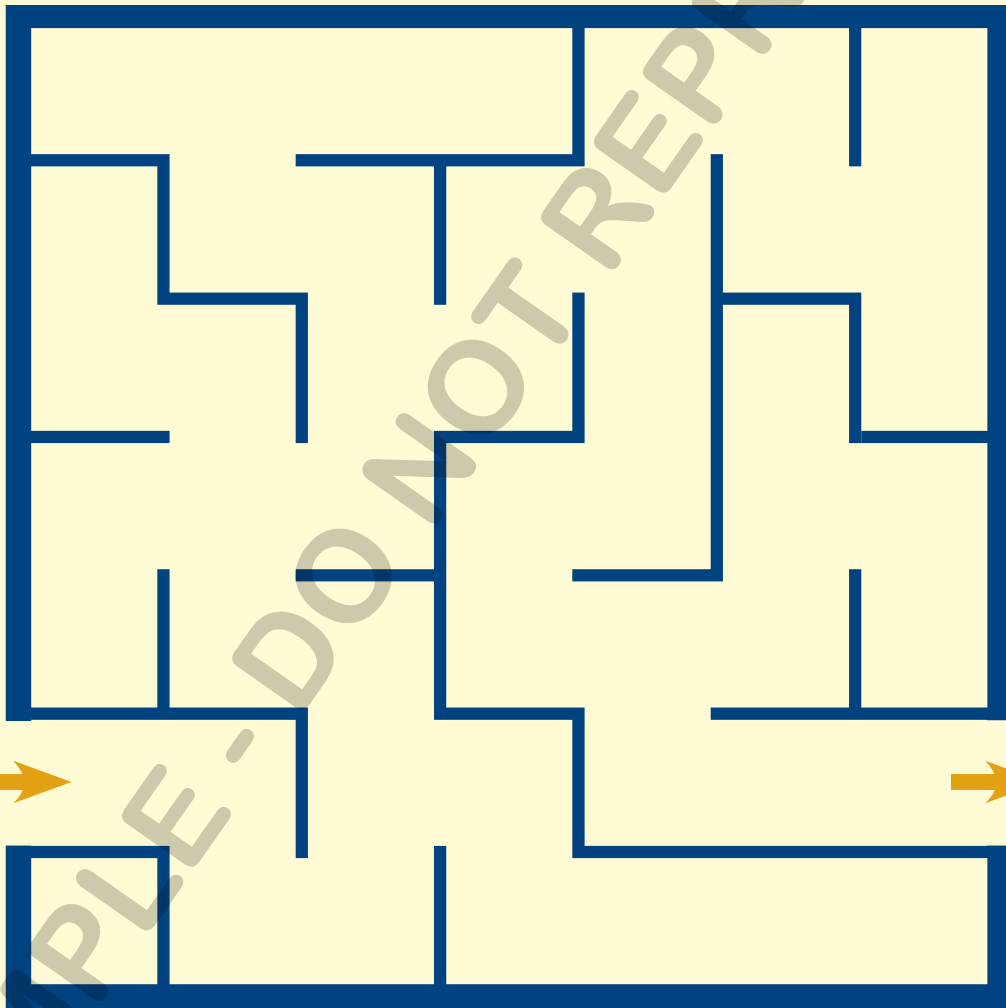


Illustrations by Kate Cosgrove



## Maze to Jesus

Can you help the friend on the mat get to Jesus?  
Use a crayon to solve the maze.

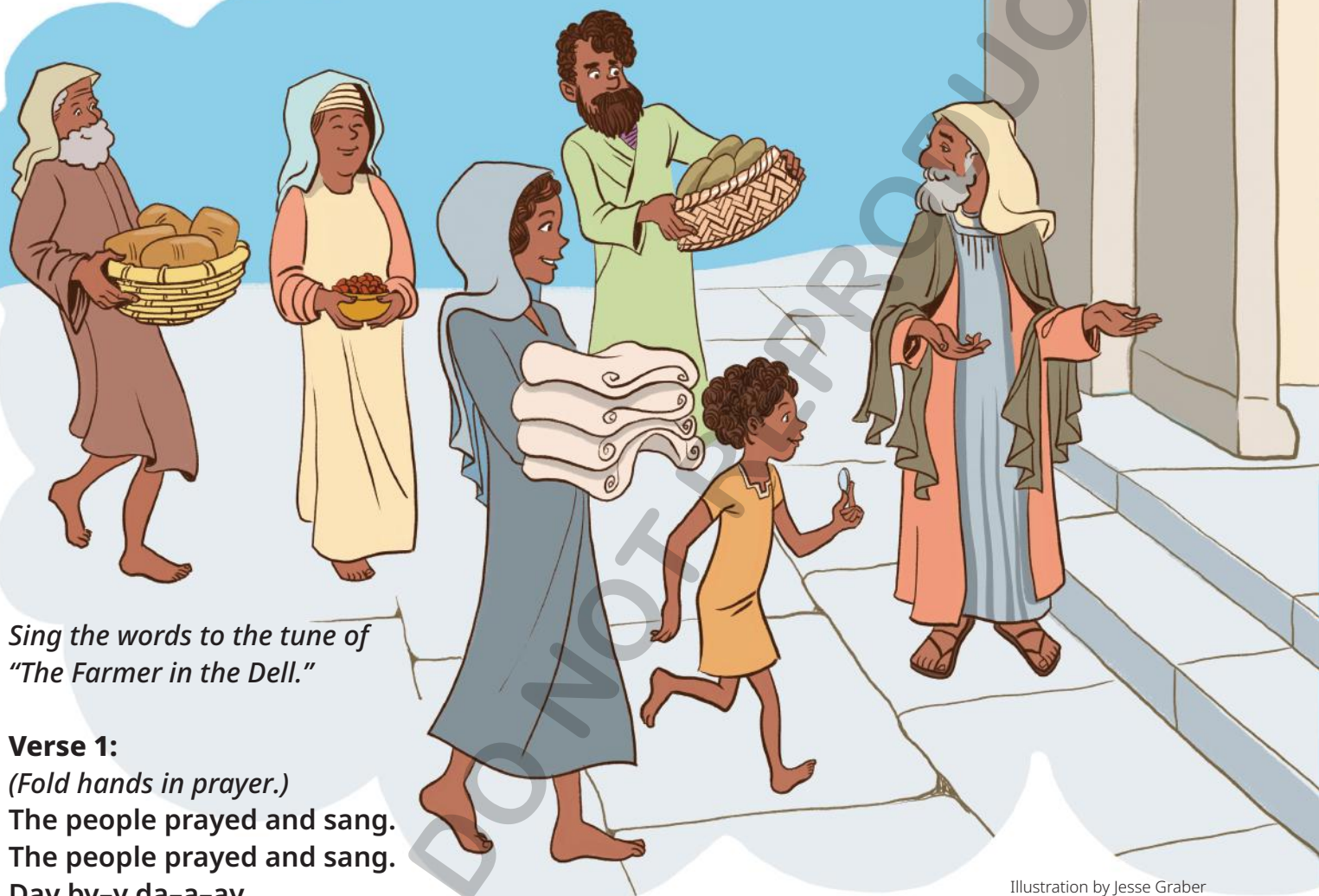






# Will There Be Enough?

Acts 2:42 – 47; 4:32 – 37



*Sing the words to the tune of  
"The Farmer in the Dell."*

## Verse 1:

*(Fold hands in prayer.)*

The people prayed and sang.  
The people prayed and sang.  
Day by-y da-a-ay,  
the people prayed and sang.

## Verse 2:

*(Pretend to eat.)*

They broke bread at home.  
They broke bread at home.  
Day by-y da-a-ay,  
they broke bread at home.

## Verse 3:

*(Clap your hands as you walk in a circle.)*

They ate their food with joy.  
They ate their food with joy.  
Day by-y da-a-ay,  
they ate their food with joy.

## Verse 4:

*(Extend both hands as if sharing.)*

They shared clothes and tools.  
They shared clothes and tools.  
Day by-y da-a-ay,  
they shared clothes and tools.

## Verse 5:

*(Wave your hands high above your head as  
you walk in a circle.)*

With hearts praising God.  
With hearts praising God.  
Day by-y da-a-ay,  
with hearts praising God.

Illustration by Jesse Graber









# What Are We Building?

Acts 10

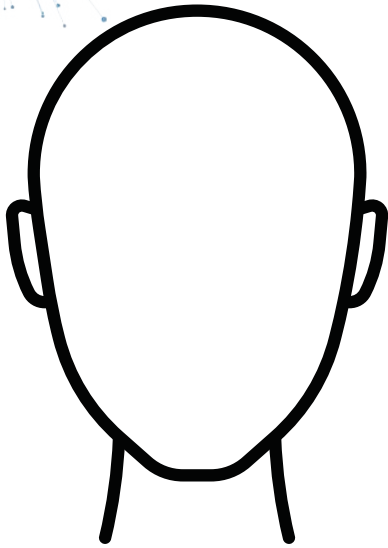


Peter and Cornelius were as different as can be!  
But God knew that Peter and Cornelius could be friends.  
God told Cornelius to invite Peter to his house.  
God told Peter that everything God makes is good.  
They met together and talked about Jesus.  
Peter and Cornelius were different,  
but God loved them both the same.

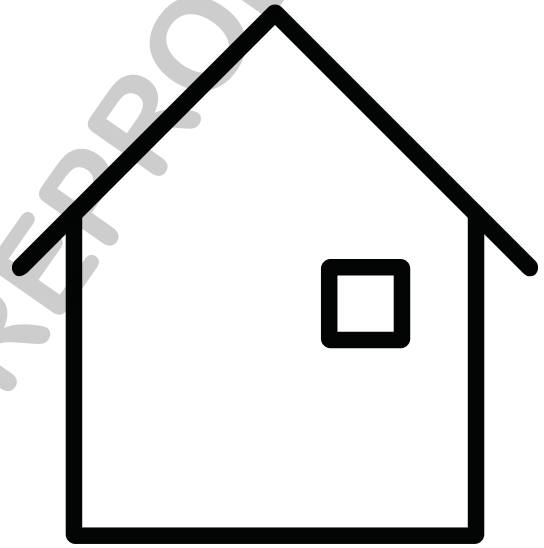




## Same and Different



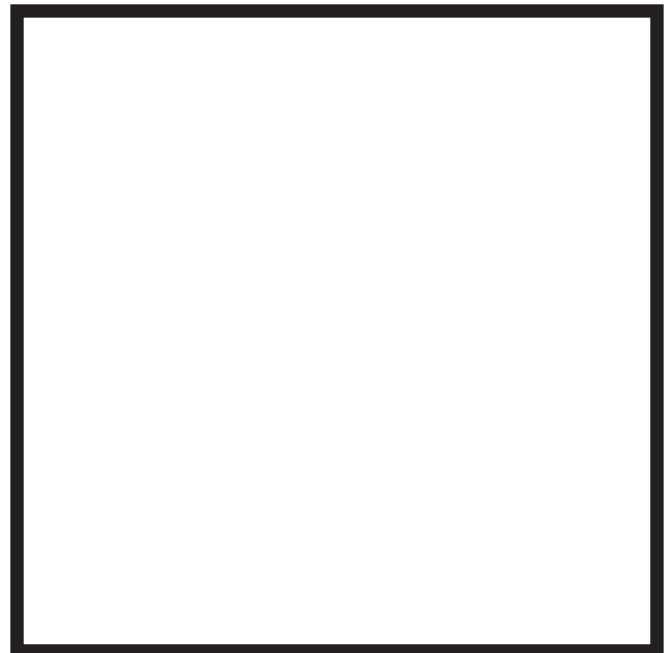
We all have feelings.  
*Draw how you feel today.*



We all need a home.  
*Draw a door on the house.*



We like different colors.  
*Fill the square with your favorite color.*



We like different foods.  
*Draw your favorite food.*





# Can You Imagine?

Isaiah 65:17 – 25



Illustration by David Leonard

*When you see a music note, sing the words  
at right to the tune of "This Old Man."*

God has a dream for our world.

In that dream, all people are joyful.

No one is sad.

Everyone has a home and food.

No one is left out. ♪

The babies and children and grownups  
are healthy.

The animals and people live in peace  
with each other. ♪

We'll be glad, won't be sad.  
Love is God's dream for us all.  
The wolves and lambs and all the oxen too;  
peace on earth, good will for all.



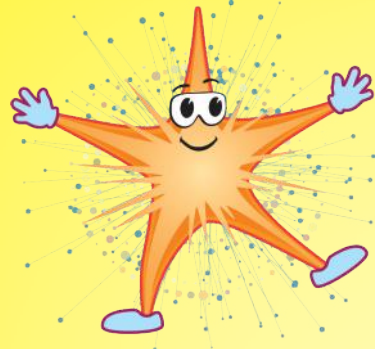


## Animal Meetup Game

Play this game with a friend. Place a coin or other small object on each animal. On your turn, move one of the animals forward one or two spaces. Keep playing until all the animals are in the middle space.







# Bible Memory Light Bingo

Play Bible Memory Light Bingo. These are words that Jesus said to his friends. Play alone or with a friend. Each friend will use his or her own booklet. Your teacher will show you one of the pictures and words on the page. Put a small item like a paper clip, coin, or slip of paper on one of the matching pictures on the board. Everyone can place a marker on Jesus to start. Play until someone gets five in a row (horizontally, vertically, or diagonally).

L	I	G	H	T
 You	 are the	 light	 of the	 world.
 You	 You	 are the	 light	 of the
 world.	 You	 You	 You	 are the
 light	 of the	 world.	 You	 You
 are the	 light	 of the	 world.	 You

Illustrations of people by Kate Cosgrove

**"You are the light of the world." —Matthew 5:14a (NRSV)**



# Changemaker Families

## Day 2: Who Will Fix It?

Mark 2:1–12

**Today**, we learned that changemakers work together to solve problems. **Five friends** worked together to see Jesus. A crowd was around Jesus, so they could not get close. The friends could have given up, but they didn't! Instead, they wondered about other ways to get to Jesus without pushing people out of the way. They were creative and went onto the roof of the house and dug a hole. They lowered their friend who couldn't walk down to see Jesus. Jesus healed the friend. How can you work together as a family to solve problems?



Who will fix it? Check out the fun activities on the back of this card. They will help your family become changemakers!

# Changemaker Families

## Day 1: How Is This Possible?

John 3:1–17

**Today**, we learned that **Nicodemus** was a changemaker! Nicodemus went to see Jesus and asked him questions about who Jesus is. Nicodemus learned that God sent Jesus to share God's love with the whole world. He used his curiosity and wonder to learn more about Jesus. You can do the same! What do you want to know about Jesus?



How is this possible? Check out the fun activities on the back of this card. They will help your family become changemakers just like Nicodemus!

# Changemaker Families

## Day 4: What Are We Building?

Acts 10

**Today**, we learned that changemakers build bridges, just like **Peter** and **Cornelius**. These two people were very different. Peter was a Jew and Cornelius was a Gentile. This meant they ate different foods, practiced different spiritual rituals, and had different ways of living in the world. But they were also the same. Peter and Cornelius both loved God, and God loved both of them. Peter and Cornelius bridged their differences because they trusted that God's love is big enough for everyone everywhere.



What are we building? Check out the fun activities on the back of this card. They will help your family become changemakers!

# Changemaker Families

## Day 3: Will There Be Enough?

Acts 2:42–47; 4:32–37

**Today**, we learned that changemakers respond to the needs of others, just like the people who were a part of the early church. The people who followed Jesus **shared everything in common**, so no one was in need. They shared their money, food, clothing, and their homes. They worshiped together, prayed together, and ate together.



Will there be enough? Check out the fun activities on the back of this card. They will help your family become changemakers who are just like the people in the early church!





**PLAY:** Go on an “I Spy . . .” adventure and practice asking questions just like Nicodemus! Each person will take a turn spying something and the remaining players ask questions to figure out what it is.

**Example:**

I spy something round.

Is it a ball?

No.

Is it the globe on the shelf?

Yes! Now you get to spy something.



**PROBE:** Changemakers ask questions. What do you want to learn more about? Animals? A faraway country? Insects? How to build a bridge? Search online or read books together to explore your favorite topics.



**PRAY:** *God, thank you for listening to our questions. Help us to learn more about you each day. Amen.*



**PLAY:** Play a sharing game. Put a pile of small objects in the middle of the players, such as paper clips, toys, blocks, coins, or even plastic cutlery! On a turn, roll a die and give every player that number of items. When you run out of items to share, put them all back in the middle and start over!



**PROBE:** People in the early church shared their money with each other. Explore and learn about money. Look at and sort different coins. How much is each one worth? Divide a pile of coins fairly between the members of your family.



**PRAY:** *God, help us to see when someone needs our help. Help us ask for help when we need it, too. Amen.*



**PLAY:** Have a family game night! Play a favorite board game that involves teamwork. Or if you prefer, play an active cooperative game based on the Bible story. Lay toys or stuffed animals on a bath towel. Working together, hold corners of the towel and carry the items across the room without dropping anything!



**PROBE:** Changemakers help each other. Make a meal or snack for a neighbor or friend. Include your children in the process of choosing who to make a meal for, putting together the menu, and making the meal or snack.



**PRAY:** *God, help our family work together to make the world a better place. Amen.*



**PLAY:** Changemakers share ideas and work together with people who are different. Use toys and other items you find around your house to build silly towers, bridges, and buildings. Can you make a bridge using mixing bowls and a dish towel? A structure that is large enough for your whole family to fit inside? A tower of shoes from the floor to the ceiling?

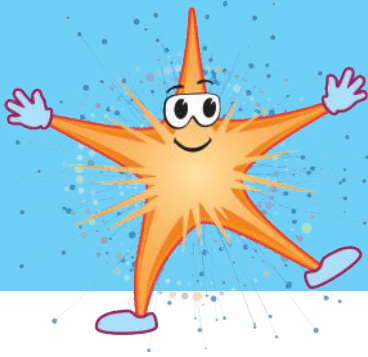


**PROBE:** Learn about people who are different from you. Go to the library or watch read-aloud books on YouTube that show people and experiences different from your own, such as *This Is How We Do It: One Day in the Lives of Seven Children from around the World* by Matt Lamothe and *Children of the World* by Kate DePalma.



**PRAY:** *God, show us how to come close to people who are different. Help us share your love with everyone we meet. Amen.*





## Nature Changers

Some animals and insects change a lot as they grow! Draw lines to connect a young creature in the left column with an adult creature in the right column.



Published by The Pastoral Center • <https://pastoral.center> • GrowingUpCatholicVBS.com • 844-727-8672 • support@pastoral.center

Project directors: Paul Canavese & Joan L. Daggett. Portions of this work copyright © 2025 The Pastoral Center • Adapted and reprinted with permission from Changemakers Lab © 2022 Shine Curriculum, Harrisonburg, VA 22803. All rights reserved.

*Spark Book* credits: Brittany Sky McRay, writer; Chrissie Muecke, Joan L. Daggett, and Rachel Nussbaum Eby, editors; Merrill Miller, designer. Images not otherwise credited are from Getty Images.

No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise, without the prior permission of the copyright owners. Printed in the United States of America.



# Changemaker Families



## Day 5: Can You Imagine?

Isaiah 65:17–25

**Today**, we learned about God's dream for our world. God dreams of a world where no one is sad, and where everyone has a home and food to eat. We learned that as changemakers, we are helping God's dream for our world come true. Changemakers create a new kind of world where everyone has what they need.



**PLAY:** Go on a "God's Dream" Scavenger Hunt to find things from Isaiah 65! Find the following things inside or outside your home:

- ☐ Three animals, such as a wolf, lamb, or lion (*toys, pictures, pets*)
- ☐ Baby (*person, picture*)
- ☐ Fruit
- ☐ Tree
- ☐ Five homes
- ☐ Plant (*potted, outside*)



**PROBE:** Make an earth sensory bin to explore. Fill a plastic container partway with soil, sand, or aquarium gravel. Add small animal toys, fake or real flowers, and some spoons and cups for pouring. Talk about the beauty of the world God created.



**PRAY:** God, thank you for giving us opportunities to make the world a better place for all. Amen.

