



The Messy Church Magazine

May–August 2015

Support Material



MAY: UNITY IN COMMUNITY

MEALTIME CARDS

- Who usually prepares your meals at home?
- Who usually does the serving around the table?
- How could we each be more generous with the way we treat the people around us?

HANDOUT SHEETS

We're being challenged at Messy Church today to think about how generous we are. As we consider the early Christians, who sold houses and land so they could give money away to the poor among them, we'll be looking at how we can be more generous in our actions.

WHAT ARE WE DOING TODAY?

1. Sharing biscuits: Special homemade biscuits, perfect for sharing.
2. Gift cheques: Offer someone your time to help them out.
3. Sharing Messy Church: What do we want to tell others about Messy Church?
4. One-heart hangers: Clay hangers that remind us to be of one heart and mind.
5. Basic meal: Consider the narrow choice of food available in less-developed nations.
6. Tree of hearts: Hands and hearts combine when we are generous.
7. Lego® homes: Can you imagine selling your home and giving away the proceeds?
8. For-sale signs: How would you market a first-century house?
9. Three-legged race: It's not always easy to work together.
10. Shop: Create a Messy Church food store.

TAKE-HOME IDEA

Next time you're sitting down with your family, have a discussion about a luxury you might be willing to forgo in order to give money to someone who needs it. Together decide on a charity you might like to support, or whether you'd like to give money each month at Messy Church. Research sponsoring a child through a charity such as Compassion.

SUNDAY TREAT

Dear Jesus, thank you for everything you give us. Help us to be grateful for whatever we have, and to do all we can to be generous to the people in our world who have little or nothing of their own. Amen

MAY: UNITY IN COMMUNITY

GIFT CHEQUES



BANK OF MESSY CHURCH

Date _____

Pay _____

Signature

The gift of _____



BANK OF MESSY CHURCH

Date _____

Pay _____

Signature

The gift of _____



BANK OF MESSY CHURCH

Date _____

Pay _____

Signature

The gift of _____

JUNE: SHARING THE STORY

MEALTIME CARDS

- Where is the furthest country you have travelled to?
- Who first told you about Jesus?
- Who are you going to tell about Jesus?

HANDOUT SHEETS

Today we are looking at how the disciples were told to spread the greatest story ever without a Snapchat or Facebook account in sight! How did they do it? Where did it spread to? What does it mean for us today? Let's find out together as we 'share the story'.

WHAT ARE WE DOING TODAY?

1. Traffic light biscuits: Green means GO!
2. Joining the dots: Making the connection that Jesus is alive!
3. Soaring aeroplanes: Whose plane flies furthest?
4. Moving trains: Explore the impact of forces we cannot see.
5. Good-news microphones: Share the news about Jesus LOUDLY.
6. Ripple effect: Watch ink spread like the gospel.
7. Flip-flops: Make some designer footwear as modelled by the disciples!
8. Where are the Christians?: Where did Christianity start and where is it now?
9. Christianity catapults: Fire some good news with your very own catapult.
10. Trinity pyramids: Reminding us that Father, Son and Spirit are three parts making up one whole.

TAKE-HOME IDEA

Practise sharing the story of Jesus around the dinner table. The first person starts telling the story: *There was once a very special baby born in a stable.* Then the next person tells a bit more of the story: *He grew up in Nazareth* and so on. See if you can continue until you have reached the point where Jesus ascends into heaven.

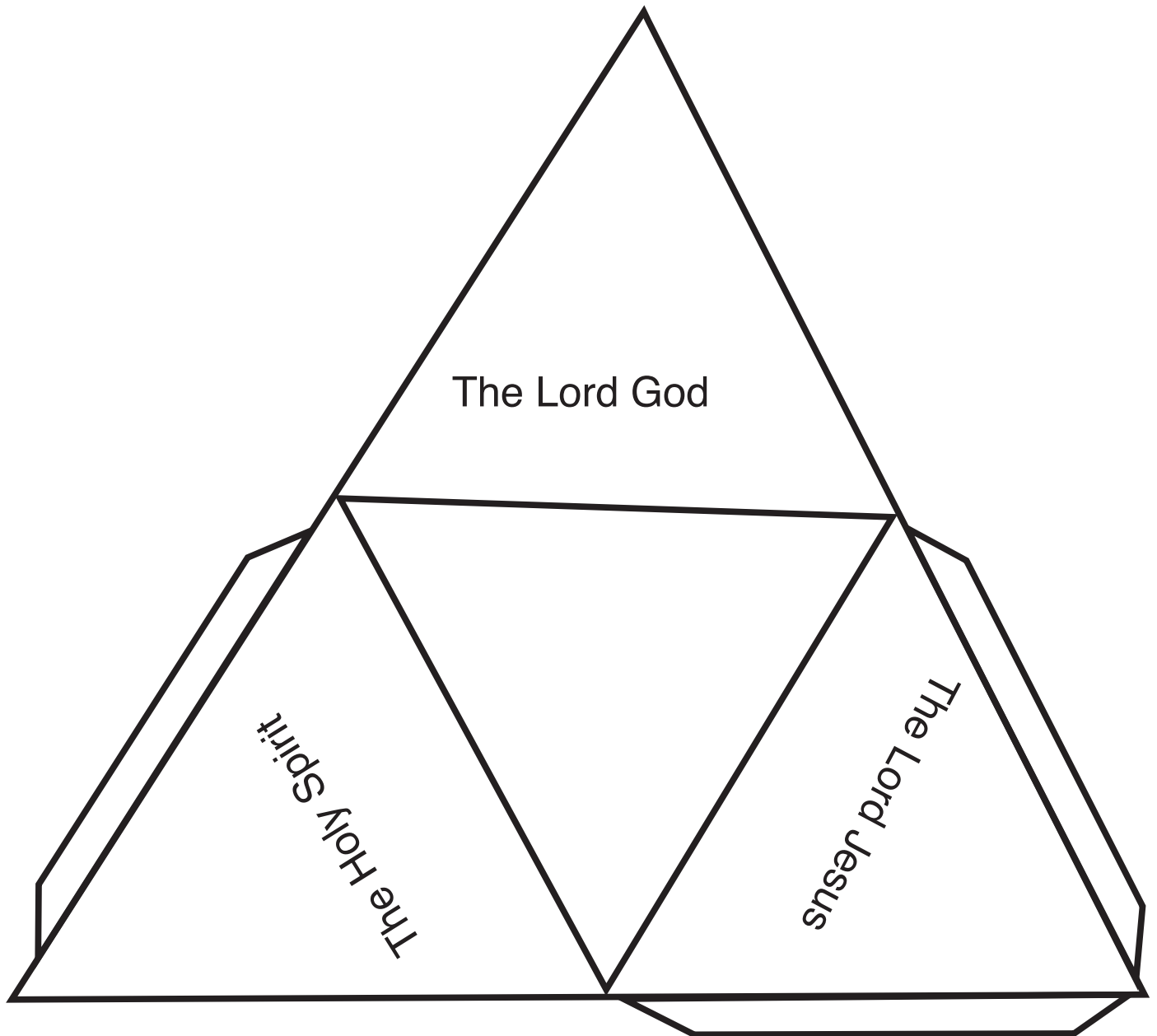
SUNDAY TREAT

On wooden craft sticks, write the names of people you want to hear the story of Jesus. Put all the sticks in a jar. Take turns to select a stick, and pray that God will help you to tell Jesus' story to your chosen person. You can say your own prayer or use the one below.

Dear God, thank you that someone special told me all about Jesus. Please help me to tell that Jesus came to earth, died and rose again, all because he loves them very much. Amen

JUNE: SHARING THE STORY

TRINITY PYRAMIDS



JULY: DOWN THROUGH THE ROOF

MEALTIME CARDS

- Who are your best friends?
- How can you help introduce your friends to Jesus?
- Can you find anyone here at Messy Church who has seen someone get better when they prayed for them?

HANDOUT SHEETS

Today we're looking at the story of a man whose friends brought him to Jesus so that Jesus could make their friend well again.

WHAT ARE WE DOING TODAY?

1. Pillowcase decorating: The man spent a lot of time lying on his bed.
2. Mat weaving: Jesus told the man to pick up his mat and walk.
3. First-century house: See how different houses were in Jesus' time.
4. All squeezed in: How determined are we to bring our friends to Jesus?
5. Jelly man healed!: Create your own edible model of the scene.
6. Don't drop the egg!: The man's friends made sure they didn't drop him!
7. Jointed man: How did the man move when Jesus made him well?
8. Dancing raisins: How would the man have felt to be able to dance?
9. Heartbeat prayers: Who can you ask God to make better?
10. Say it with flowers: Make a flower arrangement for someone you care about.

TAKE-HOME IDEA

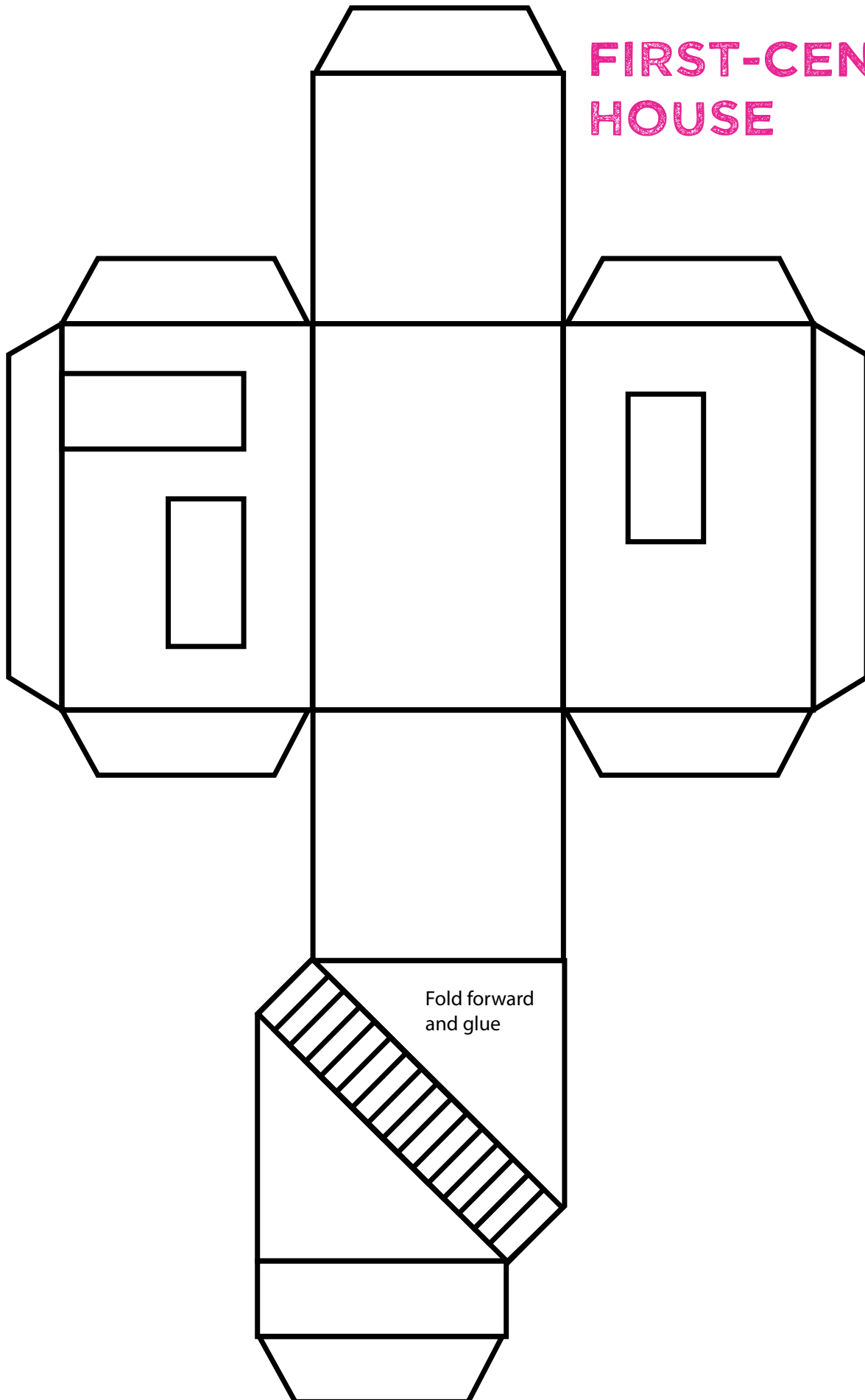
Deliver the flower arrangement from activity 10 to a friend or family member who is poorly to show that you care about them. You may like to share today's story with them too, perhaps praying that God will make them well again.

SUNDAY TREAT

Dear God, thank you that you forgive us when we do things wrong, just as you did for the man in this story. Thank you too that you can make sick people well again. We pray for and ask you to make them better. Amen

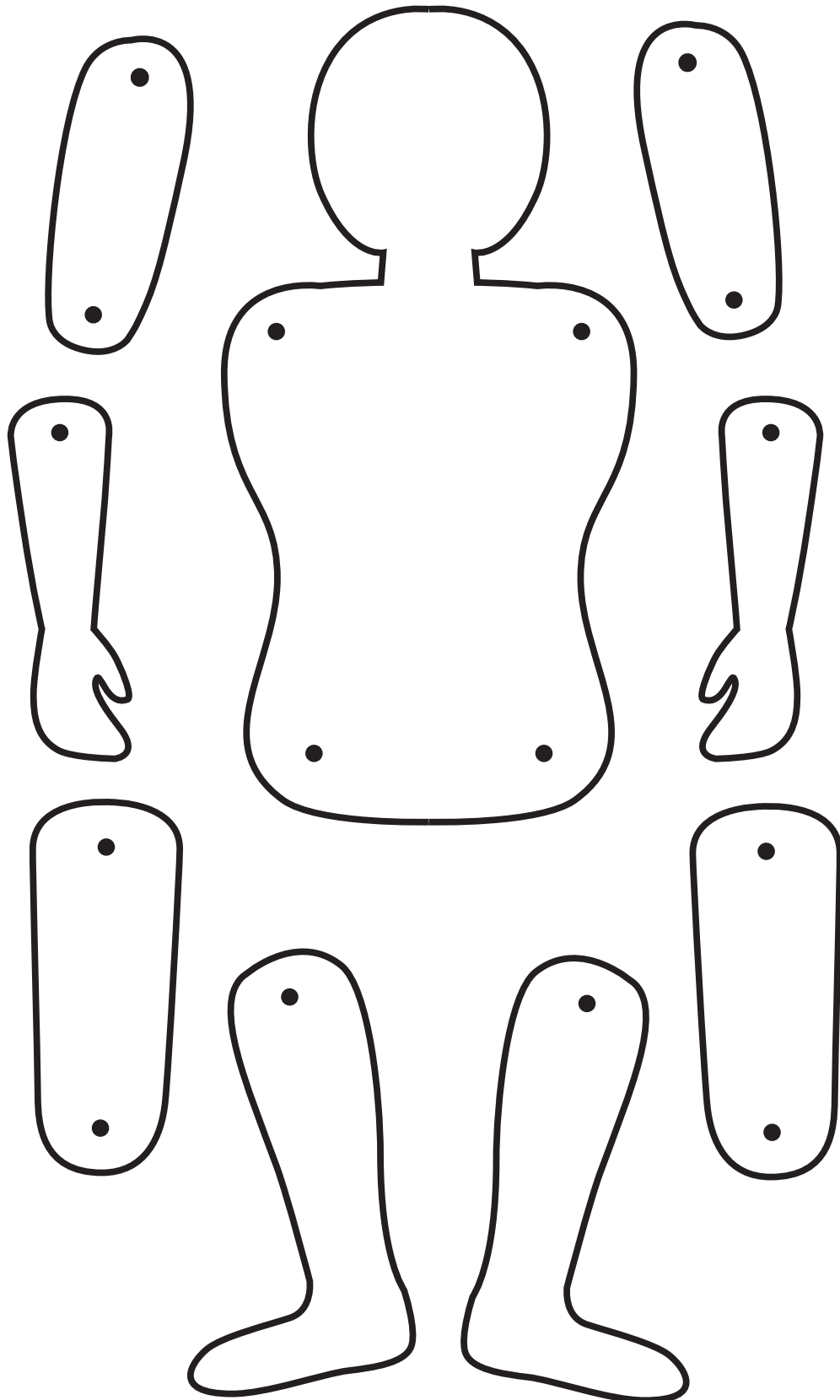
JULY: DOWN THROUGH THE ROOF

FIRST-CENTURY HOUSE



JULY: DOWN THROUGH THE ROOF

JOINTED MAN



AUGUST: I'M NOT DOING THAT!

MEALTIME CARDS

- Have you ever met a celebrity or a member of the royal family? How did they behave?
- Why do you think Jesus wanted to wash his friends' feet?
- What's the most loving thing anyone's ever done for you?

HANDOUT SHEETS

In today's story, Jesus and his friends have tired, dirty, smelly feet. Who is going to wash them?

WHAT ARE WE DOING TODAY?

1. Servant-king puppet: Watch the king become a servant.
2. Tea towel design: Make washing up at home special.
3. Thank-you cards: For someone who does a messy job for you.
4. Cheesy feet: Good enough to eat!
5. That's disgusting!: Can you brave the messy slop for someone you love?
6. Foot scrub: A gift to pamper someone who spends time on their feet.
7. Foot washing: Have your feet washed and earn a special certificate.
8. Whose paw prints?: Who's been leaving dirty footprints around Messy Church?
9. Auction of promises: Use your time and talents to help those in need.
10. Sock challenge: Who will win by wearing the most socks?

TAKE-HOME IDEA

Enjoy fulfilling what you offered to do in the auction of promises. See if you can think of at least one thing you could do together as a household to serve others.

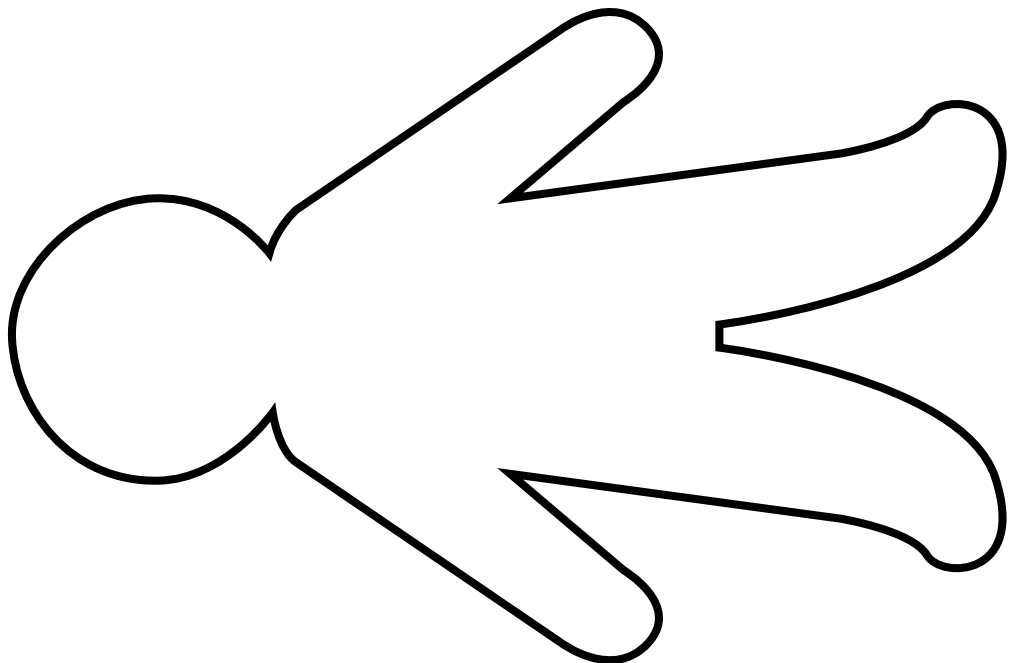
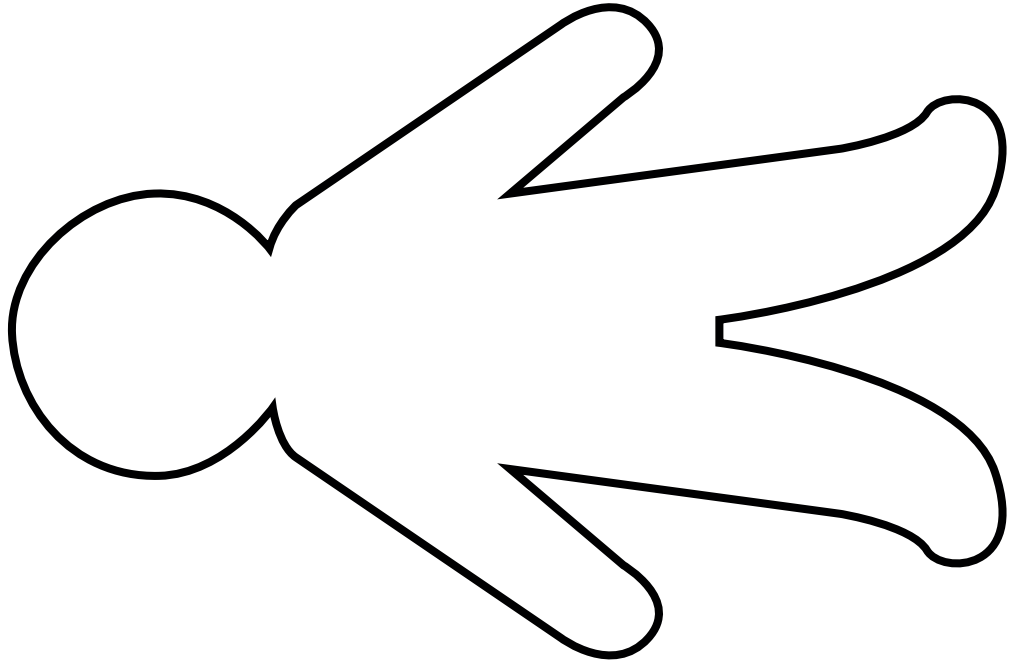
SUNDAY TREAT

You might like to say this prayer together when you've washed your hands ready for dinner!

Thank you, Jesus, our servant king, for soap and water to make our bodies feel clean. Thank you even more for your love, which makes us feel clean on the inside too. Help us to let you be our servant, so that we can serve each other, and wash the whole world clean with your love. Amen

AUGUST: I'M NOT DOING THAT!

SERVANT-KING PUPPET



AUGUST: I'M NOT DOING THAT!

CHEESY FEET



AUGUST: I'M NOT DOING THAT!

WHOSE PAW PRINTS?

Badger



Dog



Squirrel



Rabbit



Cat

