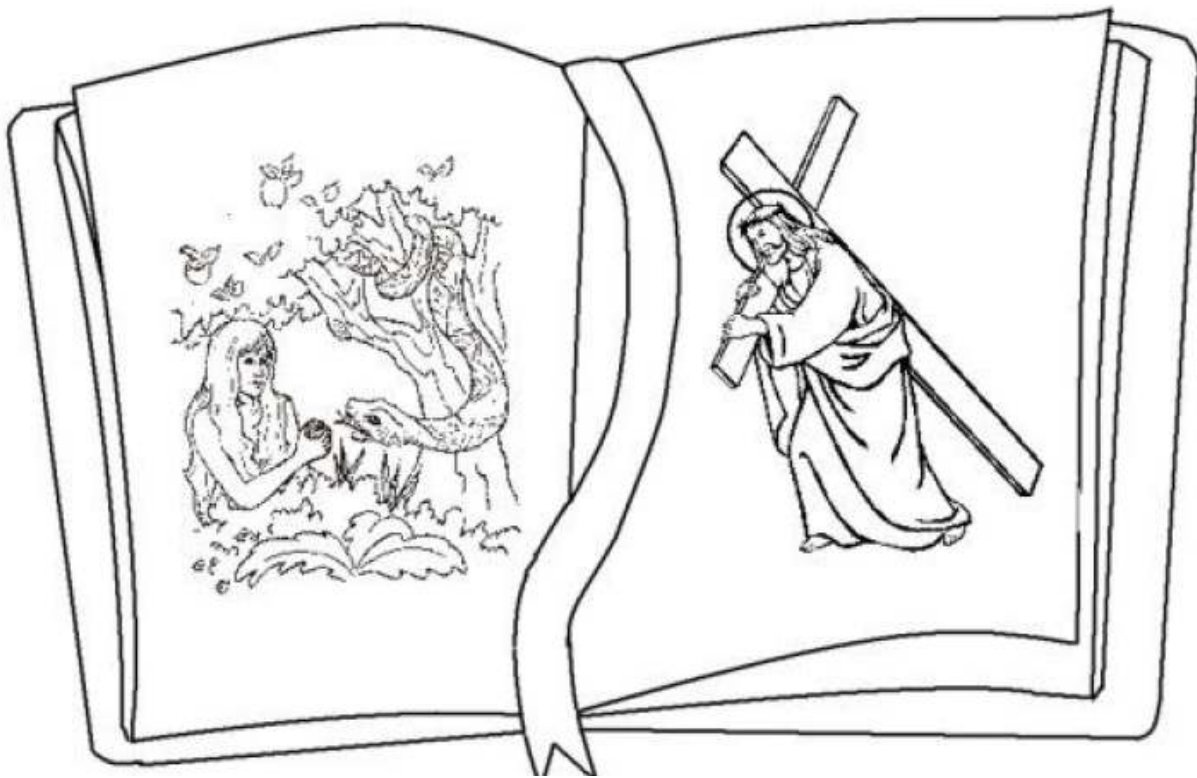


# God's Promise

God the Father and our Creator promised many, many years ago that he would send a Messiah to Earth. He told some special people, called prophets, about this and they announced Messiah's coming well in advance. All these prophecies, things to be fulfilled in the future, have been written in the Bible. The Messiah is God's Son. He is God's Promise.

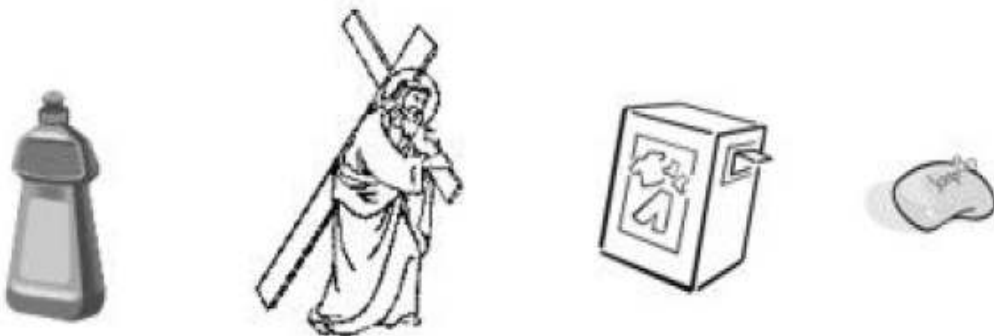
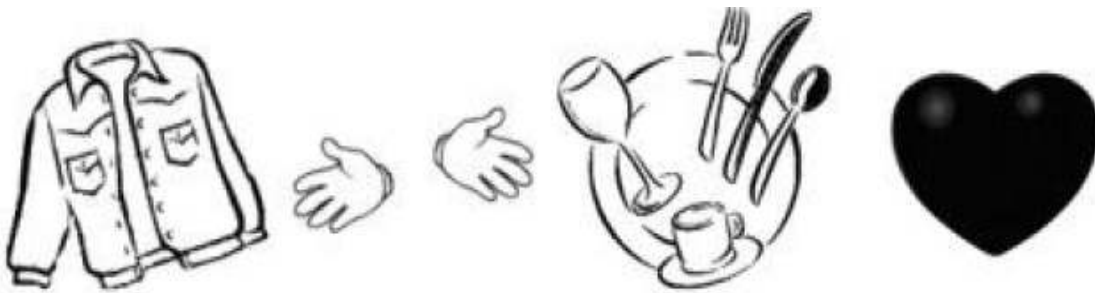


**For to us a child is born, to us a son is given,  
and the government will be on his shoulders.  
And he will be called Wonderful Counselor,  
Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of  
Peace.**

**Isaiah 9:6**

**They need to be clean!**

**Draw a line and show what can wash the things on the first row.**



**Draw a picture of what Jesus means to you.**

**Who is the Messiah?**



## **Lesson 1**

### **God's promise**

**Bible text:** Isaiah 9:1-7

**Key verse:** Isaiah 9:6

**Purpose:** Children will understand the need of a Savior and God's promise to send the Savior.

### **LESSON AND ACTIVITIES**

#### **Please note!**

Plan suitable activities for your group of children. The following activities can be adapted depending on the group's size, age, ability, the amount of time available, etc.

#### **I. Lesson**

After the children have completed the coloring page, the teacher will tell them from the Bible about God's promise and the need of a Savior to come to earth. The question and answer method is used. After reading Isaiah 9:1-7, the teacher will ask the children:

#### **Q: Why did God promise a Savior and why did his son have to come to earth?**

**A:** The first people, Adam and Eve, were created perfect by God, that is to say, without sin. But they did not obey God. (Disobedience to God is sin). This is how sin came into the world, and with sin came death. Since then, sin has multiplied very much, and people have acted very badly. The first book of the Bible, Genesis, tells us about the sin of Adam and Eve and the resulting growth of sin. God is holy and is without sin. He hates sin, but loves the people whom he created. All people are sinful and should be punished with eternal separation from God, that is to say, death. God has a plan to save all people: to send a Savior, who would take everyone's sin on himself and save people from eternal separation from God and suffering. God does not wish people to suffer forever. That is why God promised this Savior right after Adam and Eve sinned (Genesis 3:15). What a good and loving God we have! He wants what is best for us and to make us happy. People can be happy only when they live with God and obey him.

#### **Q: Who is the Savior?**

**A:** Jesus is the Savior, the Messiah. His birth was spoken of long before he was born. God the Creator was the first who spoke about the Messiah when he punished the snake in the Garden of Eden because the snake deceived Eve and did not obey God. The snake was Satan. God said to Satan then that the "offspring" of a woman, the Messiah, would "crush his head." From that moment, God spoke to many people about the coming of the Messiah. These people are called prophets. They had the mission to tell people a message from God. Many prophets in the Bible spoke about the coming of the Messiah.

## II. Activities

### 1. Key verse

- a. Read the Bible verse out loud: “For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.” Isaiah 9:6
- b. Explain the Bible Verse.
  - This verse is a prophecy.
  - The names or titles refer to Jesus, God’s son.
  - There are several important words to explain:
    - *A child* (the Messiah will come to earth as a child),
    - *Is born* (The Messiah is born as any person);
    - *To us a son is given* (The Messiah was given to us by God the Creator)
    - *Wonderful Counselor* (He gives good directions)
    - *Mighty God* (The Messiah is God)
    - *Everlasting Father* (The Messiah is God and is eternal)
    - *Prince of Peace* (Lover of peace)
- c. Help the children memorize the Bible verse using various methods: repetition, games, contests, etc.

### 2. Key questions for review:

- Who is God’s promise?
- When was the coming of a Savior first spoken of? To whom was this announced?
- What is a Savior?
- Why was it necessary for a Savior to come to earth?
- What does God love? What does he hate?
- What is a prophecy?
- Who are prophets?

## III. Conclusion

God’s promise is God’s son, Jesus Christ, the Messiah, the Savior of the world. He wants to save all people from eternal separation from God. Forgiveness of sins is possible only through Jesus.