

Here are some key words to listen for in the sermon. Make a mark every time you hear these words:

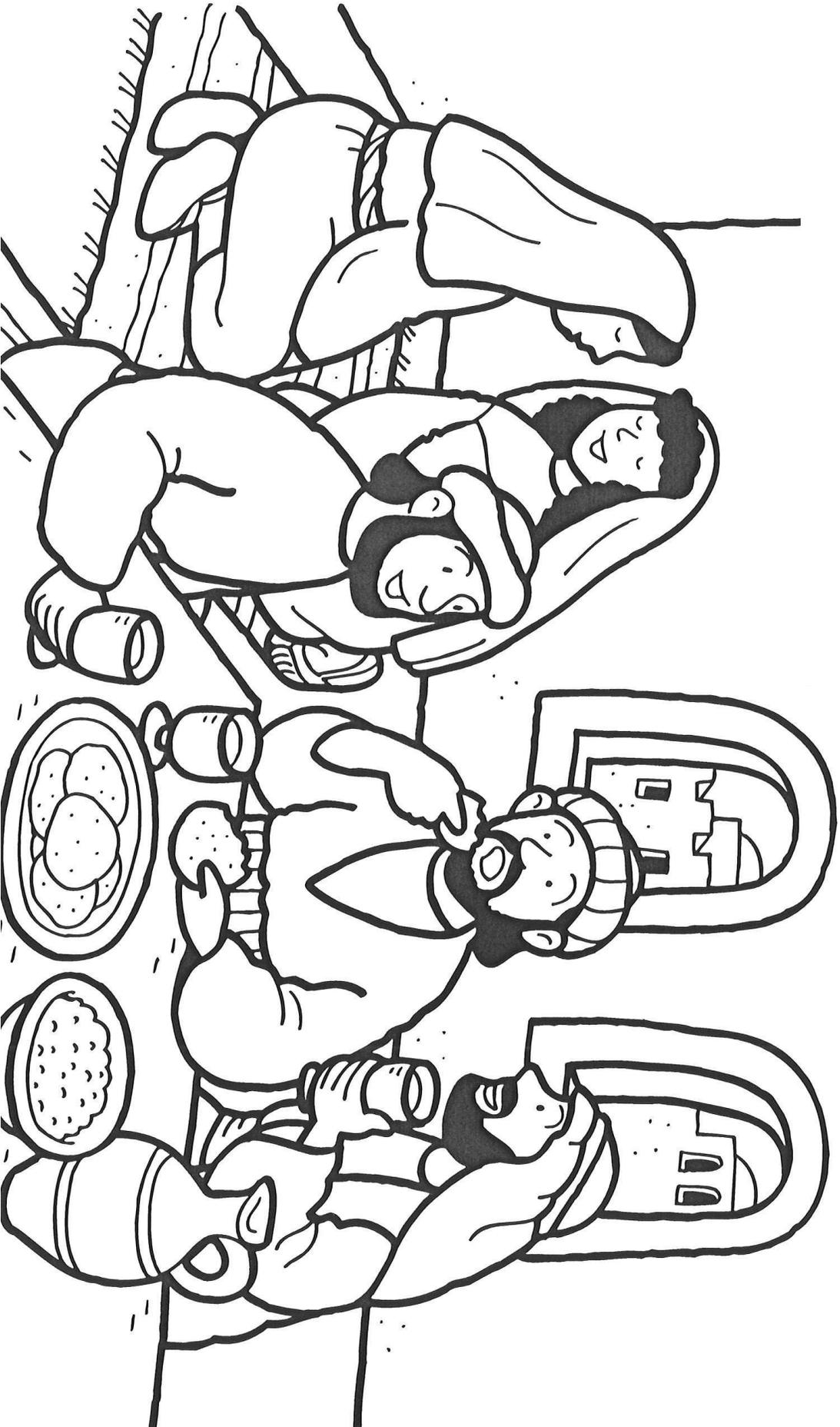
PRAYER

DEPEND

SCRIPTURE

SURRENDER

BOLD



A Prayerfully-Dependent Church

Use a copy of the English Standard Version (ESV) of the Bible to fill in the missing words below from Acts 4:31. Then listen to the message and fill in the outline below.

"And when they had _____, the place in which they were gathered _____ was _____, and they were all _____ with the Holy _____ and continued to speak the _____ of God with _____. " Acts 4:31

OUTLINE OF TODAY'S PASSAGE

- I. _____ should be a _____ response not a _____ resort (v. 23-24a)
- II. We pray to a _____ God (v. 24b-28)
- III. Our _____ should be _____ - saturated (v. 25-26)
- IV. We need to ask _____ (v. 29-30)
- V. ...and _____ completely (v. 31)



AFTER THE SERMON ACTIVITY



Your child may already be into the habit of praying before bedtime. Remind your child that when we talk to God it's important to not just do all the talking, but to remember to read the Bible too to hear what God has to say. Make spending a few minutes in God's Word a new part of your bedtime routine. In light of us studying the psalms this summer, we recommend reading a psalm before bed or sharing a story from a storybook Bible. Break down the psalm verse by verse. What does that remind you to pray for? Pray for that thing. You might only do a verse or two a night and work your way through only one psalm in a week or your child might be able to do an entire short psalm in a night. The key is to practice hearing God in His Word and then pray back to Him. This can be done at anytime during the day but Bedtime is often the perfect time to spend talking to your child about spiritual things and building a relationship with them. They will be more willing to listen, because they will most likely see it as a way to stall having to go to sleep. If you have younger children, spend some time each night before bedtime talking about that day's events. Each of you can share one way you "heard" or "saw" God that day. Then you can thank God for those things during your prayer time.

REVIEW TODAY'S MESSAGE BY DISCUSSING THESE QUESTIONS AS A FAMILY:

1. WHAT HAPPENED IN TODAY'S BIBLE PASSAGE? WHY DID THE EARLY CHURCH PRAY? WHAT EFFECT DID PRAYER HAVE ON THE EARLY CHURCH?
2. WHAT IS IT THAT YOU MISS ABOUT SPENDING TIME WITH YOUR FRIENDS AND OTHERS DURING THIS SEASON OF SOCIAL DISTANCING? DO YOU EVER FEEL SOCIALLY DISTANT FROM GOD? HOW DOES PRAYER HELP US FROM FEELING SOCIALLY DISTANT IN OUR FRIENDSHIP WITH GOD?
3. OUR PRAYER VALUE CAN BE SUMMED UP WITH THE STATEMENT "ASK BOLDLY. SURRENDER COMPLETELY" THIS MEANS THAT IN PRAYER WE SHOULD BOTH ASK GOD FOR BIG, SEEMINGLY IMPOSSIBLE THINGS BUT ALSO REMEMBER THAT GOD'S PLAN IS THE BEST PLAN. WHAT IS SOMETHING REALLY BIG OR IMPOSSIBLE THAT YOU ARE PRAYING ABOUT RIGHT NOW? WHAT IS SOMETHING YOU'VE BEEN PRAYING ABOUT FOR A LONG TIME THAT GOD HAS KEPT SAYING "NO" OR "WAIT" TO? HOW CAN THIS STATEMENT "ASK BOLDLY. SURRENDER COMPLETELY" HELP YOU TO KEEP TRUSTING GOD WITH YOUR PRAYERS?

