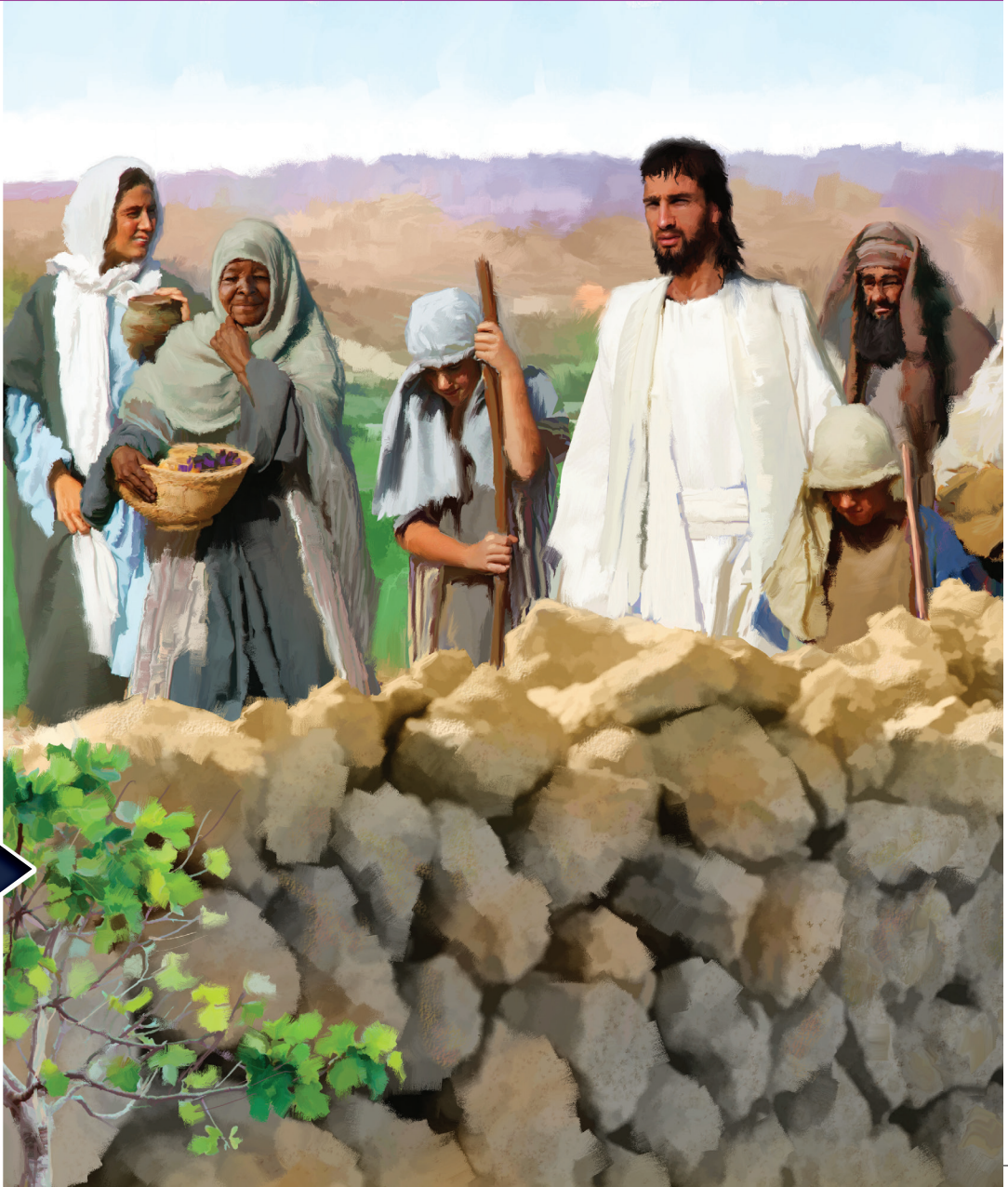


2

Spreading Good News

Key References: Isaiah 61:1-3; Luke 4:16-21; *The Desire of Ages*, chap. 24, pp. 236-243; *The Bible Story* (1994), vol. 6, pp. 185-187; vol. 7, pp. 165-168; Our Beliefs nos. 20, 4, 9



powertext

“The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me, because the LORD has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners” (Isaiah 61:1).

Have you ever listened to someone talk about something they did that was very important to them, and caught their enthusiasm? Maybe you said to yourself, I want to do that too someday. Jesus wants each of us to follow His example in bringing the good news to others.

Jesus strode down the dusty path toward the synagogue in Nazareth. All His growing-up years He had traveled this same path and joined the rest of His town in Sabbath worship. This time was a little different, however. He was no longer just the carpenter Joseph’s kind and helpful son.

He had turned 30, been baptized by His cousin John, been tempted in the wilderness by the devil, and returned to Galilee to begin His ministry. Yes, things were different now. It was time to tell the people why He came to this earth. It was time to offer them the good news.

Jesus joined the other worshippers as they sat in a square around the reading platform. When His turn came, He stood to read, and someone handed Him the scroll of Isaiah. Jesus scanned through the well-known words until He came to the passage He wanted. In a clear, kind, but authoritative voice He read, “The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor” (Luke 4:18, 19).

All eyes were on Jesus as He rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. “Today,” He said, “this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing” (verse 21).

The people that day were not pleased about this good news. Before a person can be happy about healing, freedom from captivity, and release from darkness, that person must feel the need for those things. Many of the Jews at that time did not feel that they needed what Jesus had to offer, so they missed out on the good news.

And that is the way it always is. Some people understand that



We build friendships when we share the good news about Jesus.

Sabbath

Do Do the activity on page 19.

2

Sunday

- READ** Read Matthew 28:19, 20 and this week's story, "Spreading Good News."
- CREATE** Create a megaphone by rolling a sheet of paper into a cone.
- WRITE** Write out your power text on the megaphone.
- REVIEW** Review the power text.
- PRAY** Pray that you will find ways to share the joy Jesus brings into your life.

Monday

- READ** Read 1 Corinthians 3:9.
- LIST** In your Bible study journal,* list as many different methods of communication as you can think of that can be used for sharing the good news with others.
- ASK** Ask an adult to help you think of additional methods.
- SELECT** Mark the methods of communication you will use to tell others of the joy Jesus can bring in their lives.
- REVIEW** Review the power text.
- PRAY** Pray that God will help you use these communication channels correctly.

Tuesday

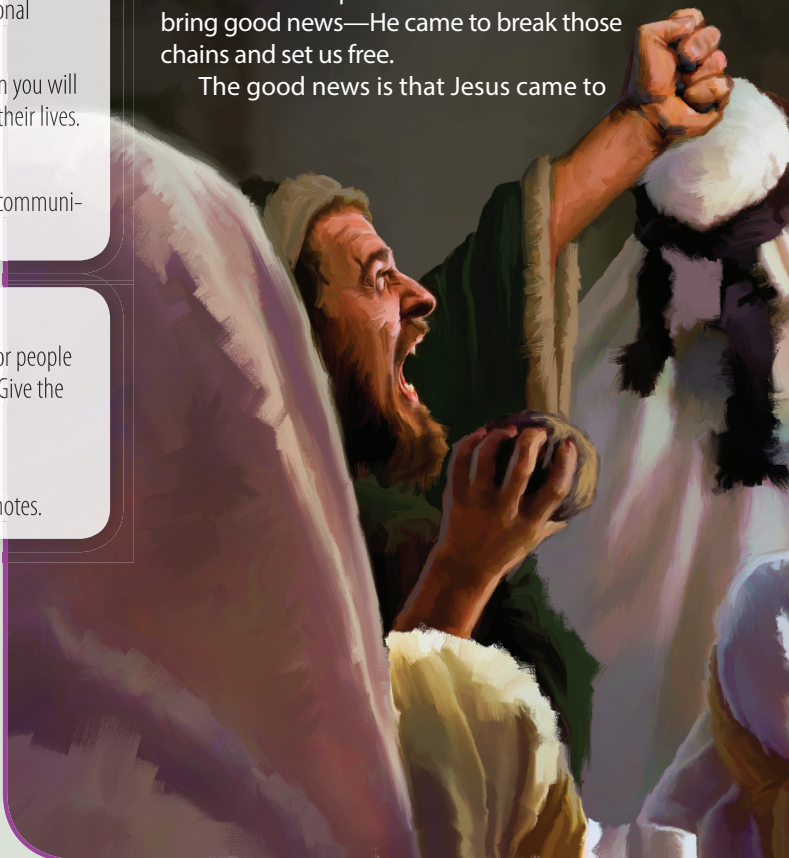
- READ** Read 2 Corinthians 9:13.
- MAKE** Create four notes of encouragement for people who don't know the good news about Jesus. Give the notes to anyone you see who is sad.
- REVIEW** Review the power text.
- PRAY** Pray for those to whom you gave the notes.

*Your Bible study journal is found at the back of your PowerPoints Bible study guide. If you need additional space, use a notebook or open a special file on your computer. Writing out your thoughts and ideas every time you study the Bible helps to engrain them in your mind.

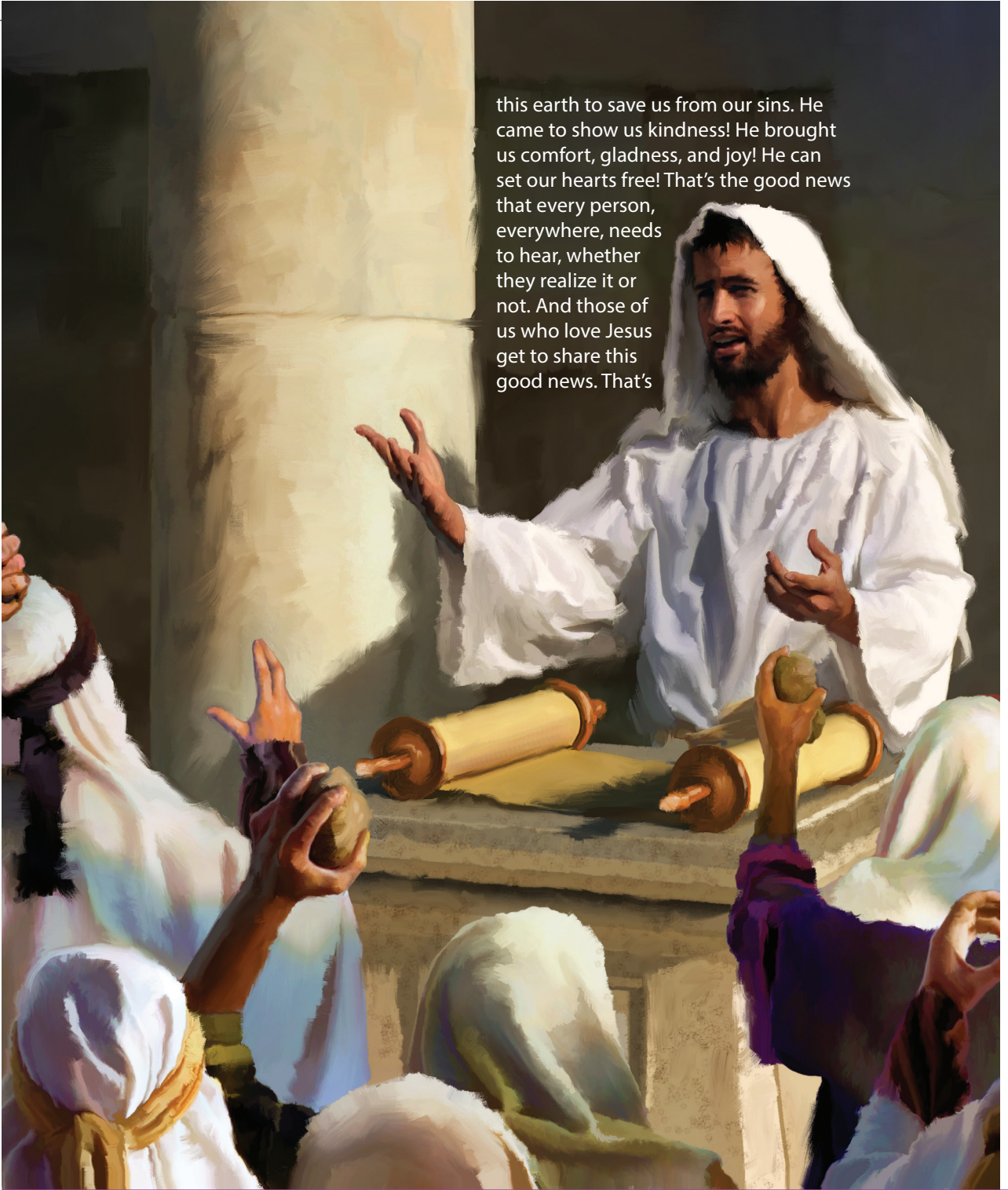
Jesus brings them joy and freedom and healing as soon as they hear the good news. Others don't. But Jesus went about from village to village, healing and spreading the good news anyway. And He expected His disciples to do the same. He sent them out two by two, and they spread the good news too. They freed many captives from Satan's darkness when they drove out demons and healed sick people. Many homes and many villages were filled with joy.

The world today needs good news. Satan is busy, working to discourage and hurt the human race. Sadness and fear are wrapped around people's hearts like chains that bind prisoners. Jesus came to bring good news—He came to break those chains and set us free.

The good news is that Jesus came to



this earth to save us from our sins. He came to show us kindness! He brought us comfort, gladness, and joy! He can set our hearts free! That's the good news that every person, everywhere, needs to hear, whether they realize it or not. And those of us who love Jesus get to share this good news. That's



2

Wednesday

READ Read Isaiah 61:1-3.

CREATE Create a song/poem about the joy Jesus brings.

REVIEW Review the power text.

GO With a friend, go to an open space. Start walking away from each other and speaking gradually louder so you can hear each other. How far apart are you when you can't hear each other anymore?

PRAY Thank God that He always hears your prayers.

Thursday

READ Compare Luke 4:16-21 with Isaiah 61:1-3.

WRITE In your Bible study journal, describe what hope is found for you in the good news Jesus shared.

SHARE Share with someone who doesn't know Jesus the joy He brings, and offer them some cookies/fruits.

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Praise the Lord for the good news.

Friday

READ Read Matthew 9:37, 38.

DISCUSS Go around the family circle and get everyone to share ways they could respond to God's call for workers in His harvest.

TEACH Teach your family the song or poem you wrote on Wednesday.

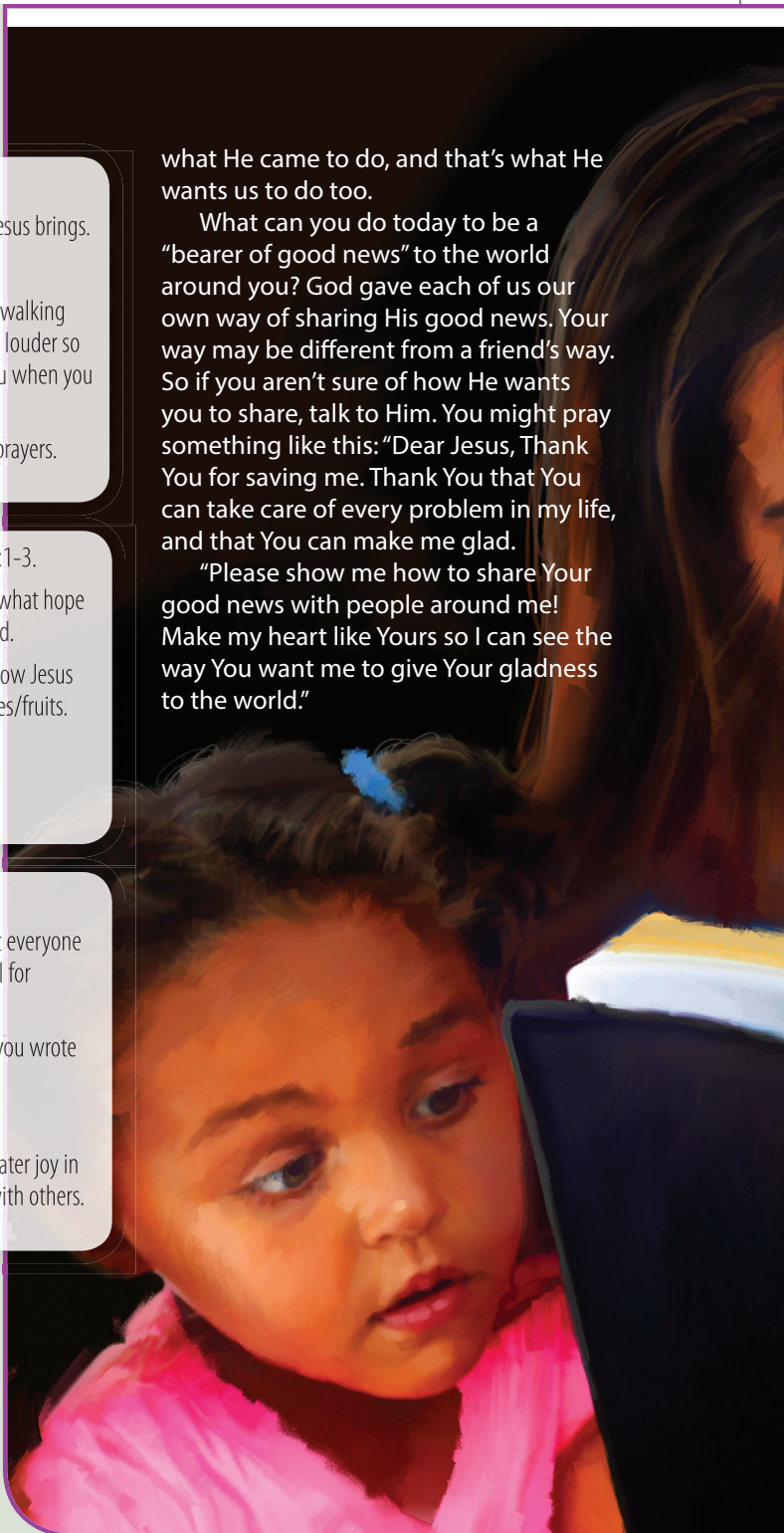
SAY Share the power text from memory.

PRAY Ask God to help you to experience greater joy in Jesus in your home and to help you share it with others.

what He came to do, and that's what He wants us to do too.

What can you do today to be a "bearer of good news" to the world around you? God gave each of us our own way of sharing His good news. Your way may be different from a friend's way. So if you aren't sure of how He wants you to share, talk to Him. You might pray something like this: "Dear Jesus, Thank You for saving me. Thank You that You can take care of every problem in my life, and that You can make me glad.

"Please show me how to share Your good news with people around me! Make my heart like Yours so I can see the way You want me to give Your gladness to the world."





GO INTO ALL THE WORLD

Instructions: Travel through this maze by reading out a Bible verse.

